Student Life

NAACP chapter returns to campus

Nicole Spruill Reporter

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) has decided to bring its collegiate program back to Winston-Salem State University.

The NAACP of Winston-Salem State College Chapter held an interest meeting for students.

The turnout was large. The meeting was hosted by Gina Dean, the adviser for the youth and college division, Dr. Catherine Johnson, the adviser of the WSSU NAACP chapter and Joshua Davis, the president of the WSSU NAACP chapter.

Students spoke up on different issues that black communities face today, including the South Carolina Confederate flag issue.

They answered questions and gave their opinions on solutions to some of the problems.

In the midst of the meeting, Dean taught the students different chants that members of the NAACP sang. "NAACP you have to fight if you wanna be free" was one of the songs that had students screaming at the top of their lungs.

Dean also made the evening more interesting by giving tokens to students who answered questions correctly.

Some students thought the meeting was all about money issues.

"I felt the NAACP is more about economics than trying to get things done," said Calvin "Cooda" Randall, a sophomore.

Although Randall thought the meeting was more economic oriented than anything else, Jameka Joyner, a senior, said that it was quite informative.

"It was fun. It was very informative. The meeting gave a lot of insight on a lot of current issues."

WSSU had a NAACP chapter about six years ago, but it disbanded because of lack of participation. In order for the campus chapter to restart, at least 25 students must become members.

Presently, thirty-five campus students have joined the campus chapter.

Not only have students joined the program, but they are also taking action.

At the last meeting, several issues were raised including the campus safety.

"Not having adequate lighting or enough emergency boxes is a major concern.

"The call boxes that we do have, we should make sure that they are working," Johnson said.

A committee was formed to draft a resolution to the members of the SGA that will enhance the security on the campus. Because security on campus is very poor, the members of the NAACP are taking charge in hopes of making this campus safer for students. When asked if students were the only ones who

care about their safety, Johnson said that "The chancellor is very aware and cares about your concerns."

Plans for reenacting the chapter were initiated in a freshman seminar class last fall.

Davis wants to make college life enjoyable for students.

"My mission is to provide opportunities for everyone not just African-Americans, but everyone, "Davis said. "I'm going to make college life for students enjoyable by being a part of a positive organization that will give them somewhere enjoyable to go and something to do on a positive note that will keep them out of trouble."

On April 15, the chapter held a '60s-style carwash to raise funds to help support it.

It is not too late to become a part of WSSU's NAACP college chapter. Membership is \$10. For more information about WSSU's NAACP chapter call Dr. Catherine Johnson at 750-2528 or you can visit her office in the Fine Arts Building room 15A.

The NAACP council consists of Joshua Davis, president; Brandie Fleming, vice president; Antoine James, treasurer; Tianya McMillian, parliamentarian; and Latavia Taylor, historian.

Dorms look forward to a major cool-down

Process will take at least 3 years, official says

Meka Black Reporter

A plan to have air conditioning installed in WSSU's dormitories next year has students jumping for joy. However, that joy may be short lived as an official said that the process will take years to finish.

Winston-Salem State
University received \$2.4 million
from the state's Repair and
Renovation fund. The money is
to be used to begin the renovation process, and primarily to
air condition all dorms.
Currently, bathroom fixtures,
lighting and leaks are being
repaired and the process of
installing air conditioning will
start this summer.

"Dorms have been neglected over the years," said Philip Gilley, the vice chancellor for finance and administration.

Because of the neglect, it will be a very time consuming process, he said. This project will take three years or more to complete.

The goal is to make living conditions easier for students by installing air conditioning.

Phase 1 of the process starts this summer with building a "chiller plant" from which all dorms will feed off. Atkins Hall will be the first to receive air conditioning followed by Moore, Pegram, Dillard and Brown Halls.

Gilley said that eventually all five dormitories will receive air conditioning without affecting tuition.

For now, all dorm lobbies will have a window unit installed so that students may escape from the heat next semester.

"Students here pay the least amount in tuition and fees than any of the other 16 constituents," Gilley said.

"You can not expect to have state- of-the-art equipment when you are not paying the price."

