

The Banner

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Center in search of creative funds

By Samantha Hartmann
Staff Writer

Despite recommendations from a New-York based consulting firm to drop The North Carolina Center for Creative Retirement's new building from UNCA's fundraising campaign, UNCA has opted to include the building in its fundraising efforts.

"We are working as hard as we can to include the center in this comprehensive campaign because it is so important to everybody," said Alex Comfort, assistant vice chancellor for development.

In the fundraising campaign study completed in the fall of 1997, the consulting firm recommended that funding for the new building be dropped to allow the university to place "greater focus on the most compelling and urgent priorities for private support," said the firm's report.

According to Ronald Manheimer, director of the North Carolina Center for Creative Retirement, the suggestion to exclude the center from fundraising efforts was rejected by most of the campus. "The consultants simply did not know how much support there would be," said Manheimer.

UNCA's first major fundraising campaign, which is expected to be in its "quiet phase" through the beginning of next year, includes a \$2.5 million campaign objective to

help with the cost of a new building for the center, which will be near Division Street on the north side of campus.

"We are looking at what it is going to cost to build a very modest initial building," said Manheimer. "The trustees of the university have identified a piece of property we could use for a building if we raise the money for it."

The center has hired an architect to do a preliminary study of the property. "We will probably have a rendering of the building and a site plan in early November," said Manheimer. "There will be a report for environmental impact."

Comfort said an actual drawing of the proposed building would strengthen the center's fundraising efforts. "If you were a donor, you would want to know where the building was going to be, what it was going to look like, and what you were going to do with it," said Comfort. "Before you tell the public what you are doing, you need to be sure of what you're talking about."

The center is presently housed in Carmichael, Rhoades, and Robinson Halls. One of the immediate concerns is lack of space. The College for Seniors, one of the programs offered by the center, "is in a different place because the university does not have one area where we can all fit," said Tina Schwartz, secretary for the center.

"We are trying to put up a

new building to give the space we are presently using back to the university," said Bob Mayer, a member of the College for Seniors and a class representative. "My understanding is we are going out and soliciting funds on our own. There are several fall-back positions, such as renting out space, that would help support the building. It all depends on how much money we can raise," said Schwartz.

"It is just a question of funding. When the bookstore has to put tarps up to keep the water from dripping on the books, obviously (the university's) first priority for funding cannot be the Center for Creative Retirement," she said.

According to Comfort, the university has to find significant up-front funding during the quiet phase in order to proceed.

"First, you need to bring in somebody from the outside to do a feasibility study," said Comfort. "We wanted a national firm that really knew the public liberal arts scene. Basically, you get all the people who make up the biggest potential for major gifts, and you have them talk to consultants on a confidential basis."

Comfort said the university has a positive outlook for fundraising efforts, but at the same time they have to be very careful.

