

## Inside

### IN FOCUS

# University system, ASU take action for safety on campus

JENNIFER SCHNEIDER  
Staff Writer

The University of North Carolina Office of the President issued their safety recommendations for all schools in the University of North Carolina School System Dec. 14. The recommendations said it was each university's responsibility to take action regarding safety on campus.

Appalachian State University has already started to take action.

"What we are looking at is what, in our present way of working, really measures up to the standards of safety ... and where do we need to change," Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Development Cindy A. Wallace said.

The biggest changes will occur in the admissions process.

The first step is to upgrade the application for admission into Appalachian State University.

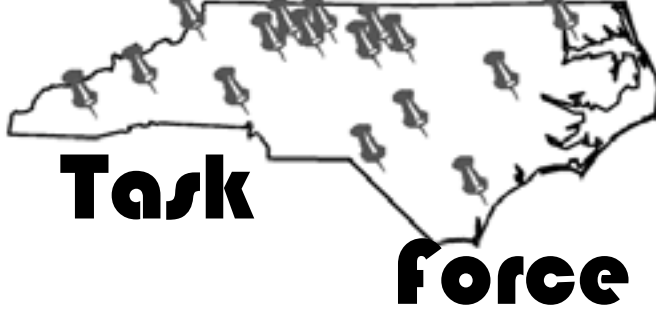
"We want the questions to be consistent within the 16 schools," Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity Harry L. Williams said.

In March, a committee is meeting in Chapel Hill to decide on a common language that will be used in the 2005-06 application, Williams said.

Once all schools are content with the application, Appalachian must make sure they are admitting the right students.

The Office of Admissions wants to guarantee they do not admit students that may potentially cause harm to other students, faculty or staff.

## Campus Safety



## Task Force

"The main focus is to make sure that our students are safe," Williams said.

It is not always easy to predict which students are the "right" students, Williams said.

Many options were introduced and reviewed by the board, including having criminal background checks made mandatory for every incoming student.

The board also considered finger printing every student. Both ideas were shot down after determining they were too intrusive.

"The only thing that is going to change is a closer scrutiny of applications," Williams said. "A student won't even notice it."

The university is also taking steps to train admissions counselors to pick up on patterns of behaviors when look-

ing at applications. They are creating a list of indicators that would throw up a red flag.

For example, a student that spent an extended length of time out of school may be contacted to explain their absence.

Changes are being made to on-campus policies as well. Wallace said the university system wants to have a consistency of language and practice in all that they do.

"It is a huge issue for us," she said. Students must also have the ability to walk around campus without fear of being attacked, Williams said.

Appalachian's safety task force is presently a risk management group made up of members from a variety of campus departments, including police, health services and residence life.

The group meets once a month to discuss compelling issues presently impacting the campus.

"We felt as a university that we had to be responsible to make sure that we have done everything possible in terms of safety," Williams said.

Faculty is prepared to provide a safe learning environment as well.

Each faculty member receives a book of guidelines on how to deal with disruptive or inappropriate student behaviors.

"Generally speaking, our campuses are safe," Williams said. "It is probably about the safest place you can be when compared to normal society, but in rare cases you will have people that will snap and that can happen to anybody."

## Reduction of Pell Grants to have minimal impact

JUSTIN BOULMAY  
Senior Staff Writer

The federal government tightened the eligibility for a student to receive a Pell Grant for the next academic year, but representatives from the Office of Financial Aid say it will have minimal impact on students.

"I do not expect a tremendous, negative impact on our students," Director of Financial Aid Esther Monagin said. "The reason for that is, the students that are being pushed out of the program are typically those on the very upper limit of eligibility qualifications. So those students, a very few of those students ... may be pushed out, but we have other programs that could possibly fill in the slot for those students."

Monagin said she'd seen various figures quoted nationwide, and as many as 90,000 students could be left ineligible to receive the grant.

The reduction came after the U.S. Department of Education updated its tax tables and, in doing so, pushed some students out of the eligibility range for Pell Grants.

"It's too bad the government is cutting down on educational resources," junior history education major

Daniel M. Thomas said.

"I'm not quite sure what the government's motivation is, but from an economic standpoint, it'll force students to borrow more money," sophomore English major from Boone Andrew S. Jensen said.

Approximately 2,400 Appalachian students qualified for the grant this year. The maximum grant this year was \$4,050.

Last year, a slightly higher number of students (2,468) qualified for the grant.

Appalachian is notified of the grant recipients three to six weeks after the application process, Monagin said.

Pell Grants are awarded based on the student's family income, his or her household size, the number of family members attending college and any exceptional medical expenses the applicant may have.

"It's geared to students whose family income cannot realistically afford to pay for college, or pay for all of their college expenses," Monagin said.

Approximately 41 percent of the Appalachian student body receives financial aid, Monagin said.

Other types of aid offered by the university include loans, scholarships and job opportunities.

