

College welcomes new faculty members

AUDREY TAMER
Staff Writer

Freshmen aren't the only new people on Meredith's campus this year. The school also welcomed new faculty members. Take this opportunity to learn a few facts about some not so familiar faces around campus.

Steven Cox

Dr. Cox teaches Consumer Behavior, Advertising and Promotion, and International Marketing. He attended Northwestern University, Northern Illinois University, and the University of Nebraska. Prior to teaching at Meredith, Cox taught at Virginia Tech and Creighton University.

When asked about his

philosophy on teaching Cox said, "It is my job to prepare individuals to succeed in careers in business. Whether they are destined for line or staff positions in marketing, finance, or production, they must have at a minimum, a thorough understanding of marketing theory and the role marketing plays in the success of the corporation. Beyond that, they need to have the opportunity in the classroom to test the strength of their understanding against real world problems."

He feels his strengths are academic preparation, his 25 years of experience, and a talent for educating. Dr. Cox's favorite parts about teaching at Meredith are the characteristics of the students. His favorite color is blue. His favorite food is prime rib, as illustrated when he said, "Midwestern

boys believe in the slogan, 'Beef, it's what's for dinner.'"

Steve Wilkins

Mr. Wilkins is the Associate Director of Admissions, Operations and Support. He attended Syracuse University/Maxwell School where he received a B.A. in Geography. Prior to coming to Meredith, Wilkins worked six years in admissions at Duke University and over two years at Syracuse University.

His philosophy on education is, "Everyone benefits from deep intellectual thought and the ability to ask relevant questions. Cross cutting and cross cultural experiences enhance one's knowledge base by developing a diversity in perspective. We need to

learn and grow with one another."

The sense of community and closeness attracted him to Meredith College. He feels that his strengths are working interactively and relating to others. His favorite food is calamari and his favorite store is Neiman Marcus. In conjunction with his favorite store he said, "I like to dream."

Astrid Billat

Dr. Billat teaches Spanish 205 and Spanish 306. She received her BA from Augustana College, her M.A. from the University of New Mexico, and her Ph.D from the University of Michigan. She taught at the University of New Mexico, the University of Michigan, and at Ohio Northern

University.

She chose to teach at Meredith because she said, "I love to teach! Meredith is an institution that greatly values teaching so I feel at home here. Moreover, for being a smaller college, I have the opportunity to know my students and colleagues better than I would at a major research university."

She feels that her strengths are her enthusiasm and passion for teaching and her subject area. Billat's favorite store is Whole Foods and one of her favorite foods is vanilla ice cream with chocolate sauce.

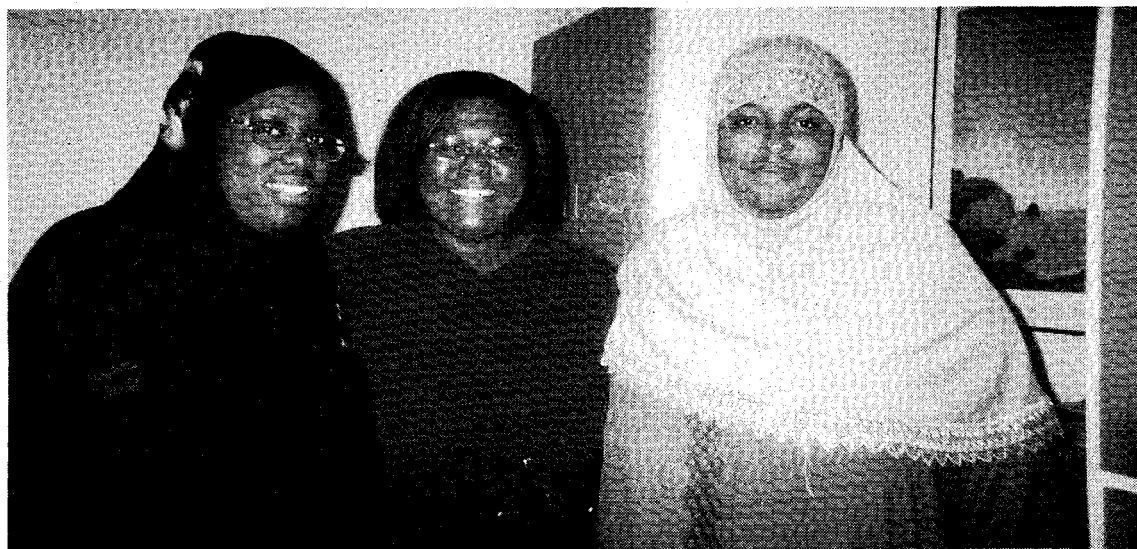
The Herald will profile more new faculty members in future issues.

Leadershape display showcased students' visions

NINA BORUM
Staff Writer

The LeaderShape Institute is a week-long leadership program designed to improve society by inspiring, developing, and supporting students to "lead with integrity." The program content for the LeaderShape Institute reflects key leadership issues such as vision, partnerships, integrity and results.

Participation in the Institute teaches students how to work on high-performance teams, practice decision making for ethical dilemmas, learn to deal with change, clarify per-



Students involved in the 2003 Leadershape vision display.
photo by Nina Borum

sonal values and standards, and understand and respect the values of other individuals. In addition, all participants leave the Institute

with a "LeaderShape Project." The LeaderShape Project is vision and plan of action for the participants to implement back in

their organizations, communities or workplaces.

Forty Meredith students gathered in Fort Caswell, North Carolina this past

May for the LeaderShape Institute. The goal for the week was to develop a vision accompanied with a plan of action for the students to bring back to Meredith. Erica Edwards was a recent participant who is taking steps towards her vision. Past LeaderShape Institute participant, Tiffany McKinnon's vision is coming to surface this year and impacting the Meredith community.

Edwards stated, "For me, LeaderShape was an amazing experience."

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