

Program finishes flight

by Elizabeth Appiah

The Faculty Development Humanities Program, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, completed the spending of its \$108,000 grant on Oct. 30, disclosed Dr. Ruth Lucier, grant director and coordinator of the program.

"One of the greatest areas of success of the Faculty Development Humanities Program in recent years," she said, "has been the institutionalization of the goals and spirit of the 1980-84 FDH program." She added that the faculty colloquium, where faculty gave and responded to papers, has been included in the current Humanities 450 Symposium.

This semester the symposium topic was "Values in Black American Culture" and was coordinated with the October Conference on "The Socio-Cultural History of the Black Woman in America" sponsored by the Bennett Scholars.

The speaker for the upcoming Symposium 450 session is Dr. Joseph Bethea, administrative assistant to the Bishop of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, who will discuss "Basic Human Values in Black Culture" on Nov. 27 at

4 p.m. in the science assembly.

Rabbi Arnold Task of Temple Emmanuel and Tracey Townsend, a Bennett Scholar, spoke on "The Nazis and the Klan" on Oct. 30, at 4 p.m. in Fine Arts 100.

According to Dr. Lucier, the speakers were well qualified and many were informally connected with the Lyceum program. The symposium sessions are open to the public free of charge. The Humanities 450 seminar will be continued next semester with the topic, "Religion and the Law," according to Lucier.

Previous symposium speakers were Mrs. Linda Addo, historian; Dr. Marshena Baird, educator; and Dr. Zelma Henriques, specialist in child welfare laws.

The FDH program has also achieved its goal of cooperating with the Lyceum committee to support events that have enhanced the cultural and academic atmosphere on campus. Those serving on the Mellon-FDH Committee during the last four year period are Dr. Alma Adams, Mrs. Queen Bell, Mrs. Ednita Bullock, Mrs. Mary Hopkins, Mr. Michael Gaspeny, Dr. Ruth Lucier and Mrs. Geraldine Totten.

Dr. Lucier said that since FDH's inception in 1980, it has co-spon-

sored such major speakers as Pearl Bailey, James Baldwin, Varnette Honeywood and Ntozake Shangé and such conferences as "The Afro-American Quest for Freedom," "World Religions" and the October Conference.

The proposal for FDH emphasized that if faculty began talking and working together in specific ways, they would be able to reshape and coordinate course content more effectively.

"The Mellon Faculty Development program has achieved this goal by providing for a series of retreats, including two last year, aimed at evaluating and restructuring the general education curriculum at Bennett," said Lucier.

She indicated that these retreats, aided by the direction of Dr. Dorothy Harris, associate dean of academic support programs, "engaged faculty from all areas of the college to discuss the rationale behind course requirements and to cooperate in creating the kind of curriculum that best helps students to acquire essential academic skills."

Dr. Lucier remarked that the program has been very successful but only because of the efforts and support of a large number of the faculty.

Spirit is there; numbers needed

by Shonna Luten

In numbers, the situation presents slim pickings, but "it's quality not quantity that counts," says Coach Cathy Mussington about the basketball team.

She was "shocked and dismayed" at the turnout for tryouts this season. Only seven players appeared, and none of them were veterans. Most of the team now consists of freshmen.

The biggest disadvantage of a primarily freshman squad will be lack of experience, according to the coach.

But "the freshmen would have more motivation and an eagerness to play," Mussington says. "They are also open-minded and have a coachable attitude."

She believes that her team may have the strengths of a group of guerrillas. "A small team does not indicate less success," she maintains. "The players on the team would have more endurance and playing time."

A name to look for this season is Andrea Malone, a freshman from Antigua, who is here on a

full academic scholarship. "She will be the sparkplug of the team," the coach predicts.

Two volleyball performers, Vickie Wilkens and Latanya Hart, bring their athletic skills to the basketball court. Mussington is expecting big things from Wilkens, a 6-foot-1-inch center, and Hart, an aggressive player and good ball-handler.

Mussington is optimistic about the team, but she is still looking for additional players. Any Belles who are interested should contact the coach immediately.

The 16-game schedule includes nine home games and seven away contests. The first game is Nov. 20 at Greensboro College.

The home games are all at night:

Nov. 27—Sacred Heart, 7:00;
Nov. 30—Averett College, 7:00;
Dec. 5—Peace College, 7:00; Jan. 17—Meredith College, 7:00; Jan. 18—Methodist College, 7:30; Jan. 22—Greensboro College, 7:00; Jan. 24—Chowan College, 7:00; Feb. 14—A&T State, 6:00; Feb. 18—Livingstone College, 7:00.

News in brief: achievement on campus

Counseling Success: The Career Counseling Center has helped many students in job placement and career development.

Its main goal is to teach students how to market themselves in the working world. The center also helps Belles to plan and develop alternative career interests.

Mrs. Doris Vincent, coordinator of the center, feels her operation is very successful. 23 of the 70 graduates from last year received jobs either directly or indirectly through the center.

The center, which has been in business for 20 years, is also finding jobs for Belles while they're in college. With the help of Mrs. Denise Nugent, director of Job Location Development, students are gaining part-time and temporary employment.

