

WSSU hearing From Page A1

He himself hadn't signed up to speak, but Beaufort Bailey, a WSSU employee and a city-county school board member who happened to be in Blair Hall (where the hearing was supposed to have been held), said he, too, was disturbed that no one showed.

"When we were looking for a (city-county school) superintendent, people came out of the woods with what they wanted in a superintendent," said Bailey, vice chairman of the school board. "I was thinking they would be waiting in line."

Bailey also speculated why the public mysteriously chose not to attend this public hearing.

"One, I think many of the employees may have felt that, if they spoke, they would be looked at as arrogant," said Bailey. "We still haven't gotten over the days when we couldn't speak for fear of losing our jobs."

Second, said Bailey, "People have confidence in the members of the search committee. I believe the search committee will do a hell of a job."

Dr. Elwanda Ingram, chairman of the WSSU faculty senate, said WSSU faculty members didn't appear because they had already presented in writing a list of attributes they feel the new chancellor should possess.

As for the public's refusal to come, Ingram said: "I think that many feel they are not skilled, in terms of academia, enough to tell them (the search committee) what they want. They feel that people in academics know better than they do. They just don't feel they have the expertise to tell them what they want."

In addition, said Ingram, the

format of the meeting may have turned some people away.

"Some may question whether it was really a public hearing," said Ingram. "I had the impression people could come and listen. Some may have been intimidated because you had to make an appointment."

Nettie Manning, president of the Columbia Heights Alumni Association, one of four local WSSU alumni chapters, said she didn't appear because she was ill. But Manning also said too much is being made of the chancellor search process.

"We are playing this too big," said Manning. "I think a big thing is being made out of a business proposition."

When Davis first announced the makeup of the search committee, the school's faculty senate complained because its chairman was not a member. In an effort to have some say in the selection of the new chancellor, the senate submitted a list of 10 criteria it hoped the committee would consider in screening applicants.

Among those criteria was the faculty senate's desire that the new chancellor, unlike the former chancellor, Dr. H. Douglas Covington, be an academician.

Davis said he could not discuss the criteria for the new chancellor because the search committee is still designing its own criteria. But he did say that a background in academics would be high on the list.

"We will be looking for someone with excellent academic qualifications," said Davis.

It will be a week to 10 days, Davis said, before the search committee has completed its criteria list. Davis also said that

the criteria developed by the faculty senate, as well as guidelines used by other schools in the University of North Carolina system and by other universities of comparable size to Winston-Salem State, will be used to design the final criteria.

As of now, Davis said, approximately 15 applications have been received.

The deadline for applications is Dec. 30 and a new chancellor is expected to be hired by May 1985. Davis would not speculate if any of the applicants were females or if Dr. Haywood Wilson, the school's interim chancellor, has applied for the job.

At this point, Davis said, the committee is advertising for the position in educational journals and selected newspapers, including *The New York Times*, writing letters to other college presidents advising them of the opening and contacting, by telephone, 50 persons well-known in educational circles.

"We want to find the best individual possible," Davis said.

Many faculty felt that Covington, during his seven-year tenure, had been overly concerned with development and not concerned enough with academics. Some alumni openly criticized him, charging that he was moving the school way from its original mission.

But since Wilson took over as interim chancellor, the criticism has quieted. That may be one reason many people didn't come to the public hearing, said Victor Johnson, a WSSU alumnus.

"The community is concerned but things have settled down since Dr. Wilson has been at the helm of things," said Johnson. "Things seem to be moving in the right direction. Dr. Wilson is doing a good job, so there's no need to be out there fighting."

Because of the job Wilson is doing, Johnson said, he hopes the search committee will take his attributes into consideration when looking for Covington's replacement.

"I don't see why they wouldn't get somebody like him," Johnson said.



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Rep. Company From Page A1

"We have been striving for some years now to get the company moving with a degree of momentum."

Joining the Arts Council does not, however, mean that the Black Repertory Company will lose any of its independence, said Hamlin.

"We will still continue to set the direction for the company," he said. "... We will remain the same organization and we need and will continue to need the maximum support of our community."

Hamlin said joining the Arts Council is only one step toward building a strong financial base for the company.

Rhodes said he could not say at this point how much in Arts Council funds the Black Repertory Company will receive when it is eligible, but the normal amount given to member groups is 25 percent of the each group's budget, he said. The Black Repertory Company's current budget is approximately \$120,000 to \$130,000, said Hamlin.

Hamlin said he hopes the company's membership in the Arts Council will encourage more mixed audiences at its performances, which, up to now, have attracted

mostly black audiences.

"It will have some effect on a white audience," said Hamlin. "The Arts Council is giving its OK to the organization as one of quality and as one that should be supported."

Rhodes said he doesn't look at the Black Repertory Company as a black group joining the Arts Council; instead, he said sees it as simply another group that has met the criteria for membership.

Lynwood Oglesby, director of Urban Arts, another member of the Arts Council, said the Black Repertory Company's membership will benefit all parties involved.

"The Black Rep has really earned the right to become a member of the Arts Council," Oglesby said. "They don't come with an empty hand; they bring a certain amount of their own ability. In a lot of ways, this is a reward for their hard work."

The North Carolina Black Repertory Company is one of only eight black theatre companies in the state. The company has one of the largest guilds in the county, with more than 600 members, and also boasts the largest black theatre guild in the nation.

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