

Accreditation: Why Is It Vital?

By ERNEST ROBL
Tar Heel Asst. Editor

What is the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools? Who runs it? What does it do? And why are its decisions of such vital importance to UNC?

These questions were raised at last week's opening session of the speaker ban study commission, when it was decided to open hearings with testi-

mony from spokesmen of this organization.

Immediately after this decision, one of the members noted that he knew almost nothing about the association and its relationship to member institutions. Other members of the commission, including chairman David Britt, quickly concurred on this point.

The Southern Association of

Colleges and Schools is a voluntary cooperative organization that attempts to raise standards of education.

In the words of Dr. Arnold K. King, vice-president of the Consolidated University: "The primary purpose of the association is to guarantee the public certain minimum standards in educational institutions.

"The association, which has

no political and no religious connections, carries this out by periodical evaluation of member institutions."

One of Six

The Southern Association is one of six regional accrediting organizations in the United States, which now handle accreditation of educational institutions ranging from universities to elementary schools.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools was founded in 1895 in Atlanta, Ga. Professor Edwin Mims of UNC was one of the founders.

The association was first organized for the purpose of accrediting high schools, on the premise that students from schools which meet certain standards would be more readily acceptable to colleges and universities than students coming from other high schools.

The program was later extended to the accreditation of colleges and universities, affecting the transfer of students, grades and credits and providing a basis for admission to graduate schools.

The program of accreditation has been extended to other secondary and even elementary schools.

411 Members

There are currently 411 member colleges and universities in the 11 states covered by the Southern Association: These states are Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, and Texas.

In addition to handling the accreditation of educational institutions in this area of the United States, the Southern Association also handles accreditation of institutions in all of Latin and South America.

Dr. Arnold Perry, Dean of UNC's School of Education, is currently serving as chairman of the association's committee on Latin-American relations, and has been working with the association for 16 years.

Perry noted that this committee functions primarily in an advisory capacity, usually convening in New Orleans to meet with representatives of Latin American academic institutions and organizations.

Most of the current work of the Southern Association is handled through three commissions — a commission on colleges and universities, a commission on secondary schools, and a commission on research and services.

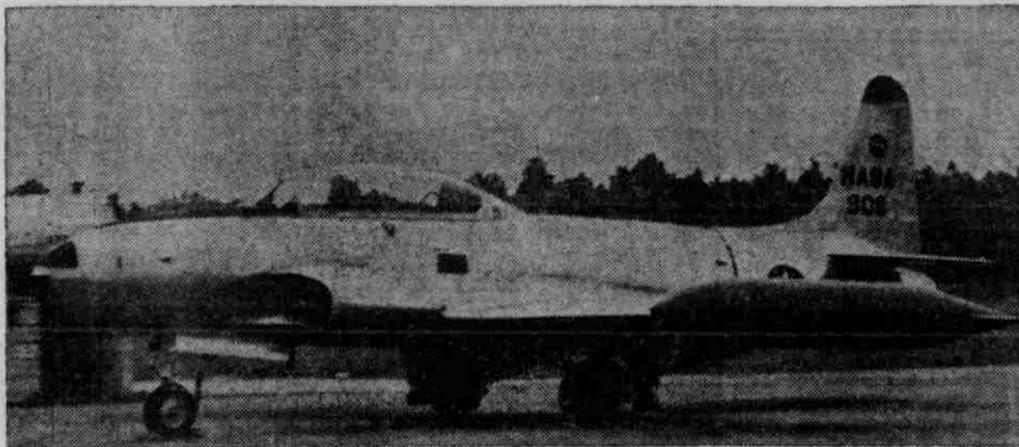
It was the first of these, the commission on colleges and universities which threatened North Carolina's state-supported institutions of higher education with loss of accreditation in May because of its two-year-old speaker ban law.

The law forbids known Communists and persons who have pleaded the Fifth Amendment on questions relating to communism from speaking on the campuses of state-supported institutions.

What effect would this
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The Tar Heel

CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1965



SPEEDY TRANSPORTATION: This T-33 jet provides quick transportation for astronauts when they travel to Morehead Planetarium for frequent training sessions. Astronauts fly in alone or in small groups since they often arrive from different points. An average visit

is about two days. This shot was taken last month at Raleigh-Durham Airport when astronauts Gordon Cooper and Charles Conrad underwent training for the eighty-orbit Gemini 5 flight.

