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Cokie Roberts visits, launches Bryan series

Karim Ali & Emily Place
Staff Writers

ABC News political commentator and award-winning journalist Cokie Roberts visited Guilford Oct. 1, the first speaker in this year's Bryan lecture series. She delivered a talk titled "Women Shaping American Democracy" in Dana auditorium.

After an opening speech by College President Kent Chabotar, the audience welcomed Roberts with a round of applause.

Her speech had originally been scheduled for Sept. 30 but was postponed due to her involvement with that evening's presidential debate.

Initially, Roberts commented on how happy she was to be in North Carolina. It's an important state this year, she said, being home to Democratic Vice Presidential candidate John Edwards.

In her talk Roberts expounded on

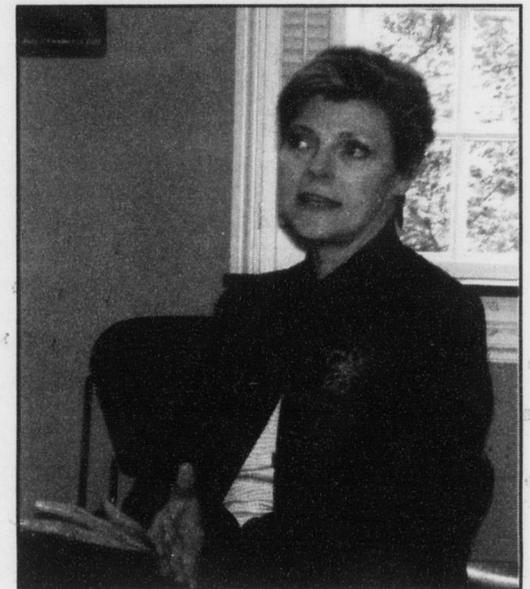
research from her recent book, *Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation*, on the women who affected early American history.

Throughout history, she explained, women were the driving forces behind much of the success traditionally attributed to men. Roberts explained that Martha Washington, for example, cooked and sewed for the troops at Valley Forge. Her efforts rejuvenated a cold and hungry group of men who otherwise ready to give up.

Roberts also specifically mentioned Kitty Greene, the wife of Greensboro's namesake, Nathaniel Greene. Roberts added that Greene, like Washington, kept the army enthusiastic and entertained.

Moving to 20th-century politics, Roberts named the women involved in the suffrage movement of the 1920s. She also emphasized the contribution of

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KARIM ALI/GUILFORDIAN

Cokie Roberts speaks in Founders before the Bryan lecture on Oct. 1



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Guilford welcomes new Africana Coordinator

Chris Lett
Staff Writer

Trina Lynette Gabriel is no stranger to small communities similar to

Guilford. She was born and raised in Sherrill's Ford, N.C., a town large enough for traffic to be directed by two flashing caution lights.

Gabriel holds the newly created position of Africana Community Coordinator. The former position title was Director of African American Affairs and was held by Santes Beatty until this past spring. Beatty now serves as Africana Retention Coordinator.



INSLEE HACKETT/GUILFORDIAN

Gabriel, Guilford's new Africana Community Coordinator

As the Africana

Community Coordinator, Gabriel's responsibilities include "(providing) administrative leadership in the development, coordination and delivery of social, cultural and education programs and activities intended to support students of African descent and promote the education of the college community as a whole on issues of diversity and equality," according to the Guilford website.

The search committee for the position composed of students, faculty and staff, selected Gabriel from a nation-wide pool of candidates. Committee member Beatty said that Gabriel was the best fit due to "(her) experience in higher education and (her) passion of equality and justice".

Since Gabriel started in August she hasn't encoun-

tered any large problems. She says she is still getting acquainted with the students, but overall she "(feels) like (she) was given an adequate description of her responsibilities."

Of the Multicultural Resource Center, Gabriel says that she, "definitely (sees) room for growth ... there is room for a coordinator of Latino students and strengthening the connection with International programs. The office will need to expand to address the myriad of concerns for different populations."

One of Gabriel's goals is to punctuate diversity with quality care. "It is critical for faculty and staff to be involved in that process because of our interaction with students," she

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