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College Passes Voluntary Attendance

Winston-Salem State College made a dramatic move at the beginning of the second semester when class attendance was changed from compulsory to voluntary.

The policy was initiated by the President with the recommendation of the administrative council.

It places the responsibility for class attendance and all class work on the students.

The result will be that uninterested students will program themselves from the institution.

Previously the college operated on the compulsory attendance system. This system, as one high administrative official says, is a very effective system.

The instructor is responsible, in the compulsory system, for getting the classwork to the students. This did not give the students the independence they often stated they wanted.

It was learned that in one institution where the attendance policy was changed from compulsory to voluntary, 75 per cent of the sophomores were placed on probation after one semester, and over 50 per cent of them were dropped from the student body at the end of the year.

After informing the President of the college of this, he said it is his hope that "that sort of thing will not happen here."

Among the faculty members interviewed the consensus is that the instructors who are really teaching have no attendance problem. They believe a good barometer for measuring the effectiveness of the teaching is the consistency of the attendance of the students. On the other hand, instructors think that sporadic attendance indicates sporadic teaching.

When asked to express his feelings about the enactment of the new policy, the President said, it is "marvelous."

The policy grew from the Asian flu encounter in December, when there was some concern for the health of the student body. A meeting of the student body was called by Robbin Kirkland, president of the Student Government Association, on December 12, 1968. At this meeting the students met with the President and the Academic Dean of the college to discuss closing the school for recuperation and to discuss other grievances. After meeting an hour and a half, no workable proposal could be reached. The last proposal of the meeting was that classes be continued until the regular closing for the Christmas holidays but that compulsory attendance of classes be suspended until the beginning of classes after the holidays. The proposal was recommended to the academic committee and was approved.

Riddick Named to Board

Frances Lorraine Riddick of Winston-Salem State College has been named to the college board of the next volume of the *Going to College Handbook*, published annually for students in and going to college.

Nominated by college or national youth officials, members of the college board serve as advisors to the editors in planning and developing the book.

At the present time the college board is being polled to discover attitudes on a number of lively campus problems.

Scheduled for publication next August in time for home-town going-to-college functions, the handbook will be used during the remainder of the year by students looking forward to college.

\$390,000 RJR Grant Aids Learning



Mr. Ohta instructs in the downtown center.

College Opens Downtown Center

In an effort to broaden both its services and appeal to the total community, Winston-Salem State College opened in early February an evening class center in downtown Winston-Salem.

Working in conjunction with University of North Carolina Extension in Chapel Hill, the downtown center will offer four classes — three with graduate credit — this spring.

The center, located at 601 N. Main St., only two blocks from the city's commercial focus, will try to attract employees of downtown firms as well as people throughout the community to study college courses for credit toward a degree or for personal improvement.

"We're following the trend not to isolate facilities of a college campus," said W. Archie Blount, vice president of Winston-Salem State College and head of the school's extended services program.

Blount is concerned with breaking down the scholar's traditional isolation. "Too many schools stay on the periphery all covered with ivy and never get into the center of things," he said.

"We want to share those services that the residents of the urban community most need," Blount said. "You find this type of program in many large metropolitan

centers, and I don't see why it won't work here."

The center is located on the third floor of the building occupied during daytime by the Concentrated Employment Program (CEP), a social agency which prepares the unskilled for employment. All WSSC and UNC courses in the center begin at 6 p.m.

Space for the center is being donated by CEP. Desks, blackboards and other basic materials are being supplied by UNC and WSSC.

"We're starting out on a shoe-string," said Dr. Dwight Rhyne, associate director of UNC Extension who has been working with Blount on developing the center. "We've just got a dream, but this is a step in the right direction."

Both Rhyne and Blount expect the center to grow in response to the interests and needs of the community.

This semester UNC Extension, which has been conducting evening courses on the WSSC campus since 1966, offers three classes designed primarily for teachers: Adult Education — A General Survey, Psychological Foundations of Education, and Introduction to the Study of Exceptional Children. Each is available for graduate credit.

For the foreseeable future, UNC courses at the center will continue to be directed primarily at teachers.

R.J.R. Scholars To Meet Here

High school students who are potential recipients of R. J. Reynolds scholarship awards will visit the Winston-Salem State College campus March 29.

Invitations have been extended to more than a dozen outstanding high school students from several states, according to Warren C. Oldham, director of the Reynolds-sponsored Scholastic Achievement Program.

Tentative plans call for the visiting students to spend the morning talking with departmental chairmen and administrators of the college, tour the campus, and be individually interviewed for possible scholarship awards.

After a buffet lunch in Kennedy dining hall they will visit the college library and tour the city of Winston-Salem.

Under the Reynolds scholarship program, or as it is known formally, the Scholastic Achievement Program, five new WSSC freshmen next fall will each be given awards of \$1,400 for all charges and fees for a full school year.

Fifteen awards will be given to

new freshmen for each of the following three years. Grants will be continued yearly for each student as long as his academic performance is satisfactory.

