



November 10, 1978
#30 of 1978

COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

MONDAY - November 13

Noon - Owner's Committee - G140
3:00 - Dept. of Basic Studies
3:00 - Faculty Evaluation Committee
Conf.Rm. - Ad. Bldg.

Noon - CC Theatre
"Dean William Parks
Memorial Colloquia"

TUESDAY - November 14

10:00 - President's Ad. Council

WEDNESDAY - November 15

2:00 - Humanistic Studies Committee
CC214

Noon - Curriculum Committee - CC Bd. Rm.

"Faculty Forum" - "Solzhenitsyn's
Harvard Speech - Dr. Al Millar

THURSDAY - November 16

FRIDAY - November 17

Noon - Lecture by Dr. Bohdan Dziemidok
CC Board Room

8:15 P.M. - Music Dept. Concert Series
Louis J. Gehring, Guitar

2:00 - Mathematical Science
Colloquium - G203

SATURDAY - November 18

SUNDAY - November 19

DEANS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Deadline for Submission of Catalog Changes

Since the faculty will consider several major curriculum proposals at its December 8 meeting, the due-date for submission of catalog changes has been moved back. The new deadline for submission of changes to Vivian Johnson is December 15, 1978.

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IDEA System of Student Evaluations

Last spring ten faculty members used the IDEA system of student evaluation. While not all faculty who used it found the results useful, several faculty found it very valuable. Faculty who are interested in using IDEA this fall should contact Dean Moore by Wednesday, November 15. Faculty who have questions about the approach or who would like to see samples of tabulated results should contact John Harwood.

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Scheduling of Events

On several occasions recently various academic departments, divisions or committees have scheduled major meetings or events at the same time and date, necessitating rescheduling or resulting in reduced attendance.

It is requested that all parties responsible for scheduling these events immediately forward to the Dean's Office a listing of functions already scheduled or planned. In the future, a check should be made with Mrs. Casey before scheduling a major event to insure that no unnecessary conflicts arise.

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Support of Special Academic and Cultural Events

Next week four special programs will be presented on campus. These have been arranged by various College groups interested in expanding the opportunities available to the faculty, staff and students for intellectual, cultural and personal development. One or more of these programs should be of interest to most members of the College. On Monday at noon a noted historian will lecture, and on Friday three events are available for the intellectual stimulation or pleasure of those seeking these experiences. A Visiting Scholar, Dr. Dziemidok, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Ethics and Aesthetics at the University of Lublin, Poland will give a philosophical lecture at noon. At 2:00 P.M., Dr. Lakin, Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science at ODU, will present a talk on mathematical and computer techniques applicable to Biological problems. At 8:15 P.M. in the Campus Theatre, the Department of Music is sponsoring a recital by Mr. Louis Gehring, guitarist.

It is hoped that you will support these programs by your attendance at one or more of these events and by your encouragement of your students to also take advantage of these opportunities.

OF ACADEMIC INTEREST

Lecture by Visiting Scholar

On Friday, November 17, at 12:00 P.M. in the CC Board Room, Dr. Bohdan Dziemidok will lecture on "Some Problems in the Theory of the Aesthetic Attitude." Dr. Dziemidok is a distinguished writer on aesthetic problems in the tradition of Roman Ingarden who has devoted special attention to problems of tragedy and comedy. He has written several books on these topics, and of his scores of articles several have appeared in

English. He has advanced degrees from the Universities of Leningrad and Lublin, Poland, at which latter school he is Professor and Chairman in the Department of Ethics and Aesthetics, as well as former Vice-Dean of Humanities. Dr. Dziemidok has been a Ford Foundation Fellow at Columbia and California-Berkeley, and is currently an ACLS Fellow at Temple University. The American Council of Learned Societies has kindly financed his visit to CNC. Everyone interested is invited to attend the lecture and participate in the discussion.

