

Proposals: Possible creative writing major predicted to be in high demand

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eliminates the possibility of the University going through all the approval steps only to have a proposal rejected in the final step.

"They have given us permission to go ahead with a full-blown proposal," Davis said.

Thomas Dyke, an associate dean for natural sciences within the school of arts and sciences, is working on the proposals for the biochemistry and math and science majors. He said he expected the board's approval and said the pre-proposal is just a first step in the process.

"It's basically just to get in there [for] planning a full proposal," Dyke said.

Dyke said the foundation for the majors is already set because all of the proposed majors have courses offered at the University, which will not have to hire new faculty in order to offer the majors.

"They are all programs that don't require new resources," Davis said, adding that all of the majors are already offered as emphases. "The idea is to give students new options within the degree programs."

Terry Hummer, director of the creative

writing program, said he has been working on adding a creative writing major since he came to the University two and a half years ago. Hummer was appointed the director of the creative writing program when it separated from the English department.

Hummer said a creative writing major at the undergraduate level would make options clearer for students at the University and added that the major is an easy jump from emphasis status.

"I think this [major] is a real natural, whose time has come," Hummer said.

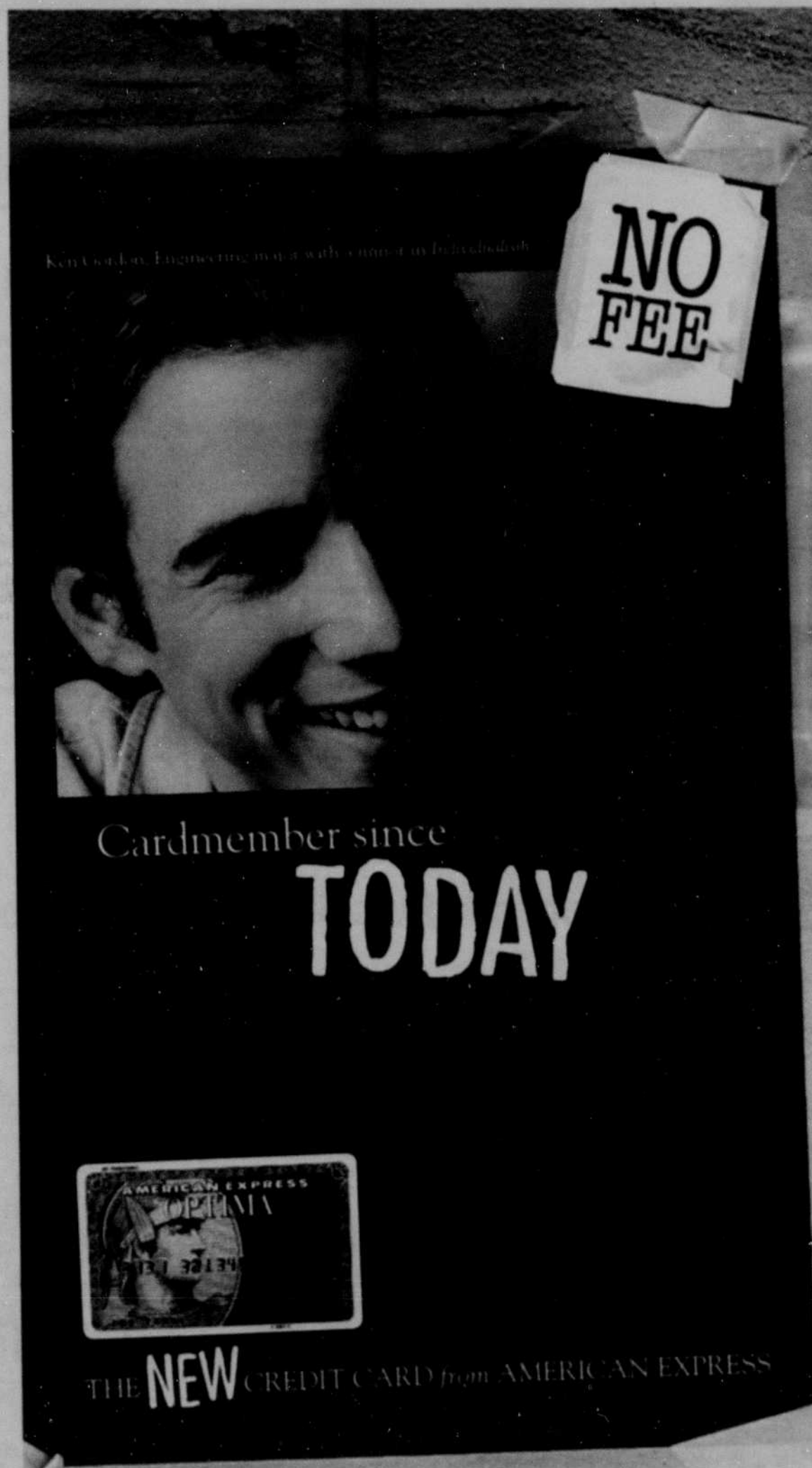
He said he did not know how many

students would want to major in creative writing because no one currently keeps that kind of information.

However he said, the creative writing program serves 1,200 students per term. That includes both students who want to focus on creative writing and those who are taking creative writing as an elective.

One of Hummer's main worries is that the program will not be able to handle all the students who want to major in creative writing.

"I think we'll have to be careful," he said.



Ken Corder, Engineering major with a minor in International Business

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