



# MEREDITH HERALD

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Educating Women to Excel.

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## Open House policy changes.

☐ Open House begins this Saturday.

JONI SMITH  
Staff Writer

Meredith College will be experiencing a major change in residence life this fall. Starting this weekend, a new Open House policy will be in effect.

This is a change from last year's Open House policy because this year Open House hours will be every weekend. On Saturdays hours will be from 1-11 p.m. and on Sundays hours will be from noon-7 p.m.

According to Ann Gleason, Dean of Students, all students will sign a contract stating that they know the rules and accept the penalties if they break them. For freshmen, guests should be signed in at the first floor parlor of the dorms. These sign-in sheets will be checked by freshmen RAs. Upperclass students do not have to sign their guests in, but if problems occur, then Senate

members say that a sign-in policy will be reinstated.

During exam weeks, there will be no Open House hours.

This new policy was approved last year by the Board of Trustees based on hard work and research done by Meredith students. Last year's Senate did extensive surveys in residence halls to determine what students wanted.

In 1996, the Senate proposed a change that took place in the 1997-1998 school year. Campus-wide hours were extended, and an experimental senior dorm, Barefoot, was allowed to have Open House every weekend for 10 hours on Saturday and seven hours on Sunday.

"The Open House policy has evolved over the last few years," said Gleason.

During the 1998-1999 school year, Open House existed every other week, on either a Saturday or a Sunday for seven hours.

Last year's Senate Chair,

Elizabeth Beals, was involved in researching other school's Open House in order to be sure Meredith has a policy that will benefit the students. She said, "The Board of Trustees were very positive about this decision. The new policy passed unanimously. I hope it goes over well. Everything was done to benefit the students."

Penalties for violating the Open House rules will be community service on the first offense and loss of Open House privileges on the second offense. Any problems with signing in and out may be taken to the Dean of Students Office or the Residence Life Office. The Residence Hall Board will determine the punishments for those who do not follow procedure.

This semester's Open House will begin this Saturday, Sept. 11, and it will end on Sunday, Nov. 21.

*Leslie Maxwell contributed to this article.*

## Vice President of Academic Affairs sought

AMANDA FLETCHER  
Staff Writer

Meredith College is looking for a new Vice President of Academic Affairs. This is important to the student body because, according to the search committee, this individual will have a tremendous impact on the next course that the college will take.

In conjunction with the president of the college, this person will affect how we structure majors and general education, as well as the faculty programs. He or she will run the entire academic program and plan the budget. The vice president is a part of the senior management team of the college and reports directly to the president.

A search committee comprised of twelve members of the Meredith community has been appointed by the President, Dr. Maureen Hartford. The group consists people representing the groups that the new Vice President will affect. There are four department heads, four faculty members, two students (one traditional student and one continuing education student), one administrator and one staff member on the committee. The members are: Dr. Marie Chamblee, Dr. Jack Huber, Dr. Bob Vance, Dr. Knight, Dr. Eloise Grathwohl, Dr. Oatsvall, Dr. Allen Page, and Dr. Betty Webb, Carrie Swart, Sabrina Hearst, Dr. Johns, and Gordon Foldger.

Hoping to represent Meredith as a whole, the committee is working to incorporate everyone's desires. They have already held an open faculty forum, which allowed the entire faculty to express their opinions on what type of qualifications the new Vice President should have.

The search committee will continue looking for the right individual for the job. The committee chair, Chamblee, said, "ideally we would like to name the new Vice President by the end of the fall semester."

## Freshmen 'have their say'

CHRISTINA HOLDER  
News Editor

From spotting cozy couches in Barnes and Nobles to searching for an open chaise lounge pool side, the expectant Meredith freshman spent part of her summer locating the ideal spot for the perfect summer read. Summer reading is the biggest trend to hit the Meredith campus this year as the college begins its first summer reading program with the Class of 2003.

Summer reading programs, however, aren't a new trend. Schools such as NCSU, UNC-CH and Appalachian State University have already implemented reading programs for their entering freshmen.

The Meredith program was constructed to give freshmen an opportunity to read an insightful book away from a classroom setting that administrators hoped would inspire debate, build community and

broaden intellect. The idea for the program began when Chrissie Bumgardner, co-director for the Office of the First Year experience, spoke with one of her mentors who was involved with the summer reading program at ASU. From there Bumgardner proposed the idea through a Creative Ideas Fund. "We were getting a sense from the campus that they were seeking an intellectual climate, especially for Orientation," said Bumgardner.

The Office of the First Year Experience began collaborating with the English Department for ideas for the book selection. "The English Department has been really interested in something like the program for a long time. We wanted it to utilize community building time to focus on something intellectual," said Dr. Rebecca Duncan, professor of English.

Faculty members from

across campus were invited to be a part of the Summer Reading Program Committee. The committee was responsible for choosing the book selection and designing an application portion to the program. Duncan read three books before recommending *Having Our Say* written by Amy Hill Hearth along with Sarah and Elizabeth-Delany.

The book recounts the lives of the Delany sisters, two African American women who did not let discrimination of their sex and race stunt their growth as women leaders. "We chose the book because it had a Raleigh connection, it was readable, and we thought it could start a discussion in a thousand different directions. It just seemed to work. It was so enjoyable," said Duncan. The committee members also worked on a packet of ques-

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