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Mathematical Science Colloquium

Dr. William D. Lakin, Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science at Old Dominion University, will speak on the subject "Scaling and Perturbation Techniques in Biology" at 2:00 P.M., November 17, 1978 in Gosnold 203. Coffee will precede the lecture at 1:30. CNC's Department of Mathematics which is sponsoring a series of mathematical sciences colloquia invites all interested faculty and students to attend.

NOTICES

Parks Scholarship Fund

We are pleased to report that contributions totaling \$2810 have been received to assist with the educational expenses of William Parks, Jr. Billy's plans are beginning to take shape and it seems probable that he will attend the College of William and Mary next year. Further reports will be issued as more details become available.

Contributions can still be made. Checks should be sent to Keith McLoughland.

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Guidelines for Use of Usry Board Room

Room CC-214, commonly known as the Board Room, has been completely refurnished to provide an appropriate meeting place for the Board of Visitors and other groups who meet with the President of the College to conduct the business of the College. This requirement for the Board Room will continue until such time as an appropriate meeting place in the new Administration Building is completed. The President wishes that the room be used, when available, for appropriate student and/or faculty meetings. The following regulations will apply:

1. The reservationist in the Campus Center will book the Board Room for meetings of significance to the College when other facilities are filled or inadequate.
 2. Food and drink will not be consumed in the Board Room without a written request and approval from the Campus Center Director.
 3. The room arrangement will not be changed nor will anything be affixed to the walls. Any unique use or application of this room which involves any risk to its continued fine appearance is prohibited.
 4. The Board Room is not available for rental to non-College groups except at the discretion of the President.
 5. The Board Room is not available for classroom instruction.
 6. The Campus Center Director may add additional controls as needed to ensure the like-new appearance and cleanliness of the room.
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ADMISSIONS OFFICE

We have just concluded this year's college night circuit and are pleased to report a very successful series of programs. Over the seven area college nights we met with some 1335 potential applicants and their families. The single most successful program was held at Norfolk Scope, where we met with almost 800 high school students from Norfolk, Portsmouth and Chesapeake. We also found increased interest in CNC this year in Virginia Beach. If historical patterns hold, we should realize some 135 freshmen in 1979 from this series of programs.

Keith F. McLoughland

LIBRARY NEWS

Fall Book Orders

Fall departmental book orders must be in the hands of the Acquisitions Department of the library by November 30, 1978. Those departments which reserved a portion of their library book budgets for this semester are urged to submit their requests as soon as possible. After the 30th no further requests will be processed; at that time all remaining unencumbered funds will revert to the library general fund.

Faculty members in those departments which reserved money for the fall and in those which did not are kindly requested to contact their department chairmen in regard to unspent library book monies. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact the Acquisitions Department at ext. 7137.

Floyd Zula, Acquisitions Librarian

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Department of Basic Studies Student Analysis

In its effort to assess the impact of its courses on its students, the Basic Studies Department has compiled a cross-sectional picture of the academic retention and performance of students enrolled in one or more of its courses from the fall, 1976, to the fall, 1977. The data were gathered by Carol Laroque in the Office of Institutional Research. This report is not a longitudinal study, and few evaluative conclusions can be drawn from it. Nevertheless, several important observations can be made from it.

College-Wide Attrition and GPA

Any analysis of the performance and retention of students who have taken Basic Studies courses must be seen in light of the performance of all beginning students at Christopher Newport. Without becoming involved in the semantics of what "attrition" means at CNC, we can say that thirty-nine percent of the students at CNC in the fall, 1976, who did not graduate were not here one year later (fall, 1977). Second, in the fall, 1977, the GPA for our students is as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>GPA</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>GPA</u>
Freshmen	522	1.472	Unclassified	1242	1.842
Sophomore	530	2.063	Male	1760	1.949
Junior	557	2.259	Female	1958	2.155
Senior	684	2.663	Part-Time	2067	2.063
			Full-Time	1651	2.052

Attrition and GPA of Basic Studies Students

The largest number of students served by the department are enrolled in algebra, a two-semester sequence preparing students for Math 110. Of 178 students enrolled in that course in the fall, 1976, 102 (or 57%) were at CNC one year later. Their mean GPA was 2.286. A large majority of the students passed Math 110.