Photo by Ernest Robl.

'Pill Hill' Expansion Gets Boost

The \$6 million for building and expanding the six-fold Medical and Health Center at the University, announced from Washington Friday, is only one-fourth of the total cost of the enlargement of the "Pill Hill" complex.

The University expects to get \$25 million for the physical expansion of the Health Center.

The federal funds are matched by state funds. The General Assembly appropriated large sums for facilities. A number of federal grants were contingent upon acquisition of state appropriations or matching funds from private and foundation sources.

Of the \$25 million for projects authorized and now largely funded there is \$11 million in state funds. Over \$12 million is scheduled to come from federal grants. The remainder is from special funds already on hand.

Dr. Isaac Taylor, Dean of the School of Medicine, cited an illustration of the combination of funds from various sources that go into the total construction picture.

In the \$6 million — plus announcement by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, there are three separate items: \$2,847,929 for the School of Dentistry expansion, and \$2,388,195 for the enlargement of the School of Medicine, and also \$803,487 for a four-story ambulant car facility and two-story surgical unit. The \$803,487 figure is only a small part of the total cost of the ambulant care and surgical addition.

The total for the surgery and ambulant care unit is \$8,400,000. The General Assembly appropriated \$2,500,000. Another \$2.5 million will come from Hill-Burton Act funds. The Burlington Industries Foundation gave \$500,000 for a portion of it — in memory of James Spencer Love. The North Carolina Medical Foundation gave an additional half a million. Other private and University sources will provide the rest.

Dean John Brauer of the School of Dentistry will be able to enlarge the enrollment in the first year school of den-
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Morehead Given Big Role In NASA Space Program

By WAYNE MODLIN
Tar Heel Staff Writer

When Gemini 5 astronauts Gordon Cooper and Charles Conrad blast-off for an eighty-orbit flight next month, they will carry with them experience gained at Morehead Planetarium.

Cooper and Conrad, like all other astronauts, have studied at Morehead under the tutelage of planetarium director Anthony Jenzano.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration selected Morehead over other similar facilities as the training spot for celestial navigation. NASA surveyed other planetariums throughout the nation at the beginning of the Mercury program in 1959. Each was asked to submit proposals of the facilities and training program they would offer. Jenzano drew up and submitted a list of plans and proposals from Morehead. NASA took it.

Morehead then had the task of training astronauts in space orientation. But how was it to go about conducting it. The problem was unprecedented.

"In those early days of the program, neither NASA nor we knew exactly what had to be done," Jenzano said. "But of the two, we were in a better position to plan this facet of the program because of our

familiarity with the celestial system.

"It's amazing how well those original plans have worked out, although we have gradually developed methods and techniques through experimentation which have modified and improved them."

Morehead bought an army surplus "link trainer" (a de-

vice for training pilots). Jenzano modified it to resemble the Mercury capsule in certain desired aspects.

The visual capacity of the "link trainer" was modified to exactly simulate the view from the Mercury capsule. The seat was tilted to accurately simulate conditions in the capsule.
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Exchange Program

12 Travel South

Twelve UNC students and professors left Tuesday for a three-week travel and study seminar at Escuela Normal Superior in Mexico City, continuing a student exchange program begun eight years ago.

The program will be one of intensive language study. Students will attend classes at the Higher Normal School. They will also visit the University of Vera Cruz, where they will observe the teaching of English and other subjects in the public schools.

Lectures will be in Spanish and students will be called upon to assist in both English and Spanish classes.

Exchange students from Mexico will come to Chapel Hill Feb. 1, 1966, for the spring semester and, in addition to taking courses in education and English, will assist in teaching Spanish in the public schools of the state.

The group includes Walter Bulla, Salisbury; Joyce Carter, Carrboro; Linda Goldberg, Durham; William R. Ledford and Anne Westbrook, Raleigh; Nancy Patterson, Black Mountain; Marjorie Shallotte; Ann Miller, Yonkers, N. Y.; and Rogette Wernicke, Pensacola, Fla.

Dr. Margaret Jones of Chapel Hill is accompanying the group as leader.

Interviews

Interviews will be held Friday and Monday for students interested in working on the Tar Heel staff during the second session.

Interested students should come to the Tar Heel offices second floor, Graham Memorial between 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Friday or 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday or call the office for an appointment.

Positions are open for news and feature writers, columnists and an office secretary.

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