



FROM THE CENTER OUT

On October 28, the Center released a 56-page report entitled *Health Education: Incomplete Commitment*. Written by Center staff member Susan Presti, the report examines health education in North Carolina's public schools, a subject for which the State Department of Public Instruction (DPI) is currently developing a long-term plan. In 1979, the Center surveyed the state's 145 school units concerning this topic. The survey results and subsequent research led the Center to the following conclusion: "The future of health education in North Carolina is uncertain. As DPI develops its program blueprint over the next two years, the quality of health education will continue to be largely dependent upon local initiative. Health education in North Carolina's public schools has suffered from an incomplete commitment." The Center is distributing free of charge 3400 copies of the report to Center members, the media, the N.C. Society of Public Health Educators (NCSOPHE), local school superintendents, and various health educators, health personnel, and educators.

This fall, the Center also released *Foreign Languages and Area Studies: Options for North Carolina*, published jointly with the North Carolina Council on International Education. Written by Susan Presti of the Center and Dr. Andrew Scott, professor of political science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the report summarizes the proceedings of a conference on international education in North Carolina which was held in Chapel Hill on March 27-28, 1980. The conference reviewed the deficiencies of foreign language and area studies instruction in North Carolina and explored numerous options to improve this situation, including foreign travel and summer workshop programs. A sampling of letters received in response to this report follows:

I have just received a copy of *Foreign Languages and Area Studies: Options for North Carolina*. Thanks for sending this.

I venture to say that this document will prove most useful to us. It may well move us here at PSU to take steps which would more emphasize and upgrade language studies here.

You are to be congratulated for your work in this enterprise.

Sincerely,
Gibson Gray, Ph.D.
Professor
Pembroke State University

I have enjoyed reading *Foreign Languages and Area Studies: Options for North Carolina*.

This must have been a meaningful conference, but one thing seemed to me to be lacking. There is a lot of interest now in the humanities, not just foreign languages, but the basic languages of Latin and Greek which have so much to do with the derivation of words and our language.

I did not see any reference in the entire document to the discipline that is afforded to students in the learning of our basic languages of Latin and Greek or the desirability of training some teachers in these areas, and I think this is important if we are to maintain our cultural heritage.

The humanities are going to become increasingly important in all the professions, and in fact, there is a movement afoot to train medical students in college with a much broader humanities education than they are now receiving.

Sincerely,
Eben Alexander, Jr., M.D.
Department of Surgery
Bowman Gray School of Medicine
Wake Forest University

EDITOR'S NOTE: Foreign Language and Area Studies did contain an assessment of Latin language programs in North Carolina public schools; Greek is not taught in any North Carolina public schools and was not mentioned in the report.

Letters to the Editor

Energy

Compliments are in order for your worthwhile publication, *N.C. Insight*. I have on hand the copy of the winter 1980 issue that discusses North Carolina's energy future. Please send subscription information to my attention at the above address.

Sincerely,
Sandra L. O'Connor
Librarian
The Legal Aid Society of
Northwest North Carolina, Inc.