

MINUTES

Oct. 20, 2005 • 5 p.m.
Student Senate chambers, Witherspoon Student Center

CALL TO ORDER

Jessica Branson called the meeting to order at 5:08pm. All members were in attendance at the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Approval of minutes.
2. Report from *The Nubian Message* Task Force (Cleary) • Patrick Cleary discussed the old business regarding the *Nubian Message* Task Force. Bradley Wilson had suggested that students receive extra credit in Africana Studies classes for working on the *Nubian Message*. The idea was well received and will be proposed to the faculty. Cleary submitted the draft of the *Nubian Message* Task Force Recommendations to Jessica Branson for approval. Branson conducted a voice vote and the *Nubian Message* Task Force Recommendations were passed.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Hiring of *The Nubian Message* editor • We discussed the issue that one applicant turned her application in on time. Another application was turned in late and would not be reviewed. The individual who turned their application in late was still encouraged to attend the meeting. She did not come. Keitris Weathersbe, who turned her application in on time, was in attendance at the meeting. Keitris Weathersbe presented her case for why she wants to be editor of the *Nubian Message*. Keitris Weathersbe asked for questions. Bradley Wilson and members of the Student Media Board asked the candidate various questions. Questions covered the various issues of a nonbiased paper, how long she intends to be editor, time commitment, advertising refunds for late papers, and her involvement with AASAC.

The Board adjourned into executive session to discuss the applicant.

Patrick Cleary moved that we hire Keitris Weathersbe as the new editor of the *Nubian Message*. Emmanuel Lipscomb seconded this motion.

Jessica Branson conducted a voice vote. Everyone was in favor of the motion. We congratulated Keitris Weathersbe and talked to her briefly regarding what her next move should be.

REPORTS

- *Agromeck*
- *Americana*
- *The Nubian Message*
- *Technician*
- *Windhover*
- WKNC 88.1fm

Additional information not contained in reports:

- Dave Nourse discussed WKNC 88.1 fm. They have recently composed a new Training and Operations Manual.
- Josh Bassett passed out new postcards for the *Agromeck*. He reported that deadlines are going well.
- Bradley Wilson informed the group of a few personnel changed within the office.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Student Media Advisory Board may adjourn into executive session to discuss matters of litigation, potential litigation or personnel.

ADJOURN

The Board adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

TEXT OF REPORTS

Agromeck

(submitted by Josh Bassett, editor)

EDITORIAL STAFF:

Josh Bassett, editor (editor@agromeck.ncsu.edu)

Austin Dowd, managing editor (austin@agromeck.ncsu.edu)

Joan Marie MacFadden, student life section editor (jmmacfad@ncsu.edu)

Cynthia Rouf, organizations section editor (nrouf@ncsu.edu)

Courtney J. Evans, senior staff writer (cjevans@ncsu.edu)

RECRUITMENT/TRAINING – With the school year in full swing we're at still recruiting new staff members. Three new staff members have joined since the first deadline, Oct. 3. New photographers used the Fiji Dodgeball tournament to sharpen their skills.

PHOTOGRAPHY – Congratulations to William Alligood for being named the September Photographer of the Month.

POSTCARDS – In accordance with our marketing plan, we will be printing a post card every month, excluding December and May, which will feature a photo chosen by the Photographer of the Month. The October postcard features a shot by Rob Bradley from the Virginia Tech football game. The photographers turned the first football game into a contest, the winner's photo was featured on the postcard.

DEADLINE PROGRESS – The staff met the first deadline on Oct. 3 as 16 pages were sent to Taylor Publishing. The next deadline on Nov. 7 requires 31 pages.

FUN STUFF – After completion of the first deadline, the staff held a celebration at Josh's house.

AMERICANA

(submitted by Emmanuel Lipscomb, editor)

Since the end of the spring semester 2005, *Americana* has experienced several difficulties in remaining a functioning member of the N.C. State Student Media. First, half of its staff members graduated or resigned. Then, many of its regular writers graduated. Following those initial setbacks, an error on the site's main page made it impossible to easily navigate from the cover page to the rest of the magazine (content could only be reached with a direct link). While that problem was being investigated, a hard drive failure took the entire website down. Luckily, the publication was recovered in its entirety thanks to the work of Joel Ebel. Still, even though the information was recovered, the way the site was structured could not be, so lots of time and effort will have to be put into getting it up and running again.

To overcome these obstacles, *Americana* focused on refilling its staff roster. The idea was that being closer to a full roster would allow tasks to be delegated to specific people and groups. Flyers went up around campus detailing which positions were vacant. Announcements were posted on The Wolf Web message board, N.C. State's Facebook, and the N.C. State Scholars Update e-mail. Many people were interested in the editor positions, but for the non-editor positions the interest was less than enthusiastic.

Initially, Web and publicity were the priorities. It was important to have someone working on the site so that publishing could begin. Then, it was decided that there was no reason that both editor and non-editor interviews couldn't happen at the same time. Emmanuel Lipscomb, editor, took all the names of those who were interested in editor positions, and Jeff Horn, general manager, took the remaining names.