"If you check with other schools, you will find that 95

See CENTER page 9

Monitoring UNCA

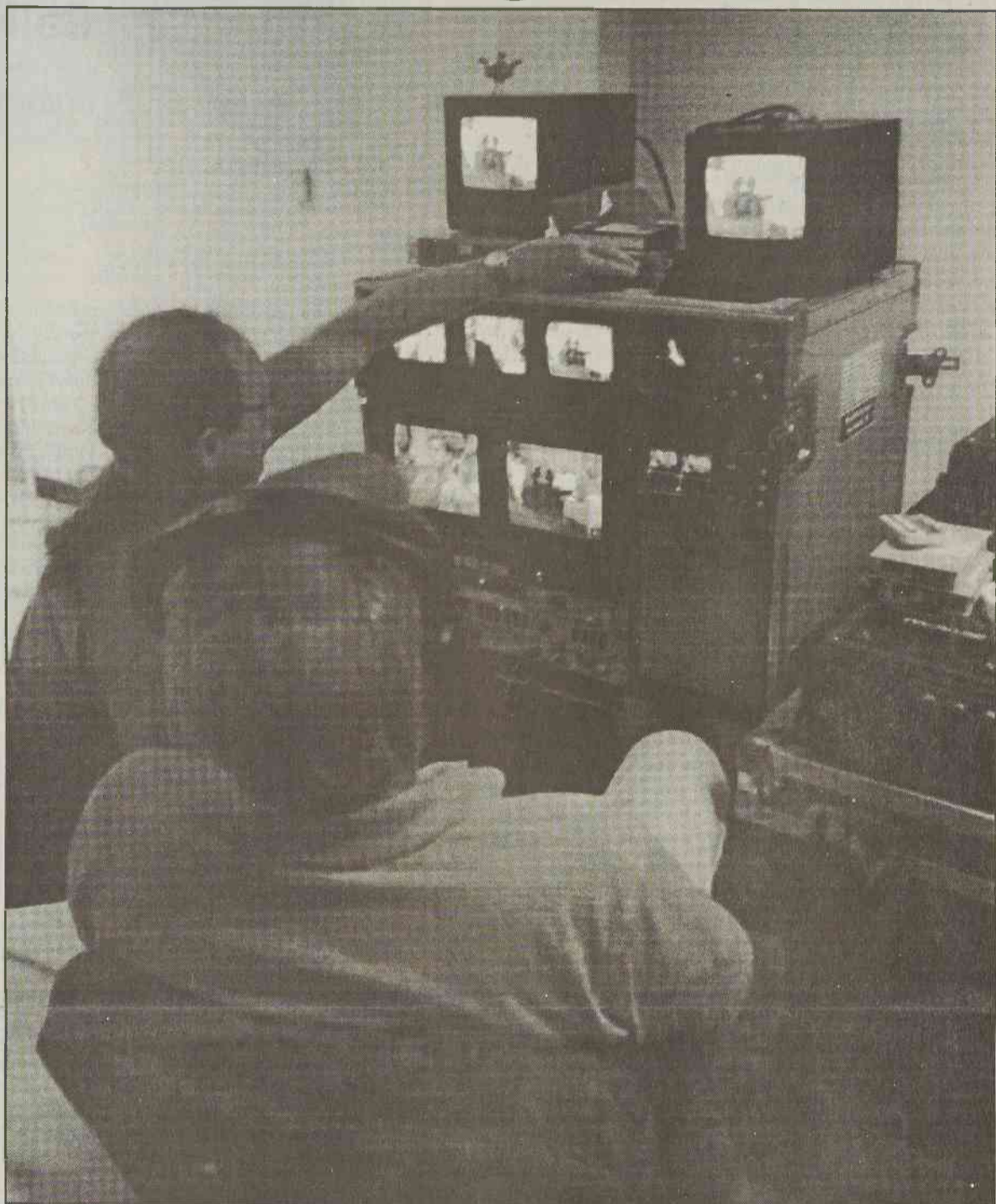


PHOTO BY TRAVIS BARKER

UNC-TV was on campus filming two episodes of "Black Issues Forum" on Oct. 1. The forum is a public affairs program that deals with racial issues.

Academic honor code draft again debated

By Mat Peery
Staff Writer

An academic honor code for UNCA may be a possibility in the near future, as SGA prepares to send a draft of the new policy to faculty members for review.

Currently, UNCA has no unified honor code, and that troubles some people who want UNCA to be looked upon as an equal with schools who have honor codes, and who want clarification of the current academic honesty policy.

"I would like to see something like (an honor code) established," said Eric Iovacchini, vice chancellor for student affairs. "Many, many fine institutions have them."

Iovacchini said he knows that honor codes are controversial, but "as the kind of institution we are, it's consistent with our mission and what we are trying to do academically."

Some faculty members also favor the implementation of an honor code.

Ileana Grams, associate professor of philosophy, said that during her three years as faculty conciliator,

"things came to light that made it clear to me that there needed to be ways to censure students for academic misconduct."

Grams cited a lack of a unified policy as a reason that many cases of academic dishonesty have been difficult to resolve.

"It does seem to me that we need a uniform policy on plagiarism and other kinds of student academic misconduct, and we need the policy to take those kinds of academic misconduct seriously," said Grams.

Grams said that she felt such a policy would also assist in defining the process regarding academic dis-

honesty. "Students are just seriously confused about what level of evidence is needed, about on whom the burden of proof should rest, and about whose rights need to be considered."

"I think that the current climate is not a very good one for people to learn to take real responsibility for their own behavior, which is at the heart of the idea of honor," Grams said. "I think that one way we can work toward (educating students about honor and their responsibilities) is to have students involved in making up the code of conduct and enforcing the code of conduct, and

also in teaching students about the code of conduct."

The university currently has a policy on "academic honesty" that gives guidelines for the process, should a question about academic dishonesty arise.

"There is something in the catalog that does go through a very kind of abbreviated procedure, but not very clear-cut and well defined," said Irene Rossell, assistant professor of environmental studies.

Last February, Doug Jones, then residential senator, introduced a resolution to SGA that called for a draft copy of an honor code to be

brought before the faculty senate. The resolution cited the need for a code based upon the university's lack of one and said that "such a code would reinforce the philosophy of this liberal arts learning community."

The resolution also referred to honor codes at "institutions we consider our peers" as representing "a long-standing and strong tradition of academic integrity."

Jones said that, following the resolution's adoption by SGA, he

See HONOR page 10

Oversized ceramics



PHOTO BY TRAVIS BARKER

Amy Desautel's exhibit of smooth, organic ceramics was displayed in Owen Hall until Oct. 6.

International studies adjusts

Minor may suffer, position added in professor's absence

By John Stanier
Staff Writer

The study abroad program has a new interim director, Pete Williams, director of housing and residence life, to coordinate programs while the current coordinator, Heidi Kelley, associate professor of sociology and director of international studies, is on medical leave.

Kelley's responsibilities will be delegated to other current faculty members until her anticipated return from medical leave at the end

of the spring 1999 semester.

Williams and UNCA's International Programs Advisory Committee (IPAC), will maintain both the study abroad and international studies programs.

"Sometimes people aren't really clear on what she did exactly," said Melissa Himelein, associate professor of psychology and chair of IPAC. "The international programs director actually has two responsibilities. One is an academic component, which means advising all of the international studies minors on campus. The other half of her job, which actually took up more

than half of her job, was the study abroad function."

"Because she was so overworked having both of those responsibilities, we had been moving in the direction of hiring a study abroad coordinator who would be under her supervision down the road anyway," said Himelein. "In a sense, what has happened is that the position just got hired much more quickly."

Himelein said she believes that UNCA students will benefit from additional staffing in international programs.

Most campuses do not combine

coordinating the academic and study abroad aspects of an international studies program into one position, said Himelein.

"Every other campus in the state has separate people in those functions," said Himelein. "No one else expects one person to do both things. There is an awareness that we needed that, and it was just a matter of finding the funding. This forced the issue."

Although a half-time coordinator has been hired to assist with the program in Kelley's absence, the

See ABROAD page 9