

THE BLUE BANNER

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Public Safety helps protect university

Jessica Hensley
News Reporter

With ever-increasing reports of crime on educational grounds, UNCA's department of public safety helps provide a secure campus for the UNCA community.

"The UNCA public safety system is very secure," said Michael Beck, an undeclared sophomore. "I've noticed a lot of stationed policemen in certain areas that might be of concern."

UNCA's department of public safety makes crime prevention one of their main goals.

Nine out of the 11 staff earned law enforcement certification, and trained for every sort of potentially dangerous situation.

"We are able to do our own investigations, obtain arrest forms and occasionally we will serve arrest warrants for outside agencies," said Lou Caliendo, director of public safety.

"We enforce all criminal and motor vehicles laws of the state, and we get the same training as city and county officers," said Caliendo.

The certified public safety officers take care of building security and escorts, while the certified police officers investigate and check on suspicious people or vehicles, according to Caliendo.

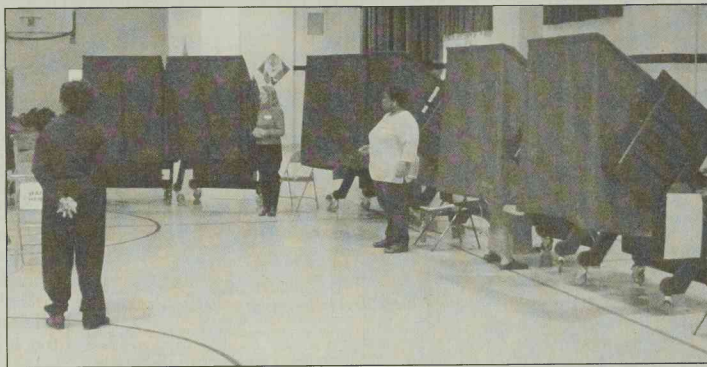
Public safety does a lot to make the campus safe, such as constant patrols, escorts to and from parking lots at night, weekly lighting inspections and providing emergency phones located in several parking areas, according to Investigator Sergeant Jerry Adams.

Public Safety also depends on other UNCA faculty, staff and students to report suspicious activities.

A good relationship with the facilities management and the residence life staff is necessary, according to Caliendo.

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Student voters scarce at polls



STUART GAINES/NEWS EDITOR

The voting booths in Montford for the Oct. 5 elections were mostly vacant even during the lunch hour on a cold and rainy Tuesday.

Apathy, confusion and laziness contribute to poor student turnout in elections

Michelle Dean
News Reporter

The voting record for people between the ages of 18 and 24 vary from state to state, but usually remain significantly lower than the national average for older voters over the last five years.

"I feel like a lot of people, especially at our age, complain about politics," said Leslie Klein, an undeclared freshman. "But for 18 to 25 year olds, only about 18 percent of us actually vote. A lot of people act like they're very active, but then they say, 'What's the point of me voting?' It really is important, (and) if we could get a larger percentage of people our age to vote it would make a big difference."

In Buncombe County, approximately 12,343 people between the

ages of 18 and 24 are registered voters. But, according to the Buncombe County Board of Elections Web site, many of those registered voters do not vote.

"I'm just lazy," said undeclared freshman Steven Anthony. "I haven't gotten around to it. I feel like it's important to vote, but I'm just too busy doing school work and stuff like that."

Aside from laziness, many students feel they lack the information they need to be informed voters.

"With the last election, I didn't know it was happening until after the fact," said Alex Williams, an undeclared sophomore. "I do vote for presidential elections, but a lot of times, you just get bombarded by so much information that you don't really think about it. You just get used to it. The slant that goes on between the candidates really turns me off."

"It seems like you can't really figure out what the truth is because all political ads ever talk about is the candidates' pasts, and you don't know if they're telling the truth or not. But that's politics. It's all a dirty game."

Political campaigns target certain core and high percentage voting groups, according to a study done by Curtis Gans, director of the committee for the study of the American electorate.

"This practice leaves many out of the political dialogue," said Gans in an interview with CNN.

Some students feel that politicians don't address issues of particular interest to students.

"The issues don't really affect me as much," said Brunilda Rodriguez, a junior management major. "All you hear about are school vouchers, social security, taxes and prescriptions. I don't like the mudslinging

either.

"To be honest, I probably won't vote because I don't feel like I know enough. What you hear from the politicians is not so much about what they can do, as it is about what the other guy can't do. That's pretty sad."

