

Curriculum

Continued from Page A1

us in a different direction from a liberal arts college," Thomas said.

Much discussion involved a motion to require 120 credits for graduation instead of 112.

The higher number was suggested because some argued that many students do not work a vigorous number of hours per week, Thomas said.

The motion was defeated, however, be-

cause the faculty realized that if students were not working as hard as the faculty would like a better solution would be to make existing courses more rigorous and demanding, Thomas said.

Paul Escott, the chairman of the faculty and the dean of the college, also reminded them that a few years ago he went before the board of trustees to ask for 40 new faculty in order to reduce class sizes, a request implemented in the Plan for the Class of 2000.

Escott told them increasing the amount of classes students must take without increasing the number of faculty proportionately would undermine this progress, Thomas said.

Some faculty cited concern about how having students take four classes per semester compares with other universities that require more classes per semester.

They thought prospective students might get the impression that this university is not academically rigorous but they decided they "weren't really concerned with how we looked to the outside," Thomas said.

Two groups also made presentations before the faculty regarding curriculum review. Sophomore Erika Harrison and juniors Sheereen Miller and Yemi Adegbonmire spoke on behalf of the Multicultural Task Force, a group of six

students who wanted to address the proposed cultural diversity requirement.

They submitted a mission statement detailing what they think the requirement should entail: "The focal point of this division is to achieve a new understanding about humanity. ... This additional divisional will achieve the greatest impact upon the student body for they will no longer be challenged to find the differences in humanity but the similarities," the statement says.

"The mission is not to inform about race, gender and class but transcend those issues and place an emphasis on advocating the oneness of humanity which will in turn

incite the questioning of differences."

Junior Susie Eggers, the president of Student Government, and senior Jon Giokas, the chairman of the Academic Committee, presented five bills SG passed at its most recent legislature meeting regarding curriculum review.

SG made the presentation because it wanted to express students' views on the subject and explain SG's process of evaluating the proposals, Giokas said.

The faculty will meet again Dec. 14, and the next two items in the Curriculum Review Committee's report will likely be on that meeting's agenda, Thomas said. Other discussion will resume in January.

Debater chosen to compete for U.S. team abroad

By Katie Venit
Perspectives Editor

Senior Daveed Gartenstein-Ross, a member of the debate team, was chosen as one of two representatives for the United States on the 1999 International Debate Tours.

The National Communication Association Committee on International Discussion and Debate chose Gartenstein-Ross last week in New York City after two days of interviews.

James Stewart of Northwestern College in Seattle, WA, was also chosen to represent the United States on the debate tour, which will go to Great Britain and Portugal.

Maxwell Schnurer, a former graduate student who now attends the University of Pittsburgh, will attend the June 1999 Japan tour. His partner is Eric Minkove of James Madison University.

The tour is scheduled to take place in February and March of 1999.

Allen Loudon, the director of the debate team and an associate professor of communications, is a member of the CIDD committee and will serve as the chairman for the 1999 academic year.

The debate team finished a strong semester with an overall ranking of second in the nation. The varsity team is in fourth place.

Emory University's debate team won first in both categories.



Jane Osislol/Old Gold and Black

United in conversation

Three ladies celebrate at a United Way reception Dec. 1 in the Green Room of Reynolda Hall. The university surpassed its goal and raised over \$160,000 for the charity.

POLICE BEAT

Student robbed, is investigated for drugs

University Police and the Winston-Salem Police Department are investigating the robbery of a student at an off-campus location.

A student, who lives off-campus, gave a ride to a man who approached him in Lot Q, next to the Scales Fine Arts Center around 4 p.m. Nov. 29.

Once the student reached the man's destination, the man robbed him of \$20.

The student then returned to campus and reported the crime to University Police. The Winston-Salem Police Department was contacted, as well.

The student agreed to have city police officers search his vehicle for evidence of the crime. During the search, a pipe with marijuana residue was found.

An investigation is continuing and the incident was forwarded to the Harold Holmes, an associate vice president and the dean of student services.

Theft

Someone stole \$60 belonging to a university employee from a room in Scales around 5 p.m. Oct. 1.

University Police received two reports of tires being removed from bicycles left on Magnolia Patio. The first incident occurred around 3 p.m. Nov. 16.

