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"Where there is an open mind, there will always be a frontier." — Kettering

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Women's Studies minor approved

Davey Ramsey
Staff Writer

Members of UNCA's Faculty Senate approved a proposal to create a Women's Studies minor in a meeting Feb. 14.

The minor will begin in the Fall 1991 semester pending final administrative approval.

Women's Studies is a program focusing on women's roles in the history of the various disciplines, said Pamela Nickless, associate professor of economics at UNCA.

The program will provide new and interesting viewpoints on traditional subjects, said Nickless. "People who take courses in Women's Studies tend to be those who feel that they are not getting enough information about women in their major."

Requirements for the minor are similar to other minors at UNCA.

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Photo by Diane Maney

David Dorando lectures in Owen Conference Center during Great Decisions 1991.

WCU professor speaks on world affairs

Susanne Roper
Staff Writer

Although the nation's attention is riveted to the war against Iraq, there are other pressing world issues which present problems that are equally critical, said David Dorando, assistant professor of history at Western Carolina University, Monday evening at the Owen Conference Center.

At this, the third lecture of the Great Decisions 1991 series on world affairs, Dorando discussed the revival of nationalism in relation to both the historical and recent events in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Republics.

Displays of such serious political, social and economic unrest in these Soviet Republics have not occurred since 1945. So, the Soviet Union has not confronted this kind of opposition and threats of revolution since the end of World War II, Dorando said.

"In this process of dramatic change which we see in Eastern

Europe today, one of the crucial differences which we must take note of, in my view, is the difference between Western and Eastern Europe and the degree of reconciliation between traditional enemies," he said.

In Eastern Europe, the post-war imposition of Soviet rule suppressed traditional rivalries among enemies. But when totalitarian rule ended in 1989, centuries-old conflicts that remained unresolved re-emerged between national, ethnic, and social rivals in Eastern Europe, said Dorando.

The crisis in the Soviet Union is of as serious long-term importance to the United States as the war in the Middle East because of the explosive decompression of the Soviet Union, Dorando said.

"It would confront all of Europe and the United States as well with a massive civil conflict in a part of the world still teeming with nuclear and other weapons. The shockwaves of such a conflict

would certainly unsettle the new, democratic governments" in Eastern Europe, he said.

Furthermore, the conflict would deeply trouble the other nations in the European community thereby diverting their attention away from other pressing international issues, he added.

"All of the nationalities' problems in Europe could thus be worsened significantly if the civil war becomes a reality in the Soviet Union," he warned.

Dorando also explained that "American recognition of the situation in the Baltics seems to be growing. And I don't mean official diplomatic recognition, just sort of a general recognition."

"In recent days, official envoys from the State Department have visited Lithuania, and discussions are currently underway in Washington to determine the next most appropriate steps," Dorando said.

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Students explore other cultures

Renee Rallos
Staff Writer

UNCA Teaching Fellows toured eight schools in Dade County Florida Jan. 5-11. The trip allowed Teaching Fellows to see the cultural diversity taking place in one school system.

"We know that the students and the students they will be teaching in the future will be from other cultures. And because of that, we thought that it might be worthy of our time to view schools that have already worked with students in various other nations and races," said Brenda Hopper, associate director of the Teaching Fellows Program.

The Teaching Fellows visited Dade County schools for three days. The schools they visited were

bilingual, computer oriented, predominantly Haitian and a prekindergarten in a federal housing project.

"I was impressed by the innovative techniques they (Dade County schools) were doing. They showed us from one end of the spectrum to the other. They didn't just show their gifted students," said Karen Shelton, sophomore.

"During the trip we observed schools from the area and they showed how people from different cultures can come together and people from lower income families can work to better themselves," said Michelle Logan, freshman.

Teaching Fellows also attended the Philharmonic Orchestra of Florida and spent one day at Epcot Center in Disney World.

Norhna Holton in the foreign language department is on the

Teaching Fellows Advisory Council on campus. She had lived in Miami and made the initial contacts for us," said Hopper.

The trip was not paid for through the Teaching Fellows program. Funding for the trip came "through the university, through endowments, through private contributions, through grants, and the students pay part of it," said Hopper.

While visiting the schools, the Teaching Fellows "had an opportunity to interact with kids," added Hopper.

"We got to read to them (Dade County students), we got to work with them, and correspond with the kids," said Shelton.

My goals "were to learn more about teaching and more innovative ways of handling different situations, meaning

bilingual people or low income or whatever," said Logan.

"Observing the different school system in Miami, working with the kids, and really watching the teachers and all they were doing made me realize how much I need to learn and how much more preparation I need before I get into the school system and teach myself," said Shelton.

While in Miami, the Teaching Fellows stayed in a youth hostel. Youth hostels are similar to dormitories that people can stay at for an inexpensive price. Staying in the youth hostel "taught them (the Teaching Fellows students) a lot about other nations and other people," said Hopper.

The Teaching Fellows Program

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Photo by Miranda Wyatt

Face to face

Jeff Haney and Sonya King chat on a sunny afternoon outside Mills Hall.

Resource center opens at UNCA

Danny Holcomb
Staff Writer

A new outlet, designed to interest women in the community, is getting underway on the UNCA campus. The upstart Women's Resource Center will officially open its doors to the public sometime in March.

The Women's Resource Center will act as a focal point for women and their needs, according to Michelle Smith, junior literature major and member of the Women's Studies Collective. "One of the things we want to do is set up a library full of literature and journals that are interesting to women. Some of the things will be available in the UNCA library, but some will be new to the school."

The Women's Resource Center

was started by members of the Women's Studies Collective, which is a campus organization that involves people discussing women's affairs.

"One reason we felt there was a need for it (Women's Resource Center) was because we felt like there weren't enough services for women," said Michelle Zachs, senior literature major and member of WSC. "It will help us get organized. It will give us a place to focus our energies."

The idea "really started" last March during Women's History Month, explained Smith. "Some women got together over lunches and came up with the notion."

The main objective of the center will be to address all women's issues and curriculum, Smith said.



Smith

"We want to use this as a liaison between the community and UNCA," said Smith. "We want to

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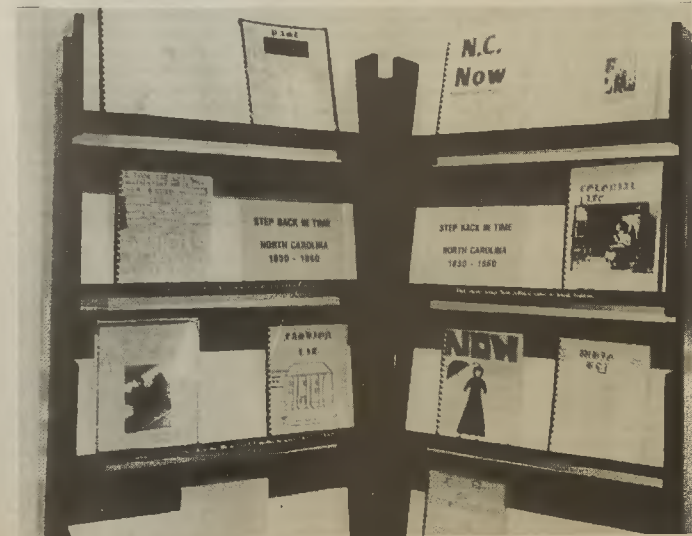


Photo by Lisa Burlison

Step back in time
D. Hiden Ramsey Library displays some remnants of North Carolina's history from 1830 to 1860.