

Briefly...

SGA makes plans for new year

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STAFF WRITER

Reception to welcome new deans

Chancellor James R. Leutze and Provost John C. Cavanaugh will sponsor a drop-in reception Aug. 30 to welcome the university's two new deans. Cathy Barlow is the new dean of the Watson School of Education and Larry Clark is the new dean of the Cameron School of Business. The reception will be held in the University Union Living Room between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Siko named 2000 Staff Award of Excellence recipient

Judith Siko, accounting technician for the Division of Academic Affairs received the 2000 Staff Award of Excellence, at the 25th annual Service Awards Program on Monday, Aug. 9. The award is presented to an employee whose service to the university exemplifies outstanding state service, innovations, public service, human relations or safety/heroism. Siko's honor recognizes her efforts to rework the division's accounting procedures to make the financial data easier to assimilate and present.

Johnson named to assist Surgeon General

Dr. James Johnson of the psychology department will assist Surgeon General David Satcher with a report on youth violence. Johnson has done extensive research on the impact of media exposure on violent attitudes, with a concentration on the effects of violent news programs and rap music.

New Counseling Center Director named

Dr. Anne Cowardin-Bach assumed her role as Director of the UNCW Counseling Center on August 1st. Before coming to UNCW, Dr. Cowardin-Bach served as Associate Director and Director of Training at the University of Wyoming Counseling Center.

After last year's controversial SGA presidential elections, the beginning of the 2000-2001 academic year offers the opportunity for the SGA to start fresh.

Katie Russell, this year's SGA president, is looking forward to addressing the issues that are important to the UNCW student body.

"I feel honored to be president," Russell said.

Russell, a communications studies major, won a majority of votes in her bid for the presidency after an unusual election process that took three separate elections to produce a clear winner. The initial election was canceled after each candidate was disqualified for campaign violations. The follow-up election did not produce a clear winner, which in turn forced a runoff election in which Katie Russell emerged victorious.

"It turned into a circus," Russell said.

With all disputes behind them, Russell hopes this year will be better. She would like to see more students get involved with the SGA and other campus organizations.

"People can be on committees; they can help by getting people registered to vote, and they can put up posters," she said.

Among many things, the SGA is responsible for delegating student fees to the different university organizations like the Greeks, ACE and various other activities held on campus throughout the year. The SGA also takes up issues raised by students with the university administration.

Russell said she is counting on students to attend the SGA meetings and voice their opinions, or to let the SGA know about issues of concern. She also will encourage the various representatives of the SGA to go out into their constituencies and make their presence known.

"(Students) will find out that the SGA cares," Russell said.

Junior Valerie Kepley, a math major who said she votes in SGA elections, would like to see the SGA address the parking problems of UNCW.

Student parking has become a major issue for commuter students, particularly since UNCW implemented the one mile radius policy and designated more spaces to "faculty only" parking.

Kepley believes the SGA should

encourage students to get involved on campus.

"There are lots of groups people should join here," said Kepley who works in the university union and said that she sees the place vacated every weekend even though there are a lot

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of things to do.

A more efficient SGA will operate this year under a newly formed unicameral body, which Russell said, will make it much easier to govern than the previous year's two-house legislature.

Other items that are new for the 2000-2001 academic year include meal plans and food dollars for commuter students, an idea initiated by the SGA, and a new secretary of technol-

ogy who will be the webmaster for the SGA home page and represent technical issues relevant to the SGA.

Russell said that this will be a significant year in the SGA and our national and state governments.

"This is a really important year to vote," she said.

When North Carolinians vote in November for the president, they will also vote on an education bond for the state, which, if passed, will grant the public universities in North Carolina \$3.1 billion. Out of that, UNCW would see nearly \$1.8 million, which could be used for academic buildings and or the modernization of existing ones. Russell pointed out that UNCW is one of the smallest schools in the UNC system and could benefit from the passage of the bond referendum. She said that UNCW is growing extremely fast, and that the SGA should take an active roll not only in registering students to vote in national and state elections but getting as many people as possible informed about the issues.

"Students and their parents need to know about the issues," Russell said.

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