

# Guilfordian

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## Lake may be closed for swimmers

by Howard Luehrs

A proposal to limit activities at the Guilford College Lake has been submitted for consideration by the Student Community Senate. Ken Schwab and Geoff Miller brought the proposal before the Senate at its regular meeting on September 17, 1980.

The proposal states that the school wishes to close off the lake to swimming once the new indoor pool is completed. Schwab and Miller cite two main reasons for wanting to do this: 1) Swimming in the lake is a liability risk to the school, even when a lifeguard is on duty and, 2) the new pool will provide a healthier environment in which to swim.

The point was also made that the Guilford County Health Department has never approved the college lake as a swimming area. If they were called in to do so, and found the lake was unsafe to swim in, the proposal could automatically be tabled. In other words, the County could close the lake at any given

time.

Several members of the Senate were not ready to immediately act on the proposal. It was felt that many constituents would not like the idea of the lake being closed to swimming and that they should be consulted. In an effort to resolve the matter, a committee was set up to work with Ken Schwab on the proposal. Abbot Easterlin, Jim Henniger and Julie Rothstein will be representing the students in this matter.

Still to be resolved is what other activities will still be allowed at the lake. The possibility of the school having boats available for the students' use was raised but, again, the risk involved is probably too large. What about those who have their own boats? Will they be able to continue using the lake, at their own risk? The individuals working with the proposal will hopefully be able to solve these, and other, questions to the benefit of everyone involved.



Anonymous swimmer enjoys Guilford lake

## Stoneburner becomes new dean of faculty

by Barbara Phillips

Since the completion of the spring semester, John Stoneburner has assumed the responsibilities of the interim dean of the faculty.

Stoneburner was offered the position based on a "rather lengthy recommendation" made by the dean search committee to Dr. Rogers after Catherine Frazier announced her resignation as dean last spring, according to Richie Zweigenhaft, chairman of the search committee.

Stoneburner is a member of the Department of Religious Studies, and was the clerk of the faculty when offered the position of interim dean.

Stoneburner describes his responsibilities as ranging from "coordination and leadership in long and short range academic programs, in conjunction with Bill Rogers and Sybilla Colby, to looking at petitions from students, requests for overloads, and transcripts."

When asked if there were any specific direction he would like the academic program move, Stoneburner responded that deans (especially interim deans) don't actually have a great deal of power, and "most of their power is the power of persuasion." He would be most inclined to use his powers of

persuasion in support of the Interdisciplinary programs, which he considers a crucial part of the curriculum.

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*'Students need a balance between courses which engage them where they are and the need to see how major thinkers have answered the major questions.'*

In response to a question about the value of core requirements, Stoneburner said that as a result of a "nation-wide pendulum swing" Guilford reduced core requirements some years back, but he does not think the school went overboard in reductions. He does acknowledge that the pendulum has made somewhat of a return swing.

Stoneburner supports core requirements and wonders about the completeness of an education if "students can graduate without having encountered any Freud, Marx, Shakespeare, Dante," or other classical writers. "Relevance" was a concept widely talked about in the sixties, he says, but we have moved too far away from the encounter of major thinkers.

have answered the major questions." To only deal with current writers is to "suffer from a relativism of our times." The study of other societies, and especially of pre-modern society, casts a light on the modern situation.

Stoneburner sees required courses as designed to meet student needs. History is a requirement, he says, "because some knowledge of human history is necessary, not to keep our historians off the streets." He does acknowledge that teacher work loads can play a part in deciding on requirements, but "if you can't justify it on academic grounds, it can't be justified."

Stoneburner sees Guilford in a transition stage, and one of



by Anne Satterthwaite

John Stoneburner dean of faculty

Guilford aims will be to mesh job training with the liberal arts emphasis. The largest number of majors are in job-oriented areas such as accounting, management, administration of justice, education, and physical education. He hopes to see more students drawn into the traditional liberal arts program. While he sees a genuine tension between the two, he sees a need for good balance and acknowledges Guilford's responsibility to help liberal arts graduates find jobs, but also to see that everyone is reasonably liberally educated.

Stoneburner also sees tensions between striving for ex-

cellence and emphasis on humanistic qualities. "We have a moral obligation to educate" those students who are not the brightest, but he would not like to sacrifice diversity among the student body to get the very best students. Not everyone need be primarily intellectual, although everyone should be genuinely academically interested."

The diversity causes a certain amount of problem in that a broad range of students may be in any one class. The question "how to get significant growth from the best and from the others is a difficult one," says Stoneburner.