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THE NEWS ARGUS

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Co-ed cohabitation not likely at WSSU

Grant Fulton
PHOTO EDITOR

Winston-Salem State has co-ed residence halls for the students, but does not allow for members of the opposite sex to live in the same room.

Currently there are five co-ed dorms on campus: Rams Commons, Gleason-Hairston Terrace, Foundation Heights, Wilson Hall, and the recently co-ed Pegram.

So if co-ed dorms are accepted, is co-ed cohabitation around the corner?

According to the Gender Public Advocacy Coalition, 30 U.S. campuses provide gender-neutral housing.

"I think that having a roommate of opposite sex in your dorm would not go over too well," said Cornelius Hector, a junior.

"First off they are going to consider higher pregnancy and STD rates. Plus the possibility of rape and the fact that some roommates might not know each

other, which makes it worse. Plus parents will not allow a thing like this to happen," Hector said.

Freshman Brianna Galbreath agrees with Hector.

"I could not see myself living in the same living conditions as a boy because I am a girl and I feel that would just create some more drama in the residence halls," said Galbreath.

A recent poll on TheNewsArgus.com produced some interesting results.

Ninety-two percent of those who responded said WSSU should not allow co-ed habitation in its dorms.

However the poll was open to parents, alumni, and citizens, as well as students.

"Currently here at WSSU we do not have (co-ed) cohabitation on campus," said Linda D.

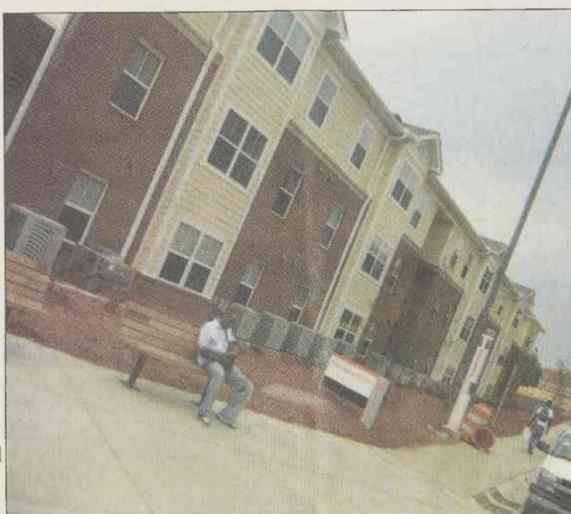


Photo by Garrett Garms

Foundation Heights, which opened last fall, is the newest co-ed dorm on WSSU's campus.

Inman, WSSU Housing Director.

"The reason why we do not have this going on is because some of the parents may not like the idea of a male and female staying in the same room, but instead in some of our residence halls we have both the sexes living in the same residence," said Inman.

According to Inman, there is no coed cohabitation in the UNC System. SGA president-elect

Harold Respass believes that it is unlikely WSSU will allow cohabitation in the near future.

"HBCU's are usually very conservative and this will probably never be a sweeping reality, especially in the Bible Belt," he said.

"It would save a lot of headaches in terms of housing facilities and cause headaches with pregnancy rates but with every situation, there are pros and cons."

"I THINK THAT HAVING A ROOMMATE OF OPPOSITE SEX IN YOUR DORM WOULD NOT GO OVER TOO WELL."

- CORNELIUS HECTOR

"GRADUATION TO ME IS A NEW BEGINNING; I LOOK FORWARD TO WHATEVER LIFE HOLDS IN MY FUTURE."

- SENIOR AIMEE THOMAS

Class of 2008: Forging ahead

Stephanie Douthit
NEWS EDITOR

It is that time of year again. The end of the semester when there is an overload of information and work, activities, stress, and deep signs of relief.

There is stress over exams, meeting deadlines, and paperwork, relief that classes are almost over, and for seniors, there is bittersweet preparation for the ultimate departure, graduation.

Spring commencement will take place Saturday, May 10, 2008 at 9:45 a.m. at the Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum (or Annex).

Winston-Salem State will be ushering one of its largest classes into the post-graduation world.

The estimated number of graduates is around 775 students. This estimate includes 721 undergraduate students and 54 graduate students.

Anticipation for spring commencement is high amongst seniors as well as undergrads.

