

50th anniversary of March on Washington remembered

BY ADITYA GARG
STAFF WRITER

Fifty years after the dream that set us on the path for greater equality, the words and principles of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. still ring true.

Tens of thousands of people from across the country assembled in the nation's capital this week to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, originally held on Aug. 28, 1963.

"I was amazed by the sheer number of people that attended," said Andrew Meshnick, Georgetown University freshman and gathering attendee, in a phone interview. "You could tell that it was a real grassroots movement and that everybody really cared and respected the efforts of those men who stood there 50 years ago."

However, Saturday's march was just one of the week's commemorative events. Later proceedings included speeches from Georgia Representative John Lewis — the youngest speaker at the original March in 1963 — Martin Luther King III and President Barack Obama.

President Obama, among others, spoke to the numerous changes since the March in 1963.

"Because they marched, city councils changed and state legislatures changed and Congress changed and, yes, eventually the White House changed," Obama said.

Speakers such as Representative Lewis and King III focused on the need for continued action.

"This is not the time for nostalgic commemoration," King said. "Nor is this the time for self-congratulatory

celebration. The task is not done. The journey is not complete. We can and we must do more."

For many college students and millennials who have never experienced the social injustice that these men spoke of, racism seems to be a thing of the past.

When asked whether or not racism exists today, Associate Professor of Political Science Maria Rosales simply replied, "Yes."

Later elaborating on the response, Rosales pointed to the "systematic, though perhaps unintentional, bias against minority groups such as blacks and Latinos in the criminal justice system."

Rosales referenced numerous studies such as Harvard's Implicit Association Test and the Racial Dot Map to explain that minorities, though having won significant victories over the last few decades, still experience injustice throughout various facets of our economy.

CCE student Latonia Etheridge co-organized the March on Washington in Greensboro, where local residents reflected upon King's "I Have a Dream" speech and the current state of civil rights.

Etheridge shares Rosales' view.

"The new generation is experiencing racism through different experiential encounters," Etheridge said. "For example, the American judicial system and its legal process seems to weigh heavily against people of color."

Rosales suggests that while a temporary fix to racism is unlikely, the roots of racism can be traced.

"The media often plays a big role in public perception by what they show," Rosales said. "There is no cure-all for this



CCE student **Latonia Etheridge** helped organize the March on Washington in Greensboro, which took place on Aug. 28.

problem, though various techniques such as countering stereotypes and greater education have shown promise."

While racism continues to play a role in society, many would argue that the 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington was a success and a momentous marking point in the effort to raise awareness for the civil rights struggle.

Perhaps now more than ever, Americans should reflect on whether they have truly lived up to the ideals and legacies of King and the men and women who died for the civil rights movement.

PRINCETON REVIEW

Commitment to being "green" brings reward



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sustainability on a local level. Over the summer, 12 students and staff conducted research at the Bog Garden. David Hildreth, Professor of Education Studies, elaborated on his side of the research.

"Myself and a colleague examined why people come to the Bog Garden," said Hildreth. "We really tried to focus on kids: why they come and, more importantly, what they learn from their experience at the Bog Garden."

Hildreth went on to explain the results of the research. "We were able to examine how kids really benefited from being out in nature. The natural wonder that kids have being out there is just amazing."

Visiting Instructor of Justice and Policy Studies Daniel Rhodes also participated in the research. "Initially, we were looking at the role of workers in relation to the Bog Garden," Rhodes said. "But, as it turned out, the research grew to focus on the teenage scene, as it was becoming a major issue."

As far as Guilford's contribution to informing and shaping the youth population, Rhodes said, "students

come here with an understanding of the sustainability issues on campus. We've done a lot to encourage this behavior within our community."

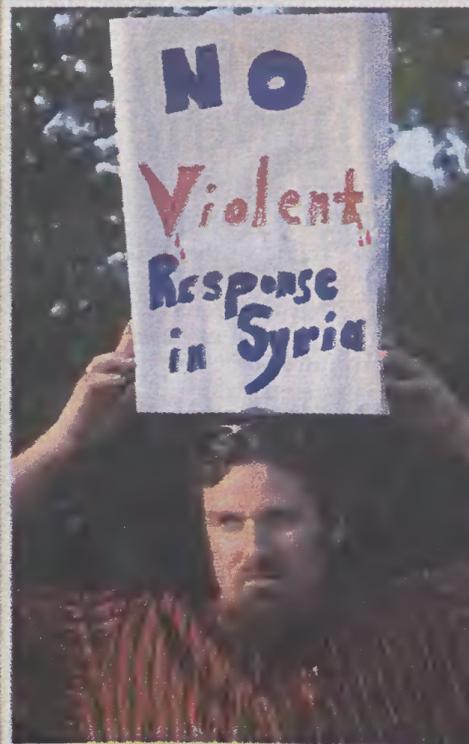
On campus, students and faculty practice environmentalism on a daily basis: eating organic foods, using bikes, and conserving water through faucets, showerheads and water fountain use.

With ample opportunity to reduce their ecological footprints, many Guilford students would argue that the soul and spirit of Guilford is green.

Clearly, The Review agrees.



Candlelight Vigil for Syria



(Above) Visiting Assistant Professor of Peace and Conflict Studies **Jeremy Rinker** holds a sign during a candlelight vigil on Aug. 28. (Above right) Director of the Friends Center and Campus Ministry Coordinator **Max Carter** and Associate Professor of Religious Studies **Eric Mortensen** also hold candles as they pray for peace.



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