

CAMPUS NEWS

Passport Update: Everyone will soon need one

Alexis D'Anjou
STAFF REPORTER

After the tragic events of 9-11, many aspects of American society changed. Security has become tighter and some laws have changed. Even obtaining a passport has changed.

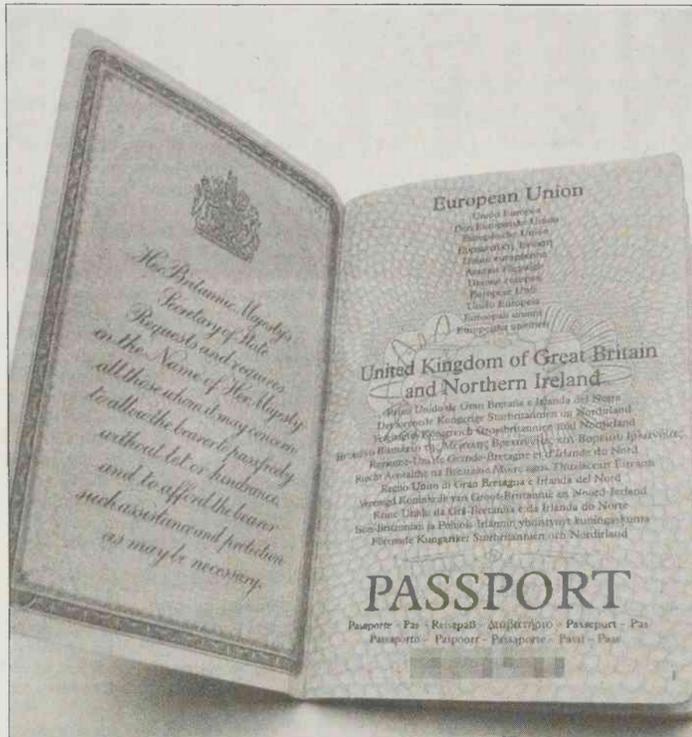
Until recently, the passport process for international travel took four to six weeks, from application to receipt of the passport. With the new laws and changes — and the increase of people applying for passports — the process now takes up to 10 weeks.

Any time a person travels outside the country by air, that person needs a passport. At the end of 2007, the rule may be extended to include land and sea travel. In addition, some government-funded agencies are requiring passports.

"Social Services will soon require a passport as a form of identification," said Wawona Ingram, passport agent. She has been with the Passport Acceptance Agency at WSSU since 2003.

As of January 23, 2007, everyone — including U.S. citizens — traveling by air between the United States and Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda is required to present a valid passport. The rule does not include U.S. citizens traveling or returning from a U.S. territory. U.S. territories include Guam and Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Swains Island, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There is no age requirement for a passport. To obtain a passport, one must be a U.S. citizen or have docu-



A passport is a valuable document that you can obtain at WSSU. Photo courtesy of National Archives

mentation and a birth certificate. Those with military parents must provide a report of birth abroad. Anyone who is not a U.S. citizen must provide a naturalization certificate when applying for a passport.

The WSSU Passport Acceptance Office, near Carolina Hall, serves the campus as well as the community. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and the first and third Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

When applying for a passport for the first time, you must apply in person. The same rule applies if your

passport has expired, was issued when you were under the age of 16, or if it was lost or stolen. Passport renewal can be done by mail or by downloading the application at www.travel.state.gov. You can check your status of the application online.

"It used to be easier to go in and out of the airport," said a WSSU junior who asked to remain anonymous. "After 9-11, everything has changed. I lost my passport and I had to show more identification than I would have before 9-11. The process also took longer."



Photo by Lee Adams

Smiles of joy and gratitude reign at Commencement.

Seniors taking the next step

Tamika Green
NEWS EDITOR

Enter to learn. Depart to serve. Winston-Salem State University's class of 2007 is doing just that. Seniors from all across the board are making moves and planning the next steps to their transition into "the real world."

Graduate school, jobs, traveling. All of these exciting ventures make up the things graduating seniors will embark upon following graduation.

Paulicia Larkin, 22, business major: "I plan to move to Atlanta, where I have a job offer with a marketing and promotional agency."

Thomas Jenkins, political science major: "I plan to continue to work at Towergate Developmental services with children with behavioral problems, and I will also be studying for the LSAT because I'm trying to go to law school at UNC."

Julia Campbell, 22, business marketing major: "I'm going to Disneyworld. No really I am. I have an internship there."

Everyone knows that college is not always only about academics. The infamous clocktower with its misprinted number four, "chillin" in the breezeway, those questionable café meals, exciting parties and lectures and forums that made one think. There are some things that students will miss after their departure from this fine institution of higher learning.

"I'm going to miss the people. I have formed a strong bond with many of my classmates, and even my professors. I'm going to miss them," Larkin said.

"[I'm going to miss] the girls, and the opportunities. There are so many things that you can do here, and new things that you can learn," Jenkins said.

"I really enjoyed my time at WSSU. I was able to be involved in a lot of the activities and organizations, such as Model United Nations and Student International Association. I was even crowned Miss Model UN. I'm going to miss being involved the most," said Campbell.

Whatever their plans, there is no doubt that WSSU's student graduates will be successful examples of Ram intelligence, initiative and spirit. There is no limit to how far they can go. Continue to "chew tobacco" out there in the real world, and make your Ram family proud!

Former Miss WSSUs send advice to Miss WSSU 2007-08

Dr. Nikita Williams
Lindsay 1995-1996

"Make the most of your position. You should be just as much a part of the SGA as the other cabinet members," she said. "Be a part of the community," she added. "Remember to do great things with the title."

Marian Friende Brower
1943-1944

"Remember why you were elected as a true example of the ideal female student at Winston-Salem State University, and let this representation make everyone proud having voted for you to carry on an honorable legacy."



Photo courtesy of Media Relations

The staff of *The News Argus* congratulates our Spring 2007 and Winter 2006 graduates:

Spring '07

ERIN PERKINS
editor-in-chief
2006-07



TIPHANE DEAS
managing editor
2006-07

Winter '06
PATRICIA (COMMANDER) MACK
advertising manager, 2005-06

Erin, Tiphane and Patricia, we wish you
all the best in your future endeavors!

The News Argus
Always Watching

Editorial Policy

The News Argus is a student publication of Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, N.C.

The views and opinions expressed on the Opinion page are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views of *The News Argus* staff or of the faculty, staff, students, or administration of the university.

We welcome letters to the editor and opinion columns. Letters and columns should not exceed 400 words in length. E-mail your columns and letters to newzargus@yahoo.com. Or, deliver them in person on a CD or DVD at Hall-Patterson, Room 102. E-mailed submissions should be sent in MSWord format.

With each article or letter, please include your name, major or department, classification, e-mail address and phone number so we may contact you for verification and confirmation.

The *News Argus* editors reserve the right to edit letters and opinion columns for length, grammar, clarity, profanity and style, but not for ideas. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

The News Argus

The Student Newspaper of Winston-Salem State University

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* *The News Argus* is a weekly newspaper for the students, faculty and staff of WSSU.

* Opinions expressed in *The News Argus* are not necessarily those of the faculty, staff or administration at WSSU.

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Wed. 9 a.m.-11 a.m.
Fri. 9 a.m.-11 a.m., 1p.m.-3p.m.
Room 102, Hall Patterson

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