

Open curriculum offers twist to requirements

By Brad Gunton
Contributing Reporter

For students who are interested in adding flexibility to their schedule, the open curriculum program offers them a chance to make their courses match their interests.

The open curriculum gives students the opportunity to substitute upper-level courses for the lower divisional requirements. Students will not be able to avoid a certain division altogether; however, they may choose to take more advanced classes as opposed to the introductory classes required to fulfill the divisionals.

According to Gloria Muday, the chairwoman of the committee for open curriculum and an associate professor of biology, this program is designed for students who

are self-motivated and interested in pursuing their own interests.

She said that whereas the standard curriculum is designed to expose students to the breadth of the liberal arts, the open curriculum is provided for students with particular interests.

"(The open curriculum) is a way for students whose interests don't fall within the rigid requirements of divisional courses to take higher level courses in certain areas," Muday said.

Applicants for the program must provide letters of recommendation from their academic adviser and two other individuals, preferably university faculty, except for first semester freshmen who need only a letter from their academic adviser. Also, students should have some idea of which

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Chairwoman of the committee
for open curriculum

courses they intend to substitute for the lower divisional requirements. Five or six faculty members will evaluate the applications and decide whom to accept.

When the program began in 1970, there were typically 150 to 200 applications per

year, with about 100 being accepted. However, participation has declined over the years.

Twenty-one applications were submitted in the past three semesters, of which 17 were accepted.

One of the students currently in the program is sophomore George Faithful. Faithful plans to study abroad for two semesters, and he found that the open curriculum gave him the freedom to do so.

"To be able go abroad and keep up with (French and German), I needed as much elbow room as I could get," Faithful said.

Faithful also said he liked being able to take more in-depth classes, such as modern German history instead of world civilizations.

Senior Kelly Perry found the open curriculum appealing for a different reason. As

a double major, she wanted to free some space for classes that she found interesting.

"I'm a double major in Chemistry and Biology, but I have a lot of interests outside science, such as religion," Perry said.

She said she is considering entering the field of medicine, but she didn't feel as though she was getting enough to prepare her to meet the needs of her patients, so she wanted to take classes such as religion and Spanish in addition to her science courses.

Applications for the open curriculum should be turned in by Oct. 1 to the dean's office. They may be picked up at the dean's office or downloaded from the university web site at: http://www.wfu.edu/undergraduate/college/open_curriculum.htm.

Big Sweep, SEAC chapter help beautify Peter's Creek

By Travis Langdon
Assistant News Editor

Approximately 15 students joined the newly-formed Student Environmental Action Coalition Sept. 19 to help remove trash from a section of Peter's Creek.

The group worked alongside 40 other volunteers from other local environmental agencies, Boy Scout troops and independent volunteers as part of a national clean-up effort known as the Big Sweep. It is estimated that one ton of garbage and debris was taken out of the waterway at that site alone.

The Big Sweep is a program that began 12 years ago to help preserve the fragile ecosystems that are threatened by contamination within the country's waterways. The effort is funded nationally by its title sponsor, First Citizen's Bank, but local efforts are coordinated individually. Every county in North Carolina participated in the program, generating 12,468 volunteers who recovered almost 442,000 pounds of trash from over 960 miles of state waterways.

The event at Peter's Creek was put on by a local organization called "Keep Winston-Salem Beautiful." Forsyth County coordinator Yvette Evans was very pleased with the outcome.

"In Forsyth County we had 604 volunteers in 24 sites who picked up over 800 bags of trash. What makes it even more amazing is that this figure only accounts for 'bagable' trash, which does not include things like mattresses, refrigerators and old car parts that were picked up," Evans said.

Participants in the Big Sweep were surprised to receive a free Brita water filtration system at the end of the day for their work in the program. Brita donated the pitchers in collaboration with several of its national distributors.

As one of the first major projects that SEAC has undertaken, the Big Sweep proved to be an indicator of the positive results that a campus environmental organization can achieve. Senior Bill Scheidt, who is largely responsible for starting the university's SEAC chapter, said he appreciated the support of all involved and looks forward to future endeavors.

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"In my opinion SEAC's role in the Big Sweep was a remarkable success, especially considering that we're just getting started this semester. The number of people that turned out was great, and I think that people who are getting directly involved at this stage of the game can see that the things we're doing are having a tangible and visible result."

Bill Scheidt
Senior

just getting started this semester. The number of people that turned out was great, and I think that people who are getting directly involved at this stage of the game can see that the things we're doing are having a tangible and visible result. The fact that we're setting reasonable goals for ourselves and meeting them really builds a lot of momentum and enthusiasm for future projects," Scheidt said.

Although most students present at the event gained a sense of satisfaction from the role that they played in the clean up effort, some feel increasingly agitated that society's behavior does not change in spite of the wealth of environmental information available.

"The things that we came across in Peter's Creek were just nasty. You could also see that the water level had been higher than we were because there was a bunch of trash up in the trees that we couldn't get to. The people who participated last year said that it's been even worse in the past. I guess it's kind of frustrating that people work so hard to clean these waterways up every year, and they keep getting filled up again. It's pretty questionable stuff," sophomore Stephen Tillotson said.

This sense of environmental apathy was seen most directly in the destructive waste management of a restaurant located directly in front of Peter's Creek. The volunteers at the Big Sweep found a large amount of trash generated by the restaurant in and around the stream, including large appliances that the business



Travis Langdon/Old Gold and Black

Seniors Jessica Hines (second from left) and Bill Scheidt (far right) help a Boy Scout leader and a local volunteer put collected trash in a pile to be picked up during The Big Sweep on Sept. 19.

apparently discarded there.