"Graduation to me is a new beginning; I look forward to whatever life holds in my future," said senior Aimee Thomas.

Junior Sheniaka Rodgers shares Thomas' sentiment.

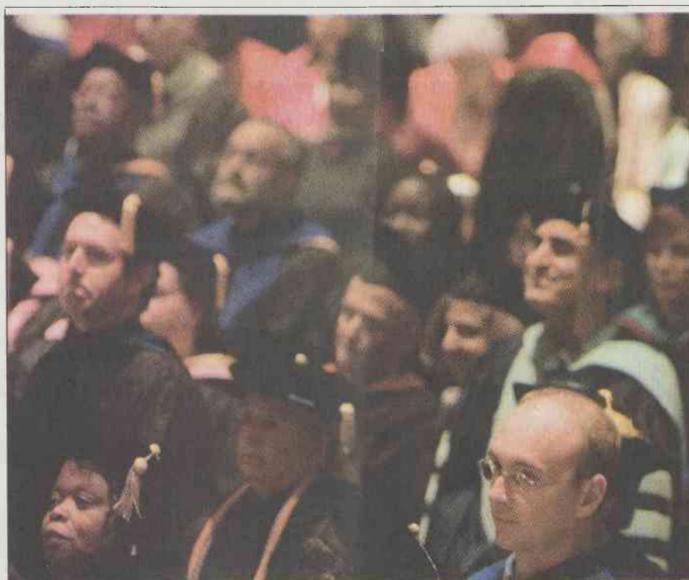


Photo by Garrett Garms

Nearly 800 students will graduate on May 10 in the LJVM Coliseum.

"GRADUATION TO ME IS A NEW BEGINNING; I LOOK FORWARD TO WHATEVER LIFE HOLDS IN MY FUTURE."

- SENIOR AIMEE THOMAS

"I am sad to see my friends leave, but at the same time I wish them the best in all of their future endeavors."

Rogers also knows that this spring's semester brings her one step closer to graduating herself.

"Because I am a junior, I am looking forward to my senior year as well," she said.

The world beyond graduation is unknown and somewhat intimi-

dating, but for now it is forward to graduation for seniors.

"Learning doesn't end at college it's just the beginning of the professional phase of it," said Marilyn Roseboro, WSSU internship coordinator, in a previous issue of The News Argus.

As of press time, the commencement speaker for the spring graduation had not been announced.

-Please check www.thenewsargus.com for the announcement of the commencement speaker.

IN THE NEWS

Raleigh, NC - The Obama campaign is joining with officers of the North Carolina College Democrats and Young Democrats of North Carolina in sending a letter today to the Forsyth, Guilford, Mecklenburg, and Wake county boards of election urging them to open One-Stop Early Voting sites on college campuses for the duration of the early voting period, which began on April 17 and will end on May 3.

Currently, several early voting sites on or near campuses are not scheduled to open until the final days of April, a period that coincides with the beginning of exams at a majority of these schools and leaves minimal time for college students to take advantage of them.

Both the Young Democrats of North Carolina and the North Carolina Federation of College Democrats are supporting the campaign's call for these locations to be opened.

"These on-campus One-Stop Early Voting locations are crucial to students participating before they leave for the summer," said Young Democrats of North Carolina President Zack Hawkins.

"We are seeing unprecedented interest from students in voting in this primary," said North Carolina Federation of College Democrats President Douglas Massengill. "Taking of advantage of that requires that these locations be open for students to make their voices heard."

One-Stop Early Voting sites on or near the following campuses are not opening until late April:

- Bennett College (Guilford County)
- Johnson C. Smith University (Mecklenburg County)
- North Carolina A&T State University (Guilford County)
- North Carolina State University (Wake County)
- UNC Charlotte (Mecklenburg County)
- Wake Forest University (Forsyth County)
- Wake Technical Community College (Wake County)
- Winston-Salem State University (Forsyth County)

The News Argus Poll

Current Question at thenewsargus.com
One year after the Virginia Tech murders, do you feel safer on campus?

Red-Yes
Blue-No
Orange-Somewhat

This The News Argus poll is not scientific and reflects the opinions of only those Internet users who have chosen to participate. The results cannot be assumed to represent the opinions of Internet users in general, nor the public as a whole.

