3-9-1973

Action, March 9, 1973

Florida International University

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Rap Session, Direct Line Communication

By Scott Jay

ACTION STAFF WRITER

Florida International University President, Charles Perry, met with interested students during two rap sessions on Feb. 21. The sessions, held at noon and again at 5:15, gave students an opportunity to question Perry on any topic.

Over 100 students participated in the sessions, and many expressed a desire to see this as the first of a continuing series. Perry said that he would be happy to comply if enough students were interested.

Questions were raised on many topics ranging from class scheduling to FIU public office, student publications, and many topics ranging from class scheduling to FIU public office, student publications, and these were the first rap session Perry said that he had practiced a desire to see this as the first of a continuing series. Perry said that he would be happy to comply if enough students were interested.

Students commented on a number of topics including the operation of the job placement center, the procedures, and the emergency alarm system. In regard to the alarm system Perry said that his staff is currently in the process of informing the faculty of emergency procedures. When this is accomplished, students will then be notified.

The question of longer library hours was raised and Perry answered that he felt that FIU's hours were comparable to any other state school. When further asked about weekend hours, Perry replied that he felt that students would not use the library even if it was open longer hours.

As these were the first rap sessions Perry said that he had no idea as to how they would be received by students. He said that to promise immediate changes would be impossible. He added that he could not even promise that he would personally solve each problem, but rather that he would see that they were referred to the proper person.

In his opening words to the group of students who met with Perry at 5:15, he said that he feels that the rap sessions will bring about results.

"The success of this type of dialogue depends upon the results. We are already reviewing questions raised this morning," said Perry.

Innovative Grading System

By Helen Mannion

ACTION STAFF WRITER

Florida International has simultaneously in progress both the traditional grading system and one which is in the academic world. Most often used to grade students is the A, B, C, and "no credit" system. FIU has modified this by adding the "so on" to the elements with the change of a No Credit. The A, B, C, No Credit system is officially used in the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Business and Organizational Sciences, the School of Hotel, Food and Travel Services, and the School of Technology. The School of Education and the School of Health and Social Services are currently implementing the Honors Credit (HC), Credit (CR) and No Credit (NC) system.

Both systems are officially operating on an experimental basis for the next three years under study by the FIU Office of Institutional Research. At the end of the designated period this office will submit the results and findings of this project to the Florida State Board of Regents.

The overall objective of both systems is to allow teaching and learning to become a cooperative and pleasant experience for the student and teacher. The principal emphasis is to reward the student rather than to punish the student by failing him. This is then an experience in the positive approach to education. FIU is not the first university to try this method of evaluation, but certainly it is a leader in the philosophy of the need to reorder this vast area of education.

A complete explanation of the FIU system is included in all transcripts sent from the office of Registration and Records. This policy is followed with every transcript sent from this office. The office is committed to aid recipients of transcripts to better understand the practices of this university.

Many questions were raised last term in regards to the significance of a NC. A significant change in the explanation of this grade was written for this quarter. If your grade report shows "NC," it means that your instructor considers your work incomplete. If your grade appears NC without an asterisk, this means that you did not meet the criteria of the course and you must re-register for the course in order to receive credit.

Mr. Ron Butler, the Registrar of Florida International, is an articulate and strong advocate of this new grading system. Commenting on the subject Butler says, "in the final analysis we need one uniform grading system at FIU. Grades seem to be a threat for the student and creating the rule of the professor." Rolling grading students in an in depth problem for education everywhere. Next quarter AC is going to continue the task of examining the history and implications of a quality grading system which will be suitable for the entire academic community of FIU.

FIU Accounting Association

Free Income Tax Assistance

The FIU ACCOUNTING association in conjunction with the INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE and UNITED FUND is providing FREE INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE throughout Dade County under the VITA program. This program, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, is a community service for lower income, elderly, Black and Spanish-speaking people. The IRS provides the VITA service nationwide by holding tax preparation seminars.

The FIU Accounting Association sponsors this community service project in a joint effort by the School of Business and Organizational Sciences, the School of Hotel, Food and Travel Services. The IRS intensively trained 100 FIU students, primarily accounting majors.

