

# OPINION

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## NC State frat encouraged discrimination

The Tau chapter of the Pi Kappa Phi fraternity at N.C. State University is officially disbanded.

The fraternity was suspended because of a pledge book that was found at a Raleigh restaurant which contained racially and sexually offensive comments.

The members of Pi Kappa Phi were told to immediately vacate the fraternity house.

"The fraternity can apply to return to campus with new membership in 2018," said writer B.J. Drye in an article for the Stanly News & Press.

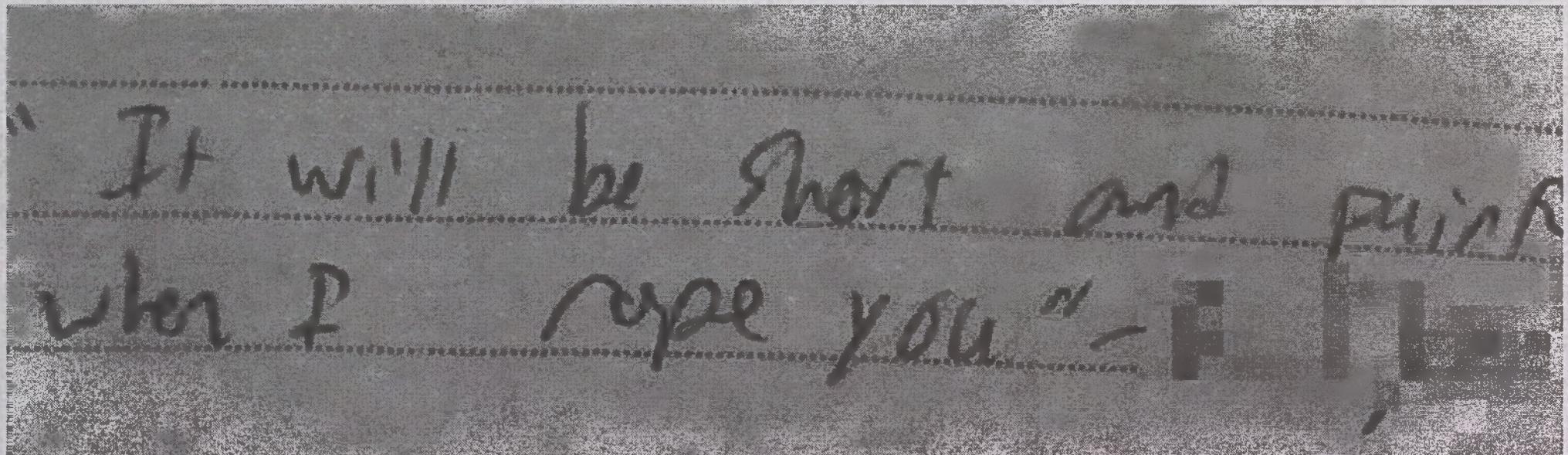
Chancellor of NCSU Randy Woodson remarked that there has been an ongoing investigation into the pledge book according to The Technician, a student newspaper of NCSU.

"I hope today's action makes it clear that there is no place for intolerance, sexism and racism at N.C. State," said Woodson, according to NC State News.

Greek life poses endangerment to students and encourages discrimination.

No institution should permit sexism and discrimination towards any demographic at any university.

According to the New Jersey Institute of Technology, over 800 campuses in North America participate in Greek life, with over 9 million Greek life members nationally. Greek



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N.C. State University suspended the chapter of Pi Kappa Phi due to content found in their pledge book until it can reapply in 2018 with new members.

life is also the largest network of volunteer service in the United States, with 850,000 members nationally. However, Greek life has substandard ways going about initiation and group camaraderie.

"NCSU did a good job with how they handled the situation," said senior Lesley Manuh. "I'm pleased to see that they're upholding strong values and being assertive with not tolerating racism and sexual discrimination."

During their review, university police also released a "Wolf Alert" about a reported sexual assault that happened at the house in early March. Moreover, the organization is currently under investigation by the University regarding allegations that one or more of the fraternity's members were dealing drugs according to Katherine Kehoe,

news editor for The Technician.

"A school should expect its students to act with integrity and to reflect the shared values of their community," said Residence Life Wellness Coordinator Kristie Wyatt '08 in an email interview. "If they are unable to meet this standard, whether from racists or sexually abusive language or drug use, I don't think it is inappropriate for them to be denied housing privileges."

First-year Ellie Persing commented on the event that took place at NCSU.

"I think that fraternities and sororities receive a bad reputation because of events such as these," said Persing. "The fact that NCSU shut down the fraternity is good for the rest of the houses under Greek life because not all Greek houses do such things."

Actions that NCSU took will better

maintain the reputation of fraternities and sororities across the country.

Unlike NCSU, Guilford has theme houses instead of Greek life. The theme houses act as a space for groups of students with common interests to live together. Similar to fraternities, theme houses serve the community through fundraisers and provide a space for community engagement.

Sophomore Ro Luttenbacher shared her thoughts on NCSU seeking justice for the actions of the fraternity members.

"I think they could have (taken steps) to make it a little bit more of a learning experience," said Luttenbacher. "For example, take classes about racism and discrimination. However, I understand the precautions that they took in order to deal with the incident."

