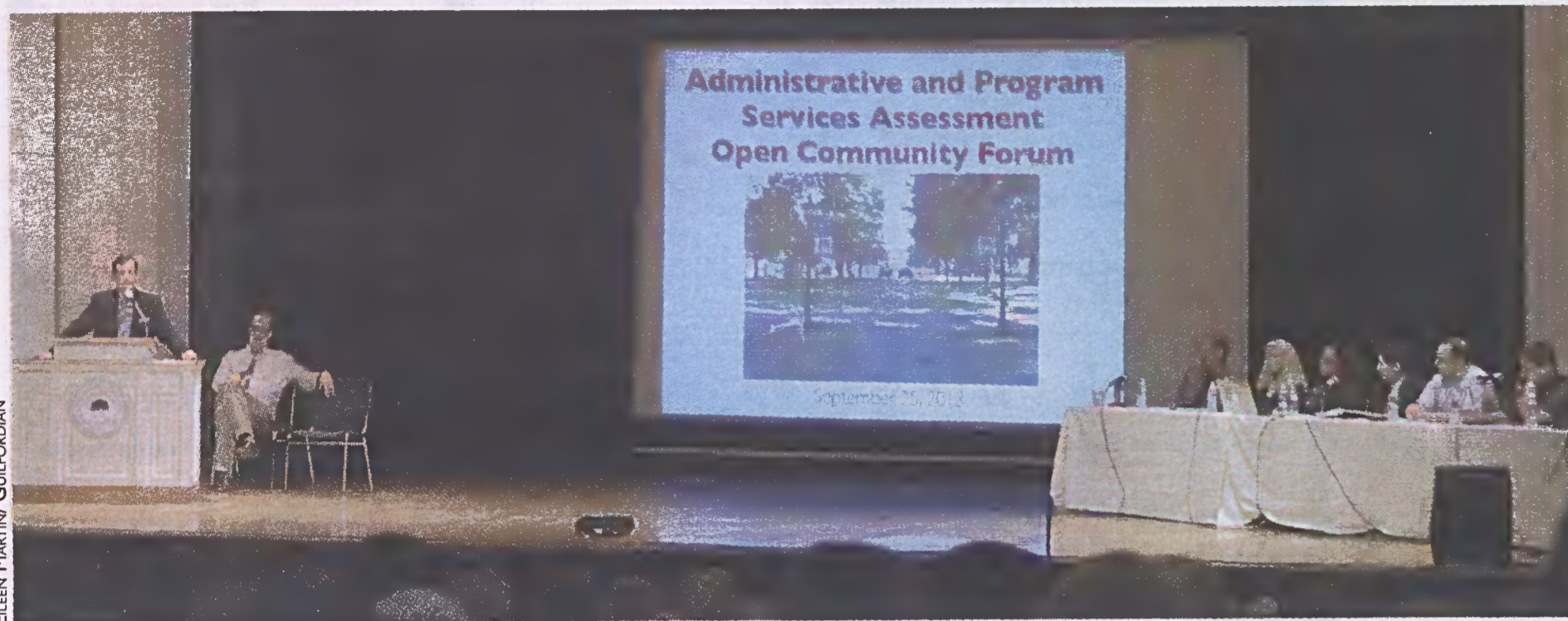


APSA HEARINGS

Guilford fills Dana for open forum on APSA report



EILEEN MARTIN/ GUILFORDIAN

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this?"

Another program defended by attendees was the Art Gallery.

"I witnessed huge turn-out, great student learning, great student engagement," said Associate Professor of Religious Studies Eric Mortensen of Art Gallery events. "Therefore, how did (the committee) conclude it has minimal impact on student life?"

Visiting Assistant Professor of Peace and Conflict Studies Jeremy Rinker also voiced concern regarding the valuation's criteria.

"I heard 'qualitative' and 'quantitative' data-driven approaches, but I get the impression the report is very much quantitative and not qualitative," said Rinker.

The Bonner Center raised a stir at the forum, too.

"Through the Bonner Center, a goodwill and connection to the Greensboro community is created," said Professor of Philosophy Lisa McLeod. "I'm not sure

how you would quantify or qualify that goodwill, but I encourage (the committee) to find someone who knows how."

Many students felt that the APSA committee's recommendations disregarded Guilford's core values.

"The Multicultural and Quaker departments are very close to the inner-light," said senior Noel Lane. "That's why I came to Guilford. If there are other students who came here for the same reason, how will this affect retention rates?"

Other attendees spoke out about preserving some of the school's most treasured programs.

