

The Blue BANNER



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Campus Events

■ VCAA status report

The Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Search Committee has identified candidates for the off-campus visit phase of the search. Visits were held in February and will continue in early March.

After visits are completed, the committee will identify the candidates who will be invited to campus. On-campus interviews will be held after spring break. The committee will bring three or four candidates to campus. Each visit will last approximately two days, during which all members of the campus community will have the opportunity to meet, interact with, get to know, and hear the candidates comment on various issues.

■ Group gains chapter status

Sigma-Xi, the national scientific research society, recently granted chapter status to the UNCA Sigma-Xi club. A charter signing ceremony was held Feb. 15. The UNCA chapter was established in 1986 and has 60 members, including faculty from UNCA, Mars Hill College, Warren Wilson College, and area scientists.

The national society was founded in 1886 and has as its mission "to honor scientific accomplishments, to encourage and to enhance the worldwide appreciation and support of original investigation in science and technology, and to foster, worldwide, a creative and dynamic interaction among science, technology, and society."

■ Lecture series continues

The Great Decisions Lecture Series will continue March 4 with the presentation of "Water: Endangered Natural Resources" at 7:30 p.m. in the Owen Conference Center.

The talk will be given by Richard Maas, from the UNCA environmental studies department and is the fifth in a series of eight talks targeting U.S. foreign policy issues.

The series is sponsored by UNCA and the World Affairs Council of Western North Carolina. The same talk will be given at four other Great Decisions sites the week of March 4.

■ Tour of architecture offered

The Behind the Church Architecture/Music Scene tour, in which participants will tour eight historic church edifices, will be held on March 9.

The all-day tour is sponsored by the N.C. Center for Creative Retirement and will focus on spires, arches, windows, and sounds in the distinctive churches of downtown Asheville.

The tour will include visits to Trinity Episcopal, First Presbyterian, Central United Methodist, Basilica of St. Lawrence, First Christian Church, First Baptist, Hopkins Chapel, and Brown Temple CME.

Participants will learn about fires at Trinity Episcopal, renovation research at Central Methodist, and literary history at First Presbyterian. UNCA senior Julie Speer will present a dramatic monologue highlighting the Thomas Wolfe funeral that occurred in the sanctuary. Participants will also hear organists demonstrate instruments and choir rehearsals.

Alumni, students celebrate Homecoming



Photo by Wendy McKinney

Students, staff, and alumni attended the Homecoming party last Saturday at the Cornerhouse in downtown Asheville. Casino games were available, in addition to dancing, food, and drink. Angela Mahai was named Homecoming Queen, and Chuck Walker and Dhaval "Doc" Patel were named Homecoming Kings.

Women's achievements, issues highlighted during Women's History Month

Denise Sizemore
Staff Writer

Throughout March, events will be held to commemorate Women's History Month.

"Women's History Month is a national celebration of the accomplishments of women," said Debra Van Engelen, director of the women's study program.

The month is used as a way of focusing on the accomplishments of women, said Van Engelen.

Women's history and their literary

and artistic works will be highlighted throughout the month.

Specific issues related to women will also be discussed.

Women's History Month is important because "traditionally a lot of the accomplishments of women and a lot of the special issues that women face, and the special talents of women, have been overlooked and excluded from the traditional academic sphere," said Van Engelen.

The events will highlight all of these things, she said.

"I think it (Women's History

Month) celebrates in a really open and positive way, the accomplishments of women," said Van Engelen.

She said she finds it unfortunate that society has to have special events to celebrate what women have done in history.

"Maybe someday it (women's history) will be included and we won't need to have a special time for celebrating that," she said.

Other issues to be discussed during Women's History Month include economic equality, access to jobs with pay, criminal justice, violence against

women, and responsibilities such as childcare.

"There is a broad spectrum of issues," said Van Engelen.

Women's History Month takes a look at women's issue from a more historical perspective, she said.

The women's study program is very active in putting the Women's History Month together.

One event that is being sponsored by the women's study program is a self-defense workshop for women.

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Evaluation tour leads to improvements in campus lighting

Andrea Lawson
News Editor

Campus officials, staff, and students participated in a campus lighting evaluation tour last semester. As a result, several changes in the amount of lighting on campus have been enacted.

"I think (the tour) gave them (the administration) a better idea of what needed to be done," said Rebecca Barraclough, a student on the tour. "We had enough strong-willed students who were willing to say 'No, this is a problem that needs to be addressed.'"

According to the survey report, tours of campus were made on Nov. 29 and Dec. 4. Eric Iovacchini, vice chancellor of student affairs; Pete Williams, director of housing; John Huffstickler, a public safety officer; and Steve Baxley, director of the Physical Plant, were the faculty and administrators on the tour. SGA members, campus residents, and commuter students also participated in the survey.

Baxley said the first tour involved walking the pedestrian routes on campus and discussing lighting problems the group encountered. On the second tour, the group drove around the parking areas and perimeter streets to evaluate the lighting there.

A list of problem areas was stated in the report. These areas include the garden area between Robinson Hall and Ramsey Library, the path behind Mills Hall, and lighting in six different parking areas.

Baxley said the lights in the old tennis court parking lot have been repaired, and the university worked with the contractor at the gym construction area to light the sidewalk area near the construction site better.

The university is in the process of a lighting effort in the Governor's Village, Baxley said.

Several bulbs were installed on a test basis, and feedback will be provided by Williams on their effectiveness.

University still in violation of access law for disabled

Christine Treadaway
Staff Writer

Despite having ample time to react, UNCA continues to violate federal law regarding equal access to all persons in public buildings. Last semester, wheelchair-bound sophomore David Bornman brought to the administration's attention that he is unable to access certain places on the UNCA campus.

"I just feel like they (the administration) are waiting for me to get out of school so they can go on doing what they were doing before and not have to worry about making things accessible."--David Bornman.

"They (the administration) have had these problems for a long time, and they know that they have them, yet they continue to sweep it under the carpet. I don't want to cause trouble with the administration, but they do need to get on the ball," said Bornman.

According to an article in the *Blue Banner* last fall, in 1991, UNCA agreed to make modifications to the university after the Office of Civil Rights found UNCA in violation of a section of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. However, nothing seems to have been done to remedy the violations, said Bornman.

A newer version of this law, the 1992 Americans with Disabilities Act guarantees that handicapped persons cannot be excluded from, or denied the benefits of any program or activity which receives

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Iovacchini said he was disappointed at student turn-out for the second phase of the survey.

"We only had one student that had showed up the week before," Iovacchini said.

Baxley also said that trimming dense foliage in the Governor's Village would be part of Greenfest this year. Baxley said thick bushes could be a problem, since people could easily hide behind them.

"We're just going to take out some bushes," Baxley said. "We are not cutting down trees."

Baxley said student comments played a large part in the final report and that this tour was an attempt to find out exactly what student concerns have been in regards to campus lighting.

Baxley said the lighting projects will continue into the summer and next fall.

Iovacchini said he plans to take another group out next fall to evaluate the changes.

"I think we can make a difference in the fall," he said.