The United Fund of Dade County, seeking to set up a VITA program, contacted the IRS. The IRS referred the United Fund to FIU as it has the largest program of this type available. Community service centers are set up in Dade County locations (as follows) and will be manned through April 14. All centers will closed one day, Saturday, March 24.

Florida International University:
Saturday: 8:30 and 14 (PC 438)
Wednesday: 1-4 p.m. (PC 438)
Edison Little River Self-Help Community Center:

SACS. In a complete self-study (which Perry directed) FIU developed its own special purpose and goals and set forth the means of accomplishing them. A Visiting Committee sent by SACS, looked at FIU as an institution and made its recommendations that we should gain the first of three steps toward full accreditation Correspondence status (this is a rather innocuous term from a student standpoint).

FIU's position as of this date is that, the US Commissioner of Education considers us eligible for any program a fully accredited school would be (NDSL, College of Arts and Sciences). The Florida State Department of Education places us on an equal level with the other state schools, such as FSU and the University of Florida, for such purposes as transfer credits and admittance to Law and Graduate programs (there is no public Medical School in the state of Florida).

FIU will host a second Visitation team from SACS on campus from May 23-25 to review the University's request to become a candidate for accreditation (the second step).

"...big enough, bold enough and honest enough to do what we're saying."

Dr. Charles Perry
Round Campus

by Bob Barry

President Perry at his “Rap Sessions” with University students said that if he hopes the University will be “big enough, bold enough and honest enough to do what we’re saying.”

One thing for sure, someone was bold enough when they instructed the Campus Security Department to block off the center parking area for VIP’s and so are we seeing a special preview of the campus production “The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail.” We didn’t hear any complaints of the special showing but from the parking lot came some unhappy students. Sample of the hassle, “What do you mean reserved? I paid for a sticker and now I have to park in the east forty.” Or how about the comment from a car load of Dade County teachers coming to class, “I always thought I could walk like I do?” Of course many will have difficulty justifying the complaints, but if they keep in mind that student enrollment times can be seen carrying a portable radio. The results of a very enlightening survey concerning the bond have been published in this edition of ACTION.

With all the planning going on in the county offices to get safer roads markings you’d think someone would have allowed for a traffic light at the east entrance to the campus. It’s a dangerous game of chicken trying to get in or out during the morning and even worse for the evening classes. Possibly one of those VIP types can be persuaded to do something about the University has a tragedy.

Bits and pieces—Pressure must be building up for the final push for grades this quarter. Students are under heavy pressure to cut down the tension reduction by way of the form route, drunk the kegs dry at the Night Thoreau Spent in Jail.

ACTION is independently published without state funds by students at FIU. ACTION may be reached c/o the Office of Student Services, Room 220 PC or Room 406 DM. ACTION welcomes all comments, criticisms, and suggestions. All letters to the editor must be signed and a phone number should be included, however, identification will be withheld upon request.
Many of us in the student body here are parents, as are many of the faculty, and most of those who are not now parents will be within a few years. So we share or will soon be sharing in a common concern for the happiness of our children.

There are many ingredients in that rare and precious feeling we call happiness and it seems that many of them are evidenced in the person, basics, though, without which a person has a much smaller chance of finding happiness. A positive self-image is one of these. Your child will have a much better chance to achieve happiness and meaning in his life if he has a positive self-image.

A self-image is exactly what it sounds like. It's the image you have of yourself. It's your opinion of yourself. It's what you believe others think of you. You can't see it, smell it, touch it but you can feel it. Or rather you can feel its results. You can feel what it does to you.

What do you think of yourself? How do you perceive you face the world and deal with life? If you have a positive self-image you feel weak and worthless; if your life seems too difficult and demanding to handle. Most of us fail somewhere between the two extremes although we tend to lean toward one of them.

The child who respects himself, who likes himself and who believes in himself has a priceless and powerful ally, the spirit of self-confidence. He expects to be liked and he is not afraid to try to accomplish things.

A child with a negative self-image doesn't have self-confidence. Instead he bears the burden of increased insecurity. He doesn't expect others to like him. He resents all the little things he believes he handles poorly and considers his shortcomings with a sheath of aloofness, distrust or unpleasantness.

What about your child? What kind of self-image has he? His future, to an important extent, depends upon the answer to this question.

You can get a good idea of what he believes about you by observing what he does and says. Many of his actions and comments will give clues to his self-image.

