

CAAP strives to educate, increase awareness about HIV



**BY HENRY SMITH
STAFF WRITER**

A U.N. report found that approximately 19 million of the 35 million people living with AIDS have no idea that they are HIV-positive. According to CBS News, North Carolina ranks 11th among the states with the highest HIV rates with 11.6 cases per 100,000 residents. There are currently 74 confirmed cases of AIDS in Guilford County.

Education and awareness is the key to sparking a decline in HIV/AIDS rates. Those unaware that they are infected are continuing to spread this dangerous disease, even in our own community.

Guilford Health Services could not provide The Guilfordian with any statistics on the rates of sexually transmitted diseases on campus, so it cannot be said whether this disease is prevalent on our campus. Regardless of the lack of numbers, students are encouraged to educate themselves through STD testing.

"I have spoken with the Wellness Education Coordinator about arranging on-campus testing," said Susan Smith, coordinator of Student Health Services. "But, as of now, it has only been a conversation."

Although Guilford Health Services has been working to incorporate STD testing into their program objectives, it has not yet become a reality for students.

Luckily, Guilford has the Community AIDS Awareness Project to educate the community. CAAP encourage students to actively participate in HIV testing through opportunities to get tested throughout the year.

CAAP is on a mission to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS in the Guilford community through the intersections that relate to the virus, such as safe sex, abstinence and sexual assault. CAAP reaches out to the community by developing programs and events that reflect their project's objectives.

"It is extremely important for students at Guilford to be educated about HIV/AIDS," said senior Jasmine O'Neill, CAAP president. "People are simply not having

these conversations."

CAAP provides a friendly environment where students can meet and learn about this deadly disease.

O'Neill shared some words from her father that strengthened her dedication to the cause.

"You should not have to get HIV/AIDS to know about the virus for the first time," she said.

CAAP has prevailed on campus for five years, originally starting out as AIDS Fellows before changing the name to CAAP in recent years. The club has exhibited tremendous progress in the past year, devoted to their cause.

O'Neill commented on clear visible growth in people's interest in joining and collaborating with the club. CAAP received the Dick Dyer Award for Most Improved Club. This recognition encouraged Community Senate to grant CAAP a budget for the first time since the club's creation.

CAAP has been notably successful in the planning and implementation of events on campus. An annual event called "Candy and Condoms" is a project to spread STD awareness and promote safe sex in first-year halls.

This year, a new event has been added to the calendar. CAAP will be participating in the Winter AIDS Walk that will take place at North Carolina A&T on Dec. 7. CAAP encourages everybody to join. In addition to the walk for a cause, a 5k run will also be an option for those who are inclined to barrel through the brisk breeze at a faster speed.

Those interested can join in on the carpool organized by CAAP. All who plan on participating must register online by emailing caap@guilford.edu. Those who register on time will receive a free T-shirt.

"Going to CAAP meetings would be a start," said junior Will Whealdon. "STDs remain worldwide problems that are real and terrifying."

CAAP meets every other Wednesday at 8:15 p.m. in King Hall. All are highly encouraged to attend, shine their light and become part of a life-saving movement.

CAAP meets in the Multicultural Resource Center located in King Hall every other Wednesday.

Guthrie talks about new book, multiculturalism in NM

**BY AUBREY KING
STAFF WRITER**

Empires rise and fall, but they never really vanish. The buildings, artifacts and even the societies of the past never quite disappear. In the U.S., New Mexico evidences the longevity of past societies more than any other state.

In the late 1500s, Native New Mexicans found themselves colonized by the Spanish, who were then colonized by Americans centuries later. The members of each community have reacted differently to the colonial history of New Mexico, and in 2002, Sociology and Anthropology Chair and Assistant Professor of Sociology and Anthropology Thomas Guthrie made it his mission to understand how.

On the evening of Nov. 11, Guthrie gave a short talk about his new book, "Recognizing Heritage: The Politics of Multiculturalism in New Mexico," to an eager crowd in Scuppernon Books in downtown Greensboro.

Published in December 2013 after years of work, Guthrie's book analyzes multicultural movements such as those that seek to celebrate cultural history and how they can actually hurt the cultures they seek to celebrate.

"Multiculturalism can hurt native cultures by making them so visible," said Guthrie to the listening guests. "By holding those cultures in the light, it leaves them open to critique while Anglos stand immune to criticism."

Guthrie went on to argue that instead of perpetuating stereotypes, multicultural communities should let the economics and politics of these

cultures dominate the discussion. He continued with a more personal passage from his book before taking questions from the audience.

"The talk really made me question a lot of what you see at museums and other organizations as a tourist," said Chemistry Department Chair and Associate Professor of Chemistry Gail Webster.

Guthrie's points hit home with students as well. Some related to the topic in very personal ways.

"My sister and I have spent a lot of our lives in New Mexico," said

first-year Elena Sippel. "Tom's right when he says New Mexico is like a foreign country that's inside the U.S."

The entire talk offered insight to light the fire of the mind, but one comment in particular stood out to many.

"I was most impressed by him saying 'I don't have all the answers,'" said Webster. "In science, you never think about how you as a person affect what you observe, but dealing with people is very different."

Members of the sociology and anthropology department were

aware of the promising research long before it came to a conclusion.

"I started to become familiar with Tom's research from the time we became colleagues in the SOAN Department," said Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology Maria L. Amado. "Knowing the merits of his work, I was not surprised when I heard it was going to be published as a book."

Finishing the book was a momentous accomplishment, but even after years of work, Guthrie is more than ready to move into new pastures.

"Last year, I began a new research project," said Guthrie. "I started out focusing on efforts to revitalize small scale agriculture ... but my research took me in a new direction. I'm interested in (a) debate surrounding GMO's in the northern and southern parts of New Mexico."

As Guthrie continues with his next foray into New Mexico's intricate and overlapping cultures, students and faculty can find his book in the Hege Library on Guilford's campus and speak to him about his research during his office hours in King Hall.



Last Tuesday, Nov. 11, chair of Guilford's SOAN department **Thomas Guthrie** gave a talk at Scuppernon Books about his recent book "Recognizing Heritage."