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Oct 27,
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The Blue

BANNER

WEATHER: Partly sunny and cool. Highs in low to mid 60s, Lows in mid 30s.

"Life is what happens while you are making other plans."--Attributed to John Lennon

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COLLEGE FOR SENIORS MAKES DONATION TO ENDOWMENT FUND

Greg Deal
Staff Writer

The College for Seniors, which is a part of the North Carolina Center for Creative Retirement, recently made a \$10,000 donation to UNCA to help the university meet a \$250,000 goal in a challenge grant proposed by the National Endowment of the Humanities.

"The National Endowment for the Humanities awarded a grant to UNCA that was a conditional grant," said Patsy Reed, UNCA chancellor. "It was in support of an endowed chair for a teaching professor in the Humanities."

Reed said that the conditions of the grant provides UNCA with \$250,000 if the university was able to raise \$750,000 to match it.

She said that the donation by the College for Seniors was a big part of UNCA meeting its prescribed goal. "This is a major contribution to it," said Reed.

The National Endowment of the Humanities is a national agency that funds various projects to enhance the study of Humanities across the United States.

"We have, intensely over the past year, campaigned to raise money to meet the challenge," said Reed. "We have pledges, at this point, to meet it, and we consider the campaign to be a success."

In addition to the College for Seniors donation, Reed said that there were also contributions from the general administration and private individuals. "We had good public support," said Reed.

The donation of the \$10,000 was made at the College for Seniors' first brown-bag luncheon on Oct. 6.



Dr. Norman Gengler, president of the College for Seniors presents \$10,000. check to Chancellor Patsy B. Reed.

Photo by Annemarie Riley

Norman Gengler, president of the Board of College for Seniors, made a presentation of a three-foot-long, poster-board check to UNCA at the luncheon.

"We felt that it was right for us to give some monies," said Gengler. "UNCA has been so good to College for Seniors, we felt that it was good for the College for Seniors to be good to UNCA."

Gengler said that the prime feeling behind the board's decision to make the contribution was because it wanted to let UNCA know that the College for Seniors feels that it is a part of the university.

Fall Fling Festivities



Robin Werner took a spin in the Gyro at the Fall Fling last week.

Photo by Lat Ray

Career Fair Will Be Held On Campus

Dan Clifton
Staff Writer

There will be a Career Fair held at UNCA on October 28, in Karpen and Lipinsky Halls, between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. All UNCA students and the entire Asheville community are welcome to attend.

Company representatives, school systems, non-profit organizations, and graduate universities will all be involved with the fair, and they will help answer some of the questions presented to college students and graduating seniors.

"We are pleased with the diversity of opportunities represented at the fair," said Dale Wachowiak, director of the Career Center. "We are very grateful for the time and energy recruiters give our students. Not only is the information valuable, but many students are provided with their first opportunities for networking and marketing themselves."

The Career Fair is being organized by the Career Center, and it has reported that 35 organizations and schools are already registered for this year's fair, while over 40 are expected. Some of the organizations include Wachovia Bank, U.S. Secret Service, IDS Financial Services, Roche Biomedical Laboratories, and Champion International.

For graduating seniors and people who are looking for internship positions, these organizations and many others at the Career Fair will provide valuable contacts, according to Wachowiak.

"Students don't necessarily receive a lot of response with just sending out resumes," said Wachowiak. "At the Career Fair there is an opportunity to make face-to-face contact with a representative, which helps a company see you as more than just a resume."

It is important for graduating seniors to make these connections because it starts the networking process which is important when looking for a job, according to Kerri Day Keller, assistant director at the Career Center.

"Networking is the top way people get jobs, but it's not necessarily who you know, it's how you utilize who you know," said Keller. "Networking is really starting out with a few contacts and building on them. It's kind of like a tree, and you keep branching out and growing. It might not be until that fifth branch of contacting people that you find an actual job opportunity."

Wachowiak does point out some tips for people attending the fair who are going to be looking for job opportunities.

"Seniors should look presentable, neat

and clean, and should have a resume ready and available to present to the representatives," said Wachowiak. "When they are talking, they should behave professionally, ask questions and show enthusiasm."

The Career Fair is not only for graduating seniors, it will also present opportunities for students to look at graduate schools and to learn about various careers and different lines of work that can be incorporated within specific majors.

Representatives from Western Carolina University and Winthrop University will be in attendance, as well as the National Climatic Data Center, Transylvania County School Systems, and the Affordable Housing Coalition.

"I think people who are early on in their college career often don't know about the finer points of careers or what types of jobs are available to them," said Wachowiak. "Students will see various aspects of certain careers, and will get a clearer picture by talking to people who are really out there doing it. The students will get a fine tuned image of the different classifications of these particular jobs."

Wachowiak and Keller point out that the Career Fair is only the beginning to

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NEW CERTIFICATION PROGRAM POSES CHALLENGE FOR EDUCATION GRADUATES

Dan Clifton
Staff Writer

A new national board certification program is in place for teachers of grades kindergarten through twelve. This voluntary process will not replace the state certification program, but will provide teachers with benefits and prestige, as stated by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

According to Karen Garr, teacher advisor to North Carolina Governor James B. Hunt, there were 1,500 teachers, nationwide, who initially started out in this program last year, with 535 ending up finishing the process. In North Carolina, 100 teachers started the process, and 52 finished.

Even though teachers do finish the process, there are no guarantees that they will receive the board certification. "Only 20 percent of teachers that go through this standards program will actually get the national certification," said Arthea J. (Charlie)

Reed, chair of the Education Department. Each teacher who finishes the process must go before a national board that evaluates their work and decides if it merits certification, according to Reed.

The process does have an assessment fee of \$975, but Governor Hunt has helped passed legislation to support the teachers.

"The state has allocated money so that the teachers will be reimbursed for the \$975 fee, but only for the first time that they go through the process," said Garr. "Teachers are also authorized up to three days of release time for working on portfolios or other board activities, and we award a four percent pay raise to teachers who become nationally certified."

In other states like Mississippi, teachers who pass the certification requirements will receive a \$3000 bonus when 80 percent of the board's certification areas are available to teachers.

Reed pointed out that the curriculum won't change within the education department here at UNCA.

"Because of the emphasis in this institution on critical and creative thinking, as well as the integration of discipline, our students are going to be well prepared if they choose to go through this process," said Reed. "They're further ahead than people who might have gone through other programs."

Currently there are over 300 students involved in the education program at UNCA, which accounts for approximately 10 percent of the total student population. According to Reed, they will still get state certification as they always have, but the faculty will be attempting to prepare them for the national certification process.



Arthea J. (Charlie) Reed, professor of education

Photo by Randy Marrs

"My goal is that all UNCA education students will move on to become nationally certified at the earliest possible date," said Reed. "I think that, eventually, a university will be held accountable for the percentage of graduates who are nationally certified."

In order to apply for the national certification process, a teacher must have at least three years experience teaching. Also, the program is in a trial period where only the areas of middle school language arts teachers or middle school inter-

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