

THE HERALD

MEREDITH

October 1, 2014

U.S. Senator Candidates' Platforms

Linda Sankat, staff writer

Thom Tillis:

- Pro-life: "I am proudly Pro-Life. I believe all life is sacred and as Speaker I promoted pro-life policies and helped reverse the pro-abortion state policies Democrats had put in place for decades," according to his website.

- Health Care: Supports defunding ObamaCare.

- Gun Rights: Supports and defends the Second Amendment. "Tillis will oppose any gun or ammunition ban in the U.S. Senate," according to his website.

- Marriage: Opposes same-sex marriage: "Tillis and his House colleagues have pushed a ban on gay marriage," according to his website.

- Education: According to his website, "Under Thom Tillis' leadership, education spending in North Carolina has increased by \$660 million."

- Jobs & Economy: Does not believe that federal minimum wage should be raised: "Tillis opposes it [raising the federal minimum wage], saying raising it higher should be left up to state legislators," according to the "News and Observer."

Kay Hagan:

- Pro-choice: "I am a strong supporter of a woman's right to choose... I would like to see abortions be safe, legal, and rare," according to EMILY's List.

- Health Care: Voted for Obama's Affordable Care Act in 2009.

- Gun Rights: Supports and defends Second Amendment: "Responsible gun ownership is not only part of the fabric of my state, but it is also a fundamental Constitutional right," according to her website.

- Marriage: Does not oppose same-sex marriage: "I've come to my own personal conclusion that we should not tell people who they can love, or who they can marry," according to the "News and Observer."

- Education: Introduced the School Turnaround and Rewards (STAR) Act, serves as chair of the Children and Families Subcommittee, emphasizes importance of early childhood education, and "is leading the effort to keep federal Stafford loan rates from doubling," according to her website.

- Jobs & Economy: According to her website, "jobs and the economy are [her] number one priority," introduced the AMERICA Works Act.

From Teaching to Tigers

Cody Jeffrey, assistant editor

On Sept. 17, Meredith College welcomed over thirty companies and organizations, including Credit Suisse, InterAct, AT&T and BB&T, to the Service and Internship Fair hosted by the office of Academic and Career Planning. Many students attended either in search of their first internships or volunteer opportunities, or to check up on old employers from past internships or volunteer experiences.

Senior Ashley Flynn and Exercise and Sports Science major was an intern at WakeMed Cardiac Rehabilitation Center during the summer of 2014. She said, "The best part of my experience [was being able to put] a smile on the patient's faces every day. I formed some amazing relationships with patients, and they showed me how important it is to live life to the fullest."

Flynn was responsible for included leading warm ups and cool downs for patients, making sure the patients used the exercise equipment safely and effectively, creating workout programs and participating in new patient evaluations by administering endurance tests. Flynn suggested that all Meredith students look into obtaining internships early, have backups in case their first choices fall through, and, most of all, "go into your internship with a positive attitude, and get as much out of it as possible; it's an amazing experience."

Senior Kelly Smith had a volunteering experience at the Carolina Tiger Rescue in Pittsboro, North Carolina. She said, "As a

biology major, I was ecstatic to work at the rescue, which specializes in rescuing and rehabilitating big cats, not just tigers!"

Smith heard about the volunteer opportunity through a spring break trip with Meredith's SLOAN group. "Meredith offers hundreds of volunteer opportunities, and many of them are extremely cost effective. Through Meredith, you get to network, make friends of your classmates, and continue your leadership enrichment throughout your time at the school," she said. "We got to do 'dirty work,' and they instantly put us to work clearing trees and bushes to make a fire escape for the animals in case of an emergency...it's not often that women do physical labor like we did, and it was a unique and rewarding experience. We not only have strong minds, but we have strong bodies, too."

Smith appreciated her experience and said, "is a wonderful networking opportunity and usually, many more opportunities are presented to you as you continue to volunteer."

According to Smith, students should volunteer "even if it's only an hour a month, you will always look back fondly and be glad you did." Flynn added, "Participating in internships shows that being a Meredith College student is more than just books and tests; it's also about community service and helping others out in need." Plan to attend upcoming ACP events that connect students to business owners and organization representatives to learn about more internship and volunteer opportunities.

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The *Meredith Herald* is produced by the College throughout the academic year and printed by Hinton Press. The paper is funded by the College and through independent advertising. The opinions expressed in the editorial columns do not necessarily reflect those of the college administration, faculty, or student body. The policy of this paper requires that submissions be made by 5:00 p.m. the Thursday before publication and that contributors sign all submissions and provide necessary contact information. The editors and staff welcome submissions meeting the above guidelines.