

# Transfer students experience mid-year orientation

By Natalie Bonomo  
Old Gold and Black Reporter

The 2002 spring semester has brought 16 transfer students to the university.

Of the 237 students that applied to transfer to the university last fall, 76 were admitted and 37 enrolled.

Martha Allman, associate director of admissions, said maintaining the student body size is kept in mind when determining how many transfer students are admitted.

"Fairly typically we keep our four-year numbers balanced," she said.

"When you have a particularly large senior class graduate, the next year a larger number of transfer and undergraduate students are admitted."

A concerted effort is made to make sure the transfer students feel welcome at the university.

The January orientation for new students and transfer students is a shorter version of what incoming freshman experience in the fall.

"What we try particularly to do is give a strong welcome to this group that arrives in the middle of the academic year," said Perry Patterson, a professor of economics, who has been the chair of the committee on orientation and lower advising for four and half years. "This means we try to make sure the students forge strong connections with each other and the student and faculty advisors."

Junior Samantha Aleksiewicz is on the Committee for Lower Division Advising.

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Perry Patterson  
Chair of the Committee on Orientation

A transfer student herself, she had gone through the process and wanted to help fellow transfer students feel at home.

"I knew what the transfer students needed, others didn't understand," she said.

Eleven transfer students were placed in university housing this semester. "We mix them (transfer students) up all over

the campus," said Connie Carson, the director of Residence Life and Housing.

Huffman, Luter and North Residence Halls, and Kitchin and Poteat Houses are all housing spring semester transfer students.

An attempt is made to place the transfer students where they can meet other students in their class.

This, however, can be challenging due to students currently studying abroad.

A smaller version of the informational events for freshmen takes place for the spring semester transfer students.

"Even though it is not as large in volume in the middle of the year, we try to imitate what we do in the fall and as far as services go we provide an opening," said

Carson.

Junior Melissa Artigue transferred to the university from a two-year college in Los Angeles because she wanted a school ranked in the top 50. "I wanted to live in a different part of the country and experience it for a few years. Everyone here has been very friendly," she said.

The university was a lot more academically challenging which was what I wanted," said Sarah Wells Stick who transferred in 1998 and currently works with the transfer students as the Academic Credit Coordinator.

According to Jean Kimmer, the data retrieval specialist, "We have some very good transfers that come through here and make excellent students. They are an asset to Wake."

# 284 Rushees receive bids

By Andrea Carden  
Contributing Reporter

Formal sorority recruitment took place between Jan. 10 and 13, drawing large numbers of prospective members during 3 days of organized activities.

Trisha Richerson, assistant director of Greek affairs and conference programming said, "In total, 398 girls registered for recruitment.

Three hundred sixty-nine started on the first day of Recruitment. On the last day of parties, there were 309 people left. Two hundred eighty-four women received bids, and about 77 percent of women who started recruitment pledged a sorority. Five of Seven sororities reached quota, which was 49."

The Rush process consists of four days of structured parties designed to introduce Rushees to the maximum number of sorority sisters. Participants attend all seven parties on the first day; first-day parties are centered around a philanthropic craft, ranging from reading flashcards to boost chil-

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dren's literacy to snowflakes created to decorate Brenner's Children's Hospital. Five parties are held on day two, a combination of skits, songs and dances. Participants selectively choose the groups' parties they return to, and sororities vote on the members they invite back each day. The third day, of three parties, features a slide show of members involved in different activities. Day four, or Preference Night, consists of two parties and a formal presentation to Rush participants helping them to decide upon their desired sorority.

Along with the high turnout,

organizers also felt that recruitment went smoothly. "Recruitment went really well this year. There were no major problems, and everyone seemed fine," said junior Kate Niemiec, president of the Panhellenic Council.

The overall experience of Rush may vary for those who participated in it, but for many it proved to be a positive experience.

"It was fun. It turned out to be more fun than I thought. It is hard to get to know everyone in four days, but it all eventually works out," said freshman Heather Renwick.

"Even if you decide not to accept a bid, or pledge for a sorority, it is still a really great chance to meet new and interesting people," said Niemiec.

Others noted how time and size constraints affect the way recruitment is conducted. "Recruitment is a very different experience. It is an artificial setting, and it is not for everyone. There is such a large group of people that it is the only way to do it," senior Jami Johnson of Pi Beta Phi sorority said.



