

# Guilfordian

September 28, 1976

## Environmental Studies Program Announced

### CONTRIBUTION

At a recent meeting of students and faculty interested in Environmental Studies, there was an expression of interest from a surprisingly broad cross-section of the campus. While biology majors predominated, there was a sizeable contingent from geology, sociology, chemistry, and even Spanish.

The academic aspects of the program were reviewed by Don Gibbon of the Geology Department. He emphasized that the program did not comprise a separate major, and that by its very nature the subject was cross-disciplinary.

"Anyone involved with trying to promote change in an environmental area, or anyone working with public environmental problems, will soon see the value of having solid foundations in both the natural and social sciences", said Gibbon. "The local Sierra Club is deeply committed to an effort to influence local transportation planning, and this involves consideration of energy costs of transportation, impact of highway construction on community values, economic factors . . . an astonishing array of important criteria."

The Guilford Environmental Studies program consists of a five-course sequence, the first four taken in any order, the fifth taken in the Senior year.

Anyone from any major can take the sequence, which includes Environmental Geology, Ecosystems, Demography, and Law and Society; the Senior course is Environmental Systems Planning, a two-semester combination of seminars on real-world environmental problems and a thesis-type project. This is to be offered in the fall of 1977.

Another important aspect of the meeting was to exchange information on jobs, internships, and graduate school opportunities. Many of those at the meeting had had extraordinarily interesting experiences during the summer, ranging from work in national forests in Utah and Vermont to commercial fishery work in Alaska. In addition, students participating in the program had had excellent experiences in internships, ranging from environmental law to writing for the National Wildlife Federation. Paul Zopf, Chairman of the Sociology Department, commented that urban planning internships can sometimes be arranged with the City of Greensboro; other pre-professional opportunities are also available with the Bureau of Census.

One purpose of the meeting was to share these experiences and enthusiasms; perhaps even

more importantly, the program is intended to act as a resource for those students who would like to do this sort of thing but don't know how to go about it. Those who have had what they feel are unusually satisfying summer jobs that were related to environmental concerns should contact Don Gibbon and supply him with a brief report telling how they obtained the job, what their contacts were, addresses of agencies, and so forth. He then can act as an on-going reference aid for other students.

The subject of graduate schools was also discussed. Don Gibbon suggested that significant work experience is likely to make a graduate program more worthwhile; thus, going directly from Guilford to graduate school is perhaps not the best way to approach career objectives in the field. He would also, therefore, be grateful for any information students can share with the E.S. Program about the expectations that various graduate programs hold for their applicants.

Those interested in the program who did not make the meeting can contact Don Gibbon or sign up on the list posted on his office door in King 124.

Respectfully submitted  
AMIE WILLIAMS, Secretary  
Community Senate  
Sept. 22, 1976

The meeting was opened with a moment of silence. Roll was called. John Boswell and Christie Fletcher were absent.

Students running for positions on the Student Affairs Committee were given an opportunity to make a brief speech and were then voted upon. The student representatives to SAC are: Louise Critz, Ken Field, Barrett Nnoka,

Sherri Wall, and Matt Yeterian.

Students who were not elected were urged to run for other committees next week.

A fund request from the Cliffhangers for \$200 was approved.

John Richardson expressed the concern of his constituents over the tennis backboard for which \$100 was appropriated last year. Jim Newlin explained that building the backboard was being delayed until construction on the tennis courts was completed. This is

planned to be completed next spring. Members of the Senate expressed concern over the current plans for the tennis and basketball court resurfacing plans, and intend to approach the Buildings and Grounds Committee on the matter.

Senate passed the election procedure by which they were elected; and after some discussion, agreed on the attendance policy presented last week (3 unexcused absences per semester and the Senator is replaced).

## Registration

A voter registration drive sponsored by the Greensboro YWCA Public Affairs Committee along with the Guilford College Young Democrats will continue tonight (Tuesday, Sept. 28) until 10 p.m. in the Urban Center lounge. Registration will continue on Wednesday, Sept. 29 in the lobby of Founders Hall from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Of special interest to Guilford College students will be the availability of information about absentee ballots and that voting procedure.



## Education Seminar Rocks Philadelphia

Everyone who went on the education seminar, the *Philadelphia Smorgasbord*, had a great time. Ask any of the fifteen education majors and two professors who were in the "City of Brotherly Love" from Sept. 19 to Sept. 24 and they'll tell you about the macaroni in the beds, seeing the Liberty Bell, and appearing on TV (not with Ford and Carter). But they also learned a lot about early childhood education, the Board of Education, and just about any other aspect of education in America that you care to name.

The women stayed in the 140-year old Chaumounix Mansion, an American Youth Hostel on the grounds of Fairmount Park. After an all-day workshop on co-operative education, the group split up and spread out from this base to learn about education in one of America's largest cities.

One of the first places visited was the Durham Learning Center. This is a public alternative school which pregnant 11 to 14 year old girls can attend until their babies are born. There is also a preschool to fifth grade education program which the children of these mothers can participate in, as well as children referred there from five school districts.

The Philadelphia Board of Education was another interesting place. There the group talked to Eliot Alexander in the Office of Information Services. Mr. Alexander mentioned that one particular problem of the School Board was their involvement in the political systems in Philadelphia, often to the detriment of the school system.

Groups also visited Research for Better Schools, a center which is interested in developing a curriculum for individualized instruction. The Education Department of the Museum of Natural Science was another interesting place.

Most of the scheduled time, however, was spent in public and private schools of all kinds, observing the different ways classes are taught and different kinds of students. There is a vast variety of schools in Philadelphia, offering many kinds of learning experiences.

When the week was finally over, everyone gathered for a wrap-up dinner with special guests from the places they had visited. Friday morning they were on their way back to Guilford College and the regular schedule of classes, eating in the cafeteria, and sleeping in the 10 year old dorms.

## Senate Minutes