

News

BLACKBURN BACK IN ADMINISTRATION

New position created

Coordinator will explore special projects

Emily Killian
Pilot copy editor

After three months of investigating and multiple meetings with administrators, President Frank Campbell named Gil Blackburn the newly created Coordinator of Special Programs earlier this month.

The position, developed by Campbell and Blackburn, is based on Blackburn's interest in new projects for Gardner-Webb.

Campbell explained the two distinct elements of the new position.

Special projects include the "exploration of possible new programs, including Naval ROTC, a physician's assistant program, expanded study abroad opportunities and a possible partnership with the YMCA,"



said Campbell.

Academic development includes "improvement measures for the university's academic programs, which includes seeking opportunities for faculty members to publish research and advance professionally, evaluation programs that lead to faculty improvement and providing guidance in faculty searches," stated a press release from the GWU Public Relations Office.

"The [new] position has some wonderful possibilities," said Blackburn, who also plans to teach one course each semester.

Campbell further explained that Blackburn is a member of the senior administrative staff because of his expertise and experience. Blackburn is not, however, considered a member of Campbell's presidential cabinet.

Campbell said that he did not name a vice president because he was leaving the selection of it open for the next permanent president.

"We can function for this year

without this [vice president] position," said Campbell.

For both of his new duties, Blackburn will report directly to the President, said Campbell, who sees the creation of a new position fitting to the situation. Campbell did not want to attempt to overthrow the trustees' decision, however, he wanted to provide a way to bring Blackburn back on campus.

"It's a compromise," said Campbell. "Compromise is not a bad word."

In a press release from the GWU Public Relations Office, Blackburn said that he was "excited about the new position," and that it "is a fair response to the recent trustee decision."

Campbell believes that the new position will help the GWU community to heal, and that time will be the greatest healer.

"It will take a great bit of time," said Campbell. "But we will gradually get back to normalcy."

WORLD IN BRIEF

Bush delivers State of Union Address

President Bush addressed Congress on Jan. 28 in his second State of the Union address, where he identified strengthening the economy as his "first goal," and named other priorities as improving health care, crafting a prescription drug benefit for seniors, providing greater energy independence, while protecting the environment and "applying the compassion of America" to its deepest problems." Bush's speech comes at a critical time, as polls show that the majority of Americans are concerned with the way he is handling the growing threats of economic crisis and possible war with Iraq.

On a more international level, Bush named the greatest threat to war as being "outlaw regimes that seek and possess nuclear, chemical and biological weapons...[They could] use such weapons for blackmail, terror and mass murder... [and] also give or sell those weapons to their terrorist allies, who would use them without the least hesitation." Bush also said he believes Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is aiding the al Qaeda terror network and hiding weapons that he was restricted from possessing according to agreements with the United Nations.

Lawmakers agree that, at this time, Bush must do more to convince the American people that a military strike against Iraq is necessary and justified.

(Source: CNN.com)

Trial for sniper shooting set

The trial date for John Lee Malvo, the 17-year-old suspect in the infamous "Sniper Shootings" just before Thanksgiving, has been set for Nov. 10 in Fairfax County, Va. Malvo is suspected alongside John Allen Mohammed, 42, of killing 13 people and wounding five in Ala., Ga., La., Md., Va. and Washington, D.C. Malvo will be tried on two counts of capital murder. One of those counts includes a terrorism charge for the shooting of an FBI agent. Malvo also faces a third count of using a firearm in a murder. If convicted, Malvo could be sentenced to death. The court also ruled that cameras would not be allowed in the courtroom during the trial. Mohammad is to stand trial in neighboring Prince William County, Va., in October for the shooting of Dean Harold Meyers at a gas station in Manassas on Oct. 9, 2002.

(Source: CNN.com)

— Meghan Elliott

WEEK: Students participate in revival

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"I was just excited that it was student led; I think that is what's going to make the biggest difference," said Tara West, freshman.

Many students were able to participate in the week, including athletes George Pressley and Eli Strait. Different on-campus bands led worship and other students volunteered to pray

with any who wanted/needed prayer at the end of the services. During Dimensions on Tuesday, sophomore Bruce Wham and junior Eric Mansfield shared the impact God has made on them and encouraged students to trust Him with everything. Justin Alston, Nisreen Abu-Ata, Nicole Austin, Sancha Gool, Alex Ventura and Sarah Fulton also spoke at some point during the week.

A drama team, led by senior Erin Boyd, took a part in each gathering, with a real-life portrayal of students' deepest questions and concerns. Travis Laflin, a member of the drama team who played a star basketball player, sought answers and truth.

"The drama helped me to realize that everyone in life goes through internal struggles even though we may not see them," Laflin said.

Deaf Awareness Week

Monday: game/ice cream night from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Clubhouse

Tuesday: Deaf Bible study from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Lyndsay 304; gathering at Broad River Coffee Company immediately following study

Wednesday: Bowling Night in Shelby from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Thursday: Deaf Performance Night from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Mill House; \$2 admissions fee

Friday: Silent dinner at 4 p.m. at Ruby Tuesday's in Gaffney.

For more information, contact Kathy Davis, deaf resource specialist and deaf club advisor, at ext. 4735

Health Fair

Time: noon to 5 p.m.

Date: Tuesday

Place: Bost Gym

What is it: The health fair offered free screenings, products, information, massages, vision screening, sauna visit, spinal screening, reflexologist, osteoporosis check, spiritual, eating disorders, spiritual, eating disorders, anxiety, depression, blood pressure, glucose test and much more.

Who's it for: Anyone