



# The Guilfordian

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(See page 3)

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Claude Shotts

photo by Weiner

## SHOTTS DISCUSSES EDUCATION

by John Beede

Want to go to London, Paris, Athens, New York, Philadelphia, or Washington, maybe? Well, believe it or not, Guilford has seminars to each of these cities and others. The man behind them all is Claude Shotts, Director of Off-Campus Seminars. Shotts, now in his eighth year at Guilford, but with a background of more than fifty years in planning activities with college students, feels that seminars are one of the most advantageous programs offered at Guilford.

Shotts arrived at Guilford in 1965, with an impressive background in leadership and academics. From his graduation at the University of Alabama, Shotts went to Yale to do graduate work in the area of industrial personnel. While studying at Yale, he coached at an athletic club in a poor section of New Haven, taught at Hopkins Grammar School and took courses with the renowned educator, George Counts. The courses proved fascinating for Shotts, thus prompting him to change from engineering to education. Says Shotts, "Education came to be much more than what happened in the classroom. Education, in Alfred North Whitehead's words, has only one subject matter and that is life in all its manifestations."

In 1925, while continuing his studies at Harvard, Shotts moved to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he worked

extensively with the on-campus Y.M.C.A. In his initial programs, he emphasized getting off the campus and getting into the world. He recruited students to teach in the jails and study the tense racial situation then prevalent in Boston. Already making a name for himself, Shotts moved on to Colgate University where his programs received national attention. From Colgate he proceeded to Northwestern University where he remained, directing seminars, conferences, and educational projects with students, for fifteen years. After the Second World War, Shotts returned to Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where he worked through the student Y.M.C.A. In 1964, he began work with the American Friends Service Committee, but ended his service when he came to Guilford.

Shotts first came to Guilford in 1965 and worked as a counselor for students. That same year he also helped students plan seminars to Washington, New York and Europe. From that time on, the off-campus programs at Guilford have been growing and getting more and more people excited. Says Shotts, "Unless there is a motivation... education can be a very low level activity, with little joy in it."

Obviously, students feel this excitement and importance of the seminar. One person, upon return from a seminar to New York, remarked, "For the rest of my life the results of this trip will guide my thoughts, my actions and my will to live." Another person on an urban Confrontation Seminar to New York remarked, "Before I had always said that when I got out of college, I would start working to combat many of society's evils, but now I see that there are many activities which I can undertake now that could make a difference." And another, perhaps summing up the meaning of the seminar program, "It's too bad that all education can't be an experience like the seminar."

Claude Shotts feels that the seminar program here at

Guilford has tremendous significance. In regard to the off-campus seminars for this year, Shotts mentioned seven that are being planned by his office. There will be five seminars for freshmen, three of which will be to New York to study urban problems and two to Washington to study the operation of the federal government. A sixth seminar will be to Philadelphia to study education and a seventh to New York in conjunction with a second semester religion course. Other seminars may be planned under the authority of the department involved, Shotts said. In regard to foreign study seminars, which are administered in cooperation with UNCG, two are approved for London and Paris and two others are under consideration for Athens and Columbia (South America).

According to Shotts, student reaction in the past has been excellent in relation to off-campus seminars. He sees great potential for the seminar in the future. Shotts sees education as needing to move in a direction which would break down the walls between the community and the college and make it possible to look at the relationships that actually exist between them. Shotts also sees the off-campus seminars as being of great potential in terms of individual growth. He feels students need freedom from the authoritarian classroom to go to a city or foreign country and make decisions and organize projects on their own. This would give the student a higher opinion of his capacity to operate in the world. Says Shotts, "Seminars give meaning to life by seeing what someone is doing outside of the campus in the world."

Claude Shotts' enthusiasm over the off-campus seminars can be measured by the feelings experienced by those who attended them. And as many will testify, those feelings were significant. Undoubtedly, Claude Shotts and the off-campus seminars will remain part of the Guilford experience for a long time.

## Fellowships Offered

Inquiries about the Danforth Fellowships, to be awarded in March, 1973, are invited, according to Mel Keiser, whose office is in Dana #291, the local campus representative.

