

THE BLUE BANNER



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NEWS BRIEFS

By Erin Bereit
News Reporter

UNCA
The General Education Review Task Force at UNCA has been investigating general education requirements for the past four years. In the last year UNCA's Academic Policies Committee (APC) have been reviewing the possible changes that may be made in these requirements. If the APC approves them, they will then be forwarded to the faculty senate to vote and give final approval.

"Our goal is to provide the best liberal arts education experience that students can get," said Ed Katz, associate vice chancellor of academic affairs.

If the changes are adopted, the new requirements may begin to phase into the university's general education in fall 2004 and will affect new freshman coming into the university. It will not affect current students, only those who enter the university under the updated course catalog.

Theatre UNCA's production of "The Music Lesson" will run from Nov. 19 through Nov. 23 in the Carol Belk Theatre.

Sigma Nu fraternity invites everyone to participate in their 1st annual 5K Charity Run November 15 at 9 a.m. at the Justice Center. The cost is \$15 and all proceeds will benefit the American Red Cross.

CAMPUS CRIME

UNCA police have received two theft reports since Nov. 5. A student had over \$385 worth of clothing stolen from the Mills Hall laundry room. A scanner, valued at \$400, was stolen from the Sodexo Dining Hall. Campus police are also still investigating both situations.

Two students from Founders Hall were also charged with disorderly conduct after leaving harassing notes and messages to another student in the residence hall.

ASHEVILLE

Buncombe County Police Chief Will Annarino announced that he will retire Jan. 2. This will be the end of his 30-year career in local law enforcement.

John Collins and David Hammack were released from jail and first-degree murder charges were dropped for the killing of 18-year-old Mary Judd.

Buncombe County commissioners announced that they do not plan to question Sheriff Bobby Medford for his handling of the case in which the two men were held in prison for two years without trial, according to the *Asheville Citizen Times*.

NORTH CAROLINA

Governor Easley announced that he plans to bring about 800 to 1,000 more jobs to North Carolina. He is working with R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Holdings Inc. to bring jobs that will average a \$56,500 base salary and total compensation of \$100,000 with fringe benefits.

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Campus takes part in French Week activities

By Suzanne Aubel
News Reporter

UNCA hosted a series of events on campus to celebrate National French Week from Nov. 3 to 7.

"We've worked with students and colleagues from other universities to bring people in and to organize a wide variety of events for students, and staff and members of the community to take part in," said Cathy Pons, associate professor and chair of the department of foreign languages. "I'm excited about bringing in colleagues from the outside that have special areas of expertise that we can share with our students and also about activities that involve (them)."

Several distinguished speakers presented topics throughout the week, and all of the events were free to anyone who wanted to attend. The week kicked off Nov. 3 with a presentation by William Kennedy, a professor of comparative literature from Cornell University and author of several books. Kennedy spoke on "How the French Got to

be French," and the event was very well attended, according to Pons.

On Nov. 4, linguist Thomas Klingler gave a talk entitled "You Are What You Speak: Language, Ethnicity and Labels in Francophone Louisiana." Klingler, a professor at Tulane University, discussed the relationships between the Cajun and creole people in Louisiana.

"I made it to Klingler's lecture on the Cajun and creole in Louisiana," said junior French education major Matthew Walsh.

"I thought it was very interesting, especially how there's an identity crisis (there). His lecture was what you are is what you speak and vice versa, and there's an identity crisis between whites, blacks and mixed people down there, and there has been for along time. It's like, how do you label this

person, and what do they call themselves."

Nov. 5's events included another talk by Klingler, this time on French Louisiana's linguistic landscape, and a lunch in the Laurel Forum for those interested in speaking French. There was also a declamation contest that afternoon.

"A declamation contest is where people read or recite a text," said Pons. "It might be a poem or a speech or an excerpt from a play. It's very French, it's very culturally authentic in that in the schools, French students learn a lot of poems, and there's a lot of emphasis placed

on speaking. It's an opportunity for our students to have that experience, and we get to hear really great French texts."

The contest was judged by Klingler and a member of the Asheville community who is a native speaker of French. Contestants were

judged on their pronunciation and the expression they used in their performance, according to Pons. The winner in the first year category was Erin Smith. Emily Cullen won the second year category, and Christine Hartman took first prize in the advanced category.

