

LETTERS

The Salemite

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Chat With Chandler

—by Shirley Brobst



On Monday night, November 13, eight concerned students met with Dr. Chandler in his office to discuss issues that have been bothering them.

Several of the students felt that we have begun to have faulty communication with the administration. Dr. Chandler recognizes that a credibility gap has arisen, both on our campus and in other places.

The privacy of students' records was another issue that the group discussed. At this time a committee is working to eradicate private social restrictions from students' permanent transcripts.

There also seems to be some question concerning the sign-out procedure for overnights, as to whether or not our present system of cards protects the privacy of the student.

It has been evident to some students that the student-faculty relations have not been as close this year as in previous years. Dr. Chandler believes that the use of informal time of faculty with students is very important and he is unable to completely explain this drift being felt by students.

time the extra-heavy work load of the faculty lightens and the administration settles into a pattern, the close student-faculty relationship will have resumed. This, he emphasized, is one thing that Salem has been able to pride herself on in the past, and is something we all want to retain.

The petition process is a good way of expressing students' wishes and the response of both students and administration has been generally good. Dr. Chandler feels that this has been a successful method of achieving reform. The only petition not to make its way from start to finish is the current petition concerning intervisitation.

The meeting between these students and Dr. Chandler does not necessarily speak for the majority of students at Salem, but Dr. Chandler was very grateful that these eight students were interested enough to talk with him about basic issues in our community that concerned them.

Notice
Pierrettes' New York Trip has been Cancelled.

Dear Salemite,

Since there seems to be a misunderstanding among Salem students concerning the new regulation of the Wake Forest Library, which denies borrowing privileges to students from other schools and colleges, a few words of explanation seem to be in order.

Wake Forest, like Salem, is a private college and is feeling the financial pinch of all non-tax supported institutions. The cost of library service has risen rapidly until it now takes from 6 to 8 percent of an institution's total educational budget.

Borrowing privileges between

YALE qp SYSTEM

New Haven, Conn. - (I.P.) - A new grading system for undergraduates in Yale College has been installed this year. Actually it is a return to an old system but with one new twist, which in itself testifies to a spirit of grumbling compromise.

Professors will grade their students A-B-C or D... but there will be no public record kept of any F for Fail. A student who "fails" a course will obviously have to make up credit by taking another, but the failure will not appear in his transcript.

The new Yale system, in fact, was a compromise voted this past year to get rid of the old system that had been in effect since 1967 and had four grades: Honors, High Pass, Pass and Fail. The 1967 vote was the result of proposals by many students and some faculty for a simple Pass-Fail grading.

Clearly an answer to the issue would be to abandon grades of any kind and substitute long written comments or a simple pass or no-pass program. But even here there are problems.

John Geesman, '73, a student editor of the Yale Daily News, distinguished in an editorial between the "grade-conscious" and the "grade-oblivious" student, but concluded that "it is blunt reality that Yale students would be placed at a disadvantage in getting into graduate schools if the grading system were abolished, and it is the ultimate in self-centered elitism to believe that the entire graduate admissions process would change if Yale were to adopt a pass-fail system."

Dean Horace Taft noted that - though there is no "F" grade as far as the public transcript is concerned, faculty members will still hand in their grades as if the F grade existed.

Dean Taft believes that even for the least grade-conscious student, the system affects behavior in class. He notes that at another Ivy League College (Princeton) where two grading systems operate together - a standard system and a Pass-Fail plan - faculty members could tell by a student's attitude under

libraries is a courtesy extended only when it does not interfere with the needs of their own students. College students tend to use similar books and the demand is concentrated in a short academic semester.

Wake Forest has been generous in the past and would like to be able to continue. However, this generous policy is working to the disadvantage of their students. It is a well stocked library with an active campus and tends to attract students from a wide area.

Were a reciprocal circulation policy allowed between Salem and Wake Forest, we would be at a severe disadvantage. Our collection would be denuded of popular titles and the college and academy students would suffer. Needless to say, we would

have no legal means of enforcing responsibility for the return of books.

Students are welcome to use the Wake Forest Library resources in the building, leaving the books available for their students. We have the same policy here.

The College plans to run a bus to the Wake Forest campus in the evening as often as needed. Service can begin at any time. The Public Library of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County has recently revised its policy to give borrowing privileges to students with an institutional address in this county.

Granted, the Salem Library is working under a handicap this year. However, its complete resources, with the exception of some back files of periodicals, are available; and, hopefully, these will be by next semester.

No library can have every book and there will always be requests for materials we do not own. Students should check with the library before going to another institution. We will assist them in determining where the book can be obtained and how.

Come to the library and check our resources. You might be surprised.

I hope these remarks will help to clarify this problem. If they do not, come in and let's have further discussion.

Sincerely,
Anna Cooper, Librarian

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This is a reminder that Friday, Saturday and Sunday night meals will be served from 5:30 to 6:00 in order for the refectory workers to serve heavier meals. Also, a turkey dinner will be served on Monday, November 20.

I.R.S. is working on arrangements for a concert this year. Performers under consideration are Grin and Jim Croce. An announcement will be made when there is more definite information.

Are you planning your week-end roomcleaning??? Do you have stuff around in your way, like, gargle and cough medicine bottles, ice caps, heating pads, ace bandages and crutches? If you do take them to the Dorm desk and we will pick them up.

Thanks much,
M. Casteven
The Infirmary

The Salemite

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