

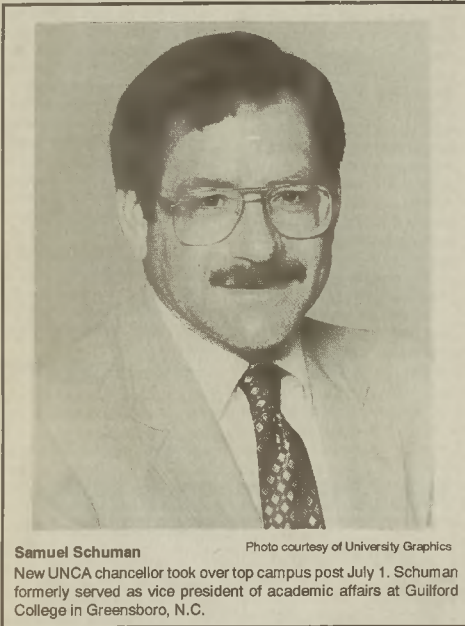
The Blue Banner

"Things have never been more like the way they are today in history." -- Dwight David Eisenhower

Volume XVIII, Number 1

The University of North Carolina at Asheville

Thursday, September 5, 1991



Samuel Schuman
Photo courtesy of University Graphics
New UNCA chancellor took over top campus post July 1. Schuman formerly served as vice president of academic affairs at Guilford College in Greensboro, N.C.

Appointment Of Former Guilford V.P. Ends Controversial Search Process Schuman Assumes Chancellorship

Steve Peake
Editor

After a nine-month search, and several weeks of faculty discontent over that search last spring, UNCA has a permanent chancellor for the first time in over a year.

The UNC Board of Governors named Samuel Schuman to the top UNCA post last May. C.D. Spangler, president of the UNC system, had presented Schuman's name to the board for its approval. Schuman, who assumed his new post in July, replaces Roy Carroll, interim chancellor since August of last year.

A scholar of renaissance drama, Schuman, 48, had been vice-president for academic affairs at Guilford College in Greensboro since 1981. He served for six months as acting president at Guilford in 1988.

"He (Schuman) is superbly qualified to lead an institution that is recognized across the nation as an outstanding public liberal arts institution," said Spangler.

"The search committee, with the firm support of the faculty and the trustees, sought a new chancellor with a deep commitment to the liberal arts tradition," said Spangler, "one who could come to the position as a scholar and a teacher, as well as an experienced administrator. In Sam Schuman, they found a person ideally suited for this role."

Schuman's appointment came on the heels of a controversial search process, which culminated in the passing of a faculty resolution calling on Spangler to extend the search beyond the three candidates recommended by the Chancellor Search Committee. Schuman was apparently one of those three finalists.

Several faculty members had complained at the exclusion of Carroll from the list of finalists. Carroll issued a memo to faculty and staff last year, officially taking his name out of consideration. That memo did not stop the faculty from

passing the resolution calling for a continuation of the search.

Schuman comes to UNCA with his own apparent record of controversy. According to the *Greensboro News & Record*, Schuman drew fire for a memo he issued while at Guilford College. "To the extent that I have a veto on faculty hiring," the *News & Record* quoted Schuman as writing, "I intend not to find satisfactory another white Protestant middle-aged applicant in the management department."

According to the *News & Record*, Lawrence McLean, a white male job-seeker, subsequently filed a complaint with the Equal Opportunity Employment Commission. The college reportedly settled with McLean for "about \$100,000."

The *News & Record* also reported a 1989 scuffle between Schuman and a group of youths from Greensboro's New Garden School. The youths had been reportedly harassing Schuman with verbal taunts as he jogged on the track at Guilford College.

The *News & Record* story paraphrased a New Garden School official as saying one of the youths was pushed into a brick wall, then to the ground.

Schuman denied there had been any physical contact during the incident. "It certainly was not, on the part of either the young people, or of me, a case of physical assault," said Schuman.

"I think everyone concerned was satisfied that there has been nothing improper in either case," said Schuman. "I think the search committee agreed with that assessment. As far as I'm concerned, all that is in the past."

Please See Related Interview - Page 3

Officials, Donors Dedicate Karpen Hall At June Ceremony

Steve Peake
Editor

UNCA's newest classroom building received a permanent name June 28 when officials and friends of the university gathered to dedicate Karpen Hall. Perhaps better-known to faculty, staff and returning students as the "Graduate Center," or simply "The New Classroom Building," the year-old hall now bears the name of Morris Karpen, local businessman and long-time benefactor of the university.

