

# THE TWIG

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## Harris Business Building Dedicated

A dedication ceremony was held for Shearon Harris Building for Business Administration at Meredith on August 30.

About 400 people attended the program for the building named in honor of the late Shearon Harris of Raleigh. Harris served as a Meredith trustee for 10 years and as chairman of the Board of Trustees for four years. He was serving as vice chairman

of the Meredith trustees at the time of his death in August 1980.

Harris was also President, Chairman of the Board, and Chief Executive Officer of Carolina Power and Light Company and was very active in other business and civic organizations.

The dedication ceremony included the building presentation by architect Fred L. Tolson. Acceptance

speeches were given by Claude B. Williams, Jr., Meredith trustee; Dr. John Weems, Meredith president; Dr. Lois Frazier, Chairman of the Department of Business and Economics, and Martha Ensey, SGA president.

Mrs. Shearon Harris and Sherwood Smith, Jr., President and Chairman of the Board of Carolina Power and Light, responded to the

speeches. The Rev. T. L. Cashwell, Jr. of Hayes Barton Baptist Church gave the prayer of dedication.

A reception followed in the Brown Conference Room of the Harris Building.

The new building features 10 classrooms, 20 offices, one seminar room, a board room, faculty lounge, and a student reading room.

A plaque will be placed outside the building commemorating its dedication. A portrait of Dr. John Weems hangs in the entranceway along with a portrait of Mr. Harris.

Costing approximately \$1.3 million, the building was designed by Fred Tolson Associates of Raleigh and was built by Davidson and Jones Construction Co. of Raleigh.

## Convocation: Irma Austin

Irma C. Austin spoke at Convocation today (Monday) at 10 a.m.

As Business Manager of WORKING WOMAN Magazine, Austin knows about the concerns of working women and the topical events that affect women's lives, as a result both of her job and her personal life.

As a staff member of WORKING WOMAN and through her travels throughout the United States, Irma views experiences of other professional-managerial women on a national level. This and her own life experiences keep her up-to-the-minute on all that's happening to women in today's rapidly changing world.

She personally has experienced many phases of a working woman's life — mid-life career change, single professional, loss of a spouse, international travel and studies. In 1977, Irma purchased and arranged financing on her own two-

family house, before home-owning became popular for single people. "Fortunately, my timing was right -- mortgage funds were available," she says, "and, this has become one of the wisest investments I've ever made."

Before joining WORKING WOMAN as an Advertising Assistant in October 1979, Irma taught upper elementary classes for 16 years. She was promoted to Business Manager in September 1980. In addition to personnel functions, supply acquisitions, equipment purchases and maintenance, etc., she fulfills various speaking engagements on such topics as the Woman's Market, Automobile Purchasing and Financing, The Power of Women, Alternatives to Teaching and Careers in Magazine Publishing.

She received a B.A. degree from Trenton State College and an M.A. from Columbia University.



Irma Austin spoke at the Convocation in Jones Auditorium today.



The new Shearon Harris Business Building was dedicated in a ceremony August 30.

## Frazier Discusses Advantages of New Building

by Linda Sellers

Dr. Lois Frazier is understandably excited about the new Harris Business Building.

"It has a feeling of brightness and airiness," she said. "It's not the typical schoolhouse green."

Dr. Frazier, Chairman of the Department of Business and Economics at Meredith, was present along with other speakers and about 400 observers as the Harris Building was dedicated August 30.

The Harris Building has a combination of classrooms, offices, a seminar room, board room, faculty lounge, and student reading room.

Dr. Frazier said that she insisted on having the student reading room included in the building because it is a place "where students can go to study, read, and visit." This room has a rack for magazines, a table and chairs for studying, and comfortable chairs for relaxation.

One striking factor of the building is the claret (purple) walls in the hallways, which Dr. Frazier described as a

contrast to the beige walls in the classrooms. "It grows on you," she added.

The math department's quarters have also moved to the Harris Building from Joyner Hall. Department members have larger offices and better classroom facilities than in Joyner, said Dr. Frazier.

Several changes have occurred in the business department with the completion of the building. Dr. Jim Johnson of the department noted the larger section classes the building can accommodate and the additional parking in front of the building as two welcome changes. "The schedule's nicer this year for everyone," he added.

Only one new course, sales management, was added to the business curriculum this year. More will be added in the future, according to Dr. Frazier, probably in part due to the flexibility of scheduling classes in the new building and the addition of one part-time and one full-time instructor in the department. Dr. Frazier said that an

M.B.A. program is in the planning stages at Meredith. "Business is a viable, changing, dynamic field," Dr. Frazier said. Meredith currently has about 200 business majors. In Spring of 1982, 1226 students were enrolled in some type of business class at Meredith.

"Meredith has the type of program that appeals to students who find the courses interesting and helpful in getting jobs," said Dr. Frazier.

She cited the fact that Shearon Harris, after whom the building was named, was a firm believer in team effort. "I feel we have a good team with different backgrounds and interests that work together," she said.

Dr. Frazier said. "Our goal is to give the best possible education to people in the classes."

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- New faculty and staff
- Sports schedules
- Experiences of a Meredith Abroad student