

# Editorial

## Students Responsible For Interdorm Results

Election time at Salem - Spring, 1977 - and Kim Anders, rising junior, was unopposed for the office of Interdorm Chairman. Apparently, no other eligible junior found the position appealing or worthwhile.

Elected to one of the highest and most powerful student positions on campus, this chairman would be a voting member of Executive Board and an ex-officio member of Honor Council and Legislative Board. She and her council would hold judiciary power over students who infringed the social procedure code, by issuing penalties or probationary periods as they applied.

This fall, our unopposed Interdorm Chairman did not return to Salem. After a five day petitioning period for juniors to run for the office, the result was an EMPTY SLATE. May we assume that only one junior on campus, who was here last year thought the office to be one of importance?

Legislative Board, with power to appoint a slate of nominees for election, chose "to defer the election for Chairman of Interdorm and to allow Interdorm to set up its own temporary structure for chairmanship." This group should be credited with perceiving that students, especially juniors, are unsettled about the need for an Interdorm chairman. Furthermore, this Board has heard from many students that the whole structure of the Interdorm Council needs to be re-evaluated.

It is exciting to note that we, as students, have an opportunity to make a change in the structure of a group on campus which may not be needed. We have heard murmurings around campus about abolishing the Interdorm Council completely, giving judicial power completely to individual dormitories to handle infractions.

We need to ask ourselves some vital questions concerning social procedures on campus: Would we rather have our House Councils handle all problems in the dorm? Do we still need to have an Interdorm Council as a means for dorm presidents to discuss individual dorm problems?

Finally, the key question: Are we willing to consider alternatives, formulate an opinion on this issue and become actively involved in making necessary changes or modifications in the present structure? Both Executive Board and Legislative Board have invited us to voice our opinions. It is our responsibility to respond, either by saying we just do not care, or by offering our opinions and suggestions. If we choose to ignore the issue, then we are giving a small group of students the right and responsibility to determine changes on campus which will affect All of us who live in dormitories at Salem.

-Beth Fenters

## Letters . . .

Letter to the Editor:

This letter is in response to a letter written by Beth Jones in the Sept. 16 issue of the Salemite.

A few comments:

Convocation is indeed a calling together. Whatever other purposes gathering may have, a convocation of Salem College by nature of its being, is to get all the participants in one spot and keynote the year. While feedback from participants is useful, judgemental, unresearched remarks seem irresponsible. To label the occasion "A Fiasco" and state that it "widened the gap" probably should be accompanied by concrete indications thereof. Responsible journalism involves accurate reporting.

"The same holds true for the faculty retreat. The majority of the faculty did not want to go but were forced to attend" - Such a

remark published as fact seems to be an infraction of a cardinal journalistic precept - quote your source.

As a new faculty member who attended the retreat, it seems appropriate for me to state publicly that it was well-planned, responsibly executed, fairly arranged to allow for individual expression, productive and thought-provoking.

Comments by students are a vital part of a campus publication. A stated viewpoint should pass the test of truthfulness. Hearsay is for Rona Barrett.

I'm finding the "togetherness" at Salem enjoyable. If I may venture a personal opinion, I feel I'm working with a good faculty and staff.

-Dudley D. Shearburn  
New faculty member

## Yearbook Staff

Cont'd. from one

Robin and staff members have met with Hunter Publishing Co. in Winston-Salem, and will rely on their representative for some suggestions on cover ideas, color usage and possible format changes this year.

"We're thinking of giving more time to clubs on campus, by having action pictures of some of their activities," Robin said. Another change is that students will not dress in white drapery garb, but in blue velveteen for

class pictures this year. Also, underclassmen pictures will be taken Oct. 4-7 and there will be no make up day. Students should make plans now to allow time during these four days to have pictures made.

Robin and her staff have shown actively that the yearbook will be the product of enthusiastic, creative work this year. All students with past yearbook staff experience or present interest should see Robin in Strong dorm.



## New Use for French House

By Jane Dittmann

Recent speculation over the feasibility of maintaining a French House on campus, has prompted inquiry into the future of the facility. Upon consulting Dean Helmick, The Salemite has learned that she is confident that the Home Management House, known to many students as the French House, will be well-utilized this year. She has assessed the process which enabled a committee to determine viable uses for the facility as "carefully done with the good of the whole campus in mind."

The decision to re-examine the use of the Home Management House was no rash judgment on the part of the administration. Community sentiment last spring suggested that students and faculty, alike, were dissatisfied with the building's limited usage. This fall Dr. Cuninggim appointed a committee, chaired by Dean Helmick, to gather suggestions for possible uses of the Home Management House. Input from faculty and staff enabled the committee to compile the suggestions and submit them to the Administrative Council. The suggestions included the request that the building serve in its former

capacity as the French House.

A major concern of the committee was the necessity of utilizing the building to justify the expense of maintaining it. The administration feels that in light of financial circumstances, a project such as the French House, which may involve as few as 8 students who already occupy dormitory space, would be impractical.

The Administrative Council combined several suggestions and arrived at the following arrangement which they felt would make the most of the facility:

Basement Level - Art Studio (particularly a sculpture studio)

First Floor - Faculty Seminar Rooms, A library to accommodate Faculty Task Forces

Second Floor - Meeting areas for several departments, reading rooms for specific majors

Seminar and Lecture rooms for an Honors Program, soon to be established.

All departments have been offered an opportunity to request space in the building for their own purposes. Thus far, the departments of English and History have finalized plans to utilize an area of the building. Dean Helmick said that although it is impossible

to please everyone, she has not heard of any major complaints with the suggestions that have been advanced.

The increased activity in the Home Management House will be a contrast to its often dormant appearance in the past. Summarizing a positive outlook for the facility, Dean Helmick concluded, "I think what has come of the search for uses of the Home Management House has been creative and will make the best use possible, in terms of faculty and student needs, of that space."

## Fellowship Inquiries Invited

Inquiries about the Danforth Graduate Fellowships, to be awarded by the Danforth Foundation of St. Louis, Missouri in April 1978, are invited, according to Dr. Louise Gossett Salem's representative for the program.

The Fellowships are open to all qualified persons who have serious interest in careers of teaching in colleges and universities, and who plan to study for a Ph.D. in any field of study common to the undergraduate liberal arts

Cont'd. on three

## The Salemite

Printed by Smiley Publishing Co. and published every Friday of the College year by the Student Body of Salem College.

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