

The Banner

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New masters program to begin at UNCA this spring

By Maria Horton
News Editor

The new Master of Liberal Arts (MLA) program is designed to "deliberately cut across disciplinary borders," according to Dr. Theodore Uldricks, the program's director.

"A bachelor's in English or nursing will be just as relevant as a bachelor's in philosophy or literature," he said. The target group for the degree will be those who are out of college, in mid-career, and want to return to an academic setting one or two nights a week.

A Master of Liberal Arts is a fairly new degree, according to Uldricks. "There are only 60-70 universities in the country that have this type of degree," he said.

"Duke has had one for about 15 or 20 years. Wake Forest and UNC-Greensboro have one. N.C. State along with UNCA have added the degree this year," Uldricks said.

"The core goal for the MLA is intellectual stimulation and personal intellectual development as opposed to career ad-

vancement," he added.

The MLA was approved by the University of North Carolina General Assembly and the Board of Governors last Spring. The Fall semester will be spent advertising the MLA's existence and accepting applications for classes beginning the Spring of 1989, Uldricks said.

"We have no new students right now, but the interest has been high. We have already sent out information to 160 people, and we haven't really advertised yet," he said.

Approximately 36 students will be accepted for the January 1989 class and another 36 for the August 1989 class. "The spring semester will start off with Humanities 500, The Human Condition which is the theme for the program," Uldricks said.

"The focus will be on the problems of human nature and its values. You can't do all that in just a humanities class. You need other disciplines too," he said.

The MLA will contain a five course core that is required by

all students, five or six electives and a thesis or project for a total of 33 semester hours. Uldricks added there will be room for choice, and the degree will take three to five years to complete.

"We will be looking for a diversity of background for the classes and expect interest from all disciplines. We have had a lot of interest from engineers and attorneys as well as physicians and priests," Uldricks said.

People who missed the challenge of undergraduate study, certain retirees and those who have a strong technical background and "wished they had studied Plato," will probably make up the bulk of the students who enroll in the program, he said.

"We expect the average student to be 10 years older than the traditional UNCA student," he said.

The January class will feature a team teaching format with Dr. Margaret Downes and Dr. Alan Comer serving as the

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Staff Photo--Stacey Higdon

College night offered local high school students an opportunity to meet with recruiters from area colleges as well as prominent universities such as Yale and Notre Dame. School representatives met with potential college applicants in Justice Gym Wednesday night from 6-8:30 p.m.

SGA seeks communication

By Kris Beddingfield
Assistant News Editor

The Student Government Association (SGA) wants to re-establish the lines of communication and is actively working this semester to attain that goal.

"We're trying to find ways to talk to people so they'll talk to us," Robert Straub, Commuter Senator, said.

"SGA is trying to create a bond between administration, faculty and students," Rosalee Hart, SGA president, said. "I want student government to be more active. If students have problems, they can come to us. It takes time but, things will be done," she said.

SGA is co-sponsoring a dance with Peace Link, a national non-partisan organization, to encourage voter registration. The dance will be on the Quad October 2 and will feature two or three bands.

"We're going to sell refresh-



Staff Photo--Stacey Higdon
SGA President Rosalee Hart

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Health promotions minor added to curriculum

By Susan Dryman
Staff Writer

For two years, Dr. Cheryl McClary worked to see a health promotion minor become a reality at UNCA.

McClary appeared unopposed before the Faculty Senate and Academic Approval Board before the minor was approved.

The health promotion minor is designed to provide students an opportunity to supplement and give added dimension to majors already in place in the university curriculum. In addition, the minor addresses the scientific and philosophical questions which are inspired by health promotion topics.

"I really can't think of a major that this minor couldn't supplement. Even if you never intend to go into the health care industry, you learn so much through this program

about being a healthy person, no matter what you want to do with the rest of your life," McClary said.

In particular, she says the Health Promotion minor will benefit Mass Communication majors who wish to go into hospital public relations or administration.

It will also benefit Psychology and Sociology majors wishing to work with patients in health care institutions, Environmental Science and Biology majors and especially Pre-med majors, according to McClary.

But she stresses the interdisciplinary aspects of the minor, not just what it can do for a particular major.

"The World Health Organization's definition of 'health' is 'a complete state of mental, physical, and social well-being and not merely the absence of

infirmity.' So you can see through this definition that health care is interdisciplinary, that is, it draws from all the sciences," McClary said.

This pooling of other departmental resources is evidenced in the number of lecturers from other disciplines who will teach Health Promotion courses in the Spring. Lecturers include Dr. William Bruce from the psychology department, Dr. John Bernhardt from the biology department and Dr. Lothar Dohse from the mathematics department.

To obtain the minor, students must fulfill 17-19 hours of courses in the Health Promotion department.

Six of these are courses from psychology, management, sociology, philosophy and environmental sciences. Three hours of a student's major may count towards the minor as well.

Library renovations scheduled in November

From Staff Reports

Ramsey Library is expanding to better meet the needs of UNCA students. This expansion will consist of a set of renovations to the building and an expansion of the new on-line computer system in the library which the staff implemented this summer.

The original date for library construction was the spring of 1987 but was delayed due to the library going over budget twice. The new date to begin construction is November 1988.

Malcolm Blowers, university librarian, said a total renovation was needed due to an asbestos problem, code violations and "problems with the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system."

The university had originally planned to build an extension to the library and based their bids on that fact. After hiring

the architects to design the library addition, it was discovered that an addition, as well as a renovation to the present building, was needed.

Blowers said the first over-bidding was due to the unexpected renovation of the present library, and the second was due to lack of adequate bidders.

"We have not been able to get bidders from out of town with a sharp pencil," said Blowers. "Most of the major bidders are working in Charlotte and other larger cities."

The library is planning a new strategy for bidding this month.

"Our tactic is to bid only for the addition, and then we're hoping for some additional funds in the next year which would then be put toward the renovation of this present building," said Blowers.

The new on-line computer system in the library is the

main reason for the new bar code identification cards issued this semester.

UNCA has teamed up with Western Carolina University and Appalachian State University to create the Western North Carolina Library Network (WNCLN).

"Users can now go to a terminal and can either look at our holdings or, by a simple stroke of two or three keys, they can look at the union holdings and determine what each institution has," said Blowers.

Western Carolina is the only college which does not have a current catalogue system for the computers, but plans to have it by next semester, he continued. If a book shows up as "available" at WCU it may not be so. At the present moment all materials at that

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Staff Photo--Linda Greene

The Baptist Student Union recently purchased a house near campus. Mike Stephens will be living there and working with the group this fall. It is the only organization on campus with a house.