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New resource for classes

□ Program assists students in intro-level classes

LESLIE MAXWELL
Editor in chief

Academic resources such as the Learning Center, faculty advisers and the Office of Academic Advising have long been available to students who need a little extra help with their classwork.

Now, Meredith is introducing another program to help students in their classes. Supplemental Instruction, SI, is being coordinated by the offices of Academic Advising and First Year Experience.

Supplemental Instruction offers students a way to review concepts learned in selected

classes and practice those concepts. Some of the courses SI is offering help in are Biology 101 and Geology 100. And, according to the SI flier, the sessions are voluntary and open to all students who want to improve their understanding of course material.

The review sessions are offered two times a week, and they are facilitated by a student. Working with other students, discussing concepts and developing ways to study and learn the material are just some of the activities that take place during a Supplemental Instruction session.

And data taken from other schools shows that students who regularly attend Supplemental Instruction sessions have higher grade point averages than those who do not attend sessions.

At N.C. State, for instance,

students who attended one or two sessions had an average GPA of 2.4 for that class, while students who attended 10 to 13 sessions averaged a 3.0 and students who attended 14 or more sessions averaged a 3.2 GPA for that class.

The classes Supplemental Instruction is offered in are geology, taught by Dr. Carol Hazard, with SI led by junior Robyn Ratcliffe; biology, taught by Dr. Bob Reid, with SI led by junior Christina Brizendine; religion, taught by Dr. Janet Nelson, with SI led by senior Missy Neff; and psychology, taught by Dr. Mark O'DeKirk, with SI led by senior Amy Leeper.

The student leaders know the content of the courses, and they attend each regularly scheduled class taught by the instructor.

SGA president-elect plans

JONI SMITH
Staff Writer

A Carolina girl will be leading the show next year at Meredith. A South Carolina girl, that is.

Hope Parrish, a rising senior from Columbia, S.C., has recently been elected Student Government Association president for the 2001-02 year.

Parrish is double majoring in American civilizations and pre-law with hopes of going to law school at the University of South Carolina or Wake Forest University.

"I have loved history ever since I took my first Western Civilization course here at Meredith," she said, "and I want to be a lawyer because I think I could really help people."

Parrish definitely has enough activities on her resume to be a worthy Student Government President and law school student. She has been an active member of Meredith Recreation Association, this year serving as secretary. She has also been involved with SGA and Senate in her role as

SGA vice president/ Senate chair for 2000-01.

As a history and politics major, she has also been involved in the History/Politics Club and served on the Club Coordinating Committee this year.

"I have always loved to interact with different people and there really is no better way to come into contact with different groups of people than being involved with SGA," she said.

As a rising senior, Parrish has had time to reflect on her years on campus. "I love the friendships I have made. The girls are one of a kind here. I also love the academic part of Meredith.

"I enjoy being in my classes, and my teachers are just wonderful; they're so passionate about teaching and helping students learn and become better people."

Although she has enjoyed her time at Meredith, there are some things she would like to see change next year during her time as SGA President.

"A lot of people at Meredith

feel that their voice is not heard, and I want to change that. I want every voice to be heard, not just the loudest," she said.

Parrish would also like to change the way some people on campus think.

"I wish people at Meredith would be more open minded and accepting of others. Some people don't realize that there is life outside of Raleigh.

"I also want to encourage students to walk away from their parents' views and form their own."

Hope is excited about the approaching new semester and hopes to get the entire Meredith community involved and excited as well. "We have a great Executive Board for next semester. I can't wait to get started."

Hope would like to be connected with every group of students at Meredith next year. "Next year will be the year of the students," she said. "I really want everyone to feel they can voice their concerns because I really want to hear them."

Ground breaking for science building to be April

OFFICE OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Meredith will break ground on an 80,000-square foot science/ mathematics building on Monday, Apr. 9 at 2:30 p.m. in the courtyard of the Mae Grimmer Alumnae House.

A reception will be held immediately following the ceremony.

All students, faculty and staff are invited to attend both events.

The first new classroom building to be constructed on campus since 1993, the state-of-the-art science/ mathematics building will house Meredith's biology and health sciences, chemistry and physical science and mathematics and computer science departments.

It will include student-faculty research laboratories, interdisciplinary spaces, outdoor classrooms, high-tech instrumentation and a roof-top telescope platform and is expected to be complete in January 2003.

Recommended in the college's strategic plan, the new building is a key element of Meredith's initiative to prepare women to excel in science-and-math-related careers--two traditionally male-dominated fields.