The dedication ceremony honored Karpen for his financial support of UNCA over the years. Karpen's previous donations to the university had helped bring about the completion of Robinson Hall, the campus science building which bears the name of the father of Karpen's wife, Leah.

Samuel Schuman, UNCA chancellor, praised the Karpen's continued aid to the university. "The Karpen family exemplifies a wholehearted engagement with The University of North Carolina at Asheville, which is, to me, gratifying



Staff Photo By Genie Castillo

New Semester, New Name

Students return to Fall classes at the newly-named Karpen Hall. The June dedication honored Morris I. Karpen, local businessman and long-time benefactor of UNCA.

Please See "Dedication" - Page 10

Faculty Sets New Grade Policy

Connie Krochmal
Staff writer

Students can now repeat up to 15 semester hours in order to replace D's and F's with higher grades. The new policy, the result of Faculty Senate action, allows use of the new grades in computing grade point average (GPA).

According to the Registrar's office, the policy became effective after it was approved by the Faculty Senate during the spring of 1991. The new policy is retroactive to include classes repeated during the spring semester of 1991.

Under the previous policy, students could replace F's but not D's.

"The bottom line is that it is to help the students," said Caroline Miller, assistant vice chancellor for

Please See "Grades" - Page 10

Enrollment Officer: Incoming Freshmen Claim High Scores

Renee Rallos
Associate editor

SAT scores for this year's freshman class were between 997-1028, according to Caroline Miller, assistant vice-chancellor for enrollment management. Fifty-eight percent to 67 percent were in the top fifth of their class, said Miller.

"Our student body is more diverse than two or three years ago. My guess is 50 percent is from Western North Carolina; 14 percent is from out of state; maybe 10 percent from the eastern part of the state; and 25 percent is from the piedmont," said Miller.

"In this particular group of freshman about 37 percent have said natural sciences and about 14 percent or 15 percent have said the humanities. There were about 15 percent that came in the Engineering 2+2 program. We're up in natural sciences and down in social sciences," said Miller.

"They are obviously coming for more program specific reasons. They're coming for real specific majors like mass communication, atmospheric science, and environmental studies," said Miller.

The atmospheric science program is

one of the best, said John Franklin, freshman from El Cajon, Calif.

"I was looking at Chapel Hill and I realized it was too big and it didn't have what I wanted. I saw this one (UNCA) and I wanted a branch of this system (University of North Carolina) because it is a good system," said Franklin.

"I had never been to North Carolina before and I had never seen the school until orientation. I just came and didn't know what I was getting myself into," said Franklin.

Franklin also said he had family ties in Virginia, which was another reason he chose UNCA.

For three or four years UNCA has been receiving steady publicity about its academics, said Miller. "There aren't a lot of public liberal arts colleges. I think people are starting to come for more traditional liberal arts kinds of programs," said Miller.

"From a marketing and admissions standpoint the quality is up, because that's the kind of student we've admitted," said Miller.

"They (UNCA) started recruiting for

a basketball scholarship. I really didn't think of them initially, but once they contacted me, I got really interested in the programs," said Stephanie Smith, freshman from Durham, N.C.

"I like the school and the people. They (UNCA) offered me the most plus a good education. It was a total package. I liked the whole thing," said Smith, who is also an Undergraduate Research Fellow.

There are about 20 states represented at UNCA in the freshman class. "We spend a couple of weeks every year in Florida and the Atlanta area. Last year we spent some time in northern Virginia, Maryland and Ohio," said Miller.

"We're sending some representatives to college fairs. And we've started to get a number of students and so we're going into specific schools that are having increasing numbers," said Miller.

The bordering states are sending more students. Following North Carolina, it would be Florida, Georgia, Virginia and Tennessee, said Miller.



Photo Courtesy Of Terry Davis

Merlante Epstein

The search for a replacement for Wally Bowen, former director of public information, produced Epstein. See related story on page 7.

Automatic Teller Machine Installed At Highsmith

Leslie Bell
Staff writer

Now students can afford not to go to their bank. A teller machine is readily available on UNCA's campus. The teller machine is directly outside the Highsmith Center next to the bookstore.

Tom Byers, special assistant to the chancellor, said, "We're very enthusiastic about having this new service offered on our campus."

According to Byers, the service is available due to the collective efforts of administrators, directors and students here on campus.

Byers said placing a teller machine on campus was a decision made some time ago. However, banks were hesitant and thought the traffic flow using the machine would not be productive enough to justify the

Please See "ATM" - Page 10