

THE CAMPUS ECHO

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Faculty Senate Members Call Campus Security Ineffective

by Johnnie Whitehead
In a February 14th Faculty Senate meeting, members said that campus security has been ineffective in serving the needs of the University community.

"Based on our observations we have no control of our streets," said George Conklin, professor of social science. "There is loud music and people interrupting classes. We can't even park in our own lots." Another Senate member, Virginia Politino of the Physical Education Department maintains security does not respond to their needs. "The football team parks on the sidewalk in front of the building [L.T. Walker Complex] and they drive about 45 mph. I have children that are handicapped down there. We have signs that say 'No Parking,' and security never does anything."

In addition, Rinaldo Lawson of history and social sciences questions the qualifications of the University's security force. "Some of these people look like more of a menace than those they try to police," he said. "Do people just walk in off the street and say, 'Hire me, I need a job as a security guard?'" Moreover, added George Wilson, director of the criminal justice program, "consistent enforcement for faculty is needed. Faculty break rules and get waivers for their tickets and students have to pay for theirs."

In order to improve the parking situation, Wilson suggests that the University spend "a few thousand dollars" to upgrade the parking lot behind Latham Hall on Lawson Street.

Also expressing grave concern is Walter Pattillo, chairman of the Senate. He stresses that

Fayetteville Street traffic is a safety hazard to students. "The traffic is too fast," he said. "Cars pick up speed and take aim when students are crossing. We've been lucky so far, but someone won't be so lucky."

These problems grow out of a lack of personnel said Provost Mickey Burnim. "Last year there was a shortage and some relief has been given," he said. "But two

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Janice Evans: Breaking Boundaries

by Kimberly Thornton
If you have watched WRAL (channel 5) lately, you may have seen a series of commercials entitled "Breaking the Boundaries." Each commercial features a leading African-American from the past and from the present in arts, business or technology. Then a young, promising African-American represents the future.

You may have noticed a familiar face during one of those commercials. That face is Janice Evans, a 21-year-old junior accounting major from Nashville, NC.

Evans, the first Thurgood Marshall scholar at North Carolina Central University, is not quite sure why she was chosen to be featured in the commercial.

"WRAL TV-5, called and explained everything [her part in the commercial] to me," she said. Evans represents the future in business in the commercial.

She filmed the commercial her freshman year. She explains "I was kind of nervous because this was my first time [appearing in a commercial] and he said it was going to be on t.v. and I was like 'Oh God.'"

Evans said that it took less than an hour to film the commercial and that she was sitting as the camera moved around her to give the effect that she was moving.

She didn't see the commercial

when it first aired. She didn't see it until the next year, and when she did see it she didn't like it. "I had a big cheesy grin" she said.



Janice Evans

The reaction to her appearance has been positive. "People notice me more and ask me about the commercial," Evans said. The commercial surprised some of her family and friends. But the acting bug hasn't bitten Evans. While she hasn't made definite

Student Activity Fee Rises 26 %

by Johnnie Whitehead
University administrators said that in order to maintain the quality and to increase the quantity of student activities, the rise in the student activity fee is absolutely necessary.

"There has been no increase for student activities in five

years. We have been trying to do more with the same budget," said Interim Chancellor Donna J. Benson. "These fees pay for things such as Homecoming, Echo, the yearbook, the jazz ensemble and entertainment."

The student activity fee will increase from \$98.00 to \$123.00

annually, 26 percent, which will generate approximately \$100.00 in additional revenue. The last fee increase of \$6.00 was approved in 1989.

The University Planning Council made the recommendations to the Chancellor who then concurred. See Page 3/Tuition Hikes

Payment Policy for On-Campus Students Changes to Aid Families

by Johnnie Whitehead

Because the entering freshman class is considerably down in number from that of 1990, the University has rescinded the policy that on-campus students must have their bills paid in full by July 31st.

"We have spent many staff hours trying to develop a policy that would allow the University to retain its emphasis on the prompt and timely payment of tuition and fees during the designated payment period while simultaneously trying to provide some procedures for families that experience hardship during a given semester," read the statement that Interim Chancellor Donna J. Benson gave the Board of Trustees.

In a January 17th Faculty Senate meeting, it was revealed that freshman enrollment is down 30 percent.

Benson said that parents will be pleased with the more "lenient" financial policy. "A lot of parents have expressed their appreciation to the University for helping them to keep their children in school this semester," she said. "We think that we have a policy that allows for prompt payment, increased accountability and control, as well as some flexibility for families with temporary hardships."

The old policy that required students to submit a \$50.00 deposit by July 1st for a one-year residency beginning the fall semester, and a two-semester signed contract should be submitted by July 31st, will be non-refundable. If the student enrolls, the \$50 will be credited to his or her bill.

As in the past, any student failing to complete payment will not be permitted to register for a future term or receive grades before complete payment is received.

Chancellor Benson Visits Chidley

by Jason Williams

More computers.
Longer library hours.
Turning vacant rooms into study rooms.

These are some of the issues that the men of Chidley Hall addressed to Interim Chancellor Donna J. Benson last Thursday night in the dorm's lobby.

"Dr. Benson is here to talk to the men of Chidley Hall. She is also here to answer any questions that the men may have," said Reekitta Grimes, special assistant of university relations and student affairs to the Chancellor.

