



Photo by Miranda Wyatt

Take me out to the ballgame

UNCA students cheer the Bulldogs on to victory in a home game. The Bulldogs recently set a school record by winning nine straight games.

Power struggle delays students

(CPS) -- The University of Minnesota's computer science department reportedly is punishing students whose advisers oppose the department chairmen in an internal department power struggle.

Students whose advisers side with department chairman David Fox were more likely to pass a battery of tests to get into the computer science doctoral program than students whose advisers opposed Fox, the Minnesota Daily reported in a copyrighted story.

Anti-Fox students tended to fail the battery even if they had higher grade-point averages than students with pro-Fox advisers, the Daily said after matching students' success in getting into the program with the political stance of their advisers.

The struggle apparently is one for prestige and department

control between Fox and two internationally renowned computer science professors, Oscar Ibarra and Sartaj Sahni. Ibarra has resigned from the school.

At issue is a series of requirements -- collectively called the Written Preliminary Exam (WPE) -- that students must meet to get into Minnesota's doctoral program. Students are graded in three parts: an exam, grade transcripts and personal references from faculty members.

The Daily found that one student with a pro-Fox adviser, a 3.75 grade-point average and a 1.75 (out of 4.0) on the WPE got into the program. But another student with a 3.9 GPA, a 2.4 WPE and an anti-Fox adviser failed to get into the program. The Daily cited several other instances that suggest the power struggle has influenced students' WPE scores.

"Many departments have

opposing camps. I've heard this only as hearsay, but I believe it," said Jeffrey Kittay, publisher of *Lingua Franca*, a magazine that will cover scholarly politics when it begins publication in the fall.

The WPE is just the latest problem in the department, which has been plagued for months by charges of mismanagement on Fox's part, hate mail sent to Asian professors in the department and the copying of one professor's electronic mail.

"It's a potential danger that graduate students can get enmeshed in internal faculty disputes. It's very unprofessional (on the professors' parts) and very unfair to the students," Kittay said.

Neither anti-Fox Prof. James Slagle, who advised the student with the 3.9 GPA, nor Fox returned phone calls to College Press Service.

Officers

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change of pace. I believe this will be a good change."

Alexander agreed with McFalls, saying, "It is a good future move," he said. "I'm really excited about going out there to work."

Alexander said that even though

Van Slyke has "turned the place upside down," he is leaving on a sad note. "I want to leave the university with a good name."

"We knew we would have some major changes, but nothing has happened to enhance the development of the department or its morale," they said.

"I have enjoyed my eight years here. It was definitely a learning experience," McFalls said. "I hope in my eight years here I have helped at least one person."

"We (Alexander and McFalls) tried to communicate with the students, but Jeff said he didn't like that," Alexander said.

Admissions recruits University Ambassadors

By Michelle Franklin
Staff Writer

Did you know that UNCA offers 30 academic programs and majors and that the library houses 150,000 volumes?

These are just a few of the facts that University Ambassadors are required to know for their job.

The University Ambassadors is a campus group that meets and tours prospective UNCA students around the university grounds. It is made up of students who volunteer their time to show UNCA to high school students, as well as transfer students who are interested in attending UNCA.

The University Ambassadors, however, is not a certified campus organization. "We receive no funds from SGA, so there fore we are a student group who serves the university," said Steve Wilborn, assistant director of admissions.

Wilborn organized the group about four years ago.

"I thought UNCA needed a

program where prospective students could come and see the campus and ask questions," said Wilborn. "I also felt there was a need to involve UNCA students in greeting prospective students when they came on campus to answer questions from a student perspective, instead of a staff prospective."

According to Wilborn, college recruitment has become a market for students, so UNCA needs to be in a position to provide these types of services to prospective students.

"University Ambassadors shows these people that the university is interested in them," he said. "It provides a caring type of feeling for the students."

Wilborn also said that most students do not even visit colleges when they apply for admission.

"Students wait until they have been accepted and then decide to visit the campuses," said Wilborn. "We feel that visiting the campus helps them make up their minds."

That's why it's important to conduct the University Ambassadors' tours."

Wilborn tries to recruit about 15 students each semester to serve as ambassadors. During the 1989-90 school year, Wilborn said he had 10 students participating in the group.

Wilborn is presently recruiting for the summer sessions. Any student is welcome to apply, according to Wilborn. However, he said he looks for students who are involved in campus life and that have attended UNCA for two semesters or more.

"I think that students who are

involved in campus life are more aware of what is going on and can relate that to prospective students," said Wilborn. "Really, students need to have attended UNCA for at least one semester, preferably longer, so they can be familiar with our campus."

Students interested in becoming a University Ambassador can fill out an application and return it to Wilborn. He then interviews applicants and requires them to attend training sessions to prepare them for their position.

"Students undergo training to learn about all the campus buildings and information that is often asked about UNCA," said

Wilborn. "Most of what they're required to learn is statistical information, like how many computer terminals we have on campus and things of that nature."

"The ambassadors usually give one tour a week and assist with visitation days. They also telephone students and congratulate them on acceptance to UNCA."

The ambassadors' most active time is during the spring semester, according to Wilborn.

"Everyone is trying to make their final decision during this time," said Wilborn. "Summer is also pretty busy for us, even though we don't have a full schedule of

tours."

According to Wilborn, there are many advantages to becoming a University Ambassador. One advantage is that University Ambassadors are allowed to register earlier than everyone else. They also receive a survival kit of goodies during every exam week.

"During December, we took the ambassadors to a Christmas concert and then to dinner at Fine Friends Restaurant," he said. "We try to offer advantages to these students for their service to the university."

University Ambassador Supatai Inpirom says she has enjoyed participating in the program.

Berry

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"The killing of the planet itself is the last blasphemy that humans are able to commit," said Berry.

Life, as described by Berry, is a divine gift that "is given to us not directly by the divine but in and through the wonderful earth on which we live."

Berry also included economics in his discussion of the environment. "The planet is a genius economically and there can be no valid human economics that is not integral with the economy of the planet," said Berry.

With the concerns over the national deficit, Berry said he wondered why there are not as many people concerned with the planet's deficit. In regard to the vast amount of damage being done to the planet, Berry asks "As soon as we irreversibly put the Earth into deficit how can our economy exist?"

Task Force

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international students to come to UNCA? What are the benefits and liabilities of this? What plan or strategy should we use to recruit foreign students? What are the problems related to having international students in a small liberal arts campus, (housing, orientation, type of staff support, etc.)? Should there be a center of international studies in which advising is housed?

In the third workshop, questions such as: Should UNCA develop its own study abroad program or join

Progress and technology are an essential part of society, but humans must take into consideration what happens to the earth with this progress. Over the last few decades "the human responsibility for the natural world has vastly increased," said Berry.

"Every member of the life system must progress in order to have true progress. Humans cannot progress if the planet does not progress," said Berry.

Progress also means improvement, Berry said. Improvement within the industrial system "is not acceptable. The [entire] system must go," said Berry. We can recycle paper and metals, dispose of our waste properly, and cut down on consumption, but we "must not do [these things] under the illusion that this is going to make the system workable."

existing programs? How can we encourage a faculty exchange program? Should UNCA develop ties with Universities in other countries for exchange of students, faculty and resources? What are the benefits of study abroad? How can we encourage students with limited economic means to consider studying abroad? will be considered.

Boland said, "the conference is to initiate concern with international studies with faculty and students." There are a variety of cultures students and faculty need to be familiar with, he said.

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