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# The Salemite

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## The Making Of A President

by Ginger Saunders

Terry Moore-Painter called me into her office a few weeks ago, and presented me with a proposition from Dr. Litzenburg. He thought it would be a good idea for the two of us to switch places for a day - something like a "Freaky Friday" for Salem. It sounded like a fair deal to me. He would go to my classes and meet with student leaders, and I could spend \$300. What could be better?

However, when the day began at 8:15 in the morning, I knew I was in trouble. Not only did I have to dig into the depths of my closet to find presentable clothes, but I had to be inspirational as well for the glowing faces of Academy students. Seriously, the adventurous day began with Academy Chapel around 8:30 on Tuesday. I then raced from the Academy to the Inspector's House where I was late for Administrative Council. Of course, they were kind enough to wait for me, but somehow being late seemed like the "presidential" thing to do.

My meetings with administrators who submitted proposals for the \$300 grant began at 10:00 am. Unfortunately, the meetings with Dean Johnson and Dean Cobb were cut short as a result of a photographer and a reporter from the *Winston-Salem Journal*. So I posed for photos where I made ugly faces and pulled out my hair (these were her ideas!). I enjoyed the chance to talk with members of the Administration about things other than student issues. Being on the other side

of them trying to explain their proposals to me was quite a change since it is usually me asking for proposal acceptance.

My lunch "hour" was filled with a Rotary Club meeting with Dr. Cuninggham, President Emeritus of Salem, as my escort. This gentleman was a true delight, and he seemed to enjoy introducing me to the members of Rotary as the new President of the Academy and College. I got some very strange looks when he provided no explanation as to why Dr.



Litzenburg had left.

Indeed one of the highlights of the day came after lunch when I went with Terry Moore-Painter, Acting Director of Institutional Advancement, to visit a couple who are staunch supporters of the Academy and College, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Vogler. It was very apparent how much they feel real love for this place, and how much support they give Salem. Mrs. Vogler graduated from the College in 1923 and then worked at the

Academy for many years. It truly amazed me how much she knows about Salem's history. So, if any of you are searching for American History term paper topics, I've got a lady for you.

After speaking at the Senior Pledge Drive Kick-Off Dinner and Reception, I spent some time deciding just where to grant the \$300. My decision was actually a difficult one, since the proposals submitted were all beneficial and substantive. However, the hour to decide had approached, and I granted the funds to a project from Institutional Advancement. The proposal is for the development of a publication for seniors which will contain much information on the Alumnae Association as well as an occupation listing of various alumnae in a wide range of fields. This publication will not be out until the spring of this year, but Institutional Advancement is going to try and have it out in the fall of next year so that alumnae can be used for January Term connections.

Other events surrounded the day such as demands from a particular member for a salary raise, and popping aspirin for a splitting headache I acquired in the middle of Rotary. Well, there were no major protests, and the institution did not collapse, so I considered it a successful day. It really was a learning experience as well as a true honor for me. I am extremely grateful to everyone who helped to make my day a memorable one for me. Without everyone's support, who knows what could have happened? Thank you!