

# Social life adjusts to new regulations

By ANDY BARRON

In response to North Carolina raising the legal drinking age to 21, Davidson's new social policies concerning freshmen and alcohol on Patterson Court took effect last week. And while no serious problems with either regulation occurred, students, faculty and administrators continue to take a "wait and see" stance on the new policies.

Both the restriction from Patterson Court for freshman and the new alcohol policy were developed by committees and approved by the Council of Campus and Religious Life last spring. The Patterson Court Selection Study Committee submitted a proposal, amended by the CCRL, that included two major restrictions concerning freshman on Patterson Court:

- 1) That freshmen will not be allowed to attend Court functions on or off campus for the first five weeks of fall terms.
- 2) During the second five weeks of fall term, freshmen will be allowed to participate in ser-

vice projects sponsored by the houses, selected meals and weekend functions.

The new alcohol policy concerning Patterson Court, submitted by the Patterson Court Council and approved by the CCRL, requires houses to serve alcohol downstairs to those having received a stamp after showing proper identification at the top of the stairs.

Senior Dan Murrey, who chaired the selection committee, said his committee originally recommended a seven-week restriction from Patterson Court for freshman. He said his committee felt homecoming was for alumni and not an appropriate time for "the first big rush of freshmen."

Senior and SGA President Mark Sandy, a member of CCRL, said he felt the CCRL thought seven weeks was being too "paternalistic" and decreased the Court restriction to five weeks.

The goals of the freshmen Court restrictions include unity in the freshmen class and giving freshmen a chance to get settled

before facing the pressures of selecting.

"First of all it will slow the tempo down in the freshmen life," Dean of Students Will Terry said. "It will give freshmen a chance to get together with members of their class, have some study time, do campus activities and get acclimated before feeling pressure."

Terry also hoped that freshman would get involved in service activities so that "association with a house isn't entirely based on parties."

Concerning the new Court alcohol policy Terry said he felt the new procedures were working well and praised the PCC for the way it dealt with the new drinking law.

Senior Mike Holt, president of KA, said he felt the alcohol policy was working.

"As I see it, the alcohol policy is designed to protect the liable individuals in a house," Holt said. "The goal of the policy — to keep people under 21 from entering the drinking area — seems to be working."

Holt added that people under 21 were still getting plenty to drink through individuals taking it on themselves to provide underage drinkers with alcohol.

Sandy said student involvement in both new policies was important.

"One of the best things about both the PCC alcohol policy and the Patterson Court Selection Committee was that the committees making the proposals and granting approval all had a majority of students," he said.

The new social regulations have increased the Union's involvement in Davidson's social calendar, especially for freshmen.

"We've been trying to convince everybody that the drinking issue isn't that big a deal," senior Lucinda Kellam, union board president, said. "We've talked to hall counselors, freshmen, fraternities and eating houses and said that just because the drinking age went up, social activities on campus aren't dying. We've been trying to program events that don't need alcohol where freshmen and

upperclassmen can get together." Union Director William Brown feels the Union's responsibility is changing.

"Over the last several years we've seen ourselves as partners with the Court in providing social options," he said. "We've never misled ourselves to think we are the only social outlet. However with freshmen, if we aren't providing things to do, no one is."

And what do the freshmen think?

Most aren't worried about Patterson Court being off limits simply because they don't know what Davidson is like with Court parties.

"I don't think it's that big a deal," freshman Leigh Hall said. "I think of it (the Court) as something for us to look forward to doing. It's not really a deprivation since we don't know what we're missing."

Freshman Lisa Branch said, "I haven't had a lack of things to do. Why worry about things that you can't do?"

## Vice president Williams begins new job

By ANDREA DIEDRICH

Robert C. Williams, new dean of the faculty and vice president for academic affairs, said he accepted the position in part because he was "struck by the sense of mission, sense of purpose, and sense of commitment toward education" found here.

With a BA from Wesleyan University and experience as a professor at Williams College, he is committed to the liberal arts. "Education for leadership strikes me as what Davidson is about rather than training for specialized careers," Williams said.

