

Student Life curriculum to see major overhaul next school year

BY CARL YIN

Both junior and senior student life classes, starting next school year, will see significant changes in curriculum. The Student Life program will be rebranded as "Residential Education" (RE).

Incoming juniors will begin Residential Education with a trimester-long course covering much of the SL101 health curriculum. Following the first trimester of SL101, juniors will be able to choose their next two Residential Education courses for the year. These courses are all a single trimester in length, and will cover a variety of topics.

The topics covered next year will be Public Speaking 1, Public Speaking 2, Financial Planning, Marketing U, Leadership, and Diversity.

Marketing U will be a course similar to third-trimester SL101 this year, where students will practice interviewing and making résumés.

The new Leadership class will cover topics similar to those in the Leadership

seminars, and could eliminate the seminars for following years. These courses were chosen from the advice of juniors this year, who were asked to choose their favorite options out of twelve potential courses earlier this year. The possibility of courses being added and dropped to Residential Education is a possibility for future years to come.

For rising seniors, Senior Student Life will be completely restructured, becoming more than a bi-monthly Monday meeting. In place, a new curriculum similar to that of the junior class will be put into place. Seniors will have to take two more one-trimester long Residential Education courses, which they are free to choose from the available courses as mentioned previously.

The grading of Student Life will also be modified for this new curriculum. For future Residential Education courses, there will be an ABCDF grading scale instead of simple pass/fail. Moreover, the grades issued will factor into the GPA of students starting next year.

All Residential Education courses will be given a 4.0 weight, becoming the first NCSSM courses to have a weight below 5.0. The courses will continue to be once a week for all Residential Education courses available.

The upcoming plans for the Student Life curriculum has seen generally positive views from students and staff alike. "There are some interesting topics in the curriculum", said junior Samuel Lee. "Once a week is tolerable and shouldn't be a problem."

"I think it's a good idea", stated senior Emmanuel Assa. "Those are important skills that many students do not get out of high school. By giving students options, it allows them to choose what they want to learn."

Emmie Corl, SLI on 1st Royall and Student Life Instructor, stated, "I think it is a very beneficial change. Students will get the chance to choose what their interest is, and get a further education in the basic concepts covered in the previous Student Life course."

NCSSM fights hunger with fourth food drive

BY SU CHO

Students helped fight against hunger by volunteering at the fourth annual NCSSM Food Drive on March 23.

However, what makes this year different from the last three years is the school's involvement with the Fox Fifty Lip Dub Project.

The goal for this year's food drive was to collect 50,000 pounds of food. Another goal for the food drive was to cross the one million pound mark since the first food drive four years ago.

This year, the UNI's Fighting Hunger Club hoped to bring the NCSSM community together. The club wanted to do the Lib Dub because the school has helped facilitate the Food Drive, and they wanted to give back to the school.

The Fox Fifty Lib Dub is opened to high schools in North Carolina, and the task is to create a one-continuous-take music video "lib dubbing" to a song.

"I think collaborating on this project really shows the unity here at our school. I mean we have teachers, faculty, staff, and students participating in the video," said senior JoJo Drake, president of UNI's Fighting Club.

Some people who participated in this video included Chancellor Dr. Todd Roberts, Vice Chancellors Steve. Warshaw and Joan Barber, and instructors Kathy Berberian, Greg Jarvis, and Jon Miller.

Different groups on campus such as the chorus, orchestra, and Dance Ensemble were

featured as well.

In a close contest, the school did not end up victorious in the LipDub contest, losing out on the top prizes.

If the school had won the \$10,000 prize, the club had hoped to allocate \$4000 of the winnings to NCSSM arts, another \$4000 to NCSSM athletics, and the final \$2,000 to be divided up amongst all of the other clubs.

The UNI's Fighting Hunger Club offered many different ways for students to contribute to the cause. There was a competition to see which hall could raise the most money for the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina. The hall with the most money raised won a flat screen TV, and the second most won a DVD player.

Throughout March 15 - 26, there were local businesses that donated a percent of their earnings to the NCSSM Food Drive. Some places included Ben and Jerry's, Elmo's Diner, Randy's Pizza, Pelican's Snoballs, and Tutti Frutti.

There were also different volunteer opportunities during the food drive, including food collectors, food bank truck volunteers, and street volunteers.

"After four consecutive years of Food Drives, the Food Bank depends on NCSSM's yearly donation collected from our Food Drive," JoJo Drake said when asked why it was important that NCSSM holds an annual food drive. "Food should be a right not a privilege. Nobody deserves to go hungry."



Anita Simha and Vice Chancellor of Academic Programs Steve Warshaw make a cameo in NCSSM's LipDub video

SG receives grants for solar power and more exam library hours

BY ANITA SIMHA AND VINCENT CAHILL

NCSSM Student Government recently applied for green initiative and campus innovation grants from the UNC Association of Student Governments, a student-run organization with voting delegates from all seventeen UNC-system schools.

A Campus Innovation Grant was submitted to extend library hours during third trimester exams. The Committee on Finance and the Budget approved this request and, therefore, the Borden Mace Library will be open for five hours on Saturday and

five extra hours on Sunday the weekends before and during exams.

These additional operating hours will allow students to have a greater degree of access to one of the most popular study areas on campus, which will prove especially useful for students who are working together to complete final projects or are studying in groups for final exams.

The appropriated funding will also address the student body's exam-induced anxiety by providing stress-relieving activities.

Student Government recognized both the need

for supporting both green advancements and student inventiveness; both of these came together in the NCSSM delegation's Green Grant proposal.

Student Government requested funding to build a solar-powered charging station...such a product would allow people to work outside for extended periods of time.

Student Government requested funding to build a solar-powered charging station based on an idea created by Tyler Hayes, class of 2012, and current senior Benson Robles.

Combining NCSSM's encouragement of STEM pursuits and its students love for working outside, such a product would allow people to work outside for extended periods of time while charging phones and laptops exclusively by the sun's energy.

Robles said that he and Hayes were inspired because they wanted

to "bring green energy to the school," but did not want to do anything "too invasive."

Their brainchild will "allow students and faculty to use solar energy to charge their laptops and cell phones, showing green energy isn't that difficult to produce for a community."

The primary purpose of the UNCASG is to unite individual campuses so that system-wide issues such as academic transparency, rising tuition and fees, and student affairs can be addressed cohesively.

Funded by a dollar from every paying student's tuition, the Association spends an annual budget of \$220,000.