

Next year's theme to emphasize globalization

By Laura O'Connor
Old Gold and Black Reporter

First came the Year of the Arts, and then this year was the Year of Religion in American Life. During the 1998-99 academic year, the university will celebrate the Year of Globalization and Diversity: Conflict or Harmony? Speakers, events and activities will help to celebrate this theme.

"Globalization is a process that brings together various cultures and nations," said Mary Jane Berman, an associate professor of anthropology and a co-chairwoman of the theme year's planning committee. "Globalization makes us aware of these cultural and historical differences, as well as our similarities," she said.

Because of factors such as expanded trade,

political changes and advances in communication, technology and transportation, interaction among nations and cultures is greater than ever before and needed more than ever she said. The Year of Globalization will explore the challenges and problems of a more global community and the ways in which various cultures enrich one another.

Globalization will not be the only topic upon which the year will focus. In addition, the year will also focus on exploring cultural diversity worldwide. "The year will celebrate the achievements of world cultures and help promote greater understanding and tolerance of these cultures," said Thomas Taylor, a Hylton professor of accountancy and a co-chairman of the planning committee.

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Mary Jane Berman

Associate professor of anthropology and Co-chairwoman of the year's planning committee

Sept. 17 will be Opening Convocation. Oscar Arias Sanchez, the former president of Costa Rica, will speak. Sanchez won a Nobel Peace Prize in 1987 for his efforts to bring peace to Central America.

Later in September, the challenges of globalization will be discussed by Benjamin Barber, a political philosopher and theorist from Rutgers University.

The year will be divided into a series of monthly themes. September begins the year with an overall look at "Globalization and Diversity." October will continue with "Issues of Identity." An outdoor ethnic heritage festival, featuring food and music, is one of the events planned for October. November's theme, "Cross-Cultural Communications," will feature a panel discussion with journalists on how the media influences perceptions of countries in the news.

The themes for the other months are "Human Rights" in January, "War and Peace" in February, "Health and Aging" in March and "Environment" in April. An Earth Day celebration is planned for April 22.

As in the past, each month will include

the showing and discussion of a film related to that month's theme. Spanish, Cuban and African films are planned to be shown.

Berman said that students have played an important role in planning the year. "Students have offered suggestions and helped plan individual events," she said. "We want to encourage, continued input from students."

To continue added support and input from the university, small grants have been made available for faculty members, departments and student groups. The grants are to help support programs and projects that address issues related to globalization and diversity. The fall 1998 grants have already been decided, but there will be additional grants available for spring 1998. Proposals are due by Nov. 1.

Reform highlights SG year

Year capped by accomplishments in communication, charters

By Dan Durand
SG Beat Reporter

As spring semester comes to a close and student organizations around campus grind their activities to a halt, senior Student Government president Scott Plumridge and his executive staff prepare to step down from their respective positions.

In the course of two semesters, SG passed 71 bills, most dealing with Judicial Reform, charter organizations and constructing avenues for student communication. Members of SG seemed content with both their organization's integrity and the perception of the student body.

"I think that SG's image on campus has improved tremendously," junior Jhn Giokas, a co-chairman of the academics committee, said. "Mostly, this has been due to effective leadership; Scott, Tina (Carlucci), Ryan (Marsh) and Jonathan (Perry) deserve all the credit in the world."

After numerous meetings with faculty and students, including a student referendum, SG passed 26 bills last week outlining changes to the campus judicial system. Close to 80 percent of the voting student body expressed its support of these changes in the March 24 student referendum.

"We were very excited to pass this legislation, which has garnered unprecedented support from the student body," Plumridge said.

SG hopes its efforts will result in an invigorated spirit of honor at the

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Scott Plumridge

Senior
Student Government president

university. Beginning next fall, the new system was designed to ameliorate concerns expressed by both students and faculty. A product of and for the university, the new system continued to gain support, as the final statutes passed with a 92 percent vote April 14 during executive committee run-offs.

"Most of the people I know are extremely excited about the new system," said freshman Jon Dowling, who was recently appointed to the Board of Investigators and Advisers.

In addition to Judicial Reform, this year SG set the same standards for itself that were established for Honor and Ethics Council and BIA members. Candidates for SG executive positions, and those for the HEC and BIA, will be pre-screened for honor and judicial violations. Any candidate with honor violations will be barred from the ballot, while those with judicial violations will be evaluated by the Judicial Elections Committee on a case-by-case basis. A minimum university GPA of 2.0 was also instituted as a prerequisite for higher office.

The election process for HEC candidates was designed in a way to

foster a door-to-door campaigning process. Reform statutes will force HEC candidates to campaign by familiarizing their constituency with their personal concept of honor. Name recognition devices such as banners will be illegal under these statutes.

"Students will choose the (HEC) candidates based on their sense of morality, not a platform or agenda," Plumridge said. "The HEC campaign process will be centered on the candidates concept of honor."

Other SG developments this year include the student-based initiative for a house in Washington, curriculum review, campus safety and student communication with administrative bodies.

ARAMARK food services have been among the leading organizations that have lent an open ear to this student voice. Several SG student surveys concerning food and nutrition have resulted in open dialogue between SG and ARAMARK, as well as the establishment of the first annual SG nutrition fair that took place earlier this month.

Support for Chick-Fil-A, which will open next semester in the Information Systems Building, originated from the student body, as representatives presented the possibility during a question-and-answer session with ARAMARK director James Bellefleur in mid-January.