About his move to Davidson he said, "It was a reaffirmation of my faith in the liberal arts."

As chairman of the Education Policy Committee, Williams hopes to examine the entire curriculum to evaluate what Davidson should require in order to fully educate its students. Williams said he recognizes the importance of area requirements but sees the need for greater latitude in fulfil-

ling them because of the overlapping of disciplines. He plans to encourage more student independence and research.

He hopes to strengthen the laboratory sciences, the development of quantitative reasoning, and foreign language study. He sees "technological literacy" as a possible requirement for graduation but not necessarily computer literacy. Although he believes in supporting the students in learning to use computers, he said, "I don't believe computing is essential to a liberal arts education as mathematics is."

Williams also plans to examine the possibility of changing the calendar system to a semester or 4:1:4 system. He said, "The way we should structure education is with the knowledge that people learn and people teach best at different rates in different fields of study. There is no natural reason for classes that meet every day."

As dean of the faculty, Wil-

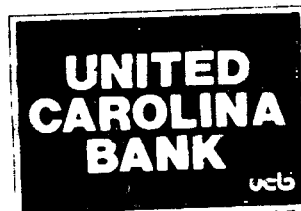
liams is the chief representative of the faculty to the administration and as vice president for academic affairs he is chief representative of the administration to the faculty. He believes the most important duty required by the office is to "recruit, evaluate, and promote the best faculty we can find. Unless Davidson has first rate faculty, it can't be a first rate college."

Williams' other responsibilities include advising the president on matters of tenure and promotion, chairing the Faculty Study and Research Grants Committee, and attending meetings of the Board of Trustees.

Williams received his AM in Russian Studies and PhD in History from Harvard University. Just prior to coming to Davidson he was Professor of History and Dean of University College at Washington University in St. Louis. Williams is not currently teaching, but he hopes to teach a seminar on the Manhattan Project

and courses in Russian history. He is married to Ann B. Kingman who spent 11 years performing

medical research and would like to pursue fashion design, and he has three children.



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## Minnich speaks on feminism in today's world

By DAVID WILLIAMS

"The relationship of females to schooling is one that is having very serious consequences," Dr. Elizabeth Minnich told about 50 Davidson students Monday in a forum sponsored by the Women's Concerns Committee.

Minnich, a graduate professor specializing in feminist scholarship, said: "Women are brought up to take too much credit and also to take too much blame" for their successes and failures. She said that a woman who takes credit for getting the opportunity to move into a high-level job may really be there "because the women's

movement pushed it. And if the women's movement goes away, we'll lose it."

At the same time, Minnich said, "if a woman doesn't understand sexism and racism, then she will take too much blame" for her failures. "If you don't know about the structures that have impact on your career," she said, "and you're not promoted or paid more when others are, you're liable to say it's your fault, when it really isn't."

Minnich noted that humankind tends to be divided "into fragmented little groups as hu-

mans and non-humans. The norm remains white, European male." She said, "If you show people a picture of a room filled with people doing various things, and if you look and it's filled with white men, it's people. If the room is filled with white women, it's women, and with black men and women, it's black people."

Minnich emphasized the importance of women's studies in the classroom. "Unless your classes regard feminist scholarship, they are utterly inadequate and outdated," she said. She added: "People will almost always

come away from their first immersion in women's studies and say, 'Why talk about women?' Yet they never say, 'Why talk about men?' We must become aware that we have developed women's studies over the past 15-20 years, against milleniums" of human studies that focus mainly on men. "That's hardly overdoing it," she said. "We can't talk about humans unless we talk about the 'other' 51 percent of humankind."

Minnich said that many women have had to assert themselves more and become more independent simply in order to sur-

vive. "If the safe thing to be was quiet, well-behaved, pleasing, and counting on that support (from men), the numbers of women in poverty and the number of middle-class women who use tranquilizers would not be so high."

Minnich received her Ph.D. in philosophy from the New School in New York. She is a professor at the Union Graduate School and is a regular contributor to scholarly journals. She is currently reviewing high school and college curriculums in the humanities to provide more equal treatment of women in academic studies.