

The Banner

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25% of students face warning

by Maria Horton
News Editor

One out of every four students at UNCA may have problems with registration for the Spring semester.

A new university policy designed to help those who have low grade point averages (GPA's) will automatically identify students with below a 2.0 GPA, notify them of their status, and possibly drop classes from their Spring schedule if they do not see their academic advisors for assistance.

Dr. Lisa Friedenberg, chair of the Academic Policy Committee (APC), said the new policy will identify students early in their academic career before it is too late to graduate.

"It's too late to tell people they are in trouble when they are already drowning. We want to warn them before

given an additional 12 hours to pull the GPA up or face terminal probation. If the GPA continued to fall below specified levels, the student would be dismissed after an additional 12 hours of attempted classes.

"Under this new system, a student in trouble will go to his advisor and discuss how to get his grades up before it is impossible to graduate," Mitchell said. "The advisor will have a chart that can tell the student exactly how well he must do in order to pull back up to a 2.0 the next semester."

The goal, according to Mitchell and Friedenberg, is to get the GPA back up and not have students staying around and not being able to graduate.

George Rowland, director of Academic Assistance, said the most significant point to come out of the new policy

Academic warning policy

- 1.) A student whose cumulative GPA falls below 2.0 at the end of any semester will be placed on academic warning.
- 2.) Students will be notified by the Registrar that their schedules for the next semester have been blocked and they must see their academic advisor in order to continue at UNCA.
- 3.) Students on academic warning will be limited to 14 semester hours.
- 4.) Students who fail to seek special advisement when directed to do so will have their schedules cancelled.

they go into the water," she said.

Those students whose schedules are blocked because of low GPA's will not be allowed to register for more than 14 hours in the Spring semester.

"If they fail to see their advisor and change their schedules, the computer will automatically cut classes from their schedules at the end of the drop period," Friedenberg said.

Dr. Catherine Mitchell, APC member, said the new policy came after at least five years of faculty effort to write a "reasonable policy on academic warning and suspension."

"So this is the outcome of negotiations between the committee and Chancellor Brown," she said.

Mitchell added that under old university policy the advisor did not know a student was in trouble until his GPA dropped much lower than a 2.0.

Former university policy, according to the 1986-87 university catalog, placed a student on academic suspension when his GPA dropped below a certain point, which varied according to the number of semester hours attempted.

The student would then be

is that the faculty will now see students who fall below a 2.0 as being in trouble.

"Some always felt that way but others did not," he said. "It will mean that students will be forced to talk to their advisors."

If last year was any indicator, according to Rowland, the policy will affect a quarter of the university students. Students who would not normally see their advisors during the drop/add period will be forced to do so, Rowland said.

Mitchell said the policy has two purposes. One is to see people graduate. "It's not fair to keep people struggling in classes who can't get up to a 2.0, so now they will be suspended sooner," she said.

"It will also try to catch students before they get in that state and have no chance to graduate."

Friedenberg said a study conducted by the Office of Institutional Research looked at what happens to UNCA students who get into difficulties early in the academic careers.

"The results are that people with less than a 2.0 are most likely to drop out and not graduate," she said. "Once a student has compiled 60 see WARNING, page 8



Just hanging around

Staff Photo—Stacey Higdon

Area residents are getting ready for next week's treat or treaters as evidenced by this home on Gracelyn Boulevard.

UNCA hires female vice-chancellor

by Joan Schnyder
Editor

Beverly Wright Cutter has been named vice-chancellor for university relations at UNCA. She will be one of two female vice-chancellors in the University of North Carolina system, said Dr. Eric Iovacchini, vice-chancellor for student affairs. "Beverly Cutter will be the second female vice-chancellor in the University system. There have been others in the past, but currently there are only two," he said.

"This is an unusual appointment for a woman. On the national level, female vice-chancellors are in Student Affairs or Academic Affairs. It's a real coup to have her in this position," Iovacchini continued.

"People tell me this is the first time a woman has been recruited for this level position in Asheville. I don't know if that is really true, but if it is, it's a very positive step," said Cutter.

"However, what I care about most is increasing the quality, awareness and impact of higher education. I think of how the education I have received has made my life so much richer," said Cutter.

Cutter, who has been the chief development official at the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law since 1985 and former Duke University development officer, will join the UNCA administration January 23.

She will be responsible for all university development

activities, as well as the coordination of publications and public information and the Owen Conference Center.

"Beverly Cutter brings the

experience of Chapel Hill and Duke plus her enthusiasm for the liberal arts college we are building," said Chancellor David Brown.

"She's exactly what we need

"She's exactly what we need—a fundraiser, another advocate for quality liberal arts education and a person of boundless energy."

David Brown



Compliments of Public Information Office

-- a fundraiser, another advocate for quality liberal arts education and a person of boundless energy," said Brown.

"Asheville is lucky to have her," said U.S. Senator Terry Sanford, who worked with Cutter while he was the president of Duke University. "She has done an outstanding job in every assignment she has had," he said.

Asheville seems to be a very special place filled with special people, said Cutter.

"Just driving to and from work will be soothing to the soul. I cannot get over the warm welcome which has been extended to me. Each day letters arrive from board members, faculty and staff telling me how pleased they are to learn I will be joining the UNCA team. That means so much," she said.

Cutter said she was attracted to UNCA by "its aspirations, vitality, its humanities and honors program, and its potential. UNCA's commitment to strong undergraduate education gives it a solid sense of mission," Cutter said.

"With the help of dedicated volunteers, we will position ourselves to raise substantial private and grant dollars.

This is where I, working with faculty and volunteers, can make a real difference," she said.

"It's exciting and rewarding to know that my efforts will directly affect higher education in North Carolina," said Cutter.