

The Salemite

the uncensored voice of the salem community
 co-editors AVERY KINCAID
 LAURA DAY
 associate editor MARILYN MYCOFF
 business manager SALLY JORDAN
 assistant business manager CAMERON HARRIS
 Office hours: 2:00-9:00 p.m. Monday
 4:00-6:00 p.m. Thursday
 Telephone: 723-7961, Ext. 250—Salemite Office
 MONDAY, MARCH 22, 1976

editorial

Since this is the last newspaper the current Salemite staff will publish, I'll take liberties with this last editorial and open it with a quote. Hopefully, you'll stick around long enough to read what follows.

Gerald W. Johnson, whoever he is, says that "If a college doesn't teach a man to think his own thoughts and speak his own mind, it doesn't teach him anything of prime importance". Now Gerald may be a non-entity but what he says has a lot of significance for Salem College.

All year long concerned students have been talking about change and the need for change at Salem. They've come up with some specific ideas about what needs to be done and how to do it. Now they need the support of other students, faculty, and administration.

At Salem, it's incredible that often we don't really communicate with each other, that we don't really make an effort to understand or encourage new ideas. It's even more incredible because in a setting as small as ours, we should be able to make change work.

The Carnegie Commission, in a 1974 set of recommendations for higher education, stated something that Salem students and administrators already know, that "change is more likely to be accompanied by controversy in any established institution and is never easy to bring about". The report further goes on to say, however, that "this fact should not deter one from advocating constructive reforms, but it should encourage individuals to undertake them in a process that involves broad discussion and consent".

Many students are thinking their own thoughts and speaking their own minds, so Salem, according to Johnson's definition, must be teaching them something important, even if it is simply the realization that Salem has got to constantly change. Change, however, will never be achieved here without a broader base of support than what we presently have. A small group of concerned students cannot effect or sustain change by themselves if the rest of the college community will not give support. It's simply too frustrating and demoralizing. We need, as the Carnegie Commission report suggests, faculty, students, and administration meeting together in an open forum, not pitted against each other, but openly discussing the problems of the college and working together on solutions.

A common complaint at many schools is that every encounter between students, faculty, and administration is "all talk and no action". At Salem, we don't have this problem because we often don't make it even to the talking stage.

After four years here, I'd like to think that some day it might be possible for more of us to meet together and discuss, not once, but on several occasions, Salem's direction. And once we've taken this big initial step, then we can worry about making changes.

This year, a few more people have begun to voice their concern about the college. There is more talk of change in the air. We're at a crucial point now. The talk will either mount or from lack of support and encouragement die a frustrated death.

I'm banking on the former.

Laura Day

Modern Poetic Criticism Pursued By English Department In January

By Jennifer Caldwell

The English department of Salem College has been the first to take advantage of the \$50,000 Z. Smith Reynolds grant awarded recently to the College for a three-year term.

Department chairman Dr. William White submitted a request that department faculty be allowed to pursue study in the field of Modern Poetic Criticism for the month of January. The proposal was approved and therefore no structured January courses were offered through the English department.

Dr. Louise Gossett, Dr. Brian Meehan, Mrs. Laura Edwards and Mr. James Jordan participated with Dr. White in the exam-

ination of literary criticism that has been recently published. They met for a weekly seminar to discuss their reading.

A budget of \$850 was appropriated for the faculty study, with the majority of the funds going for books. A lengthy reading list was made, including many important critical works published since the wave of "New Criticism" a few decades ago.

The English department selected this topic as many English majors had requested that more emphasis be placed on criticism. It was also stated in the proposal that poetry was the most difficult medium to teach; not only to freshman classes but to advanced English students.

Are Basic Distribution Requirements Really Needed? Students Want Possibility of Choice

Dear Editors,

Is there still a need for basic distribution requirements? I think it's time the students and faculty seriously consider this question.

The purpose of basic distribution requirements is to give the student a broad, well-rounded education. Well, frankly, I, a graduating senior, remember nothing and learned nothing from the several courses that were chosen for me. I consider it a wasted semester's worth of time — about \$1900 down the drain. So it goes.

Don't you think that a student can decide for herself the courses which may interest her? During my sophomore year I took courses which were of interest to me, and at the end of the year I had discovered that I had completed four b.d.r.'s. The point is that I took these courses on my own initiative, and for this reason they were interesting and beneficial. I would still like to have taken other electives, but because I was bogged down with predetermined courses I was unable to fit them in.

No wonder there is so much apathy and disinterest in so many classrooms! How can and why should a student be excited about a course where the subject matter is uninteresting to the particular student? How can a teacher maintain interest for his or her course when half the class doesn't even give a shit!!

If a student cannot find at least four courses per semester that she would like to take, then why is she here in the first place?

Do we have b.d.r.'s because Salem students are mindless, irresponsible little girls who need to be told what to do? Do we have b.d.r.'s because otherwise a student would spend all of her four years confined to only one or two fields of study? Do b.d.r.'s exist in order to guarantee enrollment for certain professors?

