

## CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

### MacThompson Founder Of Model UN

BY VINCE WOODY  
Staff Writer

"We live in a global environment and we need to understand how various issues impact on all of us," said Donald MacThompson, a Winston-Salem State University political science professor, who founded the campus' Model United Nations organization.

MacThompson became involved with the UN in 1986 and formed the campus group, that same year, after taking a group of students to a Model United Nations conference.

"The students enjoyed the conference so much that they wanted to form a group like it on campus," he explained.

The organization is so named because it mimics the United Nations, located in New York City. Students in the organization, study international issues, role play and participate in mock debates. The issues range from national crisis to global concerns. Membership in the organization is opened to all WSSU



Dr. MacThompson being interviewed by Vince Woody

students.

"To be in the Model United Nations it takes dedication and preparation," said MacThompson. "A student has to be committed in order to participate in this organization."

The WSSU group has attended many

local, regional and national conferences and has also won several awards. Most recently, they won the Best Delegation Award at the April 1997 Model U.N. Conference. They have also hosted two conferences in 1991 and 1996.

### Distance Education: A Closer Look

BY CHERYL CASH  
Staff Writer

In 1982, Penn State was one of the first universities to develop a program of correspondence study, which evolved into individualized learning, which evolved into distance education.

Since the 1980s, distance education programs have integrated many of the new technologies, including satellite, interactive compressed video, computer software, electronic mail, voice response systems, and, most recently, the World Wide Web.

Distance Education, primarily, is the traditional learning process without the required classroom attendance. Its purpose is to allow students to earn a college degree on a much more flexible basis than traditional colleges and universities. The responsibility for attaining the education is between the student and the university. The student can begin when he is ready, continue at his own speed and finish at his self-paced schedule. Every course to be completed by distance education will have a syllabus. Textbooks are assigned for course work, the student will utilize the resources of a library (public library or a nearby colleges' libraries). All assignments and examinations are sent to the University. Once all assignments are

completed, a proctored final examination is administered. It is a directed study program. The academic staff at the college or university will be there to assist and counsel the student.

Vicki Miller, a member of the O'Kelly Library's reference staff, recently attended a conference sponsored by the Association of College and Research Libraries, which was held in Nashville, Tenn., April 11-14. The conference's theme was "Choosing Our Futures."

"One of the main reasons for my attending the conference was to gain more information about Distance Education," said Miller.

Miller believes that "Distance Education" technology is going to catch on because more older/non-traditional students are returning to college. Students using distance education will have to use library resources nearest them. She feels O'Kelly Library must be ready to serve these students as we move towards the millennium. The library currently has access to databases for other libraries.

Moreover, distance education will help WSSU reach out to a broader community and, at the same time, to bring worldwide expertise to the campus.

(Note: some of the information used in this story was obtained from the Columbia Southern University Web Site; [http://www.colsouth.edu/distance\\_education.hum](http://www.colsouth.edu/distance_education.hum))

#### Cindy Whiteheart: A Distance Education Graduate

Distance Education Programs are designed to meet the needs of non-traditional students. These students require flexible hours in order to attend a major university and successfully complete a degree program.

Cindy Whiteheart, an R.J. Reynolds employee received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix in August 1996. She graduated with honors.

"It took me two years to complete the degree. I liked every class because all of my assignments were centered around the job I am doing now," she explained.

Whiteheart stated that she was able to participate in group projects and assignments online. "A special mailbox

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### Donation Made To Perpetual Book Fund

O'Kelly Library News Release

A third perpetual book fund has been established at O'Kelly Library by the president of the Richmond County Winston-Salem State University Alumni Chapter.

Halbert Jackson and his wife, wanted to institute a book fund because they want their granddaughter to be able to visit O'Kelly Library and discover books which were purchased by them. They also would like for WSSU to be a viable choice when it is time for her to attend college.

Perpetual book funds can be established by any individual or group with a minimum donation of \$1,000. The principle is deposited in the library's endowment account and recorded as a named book fund with a part of the interest being used annually to purchase a book. The donors name the account and designates the benefited instructional area.

Specific goals for the fund include: doubling the nursing and education collections; purchasing more duplicate and current titles in physical therapy, medical technology, computer science and business; and extending African-American resources and titles for remaining instructional disciplines.

These funds were officially launched in December 1995, by Mae L. Rodney, director of library services. The first fund, the Lipscomb Family Memorial, for education, was established by her. James Jarrell, a former WSSU alumni president established the second fund in 1996 in ethics to acknowledge the Hazel, Penn and Rice families, who were very supportive of him while he was enrolled at WSSU. The first books will be purchased during the summer of 1997.

Perpetual book funds, are needed to augment library resources beyond the basics, if the library's collection is to adequately support increasing enrollment and changing instructional programs.

For more information concerning perpetual book funds, call (910) 750-2440.

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and Best Wishes!  
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