

THE WAY I SEE IT

Consider yourself lucky

Sometimes, college students get caught in limbo between adolescence and adulthood, and we forget to look at how fortunate we are.

Feb. 11-13, The News Argus editors attended the 13th Annual National HBCU Student News Media Conference. We learned a lot about other colleges and universities and the way they are permitted to write their newspaper.



JORDAN HOWSE
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The first thing I learned about journalism is the First Amendment. Every citizen of the United States has the right to free speech, among other freedoms. That is the most important aspect of journalism.

There are more than 100 HBCUs in the United States and only 21 have printed student newspapers.

I learned Hampton University, Benedict College, South Carolina State and some other schools are unable to fully exercise their right to free speech. Spelman College no longer has a student newspaper.

Hampton's newspaper staff members said it is an inconvenience to not be able to do stories on administration, but they still cover what the students want to know.

But I definitely understand their challenge because if I were told that I wouldn't get my degree if I wrote a particular story, I wouldn't write it either.

Other colleges and universities get their funding directly from administration or SGA and therefore, cannot cover things that shed bad light on those sections of their university.

S.C. State said that, in the past, their staff has been prohibited to enter events that SGA does not want them to cover.

At meetings, they get the age-old excuse of "We are discussing a personnel matter."

Essentially the student newspaper becomes a public relations newsletter. The stories are only topics that will make the university look good. In some instances, students have to submit their newspaper to SGA and administration for review before it is published.

We, the News Argus consider ourselves very lucky. We have the privilege to have a truly free press. We can criticize our administration, SGA or campus facilities without having to worry about being shut down.

We have to consider how lucky we are to have the things we have. There are schools without strong academic programs, accreditation, athletic programs or a student newspaper.

We have to celebrate the fact that we, the students, have a voice. If there is a problem, write about it or make sure the concerns of students are acknowledged.

We have a voice. Use it.



HOW DID WE MISS THAT?

As a matter of policy, The News Argus will publish corrections for errors in facts. The corrections will be made as soon as possible after the error has been brought to the attention of the Argus Editor In Chief at thenewsargus@yahoo.com

Argus Letter Policy

The News Argus is a student publication of Winston-Salem State University. The News Argus encourages written comments to the editor and guest columns, but some rules apply:

- ❑ A signature, address and phone number must accompany all letters. Letters should be double-spaced and no more than 250 words.
- ❑ Letters will be verified by The News Argus by a phone call prior to publication. If The News Argus is unable to contact the writer of a letter, the letter will be held until contact is made. Letters intended as advertising will not be published.
- ❑ The News Argus does not publish "form letters" or letters sent to multiple newspapers outside the Triad unless the issue discussed in the letter is of importance to the WSSU community.
- ❑ The News Argus reserves the right to edit letters and guest columns for clarity, length and libel. The News Argus will edit letters that are grossly inaccurate or cross the boundaries of good taste.
- ❑ The News Argus allows readers to reply to someone response to any earlier letter only once.
- ❑ Guest columns may be no more than 400 words. The News Argus will accept endorsements of candidates, but only one per writer per candidate. The letter may challenge a candidate's record, but no intensely personal attacks will be printed. The News Argus permits candidates to write letters to the editor to specifically respond to another letter.

CAMPUS CREW

WSSU students, faculty and staff selected randomly to answer a provocative question from The News Argus. Comments do not represent the opinions of the Argus staff. To hear the complete responses visit www.thenewsargus.com and listen to the podcasts.

The Academy Awards is a time to give praise to actors and actresses who played strong roles in films for the past year. However, for the 2011 awards show no African Americans were

Photos by Jarrett Dawkins; Interviews by Jamie Hunter

nominated for any of the previous year's performances.

This issue's Campus Crew asks...

Which African American would you nominate for an Academy Award?



RISHAWN HARRIS
SENIOR, IDS
CHARLOTTE

Jamie Foxx because he is a one man show. He can do anything.



ANTONY HOWARD
FRESHMAN, NURSING
DURHAM

Janet Jackson for "For Colored Girls" because she was superb in the movie.



SARAFINA SCOTT
SENIOR, CLS
JACKSONVILLE, N.C.

Queen Latifah because of her hard-work. I admire her style and she represents for the big girls.



TANISHA TURNER
SENIOR, SOCIOLOGY
BROOKLYN, N.Y.

Denzel Washington because puts all of himself into all of his work.



FRANK ALSTON
GRADUATE, BUS. ADMIN.
BLACKVILLE, S.C.

Will Smith because he knows exactly where he's going in life and he is passing his legacy on to his kids.