

OPINION

This column represents the views of the *Old Gold & Black* Editorial Board.

Faculty salaries a disgrace to university

The situation of faculty and staff salaries and benefits at this university is deplorable. When a senior administrator is pulling in close to a million dollars a year, there is not one acceptable reason for the core of this university, its faculty, to lag so far behind their peers' compensation.

Additionally, the university community should be embarrassed for the lack of benefits afforded to faculty and staff.

Simply put, no excuse exists for not offering childcare at a university that has not only the resources, but programs that would benefit from having children on campus, like education and psychology. Other benefits need improvements as well.

Healthcare at a university with a nationally recognized top-tier hospital should be nothing short of incredible.

Students have already seen a wave of professors leave after the salary freeze and subsequent meager "raise" last spring. The news the AAUP's report brought is particularly alarming in the sense that more faculty may leave the university, and potential faculty might not consider it.

While we all appreciate the small class sizes the university offers, another part of the Plan for the Class of 2000, small classes lose all their appeal and utility without professors who are leaders in their fields teaching them.

With the ever increasing size of the freshman class the ability to recruit more quality faculty will be paramount and unfortunately impossible unless salary levels rise to at least the mean of the peer institutions.

One thing that university officials always list as important to them is the sense of community here on campus.

It is the professors and students who make that community, and to risk either's existence is to recklessly gamble on the future success of the university as we know it.

What undergraduate students should wonder is where their tuition is going. While the College's tuition revenue has increased by more than 88 percent since 1998, faculty salaries have not increased even close to that level. When \$2,000 extra is tacked on to tuition nearly each year - where does the money go?

Since the administration in the past has turned a deaf ear to the faculty reports, and obviously did not care what the numbers said in regard to fairness and

equality of pay, it is time for students to get involved. This is the future of the university, the value of their degree.

Students need to send a strong message to the university administration and board of trustees that this treatment of faculty will not stand any longer. There are a number of ways for students to do this. The easiest would be to write a letter to President Nathan O. Hatch and board of trustees Chairman L. Glenn Orr expressing disapproval of the treatment of faculty and staff.

It would seem however that like reports, letters could be easily ignored. More likely to be noticed would be a sit-in in Reynolda Hall. If 2,200 people can show up for basketball tickets, surely a few hundred students can crowd the halls during the next board of trustees meeting Oct. 21.

The editorial board would strongly encourage enterprising students to organize a highly visual protest of some sort at this time. Students here are sometimes accused of being apathetic, and now is the time to show support for the faculty and staff, get off the twin extra longs and do something.

Even more to the point would be withholding support from the university until promises are made that future donations will go to the most pressing issue facing this school, faculty salaries and the retention and recruitment of a quality teaching staff.

The Class of 2006 could donate specifically to support the College faculty, or chose not to donate at all until something is changed.

The Manchester gift is an important step in showing where priorities should lie, and the Manchester family should be heartily thanked for recognizing the problem that exists and doing their part to correct it.

Other successful alumni are encouraged to remember those professors who helped them along the path to where they are today, and donate specifically to support them.

We would hope also, that those alumni who cannot donate would take the time to write a letter to Hatch or Orr in support of raising faculty salaries at least to the mean of our cross-admit institutions.

It will be this issue that most puts Hatch and the new administration to the test, and we sincerely hope he can move beyond the mistakes of the past and work with the board of trustees to resolve these issues.

Intellectual diversity needed

Hatch needs to pay attention to encouraging multiple avenues of academic thought.

I hope President Nathan Hatch sticks to his balance between "diversity and continuity."

In a speech to the University Senate in March, then President-Elect Hatch outlined the vision for his presidency and presented



Scott Hurff

OLD GOLD & BLACK
COLUMNIST

an analysis of where the university has been, where it is and where it is heading.

In a mix of both pragmatic and visionary thinking, Hatch recognized the university's distinct characteristics.

Not only are we a part of an excellent academic institution seeking "vibrant intellectual life," but we are part of an institution with a religious heritage that is "Baptist and ecumenically Christian" that sees its faculty and students as its two most important assets.

But I believe that Hatch is right when he recognizes the "creative tension" between "diversity and continuity with the past," and correct when he recognizes that the university "prizes academic freedom and diversity of thought."

Just depends on what type of diversity he means. For me, diversity means - to employ Hatch's words - "diversity of thought."

Diversity does not necessarily mean that if one has a different skin color one thinks differently.

Diversity does not necessarily mean that if one has a different skin color one thinks differently. Instead, diversity means bringing together different points of view, regardless of skin color.

Diversity should then be more specifically characterized as intellectual diversity.

Instead, diversity means bringing together different points of view, regardless of skin color.

Diversity should then be more specifically characterized as intellectual diversity.

For this matter, Hatch's words are encouraging.

When true intellectual diversity exists in a free-thinking academic institution the results are incredible.

A university achieves a "vibrant intellectual life," both faculty and students learn and great products result.

Intellectual diversity is healthy and necessary. Diversity based on skin color and sex or gender, however, is misplaced.