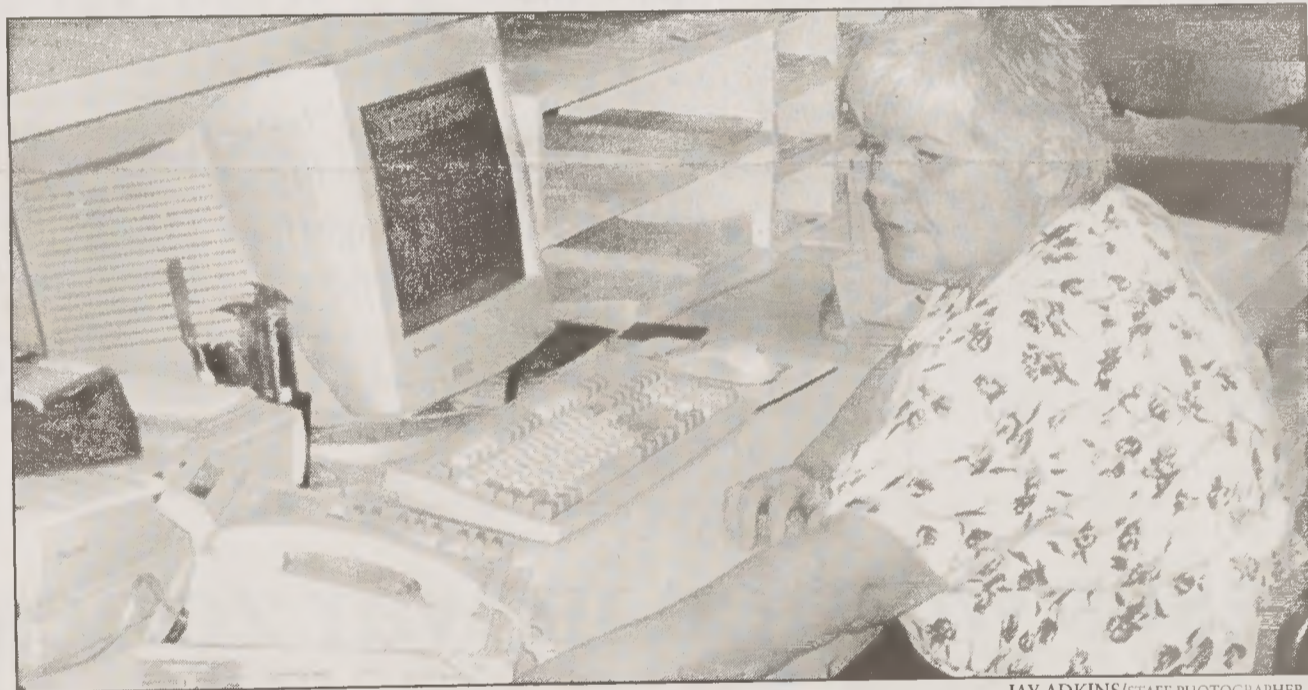
On Nov. 6, students and community members had the opportunity to hear a presentation in French by Miriam Barlow, a senior French major who conducted research last summer on an abbey in Saumur, France. Barlow received a grant from UNCA that allowed her to spend over a month living with a host family and doing research on the topic of her choice.

"I went for five weeks and lived with a family in Saumur, Asheville's sister city," said Barlow. "(I) was free to pick a topic that interested me, and art history is my minor, so the abbey is what I wrote on. I was able to go to the abbey, do tours, talk to people (and) spend time in the library over there,

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"I'm excited about bringing in colleagues from the outside that have special areas of expertise (within French topics) that we share with our students."

Cathy Pons
chair of the foreign languages department



JAY ADKINS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Processing assistant Ruth Watson (above) and registrar Rebecca Sensabaugh (below), seen helping Katelyn Semon, a sophomore psychology major, will see big changes in Lipinsky Hall.

Marilyn Lonon takes over as interim registrar while Lipinsky offices re-organize

By Ryan Sniatecki
News Reporter

Several changes are on the horizon as the university shuffles offices and the faculty prepares to possibly update the general education requirements for the first time in 20 years.

The registrar's office will split up and combine with the academic advising office in Lipinsky Hall. Some of the two offices' responsibilities will combine in the space currently occupied by the registrar staff on the first floor of Lipinsky, while the bulk of the registrar staff will move upstairs.

