

New honor society seeks underclassmen

by Shelvia Dancy
Editor-in-Chief

First-year students at North Carolina Central University won't have to wait until they're upperclassman to join an honor society anymore.

North Carolina Central University's Division of Student Affairs is planning to establish a chapter of Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society, a general honor society, at NCCU.

"We feel it (Phi Eta Sigma) stresses the importance of academic excellence and showcases students who succeed," said Peggy Watson-Alexander, dean for student learning. "From day one we want to stress that the university values academic excellence and expects academic excellence. We want to do what we can do to motivate students to do well."

Watson-Alexander said she expects more than 50 students will be inducted into the honor society in March. Membership will be open to freshmen or sophomore who have earned a 3.5 or better

grade point average during at least one semester during their freshman year.

"This will be the only time sophomores with grade point averages of 3.5 or above will be able to apply," explained Watson-Alexander. "After March installations, we'll accept freshmen only. So it's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for freshmen."

Watson-Alexander said the honor society shows NCCU's commitment to encouraging academic achievement among all students.

"Inducting students with grade point averages of 3.5 and above into an honor society during their freshman year sends a strong message regarding how the university values academic excellence,"

'From day one we want to stress that the university values academic excellence, and expects academic excellence.'

Peggy Watson-Alexander
dean for student learning

said Watson-Alexander in a press release. "Our goal is to encourage, recognize, and reward those first-year students who excel."

More than 600,000 students across the United States are members of Phi Eta Sigma. Approximately 30 chapters of the honor society have been established at universities nationwide, including Fayetteville State University, St. Augustine's College, North Carolina State University, and Duke University.

Phi Eta Sigma, established in 1923 at the University of Illinois, is the nation's oldest and largest freshman honor society.

Members of Phi Eta Sigma are eligible to receive cash scholarships of \$2,000 and awards of \$1,000 are given by the honor society's national scholarship committee.

"It looks excellent on students' resumes," said Watson-Alexander.

Eligible students should apply immediately by contacting Peggy Watson-Alexander at 560-5618 in room 303 of the Old Senior Dorm.

NCCU quiz team seeks championship WNCU fundraiser nets \$30,000

by Aaron Pope
Staff Writer

Eight students from North Carolina Central University are on their way to Orlando, Fla. in March to compete in a college quiz bowl tournament.

The students will join students from 64 HBCUs from across the nation to compete in the National Honda Campus All-Star Challenge Tournament.

"We have playoffs between 64 schools," said Jordan. "At the end of the tournament the top four schools advance to the finals."

"Last year, we did not lose a game during the round-robin session. Not one."

"We made it to semi-finals last year," said All-Star Team coordinator Muriel Jordan "We finished third out of 64 HBCUS."

"During the round-robin session we did not lose a game during the Central will be No. 1 this year!"

April Hargrove, a junior nursing major from Winston-Salem, and Jahmal Thompson, a junior political science major from New Jersey, said they are excited about being on the team for the first time.

Hargrove said she joined the team because in high school she had participated on a similar team.

"I had fun on my trivia team in high school," Hargrove said. "I know I will have fun with the Campus All-Star Team."

"I'm in front of the television every night at 7:30," he said.

The team is coached by Lydia Lindsey. Dr. Shirley Harper and Dr. Amal Abu-Shakara are assistant coaches.

By Stacie Dukes
Staff Writer

"Ring!... Ring!... Your pledges please!" This is the jingle at Campaign Central '97!

Campaign Central '97 is the fundraising drive of WNCU FM, the public radio station on the campus of North Carolina Central University.

This Fall's campaign, held early this month, marks the fourth fundraising effort in the two years since Campaign Central was established. Since WNCU is listener-supported and receives little/no? funding from the university, the weeklong Campaign is held in the Fall and Spring of every year.

This year Campaign Central reached just a bit past the halfway mark of its \$60,000 goal, with a little over \$30,000 in pledges. The money raised will be used to support programming and other expenses.

WNCU also has a website which visitors of the site can use to pledge donations and, says news director Beverly Mahone, pledges are accepted year-round as well.

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