

Presidential Inauguration

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Women panelists share decisions, goals, challenges

LESLIE MAXWELL
Editor in chief

Though the stage of Jones Auditorium looked like the set of *The View*, the talk that took place there was far from the usual daytime talk show.

Six women, all presidents of area colleges, presented the symposium entitled Public Lives, Personal Choices, on Friday, Apr. 14 at 2 p.m. in Jones Auditorium.

The panelists were Marye Ann Fox, chancellor of N.C. State; Laura Bingham Carpenter, president of Peace College; Rosemary Gillett-Karam, president of Louisberg College; Gloria Scott, president of Bennett College; Julianne Thrift, president of Salem College; and Meredith's own Maureen Hartford.

The welcome was given by Anne Bryan, '71, co-founder and president of Exploris museum in downtown Raleigh.

Jody Roubanis, professor in the department of Human Environmental Sciences, was moderator, asking questions and keeping the conversation flowing.

Roubanis asked the panel what sacrifice they had to give up to get where they are today. Gillett-Karam said that she misses reading for pleasure; Fox, a physical organic chemist said that she misses

doing science.

Scott admitted that she misses frivolity, like time to watch a bad movie or go fishing. Hartford added that she believed that she makes choices instead of sacrifices, that she chooses to give up certain things to go in other directions.

Roubanis also asked the panelists for a word of wisdom for aspiring and future leaders. Fox noted that the best piece of advice she ever received was "Fail quickly; try again," for then she could learn from her past errors. Carpenter Bingham advised the future leaders in the audience to celebrate what makes people different from one another and to be authentic, to be real.

Hartford suggested that laughing every day can get a potential leader far by helping her remain focused and grounded. Thrift advised the young women to "be good to yourself," for that is the only way others will be good to you.

Reflecting what many others felt, sophomore Julie Rasmussen said of the symposium, "It was awesome! Those women are my heroes."

The panelists, most likely, would feel flattered by such praise, for, as Thrift noted, Meredith students and the panelists are "not trying to be a man when [they] grow up."

Picnic involves students in fun

JONI SMITH
Staff Writer

Though the inauguration of Dr. Maureen Hartford was a time of celebration on campus, members of the Student Involvement Committee wanted Meredith students to feel like they had a part in the week. Thus, their idea for a student-oriented picnic was born.

And on Wednesday, Apr. 12, students from both on and off campus shared in a picnic celebrating the inauguration. The theme of the picnic was the '60s, the decade that Hartford was in college.

Members of the committee were visible all day as they promoted the picnic by wearing tie-dyed T-shirts printed with the week's theme, Celebrating Women of Achievement.

Because of a broken-down truck, the souvenirs for the picnic had not arrived in time. Thus, every student who attended the picnic received a ticket to pick up a special memento to remember the day—glasses printed with a reminder of the picnic's purpose: Students Honor Dr. Hartford.

To complete the '60s theme, a disc jockey played beach

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Independent Colleges and Universities; Anne Dahle, '54, president of the Meredith Alumnae Association; Dr. Louise Taylor, professor of English; Vanessa Barnes, '88, associate director of the 23+ program; and Teresa Caviness, '01, M.B.A.

Carolyn Carter, '73, Assistant City Manager of Raleigh, happily told the audience that for Hartford, "the halo fits."

Many who attended the ceremony were especially pleased at the message that Friday, Duderstadt and Hartford all focused on: the need for students to have a social conscience and commitment to community.

As part of the ceremony, Hartford received a new presidential medallion to wear with her academic regalia. In the center is the Meredith hues iris surrounded by oak leaves. Smaller gold medallions on each side of the center piece

music and other retro tunes, students tried their hands at hula hooping and playing Twister and students could visit a table with Meredith yearbooks from the '60s and pictures of Hartford as a teenager.

