

New Constitution Written

by Zollie Stevenson

The newly proposed Student Government Association Constitution will strengthen the power of the Student Senate and will admit commuter representatives as SGA Senators if approved by students.

Students will vote on the proposed constitution on Tuesday, April 10, 1973 in the Student Center.

Some of the proposed changes include: The Senate will be chaired by the vice-president of SGA. This will allow the president more time to devote toward maintaining his duties as an executive officer and will allow his vice-president to directly participate in student government.

The SGA president will have the right to veto any legislation that he disapproves. However, the Senate may override the president's veto by a three-fourths majority vote.

Strengthening the power of the senate will allow a more balanced separation of power to exist between the executive, legislative and judicial branches of student government.

Two commuter senators will be elected by commuter student members of SGA.

This move will provide a representative body for commuters that exists for dorm students under past SGA constitutions.

The proposed constitution also

provides for year round senate representation and eliminates class officers.

The class offices, president, vice-president and secretary, will be eliminated in favor of three class senators.

The three candidates from each class with the largest number of votes will assume the three senate seats in their class.

Senior, junior, sophomore, commuter and interdorm sena-

tors will assume their senate seats at the end of fourth term.

Freshmen senators from the preceding class will retain their senate seats until the new freshmen class arrives in the fall and can elect their own senators.

Interdorm senators will be elected by the dorm village community and will chair the Interdorm Council.

This action will increase the councils membership from eight

to ten members.

The interdorm senators will be ex-officio members of Interdorm Council.

The chairman of the judicial board will be determined by members of the judicial board.

The boards recommendation will be presented to the senate for approval.

Previously, the SGA president chose the chairman of the judicial board and was then presented to the senate for approval.

Minor changes that have been made in the constitution include the addition of an Elections Commissioner and the deletion of permanent cabinet appointments.

The cabinet positions that have been deleted include communications, social, judicial and sports commissions.

These commissions will be created as deemed necessary by the SGA president with the senates approval.

New Theatre Planned

Highsmith Discusses New Programs

A month has passed since the Board of Trustees approved the Chancellor's New Programs on March 5.

The Board of Trustees has sent the proposal to implement the new programs to William C. Friday, president of the consolidated University of North Carolina.

From Friday the proposals will go to the Long-Range Planning Committee of the Board of Governors. They will decide what programs to fund and if so how much funding will go into each program.

On the Sunday night before the Board of Trustees passed the proposals, Chancellor Highsmith

and members of the Board of Trustees met with 125 students and faculty members in the Humanities Lecture Hall at the request of a resolution passed by the student senate and presented to the board by Ray Gasperson.

At the Sunday night meeting the proposals met with some degree of criticism from members of the student body, but for the most part the opinions voiced were in favor of the new programs.

The new programs were endorsed by Dr. James Vinson, chairman of the Chancellor's Commission on Curricular Reform, the Alumni Association, Communications Commissioner, Chuck Campbell, Pat Gainey, Managing Editor of the RIDGERUNNER and former Community Services Commissioner Grady Wacaster.

Among the members in opposition to the new programs were SGA President, Ray Gasperson, who expressed the desire to see the university remain a strictly liberal arts institution and emphasized the need for high quality education.

The Board of Trustees passed the proposals with one dissenting vote, that of Ray Gasperson.

In discussing the Sunday night meeting, Highsmith said, "The students brought up good points, but we can't continue to operate

on the limited program we now have; it must either grow or shrink.

There is a need for the type of programs that we have proposed in this area and the new programs will carry with them the same high quality of education that the present curriculum does'.

The choice of the new programs in environmental sciences, health sciences, management and in music and dance was made after more than a years examination of the needs confronting UNC-A and the community.

The program in health sciences will require a new building, an increased faculty and staff along with very specialized equipment. Part of the instruction will be administered at local hospitals.

The earliest possible date that this program could be started would be the fall of 1975.

The programs in management and in environmental sciences if all goes according to plans could become a reality by the fall of 1974.

It would be 1977 before the music and dance programs could get started. These two programs are oriented toward the establishment of a School of Fine Arts which would include drama, art, dance and music.

Plans are underway to construct a theatre for experimental drama; which would be located

behind the north end of the Humanities Building.

The structure will measure 12,000 sq. feet and will be shared by the art and drama departments.

Inside the building there will be a small theatre that will seat approximately 250 people. Construction could begin as early as this fall.

Along with these other programs the Trustees agreed to work toward starting a graduate program, when the state feels there's a need for it.

"These programs are not designed to provide any great assistance to students who are presently enrolled, because most of the presently enrolled students will have graduated by the time these programs are started," Highsmith said.

"We are going to continually try to improve the liberal arts program that we now have for the students enrolled," he commented.

Dr. Highsmith feels that these new programs have merit; will attract new students, thus increasing enrollment; and will make students already here want to stay, increasing the retention rate.

It will be several months before the Board of Governors will make a decision on the new programs, but Highsmith feels their decision will be favorable. The allocation of funds is another question yet to be answered.

Formal or Informal?

The Social Commission of SGA would like to know how many students would be in favor of having a spring formal dance and how many would be in favor of an informal dance.

This would be a graduation dance to be held in the Greek Community, Center, tentatively set

for April 28.

At a formal dance, coat and tie would be required of all guys with the appropriate formal wear for girls.

Sam Ferguson, Social Commissioner requests that students make their feelings known by contacting him or other SGA personnel.

Student Involvement Desired

Kramer Replaces Spangler

by Pat Gainey

Effective April 1, Dr. George Kramer became acting Director of Admissions for UNC-A.

Dr. Kramer is Director of Institutional Research and Development and fills the admissions Development and fills the admissions vacancy created when Dr. Ben Spangler resigned the post to accept a post doctoral research fellowship.

In an interview with THE RIDGERUNNER this week Dr. Kramer said, "I find this job extremely challenging and I look forward to working with the administration, faculty, and students.

The primary function of this office is to bring students into the institution and give them the information, guidance, and help they need."

When asked what changes may be forthcoming in the admissions procedure, Dr. Kramer said, "Carolyn McElreath and I will maintain the ongoing functions of the Admissions Office. We will implement changes where necessary but it is a bit too soon to see exactly what changes will be made. Right now we are concerned with establishing good relationships with the community."

One area for change cited by Dr. Kramer was the admissions

procedure. "We will have to change some procedures and some policies. We want more student involvement in the admissions process," said Kramer.

"One key," said Kramer, "is to improve the communications process. In other words we need to make information about our programs and our options known."

Dr. Kramer said he "eagerly encourages and invites assistance, suggestions, and support from all parts of the campus community, primarily from the students."

Dr. Kramer is a graduate of Florida State University with a degree in Higher Education, Administration and Research.



Departing Dr. Ben Spangler Briefs Incoming George Kramer.