

Clearinghouse

A 30 percent chance of rain early, followed by clearing later in the day. High in the upper 80s.

The Daily Tar Heel

Mac Attack

Fleetwood Mac opened their last tour in Greensboro Wednesday. A review of the concert is on page 5.

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DTWAI Steele

Patient Veronica Davis (left) jokes with her friends
... Nurse trainee Katherine Lynch laughs with professor Debbie Thompson

Distinguished faculty available to students

UNC has quality nursing program; school exceeds state board standards

By TERESA COLBERT
Staff Writer

In addition to outstanding athletics and other academic areas the University of North Carolina can take pride in its school of nursing, whose standards already exceed many of the recent recommendations made by the North Carolina Board of Nursing.

Recommendations proposed by the board, which include requiring nurse faculty members to hold bachelor's degrees or obtain them within six years, are already in practice at the UNC School of Nursing. All members of the school's 75-member faculty hold a master's degree or higher, said Marjery Duffey, associate dean at the school. Fifteen faculty members hold Ph.D.s; 17 others are working toward them.

Another board proposal would raise the required percentage of students passing the state licensing from 70 to 75 percent within six years. The percentage of UNC nursing students passing the exam is already higher — last year 83.2 percent of the students passed.

The nursing board proposed the regulations earlier this year, presenting them at a public hearing in April, said Rosemary Ritzman, nurse consultant with the board. The proposals will not be implemented until a report is made to the General Assembly, Ritzman said.

Laurel Copp, dean of the UNC School of Nursing, voiced approval of the proposed standards. "In general, we endorse them as a faculty," she said. Testimony regarding the proposed standards by Nell Murphy and Alice Dietz, associate professors with the nursing school, was very favorable and reflected the opinion of the faculty at the school.

"I believe if the (board's) standards are implemented, it will certainly have a good effect on the students," Copp said. On a long-term basis, patient care will also eventually be affected, she added.

The University's nursing school must meet other standards in addition to those of the state board. The school is accredited by the National League for Nursing and the American Nurses Association.

The undergraduate program was accredited by the National League for Nursing in 1955, five years after its establishment. The graduate program was established in 1955 and was accredited in 1961. Both programs were reaccredited in 1970 and 1978.

The school's undergraduate enrollment has grown considerably in the past decade. In 1972, 51 undergraduate

students were enrolled. That figure jumped to 80 in 1973 and 112 in 1974. Total enrollment of the nursing school for this year is 398; 70 are graduate students and 24 are RNs who have returned to school.

Nursing students have a five-week summer session before they begin actual clinical work with patients; after that, the students have contact with the patients all four semesters of the program, Duffey said. The clinical part of the program is planned between the faculty and the students. Students have only one patient in the beginning, and their patient load increases as they become more experienced, Duffey said.

By the time the students have completed the nursing program, they will have done all the kinds of things RNs do, Duffey said.

The school instills personal as well as professional skills, Duffey said. The students are taught communication skills and other personal skills, although "it's not an easy thing to teach," she said.

Some of the student's lab work is planned to incorporate such skills, said Audrey Booth, associate dean.

The last major reorganization of the nursing school curriculum was in 1979, Duffey said. But with medical technology constantly changing, there is frequent curricular assessment, she added. The field is constantly growing, she said.

The curriculum changes as progress is made, and the faculty should be commended for its assessment of the students' needs, said Jean Hix, a senior nursing student. "The faculty-student relationship is great," she said.

Hix said the relationship between the students was also good. "There is a great deal of camaraderie; everyone pulls for everyone else."

Hix said the school places an emphasis on theory, and that she felt more clinical experience and pharmacology courses would be helpful, but would require three years rather than two.

However, the theory is what distinguishes nursing as a profession, Hix said, adding that the theory provides the students with leadership potential.

Lisa Banks, another senior in the nursing school, agreed. "I would feel better prepared if I had more clinical experience in school, but when I get out I'll be glad I had the theory," she said.

"The faculty is great," Banks said, "and there is a great deal of fellowship between students." The students support each other and "it's like a great big family," she said.

Encouraging signs seen for liberal arts programs

By JEFF HIDAY
Staff Writer

In the last few years, students across the country have flocked to technical degrees in search of the surest route to a lucrative career.

To some observers, this "survival migration" has left the liberal arts curricula in the cold. In the first weeks of the academic year, there has been an abundance of reports focusing on the "demise" of liberal arts education.

