

news

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ON-CAMPUS APARTMENTS FOR STUDENTS

Melyssa Allen
Contributing Writer



Photo courtesy www.meredith.edu

Meredith juniors and seniors who are ready to live on their own but don't want to give up the convenience and camaraderie of campus living will soon have an additional housing option. Construction on the apartment building is slated to be complete in June, and the building will open in fall 2009.

The apartment building will consist of 48 units, each containing four bedrooms and two bathrooms, and 30 units containing two bedrooms and two bathrooms. Rental fees for the apartments are \$595.00 per student per month for a 4-bedroom unit and \$695.00 per student per month for a 2-bedroom unit.

Highlights of the student apartment project include the following:

1) Convenience. Living in the Meredith apartments offers students both freedom and convenience—no traffic, no extra mileage on the car or worries about gas prices. If students prefer not to cook, a meal plan option is available for purchase.

2) Security and Dependability. The apartments will benefit from 24-hour security. The apartments are also college-owned and managed, so students can depend on a consistent landlord.

3) All-Inclusive Price. The 12-month rental agreement, which will be billed by semester, covers everything, including utilities, water, local telephone and wireless internet service. Each apartment is fully furnished with full-size beds, desks, a couch, dining room furniture and appliances including washer/dryer and full-sized refrigerator. The apartment rental fee is included in the cost of attendance at Meredith and will be considered when determining financial assistance packages for students for each term enrolled.

4) Quality and Sustainability. The LEED certified building practices being used to construct the apartments translate to quality of life features such as superior air ventilation and water purification systems, and non-toxic paints and carpets.

Sign-ups for the new apartments are scheduled for February 23. For more information on the newest housing option at Meredith, visit www.meredith.edu/apartments. ■

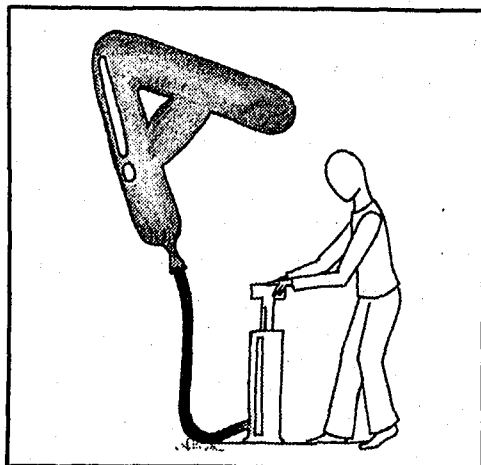


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GRADES, Continued from Page 1

course evaluations which are given at the end of every semester. "If the administration relies mostly on

student evaluations, professors are more likely to give higher grades because most students are going to give a better evaluation if they make a good grade" says Walton.

As for the problem UNC-CH is facing, Meredith doesn't have to worry about it for now, but if grade inflation were to become a problem on campus, there are many remedies available to the administration.

One possibility, Walton mentioned, includes providing multiple measures to rate professor success other than student evaluations, such as colleague observation and faculty

portfolios. Another option would be to change the grading policy to a quota system like that of Princeton's. The News and Observer reports that only 35% of students in each academic department can be awarded an A at Princeton University.

"Requiring universities to release grades and studies like the one done at UNC could be one remedy, considering information like this could be harmful for a university's reputation," Walton added.

It seems as though the professors at Meredith College are on the track to fairness. "A's are for those who go

above and beyond, a C, now, is like a D [to students], but a C is average work. You get your work done and that's it, you are awarded a C," said Grant. Sticking to the traditional grading system where students earn their marks can sometimes be painful for students and even faculty because students can be pushing so hard for that A they 'deserve.' In the end, earning success can end up being a lot more rewarding. However, who's to say that 82% of UNC-CH students didn't earn those honor roll grades? ■