

## Editorial: Meredith needs to listen to its faculty

contributed by Mary Moore

I'm sure you have received many letters from traditional and nontraditional aged students regarding the Thursday night meeting, I would also like to add my two cents worth. I fully and whole heartedly agree that Meredith College needs to change, but I agree more with what the faculty suggested than what our invisible President had to say. The nameless, faceless trustees and the President never gave us a goal or vision to strive for, but they kept talking as if no one else wanted to change. Most of the faculty I have spoken to are not upset with what President Weems said, but how he and the board said it. The fact that the "customers" or "products" as we were called were not informed, nor our opinions asked about all these changes which in the long and short run will be affecting us, I would say was a rather callous mistake on the part of upper administration. Students have a lot of power. We are the ones paying the salaries, and quite frankly, most of the

student body is just down right angry about being overlooked and ignored when we should have been the first notified. In defending the invisible one, I would like to dissolve any false rumors about this becoming a community college—President Weems did not mean that in his speech, and I really don't know how it ever got interpreted as that. But I also have some constructive advice—as the RA of the International/Noel House, I know that there are a lot of nontraditional students who don't speak English very well and would love to live on campus so they can better adjust to our culture and become better English speakers. I also know of nontraditional aged American students who are not married and would love to live on campus instead of commuting. These are all people who would be paying full tuition, room and board. Now towards night classes, most of the nontraditional aged students I know have to take day courses because of their children and/or husbands—they have to be in school when

their children are in school. Yes, creating more night courses will help the hardworking single woman, but it ignores (your family values speech) mothers. As an RA I know that most of my residents and their friends would not be here if it wasn't for the fantastic faculty and staff—I can do nothing but applaud the faculty for jobs well done. Because of this, I don't want to see any of them get laid off just because they disagree with our invisible leader. I'm a senior, so I feel like this is more a fight for the freshman and sophomores, but at the same time Meredith is my school. If it wasn't for the faculty who care so much about each and everyone of their students individually, I probably would be dead or flipping burgers the rest of my life, instead of getting a BA in psychology. And while I am here, I'm going to be heard loud and clear—I love the faculty of Meredith College and I will see no harm done to them without doing some serious damage to upper administrations. That is not a threat, that is a reality. Take my advice

and listen to the faculty—they know what they're talking about. It would also be wise to listen to the students and not to exclude them from what is happening on campus!

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#### Letters to the Editor Policy:

Everyone in the Meredith community is invited to write a letter to the editor. All published letters must be typewritten with contact name, address and telephone number. All letters must be signed by the author, but names will be withheld upon request.

The *Herald* reserves the right to place any other article submissions on file until needed or to choose not to print them.

### Letter to the Editor:

#### Librarian responds to student letter

Dear Editor,

I would like to take this opportunity to respond to the concerns Urie Oshima expressed about the library in her letter to the editor in the 2/1/95 *Herald*. She wrote about three areas: use of space, new books purchased, and hours.

Yes, we agree that the library is short on space. The staff is constantly looking for ways to use our space most efficiently. We are keeping the card catalog as a back up to the on-line ALIS catalog until conversion of bibliographic information about all library materials is completed. Also the reference librarians and I are working on a project to "renovate" the journal collection to take advantage of new technologies. This project includes evaluating current periodical holdings and the possibility of making titles more readily available while making more efficient use of the space available to us.

During 1993-4, Meredith spent

\$224,041 for library resources, including books, journal subscriptions, audio-visual resources, and CD ROM subscriptions. Purchase decisions are made based primarily on the recommendations of faculty, as long as funds are available. Unfortunately there is never enough money to buy everything. Faculty and library staff work together to select materials which will most directly support the work students are doing for classes. We always welcome suggestions from students. Please let us know what area(s) you find in need of strengthening.

The main library is open 93.25 hours per week, closing at 11 p.m. on Sunday-Thursday, 9 p.m. on Friday, and 5 p.m. on Saturday. At the present time there is not sufficient budget to hire personnel to keep the library open additional hours; however, we shall give your request serious consideration.

Janet Freeman  
College librarian