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Students' Protest Teacher's Dismissal

By Chuck Hanes

Approximately 50 WSSU students marched out of the R.J. Reynolds Business Building, carrying signs that said, "listen to the students" and "keep the teachers that want to teach", on March 30 at noon.

The march was targeted at the administration for not rehiring Alfred McDonald Jr., assistant professor of accounting. McDonald has taught at WSSU for two years and students have grown to respect and admire him for his teaching abilities. Many students feel that because he didn't have a Ph.D., he was treated unfairly by the administration. They also feel that he can teach better than some of his colleagues that have higher degrees.

The students were also demonstrating because they feel they have no "say-so" when it comes to academics and school problems. One example includes the sudden rise in tuition. The university system raised the tuition. Students claim if tuition goes up, some of them can't afford it.



Sign held by student expresses feelings of many students. Photo: Hanes

On April 2, a second march for students rights was

held. It began at Blair Hall and circled the campus and returned

to Blair Hall where campus police were stationed. It began with 30 students, but the crowd grew to 80 by noon. Students were chanting, "campus power," and "fight the power."

Chancellor Cleon Thompson came outside to address the students. Students felt that now they would get some answers. When asked about what was being done about the issues, Chancellor Thompson replied, "the administration has reviewed some of the complaints and will be looking into them further". The students didn't believe the Chancellor and started shouting that nothing has been done.

So, where does this leave WSSU students? Some feel that the protest did accomplish the goal of standing up and being heard. Other meetings have been arranged for students to talk with Chancellor Thompson and the administration.

Johnson Responds To Students' Protest

By Kim Copeland

"It reminds me that student input is essential if we expect to strengthen Winston-Salem State University," according to Dr. Alex Johnson, Vice chancellor of academic affairs in an interview held April 11.

Students launched protests on March 30, 1990 and April 2, 1990 to express their concerns about the conditions of the cafeteria, the dorms, and the dismissal of faculty mem-

bers among other concerns. Students feel that their needs both socially and academically are being overlooked by administration, and that a student march would ensure them the recognition they wanted.

"Peaceful demonstrations have a significant heritage in this country, particularly when individuals are striving for civil and social equality. I have no problems with dem-

onstrations, but I feel however in the end you've got to have an agreement between the parties involved so the demonstrations don't become confrontational," explained Johnson. Students have expressed the need to be part of the decision making process and would also like to be better informed. The students would like to know what is going on around campus before it gets the media's attention. They would like to know

first hand. Dr. Johnson says that there are channels for students to voice their concerns, and that this could be done through a committee structure, the Chancellor's Student Advisory Committee, or by talking with specific staff members, but it must be dealt with through the statutes.

As far as the expelling of students who did not return to class Dr. Johnson said, "I

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