

Senate Election?

"What democracy is: it is the feeling of privacy in the voting booths, the feeling of communion in the libraries, the feeling of vitality everywhere. Democracy is a letter to the editor. Democracy is the score at the beginning of the ninth. It is an idea which hasn't been disproved yet, a song the words of which have not gone bad. It's the mustard on the hot dog and the cream in the rationed coffee."

E. B. White
1943

Every spring, or at least the four that I have been at Guilford, elections have been held to determine who will be the President of the Senate. This spring however, elections were not held. Only one candidate was in the running, so, "naturally" it would be senseless to have an election.

Due to lack of student interest, no election was held this year. Knowing that this apathetic situation exists, and knowing that the election process got off to a late start, the Senate had a tremendous burden of responsibility to inform the student body of the upcoming election. A poster here, and a poster there simply does not suffice in announcing a pending election. We all know how easy it is to walk by a poster in Founders, or drop those interminable notices that our post boxes are innudated with. What the election committee, and the Senate, should have done was to have physically conducted meetings in each of the dorms and really made an effort to publicize the election, and then maybe, there might have been another candidate and a real election.

There is also something patently wrong with the means by which the election was cancelled. When the motion for a dismissal of the election was brought before the Senate, only a handful of Senators were in attendance in addition to the Senate Officers. Although the Officers are not responsible for those who do not show up for the meetings, it seems that a decision not to have an election should be carried out by the full Senate. Then again, as President-elect Pettingell said, with only one candidate running, "an election would only be symbolic."

This fatuous statement is totally unacceptable. Due to insufficient publicity, before anyone realized that Pettingell was running unopposed, the deadline for applications had passed. However, student body members would have had the opportunity to write-in candidates if there had been an election.

Whether or not the cancellation of the election was proprietous needs to be examined. Democracy, and the right to choice of representation, have been dismissed, and something needs to be done. The question then arises, "does it really matter who the President of the Senate is?" The answer is undeniably, yes. Everyone has a right to choose who is to represent them, and I for one am disgusted because I did not choose who will be representing my alma mater next year. I do not feel that a non-elected President has the right to be the voice of the Student body to the Greater-Guilford Community, without student body members "symbolically" voting.

By Roger Lifson

Editors note:

The editorial in the Guilfordian issue on Feb. 26 "What is Honor" had an error which we feel needs to be noted. After the sentence "...the person is at least enlightened." should have read: "This is obviously the wrong path in which to approach this subject." It was a typesetting error which caused this sentence to be omitted.

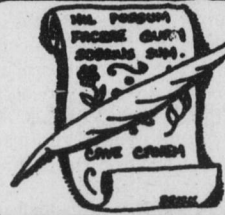
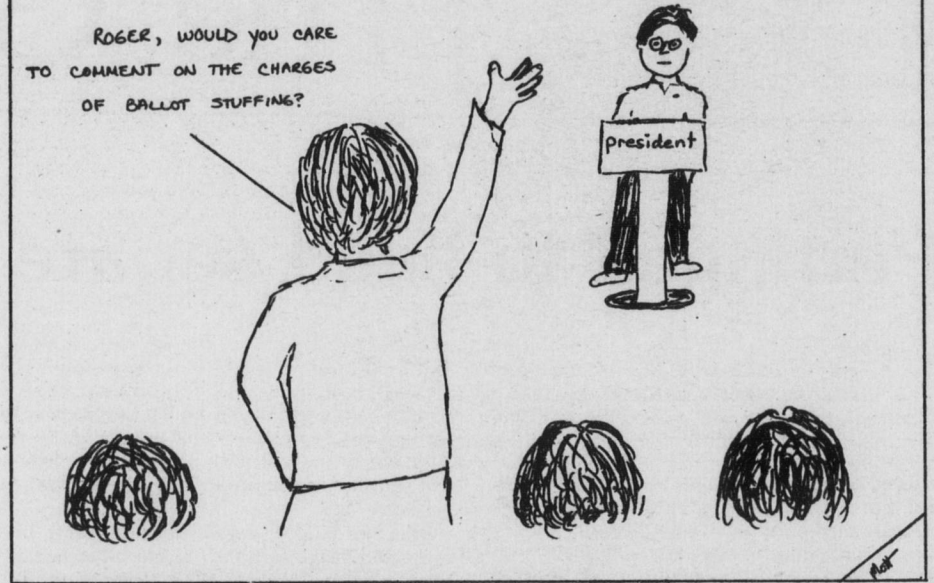
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The Guilfordian reserves the right to edit all articles, letters, and artwork for taste, varacity, and length. The deadline for all copy is 6:30 p.m. on Sunday preceeding the Thursday of publication. Material may be left on the office door in upstairs Founders, or mailed to Box 17717. the opinions expressed by the staff are their own and not necessarily those of the paper or of Guilford College.

