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In Protest

UNC-A PROFESSOR TO RESIGN POST?

This article appeared this summer in the Asheville Citizen Times. This is a word-for-word reprint.

A University of North Carolina at Asheville professor is resigning his position with the university to protest what he calls unfair treatment of some faculty members by the school's administration.

Dr. William Thurman, chairman of the classics department since 1968 and a full professor for 14 years, said Friday that he will resign as of May 1978 "just to get away from all the trouble on campus."

Thurman is one of two UNC-A professors who recently filed complaints against the university with the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) Office of Civil Rights. HEW is currently investigating allegations that reprisals had been taken against faculty for their part in testifying before the university board of trustees in another civil rights case.

"I believe that at UNC-A some of the most honorable and honest and capable persons on campus are being unjustly treated," Thurman said.

"The corruption in that institution is very deep and I just don't want to enter into it to any great extent," he said.

Thurman said that the administration of the school was, in effect, asking its faculty, "Will you be a rubber stamp or else?" "And we just took the 'or else'."

The Citizen reported Thursday that Dr. Phillip Walker, chairman of the history department for 13 years, said he was dismissed from that position because he testified for Dr. Mechthild Cranston before the university board of trustees. He said that he told the trustees she should be granted tenure.

Dr. Cranston, an assistant professor of foreign languages, was refused tenure at the university in 1976 and an investigation of charges of sex discrimination was conducted by the HEW. It has not released its findings yet.

Dr. Cranston alleged that she was refused tenure because she is a woman and that only two members of the tenured faculty are women.

Dr. Thurman said that he did not lose his position as head of the classics department but said "there have been reprisals." He said that, a number of times, administration members have mentioned abolishing the classics department.

UNC-A Chancellor Dr. William E. Highsmith said that the university administration is studying the classics department to determine whether there is enough student interest to continue the program's existence.

Highsmith said that he was not aware of Thurman's intention to resign.

"He said something about it but I don't know what the specifics are," Highsmith said.

"I don't think it is proper to speak of something which has not happened yet and which is just a verbal statement," he added.

Highsmith refused to comment on any charges made by Thurman.

Thurman said that the pressure of the situation was also one of the reasons he is taking a leave of absence from his teaching duties during the fall semester.

"The central motive in my life is to glorify Jesus and the situation there has become such that I do not think I can continue to occupy that position in the midst of the turmoil that surrounds it," Thurman said.

"The conditions under which I had to operate there for the past year have just been such that I need to get away in order to maintain a friendly relationship with the people there," he added.

Thurman said that he strongly supported Walker in his stance.

"The treatment accorded Phillip Walker is one of the main reasons I am resigning," he said.

Thurman said that Walker was not the first to be "stripped" of his department chairmanship. He said that Dr. Jack C. Wilson, a former chairman of the mathematics department, was removed from that position because he was "in disfavor" in the eyes of the administration.

He also said that several faculty members were elevated to high positions in the university who were not qualified. He would not give any names.

Lewis Bryson, chief investigator with HEW Office of Civil Rights, said Friday that his staff has completed the onsite portion of the investigation and that analysis of the information would begin soon. But he estimated that it could take from six to eight weeks before the results are made public.

Infirmary Information 1977-1978

Infirmary Hours—

Monday, Wednesday, Friday — Open 8:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. and 7:00-9:00 p.m. (except for lunch)

Tuesday, Thursday—Open 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. and 7:00-9:00 p.m. (except for lunch)

There are infirmary open hours, but nursing service is available for emergencies from 8:00 a.m. Monday through 8:00 a.m. Saturday. If town students need emergency treatment, they must call infirmary before coming; dormitory students must notify a proctor or police officer, and the infirmary will be called before student is brought over. Night nurse is at infirmary 16 hours, 8 of which are duty hours, and 8 sleeping time. So unless there is an emergency during the night that requires immediate attention, the nurse is not called.

If nurse is not at infirmary as scheduled, note of explanation will be taped to door, noting time of return or where nurse is, and

Thurman
to leave?



DANCE A SMASH

The orientation dance was a smashed success as students loosened up and got tight. The band was great, the beer was cold, the gameroom was open, and everyone got a kick out of seeing old friends and meeting new people.

Bill Branham, S.G. President, went the extra mile Friday night when it became apparent that the beer supply was running low. Instead of closing the kegs, the man got in a couple of more kegs. Somehow, we had enough beer.

I.D.'s were not checked only because

most students had not gotten them processed by Friday. They will be checked in the future, so have them ready.

Two complaints, however. Just because the beer is free, please don't get more than you can drink. The tables were covered with cups full of beer. Leave it for someone who wants it. Also, try to put them in the trashcan. The student volunteers who clean up afterwards would appreciate it. We can't help but look forward to the next dance. The S.G. social schedule has not been drawn up yet, but we'll keep you posted.

UNC-A NAMED ECONOMIC STUDY CENTER

By ALISON PHILLIPS

After serving a year as a pre-center, the University of North Carolina at Asheville has been designated the first Center for Economic Education in North Carolina of which Dr. Shirley Browning, associate professor of economics, will direct. As part of a developing network of colleges and universities throughout the state, the Centers work with public schools to expand the economic education of young people from the elementary through the secondary levels. For the past five years, UNC-A has offered workshops in economic education and mini-society simula-

tions for area teachers.

can be reached. If nurse not on duty because of illness, Vance Hall office will be notified, and police officers notified.

Infirmary closed weekends after 8:00 a.m. If students need medical attention, or there is medical emergency, notify campus police and they will see that help is obtained, or will take student to Memorial Mission Emergency Room.

No charges are made for registered students who use the infirmary, come to see the doctor, have treatments, are given medications, or stay overnight. (A few expensive medications such as antibiotics are carried at infirmary as a convenience to students, and a portion of the cost is charged if the student wishes to have the prescription filled at the infirmary.) Visits to the doctor's office, or laboratory or

tions for area teachers.

Dr. Browning stated that the Economic Department is highly pleased by the NCCEE action and that it will mean greater support for UNC-A from both the National and N.C. Councils in terms of materials to help with curriculum development. Dr. Browning further mentioned that funding for workshops and in-service training will come primarily from the private sector, corporations, and foundations, with no cost to the public schools other than the time of the teachers attending these programs. Dr. Margaret O'Donnell, assistant professor of economics, will work with Dr. Browning on the project.

x-ray work done at an office is paid for by the student. Prescriptions are filled at pharmacies at student cost if the medications are not carried at the infirmary.

Doctors' Hours—

Monday, Wednesday, Friday—8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Students wishing to be seen must be here between 8:30-9:00 a.m. Dr. Claude Steen or Physician's Associate, Mr. Robert Jackson.

Tuesday—4:00-5:00 p.m. Students must be here between 4:00-4:30 p.m. Dr. Edith Hapke.

Thursday—2:00-3:00 p.m. The doctor will see all students who come during this hour. Dr. John C. Ransmeier.

In emergencies, or between visits made

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