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THE MARS HILL COLLEGE HILLTOP

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MHC COMPETENCE PROGRAM SETS EXAMPLE FOR NATION

by Eric Garner

"The success of well designed programs, like those of Mars Hill, will be far better evidence for the contribution that such colleges can make to the society than will all the rhetoric about the need for their survival to promote diversity in higher education." These were the words of Dr. David Riesman, Professor of Sociology at Harvard University after he read an article about the Competence Program at Mars Hill. The article which he read was written by Dr. Bob Knott and was published in the Journal of Higher Education (JHE, Vol. XLVI, No. 1, Jan/Feb 1975, pp. 25-40, "What Is A Competence Based Curriculum in the Liberal Arts").

Dr. Knott is the Director of the Competence Program at MHC. In the past year, Knott and the

Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Richard Hoffman, have been traveling across the nation instructing and demonstrating the Competence Program and how it is starting to work on the Mars Hill campus.

Last June, Mars Hill College was featured at the Southern Regional Education Board Conference. In January, MHC was the main feature on the program of the Association of American College (Presidents and Deans conference) which resulted in 65 colleges requesting Mars Hill to present the Competence materials to their schools.

This was truly a major achievement for the small school to rise so quickly in national education spotlight. Since the program in June, several MHC faculty have been invited to become consultants to some 25-30 schools. Almost 40 schools have sent teams to

visit Mars Hill from a day to a week to study the program and its effects in the beginning states. The national recognition will continue as the team of Knott, Hoffman, and Dr. William Walker prepare programs in May for the University of Michigan Center of Higher Education and in June to the American Association of Colleges Institute for College Deans (this trip will also include Dr. Bentley).

The Competence Program will take around four more years to really become established as "normal procedure" at Mars Hill. The program is very complex but it is viewed as the "only way to go" in higher education. Mars Hill is one of the first colleges to employ this curriculum on a full scale and it has definitely been a giant step in recognition on the national level for Mars Hill.



Bob Causby



Lewis Williams

TWO MHC STUDENTS CHOSEN AS JOURNEYMEN

Two students from Mars Hill College have been chosen for Missionary Journeymen Trainees under the Foreign Mission Board for the year 1975. They are Robert H. Causby from Shelby, NC son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Winston Causby. Bob will be employed as a Bible teacher and youth worker in a Vainjame (Liberia) Public School. The other student is James Lewis Williams from Woodruff, SC, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. Williams. He will be employed as a music worker in Guam. Missionary Journeymen are college graduates, 26 years of

age or under who are employed by the Foreign Mission Board for a two-year term of service overseas. They work with career missionaries, no seminary training is required.

An intensive training program will be held at Meredith College from June 14 to July 26 concluding with a public dedication service. Journeymen will leave in August to begin work in baptists mission stations all over the world.

The HILLTOP wishes both these young men success in their endeavor to spread the gospel.

HONORS DAY at MHC

oring those who have achieved high levels, we also pay tribute to the community that created the learning environment from which these achievements evolved."

Twelve faculty promotions were announced during the program, which was held in the college's Moore Auditorium. They included: John Adams to full professor of Music; Dr. Vernon Chapman to full professor of education; and Dr. Virgil Gray to full professor of education; and Virgil Gray to full professor of Theatre Arts.

The promotions also included: Mrs. Genevieve Adams to

associate professor of Chemistry; Mrs. May Jo Gray to associate professor of Music; Dr. Jack Grose to associate professor of Business Administration; Wayne Pressley to associate professor of Music; Robert Abbott to assistant professor of German and Spanish; and Mrs. Teresa Stern to assistant professor of Education.

Chief Scholarship winners were: Debbie Aldridge, a rising senior English major from Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and Pat Burchette, a rising junior English major from Winston-Salem, recipients of the

ella Janet Pierce English Scholarship of \$375 each, established by Dr. Pierce, a long-time Mars Hill faculty member; Dan Christian, a rising senior Business Administration major from Raleigh, and Frieda Hilda Blackwell a rising senior Spanish major from Pensacola, Fla., recipients of the Truesdale Scholarship of \$250 each, established by Dr. and Mrs. Leonard Truesdale of Ocala, Fla., Blenda Elledge, a rising senior Chemistry major from Jonesville, recipient of the Brazil Pre-Medical Scholarship of \$500,

established by Dr. and Mrs. W. O. Brazil of Asheville; Charles Sivlis, a rising junior Political Science major from Miami, Fla. and Steven Boyce, also a rising junior Political Science major Asheville, recipients of the Taylor Debating Award of \$250 each, established by the 11th District Congressman Roy A. Taylor of Black Mt. and Mark Schoenfield, a rising senior, and Accounting major from Boca Raton, Fla., recipient of the \$200 Ralph M. Lee Scholarship established

See HONORS continued page 3

Medals, prizes, scholarships, and individual recognitions were awarded to a number of students and faculty at Mars Hill College during the school's honors day program, held annually prior to commencement.

Dr. Richard L. Hoffman, vice president for academic affairs, said, "The recurring theme of honors days reminds us that these rewards extend beyond individual achievements to include the quality of life which we all identify as reflecting the purpose of our college...in hon-