

The Banner

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Reed announces retirement

By John Stanier
Staff Writer

UNCA Chancellor Patsy Reed announced on Oct. 8 that she will retire after the spring 1998 semester, and the search for a new chancellor will begin almost immediately. Reed made the special announcement in the Karpen Hall lobby in front of a crowd of over 100 faculty, staff, and students.

Reed said her decision comes with mixed emotions. "It has been a difficult decision because of the high regard and deep affection I have for UNCA," she said. "While it is personally appealing to enter a less structured time of my life while I enjoy good health and many interests, it is professionally saddening to think of leaving a campus that is so dear to me."

Reed timed her announcement to coincide with UNCA's Founders Day. "On this eve of Founders Day,

we celebrate the past and look to the future," Reed said. "I am here today to let you know that, at the end of my fifth year as your chancellor, I will add my name to the list of past leaders. It is my intent to retire as of June 30, 1999."

Reed came to UNCA in June of 1994, and said she wants her legacy as chancellor to be a positive one. "My hope here is that my years as your chancellor will strengthen and advance our mission and increase our abilities to fully realize it," she said.

"I know that whoever your leader is, this campus is in good hands, because the people in this room and your counterparts ultimately determine its future," Reed said. "I express my deep gratitude for having had the opportunity, and still having the opportunity, to serve UNCA and to work with this excellent faculty, staff, and administration, and we still have most of the year together."

Reed said she is committed to the

university, and more importantly, to the need of the students.

"Like others, this year is dedicated to our collective commitment to our students," Reed said. "We have important issues to resolve and challenges to meet. Much remains to be done, and, as usual, we will work together and work hard to do it well."

Reed said she will do what she can to assist in finding her replacement. "I pledge to you (to do my) best in working toward a smooth transition to the next leader in our continuum," said Reed. "We are fortunate in that regard to have an excellent and dedicated board of trustees to work with the campus in this year of transition."

Robert Cranford, chairman of the UNCA Board of Trustees, also spoke at the special announcement.

"She is, without a doubt, one of this nation's most capable university administrators," Cranford said about Reed. "While I regret her decision, I certainly understand the

appeal of retirement and opportunities to pursue other interests. We will miss her sorely, but we will carry on."

The search for a new chancellor will begin with the formation of a search committee, chaired by Cranford.

"This transition must be seen in a positive light," he said. "The search committee has an important task. We must replace a chancellor with impeccable credentials. We will build on her accomplishments and those who have preceded her."

Cranford said he hopes the committee can work quickly and efficiently to make sure the transition is as smooth as possible.

"My goal is to move aggressively to have the position announcements out by Thanksgiving and to have our next chancellor in place by July 1, 1999," said Cranford.

Although the search committee members have not been selected,

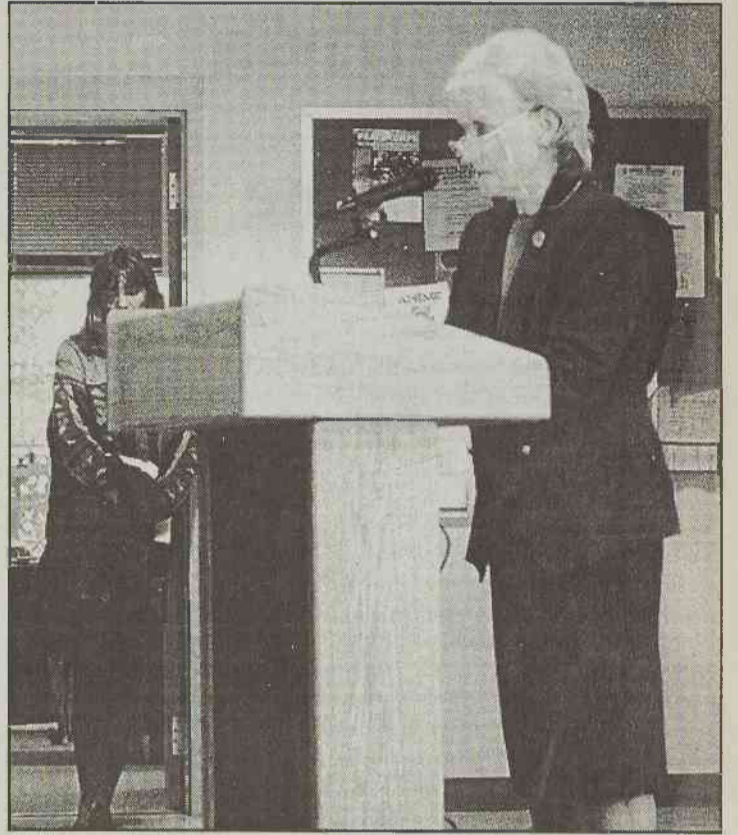


PHOTO BY TINA ATWOOD

Chancellor Patsy Reed told students, faculty, and staff on Oct. 8 of her plans to retire.

