

The Senate and BASIB

Dear Editor,

Last Wednesday evening, I had the occasion to attend a meeting of the Community Senate. At this meeting, the major concern was the ratification of the budget for next year. I left the meeting, before it was over, very angry with what had transpired. The following sums up my feelings on the meeting:

(1). The Senate gave the impression that it was "paying off" BASIB, in an effort to quiet the blacks of the campus. The reason I say this is that in a gesture of kindness, a combined effort of the Senate and the Union provided the organization mentioned above with an additional \$1000 to cover BASIB's expenses. This is unusual in any respect; however, the situation is made even more strange by the fact that there was not opposition to the granting of this \$1000. I am not insinuating, in any way, that BASIB does not need the money. However, I saw no justification of the request for the additional money aside from the fact the Pat Thompson said that BASIB was promised it at an earlier date. I got the impression that the Senate was afraid of BASIB and to give in to its every wish or else face the possibility of being pegged as a racist organization.

(2). The Guilford College Community, as a whole, must re-evaluate its thinking towards BSAIB. As was pointed out in the Senate meeting, the major issue facing the Senate is whether BASIB has any value as a Guilford College organization and if so, what that value is. It must be understood that BASIB is not an organization set up to tell blacks about being black, but rather, an organization to tell all people what it means to be black. However, the Guilford College Community as a whole, myself included unfortunately, has turned its back to BASIB and have allowed it to become a black organization for blacks. Apathy runs rampant at Guilford College. This is not only true of the attitude towards BASIB, but this is true of the attitudes towards most everything. However, BASIB is the only club to make a noise and have no one offer opposition to it, and I must infer from this that the racial overtones play a large part.

In summary, BASIB serves a real purpose as part of the Guilford College Community but not in the sense it was set up. It is my feeling that whites do not want to know what it means to be black (need I say that this is a general feeling across the country) and so will do virtually anything in their power to keep from confronting blackness in its most basic sense.

Howard Page

Dear Editor,

I am very disappointed in our student Senate for the passage of the new budget proposal at the April 16 Senate meeting. I feel this proposal was not drawn up solely on the basis of a large cut in BASIB's budget, but was rather drawn up as a means of giving in to the argument which BASIB presented.

Their feeling that an oppression of black exits on the Guilford College campus and also played a part in the budget committee's decision to cut them from \$3,000 to \$1,500, is totally unfounded in my opinion. 89% of the campus organizations received a cut in budget for the 1975-76 academic year.

True, BASIB's cut was large. But that does not justify the accusation that white attitudes towards blacks and other minorities have not changed and that this played a part in the decision to cut their budget.

I can not speak for the whole campus or the budget committee, but only for myself, and I feel the decision of the budget committee did not involve the issue of race. The cut was based on a lack of finances caused by a supposed decrease in enrollment, and since BASIB's budget was large this year it is to be expected that they would be cut a sizeable amount next year.

But nevertheless, but or no cut, I do not feel that the attitude that whites are oppressing blacks on this campus is present. I do feel that by accepting BASIB's proposal we are saying, "Yes, you are right, this attitude does exist on campus and to correct it we'll give you \$500."

If this attitude does exist we are not going to change it by handing out money everytime it is pointed out. WE must work together as a whole and support one another.

I encourage BASIB to bring black lecturers, movies,

bands, music, etc. on to campus. And I encourage BASIB to do this through the Union as well as through their own organization. I totally agree that there is a lack of black culture at Guilford College and the lack of this aspect in our education is not justified no matter what size the black population is. The Black Children Can Program in my opinion is an excellent idea which more people, both children and students, should participate in.

Ideally we all should have more money to be able to do the things we want and to bring a great variety of culture on to the Guilford College campus. But budget cuts are hitting frequently in this nation today, and so along with the rest, Guilford College must now suffer too.

But unfounded accusations won't get anyone anywhere, and neither will withdrawing from the system. To implement change you must fight from within, not from without.

Leslie Zeldin

Budget

Editor:

I would like to explain some of the factors involved in the decision of the Senate Budget Committee in drawing up a budget for the year 1975-76.

One of the main concerns of the committee was about the New Founders and the lack of money for necessary equipment to furnish the building. The committee was working with a conservative estimate of the enrollment for next year and therefore, a conservative budget. More recently the enrollment outlook for next year has brightened. With the exception of the additional funding of some organizations decided on last Wednesday, all remaining money went into the Founders Fund, (by the vote of the Senate).

For the past three weeks the Budget Committee has been meeting with representatives from each organization and reviewing their budgets. Some of the main guidelines in the decision of the committee on each organizations request were (1) the effect of the organization's programs on campus, (2) the quality of those programs, (3) the number of students involved in the organization.

I hope this helps people in understanding the budget for next fall.

Cindy Buxton



BASIB Speaker Addresses Club

Clarification

Parts of the article on maintenance which appeared in last week's Guilfordian have been read by some people as an accusation of dishonesty within the maintenance department. This was not the impression I intended to convey. As I stated in the article, there is no proof of wrong doing within the maintenance department.

I apologize to Mr. Keene or any maintenance employee who feels his integrity was challenged by the article.

Jon Hiratsuka

Senate Budget

The final budget is as follows:

B.A.S.I.B.	\$2,000
BIOPHILE	900
CHEERLEADERS	450
CHOIR	1,800
CLIFF HANGERS	150
COLLEGE UNION	18,000
COMMUNITY SENATE	2,000
CRAFTS CENTER	450
GAY ALLIANCE	200
GUILFORDIAN	7,500
INTERNATIONAL	
RELATIONS CLUB	600
INTRAMURALS	600
PIPER	600
QUAKER	10,600
	4,500
STUDENTS FOR A SANE SOCIETY	0
SPS	200
WOMEN'S COALITION	800
WQFS	5,500
TOTAL	\$56,850