Over the years, several organizations formed to combat the high rate of voter apathy among students between the ages of 18 and 24. Web sites like Project Vote Smart, Election.com, Rock the Vote and MTV's Choose or Lose campaign introduce political issues and cover campaigns from a younger perspective.

On a local level, some publications distribute election editions that bring information about all the candidates together.

The Oct. 30 to Nov. 5 edition of

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Larceny dominates UNCA crime

Tabitha Nowak
News Reporter

Larceny remains the most common crime for UNCA's public safety department to investigate.

"We take anywhere from two or three larceny reports a week on average," said Investigator Sergeant Jerry Adams. "Larceny is our number one problem. It's reported far more than any other crime."

Some students said larceny on campus does not concern them.

"I'm sure people get stuff stolen occasionally," said Allison Daugherty, a sophomore literature major. "But (larceny) is not a big issue."

Adams said he wished he could solve every larceny case and return the stolen items, but that doesn't happen often.

"Sometimes, we get information where we can solve a case. Sometimes we don't, but that's something we spend a lot of time on," said Adams. "In some cases, we are able to recover the property, but I would say more often we don't."

"In some cases, we do get additional information, and are able to solve (the case)," said Adams. "Then we usually get that property back. But most of the time, it's gone."

Many different items are stolen from students and professors, but easily accessible items are more often the target of the crime.

"They usually consist of small items from dorm rooms, items taken from motor vehicles and items taken from faculty and staff offices around campus," said Adams. "Usually, (targets include) electronic equipment, such as CD players, (or) anything that can be sold quickly to get cash. On occasion, we have wallets taken in Mexico, plain view or left somewhere where somebody could get to them easily."

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UNCA welcomes diverse new faculty to campus

Melissa Doyle
News Reporter

UNCA hired many new faculty members this semester. Some new faces include Brian Hook, an assistant classics professor; Joseph Berryhill, an assistant psychology professor and Richard DeLuca, a visiting lecturer in the foreign languages department.

Brian Hook

Hook, the new assistant classics professor, grew up in Columbia, South Carolina and attended University of South Carolina as an undergraduate with a major in English. He went on to Duke University for graduate school.

Hook's first interest in classics came while attending USC. He de-

clared that he wanted to read the New Testament in Greek, so he enrolled in an Ancient Greek course during his first semester.

"The first year was the basic introduction to the language, and I loved it," said Hook. "It was hard, but it was really great. It made sense to me."

The next semester, Hook took a course on Plato.

"It was very hard, and it was intoxicating. It was fantastic," said Hook. "The dialogue that really grabbed me was 'The Apology of Socrates.'"

Despite Hook's interest in the classics, he stayed with his major in English.

"He then decided to attend Duke University and study classics. It took him six years to complete graduate school, and during four of those years at Duke, Hook also taught classes."

"I taught one class (per semester)



STUART GAINES/NEWS EDITOR

Richard DeLuca, a visiting lecturer, appears teaching a Spanish class. He is among several new faculty members this semester.

to a small amount of undergraduates. It was a very broad class. Once I got into the classroom, then I knew that this is what I (wanted),"

said Hook. "This is what I want to do for the rest of my life. This thing

I love. This is rewarding. I'd do it everyday."

After graduate school, Hook taught at Creighton University in the Midwest. But he wanted to be closer to home, and this led him to

Asheville.

Hook has actually been teaching at UNCA for two years. He taught here as an adjunct professor, and he also taught at Christ School.

Hook enjoys teaching at the college level because the students are in a transitional period of their life. He likes witnessing and helping this transition in student's lives.

Joseph Berryhill

New assistant psychology professor Joseph Berryhill also likes this transitional period. He feels that most people attending college are at a time in their lives when they are developing their own identities and developing a sense of who they are as people.

Berryhill first got involved in psychology in the early 1990s. He wanted to join the Peace Corps, and pursue volunteer work. After looking into it more, he decided

the Peace Corps was not the route for him, but he still wanted to volunteer somewhere.

He found a place in Arizona, taught English as a second language to Hispanic boys, and decided to pursue that. He taught in the school for two years.

The following year, he took a position as director of an all-male dormitory in Mexico, caring for 54 nine-year old boys. This position pushed him in the direction of psychology.

"I wanted to help them, and sometimes felt powerless to do that," said Berryhill. "That is what made me crazy enough to go to graduate school for five years."

Originally from Charlotte, Berryhill attended UNC-Chapel Hill as an undergraduate, and earned a BA in journalism. He worked as a reporter for four years.

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