

SACS Reaffirms Winston-Salem State

News Argus Report
Staff Writer

Winston-Salem State University is set for the next ten years. All the university needs is the human and material resources to carry out its mission.

In a letter dated January 22, 1991, and signed by the Executive Director, Commission on Colleges, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), WSSU was reaffirmed as an institution of higher learning. It is now no wonder why Chancellor Cleon Thompson, Jr., was invited recently to serve on a panel in Atlanta, GA as part of a program to discuss the conduct of an effective institutional self-study.

Reaffirmation is sweet, but not easy. The University had to conduct a self-study of itself in order to provide an objective perspective of the functioning of the institution.

The SACS self study efforts were directed by Dr. Shirley Manigault, Chairperson, Department of English and Foreign Languages. Dr. Manigault was assisted by two co-chairs, Elva Jones, Chairperson, Department of Mathematics/Computer Science, and Marilyn Roseboro, Special Assistant to the Chancellor. Roseboro also served as Chairperson, Institutional Purpose Principal Committee.

Reaffirmation is a standard by which all schools are measured by SACS.

Reaffirmation is, therefore, an indication that the university possess those standards. WSSU's self-study reflected a review of all areas, placing equal emphasis on each one.

The university was last accredited in 1980. Understandably, WSSU took the reaffirmation process seriously. In January, Dr. Manigault was appointed SACS Director. This was followed by establishment of a steering committee to coordinate the collection of the data to be used in the self-study.

There were principal committee chairs for the following: Philosophy of Accreditation (Institutional Purpose), Institutional Effectiveness, Educational Program, Educational Support Services, and Administrative Processes. Twenty-two SACS sub-committees were also formed.

The completed self-study was the culmination of efforts by the entire WSSU family. In addition, each academic area did a departmental self-study.

The SACS visiting team was on the campus of Winston-Salem State University from January 3-8, 1990. During this period, the team of experts interviewed faculty members, staff, and students.

"The team seemed to be quite impressed by the comprehensive nature of the institutional self-study document," said Marilyn Roseboro, Special Assistant to the Chancellor. "The team believed that a great



Shirley Manigault
SACS Director

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deal of effort had been exerted, and that it reflected the commitment of the university to academic excellence."

Dr. Shirley Manigault, SACS director, said the self study was an exercise in which the entire WSSU family participated. "The faculty took the lead by conducting research to make certain that each criterion was met," she affirmed. "I thank, from the heart, members of the steering and editorial committee for their hard work and dedication."

Manigault also thanked Brenda Smith, SACS secretary, for her efficient and professional services.

WSSU is presently acting upon the recommendations of the SACS visiting team.

Manigault served as a member of SACS visiting team of Grambling State University and Dillard University in 1990 and 1991, respectively. She is scheduled to be on the SACS team at Paine College from February 24-27 this year.

Mass Comm Professor Completes Ph. D. Requirements



Dr. Abhijit Sen

By Roderick Williams
Staff Writer

An institution that is bound to succeed as it leaps into the 21st century is one whose faculty believe in their own quality of educational achievement. With the many developments taking place at Winston-Salem State University, faculty members

from several disciplines are pursuing advanced degrees.

Dr. Abhijit Sen, instructor in mass communications, has just completed his doctoral studies at the University of Maryland, College Park campus. His Ph.D. is in Public Communication, and his dissertation is entitled, "The Impact of the INSAT-TV Agricultural Programs on Farmers in Six Indian Villages." Dr. Sen earned an M.A. from the Graduate School of Corporate and Political Communication in Fairfield, Connecticut.

"It has always been a desire of mine to pursue advanced studies," said Dr. Sen. "It gives you the tools necessary to conduct the type of research that will eventually make you a good instructor."

Before coming to the United States, Dr. Sen obtained a B.A. in Social Sciences from the the University of Calcutta, India. His interest in television, he says, developed partly because his home district did not have a television station. He thought a degree in communication would enable him to contribute toward that effort.

For now, Dr. Sen is happy to be at WSSU. He teaches courses in Radio-

Television sequence in the Department of Mass Communications. In addition, he co-manages the television facility. Other functions performed by Dr. Sen include the production of informational, educational, and cultural television content for dissemination on local media, and to train students in various aspects of television production.

"Actually, my interest extends beyond television. I think that one shouldn't be narrow-minded when it comes to mass communications," Dr Sen explained. He

said he is interested in assisting with efforts to incorporate international/intercultural content in the curriculum. "In communications, the sky is the limit because the limit is one's creativity."

Dr. Sen is working on developing a core of faculty, staff, students and volunteers in the community who would work on the university's television facility. "Once we have the needed resources in terms of equipment, we'll be in excellent shape," he concluded.

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