

Building trust with 'constructive dialogue'



Photos by Tevin Stinson

Local college students and law enforcement officers participate in a group discussion during the Collegiate Trust Talk on Tuesday, April 4.

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

Last week local college students sat down with law enforcement officers to openly discuss ways to build trust on campus and in the community.

Campus police and students from Forsyth Tech, Salem College, North Carolina School of the Arts, Wake Forest, and Winston-Salem State University (WSSU) were all present during the Collegiate Trust Talk hosted by the city's human relations department.

Members of the Winston-Salem Police Department and representatives from the Forsyth County District Attorney's Office were also in attendance.

"This is a learning experience for the students and law enforcements," said Wanda Allen-Abraha, human relations director.

"It's important that we have con-

structive dialogue and that we exchange ideas so both students and officers can receive feedback and hopefully learn from it."

During the trust talk held inside City Hall, officers and students were put into groups to discuss several topics, including police responsiveness, inappropriate student behavior, campus safety, stereotypes and perceptions, and on-and-off student activities. Throughout the discussions, a moderator took notes and made a list of the top three concerns for each group.

After the sit down with law enforcement, Wake Forest freshman Tariq Shanks said he gained a better understanding of how things are handled on campus and in the community.

"I got to speak with an officer from Wake Forest so that was really helpful. He let me know what officers do to train for things like bias."

Robert Reynolds III a rising soph-

omore at WSSU, said although he learned a lot during the forum, to build a true working relationship between students and law enforcement, the conversations must carry over to each individual-campus.

"The students who are here today can't speak for an entire population," said Reynolds. "Events like this definitely work, but we have to build relationships with students on campus."

A campus police officer at WSSU, Jorge Batista said he enjoyed sitting down with students and getting their perspective on how things are handled on campus. He said the biggest issues the students had in his group was trust and understanding.

"We're doing the best we can but there are some areas that we need to work on," said Batista. "After sitting down with the students, I learned that we need to be more involved. Overall, we received good reviews from the students; they would just like to see more of us."



Last week students and local law enforcement came together to discuss ways to build trust on college campuses and in the community.

People on the Street

Will you support the Liberty Street Market, if it reopens? Chronicle asks

BY BRIDGET ELAM
FOR THE CHRONICLE

The City of Winston-Salem is pursuing a proposal to revive the Liberty Street Market, which was designed to be a venue for farmers to sell produce. Low vendor and customer turnout resulted in the market closing in 2015.

The Chronicle spoke to people in the parking lot at Food Lion in Eastway Plaza on New Walkertown Road to find out what they think.

Question: Will you support the Liberty Street Market, if it reopens?



Patricia Broadie

"I think it's a great idea. It's fresh vegetables... what people want, what people need. They should have never taken it away."



Maggielena Keith

"I would be glad to support the market. It's fresh food. I like to cook with fresh foods."



Debra Turner

"Yes, I would support it. It helps out a lot. Especially when you have to come into the grocery store. The market would be better and fresher."



Kenyatta Marshall

"Yes. Because everybody likes fresh fruit and vegetables. It would be something good to come back. I like fresh food."



Prentice Norwood

"Yes, I would support the market if it came back. We need it in this area."



Tarsha Hairston

"Yes, I would love to see more fresh fruits and vegetables in East Winston. We need better options like that."

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