

# Lack of interest, support is disease of the lost generation

By Maria Singleton  
ARGUS FEATURES EDITOR

This month, I decided to write on a topic that has bothered me deeply since the beginning of my college career at Winston-Salem State University. That topic is why we have let ourselves become the lost generation that many adults speak poorly of today?

It appears that we are so obsessed with having fun that we don't care about our school work or our communities. I'm aware that everyone wants to have fun, but the thing that many students have not yet realized is that there is a time and place for everything. It seems that we have forgotten that we are first and foremost attending the university for educational purposes.

We are content as long as we are doing enough work to get by in class,

thinking that "we're good" as long as we're passing. Once, I actually heard a student say he'd rather hang out on the corner with friends than go to a class that he or his parents paid good money for him to attend.

Something else that I have a hard time understanding is what keeps a person going back and forth to the same smoky club every week? Is it the prospect of being shot or trampled or beaten up over something that didn't even concern the majority of the people there? Or maybe we just love to dance and party so much that everything else can fall by the wayside, including school and our grades.

Another thing that has bothered me about students on this campus is that we stand for nothing. I used to dispute the accusation by some

adults that we are, indeed, the lost generation, but it's not a lie; we are lost. For example, in last month's edition of *The News Argus*, I wrote a column that dealt with fines over at Wilson Hall. It was intended to shed light on a situation that maybe the students weren't aware of, but apparently they are and just don't care. I'm sure that many students agreed with the column in private and complained about it for a few minutes, but they overall remained as complacent. It's quite sad in my opinion.

Mobilizing the students on this campus for any "uplifting," nonentertaining cause is like trying to draw blood from a cactus. For those who do not believe me, I urge you to try to form a campus organization based on academics, self-actualiza-

tion or the like and see what kind of turnout you get. Or better yet, ask someone who has tried or has organized such a group and see what they have to say about it.

No one seems to realize that one student can be crushed and silenced, but the multitude can have a voice. Apparently, there is no multitude at the university, therefore, if there is no backing of the student body at the university, I will not put my neck on the line for people who do not care. We will sit around and complain nonstop about the university doing this or not doing that, but complain is all we'll do. Also, there are monthly activities and lectures for the students to enjoy, but the seats are usually empty or hardly filled at all. We take advantage of hardly anything related to academics or scholarships or

even the pursuit of something other than what will entertain us for the time being. The excuse that I've heard the most, and that I find the most hard to believe is "I didn't see the sign."

We don't miss those club advertisements though. Likewise, if a student really wants to know what's happening on-campus, he can always check the postings in the Thompson Center or visit the SGA office. Also, we have a newspaper in which we are able to voice our concerns or opinions about the university, yet we hardly pick it up. Both the SGA office and the newspaper are there for us so why aren't we using them?

If Malcolm X, W.E.B. DuBois, Dr. King and a host of other great black leaders were alive today, could we honestly say that we've tried our best

to be the students that we know we could be?

Could we look these men in the eye, leaders who devoted and, in some instances, gave their lives so that we might have a better future, and say that we haven't forgotten their message? I'm unsure as to why we have become so lax and uncaring about the world around us, but I would like to assert that we are living at a time in which the clock will be turned back on us if we don't become more aware of what's going on around us. If we stand for nothing while in college, we'll stand for nothing if and when we graduate. We are the future of our people (supposedly the cream of the crop), but if we do not get involved in more than clubs, gossip, the latest fashions, etc., we will become the detriment of our race instead of the hope of it.

## Campus Voices

### Are WSSU students concerned about the war?

"I don't think they have, because it hasn't hit home yet. I think if we were the ones that were being blown up every five minutes, then we would talk about it a lot more."



Dekel Strobles  
Sophomore, computer science

"My friends and I talk about the war all the time. Every time you turn on the TV that is what they are talking about. I think it is important for students to keep informed ... They should talk about it because it is reality."



