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'ANOTHER WINTER WONDERLAND'



A view of Ledford Hall after the second major snow storm of 1996 hit Raleigh and Meredith College. Snow and ice forced the school to be closed down for the third time since the beginning of the year because some students, faculty and staff were unable to get back to the college. Photo by Laura Brown.

Students voice concerns at 'Nix it or Fix it'

By Clarky Lucas

The Programming Board sponsored "Nix it or Fix it" to survey students about their concerns with the programming of campus organizations' events on Monday, January 29 in Belk Dining Hall.

"We wanted to give students an opportunity to voice their opinions about the events that are held on campus presently and ones they would like to see in the future," said Tara Flanagan, programming board chair.

Though the turnout was small, the students that attended brought up questions and ideas for weekend events such as carpooled trips to the movies. Students were also concerned that if events were scheduled, the attendance would not be great enough to pay for the expense of the activity.

There might be a better turnout if the people who wanted events on the weekends assisted in coordinating them, said Flanagan.

The Programming Board sponsors many events on campus such as Alcohol Awareness Week and the after Cornhuskin' party.

Their upcoming plans include a special tribute to women during Women's History Month in March.

"The Programming Board acts as a link between campus organizations and offers a support system to the organizations during their most hectic times of the year," said Flanagan.

Students with any ideas about new events or changes in tradition ones are encouraged to bring their suggestions to Flanagan.

Study abroad students talk about their foreign adventures

By Addie Tschamler

"The Road Less Traveled," a poem by Robert Frost may be used to describe the courageous few who opt to take a different route in their studies. These are the women of Meredith College who chose to study abroad for a summer or semester last year. Programs in Italy, France or Greece are among the few in which students recently participated. To give an account of their experiences, a few of these students spoke last Thursday evening in Joyner Hall.

Among the speakers were Melissa Mearns (Athens, Greece), Alison Schofield (Spain), Rebekah Abrams (England), Heather Dinklage (France), Shannon Hagardy (Spain), Carrie Snider (Italy and France) and Kyle Hoffman (Spain).

Snider, an art history major at Meredith, told about the challenges and rewards of studying abroad. "I think a lot of my philosophy has changed, and my ways of thinking are much more different from being in Italy, being in France and then traveling and seeing different people, seeing the way people interact with other people," said Snider.

Snider said that adjusting to France wasn't hard but "coming back was hard to adjust." She said that she misses the challenge of speaking French.

Dinklage, who studied in Angers, France also mentioned missing the challenge of conversing in French.

"I miss being in the apartment and cooking and eating what I want. And I liked the challenge of speaking French all the time and now that I'm back here, who do I talk to?" said Dinklage.

Dinklage said that she did get home sick a few times overseas and didn't realize how much she liked being in France until after she came back to the United States.

Rebekah Abrams, who studied at International University in England, didn't experience the language challenge, but she did experience extensive travel throughout Holland, Amsterdam, Ireland and Scotland. Although she took a variety of courses from Renaissance poetry to British politics, Abrams felt that she learned more through traveling.

The one thing that Abrams complained of was the food. In writing to a friend back in the US, Abrams told her that she actually missed Meredith food.

Schofield said, who studied in Spain, went under a program with the University of Colorado at Boulder. Schofield said, "it was hard coming back. I wasn't really ready to come back to Meredith yet." But her mom encouraged her to get back into the swing of things. Schofield said she was in touch with her family back in Spain and hopes to return soon.

All of the speakers told interesting stories of their experiences and would recommend the programs to other students. Some advice to those students considering studying abroad from Snider: "Don't go in with overwhelming expectations. Go in as a sponge. Go in and feel it out. There are so many different ways of doing one thing in our society. We're taught that one way is the way to do it. But there's more than one way to reach a goal."

And as Robert Frost says at the end of his poem: "Two roads diverged in the woods and I - I took the road less traveled by, and that has made all the difference."