2 *Campus News* A dean's job is never done: Allen Page to teach

CHRISTINA HOLDER News Editor

To the Queen of Hearts and other *Alice* regulars he was just another nonsensical creature in Wonderland. But with the faculty performance of the famed Lewis Carroll tale past, the man with the colorful costume will step "out of the looking glass," and back into his own Wonderland--Adventures in the Dean's Office.

As Dean of Undergraduate Instruction, Allen Page's schedule leads him to days packed full of meetings targeted to various issues concerning Meredith College.

Students associate him with the list bearing her name each semester for achieving a G.P.A. of 3.2 or higher. Students will thank him for venturing out on those icy mornings to survey the weather conditions and for making the recommendations to cancel class for the day. Yet these are only a few of the jobs Page does as dean.

He is responsible for academ-

ic policy overall and coordinating all aspects of undergraduate planning. He works closely with department heads to shape each program and is also responsible for reviewing specific programs and hiring facul-Other responsibilities tv. include his involvement in decisions of promotion and tenure Some of these responsibilities will now be handled by Dr. Rosalind Reichard, newly named vice president for Academic Affairs.

But the list doesn't end here. This year Page has been working closely with Dr. Maureen Hartford to shape goals for Meredith. One long term goal he hopes to see reached in the future is in increasing the technology on campus. A possible idea is to work on putting a "computer in the hand of every student" and to give specific departments computers specialized to their needs, such as those useful to graphic design or mathematics classes.

Page began serving as dean in 1991 in a position that was

newly created as the combination of the Dean of Undergraduate Instruction and the Registrar. Eventually the two positions were separated, and Page began serving solely as dean. Yet before Page was hired as dean, he was familiar with the Meredith community. As a religion professor, Page served as head of the department from 1987-1991. And now he is returning to those roots.

In the fall of 2000, Page will assume the position he left in 1991 as head of the department of religion and philosophy. The decision came about because Page missed teaching.

"My whole career I have encouraged my students to take time for reflective thinking. The pace of the last two years made me realize that I hadn't preserved that for myself," said Page.

In the fall, Page will be teaching two courses, a senior seminar required of religion majors, and Introduction to Biblical Literature and History, more commonly known as Religion 100. Page is ready for the changes ahead both for Meredith and his career. "I am excited. I haven't taught a full semester since the spring of 1991," said Page. Page will return to what he loves best in his career, whether as dean or professor, "working with people." Now students will have the opportunity to work with him.



Dr. Allen Page plans to teach as a faculty member after serving as dean of Undergraduate Instruction.

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