

Meredith Herald

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We attract bright, talented, ambitious students. Naturally we're a women's college.

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Lighting survey brings various responses from students

By Allison Carter

Security chief Mike Hoke sent a campus wide email to all students and faculty prior to the Christmas break asking them about their nighttime lighting concerns on campus. Within a three day time period, Hoke received about 100 responses, although he was hoping for a few more.

After the break, Hoke again sent out the request out to students, this time receiving additional suggestions.

"I think we have a good cross section of responses from resident and commuter students," said Hoke.

Hoke noted that the number one location of concern was the area from the gym to the main campus. The second location of concern were

all of the individual classroom building entrances.

Students have voiced their opinions about needing stairs leading into the freshman gravel lot, as well as more lights in the large paved lot at the side entrance.

Hoke extended his search for student input when he recently spoke to a campus concerns committee.

Senior Clyda Wood, head of the committee, and other students discussed their concerns with Hoke. The leading concern: where campus call boxes are located and how to use them properly.

Hoke then told the committee what had been changed last semester based on campus

input. The security staff will give now rides to students to their dorms when they come back to campus - at any time of night. Students will still be allowed to park their cars on campus during holidays, but owners will be asked to park near security office behind Poteat dorm so security can keep an eye on them at all times.

Some students brought up the fact that during Hurricane Fran, the security staff wandered the dormitory halls in black raincoats, unclear to students that they were with the college. Now bright yellow coats with a large Meredith College logo will be the attire for such instances.

A solutions that is on the brink of conclusion is the Joyner computer lab being open 24 hours. It should be in affect prior to midterm exams.

Also, a new emergency phone number will be available for students to call and alert security of problems. The number will be easy to remember, as all four digits will be the same.

Hoke noted that it is because of student input that concerns are heard and resolved.

"Students are a good quality control mechanism for us," said Hoke. "They call when they see something unusual."

As for a resolution on the lighting survey, Hoke said that once he talked to more night time commuter students that he would be "just about done."

"I should be turning the survey results over to the college within a month," finished Hoke.

24 hour access to Joyner lab by mid-February

By Emily Fulghum

Starting in mid-February, the computer lab in Joyner Hall will be open all day, every day. This decision comes after some students' discontent with the lab's inconvenient hours during crunch times like mid-term and final exams. The present hours of seven a.m. to 11 p.m. (extended to one a.m. if more than one person is there) were originally set because of security's concern for the safety of the students after these hours.

However, when a student came to Meredith's chief of security, Mike Hoke, regarding the limited access to the computer lab during exams last semester, he listened.

"She didn't see why students weren't able to use the lab anytime they needed to, and I agreed," Chief Hoke stated. "The key issue in Joyner is security."

In light of these requests, and because Joyner is relatively easy to secure because it is visible, centrally located and well-lighted, the security staff determined that extending the lab's hours to make it more convenient to students was a viable option for the spring semester.

Ruth Balla of Technology Services said

that her main concerns were with the types of software made available if the computer lab was going to be more accessible. She stated that if the students would be spending more time there, then the software that they would have access to would be a determining factor in the success of the 24-hour lab. All previous services such as Internet access, e-mail, and Microsoft Word will still be provided. In addition, Technology Services is considering providing more of the software options that are presently found only in the Ledford computer lab, such as the math programs.

Student reaction to these developments is very positive. "I think that the new hours are a step in the right direction. Since I don't have a computer, it is really hard sometimes to try and fit my schedule around the lab schedule if I am crunched for time on an important project," says junior math major Robbin Woods. Given that more and more of the Meredith population turn into late-night creatures as the semester wears on, it seems that security has indeed taken a step in the right direction.

Weems graduate school prepares women further

By Addie Tschamler

Although Meredith's John E. Weems Graduate School is characterized as having small classes, its programs are in no way small in terms of quality. Since 1983, Meredith has offered master's degrees in business administration, elementary education, and music, in addition to its more recently-established dietetic internship. It is each program's priority to teach its students new concepts within each field of study and encourage students to develop new research or performance techniques. Students are given the opportunity to design parts of their study in order to meet their own needs.

The graduate school faculty is sometimes supplemented by resources outside the Meredith community in the fields of business, government, music and education. Faculty members not only teach students in the classroom setting but also are involved themselves in research, committees and programs within the Raleigh community.

Like undergraduates, students in the graduate school may also obtain Cooperating Raleigh Colleges (CRC) credit from other schools

to enhance their knowledge in a given field. CRC includes Peace, Saint Mary's, Shaw, N.C. State and St. Augustine.

Meredith's business department offers the Master of Business Administration (MBA) and is open to all qualified students, even those without an undergraduate business degree. Qualified students who apply for regular admission are those who have obtained a GPA of at least 2.5 and a GMAT score of at least 350 and those who have completed prerequisite courses with a grade of C or better. The MBA program includes 36 hours of graduate study in economics, accounting, finance, management and marketing. The business department also offers a cooperative educational experience for graduate students with Raleigh agencies approved by the Office of Career Services.

Meredith's department of education offers the master of education in elementary education and is open to students continuing study in education who have previously earned a North Carolina Class A teaching license in elementary education. Three emphases are offered within

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