

WSSU Chancellor Announces to Trustees the Establishment of Commission on Campus and Community Safety

Winston-Salem, NC -- Winston-Salem State University interim Chancellor Michelle Howard-Vital, in an effort to more closely examine campus and community safety issues, has established the Chancellor's Commission on Campus and Community Safety and has charged the commission to report its findings, recommendations and implementation timetable by June 30, she reported to WSSU trustees Friday.

"We must not shy away from any issue that affects the safety of our campus community or the larger community," said Howard-Vital to the board at a regularly scheduled meeting. "Our first priority is the safety of our students and the community. If we have problems on our campus, or if our campus safety is compromised by negative outside influences, these issues must be addressed."

Howard-Vital's establishment of the Commission is part of the university's continuing review and enhancement of its campus safety policy.

The review was heightened in the aftermath of the tragic death of Winston-Salem Police Sgt. Howard Plouff, who was shot and killed Feb. 23, in the parking lot of the Red Rooster, a local nightclub. Keith Antoine Carter, a WSSU student, has been charged with Sgt. Plouff's murder. Carter has since been suspended from WSSU, pending the outcome of the investigation.

The first meeting of the Commission will be March 19. The Commission, which consists of WSSU faculty, staff, students and representatives of the wider community, will be chaired by Willie Bell, WSSU Police Chief, and Dr. Melody Pierce, WSSU vice chancellor for Student Affairs. Representatives from the City of Winston-Salem's Mayor's Office, Police Department, and the Forsyth County District Attorney's Office have agreed to serve on the Commission.

"The Winston-Salem Police Department will work collaboratively with this commission on a comprehensive plan that will provide a safer environment for Winston-Salem State University faculty, staff, and students as well as the citizens of this community," said Winston-Salem Police Chief Patricia Norris.

Forsyth County District Attorney Tom Keith called the formation of the Commission a bold move of vital importance to the safety and well-being of the entire community. "We look forward to working with the university's leadership, its campus police and especially the students to help keep the campus safe," said Keith.

The Commission will examine the campus environment, campus police practices, university policies related to mentorships, internships and other current student non-academic engagement activities and identify best practices for improving the climate for safety on campus and in the surrounding community.

The Commission will be charged with making recommendations on ways to enhance campus safety, teach students individual conflict resolution and recognition of behavior that can be detrimental to the community, off-campus safety guidelines, student judicial sanctions and other activities related to factors that may influence or discourage certain behavior.

As part of the Commission's work, student interviews will also be conducted and analyzed.

WSSU students held a candlelight vigil Feb. 28, to honor the life and memory of Sgt. Plouff. WSSU student organizations sponsored a forum after the vigil to discuss their concerns about what happened and to hear from the campus and Winston-Salem City police about on- and off-campus safety issues.

THE FIGHT IS ON IN WINSTON-SALEM UNDEFEATED DEREK -THE BLACK LION- EDWARDS SEEKS 21ST WIN!

Winston-Salem, NC - March 8, 2007—Fight fans get ready! Ring of Dreams presents Fight Night Saturday, April 14, 2007 at the Joel Coliseum Annex in Winston-Salem, North Carolina at 8:00 p.m. Undeclared Super Middleweight Derek "The Black Lion" Edwards (20-0-0) will square off against the also undefeated Joe Green (14-0-0) in a showdown that is sure to rock the house. Which man will walk away with a perfect record, and which will face his first loss?

In another match sure to ignite the room, Carlette "The Truth" Ewell will return to the ring on a mission to reclaim her title and #1 status in the world. Carlette will face of against Alexandra "Sweet and Sour" Maloy in a showdown for the vacant Universal Boxing Council (UBC) Cruiser weight world title. Previously, Carlette fought as a Super Middleweight, but she's added muscle and size and now seeks to dominate at the Cruiserweight level. This could be her breakout bout in this new weight class.

Fans will get to see all of their Ring of Dreams favorites, plus a pair of newcomers in their debut professional fight. Fan favorite Ijeoma "The Praise" Egbunine (12-2-0) of Marietta, GA will take on Veronica Rucker (4-6-1) of Cleveland, OH. New heavyweight Ryan McClure will challenge Corey Whittfield to see who will earn the first win of his professional career. Earl "Chocolate Drop" Ladson will be donning the gloves as well. Fans will be treated to a minimum of six fights on the Saturday card.

Tickets are now on sale at the Joel Coliseum Box Office, Dummit Law Firm and www.ticketmaster.com, Macy's and fye; order by telephone at 336/722-6400 (W-S) or 336/852-1100 (Gso). Prices for general admission are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door; for reserve seats, \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door; and \$50 for floor seats. Gold and Silver VIP tables seating 8 are available.

Bouts and boxers are subject to change. This event is sanctioned by the North Carolina Boxing Commission.

For additional information, visit www.ringofdreams.com or www.ljvm.com

THE FIGHT IS ON!

Why Wouldn't A Bank Want To Accept Money Owed To Them? Does M&F Bank Have A Hidden Agenda?

www.unitewithus.org

Help Us Return This Building to The Rightful Owner