

Resident Assistant Applications Now Being Sought

By KATHY TRAMMELL

The Division of Student Development is now in process of taking applications from returning students next fall who are interested in being part of the resident hall staff. People are needed who will help enforce the rules and regulations of Chowan.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR BEING A R.A. (Resident Assistant) (1) Identify with the purpose and philosophy of our institution, appreciate it, and have a good attitude towards Chowan.

(2) High character, strong moral values a good reputation, model student, "self-disciplined, mature", and a good citizen-respected by the faculty and staff.

(3) Need to be versatile, you will be dealing with many people who have different backgrounds.

(4) High academic standards.

(5) Service-oriented, so you will get pleasure out of working and helping others.

ADVANTAGES OF BEING A R.A.

R.A.'s are compensated, The R.A.'s for the academic year 1980-81 received \$650 for the year.

If at all possible next year's R.A.'s will be provided with private rooms. The biggest advantage is the experience and training in working with people, besides it looks good on applications and resumes.

You get self-satisfaction from knowing you're helping other students and being of a service to the institution. Responsibility is more than compensation; you receive internal satisfaction from doing well.

Way to become an R.A.:

See Dean Roy Winslow or Resident Director and get a one-page application, front and back to be filled out. You must include two recommendations from a faculty or staff member, or from a Resident Director, Associate Director or an R.A.

Anyone interested should proceed quickly as possible. Applications will be received through March 20. R.A.'s and alternate R.A.'s will be selected by April 11, when a retreat will be held at Camp Cale. Those chosen will be working on leadership skills, and some time for recreation.

Also on May 14 Chowan will be working with the R.A. Staff for 1981-82. R.A.'s will be going through training process to teach skills to be effective and successful at their job.

If you have any questions about being an R.A., talk with other R.A.'s. The 1980-81 R.A.'s have had an excellent year. "They have been dependable and reliable. Credit goes to these men and women who have worked and sacrificed this year," commented Winslow.

Nature of Position

A Resident Assistant is a student who shares responsibility with other residence hall staff members to create and maintain an environment in his hall or wing that contributes to both the academic and personal growth of students. Resident Assistants have primary concern for the general supervision of small living groups of students in a way that encourages individual responsibility and decreases feelings of loneliness and alienation. Their concerns involve both the residents and the facilities in which they live.

Resident Assistants are encouraged to fill the following roles to the best of their ability: to be a friend, a counselor, an educator, an administrator, and a regulator.

Responsibility

Resident Assistants are official staff members of the Division of Student Development. Administratively, they are directly responsible to the Residence Director in the residence hall to which they are assigned. In this capacity the Resident Assistant has the responsibility to support and implement the policies, procedures, and regulations of the College and the Division of Student Development.

Primary Duties

I. Administrative Responsibility

The Resident Assistant's primary duty is to assist the Residence Director in the management, coordination, and supervision of the residence hall to which he is assigned. These duties include:

A. To serve as a liaison between the college and the student, assume indirect responsibility for the administrative functioning of the living unit, assist individual students, and refer problems beyond his competency to appropriate sources.

B. To take an active role in assisting the elected house officers in the fulfillment of their responsibilities.

C. To coordinate a minimum of one programming activity each semester designed to encourage staff and community development in the residence hall.

D. To notify the Residence Director of all overnight absences.

E. To accept no other employment during the time of appointment.

F. To attend Resident Assistant meetings and take part in an on-going, in-service training program.

G. To report to the Resident Director at least once daily.

H. To occupy a private room (if available) as assigned by the Director of Housing and to make payment for it as the prescribed rate and by the announced date.

II. Advising/Counseling/Referral Situations

These occur when students come with personal questions to see the Resident Assistant. This includes follow-up the Resident Assistant may do by informing the College Nurse of a problem, discussion of a problem with the Chaplain, a Counselor, or other confidential person. This also includes

staying in communication with anyone to whom the Resident Assistant may have referred a student as well as with the student referred.

III. Crisis Situations

A. Any crisis situation that involves the Resident Assistant and/or some of the Resident Assistant's students should be appropriately:

1. A personal crisis for a student such as a death, potential suicide, drug reaction, fight, etc.

2. A group situation such as a party raid, fire, snowball fights, water fights, shouting match, violence perpetuated by outsiders, etc.

B. Prevention of a crisis situation before it happens.

This may include discussion with student to cool the atmosphere or discussion with other personnel to inform them of the situation.

IV. Facilitating Functions

A. Working with floor representatives, hall officers, and college officials may be a real opportunity for valuable contact with students.

B. The Resident Assistant may have the opportunity to assist other personnel such as the chaplain or counselors to get with students. Of course, there are other specific situations in which the Resident Assistant can play an instrumental role as a facilitator of action or ideas.

V. Environment Improvement

A. Reporting to Residence Director damages that need immediate repair.

B. Coordinating with Residence Director repairs, renovations, and/or improvements that will enhance the standard of life in the building or a room.

