

Zakaria details story behind America's economic woes

By Zachary Thomas
STAFF WRITER

What role does the United States play in a globalized economy that affects everything from jobs to Internet access? Just ask journalist Fareed Zakaria, and you might get an idea of his April 10 speech at War Memorial Auditorium, the last in the 2011-12 Bryan Series.

"People in America are very gloomy," Zakaria said of the national mood. "We've lost our mojo."

Zakaria, as introduced by President and Professor of Political Science Kent Chabotar, is the host of CNN's flagship program on international relations, "Fareed Zakaria GPS," and an editor-at-large for TIME Magazine.

Born in India before immigrating to the U.S. for college, Zakaria has also written books such as "The Post-American World" and "The Future of Freedom."

"(Zakaria) is one of the smartest political analysts I have ever read," said Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science Robert Duncan. "He has an ability to articulate very complex issues clearly, and that is genius."

With a creased but clean-shaven face, his left hand in his pocket and his right gesturing emphatically to his oration, Zakaria used a blend of examples, personal anecdotes and wit to illustrate just how much the global economic system — and life itself — has changed in the last thirty or so years.

"People forget how restricted information was until very recently," Zakaria said, referring back to the "dark age of 1990 ... without email, without Blackberries, without iPhones."

He explained that at one point the government of Saudi Arabia was able to keep

Saddam Hussein's 1990 invasion of Kuwait a state secret for a whole week, something that would never happen today with the existence of the Internet and Twitter.

Later in the night, Zakaria reined in his focus to the obstacles facing our country's economic recovery and political process.

Listing various ailments, he put what he called America's "great disease" into plain

desperately?" Zakaria asked. "No. So we kick the can down the road."

Zakaria's overall style won a positive appraisal from junior Simon Warhaft.

"He was opinionated, for sure," said Warhaft. "Usually that comes off as arrogant and egotistical, but I felt that it was funny and reflects on his success."

Junior Christiana Baiden, who is from

that Zakaria's statements and writings have drawn the ire of some.

"Simply because he says that the world is catching up very rapidly, some people interpret that as 'the U.S. is not number one,'" Duncan said.

Nonetheless, campus consensus appears positive for Zakaria's speech.

"I thought he was interesting and pretty accurately summed up what we are going through in our current economy," senior Anne Rappe said in an email interview. "I had no knowledge of who he was before I went, but I was glad I did." Earlier in the day, Zakaria stopped by Guilford for a small group meeting with faculty and students from journalism and global perspectives classes.

At one point, a Guilford employee asked Zakaria if he had any advice for outgoing Guilford graduates.

"Do something you really love," Zakaria replied.

He noted the positive influence that energetic, motivated interns had on the rest of the workplace on the set of his television program.

"Make yourself needed ... do everything you can," Zakaria said.

The line-up for the 2012-13 Bryan Series was also announced on April 10.

Speakers for next year include Tina Brown, Tom Brokaw, Geoffrey Canada, Caroline Kennedy and Thomas Friedman.

"That's a great line-up," said Warhaft, reacting to the news. "Besides Burns and Zakaria, I thought this year's line-up was lacking."

For more information on the 2012-13 Bryan Series and the upcoming speakers, please visit bryanseries.guilford.edu.



Student **Kaoru Kofukada**, senior **Alexis Goldman** and sophomore **Keyla Beebe** speak with Fareed Zakaria in his changing room after Zakaria's speech in the War Memorial Auditorium on April 10. Fareed used examples, personal stories, and hard facts to weave his story.

light.

"Our problem is that we simply haven't found a way to get stuff done that needs to be done," Zakaria said, commenting on our political system and its tendency to avoid challenges.

"Do we have a solution to our immigration problems, which are real and need fixing

Ghana, conversed with Zakaria following his speech.

"I was amazed by how much he knew about my home country," Baiden said, noting that Zakaria knew about recent petroleum discoveries in Ghana. "He knew almost more than me about my own country's politics."

While respected by most, Duncan noted

Students stand together to face their fears, fight the silence and take back the night

By C.J. Green & Daphne Hawkins
STAFF WRITERS

Silence illuminates the night sky and amplifies the crackling flames in the bonfire pit. A circle of people forms around the fire, as wind and fear will not stop them from their goal: at this moment, they will take back the night.

This was the scene last Wednesday night, April 11, as Guilford students stood together and faced their fears and dark secrets.

The motto, "Stop the violence, break the silence," has become the rallying call of sexual assault survivors across the country. Men, women and children alike have decided to rise up against stigmas surrounding sexual violence.

