

# Campus & City

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## Admissions

While classes will not be restricted, only 15 students will be admitted as candidates for the master's degree each year. In reference to the low limit Bayes said: "It's going to be highly competitive. We are aiming at producing top-notch professional imaginative writers who can compete in the job market in publishing and teaching as well as enhance their skills for the business world."

Non-candidate students may attend classes with degree candidates for transfer credits, teacher recertification, or out of interest for individual classes. Degree candidate students receive enrollment priority, and the three credit-hour writing workshops admit a maximum of 15 students.

## Depth of Staff and Planners

Evening symposiums will be run by "Master Writers," who are published professionals, writers such as Carolyn Kizer, Pulitzer Prize winning poet, Dr. Donald Keene, Kincho professor of Japanese

Literature at Columbia University, and fiction writers John Casteen and Clyde Edgerton.

Howard McCord, director of the MFA program at Bowling Green University in Ohio, after serving on the four-member Blue Ribbon Panel which advised St. Andrews on designing its MFA, said, "The St. Andrews MFA should be the most exciting program of its kind in the U.S." Ann Deagon, Chair of classics at Guilford College in Greensboro, N.C., Dr. Judith Johnson, and Sam Ragan, former secretary of culture for North Carolina, also sat on the Blue Ribbon Panel.

Edna Ann Loftus, associate professor of English at St. Andrews, will serve as the chair of admissions for the MFA program. Robert Hopkins, associate professor of economics and business at St. Andrews, acts as chair of the program's steering committee.

The entire staff from the St. Andrews department of humanities and fine arts will at one point participate in the MFA

program. Dr. Richard Prust, who will be teaching a graduate-level class in aesthetics this coming fall, said, "I have never taught at a non-residential college before. It will be an adventure for me...Every Second of those three-hour classes is golden."

## Give and Take

Bayes, Prust and Smith said that the MFA will benefit St. Andrews and Sandhills in a number of ways. Bayes said it will raise the profile of St. Andrews "appropriately." Prust said the program will introduce teachers to the open teaching style indicative of St. Andrews and encourage teachers to refer their promising writers to St. Andrews. Smith said the MFA program is likely to increase the vitality of the St. Andrews Press and the Sandhills-St. Andrews Review.

Discussing the difference in his expectations for graduate and undergraduate students, Prust said, "I'm not looking to see how hard I can push them. I want to see what I can get them excited about. How can I get them to usefully reflect on the relationship between their imaginative work and their sense of what is real?"

## Requirements

MFA graduates are required to complete 36 credit hours, minimum. This can be done in three years. Six thesis hours are awarded for writing the required book-length manuscript. Degree candidates must emphasize poetry, prose-fiction or play writing.

The Admission fee is \$200, applicable to tuition upon entry. Tuition is \$250 per credit hour. Students must take six to seven credit hours per semester to graduate in three years. A maximum of 12 credit hours may be transferred from other institutions with permission of the admission committee. The usual minimum education requirement for admission to the MFA program is a bachelor's degree.

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Corinne L. Nicholson, assistant professor of business, Lawrence E. "Larry" Schulz, Jefferson Pilot associate professor of politics, William M. "Bill" Throop, associate professor of philosophy, and Thomas E. "Tom" Williams, associate professor of history. Each of the workshop participants has taught in and contributed to the SAGE program.

Clark chaired the meetings while Jonathan R. Franz, dean of students, sat in.

Clark explained at an open forum Feb. 20 that careful thought and preparation went into this proposal. A summer open house took suggestions from students. The summer workshop group reviewed other schools' general education programs, interviewed library and computer center personnel and the dean of students, could change and improve it. Charles W. "Skip" Clark, chair of SAGE, said the main goal of the summer workshop was to plan how to "tie all the SAGE courses together and to use resources more effectively."

The 11 faculty members included: Norman T. Boggs III, associate professor of chemistry, Mary Louise "Mel" Bringle, Jefferson Pilot associate professor of religion, Barbara J. Frank, assistant professor of

math, Dennis McCracken, associate professor of biology, and looked at existing interviews of St. Andrews seniors who completed the SAGE program. They wanted the new SAGE program "to be able to relate what is taught in class to events in the world, to look at the issues more in depth, and to use the expertise of all faculty members to enhance the learning experience in SAGE," said Clark.

Christy Baumgard, student member of the Educational Policies Committee (EPC), said, "I think the new SAGE program is going to work out really well. It's going to blend all the courses and all the material learned in context." Baumgard said that she thinks the new SAGE program will be more effective than the previous program.

Clark is optimistic about the SAGE revision. He said, "almost all comments have been favorable, and the faculty is excited and ready to go. We will have a very well-integrated staff that all will benefit from and with luck all the students will be as excited as the faculty."

The SAGE teams will meet to design course material, and the faculty will be trained during the summer to put the new SAGE program into effect.

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