

NEWS

Faculty Senate meets addresses advising

by roy theiss

staff writer

After numerous complaints by students about the quality of advising they were receiving, the Faculty Senate has initiated a plan to improve the advising program.

The new plan will not be a strict regimental program for the whole university. Instead, each college and department will establish its own advising program. This plan is to support the good advising that is being done and assist the weaker areas.

An advisement week will be held each fall and spring semester for a period of eight working days, beginning a few days after CARS forms are mailed to students and ending a few days before the forms are due in the Registrar's office.

The Registrar's office will select the exact dates and publish them in the class schedules as part of the Academic Calendar, beginning with the Spring 1988 Class Schedule.

Some of the plans for the new program include: 1) each department or college assign each student to an advisor 2) the department should maintain a list of advisors and advisees 3) the college and department will provide advisors

who can evaluate applicability of transfer courses toward a degree 4) the department or college should maintain a folder of each major student, with checksheet showing progress toward degree 5) each college will provide training for its advisors (this will consist of seminars on core requirements and show how an advisor can help a student who is either suspended or on probation).

According to John Tryon, chairman of the Academic Standards Committee, about 1,500 students are on probation. Students on probation receive their grade reports with "see advisor" stamped on them, but, Tryon said, unfortunately some students are not seeing their advisors.

With this new plan, Tryon hopes the Registrar's Office will furnish the department with lists of students on probation. This way the department and advisor will know first-hand who is on probation.

Tryon said another major problem students have is overloading. This is where the person is employed and taking classes. Some of the symptoms are fatigue and a lower

quality of work which can lead to academic disaster.

Tryon recommends that a student who works 40 hours a week take one solid class and perhaps one light one; 20-hour work week, 12 credits.

The size of the load should be discussed by the advisor and the student.

Tryon said one quarter of his time is spent figuring an appropriate load for each student.

The Academic Standards Committee which will oversee this new plan is composed of one professor from each college, three student members (appointed by CSUN), and ex-officio members — the Registrar and the Director of Academic Advising and Resource Center, Dr. Jim Kitchen.

Practically everyone has heard the phrase describing UNLV as young, proud and growing. Unfortunately the advising program has not been able to keep pace with the university, according to Tryon.

The ASC is reponding by implementing these new ideas this spring.

Tryon said he hopes this new plan will make advising more helpful for students.

Galo Family sings folk music, describes plight

by karen splawn

senior staff writer

The Galo Family, a religious folk music band hailing from Nicaragua, will give a concert tonight at 7:30pm in the MSU Ballroom.

They will also be there to inform people of what's really going on in Nicaragua, according to Central American peace activist Julian Martinez.

Martinez is a member of the Coalition for Peace and Justice, a campus group, which is dedicated to eliminating aid to the *contras* [the rebel group trying to overthrow the current government], whether military or humanitarian.

For those not up to date on one of this nation's

most controversial topics, a brief history lesson:

The current troubles began in Nicaragua back in 1979, when the socialist-leaning Sandinista rebels (named after their hero and movement founder, Augusto Cesar Sandino) toppled the rightwing government of Anastasio Somoza Garcia (who reportedly ordered the murder of Sandino and his brother in 1934).

The Carter Administration distantly supported the rebel's victory but a new and distinctively more hostile relationship developed between Nicaragua and the United States when Ronald Reagan took office in 1981.

The Reagan administration views the Central

American country as a dangerous communist threat and supports the *contra* rebels, hoping they will take care of the current regime (lead by President Daniel Ortega, a key player in the 1979 revolution) without direct U.S. intervention.

Ironically enough, the U.S. did occupy Nicaragua at one time, from 1927 to 1933, and for the same reason the administration supports *contras*.

A peace accord was signed by the presidents of five Central American countries (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua) on Aug. 7 of this year.

The Galo Family's own See Galo page 5

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