

The Blue Banner

"Where the press is free, and every man able to read, all is safe." -- Thomas Jefferson

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Gerard Moses elected president of Student Government Association

Kevin Ellis
Staff Writer

Student Government Association President-elect Gerard Moses plans to tackle issues such as day care and school spirit during his term of office which begins April 27. He also pledged a virtual representative presidency.

"I can go by how I feel personally, but it's my job to represent the student body," the 22-year-old rising senior said. "I used a campaign slogan of making the student government the students' government, and student government is supposed to be all about representing the student body."

Moses, who now serves as SGA vice president, received 247 votes, or 43.7 percent of the vote, in the Student Government Association elections held March 30-31.

His nearest rival, W. Ross Bryan, garnered 186 votes, or 32.9 percent of the vote. Two others, Mark Dann and write-in candidate Mike Owenby, each received less than 70 votes.

Moses replaces graduating senior Mary Bullman as SGA president.

In other election results, rising senior Ryan DeSear beat out Ben Leonard 173 votes to 162 votes to win the SGA election for vice president.

Heather Quinn received 142 votes and Lesa Trey 85 in the election for vice president.

In SGA Senate elections: Jay Jordan, Charles Ewing and Duane Hoover will represent the senior class; Dhaval "Doc" Patel, Shawn McKee and Roger Keever, the junior class; Beth Daniels, Matt Guinn and Conrad Shirk, the sophomore class; April Woody, Jo Linda Peterson and Sherri Barnes, the residents; and Jeff Spence, Frances-Heather E. Henderson and Charles Towe, the commuters.

Just 588 of the 3,049 students eligible to vote - slightly more than 19.2 percent - actually did so during the two-day election.

SGA election officials called the turnout a success, adding this year's election marked the highest ballot total ever.

"That [vote percentage] sounds scary, but those are really phenomenal numbers," said Jo Peterson, an SGA executive for external relations and resident senator-elect. "We'd obviously would have liked to have it at 100 percent, but realistically considering this is mostly a commuter campus, those are good numbers."

Concerning the upcoming year for the SGA, Moses said he hopes to open up communication between the elected officials and the student body.

He'll work occasionally in the SGA office in Highsmith the remainder of the semester and establish regular office hours at the start of the Fall semester.

"I want to tell people that this Student Government Association office is open

to all and that we want people to come by and talk," Moses said. "We want to make everybody comfortable in coming down here."

The SGA will need input in the upcoming year on a wide range of topics, such as on-campus day care, Moses said. The subject of day care often comes up, especially by commuter students.

"I know the need is there, but I don't know what type of actual program is wanted," Moses said. "I'd like to talk to students so I can take a whole program to the administration."

Moses also plans to take on ways to improve school spirit, especially among commuter students.

Commuter students makeup two-thirds of UNCA's student body, but Moses said he perceives that they often feel isolated from campus life.

"Commuter students either feel like they're not wanted here or they don't really belong, and we need to change that," Moses said. "It's a two-way street, but I think the Student Government Association needs to initiate the process to make commuter students feel more welcome."

Moses said he looks forward to the coming year and expects hard work from his fellow SGA officers.

"Not just myself, but the whole organization has a lot of work ahead of us just in accomplishing the goals we set forth and in making student government better and student life better," Moses said. "Now, it's not all about campaign promises, but actually working."

Television producer meets with students

Rebekah Stivers
Staff Writer

The North Carolina Leadership Fellows sponsored a speaker in the Private Dining Hall March 31. The event was one of the many leadership activities with which the group is involved.

John H. DeViney, a retired television producer and programmer, spoke on his life in various areas of the media and offered advice to job-seeking students.

Try to be honest with yourself about your talents "and [don't] be choosy about the kind of thing you are doing," he said. "If you find you can get into a place that you really think has got potential, that is more important than the kind of job title you have."

DeViney spoke about his career path in chronological order, while occasionally stopping to answer students questions about their own fields of study.

DeViney's interest began in his high school days, where he worked at his first job as a radio announcer.

He then went to Northwestern University on scholarship, where he studied the workings of radio and

television.

During this time, around 1949, all television was done live with 15 second commercial spots between programs, he said.

In the early 50s, he became an assistant director at an NBC owned and operated station in Washington, D.C.

He said his position was "a neat-sounding title for a guy that puts up the scenery and sweeps out afterward."

He encouraged the group to get into a large media market when starting out, even if it meant starting the way he did.

DeViney then became a program director less than two years later. At this point, he began making primarily historical documentaries in Washington, D.C.

This was in the late fifties, so the medium with which he worked was black and white television. He gave examples of his work, which included the show "Wide-Wide World."

He also did live "Armed Forces Day" programming out at Quantico. Doing this type of work helped him realize he liked "the idea-part of things, the creating of programming [and] doing documentary writing and producing rather than handling news,

which comes on and you react to it," he said.

DeViney said he worked with two-inch video tape, which had to be edited using a microscope and razor blade. He said he "was never into" hard news but had involvement with news because being a director meant he directed news programming.

He described how programming operated in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

"The directors and the newscasters all were situated in one big room. In the middle of the room was a sound-proof little area where the Teletype stuff came in," he said. No one had offices, and everyone was cramped in six-foot by nine-foot cells.

In 1962, during Kennedy's presidency, DeViney became more involved in the international news markets in the Washington, D.C. area.

"During the '70s, my job was program development for the U.S. Information Agency's Television and Film Service," he said.

