

Stumbling blocks keep curricula from becoming departments

Editor's note: This is the second article in a two-part series looking at the differences between department and curriculum classes.

By Robin Lowe
Staff Writer

Although it is not difficult for new programs to evolve into respected branches of study at UNC, it is practically impossible for curricula to achieve departmental status here.

"I can't think of any cases where this has happened," said Richard Cramer of the College of Arts and Sciences. "There are virtually no faculty who teach only in a curriculum."

Faculty members in each curriculum come from various departments. For example, professors of geography, political science, languages and other disciplines with departmental status teach classes in the international studies curriculum but have a home in their respective departments.

"One of the big stumbling blocks (in

the transformation of curricula into departments) is that most of these professors want to keep their home base in a department which the University recognizes and have a cooperative arrangement within different departments," Cramer said.

Michael Luger, chairman of the curriculum in public policy, said one of the curriculum's main strains and stresses was the absence of a faculty. "In times of budget crises, commitments to us are the first to go."

The curriculum in leisure studies and recreation administration, founded about 50 years ago, proves an exception to this rule. Leisure studies, the largest and oldest curriculum on campus, does have its own faculty.

Cramer said the establishment of departmental status for curricula was an item being pushed within the General Administration. Departmental status would enable a former curriculum to have its own faculty.

However, efforts to award depart-

mental status to curricula have been resisted because individual departments want to keep their faculty members, Cramer said. Another obstacle stems from the no-growth period, when no new positions are being created within the University, he added.

A major proliferation of curricula occurred in the 1970s. Departments involved with a curriculum were offered new faculty positions then if they participated. Since then, few have been established.

Cramer said he thought faculty opposition to new departments would be weakened if the University could afford to hire new people.

"Also, as Ph.D.s start to come out of interdisciplinary studies, things might be changed," he said. "As of now, we have no graduate degree programs which are interdisciplinary."

Cramer said that more than 100 years ago social sciences, psychology and sociology grew out of philosophy and gained departmental status.

"Personally, I'm not optimistic about the establishment (of curricula into departments) through faculty channels," Cramer said. "It's basically political push. It could go either way."

UNC administrators and faculty members respond to national and state government needs and trends, Cramer said. "For example, the applied sciences curriculum was created in response to business and political leaders who said we need students with those types of degrees."

But some programs have experienced problems gaining curriculum status.

Officials who govern several concentrations within the interdisciplinary studies major that do not offer their own degrees have tried to acquire curriculum status. The women's studies program, founded in 1976, offers a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in women's studies. The program also offers a certificate in women's studies similar to a minor.

Denise Currin, administrative assistant for the women's studies program, said students would be able to minor in the program officially in the fall.

The program has been trying to attain curriculum status since 1989. Director Barbara Harris said the General Administration had denied the request because of budget cuts.

Harris said she hoped changes in the spring within the General Administration would loosen up the situation. "I want to make it known that there's been a lot of support on this campus; the problem is not at all in Chapel Hill."

For a prospective program to become an established curriculum, any faculty member, committee or campus body needs to submit a proposal to the General Administration. If the administrative board approves the proposal, the Board of Governors can decide to vote on the curriculum status.

Cramer said the most important criterion in the evaluation of prospective curricula was the availability of new

resources, especially money. The General Administration also considers the program's uniqueness and the merits of giving the discipline its own degree, he said.

Whether a field of study offers a major in a curriculum or department does not seem to concern many students.

Elizabeth Goader, who earned a degree in African and Afro-American studies, said that majoring in a curriculum did not bother her but that she believed more people would be attracted to a major if the program had its own faculty and more money.

The problems of gaining departmental status represent somewhat of a Catch-22. Drawing from the resources of other departments gives curricula a wider base but less independence. If these curricula grow into departments, they will have more stability but will lose the advantage of professors from several departments.

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3 students top-ranked in AT&T investment contest

By Jenny McInnis
Staff Writer

Three University students are among North Carolina's top-ranked competitors in the AT&T Collegiate Investment Challenge.

Robert Baker ranks first among participating N.C. students; Dan Springfield, third; and Robert Chen, eighth.

Anissa Klisch, spokeswoman for the challenge, described the competition as "an educational stock market game." Students sign up and are sent a kit, Klisch said.

Students can call in every day and choose to buy and sell from more than 500,000 stocks, Klisch said.

Baker, a junior from Summerfield, ranks 29th nationwide with an account of \$759,574. Springfield, a senior from Swansboro, has an account of \$671,717. Chen's account has \$620,230.

More than 12,500 college students throughout the country, including 61 from UNC, are participating in the investment challenge.

Baker said participants began with \$500,000. "It's like play money," he said. "We then pick an actual company and call the broker and tell them what stock to buy."

"We're replaying the real market with real money."

Baker, a business major, said he hoped playing this stock market would help him later in life. "I want to go into finance, and I like stockbroking."

"(The investment challenge) is educational and beneficial for students."

Anissa Klisch

The competition already has helped Baker get a job.

"I applied for a job in the summer," he said. "This (investment challenge) was the first thing the guy asked about in my resume. A lot of guys got jobs right off because of this."

Klisch agreed that the competition was helpful for students trying to find employment.

"(The investment challenge) is educational and beneficial for students," she said. "It led several of the people to job offers. The companies came to them."

College students can win between \$10,000 and \$25,000, Klisch said. The top 10 national winners win a five-day trip for two to the Bahamas, she said.

