

## Letters to the Editor

### Improving Campus Life

The Residential Life Committee of the Student Senate is relatively unknown, but plays an important role at Guilford. We have been working steadily this Fall to improve campus life in general. Our focus has been on residence halls, maintenance problems, dorm improvements, and dorm activities, but we have also reached into other areas like parking problems and improving housing arrangements involving main campus and Inter-link students. As our name suggests, we are a subcommittee of the Student Senate, so all our meetings are open to all who are interested.

We have been working closely with the S.A.C. (which has its own Residential Life Committee), with Anne Ponder's Honors IDS class (they were the ones who did the Residential Life Survey earlier this semester), the Facilities Committee (which gives recommen-

dations for major campus improvements to the Board of Trustees), and with the College Administration in general.

Our work started with direct problem-solving efforts, like meetings with Jim Johnson, who heads up the Department of Physical Plant (Maintenance, Housekeeping, and Groundskeeping). We notified Mr. Johnson of various areas of campus concerns about Maintenance and Housekeeping, like increasing the number of trash receptacles on campus, improving communication with Maintenance, and providing weekend housekeeping service.

In October, Jim Newlin, Guilford's Vice President of Financial Affairs, notified us of the need to form a committee that collects suggestions about how to go about renovating Milner this summer. We then sent delegates to the

meetings of the Ad Hoc Milner Sub-committee of the Facilities Committee, which has since made its suggestions to the Facilities Committee as a whole. (We'll let you know when the final decision is made.)

We then tried to get more student input by holding an open forum on November 15th. The forum was successful: about 40 people attended, including a wide cross-section of students, faculty, and staff. We would like to thank all who came.

At the forum, we considered the renovation of Milner: the plans which are being considered, parking concerns, the use and status of S.A.C. Dorm Improvement Funds, and what we, as students, can do if things go wrong (Maintenance problems for example). You can obtain minutes of the meeting by writing a note to box 17616.

We took many suggestions about improving

campus life during the forum and we prioritized the suggestions for action in the meetings which followed. The committee has already submitted several maintenance requests to Bob White, Director of Housing and Security (and Assistant Dean of Students), and action will be taken in the near future.

Maintenance personnel were not present at the forum because of a mistake within the committee. We thought we had asked them, but actually had not. To remedy this situation, we have arranged a meeting of Maintenance Staff with all the RA's and House Councils, the SAC, and the Student Senate. Jim Johnson, the head administrator of the Physical Plant (Maintenance, Housekeeping, and Groundskeeping) has agreed to a tentative meeting date of Friday, January 15th, at 3 p.m. (in the Gallery or Boren

Lounge). Please encourage your RA's and House Council members to represent you there.

The Residential Life Committee of the Student Senate now holds its open meetings each week on Fridays from 2-3 p.m. in the Student Organization Offices (basement of Sternberger). Please feel free to come and help, or just to voice your concerns. Thanks!

David Upchurch,  
Chair, Student Senate  
Residential Life  
Committee

### Editorial Misquoted

I would like to apologize for an inaccurate quote which appeared in my article/editorial from the last Guilfordian issue. Neglecting to verify the quote was an irresponsible error and I am sorry for any hard feelings which it may have caused.

The misquote "Are you going to put on your shoes or am I going to have to call security," should have read: "... I would like you to put on your shoes. I don't want to have to call security."

Allen Fetter

### An open letter to Allen Fetter:

I found your letter about your shoeless condition very interesting. If you should need to appeal to a higher authority and cite Quaker precedent, you could refer to the following:

"When I came into a great field where there were shepherds keeping their sheep, I was commanded of the Lord to pull off my shoes of a sudden; and I stood still, and the word of the Lord was like a fire in me; and being winter, I untied my shoes and put them off; and when I had done I was commanded to give them to the shepherds ...

So I went about a mile till I came into the town, and as soon as I came within the town the word of the Lord came unto me again to cry, 'Woe unto the bloody city of Lichfield!'; so I went up and down the

streets crying, 'Woe unto the bloody city of Lichfield!'

And so at last some friends and friendly people came to me and said, 'Alack George! where are they shoes?' and I told them it was no matter; so when I had declared what was upon me and cleared myself, I came out of the town in peace about a mile to the shepherds: and there I went to them and took my shoes and gave them some money,

But the fire of the Lord was so in my feet and all over me that I did not matter to put my shoes on any more and was at a stand whether I should or no till I felt freedom from the Lord to do so."

[Quote from George Fox, Journal]

Sincerely,  
Mel Keiser

## Date Rape

Have you heard of date rape? Do you know that it occurs with someone you already know?

Date rape can happen when you are in a situation or on a date. You're not even aware of what's happening to you: everything's moving too fast, he's thrusting himself upon you, pressuring you to do what he wants. You're too afraid to get out of it; you think it's your fault, it's too late to stop.

That's bullshit, anyone can chicken out, it's O.K. No one can make you submit to them sexually if you're not comfortable. This is date rape. Do you know there have been several incidences of this sick brutality right here on campus?! The sad part is that it is not talked about,

so there is no awareness.

The sick part about date rape is society's disturbed attitude, blaming it on the woman; she brought it upon herself, she wears short skirts, she's asking for it.

It doesn't matter what the circumstances are: no human being volunteers to be raped or threatened into doing anything they don't want to do. No one volunteers to have their rights as a human being, as a member of our society, as a student of the Guilford College community, stripped away, de-meaning their person.

How dare anyone play the role of God, taking it upon themselves to decide they have the power to deprive another person of their dignity and self-

respect? Yes, I am outraged! I can't believe another person could do this to a fellow human being.

Where is our sense of community?! There have been numerous reports of this warped kind of sexual harrassment, that have surfaced within the past week. This has been going on since the beginning of the year; no, it's been going on much longer than that. What has to happen before this is stopped?

by Jennifer Lynn Hoffman