

Research published and edited by students

by Carrie Trutwin
Staff Writer

UNCA recently published its first student-edited Journal Of Undergraduate Research, according to Phyllis Betts, associate professor of sociology and director of the University Honors Program.

Betts said the 1989 journal, UNCA's second, covers topics from six different disciplines: physics, atmospheric science, psychology, sociology, chemistry and conflict studies.

"There's an overlap between the Honors Program and the undergraduate research program," she said. "The undergraduate research program was established in 1986 to promote undergraduate research and creative activity which involves a close-working relationship between faculty and students."

Betts said the Undergraduate Fellowships and Scholars Awards were established in 1987, "so with all the emphasis, it seemed like a good idea to have an outlet for student research."

"The fruits of all this research are things like presenting papers at conferences. It's the sort of thing graduate students would normally be involved in.

"Publishing the journal is a significant accomplishment, and the UNCA journal is one of only a handful of journals nationwide that is edited by students and is publishing student papers."

In addition to publishing the journal, the UNCA undergraduate research program established the National Conference on Undergraduate Research. "It was held at UNCA in 1987 and 1988," she said. "In 1989 the conference moved to Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas."

"In 1990 we'll be at Union College in Schenectady, New York. Both of these schools have national reputations as liberal arts colleges. They are following in our footsteps."

Keith Thomson, a May 1989 UNCA graduate and one of six students published in this year's journal, is now working as a consultant for the Nuclear Control Institute of Washington, D.C. "I attended the national conference in San Antonio," he said.

"The publication of the Undergraduate Research Journal is one aspect of how UNCA is really outstanding. Most undergraduates don't get an opportunity to do this."

As director of UNCA's Honors Program, Betts is

automatically on the University Research Program Advisory Council, which she said constantly monitors the program.

"We are always looking for ways to improve the program. We're going to be looking for ways to increase student submissions from all disciplines."

The Undergraduate Fellowships and Scholars Awards are available to all incoming freshmen through a competitive process, Betts said. "The fellowships include participation in the Honor's Program, and they provide \$1500 during the summer between the junior and senior years to support students in research projects."

Betts said research awards are available to other UNCA students as well. "In the sciences, costs have included lab supplies, equipment, etc. Outside the sciences, awards can be used for things like travelling to libraries."

Currently, there are about seventy students working on undergraduate research, according to Betts. She said there are two ways to contribute to the journal—either by contributing articles or by being on the editorial staff. "We'll be happy to integrate you into the process."



Photo by Paul Adams

Hanging out

Darren Thompson (left) and Gordon Talbot relax in the Highsmith Center after a rough day of classes.

Campus newspapers could face censorship if bill passes

(CPS)-College newspapers around the country will be barred from running alcohol-related ads in their pages if a new bill introduced in Congress becomes law.

The bill, co-sponsored by Senators Jesse Bingaman (R-N.M.) and Herbert Kohl (D-Wis.), cuts off all federal funding—including student aid—to colleges that fail to restrict alcohol promotions on their campuses.

Separately, outgoing U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop in September sent a letter to all college presidents urging them to disassociate their schools from liquor-related promotions, and warning he'd recommend "economic and legal sanctions" against schools that ignored him.

The sanctions, however, seem to fall most heavily on student ventures like sports and newspapers, many of which depend on revenues from local bars and national brewers to survive.

Student papers "are right to be concerned," said Keenen Peck, an aide to Kohl. "The penalties are so severe that universities are likely to err on the side of the over-censorship."

A variety of schools already have started to crack down. The University of North Dakota, for example, in September, prohibited students from

displaying posters from beer companies in their dorm room windows.

California State University at Chico President Robin Wilson announced he was forbidding the Orion, the student paper, to run alcohol-related ads.

Wilson's directive, Orion ad manager Perry Quinn estimate, could cost the paper about \$30,000 in lost revenues from local and national liquor ads.

Under the measure now in Congress, virtually all American college newspapers would face similar budgetary blows.

To Bingaman, it's a question of health and safety.

"Three years ago I would have said (the ban) would have had a tremendous impact" on the papers, Rose said. Since then, other kinds of advertisers like financial services, telecommunications and computer companies have come to provide the bulk of

national ads in college papers.

Nevertheless, Rose blasted the proposal as an "unnecessary and unfortunate" attack on papers' First Amendment freedoms.

"We will never control the use of illicit drugs or the abuse of alcohol among this age group if we do not take the fundamental, though perhaps politically unpopular, step of encouraging colleges and universities to adopt policies on campus alcohol advertising and alcohol

industry sponsorship of colleges activities," Bingaman said in a statement defending his measure.

His bill requires schools to provide alcohol counseling to students, and to bar ads and events that promote "irresponsible" or underage drinking.

If colleges don't comply, they could lose all their federal funding.

Center

Continued from Page 1

I will include CCR's offices, classroom space for the college for seniors, a library, meeting rooms, and part of the executive conference center.

"The Executive Conference Center can be rented for retreats, conferences, or any kind of meeting that has a range of ten to 200 people," Manheimer said.

Construction on the executive conference center will be completed in phase II. During phase III, the Plenary Session Cluster will be built. "The Plenary Center will be a large space able to accommodate around 1200 people. There's no place in Asheville or surrounding areas that can hold that many people in a nice setting, so it could be used for banquets, trade shows, maybe even graduations," said Manheimer.

"It was given the name because the building is being designed with an audience of over 50-year-olds in mind. There are very few facilities that examine what it means to have older people using the

facility comfortably. In that way we hope it'll be a model conference center on a national level," he said.

Manheimer said the center will actually be available to people of all ages. Buildings designed with older people in mind are preferable to many. "The signs are bigger and clearer, and the environments tend to be less confusing. The space is more humane; it doesn't try to overwhelm you. The acoustics are better, and everybody likes that," he said.

Architects from the Raleigh-based firm of O'Brien/Atkins Associates are working on the layout of the building. "We have not yet come up with a floor plan that solves all the problems, but we have some outstanding consultants working on the project who are experts on both conference space and housing and design for older persons," said Manheimer.

The Intergenerational Conference Center was one of several projects the campus wanted funded during last summer's

session. "Because of the political complexity of last summer session, different campuses were told they could get one project. Our delegation chose this one because they felt it had the greatest potential to increase economic development in the region, since it's not just a campus project," Manheimer said.

Completion of phase I is projected for June 1992. Manheimer said they will be approaching the Legislature in coming sessions to ask for funding to complete the project. "The whole project's estimated cost is a little over \$14 million" he said.

"The center will be a real landmark for the campus. I think it'll be a major step beyond the campus architecture we have now. So, in some ways, it'll help put UNCA on the map, because people will want to come see it. The road going up there is the site for another dorm, so it's not going to be that cut off from campus. Gradually, the campus is going to move that way in development because it's where the university has land," said Manheimer.

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