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College to cut tuition 23 percent

By KIM CURSEEN

Dr. John White this month announced that next year instead of the regular annual increase in tuition, for the first time there will be a 23 percent decrease in tuition for the 1996-97 academic year.

The tuition, originally \$13,650, will be cut by \$2,000, making the tuition for next year only \$11,650.

White guaranteed that this tuition move will only decrease the amount a student will pay at Wesleyan and, in his words, "in the least case scenario, a student will pay the same amount... but

will not pay any more."

The money cut for the tuition is not from money used for the educational services offered by the college but the money currently being used to offer students "unfunded" financial aid.

Unfunded aid are the Wesleyan Awards, grants that ap-

proximately 80 percent of the students at Wesleyan receive. The unfunded aid was used as an incentive for students to come to Wesleyan by what White calls "discounting tuition."

White pointed out that when the school had to determine the increase for each academic year,

officials had to budget the unfunded aid. Thus over time the increases in tuition began to be less for the actual financial support of the institution and more to support the unfunded aid.

White also said that if the col-

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King Forum looks at hope of integration

By JESSICA BROWN

A full house of about 100 people was packed into Leon Russell Chapel on Jan. 15 to celebrate the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the famous civil rights activist.

The event was N.C. Wesleyan's eighth annual Forum on Race Relations, titled "From King to Farrakhan: Is Integration Still Possible?"

Professor of History Dr. Richard Watson, whose main focus is African history, gave a brief history of the civil rights movement in America. He spoke about the struggle for equality during the 1960's in which Dr. King participated. He then mentioned that today the struggle for equality still continues, led by activist Louis Farrakhan.

After giving the history, Watson introduced the panel of six speakers who would give their opinions on the subject of integration.

The speakers in order of appearance were senior Anneliese Hatcher, who is the only white member of the Wesleyan Gospel Choir; Everett Mayo, an African American visiting artist whose work is currently on display in the Dunn Center; Hassan Jarra, a 1989 graduate of Wesleyan from Africa; African American Tirik Spencer, a senior from Harlem, N.Y.; Dr. Mary Lou Steed, professor of sociology; and N.C. Wesleyan's new president, Dr.

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COMMUNITY MEETINGS — President White discusses WesPlan with students on Jan. 18 in the Dunn Center, one of several meetings to explain impending changes for the college.

White holds series of student meetings

By JESSICA BROWN

In a series of community meetings in December and January, college president Dr. John White introduced WesPlan and other topics, including reduced tuition rates, a new recreation center, new tennis courts, aerobics classes, a January term, and more.

With the help of three action teams — recreation, retention, and quality of life — White has come up with a plan for Wesleyan or, as he calls it, "the WesPlan."

It all began on Dec. 4 at a meeting in the Dunn Center. There the chairs of all three teams presented their conclusions to the faculty and staff as to what Wesleyan's current needs are.

Pat Cerjan of the Admissions office headed the retention committee, which decided that to retain more students, Wesleyan should make some changes.

Some of the suggestions are to raise admissions standards, coordinate a directory which would allow better student-faculty relations, have a gathering where members of campus organizations are recognized, giving more awareness to on-campus activities, and other ideas.

Next, coach Mike Fox, who chaired the recreation team, gave their ideas. They suggested the school should make existing facilities more available to students,

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White unveils new 'WesPlan' for Wesleyan

By FELICIA DAY

New Year's resolutions aren't the only things members of the Wesleyan community have to look forward to these days. John B. White, NCWC's new president, has big plans for the future.

White calls his 10-page proposal the "WesPlan." The proposal is an attempt to refine the institution by focusing on the improvement and advancement of faculty, staff, student enrollment, curriculum, and campus facilities.

White believes that strengthening the faculty and staff, expanding the curriculum, and encouraging community support will ensure a successful future for this institution.

White focuses his vision on "trying to respond to some of the challenges I see Wesleyan and higher education facing. My goal is to try to do as many things as I can to further the quality of experience here."

Among the many ideas mentioned or noted in the WesPlan, the most attractive are implementing a 23 percent decrease in tuition, the use of the World Wide Web site with faculty and student access to e-mail, a Winter term used for special purposes such as performing internships and faculty/student out-of-state travel

projects, international student recruitment, and a possible pre-med major or pre-med special advising program.

He also proposes the new expansion of old facilities for aerobics and exercise, new recreational outdoor space for roller blade hockey and basketball, additional intercollegiate sports (tennis and cross country), entertainment ambiance in place of the SAC multipurpose room, and dormitory renovations.

Many of these changes are tentatively set to be completed no later than fall or winter of this year.

"All the ideas (in the plan) have a direct impact upon students," claims White. Included in his plans are alumni representation on the Board of Trustees and placing strong emphasis on the assessment of student learning. White also wants to address in depth accountability, as he believes that holding community members accountable will tighten responsibilities and produce more quality efforts.

With a difficult road before him, no one wants to walk in White's shoes. But many admire the path he has chosen. Paul deGateno, NCWC's chair of hu-

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