He does generally believe he can do his tasks well? Does he feel most people like him? Does he often reach his own conclusions and express his opinions to his friends even when he knows what the answer will be?
Media Center:  Learning Resource Warehouse

Filled With Useful Aides

By George Simon

The FIU Media Center is under the direction of Mr. David Wilson, a teacher of higher education for 8 years, who is working on his PhD. in Instructional media. A pioneer of FIU, He has seven full time employees and 20 student assistants. The Media Center occupies 7,000 square feet on the fourth floor of Primera Casa and will be moved in 1974 to Building Four where it will have three times the space it occupies now.

There is a total inventory of $125,000 worth of electronic equipment, which at this point is considered, in terms of the number of students and faculty 25 average.

A few years ago, research information was ten years old by the time it reached students via textbook or film. Today an individual has an extensive information center in his own home which provides him with immediate information and research data that will appear in textbooks months later. Students and faculty who are part of this highly mediated, high information density environment expect more from a Media Center than just a projector or a record player.

Too many Media Centers are top heavy with technicians and engineers. Although these people play an important role in the success of any Media Center, Wilson thinks of his role as, "information gathering" in a world of information proliferation.

In a university with an enrollment of over 5,000 students, the Media Center is working toward accumulating material that is relevant to the objectives of a course and which provides opportunities for students to learn according to their own particular styles. Thus according to Wilson, staff for the media center should have a background in teaching and research as well as a knowledge of the role of the media in education. All of the staff and the illustrators taught courses with the faculty last quarter.

"An individual who has taught, or is teaching in addition to his assigned duties in the Media Center, can better identify with the problems of faculty and students alike," said Wilson. "My goal is that the Media Center in FIU will be accepted as a part of the teaching faculty of the University."

There are five departments within the Media Center: equipment distribution center, communications laboratories, 16 mm film library, assessment center, and micro-teaching clinics. The communications laboratory is set up with individual cassette tape recorders which are used to get maximum use out of tax dollars and space.

If you care to study any language you can listen to the instructor and at the same time repeat the words into a microphone attached to the headset and it will be recorded on the tape so you can listen to yourself if needed. These tape recorders can be easily moved to a classroom to tape lectures. The film library is a repository for 16 mm films; educational films, film strips, film loops, classic old films such as "The Battleship Potemkin" and "Un Chien Andalou" by Salvador Dali. You can view any of these films from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. five days a week.

There is an FIU film society composed of student, faculty, and administrative volunteers, to review in the library, (b) educational opportunities for students as outlined in FIU's Master Plan (available for review in the library), (c) operating under a well-designed structure for academic, financial, and staff planning, (d) progressing readily and properly toward the eleven basic accreditation standards of SACS. In preparation for the visit, Perry established six task forces composed of student, faculty, and administrative volunteers, to review the progress in meeting the eleven standards. The task forces are scheduled to report by the first two weeks in April.

If the Visiting Committee approves of the program, and SACS concurs, then FIU will achieve candidate status. Preliminary estimates suggest this may occur in the fall of this year, with full accreditation coming one year later after the first class has completed the entire school program (two years).

The purpose of the visit, according to FIU President Perry, is to assess FIU's commitment to: (a) educational opportunities for students as outlined in FIU's Master Plan (available for review in the library), (b) operating under a well-designed structure for academic, financial, and staff planning, (d) progressing steadily and properly toward the eleven basic accreditation standards of SACS. In preparation for the visit, Perry established six task forces composed of student, faculty, and administrative volunteers, to review the progress in meeting the eleven standards. The task forces are scheduled to report by the first two weeks in April.

If the Visiting Committee approves of the program, and SACS concurs, then FIU will achieve candidate status. Preliminary estimates suggest this may occur in the fall of this year, with full accreditation coming one year later after the first class has completed the entire school program (two years).

The accreditation process is a unique one, with the structure of the accrediting organization just as unique in the balance throughout the world, control of education is centralized in a government agency, while in the United States the power to determine educational standards is decentralized to achieve greater flexibility and outlook. The six regional accreditation associations are appointed by membership dues, and are not connected in any way with federal or state government.
"The Night Thoreau Spent In Jail" is a two act play not a better play. The production was excellent, if not beautiful. The acting was uniformly good—indeed often excellent. Still, with the problems currently before us—and the problems, like Vietnam, that plagued us when the play was written (1970 or thereabouts) one can very much identify with the feelings and trauma of the Henry Thoreau of the Mexican War era. But the effort of Lawrence and Lee leaves one rather less than satisfied. The production was excellent, if not beautiful. The acting was uniformly good—indeed often excellent. Still, one would like to have seen so good a production and such a high caliber of acting spent on a better play.

