



The Decree

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Enrollment Causes Financial Woes At NCWC

A decline in enrollment at the main, Rocky Mount, campus of North Carolina Wesleyan College has created a potential financial problem for the school.

According to Carl Pagles, Director of Admissions, there are between 35 and 40 fewer students at Wesleyan this year.

Registrar C. Cliff Sullivan said that final figures will not be known until the close of fall registration, which occurred after *The Decree* went to press. The following stories all address this important issue.

The Editorial Board

Petteway Outlines Measures To Strengthen Wesleyan

By JOHN PRIDGEN

North Carolina Wesleyan President Dr. S. Bruce Petteway does not consider the current financial problem a crisis. However, he is implementing measures for the 1986-87 school year to make sure that a crisis does not occur.

"I do not believe we are in a crisis," Petteway said. Petteway added that he "feels confident that the on-campus enrollment will improve next year."

The measures to be implemented for the 1986-87 school year, described by Petteway as "precautionary steps to prevent problems from occurring in future years," are as follows:

a. Increase the on-campus student/faculty ratio to 16:1 for the 1986-87 academic year.

b. Increase the full-time facul-

ty load to 15 semester hours for the 1986-87 academic year.

c. Require on-campus full-time faculty to teach one or more courses at extension sites as a part of the regular work load for 1986-87.

d. Discontinue under-enrolled and unproductive major courses of study.

The measures were handed down by the Board of Trustees of the college. Judge J. Phil Carlton, Chairman of the Board, said during a telephone interview that while these measures can be termed considerations, "Mr. Petteway was advised to follow these considerations."

While serving as precautionary measures, President Petteway believes that the measures will provide benefits for both the off-campus and on-campus programs. For instance, the on-campus faculty would be

required to teach courses at the off-campus extensions. Petteway believes this measure will enhance the quality and academic strength of the extensions.

Petteway also believes that the on-campus program will benefit by the resulting versatility of the on-campus faculty. In short, both the resident and extension programs will be strengthened by a greater involvement of the on-campus faculty in the other branches of the institution.

The president also stated that these measures are designed to



DR. S. BRUCE PETTEWAY

make the on-campus program more cost effective, thus providing a better balance in the financial state of the institution as a whole. The program is constructed so that areas which are less productive will be

strengthened, thus keeping the college from running a deficit.

Retrenchment is not in the offing according to Petteway. "We will maintain our full faculty compliment for next year and the succeeding years," he said.

Pagles Admissions Staff Optimistic For Future

By SCOTT BOOKER

Director of Admissions Carl Pagles feels that the decline in on-campus enrollment at



DR. STEPHEN FRITZ

Wesleyan, official figures to be released following the end of Fall registration, is primarily due to financial aid snags and the distances many students travel to attend North Carolina Wesleyan.

According to Pagles, many students get into financial aid trouble because they fail to file their applications early enough. "Many of the students may not be aware of the fact that the sooner their financial aid applications are filled out and processed, the better their chances are for loans and grants," Pagles said.

Those students who do not apply early "fall into financial trouble and don't return by the second semester," Pagles said.

Pagles added that, "it is also a known fact that students who come to Wesleyan from great distances, such as Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, etc. are less likely to graduate here. This adheres to colleges or universities all over." He of-

fered no facts to support his claim.

Also, "for some students Wesleyan does not meet their expectations in their first year," Pagles said. This increases the possibility of those students transferring from Wesleyan.

The Admissions Office plans to step up their efforts to recruit students by increasing personnel and expanding into heretofore untapped areas.

"My overall outlook is very optimistic. I feel in a 2-3 year period Wesleyan will be a dramatically different place. I'm looking forward to much higher numbers and I'm certain of that because of the team we have. I'm more optimistic than I've ever been," Pagles said.

"We intend to put more people on the road, and to recruit more people from areas we have not gotten much response from in the past." In addition to recruiting high school seniors, Pagles plans to target high

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Fritz (Dean Sees No Crisis)

By TIM TAYLOR

Dean of the College, Dr. Stephen Fritz feels that the college's financial problem is precisely that, a problem, and not a crisis at this time.

"We have a significant problem. I don't believe we have a crisis at this point," Fritz said.

Enrollment on the main campus has been declining over the last few years. In the past, the success of the off-campus extension program has enabled the college to remain within its yearly projected budget. This does not appear to be the case this year.

According to Wesleyan President S. Bruce Petteway, the college is approximately sixty-five percent tuition-driven.

As of *The Decree* deadline there were between thirty-five and forty fewer students on

campus this year than last. This shortage of students creates the possibility of a quarter of a million dollar deficit in the projected 1985-86 budget.

The deficit is a problem that can be overcome. "We can't cave in to allowing morale to collapse. We must redouble our own efforts to make the institution a success," stressed Fritz.

Dean Fritz offered several preliminary possibilities for ways to increase enrollment. He stated that the college is considering adding a communications major and strengthening both the Computer Science and Business majors.

Fritz reiterated that if the college community works together the problem will be handled and a potential crisis will be averted.