

# The Blue Banner

"Advice is what we ask for when we already know the answer but wish we didn't." -- Erica Jong

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## Chancellor search committee forums have poor attendance

Teri Smith  
Staff Writer

Members of the chancellor search committee faced many empty seats this week at special forums scheduled to allow the campus community to discuss the qualifications for the next chancellor. Only one student attended any of the three sessions specifically scheduled for student comment. There were no more than a dozen present at each of the meetings held for faculty and staff.

"I want to assure you that the small number here today does not reflect a lack of interest on the part of the faculty," Cathy Mitchell, associate professor of mass communication, told committee members.

"The forums are one of several ways we are trying to get information about what the UNCA community and the public want in the next chancellor," said James Banks, chair of the committee. "Search committee members also are gathering information from colleagues and from letters sent to the committee's office."

The last chancellor search ended with "several weeks of faculty discontent" and "the passing of a faculty resolution calling on President Spangler to extend the search beyond the three final candidates," according to 1991 reports in *The Blue Banner*.

Several faculty members made suggestions for avoiding a similar outcome during this search process.

"I believe it is crucial to have greater openness or at least a perception of openness between the search committee and faculty and staff," said Merritt

Moseley, professor of literature. "The almost Manhattan Project-like secrecy of the last search prepared us for difficulties. We not only want to choose the right person, but have an atmosphere of acceptance of that person."

Mitchell agreed with Moseley that there was a need for the faculty to be unified. "Release a list of criteria for the qualifications for the new chancellor," said Mitchell. "Then if there is going to be a debate, it can be done early."

Banks also served on the last search committee and is familiar with the problems that occurred.

"The committee will be as open as possible," said Banks. "We have ethical and legal requirements to keep the names of candidates confidential."

Banks said the criteria will be released. He expects it to be ready around Dec. 1.

"I am confident that the committee will do the best job they can to find two or three good candidates for chancellor," said Banks. "The end decision is that of the president and the board of governors."

Banks asked faculty members if they would feel comfortable making a nomination if they had a particular person in mind.

"I'm not sure anyone feels uncomfortable, but I'm not sure anyone feels encouraged to nominate a candidate," said Moseley. "If nominations are welcome, I believe it should be encouraged in a very strong way."

"A lot of the problem the last time was that we weren't unified about what UNCA should be," said Mitchell. "Now we are unified."

Committee members asked those who attended the sessions if they believed one of the necessary qualifications for the next chancellor was the ability to raise additional funds for the university.

"I think that is important and an issue that needs to be addressed," said Alan

Hantz, professor of mass communication. "Our path has been found for us and, by golly, we are on it. Now we need someone who can help us pay for it."

"We need a fund-raiser desperately," said Mitchell.

"It is difficult to imagine what the image [of UNCA] will be in a couple of years if we don't raise money," said Hantz. "We can only run on empty for so long."

"Fund raising is an important criteria," said Jesse Ray, committee member. "The federal government is providing less and less funds and the state is unable to provide funds at the same rate of the growth of education."

"This makes it important for the university to be able to generate unrestricted funds," said Ray.

