

# NEWS & FEATURES

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the entire faculty [teaching LLS] to go through all the workshops because there were different things that they could add," Allen said.

"Workshops are really about pedagogy."

Allen said Appalachian State University and Wake Forest University have first-year seminar programs that are writing and critical thinking intensive.

WSSU seminars often target questions or areas of study that encourage direct research and hands-on experiences, and the students get to be active participants, Allen said.

Allen said most campuses target one or two outcomes, but LLS target seven learning outcomes in the curriculum: Written Communication; Oral Communication; Critical Thinking; Critical Reading; Scientific Literacy; Quantitative Literacy; and Information Literacy.

She also said intensive writing and critical thinking skills are the highest priority outcomes at WSSU.

First-year seminar programs can be in any subject but they have to focus on the learning outcomes, Allen said.

For example, the course "Cinema for Global Culture" is a three-credit hour Liberal Learning course that examines the cinema of 15 different countries.

"We take a movie, we screen the movie, and we do research in terms of finding the appropriate reviews for the movie," Brookshaw said.

"Someone has to present the movie, ask pre-screening questions to make the connection between the real-world experience and the world of the movie."

Courses in LLS are not "traditional." There are no tests or quizzes administered and the Seminars are assessment-based [instructor and self-assessments], project-based, and incorporate hands-on interaction and group work.

"I stopped instructing after the third week," said Fred-Rick Roundtree, an instructor in the English and Foreign Languages Department. "The students have been peer teaching and I assess their work."

Roundtree, instructor of the Pop Culture course, is teaching it a second time.

The LLS are all three-credit courses that count toward the general education requirements.

According to Allen, the LLS are one of the best practices for retention of first-year students.

Other LLS include: "Bring the Noise," "You Are What You Eat," "AIDS In Society," "Unsolved North Carolina Mysteries," and "Blame It On The Boogie."

## Reaves continued from Page 1

**Chancellor Reaves:** We're in the midst of curriculum reform. Curriculum reform involves taking a look at the way in which we educate students at WSSU. There hasn't been a comprehensive update to the general education requirements in more than 50 years. We've seen this approach work at other institutions; we want to expose our students to as much information of the world as we can by using liberal learning.

**News Argus:** Concerning enrollment, it appears as if it's continuing to get lower. What is the target number of students the University can expect to enroll?

**Chancellor Reaves:** It's not going to be lower than it is right now; we want to keep the number between 6,300 and 6,500 students, and that's exactly where we are right now. We're bringing in a mixture of freshmen and transfer students that will maintain this number. In conjunction with taking a smaller class, it allows us to be more selective with whom we take: fewer students, but better prepared academically.

**News Argus:** How effective was the housing lottery, and will there be any changes to the system?

**Chancellor Reaves:** There's going to be some changes. We're thinking about them right now. I think it was very effective because it opened up housing on the campus to a broader swath of the population. We have students who may not have the greatest GPA but would benefit from living on campus. Literature has

shown students living on campus tend to be more successful than those who live off campus. We're just starting to talk about changing the housing system in such a way that more second-year students are guaranteed housing on campus.

**News Argus:** With the housing lottery being effective as it is and given your push to keep more students on campus, is there a plan of attack for the empty dorms?

**Chancellor Reaves:** Yes. But we understand that price is an issue, and the condition of some of the dorms have contributed to empty beds, so we know that we have to make some investments there and improve the quality of life for the students.

**News Argus:** Despite the budget cuts, WSSU has managed to hire two assistant provosts. Was this something already in the works?

**Chancellor Reaves:** Whenever you ask anyone on a college campus how to cut the budget, the answer is always the same: Get rid of administrators. We have cut the administrative side of this University for the past three years; we can't cut anymore. There have been some recent hires; however these are replacements and not additions. The only addition that we've had is the Assistant Provost for Faculty Affairs Denise Pearson, which was a wonderful hire. She will help the provost better manage faculty affairs. I want to add that out of the three groups — students, faculty and staff — students will be the least affected by the budget cuts.

## CAMPUS CRIME BLOTTER

**The Campus Crime Blotter is a concise summary of the up-to-date incidents that affect the Winston-Salem State campus and community. Certain incidents may lead to News Argus articles that discuss them at great length.**

### Friday, Feb. 18

At 1:15 a.m. a student reported an automobile in Lot DD was broken into, and the window was damaged. The student said a wallet was stolen. The credit cards were canceled. There is no further information at this time. The case is closed.

### Tuesday, Feb. 22

At 5:30 p.m. a Campus Police Officer investigated an argument between two people at Coltrane. A statement was given by both individuals regarding the incident. There is no further information at this time. The case is closed.

### Thursday, Feb. 24

At 9 p.m. a Campus Police Officer investigated the breaking and entering of an automobile in Lot Z. The case is open until the footage from surveillance tapes can be viewed.

### Saturday, Feb. 26

At 3:15 a.m. a Campus Police Officer arrested a person on Lowery Street for possession of drugs and paraphernalia. The evidence was placed in the evidence locker. There is no further information at this time. The case is closed.

At 7:30 p.m. a Campus Police Officer investigated extensive damage to an automobile in Lot DD. There is no suspect and the case is open until the footage from surveillance tapes can be viewed.

### Tuesday, March 8

At 2:30 a.m. a Campus Police Officer responded to an argument between a student and his/her relative at Gleason. The individual proceeded to leave campus intoxicated. There were no criminal charges filed. There is no further information at this time.

### Wednesday, March 9

At 1:30 a.m. a Campus Police Officer was dispatched to Gleason-Hairston Terrace in reference to loud noises. Alcoholic beverages were found and discarded. Students were issued Campus Appearance tickets. There is no further information at this time. Case remains open.

At 1:53 p.m. a Campus Police Officer was dispatched to RJ Reynolds to investigate the theft of a book from an office of a faculty member. Cameras will be reviewed for possible information. Case remains open.

### Saturday, March 12

At 11:45 a.m. a Campus Police Officer observed a vehicle without a decal while on routine patrol. The officer took the registration and turned the license plate into the DMV. There is no further information at this time. Case is closed.

Source: WSSU Department of Police and Public Safety

Compiled by Jordan Howse,  
Editor in Chief

### All New Mattress Sets In Manufacturer's Plastic & With Warranty

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Located only minutes from WSSU campus.

### A NEW WAY TO SOUND OFF

Each issue, The News Argus will ask for your thoughts on Twitter. The top tweets will be published in print and online. This issue's question: **Which ethnic description do you identify with?**

- Black  
- Colored

- Black American  
- Other

- African American

Tweet responses using #thenewsargus by noon on Thursdays to be considered for publication.

