

VOLUME 99 / ISSUE 2 | NOVEMBER 9, 2012

THE GUILFORDIAN

GUILFORD COLLEGE | WWW.GUILFORDIAN.COM | GREENSBORO, NC



BECCA KING/GUILFORDIAN

NEWS

"Disorderly Conduct" collapses, all towers removed

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF PATRICK DOUGHERTY'S SCULPTURE IN THE QUAD

BY JUSTYN MELROSE
STAFF WRITER

On the afternoon of Oct. 25, two of the many towers that make up Patrick Dougherty's stick sculpture, "Disorderly Conduct," collapsed just days after Guilford's Community Senate approved funds for light renovation and maintenance to the piece.

"There was a large gust of wind," said

senior Laura Burt, who witnessed the collapse. "One fell and pulled the second down with it."

Due to rotting in the base, which is also present in the whole structure, the grounding support was weakened and could no longer hold up the weight of the two towers. In addition, mold, fungus and mushrooms have all taken residence in the sculpture.

Just as they invited Dougherty and his work to campus in 2011, Terry Hammond, founding director and curator of the Guilford College Art Gallery, and David Petree, director of environmental sustainability, were the ones who made the decision to take the piece down.

"I am sad to see it go, but I realize it was time," said President and Professor of Political Science Kent Chabotar. "It was both sad and fitting. It was almost like a natural passing."

The construction of Dougherty's "Disorderly Conduct" began with a small paper wasp nest found when volunteers were hunting for timber about campus. That wasp nest became the major inspiration for the sculpture. From there, community hands wove together sticks into the structure that Guilford students have come to know and love.

"I believe the fact that the sculptures fell because of their natural and physical

deterioration eases the situation, even though my friends and I were looking forward to taking a graduation picture alongside the (sculpture) to add to our collection of our many Guilford memories," said Burt.

The sculpture lived for nearly two years, from the start of construction on Feb. 2, 2011 to now.

In addition to Guilford faculty and students, community members ranging from Canterbury School eighth-graders to 84-year-old locals came together to help create the sculpture.

"I have to think about it in a different way

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WEB-EXCLUSIVE CONTENT:

GuilCo Sojo: Reflections on the day after

BY JESS ST. LOUIS

GuilCo Sojo: Disorientation Zine

BY ALAYNA BRADLEY

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