The second incident occurred between 4 p.m. Nov. 13 and 9 a.m. Nov. 16.

Playing cards belonging to a student were taken from a room in Scales between 6 p.m. Nov. 11 and 3 a.m. Nov. 16.

Two students reported that their compact discs were stolen from a room in Scales. In the first incident, CDs worth \$46 were stolen between 12:59 p.m. and 1:10 p.m. Nov. 10.

The second incident, involving CDs and a carrying case totaling \$240, occurred between 4 p.m. Nov. 1 and 4 p.m. Nov. 2.

A student's wallet was taken between 5:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Nov. 17. The student had left the wallet

unattended in a Reynolds Gymnasium room.

A student reported her ATM card was stolen between 3:19 p.m. Nov. 16 and 2 a.m. Nov. 18.

Textbooks belonging to two students were stolen from cubicles in the Worrell Professional Center Library. The first incident, involving a \$65 textbook, occurred between 11 a.m. Nov. 12 and 5 p.m. Nov. 15. Another textbook, along with a CD player, was stolen between 2:30 p.m. Nov. 13 and 4:30 p.m. Nov. 15. The total value of those items was \$145.

Clothing belonging to a student was stolen from a dryer in Kitchin House between 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. Nov. 20. The student had left the clothing, worth \$88, in the dryer.

A student's laptop computer was stolen from a conference room in Benson University Center between 10:20 p.m. and 10:50 p.m. Nov. 22. The computer was worth \$2,700.

A cassette tape and \$10 were stolen from a student's unlocked car between 3 p.m. and 10 p.m. Nov. 20. The car was parked in Lot A, behind Efrid Residence Hall.

Damage

University Police received several reports of broken glass in Taylor House and Efrid.

Someone broke glass in a stairway door and the front door of Efrid and two suite doors in Taylor Nov. 20. The incidents occurred at various times between 11 p.m. and 5:50 a.m.

Another incident occurred Nov. 22 when someone broke a glass door panel in the main lounge of Efrid around 1:33 a.m.

Someone was throwing trash cans and bottles over a Poteat House balcony at 3:30 p.m. Nov. 21.

Someone ripped out wiring in the steering column of a university-owned vehicle between 3 p.m. Nov. 20 and 6:50 a.m. Nov. 21.

A tire was punctured on a student's vehicle parked in Lot A between 3:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Nov. 24.

The handle on a Davis House suite door was damaged between 10:30 a.m. Nov. 24 and 4 p.m. Nov. 29.

Miscellaneous

Someone tried to enter North Residence Hall through a window between 2:30 a.m. and 7 a.m. Nov. 17.

A university employee reported the incident after discovering the window screen had been removed and the window was unlocked. Nothing was reported missing.

Someone entered a Davis lounge through a window between 6 p.m. Nov. 14 and 11:30 a.m. Nov. 16. Items from the lounge had been moved, but nothing was stolen.

Between 11 a.m. Nov. 9 and 2:26 p.m. Nov. 16, someone entered a student's car by breaking a back window.

The incident occurred in Lot Z near Student Apartments.

Someone used a university-owned computer in Calloway Hall to run a program without permission between 2:40 p.m. Nov. 16 and 2:45 p.m. Nov. 16.

Someone discharged a fire extinguisher in a Taylor lounge between 11 p.m. Nov. 20 and 12:50 a.m. Nov. 21.

A former university employee was issued a trespass warning Nov. 17.

A student living in Luter Residence Hall reported she received a harassing phone call around 12 a.m. Nov. 17.

A large rock outside Taylor was spray painted between 2 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. Nov. 24.

The rock belonged to a campus organization.

A student said she was shoved by another student during an argument between 11 p.m. and 11:48 p.m. Nov. 24. The incident was forwarded to the dean's office.

A university employee in Reynolds Gymnasium received a harassing voice mail message at 8:20 a.m. Nov. 23.

Four men in the courtyard area of Babcock and Luter residence halls were issued trespass warnings Nov. 26 at 4:23 p.m. The men could not give a valid reason for being on campus.

University Police handled 61 calls from Nov. 16 to Nov. 30, including 36 incidents and investigations and 52 requests for service.

WORLDWIDE

Space station construction poses a dangerous challenge

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — When the space shuttle Endeavour lifts off today from Florida's Kennedy Space Center, it will carry with it a \$300-million payload docking tunnel as the United States will take its first step in the International Space Station construction project.

