

Letters To The Editor

Editor:

I would like to direct this letter to Mike Wagner, the junior Geology major who seems to have rocks in his head. I am referring to his article in the February 14 Guilfordian "Fedyakin Speaks Out."

Mr. Wagner

Although you may have a valid complaint as to the severance of Bill Burton from our administration, your article reeks of the reactionary who states nothing but opinion and attempts to support an argument without proper facts. You write "We feel that the educational quality at Guilford is on the verge of falling below minimum tolerable standards." Whose standards do you mean? Last fall, a state commission ranked Guilford third in the state regarding quality education. After your initial baseless statement, you present a list of "demands" to the administration "whose salaries we pay." That's not the way it works, Mike, because your tuition only offsets the total cost of your education. You later criticize Grimsley Hobbs because you are "sick of absentee administrating" in reference to the President's lack of presence on campus. The responsibility of a college President is to seek additional funds and grants from alumni and this requires time and travel. Were it not for his competence as President, Guilford would not be operating in the black instead of in the red like so many other colleges.

Mr. Wagner, your good points are overshadowed by your asinine "demands". "The ones who hold the purse strings hold the power" so until the students at Guilford bear the full financial responsibility of their education, they have no right to demand anything.

Respectfully,
Al Patterson

Dear Editor:

I was very much interested in Mike Wagner's Guilfordian letter of Thursday, February 14, 1974. It is encouraging that students are now demanding educational quality rather than mickey mouse courses with pass-fail grading. Times do change! Most gratifying. Happy Valentine Day!

I would question, however, that it is the students who pay the bills here. I thought it was their parents who did most of that; if so, under Mike's reasoning, it will be the parents (not the students) who will be choosing the faculty. And what about business donors?

Mike seems to think that tenure protects the incompetent teacher; but with no tenure no one is protected -- whether competent or incom-

petent! Tenure says merely that to be dismissed there must be a good cause to do so, such as that the teacher is incompetent.

As for salaries, this is indeed an area of concern since the cost of living is rising twice as fast as faculty salaries. Many of us are subsidizing the students (or their parents) by working at less than competitive pay. I wish Mike luck in raising salaries!

Frederick W. Parkhurst, Jr.

Dear Editor:

Please secure me space to air my defense to some misunderstandings which manifested from the recent volatile meeting, for black freshmen.

I didn't say that the black man should kneel before the white man. I didn't, what I said, indicate any color differences. I talked from an individualistic point of view as far as my being a student is concerned.

I did say that racial cliques are an impairing factor of efficient integration, I did say white men, in view of their rich past experiences, have had time to sophisticate and concerned with the essence of mankind as a whole. I said black people can learn from them a great deal without being slaves. I said times and views have changed since slavery. I quoted Martin Luther. Of course there are still a bunch of prejudiced fools in either of the two races.

Henceforth, I defy my color as white or black but a human being and a student at Guilford. I have my future to decide and there is no time to brood over the misfortunes of my ancestors.

John Ndusha

Sexist Quotes Of The Week

by the Women's Center

"If you asked anyone what makes up the criteria for good research, I think most men could not tell you." Robert L. Johnson. Sociology.

"Social Class is a man made creation." R.L. Johnson, (If you only knew how true that is!)

"Another man may holler about the church and what Religion means." R.L. Johnson

"We have a need to sustain the "Old wives tales". R.L. Johnson

"McInnes is very interested in an English dance called the Morris. This is a type of sword dancing and was popular during Shakespeare's time. He hopes to teach the male P.E. majors this dance."

The Guilfordian

February 14, 1974

February 15, 1974

Dear Editor:

Amid the growing controversy over the expansion of the East Carolina University Medical School it has become evident to me that the students, the individuals who would profit most from this expansion, have apparently not been properly informed nor involved in the decision-making process. There has been a failure in the media to get down to the basic points of the issue. (1) Are there enough doctors in North Carolina? and (2) Where will all the students who are now in pre-medical departments go to medical school?

