

Kaleidoscope

servicing the students of the University of North Carolina at Asheville

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UNCA book prices skyrocket

By Marty Cherrix

Students enrolled at UNCA for the 1982 fall semester were not only shocked by the long registration lines, but also by the cost of textbooks. According to Joyce Williamson, manager of the UNCA Bookstore, the cost of textbooks has almost doubled since 1977. For example, "Occupations and Social Structures," a Sociology 300 level book, cost \$12.95 in September 1977. The same book purchased in June 1982, cost \$21.95. These statistics indicate a 41 percent increase.

The UNCA Bookstore does not establish book prices, according to Williamson. The Bookstore purchases books from the publisher and this same purchase price is charged to the students. In other words, the price paid by students for textbooks

is established by the publisher.

In order to offset shipping charges, the Bookstore adds a 25 cent charge to each book. Williamson says freight charges, as book prices, have also doubled within the past five years. She estimates shipping costs average between 25 cents and \$1.00 per book, depending on the size of the book.

William H. Pott, Vice Chancellor of Finance, established the 25 cent surcharge in conjunction with the Bookstore as a minimum charge to each student. Williamson estimates that 75 percent of college stores in North Carolina assess a freight charge to the cost of each book. Williamson says, "At the Bookstore we try to work with the student to save him as much money as possible."

How can students save money on their textbooks? Williamson suggests buying and reselling used books. The Bookstore buys back textbooks for 50 percent of the current list price. For example, if a student purchases a new book for \$10.00, the Bookstore will pay the student \$5.00 for that book at the end of each semester. In turn, the Bookstore resells the same book for \$7.50, or 75 percent of the list price.

If an instructor elects to change books and the book cannot be used in another class, the Bookstore resells the used book to a used book company. UNCA began this policy in 1977. Prior to that time, UNCA did not deal with used book companies.

As a general rule, the Bookstore pays 10 percent on the dollar for

paperbacks that will not be used again the following semester. However, if the Bookstore knows definitely that the paperback is to be used again, they will pay the student 50 percent of the list price.

High book prices, like long registration lines, are a reality on the UNCA campus. Students interested in saving money may want to buy used books and in turn, sell their new or used books back to the Bookstore. Students who participate in these book buys should take their books to the Bookstore on specific days at the end of each semester. The Bookstore posts the dates and times for the book sale around campus.

Parking a problem

By Carol Whitener

Parking, or rather the lack of it, has become a major problem on the University of North Carolina at Asheville campus.

This summer parking at UNCA was increased by 231 spaces while student enrollment increased by approximately 300 people.

"A big part of the parking problem is people want to park close to the building where they want to go," states head of Campus Police, Chief Charles Carreno.

The Campus Police are aware of the parking problem. Chief Carreno states, "We try to be fair," when issuing tickets. He explained "fair" by saying that if his men drive around campus and see 15 or 20 empty parking spaces then tickets will be issued to those people who are parked illegally. If the officers see only a few spaces empty, tickets will not be given. Under no circumstances will parking be allowed in handicapped areas or in front of fire hydrants, due to state law.

Planning engineer, Sam Millar, stated, "Every year additional parking is added." During 1978-79, the 200 space Zageir parking lot was added. Last summer 35 spaces were added behind the gym.

Adding parking is a problem

because the state does not appropriate money for building parking areas. The parking fund, used to build and maintain the parking lots at UNCA is compiled from the \$14.00 everyone pays for his parking sticker and from parking fines.

Adding the Zageir parking lot cost approximately \$900 per space to construct. The new parking spaces added this summer cost only about \$170 each. Millar lowered the cost of building by contracting to a local company.

"There is a sufficient number of spaces," believes Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Tom Cochran. He also stated that no more parking will be added this year, but there is a committee looking at future options.

The Campus Police will start enforcing the parking zones by the second week of September. The fines are \$5.00 for parking in Handicapped and No Parking zones. All other fines are \$2.00.

Last year there were 978 parking spaces available to accommodate 2266 students. This year there are 1209 spaces available to approximately 2500 students.

Chief Carreno asks for the cooperation of the campus community in reducing the parking problem.



Tight Squeeze - Due to the increased enrollment parking has become a problem on campus.
Photo by Carol Whitener

LIKE TO SKATE?

Come to the outdoor skating party and cookout Saturday, Sept. 11 from 6-11 p.m. in the QUAD. Music and skates provided. Must present I.D.