

New policy draws mixed response

By ROB PANZA

This fall semester a new attendance policy was initiated which allows students to be absent from class a greater percentage of meetings than in the past.

According to the 1998-99 Student Handbook, . . . "Students must attend 80% of the total hours of any class to receive a passing grade."

Exceptions include Allied Health, Aviation, BLET, Cosmetology, and other courses involving credentials..

Staff and student reactions to the new attendance policy range from acceptance to skepticism.

Most of the instructors not having to determine what is an excused or unexcused absence.

But some instructors have expressed that the policy may be too lenient; they think missing 10 meetings of a 3-hour course is excessive, allowing students to get too far behind in class.

Dave Meador, instructor in the Forestry Department, said he liked the old policy of only 10% unexcused absences better than the new policy which allows the student to miss 20% of the class meetings.

Meador said the new policy is too lenient on the student.

He said he views "class attendance as the student's attitude towards school as well as towards work, a reflection on how the student will perform in the work environment."

Meador agreed that a benefit of the new policy is that the student is allowed more absences. But he called that "a short-sighted benefit."

According to Dr. Dan Krautheim, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Services, the policy is similar to that some of the surrounding community colleges.

Johnston Community College has the same policy as WCC.

However, at Lenior Community College students must attend 85% of their classes.

This allows students to miss 7 meetings in a 3-hour class.

Krautheim said the old attendance policy required students to have written excuses.

The former policy caused problems when one instructor accepted the excuses and another did not.

He said the new policy simplifies the processes.

Krautheim said, "If (absences) are used as they are intended, then the student should not use all the days." He agreed some students would still abuse the policy.

SGA appeals for Ms. WCC contestants

By JESSICA ROESCH

The Ms. WCC Scholarship Pageant is looking for women to participate in the March 20, 1998, contest, according to Shelboni Daye, SGA Vice President.

Daye pointed out advantages for the contestants: new friendships, a chance to win scholarships and prizes, exposure to new challenges, and a chance to wear the crown and represent Wayne Community College.

Participants need to have a 2.0 grade point average.

Clubs and departments are encouraged to select a representative, Daye said.

For more information, contact Shelboni Daye, SGA Vice President and Pageant Chairperson, at (919) 735-5151, ext. 275 or come by the Student Activities office for an application.



Feuding teachers, Rosalyn Lomax (l) and Tracey Edmundson-Ivey (r), stand back-to-back in the midst of their students who have become artillery.

PHOTO: JUSTIN POPE

Feud makes learning fun

By JUSTIN POPE

Unbeknownst to most of the college community, a feud has been brewing in MSS this semester at high noon.

The feud began by coincidence when Rosalyn Lomax's Theatre Appreciation class in MSS 204 erupted into applause on the second day of class.

Next door, Tracey Edmundson-Ivey, trying to teach American History I, could barely hear herself speak because of the dramatic shenanigans emanating from MSS 204.

Edmundson and her students, wanting their course to be as much fun as it appeared the drama class was being, retaliated with applause.

Edmundson said, "I feel that a drama class gets to have so much fun. . .history can be more fun. . .and I will not be outdone."

Edmundson declares that Lomax started it while Lomax claims Edmundson is the instigator.

Lomax said a "consistent eruption of applause and cheers" came from the class next door, usually around 12:27 p.m.

"The theatrical nature of my class inspired our creative energy and we retaliated," Lomax said.

Lomax said the most dramatic day occurred when her class went to the wall that adjoins the 2 rooms and banged on the board, frightening Edmundson half to death.

The grand finale of the feud occurred on Thursday when Edmundson-Ivey and her class marched to the auditorium in an attempt to interrupt Lomax's class.

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