



# MEREDITH HERALD

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

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## Search committee hears constituents' opinions

□ **Constituents voice the qualities they would like to see in a president.**

ALLISON CARTER; BETH HALL  
Editor in Chief; News Editor

Meredith constituencies spoke directly to the Presidential Search Committee earlier this week, offering their suggestions for the components of a presidential profile.

Again and again, the question of whether the committee should seek out a woman to be Meredith's new president was raised. Many constituents, including faculty, administration, staff, students, alumnae, and community, discussed the importance of seeking out candidates who have proven to be successful fundraisers, advanced scholars, spiritual leaders and visible leaders, as well as appreciative of Meredith's tradition and knowledgeable of small women's colleges. Some constituents also discussed whether the new president should encourage non-traditional

age programs or should strive to retain Meredith's focus on traditional age education.

While no one at any of the public forums suggested that the search committee seek out a man specifically for the job, there was debate over whether the search committee should seek out women exclusively. Some, like Alyson Colwell-Waber, an associate professor of dance, said the committee should recruit women. She pointed out the committee was a search committee, not a selection committee; therefore "find the best woman possible."

Colwell-Waber felt that this would help change the public perception that Meredith students go around in "white gloves and hats." The change in perception would increase student enrollment and boost alumna and community support of the college, she felt.

Former Dean Allen Burris said "the time was right" for Meredith to have a woman president, and

that choosing a female president would be "important symbolically." Alumna Barbara Massenburg '48 said, "It is past time for the largest women's college in the Southeast to have a woman leader." Dean of Students Sharon Cannon said "this is the perfect time to break the glass ceilings."

Others, like Lyn Aubrecht, professor of psychology, felt a woman president would serve as a better role model for the all-female student body, but the best person, regardless of gender, should be chosen. Janet Freeman, head librarian, agreed, "The right man is better than the wrong woman."

There was another debate of whether the new president should encourage age diversity within the student enrollment of various academic programs.

Some, like Sandra Close, director of the 23+ program and a 1996 graduate of the program, praise non-traditional age programs and want a president who will help those programs grow.

However, others, such as alumna Mabel Claire Maddrey '28, said the idea of Meredith becoming a "community college" should be "wiped out."

Another qualification many felt the next president should have is a commitment to financial assistance. The college should remain affordable, noted Director of Financial Assistance Philip Roof.

The candidate should also foster a sense of community around campus, said some, including Campus Minister, Sam Carothers. Carothers said a candidate should promote community among academic departments, staff departments and the students.

Students at the forum felt that the candidate should be visible to everyone on campus, especially the student body, in order to promote a sense of community. Ginger Hudson, president of the senior class, via a letter which was read into the tape recorder,

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## Meredith Christians celebrate community fellowship

□ **MCA sponsors week's events from campus picnics to laser tag.**

KELLY FISH  
Staff Reporter

Food, fun and fellowship were abundant last week on campus with the celebration of MCA Week. Daily activities were scheduled throughout the week to which the entire Meredith community was encouraged to attend.

On Tuesday, Crosspoint, a weekly meeting with songs, games, and Bible study, was held. Chapel was held Wednesday at 10 a.m., where Rachel Bennett inspired the audience with her message, and music was provided by Becky Thompson and Amy Pleasants.

Thursday, the campus was overcome by the sounds of Refuge, a contemporary Christian band, and a picnic was held in the courtyard.

Molly Jensen explained,

"Refuge was uplifting; It was refreshing to hear someone openly talk about their relationship with Christ." Friday was a time of fun and relaxation. MCA went to play laser tag at Ultrazone in Raleigh. MCA also does a variety of community service.

Saturday, a group of students met and did community outreach at the Food Bank, and another group visited a local retirement home. Many students expressed that it makes them feel good to help others and that volunteering is a great way to witness to oth-

ers, young and old.

Sunday, students were encouraged to worship at local churches. Some of the area churches provided transportation and even Sunday dinner for Meredith students.

If you are interested in finding a local church, you are encouraged to see Reverend Sam Carothers. Campus ministries has compiled a directory that contains churches of all denominations, their locations and their times of Sunday school and worship. An online directory is available at [www.meredith.edu/newsinfo/worship.html](http://www.meredith.edu/newsinfo/worship.html).

According to Michelle Barefoot, "MCA week was really awesome! It gave our fellow "Angels" the chance to get directly involved in MCA. It also gave them a chance to hear the Word of God and worship with other Christians."



Students enjoyed a courtyard picnic last Thursday as a part of MCA Week. The band Refuge entertained all who attended.

PHOTO BY ALISON FLOOD