But despite the fact that programs such as business administration, computer science and engineering are experiencing seemingly unhindered growth, the 1982-83 academic year may well mark a leveling-off period in the continued popularity of technical curricula, UNC officials said this week.

"We may have crested — things may shift back the other way," said Raymond Strong, director of the UNC Office of Records and Registration.

But "people are still uptight about jobs, practical-minded," he said. The new curriculum for freshmen "is distorting everything as related to the past," making it difficult to predict future major decisions, Strong added.

"From what I've seen — even the freshmen in my hall — more students are going back to liberal arts," said Doug Sprecher, a sophomore accounting major from Charlotte. "So many businesses want well-rounded graduates. My feeling is that they'll train you anyway."

Sprecher said he thought the move to practical majors has already begun to ebb.

Each year freshmen complete a worksheet, recording their expected major. According to this year's figures, the overall interest in technical programs may have leveled off.

Some 2,902 freshmen completed the worksheet. Four hundred and seventy-three freshmen indicated business administration as their probable major. That would indicate a slight drop from the 532

sophomores who transferred from General College to business this spring.

However, these figures may well change, said Donald Jicha, associate dean of General College.

"There's quite a lot of musical chairs played as to the choice of a major, but I thought I saw some semblance of a rise in liberal arts," Jicha said.

But the figures also indicate that interest in technical studies remains steady. "This year's tentative major declarations indicate that computer science major is clearly on the upswing in the amount of interest," Jicha said. "Computer science has now surpassed math. You don't have to look back far to find the reverse true."

"And when presidents (of companies) make a statement about the kind of employees they want, they say 'those with broad backgrounds.' But they're not doing the hiring."

She added that companies were unlikely to change their hiring patterns until the economy improves.

But an important consideration involves a study done by AT&T several years ago, Harris said. "They compared employees who were liberal arts majors and those with a more technical background — all were veteran workers."

"Those trained in the liberal arts came out higher in ratings (by their superiors)," she said. "Many companies are aware of

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Donald Jicha
Associate Dean of the General College

"It (computer science) has become incredibly more popular," said Stephen Weiss, director of graduate studies in the computer science department. "A few years ago we got typically 125 applications for graduate school — last year we got 330."

Obviously the interest in some parts of the practical curricula is very high. But is that interest producing jobs?

"Well, it's very interesting," said Marsha Harris, director of University Placement Services. "Recruiters (from companies) are believers in liberal arts, however when it comes to hiring or even interviewing many want the practical-major graduates," she said.

that study and others with similar results."

In the long run, liberal arts majors could prove more successful, Harris said, but in the short run they may have initial difficulties getting that entry-level job.

She said the possibility of a "crest" this year depends on economic recovery. "Until it improves, students won't feel they can safely major somewhere where jobs aren't immediately available."

North Carolina State University conducted a study of liberal arts graduates who graduated five to six years ago, Harris said. "The result was that the vast majority were employed, satisfied and not in the dire straits people think they are."

Apartment-finding service gearing up to help students after initial problems

By DEAN FOUST
Staff Writer

After a slow and disorganized start, Student Government's apartment-finding service is beginning to make progress. And its organizers say they hope it will be operating by February — in time to help students closed out in the campus housing lottery.

Initial progress made by the Student Government Housing Committee was stalled by two factors, said Ellen Goldberg, chairman of the committee. A telephone survey of students about off-campus housing was not completed and two chairmen of the committee stepped down, she said. In addition, committee appointments were not made until late March, giving the committee a month to work before the end of the semester.

"Part of it was my fault. But now I am more familiar with the apartment-finding service and housing," Goldberg said.

"I am much more optimistic about it this week than last week," she said, following a meeting with the department of University housing that revealed its interest in the program.

The goal of the program is to assist students searching for off-campus housing, said Mike Vandenberg, student body president.

"The structure of the University has led us to believe that it should deal with students who live on campus and have been closed out. It's not that way," he said, adding that many junior transfers and graduate students may never live on campus. A new University policy allowing freshmen to live off campus increases the need for the service, he said.

University housing now operates an off-campus housing service consisting of a bulletin board listing available rooms, apartments and roommates.

The service requires one-half to three-fourths of an average working day of a housing staff member, said Jody Harpster, ac-

ting director of housing. The employee's salary is paid directly by room rents of on-campus students, as are all other salaries and functions of University housing, he said.

"Students on campus are already paying for a service that benefits the entire student body," Harpster said. "We have an obligation to protect the monies of on-campus students, though." University housing also operates off-campus housing seminars in dormitories each spring. "There is that six-week period of time when they need the service and deserve to have the service," he said.

