

Sophomores Question Worth of Testing

by Amy Washburn

On Monday, April 18, the Sophomore class took a test which was supposed to test the effectiveness of Salem's Basic Distribution Requirements. Reaction to the test was varied within the class. One feeling was constant--not many people wanted to be there, and even fewer people knew why they were.

It all started with a letter placed in our boxes announcing the mandatory test. Supposedly we were excused from our morning classes. In talking to my classmates, I learned that many people were missing such things as test reviews, and that some professors even had to postpone

tests that had been scheduled from the beginning of the semester. This official excuse did not extend to things such as Wake Forest classes or morning employment.

Attitudes among the faculty also did not seem enthusiastic. One of my professors actually expressed surprise that we took the test. Another apparently refused to excuse his students, leaving them with a dilemma.

What it all comes down to is this: the Sophomore class was in effect ordered to take this test, disregarding the fact that our tuition had already paid for this class time, that we might be missing something important, and

that this test served basically no purpose for those taking it. The Sophomores seem to have taken this test as a service to the College, for it will not appear on any records of any kind. The question presents itself--why did we use our class time to take it?

The answer to that question is the most objectionable part of this whole issue: we were told that this test was required as part of our Sophomore standing. This seems strange, for we were considered Sophomores from the beginning of this year. We can only hope that this declaration does not represent a dangerous new trend for the College administration--how can

we feel safe in our academic standing if they have the power to arbitrarily throw new requirements at us throughout the year? Does the College have the right to do this?

All in all, this test seems to have been a colossal waste of time. The purpose for its administration was not clear, it served no benefit for students, and it took several hours of valuable class time. Even more important than these things, virtual scare tactics were used to ensure that people would participate. Perhaps we as students need to evaluate how easily we are manipulated.

Letter to the Editor: McKnight Reassures Students

Dear Editor,

In the last issue of *The Salemite*, Susan Webb expressed concern about the lack of student input into the selection of the new Dean of the College. I would like to address this concern.

It was certainly not the intention of the Selection Committee to exclude student input into the selection of the new dean. It was for this reason that a student representative (Millie Eubanks) was appointed to the committee with full voting privileges. It was also for this reason that each candidate invited to campus was asked to meet with a group of students, most of whom had been chosen by their peers to hold some major office on campus. The opinions of these students were brought to the committee and had a definite impact on the decision-making process.

I agree that it is unfortunate that the committee could not arrange a time when students at large could have met the candidates. However,

given the limited time each candidate was on campus, this arrangement was not possible.

Likewise, it was not possible to inform the student body who the top candidates were and what their credentials might be. Many candidates do not want this information released. They may hold positions of responsibility at their home institutions and fear that their effectiveness in these positions would be severely compromised were it known that they were looking for a position elsewhere. Hence, this information was kept within the committee.

Please let me assure again that there was no attempt by the committee to exclude the student input into the selection process. We sought student opinions as best we could and most certainly took them into consideration.

George McKnight

Making Friends With WSSU

by Susan Webb

would be the beginning of more cooperation and of new relationships between the two schools. "We are truly neighbors . . . leave from the front door of our school and we're at the back door of yours," he said.

The development of new relationships with our neighbors is a project that students from both schools could benefit greatly from with a little effort. There are many students just down the street who like ourselves have much to offer; however, there seems to be a picket fence separating us.

Those who missed out on the WSSU Chorale and the Salem College Chorale's performances not only missed hearing some truly fabulous music but they missed meeting their neighbors. Perhaps it's time we step around that picket fence.

Not long ago, I shared a limousine ride home from the airport with a WSSU student, and we both expressed to each other our desire to see the students from both of our campuses intermingle with each other more in the future.

Well it seems that their Choral Director agreed. Kinchen expressed in his opening remarks to the audience at Salem that he hoped that this performance

The Salemite

Salem College
Winston-Salem, NC 27108
(919)721-2825

Editor-in Chief
Assistant Editors —

Business Manager
Advertising Manager
Staff Writers

Layout Staff

Susan Webb
Amy Washburn
Katie Thomas
Adrienne Scherer
Michelle Jaynes

Elizabeth Betts, Julia Carpenter,
Alison Crowson, Suzan Ecmekeci,
Liz Fowler, Angela Ingram,
Jenny Muench, Paige Parker,
Julie Stone
Elizabeth Betts, Julie Stone