Students must be registered at the center to get help. They should have an active or an updated resumé. References from instructors and previous employers should be filed.

Vincent advises students to take an interest in the center at once instead of waiting until the senior year. (Karen K. Exum)

Home Economics Happenings: Omicron Eta Chi, the campus chapter of the American Home Economics Association, has eight newly initiated members.

These women are: Michelle Byrd, Gladys Dayo Foster, Phyllis Hambricht, Regina Lagawo, Elfrida Mensah, Mikki McCrory, Toni Tyra and Khadija Ward.

The officers include Ingrid McAdoo, president; Lois Wilkie, vice president; Phyllis Hambricht, secretary; Shawnda Warren, assistant secretary; Marcy Davis, parliamentarian and Khadija Ward, reporter.

Other members are Jackie Hinton, Darlene Owens and Toni Watkins. The adviser is Miss Swanda E. McCormick, supervisor of the home management residence.

Approval for SGA prexy: The success of the Parents Weekend and Founder's Day celebrations has confirmed the leadership abilities of SGA President Karen R. Taylor.

No one is questioning Taylor's youth anymore. The junior has developed many programs

and made vast improvements. "SGA is more active now than in the last four years," said vice president Linda Rivers.

The many activities this semester have included the Miss Bennett Coronation and Morehouse Weekend, formal dining every first weekend and game night every Thursday. The student ministry is active, and "I Love Bennett College" buttons are being sold.

Does Taylor plan to run for office again? "I'm undecided at the moment. I just want people to bear with me because this is a learning experience," she says.

She thanks Mr. Jimmy Guess, Dr. Geraldine Ray and Mrs. Doris Vincent for their help and support. (Cassandra Henderson)

Math and Science Grant: General Electric Information Systems of Rockville, Md. will underwrite costs for the Saturday Academy for elementary children and the Intensive Summer Science Program for secondary school students.

The programs were previously supported by the Ford Foundation and scheduled to end Dec. 31.

Dr. Isaac H. Miller, Jr. had planned to continue the programs without external funding. Calling the grant fortuitous, Miller said, "building competencies and confidence in mathematics is an acute need of many minority children. The college has a social obligation to assist local black youth in preparing for opportunities in high-tech society."

Dr. Nellouise Watkins, co-director of the Ford Program says the new funds set plans in motion for the spring session of the Academy.

Faculty Research: Dr. Sekhara Rao presented a research paper at the 68th annual meeting of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology held in April in St. Louis.

His research topic was "Naturally Occurring Atherosclerosis in White Carneau Pigeons Genetically Selected for High Blood Pressure and Its Exacerbation by Dietary Cholesterol."

During the summer of 1984, Rao conducted research in the department of comparative medicine at Bowman Gray School of Medicine in Winston-Salem.

Team rebuilds faith

by Evelyn Sims

"Rebuild! Rebuild! Rebuild!" is the nightmarish refrain that haunts all coaches.

It's a curse that Cathy Mussington hopes will never visit the volleyball program again. She heard it last year, in her debut, and the Belles went 3-12.

She seemed to hear it again this season, but an influx of energetic new talent, combined with a couple of veterans, banished the hex by finishing 5-9. Now, the coach has cause to believe that she won't be mixing cement next year.

"If we can keep this going, we don't have to add a foundation," she says. "My biggest concern is that we keep what we have."

Mussington attributes the improved record to team unity. "Our strength came this season from the fact that the players gave a total team effort. No one person carried the team. The players were all able to do their individual jobs. And that's very important because it provided the balance we needed," she observes.

Every performer on the roster made a significant contribution to the Belles' resurgence, but Mussington highlights the achievements

of several players.

Freshman Shonna Luten, a serving specialist, scored 41 points with her effective delivery. "She didn't get much playing time on the court," the coach says, "but her attitude kept her motivated so that she could fill in for anyone on the court."

Three Belles provided strong net-work. "The combination of Lavetta Tilghman, Michele Sherrod and April Gorden was our spiking power, with Michele leading with 43 unanswered spikes," Mussington states.

The coach was especially pleased by the dedication of freshman Vickie Wilkens: "I feel that over the season she showed the most dramatic improvement of my players. She improved in consistency on the serve, in her attitude on offense and in her ability to pass the ball on defense."

The coach envisions a brighter future for the volleyball team.

"I'm looking forward to expanding the number of games because of the caliber of athlete we seemed to acquire. We can now put more money into the program in terms of equipment and support, and we're considering very

seriously a conference affiliation," she says.

But membership in a conference won't come easily. In order to enter the Dixie Conference or Division 15 of the NAIA, the college will have to add a new sport to satisfy league criteria.

Adding a new sport costs money and is contingent on the interest of athletes. Track and softball are the logical possibilities, and Mussington, an experienced softball coach, leans toward the latter.

"Softball is one of my fortes," she says. "I would push for it."

But the change won't come immediately. Mussington's timetable is to create a strong intramural softball program this year and then to initiate a college team in '86, with a schedule of opponents participating by invitation.

"But we would have to know that we have the athletes to play," the coach cautions.

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