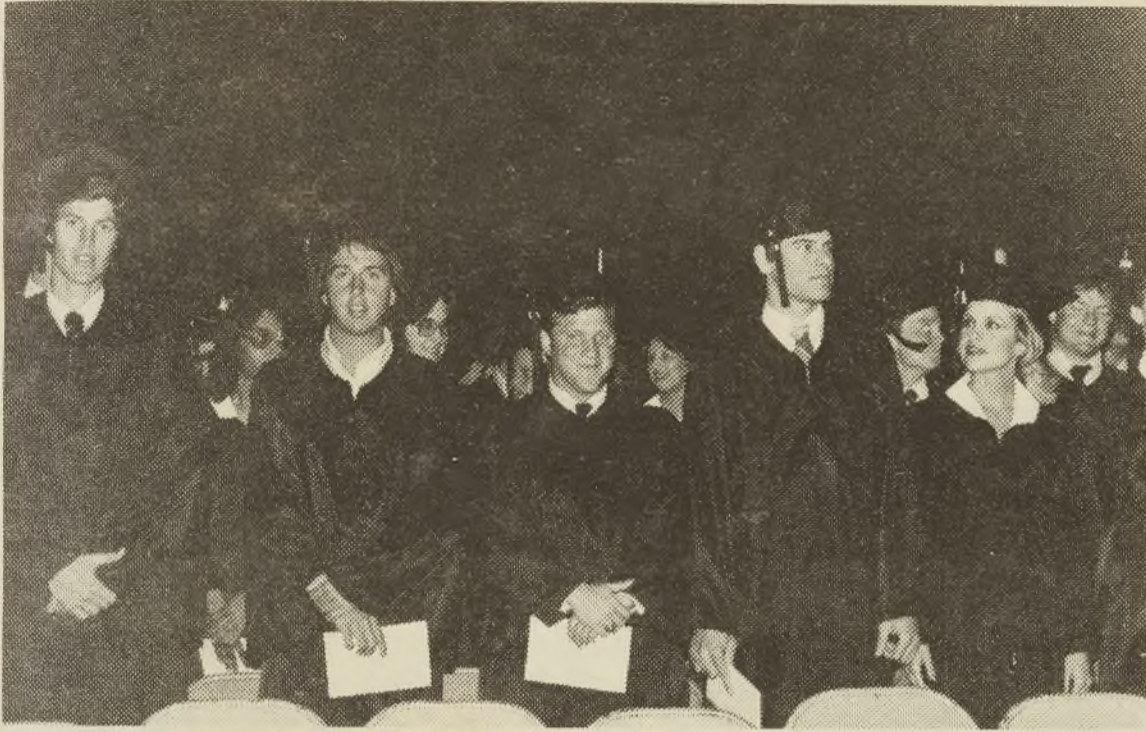


The Carolina Journal

The Student Newspaper of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Charlotte, North Carolina

Volume XVI, Number 1

Monday, May 26, 1980



Ear to Ear

Photo by Debbie Miller

Its all grins for UNCC's new alumni as a group of Business Administration majors wait on the rest of their class to file in the Charlotte Coliseum. This year's speaker was Buck Rodgers, vice president of marketing for IBM.

Student Stipends No Longer Tax Free

By David E. Griffith

As of April 30 all stipends paid to students out of Student Activity Fees accounts will be regarded as wage and will be taxable, says a memo from University Controller Nancy Roberts to the Student Activity Fees Commission (SAFC).

The memo cites Internal Revenue Code, "Any amount paid or allowed an individual to enable him to pursue studies or research is taxable income if the amount represents compensation for past, present, or future employment services or payment for services subject to the direction or supervision of the grantor."

The memo continues saying, "Scholarship/fellowship grants are excludable from gross income and thus exempt from taxation provided all five of the following tests apply: (1) the recipient must be a candidate for a degree, (2) the services performed must satisfy the stated requirements of the degree; (3) these requirements must be reasonably appropriate to the degree; (4) the services performed are not in excess of these requirements; and (5) equivalent services are required of every requirement for that degree whether or not compensated."

