

CARDS

Community dissatisfaction with meal plans, community cash spurs overhaul

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Varnell referred to tentative new meal plans Guilford expects to offer students next year. The 5 meal plan is being removed and replaced with a 75 meal block plan for \$515. With this plan, students will be able to use their meals at any time during the semester, rather than having a weekly allotment.

Similarly, there will be a 75-meal lunch block plan available to off-campus students and a 25-meal block plan for CCE students. There will be a Quaker MAX-Plus plan, which will include 100 "Dining Dollars" (formerly Grill Cash) and allot 19 meals per week.

The other meal plans will remain, but with slight price increases. Varnell says that these increases are not as substantial as increases at other colleges. Another change is that every student living on campus will be required to have a meal plan.

"Requiring every student on campus to have a meal plan allows Meriwether Godsey to provide better quality food and variety," said Residential Living Coordinator Kris Gray. "If we don't have many kids on a meal plan, we can't pay to get the stuff students want to see."

Community Dollars is another underused

utility of Quaker Cards.

"This type of card is for student convenience and having (finances) all in one place," said Associate Vice President for Finance Jimmy Wilson. "It gives you everything on one card. Parents can put money on one card and it's very convenient."

Currently, the Guilford website lists seven merchants that accept Community Dollars. Other merchants have dropped.

"Blackboard, our card services provider, is pretty pricey," Harrell said. "They charge both the college and the merchant per transaction. Jams dropped us because they didn't think it was worth it."

With limited options, many students just do not

use Community Dollars.

"I don't use Quaker Cash as much anymore," Crass said. "It doesn't feel as bad as using 'real money,' but it's still not that useful."

With students expressing concerns about meal plans and Quaker Cash, the administration is aware of the issues. But for now, students can only stay informed and continue to use their Quaker Card to unlock what they need.

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Johnathan Crass, junior

ACCESS

Access Greensboro sparks community involvement

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decided to turn that inspiration into something tangible.

"We look at the vibrancy of Greensboro," said Etheridge. "We like to reach out to businesses or organizations to celebrate their existence."

Students can use Access Greensboro to discover many of the professions that Greensboro has to offer and experience firsthand what life in the business world is like.

"As a community and justice studies major, I think a program that prepares students to leave the tight-knit Guilford community would really empower them as future professionals," said senior Max MacClennen. "Plus we, as an educational institution, could benefit from linking the Greensboro community to campus in a new way."

Another distinct dimension of this project is its media-driven existence, as all the interviews with local businesses are posted and predominantly accessible via YouTube.

"The ongoing goal is always to just try to network with businesses and decision-makers to see if they wouldn't mind us promoting their business," said Etheridge. "It's a plus for them as well, because they can maybe target a different audience that they had not been able to access before."

Etheridge's idea to involve the popular video-sharing website in her endeavor highlights Access Greensboro's relevance

to today's college students through its progressive approach to fostering community dialogue.

"Using YouTube for a Guilford-grown organization is really unique," said sophomore and psychology major Marisa Bowers. "I'd consider myself a student who is interested in finding volunteer opportunities here, and that definitely grabs my attention."

Etheridge hopes that students will be motivated by the degree of creative freedom ingrained in the organization and recognize the potential opportunity to volunteer within the community.

"As far as students are concerned, their participation would be rounded into several things: they'd be able to host, they would be doing work in contacting business owners and talking to them, and then there's an opportunity for them to actually do videotaping also," said Etheridge.

One volunteer, 14-year-old Aaron Griggs, is Access Greensboro's current videographer.

Etheridge says that once Access Greensboro has gained the support and participation it needs, she hopes it will make a lasting connection between Greensboro's students and the professional community.

"I'm still in the beginning, just trying to garner awareness by reaching out to various college communities to get students to develop an interest in it," Etheridge said.

To learn more about Access Greensboro, visit the YouTube domain accessgreensboro1.



BRUCE B. STEWART AWARDS

Nominations are now being accepted!

The Bruce B. Stewart Teaching Award is intended to recognize individuals for their contributions to attaining the highest levels of academic excellence for the students and programs of Guilford College.

For 2011, the college will award three Bruce B. Stewart Awards at \$5,000 each: two teaching awards for faculty and one community service award for staff.

Any full-time faculty member is eligible to receive an award. Candidates should be nominated based on meritorious service that is beyond the responsibilities normally assigned to their positions.

Nominate only one candidate on each form you submit. The candidate information you provide can be supplemented by additional supporting documentation by the nominator or the committee.

The deadline for nominations is
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16
at 5:00 P.M.

Please return nomination forms to the Office of the President.