

# Winston-Salem Journal Provides Volunteer Faculty

Dorothea Vanhooke  
Staff Writer

John D. Gates and Floyd Rogers are two new faces in the Mass Communications department at Winston-Salem State University; but what makes them different from other new professors at the university? They are volunteer professors, thanks to the Winston Salem Journal.

Joe Doster, publisher of the Winston-Salem Journal, says his newspaper is pleased to be of service to the university. "Winston-Salem State plays an important role in this community. I think that supporting the goals of the university means making a genuine contribution to the development of this region."

Both Gates and Rogers are full time employees at The Winston Salem Journal, and are both enjoying the opportunity to come outside of the job and teach those students in their prospective field about life in the real world. Gates, who is Editorial Page Editor, volunteers his time and energy to teach critical and persuasive writing. When asked why he chose to volunteer his time he said, "I have always thought it would be kind of fun to teach." He also added that the Journal made a commitment to help the Mass Communications Department in anyway it could. "What I hoped to get out of this was to get to know some of the people in the Mass Communications department, and open up some avenues of communication between the school and the newspaper. We don't have enough Black reporters, my effort is to remedy that," said Gates.

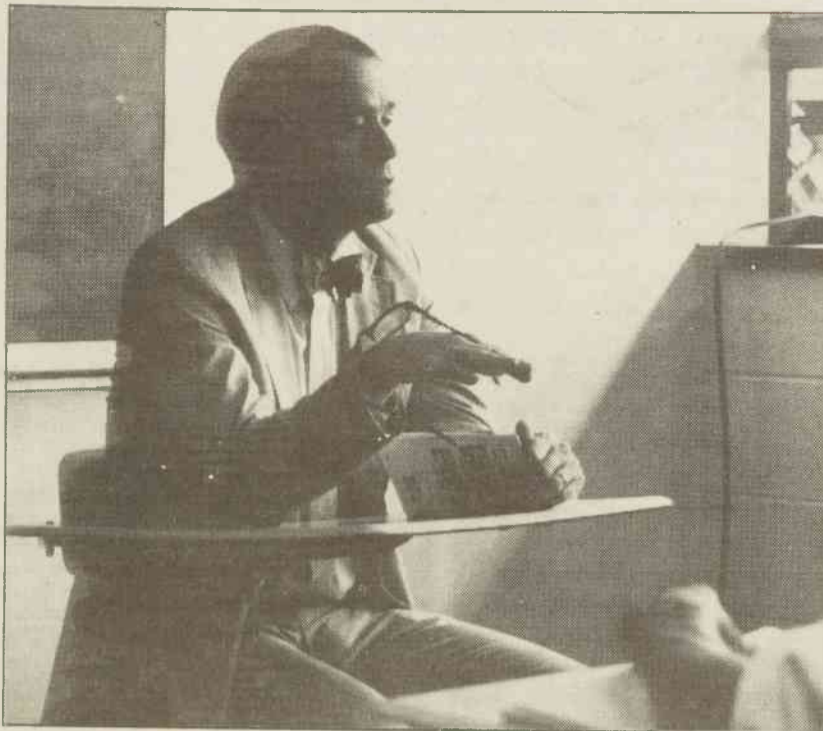
Gates a long time veteran in this field

started out as a sports writer for the Charlotte Observer. He admitted that it wasn't a hard transition from sports writing to editorial writing because writing sports stories are more like editorial writing.

Gates went to Yale University and the Columbia School of Journalism. He has written two books and has researched another. He enjoys his job and has been with the Journal for almost a decade.

Gates says, "as far as future plans are concerned, I would like to retire early enough to teach on the college level here in the Winston Salem area." When asked what the advantages were, he responded with a smile, "I am my own boss and the salary is better."

Floyd Rogers, who is a Senior Writer and Special Projects Reporter, has been with the Journal for nineteen years. This is also his first time formally teaching a class. He agrees with Gates about why he decided to volunteer here at W.S.S.U. "Someone needed to do it," said Rogers. He also added that the



John Gates (left) and Floyd Rogers (top) both are full time employees with the Journal. They also volunteer their time to teach students at WSSU.

Journal and other mainstream papers criticize for not having enough Black journalists.

Rogers attended the School of Journalism at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. While he was still in school, he had his first job. He worked part-time at The Journal Patriot in North Wilkesboro. After Rogers graduated, he continued to work at The Journal Patriot. He said, "It's better to start off in a small business because you learn more things and you can get a much broader experience." He encouraged college students to go to work for a small establishment, and learn as much as possible, and then move on. By doing this, it will be easier to decide what you want to

specialize in.

In the past three years, Rogers has taken on some satisfying projects. These include, special stories on the education system and how it affects Black children's needs, and stories on East Winston's poverty among Blacks and Whites. These projects played a role in deciding to come and teach here at W.S.S.U.

As far as the future, he plans to stay with the Winston-Salem Journal until retirement. When asked if he wanted to teach again, he responded, "I don't know, I might, it just depends, it has been fun teaching," he concluded.

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