However, SEAC is designating this issue as paramount in its current agenda of business and plans to take action in the immediate future. The organization hopes to end such reckless and irresponsible practices among both the restaurant in question and any other business that does the same.

"We're going to start dealing with that problem by contacting the appropriate authorities as soon as possible. The best place to start is the Winston-Salem Department of Environmental Affairs, because (this

restaurant's) actions are definitely illegal. We also plan to confront the restaurant itself, contact its corporate office and talk to the *Winston-Salem Journal* about what is going on. (The restaurant) will definitely be motivated to clean up its act when they start getting bad press," Scheidt said.

SEAC is continuously growing in membership and is currently involved in a number of other local and on-campus projects. Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays in Tribble A202 for more information and interest.

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.

Speaker to address gun control policies

John Lott, a professor from the University of Chicago School of Law, will be the first speaker of the year for the university law school chapter of the Federalist Society when he talks at noon Sept. 24 in Worrell 1301.

Lott will speak on gun control and its effectiveness. He is the author of "More Guns, Less Crime" and is a controversial speaker on the topic of gun control.

All Federalist Society events are free and open to the public.

Journalist to speak on neo-Nazi movement

Yaron Svoray, journalist and author of "In Hitler's Shadow," will speak at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 24 in Benson 401.

Svoray, the Israeli son of Holocaust survivors, posed as a neo-Nazi to record and photograph the movement.

Biology honor society taking applicants

The university's chapter of Tri-Beta, the National Biological Honor

Society, is accepting applications.

Applications are due Sept. 25 and may be picked up in Winston Hall or printed off the Tri-Beta Web site at www.students.wfu.edu/tribeta/.

Information regarding requirements for membership may also be obtained in either location.

Local journalist to speak on role of media

Dick Moore, the news director for WXII Channel 12, will speak and lead a discussion at 11 a.m. Sept. 29 in Benson 401.

Moore will speak on "Leadership in the Public Eye: The Role of the Media in Shaping Our National and Local Leaders."

For more information call the office of student development at Ext. 5921.

ROTC run sponsored in memory of students

The Reserve Officer Training Corps will hold a memorial run in memory of cadets Matt Alexander and Alexander Gedicks Oct. 1.

Anyone interested in the run is encouraged to come early and participate in the four-person "mystery" relay which begins at 3 p.m. The 1.5-mile run will be immediately following.

The ROTC department will formally dedicate its new building Oct. 2 with special guests Major General Army Stuart Wallace, Brigadier General Evelyn Foote and Robert Helm. Helm and Foote, both university graduates, will cut the ribbon at 9 a.m. President Thomas K. Hearn Jr. will also be on hand.

The building will host an open house 9-11 a.m. Oct. 3.

Anthro Museum to host afternoon tea

The Anthropology Museum will host an "Afternoon Tea" from 3-5 p.m. Oct. 4.

The event will include English and Japanese tea, Egyptian coffee and Mexican chocolate drinks and will explore the tastes, ceremonies and histories of the drinks from around the world.

Tickets are available in advance for \$5 or at the door for \$6.

For tickets or other information, call the museum at Ext. 5282.

Presentation to focus on sexual assault

The Anti-Sexual Abuse Program will present a program Oct. 6 at 8 p.m. in Brendle Recital Hall.

ASAP is a national touring education group comprised of eight re-

cent college graduates from Brown University, the University of Virginia and Yale University.

The group will present a skit about sexual assault with information specific to this university. The performers will answer student questions after the skit.

For more information, call junior Layce Huffaker, a co-chairwoman of Policy Group on Rape Education, Prevention and Response, or Betsy Taylor of the counseling center.

Babcock to hold information session

The Babcock Graduate School of Management will hold information sessions for its evening and executive MBA programs from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Oct. 6 for both its Winston-Salem and Charlotte sessions.

The Winston-Salem meeting will be held in the Worrell 1117.

Juniors, seniors can enter essay contest

Students enrolled as full-time juniors and seniors in the fall semester of 1998 are eligible to submit an essay on ethics in competition for the Elie Wiesel Prize, which carries award amounts of \$5000 for the first prize, \$2500 for the second and

\$1500 for the third. The three best essays from the university will be sent to the national competition.

Application forms and instructions are available in the lobby of the office of the dean of the college, Reynolda 104.

The deadline is Jan. 5.

Questions may be addressed to Billy Hamilton, an associate dean of the college, at Ext. 5311, or e-mail hamilton@wfu.edu.

Department of Energy to sponsor fellowships

The U.S. Department of Energy is sponsoring graduate fellowships for anyone interested in pursuing masters or doctoral degrees in applied health physics, industrial hygiene, radioactive waste management, fusion energy sciences and global change.

The deadline for application is Jan. 25.

For an application or more information, call program managers Milton Constantin at (423) 576-7009 and Sandra Johnson at (423) 576-2600 or program specialists Mary Kinney at (423) 576-9655 and Jennifer Green at (423) 241-2890.

Irish Festival looking for participants

The Irish Festival is looking for students who are interested in participating in this year's festival.

The week-long cultural celebration includes a film festival, poetry

readings, traditional Irish music and a St. Patrick's Day celebration at Shorty's.

The University Press is renowned for publishing Irish Poetry.

For more information, call coordinator Susan Murphy at 722-8018.

Babcock hires eight faculty members

Eight faculty members have joined the Babcock Graduate School of Management.

Permanent faculty include the following: James Farr, Sherry Jarrell, Stanley Mandel, Aneil Mishra, Scott Shafer and Jeff Smith. Tom Ogburn and Dennis Organ will work as visiting professors.

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