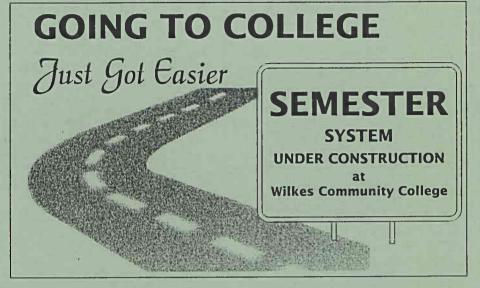
THE COUGAR CRY

3 SEPTEMBER 1996

SEMESTER SYSTEM - HERE IT COMES!



Wilkes Community College will be changing over to the semester system in the Fall of '97. A mandate, handed down by the NC State Legislature, has required that all NC community colleges comply with the reengineering program that changes quarters into semesters. The community colleges' current courses will be rearranged to fit into the semester system. Also, all NC community colleges will be offering similar courses, so that credit can be transferred between them.

The conversion to semesters will definitely benefit the students here at WCC. It will allow the transferring student a much easier transition to a four-year institution. Since universities are on the semester system, a student will be able to take a class here that will transfer for full credit, instead of the partial credit currently received when students do not complete sequential courses. Also, the courses being offered here when the changes take place will be more comparable to those taught at the fouryear schools. The student in a diploma or AAS program here at WCC will be better prepared to enter the world of work because of the semester system. More time will be devoted to these students to get the quality skills they need. The semester system will be a big step for this college.

Obviously the semester system will help students furthering their education, but what about the students who are doing their first year in quarters and then switch over to the semester system in their second year? Cathy Annas advises that the student know their checksheet and their advisor very well. Your advisor will be trained to help you with this transition. He or she will let you know what classes you need and don't need to succeed in pursuing your education. The advisor will work closely with you to get to know your goals and plans. Please work with your advisor so you will avoid unnecessary headaches.

If you don't know what your future educational plans are, Cathy Annas or Debbie Furr are available to help you with career testing. This test is designed to help you decide what your likes, skills, and interests are. After taking this test, you will be more able to choose the right path for your career. You can reach Cathy or Debbie at ext. 6147. Do this before making big decisions on the program you enter. BP



We could all use some help in getting better study skills. Instructor Sam Sink has the answers you need. The COLLEGE SURVIVAL SKILLS class, offered every quarter, is a must for every college student. This course will teach you effective study skills, time management, vocabulary, and the confidence you need to face test anxiety. This class gives you valuable "tools to put in your toolbox." When a student arms himself with the proper "tools," he will be better equipped to handle college work. When a student makes at least an A or B in this COLLEGE SUR-VIVAL SKILLS class, it has been proven that he can use the newly learned skills to raise his grade point average 1/2 point. This is a significant difference in GPA. You can register for this course Fall Ouarter and start changing your habits now. To find this course in the Fall Quarter 1996 Bulletin, look under Orientation on page 9. Every student needs to sign up for this course!

Young & Restless?

Do your career plans seem like a soap opera? Are they "Young and Restless" and in need of a "Guiding Light"? Then come to a two-day **CAREER WORKSHOP** and learn to make "Bold and Beautiful" career decisions as they relate to your interests and values. Don't spend another indecisive day in "Another World"! Mark your calendar for September 17th and 19th at 12:15-1:00 PM., in Room 209 Hayes Hall (plan to attend both sessions). **Contact Debbie Furr in the Student** Development office at 838-6147 for further information.

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