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Dancers stir protest

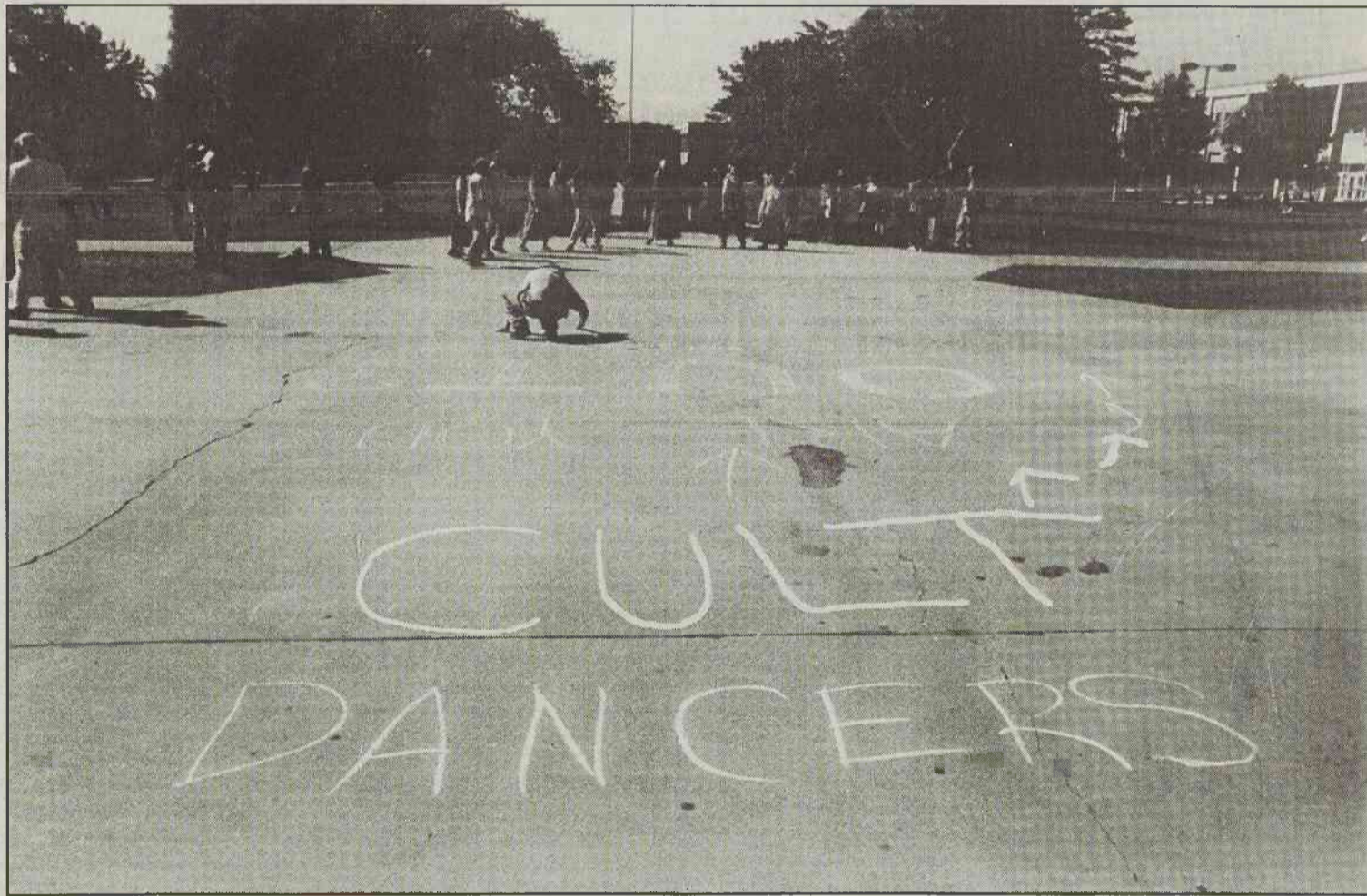


PHOTO BY TRAVIS BARKER

Twelve Tribes, an organization that claims to promote the ideals of a true community, made a brief appearance on the UNCA quad on Oct. 14.

Fiber optics completed

Concerns emerge about uses

By Shaun Cashman
Staff Writer

With the completion of the new \$1.2 million fiber optic network system, students and faculty have faster Internet capabilities in the dorms, labs, and offices. Although the faster connection is intended for educational purposes, some students are concerned that the system may be used for illicit recreational purposes.

