

Readings

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cient Christian view of the Biblical character.

This level of thought behind each student's work is also reflected in Ayers' poetry, in which she translated emotions from her life experiences into three segments of poetry collections: "The Pagan and the Pentecost," "The Water Bowl" and "Hours of a Sunday."

"I've developed a lot as a writer this semester," she said.

Ayers said she honed the process of redrafting to ensure her themes and concepts were well-defined with her choice of words.

Her first collection of poems, "The Pagan and the Pentecost," was titled after a friend who initiated a Pentecostal prayer for Ayers' husband, who is afflicted with a serious illness.

"She was speaking in tongues," Ayers said. "The experience was intense."

Ayers' friend found solace through her religion, which helps her deal with

"I've developed a lot as a writer this semester."

— Christina Ayers,
literature student

troubling and difficult circumstances. The poems touch on the ways in which people deal with a harsh and unforgiving world.

The interrelationship between faculty and students in the creative writing department, according to the seniors, was an integral part of the writing process. Ayers said she enjoys the small class sizes, the demanding but passionate professors and the incorporation and study of literature.

Homeless

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partnership together to address homelessness," she said.

Sawyer said so far, the project has experienced success.

"Our last point in time count has over 300 people accessing permanent supportive housing, which is great. We expect to continue to see that type of success," Sawyer said.

UNCA Police Chief Eric Boyce said although there have been no recent reports of homeless persons residing on campus grounds, the unit has responded to situations in the past.

"We have assisted them in finding a homeless shelter," Boyce said.

The Key Center directed its attention toward the awareness of homelessness for one week, but Furey, who is also a representative for the volunteer group Americorps, said the center also specializes in service learning.

"Service learning is incorporating service into your course work," Furey said.

Furey said the Key Center works

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— Laura Furey,
associate director the
Key Center

with professors to create projects and classwork with a focus on service, such as volunteering at nonprofits or presenting at local schools.

"The great thing about it is you really get some practical applications of what you're learning in class, and I think it's more marketable to employers and graduate schools," she said.

Charity

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find a cause that appealed to them.

"There are charities that focus on local work here in the Asheville Buncombe County area, all the way up to charities that are on the national or international level, so there are numerous causes that employees can donate to," he said.

Charitable donations can be applied to a multitude of different areas, from educational funding or low-cost housing to domestic violence shelters or environmental protection.

Last year's biggest donations went to MANNA FoodBank, the United Way of Asheville and the UNC Asheville Foundation, all of which received more than \$4,300.

McKinney said employees were notified in several ways about the opportunity to participate in the SECC.

"Employees should have received forms in their mailboxes as well as brochures and letters about the program. There were also e-mails sent out to faculty letting them know where our donation drop-off locations are," McKinney said.

UNCA set a goal of 40 percent participation among employees.

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