As Walter Williams stated in a previous column ("Celebrating multiculturalism and diversity,") "Diversity worship and multiculturalism are currency and cause for celebration at just about any college. If one is black, brown, yellow or white, the prevailing thought is that he should take pride and celebrate that fact even though, just as in the case of my eye color, he had nothing to do with it.

The multiculturalist and diversity crowd see race as an achievement.

In my book, race might be an achievement, worthy of considerable celebration, only if a person was born white and through his effort and diligence became black."

It is my hope that Hatch remains committed to the idea of intellectual diversity and maintains

this university's traditional roots. This makes the university unique and unlike any other in its so-called class.

But I have some cause for concern. Over the course of researching Hatch's background, I came across a number of articles referencing his work at Notre Dame.

One was an article referencing his work during his tenure as Provost, entitled "Hatch reflects on progress made during provost tenure," found in *The Observer*: "In particular, Hatch cited the strengthening of specialized programs such as Irish studies and Latino studies and academic centers like the Kaneb Center. He also discussed large increases in undergraduate financial aid and its ability to bring top students to Notre Dame as a major achievement. 'That has tremendously helped our diversity - it's tremendously helped our quality,' Hatch said."

While I agree that increases in undergraduate financial aid programs has the potential to broaden an institution's intellectual diversity, I question the ability of "specialized programs such as Irish studies and Latino studies" to do so.

How does this increase intellectual diversity amongst students? How does this increase the quality of dialogue?

I'm only asking these questions because I wish to understand their logic, not because I am opposed to other cultures.

I hope that throughout his tenure at the university, Hatch can answer these questions if he desires to implement similar programs at the university.

I wish Hatch a successful inauguration and a successful first year.

Furthermore, I hope that he maintains the university's unique identity while broadening its intellectual base.

Good luck, President Hatch.

Scott Hurff is a senior political science major.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Judicial Council treats all equally

A recent editorial criticized the judicial system, claiming that two athletes were treated differently than other students would have been treated ("Double standard created for university's athletes," Sept. 22). Although we cannot discuss the substance of any particular case, we note that many of the inferences in the editorial reflect an incomplete understanding of the case. The Judicial Council, as the final arbiter in our judicial system, ensures that our system treats each student as an individual - no special treatment is conferred on any category of students. In reviewing the judgments of administrative officers and hearing bodies within the judicial system, the Judicial Council aims to "insure justice and due process to all members of the undergraduate academic community." (*Student Handbook*, 81) We believe that we have fulfilled that duty.

Ellen Kirkman
Chairwoman, Judicial Council

Roberts, Ginsburg share similarities

Junior Barbara Smith's editorial on Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg ("Ginsburg Radical on Court," Sept. 29) was nothing more than name calling - an outrageous personal attack that sheds more heat than light on Ginsburg's judicial history.

The alleged quotations on Ginsburg's actions were erroneous, as much of it seems to have been recycled from the *National Review* - a reactionary, fascist-oriented magazine.

It's evident that Smith selected her quotations completely out of context to reflect her disdain for Ginsburg. In addition to lack of context and the resulting inaccuracy, the quotations were from academic writings that Ginsburg did as a professor, prior to her appointment to the Supreme Court.

In fact, Ginsburg is not the "radical leftist feminist" that Smith portrays. Considered by her fellow judges to be the centrist amongst them, Ginsburg epitomizes judicial restraint, demonstrating her expertise and understanding of the United States judicial system. Is Smith offended by Chief Justice John Roberts' pro-bono work on

behalf of homosexuals?

Smith's argument lacks the understanding that a good lawyer must comprehend and articulate arguments on behalf of the client. The political beliefs of the judicial branch should be separated to the utmost. Ginsburg is known for her restrained method in deliberating cases.

Smith accusing Ginsburg of the crime of feminism is baffling, as feminists believe Ginsburg's "vision of equal-treatment feminism (is) not radical enough." In *Roe v. Wade*, Ginsburg disapproved of the court's verdict, as she claimed the case was "decided on unnecessarily broad grounds and halting legislative reforms." She supports gender-neutral terms replacing gender-specific terms in federal documents, again to the contempt of feminists.

Republican Sen. Orrin Hatch recommended Ginsburg to President Bill Clinton for the high court appointment. She received a vote of 96-3 when she was confirmed. Are the Senators who supported her - including a majority of Republicans - secret radical leftist feminists? If Ginsburg was the fanatical Smith portrays, she would not have been confirmed.

Roberts was subjected to many questions regarding his background and views, as was Ginsburg. Roberts cited Ginsburg's expression of her own views and approach to during her confirmation, reiterating the point that justices should not be appointed for their politics. Smith would do well to listen to Roberts' testimony. She might then understand that while Roberts and Ginsburg are not likely to agree often on cases that come before the Court, both have the experience and intellect to serve the nation and the constitution well in these lifetime positions.