The fellowships, offered by the Danforth Foundation of St. Louis, Missouri, are open to men and women who are seniors or recent graduates of accredited colleges in the United States, who have serious interest in college teaching as a career, and who plan to study for a Ph.D. in a field of study common to the American undergraduate liberal arts curriculum. Applicants may be single or married, must be under thirty years of age, and may not have begun any graduate or professional study beyond the baccalaureate at the time application papers are filed.

Approximately 100 Fellowships will be awarded in March, 1973. Candidates must be nominated by Liaison officers of their undergraduate institutions by November 1, 1972. The Foundation does not accept direct applications for the Fellowships.

Danforth Fellows are eligible for four years of financial assistance, with a maximum annual living stipend of \$2,700 for single Fellows, and \$2,950 for married Fellows, plus

tuition and fees. Dependency allowances are available. Financial need is not a condition for consideration.

Danforth Fellows may hold certain other fellowships such as Ford, Fulbright, National Science, Rhodes, etc. concurrently and will be Danforth Fellows without stipend until the other awards lapse.

The Danforth Foundation, created by the late Mr. and Mrs. William H. Danforth in 1972, is a philanthropy concerned primarily with people and values. Presently the Foundation focuses its activities in two major areas, education and the city. In these areas the Foundation administers programs and makes grants to schools, colleges, universities and other public and private agencies.

## Your Kind of Music?

Bob Bussey - College Union

Music comes in many different shapes, forms, and sounds. Some like it hot, others like it cold. Some like it hard and loud, while still others like it soft and quiet. Whichever way music is defined or appreciated most people will agree that George Riabikoff caters to the ears of many tastes. Now isn't that a great introduction to an article? Read on and find out whether he is what you want to stop studying for.

George Riabikoff's life has been different from most people; he's experienced some very tragic events and has also lived the life of the glorified performer. Born in the Soviet Union of a musical family related to Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff, he began to play the piano very early in life, giving his first concert at age four. His progress continued until World War two when the Gestapo arrested him for aiding Jewish families. Knowing of his talent, the Nazis drove hot spikes through his hands, crushed his fingers, and totally destroyed his capacity to play. The doctors and he all thought it

would be impossible to play again, but he recovered to become one of the top pianists in the United States, if not in the world.

It is not an easy task describing Riabikoff's playing except possibly to quote two phrases mentioned over and over again in descriptions of him, "poetic sensitiveness and sensitive interpretation." The many fine comments of Riabikoff by colleges and universities where he has performed are outweighed only by those of the press. The Miami Herald comments that he has, "Rare ability to convey music to the listeners heart that is essential to final greatness in performance." Typical! The Winston-Salem Journal was quoted as saying, "George Riabikoff could have not had a more receptive audience than that which greeted him at Salem College. The young people showed an enthusiasm almost like hero worship for the talented pianist." Typical! His playing is great.

Come and hear him speak about his life. Come and hear him play.

## BOOKSTORE VANDALIZED

The Guilford College Bookstore was broken into at approximately 3:00 a.m. on the morning of Sunday, Sept. 17th. A loss of \$200.00 has been estimated by the store manager, Bob Johnson. The thieves are said to have gained entrance through a window following the removal of an air conditioning unit.

The Campus Judicial Board met Tuesday, September 19, to hear a case of removal of dorm property without proper authorization and use. The case was declared a "no trial" on the ambiguous nature of the charge.

## Absentee Ballots

Do you know whether or not you need to vote by absentee ballot in the November election? You obviously do if you'll be travelling and unable to get to the polls on Election Day. But you also need an absentee ballot if you attend college in a state that requires students to vote where their parents live and you don't want to make a trip home just to vote.

Your local elections board or League of Women Voters can also tell you where to get an absentee ballot when you need one. And since deadlines vary from state to state, your safest bet is to do it now. (If you've already left for college and realize now that you will need an absentee ballot, write to your hometown elections board or equivalent office and ask for one to be sent to you by mail).