

Psychology majors described by Dr. Blanton as curious, involved, and expressive

By Catherine Stover

Editor's Note: This is the third in a series of articles concerning departmental objectives at Meredith.

If you are interested in becoming involved in a field which is fastly growing, which enables you to study the most fascinating subjects of all, the mental processes of the human mind and resulting behavior, perhaps you should consider a major in psychology. It is a field which can prepare you for many interesting vocations, as Dr. Gloria Blanton, chairman of the department, related to me this week. Although higher level positions require a masters or doctorate degree, the graduate of Meredith possessing a B. A. in psychology may become involved in any one of many occupations. For instance, she may work as a psychiatric assistant in a mental hospital or a mental clinic, such as those in schools

which test to identify retarded children. The business sector of our society is also interested in psychology majors to do personnel work or to work in "customer satisfaction" departments. Two recent Meredith graduates are now doing personnel work in department stores. A 1971 graduate is working with retarded children under 5 and their parents to facilitate upbringing and fulfillment in these children. Dr. Blanton pointed out that many psychology majors complete the social work sequence and become engaged in social services of several kinds, working with many people. Others combined psychology and art majors to prepare for one to be artistically creative but also to know what influences people respond to advertisements positively. There are a variety of jobs begging for people to fill them in this area

of working with people with special problems.

Psychology prepares one for entry into these and other fields because it encourages self-development, as one learns how to interact, express oneself and function in dialogue. It helps one to interact because one learns to understand human behavior, to a degree. It is, of course, understood that human behavior is so complex and diverse that a thorough knowledge of it is scarcely possible with a B. A. or even a doctorate. But Dr. Blanton pointed out that all the courses in the department are designed to help students grow as much as possible in this area, as all offer chances for individualization and for the observance of behavior on and off campus. For instance, the psychology student may find herself attending sessions at The House, working at Swift

Creek School or contributing to any number of community organizations or schools. The department tries to give rigorous courses which are challenging to students; Dr. Blanton said she hoped NONE of them were considered "crip courses"! Most psychology majors, she thinks, are serious students, wanting a challenge in the classroom.

What type of student, besides a serious one, does Dr. Blanton feel makes a successful psychology major? First, she must possess a curiosity about individual behavior. Perhaps she wonders WHY different people behave differently or what is associated with behavioral frequencies, for instance. I'm sure many of you often wonder what conditions evoke certain types of behavior and many of your questions may be answered during the pursuit of a psychology major. "Secondly,

Dr. Blanton noted that at Meredith a psychology major needs an interest in human behavior, as opposed to animal behavior or to physiological processes related to human behavior. While larger schools often stress the latter two, the department here stresses more of a social science kind of behavior. As such, it attracts students who are interested in "knowing how to understand and predict human behavior".

If one is industrious, one may successfully combine a psychology major with another to move into many fields. Art-psychology was earlier spoken of and Dr. Blanton pointed out that there are real opportunities for math-psychology majors interested in doing the statistical work necessary in psychological research. Psychology can be a fascinating study.

Carologue: try it

By AMI PIERCE

Remember THE WHOLE EARTH CATALOG? In case you don't, it's a catalogue which "functions as an evaluation and access device. With it, the user should know better what is worth getting and where and how to do the getting. An item is listed in the catalog if it is deemed 1) useful as a tool, 2) relevant to independent education, 3) high quality or low cost, 4) easily available by mail." Well, now there's one for North Carolina called CAROLOGUE: ACCESS TO NORTH CAROLINA, put together by two guys in Durham, Steve Hoffius and Arnie Katz. General headings include communities, peace-work, roots, places to hitch

to, crafts, land and rural living, food (for the belly), food (for thought), law, music, and the three current liberation movements - black, gay, and women's. There are about 600 more specific listings, literally ranging from "Aberdeen" to "Zoo." Hoffius and Katz say "The resources included in CAROLOGUE seek to put all of us in touch: with ourselves and those around us, our region and its heritage, our dreams and those of others." I say spend the \$2.08 (including tax) it'll cost you. If nothing else, CAROLOGUE will give you some pleasant and interesting reading. At most, it can be not only an access to North Carolina, but a road to yourself.



Don't miss THE TWIG special on Black Awareness Week!

SGA hotline

By PAIGE FOSTER

Editor's Note: In cooperation with the SGA and their suggestion boxes, THE TWIG will be answering the most pertinent questions in this news-

ies.

1) If you are taking over eighteen hours, why do you have to pay fifty-five dollars for each additional

hour? It has been estimated how much it will cost to educate a student. When a student takes over 18 hours, she is costing the college

money; in order for the college to profit, this fee was set.

2) Why doesn't our insurance cover liability? In order to

cover liability, each student would have to submit a list estimating the value of her possessions. Depending on the value of these items, rates would be established and individual policies would be required.

3) Why do library fines go to the Business Office? Why not back into the library? Fines paid in the library go to the Business Office, where they go into a current fund used in operation of the College. From this fund, money is distributed back into the library.

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Snack Bar

Wednesday, Jan. 31, 4 p.m. -
Stuber - Littleton; Tuesday,
Feb. 6, 7 p.m. - Spooner -
Fracker; Thursday, Feb. 15,
4 p.m. - Simmons - Everette;
Thursday, Feb. 22, 7 p.m. -
DeBerry - Ledford and Tuesday,
Feb. 27 - 4 p.m. - Maron -
Preston.

All students, faculty and staff are invited to attend as many of the sessions as possible and to participate actively or passively in the discussion. Please do NOT feel that you must have completed reading the entire book before attending a discussion session.