

Executive Committee plans for '76-'77

by Darlene Smith

While most members of the Meredith community are concentrating thoughts on the four remaining weeks of classes, there is a small group of students who are already planning for the upcoming year at Meredith.

These girls are members of the Executive Committee. Ten girls from different phases of student government represent the student body on this committee.

As Betsy Rowlett, chairman of Legislative Board explained, the committee has been very busy "just brainstorming." She said that from the brainstorming sessions several good, thought-provoking ideas have emerged.

One of the areas discussed by the committee is the system of elections on campus. Debbie Doss, chairman of Elections Board, expressed

the committee's desire to "revamp the entire procedure."

Plans thus far are to make Meredith elections more competitive and to bring out the issues.

There are technical problems, such as ties and percentages needed to win, that require some research and eventual revision. The committee also hopes to get day students more involved in the election process by placing a voting booth in the CEA.

The committee also plans to move voting out of the cafeteria. Having a separate and secluded spot for voting was discussed so that, as one committee member said, "you don't get salad dressing all over your ballot."

Kathy Frazier, vice president of the SGA, added that she would like to see class elections handled by the elections board rather than

the class president, a matter which received support from the other members.

As for academic concerns, the committee sees a need for "polishing up all departments." The committee is, at present, looking into the possibility of a uniform grading system for Meredith.

More student involvement in curriculum decisions is another desired improvement.

To further benefit the academic as well as social life at Meredith, the committee would like better communication between the Co-operating Raleigh Colleges in order to bring more concerts, lectures, movies, and art shows to Meredith. More dormitory activities are also planned for next year.

The committee will be researching the legality of Meredith's judicial system. One of the questions that they hope to answer is when there

should be police involvement.

In the area of health services, more improvements are in the planning, such as in the staff and services of the infirmary. Such projects as the Bloodmobile and the papsmear clinics are to be continued.

Phyllis Smith, SGA president and chairman of the Executive Committee,

smilingly said, "There is a lot to do." It seems that at this time she and her committee are on the right track toward getting "a lot done."

Psych research

by Maggie Odell

For several Meredith psychology students, the Carolinas Psychology Conference was an opportunity to share original research with undergraduates from other colleges in North Carolina and neighboring states.

Jenny Thigpen, a senior psychology major who presented a paper on hoarding behavior in adult rats, said the conference was an attempt to let people know what is going on in the way of undergraduate research.

Jenny, Sally Winfrey, Lynn Wellons, and Dr. Lynn Aubrecht have been following up work which Dr. Aubrecht did with a psychology student at Ohio State University.

In this previous work, Dr. Aubrecht and the student found that rats hoarded less food when they had been deprived of food at an early age. Their findings contradicted a conclusion made in 1958 by a psychologist named Mandler.

Thigpen, Winfrey, and Aubrecht came up with the same results that Aubrecht had had previously. They pushed the question farther in order to determine why the rats behaved as they did.

"We had problems with predicting hoarding," Jenny said, "but we think we came up with a reason why."

She hesitated to talk about her conclusion, since a formal statistical analysis had not yet been made.

While the research the students and Aubrecht have

done builds on past research, it has also given the students an opportunity to develop their talents, Jenny said.

She pointed out that she and Sally have gained valuable experience from maintaining an animal lab and writing up the report, while Lynn has learned to compute analysis on the results of the experiment.

Both Jenny and Sally commended the progress that the Meredith psychology department had made in improving its laboratory equipment.

"We've built from a closet in the geography lab where Mr. Birkin keeps his pet rocks to this," Jenny said. She pointed to the three or four rooms the Poteat basement which now comfortably houses about thirty white rats and has room for more equipment as funds become available.

Thigpen remarked that the number of students involved in independent projects was significant. Six papers by Meredith students were presented at the conference last weekend. The papers represented work in behavioral, social, physiological, experimental, and historical psychology.

Having the psychology conference shows that Meredith is moving up in psychology, Jenny concluded. She said that the only other woman's college to have hosted such an event was Mount Holyoke College in New York.

Lynch plays Klausmeyer

by Kim Dale

Dr. David Lynch, chairman of Meredith's music department, presented the 1976 Distinguished Faculty Recital, Sunday, April 11. The recital included a premiere performance of "The Hound of Morrisville," a composition by Dr. Peter Klausmeyer, assistant professor of music at Meredith.

