

Editorials

Strong in Different Ways - GPAs and Student Leaders

Emily Chilton, Editor-in-Chief

On Feb. 12, Meredith Student Government Association (SGA) sent out a survey concerning student GPA and leadership, asking for input from the college. The email accompanying this survey said that SGA is planning to "revis[e] the GPA requirements for Meredith College student leaders." All survey questions directly related to GPA included options to raise, keep, or lower the GPA requirement. On Feb. 28, the results of the survey came out, the results indicated that most students were in favor of raising GPA requirements or instituting them across the board. I personally voted all the way through to leave the requirements the same. Here's why.

While there are people

in the world who have high GPAs and are good leaders, the two achievements aren't mutually inclusive. However, it's understandable that students fall into the trap of thinking that they are. American society, especially surrounding college, pushes students to be good at everything, often with reasoning that gears a student's entire life toward building a resume and getting a job. "The best resumes have high GPAs and leadership experience." "You have to have a great resume." "Millennials are entering a terrible job market." "Everyone has a bachelor's degree nowadays." These are the arguments that we hear all the time. With this culture surrounding us, it's not surprising that we have come to think that

being a good college student includes excelling academically and experientially.

The problem with that line of reasoning is the basic fact that people are good at different things; people have different talents and gifts that apply in various situations. To put it simply, good students are not necessarily good leaders, and vice versa. There is an immediate logical fallacy in believing that the qualities that contribute to academic excellence will also contribute to leadership excellence. It's perfectly possible that a Meredith woman could be a solid-C student and a charismatic leader. It's also possible that she could be a solid-A student and be far too shy to lead a large group. Nuances and combinations of

these two areas are all possible; none of them should exclude someone from being involved.

If the GPA requirement for student leaders is raised, the college would still continue to operate as normal. Organizations would keep going forward year after year with events and service projects. The system would not break down. But one of those organizations, whether it be the Meredith Herald, the Communication Club, or the Anime Angels, may lose out on someone with great ideas and relatable leadership because of a GPA just shy of the minimum. This isn't the worst consequence, but Meredith is better than it.

Don't Spring Break the Bank

Teresa Berton, Staff Writer

As spring break rolls around yet again, many students are choosing to treat themselves by spending the week touring the big city or relaxing on the beach. But for those of us who will be beach ballin' on a budget, finding ways to make spring break affordable can be a challenging. Luckily there are many ways to make the most of our time off without spring breaking the bank. Here are a few ideas:

• Plan Ahead

We here at Meredith know the value of a good plan. Whether it be a four year plan or a plan for a day, knowing what you are planning to do when you get somewhere is the best way to make the most of your time and money. Move

from WebAdvisor to TripAdvisor and start planning your vacation. Not only can you learn what the best things to see and do are, but you can also learn where student discounts are offered and find hotspots that are budget friendly or, better yet, free.

• All 'Four' One and One For All
If you are planning a trip, there is strength in numbers — but no more than the number four. Not only will everyone stay safe, but there will be someone to share a meal with. Four is the perfect number for sharing and splitting the cost of a hotel room. Four people also fit nicely into most cars if you choose to split up the cost of gas and take a good old-fashioned road trip.

• Alternative Tracks

After determining where you will be staying, you have to figure out how you will be getting to your location. While flying is the quickest way from Point A to Point B, it's rarely the most inexpensive. If you are heading to a major city, consider taking a train. While it may not be much faster than a road trip, you can save money by using your student status when purchasing tickets from Amtrak.

• Treat Yo Self (Responsibly)

Once you get to your chosen location, be sure to spend your money in a way that makes you happy. Don't waste your time or money on things that aren't worth much to you. Be aware of how

much you value experiences over items, and make wise financial decisions so you get the most bang out of your buck.

While cash flow may seem like the key factor in your trip, having a good time with your friends and getting some well-deserved rest and relaxation is the reason you are going somewhere in the first place. Even if your funds are low, you can still have an amazing trip. The most important thing to remember is to enjoy your friends and the fun to the fullest — even if your bank account isn't.

Uncontested Runs

Yessy Anorve-Basoria, Staff Writer

As you walk onto the first floor of Cate, you will notice that very few Meredith College women ran for Student Government Association (SGA) or class positions for the 2017-18 academic year. The lack of participation for these positions is not a reflection of the strong leaders that Meredith College possess. Meredith women continue to be active and strong participants in this community, but many have decided to focus their attention towards smaller organizations that relate to their hobbies, majors, and/or passions. As Meredith students, we should not leave our classes unsupported

with empty positions because sisterhood is about being there for one another.

We are all meant to be leaders, so if you have a passion for serving as a leader at Meredith, think about applying for the following open positions. Keep an eye out for an application and interview process from the organization or class.

SGA Executive Committee needs: Secretary, Treasurer, Residence Housing Association Chair, Senate Chair, Student Activities Fee Committee Chair, and Student Life Committee Chair

Meredith Activities Board needs: President

Class of 2018 needs: Big/Lil' Sis Co-Chairs, Class Day Co-Chairs, Class Doll Co-Chairs, Class Event Co-Planners, Class Gift Tri-Chairs, Crook Hunt Co-Chairs, Elections Board Representative, Fundraising Tri-Chairs, Senator, Senior Picnic Co-Chairs, Senior Parent Night Co-Chairs, Service Chair, Spring Formal Co-Chairs, Student Life Representatives, Stunt Co-Chairs, Tunnel Painting Co-Chairs, 18th Night Co-Chairs

Class of 2019 needs: Big/Lil' Sis Co-Chairs, Crook Hunt Co-Chairs, Elections Board Representatives, Fundraising Co-Chairs, Honor Council Representative, Ring Dinner Co-Chairs, Ring Week Co-Chairs, Senator, Service Tri-Chair, Spring Formal Co-Chairs, Student Life Representatives

Class of 2020 needs: Vice President, Big/Lil' Sis Co-Chairs, Charming Evening Co-Chairs, Class Day Co-Chairs, Cornhuskin' Co-Chair, Elections Board Representatives, Fundraising Tri-Chair, Guardian Angel Dance Co-Chair, Service Chair

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