

Dean Somerville Resigns; Selection Committee Picked

By Margaretta Yarborough

Two weeks ago many students received a jolt with their morning coffee: the front page of the morning paper announced Dean Somerville's impending resignation. Her resignation in June will be all at the end of her third year as Salem's academic dean.

The decision stems from personal reasons. Dean Somerville's father died earlier this year, and, as her mother is in declining health, she may need to relocate closer to her home. As she puts it, she doesn't see herself moving back to RD#3, Muncy, Pennsylvania, but she needs greater flexibility in her life at this point.

Secondly, Dean Somerville feels a need to work on her doctoral dissertation at a livelier pace. For several years she has been working on her Ph.D. from Duke University on the philosophy of general education. No one had written a dissertation on this subject in some time, but for some reason the topic has suddenly grown quite popular in the last year or so. Jan Somerville now finds herself in the predicament of getting her dissertation finished before someone else says it for her.

The philosophy of general education examines the education which should be common to all liberal arts students. At Salem, "general education" is covered by basic distribution requirements. This topic brought Jan Somerville to Salem in the first place. When she became Assistant in Academic Affairs during the summer of 1972, she coordinated a curriculum study for the Institute of Undergraduate Curriculum Reform. Upon Ivy Hixson's retirement she became academic dean in July, 1973.

The academic dean, aside from the president, fills the most important administrative position for the college, yet Salem Col-

lege never had an academic dean before Ivy Hixson accepted the post. When Dean Somerville came there was still much to be done in the way of organizing and making the administration of the dean's office more systematic. In a sense, with Dr. Hixson's recent death, Salem has lost both of her deans in two weeks.

The committee which will select Dean Somerville's successor has already been chosen. It consists of eight faculty members (two from each division), one administrator, and one student, with Dr. Chandler on the ex officio member. Those on the committee are Mary Hill, Errol Clauss, James Edwards, Mary Homrighous, David Kurtz, Alphonso Villarino,

Robert Wendt, Anne Woodward, Virginia Johnson, and Lucy Rose. Dr. Hill has been appointed chairman.

The committee should hold its first meeting shortly, and, judging from the 400 applicants for a similar position at Randolph-Macon, it will be the first of many meetings. Once applications are received, the list will be narrowed, and those who will be invited to visit the campus should come early in the spring term. Dr. Chandler feels that the final decision will be made the first of March at the latest. Student opinions are welcomed — anyone who desires to make suggestions should contact a member of the committee.

Got Any Gripes or Suggestions? See Student Affairs Committee

By Peggy Erickson

At Salem we have many committees designed for interaction between students, faculty and administration. Too often, unless she is a member of a committee, a student's ideas and opinions are never heard at these meetings. Students elected to a committee are supposed to "represent" their classmates, but many times only reflect the interests of a certain group within their class. In order for people to come to these student representatives with their ideas, they need to know what committees exist and who serves on them. I will start by telling you about the committee I know about.

I am a member of the Board of Trustees on Student Affairs. Besides members of the Board (including chairman E. Sue Shore), the committee includes faculty members Dr. Lazarus and Dr. Gilliland, students Zel Gilbert,

Patrice Mann, Missy Binkley and myself, and Dean Johnson. We meet four times a year to discuss anything that concerns and affects the students at Salem College. At our first meeting last week we talked about everything from more student voice in the tenure process to Founder's Day. I was pleased to find the atmosphere a free and open one — the Trustees want to know what is going on here and how they can help. (It was a member of this committee that set up the alternative beach trip during IRS weekend last year.) There can be no action until those with the power to make change are made aware of the problems. They also want to know what we like about Salem. So next time you feel like complaining about some aspect of campus life, or feel excited about the success of a certain Salem policy or tradition, tell one of us so we can be truer representatives of YOU.



"Ralph takes time out for lunch during Interclub Weekend."

Salem Students Participate In Exciting January Programs

By Rhett Huber

The mini-mester, or January program, is designed to give students time to do those things that, during the hectic regular semester, they usually cannot find time to enjoy.

