

Opinion

edited by t. gibson

RAMble Online poll results

If WSSU were to adopt a dress code, which clothing options should be considered?

No bare feet, pajamas, sagging pants in public and or WSSU sponsored events **23%**

No caps, do-rags hoods in classrooms, the library, Ram Shack, the cafeteria **5%**

Faculty and staff should dress professionally - no jeans or tee shirts **1%**

All of the above **45%**

Forget a dress code. This is a public University! **26%**

To participate in the poll, register online at thenewsargus.com

Rebellious fashion is recycled through decades



MARCUS CUNNINGHAM
COPY DESK CHIEF

I am a 22-year-old black male. My hair is locked. I wear earrings, a goatee, sneakers and low riding pants. Some of my peers don similar styles of dress. We may turn heads, but our approaches to fashion reflect the styles worn by our own critics -- teachers, bosses, and yes our parents "back in the day." Our fashion statements are nothing more than recycled styles from decades ago.

In the 1950's the so-called rebellious youth wore tight jeans, black leather jackets with turned up collars, and wore a hair cut known as the "ducktail" -- men would grease their hair to make it point upwards. Some of the more mature men during that time, preferred to wear crew cuts, pullover sweaters, dress slacks and penny loafers.

The 1960's paved the way

for many men to wear their long hair (sometimes covering their eyes). In response, African Americans also wore their hair long and bushy (afros and naturals). The clothing options introduced included bell-bottoms, tie-dye, skinny jeans, platform shoes and of course mini-skirts.

The defiant punk and disco styles of the 1970's featured women wearing shorter hairstyles.

Popular culture icons such as the Sex Pistols embraced punk styles like torn denim, nose piercing, dyed hair, Mohawks and stressed leather.

In the 1980's men felt comfortable wearing 5 o'clock shadows, earrings, suit jackets with casual t-shirts underneath and loafers. Socks were optional. Madonna pushed boundaries wearing short skirts, fishnet stockings and leggings. Teenage girls and young women imitate her style to this day. And you can believe that Madonna's contro-

versial style was no creation of her own; who once said she was influenced by Marilyn Monroe, Nancy Sinatra [These Boots Are Made for Walkin' song], and The Supremes.

Michael Jackson wore tight pants, white socks, leather aviator jackets and sunglasses day and night. Men and women are still sporting the "Thriller" look.

A pair of sneakers like Air Jordan's once banned in the NBA have

become a fashion accessory for both sexes.

Skateboarding itself has a rebellious undertone, and popular skaters such as Terry Kennedy, Paul Rodriguez and Ryan Sheckler are often seen wearing baseball caps and slim fitting low riding pants.

As of late, locks have become a popular hairstyle. Locks are worn across a wide spectrum of people from hip-hop singer Lil Wayne to baseball player Manny Ramirez and many NFL players.

Perhaps my hair has been

inspired by Bob Marley or maybe even the Beatles.

Maybe I wear earrings because of their popularity in the 70's that accompanied the punk movement and became mainstream during the 80's. Or maybe I like to "sag" because of its popularity among skateboard and 90's hip-hop culture. Or I like Nike's because Jordan wore them. Or Adidas because Run D.M.C. said it was ok to wear "My Adidas."

The fashion trends of every generation are unique and provide an insight of that time. If we were to restrict dress, we would erase our generation's individuality and ultimately our legacy.

My point is this: Some of us may have to renounce our attire and replace it with a dress shirt and tie. But that does not mean we should downplay their significance in our culture because when it comes to fashion and style we all have more rebellious similarities than we think.

Op-Ed

Letters to the Editor

Reader says RAMble Online, dress code good ideas for WSSU

I like the idea of this [about a dress code at WSSU] poll because the fact that this is a public university has absolutely nothing to do with a dress code. Our students are aspiring to become full-fledged adults and are preparing for their chosen careers.

Therefore, the students should mirror those aspirations. The faculty and staff, who do not presently dress in

business and business casual attire, should improve their "dress" as well!

By the way, the concept of having an online poll for whatever question(s) is a great idea!

Vicki S. Miller
Reference & Collection
Development Librarian
C. G. O'Kelly Library

Way to go News Argus

The homecoming issue of *The News Argus* was awesome! From the front page to the back page, the Argus shows that WSSU has a lot of talented artists.

The Argus shows that even a smaller paper (size and cir-

culation) can be packed full of eye-catching graphics and valuable information.

Keep up the good work!

Sharrod Patterson
Senior, History Major

A gallery trip to remember

I grew up in a home that housed our family, and the "room." The magical space I dared not enter without permission. I knew not to touch anything unless specifically asked to do so. My voice became softer when I entered the room, and upon exiting I was amazed that I found more beauty than I remembered from the time before. At Winston-Salem State we have a magical room, Diggs Gallery. While it is much larger and less comfortably furnished, it has the same respect-commanding aura that I remember from that "room" in my childhood.

I am a student in Ms. Althea Bradford's class an instructor in the English and Foreign Language Department. Ms. Bradford took us to the gallery. She wanted us to gain exposure to the gallery and to review the works of Charles Searles, and Mrs. Dara Silver.

The Visitor Services and Installation Manager, advised us of the rules, which were reminiscent of the ones from my childhood. My classmates and I viewed the works of Searles which were comprised of paintings and sculptures. According to Mrs. Silver, the exhibition was extremely well received. She said visitors enjoyed the colors and variety. More than 1,000 people visited the exhibit to view a showing called "Charles Searles: Universal Reflections of Color and Rhythm: A Retrospective Exposition."

Make a point of finding the "magical room" on our campus, and see if there are not reflections of your life displayed through art.

Evelyn Anderson Freeman
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Justice Studies

To read the entire report go to www.thenewsargus.com

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