

The Banner

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UNCA earns 'Best Buy' status

By Martha Ball
Staff Writer

For the third year in a row, UNCA has been named a "best buy" in the annual *Fiske Guide to Colleges*. The award makes UNCA one of 42 public and private colleges nationwide to be selected as an institution that provides excellent education at a reasonable price.

"UNC-Asheville has emerged as one of the premier institutions offering the kind of education you would expect at a small private liberal arts college, but it provides it at a public price," stated the *Fiske Guide*.

The reasons for UNCA's "best buy" status are obvious, said Merritt Moseley, dean of faculty development.

"I think we provide the most important characteristics of the small liberal arts college. But, unlike the rest, we are state-supported, and we're cheap," Moseley said.

"If you can pay our tuition and get the experience and education rather than paying \$25,000 a year, it's a great deal," he said. "We have good students intellectually, a dedicated faculty, and a good library."

Freshman Shirley Robinson agreed. "I like the price because it's a really high-rated school, but it's a lot less expensive than other high-rated schools in the state," said Robinson.

The only other N.C. school included in *Fiske's* "best buy" list was UNC-CH. In addition to earning a "best buy" listing from *Fiske*, UNCA was also included in the 1998 edition of the *Princeton Review's The Best 311 Colleges*.

The *Princeton Review* listing is stu-

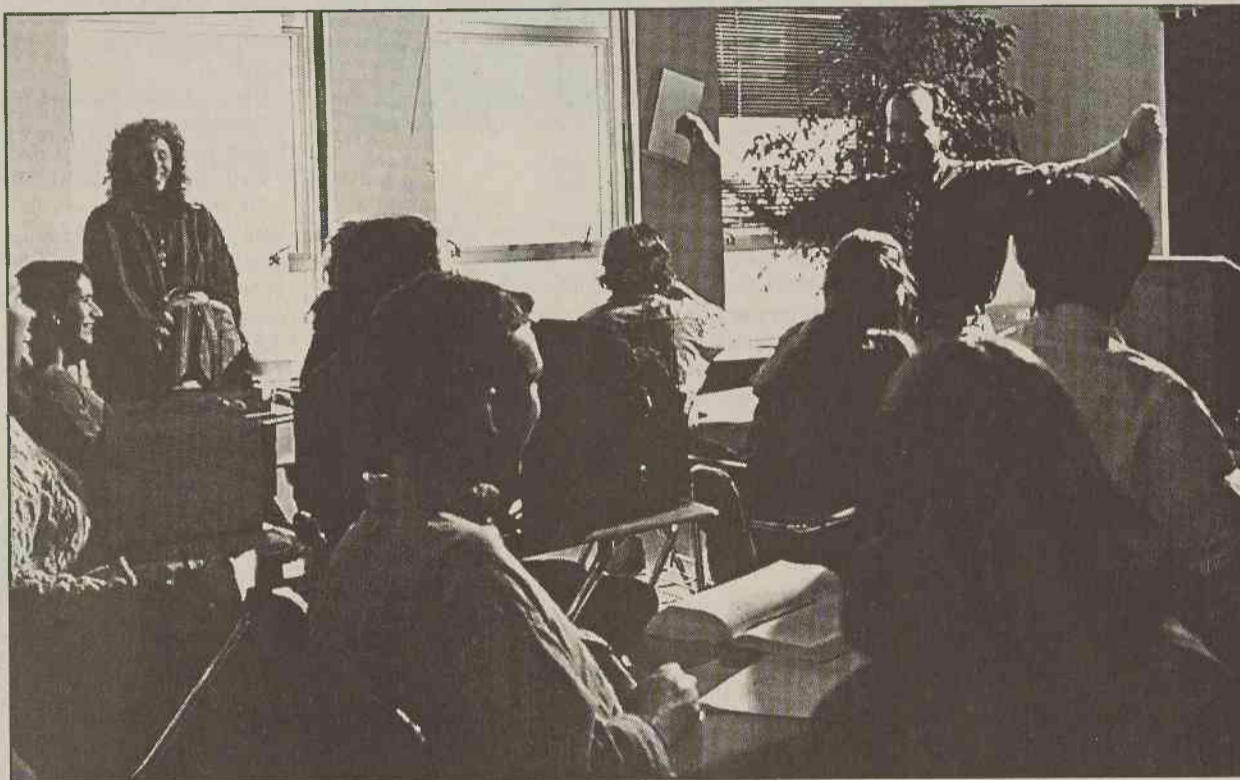


PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS

Literature professor Ed Katz displays the energy of a dedicated faculty, one of UNCA's many attractions.

dent-driven, citing actual comments from students for its summaries of universities.

