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JAMIE CLARK RESIGNS FROM HIS POSITION AS SENATE PRESIDENT

Secretary Cynthia McKay the most likely candidate to replace him

Daniel Fleishman
News Editor

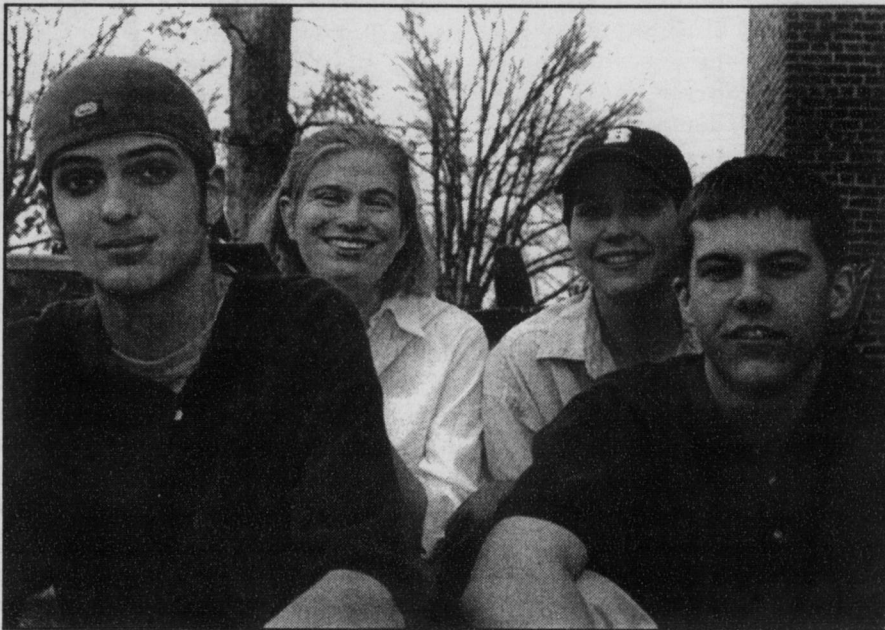
On Monday, Community Senate President Jamie Clark resigned from his post, citing a lack of passion, changed political views, and a desire to pay closer attention to his "academics and intrapersonal growth."

Senate Secretary Cynthia McKay, a senior, has been nominated to replace Clark, and is awaiting a vote of approval from the Senate body.

In addition, Clark stepped down as Chairman of the Steering Committee, which is comprised of all of the people of all the committees that make up Senate.

Its role is to review all items scheduled to be put before Senate to see that they are properly formatted and appropriate for further examination.

McKay, whose job it was to handle a lot of the dirty work



Former Community Senate for the 2000-2001 school year

of Senate -- e-mail, voicemail, attendance -- eagerly anticipates the move into a much more public, demanding position. "Being asked to take on the role of President is more of a visionary thing," she said, "trying to find the direction for Senate and then charging forward with it."

If McKay does move into the role of President, the current Chair of Academic Affairs, senior Andrea Dodson, is the most likely student to become Secretary. Senate is currently seeking a replacement for Dodson.

"I think that the leadership is being passed into capable

hands," said Clark. "I think that considering what Senate has been in recent years, the only way it can go is up."

However, the question of how the Senate will respond to such an abrupt change in such a crucial spot remains. Junior Brian Dumas, Community Senate Vice-President, said, "I think in the short term, like for a week or so, we might be a little unsettled. But in the long term, it'll be for the best; it'll make Senate more productive."

McKay trusts that even though the start may be rocky, she'll have plenty of competent helpers. "I have an amazing staff," she said. "Steering Committee is absolutely fantastic this year-- we all have a lot of drive and a lot of determination, so I know that as a group the leadership is there, and I know that I have the desire to be a leader."

For a personal explanation from Jamie Clark on his resignation, please see page 9.

Task Force presents Strategic Plan to Trustees

Katy Wurster
Staff Writer

It seems like a typical September Friday.

But today, somewhere on campus, the powers that be will decide the future of Guilford College.

This weekend, the SPTF will present its report to the Board of Trustees.

The presentation to the Board, however, is only one step in a long and complicated procedure designed to stabilize and clarify the overall mission and the financial situation of Guilford College.

Last spring, the budget committee threw up their hands in disgust and asked for help. They found it impossible to balance the budget for this year in any reasonable way. People got involved, people got worried, and the Strategic Planning Task Force was created to sort the whole mess out.

The SPTF began meeting in May. The group included administrators, faculty, staff, and students. Their mission was complex -- first, to figure out the financial situation, second, to clarify the core values and priorities of the college, and third, to find a way to make the former work without infringing upon the latter.

The result of an entire summer's worth of work is a 35-page document. The report is available to all members of the Guilford community on Lotus Notes, as well as in hard copy in the library, at the info desk, in the registrar's office, in the Frank Family Science Center, in Archdale, in Hendricks, and in the physical plant.

The first part of the document deals with the budget for the current fiscal year, which began on June 1. "Balancing the budget [last spring] would have meant making some hasty judgments without the benefit of careful analysis," said Mathematics Professor Elwood Parker. Parker, along with Asso-

ciate Management Professor Bill Stevens, was responsible for carrying out this analysis over the summer.

Parker and Stevens found that balancing the 2000-2001 budget in the normal sense of the word was not really an option. However, they took a long-range view of the problem. By considering budgets for the next three or four years, Parker said, "we can see a way to get the college in a better financial position."

The second portion of the SPTF Report is entitled "Who We Are." It is an attempt to "sharpen our understanding of our educa-

tional commitments," according to Jonathan Malino, Philosophy Professor, Clerk of the Faculty and co-convenor of the Task Force. The committee examined various existing mission statements and attempted to put them into concrete terms.

Jerry Godard, Academic Dean and co-convenor, described this section as "the heart of the task." In the past, he said, many efforts to chart the future of the college have failed because they have not been able to deal effec-

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c/o Student Activities
5800 W. Friendly Ave.
Greensboro, NC 27410