Registrar Rebecca Sensabaugh will become the university's administrative curriculum coordinator to help implement any changes to the core curriculum. Marilyn Lonon, coordinator of student data services, will take her place as interim registrar beginning Dec. 1.

The academic advising and registrar's offices will be reshuffled in an attempt to

better serve students' needs. Part of the registrar staff will move to the second floor of Lipinsky Hall, while the advising staff will relocate to the current registrar's office.

"We are trying to delineate between the registrar's office and the advising office," said Patricia McClellan, assistant vice chancellor for academic support. "Students have been confused as to which office handles which issues. We're also trying to make it accessible."

"I've never really had a problem dealing with the registrar's office," said Christine Hinman, a junior accounting major. "In comparison to dealing with problems at previous schools I've gone to, the UNCA registrar's office was very easy to deal with."

"What we're trying to do is make the whole operation a little more student-friendly," said Lonon, who served as assistant registrar in the 1970s.

"I get a lot of students in this office, and e-mails, and they say 'I hope you can

help me, because I have been to so many people,' and I'd like to stop that," said McClellan.

"The change might be beneficial for easier access, and for other students who have had problems," said Hinman.

The registrar's office staff tracks students' academic records, but isn't trained to answer every question students may ask, according to McClellan.

"The advisement office has the people that are knowledgeable about the students' progress through the curriculum, and they're upstairs though, sort of tucked away," said McClellan. "I think that the location of the registrar's office has been sort of the prime spot. A lot of the time, students go there because it is the handiest."

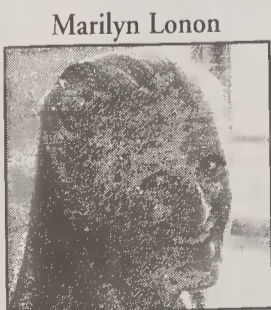
"I haven't really had any issues with the registrar's office in the time that I've been here," said Adam Cook, a junior accounting major.

"I would like to spend a couple of months just seeing exactly what the registrar's office is doing now, before I try and say, well could we do it this way

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HILARY MCVICKER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



HILARY MCVICKER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bolivian upheaval symptomatic of world order and economic gaps

By Adam Pollock
News Reporter

Bolivian president Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada left office Oct. 18 after his government faced a month of protests throughout the country by citizens calling for his resignation.

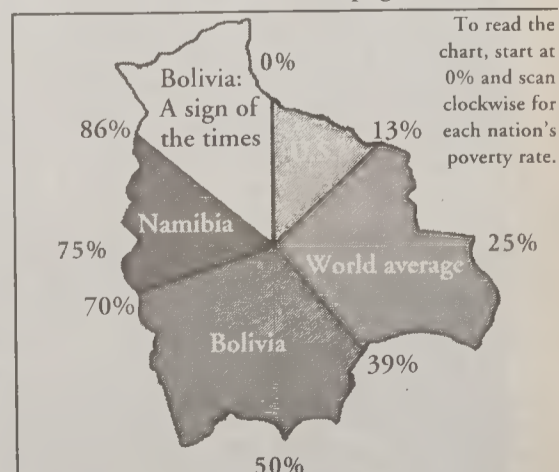
"Bolivia is still not a country of equals. We must understand our peoples," said Bolivian Vice President Carlos Mesa according to a *BBC News* report.

The protests in Bolivia, which lasted over a month and left 70 people dead, began after the Bolivian president announced plans to export natural gas to the United States. Evo Morales, Sanchez de Lozada's political opponent in the 2002 presidential election in Bolivia, led the protests. President Sanchez de Lozada announced his resignation in a letter to the country's congress.

Bolivia possesses large caches of natural gas, which the nation's former president said could help to strengthen Bolivia's economy. The president also said that one percent of the country's natural gas reserves would adequately serve the needs of Bolivia's population.

Opponents of the plan, however, believe that only multinational energy corporations would benefit from the proceeds of any natural gas exports. They also believe that any benefits Bolivia did receive would "be frittered away or lost to corruption," according to a *BBC News* report.

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Percentage of population living under the poverty line. Namibia ranks the highest in the world at 86%. Source: CIA World Factbook 2002