UNCA students gave the university high marks for offering "a big learning experience in a small package," stated the review. Professors were applauded for their knowledge of subject matter and their ability to teach it, as well as their accessibility outside of class.

The review summary offered "What's Hot" and "What's Not" lists based on student surveys. In the UNCA listing, health facilities, religion, the city of Asheville, and

residence halls were said to be "hot," while student publications, beer, hard liquor, campus food, and intercollegiate sports were "not."

UNCA's review in the *Fiske Guide* described the school as "a strong public liberal arts university that offers rigorous academics, small classes, and a beautiful setting, all at an incredibly low price."

The university's location attracts many students.

"Asheville's always been one of my favorite cities because of the weather, the people,

and most definitely the location," Matt Dover, a freshman from Kings Mountain, N.C., said.

"It's right on the (Blue Ridge) Parkway and close to everything—Charlotte, Atlanta, Spartanburg. It's like a hub," Dover said.

"I was pleasantly surprised by the quality," said Tom DuVall, a first-year student in UNCA's master of social work

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Police aim to halt area speeding

By Veronika Gunter
Staff Writer

Asheville police officers instituted a traffic safety campaign in the UNCA area in response to neighborhood concerns about speeding drivers, according to one police officer involved with "Operation Speedbreaker."

"Because we've had a large number of complaints for speeding and stop sign running, we are in the neighborhood," officer Sean Pound of the Strategic Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) said.

Among other duties around the city, Pound and up to three other officers enforce traffic rules in the Edgewood Road area. Edgewood Road provides access from UNCA to Merrimon Avenue.

"We'd like to make everyone aware of the problem there and ask people to obey the stop signs and other regulations," Pound said.

"I don't want UNCA students to think the neighborhood thinks they are the bane of our existence," said John Quigley, president of the Jackson Park/Woolsey Neighborhood Association (JPWNA), which encompasses the area surrounding UNCA.

"I think many people not affiliated with the school use Edgewood as a short cut to 19/23, but we all need to be aware, to think when we drive," he said.

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Gallery displays faculty artwork

By Mandisa Templeton
Staff Writer

The University Gallery is featuring work from nine UNCA art faculty members through September 16. This is the second year the gallery, which is located on the first floor of Owen Hall, has featured professional artists.

"We like providing an opportunity for the UNCA campus and the wider community to become acquainted with the art faculty not only as professors, but as professional artists," said Robert Tynes, art department faculty member and gallery director in a press release.

The University Gallery usually exhibits pieces contributed by art students. However, both faculty members and students believe the exhibition of professors' work holds

great value for art students.

"It's cool to see what other people are doing, and to know the professors actually paint and sculpt," said Beth Horton, a prospective fine arts major. "I like knowing the people teaching me know what they are doing, and seeing what the teachers do so I know they have current, practical experience."

"It's showing you from a student's point of view that if faculty can do this work, just think what their students can do," said Andrea Logan, a junior financial management major.

"The exhibit gives the art students the opportunity to see the faculty's professionalism," said Dan Millsbaugh, who contributed two sculptures made from steel, stainless steel, and cast iron to the display.

Millsbaugh also said the students

can see the effort the faculty members put into their work, and use it as an example to show what they can do if they put enough time and effort into their art also.

According to Tynes, the faculty art exhibit is a great way to introduce students to new faculty members such as Megan Wolfe, and the student exhibits are an excellent way for new art students to have their work seen in a public forum.

Pieces shown in the gallery were created out of a wide variety of mediums.

Some of the paintings were constructed with oil, graphite, gouache, acrylic, and/or toned silver print. The sculptures are made of steel, stainless steel, terra cotta, bronze, or cast iron.

"It is interesting to see different styles of work," said Tucker Cooke, who contributed an oil and graph-

ite painting called "Rape of the Sabines."

"The department uses diverse techniques. There isn't a style that is very distinctive or unique to our department," Cooke said.

"The exhibit educates students about the faculty's role in making art, and students can see the diverse ways of making art," said Tynes, who has two pieces featured at the exhibit. "I encourage students to find their own medium."

Each faculty member has an area of specialty, such as photography, painting, or sculpture, but can cross over into other forms of art, said Millsbaugh.

