

# Guilford included in numerous prestigious rankings

BY OLIVIA WERNER  
STAFF WRITER

Each year, Guilford College is mentioned in various college guides that recognize its outstanding efforts in areas ranging from environmental friendliness to community outreach and academics to student life.

Guilford appeared in several college guides for the 2013–2014 school year, compiled by U.S. News & World Report, The Princeton Review, Forbes and the Washington Monthly. Rankings were based upon a range of qualifications that reflect on student satisfaction.

"Guilford is proud to be listed among the best colleges in a number of guides every year," said Ty Buckner, associate vice president for communications & marketing, in an email interview. "We've been in Princeton Review's guide every year it has been published, longer than any other school in our region."

U.S. News & World Report ranked Guilford as 173rd out of 248 liberal arts schools in their "National Liberal Arts Colleges Rankings."

This category highlights institutions that emphasize undergraduate education and award at least half of their degrees to liberal arts programs.

Rankings for U.S. News are generally based on seven measures: academic reputation, student selectivity, faculty resources, retention rate, financial resources,

alumni donations and graduation rate. This information is collected through a 600-question survey that the Institutional Research Department fills out each year.

The Princeton Review placed Guilford on three separate lists this year: "Best 378 Colleges in the Southeast," "Best College Radio Station" and "Reefer Madness."

The Princeton Review's "Best 378 Colleges in the Southeast" ranks schools from Virginia to Florida and westward to Louisiana.

These rankings were positioned according to academic reputation, which was acquired through feedback from college administrators, students, faculty and parents. Guilford appeared more frequently on national lists, while its competitors were featured on regional lists for the same categories.

Each year, The Princeton Review travels from school to school, interviewing students to develop an accurate depiction of student life.

Thanks to positive student feedback, Guilford's completely student-run radio station, WQFS, has been featured on The Princeton Review's list 10 out of the past 11 years. This year, WQFS moved up from 11th to 6th.

"It's exciting to be one of the only stations from the South mentioned on this list," said senior Kate Schwab, WQFS general manager.

**"We've been in Princeton Review's guide every year it has been published, longer than any other school in our region."**

**Ty Buckner, associate vice president for communications & marketing**

The station's success can be credited to Schwab, as well as the student managers, faculty advisor Kami Rowan and the station's DJs.

"Kate Schwab has done a great job managing the station," said senior Mace Smith. "The fact that she has been a manager for coming up on three years has been good in terms of the continuity in keeping the station moving forward."

The "Reefer Madness" list ranks the top 20 schools in the country where students regularly smoke marijuana. Guilford appeared at 18th on this year's list, down from 16th in the previous year.

"I don't know how accurate the ranking is, but I feel like as a whole, many students participate in smoking marijuana," said junior Joshua Williams.

This year, Forbes provided an overall ranking of Guilford at 434th out of 650 schools on the "America's Top Colleges" list, down from 387th in 2012. Guilford was also rated 19th among North Carolina

Schools, 98th among Southern schools and 294th among private colleges.

These rankings were based on retention rate, alumni salaries, student debt, graduation rate and academic success.

Washington Monthly ranked Guilford 126th this year, which is significantly lower than its 29th place ranking last year. Rankings are based on the school's contributions to the public good through social mobility, research and service.

According to Washington Monthly's 2013 College Guide, Guilford didn't excel in as many of these categories, which may have attributed to its plunge on the list. Namely, Guilford's number of Pell grants and graduation rates that have dropped since last year.

"Our number one reason for not being higher is that we don't have as much money or resources," said Kent Grumbles, director of institutional research and assessment.

Still, Guilford's rankings were impressive considering its modest endowment.

## SEXUAL ASSAULT

# Survivors feel unsupported by administration

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advantage of a girl when she's black-out drunk and think that nothing will happen to them and that it isn't rape — because it is," said MacDonald.

Although the administration provided counseling support for her, MacDonald felt her offenders were let off the hook. One of the students was found guilty of "intent to rape", even though he admitted to having sex with her.

"They didn't let me get justice and set a good example," said MacDonald. "This guy still got to graduate. He sat one row behind and three seats over from me at graduation, which was just a physical reminder that this guy has gotten to skate by and never faced consequences, while I struggled to make sure I got my work done amidst everything so I could graduate."

It is important to improve the process of reporting incidents like these, which are common on college campuses.

"Students realize something is wrong with the process," said junior and member of Sexual Assault Awareness Support and Advocacy Chelsea Yarborough. "There are statistics available but they are likely underreported or incorrectly filed. The numbers could be easily skewed."

According to Yarborough, it is very difficult to report a sexual misconduct incident.

"The reporting form is very difficult to find," said Yarborough. "Why isn't it on the front page of the website? It has the local weather but no sexual misconduct resources."

Even if it were easier to report, Yarborough thinks pressing charges is not encouraged enough.

"Victims are not pushed to press charges formally," said Yarborough.

Messina and MacDonald certainly felt this way

after they came forward.

Incidents like these are particularly important to discuss considering Guilford's recent launch of its new consent-based sex campaign, "Keep It Consensual: Only Yes Means Yes."

While Messina and MacDonald's experiences may not have aligned with the campaign's goals, the administration welcomes student input to create a better process.

"If students are ever dissatisfied with the judicial process, they should come see us to talk about their concerns," said Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Aaron Fetrow.

"Students can also get involved with the Community Accountability Process, the Judicial Board and the Senate Judicial Committee."

The administration encourages open discourse about this tricky, but crucial, subject matter.

"With the 'Keep It Consensual' campaign, this year was about these discussions," said Fetrow. "We wanted them to start and want them to continue."

### Regarding the link to the Sexual Assault Resources page:

Currently, the reporting link is available within two clicks of the front page in multiple ways, including the Public Safety web site, Counseling website, Student Health site and by searching "sexual assault" in the search bar. However, the Guilford website is undergoing reconstructing, so the position of the link will likely change upon its completion.

## SENATE UPDATE

### This Week's Developments

Students gathered to discuss the implications of the Administrative and Program Services Assessment. Over 50 students attended and discussions were lively, critical, well-reasoned, and thoughtful. The general consensus was that students were upset with how little time was granted for the raising of concerns and many planned to attend the forum on Wednesday to make their voices heard.

### Next Week's Plans

We're hoping to get students and faculty from PPS to come and speak about further actions regarding APSA. Jeff Jeske will provide a faculty perspective on the decision to cut bus transportation to the Bryan series. Daniel Gallant-Raeder will report on the progress of the new Student Advisory Committee.

### Contact Us

We need to hear your voice. Have an idea? Concern? Great recipe? It's important to us.

Questions? Email: [senate@guilford.edu](mailto:senate@guilford.edu) or visit <http://guilfordsenate.wordpress.com>

Compiled by Samir Hazboun, Community Senate President