"Fiber optics is limited only by the speed of light," said electronic technician Mike Wilson. Compared to the old connection, "it's like a television versus a typewriter in speed. But, no matter how good something is, it can be used improperly or poorly."

"It's Satan's box," said Matthew Deal, an undeclared sophomore. "People are starving somewhere," and the university spent \$1.2 million so that "some little punk kids with nothing better to do can look up porn."

"I think it's worth it if most

of the students have computers to go in their rooms," said Sarah Thompson, a sophomore political science major. "I don't know if everyone's going to use it for information though."

"It makes porn just so much faster," said Jason Miller, a freshman history major. "It definitely makes the most of your connection."

There are three main components to the new network: the fiber optic backbone of the system; the internal wiring of all the buildings; and the electronic support, said Richard White, manager of systems and communication on campus.

"The direction of our society, as far as information assimilation is concerned, is rapidly moving towards distributing information at very high speeds over network-connected computers," said Kern Parker, the director for the computer center. "There are all kinds of increased capabilities that people get when they are connected to network systems."

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Departments receive numbers on adjunct cuts

By Samantha Hartmann
Staff Writer

The UNCA administration has determined the number of adjuncts that must be cut in each department for the spring semester.

"What you will discover is the cut is not quite as drastic and dramatic as some people have articulated," said Shirley Browning, professor of economics and associate vice chancellor for academic affairs.

In the spring 1998 semester, the university employed 113 adjunct instructors. Accord-

ing to Browning, the university will employ approximately 99 adjunct instructors next spring.

"Those numbers come from administrative affairs," said Browning. The numbers "were taken straight off the record."

The areas affected most by the cuts were humanities, literature, management, chemistry, and biology.

Several departments, including music, were not hit very hard by the cuts.

"Basically, we are in pretty good shape," said Charles McKnight, department chair and associate professor of music.

McKnight said the music department's use of adjuncts is dictated by the kind of teaching they do. "So much of our teaching is one on one," said McKnight. "Nobody can teach oboe students except an oboist. That is one of the reasons we have so many adjuncts. It makes the cost of music instruction higher than other kinds of instruction."

According to McKnight, the cuts also affect students who may want to take a class for enjoyment outside of their major.

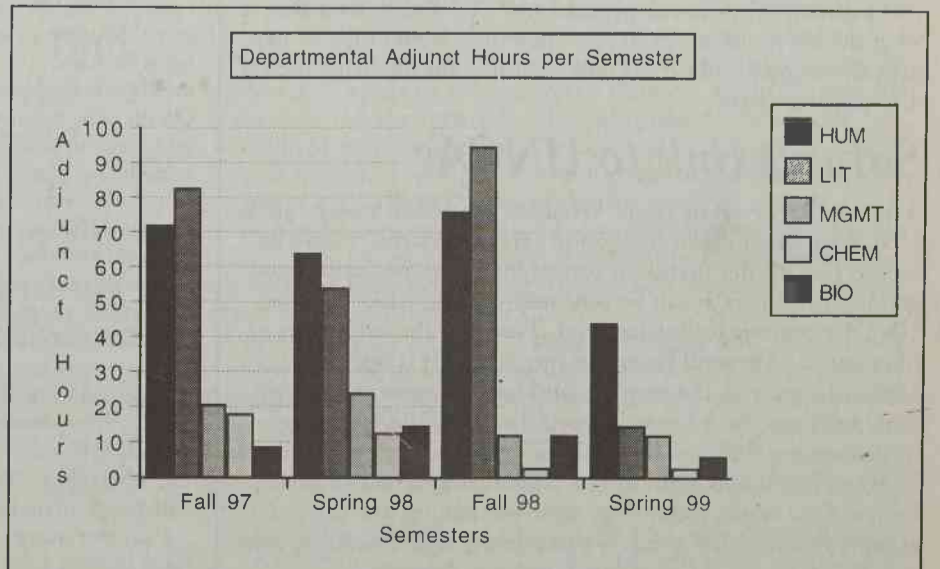
"We used to be able to offer applied music instruction to any student who wanted to take the course," said

McKnight. "I think it is a shame, because one of the things we believe in very strongly is that music is a part of everyone's liberal arts education. This budget shortfall has made that unavailable for people who are not music majors."

The music department's adjunct budget for the spring of 1998, \$45,019, was the highest of all departments, and will remain the highest this spring, at \$41,940.

The humanities adjunct budget was the second highest at \$35,560 for the spring of 1998, and will drop to an

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GRAPH BY ERIN KING