

# CAMPUS LIFE

## The On-Going Debate: "Boys and Booze"



image via Anne Taintor

There have been two hot topics that have sparked debate among Meredith students: the extension of Open House hours and the presence of alcohol in residence halls, more commonly known to Meredith students as "boys and booze." These topics became major issues at the most recent Student Government Association (SGA) Student Body Forum. According to SGA President, Jennifer Prince, this hasn't been the first time that these topics have been discussed. "Since I have been here for four years, Open House has been a topic of discussion driven by students,"

said Prince. "The most recent changes to Open House have been made in 2010 and provided for extended hours on the weekends. Since the implementation of alcohol policy in the student apartments, students are able to question the reasoning for the residence hall policy of no alcohol."

Many students are divided. Others find themselves indifferent to the two suggestions for the rules to be changed. Whatever side one may be on, it is important that one hears what the opposite side has to say. A student should try to take it into consideration where each side is coming from, to grasp a better understanding of their views. And as for the ones who are unsure, it is important that they come to an opinion eventually; after all, these rule changes will affect everyone. Perhaps by reading the main arguments from both sides, a student can come to a conclusion. Both sides are presented here.

### Against the Open Hours Policy and Alcohol Allowance:

- \* Can cause roommate issues; roommates may feel forced to leave their room so they can seek solitude to study and work on assignments when their roommate has company over many days of the week.

- \* More Open House hours, or more specifically the extension of Open House hours throughout the week can become a distraction for students; less work would be getting done.

- \* More safety issues could arise from more Open House days and alcohol's being allowed in residence halls.

- \* Underage drinking may increase if alcohol is allowed in the residence halls.

Ivory Lewis, Staff Writer

- \* Student apartments and off campus apartments provides students with privileges for more Open House hours and alcohol.

### For Open Hours and Alcohol:

- \* Provides more time and/or days for students to have male company over; wouldn't have to leave campus as much to go visit male friends or boy-friends. It could make people feel safer and more comfortable that they can stay on campus and just invite others over.

- \* Fewer students would attempt sneaking company into residence halls.

- \* Guys would not be more of a distraction than other girls; girl friends can also be a distraction.

- \* Campus Security is here to protect us from any problems that may occur.

- \* Not every student who is 21+ can afford to live in the student apartments or off campus.

In case you are wondering what is to come of the voiced opinions from the SGA Student Body Forum, no rash decisions will be made. SGA will be taking every student's opinion into consideration, along with other steps, before coming to a final decision. "We are in the information gathering stage," said Prince. "Last semester, a survey was sent to residence hall students, regarding the two issues and residence hall policies. In addition to the work SGA is doing, there is a college program staff committee who is also looking at the issues. The two groups will do research, not only on Meredith opinions, but also on the policies of our peer institutions. We are nowhere close to making a decision because we are still seeking feedback from members of the student body."

## Campus Calendar: 2/14-28

collected by Kristen Gallagher

Feb. 15-Spring 2012 Career Fair, 9am-2pm, McKimmon Center NCSU

Feb. 13-Fri., Feb 24-LeaderShape Registration in SLS

Feb. 14-19 -The Sound of Music -

Feb. 19-Mon. Feb 20 -Scholarship Weekend

Feb. 20-Student Body meeting ,10am and 5pm (2nd Cate and BDH)

Feb. 21-UNC Clef Hangers ,Jones Auditorium

Feb. 17 -Junior Art Portfolio Review ,Gaddy-Hamrick Art Building

Feb. 22, Sustainable Leadership Lecture, 6pm in Led 101

Feb. 23-Green Design and Sustainability, 6pm in Kresge

Feb. 24 -SAF Deadline

Feb. 24-10:00am Library Spring 2012 Focus Groups

Feb. 24 -Housing Intent Forms Due

Feb. 25 -2012 NC LEAD Conference at ECU

Feb. 27-10:00am Library Spring 2012 Focus Groups

Feb. 27- Randi Zuckerberg Lecture ,7 pm in Jones Auditorium

Feb. 27-Tues., Feb 28 -Museum Advocacy Day

Feb. 27 -Meredith's 121st Birthday

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