

## Why Not Learn Something About French Civilization?

By Dee Wilson

Unless you've been an eager beaver and trotted over to Main Hall this week to confiscate a list of the courses scheduled for spring term, you aren't aware of the new studies being offered in our spring curriculum. Furthermore, most of us are too concerned with the outcome of this semester or too engrossed in what we'll be doing during the January term, to engage our attention upon that far-off time of second semester. However, there are some excitingly different courses being offered for the first time, which the students should be acquainted with.

One of the most interesting of these newly initiated courses is being presented by the French department and is entitled French Civilization. It is designed for non-French majors and provides an opportunity for the student to become immersed in French culture and French thought. The textbook to be employed is written in French and the discussions will be conducted in French on a simplified level; therefore, anyone possessing an equivalent of French 30 should not encounter any difficulties.

In discussing the objectives of the course, Mr. Bourquin stated that it is hoped by acquainting the student with every aspect of French culture such as the arts and music, the student will become aware of French ideas as reflected through these mediums of representation. Mr. Bourquin went on to say that this course is attempting to relate the French culture to the major thoughts of each century. The effect of these ideas molded the

French culture and are presented in all its arts, an apt expression of reality for each era. Thus, the course is a study of the French civilization in its entirety, encompassing the areas of history, art, music, religion, philosophy, and mere everyday living of the people.

The course will not be comprised solely of intellectual discussions, but will be augmented by the use of films, and records—an accurate and necessary manner of introducing the student to French culture. This course is an excellent means of getting to know and understand the French culture—its basic ideas and the influence it has had on the world. Through a clearer knowledge of the French culture, one has become intimately aware of French civilization. So if you wish to become familiar with one of the world's greatest civilizations, take full advantage of this course. It can be an enlightening experience if you make it that way.

## Faculty, Students Meet To Discuss Relationships

By Chris Minter

What is an adviser? This is the key to the student-faculty relationship which as yet, has not been found. The Curriculum Committee, using the results of a student-faculty poll has found that there are almost as many definitions of an advisor as there are faculty and students on Salem's campus. The faculty's view of its role seldom coincided with the students' expectations. Opinions varied from that of purely academic guidance, parental advice, someone to rap with, to a social companion.

Another important problem discovered concerned who was responsible for the initiative in the adviser-advisee relationship. Faculty members generally were interested in their advisees but often had trouble keeping up with their various students. Students, on the other hand, claimed that the professors were difficult to find, even during

posted office hours. Freshmen may have no classes with their assigned advisers, consequently adopting one of their professors for the job and possibly overloading him with work.

Professors generally admitted being uncomfortable advising in academic areas other than their own. This was sometimes made more difficult by ambiguities in the catalogue.

A few concrete suggestions resulted from the poll and group discussion held Thursday, October 21. Scheduling a weekly student-faculty lunch was proposed to encourage more communication. The possibility of having more than one faculty adviser was suggested to enable students varied opinions in making decisions. Increased communication between faculty and administration to follow up students'

complaints is obviously needed. It was also suggested that an evaluation of the professor's advising ability as well as teaching performance would be helpful.

The tone throughout the discussion was one of hesitancy. Many faculty members felt inhibited because of the presence of the administration while the students felt inhibited due to the presence of the faculty. Resulting from this uneasiness, an open discussion with constructive criticism was never generated. This restrained atmosphere most clearly exhibits the breakdown in the administration-faculty-student relationship.

Neither the discussion nor the poll solved the problem of the adviser-student relationship, but with questions asked and the few suggestions offered, some progress must result.

## 200th Committee Plans Higher Education Meeting

As part of the bi-centennial celebration Salem is sponsoring a conference on education to be held on campus March 2, 3, and 4. Seven speakers will participate in the three-day conference that will cover many phases and problems of education on the liberal arts campus today.

Dr. Rosemary Park has been invited to moderate the opening session of the conference and the panel discussion to follow. She and two other speakers will share with us their thinking about the participation of the various constituencies of colleges in the setting of goals; about some of the new structural possibilities (process-oriented curricula, etc.); and special characteristics (if any) that pertain to women's education.

Dr. Park earned both her A.B.

and M.A. degrees at Radcliffe College and her Ph.D. at the University of Cologne, Germany. She is a former president of Barnard College and former vice-chancellor at UCLA and has been conferred with nineteen honorary degrees. She has been a member of the Citizen's Advisory Council to the President's Committee on the Status of Women, the American Council of Education, and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Dr. Park will sum up the conference on the final day and will bring forward suggestions for future action in the light of the findings. As one of the most distinguished educators in the country over the past twenty-five years, she should be excellent both in substance of her comments and as a symbol for Salem students and faculty.

### Wanted:

Girls to trick or treat for Unicef.  
Money to go to Pakistan Relief Fund.  
Saturday, October 30  
3-5 p.m.  
Contact Mary Lou Cunningham  
311 Clewell

18th annual World Affairs Institute of the American Freedom Association Sponsored by the American Freedom Association and Greensboro Jaycees on Politics of Human Survival, November 12, 13, 14, Greensboro College.

For information about attending contact Susan Popper, 303 Bitting.

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