

# News

## A President On Campus

Cristal Villalobos, Staff Writer

During spring break, the North Carolina Political Science Association and the South Carolina Political Science Association held a their first joint conference in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Professors and students

of numerous educational institutions from both states presented their research. Research topics ranged broadly, including electoral patterns, international affairs, civil rights, and the public opinions of voters.

Our very own faculty member, Dr. Whitney Ross Manzo from the History and Political Science Department, presented the latest Meredith Poll data regarding the views that voters hold about fake news. During the conference, Dr. Manzo was elected President of the North Carolina Political Science Association. Manzo has high hopes for her presidency. Dr. Manzo began planning to host the next North Carolina Political Science Association Conference at Meredith College. She stated, "it is very important to me to encourage interest in politics and political science among

young women because we need more women in political office!" If any students are interested in getting involved with the next conference, contact Dr. Manzo via email at [wrmanzo@meredith.edu](mailto:wrmanzo@meredith.edu).

I am leading a committee for the passage of CEDAW.

Ordinance- for cedaw-replicate it- step 1:

Figure- legal aspect-professional steps

Action plan- from april 2nd to june—and continue in the fall

From jun 19- 3 weeks, beth vacay

Photo Credit: Dr. Manzo



## Tweeter in Chief

Emily Chilton, Editor-in-Chief

By now, it's no secret that President Trump has a penchant for tweeting out whatever comes to mind, occasionally with typos that are only sometimes fixed. Critics of the Trump campaign and now Trump administration are accustomed to having new support for their negative views with every 140-character-or-less message from The Donald. Recently, the news media and social media have gone further into the Twitter focus, pulling older tweets from key officials such as Vice President Mike Pence and spokeswoman Kellyanne Conway that seemingly disagree with their administration's current

positions. One such tweet from Pence reads "Calls to ban Muslims from entering the U.S. are offensive and unconstitutional" (Dec. 8, 2015). Many pointed out the seeming conflict between this former stance of the vice president's and the later travel ban executive order that targeted Muslim-majority countries and provided exceptions for religious minorities of those countries — i.e., non-Muslims. However, regardless of these call-outs of Trump administration officials, the main focus continues to be on the president himself. One frequent criticism concerns the decision to continue tweeting from his personal

@realDonaldTrump account.

The theoretical distance from the @POTUS account does not mask the fact that the same man is doing the tweeting, which many news sources have been quick to point out.

Most recently, an official @POTUS tweet was brought up during FBI director James Comey's testimony concerning FBI investigations into possible Russian interference in the election. During the hearing, the president's official Twitter account posted a picture of the ongoing testimony along with the caption: "The NSA and FBI tell Congress that Russia did not influence electoral process" (March 20,

2017). Representative Jim Himes (D-CN) read the tweet to Comey, who immediately disagreed with the statement, saying: "we've offered no opinion, have no view, have no information on potential impact because it's not something we looked at." Perhaps unsurprisingly, Twitter has quickly become a medium that is being used and debated upon in the highest circles, even being discussed during congressional testimonies. The impact of that shift remains to be seen.

Sources: @GovPenceIN, @realDonaldTrump, @POTUS, The New York Times.

## Women's Advocacy Day

Carolina Brust, Staff Writer

Women's rights have long since been an uphill battle, from voting to reproductive rights. The fight to be seen and treated as equals to male counterparts is never ending. In the current political climate, more women are speaking up about issues that concern them than ever before. Women's Advocacy Day is a yearly event that brings women across the state together to speak with

legislators about current policies and issues that affect them. Whitney Manzo, an Assistant Professor of Political Science, says, "any event that helps and encourages citizens to lobby their legislators is a good thing, no matter if the event is progressive or conservative." This event is held every March by NC Women United, a partnership of state and local organizations that work

to better the lives of women living in North Carolina by fighting for equality on a political and economic level. This year's Women's Advocacy Day took place on March 14 at the NC General Assembly and the North Carolina Museum of History Auditorium. Some Meredith staff and students attended the event, and others had some insight on the day itself. David McLennan, a

visiting professor of political science, showed support by saying, "Although it is unlikely that their policy agenda will result in new laws in the state, because the General Assembly is under Republican control, it is still important that women advocate for their policy positions." Faculty and staff can sign up for next year's event and learn more about NC Women United at <http://www.ncwu.org/>