

## Participate in National Leadership Study / Enter to Win a Target Gift Card

**CHERYL JENKINS / SUE KEARNEY**  
Meredith Staff

Meredith College has been selected to join over 50 other colleges and universities in a national research project called The Multi-Institutional Study of Leadership. The goal of the research is to examine college student leadership at a national level, using the Social Change Model (HERI, 1996) as a theoretical frame. Since

Meredith already incorporates this model in some of its leadership programming, we are particularly pleased to be part of this study.

Most Meredith undergraduate students will be notified by e-mail of the web-based survey in late January. Any questions about the survey can be directed to the Office of Research, Planning, and Assessment or the Office of Student Activities and Leadership Development, coordinators of the research project

at Meredith. Students are encouraged to complete the survey in order to provide our institution with helpful data regarding leadership development as well as to contribute to the overall national study. As incentive to complete the survey, participants will be entered into a drawing for four Target gift cards provided by the College, as well as for other incentives offered at the national level.

## Budget Committee Meeting

Attention Student\$

The campus wide Budget Committee is hosting a forum on Tuesday, January 24th at 9:30am and 3:30pm in Carswell Auditorium. The forum is open to all students, faculty, and staff. This meeting will be an opportunity for you as students to give input on the 2006-2007 budget. You will have the chance

to view the projected budget (including tuition rates) and offer your personal comments.

Bill Wade, Dr. Hartford, and other members of the Senior Management Team will be present at the forum and it's important that they hear the students' voices. There are two students on the Budget Committee (Kelly Beth

Smith and Christine Davis) and we want your feedback on the proposed budget in order to represent the student body during the budget meetings.

It is so important to have a strong student presence at these forums! Please make plans to attend and let your voice be heard. Questions? Email [SGA@meredith.edu](mailto:SGA@meredith.edu)

## Campus Dialogue on Diversity

“Disability Awareness: It’s More Than Handcapped Parking”

Thursday, January 26  
6:00 pm in Ledford 101

An interactive session exploring disability culture and the impact of being disabled in an ‘able-bodied’ world. Presented and co-sponsored by Disability Support Organization and the office of Disability Services.

## MeredithREADS

### Spring 2006 Training!

Join MeredithREADS Literacy Volunteers & Make A Difference! MeredithREADS training for students will be Wed, Jan 18 from 5:00-7:00pm in Dogwood A of Belk Dining Hall. Please register for online at [www.meredith.edu/students/volunteer/meredithreads.htm](http://www.meredith.edu/students/volunteer/meredithreads.htm) and join us Wednesday!!

## Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

### Interest Meeting:

Tuesday, February 7th at 7:00pm in the 2nd Cate Lounge Area

If you are interested in being a part of an off-campus chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. then this meeting is for you. This meeting will give general information about the organization and details about starting an off-campus chapter which would include students from Meredith and Peace College.

Contact Melody Butler at [butlerme@meredith.edu](mailto:butlerme@meredith.edu) or Kimberley Crutcher at [crutcher@meredith.edu](mailto:crutcher@meredith.edu) for more information.

## Campus Leadership Opportunity: Being a Resident Assistant

**HEIDI LECOUNT**

Director of Residence Life

There are a variety of leadership opportunities for students to serve in at Meredith. Being a Resident Assistant is a unique opportunity that combines learning leadership skills while gaining work experience. Through the RA position, students learn valuable leadership skills such as time management, conflict mediation, program planning and team work. Although these leadership skills are learned for the position, they will last long after college.

When asked, former RAs reflected on their days of working with students while gaining valuable leadership skills. Ann Gleason, Dean of Students, said that being an RA gave her “practical

skills in community building, conflict management, problem-solving, and time management.” A former Meredith RA, Betty-Shannon Prevatt, who now works at Meredith as a Disability Counselor, said “the lessons I learned as an RA were a great introduction to the working world after graduation. It was a wonderful way to begin practicing my leadership skills as they would apply outside the classroom and in the real world.”

Some of the leadership skills learned can be used right out of college. Current Barefoot Residence Director, Sharlene Provilus, was an RA last year at East Carolina University before coming to Meredith. She says, “One thing I’ve learned by being an RA is how important it is

to be a good listener. Residents are constantly looking for advice and someone to give them positive feedback, but often times they really just need to know that there is someone to listen.” Sharlene also commented that she knows the communication skills she built as an RA have really helped her in everyday interactions.

Even though being an RA is a paid position, there are other benefits such as the friends that can be made. Nikki Curliss, Assistant Director for Student Activities and Leadership Development has used her RA skills since she held the position, however, she fondly remembers the social part of the position as well. “Fellow RAs, who became my friends for life will always mean the most

to me. I worked in a building with 15 other RAs. We shared stories of residents, helped each other through rough times and laughed all night.”

Students who are interested in applying to be an RA for the 2006 – 2007 academic year should talk with their current RA and/or Residence Director. Applications and information will be available in mid-January, but it’s never too soon to start learning about the position and the application process. There

are a few requirements to be aware of before applying. Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.5 at the time of application and throughout the position and should have lived on campus at least one semester before applying. Other leadership experience is preferred but not required.

If you have any questions about being an RA, you can contact your residence hall staff or the Office of Residence Life ([reslife@meredith.edu](mailto:reslife@meredith.edu)).

## Peer Leader Positions Available

Interested in being an RA, SA, PLC, RL, or TSA? To find out more about these positions, attend an information session on Mon, Jan 23 at 10am in 211 Ledford or on Tuesday, 24th at 6pm in Kresge- Questions, email [scottke@meredith.edu](mailto:scottke@meredith.edu)