### STAFF EDITORIAL

## Don't let CCE be lost in the budget cuts

Distress has spread across the campus concerning the status of the CCE department. CCE students, and many traditional students are concerned about signs that CCE may be in danger. Recently, all Saturday classes and some night classes and summer classes have been cut. Rumors claim that the Office of Advancement and Communications will move into Hendricks Hall, displacing CCE students, although no decisions have officially been made.

While the class cuts have been made in response to decreasing enrollment, they make it a lot harder for many CCE students to get a degree.

Both these changes and the ones that are rumored have made many CCE students feel undervalued. We want to stand in solidarity with them and let them know that the Guilford community cares.

Besides, CCE students play an important role in a Guilford education. At the College there is a wide range of ages, from high schoolers to adults, offering all of the community a unique experience. As an institution, we claim to value diversity as a core value. And the different ages and experiences of our students is a major source of this diversity.

Additionally, CCE students contribute greatly to racial and socioeconomic diversity in our community. 43 percent of CCE students are people of color, compared to 28 percent of traditional students. 55 percent of CCE are eligible for Pell Grants, which are based on financial need. Cuts made to the CCE department detract from these kinds of diversity, and thus could be considered racially and economically prejudiced.

We are not just concerned about losing these students. The way the school is making these decisions is not consistent with what we were originally told. While we were told that cuts would be made across the board, this feels more like a concentrated effort to demolish a major part of our community.

We continue to encourage those making decisions about cuts to really put everything on the table, including the salaries of the highest-paid employees. We want to pull together during this crisis, not divide the campus or make some members feel less valuable than others.

The lack of information about changes to CCE that was shared with students is also problematic. We were blindsided by this information, as were the many CCE students who were already heavily affected by cuts and will be more so if more cuts come to pass.

We hope that administrators take this into consideration as they continue to make cuts. We understand that cuts are necessary to ensure the future of our school, but we do not want to lose part of our community along the way.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Throughout the budget cuts, remember Guilford's cohesion

A few weeks ago when the student body was invited to come and "plea" their clubs, organizations, causes, and interests, to the board of trustees, I received an invite from many different groups I have been and am a part of to come and speak on their behalf. I chose not to come and speak on any of their behalves because I could not choose just one to represent. I regret not coming to speak to the board of trustees that night because I think I could have had something valuable to contribute, even if it were not on behalf of any one group. So, I'm going to address the board here.

Dear Board and Jane Fernandes,

My name is Gia Henry and I am a senior getting my degree in Peace and Conflict Studies. I am a CCE student, and I love my school. In my almost three years at Guilford College I have been a PPS scholar, a Bonner, a facilitator and coordinator for the Conflict Resolution Resource Center, a Friend to Friend mentor with the CCE population, a member on the DAC accessibility subcommittee, a student and an advocate fighting for the heart and soul of Guilford College putting my time, my life and my energy on the line. I use the phrase "I have been" only because I do not know where all of those organizations, or my future, stand as of right now as you said they are all on the chopping block. We have been told that everything is being examined and all staff, faculty and students must put our school ahead of our interests, projects and organizations. Let me tell you because I have nothing but my beloved Guilford on my mind that I fight for all of these organizations and then some, as they are all the heart and soul of a school I love. These organizations are the lifeline, the soul, the essence of what Guilford is. So to tell me to put the interest of the school ahead of individual groups, projects and my own personal interests is to tell me to give up on what I love about Guilford. Guilford is a remarkable school that stands out from the rest because of its core values: community, diversity, equality, excellence, integrity, justice and stewardship. We

sell these values to future students and the community, but are these enduring values really the basis of the College's mission? With the definitive changes that have already been decided for the fall 2015 semester, and the rumors that abound because we have little to no information to go on, my answer to that question is a resounding "no."

Let me tell you who I am. I am Guilford strong. I love my fellow students no matter if they are tackling on the football field, singing on a stage, studying in the library, stressing over grades or in conflict with each other. I love my fellow students because they too are Guilford strong. We are Guilford College. Without us this place is merely a compound of buildings without a soul and without a heart. When you make decisions with the consideration of the compound of buildings as your top priority, and not the heart and soul of its content, you take away the essence of what Guilford has been, what Guilford is and what it can be. Without us, there are no organizations or groups or interests to chop.

With utmost respect, I ask that you please not view the pieces of our school as separate, non-interdependent parts that any one piece can be chopped off without affecting the other. Any one element is dependent on the other to make the whole. When one part is chopped off, it affects another. I am not a business major. I do not and cannot pretend I know anything about how to run a business. Being millions of dollars in debt is something that cannot be ignored. However, when you take care of business at the expense of interests (i.e., the students), you are not taking care of business, you are instead nullifying our community. Picking apart each piece in an attempt to see what and who is worthy and who isn't shreds and destroys any chance of a unified community, thereby losing its integrity and excellence. The compound of buildings you are trying to protect is worthless without the community of its inhabitants.

Sincerely,  
Gia Henry, CCE senior

**Letter to the Editor:  
Join the Fight for \$15!**

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BY CHELSEA YARBOROUGH '15