Date: 11/20/00

To: Faculty, Staff and Graduate Students;

From: Don D. Reeder, Chair

re: Ombudspersons

A recurrent theme in the sequence of recent reviews and discussions has been the question of to whom should one go to register a grievance, complaint or just a suggestion. It seems that the Chair is not sufficiently accessible or remote or subjective. So…. I have appointed four ombudspersons to whom anyone can bring a complaint. These faculty and staff have agreed to hear the complaint, to communicate it (initially unattributed) and to mediate the remedies. I hope this will result in the development of a working environment that all will find supportive. This is not meant to discourage a direct approach to the Chair, only to provide alternative avenues. Some issues can be best discussed with your major professor, others with the Chair and still others with an ombudsperson.

If you have a question of whether or not a situation or discomfort should be discussed, the answer is YES! Any issue which troubles you should be addressed and, if it is within our authority, ought to be resolved. At this time the ombudspersons are:

- Assoc. Prof. B. Dingus
- Assoc. Prof. P. Timbie
- Asst. Prof. M. Eriksson
- Ms. Jean Buehlman