In all, it was an suspicious beginning for theatre at FIU, all quibbles aside. One can easily see that a great deal is in store, and, it isn't as though it's going to go to waste. If there is any great lack in the Miami area, it's good theatre. Here again, it would appear, is a way in which FIU is gonna prove to be more than just "another school."

The Night Thoreau Spent at FIU

hours earned to hours worked would be:
5 credit hours for 10-12 hours of work per week, 10 credit hours for 15-18 hours of work per week, 15 credits can be obtained if no other classes are taken concurrently.

According to Professor Olander the philosophy of the program is that knowledge should have some actual consequences. He makes the modest understatement that the internship program actually gives the student an extra dimension, an opportunity to relate classroom knowledge to a real-world experience. This is the traditionally disregarded essence of education.

The Public Affairs Internship Program has been growing and continues to do so. In the Spring Quarter at least two other faculty members will be assisting Professor Olander with the program. Professor Joel Gottlieb will be acting as the Associate Director for Urban and Environmental Affairs. The Associate Director for International Affairs will be Professor Ken Boodhoo.

Plans are being made for a politics club, and Professor Olander is thinking of holding workshops and having field trips. A Society for International Development is also now functioning.

In his spare time Professor Olander has been writing an introductory reader in government and a manuscript on the way back Americans have been treated in courts over time with four other professors of the Political Science Department.

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The Nite Thoreau Spent at FIU

By wja

It was probably an awfully good idea to present THE NIGHT THOREAU SPENT IN JAIL, as the premiere theatrical production at FIU in that it has never been seen in the Miami area before. The sad part is that it's certainly, and infinitely many others before and since have better defined the greatness of man via the effort of a single man alone than is laid before us in this particular play.

Granted that Henry is the 'star' part, he could have been just a bit less showy in his interpretation, especially in the role which so specifically calls for so much truth and lack of pretension. Conversely, one marveled at the naturalness of Dick Gullage's pompous but almost lovable Waldo—even Emerson ever have been made so human by any American Lit prof?—of D. J. Putnam's wonderfully nasty Deacon Ball—yes, Virginia, pigs have been with us forever—and of the wonderfully human and sympathetic John Thoreau of Dick Stewart. Mr. Stewart's portrayal was indeed so good, that John's sudden death seemed—at least from where I sat—to affect the audience considerably more than it did Henry.

In, all, it was an suspicious beginning for theatre at FIU, all quibbles aside. One can easily see that a great deal is in store, and, it isn't as though it's going to go to waste. If there is any great lack in the Miami area, it's good theatre. Here again, it would appear, is a way in which FIU is gonna prove to be more than just "another school."

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Renaissance in

Education

By Michael Ray

Professor Joe Olander was looking for some way students could cash in on the learning experiences of both national political conventions and several local elections. As a result, he began the Public Affairs Internship Program last summer, before FIU had actually opened. Since last summer on-the-job experiences in several areas have been made part of the Political Science Department's internship program. There are four main areas of interest into which the program is divided, providing students with a rare opportunity to learn firsthand how the establishment rules and controls society. These areas are:

Legislative—For instance, the student can work for a national politician, a State Senator, or even a Federal Commissioner. Administrative—The student can learn about organizational or bureaucratic behavior. This quarter two students are working with the Federal Aviation Administration. Judicial—Students now work with the Public Defender's Office and the Migrant Legal Services. International—Students can work at a foreign consulate or at headquarters for an international corporation.

Professor Olander also found places for interns to work. He said the contacts were made by a lot of time, gas and phoning. A student involved in the internship program is not limited to working somewhere where contacts have already been made. If he desires to work somewhere else, Professor Olander will see what he can do.

The Public Affairs Internship Program is open to any student at FIU. A student can earn from five to fifteen credits per quarter depending on the hours he works. A fairly accurate ratio of credit to on-the-job experiences in several areas has been made part of the Political Science Department's internship program.