## Pie in the face, smile in your heart



Pam J. Vega pies Barry Sauls, Business officer in the Parking and Traffic department on Friday afternoon at Sanford Mall. Dr. Evan M. Rowe, Safety Director in the Safety Office & Worker's Comp Department looks on.

## Carmike raises prices to two dollars

JUSTIN BOULMAY  
Senior Staff Writer

Carmike Appalachian is the "\$1.50 theater" no more.

Located on King Street near Macado's, the theater now charges \$2 to see a movie. Carmike Appalachian, owned by Carmike Cinemas, also increased the number of movies shown from two to three.

The theater has been showing three movies for a little over a week, Carmike Appalachian employee Laura N. DiGiacomo said.

Theater Manager Pauline G. Hayes has worked at the theater for 33 years. She said the price increase switch was good for business.

"They talked about turning this [theater] full price after they tore the Chalet down," Hayes said.

Carmike Theatres owns the Appalachian Twin building, but only leased the Chalet Theatre.

"I talked to them," Hayes said. "I said, 'you're making a big mistake if you go full price.' I [told them] there won't be any bargain theater in Boone. If they went up to \$7.50, they would lose a lot. I mean, maybe some students can afford \$7.50, but most of them I know can't."

Many "regulars" to the theater wouldn't pay \$7.50

either, Hayes said.

Hayes said offering three movies was geared toward a specific audience. Older viewers and children tend to come to the earlier showings, while students usually come for the later showings, she said.

Rising gas prices also played a part in Carmike's decision to increase their admission charge. Hayes said the theater uses gasoline for cooking purposes, and the company had to cover rising business expenses.

DiGiacomo, a senior at Appalachian State University, said she didn't think students would mind the change.

"I don't think students will care, really," DiGiacomo said. "Honestly, I don't think what students realize is that, they're paying for a second-run movie, so that's why it's cheaper to get into the movie theater."

Logan S. Showler, a junior business management major from Monroe, N.C., said he didn't mind the price increase because the theater added more variety.

"For three movies, it's an extra selection now," Showler said. In regard to student feeling about the new prices, he said, "I don't think they'll care."

DiGiacomo said she's seen an increased number of students coming because of the third movie during the week



Pauline G. Hayes, manager of Carmike Appalachian for 15 years, computes inventory during the last showing of movies Sunday night.

that the theater has made the change.

"I can tell the difference," she said.

Carmike Appalachian determines its movie schedule based on the success of each film during the weekend.

"They determine the business on the weekend," Hayes

said. "On Friday, Saturday, Sunday, that determines if we're holding it for the next weekend. We get bookings on Mondays. And if the movie doesn't do good business, we let it go the following Thursday."

The theater opened in 1938.

## SGA takes input on student concerns

ANNA OAKES  
Senior Staff Writer

AppalCART service and the textbook rental system are high among Appalachian State University student concerns, according to a survey conducted by the Student Government Association.

In late November, SGA e-mailed messages to 2,000 students (500 from each class) asking them to take an online survey. About 15 percent (292 students) responded to the survey, SGA Liaison Director Leila H. Ghannad said.

Sixty-five percent of survey respondents were female. Ghannad said the results of the survey reflect concerns students have communicated to her in person.

"Some of these [issues] are easier to accomplish than others, but they are all being looked into," Ghannad said.

A majority of respondents agreed AppalCART should run more frequently and have more buses. Ninety-one percent think AppalCART should run a weekday schedule on the Saturday of exams.

"My committee is investigating the AppalCART situation," Ghannad said.

Two-thirds of students believe the university should preserve the current textbook rental program. A portion, 22.3 percent, said the university should use a credit system that applies part or all of a rental.

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# NEWS

## News briefs

### Outdoor leadership school to visit campus

The National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) bus is coming to Appalachian State University Friday. From 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. the bus will be parked between Broome-Kirk Health and Physical Education Building and Welborn Hall. NOLS will be here to share their educational program of outdoor skills, leadership and environmental awareness. A feature presentation will take place at 3 p.m. The event is sponsored by Outdoor Programs.

### Classes offered for rape aggression defense

Two Rape Aggression Defense: Self Defense of Women classes are being offered by University Police. The 12 hour class is split into four days of three hour sessions. The \$10 fee includes training, a student manual and T-shirt. Enrollment is on a first come first serve basis. Call 262-2150 for more information.

### Local school seeks volunteer tutors

Mabel Elementary School is looking for volunteers to help tutor students during their After School Program. For more information, call the Appalachian & the Community Together office at 262-2193. The ACT office is located on the second floor of Plemmons Student Union, near the Whitewater Mountain Laurel Room.

### 'Green Think Tank' about REI on Feb. 7

The "Green Think Tank" will be held Feb. 7 at 7 p.m. in Room 17 of Kerr Scott Hall. Students are invited to participate in discussion about the Renewable Energy Initiative at Appalachian State University and how to make the campus more sustainable. Pizza will be served.

### Center offers mental health screenings

Online mental health screenings are offered by the counseling center through AppalNET. Participants will be assessed for eating disorders, anxiety, depression and substance abuse.

