

Committee investigates need to provide day care

By Danielle Deaver
Editor in Chief

Senior Kristene Clark has more responsibilities than the average German major. After finishing a full day of a science-heavy course load, she rushes home to be with her 4-year-old son, Erik, so that her husband can go to his night job.

"If they had not only a day care center on campus, but it was also affordable, it would be such a big help," she said.

Clark voices the feelings of many working parents at the university. A survey done by the Commission on the Status of Women last year found that 187 faculty and staff members at the university have children under the ages of 12 — 287 children in all, 128 of whom attend some type of child care outside of the home.

Forsyth County has 372 child care facilities, and the average cost of care for chil-

dren 5 years of age and younger is \$76.15 per week.

"I do know there's a big need for it — for day care for infants, preschoolers and after school," said Dana Hutchens, an administrative assistant in the office of Career Services. Hutchens is also a member of the committee formed to look into the possibility of the university providing a day care facility. Her 4-year old son attends a day care facility near her home in Yadkin County.

The subcommittee currently investigating the need for day care at the university was formed after the Report on the Status of Women was concluded in March 1997. The report, commissioned by President Thomas K. Hearn Jr., recommended that the university provide a child care facility.

The committee worked with implementing the suggestions in the report formed a subcommittee, led by Louis Morrell, the

vice president of investments and the treasurer, to look into the possibility of providing a day care facility.

Morrell's committee, made up of faculty and staff members, has met once this semester. "It's a good committee and they're active and have a lot of ideas. There'll be issues and we'll have disagreements, but it's a good committee," Morrell said.

Morrell said he has no idea when the group will present their initial findings. The committee has not yet decided what type of facility to recommend.

It can advocate an on-site care center run by the school or a contract company, recommend an off-campus center run by a contract company, or recommend the university provide child care by simply subsidizing the cost of faculty and staff children's care in off-campus facilities.

"My sense is there is a natural tendency for people to want the center on campus,"

Morrell said. "There's a very strong feeling that you want to be able to visit the child at work, so you don't want it somewhere far away, like at Bowman Gray."

Hutchens agreed that the proximity of the facility is a big factor. "To have the option of going two miles to see your child is a huge benefit," she said.

Many other factors involving cost, whose child can enter the facility and quality standards have to be decided.

"Once you start talking, more things come into it," Hutchens said, citing issues of educational benefits, staffing of facilities and cost to the faculty and staff, among other factors.

The committee could find that the university does not need a day care facility, but Morrell thinks this is unlikely. "The Report on the Status of Women had actually come to the conclusion that day care was needed," Morrell said.

Claudia Thomas, an associate dean of the college, a professor of English and the chairwoman of the oversight committee, said she believes the committee will find a need for a child care facility. "A vice president is in charge who's done it before, the president gave us the charge and the president would like to see this done," she said.

Thomas said that she sees a need for a day care facility. "We work very long hours, and universities need to be able to accommodate families — especially since we consider ourselves model communities," she said. "Universities are now being rated according to their family-friendly policies. This is no longer being regarded as a perk — it's a necessity."

Clark agreed that day care should not be a luxury. "I could never understand why a university who has so many resources and so much money could never afford to put up a day care center," she said.



Noel Fox/Old Gold and Black

I'll take it

Juniors Kerri Smetzer and Jill Rader take a break from their classes to browse for gift items while in the Deacon Shop. Seniors are beginning to stock up on university apparel before their release in the spring.

Budgeting changes bring delays, increased accuracy

By Heather Seely
Assistant News Editor

The implementation of several new programs caused delays in the departmental budgeting this year.

The first change was the controller's adoption of an incremental budget somewhat different from that used in previous years. In the past, budgets received a percent increase each year, but with the new budgeting guidelines, departments must justify any increase in their budgets.

The other change, which had a greater effect on the time required to do the budgets, was the on-line submission of budgets by departments. The software for the program, which encompasses the information of eight different forms, was developed on campus rather than having been purchased from an outside source. Because the software was new, the response time from the software server was often very long.

"Ultimately, I think it will prove to be easier for everyone," Controller Maureen Carpenter said. "The first year, I think, is more difficult than it will be in the long run."

Howard Shields, a professor and the chairman of the physics department, said he has no particular problems with the on-line submission, but he knows some of his colleagues did.

"The submission of data by the computer was very slow. If we were to enter a number, sometimes we would have to wait a long time," Shields said. He said the wait was sometimes 10 or 15 minutes.

David Levy, a professor and the chairman of the music department, said that he encountered problems with slowness and that the program should have been tested more before using it. "It was horrible because the server was so slow and unreliable," Levy said.

Carpenter said the different areas of campus have been very supportive of the new software. Programs were offered in the library to instruct the faculty on how to use it. Information Systems, according to Carpenter, was constantly improving the software.

Two weekends ago, they moved the hardware to a different server, which has made significant improvements, according to Carpenter. "We were working

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David Levy
Professor and Chairman of Music Department

with an aggressive timetable," Carpenter said. Both Levy and Shields saw positive aspects in the new system. "I think it is potentially a better system," Shields said.

There are fewer chances for error with this system because the department heads are responsible for inputting their own information, instead of having someone else input it from a piece of paper, Shields said.

"We have more assurance of the accuracy of the data," Carpenter said.

Levy said another benefit of the new system is that it gives him information at his fingertips which previously would not have been available. He was able to catch mistakes in different areas, like professors being listed as part-time who are full-time and vice versa.

