

NEWS

The star of #CHANSTALLATION

UNCA's seventh chancellor settles in

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Chancellor Mary K. Grant has lived in Asheville less than a year, yet she already sounds like a local.

Her love of hiking, bike riding, gardening, Highland Brewing and The Hop's dark chocolate ice cream depicts Grant as a quintessential Ashevillean.

"I really like the size of scale of Asheville- not too big, not too small," Grant said. "You can wander around in the River Arts District and find a whole different vibe, a whole different set of places to explore- restaurants, coffee shops and galleries. You can go down to West Asheville, where there is just a great music scene. It's surrounded by all of this natural beauty. There seems to be something for everybody here in our own backyard."

Born in Boston, the

diehard Red Sox fan is no stranger to the liberal arts curriculum. Grant received her bachelor's degree in sociology from Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts in 1983, according to information from a UNC Asheville press release.

Grant said she took a year and a half off before earning a master's degree in public affairs from the University of Massachusetts, Boston, in 1986, using her time between degrees to reflect and determine her next move in academics.

The chancellor started her career in higher education as a research assistant at UMass Boston, also teaching graduate-level courses in the university's public policy program. She also spent years as assistant vice chancellor for administration and finance and chair of the college's faculty.

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Photos by Timbi Shepherd - Editor-in-Chief.

Chancellor Grant and SGA President Maya Newlin enjoy free Hop ice cream.



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The Blue Banner is a designated forum for free speech and welcomes letters to the editor, considering them on basis of interest, space and timeliness. Letters and articles should be emailed to the editor-in-chief or the appropriate section editor.

Letters should include the writer's name, year in school, and major or other relationship to UNCA. Include a telephone number to aid in verification. All articles are subject to editing.