Maybe a certain freshman needs help in deciding what to take. But couldn't she get advice from an upperclassman or her faculty advisor? If she is uncertain, then b.d.r.-type courses could be suggested to her, but not forced upon her. I think we need and deserve the POSSIBILITY of choice.

Abolishing b.d.r.'s would create

Salem Tavern To Reopen

By Patt Hall

Have you missed the food specialties of the Salem Tavern lately? It has been closed for several months and the Salem community has missed its services. Good news: it will be opening again by the end of March. The building is being leased by the same company running the Zevely House. They have bought all the colonial furnishings and have spent much time restoring the inside and updating the kitchen. For those that enjoy German dishes, the Tavern will still be serving a similar menu—with prices also about the same. The authentic atmosphere will be maintained through decor and costume. Should you be interested in part-time or summer employment, talk with the manager at the Zevely House. Following Spring Break, spend an evening at the Tavern and treat yourself to the new management's hospitality.

an atmosphere of responsibility, maturity, motivation, and academic seriousness on campus. But now, there are courses which are considered "jokes", and consequently there is apathy.

One last note . . . I think Freshman English should be a required course only because that is where a student can enhance her reading and writing ability, a necessity

in life. It is through learning to express one's thoughts in coherent and articulate manner that one learns to be free. The quest for freedom is the very purpose of this letter.

Beth Watling
 P. S. If all of this sounds "liberal" don't worry; Salem College will never become a hippy haven . . .

Summer Study In Oslo

The academic year ends in May for most of us, but two lucky Salem students have the opportunity to study in Oslo, Norway at the International Summer School. Scholarships for two students are provided by the estate of the late Honorable L. Corrin Strong, former ambassador to Norway and former trustee of Salem Academy and College.

This year's summer session extends from June 26 to August 6. The recipients of the two scholarships will include a present sophomore and a present junior; eligibility for the award requires that the candidate return to Salem College for the entire academic year 1976-77. The students will be selected by a community appointed by the Academic Dean, this year including Dean Johnson, Dean Sandresky, Dr. Dudley, Ms. Melvin, Mr. Jordan, Dr. Kurtz, Peggy Erikson, Wendy Wycoff, Debbie Knight, and Rody Spivey. Winners of the scholarships will be announced by Wednesday, March 24.

There is a brochure of the University of Oslo 1976 International Summer School available in Dean Sommerville's office. Former Oslo scholars—Peggy Erickson, Wendy Wycoff, Debbie Knight, and Rody Spivey—can also provide additional information about the program. Following is an account of Debbie Knight's summer experience:

Oslo, Norway has become a

special place to me. Its beauty and charm still linger with me. But it is so hard to write and share with you all my experiences.

The International Summer School molded my life in a quiet but powerful way. I never actually aware that it had such an impact on me, until I came back to Salem. The friends I made from literally all over the world will always linger in my mind. And the memories of breathtaking scenery will renew my spirit now, as it did when I was there.

Most of all the summer session in Oslo was one for sharing. Everyone shared part of their culture, their beliefs and in so doing a part of themselves. You can not help but feel that you have become a little bit Russian, Brazilian, English and German. (To mention a few of the thirty-two countries represented).

I would finally just like to share with you my appreciation to Salem for sending me to Oslo. One of their representatives have shared with you briefly what it meant to me. If you would like to see my pictures and a thousand tales to go along with them, please drop by my room. Because sharing Oslo with you will only bring fond remembrances of the events I shared with 159 unforgettable people. Tussen Tak! (A thousand thanks to Salem!)

Editorial Staff
 news editor Jan Warner
 feature editor Patt Hall
 assistant news editor Betty Massey
 assistant feature editor Anne Duncan
 columnist Catherine Delbridge
 headlines editor Anne Duncan
 fine arts editors Jane Elliott
 Jane Clemens
 photographers Jan Warner
 Avery Kincaid Marie Plonk
 Laura Day Donna Dismuke
 sports editor Kathy Watkinson
 reporters Kem Mims
 Sherrin Gardner
 Ellen Johnson Betty Duncan
 Alyce Eskridge Betsy Roberts
 Beth Kinney Susie French
 Debbie Waldron Betsy Sherrill
 Suzanne Sherrill Kathy King
 Liza Tilly Rhett Huber
 Kathy Hay Wade Purcell
 Mary Denson Abbitt Jennifer Caldwell
 Lynn Knox Margaretta Yarborough
 cartoonists E. A. McConaughy
 Janet Crowther

Business Staff
 circulation manager Stoney
 typists Kathy Watkins
 Amy de Court Susie French
 Ellen Johnson Sally Jordan
 Kim Nelson Sally Gardner
 Janell

Published bi-monthly, excluding examinations, holidays and summer vacation. Students of Salem College. Subscription is \$7.00 yearly. Mailing address: P.O. Box 10447, Salem Station, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27108.

Mailed by Third Class Permit No. 31 Salem College, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27157

Member of United States Student Press Association

advisor Mrs. J. W. Edwards

Abortion Information Service

1-24 weeks pregnancy terminated by licensed physicians. Modern technique. Patient privacy. Immediate arrangements made. For local information call TOLL-FREE 1-800-321-1682.