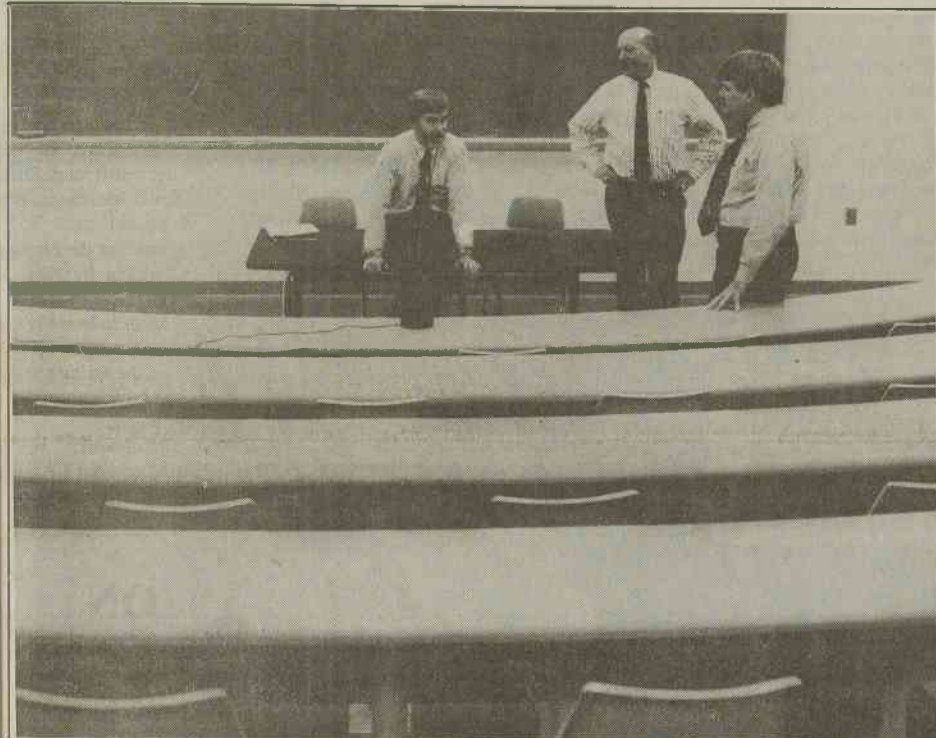
Committee members also asked if it was necessary for the next chancellor to come from "the academic world".

"I believe the individual must be very familiar with a college campus," said Tom Cochran, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs. "It would be difficult for someone who comes out of some other sector to understand the university culture. I believe the person needs to be in at least one of the top two positions at a university."

Moseley said he believes it is critical that the next chancellor come from an academic background.

"If the person came from a non-academic background, I'm not sure they could relate well to the loudest group on campus, the faculty," said Moseley. "The chancellor is usually given a faculty appointment, so in my mind they would have to have the qualifications to be a professor."

"There will be no trade-offs," said Julie Winner, committee member. "The person has to be good with both internal and external communities."



Staff Photo By Ryan Jones

The chancellor search committee faced an empty room at its forums designed to receive student input about qualifications for UNCA's next chancellor.

## Career fair attracts hundreds of students

Suzanne Edney  
Staff Writer

Over 300 students attended UNCA's career fair on Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Representatives from 41 companies and graduate schools came.

"We've had maybe a couple dozen folks stop by. Of those people, maybe half of them are genuinely interested in what we have to offer," said Lieutenant Dave Wood, of the United States Navy.

"This was a lot better than some I've been to here," said Richard Weaver, a stockbroker representing FN Wolf & Co., Inc. Weaver is an alumni of UNCA.

This is the first year Dale Wachowiak, director of the Career Center, has organized a career fair at UNCA.

"I was very pleased. I thought there was really good attendance by the employers, and I thought student participation was great," said Wachowiak.

He chose the participants from a list of employers on a disc UNCA purchased.

"There is a southeastern list of

employers that you can purchase on disc, thousands of them. You take the disc that lists all the employers in the southeast and you gradually reduce it down to ones that look relevant to you and look like they might be a good prospect for coming here," he said.

Wachowiak said he considered the various majors at UNCA when he made the list of 500 participants.

"A lot of them don't do this sort of thing. They don't hire this way. It's just not their operating procedure to do that on campus," he said.

Wachowiak said he thought the representatives were pleased with the student response. He said several of the representatives said they saw some good prospects.

"We have a lot of opportunities for folks and we're growing. We have two new buildings coming open in the summer and with that growth we will probably need some graduates from UNCA and other areas," said Kevin Grant, personnel services representative of Memorial Mission Medical Center.

"We saw a few good people. What would help more is if they'd brought resumes, all the students," Weaver said.

