

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

Counseling Center Provides A Variety of Special Student Services

BY MILDRED GUMBS
Staff Writer

"The Counseling Center offers services for all students enrolled at Winston-Salem State University," stated Althea Taylor Jones, director of the counseling services center.

Confidentiality of the strictest nature is observed at all times. No record of counseling is made on the academic transcripts or job placement files. The counseling center is not only a place for advising on personal problems, but also social, academic, career, vocational, and financial.

"We don't do in depth counseling in terms of financial or even vocational services because we have a career services department and also a financial aid department," said Jones. "However, we do screen an individual to determine what their needs are and we put them in touch with the appropriate person. There are two full time professional counselors besides myself that screen students confidentially. The percentage of students that we now service has increased over the past four years."

According to Jones, non-traditional and/or day students often have "special" counseling needs. The Counseling Center provides an avenue they can use for help. They can register for a confidential screening that will benefit them in whatever areas they need assistance. Those that need help with stress management, time management, study skills, financial planning, listening skills,



The Counseling Staff: (from left to right): Mrs. Althea Taylor Jones, Director; J. Michael Harpe; and Mrs. Phyllis Grace

test taking techniques now know what kind of services the center offers.

Non-traditional students who are married or have children deal with a broader base of emotional and social concerns that arise in conflict. These problems range from interpersonal relationships, depression, poor grades, lack of self esteem, to feeling like an inadequate parent or spouse.

"Counselors provide an atmosphere in a supportive manner to students experiencing personal difficulties so that they can discuss their problems openly and confidentially. If a group of students have a common situation or problem, for instance a single parent or a two parent

home, we will work with them to set up a support group to work together with each other towards eliminating the problem," stated Jones.

The Counseling Center also serves as a base for non-traditional and day students to receive messages. "We have access to the SIS (Student Information System) for all students on campus and each counselor has access to students class schedules with the course number, the section, building, room number, and instructors. We can go to any building and give a student a message or get them for whatever reason," said Jones. "Non-traditional and day students must remember to keep their personal

information (class and work schedule) up-to-date so they can receive messages."

Mrs. Jones would like students to know that the center's staff is very knowledgeable. The three professional counselors have a total of 35 years of aggregate experience in such diverse areas as clinical psychology, rehabilitation psychology and counselor education. The center also offers community outreach programs where individuals can come onto campus or the students can go out into the community.

Currently, Jones is working on bringing a full time substance abuse counselor to develop and implement an Institution-wide Substance Abuse Education and Prevention Program, which will utilize peer educators and consultants to reach Freshmen, Student Leaders, Boarding Students, Fraternities/Sororities, Faculty/Staff, Professional Staff, Community Residents, and Public School Students.

The center's staff strongly encourages WSSU students to utilize counseling services and other support services on campus to help develop effective problem-solving and college survival skills. The Counseling Center is located on the third floor of the Hauser Student Union Building. To schedule an appointment, visit the center between 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday or call 750 - 3270. Extended hours may be arranged by appointment if necessary.

Johnson To Work For VOA

BY RHONDA REYNOLDS
Staff Writer

Kia Johnson, a senior Mass Communications major, was named the student with the Highest Cumulative Average in the department for the second consecutive year at the annual Spring Honors Convocation.

One would think this recognition would go to her head, but Johnson is very modest. It also seems as if a lot of studying time would be involved in being a High Honors student. According to Johnson, she really does not have any type of set studying schedule she follows for

school work.

"I always tried to get good grades because of my parents. I guess it's just something I picked up through the years." When she first arrived at Winston-Salem State University her major was Business Music; but her love of writing made her switch her major to Mass Communications.

Studying is not the only thing on Johnson's agenda. She has been very involved in extracurricular activities since arriving on campus.

Currently, her extracurricular activities include: News Director at

WSNC 90.5, the National Broadcasting Society, Alpha Epsilon Rho, and the Gamma Phi Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

For two seasons, she was in the Marching Band and a Student Government representative.

All of Johnson's perseverance and hard work has paid off in the end. She has been offered a job in the industry after May graduation. She will be relocating to Washington, D.C., where she will join the staff at Voice of America, an International- U.S. Government Broadcasting Agency.



Kia Johnson