Molly Conti
Senior

Smith's column differs from lecture

In response to Barbara Smith's editorial focusing on Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg ("Ginsburg Radical on Court," Sept. 29), I was amazed at the disrespect shown for the woman that I had just heard speak, and of whom I had been totally in awe.

It is obvious that Smith either did not attend the "Conversation with Ginsburg," or was not listening very carefully. Ginsburg

described her years as a law student, not out "burning her bras," but rather studying as hard as she could between raising her infant child and supporting her husband through his battle with cancer.

I am not a law student, but despite Smith's claims about Ginsburg's radically liberal past, I still believe that she does her best as a justice to not let her personal life interfere with her job. During the talk, Ginsburg cited several of the many cases in which she as a justice did not let her opinions as an individual interfere with her ruling because the judges really are there to uphold the law, not their own agenda.

Finally, I would like to ask Smith why she uses the term feminism in such a negative way. If she thinks that feminism is all about burning bras, she should check the history books. By far, the majority of feminists were ordinary women with jobs, husbands and children. They were not being radical, unless you consider asking for equal pay, equal rights and equal opportunities a radical notion. I find it very frustrating to read about an article by a woman criticizing another woman for being a feminist, when without strong, persistent, intelligent women like Ginsburg, she would not be able to attend a university and write such a column.

Devon Reed
Sophomore

Criticism of SG President unfair

Over the course of the past few months, I have not been able to help but notice what seems to be an unusual amount of personal attacks aimed at our current Student Government president. While I do not by any means oppose well-intended constructive criticism and am not interested in taking the sides on any particular issues, I would like to speak for a moment regarding the target of these attacks.

Reggie Mathis has been a friend of mine for about four years now. In that time I have come to know him as a teammate, as a competitor and as our president. Though we've been through some hard-fought battles in flag football and in class on opposite sides of debate, not once have I drawn into question the underlying values and intentions of Mathis as a human being.

Today, it is these intentions and values that serve as a target for the

highly publicized and often tasteless attacks of a few. As such, I feel today is my chance to give voice to the vast majority of students at the university who know and love Reggie Mathis.

For the three years that I have been at the university, the office of SG president, like that of university president, has been seemingly out of touch with the life of the average student on this campus. I would go so far as to assume that most students do not even know the location of the SG executive council's suite stashed back in a corner of Benson.

Perhaps more so than anything else though, this is something that our president today wants to change. More important than dining, more important than basketball tickets, and more important than Project Archway to Mathis is the office's relationship with the student body.

Anyone who knows Mathis fairly well will tell you that he didn't choose to run for president for the title.

In fact, I remember him promising himself coming into the university that he would remain out of the school's political affairs as much as possible.

Luckily for us, that's one promise he decided to break. Mathis chose to get involved with SG because he saw that he could make a small difference.

He ran for president because he saw a huge opportunity for change.

In making himself and his cabinet more accessible than any in recent history, Mathis is working to understand the needs of not only the majority of students on this campus, but the minority as well. It is by understanding these needs that he feels he can best serve them and in the end, leave our school a better place for the years to come.

This is his motivation, this is his purpose and I don't believe anyone who takes the chance to genuinely get to know Mathis and express their concerns will find him any different.

Joe Swithenbank
Senior

Our letters policy

We welcome letters. Send yours via e-mail to ogboped@wfu.edu, by campus mail to P.O. Box 7569, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27109, or deliver it to Benson 518. We reserve the right to edit all letters for length and clarity. No anonymous letters will be printed.

OLD GOLD & BLACK

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF
WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY SINCE 1916

Jessica Pritchard
Editor in Chief

Dave Chace
Managing Editor

Joseph Elberts
Business Manager

News: Jae Haley and Kevin Koehler, editors. Sara Bivin and Meg Henry, assistant editors.

Editorials: Jeff Merski, editor.

Sports: Alli Soule, editor. Ryan Durham and Caitlin O'Grady, assistant editors.

Life: Caitlin Kenney, editor. Mary Beth Ballard, assistant editor.

Photography: Nick Babladelis, editor.

Graphics: Ryan Caldwell, editor.

Production: Kristen Guth, Kristin Olson, Alex Osteen and Lizzie Rosen, production assistants. Jacob Bathanti, Karoline Engel, Claire Fernandez, Katie Hendrick and Jillian King, copy editors.

Business Staff: Logan Henderson, Annie Keough, Max Rubin and Emily Watson, sales representatives. Peter Demoise, production assistant. Lizzie Ligon, billing.

Circulation Manager: Chris Caldwell.

Adviser: Wayne King.

The *Old Gold & Black* is published Thursdays during the school year, except during examinations, summer and holiday periods, by WW Printing & Graphics of High Point. Send e-mail to ogb@wfu.edu or mail to P.O. Box 7569, Winston-Salem, NC 27109. © 2005 WFU Publications Board. All rights reserved.

The views expressed in all editorials and advertisements contained within this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the *Old Gold & Black*.

Send guest editorials to ogboped@wfu.edu. The deadline for inclusion is 4

p.m. the Monday before publication. To view editorials policies, visit <http://ogb.wfu.edu>.