The art department's faculty members each have distinct reasons for

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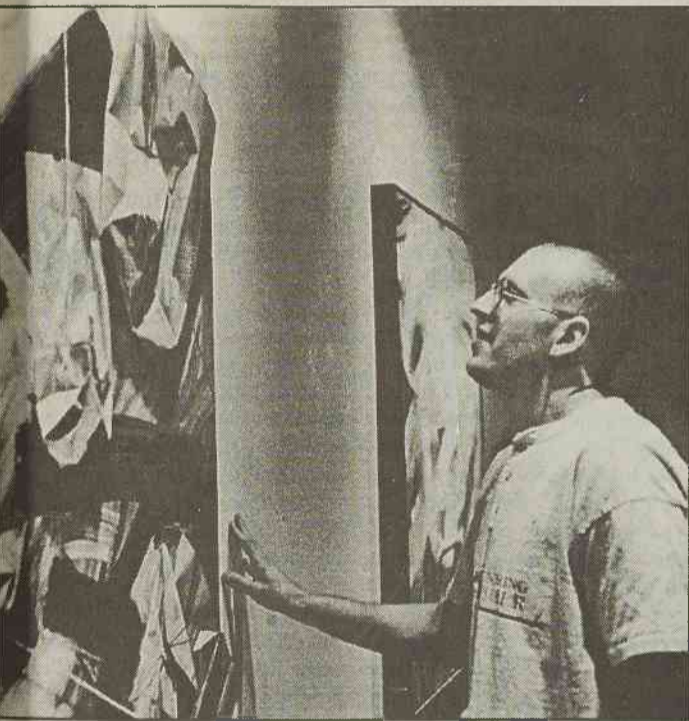


PHOTO BY ALICE BAIN MARTIN

Ronald Lane examines artwork by professor Robert Tynes.

SGA officers strive for campus connection

By Amanda Thorn
Staff Writer

Despite the fact that nearly \$10,000 of student fees went to finance the salaries of Student Government Association officers last year, both students and SGA officials claim a lack of connection and awareness between the student-run government and its constituents.

"I think the majority of students are aware that there is an organization called 'SGA,' but unfortunately I don't think most students know how they can use it to advance any causes or concerns they might have," said Alphonso Donaldson, a junior senator in SGA.

SGA serves as a source of leadership for students when dealing with three groups at the university: UNCA faculty and staff, UNCA administration, and the University of North Carolina General Administration, said Adrian Tatum, SGA president.

"SGA protects the students' concerns at all three levels," said Tatum.

SGA officials are paid to serve the student community by student fees. Under last year's administration, senators received \$125 per semester, the vice president re-

budget, as opposed to last year's.

The budget for the upcoming year was presented for discussion on Sept. 3. SGA officers will vote on the proposed budget on Sept. 10.

SGA officers have the option of declining their stipend, a choice several have made this year, including the president.

"I am not taking a stipend this year. The money needs to go to the students and the activities," said Tatum.

"I am not taking away money from the students to do a job I wanted to do. Not taking a salary is one campaign promise I am keeping."

Tatum cited the organization's student-fee funding as another incentive for students to become involved in SGA.

"I encourage everyone to take an active part in what is going on because they pay to have organizations like SGA. SGA should be utilized by students since they are already paying for its services," Tatum said.

Not only do some students not take ad-

vantage of their fee-driven student government, but they are not aware of why it exists on campus.

"I am not really sure what SGA does, but I guess it is here to help lead students in activities and guide them through campus decisions," said freshman Mark Ebert.

Increased student awareness of the purpose and power of SGA stands as one of the organization's goals this year, said Tatum. "SGA is designed to protect students' and individual's rights at UNCA. It is also in existence to provide an environment for healthy growth on campus," Tatum said.

SGA ensures that students have the means to facilitate grievances and make sure those grievances are heard in a timely fashion, he said.

"Students can attend SGA meetings at any time and bring their grievances," said SGA Vice President Tiffany Drummond. Any student can initiate a bill, she said. The bill must then be submitted by a senator, "put on the floor," and voted on.

"A bill is presented on a Wednesday, the senators are given one week to research it and talk to students, and the following week it is discussed and voted on," Drummond said.

"I can't say that we can fix every little thing, but we do our best to reconcile any problems that students have. SGA tries to fix things that have a major impact on student life at UNCA," Tatum said.

SGA senators exist as one of the main avenues for students to make themselves heard, according to Donaldson.

"Our major role is as a communication network" between SGA and the students, said Donaldson. As a junior senator, he said his job "is not only to bring my ideas to the table, but to communicate with people in the junior class, and all the classes. All the senators communicating with all the classes is an ideal goal."

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Meet your SGA representatives

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