

Eure to present work at convocation Friday

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Layout Editor

The "Wesley and Friends" Convocation celebrating the publishing of *A fish out of water*, the children's book written by Wesley Eure and illustrated by students from Meredith's art department, will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 10, in Jones Auditorium.

According to Linda FitzSimons, associate professor of art, who along with Melinda Fine, assistant professor of art, planned the convocation, the audience members will have the opportunity to participate in the convocation.

They will be able to watch as the "book comes to life" through music, dance, sculpture and narration.

FitzSimons explains that the convocation is a collaborative

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Frazier said that Meredith Votes took a few students to the polls on Tuesday.

Lines at many polling sites in the Raleigh area were building even before the sites opened.

Yet this year, many people, including Frazier, also took advantage of the no-excuses voting that most North Carolina counties offered, including Mecklenburg and Wake. Frazier chose to vote early because he knew that yesterday would be too busy for him.

With no-excuses voting, registered voters could vote up to three weeks in advance at the board of elections or other specified polling sites within each county.

Meredith Votes comprised Frazier's public leadership class, offered through the department of history and politics. During the course of the semester, the class sponsored a voter registration drive for students, faculty and staff. The group also organized a picnic at which Meredith students could meet and talk to local candidates.

The group made posters to display around campus. The first batch featured professors asking "Got Registered?" The second batch featured campus leaders saying "I'm Voting. Are You?"

The basic goals of Meredith Votes were to register 100 per-

cent of all the areas of art at Meredith, not just visual art.

Meredith art students received the opportunity to illustrate the book when Assistant Professor of Art Regina Rowland, currently on a leave of absence, met Eure in Los Angeles through a mutual friend, according to FitzSimons.

She explained that Eure told Rowland that he was looking for an illustrator, so Rowland asked him to give Meredith's art students a try.

"The Illustration II class began the project in the spring of 1999," stated FitzSimons.

"We found out in December of 1999 that the book was actually going to be published," she added.

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"The editing process took longer than the original illustration process," stated FitzSimons.

She explained that the entire illustration process took approximately four months.

"I came in after the original illustrators, so I learned that illustrators have to work very closely with the publishers and the author. It is a back and forth process," said senior art major Shelley Brown.

FitzSimons explained that it is very difficult for an illustrator to get her work published, and if she is successful, it usually takes around two years.

The Meredith art students were able to get their work published within seven months, a time frame virtually unheard of, explained FitzSimons.

She added that her Illustration II class collaborated with

Rowland's Graphic Design class, meeting together once a week. This proved to be a good experience for both groups.

The students decided to use cut-paper collage for their illustrations, and their goal was to make the illustrations as colorful as possible, said FitzSimons.

According to Brown, "When you have a lot of people working on a project, the biggest challenge is making the work look like the same person did all of the illustrations."

Senior art major Karen Haisty agreed and added that one of the things she found most interesting was learning to make different textures of paper for the collage.

"The cut-paper collage technique was tedious, but it turned out beautifully. It gave the illustrations a 2-D cartoon character quality," stated Brown.

She added that the students felt this was appropriate for a children's book. In addition,

she believes that the publishers liked it because it is an unusual form of illustration.

According to FitzSimons, the graphic design students also used creative design by making the type compliment the art, rather than simply describe it.

"It was a great experience for students to get to do this. Now we all have our foot in the door," stated Haisty.

FitzSimons stated, "I am very proud of the students in both classes who worked on this project."

She added that Eure arrived on campus on Sat., Nov. 4, and has been conducting workshops all over campus this week.

"This convocation would not be possible without a grant from the Creative Ideas Fund," stated FitzSimons.

Brown said, "I think it will be an exciting and entertaining convocation."

INFORMATION SESSION

MEREDITH STUDY ABROAD IN ITALY,
SWITZERLAND, AND ENGLAND
SUMMER 2001

DATE: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2000

TIME: 8 P.M. PLACE: 217 JOYNER

Have you been thinking of summer school? Why study in Greensboro or Raleigh when you could be studying abroad in Italy, Switzerland or England? Come find out from the experts what Meredith's Italy, Switzerland, England program has to offer you! Those who studied abroad last summer will be on hand to share pictures, stories and words of wisdom.

Augustine said "the world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page." Now is the time to turn the page. Study abroad next summer!

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