

# Editorial

## Dangerous Minds - Pilot staff editorial

In the past couple months, there has been a lot of talk on campus about some of the recent changes at Gardner-Webb.

Many students have vocally criticized the administrative decisions coming from the offices in Webb Hall.

The week before Spring Break, criticism quickly turned to rumors of a student protest that would take place on Thursday, Feb. 28. An impromptu student meeting in the apartment clubhouse the night before the alleged protest was organized to discuss some of the issues students were upset about.

The almost-90 students in attendance brought up many concerns. From the reduction in academic scholarships to out-of-date equipment in Withrow, students made their case for a vocal demonstration.

Ultimately, the students decided against protesting and voted instead to draft a "petition," citing some changes for the administration to address.

The "petition" is being drafted by SGA and will be delivered to President White next week. Instead of being signed by students, the "petition" will include many of the student concerns that were expressed at the meeting and in the following weeks to members of SGA, and call for administrative response.

The students' decision to opt for a written declaration of opinion instead of a vocal protest was a good idea for a couple reasons.

First of all, it showed the administration that students are concerned about the quality of education at Gardner-Webb. And, by communicating concerns quietly and rationally instead of resorting to a vocal protest, students demonstrated that they are interested in improving communication with the administration.

But just writing words on a piece of paper and handing it to Dr. White isn't enough. As students, we must continue to share our ideas and opinions with SGA. We must continue to ask questions about the future of our school. Without us, Gardner-Webb University would not exist, and our opinions and concerns should help direct the future of this institution.

The students who have been instrumental in approaching SGA and the administration with ideas and concerns should be commended, but we must continue to express our opinions.

In the past couple months, students have shown that they are concerned about the direction of Gardner-Webb. Now, it's the administration's turn to show students that they are ready and willing to act on those concerns.

## Letter to the editor

To the editor:

This letter may seem out of the blue, but I would like a few moments of everyone's time to say what I am most frustrated about.

As a leader on campus, I have been subject to "the Gardner-Webb apathy." There have been several occasions when I, or others in leadership positions, have organized events, been given supporters' word and then received a phone call six hours before we are leaving saying that they will not be able to attend.

Here's a small tip: When you say that you are going to do something, do it. If you're not sure, think about it, but tell us that you have to think about it. And if you are simply not interested, just say no!

Students complain about the fact that there is nothing to do around Boiling Springs.

On the contrary, Resident Advisors hold active programs to get students involved with their hallmates every month; FOCUS teams go out on weekends to minister; SGA holds Senate meetings every other Thursday that are open for students to attend; the College Republicans hold meetings and go on day trips and to conferences; athletic events are held several times a week; small group Bible studies are conducted; FCA and G-a-P are at the student's disposal; there is the dance team (Ladies of Virtue), interpretive movement group (Called to Move) and academic clubs out the wazoo looking for membership;

SEA is open for student involvement and is responsible for entertainment on campus; RHA is an organization whose goal is to improve the environment in which you live; and students here at GWU work very hard on theater and musical performances (to which you have free admission) for your entertainment.

Folks, if you are going to complain about the quality of life around here, WAKE UP and realize that the quality of life is in your hands.

This is college. This is what some wait their whole lives for. This experience is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and it will be what you make it.

But in order for you to make it, you have to get your voice heard (and I'm not talking about the complaining that you do with your buddies, I'm talking about attending events and meetings and letting the campus leaders know what it is that you desire most out of your college experience).

Please! All I'm asking for is a little involvement, 30 minutes out of your "busy" day to attend a meeting and voice your opinions. GIVE UP THE APATHY ACT, AND START CARING!

Thank you,  
Urn Bagwell