Before hiring, the staff consisted of an editor in chief (Emmanuel Lipscomb, edlipsco@ncsu.edu), a general manager (Jeff Horn, jrhorn@ncsu.edu), a features editor (Curtis Martin, cpmartin@ncsu.edu), two news & opinion Editors (Kate Sutton, krsutto3@ncsu.edu and Jode Willingham, jdwillin@ncsu.edu), an arts editor (Christopher "Critter" Wentworth, crittervision@gmail.com), an arts director (Travis Stearns, tmstearn@ncsu.edu), and finally a volunteer web developer (Nigel Kirby, nigel.kirby@gmail.com). Joining staff this semester are a new humor editor (Amos Baynes, wabaynes@ncsu.edu), two new web developers (Michael McAuley, mjmcaule@ncsu.edu and Hexing Liu, hxliu@ncsu.edu), two new publicity coordinators (Matt O' Bryant, mlobryan@ncsu.edu and Liesl Clouse, lsclouse@ncsu.edu), and a new creativity editor that has yet to accept the position.

Currently, Michael McAuley and Hexing Liu are working to get the site back in order. At the staff meeting on Sunday, Oct. 16, Michael estimated that the site could return in as little as eight to 10 days. He has been in contact with Joel Ebel, Student Media computer systems administrator who set up the new hard drive and operating system for the *Americana* server.

Americana's next objectives are to publish its first issue and host its first open mic. Once the site returns, publishing shouldn't be an issue; however, its usual open mic venue, Caldwell Lounge, is currently under construction. The rest of campus is being scoped out for possible venues, but it's difficult to find a place as large as Caldwell that is easy to access and allows the noise levels that the events sometimes reach. Off campus venues are being avoided because of

the fact that many of those in attendance live on campus and would be unlikely to attend an off-campus event.

General Manager Jeff Horn has been invaluable in restoring *Americana* to what it was. The loyalty and patience of its remaining staff cannot be understated. Finally, the readers and supporters of *Americana* that have questioned its disappearance and aided in recommending students for interviews has been greatly appreciated.

Americana hopes to be running smoothly within a month. Once the first issue is published, issues will follow every two weeks until the end of the semester.

TECHNICIAN

(submitted by Rebecca Heslin, editor)

Staff Recruitment – We're about to start another wave of recruitment. The news department desperately needs more dedicated, committed writers. We're thinking outside the box as to how to get people involved. Our recruitment efforts were fabulous this summer, we just need more.

Deadlines – We have been tearing up our deadlines recently. I've been so impressed with the 180 the staff has done to make the 1 a.m. deadline, and even the midnight one sometimes. The deadline culture has been reborn in our offices at last.

Training – On Oct. 12 we welcomed Tim Simmons of the *News & Observer* to share some information regarding campus coverage. He really put things into perspective for the editorial board I think. All in all he was extremely helpful.

We held a bootcamp training session Oct. 16 and attendance was high. I was pleased with the turn out and it seems as though everyone walked away with something — which accomplishes the goal. The main focuses were on lead writing, coverage/story ideas and the interviewing process and incorporating quotes into stories. There were a lot of new faces which was excellent.

Diversity – We have spent the past week working on our Time Out for Diversity study. Staff members and the editorial board alike have been doing content analyses of past issues to determine the ethnicity/race, gender, campus affiliation of sources used in *Technician*. This helps us look at the big picture of our job as a campus newspaper — accurately reflecting campus.

Conference – We will be sending several staff members to Kansas City to attend the Associated Collegiate Press conference. While the conference unfortunately falls during homecoming festivities, I am quite confident that this conference will prove to be beneficial to the young staff we are sending. I'm hoping the conference successfully draws these students into the world of journalism and they can in turn bring back what they learn to share with their staffs.

WINDHOVER

(submitted by Britt Hayes, editor)

Personnel – Three staff members have been hired.

- Lauren Gould, literary editor
- Carolin Harris, designer
- Caroline Okun, designer

Progress – All members of the staff have been hired with the exception of possibly a few readers if needed after submissions.

Reception date has been set for April 26, 2006 from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. at the Craft Center. Currently working on publicity for submissions and overall visual look.

WKNC

(submitted by David Nourse, general manager)

WKNC is still on the air!

We have been working very hard the last few weeks putting the finishing touches on the WKNC training and operations manual.

Training itself has been proceeding well. More than 20 people have been consistently showing up to HA 181 on Monday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m. for introductory DJ training.

A look at WKNC's budget (specifically the supply line) shows that we are approximately \$5,000+ over what we should be this year. This is due to studio renovations that took place last summer carrying over into this fiscal year due to delays in processing by the accounting offices across campus. I have been assured by Bradley Wilson that this should not be too large a problem to work around as the money was available and budgeted last year.

We have plans in the next few weeks to construct the open production studio in what is now WKNC's vinyl library. This project should not take long but should, once opened, greatly aid in the training of future staff.