"(Bringing Chick-Fil-A to campus) has been a great demonstration of the power of students to alter administrative decisions, even relatively late in their implementation," freshman Nick Ferenc said.



Carlton Ward/Old Gold and Black

Safe!

A student plays ultimate frisbee on the Quad. Ultimate frisbee is a growing sport in popularity and participation. Many organizations and clubs have begun to include ultimate frisbee in contests and games.

Top 10 events of the year include hazing, Playboy visit

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violations and hazing.

In December, the Kappa Sigs appealed to the Student Life Committee, which agreed with the decision but lightened the suspension to January 2000.

The national fraternity later revoked the Delta Omega charter and just recently expelled all its members.

4. Playboy comes to campus. *Playboy*, one of the nation's most famous soft-core pornography magazines, held off-campus interviews earlier this week to find the perfect university co-ed for its October "Women of the ACC" issue.

The idea first caused controversy when it was announced in March, but the administration helped quiet the issue by refusing to allow *Playboy* to advertise around campus.

5. Polo Residence Hall constructed for independ-

ents. Room assignments have already been made, though construction remains to be finished on Polo, the new haven for independents.

In January, a committee released preliminary reports on how it planned to facilitate a mainly independent residence hall as desired by the board of trustees.

The plan succeeded when Polo housing assignments were made earlier this month with a final tally of 189 independents and five Greeks winning spots.

6. Brown leaves Provost position for ICCEL. The university announced Nov. 21 that Provost David Brown would leave his position as provost to become the head of the International Center for Computer Enhanced Learning, a new consulting firm run by the university and IBM.

ICCEL is designed to help other universities incorporate computer-aided instruction and other technology into their programs.

7. Alcohol policy. The coming of a new year initiated a revised alcohol policy, which was designed to be a stricter version of the old one.

The policy included four goals of enforcing bring-your-own-beer policies, helping party clean-up and having stricter monitoring of guest logs, registering parties with compliance advisers and helping the groups run effective party risk management.

The effectiveness of the policy is still uncertain.

8. Sorority switch. The university lost one sorority but gained two.

Delta Gamma sorority officially announced in October that it would close after battling low numbers since its founding four years ago.

Pledge classes, however, climbed to 51, prompting the Panhellenic Council to announce that Phi Mu sorority will colonize next semester.

Another new sorority with a Christian heritage, Phi

Beta Chi sorority, has inducted members.

9. Student sues the law school. Edward Shlikas, 28, is suing the law school for \$125 million in punitive and compensatory damages to improve the treatment and education of its students. Shlikas compared the treatment of law students to that of a boot camp.

Shlikas staged a hunger strike for almost three weeks before being issued a trespassing warning by University Police.

10. Baptists curse beer at Shorty's. In what could cause a further schism between the Baptists and the university, the North Carolina Baptist State Convention decided to re-evaluate its ties to the university in November because of the sale of beer at Shorty's.

The Baptist convention broke official financial ties to the university in 1986 but could withdraw the \$28,000 in William Louis Poteat scholarships if it decides serving beer is unfit for the university.



Julie Davis/Old Gold and Black

Music man

A worker moves stereo equipment on the Benson University Center patio.

IS announces software load for ThinkPads

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more flexible than Lotus Notes, and it should be easy for people to learn how to use, according to Dominick.

"The main advantage is that it is in the browser," he said. "It is considered less complicated than Lotus Notes."

Dominick also said that Information Systems will be able to provide better service for the new program.

The option to switch e-mail packages drew mixed reactions from students. Junior Kristi Hennan said that she will continue to use Telnet to access her account on the academic computer. "I love Pine. I would never switch. It's so easy," Hennan said.

Freshman Emily Morrison, however, said that she will welcome the university's switch to Netscape and that she currently uses it for e-mail. "I've already been using that system. I've found that Lotus is not always successful, and some of my e-mails do not get through," Morrison said.

The basic mail package is available on the Internet and is free for student use, Dominick said. The

university is still negotiating with Netscape about prices for the licensing for calendaring, which would cost a few dollars per student, according to Dominick.

"We'd like to (purchase the calendaring license) if we can get them to be reasonable on the price," he said. The university must also pay for the server and software.

Among the software included on the new ThinkPads will be Windows '95, Microsoft Office '97 Pro, Netscape Communicator, Virus Scan, Maple and some utilities.

"It's basically the same as this year with new versions of the software," Dominick said.

To prepare for the exchange, current sophomores should contact their resident technology advisers about backing up their current files on CD-Roms, which cost around \$5, Dominick said. The RTAs have been provided with recordable CD-Rom drives, which will write the entire userdata directory to the CD Rom.

Senior Brian Ostasiewski, an RTA in Davis House, said that a student must buy the CD from Technical

Support or the College Bookstore, install the CD software through the university web page and bring the ThinkPad to his RTA.

Burning the information onto the CD takes approximately two hours, Ostasiewski said.

Dominick strongly recommended that sophomores take care of saving their files before the end of the semester.

"There won't be time in August to do backups," he said. "This is also a way in general to do backups."

Each student has also been allotted 25 megabytes of disk space on the academic computer on which to store files, Dominick said.

Ostasiewski said that two or three students have approached him about backing up their files.

Senior John Regan, an RTA in Kitchin House, said that a couple of people have come to him so far, and several more have contacted him about saving their data.

"People have been contacting me, and as it gets closer (to the end of the semester), more people will want to back it up," Regan said.