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Student citation numbers increase

With increased Campus Police student citations continue to rise

By Kristen Marshall
STAFF WRITER

While the nation places student alcohol abuse in the spotlight, UNCA's administration increases police and housing staff presence in the residence halls forcing students to clean up their acts or get out.

"We are a key part of a team of folks on campus who are responsible to guide student behavior in a way that the residence halls are safe and that the people in them are safe," said Nancy Williams, director of Housing and Residence Life, who oversees nearly every aspect of residence life at UNCA.

In 2004, campus police issued 56 student conduct citations campus-wide for underage possession of alcohol. In 2005, the number doubled to 115. In the first quarter of 2006, campus police issued 55 students citations.

Nothing has changed in regards to how officers approach student conduct and policies. The increase in citations is due to the addition of more officers. Last year, campus police hired two officers, and then another this year, bringing the staff up to 10, according to Chief Steve Lewis, director of UNCA Campus Police.

"As you get more people, there are expectations that officers be able to spend more time in the residence halls," Lewis said.

Instead of two or only one officer on a shift at any given time, there are now as many as three, allowing for better coverage and presence, according to Lewis.

Administration attributes this increased presence in the residence halls to the jump in the number of citations. The num-

ber of people drinking hasn't gone up, they're just getting caught.

"With additional people, we are able to put more people in residence halls, and I think that's certainly been a contributing factor to the increase in citations," Lewis said.

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Mark Padilla said increased presence is a friendly, relationship-oriented approach to the problem.

"I don't think we've applied any polices that aren't in the student handbook," Padilla said. "We're just trying to be more of a presence to help those students that are telling us the residential life culture is interfering with their schoolwork."

RAs, night assistants, residential directors and public safety are now doing rounds in the dorms throughout nights and weekends, according to Julia Champion, a junior resident assistant in Founders Hall.

"I have seen more police presence in the dorms," Champion said. "That's because of all the calls going to public safety. They decided to do extra rounds at night and especially on the weekends."

The primary focus for housing staff and Campus Police is student safety and education, according to Williams.

"What we care about is their safety and their education. We very much care about that, and a lot of people on campus care about that," Williams said. "Really, that is the only incentive on how we decide to approach a situation."

Solution to a growing problem

In 2005, 23 students were arrested in the UNCA residence halls for liquor law violations, according to the annual Cleary Reports. During the first quarter of 2006, campus police arrested

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SHANNA ARNEY - STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The number of student conduct citations for under-age drinking nearly doubled in the past two years. In 2004, there were 56 campus-wide citations issued and in 2005, there were 115 issued.

Project Access provides health care

By David Hodges
STAFF WRITER

With the costs of health care and prescription medicines rising, a local program seeks to assist uninsured and low income patients with their medical bills.

The Buncombe County Medical Society (BCMS) is a branch of Project Access, a health care model designed to enable patients without health insurance to receive better access to affordable medical care.

"Project Access is a safety net," said Molly Black, coordinator of the Buncombe County chapter of Project Access. "It networks the county government, physicians, pharmacies and patients to better provide health care for people who otherwise may have no way to pay for services."

The Project Access model originated in Asheville in 1995 with assistance from a planning grant provided by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The Asheville model expanded into a nationwide program, with more branches forming across the country.

"There are now 52 completely active branches nationwide, with approximately 150 new systems in the formulative stages," Black said. "It is amazing how a program started in Asheville has been picked up in so many places."

The Project Access program is based on philanthropy. Physicians who participate in the program agree to donate their medical services to patients, allowing them access to more affordable primary and secondary care. Donated services include lab tests, inpatient and outpatient services.

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NCUR attracts students nationwide

By Paige Reinhard
STAFF WRITER

Students from Connecticut to California arrived at UNCA armed with their research for the 20th anniversary of the National Conference of Undergraduate Research last Thursday through Saturday.

"At first I thought of NCUR as an inconvenience, but when I saw them, I realized the time and effort that went into these presentations," said Maggie Harvin, freshman literature senior.

For some students, it was strange to have so many extra people on campus.

"I, along with my friends, felt like a visitor at our own school," Harvin said.

Two of the addresses, by chemist Geraldine Richmond and author Ilan Stavans, respectively, are available to download on the UNCA Web site.

"It was a great idea for students who wanted to go to an event, but couldn't because they had class or a previous engagement," said Kimberly Evans, senior multimedia arts and sciences student, who attended both addresses.

This is the first time the university used a podcast to make the lectures available to those who were unable to attend NCUR.

Using podcasts in the learning



SHANNA ARNEY - STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

UNCA mathematics lecturer Dot Sulovsk sits at the bus stop with student participants of the 20th Anniversary of NCUR.

environment could be taken even farther, according to Evans.

"The teachers could use it," Evans said. "Download a podcast and listen to it as an assignment, like current event speeches or something that relates to their class."

However, the positive outweighed the negatives, according to Harvin.

"It was worth the immense amount of people to have the opportunity to see the undergraduate research," Harvin said.

Undergraduate research is important for both the students seeing the presentations and

those giving them, according to Mark Harvey, associate psychology professor and chair of NCUR.

"NCUR is a great experience for them to be independently responsible for a project from start to finish. It's kind of up to them to make sure it happens," Harvey said.

In addition to presentations by students, three experts gave addresses during the weekend.

NCUR is unique for a research fair in that it does not separate presentations by field of study.

"NCUR provides an opportunity for all the different disciplines

to come together," said Holly Beveridge, NCUR event planner. "The same day you could see a psychology presentation and then go across campus and see a chemistry presentation."

Harvin attended a series of presentations about dance.

"I went to the first dance session, which included four presentations," Harvin said. "All four were from different schools."

Though all four presentations centered around dance, the focus of each was different, according to Harvin.

"I was impressed," Harvin said. "The information really interested me."

Actually seeing the dance presentations changed her mind about NCUR, according to Harvin.

The effort is what NCUR is all about, according to Harvey.

"To see that some very high quality work can be done by young people if given the time, the opportunity and the resources," Harvey said.

Seeing the work of fellow undergraduates inspired her, according to Harvin.

"I didn't think I would have the time to do undergraduate research, but now I am coming up with ideas for my own research," Harvin said. "I just hope I get the chance."

Women scientists face up-hill battle

Professor addresses gender inequality at NCUR

By Jim MacKenzie
STAFF WRITER

Gender inequality continues to affect women in academia today, according to Geraldine Richmond, chemistry professor at the University of Oregon.

Richmond lectured at UNCA during the 20th annual National Conference of Undergraduate Research. One theme was gender inequalities that exist within scientific fields of study. Richmond founded COACH in 1998, an organization that aids women scientists.

"I came from a family of all girls," Richmond said. "When I went to college and wanted to study science, suddenly I was surrounded only by men."

Richmond studied at Berkeley University during the 1970s. Despite her high grade point average, she was treated differently than males.

"I didn't want to be known as the female. I wanted to be known as a scientist," Richmond said. "I was left out

of opportunities that men would get with far less GPAs. They got to work in people's labs that I was never let into. There is no other explanation besides gender."

Although it is not as pronounced, this inequality goes on to this day. Women in academia get lower instructor's pay, smaller offices and more workloads while men usually nominate other men for awards, according to Richmond.

"All this subtle stuff is what we call an accumulation of disadvantage, and that's not getting any better," Richmond said. "We need to make women aware of this so they can change their climate."

Richmond's COACH program aims to help women's numbers grow in the scientific field and help them rise through the ranks and achieve positions of leadership.



Geraldine Richmond

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