Danielle Fisher/Old Gold and Black

## New sisters on the run

A group of new sorority members run the traditional Quad Lap in celebration of their recent bid acceptance at the end of women's Rush on Jan. 14.

# Museum

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the museum's assets, endowments and staff will remain property of Reynolda House, Inc.; the museum's present advisory board will remain the same.

According to Hearn, the decision was based upon cultural, rather than financial, concerns.

"Both these institutions have great cultural assets and can be enhanced by collaboration," he said.

"There is no financial issue looming."

Reynolda House and the surrounding 19 acres were declared a non-profit institution in 1964 by the Babcock family.

The art collection was first presented to the public in 1967.

# QualChoice

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Richard Sears, a professor of political science said.

One of two options currently available to retirees, in which Medicare combines with QualChoice to provide a package coverage deal, could possibly be in jeopardy, however. "A Medicare supplemental package by QualChoice may or may not be available," Sears said.

When QualChoice was initially adopted as the university's carrier several years ago, the university owned controlling shares of the company.

"QualChoice is largely a creation of Wake Forest Hospital," the university chapter of the American Association of University Professors President Hank Kennedy said.

The undergraduate university officially disaffiliated with QualChoice soon afterwards, however, leaving the company in partnership with the School of Medicine.

University policies concerning health care last came under fire in September 2000, when a report from the university chapter of the AAUP criticized the administration for cutting its contribution to the QualChoice plan, leaving subscribers with increased premiums and decreased benefits.

University officials insisted that the changes were simply due to the increasing costs of health care.

# IN OTHER NEWS

## American Taliban charged and held

ALEXANDRIA, Va. - John Walker Lindh, an American who fought for the Taliban government, will face charges in United States District Court in Alexandria, Va. rather than a military tribunal. Walker is charged with conspiracy to kill U.S. citizens, providing support to terrorist organizations and engaging in prohibited actions according to Attorney General John Ashcroft.

Lindh is not being charged at this time with treason or any crime that is punishable by death. However, Ashcroft said that if evidence to support a charge of that nature were to surface that it would be possible to pursue capital punishment.

Lindh is currently being held aboard the amphibious attack ship USS Bataan in the Arabian Sea. He will be transferred to FBI custody and returned to the United States "in the very near future," Ashcroft said.

Lindh, who converted to Islam at the age of 16 while living in California, is reported to have trained with Al-Qaeda camps in Afghanistan.

state that Lindh met personally with bin Laden, where he was thanked for his support for the Al-Qaeda movement.

## Local black business owners convene

WINSTON-SALEM - In the hopes of promoting black-owned businesses in Winston-Salem, 30 black business owners gathered Jan. 15 to create a group specially catering to their interests. While constituting the beginnings of what could become a black chamber of commerce, the new network is not intended to segregate itself from the Greater Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce. Rather, the group hopes to serve the black business community.

"We have needs that are unique, programs that are unique to our community and us," Miriam McCarter, the individual with the original idea, said.

Business owners at the meeting volunteered to start drafting bylaws and donated funds to create a group bank account.

Tuesday's meeting follows the Winston-Salem chamber's decision to replace the East Area Council with a new Minority Business Council. The new council will deal with business concerns of the Asian, Hispanic and Black communities. The council was renamed in the

hopes of boosting group involvement and attracting new members, as monthly attendance had decreased.

## Lay sheds light on Enron crisis

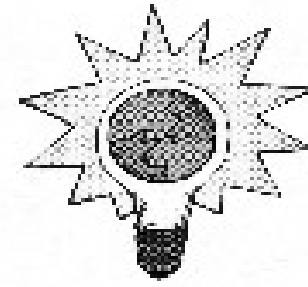
HOUSTON, Texas - A memo, sent to Enron Chairman Kenneth Lay last August, has just been released and sheds light on Enron's fall from a powerful energy conglomerate to a bankrupt subject of public and government scrutiny. The memo, written by Sherron Watkins, a vice president of corporate development, centers on certain "raptor" investments. In these cases, the company is alleged to have shifted certain questionable assets to a separate and independently arranged company in order to hide Enron's imminent collapse from shareholders.

That partnership soon went bankrupt; it was at that time that Watkins went to Lay with the memo.

The memo states that many of the company's transactions leading up to its filing for Chapter 11 protections Dec. 11, were nothing more than "an elaborate accounting hoax."

Enron's collapse has been clouded by doubts involving the president's knowledge of the company's problems and alleged appeals for government help.

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