It is quite clear that this will remove all possibility of non-taxable student stipend, but it is not quite so clear as to how else it will effect student organizations. This is evident in the last part of the memo which says all student organizations will pay

their staff through the student payroll, on the basis of hours worked and an hourly wage.

To do this, each organization will submit time cards at the first of each month to the payroll office. Any full time students are exempt from Social Security taxes and the matching payroll taxes the organization would otherwise have to cough up. All employees will have to fill out W-4 forms, NC-4 forms, and loyalty oaths at the financial aid office. Although these wages are taxable, whether or not the individual student will have taxes withheld will depend upon the student's total income and previous year's liability.

Roberts said she saw no alternatives to the new stipend (wage) policy, and she questioned why such funds were allowed stipend status in the first place. She also noted that the students were liable for back taxes for up to three years, but it doesn't seem likely that the IRS would bother with trying to collect. The students won't be subject to prosecution for tax evasion because there was no knowledgeable effort to cheat on the taxes.

Roberts expressed concern that the entire University may be audited by the IRS. She said the university is the fiscal agent for all student organizations. Because of this relationship, all persons being paid from state accounts are considered state employees.

(Continued on Page 2)

New College; Division In Changes Made

By Rick Monroe
Carolina Journal Editor

UNCC Chancellor, E. K. Fretwell recently announced several changes in the administrative structure of the University. The changes are: the combining of the Colleges of Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, and Math and Science into the College of Arts and Science; the creation of a new division of Research and Public Safety; and to begin looking for a new vice chancellor for academic affairs.

The combining of the three colleges will be effective July 1 and Dr. Sherman Burson, former dean of the College of Math and Science will serve as dean of the new college. Dr. William Mathis, dean of the College of Humanities, will return to teaching duties in Creative Arts. Dean Norman Schul of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences will become a program associate in the Institute for Urban Studies, which he helped establish.

Fretwell said having the liberal arts divided into three colleges was "cumbersome." Under the old structure, there were several chairmen of similar departments who had never met. Fretwell said that the new set up would be more conducive to establishing a solid core curriculum. Also, most other established schools have a College of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Phillip Hildreth, who has served as vice chancellor for academic affairs since 1974 will become a distinguished professor of biology and genetics after an eight month period of study at another university.

Dr. Robert D. Snyder of the College of Engineering will be the interim vice chancellor for academic affairs as of June 1, when Hildreth vacates the post. A nation wide search will be conducted to fill the position.

The new division of Research and Public Service will be headed by former vice chancellor of student affairs, Dr. Douglas M. Orr. Dean of Students, Chuck Lynch, will fill Orr's position while a national search is conducted for a person to fill the spot.

Departments under the new division will be the Office of Continuing Education and Extension, the Institute for Urban Studies and Community Service, the Center for International Studies, the Office of Research Grants and Contracts, Public Radio and Intercollegiate

Athletics.

According to Orr, a primary goal of the new division is to help the faculty in their research. He said the division would not lead UNCC into the 'publish or perish' syndrome, but would help avoid it. "We would hope that the research that goes on here would not isolate students, but draw them in." Orr said. He noted that on larger campuses only graduate students have the opportunity to assist professors in research while at UNCC undergraduates are helping in the labs.

"We would like to get students much more involved in internships or cooperative education programs." Orr said.

He said that by including the student radio station, WFAE, under the new division it would not mean a loss of control for the students. "The station will still be accountable to the Student Media Board." Orr said.

Orr denied allegations that the station was being "nationalized" by the University simply because it was increasing in wattage and would, in the future, be a highly visible part of the University.

"Since the station went FM (in 1977)... it was clear the radio station would need to be an arm of a public service division of the University."

he said. "The intent is to make sure everyone is having a say in how the station is developing."

He said for the next few years the Student Activity Fees Commission would be expected to fund the station but that eventually, state funds would replace the student monies. This year WFAE is requesting \$20,000 in funding from student fees. Station Manager, Bo Pittman, estimated that the students had supported the radio station to the tune of approximately \$150,000 since the station had gone on the air in 1970.

Orr noted that while the station's funding through federal and private grants had risen dramatically in the past few years, student money devoted to the station had remained constant.



Orr