

Campus Happenings

Do You Want To Be A Student Teacher?

By Linda McKnight

Winston-Salem State University, like most institutions of higher education, seeks to produce qualified well-trained graduates from all campus majors. One of the majors is the teacher education program.

The most important aspect of the Teacher Education Program is Student Teaching. It is during this phase of the program that the student functions in a classroom setting under the guidance and supervision of WSSU faculty and public school personnel.

The Student Teaching Semester is a sixteen week orientation to the profession in which students observe classroom instruction for a period of six weeks and then engage in actual teaching for a period of ten weeks. The most important objectives of the Student Teaching Semester are: to provide opportunities for prospective teachers to improve their skills in observing and interpreting individual and group behavior; select and use appropriate principles of teaching; effectively appraise the total growth of learners; stimulate students to develop desirable teaching personalities and skills to continuously appraise their growth and development; and gain experiences in using community resources to enrich the school program.

Admission to the Student Teaching Program requires that the student make a formal application; have exited General Studies; have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5; be free from communication disorders which, in the judgment of the teacher education committee, would interfere with successful teaching; demonstrate adequate writing skills by writing



Dr. Joy May, director of Student Teaching at WSSU. Photo By: Hanes

a 300-word essay under the supervision of a faculty member on a topic appropriate to the student's major; present a certificate of health from the university physician; have earned a grade of "C" or better in Fundamentals of Speech; and have acceptable ratings on personal and professional characteristics as determined by faculty members through an interview.

Here at WSSU, Dr. Joy May serves as the director of Student Teaching. She developed her desire to teach at a very early age.

When May became college age and was able to choose a career and a college in which to prepare herself, she chose the University of Virginia where she received B.A. in Speech Pathology with a concentration in Speech Therapy. She then began working in hospitals and speech clinics. She worked at a children's center for the physically handicapped for approximately five years. She enjoyed this type of

work because these children were totally segregated from normal youngsters. May then moved to teaching courses at Wake Forest University and later at Appalachian State University. After this experience, she worked in child guidance for five years and then decided to go back to school and get her doctorate degree.

Classroom teaching was May's first love and there are a lot of things she misses about it. "What do I miss? I don't do as much classroom teaching," she stated. "I enjoyed teaching so much that I hated to give it up." "I do though like the position that I am in now and I think it's important to see these young people go out and develop into good teachers and gain confidence. They go from being young inexperienced teachers to mature competent teachers. I then know that our teachers can do well and contribute to the educational program."

May has seen a lot of good things happen with Stu-

dent Teaching also since she has been here. "We have people (principals, and superintendents in North Carolina and other parts of the United States) calling us saying I have a WSSU graduate as a teacher and I want another one. People all over want our students as long as we can turn them out."

There is a question then as to whether or not the Student Teachers are achieving the goals of the set criteria and attaining the confidence they need to be good teachers? And, are they enjoying and gaining a respect for the profession. In this issue of *The News Argus* part II of this series can be read.

Med Techs Hold Health Fair

By Natasha Carlton

The Medical Technology program at Winston-Salem State University held its annual health fair on April 10, 1990, in the Hauser Student Union Ballroom.

Laboratory testing was offered at no charge and included blood typing, urinalysis, diabetes, anemia and sickle cell screening.

Brochures from various health agencies also were provided. The health fair was held in conjunction with National Laboratory Week, April 8-14. The theme this year is, "Discover the Laboratory Profession — Advancing Health Care in the '90's."