

Letter to the Editor

Guilford Can Be Proud of CCE Program

Dear Editor:

As Dean for the Center of Continuing Education I am responding to the recent article by Janice Hoods regarding concerns she and several other students raised about the CCE program. Some of the information is incorrect. Some of the conclusions drawn reveal the need for clarification of the history, mission and facts about the CCE program.

Prior to my coming to Guilford College a year ago last June, the college had spent a year reviewing and, subsequently, restructuring CCE. Throughout the review year there were numerous open meetings and opportunities for input from all avenues of the campus as reflected in faculty and Administrative Council minutes. I was hired to rejuvenate the program which included increasing full time equivalency (FTE) from 300 to 350.

The College can be extremely proud of the CCE program. Not only is it the oldest continuing education program in the city, but also it is the finest in every aspect: qualified faculty and staff, evening course offerings, special services, adult student government association, a caring environment, and an outstanding student body.

Forty years ago the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce created a special Adult Education Committee to consider educational alternatives for returning World War II vets and women entering the work force in Greensboro. They chartered the first evening adult education program in Greensboro and located it downtown. Within five years the program's administration, recognizing the need for accreditation, asked the Guilford College Board of Trustees to acquire the school, which they did in 1962. The school remained downtown until 1973 when college officials decided to move CCE to the main campus in an ef-

fort to integrate the two programs, and to cut the costs by maximizing use of the main campus facilities and reducing duplicate programs. The CCE buildings were sold, Founders was renovated in order to serve as a main campus student center, and CCE was moved to Hendricks Hall. It was agreed that Hendricks Hall would be the CCE building.

At the time of the move main campus student enrollment was 961 head count (HC) and 943 FTE; and CCE was 623 HC and 471 FTE. (Today MC enrollment is 1,250 HC and 1,232 FTE, and CCE is 503 enrollment is 1,250 HC and

As the need for office space increased, Admissions and Financial Aid were moved to Hendricks Hall in 1983. CCE Office and lounge space was reduced to accommodate the changing campus needs and cooperative use of the CCE lounge arranged with Admissions.

Today three high traffic offices and a 500+ CCE student body share a crowded facility in a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect.

The primary mission of CCE has always been service to the community. The program was created to meet the special needs of adults and that remains true today. It is the only complete evening degree program of real substance in town.

According to 1986-87 statistics, 300 of our 468 adult students attended school at night only, 86 attended both day and night classes, and 83 attended day classes only. 41% registered for one class only and 87% reported employment. Thus, a clear pattern emerges for many CCE students. They take one or two evening classes after work. They do not use the entire campus. They do not participate in campus activities with the exception of a few SGA sponsored social events which their fees cover. They are allowed to use

the following services: admissions, registration, academic advising and the academic skills center. They are not allowed to use student health or the counseling service. They may not participate in the athletic program nor hold office in the community senate, Guilfordian, yearbook, college union, WQFS, clubs and interest groups. If they wish to use the career development services they must pay a \$15 one time fee. CCE students must be registered for two classes and pay a \$10 fee per semester in order to use the YMCA. They pay \$1 per hour for babysitting, a service available to all students, faculty and staff who are parents. This service hires main campus work study students, is self supporting, and is located off-campus.

"The primary mission of the CCE has always been service to the community."

Academic Skills Center provides tutoring and academic skills assistance for both MC and CCE students at two locations, the library and Hendricks Hall.

Few CCE students qualify for financial aid for several reasons: two-thirds are part time and many are married with a combined income that exceeds the need-based guidelines.

Although evening classes were historically scheduled to meet the needs of working adults, as main campus enrollment increased, classroom availability necessitated some evening scheduling for main campus students as well. Classroom space is reserved in some but not all evening classes for CCE students to accommodate those students who cannot

attend day time. There is no stated policy which governs quotas. In some cases a quota is established by the Assistant Registrar. In other cases the faculty member establishes the quota. Usually there is some negotiation as classes fill and students make special requests.

Tuition for CCE and part time MC students is \$120 per credit hour. The lower tuition is based on the premise that both groups do not use the full services of the college.

In early years CCE tuition was kept as low as possible. After the program was moved to main campus, the tuition was increased significantly. Even though CCE tuition is lower than MC, it continues to be top dollar in the Greensboro area. There is concern that the local market won't bear higher charges.

Does MC tuition subsidize the CCE program? A 1983-84 CCE Income and Expense study conducted by Floyd Reynolds fractionalized instructional costs for MC and CCE students. The study included faculty, CCE administrative and clerical salaries and fringes, and operating expenses. (It did not include percentages of other administrative offices such as the President's office, business and financial aid offices, faculty development, computer office, library and consortium, utilities, and maintenance of buildings). After the above expenses, CCE netted \$133,880. Thus, at that time, MC was not subsidizing CCE. In fact, one of the reasons for relocating CCE to the main campus was to reduce the cost to MC students by maximizing the use of the campus facilities. If the CCE program were eliminated, the cost to MC students would be increased.

What are the facts concerning the Frazier apartments? In 1954 John Frazier donated money to build 26 low cost married

student apartments. His gift stipulated that the housing must be used for married students. In the 1960's 10 additional units were constructed. In the early 80's guidelines were reestablished by Administrative Council that restricted the use of the Frazier apartments to full time MC and CCE married students and single parents with legal dependents, and to MC and CCE handicapped students. This past year security was moved to #15 and housing to -16, #17 is used as alternative housing for MC residential students; #35 and #36 are used for residential hall overflow and #2, 3, 20, 25, 26, 29 and 34 are empty this fall so they could be repaired and painted. CCE students occupy 18 units and MC students occupy 3 units. The managers, David and Laura Eades, are MC students. Rent is \$90 for a double bedroom and \$80 for a single bedroom.

What are enrollment goals for CCE? There is no plan to expand CCE dramatically. The ceiling established by Administrative Council in 1986 was 350 FTE and we are currently at 319 with a 503 HC. In 1977, just ten years ago, FTE was 392 with a 552 HC.

I hope the above facts will clarify some of the confusion concerning the CCE program. It is a fine program with a distinguished history and has served the college and community well.

Although the issues raised by several MC students concern policies that were established by the chief administrative officers of the college well before my time, I would be glad to visit with anyone concerning the current CCE program. Please feel free to call me at extension 120 or stop by my office in Hendricks Hall.

Janet Krause
Dean of Continuing
Education