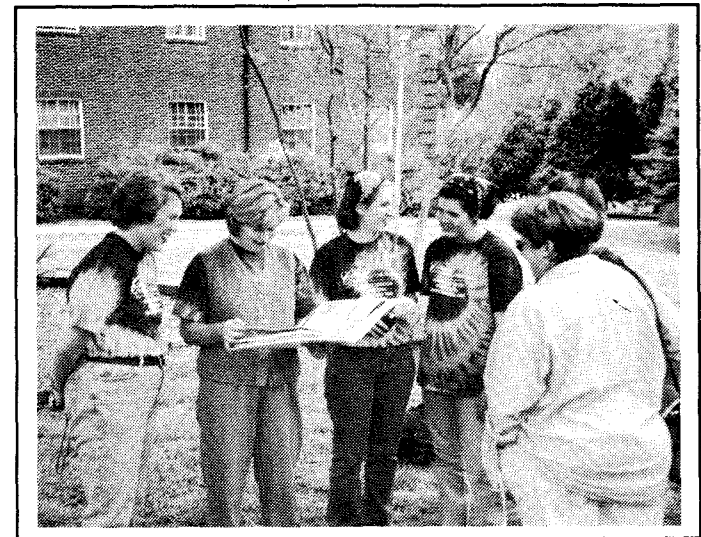
At the picnic, members of the Student Involvement Committee presented Hartford with a scrapbook compiled with pages representing major campus organizations including Silver Shield and Senate.

Freshman Anna Aman said,

"I thought the picnic was a lot of fun. It served as a nice break in a hectic day."

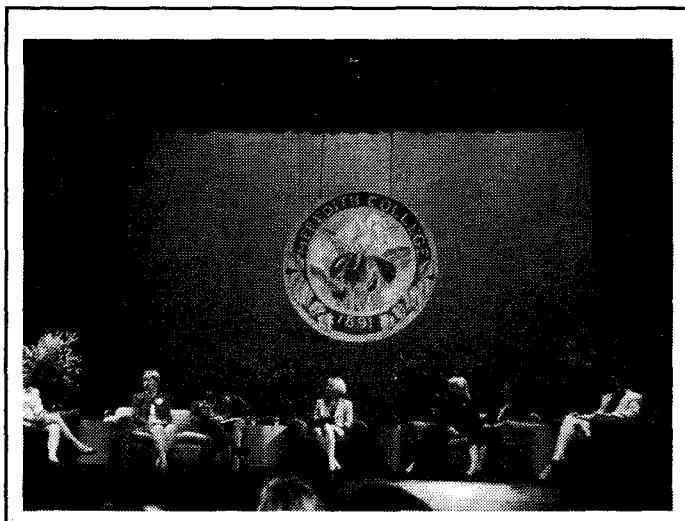
"It was nice to eat outside and enjoy the nice weather," freshman Beth Brown said.

The picnic served a fun prelude to the inauguration events that took place this past weekend. Many faculty members and staff, as well as members from the Inaugural Steering Committee, were on hand at the picnic for a time of relaxation, food and fun.



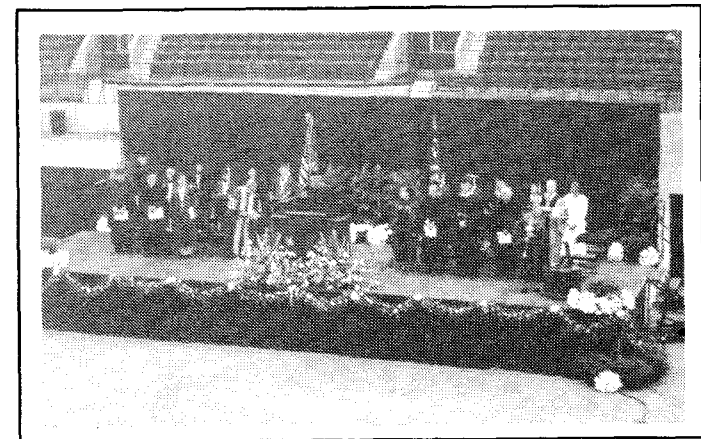
Seniors Laura May and Wynne Overton present Dr. Maureen Hartford with a scrapbook of campus organizations.

PHOTO BY JENNY ALTIER



The panelists at the Academic Symposium discuss the decisions they have faced in their lives.

PHOTO BY JENNY ALTIER



The platform party prepares for its role on Saturday.

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