

Students continued from page one

"I know we have students who have financial need and, either because we are out of money or because of their circumstances, the only thing they are eligible for is a loan. And while we offer loans we have students that turn that down because they don't want to borrow," said Miller.

Students are awarded financial aid on a first-come, first-serve basis. "The government rules are the neediest families are awarded first. But if you were the neediest in March (completed the application in March) then you were the neediest in that group in

March, then the neediest in July could be a different, different set of students and figures income," said McElrath.

"We ask students to at least begin the process after January 1. We ask that they finish the process by March 1. This is in order to be considered for scholarship. That's the deadline for scholarship. It is also our priority filing date for getting all of the financial aid," said McElrath.

The financial aid office considers applicants throughout the year. "Even if they begin the process right now they can still get financial aid for this

semester if they are eligible," McElrath said.

One of the mistakes students make that slows down the financial aid process is not including all the sheets of the student aid report. Another mistake is not including both pages of the cover letter. It has special meaning for financial aid officials.

"I can not award you if you haven't given us everything," said McElrath.

The most common mistake is excluding the earned income credit from the tax return that has to be on the application.

Bolshakov to speak at WAC

Dan Gilmore
Staff Writer

The World Affairs Council of Western North Carolina will hold the first lecture of a four part series on "Global Relations in the Year 2000: Russia, Latin America, United States, Japan" on Sept. 13, 1993 at 7 p.m. in the Owen Conference Center.

Speakers will discuss the social, political and economic attitudes in global relationships as they pertain to their countries and regions. Other topics to be discussed will be the coming changes in those attitudes and how those changes will affect the global relations of his country and region in the year 2000.

"The social, economic and political ties between major countries continue to expand and to exert a growing influence in our daily lives. To be able to understand what our part of the world is about, we need to understand what the rest of the world is about. The World Affairs Council consistently brings to Western North Carolina lectures on international topics by noted experts," said George Yates, professor of management in a UNCA news release.

The first speaker in the series is Boris

Bolshakov, deputy chair, Supreme Soviet Committee on Defense and Security Issues.

Bolshakov served, according to a biographical pamphlet supplied by Bolshakov, as Boris Yeltsin's campaign manager in the Ivanovo region about 120 miles from Moscow.

He is an elected Peoples' Deputy of the Ivanovo region and was elected at the same time Yeltsin was. The Bolshakov lecture will be followed by "45 minutes of question and answer," said Yates.

Bolshakov also serves on the Constitution Committee. This committee was established to prepare a new constitution for the Russian Republic.

Bolshakov was born in 1950 in Siberia "where his father was a professional trapper," the pamphlet said. "After graduating from technical school at age 19 he went to Siberia to work in coal mining."

"He entered the military and served two years in the East," in 1969. After leaving military service in 1971, he entered the university at Ivanovo.

"During this time he became Comsol Secretary of the Ivanovo region in which capacity his specific duties included being responsible for

education, working with young people 15-28 years old. He earned his degree in physics and continued to work with young people," the pamphlet said.

Bolshakov was invited in 1977 to join the KGB where his specialty was security. He obtained the rank of colonel and was a unit leader in Ivanovo.

He now "divides his time between Ivanovo and Moscow where he lives during the week on the 22nd floor of the parliament building housing complex," the pamphlet says.

Bolshakov "was in charge of security during the coup attempt, one of the people in the Russian Parliament Building (Russian White House) when the special KGB troops were ordered to storm it."

Bolshakov was the individual who placed the call to the commander of the KGB troops to inform him that to conduct such an attack would be a "Big mistake," the pamphlet said.

Bolshakov "frequently travels to European countries (often Brussels, Belgium) to discuss security and/or defense issues."

His only visit to the United States was in Oct. 1992 "at the invitation of Senator Nunn, to discuss security issues," according to the pamphlet.

Series continued from page one

like they didn't get it."

The audience dispersed quickly after the films ended. Organizers promised an opportunity for discussion after future films to promote greater understanding. They plan to have a facilitator available to mediate the discussion.

"The community has been invited, because we feel like that's an area where we can help generate some discussion," said Hopkins. "We hope we're not preaching to the choir. We hope to have some people there who will oppose the view maybe."

"I think you don't ever learn anything unless you have both sides of the issue," said Hopkins.

"To have just one side represented, just the gay, lesbian and bisexual side and not to have the heterosexual or even homophobic side represented, then I think you are missing out on

something," he said.

Representatives of UP and the officers of GALA were pleased with the turn-out for the first night.

They expect an even larger audience for the better known films in the series and for the ones that are more controversial.

Organizers consider "Tongues Untied," an account of black gay life by Emmy Award-winning Marlon Riggs, to be one of the most controversial films in the series.

"We did not screen any of the films. We used written descriptions of the films to decide which ones we wanted and tried to come up with a broad-based series of films on gay and lesbian lifestyles," said Hopkins.

"Tongues Untied" did not show on our public television in North Carolina because of the extreme

use of profanity and some of the graphic nature of the film."

Loftin expects a big crowd for both "Torch Song Trilogy" and "Desert Hearts." "Torch Song Trilogy" is the next film to be shown on September 9.

The series will end November 11 with a critical issues symposium, featuring a panel discussion by UNCA faculty, staff and students.

"The lofty goal of the series is edification," said Loftin. "But the primary purpose is to provide pleasure."

"Images in Film" is going to be a series that we do every year," said Hopkins.

"Next year images might be on women's issues, or it might be on African-American culture, or it might be on the environment. This is just the very first one."

Apraku returns from Ghana

Brenda Webster
Staff Writer

An assistant professor of economics returned to UNCA after a 2-year absence and a bid for parliamentary office in his homeland of Ghana.

"When I made the decision to go in 1991, I was fulfilling a responsibility that I felt I had," said Kofi K. Apraku. "I felt that I could make a contribution to the country of Ghana. I also felt that society had invested so much in me I had an obligation to go and make a contribution, but I was disappointed."

Apraku met with Adu Boahen, a visiting professor of history at Cornell University, upon his arrival in Ghana. Boahen asked him to outline a policy that would stop Ghana's economic decline but would also enhance its

prospects for economic development. He also asked Apraku to manage his campaign for presidential candidacy of the New Patriotic Party (NPP), said Apraku.

Boahen won his party's nomination, and appointed Apraku as his principle aid, personal spokesman, and economic spokesman of their party. Apraku also was nominated as a parliament constituency candidate of the NPP, according to the Apraku.

Apraku received his education in the United States and is accustomed to free expression of speech and press. When he returned to Ghana, he was expected to keep silent about government oppression and only give economic advice to the masses that perpetuated the ruling party's agenda.

Apraku said political and economic conditions are extremely bad in Ghana, and he was forced to return to

the United States as a matter of survival. "The Ghanaian government espouses the ideology of democracy, but it actually exists in the form of a dictatorship," said Apraku.

"On the economic front, there are tremendous opportunities in terms of advancement," said Apraku. "Africa still lacks a lot of professional people and the economy is very weak. You can have a very responsible, a very powerful position, but the economic situation is such that you cannot live or survive on your salary."

Apraku and Boahen toured much of the country, denouncing the economic and political oppression of the New Democratic Congress (NDC) which is headed by Retired First Lieutenant Jerry Rahlings. They were well received by the masses, but highly despised by the government. Consequently, he and his family

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