This job involved more overseas traveling, whereas previously he had traveled primarily around the States

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Staff Photo By Chan Carter

Walter Ziffer, a survivor of the Holocaust, discussed on April 5 his experiences in Nazi concentration camps during World War II.

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Weather Report courtesy of the National Weather Service
UNCA Atmospheric Science Department offers updated forecasts through the 24 hour Weatherline...251-6435

Speaker remembers Holocaust

Robin Burris
Staff Writer

A Holocaust survivor discussed "Jewish Passive and Active Resistance to Persecution" on Tuesday, in honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day, April 8. Walter Ziffer talked about the different levels of Jewish resistance throughout history, including the resistance in the concentration camps in World War II.

"Resistance has many, many faces. Let me tell you that most Jews in the camps resisted. They did resist with the meager means they had at their disposal. In some cases, by simply trying to extend their lives one more hour, one more day, one more week," said Ziffer.

Ziffer entered the concentration camps when he was 14 years old. At the seventh camp, Ziffer said he weighed less than 90 pounds at the age of 18.

"In the Holocaust, there were those who threatened with whips and beatings, ran toward the gas chambers as sheep that are led to the slaughter. Some of these had already, upon arrival in these camps, totally numbed the minds from preceding ordeals," said Ziffer.

"Long train rides under inhumane conditions, from beatings, from starvation, from grief over loss of loved ones, they were no longer, at this point, able to grasp the deadliness of their own situation.

The Jewish men, women, and children were already, at arrival at the camps, reduced to sub-human status," said Ziffer.

"Others who arrived were alert, but they were naively unsuspecting. They had no idea what lay ahead of them," said Ziffer.

Some marched to the gas chambers, in passively challenging manner, by saying "I believe in the coming of the Messiah," said Ziffer.

"Some who were there undoubtedly cursed the Nazis between their teeth, some undoubtedly cursed God under their teeth. Perhaps many of them cursed both God and the Nazis under their teeth," said Ziffer.

"Still others hoped that between the train and the gas chambers, some kind of miracle would occur. They had hope to the very last moment. Hope is not always the best of things to have by the way," said Ziffer.

Another example of resistance in the concentration camps, was of the women deciding not to abort their pregnancy, said Ziffer.

"Pregnant women on arrival in Auschwitz, were sent to the gas and to the crematorium immediately afterwards. If they managed to hide the condition of pregnancy until giving delivery of the babies, but when

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Student group opposes proposed parking area in Botanical Gardens

Alex Eastwood
Staff Writer

The controversy surrounding the location of additional parking on campus remains unresolved this week. Campus groups organized in opposition to what some have claimed is the administration's decision to pave an area adjacent to the Botanical Gardens.

In an interview on Sunday, Interim Chancellor Larry Wilson expressed concern over what appear to be campus-wide misconceptions about the position of the administration.

"The issue is full of misunderstanding about where I stand on this issue, although I have tried to make myself clear through the meetings I have held with faculty and students," said Wilson. "Unfortunately, no amount of fact can stop good rumor."

A representative for the ecology club has expressed frustration at Wilson's desire to provide more parking by paving an area in close proximity to the Botanical Gardens.

"We have suggested banning freshman parking, and the administration seems most concerned with not losing potential freshman," said Hector Fernandez, Ecology Club treasurer. "Is that what we want to be our main selling point? Come to UNCA, we offer freshman parking."

The administration initially offered four choices for the location of the new lot.

One of these is the Botanical Gardens area, an area supported by the Faculty Senate, the Administrative Assembly, and unofficially, the board of trustees, says Wilson.

"It feels, to a lot of us, that the decision has already been made, and that these meetings with students are simply paying lip-service," said Fernandez. "I know that paving the area next to the Gardens is favored by Dr. Wilson and Dr. Iovacchini."

"I have never said that, and that's what makes me mad," said Wilson. "What I have said, repeatedly, is that we have an obligation to provide safety with parking for all students, and that includes residential students."

"Two issues of safety and convenience are being forced together to present the Botanical Gardens area as desirable," said Fernandez. "The further away the lot is from the dorms, the more dangerous it is. Being a male, it may be unfair for me to comment on this, but I just don't feel that, at UNCA, this is a big problem. There are plenty of close-in spots now for residential students to park at night. What I feel is the best solution is to ban freshman parking."

"I do not wish to ban freshman parking," said Wilson. We have not found, in the studies we have conducted of universities of varying size, that universities similar in size to UNCA ban freshman parking."

"First of all, in the number of studies we have conducted on the campus parking situation, I have yet to realize an impossible parking situation during

the day," he said. "There are spaces. There is a lot across from the church on Edgewood, and our studies have never shown more than two cars parked there."

"The real problem that we have found is providing safe and convenient parking at night for evening students and for the community to attend special events," said Wilson. "Community attendance has dropped considerably at these events, and what I'm hearing over and over is that no one wants to fight with the parking situation."

"We need to find a way to get residential students off the 'loop' on University Heights. We also need to assure them safety," he said. "One option is to pave that area next to the gardens. The liability is that some trees will have to be cut. I don't want that. We will not infringe, however, on one inch of garden property. It will not affect the gardens physically, but it will affect the aesthetics. This option is not the one I would choose."

"Another option is to build a parking deck behind Highsmith, on top of the lot that's already there. That's the option I prefer, to be perfectly truthful," said Wilson. "But that will raise parking fees to about \$150 per student, a figure still low compared to similar universities."

The need for additional spaces will increase next year, although there is also the option of doing nothing, said Wilson.

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