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Changes are in store for UNCA curriculum

By Caroline Brown

The Institutional Development Committee proposed changes in UNCA's general education requirements at the Faculty Senate hearing last Thursday.

Compared to the 1984-86 UNCA catalog all-university requirements, the proposal suggested dropping the 16 hours of humanities and replacing it with 12 hours of cultural history and a three-hour capstone course.

In the draft proposal, the IDC describes the three four-hour cultural history courses as being similar to the present Humanities 124, 214, and 224.

These cultural history courses would stress the history of ideas and the values which are taken from history, literature, philosophy, religion, the social sciences, and the arts.

"Science, Technology, and Human Values," a three-hour capstone course would replace the present humanities 414.

The course would pursue similar goals, but with a better definition of subject matter. It would combine the perspectives of science, social science, humanities and the arts, said the IDC.

In the draft stating the proposed changes, the task force on general education explains:

"The guiding principles of this array of all-university requirements are that a core curriculum is generally preferable to a distribution system."

The draft also says changes in enrollment and employment may not be effected.

It states that, "While the proposed system is different from the current one, its impact on pat-

terns of employment and enrollment is not as great as may be expected."

At the hearing held in the Owen Conference Center, faculty members expressed their views on the new proposal.

Dr. Ileana Grams, assistant professor of philosophy, said, "We need more emphasis on what is not in the recent past. Humanities is the one course I never get bored teaching because there is always something new."

She also said she would like for all UNCA professors to teach a humanities course.

Director of Southern Highlands Research Center, and chairman of UNCA's history department, Dr. Milton Ready, commented:

"I have listened to a lot of people who are not historians. Humanities, as it was conceived years and years ago, made us unique."

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Staff photo by Sylvia Hawkins

Pamela Whiteside studies while enjoying the September sunshine.

Highland patients seek start at UNCA

By Penny Kramp
News Editor

Highland Hospital patients seeking an entrance to the "outside world" are enrolling at UNCA, but problems arise if the patient is not prepared to handle the academic pressures.

Terry Fox, coordinator of outpatient services at Highland Hospital, said nearly fifty per cent of the 110 outpatients attend UNCA.

Dr. Merritt Moseley, assistant professor of literature at UNCA, said attrition is the main problem with students from Highland.

"The therapists build up the patients' confidence too much. They tell these students they can make A's and this creates unnecessary pressure," said Moseley.



Staff photo by Penny Kramp

Asheville's Highland Hospital encourages patients to become students.

Fox said a treatment team of psychiatrists, nurses, and administrators determine when a patient

is ready to take on the challenge of college.

"In general we would encourage a new student or

someone with a major psychotic background to take only one course. If he cannot handle that, then

his treatment is renegotiated," said Fox.

Controversy arises over whether administrators should be informed a student is a former mental patient. The patient has a right to privacy but the university also has a right to protect its interests.

Fox said the hospital has no "contractual agreement with UNCA, but there is an understood liason. We tell patients to be honest about their mental background, but there is no way we can insist or push that they be honest."

Dr. Ken Rice, director of enrollment at UNCA, said, "Patients do not reveal their psychiatric information. We have no method of knowing if a person is a former mental patient, unless we observe strange or unusual behavior."

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