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Dr. Ricketts: Professor and Author

By PAUL MARTINI

Any author knows that the writing of a book is an extremely long and difficult process that sometimes involves years of hard work and research. But if the book is expected to be between 750 and 1000 pages, and the author teaches several religion classes every year at a junior college, then the writing of a book can be an even more difficult task. Thus is the case with Dr. Mac L. Ricketts.

Dr. Ricketts is back at Louisburg College teaching religion this semester after taking a one year leave granted to him by the college. With this leave, and with the aid of a N.E.H. (National Endowment for the Humanities) fellowship grant, Dr. Ricketts has worked vigorously within the last year to finish this book, which is

about world religion scholar Mircea Eliade, and his background in Rumania before he defected to the United States to escape the communist regime in the 1950's.

Dr. Ricketts, who is good friends with Eliade and a former graduate student under him, says he first decided to write about Eliade around 1970 but, "What I have written since isn't exactly what I decided to write about." Dr. Ricketts also began learning the Rumanian language around 1970, and after 3 or 4 years he began translating some of Eliade's works in Rumanian for publish, and has been doing so ever since, even though he says that he is "still learning the language."

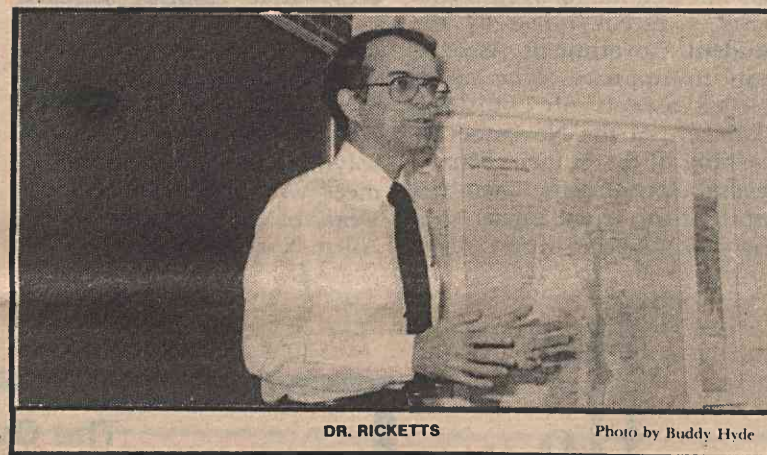
After Dr. Ricketts decided that he wanted to write about

Eliade's Romanian roots, he realized that he had to go to Rumania. This finally became possible in April, 1981, with the help of a Fulbright Scholarship granted by the government, and a leave granted to him by Louisburg College.

"After I received the scholarship in 1981, the college agreed to give me a leave of absence, so I taught classes on an accelerated pace so I was through by the end of March instead of May."

When Dr. Ricketts arrived in Rumania, he collaborated with a man who knew Eliade and taught "at the level equivalent to high school in the United States."

This man proved to be extremely helpful to Dr. Ricketts in his copying of articles.



DR. RICKETTS

Photo by Buddy Hyde

"I had a copying machine shipped over a couple weeks after I arrived (in Rumania). When it arrived at customs, the man there got excited and said that it could not be brought in and used. I then thought all was lost because I would then have no way to copy the hundreds of articles I needed.

Finally I told my friend this and he called an official, and they came up with a successful plan to donate the copying machine to the library, but it was six weeks before I actually began copying articles from the library."

Dr. Ricketts also had trouble
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Study Hard!

By STAFF WRITER

"And it came to pass that early in the morning of the last day of the semester there arose a multitude smiting their books and wailing. And there was much weeping and gnashing of teeth, for they were sore afraid. For they had left undone things which they ought to have done. And there was know help for it."

"And there were many abiding in the dorms who had kept watch over their books all night, but it nought avail us. And some there were who arose smilingly, for they had prepared for themselves the way, and made straight the

path of knowledge. And these wise ones were known to some as the burners of the midnight



STEVE HOWARD INSTRUCTS

oil. But by others they were called the curve-lousers. And the multitude arose and ate a hearty breakfast."

"And they came unto their appointed place, and their hearts were heavy within them. And they came to pass, and some passed not, but only passed out. And some of them repented of their riotous living, and bemoaned their fate, but they had not a prayer."

"And at the last hour, they came among them one known as the instructor, she of the diabolical smile, and passed papers among them and went
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S.G.A., Eller

Address Problems

By BETH BATES

No matter where you go to school, whether it be large or small there will always be problems. Louisburg College is no exception to the rule. No college or university is free from the problem of thieves.

Louisburg College is going through a period of students or outsiders taking property that does not belong to them. The Student Government Association is working closely with the Office of Student Affairs and Dean Eller to curve the problem of thefts in the dorms and in the

student cars.

There were several grievances that surfaced at a recent forum, brought about by the S.G.A. request. Dean Eller was present and answered questions posed to him from the student representatives. The questions of theft, parking area lighting and women students unable to find security guards to let them in their dorms were addressed.

Dean Eller responded on the lighting problem in the
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