In an interview the week preceding the recital, Dr. Lynch praised Dr. Klausmeyer's first organ composition which he commissioned especially for this performance.

"It was a lot of fun to do," Lynch said. He further remarked that he particularly enjoyed the dissonant intervals within the piece that vibrated when he played them.

"The piece becomes much more physical toward the

second half," Dr. Lynch observed, and demonstrated how the performer's feet are required to move among the pedals as rapidly as the hands move along the keyboard.

"The Hound of Morrisville" allows great improvisation on the part of the performer, because of a great number of "diamonds," observed Dr. Lynch. Dr. Lynch defined diamond notes as "a small cluster of all the notes a performer can reach within a particular span."

Dr. Lynch said, "It is fun to find the different sounds you can get from an instrument."

He further commented that Dr. Klausmeyer's manuscript was "beautiful" and "flawless." "I know of no other twentieth century organ work that is such a virtuoso piece," complimented Dr. Lynch.

Drs. Klausmeyer and Lynch collaborated to a small degree on "The Hound of Morrisville". Dr. Lynch says that he insisted Dr. Klausmeyer write a composition for organ and showed him the possibilities for such a work. Dr. Klausmeyer chose this type of composition.

When asked why he chose the name "The Hound of Morrisville" for his composition, Dr. Klausmeyer remarked that there was no particular explanation.

"I was in Chapel Hill and passed a movie theater showing 'The Hound of the Baskervilles' and I have to pass Morrisville on the way to work," he explained.

Although this is Dr. Klausmeyer's first organ piece, he has done many electronic works. Dr. Lynch called him "a very skillful electrician and talented composer."

Concerning electronic music, Dr. Klausmeyer said, "It is scary to be the sole arbitrator of a work which has no boundaries."

Dr. Klausmeyer has also composed a version of "The Lord's Prayer" that the Meredith Chorale and Ensemble has taken on tour.

This was Dr. Lynch's third Distinguished Faculty Recital. His two previous performances were in 1970 and 1972.

"I am grateful to have such a fine person doing the piece," Dr. Klausmeyer said concerning Dr. Lynch's performance of his "The Hound of Morrisville."

Dr. Klausmeyer further praised Dr. Lynch saying, "You've done a great job with it."

The program was one of Twentieth-century American organ music, and Dr. Lynch commented on the difference between Twentieth century organ music and earlier music written for organ:

"Twentieth century organ music is more difficult to listen to. There are more unusual uses of instruments and the music is more dissonant."

He also noted that the music of this century was very pointalistic- containing "points of sound" and no discernable melody.



Dr. Klausmeyer reviews his composition, "The Hound of Morrisville," with Dr. Lynch, who premiered the work Sunday at his Distinguished Faculty Recital.

American dream: Dead or alive?

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instead, the U.S. should give aid without discrimination to democratic and non-democratic nations.

Both Dr. Gates and Dr. Parramore agreed that America's present foreign policy is inadequate. Dr. Gates noted that our nationalism needs to become more of an internationalism. Dr. Parramore also stressed the need for a dilution of nationalistic foreign policy, saying that we should not try to stifle nations experimenting with non-democratic governments.

Dr. Frank Grubbs, professor of history, concluded the forum presentations with a discussion of "Why do people come to the United States?" The American Dream, he stated, is not now, nor ever has been, the primary motivation for immigrants; financial, not ideological concerns have motivated them. He refuted the myth of the American Dream; America has never been, he said, a land of equal opportunity and democracy, nor has it attempted to be the guardian of the oppressed.

The achievement of the American Dream of equality

of opportunity has also, he said, been dependent upon a person's wealth. The poor have not been equal, he noted.

America's sense of mission is also a myth, Grubbs stated. Foreign policy has never been designated to promote the spread of liberty; instead, it has reflected economic and business interests.

Dr. Erika Fairchild, instructor in political science, and moderator of the forum, led the question and answer session which followed the panelists' presentations. She pointed out that America has been operating under an outdated 18th century commercial ideology based upon the belief that each individual and each nation should exercise self-responsibility. America has never replaced this outmoded ideology with new ideas, she stated, and our foreign affairs have been negatively influenced by this attitude.

Since emerging nations do not want a commercial or a Marxist ideology, America should develop a new ideology to offer them. Until then, she noted, they will turn to communism rather than democracy.