

Guilfordian

April 4, 1977

From the Classroom -

Back to the Classroom

BY FORREST HUGHES
Second in a series

Guilford College has had a strong effect on Mildred Marlette. But then, Mildred Marlette has been connected with Guilford for a long time.

First coming to Guilford as a student in 1932, Ms. Marlette finished with a degree in English three years later. During those three years she played tennis, field-hockey, basketball, and soft-ball on her Mary Hobbs dorm team. She was the House President of Mary Hobbs in her senior year, and was involved in Young Friends, YWCA, and Philomathean, the campus literary society.

After her 1935 graduation, Ms. Marlette taught high school English for a while, but Guilford was in her blood and she couldn't stay away. She took the jobs of Dean of Women and assistant professor of English in 1948, and has been here ever since.

"I kept begging 'til Dr. Milner (then president) let me off," she smiles as she speaks of leaving her duties as Dean of Women in 1962. Since then she has taken time off for graduate work and is now a full professor of English and head of the English department.

What does someone with all these responsibilities do in between classes, research time, and innumerable committee meetings? "I taught myself to ride a bike a couple of years ago," Ms. Marlette says, and she stopped playing tennis within the past five years. She maintains her interest in sports with spectator sports and regrets that she has neither the time nor the money to expend on golf. She enjoys gardening around her home in Dana Houses and has a vegetable garden every summer in addition to her trees and lawn. And of course there is always reading to be done.

How has Guilford College affected this woman's life and her career? Besides the obvious answer of giving her an education and a job, there are some less tangible benefits which Ms. Marlette considers important. As she says, "I don't think it's what we take in courses that stays with us the longest."

One of these benefits is the virtue of moral discipline. When Ms. Marlette was a student the professors and staff placed a strong emphasis on the value of upright morals, and students benefited from this exposure. Now the trend is to take a more legalistic viewpoint toward ethics, and Ms. Marlette regrets this.

Another benefit was very important. "The greatest things that Guilford College gave me were an attitude toward life, a new concept about devotion to duty, and a strong work ethic," she says. This belief has been carried throughout her life.

There were several people who made an impact on Ms. Marlette both in her studenthood and as a member of the staff and faculty. Dr. Furnas and Dorothy Lloyd Gilbert Thorne in the English department infected her with "a special love for and interest in literature and a joy of the search for knowledge."

But the most impact on her life came from Clyde and Ernestine Milner. Dr. Milner was President of Guilford College from 1934 to 1965, and Mrs. Milner served as Dean of Women



According to Ms. Marlette, this couple "... convinced me that I could do things, that I could be something." A spirit of self-confidence came from both of these people, and Ms. Marlette continues to display that self-confidence today.

Mildred Marlette will retire in two years and her plans for those years show little dissimilarity with what she is doing now. "I want to do effective teaching, to increase the number of majors in the department, and to cooperatively administer the affairs of the department," she says, and adds, "We make decisions, I don't." She doesn't foresee any "great creative strides" in her own teaching, and she is looking forward to the opportunity of teaching Dickens in the near future.

She will continue in the direction Guilford started her in when she and 19 other students graduated in 1935, and gives those same directions to the countless students who come after her.

The Office of Community Services in the Urban Center is sponsoring a seminar entitled *Current Concepts in Insurance and Risk Management*. It will be held at Guilford College and will run Tuesday and Wednesday, April 26 and 27. For more information, contact Edwin R. Boelte, W Ext. 169 or 170.

Students in Boone

Five Guilford College physics students addressed the Society of Physics Students, Zone 5, Saturday (April 2) at Appalachian State University in Boone.

They are Ms. Shawn Carlson of Beltsville, Md., David Freeman of San Anselmo, Calif., Gary Farlow of Greensboro, Howard Page of Hialeah, Fla., and Christopher Fields of Newark, Del.

Ms. Carlson, student counselor for Zone 5, described some experiments she made in recreating instruments used by early physicists. Freeman spoke on creating a computer model of the evolution of Pre-White Dwarf Stars.

Farlow's topic was *Things That Go Bump in the Dark: a Computer Model of Real Gas*. Page discussed cooling ponds and computer models.

Fields, the only freshman in the group, described how he programmed the college computer to simulate a different model computer in his father's home.

Dr. Rex Adelberger, Guilford's physics department chairman, is faculty counselor for Zone 5. Like Ms. Carlson, he was elected to the position by society members.

Senate Minutes

The meeting opened with a moment of silence. Dan Hurley, Phil Broadbent, Tim Nolan, and Christie Fletcher were absent.

The Senate decided to wait until after the Budgeting process has been completed to decide whether or not the Student Activities fee would be raised. The Student Activities fee is currently \$74.00 per student.

Pat Townsend and Judy Pevey will serve as the two representatives of the Senate on the selection committee for the Student Committee on Promotion and Tenure.

Ken Schwab asked the Senate to consider matching the Student Services fund of \$250.00. This money would go towards a stipend for the Community Senate President to work on the revision of the Student Handbook this summer.

Chong Lee reported that the Budget Committee agreed to fund \$125.00 to a few students who are planning to participate in the National Model United Nations April 12-16. The Senate approved this decision.

Peter Reichard reported that the Constitution Committee proposed that it be written in the Constitution that there be a record kept of how Senators voted. This record would be kept in order for their constituents to view how they're being represented in Senate matters. This proposal was not approved.

The Constitution Committee also proposed that Senators attend House Council meetings. The proposal was approved.

Senators were asked to remind their constituents to purchase their tickets to hear Alex Haley.

