

Some Strays Taken Care Of Need for Animal Rights Group Acute

To the Editor:

This is in response to the letter written by Charlotte Fitz. I want her to know that the stray cats she is concerned about have new homes. I also agree with her that it is time for students to organize an Animal Rights Group. When I lived on campus I, too, would find "stray" animals hanging around the campus during the breaks. In each case I found the animal's caretaker, or found the animal a new home. During the most recent winter break, I found two cats wandering around. The first one, a calico, I took home with me. She was sick, and pregnant, and had to be

spayed. The other cat, grey and white, stayed in my office for several weeks (three animals and two adults in one small condo was the official limit). After the start of the spring semester, Susan Trender, one of my former students who has cared for my animals when I have been out of town, volunteered to take this cat. I am especially grateful for her willingness to do so.

Most recently, a small white dog was seen in various buildings around campus. He came into my class one night, but I was unsuccessful in getting him to stay with me long enough to locate his home. Another student,

who heard about my efforts to help this dog, called to say she would be willing to keep the animal if I found it again. She eventually found the dog herself and was able to arrange for someone to adopt the dog. So all is well that ends well, but is this the end? Over this spring break I saw a black cat on campus that doesn't seem to have a home. Now that we know there are several of us keeping watch for "stray" pets we need to take this opportunity to create a more formal network. I am offering to be the faculty advisor for an Animal Rights Group, and I hope we can get one organized soon.

Veneeta D'Andrea

Letters Policy

The Guilfordian welcomes all readers to submit letters to the editor. Letters to the editor should be mailed to P.O. Box 17717 or delivered in person to the Publications Suite, second floor Founders Hall.

Letters should be legible, preferably typed, and double-spaced. Letters should be signed

and dated, and include the author's phone number and local address. The Guilfordian will not publish anonymous letters. Please limit letters to 300 words or less.

The Guilfordian and its staff reserve the right to edit for length and clarity and to withhold letters based on the discretion of the editors.

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FCA and Crofts Were Judged

To the Editor:

Shannon and I are writing in response to the article "Homophobia: A Plague on Campus" (Feb. 27). We are upset at this article because the author missed the point behind the meeting and she generalized that both the speaker and the FCA members were all homophobic. Homophobia is defined as an intense fear of homosexuals or homosexuality. This fear was never mentioned in the lecture.

Homosexuality was not the center of the discussion by any means. The purpose of the meeting was to give people a Christian view of sex and dating. The topic of homosexuality was only touched on for a few

short minutes. In that five minute time span, Stephen Crofts did not say anything about fearing or condemning homosexuals. He simply quoted with scriptures, that homosexuality is a sin. However, we are all sinners and fall short of the glory of God.

For someone who was claiming to be a liberal and have an open mind, we feel that she was not being objective to this religious belief on sexuality. Furthermore, we feel that Stephen Crofts and the members of FCA were the ones being judged.

Lisa Schorr
Shannon Ryan

Renovation Money Could Be Better Spent

Dear friends at the Guilfordian,

I am writing to point out the absurdity of spending a hundred thousand dollars on renovating thirty rooms in Milner. It seems strange that the administration does not want people to remove the existing furniture that is fixed to the ground. They say it is because the furniture may

get damaged. But to take care of the problem they are going to replace the furniture altogether; the logic is lacking. I propose that instead of replacing the furniture, they should just remove it and have thirty rooms that students can furnish themselves. Many students are dying to get out of the monotony of dorm living. The

administration should make student life more self-expressive and put that hundred thousand dollars in one of the many places it is needed like countering balance the tuition increase.

Thanks,

George Whiteside

Table Tents Misinterpret Focus

To the Editor:

Recent table tents which were displayed in the cafeteria and in the Underground presented one of the 1989-90 Senate Executive tickets as the group of leaders who could "make Senate really work." This statement is unfair to Senators who have worked hard on various committees and who have actively participated in addressing pertinent student issues.

The phrase "Make Senate really work" also reflects an inherent misunderstanding of one of Senate's central focuses for this year. The executive officers designated as a primary internal goal to be met during this working year the need of Senate to strengthen its legitimacy as a student representative body. It is important for the Senate to make a conscious effort to represent student's needs because if the Senate is not a legitimate representative of the student opinion, the policies and recommendations passed by the Senate will not hold the authority it should with faculty and administration. Other policy making bodies on campus will continue to bypass the Senate on decisions that need the input and approval of an elected representative body of students. Student needs will continue to be recognized only after the needs of other groups on campus.

There is more to making the Senate really work

than focusing only on achieving external, short-term goals. It is equally important that the Senate take a close look at its internal structure. Policy making mechanisms must function efficiently and policy must be effectively presented to faculty and administration. It is equally important that Senators understand and perform their duties as student leaders who are designated to relay and respond to student needs and opinions.

Making the Senate really work includes strengthening the internal committee structure, and strengthening student representation on faculty and

administrative committees. It includes making sure that Senators are consulting with their constituents, and that students feel comfortable talking with their Senators. It includes changing the perception of the Senate from a relatively ineffective body whose agenda and output are dominated by its president, in to a proactive, motivated body of concerned students which is respected by students and administrators.

Without strengthening the Senate internally, its external effects will never truly be felt at Guilford, and Senate will revert to its "rubber stamp" status for administrative policies. Without continuing this philosophy instigated in Senate currently, the most effective and active Senate in

several years will cease to be a pro-active body that consults students and responds to their needs. Senate will again find itself in the predicament of recent Senates which were dominated by the presidents actions and goals and were reactive or non-active to student needs. Many of the internal reforms that have taken place this year and are currently on the table address the need to strengthen Senate internally so that it can be a more effective student advocate.

Although internal reforms have had to take a large part of the Senate's focus for this year, the role as a student advocate has not fallen to the side. Actions regarding the tuition increase, condom vending machines, use of college facilities at the inconvenience of students, the student loan fund, class unity and needs, and cafeteria and the Underground improvements have been or are currently being addressed.

Direct consultation with students by active Senators who attend meetings and who work on pro-active issues is "making Senate really work." Having students write policy on issues that they are concerned about is "making Senate really work." Reforms to make Senate a working group of effective students rather than an impressive line on a resume

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