

NEWS

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VP of Student Affairs & Dean of Students appointed

BY IAN PENNY
STAFF WRITER

Meet Todd Clark.

Like many students returning from winter break, Clark woke up on Jan. 26 and began a new semester at Guilford College. For him, however, it was his first day as vice president for student affairs and dean of students.

"This type of position has been a professional dream of mine for a long time," said Clark.

For the past few years, Clark has been the associate dean of students at Emory and Henry College, amassing a few more credentials along the way.

In 2013, he received the James E. Scott Outstanding Mid-Level Student Affairs Professional Award. Last year, he earned his doctorate in educational studies from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

His dissertation "The Impact of Urbanicity on Student Engagement at Small, Residential, Liberal Arts Colleges" includes data taken from Guilford.

"My job is to enable student success," said Clark. "(Guilford) is a fantastic opportunity, in terms of campus and in terms of culture."

First-year Ben Levin had dinner with Clark during his first week on campus. The two talked about family and Clark's transition period.

"He's worked all over the place," said Levin, citing Clark's previous job experience at colleges and universities. "He's extremely personable. He knows colleges very, very well."

"I think he'll do a great job at Guilford. He's learning about the big issues and what makes Guilford tick."

Others see possibility in Clark's abilities.

"I see him as a very creative and open minded person, so I expect him to be thinking outside the box when supporting student growth," said Project and Communications Manager for the Center for Principled Problem Solving Delilah White.

White met Clark while she earned her communications degree from Emory and Henry. Later, Clark served on a committee that oversaw White's job interview with the college.

Clark replaces Aaron Fetrow, who now serves as the vice president of student affairs at Roanoke College. During the fall semester, Jennifer Agor served as the interim vice president at Guilford.

Fetrow was a prominent figure on campus, especially among students. One might find him to be tough act to follow.

"I think there's absolutely pressure," said sophomore Darion Bayles.

Bayles likened Clark's arrival to that of President Jane Fernandes.

"Jane can't be Kent (Chabotar)," said Bayles. "Todd can't be Aaron."

"It's a privilege to follow Aaron," Clark said, addressing Fetrow's legacy. "But, I come from a similar cloth."

At Emory and Henry, Clark was involved with many aspects of student culture, including an advisory position with the school's Greek council. At Guilford, he understands students have other ways of engaging with the community.

Community involvement, he explained, is what makes students successful.

"Some of the most current research shows you it doesn't matter what you choose as a major or where you come from," said Clark. "Proper engagement, full engagement leads to student connections."

Student engagement is just one of the puzzles Guilford looks to face this semester, along with retention and the ongoing Title IX investigation by the Department of Education. Amid these looming issues, administrative faces are changing.

"I think, in a lot of ways, our human values allow us to become complacent in our day-to-day," said White. "And, I think Guilford is no different."

In order to stave off the feeling of contentment, the



New Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students **Todd Clark** was previously employed at Emory & Henry College.

School is trying new things and innovating itself. People on campus, likewise, are looking to the future.

"He's a good new voice for the College," said Levin.

After Clark's hiring was announced, White received a text message from Emory and Henry's Mass Communications Department Chair Teresa Keller.

"(Keller) said that we were taking one of (their) most cared for (family members) and for us to take good care of him here at Guilford," said White. "My response to her was he is coming in on a wave of positive transformation, and we look forward to his dynamic contributions."

Gauldin wins 2014 Public Safety Officer of the Year



Officer **David Gauldin** (for left) talks with community members outside the Carnegie Room.

BY REESE SETZER
SPORTS EDITOR

Guilford College Public Safety, or P-Safe, is a job that may get overlooked from time to time by some of the students on our campus.

These are the men and women that, throughout each day and night, keep Guilford College a safe environment.

Each year, one of these officers is chosen as the Public Safety officer of the year. An officer can be nominated by anyone from the Guilford community who offers a reason for why a particular officer should be honored. After the nominees are reviewed, someone outside of the Public Safety department reviews the nominations and selects a winner.

This year's officer of the year is David Gauldin. Gauldin typically works the night shift from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. on campus and has been doing so for the majority of his four and a half years at the school.

"It is an honor, particularly to be voted by the Guilford community," said Gauldin. "It took me by surprise, and I did not expect it."

Before coming to Guilford, Gauldin served in the Marines for eight years and was stationed in Japan, Norway, Cuba, Ireland, Spain and the Philippines.

He has a five-year-old daughter named Gracie and a half-American, half-English bulldog named Phoenix.

In his free time, he is an avid golfer.

When asked about what he felt he helps students with the most, Gauldin cited his help during especially stressful times.

"Being able to keep everyone calm in different situations, particularly finals," said Gauldin. "Keeping stress levels low is important and is something I have always tried to do."

Many people on campus are very appreciative of what Gauldin does for the Guilford community, from Head of Public Safety Ron Stowe to the students who interact with Gauldin.

"David consistently shows a lot of interest and concern for the students," said Stowe. "He is the type of guy that I don't hesitate to hear what he has to say."

A student from campus sent in a nomination for Gauldin. Not only has he stood out to this student as an officer but as a role model as well.

"I wanted to especially send thanks for the work that David has done in my life," the student said in their nomination. "He has become more than just a protector of this campus but has been a vital part of my support system here at Guilford. His care for me is something that I didn't think should have gone unrecognized."

SENATE UPDATE

MEETINGS ARE ON
MONDAYS @ 7 P.M.

BOREN LOUNGE
(FOUNDERS)

this week's developments

Community Senate announced the resignation of David Wheaton as the Inter-Club Council chair during the full Senate meeting. The Executive Council appointed junior Samantha Evans as the interim Inter-Club Council chair to serve during the spring semester. Senate also approved the Yoga Club as an official student club on campus. Students discussed topics for the Board of Trustees Town Hall to be held on Wednesday, February 25th from 5:30 to 7:00 pm in the Carnegie Room in Hege Library. Students also reached general consensus on the approval of the new Quality Enhancement Plan proposal.

next week's plans

In the following weeks, Senate will be addressing concerns from international and commuter students, further discussing the Board of Trustees Town Hall, and finalizing mid-year budget reports.

Have an idea?
Concern?
Great recipe? It's
important to us.

Email:
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or visit guilfordsenate.
wordpress.com

Compiled by Jose Oliva, Community Senate president