

ASHEVILLE CITIZEN TIMES 6/97

UNCA conference covers general education

SPECIAL TO THE CITIZEN-TIMES

UNCA and the Association of American Colleges and Universities will co-host the seventh annual Asheville Institute on General Education June 5-11 at UNCA.

Some 110 faculty members and administrators representing 22 colleges and universities nationwide will attend the institute to explore the question of what college students should learn as part of a sound general education. Working in teams, this year's participants will focus on many areas of curricular reform, including assessment and multiculturalism, that are specific to their home campuses.

"In some ways, general education is the most important part of a university education because it's the

part that everyone shares, it's the part that all faculty and all students have an interest in. Students take different majors and different electives, but everybody takes general education," said Merritt Moseley, UNCA dean of faculty development and conference co-director.

UNCA's nationally recognized, interdisciplinary humanities program is an example of a core general education program. Taken by all UNCA students, the four-course sequence is based on the study of great texts over the history and breadth of human endeavor, Moseley said.

Joining Moseley in co-directing the institute will be Joseph Johnson Jr., vice president for programs, Association of American Colleges

and Universities in Washington, D.C. Margaret Downes, UNCA Humanities Program director and the National Endowment for the Humanities Distinguished Professor in the Humanities, will be one of the conference consultants.

Institutions sending participating teams to the institute include Kenyon College, SUNY at Stonybrook, Albion College, Illinois State University, Indiana State University, Indiana University-Perdue University at Indianapolis, Ramapo College of New Jersey, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Valparaiso University, California State University at Fullerton, James Madison University, Salisbury State University and Western Kentucky University.