Students who enrolled in writing are preparing for English 101 or 103. Of 131 students enrolled in writing in the fall, 1976, 79 (or 60%) were at CNC one year later. Their mean GPA was 1.884. A large majority of the students who passed this course also passed English 101-104.

There were 97 students enrolled in reading in the fall, 1976. One year later 54 (or 56%) were at CNC. Their mean GPA was 1.799.

Some students were enrolled in more than one Basic Studies course. Of 56 students enrolled in reading and writing in the fall, 1976, 33 (or 59%) were here one year later. Their mean GPA was 1.767. Of 41 students enrolled in reading and algebra in the fall, 1976, 23 (or 56%) were here one year later. Their mean GPA was 1.549. Of the 50 students enrolled in writing and algebra in the fall, 1976, 24 (or 48%) were here one year later. Their mean GPA was 1.711. Of 28 students enrolled in all three courses in the fall, 1976, 13 (or 45%) were here one year later. Their mean GPA was 1.513.

From these data we can make see that the "Basic Studies student" is not very numerous. Of 3344 students at CNC in the fall, 1976, only 28 were "Basic Studies students," which makes them less than one percent of the student body. Second, students who are weak in just one academic area perform about as well as--and sometimes a little better than--the rest of the beginning students here. Third, the greater the number of academic deficiencies, the lower the GPA and the less likelihood of persistence toward graduation. Weakness in reading seems to be more serious in its effects than weakness either in writing or mathematics. Fourth, the retention of students who take one or more Basic Studies courses seems to be affected by the same factors that shape retention college-wide, and the overall rates are comparable. Thus, it is of serious concern to the department that the size of this year's sophomore class (fall, 1978) has significantly changed, or at least the pattern of growth has altered. The number of full-time and part-time sophomores has declined, and the department views this change with concern.

Retention of Beginning Students

	1975	1976	1977	1978
Full-time freshmen	327	372	506	510
Full-time sophomores		296	336	313
All freshmen	436	512	629	645
All sophomores		498	561	560

Fifth, the department is concerned with improving the academic performance of beginning students not served directly through courses and sees a need for expanded tutorial or other academic assistance. The overall GPA for freshmen last fall was 1.472 (522 students); last spring it was 1.305 (311 students).^{*} The College needs to examine the scope of its support for this large number of students and to discover more effective ways of providing effective help for students who need it.

John Harwood, Chairman
Basic Studies Department

^{*}The drop in the number of freshmen can partly be explained by noting that "freshman" designates a student who has completed less than 24 hours. Some of these freshmen

become sophomores, reducing the number of freshmen even though the College also admitted first-time freshmen in the spring as well as in the fall semester.

NEWS ABOUT MEMBERS OF THE CNC COMMUNITY

Dr. Clyde Brockett participated in a panel discussion on Bizet's "Carmen" sponsored by the Virginia Opera Association. Dr. Brockett discussed the authenticity of the Spanish dance in the opera.

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Dr. Chung-Wu Chang will be chairing a session on, "Urbanization in the Third World," at the Third World National Conference to be held in Omaha, November 16-18, 1978.

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Robert H. Cummings attended the Maryland Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation annual convention on October 19, 20 in Ocean City, Maryland.

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At a meeting of Tidewater librarians held at the Chesapeake Public Library on October 21, 1978, Frank Edgcombe spoke on the subject of designing micrographics facilities and evaluating micrographics equipment.

Sandy Lopater attended a seminar on human sexuality held in Boston on November 6-7. The seminar was conducted by William Masters and Virginia Johnson-Masters.

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