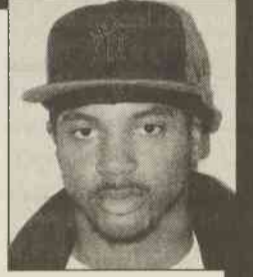
Stacy Whitson  
Sophomore, nursing

"No, because students are tired of hearing about it and watching it on TV. Many students just simply want to live their lives to the fullest and try not to stress themselves out about the war."



Brandi Little  
Junior, mass communications

"No, I think many students are concerned about other things in their everyday lives. Some people that I have talked to about the war seemed unconcerned and didn't really have much to say about it."



Reginald White  
Sophomore, sociology

## WSSU students break through misconceptions about college

By Stephanie Price  
ARGUS REPORTER

In high school there are plenty of myths concerning college life.

Teen-agers are ready to break free and explore the world of college freedom. But what is it really like? Here are a few student opinions on some of the biggest misconceptions of college and what the reality of it all is.

"Historically Black Colleges and Universities aren't equal or they don't compare with standard universities such as Chapel Hill or Wake Forest University. HBCU's are just as good as 'other' schools if not better. Any university is what you make it," said Phil Javies, a sophomore elementary education/psychology major.

"One of the biggest misconceptions I can think of is that when you graduate you are guaranteed a job. It doesn't even work like that," said Corey Ruffin, a senior mass communications major. "You aren't guaranteed anything."

"Everyone is here for the same reason. For example, everyone is here to get an education, where there are people who truly have different purposes to be here besides getting an educa-

"I believe that one of the biggest misconceptions that many younger students believe is that college is very hard and almost impossible to actually achieve."

— Aries Richardson,  
senior

tion. Some come for the wrong reasons, like their parents told them they had to go, they just wanted to get away, or even worse just for social purposes," said Kevin Green, a senior biology/chemistry major.

"Teachers always said in high school that your professors will not help you, so you better get used to it. You will be on your own and have to learn on your own. That is far from the truth. Professors are very helpful, and its much more open than high school. I'm glad they were lying," said SGA President Kristie Swink.

"When you are younger, people tell you that college is a big party and that all you do is go

out. You have to work hard, maintaining your grades, and etc. They say it's like a big party, but it's definitely not like that for me," said Alesha Lackey, a senior mass communications major.

"I believe that one of the biggest misconceptions that many younger students believe is that college is very hard and almost impossible to actually achieve," said Aries Richardson. "You can achieve anything you put your mind to it, you just have to work hard."

"College is the greatest four years of your life," said Willie Cumbo, a WSSU graduate and staff member. "Partying, doing things your not supposed to, having fun, etc. It's a good four years, but not the greatest."

College has a lot to offer, and it is a lot of fun, but there are some myths being told or misrepresented out in society giving others the wrong image of "higher education." Many students work hard, get professors' help, don't find their soul mates in college like so many people believe, and come to get their education and find their purpose on this Earth, instead of the wrong impressions that are being given.

## HCOP 8-week summer facilitate entry program May 28 — July 23

The Health Careers Opportunity Program is sponsoring the annual Facilitate Entry Program on the campus of WSSU and would like for you to be a participant.

Facilitate Entry is an extensive 8-week summer enrichment program for 30 junior and senior minority and disadvantaged students. Participants must be currently majoring in biology, chemistry, psychology or therapeutic recreation. We will also accept second semester sophomores, juniors and seniors who are majoring in occupational therapy or clinical laboratory science.

The purpose of the program is to introduce students to rigorous classroom instruction in physics, anatomy and physiology and quantitative skills as well as motivational sessions. These courses are sure to benefit you in your undergraduate and professional career pursuits.

Full participation in all activities is mandatory in order to receive the \$2,240 stipend. The stipend will be awarded at the end of the 8 weeks.

- Rooms will be available for \$15/day at Rams Commons
- Rooms, meals and transportation are your responsibility

For an application or further information, please come by 116 Coltrane Hall or call Bianca Williams at 750-2654.

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