C. Developing a close and cooperative relationship with the maintenance and housekeeping staffs.

D. Meeting with student health staff, chaplain, or others who may be involved with working with students.

E. Helping to solve problems that arise from violations of regulations such as pets and illegal appliance problems.

F. Helping to solve problems that

may arise from the abuse of a room, irresponsible behavior on the part of a student or students, or by outsiders who may have entered a building.

VI. Enforcement Functions

As an official staff member of the College and the Division of Student Development, the Resident Assistant is expected to support and implement certain policies, procedures, and regulations. Specifically, he will be involved in the following enforcement situations:

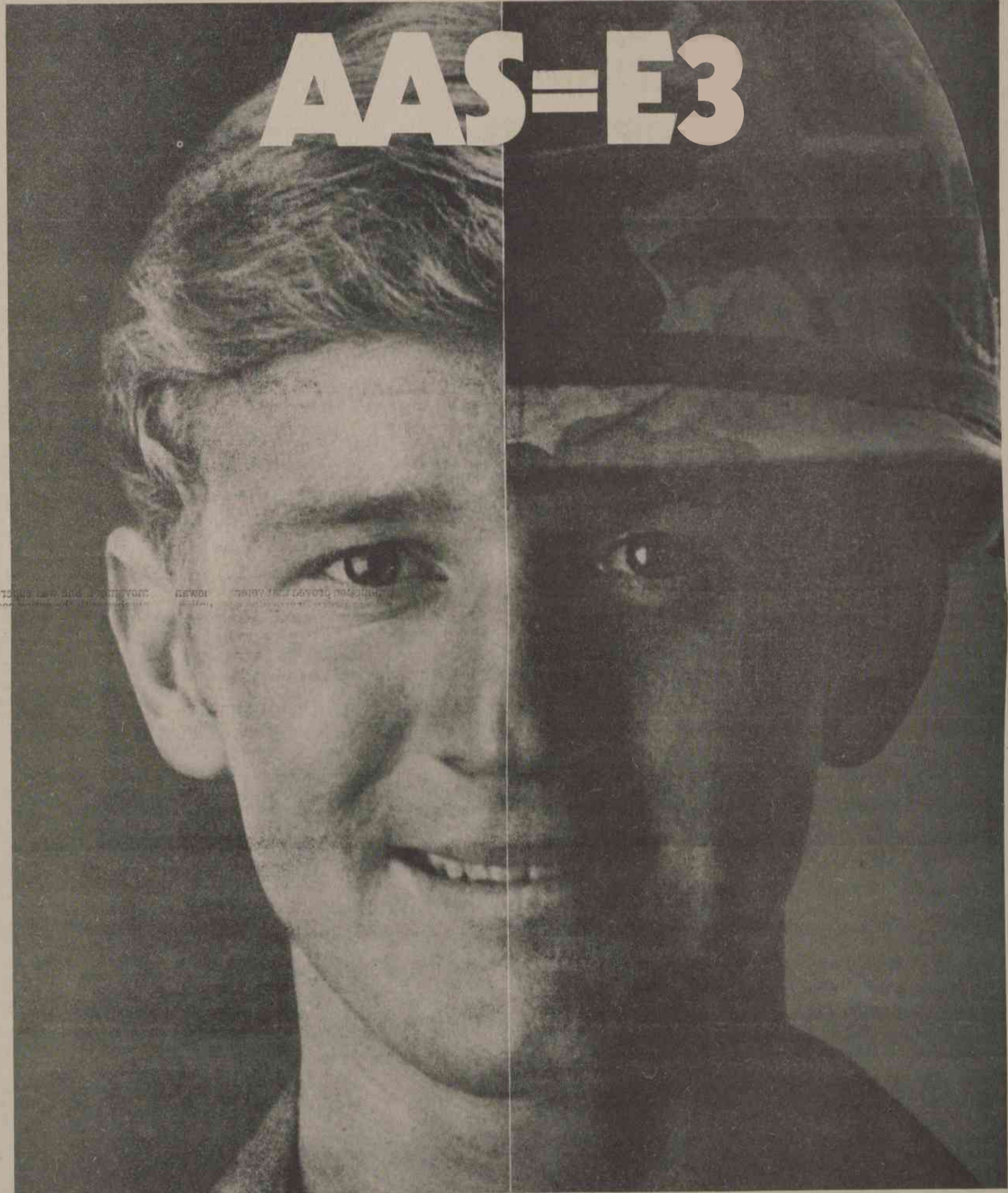
A. **Drugs and Alcohol:** The role of the Resident Assistant is expected as a student and college official to support the college policy on use, possession and transfer of illicit drugs and alcohol.

B. **Visitation:** The R.A. is expected as a student an college official to support the college's policy on Visitation in Residence Halls.

C. **Pets:** Residence hall regulations prohibit the keeping of pets in residence halls. R.A.'s assist in the enforcement of these regulations.

D. **Electrical Appliances:** Residence hall regulations limit the use of electrical appliances in residence halls. R.A.'s assist in the enforcement of these regulations.

E. **Damage to Facilities:** When an R.A. becomes aware of damage done to facilities by residents, a thorough investigation should be initiated to insure the students are charged accordingly.



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