"In the report the importance of community is acknowledged, and I think that's something that is lacking from this report," said sophomore John Madden. "I feel like the programs under scrutiny are the loudest and most vibrant programs here on campus."

The students expressed the importance of such programs to Guilford's fundamentals.

"The core of liberal arts education is

undercut by the recommendations," said sophomore Noel McDonald. "Why are you choosing to eliminate or cut programs like Bonner, Multicultural education, the Friends Center, but programs like athletics are being maintained?"

Committee member and Vice President for Administration Jon Varnell reminded attendees that the committee could only listen to their suggestions.

"There's nobody here on this panel, in this group, that can respond," said Varnell. "The only thing we can do is help clarify and restate."

Varnell, along with the rest of the committee, will consider all feedback and revise the report before sending it to President Kent Chabotar.

Chabotar, who also attended the forum, reminded attendees of their last opportunity for recommendations on the report.

"By Oct. 4 APSA feedback is needed," said Chabotar. "Sometime around fall break I will get the report ... you'll come back and there will be no APSA recommendations."

A LETTER OF CONCERN FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE CCE SGA

The recent APSA report has created definite and just concerns among the student population at Guilford College. As the Executive Board of the CCE SGA, we are astounded that suggestions were made in the report to completely "restructure" the CCE program into its own "separated product." We are concerned as well that one justification given was to eliminate CCE student data so the College's national ranking would increase. These suggestions abhorrently affect CCE student morale and are frivolous enough to be disappointing.

We are also deeply concerned that no CCE representative was invited to sit on the APSA committee, and we find the timing of the forum last week suspect, as it was scheduled during the daytime when the majority of CCE students were unable to attend because of work.

We urge the CCE student population to send letters of response to the APSA Committee about the suggestion of minimizing our thriving program through unnecessary restructuring to apsa@guilford.edu.

The deadline for submission of comments about APSA has been moved to **Oct. 11, 2013**.

Students celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month

BY KINSEY DANZIS
STAFF WRITER

Every year, people across the nation observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 by honoring the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens with Hispanic ancestors.

This year, the Guilford College campus has its own unique plans for celebration, and students of all heritages are joining in on the cultural fun and education.

These 31 days encompass the independence days for Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico and Chile.

Hispanos Unidos de Guilford has organized a series of events commemorating the cultures of Hispanic students.

"We hope for the community to come out and learn about the different cultures and traditions that we provide for them in these events," said senior Joyce Medina Allard, co-vice president of HUG. "I want people to have something that they are

able to take away from this, something meaningful to us and to them."

One of Guilford's major events occurred on Sept. 23 when an organizer from Concejo Nacional Urbano y Campesino in Mexico spoke to the community.

Luz Rivera Martinez told the audience about her 20 years of experience constructing autonomy in Mexico, organizing outside the electoral system and resisting genetically modified corn. Her experiences helped clarify the governmental issues that Americans have overcome for the most part but still exist for many Latinos and Latinas today in their own countries.

"That specific event was for awareness about issues in Latin America that people tend to overlook, when in reality, we should be helping as well," said Medina Allard.

Guilford's celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month is not just about spreading awareness of Latin American issues, though. Other events also mark the

importance of the month, such as En la Cocina con HUG, which took place Sept. 26.

This event focused on a more lighthearted aspect of Hispanic cultures: food.

Students cooked their own cultural dishes and brought them to Bonner House for a potluck. Each student shared the origin and cultural significance of their traditional dish, so the attendees got to learn more about Hispanic culinary cultures while eating.

The education continued on Sept. 30 with La Cultura Hispana, where students learned more about interesting cultural aspects of different Hispanic countries.

"There are so many different subcultures, and I think that gets glossed over," said Maria Rosales, associate professor of political science. "It's like people think 'Latin Americans all speak Spanish,' which isn't even true. I think there's that sort of sense sometimes."

Upcoming activities include the Salsa Evening, which will be held tonight on the

Grill patio. Students can come to listen to traditional Hispanic music and also take salsa and merengue dance lessons. Next Tuesday, Oct. 8, a forum titled Mi Camino will cover how and why Latino students identify themselves and what this cultural identity means to them.

"I think it's an absolute necessity for everybody to understand the Latino community, its history, its nuances, its culture and its traditions," said Jorge Zeballos, director for diversity training and development.

Maria Amado, associate professor of sociology and anthropology, agreed.

"Effectively incorporating Latinos in our definition of community is seminal to our commitment to diversity," Amado said in an email interview. "That is one way in which the Hispanic Heritage Month is congruent with our mission."

"However, it is important to look beyond the celebrations of this month, making sure that the college affords support and voice to Latino students."