



MEREDITH HERALD

Volume XVIII, Issue 8 4

Educating Women to Excel

September 19, 2001

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Wings of Hope campaign is hoping to give a million dollars to victims of last Tuesday's attacks.

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If she lived today, she would have been a feminist. Artemisia leads the first Convocation of the year.

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Task Force narrows the choices of the general education signature

LEESHA AUSTIN
Features Editor

The Task Force meets again to discuss general education models, debate title of program.

Members of the General Education Review Task Force gathered on Tuesday evening, Sept. 18, 2001, in Ledford Hall to further propose models for general education reform and to propose signature statements for the focus of the program.

Following presentations of two different general education models, members discussed positive and negative aspects to each model as well as possible choices for the general education program's signature, the statement of the general education program's focus.

Among the choices for the signature of the program are: "Making Connections, Making a Difference;" "Women in the World: Learning, Leading, Living;" "Liberal Learning for Civic Engagement;" and "Discovering Distinct Voices to Make a World of Difference."

Dr. Betty Webb, chair of the Task Force, introduced Dr. Lyn Aubrecht, professor of psychology, who presented a general education model that he created.

Aubrecht's model included one course that would focus on studying the lives of women "who are making a difference."

Another proposed course would allow students to examine who they are psychologically as well as examine their values and beliefs and where their values and beliefs come from.

Aubrecht also stated that he

believes the members of the Task Force and the rest of the Meredith community have an obligation to the founders of the College and other people in its past to consider their views while making decisions.

Webb assured him that the Task Force is considering Meredith's history and "trying to make this an evolutionary rather than a revolutionary process."

Following Aubrecht's presentation, Task Force member Dr. Virginia Knight presented a general education model that she created.

Knight's proposed "Cornerstone" course, a multi-disciplinary course, would consist of writing and service hours and would deal with gender, science and global issues throughout the semester. The course would also involve a heavy load of literary and historical

reading.

Her proposed courses would focus on consciousness of important issues, constructive conflict, creativity in all domains or disciplines and citizenship in the community.

"The thing I feel most strongly about is the distribution of courses," said Knight.

She added that general education should try to focus more on the goals of general education in the categories rather than focusing on particular disciplines.

Task Force member Dr. Rosemary Hornak presented revisions to her general education model. As a "Cornerstone" she suggested having a religion

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Faculty panel discusses terrorism

Students gather to ask questions about why terrorism happened here.

CHRISTINA HOLDER
Editor in Chief

A panel of Meredith College and North Carolina State faculty talked about the implications of terrorism at a student forum on Thursday, Sept. 13, 2001 at 7 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium.

The panel, brought together to discuss issues concerning the recent terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C., was formed quickly --only two days after the attacks--by Dr. Michael Novak, head of the department of history and politics.

"Many faculty noticed a great deal of student interest in class. The level of concern was

enormously high," said Novak.

"We decided to work with student concern while it was still at a pretty high level and to try to give people information and analysis in the midst of a public response that was primarily emotional."

Novak called upon four professors in various disciplines to speak on the panel including religion professor Dr. Ann Burlein, sociology professor Dr. Rhonda Zingraff, history and politics professor Dr. Jim Piazza and N.C. State professor of Middle Eastern history Dr. Akram Khater, who has taught at Meredith for the past five years.

"We really looked for the professional training that would give us a multi-dimensional approach to the problem," said Novak.

At the panel discussion on Thursday night, approximately 80 students and faculty gath-

ered to pose questions and learn more about why terrorism happens.

"We come here to understand the best we can," said Novak, opening the forum. "We want to try to understand why these people thought it was right to do what they did. That's different from saying what they did was right."

Khater talked about the history of Arab relations with the United States, trying to help audience members see the Arab perspective.

He said that the United States' siding with Israel while acting as an adversary between Israel and Palestine is one point of contention with Arabs.

Another is the vast materialism many see when looking at the United States. One school of thought among some Islamic extremists is that "evil is the consumer, imperial West," said Khater, which would explain

why terrorists would attack the United States' greatest emblem of capitalism--the World Trade Center's twin towers.

"We are not the Great Satan, as it be," said Khater, but we have given it fodder.

Piazza, who specializes in international relations, was concerned about the United States jumping into war without considering the cause behind a terrorist action of this degree.

"[When] a nation is at war, access to information is at a lower standard," he said. "Our reaction hasn't been anything but a military reaction. What about foreign policy?"

Burlein commented that many people cannot understand why Islamic extremists

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