

Hate Crime: Attack on NCSU's GLBT Center

Christa Riley, Staff Writer

On October 17 at around 9pm, an act of vandalism and hate crime occurred at NC State's Gay, Lesbian, Bi and Transgender Center. Hateful and discriminatory messages were written on the center's door and display case in purple spray paint. Painted on the door was the message "fags burn" and on the glass case was the word "die." This action may have been instigated by the designation of October as GLBT History Month. Members of the organization are shocked, and the NCSU community is outraged.

The GLBT Center at NCSU, which officially opened in 2008, welcomes students of all sexualities and gender identities. The center provides a safe environment for students and tries to educate the larger community about their anti-hate message. Since the vandalism occurred, student leaders at NCSU have made evident that they do not condone hate speech or any kind of derogatory actions towards any person or any group of people. To counter this defamation of property, the GLBT Center scheduled an Ally Rally on October 20, where they showed support to their community by giving out wrist bands and

having Allies speak at the event. The sidewalk was full of chalk writings that said things such as "State, Not Hate!"

Over the past few months, there have been a few individual instances of prejudice towards the GLBT community at Meredith but nothing as shocking as this one. Eve Smalling, president of Spectrum at

Meredith, says, "The vandalism was not only an attack on the LGBT community, but on their allies as well. When everyone stands up and tells people that hate will not be accepted, then people are less likely to carry out acts that are based on

hate and prejudice." What could we, as a community, do to prevent this kind of hate crime?

If you or anyone you know is being slandered or harassed because of sexual identity, please look around campus for Safe Zone signs on faculty members' doors; these faculty have been trained and will be glad to listen and help you. You can also call one of many support lines, located on the NCSU GLBT Center page at http://www.ncsu.edu/stud_affairs/glbtcampus-resource/index.php. Stand up for yourself and your community.

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American Jobs Act Targets Recent Grads

Matilyn Healy, Staff Writer

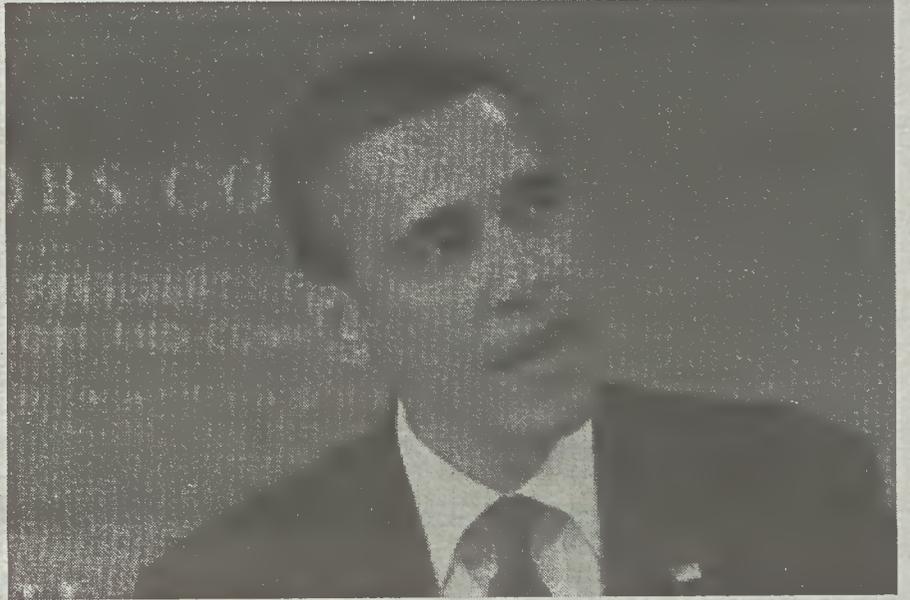


image via CBS News

President Barack Obama has visited in North Carolina often lately. His recent trips to North Carolina State University and the town of Apex have drawn crowds eager to know how he will help boost the economy and lower the unemployment rate. Obama's new American Jobs Act is designed to answer all of those questions raised by North Carolinians and all Americans alike.

The American Jobs Act was created to encourage small businesses to hire more employees and hopeful entrepreneurs to start their own businesses. The bill will provide tax cuts for small businesses, prevent layoffs for state employees such as teachers and firefighters, create a national infrastructure bank, rebuild foreclosed and vacant houses to provide both housing and jobs for Americans, cut payroll taxes, and create new pathways for Americans on the job hunt. (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/09/08/fact-sheet-american-jobs-act>). The bill was created for the unemployed, laid off, and future workers of America as well as small businesses and entrepreneurs, but what does it mean for the college graduates of America?

This bill contains key elements, especially in the push to create new jobs, that could help graduating college students find jobs in this difficult economic time. Crystal Sumner, a third-year law student at Elon University and a Meredith College alumna, believes that the American Jobs Act will help students from Meredith, Elon, and other

schools across the nation. Sumner is "confident that the American Jobs Act will make it easier for graduating students to get jobs." Although this bill has not yet passed, several Americans share Sumner's positive outlook. Amy Losordo, Assistant Director of Career Development at Meredith, believes that the act is "creating opportunity" for students, but employment "depends on the student's readiness to connect with this opportunity." Losordo stressed the importance of students' involvement in on-campus career workshops, club activities related to future careers, and internships. While this bill would create more job opportunities, students should also be aware of the importance of college resources and to use them to their fullest advantage before heading out into the job market.

The boost for small businesses could also greatly benefit graduating students in their job hunts. Sumner believes that "college graduates are essential to most small businesses—whether running them, creating them, or lending their knowledge and skills to making the business work from day to day." Students could take advantage of this small business boom because "working for a small business is a great way to start a career," says Losordo. Graduates could learn a lot about what it takes to successfully run a business, which they could take advantage of later while working for larger corporations or possibly when starting their own small businesses.

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