

# Meredith

the MEREDITH



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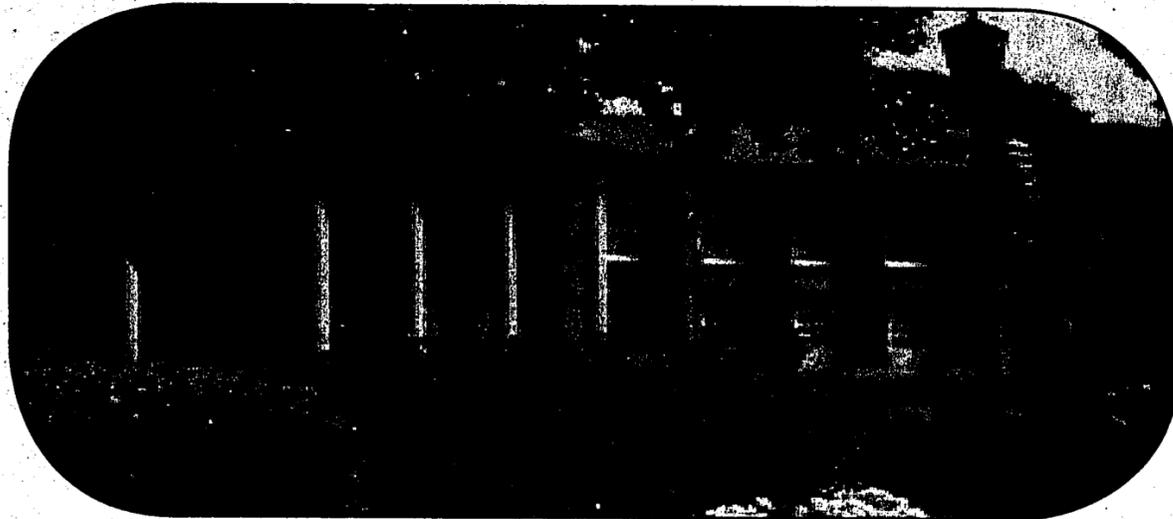


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## ECONOMIC CRISES CAUSE FOR LIFE-CHANGING DECISIONS

Anna Turner  
Staff Writer

Given the state of today's economy, Meredith College now is feeling the pressure to cut back and conserve spending. However, this requires substantial major and class cutbacks. During the Student Body Meeting on September 21, this crucial issue was put up for discussion.

Preliminary recommendations made by Drs. Hartford and Page will be brought to the executive members of the Board of Trustees on Monday, September 28th. The decisions were partly based on Vision 2010's aim of keeping a 12:1 student/faculty ratio.

Eleven of Meredith's majors have been reviewed, including Computer Science, Dance, Environmental Studies, French, Economics, Music, Religion, Public History, Theatre, and Women's Studies. However, just because these majors have been reviewed does not necessarily mean that they are going to be cut from the course catalogue; it simply means that many of these majors are being revamped and consolidated. The Computer Information Systems major will be cut; however, Computer Science is still going to be an available major. Similar streamlining will occur in the Dance, Theatre, and Economics departments, while other majors are getting renamed completely. Environmental Sustainability has been proposed as the new name of the Environmental Studies major and Religion will now be called Religion and Ethical Studies. Unfortunately, there will be some majors that have to be dropped entirely. Currently, proposals to drop majors in French and Women's Studies have been made, and the Public History major will be dropped, but a revised minor has been accepted.

These changes have raised concern

among many Meredith students. One Meredith student asked, "What will happen to the professors in these fields?" SGA President Amy Damone stated that at this point four jobs could be eliminated, but there are no final answers at this point. Fortunately, since many professors do indeed teach in multiple areas, not all cut positions will necessarily be lost. Dr. Jackson also addressed a question regarding students who have declared one of the majors proposed to be cut. For these students, there is going to be a "teach-out" option so that they can complete their major requirements and earn their desired degree. There will be a cessation date of the major, and there will be further discussion after that date has been announced. There is no need for the affected students to panic, because the cessation date would not be set for this year; however, the date could potentially involve currently enrolled freshmen. Unfortunately, the option for majors to be turned into concentrations isn't available because under SACS, they both require the same number of faculty members. There were some questions that did not receive definitive answers, such as one regarding how these changes will influence future Meredith enrollment. It is uncertain how these changes will affect student numbers, but students, faculty, alumnae, and patrons are advised to keep up the pro-Meredith mindset.

In addition to reducing and consolidating majors, Meredith has discussed other ways to generate revenue, such as renting out the new athletic complex, dining hall and licensing the Avenging Angels athletic logos. There

is also discussion of adding graduate programs, such as an Applied Medical program, which would allow students to earn a Master's of Nursing degree at Meredith College.

In addition to Meredith's decision on majors, the campus smoking policy and new printing system were two hot topics at the Student Body Meeting. To help cut down on printing costs, students now have to pay \$.06 to print from all public printers on campus, such as in the library and the Cate Center. This new policy, though it does help eliminate wasteful printing, is somewhat of a hassle for students. The new system has glitches that Tech Services are aware of and are trying hard to sort out. Students need to be patient while the new system is being perfected. Suggestions for solutions are welcome, as are any new problems that arise.

The Meredith College smoking policy is once again under review. A campus-wide email will be sent out to all students asking whether or not they feel Meredith should be smoke free. Though this email will not determine the air quality on Meredith's campus, the data will be useful to those involved in the decision making process. The email is scheduled to be sent the week following fall break.

This student body meeting was full of new proposals and decisions that will involve many Meredith students. Any questions, complaints, or concerns should be emailed to SGA at [sga@meredith.edu](mailto:sga@meredith.edu). Every opinion is valid, so if there is something you wish to voice, do not hesitate to send an email!

## Green Tip for the Week of September 23

By buying vintage clothing or shopping at yard-sales, one will save money and the environment from heaps of trash.

