

# Computer project underway at UNA

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Staff Writer

Dr. Garry G. Warren, dean of information and technologies at the University of North Alabama, told the Student Government Association last Thursday that in 12 to 18 months, students will be able to register for classes at UNA over the telephone.

Telephone registration is just one part of a multi-million dollar computer project that UNA is undergoing. Warren said, "We are also going to improve and increase the computer labs here for students."

Warren said that the new computer labs will resemble the lab in Collier Library. In addition to more computers for student usage, faculty will also have personal computers and printers in their offices.

The program also calls for every building on the campus to be linked by a fiber optics network "which will connect all the buildings for the transmission of voice, video, as well as data," Warren said.

In their June 1992 meeting, the Board of Trustees at UNA allotted \$500,000 for the computer program. In December 1992, the Board allotted another 4.0 million

dollars. "The issue is not money here," Warren said. "This is going to happen."

One area where money is an issue for Warren is longer library hours. As Warren has said in the past, he is not against keeping the library open for a longer period of time.

"Money is the biggest issue here," Warren said, "We're just trying to keep the amount of materials we presently have."

According to Warren, the cost of periodicals for the library has increased 13-14 percent per year, while the cost for new books for the library has increased 5-8 percent.

This has affected the amount of materials the library is able to provide because, according to Warren, the library budget has only increased 4-5 percent. "When that happens, something has got to give," Warren said.

When asked what chance the library had of extending its hours in the near future, Warren replied, "None."

In other business, SGA president Greg Watkins nominated two students to serve on the student court. Claudia Henao and Jennifer Dickens were present at last Thursday's meeting to answer questions from SGA sena-

tors. Henao and Dickens were approved by the senate behind closed doors.

Chris Butler, LaMar Humphreys, and former SGA president Mike Ward are Watkins' three other nominees. Senate members will have a chance to vote on the nominees in upcoming meetings.

Watkins also introduced a memorandum last Thursday, which will send "all bills, resolutions, and matters pertaining to the student body" to the Faculty Senate.

This practice is already being followed for members of the Executive Branch at UNA. Watkins said that he hopes this memorandum will foster better communications between the SGA and the Faculty Senate.

"We're thinking that if we send

everything we pass over to them [Faculty Senate] for their approval or disapproval," Watkins said, "then in turn they could do the same for us [SGA]." Watkins said that if this practice was followed it would "create a better communication system" on the university which Watkins has been a critic of lately.

In other business, Thom Lester introduced four separate bills, each dealing with updating the current Code of Laws—such rules as 201.1, which states that an SGA senator must have a 1.0 grade point average to be a senator, applied when the grading scale at UNA was on the 3-point system.

The current rule requires that a senator must have a 2.0 grade point average. "We're just striving for consistency," Lester said.

## Host/hostess positions open

Host/Hostess (Golden Girl/Ambassador) applications are now available in the Student Development Center and at the GUC Information Desk. There will be an Orientation Meeting for all interested students on Wednesday, March 17, at 3 p.m. in the GUC, Room 200. The application deadline is Friday, March 26.

For more information, please contact Kim Mauldin, 760-4213.