"The process should work fine, but I don't think we were ready for it," Levy said. "My biggest disappointment was that it was so rushed."

With the incremental budgeting, the departments start with the same budget as the previous year and must justify any increases.

"I think the administration has been fairly generous with increases in budgeting (in past years)," Levy said.

Carpenter said that because she works with limited funds, it makes sense for people who desire increases to have to justify them. "I think it is a better process for allocating the resources where they are really needed," Carpenter said.

One area not affected by budgeting change is salaries. "The fact that they are continuing to support salaries is more important than the other line items," Levy said. "I put people before things."

Levy said with low inflation, the lack of increases in the budget "should not cause any hardships." "In most cases, I have just been accepting and working without an increase for 1998-99," Levy said.

BRIEFLY

Campus organizations may have their announcements listed by sending e-mail to news@ogb.wfu.edu, faxing to Ext. 4561 or writing to P.O. Box 7569. The deadline for inclusion in each week's paper is 5 p.m. Monday.

Registrar asks seniors to verify information

All seniors who are candidates for graduation in May 1998 should check the two lists posted outside the Office of the Registrar for accuracy. Diploma orders and approvals for all majors and minors will be requested in February, so it is important to verify the information now.

Also, this is the first graduation report from the new student records system, and the office wants to verify that the information transferred correctly.

Openings still remain for Venice program

There are still a few openings for the Venice program in spring 1999. The director will be Bernadine Barnes, an associate professor of art. Interested students should call Barnes at Ext. 5303 for information and an application. Applications are due Feb. 16.

Meeting to be held about Salamanca

An informational meeting for students interested in spending the

spring 1999 semester in Salamanca, Spain, will be held at 4:30 p.m. Feb. 19 in Tribble A304.

For more information, contact Candelas Newton, a professor and the chairwoman of the Romance languages department, in Tribble B201 or at Ext. 5485.

Amnesty International to host conference

Amnesty International USA will host the 1998 North Carolina state conference Feb. 21-22 at the university. The conference will be for members and non-members, and will focus on human rights and international law.

It is open to the public. For more information, call sophomore Dipti Singh at Ext. 1470 or sophomore Sarah Gulley at Ext. 6670.

Sophomores need to declare majors soon

Sophomores should prepare to declare their majors and should sign up for an appointment at the department of their choice Feb. 23-27.

Advising conferences will be held March 16-27. Any sophomore who does not plan to declare a major at this time should notify Hallie Arrington, the senior associate registrar, prior to spring break.

MBA Program info sessions scheduled

An information session for anyone interested in the Evening and Executive MBA Programs at the Babcock School of Management will be held from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Feb. 28 in Worrell 1117.

The Evening Program is for professionals and managers who have at least three years of work experience. Individual courses meet from 6 to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday at the Worrell Professional Center. The degree may be earned in three to five years.

The Executive Program is tailored to mid-career professionals and managers and can be completed in four semesters. Classes meet on Saturdays, with occasional Friday sessions.

For more information, call Ext. 4585 or 1-800-428-6012.

Field School research to be held in Roatan

The Overseas Research Center will conduct its summer Ethnographic Field School on the tropical West Indian Island of Roatan May 19 through June 9.

Students will have the opportunity to conduct independent research and gain experience in many as-

pects of cross-cultural study.

Those interested should contact David Evans, a professor of anthropology, at Ext. 5276 (or e-mail dkevans@wfu.edu) or call senior Kevin O'Brien at Ext. 6352.

Scholarships to foster international relations

Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship applications are now available. Both the Academic-Year Ambassadorial Scholarship and the Cultural Ambassadorial Scholarship are intended to improve international understanding and relations.

The academic-year scholarship is for one year (1999-2000) in an academic setting, and the cultural scholarship is for three months of intensive language training and cultural immersion.

Applicants should call Susan Faust, an assistant to the senior vice president, for additional information or to set an appointment. Students are ineligible if they, their parents or their grandparents are Rotarians. Applications are due March 20.

Learning center seeks academic tutors

The Learning Assistance Center is recruiting peer tutors for most

academic subjects. LAC has a particular need for Spanish and chemistry tutors. Tutors are paid hourly. Call Michael Shuman, an academic counselor, at Ext. 5929 for more information. The minimum GPA of 3.0 is required.

Leadership/ethics fund to give intern stipends

The Fund for Leadership and Ethics will award five summer stipends for undergraduates who complete internships at nonprofit organizations this summer. Winners must continue at the university in the fall. Each stipend will be \$2,400. Internships must last at least eight weeks.

Applications will be considered by a faculty and staff committee, and awards will be made based on the committee's recommendation.

Applications are available in the Internship Office, Reynolda 4, and the Volunteer Service Corps office, Benson 317. They are due April 1. For more information, call Ext. 5903.

Classical studies scholarship offered

The department of classical languages invites applications for the William Royall Scholarship, established in 1991 by a gift from the family and friends of William Royall and his son, William B. Royall.

The scholarship provides an award of \$500 for excellence in classical studies, with preference

given to students who plan to travel abroad to classical sites.

Application forms, which are due March 6, are available in the department of classical languages, Tribble B6.

Howler seeks section editor, staff members

The yearbook is looking for interested students who would like to be a part of the *Howler* staff.

Openings include staff positions on all sections, as well as a section editor position. Positions may lead to editorial opportunities for the 1999 book. Contact senior DeAnna Lewis at Ext. 6605 for more information.

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