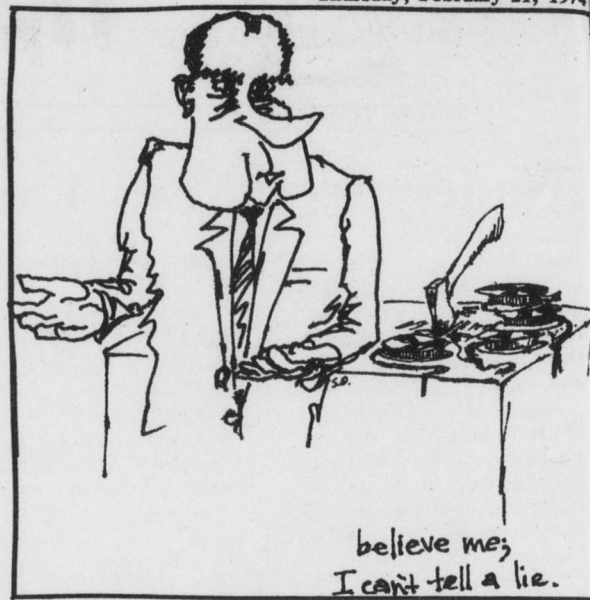
North Carolina has a very poor physician-to-population ratio plus the fact that 25% of the physicians now practicing will be 65 or older by 1980. Many towns are without physicians. North Carolina is badly in need of a large number of family practitioners as well as additional physicians in the other specialties.

But the second basic point is the one in which I believe your readers will be most interested. There are simply not enough spaces in medical schools in North Carolina for all of you who are qualified North Carolinians to go to medical school - nor are there enough spaces projected, and other states are closing their doors to out-of-state students. North Carolina ranks 14th in the states of the United States in the relative number of persons receiving baccalaureate degrees from colleges but 50th in the number of spaces it provides those persons wishing to go to medical school.

If you are interested in seeing the State take the steps to provide the necessary medical school openings to meet the needs of qualified North Carolina students, you should contact your local representative and tell him or her to support the expansion of the Medical School at E.C.U.

There are to be hearings on this at the Legislative Building in Raleigh on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, February 19, 20, and 21, from 4:00 p.m. and you should attend if possible.

Yours truly,
John R. Gamble, Jr., M.D.
Representative, 38th District
N.C. General Assembly



College Presidents: Middle-Class Reactionaries

College presidents are classic representatives of mainstream America grappling with jobs that are "reactive", "parochial", "conventional", and "illusory." This description was made by Michael D. Cohen and James G. March in Leadership and Ambiguity: The American College President, recently published by McGraw-Hill.

Sponsored by the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education, the study surveyed college and university presidents and other personnel at 42 institutions in order to draw a complete picture of the presidents, their job, and the institutions they serve.

College presidents face ambiguities as to their purpose, power, experience and success, said the study, and their contributions may often be measured by their capability for sustaining "creative interaction between foolishness and rationality." The study further described higher education institutions as "organized anarchies" displaying "an organizational setting."

The study concluded that presidents are "most commonly middle-aged, married, male, white, Protestant academics from a relatively well-educated, middle-class, professional-managerial, native-born, small-town family background."



The Guilfordian

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The study found the job of the presidency to be:

--"Reactive...Presidents... allocate their time by a process that is largely controlled by the desires of others."

--"Parochial... Presidents are normally not strangers to the institutions that choose them.. (they) tend to compare... (their) performance with a group of presidents who are in their experiential neighborhood."

--"Conventional...The president comes to his job through a series of filters that are socially conservative vis-a-vis his major constituents."

--"Illusory...Important aspects of the role seem to disappear on close examination. In particular, decision-making in the university seems to result extensively from a process that...makes the president's role more commonly sporadic and symbolic than significant."

The study said the nation's colleges and universities are characterized by "problematic goals," "unclear technology," and "fluid participation."

"The organization appears to operate on a variety of inconsistent and ill-defined preferences...(and to be more) a loose collection of changing ideas then...a coherent structure," reported the study.

"It operates on the basis of a simple set of trial and error procedures, the residues of learning from the accidents of past experiences, imitation, and the inventions born of necessity."

"The participants in the organization vary in the amount of time and effort they devote to the organization...as a result...the boundaries of the organization appear to be uncertain and changing," said the study.

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