"I had to come here to get their perspective," Benson said. "They

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Low Turnout at Search Committee Meeting: 'Students don't understand the system' says Trustee David Stith

by Russ Robinson

Low attendance among the students is an admission that students do not "understand the system," said Trustee David Stith, at a Student Search Committee meeting February 14th in the Health Science Auditorium.

"What we have here is a failure to communicate," said Stith. In his opinion, students do not understand "the system." "Students must know the constraints the Chancellor must undertake," he added.

Students from the graduate, law and undergraduate school in attendance provided a number of suggestions to the committee. The apparent asset that they maintain the Chancellor must possess is the ability to be student oriented.

"We need a person who has an open door policy with us," said Andre Vann.

Phyllis Jeffers, another undergraduate student agreed. "[North Carolina] Central is isolated. The Chancellor needs to get out into the community."

A student representative from the law school believes that the Chancellor must be able to have strong commitment for law grant funding.

Because of Tyronea Richmond's departure on December 31st, the search committee has been devised. Serving on the nine person committee include: SGA President Erica Johnson, Student Representative Fred Click, Chairman of the Board of Trustees Bert

Collins, Trustee David Stith, and English professor Dr. Patsy Perry. The committee has given itself six months to find a person to fill the position.

February 15th was the last day to submit applications for the position of Chancellor. To date, 50 applications and 45 nominations have been received.

According to Collins, six months is adequate time to select a Chancellor. "We feel that the time is suitable."

Other qualities suggested include: fund raising abilities, ability to handle stressful situations and motivational qualities, and moreover, he or she needs to improve the lines of communications with students.

Budget Office Takes the Heat

by Kimberly Thornton

The University budget office is not usually a high profile place.

But since the state announced a special audit of grant funds administered by Clarence Brown of the criminal justice department, the office has received more than the usual number of visits from reporters, according to Ruby Pittman, associate vice chancellor for financial affairs, who heads the office.

Perhaps students should pay more attention to it as well, says Pittman, because the budget office keeps track of where the University's money—and that includes student fees—is spent.

If you visit the budget office, you won't see stacks of hard cash,

but you can get a look at the yearly financial report. This report breaks down how all the monies coming into the University are spent and gives the written policies and procedures for spending them for anything from pension plans to vacations and sick leave.

According to Pittman, the state auditors office uses this financial report as a guide for the regular audit.

The regular audit of NCCU had already been done before "hot line calls tipped the state auditor [about Brown]," Pittman said.

New policies and increased staff training have been put in place to guard against mismanagement of grants, Pittman said.

With the new policies comes

criticism. The financial affairs office often gets accused of "holding back progress" academically, Pittman said, because it must check and double-check forms sent to it from the various departments.

The budget office also takes the heat for increases in student fees. Recent reports of increases in the student fees have angered some students, but Pittman said the increases are legitimate. "The funds go directly to the SGA and other organizations," she said.

Although NCCU is state-supported, some areas of the University, such as the Student Union, are self-supporting. When the

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SGA President Hopefuls Anxiously Await for March 4th

by Jason L. Williams

On Sunday Night the candidates for student body president will debate on the issues that face North Carolina Central University at 7 p.m. at B.N. Duke Auditorium. Junior class treasurer Phyllis Jeffers and Junior class president Monica B. Perry agree that it's time for NCCU to make a change. One of the issues that both candidates want to tackle is the relationship between NCCU and the Durham community.

"We cannot come to school and get brand new," Jeffers said, "we must remain a part of the black community and be true to ourselves. We need more positive contact with Hillside High School and work in rest homes. NCCU is not an island, we must be apart of the black community and stop isolating ourselves."

Perry also plans to lead NCCU to better community relations.

"I want to clear up the misconception that we don't care," Perry said.

"People think that NCCU isn't academically equal to Duke or UNC because we aren't involved in the community. I plan to show the community that the student here are intelligent, and that we do care."

Perry plans to have students work in soup kitchens and tutor Durham students. Perry wants to establish a tutorial program which carries the name NCCU.

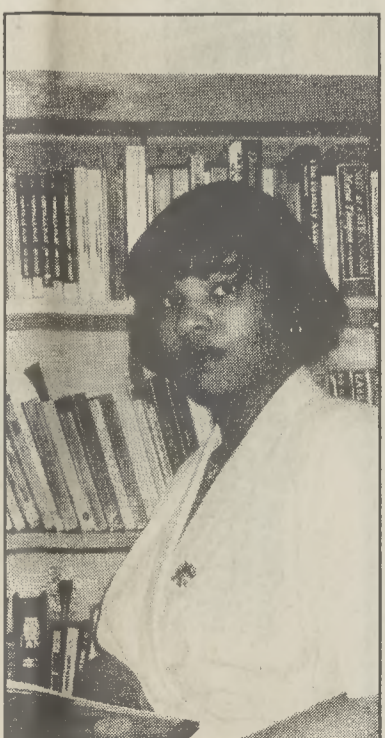
Secondly, the candidates would like to see a more active campus. "We need to utilize our complex," Perry said. "We need more participants in intramural, we need to start an Olympic game program, and we should have a few picnics." These programs would make the campus more balanced, Perry said. Also, both candidates insist that student participation is vital to the

objectives they want to accomplish. "We must want in order to be



Candidate: Phyllis Jeffers

helped," Perry said. "We need students to participate



Candidate: Monica Perry

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