

News

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ones.

Babcock: Senate is going to have to discuss this for a while. And it's going to have to have the community come together. We have to have a much friendlier atmosphere, something other than the mentioning of "drug policy" and 60-some-odd students screaming in the Senate meeting. We want to approach it in a different way. And hopefully have an open forum where everyone's voices can be heard and it's not just one side against another.

Page: Right. I think people felt threatened by the fact that a new proposal for the policy was being presented and I think that scared a lot of people and that was when people got a misperception of what Senate was trying to do. Senate was really trying to respond to concerns that have been heard on campus. In exit interviews that seniors, do a lot of students have said that they felt that there is a problem. And the results of the survey that was done I believe echo that and say a lot of students think that there is a problem with drugs and alcohol on campus.

Babcock: And it might just be education too. That we bring in more forums here about responsibility.

Page: We have had alcohol-poisoning incidents on campus this year that have been extremely serious.

Babcock: We do also realize that this is something we have to discuss with the rest of the community.

Page: We do also realize this is a college campus and we're not trying to tell people that they can't do anything — not at all.

Babcock: Right.

Page: But when people do not feel safe ...

Babcock: Personally, my big problem is when it becomes unsafe for other people.

Page: And I think that that opinion was voiced in this survey, that some people don't feel safe. And that's a problem.

Guilfordian: If you could change anything about the way that Senate is operating right now, what would that be and conversely if there was anything about the way things work right now that you could hold on to for your term next year what would that be?

Babcock: I think the one thing I would change is something that I have been basically

talking about, and that is getting people involved. And that's something that's not happening right now — it's not happening with our own Senators. What I would like to see is people who would not ordinarily go to Senate meetings going to Senate meetings. And not just because it's something that has to do with just the drug policy or something like that.

Page: I definitely agree with that. [Getting students involved] is something that everybody talks about every year and it's something that is really hard to do. We've got a couple of ideas about how to do it so we're hoping that we will be able to get more people involved.

I think we have a core group of people in Senate right now who are really dedicated. And I think we definitely need to keep those people involved and keep that kind of dedication. And I don't mean they can't have any fun and that all they do is work but I mean that they believe in Senate.

That's one thing that I think is a major problem right now is that students don't believe in Senate's capabilities to do anything. I want to hold on to the people who are dedicated. And I also think that people really want to talk about issues. With this drug thing definitely — I mean, we've talked about it for several consecutive weeks in Senate, and that's definitely something. I want [our conversations] to be substantive, I don't want it to be just "approved, approved, approved..."

Guilfordian: In conclusion, is there anything you would like to address toward the student body as you begin your term in office?

Babcock: Please, please, please join Community Senate.

Page: We encourage people to become involved. Because a lot of people feel that they have no voice on campus, and — despite what a lot of people think — Community Senate really is a good place to have your voice heard. It is our intention to make Senate a better functioning body and a body that can actually effect change.

Babcock: Right.

Page: And you don't have to actually be member of Senate and hold a position to come.

Babcock: Exactly. That's what we're looking for.

Page: And if you can't come to every meeting, come every now and again. Come when you can.

Commencement drawing near

Ben Many
STAFF WRITER

As the school year draws close to the end, seniors are starting to wonder where the time went. While graduation is scary for some and a relief for others, all want a commencement celebration appropriate for such a huge change in their lives. All want a worthy goodbye from a place where they have spent so much time, effort and money.

Dawn Watkins, coordinator of the convocations and Celebrations Committee said, "our commencements are very Guilford. Pomp and circumstance and a lot of individuality, it's a really cool event and time of celebration".

The commencement weekend begins on Thursday, May 3 with a Senior Picnic from 1 to 4 p.m. The location of this event will be determined later.

On Friday, May 4 there will be a seniors-only rehearsal in Dana at 2 p.m. Attendance is required, but caps and gowns are

not necessary. From 6 to 7 p.m. the Baccalaureate will be held in Dana. The Baccalaureate is a spiritual service that allows students the chance to celebrate the extreme change in their lives. Directly after the Baccalaureate service will be an open house at Ragsdale, where Don and Brita McNemar welcome seniors and their families into their home.

On Saturday, activities begin at 9 a.m. with juice and coffee for the seniors as they pre-

pare for the procession. Commencement will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Founders lawn. In the occurrence of bad weather, the ceremony will be held in the Alumni gym. No tickets are necessary for guests.

M.L. Carr, a former Boston Celtic and Guilford graduate, will be the main speaker. Carr is also currently on the Board of Trustees.

Senior Senator Jason Gauthier was instrumental in getting

Carr as this year's speaker. "I've been working very closely with Dawn Watkins and we have worked very hard at bringing a big name to the college in hopes of attracting more attention for Guilford," said Gauthier.

The senior speakers for commencement are Laura Norton and Ian Wattlington. "I

am very excited to be speaking with Ian. We have plans to work in conjunction on our speeches," said Norton, "I think my mom is kind of nervous that I might say something that upsets my grandmother

though."

A section will be reserved for parents to take snapshots of their little graduate. Also, a professional photographer will be taking pictures of the graduate receiving the diploma.

Following commencement, there will be a reception on the Founders lawn.

On Sunday, graduates must have their bags packed, ready to move out into the real world.