Planning for January involves looking at campus classes, thinking about some exciting place to go, or working out an interesting independent study.

This year, even though students are involved in a busy semester, they somehow find time to think about January. As a result, some people have some very interesting plans.

Katherine Skinner, a senior from Williamston, N. C., is going to California for January. She plans to travel with friends, and as her academic offering for the month, she is doing a self-directed study of John Steinbeck. She chose California because that is "where my friends are." In her own words, she is "going for the location, then for the project."

Katherine said another reason she is going to California is because, in her opinion, the programs offered on campus are not very good. She wanted to do something she had never done before, and she wants to be with her friends, she said. In order to finance her trip, Katherine is working week-day afternoons in the technical processing department of the library.

Although Ms. Skinner found nothing to interest her on campus, Ann Lafferty, a sophomore from Charlotte, N.C., did. Ann signed up to take Jim Bray's course called "Exploration of Creativity." She is fascinated by creativity because, she said, she is not even sure she knows what it is. She said that she feels like she is not creative, and hopes that through the course she "may discover something creative I can do that I haven't done before."

An interesting combination of on-campus and off-campus January planning was concocted by Betsy Leach, a junior from Bradenton, Fla., Betsy has planned an independent study under a Wake Forest professor to learn to read, write, and speak the Chinese language. Studying under Dr. Spear from Wake, and sponsored by Dr. Lazarus from Salem, Betsy will supplement this incredible undertaking by doing self-directed study of Chinese philosophy under Mrs. Laura Edwards. She is doing all this so that she will "be able to read Ezra Pound's Cantos and Confucius." Betsy is an English major.

Moving from the purely academic to the practical, the Camp, also a junior, from Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., is planning to go to Washington, D. C. to work for her representative, Mr. Paul Rogers. Darcy will be giving tours of the FBI, the White House, and the Capitol, as well as going to Congressional hearings,

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Energy Crisis Hits Salem

By Ellen Johnson

Stop and Think: How many times have you walked out of your room and left a "Chicago" album blasting at full volume? How many times have you had the sudden urge to indulge yourself with a chocolate-chip ice cream cone and left all the lights glaring in your room? How many times have you left your fan on thinking your room might be a little cooler when you returned from an all day shopping trip?

Everyone is aware that there is an energy crisis "somewhere in the world" (as one student aptly put it), but have you ever considered the long range effects on even as small a community as Salem College? That's right — that so-called energy crisis which is "somewhere in the world" suddenly hits home! You might say "Well, big deal . . ." and rightly so, for it is a "big deal" in which we all are participants.

As Director of Institutional Services, Bill Talbert is one of those most concerned about the conservation of energy at Salem. He was particularly emphatic about "turning off those lights, stereos, and hot water when they're not needed." He said that Salem is on an "interruptable schedule" which means that at anytime we may be asked to switch from natural gas to fuel oil in storage in tanks beneath the hockey field. Twice this year, it was necessary to make the change, and Mr. Talbert predicts the possibility of our running on fuel oil most of the cold season from November 15 to April 15. We are required to use this alternate source of fuel because of the shortage of natural gas in North Carolina. There is no foreseeable problem in maintaining full tanks of it; however, because fuel oil costs much more than natural gas, the utilities' budget has been greatly increased.

This summer, in an effort to further the conservation of energy at Salem, the maintenance department installed new heat control radiator valves which will enable students to regulate the amount of heat in their rooms. Also, new showerheads installed in some of the showers will cut down on the amount of water used through more force and less water.

Utility costs have increased about 73% since 1972! This is illustrated in the following chart:

1972-73	\$107,000
73-74	120,000
74-75	146,000
projected 75-76	185,000

Mr. Talbert hopes that the 75-76 utilities — electricity, water, fuel — will not come to the total projects. He believes that we, as students, can help, that if everyone pitches in, the results will be successful in the end.