Harpster said that since the present service has stretched beyond its limits, University housing would support a complementary program. "There is no question we could use it. We would support it to help get it rolling. I do think there is more needed."

The Housing Committee still plans to conduct a 1,000 student survey within the next two weeks in conjunction with the Student Government University Relations Committee and the office of student affairs, Goldberg said.

"I want to have this survey as statistically sound as possible so we can obtain funds for the program from the CGC."

Vandenberg said he favored funding it with state funds through the administration "with the point that it's a basic service to the University."

"The great majority of students at one time or another need the service," he added. Vandenberg said he believed the service will be in operation in February, the end of his administration.

Harpster said there was little way to determine the success of the present service, but "there is a lot of traffic," he said. "The indication is it is very effective."

"Very frequently, this is the first place people come," he said. "This definitely is a starting point. This includes faculty, staff members and administration. I would dare to say people not associated with the University use the service."

U.S. legislators, elderly protest Reagan budget cuts

By JIM WRINN
State and National Editor

Witnesses at a House Subcommittee on Human Resources meeting in Chapel Hill Thursday criticized the Reagan administration for cutting funds to the Older Americans Program, and U.S. House representatives at the meeting said they hoped appropriations could be restored.

Florida Rep. Claude Pepper also attacked recent transfers of government money from social programs to defense.

"When the administration proposed to cut the budget, the intent felt was that the sacrifices would be equitable among all parties," said Ernest Messer, assistant secretary for aging at the North Carolina Department of Human Resources. "The problem today is that the changes that have been made have not been even-handed."

Messer noted that funding for Medicare, Medi-

caid and food stamps had all been cut separately. "Instead of taking them as a whole, they've taken apart these programs piece by piece," he said.

Older Americans were fearful that Social Security may be abandoned, he said.

But Rep. Carl Perkins, D-Ky., who was presiding at the hearing with Rep. Ike Andrews of North Carolina's 4th District, said he believed general funds should be used to make up deficits in the Social Security system.

"We've got a real problem today because of our unemployment," Perkins said. "None of those people are paying into the Social Security fund."

Pepper said he could not agree with the \$19 billion cut in Social Security to be implemented over the next three years, although he had voted for many of the administration's defense measures. "We're not so poor that America gave any tax breaks to those with incomes over \$20,000," he said. "Social Security has always been thought of as

sacred, like motherhood and the flag, and now we're cutting it to spend \$1.3 trillion for defense."

The 82-year-old Florida representative, who arrived late from an appearance in Winston-Salem, criticized Social Security cuts in Medicare, Medicaid, disability insurance and student financial aid.

About 500,000 students will not be able to return to college this fall because of the cuts, Pepper said. "The educating (of) the boys and girls of America is the most fertile investment that can be made," he said.

In an interview with reporters after the hearing, Pepper said he believed that by 1990 the baby boom generation would provide enough money to Social Security to make it solvent. He also said he thought funding to the Older Americans Program, established originally in 1965 under Title V, would be restored.

Recent efforts by the House and Senate to restore \$210.6 million to the program were vetoed by Presi-

dent Reagan. But Perkins and Andrews repeatedly said they would push to override the veto. About 54,000 low-income Americans over 55 years old work in the program. Messer said nearly 1,400 in North Carolina would be out of a job when funding runs out Oct. 1.

Messer also said the end of the program, which employs the elderly in community service projects including some dealing with older citizens, would take away the dignity of many of those involved. "Without their work, they'll have to go on food stamps and relief, adding to our problems," he said.

About 120 people attended the hearing, held in the UNC system General Administration building; most were elderly and they applauded when Perkins and Andrews reaffirmed their support for Title V. One woman crocheted during the entire program.

Jerry Passmore, director of the Orange County Department on Aging, played a tape recorded by a

75-year-old diabetic, who had a Title V worker provide transportation for her. "The worker also does all the things I cannot do around the house," the woman said.

Inez Myles, executive director of the N.C. Senior Citizens Federation, said block grants to Senior Opportunity Services had almost ended the program which provides heating allowances to the elderly. She said that energy assistance often came too late for many elderly people. "If an older person is freezing in winter, what good does relief do if it comes in April?" she said. She added that socioeconomic inequalities for the elderly and minorities had been magnified by the Reagan administration cuts.

Several other witnesses from the area testified, including one woman who said she had made 70 personal contacts while trying to find a job before she became a Title V worker.