

The Salemite

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The Uncensored Voice of the Salem Community

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Dr. Thrift Reflects on Her First Jan Term

By Hanan Abdul-Rahim

One of the most unique programs at Salem College is the January Term program. During the month of January, students have the opportunity to travel, participate in internships, explore subjects of interest in an independent study, or take a class that is not usually offered during the semester. January is usually a time of relaxation, fun, and learning, and this year was no exception. However, this year was different in that we shared our January for the first time with our new president, Dr. Julianne Thrift. Dr. Thrift talked to *The Salemite* about her impressions of January at Salem.

January terms are very important in Dr. Thrift's opinion because through internships and independent studies, students become less intimidated by the prospect of jobs and graduate schools. For this reason, it is important that students learn, not only from their own January experiences, but from those of others as well. Also, Dr. Thrift believes that there is a measure of frustration in going from one semester to the next for four years and that January programs help relieve that frustration.

Dr. Thrift spent a good deal of her January traveling to see alumnae. She

told us that she tries not to be away from the campus for too long when the students are here, because she feels it is very important to be in their midst. If she could have taken a January term class, Dr. Thrift said that she would have liked to travel on the "the Blue Highways" or perhaps to volunteer for certain organizations.

Dr. Thrift was very impressed with the extent to which the faculty tried to become involved in January term activities. Such involvement, she feels, brings about closeness in the student-

faculty relationships. In the future, Dr. Thrift would like to participate in a January Term, perhaps by taking a group of students to Washington. She feels that she can share with students her knowledge and understanding of the political climate there. Dr. Thrift cultivated that knowledge in the sixteen years that she spent in Washington.

Finally, Dr. Thrift revealed that she often felt anxious over January because "the students were scattered. It was like they were away from home." So welcome back to all the students who were away for January Term, and we are all glad that Dr. Thrift has come to share our home with us.

Are You Ready for Something New?

Salem Commons Opens This Weekend !!

by Banner Gregory

The new Salem Commons is opening soon to offer the Salem Community and friends a change of place. The Commons should really be an interesting place to watch develop because it will be shared by the college and academy. The old gym has been converted into the Great Hall which will allow all students to take advantage of the area, serving both as a gymnasium for physical education & athletics and a space for social events. If you are concerned about the gym floor, the lines are there for sports, and there is planned maintenance to ensure that the floor is kept in good condition after social functions. There will also be ping pong tables under the balcony available after 6:00pm or when athletic practices and classes are not going on. A balcony extends over part of the Great Hall and provides seating for the Grille and events in the Great Hall. The balcony will be a fabulous place to hold meetings during lunch, especially from 12:00-1:00pm, because there will be no P.E. classes using the Gymnasium. The Grille, once the old dance studio, will operate as a restaurant that is open to the Salem Community and guests. The menu is great and inexpensive, offer-

ing a variety of food including pizza, hot and cold sandwiches, salads, sweets, frozen yogurt, drinks, and more. Boarding students will be given a 15% discount on selected foods when they present their college ID with sticker. There will be a jukebox to drop quarters into, as well as vending machines.

The P.E. classrooms and weight center have also been renovated to give us a casual lounge. This lounge is for students and their guests. The guests may be faculty, staff, friends, or even boys! The large screen TV and VCR will be in this space as well as a coin-operated pool table. There will be a large conference table for meetings in one corner that can be closed off with folding doors. The Lounge will be available for the Academy students until 7:00pm Monday-Friday only. Therefore, alcohol will be allowed in the Lounge after 7:00pm on weekdays and on the weekends.

For any additional information concerning policies, please look at your official Commons Handbook. Please remember that any suggestions are greatly appreciated, because everything is on trial basis this semester and is subject to change. The Commons will benefit Salem and become a special place for it.

ONUA Celebrates Black History



by Dawn M. Darby
Salem College during the month of January witnessed some revolutionary events for the Afro-American Awareness group known as ONUA which is Ghana meaning: sisterhood. Through the consent of the college and the co-instruction of Dr. Sid Kelly, professor of history at Salem and Ms. Delores Smith, CEO of the Winston-Salem Urban-League, an Afro-American culture studies class was offered as a part of the curriculum for Salem's Jan-Term. The students were introduced to, the history of the African culture prior to the discovery of America, as well as paralleled the present African Society with that of the Afro-American society. This served

as a base for the understanding of the cultures' merge after the discovery and implementation of American slavery along with the respective progression of the societies. The course involved a field trip to the Sunday Morning services at Mt. Zion Baptist church where the class shared in the Black Southern Baptists experience and were personally greeted by a few of the prominent members of the Black Community among which was Dr. Maya Angelou, author and professor at Wake Forest University. A major highlight was unmistakably when the class sponsored a night of African dinner and dancing, which was held in the refectory and

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