

Where is the Funding for a Simple Project?

By Shiara Molina
Staff Writer

Towards the end of the spring '06 semester, I learned that Joyner was going to be getting revamped. I got really excited when I heard this because, being an English major, this is my main building. It was going to take the entire summer to revamp the building. The professors' offices were moved to the senior dorms and no classes were taught in Joyner. When I'd come to class in the morning, I'd see workers drilling and painting inside, and when I'd leave in the evening, they were still working. I could not wait to see the result the long, hard work put into Joyner. The first day of fall '06 semester comes, and the moment to see the new and improved Joyner Building is here. I walk past Jones Auditorium and the fountain. I walk up the stairs and I open the door to enter the building. Are you kidding me? This is what

took an entire summer to do?

It took three months to give Joyner a paintjob? My 10-year-old sister could've done this! When I came for orientation, I loved the Math & Science Building, Harris, and Ledford. They looked so up-to-date and comfortable. Then I learned that the majority of my classes wouldn't be in those buildings. I learned they would be in Joyner. What a disappointment that was. I understand the building is old, and that is why I got excited when they were finally going to use part of the \$29,000 of our tuition on buildings that we learn in. The money was going to be used on something to benefit the students. Wow, what a concept! This paint job was not even worth \$500. Where are the new desks? As far as I can see, students have to sit in hard, uncomfortable wooden desks that are old and were probably used in elementary schools in the 1960's.

Oh wait, they did replace those desks, IN ONE ROOM! Yeah that's great, because classes are only held in one classroom in Joyner. Could we possibly use maps that don't fall apart when you pull them down? Ledford Hall has an auditorium, and Harris has an elevator. It's not just Joyner. Why can't the professors get nicer desks to work from or bigger offices? Why can't we have a gym with actual bleachers or a softball field with lights? How can you play softball at night without lights? Where on earth is our money going? These facilities aren't worth \$1000, much less \$29,000. I'm sorry, but I assumed that a revamped Joyner meant a building where the professor's offices didn't get mold under the carpets because it got flooded in the first week of classes.

Now I'll be nice. There are a few swell things that the Joyner building got. We got new carpets. I mean, honestly, how can we take classes

without a carpet that's just as ugly as the one that was there before? All sarcasm aside, I do love the new study room. I think it was needed and it's a wonderful, pretty room. But we need more than that! We need to fix the rooms that we actually take classes in. We need a building that can be at a comfortable temperature while students are taking class. It would be nice to have a few more left-handed desks, but that's not that big of a deal. We need an elevator for students who physically can't be going up and down stairs. These same students could use a ramp to get in and out of the building. Why were the printers taken out of Joyner? Students actually used them. It seems like all the things that benefited the students were the things that were taken out.

I love Meredith College. It has turned me into the woman that I want to be and I owe a lot to this school and its students. This is why I'm complaining. This

school is expensive and I believe the education we receive is worth the money, but where is all this money going. I know it's not going to the facilities. Our library is almost embarrassing compared to many other schools around the area. We have so much land on this campus. I know there's enough room to fix Joyner. I know that the tuition is steep enough that we could afford to put some of it towards the athletic facilities. The students at Meredith pay a lot of money for books, so I know all the tuition money isn't going towards that. If these renovations are too much to ask for, then I think the people who pay tuition have the right to know exactly where all the money is going. There should be a meeting where all the money givers of Meredith College meet and discuss exactly what they're funding. Personally, if our money isn't benefiting those of us who go to this school, then I'd like to see what I'm paying for.

CORE 100: A Reflection of Meredith's Diversity

By Morgan Ericson
Contributing Writer

After hearing numerous stories about the infamous CORE 100, I did what any intelligent student might do and avoided taking the class. When sophomore year came, I reluctantly added and dropped three sections of CORE until I found my professor of choice. I crossed my fingers and waited. I soon discovered significant flaws in the class's structure that revealed an internal issue

within Meredith College.

Meredith wants its students to graduate with an awareness and understanding of culture, global issues, and diversity. The school recognizes the reality that students won't achieve this goal unless they are pushed. Thus, Meredith created convocation and CORE requirements, which essentially force diversity upon students. Every student must complete twelve convocations and three levels of CORE classes.

CORE 100 could be a powerful means for challenging students, but the college allows staff in any field to teach the class. Math professors, sociologists, and English majors teach a class for which they lack enthusiasm and credentials. Meredith has thrown other duties onto unqualified staff through the position of faculty advisor. I have heard stories of faculty advisors giving incorrect information to students, resulting in girls taking

unnecessary classes or experiencing great amounts of frustration. The effect of placing these responsibilities upon Meredith's staff is that, besides teachers' disputed qualifications, students do not receive the quality of advice and teaching that they ought to have.

CORE 100 is also seemingly unregulated. The college gives the class's goals to the professors who use their discretion in applying them. One professor includes readings on gay

slurs in schools, Islam, and discrimination against women, while another focuses on patterns of immigration within the United States, the clash of civilizations, and the American Dream. If professors do not wish to discuss touchy issues such as sexual orientation and ethnicity, they can avoid doing so. This imbalance results in students