

NEWS

Generic nursing program fights for survival

By LENE HUNTER
Staff Writer

Earlier this year, University of North Carolina System President C.D. Spangler proposed to the UNC Board of Governors that Winston-Salem State University's generic nursing program be eliminated, leaving the program open only to registered nurses seeking a bachelor's degree in nursing (BSN).

The generic program enables students to take two years of general courses before

entering the nursing school, where they can receive a BSN after two more years of study.

Dwindling enrollment along with fewer people passing the National Council of Licensure Exam (NCLEX), and the high cost per student are the reasons cited for shutting the program down.

Within the past year, however, there have been significant improvement in those above mentioned areas.

In recent years, WSSU's program has been among the worst of the nine

nursing programs in the University of North Carolina System in enrollment and test scores.

But since Sylvia A. Flack, coordinator of the nursing program came to WSSU, there has been a turnaround. Since Flack's arrival in Aug. 1989, there are now 78 juniors and seniors in the program — 55 of those came through the generic program.

Outreach programs in Wilkes and Watauga counties and the recruitment of non-traditional students such as emergency medical technicians and licensed practical

nurses contributed to the rise in enrollment from 149 in 1989 to 267 in 1990. Of the 13 graduates who took the licensing exam for the first time in North Carolina, 11 or 85 percent passed.

The UNC Board of Governors will make their final decision about this program in December. The Nursing Alumni Chapter will hold a meeting on Sept. 29 to discuss which direction the program is going to take which will include gaining the full support of the community, faculty and students.

Ambassador Draper seeks minorities for foreign service slots

By MICHAELL PARKER
Staff Writer

Ambassador Morris Draper, a man of international intrigue, made a brief stop to WSSU's Career Placement Center on Sept. 14.

Draper, former Ambassador to the Middle East and retired member of the Foreign Service Commission, is on a mission to recruit minorities for the Foreign Service. His mission has carried him to various colleges throughout the U.S.

"There's a great need for minorities and women," says Draper, "but we have a hard time recruiting them. Draper explains that minorities are vital to the Foreign Service because they are able to reach and

relate to people who are often looked over in foreign countries by traditional staff members, which tend to be white males. Draper adds that without more employees, the middle rank occupations in the Foreign Service will decrease.

One deterrent that discourages potential applicants is the service's comprehensive test. Once the test is taken, it takes approximately six to eight weeks to receive a response. If the applicant passes the exam, a lengthy evaluation process begins which consists of a background and reference check. If there is a negative response, the applicant has to take the test over.

A second deterrent is the lengthy application which also requires a detailed biographical sketch. Some applicants feel

that the application process is overly complicated.

The entire process of becoming a Foreign Service correspondent takes approximately 18 months. Ambassador Draper feels that 18 months is too long. He says the service is making efforts to reduce the lengthy period it now takes to land a job in the Foreign Service. "Applicants now complete all vital paper work before they even take the test," the ambassador said. If an applicant passes the examination, the orientation process begins. This reduces the process to approximately nine months.

Aside from the exam, Ambassador Draper believes that prospective job applicants shy away from a foreign service career because of misperceptions.

"There are too many myths about

Foreign Service jobs," he said. Many people think that a foreign language and knowledge of a particular country is required. This is false. Language and ethnic etiquette is taught during training.

Another myth about the Foreign Service is that the job is full of danger. "All jobs have risk, this one is no different," Draper said. But that's not to say that he hasn't had his share of close calls during his career. In 1970, for example, he was held hostage in 1970 by the Palestinian Resistance.

Nevertheless, Draper hasn't let that episode sour him. It is his hope that a greater number of minorities and women will fill positions in the Foreign Service over the next few years.

BEEP workshops featuring black professionals scheduled for middle of October

By MICHAELL PARKER
Staff Writer

Winston-Salem State students will be exposed to a number of workshops and seminars on career etiquette on October 15-16. The workshops will be held at various locations around campus.

The workshops and seminars are elements of BEEP (Black Executive

Exchange Program), which is sponsored by the National Urban League.

BEEP's purpose is to provide positive role models for college students. These role models will share their experience and expertise as Afro-American professionals from various companies will share their experience and expertise with students. Participating professionals represent

companies such as Shell Oil and Phillip Morris.

Sandra Sosnick, Director of Career Services and Dr. William Bailey, Chairperson of the Business and Economics Department are the campus coordinators for BEEP.

Sosnick and Dr. Bailey are very enthusiastic about the program which is in its second year.

"Last years attendance was great, but most of the students were from the Business and Economics Department," said Sosnick. This year, Sosnick and Bailey are working anxiously to reach students and faculty from the other departments on campus.

For more information about BEEP, contact Sosnick at 750-3240 or Dr. Bailey at 750-2330.

Pan-Hellenic Council elects new officers

The Pan-Hellenic Council (PHC), a forum representing all eight official Greek organizations, has officially elected new officers for the 1990-1991 school year.

The officers are as follows: President, Rondra McMillan, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; First Vice President, Tezra Ellis, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority; Secretary, Michael E. Parker, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority; Treasurer, Andre' Evans, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity; Parliamentarian, Eric Leake, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; Historian, Sharonda White, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; Second Vice President, William Harris, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity; and Public Relations, Lou Tillman, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. Each organization also will have one voting representative.

New addition to O'Kelly Library is now open

The much needed addition to O'Kelly library is open.

The architectural design has provided some service improvements. Current periodicals circulate from a closed shelving area and the patron's ID card is kept until the item is returned. This arrangement will help ensure that more current issues are available for future use.

A small group study room is located on the first floor; the Reference staff will open

this room for two to six persons. A large conference room is located on the third floor. Reservations should be made through the Director's office.

In addition, six individual study rooms are available on the third floor. Requests for these rooms can be made at the third floor Information Desk.

The library will be open the following hours: Monday - Thursday 8 pm - 11 pm, Friday 8 am - 5 pm, Saturday 10 am - 2 pm, Sunday 2 pm - 6 pm.

Chase-Manhattan offers credit cards

Chase Manhattan, the nation's second largest credit card issuer, is offering college and university students VISA and Mastercard credit cards with a minimum credit line of \$500 and no annual fee for the first year (a savings of \$20).

To qualify, students need proof of college or university enrollment. They are not required to have a prior credit history or parental cosigner. There is no minimum income requirement.

According to W. Gregory Kerwick, director of student marketing, Chase developed this as a special offer because market research indicates that today's students are highly concerned with establishing a strong credit history. "By offering a special credit card for students, we're providing them with a service that they need when they feel they need it most," said Kerwick. "Our recent nationwide tests have concluded that students are among the most responsible users of credit and regularly adhere to payment schedules," he

added.

Chase hopes to develop long term relationships with student cardholders, ultimately serving all of their financial needs. Supporting this effort, Chase will immediately extend its relationship with students by designing a student newsletter and a series of educational brochures containing credit guidelines and personal finance tips to include with monthly statements.

Chase will also offer students special services and benefits designed exclusively for the student market, such as discounts on retail items and educational materials. In addition, all Chase credit cards currently offer collision damage coverage for rental cars, automatic merchandise protection and an extended warranty program.

According to Kerwick, the student market has demonstrated the greatest growth for Chase's Direct Response Banking Group, which, with an account base of more than nine million.