It has been said that the library is the heart of the university. To this might be added, the Reference Department is the heart of the library.

It is the one area especially designed to aid, guide and assist the patron, be he student or faculty, in his search for information. The simplest question may often prove perplexing when one does not know where to begin searching for an answer.

The Reference Department has an efficient organization and staff of experienced librarians. The department collects and maintains phone books and college catalogs from all areas of the United States. The department's finest asset is its staff. Though small in size compared to other major university reference departments, the staff tries to give each patron individual attention and guidance. Each question is considered important and a sincere effort is made to fill each person's need. The staff enjoys working with the university community in a mutual effort toward intellectual fulfillment.

The head of the Reference Department is Teddy Kassner, Associate University Librarian. Before coming to FIU in 1970, Mrs. Kassner was a librarian in the Undergraduate Library of the University of Miami. She is assisted by Muriel Efron, head of Documents, two part-time Adjunct Assistant University Librarians, Mrs. Margaret Cubberly and Mr. Robert Stack. In addition the staff includes five career service employees.

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As I see it

By Pat McGarry

Two former officials of President Nixon's political organization were convicted on January 30 for plotting to spy on Democrats during the 1972 campaign. James W. McCord Jr. and Gordon Liddy, key figures in the Watergate affair, were found guilty on all counts charged against them; conspiracy, second degree burglary and eaves dropping. Liddy could receive a maximum sentence of 35 years in prison, McCord a 45 year term. The other five men charged in the Watergate affair all pleaded guilty and all are in the District of Columbia jail, except E. Howard Hunt Jr. who is free on $100,000 bond, pending sentencing. A Federal judge also fined Nixon's campaign commit­tee $8,000; the maximum fine for violating the new election spending law.

The Watergate investigations are far from over, Congressional Committee hearings are to be held later this year, and a civil lawsuit brought by the Democrats against the Republican Party is still pending. We still do not know the whole truth of this political espionage. The ability of the Nixon administration to suppress the whole affair, in contrast is the Presidential election of 1872 in which President Ulysses S. Grant devoted a way to answer charges of corruption. He stayed silent, campaigned little and used the power of his office to restrain investigation. On Inauguration Day President Richard M. Nixon said, "Let us reach out, for a new feelings of others." I suggest he said, "I think we have a great program here; I hope to come back again sometime."

There were some of the feelings expressed by psychology students who visited Operation Self-Help Drug Rehabilitation Facility in Hialeah, Thursday, March I. The visit was arranged and sponsored by the Student Psychological Association of Florida International University.

What started out as a stan­dard field trip soon became a moving personal experience for the Florida International students.

The 13 students arrived at the Self-Help facility, a group of trailers and small house located at the old Amelia Earhart Field, and were greeted by Frank McGarry, Self-Help's Director of Counseling and Research. Mr. McGarry briefly explained the self-reconstructive therapeutic concept closely related to the Reality Therapy proposed by Dr. William Glasser, a psychiatrist and author.

Following a general question and answer period, McGarry, the students listened to a tape made at one of the en­counter group sessions conducted at Self-Help. The tape revealed the emotional process experienced by a young man of the Self­Help family as he attempted to come into contact with his own feelings and to learn how to deal with them honestly.

A discussion on the technique used in the taped encounter group was held with Miss Jodi Barr, a Self-Help graduate who is now Facility Director. Through this discussion, the Florida Inter­national University psychology students were able to formulate many questions concerning therapeutic techniques which they will be eager to explore in further study and other field experiences which the SPA will sponsor in the future.

The most intense part of the visit came when several young members of the Self-Help family joined the group and described their own experience with drugs which led to their involvement in the Self-Help program. Besides the use of chemicals, the youngsters revealed family histories characterized in their own terms by lack of meaningful communication at home.

The openness of these young people in expressing their problems elicited many open emotional reactions from the Florida International University students.

The program was wrapped-up as a very "together" happening when one of the Self-Help members said, "Before you go, let's all stand up and join hands and give a yell!" Quite a change for the students used to the diminuendo of the close of a class session.

The value of the experience for the psychology students was probably most manifest in their reluctance to leave; the visit extended to more than three hours and several students remained to talk individually with Self-Help members and staff.