The second year of the program, 15 students will be selected. Phases three and four of the program call for the selection of 15 additional students for each year.

After the four-staged program is completed, a total of 50 students will have received four-year scholarships to Winston-Salem State.

The Scholastic Achievement Program, funded by a \$390,000 grant from the R. J. Reynolds Company, includes provisions for upgrading WSSC faculty and curriculum.

Initial planning on the project started last fall. Warren C. Oldham, former teacher and coordinator of Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 Title I projects for Winston-Salem schools, has been appointed director-counselor for the Scholastic Achievement Program recipients. He will also work with an advisory committee and counsel and oversee activities of scholarship students.

A dramatic new program aimed at strengthening the curriculum, faculty and student body of Winston-Salem State College through an initial \$390,000 grant from the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company was announced February 1 at Scholars' Day ceremonies on the campus.

The program, known as the Winston-Salem State College Scholastic Achievement Program, was announced by President Kenneth R. Williams during a luncheon honoring the school's outstanding students.

Announcement of the Reynolds grant was made by Winfield Blackwell, prominent local attorney and chairman of the WSSC board of trustees, who said the \$390,000 will fund the first two phases of a four-part program which could ultimately bring 50 select high school graduates to the campus on full scholarships, attract additional highly qualified faculty members to the teaching staff and broaden the school's curriculum.

In making the initial grant to the school, Reynolds also stated consideration would be given at the appropriate time for continuing its support of the program into phases three and four. Full support of the seven-year program by Reynolds could amount to almost \$700,000.

The principal speaker at Scholars' Day was Dr. Stephen Wright, director, United Negro College Fund, who said the Scholastic Achievement Program and the grant by Reynolds were an outstanding example of the progress possible when a college and an industrial leader get together to work in the best interest of their community.

Citing higher education of Negroes as one of the country's greatest needs, Wright said it must be provided by government, businesses, foundations, white colleges and Negro colleges "which have long been on starvation budgets."

He called the Reynolds grant the

"largest single gift made to any single Negro college by any corporation in America."

Williams said the new Scholastic Achievement Program is designed to raise the academic level of Winston-Salem State and will permit WSSC graduates to compete with graduates of leading universities.

The overall Scholastic Achievement Program will be accomplished through the Reynolds grant which will provide scholarships to high school graduates chosen on the basis of their academic performance.

In addition, Williams said Winston-Salem State will be developed more as a college of the community for students unable to attend private universities in the Winston-Salem area. He said the new scholarships will be available to students of all races.

Another phase of the program to strengthen the school through the grant is in the area of faculty salaries. Outstanding teachers in critical fields will receive supplementary income. Outside consultants and distinguished scholars in specific fields will also be provided by the grant to help the academic program.

The overall curriculum of Winston-Salem State will be reviewed by a consultant with the goal of expanding the curriculum to better serve the community, state and nation, Williams said.

For the start of the program next fall, five high school seniors will be selected to attend WSSC on four-year scholarships.

Each student will live on campus and be allotted a maximum of \$1,400 annually, plus \$100 each year in reserve for projected increased fees and other contingencies.

Priority of selection will be given dependents of R. J. Reynolds employees and retirees. If the quota is not filled by students in these categories, residents of the Winston-Salem area and the general population will be considered.

College Issues Demonstration Policy

The following official college policy on campus demonstrations is reprinted at the request of Vice President W. Archie Blount, who headed the student-faculty committee which prepared it.

STATEMENT OF POLICY WITH REFERENCE TO CAMPUS DEMONSTRATIONS AND DISTURBANCES OF THE INSTITUTION

Winston-Salem State College respects the rights of all groups or individuals to express opinions, publicly or privately, regarding matters relating to their welfare while members of the college community. The college also respects the rights of each member of its academic community to be free from coercion and harassment.

Every effort will be made to understand grievances and to solve problems, thus eliminating the need for massive protests. Established lines of communication which provide channels for orderly expression of thoughts will remain open at all times. The lines formulated are in three major categories — student affairs, instructional affairs, and the administrative matters. Areas of concern may be dealt with within a single category or they may require the services of one or both of the remaining categories. Members of the college community are expected to follow these lines of communication before organizing a protest. In the

event that problems are not solved satisfactorily, persons may peacefully and orderly express their views through the use of pickets or other forms of peaceful demonstrations.

The college cannot condone disruptive or destructive picketing, protesting or demonstrating which interfere with the normal operations of the college. Unauthorized occupancy of or damage to buildings, property or materials therein, whether they are in use or not, is prohibited. Persons engaged in such activities will be subject to disciplinary action, suspension or expulsion.

In such instances, to return the campus to normal functioning, the Administration may take disciplinary actions, but they will be of a temporary nature pending a hearing by the Investigating Committee. This committee will consist of two faculty members and one dean appointed by the President of the College or his designated representative, and two students, namely the president of the Student Government Association, and the director of the Judicial Affairs. The chairman of this committee will be designated by its members. Detailed records of all proceedings will be maintained, and a report will be made to the Office of the President. The decisions of the Investigating Committee shall be final if

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