"Taking back the night is this phrase that means I am taking back the night from violence, from sexual assault, or just walking home alone at night," said senior Hannah Early, who helped organize the event this year. "This event is to help people not feel fear, and to take back what is theirs."

Every April, students all over the country unify around fire pits, in gyms or around memorials, as they remember and speak out against sexual predators. People of all ages share experiences that will always linger.

According to statistics provided by the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network, every two minutes someone in the U.S. becomes a victim of sexual assault.

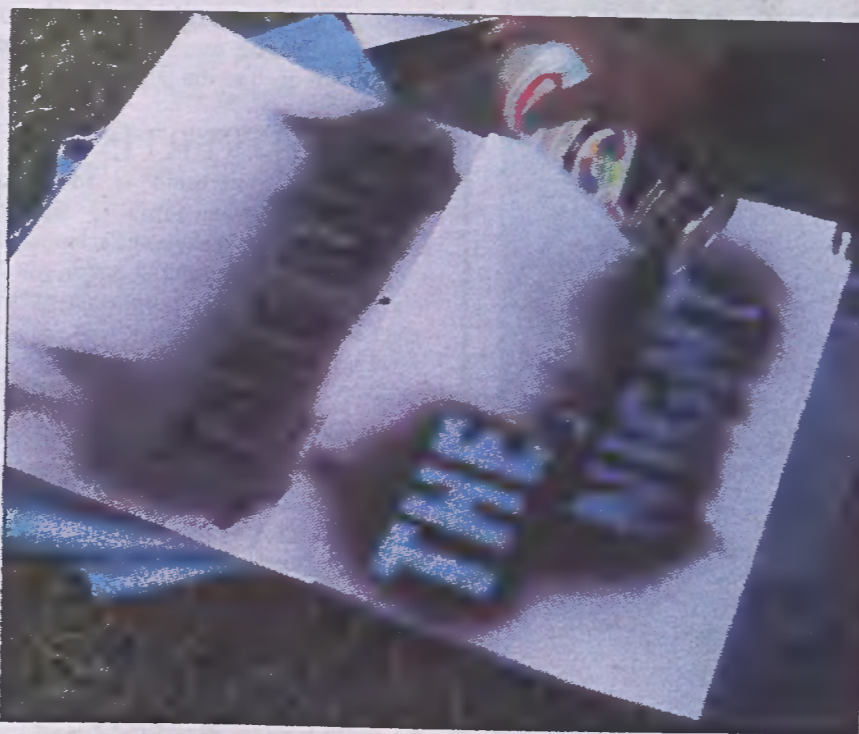
207,754 people endure sexual violence a year. More than half will never report the crime.

This is a problem that the Organization for Sexual Assault Awareness, Support and Advocacy has been trying solve around campus.

The tradition of Take Back the Night continues at Guilford College.

"It's necessary because sexual violence happens here at

Guilford," said senior and SAASA President Taylor Starns. "There's a culture of denial here. People think that because they rarely hear about it, that it doesn't happen. But it does."



Take Back the Night fights back against sexual assault and sexual violence across the country. Held at Guilford on April 11, students listened to speakers and banded together to fight the stigmas that surround sexual assault.

It was SAASA's goal this year to provide a safe place for people to express themselves and be supported. As students, alumni, and visitors gathered on the steps of Founders Hall, there was certainly the feeling of joyful camaraderie among

the students that participated.

The tone became more somber as senior Justin Kirchner stood to address the crowd, and silence followed.

Kirchner spoke about the traumatic and painful assault an 11-year-old girl endured, only to be blamed for allowing the attack to happen; according to event organizers, this type of victim blaming is not unusual.

"We have foisted the responsibility of preventing rape solely on the shoulders of women," said Kirchner. "However, it is not only women who suffer. There's this societal idea that men cannot be victims."

Kirchner urged that those in the crowd look at how they perpetuate the ideas of victim-blaming and shaming, and choose to change.

In the falling twilight, students and guests were each given a lit candle. The procession of two dozen people quieted as they made the slow walk to the bonfire by the lake, already lit and offering comfort.

The Speak Out is a Take Back the Night tradition in which anyone can break the silence in a safe and accepting community. For many, it was both a freeing and painful experience.

As the Speak Out concluded, there was a sense of celebration and unity as new friends settled close to the fire to make s'mores and celebrate their strength, shattering the silence.

"I was really impressed by how the Speak Out went even though I had never been a part of one before, but it felt just right," said sophomore Cappa Cheatham.

While Take Back the Night was a success, there is still more to be done.

"One night a year is not enough time to deal with this," said Starns. "We are people: your friends, your family, your peers, and our experiences matter."