Wachowiak said he had suggested in the postcards he sent senior and juniors to bring resumes.

"Companies don't view it [the career fair] as a time they're interviewing for jobs. Typically, it's an information kind of event to most companies in which they're going to give information about the company," he said.

Wachowiak said the career fair served another purpose. "I also think there's a benefit to students of having to practice the skills of walking up to a recruiter and to an employer and talking to them and trying to market themselves a little bit and to ask the appropriate questions."

Western Carolina University, Appalachian State University, Mars Hill, and UNCA all have their career fair the same week.

"I think it's fairly deliberate to pick a week in which Western North Carolina is pretty attractive in terms of leaf season so that it would be an appealing place for recruiters to come at this time of the year," Wachowiak said.

He thought one of the problems with the career fair was that space was tight for representatives with large displays.

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### Weather Report

The weekend forecast calls for cloudy skies on Friday with a high of 58 and a low of 40. Saturday will be chilly with a high of 46 and a low of 26.

Weather Report courtesy of the National Weather Service

UNCA Atmospheric Science Department offers updated forecasts through the 24 hour Weatherline...251-6435

## North Carolina Center for Creative Retirement to help develop Health Adventure program

Lynne Delk  
Staff Writer

UNCA's North Carolina Center for Creative Retirement (NCCCR) will provide local scientists for a science education and family literacy program to be developed by The Health Adventure over the next five years.

The center will use its computerized data base with over 700 names to recruit local, retired biomedical scientists living in the area to help develop the project.

"There are about 120 retired scientists, with one kind of science background or other, living in the Asheville area," said Ronald J. Manheimer, director of NCCCR.

The NCCCR will match these scientists to specific areas of need in The Health Adventure's development of two new programs for Western North Carolina. The Health Adventure, a health and related sciences educational center, received a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute to increase science education for families in Western North Carolina. The program will have two parts.

"Discovery Saturdays" will consist of a curriculum of science topics presented in two-hour programs on Saturday mornings.

NCCCR members will present classes on subjects like light and color, nutrition and energy, and conservation and nature.

The program will encourage parent participation in these sessions.

"There's a big push in education to involve the whole family," Manheimer said.

Just the parents being there will help reinforce the learning process, he said.

The "Traveling Trunks" program will bring a similar opportunity to children and parents living in rural areas, who are less likely to come into The Health Adventure, said Manheimer.

NCCCR members will travel to schools, child care centers, community centers, and churches to present hands-on science demonstrations to children and their families.

In rural areas there are fewer opportunities for students to work with science equipment that is only available in larger schools, Manheimer said.

Children and parents will be able to participate in biomedical science activities through this "suitcase science" program, said Joan Myers, of The Health Adventure.

"Both programs are designed to help parents feel empowered in the education of their children," said Myers.

NCCCR will participate in the two programs as part of its Seniors in the Schools program which is only one of eight existing programs that make up the center.

"NCCCR is a response to the question, 'What are retired people supposed to do?'" Manheimer said.

The North Carolina General Assembly established the center in 1987 as the state became more and more popular as a place to retire.

The center is one of the largest of its kind. "Ours is probably the most ambitious and elaborate in the country," Manheimer said.

One of NCCCR's programs is College for Seniors (CFS) where members teach courses, attend classes, and design curricula as part of their goal of life-long learning.

There are about 473 members of NCCCR enrolled in classes this semester.

"CFS is a pure learning and teaching program," said Manheimer.

"Basically the seniors run their own program," he said.

CFS runs two, 8-week semesters in the fall and spring, and one, 4-week semester in the winter.

NCCCR programs include Leadership Asheville Seniors, Senior Academy for Intergenerational Learning, Senior Wellness Program, Research Institute, Retirement Planning Program, and Outreach Programs.



Staff Photo By Lat Ray

The UNCA Career Center sponsored a career fair on Oct. 29. Over 300 students attended the fair in which 41 employers and graduate schools were represented.