

Black Ink

The essence of freedom is understanding

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The black male and his major problems

by Richard White
Staff Writer

Dr. David R. Burgest, professor of Social Work at Governors State University at Park Forest, Ill., led approximately 50 participants through a one hour and forty-five minute workshop entitled "The Black Male" as part of the Seventh Annual Black Experience Workshop.

He opened by pronouncing his honorary name, Mwalima, that his students at the University of Nairobi in Kenya, West Africa where he spent one year teaching gave him.

Burgest followed by stating the goals of the workshop. He said: "This is not a workshop to compare black males with black females. Instead, it is an overview of white America's opinion of the black male and the black male's opinion of white America."

The greatest detriments of the black male are negative myths, stereotypes, and negative assumptions, he said.

He described the most destruc-

tive elements against the black male, unemployment, health problems, and a high mortality rate. He then encouraged the group to be concerned with how blacks, especially males, are trained.

Burgest stated that the workshop would attempt to answer two questions—"Who do they [white America] say that I am [the black male]?" and "Who do you say that I am?" "The answer to these questions would be indicative of how one views himself," he said.

"Assumptions are not bad," he said. "We just have to decide which are negative assumptions and which are effective assumptions.

"For example, white America assumes black America is violent. It then sets up institutions which provoke violent behavior," he added. This, he called a double bind.

"Fifteen to 24 is the danger zone where most black males will suffer some catastrophe be it health or incarceration," he said.

"We live in a society that is based on what black isn't and what white is."

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The UNC Anti-Apartheid Support Group, which seeks to end racial discrimination in South Africa

photo by Tammi Foust



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New BSM officers Camille Roddy - president, Eric Walker - vice-president, Danielle Bowens - secretary, Monica Card - treasurer

BSM Elects Officers

by Marjorie Roach
Assistant Editor

The BSM recently elected Camille Roddy, Eric "Wacko" Walker, Danielle Bowens and Monica Card as new officers for next year.

Camille Roddy, a junior public policy analysis major from Winston-Salem, NC is the new BSM president replacing Sibby Anderson. Anderson said, "I feel that the elected officers overall have a lot of ability and experience. I'm sad to be leaving (the presidency), but I feel confident that the BSM is in good hands. I am going to continue to work on the same issues next year."

Roddy defeated Greg Bargeman, a junior mathematics major from Beaufort, NC with 77 votes to Bargeman's 33 votes.

Roddy's goal for next year is broad. She plans to implement more BSM activities designed to increase

awareness. She plans to increase social events and balance out the political strength with some other important areas such as academics and culture.

Roddy said, "I'm really looking forward to working with the BSM and implementing the ideas I have. I am looking forward to strengthening the central committee of the BSM."

Eric Walker, a junior philosophy-speech communications major from New Bern, NC was elected vice-president after a second election was held because discrepancies in two ballots were found. Janet Roach, a sophomore, public policy analysis major from High Point, NC led in the first election on March 20, 60 votes to Walker's 50 votes. She was defeated in the second election after Walker contested the election due to the discrepancies. The results of the

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