

# The Collegiate

LIBRARY

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Summer Draws To A Close (Photo by Peter Chamness)

## Bookstore Policy Explained

The AC Bookstore enjoys only a narrow profit margin, according to Bookstore Manager, Cleo Murray. In an interview last Friday, Murray cited bookstore overhead as a major reason for the small profit margin.

Like any business, the bookstore must pay any overhead costs out of its profits, Murray explained. She pointed out that all freight costs, unreturnable or unsellable books, theft losses, building rent, and employees salaries must be paid for out of bookstore profits.

"Any money that is left over after these costs is turned over to the college, which uses it to help keep tuition costs down," Murray added.

Murray noted that another reason the bookstore has a small profit margin is because the purpose of the bookstore is "to serve the students," therefore it is not trying to make huge profits on anything that is sold.

When asked about the pricing practices of the bookstore, Murray gladly explained them. "Art supplies are sold at a 20 per cent discount to students," Murray stated. Two prices are listed on art supplies, she explained. The higher price is the manufacturer's suggested retail price, and the lower price is the price of the item after the 20 per cent discount.

Murray said "the bookstore is lucky to break even on textbooks." She explained that "publishers do give the bookstore a 20 per cent discount on textbooks, but out of this the bookstore must pay the freight costs (for the shipping of the

books).

Murray noted that losses on textbooks that are not sold to students or cannot be returned to the publisher, freight charges on books that can be returned, and textbook theft."

Murray explained that students are given a small break when inflation causes the price of a book to rise. Any old copies of a book that were bought at a cheaper price remain at their old price. She noted that the practice of not marking up the price of old stock runs contrary to the business practices of many stores, such as supermarkets, and most bookstores which do mark up the price of old stock and make a large profit.

"Most of the profits in the bookstore come from the selling of gift items, cards, stationery, and clothing, such as shirts," Murray stated. She added that these items are strictly luxury items, and are sold at normal retail prices.

School supplies, such as paper and pens, make a very small profit, and health and beauty aids are sold at no profit since they are in the store strictly as a convenience to students, Murray added.

Murray was also asked about the bookstore's policy of buying and reselling used books. "The price paid for a used book is one half of the price of the book when it was new," she said. For example, if a book cost \$10 when it was new, the bookstore will pay the student \$5 for it.

"When a used book is resold to a student, the student pays 70 per cent of the price of the book when it was new," she ex-

plained. For example, if a used book cost \$10 when it was new, the student will pay \$7 for it.

"This policy of buying and reselling used books applies to any book no matter how many times it has been owned," Murray said. For example, a book that is sold to the bookstore for the third time will still bring its owner one half of the new price. The same \$10 book will bring its third owner \$5, and when it is resold, it will cost its fourth owner \$7.

Murray was quick to note that AC is the only college in the state that does not charge its students 75 per cent of a book's original price when reselling it. She also noted that AC's buying policy for used paperback books was exactly the same as for hardbacks. She added that the present trend in most college bookstores is to buy back used paperback books at only one third of the book's original price.

Murray said that students should consider that "if it wasn't the policy of the bookstore to buy back used books, there would not be any books at a reduced price for them (the students) to buy." She noted that some college bookstores refused to buy any used books from students.

Murray mentioned two free services that are provided to students by the bookstore. These are free check cashing and the special book order service.

The special order service allows a student to order single books that he needs or wants without paying a special charge for it. The bookstore absorbs freight costs and only charges the student the publisher's price for the book.

## SGA Budget Approved

A record number of students turned out for the regular meeting of the Student Government Association meeting Tuesday night at which time the tentative operating budget was brought before the student body for final approval.

The budget was approved by the majority of approximately 80 students present with only a handful of dissenting votes. No major effort was made to change the budget prior to its approval. The number of students present far exceeded the record number of twenty who attended some few years ago.

At the prior meeting the budget had become a prime issue due to the fact that three campus groups were denied funds because of their failure to qualify as standing budgetary organizations.