The challenge lasts from Nov. 1 until Feb. 28. This is the fourth year of AT&T sponsorship.

Klisch said participants did not keep the money they earned.

"It would be nice because some of them earn a lot," she said. "The best part is that there is no real financial loss."

Teens

Loda said: "I think that it is important to keep in mind that none of the problems that adolescents have occurred in isolation. The drug abuse, pregnancy and school dropout rate are manifestations of difficulties that adolescents have in completing their education, reaching maturity and getting an appropriate job."

"What the project is trying to do really is not focus on negative behavior so much as focusing on ways to develop services and supports for adolescents so that they can complete their education, avoid unwanted pregnancy and become self-supportive."

One-to-one counseling and home visits are two methods the project uses to educate teenagers and address their social and medical needs, said Hughes, Adolescents-in-Need program coordinator.

Orange County is one of the few counties that offers comprehensive health care to teenagers. As a result, there is a day care center with spaces reserved for children of adolescent mothers so that they can complete their educations, Loda said.

"We've helped by being involved with other community agencies to start new programs," he said. "There are many more services in the community being done by a lot of different groups that the Adolescents-in-Need project has helped support. There are areas that still need help.... We are going to have to work on the younger adolescents so that they don't get pregnant in the first place."

Geared toward students, the project is located and operated out of an office in Orange County High School.

Adolescents-in-Need is campaigning for more partner involvement, as well, Loda said. "Through the years we've been very successful in encour-

Teen Pregnancy

Pregnancies, ending in induced abortion and live births, of women ages 15-19 in North Carolina and Orange County



aging the partner to come to the delivery," he said. "Over half of the male partners of the adolescents have been present. That's really a very good record for promoting male involvement."

"We never really talked about it much. He just kind of assumed that there would be no baby. He tried to sway me in what I thought — 'You know you have to finish college before you have a kid.'"

The NCCAP recently began a poster campaign focusing on the man's responsibility in teenage pregnancy, Douglas said. "They don't see it as a guy's problem," she said. "People are trying hard all over the country to get the male involved. He knows he can leave at any time.... We are telling them that there is more to having sex than having sex. There is a lot of responsibility involved."

"He said, 'I'll pay for it,' not, 'Let's talk about it.' He seemed real familiar with abortions. He had been through so many, his attitude was so nonchalant. It's really sad that with something so

important he could take it with so little regard. It says something bad about society. Our relationship just crumbled at that point. I would have much rather had the emotional support than the financial from him."

Loda said young men often were under stress and didn't have the job skills to provide for a family. "We have to help them attain the skills so that they

can support their children in a meaningful way," he said. "That's an area I hope Orange County will take a lead in the state, in looking at the issue of male involvement not in just a punitive way, but also a supportive way."

Despite the efforts of these and other agencies, the state hasn't seen a significant change in the teen pregnancy rate in the last 10 years. Loda said he didn't think progress would be made until people recognized the need for a more comprehensive approach to helping adolescents. "As long as we just focus on the specific projects... we are not going to make much progress," he said. "They have to see that there is hope and opportunity out there for them."

"I feel like it was a dream — the whole thing seemed like it happened while I was asleep. It was something that would never happen to me. Well, now I know it can."

"My biggest regret is sleeping with that guy. The relationship was not true. It made me do the worst thing in my life. Yes, I regret having the abortion, but there was no alternative. I will regret it to the day I die. I'm probably going straight to hell."

Campus Calendar

- TUESDAY**
- 4 p.m. International Careers Panel will be held in 224 Union. Sponsored by UCPPS and Office of International Programs.
 - 4:15 p.m. Job Hunt 102: A resume writing workshop for seniors and graduate students will be held in 210 Hanes. Sponsored by UCPPS.
 - 5 p.m. UNC Juggling Club to meet in Carmichael Ballroom.
 - 5:30 p.m. Job Hunt 101: Basic information on using the UCPPS office will be provided for seniors and graduate students in 210 Hanes.
 - University Art Association, 214 Hanes Art Center.
 - 6 p.m. UNC-HOSA will host a speaker on autism in 224 Union.
 - 7 p.m. TARP will meet in 206 Union.
 - Great Decisions Lecture Series: Kenneth Menklaus of Davidson College to speak on "Africa South of the Sahara: Fresh Winds of Democracy?" in 100 Hamilton.
 - 7:30 p.m. Carolina Indian Circle, Campus Y lounge.
 - 8 p.m. UNC Young Democrats, 210 Union.
 - a.p.p.l.e.s. will present "Challenge Your Motives," a workshop by Denise Beal dealing with selfishness vs. self-interests in community service in 208 Union.
 - 9 p.m. Cupid's Day Mixer at Payer's until midnight. Sponsored by SRC and WHC governments.

Corrections

In the Feb. 5 Student Congress election previews, Jeff McGraw, a candidate in Dist. 12, said he wanted to work for the needs of Greenville students, not graduate students.

In the Feb. 5 story "UNC officials, SEAC hope to ease tension," there was incorrect information. SEAC still plans to involve housekeepers in sales during their fund-raisers.

In the Feb. 10 story, "GPSF hopeful Harrell targets grad concerns about fees, insurance," one of Tracey Harrell's goals for the Graduate and Professional Student Federation was incorrect. Harrell wants to work for health insurance for research and graduate assistants employed by the University.

The Daily Tar Heel regrets the errors.

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