

# SGA holds its first meeting of year

By ROCHELLE ROSEN

Students, faculty, and staff filed into the Board of Trustees Room Monday morning last week to attend the first meeting of the Student Government Association.

After roll call, the first order of business was to state the goals of the SGA for this upcoming year. SGA President Alan Garber said that the SGA plans "to support more things" this year. There

are also plans to bring improved entertainment to campus.

The SGA announced that they are "99.9 percent sure" that comedian/actor Adam Sandler will be starring in a show on campus in October. Five hundred free tickets will be available to students. Garber described having Sandler on campus as, "having one of the largest national stars."

Nominations for the Finance Committee were taken. These

nominations will stay open for a week. There was also the nomination of adding eight seats to the government that will consist of athletes from the eight different NCAA sports on campus.

"Athletes represent a large number of the student body," said Garber. Garber went on to explain that due to rigorous practice and game schedules athletes "lose a voice but still have valuable input."

As a result the NCAA team representatives would carry a vote but they wouldn't collect funds from the SGA. The group voted for the nomination on the basis that the collaboration of the SGA and athletic teams would increase support of campus events.

Many who attended this meeting came for the main event, the vote on whether or not to recognize G.L. Etc. (Gay, Lesbian, Etc.).

G.L. Etc. President Richard Cox began his presentation by reading a letter he received from President of the College, John White. White described the induction of G.L.E. as "an important step forward."

White also wrote that G.L.E. "goes along with the strategic purpose and Wesleyan way that moves to confirm the feeling of community." He encouraged the

support of "various groups" and stated that a person's sexuality is a "complex gift."

White ended his letter by saying that Wesleyan "has a responsibility to recognize the gay and lesbian students as a sacred gift" who may make us "discover more about ourselves."

Cox went on to read from the G.L.E. constitution that plans to "educate the general campus community," as well as "unite the gay and lesbian student body."

When the floor was open to discussion, there was a deadly silence. Dean of Students Pam Gorley was first to speak. Gorley said, "Addition of a group like this will help support a population we don't think about."

Many in attendance were supportive. The vote will take place today at 10:30 a.m. in the BB&T Room.

## Binge drinking increases

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infection, car accidents, and poor academic performance.

LSU is not the only school that has had to face what some school administrators have called "national humiliation."

In this past year numerous student deaths due to binge drinking

have been reported. Frostburg State University in Maryland reported the death of a 20-year-old student who had drunk eight cups of beer and 14 shots of Vodka in two hours.

Clarkson University in New York reported the death of a 17-year-old who choked on his own vomit and died.

School administrators are trying to figure out the appeal of drinking so much. In an attempt to rebut "party school" reputations, several colleges and universities across the country have begun active campaigns to ban drinking at all public functions and others have started special programs.

The University of Illinois has started a program called "Alcohol 101" which is targeted at college freshman. This program, funded by The Century Council, takes students to a virtual party via CD-RM technology. Here the student is faced with the consequences of their alcohol-related behaviors.

What is the North Carolina Wesleyan College approach to combating binge drinking?

According to Pam Gorley, assistant dean of Student Life, the first line of defense is a properly trained staff.

"We train our staff to be aware if they find a student who is not responsive," says Gorley, "They know that if there is a danger the student is to go to the hospital."

Gorley described the issue of drinking on the Wesleyan campus as "a big issue that concerns me."

Although Gorley would not release an exact number of cases that have occurred so far this year, she did say that "underage drinking contributes 90-95 percent of the time" to other incidences that include domestic violence and vandalism.

Gorley said that "alcohol incidences on campus this year have ranged from simple possession to binge drinking."

Experts who have been directing school administrators as to how to deal with this problem agree that since students are unlikely to stop drinking all together, teaching students to look out for their friends remains the best way to curb drinking incidences.

## Storm damage leaves havoc inside cafeteria

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the entire roof would have to be replaced, the floor recarpeted, and the electrical system completely overhauled. Several appliances were damaged, such as the toaster and the microwave oven, but most importantly it was impossible for food preparation to take place anywhere in the kitchens.

The Director of Food Service, Todd Meiners, explained how his team faced the challenge.

"It was a very hectic time for the staff and myself," he said. "Many decisions had to be made about how we would cater for the incoming students."

Marriot staff had to make quick plans to ensure that the Wesleyan students arriving for the fall semester would continue to receive the kind of service they expected. For the time when the repairs were being made, all meals were served in the Student Activity Center. The preparation and cooking of the meals was distributed throughout the various community buildings on campus where kitchen facilities were available.

"The staff really came through when we needed it the most," said Meiners. Everyone agreed that all the meals were hot, tasty and ready on time.

Staff also worked diligently to

make sure that the SAC became an acceptable temporary location for dining. The tables were covered with linens and fresh flowers were placed upon them before every meal. The food was upgraded to help diners forget some of the inconvenience as well as the lack of sufficient air conditioning in the SAC building. Wesleyan was also supplied with useful equipment by Coca-Cola and Pepsi who provided satellite machines for soft drinks.

Evening supervisor and cook, Joyce D. Bobbitt, explained what the staff had to go through that week.

"Doc's was used to cook some of the food since the cafeteria had no power. Moving the food to and from the Student Activity Center wasn't the hard part. Keeping the food hot every meal was more difficult," Bobbitt said, adding that the staff worked more hours than usual.

"Instead of arriving an hour early to cook, we had to arrive three hours earlier," she said.

Because of the staff's working 12-hour shifts and dedicating themselves to making dining as pleasant as possible, the storm damage to the cafeteria did not have disastrous results. The Wesleyan community was grateful for the outstanding response shown by the cafeteria team.



**"We're looking for a few good people."**

Are you interested in having fun, laughing a lot, and helping out, too? There is a space for you on the Campus Activities Board. We can always use help and input in the movie selections and activity selections. Also, it's a great way to have fun and meet others.

Take some time, think about getting involved in an organization where you can help choose the campus entertainment!

For more info, or if you'd like to join the Campus Activities Board (CAB), call 5227!