There had been, in the past week, much confusion surrounding the decision to "drop" the Afro' Awareness and Social Science Clubs and Pi Gamma Mu, an honorary society, from the budget. Representatives from these organizations were present at the meeting where it was explained that the organizations had not purposely been denied money to which they were entitled, but rather had been removed from the budget due to the fact that they had been

unconstitutionally receiving money under the heading of a Budgetary organization. The Constitution (which may be found in student handbooks) states that "to be a budgetary organization, membership and service shall be opened to all members of the Student Government Association and shall be of benefit to all members of the Student Government Association." The above clubs did not come under this heading as would no other club or organization other than the following: The Collegiate, Student Center, Campus Christian Association, Executive Board, Cheerleaders, Entertainment Committee, Bulldog Power Pep Club, and the Pine Knot.

The point was emphasized that clubs will, as always, be allowed to requisition for funds from the SGA. The funds, if approved by the budget committee, the SGA treasurer, and the SGA president will be taken from the Executive Board Fund.

After the budget had been approved, Jones Fuquay, President of the SGA, expressed his appreciation for the student interest shown and stated that "our success or failure" depends upon such participation.

At the Executive Board meeting which followed, the following resolution was tabled due to procedural technicalities:

### RESOLUTION CONCERNING WEEKEND ACTIVITIES ON THE CAMPUS OF ATLANTIC

WHEREAS, many students of Atlantic Christian College leave the campus on weekends, and

WHEREAS, many of these students give their reason for leaving the campus on weekends as a lack of activities centered around student participation, and

WHEREAS, the Executive Board of the Student Government Association feels that not only academics and scholarship, but also the building of a supportive community, are an integral part of the liberal arts college experience, and

WHEREAS, students at large lack the organization and institution to plan and carry out such activities,

Be it therefore resolved that the Executive Board of the S.G.A. takes the responsibility of helping to build a supportive community by promoting fellowship on weekends,

AND be it furthermore resolved that the Executive Board gives the responsibility of planning and carrying out these events to the entertainment

committee,

AND be it furthermore resolved that the entertainment committee shall have budgeted \$900.00 for such events to be used only for such weekend, on-campus events, (This shall exclude big name band concerts even though they may fall on weekends.)

AND be it furthermore resolved that if the entertainment committee fails to plan said event that the student co-ordinator shall take the responsibility of planning and carrying out such an event and that he shall have access to the \$50.00 previously budgeted to the entertainment committee,

AND be it furthermore resolved that a copy of this resolution is to be sent to the student co-ordinator, the chairman of the entertainment committee, and to the editor of the Collegiate for publication.

Passed this 13th day of Sept., 1977.

Miles E. Stanley  
Vice-President, SGA  
Carl Frazier  
Senator, Sophomore Class

## Stage and Script Announces Cast

Stage and Script is proud to announce its cast for the upcoming production, "Ten Little Indians," an Agatha Christie murder mystery.

Rogers  
Mrs. Rogers  
Fred Narracott  
Vera Claythorne  
Philip Lombard  
Anthony Marston  
William Blore  
General Mackenzie  
Emily Brent

Sir Lawrence Wargrave  
Dr. Armstrong

Kenny Smith  
Jo Anne Cavanaugh  
Joseph Thompson  
Terry Cook  
Rueggy Copen  
Gregory Dozier  
Jimmy Ward  
Robert Traylor  
Barbara Snell  
Jim Poole  
Walter Knight

Production dates are  
Oct 6, 7, 8  
at 8 p.m.

## Science Club Active

Karen Jones, President of the Science Club, announced on Monday that one of the club's projects this year would be "to keep the Student Center Fountain functional and clean." Jones said that the club would take over maintenance of the Fountain because "the trash problem is too much for the maintenance department to handle."

The Science Club is one of the

most active clubs on campus. Every semester the club is engaged in many projects that help to improve the appearance of the campus.

Maintaining the Fountain will be one of the club's largest projects this year, Jones said.

Jones noted that present plans for activities in the Science Club are only tentative. She listed some events that the club will sponsor in the future:

—Lectures on various topics;

—Several field trips, including several to the mountains;

—Various plant sales at Christmas and in the spring;

—Possibly another Campus Clean-up week, like the one held last year.

Jones urged anyone who may be interested in joining the Science Club to come to its next meeting. "Activities are being planned, and if students want to get in on them, they should join the club now," Jones said.