## Durham award to honor outstanding employees yearly

**KYLE CONRAD**  
Intern Writer

This year marks the first that an award will be given recognizing Appalachian State University's faculty involvement with freshmen students.

The Harvey R. Durham award will be given to one employee who has dedicated his or her time to the development of freshmen.

"The first year experience is a cornerstone of Appalachian's mission, and our intentional and thoughtful efforts in this area have contributed greatly to our national recognition," Director of Freshman Seminar and Summer Preview Dr. Dan Friedman said. "Having an award that expresses our commitment to the first year experience seems like a perfect

fit."

The award honors former Provost and Interim Chancellor Harvey Durham, who was heavily involved with Appalachian's national reputation for its first-year experience programs.



Durham

Before becoming interim chancellor in 2003, Durham taught Freshman Seminar and math classes and was very involved with the community during his 38-year tenure at Appalachian.

"It is fitting that this award bears the name of the person who is largely responsible for ASU's national reputation for the first year experience and the success of thousands of students," Friedman said.

The award will honor a faculty member who has demonstrated personal commitment to freshmen, effective instruction in freshmen classes, dedication to campus programs that support freshmen and other displays of enhancing the first year experience.

"This award recognizes that the freshmen year may be the most important in a college student's academic career," Friedman said. "Important decisions will be made in these two semesters, attitudes [will be] shaped and

"Having an award that expresses our commitment to the first year experience seems like a perfect fit."

**DIRECTOR OF FRESHMAN SEMINAR AND SUMMER PREVIEW  
DR. DAN FRIEDMAN**

personal connections established that define a student's direction and future."

The recipient of the annual award will receive \$1,000, an inscribed plaque and a medallion that will be presented at Convocation.

"It will be difficult to select just one person a year for this award because I know there are count-

less individuals who deserve this honor," Friedman said. "I hope that all of those who contribute so greatly to freshmen success at ASU will feel recognized by the existence of this award."

A call for nominations will be sent out in mid-February.

For more information on the award, visit the Web site at [www.durhamaward.appstate.edu](http://www.durhamaward.appstate.edu)

## SGA takes input on student concerns

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Faculty Senate approved a motion to abolish the textbook rental system in December.

Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock recently approved a new University Bookstore Committee, which will be in charge of researching the rental system once all members are appointed.

"Director of Academic Affairs Thomas L. Shook is already working to keep the textbook rental system," Ghannad said.

Freshman English major Kenan L. Cleveland said AppalCART and the textbook rental system are "very vital" student issues.

"I think the AppalCART is usually on time, but people also say it's not on time," Cleveland said.

Regarding textbooks, Cleveland said, "I take full advantage of the [textbook rental program]."

While 204 of 292 respondents think Appalachian should not have a foreign language requirement, 55 percent agree the university should offer more foreign lan-

guages. Arabic was the top choice for a new language offering.

"Students see the potential for Appalachian to adhere to a wider international curriculum in acknowledging Arabic as one of the most important languages on the global radar right now," SGA President Miriam N. Makhyoun said.

Other results revealed students want extended food services hours, which the SGA Liaison committee is looking into, Ghannad said.

Ghannad said Vivian Thompson in Institutional Research, who used a computer program to tally the survey results, assisted SGA. To her knowledge, this is the most extensive survey ever administered by SGA, Ghannad said.

"We are compiling these results into charts and graphs specific to their cause and working with senators to push for legislation," Makhyoun said.

### Boone Area Ski Report

Appalachian Ski Mountain  
9 slopes, 5 lifts open. 42+ inches. Groomed.

Ski Beech  
12 slopes, 6 lifts open. 28-40 inches. Packed Powder.

Hawksnest Golf & Ski Resort  
12 slopes, 3 lifts open. 32-52 inches. Packed Powder.

Sugar Mountain Resort  
20 slopes, 8 lifts open. 41+ inches. Packed Powder.

Ski information courtesy of [skiNC.com](http://skiNC.com)

## The Appalachian Forecast for Boone and surrounding areas

### Local 4-Day Forecast

**Today**  
Mostly Cloudy  
39-26

**Wednesday**  
Partly Cloudy  
42-25

**Thursday**  
Cloudy  
36-27

**Friday**  
Partly Cloudy  
44-28

Local weather information courtesy [booneweather.com](http://booneweather.com)

### Regional Travel Weather

City	Today		Wed.		Thursday		Friday	
	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo
Asheville	44	30	44	25	37	26	40	31
Charlotte	48	30	50	32	39	30	46	34
Johnson City	42	29	47	32	40	26	41	30
Greensboro	45	27	47	31	40	30	41	33
Raleigh	46	28	50	28	40	31	44	28
Winston	44	30	46	31	40	34	44	36

**Sun**  
Rise Set  
Today 7:29 a.m. 5:52 p.m.

Last Last Last Last  
Feb. 2 Feb. 8 Feb. 15 Feb. 23

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