Activities of this kind as well as lectures, panel presentations, research projects, community projects and others, are part of the Student Psychological Association's projected plans. SPA members are students with a serious interest in psychology as science and service. Anyone interested in membership in SPA should inquire at the Psychology Department office, DuSavien Maison 452.

Math-Science Dept.

A primary concern of FIU's Mathematical Sciences Department is dispelling the idea that mathematics is something difficult and mysterious, interesting only to eccentric geniuses. MAS 100, The Significance of Mathematics, is designed to give non-majors an understanding of what mathematics is, how it is used, and why many of its theorems and constructs are considered beautiful. MAS 210, computers and society, considers the problems caused by the widespread use of computers. It gives non-majors an idea of what computers can and cannot do and gives majors some sense of the social consequences of their field.

Dr. Robert C. Fisher, chairman of the Math Dept., has created a balanced depart­ment which fairly represents all aspects of the field. In his view there is much to gain by uniting mathematics, statistics and computer science in one department. In many univer­sities these disciplines are fragmented into several departments with a resulting loss of communication and con­structive interaction. Dr. Fisher also believes that the department in one department.

Visit Operation Self-Help

"Because they were so open and honest with us, I think we will be more able to be honest with each other."

"I think they have a great program here; I hope to come back again sometime."

Monday & Tuesday are Party Nights

Monday: Our regular $5.35 Boneless Sirloin Steak:
- $4.50 (Small)
- $5.35 (Medium)
- $6.25 (Large)
- Or Charbroiled Sliced Steak, only $4.25.
- Other items from $3.50

Tuesday: Our regular $5.25 Roast Prime Rib is $3.95.
- $5.35 (Medium)
- $6.25 (Large)
- Other items from $3.50

Entertainment: Super contemporary guitar-vocalists appearing Miami Springs & Ft. Lauderdale. They play what they feel.

New Center

Construction has begun on Florida International Univer­sity's third major building, the $2.9 million, three-story University Center, which will house the various student ser­vices and activities. The 90,000 square foot structure is expected to be ready during the winter quarter of 1974.

The new building will be located just northeast of Primera Casa, as the third facility on the University's court system which is designed to unite the buildings visually and functionally.

The facility is designed to complement outdoor living and includes an indoor-outdoor social center that opens into a tropical garden and an outdoor am­phitheater, all set aside. Also included are student recreation facilities, bookstore, cafeteria, international con­ference theater, a classroom­type auditorium seating 200 persons and space for the Division of Student Services.

Plans are going ahead on two other major facilities at the University's Tamiami Campus. Construction will start later this year on the Multi-Function Two and Central Utility Plant, which will contain classrooms and offices for the fifth building planned as the Library, will begin going up in 1974.

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Tuesday, March 9, 1973
Q. When is the best time to sell my textbooks?

A. PRIME TIME FOR SELLING IS THE LAST TWO WEEKS OF CLASSES THROUGH THE FIRST WEEK OF THE NEW QUARTER. Of course, we buy back textbooks anytime, but information is more plentiful during this specific period.

Q. What guides the bookstore in determining how much to pay for a textbook being sold back to the bookstore?

A. We must be guided by the following value points in deciding which used books to buy and how much to pay for them:

1. TOP VALUE—Those textbooks in current edition which will be used again in the next quarter (in this case SPRING) up to the quantity determined by the expected enrollment.

2. MARKET VALUE—Wholesale distributors will buy textbooks not being currently used on our campus. We compare them to other book college and university bookstores nationally. We consider this a purchasing source for several nationally recognized wholesale distributors, as well as for other bookstores within our own company.

3. NO VALUE—Textbooks in poor condition (with broken bindings and missing pages, etc.) have no value. Also, old editions and most printed materials made available by university departments have no wholesale value.

Q. What happens if my book is in new condition, have been purchased for a course but never used?

A. Once the initial two week refund period at the beginning of classes is past, all textbooks bought back from you by the bookstore are considered used and priced accordingly for resale. If we haven’t answered all your questions here, don’t hesitate to ask. We prefer not to answer lengthy inquiries by phone. Try instead our personalized service at the buy-back window inside the bookstore. CAPITALIZE NOW BY RECEIVING THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE RETURN ON YOUR TEXTBOOK DOLLARS BY SELLING NOW.