GALLERY ARTIST'S RENDERING OF SENATE

ROGER, WOULD YOU CARE TO COMMENT ON THE CHARGES OF BALLOT STUFFING?



Letters to the Editor

Keep those letters coming; it's better to debate an issue without settling it than to settle an issue without debating it. All letters must be submitted by Sunday, and should be no longer than 200 words in length. Letters can be left on the office door in upstairs Founders, or mailed to Box 17717.

Grants for ability

Dear Editor:

I would like to take a moment to respond to Bruce Teachey's article entitled "Guilford's Athletic Puzzle" in your last issue. I want to commend Bruce on the series he has begun and the Athletic Department for the depth and breadth of the athletic program at Guilford College. I truly believe it is unparalleled among similar institutions and a credit to Guilford College.

However, there is one area that I think needs some clarification. Bruce stated that "football has 13 grants and only 3.9 of these are based on athletic ability, the rest are need based. All lacrosse scholarships are based on need." The record should more clearly state that all athletic grants-in-aid at Guilford College are determined by the particular coach involved, based on athletic ability first. It is true that in many cases coaches take into account a given student's financial situation when making their awards. The Financial Aid Office then uses these athletic grants, as awarded by the coaches, to make up some or all of the student's financial aid package.

It should be clearly understood that athletic grants are awarded based on athletic ability and performance first. The Director of Financial Aid does not determine the recipients of these funds based on demonstrated need. Guilford should be proud that such a high percentage of its athletic awards do go to students

who, in fact, do need financial assistance. However, to say that they are need-based is, at best, misleading.

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Anthony E. Gurley
Director of Financial Aid

Or perhaps Schiller was right: "Gegen der Dummheit kaempfen die Goetter selbst vergebens."

Cordially,
John Grice

Aid deadline

Dear Editor:

I want to take this opportunity to remind your readers of the application deadline for financial aid for 1982-83. Students applying for Federal, State, or institutional financial aid funds should submit applications by April 1st in order to receive priority consideration. Those applications must have a process date of no later than April 15th. Students who do not have an application but plan to apply, can pick up the necessary forms in the Financial Aid Office.

Due to reduced Federal funding and the subsequent need to monitor funds more closely, all financial aid application will be required to submit to the Financial Aid Office copies of 1981 Federal income taxes reports. Dependent students must have their parents send these forms (complete with all attachments) while independent students must submit copies of their own tax forms.

Finally, let me take this opportunity also to encourage all members of the Guilford community to write your Congressmen regarding the continuing efforts to cut Federal aid to education. Please contact the Financial Aid Office if you would like more specific information regarding these efforts.

Sincerely,
Anthony E. Gurley
Director of Financial Aid

Struggling in vain

Dear Ed,

I'm on record, or rather on tape, in AJ 101 expressing the belief that if a campus newspaper doesn't offend the faculty and administration it isn't doing its job. But there are limits to the insults that even the most decent, gentle, and humane academic drone can put up with!

David Loring suggests, February 26, p. 5, that one can major in AJ or PE and not have to read books or write papers. After four full days of grading the papers my students have written as a result of reading the books I assigned I do find that a bit much!

Perhaps a sophomore with no listed major, not to be found on the list of those eligible for Dana Scholarships, nor on the list of those future "Woodsteins" which presents the Guilfordian staff, is the best judge of academic programs. I beg leave to doubt it.

Should this Loring person survive to his senior year, I have a challenge for him: HEY, CREEP! Try one of my senior seminars!! HOO BOY!! Will YOU write a paper!

I hesitate to burden your letters column, but if you can spare 18 column inches for his kind of drivel, you should be able to squeeze this in. Perhaps a friend, if he has one, will read it to him.