

Things get heated at Hodgins Retreat: safety issues arise

BY NATALIE SUTTON
STAFF WRITER

Fights, sexual assaults, and weapons, oh my! What exactly has been going on at the Hodgins Retreat Apartments lately?

One student witnessed a heated fight at Hodgins on the night of Sept. 29.

"Basically someone's boyfriend from off-campus came to pregame and went into an apartment and started talking s--- about the Marines," said a sophomore who wished to remain anonymous. "He ended up getting punched in the face by a football player ... and his girlfriend was sobbing. The cops came and left and then came back again because the guy kept leaving my friend's place and talking s--- and getting hit."

Incidents like this seem to be more common lately at Hodgins, as tales of fights and weapons have become the talk of the community.

"I heard a couple weeks ago there was a fight in which multiple people ganged up and beat up a Guilford student over stealing some alcohol," said a junior who also wished to remain anonymous. "I also heard that there was a fight last weekend where someone threatened to get a gun."

Vice President for Student Affairs

and Dean of Students Aaron Fetrow has heard such complaints, and is aware of two incidents where students reported fights and significant disruptions at Hodgins.

"I find it a bit ironic that there are students in our community who are very upset when RAs and Public Safety enforce the rules, and some of those same students are now upset that we do not have a presence in

of fights, sexual misconduct and consumption of alcohol and other drugs.

"This is the fourth year Hodgins has housed students," said Bowles. "During the first year, a major fight happened resulting in judicial charges. During the second and third years, when the property was staffed and run by Guilford, we had some substance use issues, but nothing else

Westborough," said Fetrow.

Junior Malukah French thinks that the safety issues at Hodgins results from a combination of factors.

"I think that the fights that occurred have made some students feel less safe, but fights can happen anywhere," said French. "It's all been a mix of the wrong people at the wrong time mixed with alcohol and a hostile environment. There have been

that fighting is simply not tolerated at Guilford," said Fetrow. "If our students are involved in the fights at Hodgins, they will no longer be our students."

Some feel that, without the presence of Public Safety or RAs, things may get out of control.

"It's just as safe as anywhere on campus, but its proximity to campus without the same structure of school rules allows people to get wild without worry of consequence," said senior Taylor Sutton.

The question now is what is the next step that the Guilford community should take to make students feel safe.

"Interestingly, Hodgins is almost exclusively Guilford students," said Fetrow. "If there is behavior happening that makes others feel unsafe, then what should the folks living in Hodgins and hosting gatherings do to make it feel more safe?"

We will enforce our Student Code of Conduct, but that is pretty meaningless to the person with a broken nose or a hospital bill. Students have the power to not allow the gatherings to get out of control."

"Students need to think about their accountability and responsibility for 'safety' at Hodgins, just as they do in Legacy, Madison Woods or Westborough."

Aaron Fetrow, vice president for student affairs and dean of students

Hodgins to 'keep them safe,'" said Fetrow in an email interview.

After Guilford College chose to discontinue its partnership with Hodgins last year, the apartments are now considered an off-campus living space.

Still, it houses a lot of Guilford students, many of whom enjoy socializing there on the weekends.

Sandy Bowles, director of student judicial affairs, has heard reports

was reported. During the first month of this, the fourth year, when the property is not staffed by Guilford, we've had two significant fights."

Many feel that although there have been some serious incidents at Hodgins lately, incidents can happen anywhere.

"Students need to think about their accountability and responsibility for 'safety' at Hodgins, just as they do in Legacy, Madison Woods or

fights on campus, downtown and I'm sure in everyone's hometowns. Those incidents shouldn't speak on the safety level of Hodgins."

As far as fighting goes, Fetrow sticks firmly to a no-tolerance policy.

"It is important to remember

For a video regarding Hodgins, visit
WWW.GUILFORDIAN.COM

Associate director of alumni relations gives advice to students

KATHERINE CUMMINGS
'83 OFFERS CAREER,
LIFE LESSONS

BY DANIEL GASKIN
STAFF WRITER

Will your major define your career path? According to Associate Director of Alumni Relations Katherine Cummings, that may not always be the case.

Cummings met with students on Sept. 27 to talk about how she used her Guilford College degree. She stressed that students need to know the importance of having a top-notch resume.

"Get someone to look at your resume, and start to think about getting connections," said Cummings. "You have a broad skill set at Guilford; don't think when you leave here it'll be your set course."

Cummings also talked about the resources Guilford students can use once they graduate.

"There's a thing called 'My Guilford,'" said Cummings. My Guilford is a portion of the Guilford home site where alumni can connect. "We are all over the place; there are chapters nationwide."

Cummings spoke about her experiences and told students that their post-graduate stories may likely

be similar to hers.

"I've had a lot of different jobs," said Cummings.

These included teaching courses at a woman's prison, becoming a community activist against a coal company, and volunteering at a



Katherine Cummings '83 counsels on how to use Guilford degrees effectively at the Alumni House on Thursday, Sept. 27.

battered women's shelter before going to graduate school. Her experience at the battered women's shelter was particularly taxing.

"When I would go home at night, I would only have two emotions: extreme anger or extreme sadness," said Cummings. "There was no in between."

Cummings has had a plethora of careers, reinforcing her notion that your major does not necessarily

define the rest of your life.

"It was reassuring to hear her say that you don't have to stay on a set path," said sophomore Faith Krech. "As an English major, her talk made me see how many other opportunities there are out there in the workforce."

Her current job involves fighting a coal corporation trying to set up shop near Cummings' home. When she heard this news, she started a communal organization to stop the coal company from coming to town.

"If you want to win, get women on your side," said Cummings. "We will play any angle we have to. We can be mothers, businesses people, anyone. Whatever it takes to win."

Cummings also wanted students to know that being a Guilford graduate can help them get jobs.

"Take advantage of being a Guilford alum," said Cummings. "We will help you make connections."

Cummings left an impression on the students who came to hear about her experiences, such as junior Christopher Haswell-Henion.

"I think she said to never be afraid," said Haswell-Henion. "Never set yourself up to be a failure. You can do anything you put your mind too."

In the end, Cummings brought it back to Guilford.

"Remember to say to people that you went to Guilford. You'll never know who you might meet."

SENATE UPDATE

This Week's Developments

We met and talked about sustainability. We approved reinstating a "free stuff room" on campus (a room where people can drop off unwanted items and get things they need). We are now looking for a room.

Next Week's Plans

We are having a pizza party next week. Bring a friend, roommate, study buddy and come grab a slice. We'd love to see you.

Go to the Senate Facebook poll and take a poll about whether or not we should fix the falling down stick sculpture on the quad.

Contact Us

We need to hear your voice! Got an idea? Concern? Great recipe? It's important to us. Join Community Senate on Wednesday night at 7:00 in upstairs Founders. For items on the agenda email: senate@guilford.edu