Unity, the second piece of the station, will be attached to the Russian-built Zaraya (Russian for "sunrise") the propulsion unit already in place.

The dangerous project plans to assemble the station 240 miles above the Earth and is being undertaken by a group of 15 countries.

According to NASA engineers, about 100 pieces weighing one million pounds will be hauled up by 34 U.S. shuttles and nine Russian rockets during the next six years. Astronauts and cosmonauts will make more than 160 space walks to assemble the station.

Although the difficulty of the Endeavour's mission is rated as medium by NASA officials, there will still be obstacles to face.

Pressurized suits are designed to protect astronauts from dramatic temperature swings of 250 degrees when in the sunlight to 250 below when it is in darkness.

Adding to the difficulty is the brief period of orbital daylight. The shuttle circles the Earth every 90 minutes, and half of that time it is in darkness. This means spacewalkers have daylight for 45 minutes at a time. In orbital darkness they must rely on powerful floodlights on the shuttle to get their work done.

Israel suspends troop withdrawals until Palestinians back down

RAMALLAH, West Bank — The Israeli government announced Dec. 2 it was suspending further troop withdrawals until the Palestinians comply with a list of demands including a promise to abandon publically plans to declare a Palestinian state in May.

The government said its decision was prompted in part by an attack on an Israeli soldier and civilian by an angry Palestinian mob in the city of Ramallah in the West Bank earlier Dec. 2.

The Clinton administration dismissed the new Israeli conditions for a pullback on the West Bank and demanded Dec. 2 that the Wye accord with the Palestinians "should be implemented as signed."

The pullback is an obligation, State Department spokesman James Rubin said in a statement. The U.S. spokesman condemned the attack in Ramallah.

The attack, in which the soldier was stoned and beaten, followed the killing in Jerusalem of an Arab street cleaner, apparently slain by an Israeli extremist.

In Jerusalem, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said that troop pullbacks would be delayed unless Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat stops saying he will establish a Palestinian state next May, whatever the outcome of negotiations with Israel, that

incitement of rioters be halted and that Israel alone will decide which Palestinian prisoners to free under October's Wye accord signed in rural Maryland.

The State Department's swift rejection of the Israeli conditions puts the administration on a collision course with Israel 11 days before a scheduled trip there by President Clinton.

American mediator Dennis Ross and his deputy, Aaron Miller, will go to the region in a few days to try and ease the conflict in advance of Clinton's trip, a senior U.S. official said.

More fuel added to fire of global-warming debate

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Global warming, the subtle rise in the Earth's temperature that promises to unleash a posse of natural disasters, is the subject of dispute and uncertainty among the scientific community and political arenas.

And that is reflected in two recent scientific papers. One of those papers is by climate scientist James Hansen, one of the earliest and most outspoken of those raising the alarm about global warming. His 1988 testimony to Congress that global warming was under way brought the subject to the public eye.

But in his new paper, he shows some uncertainty about how fast and how much of the Earth is warming.

Hansen still thinks that humans are part of the cause, because of the so-called greenhouse gases produced by fossil-fuel use. The gases trap heat that would normally radiate into space.

But in this article, published in the Oct. 27 issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Hansen notes the scientific ignorance about many of the factors affecting the world's climate.

For example, cars and power plants spout tiny particles of soot and other pollutants into the atmosphere. These particles reflect sunlight and affect cloud formation, thereby helping to cool the planet. No one, he notes, knows how much effect this has.

Another puzzle he presents is the role of the sun. Greenhouse gases are definitely helping warm the planet, Hansen says. But fluctuations in the sun's energy also seem to be at work. Right now, the sun is adding to global warming.

But someday the sun might give off less heat than now, thereby canceling some of the effects of greenhouse gases. Even so, there is still cause for concern, according to Hansen. But given the big changes in knowledge in the past 20 year, he says, it's hard to predict for the next 100 years.

Still, scientists don't want to oversimplify the state of knowledge, nor do they want politicians to do so.

Some scientists were uneasy about Vice President Al Gore's press briefing in July when he said that the first six months of 1998 each set temperature records.

According to Hansen, although that's true, it gives the erroneous perception that it's going to continue that way.

Compiled from news services.