

Reagan proposes cuts in student aid

By Joan Schnyder
Staff Writer

The budget proposal for 1988 submitted to Congress by the Reagan Administration suggests cuts in education that would eliminate 3 million students from financial aid programs next year.

At this time, about 650 UNCA students receive financial aid. It is unknown, however, exactly how many of these students would be affected if Congress approves the proposal, said Carolyn McElrath, director of financial aid at UNCA.

One aspect of the proposal is to drastically cut Pell Grant funding, and make people with incomes of over \$15,000 per year ineligible for the program. "The cuts will effect about one-third of the students who are currently receiving the Pell Grant at UNCA," said McElrath.

Another proposed cut eliminates the College Work/Study program.

The elimination of work/



Financial Aid Director
Carolyn McElrath

study funds would not only adversely affect the students receiving the aid, but also the university, McElrath said.

"The work/study students are a very vital force on campus. They are very helpful to the institution as a whole.

"Some students who work on campus are on departmental or university budget,

and some are on work study. If work/study was eliminated, the jobs supported by the program would either have to be funded by the university or done away with," said McElrath.

The proposal could affect student loan programs in two ways.

The first proposal would cut the Guaranteed Student Loan Program, and develop alternative loan programs with higher interest rates. The other proposal is to make loans the primary form of financial aid.

"We feel students will be heavily burdened by loans as the only alternative for financial aid," said McElrath.

"Financial aid departments nationwide have a philosophy that there should be some self help aspect in financial aid, but in a certain quantity. It should not be all loans," she added.

Another drastic change is in the definition of an independent student. However, these changes have already

passed through Congress, and are currently in effect.

To qualify for aid as an independent student, a person must qualify as one of the following:

- * a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces;
- * a ward of the court;
- * have a legal dependant other than a spouse;
- * not have been claimed as a tax exemption to parents in either 1985 or 1986
- * and, have had benefits and income less than \$4000 in 1985 or 1986.

"Such a drastic change was intended to make fewer self supporting students, but with the elimination of so many programs I think more students will try to move in that direction," said McElrath.

To foot the cost of their education, affected students will have to seek more part-time employment. This will increase the length of their college education and create priority conflicts, McElrath said.

"If a person is a full-time

student, some employment is good. Too much employment, however, will deter them from being students, and that is their first priority," she said.

"I also see that with the extra work students will be forced to cut their hours," she added.

The measures proposed are just that -- proposals. They still have to pass through Congress. It is important, however, that students take steps to let Congress know how they feel about the proposed cuts, said McElrath.

"We all are going to have to do something about the proposal. We don't want Congress to assume we are taking it for granted that they are going to vote against it," she said.

"I think our Congress needs to hear from the people out in the community especially the students," she added.

Search for management director continues

By Cynthia Bennett
Staff Writer

Although the search continues, no replacement for Dr. Tim Hollingsworth, former director of the management department at UNCA, has been found as of yet.

The search committee formed to find a replacement met yesterday to narrow down the number of applicants.

The new director will probably not be named until the end of February, according to Dr. Tom Cochran, head of the search committee.

There have been over 60 applicants for the position according to Cochran. The deadline to apply was Jan. 31.

"We have advertised widely, and have received a very good response," said Cochran. "It's going to be hard to decide who will fulfill the position best.

"The school started advertising nationwide for the position in November in the Chronicle of Higher Education, the Academy of Management Journal," and se-

veral regional business publications, according to Cochran. UNCA also advertised at several regional economic meetings, he said.

Hollingsworth, in an article in the Nov. 20 issue of the Blue Banner, expressed dissatisfaction with the support the management department receives from the administration. Dr. Hollingsworth also expressed a concern over the insufficient number of full-time instructors. Almost a third of UNCA's student body declares management as their major.

Dr. Robert Williams has been named acting chairman until the new director takes position.

"Dr. Hollingsworth felt that we do not have enough instructors to justify our enrollment, and I see his point," said Williams. "There are only 13 or 14 full-time instructors in our department," he added.

"On the other hand, our students are required to take certain courses outside of the department, such as computer and economic courses. This

could be considered a disadvantage or an advantage, depending on your perspective," he continued.

Williams acknowledged that accredited business schools teach all courses out of their own department.

"I personally feel, however, that the exposure our students receive from the other departments could be considered an advantage. The business school approach may be narrow," said Williams, who added that he had not attended an accredited business school and was not an authority on the subject.

"It's all a matter of interpretation. Dr. Hollingsworth was a great director; hopefully, we can find another just as good," said Williams.

The committee searching for the new director is formed by Cochran, Dr. Henry Stern, Dr. Wayne Lang, Martha Marshall, Dr. Ricardo Reinoso, Dr. John Reinecke and Dr. David Hott. Each member was allocated a number of applications to review.

"We hope to at least be able

to announce a replacement by spring break," said Cochran. He added that the new di-

rector, even if named soon, will probably not take position until the fall semester.

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