

The GUILFORDIAN

VOL. 74 No. 12 GUILFORD COLLEGE, GREENSBORO, N.C. DEC. 11, 1989

Administrators recommend 9.5 % tuition increase

David Simpson
Copy Editor

A 9.5 percent tuition increase has been recommended by administrators to supplement Guilford's 1990-91 operating budget, said panel members at an open tuition forum last Wednesday night.

The forum, organized by the Community Senate, was an attempt to let administrators hear student concerns on rising tuition costs.

President Bill Rogers said that problems this year from low freshman enrollment and certain fixed costs make the 9.5 percent increase more desirable than the 5.6 percent increase suggested by a survey conducted by members of the Senate. Fixed costs, which rise with the cost of living, include rising insurance premiums, escalated utility costs, and the cost of printing new admissions material.

Concerns were also expressed at the forum that faculty pay should be increased proportionally with tuition. Rogers said that committees involved with

the tuition hike are currently looking at ways to trim the budget so that this can be accommodated. But many feel that pay raises are not keeping up with tuition increases.

Jim Newlin, vice-president for finance and development, said that because of last year's low enrollment, this is the worst year to lower the annual tuition increase. He said that a budget with a tuition increase below 9.5 percent will not balance. "I am going to continue to argue that it makes no sense to submit a budget to the trustees that doesn't balance."

Next year's tuition increase will be the first in six years that is below ten percent, but many community members are still opposed to the more than \$1,100 increase, saying that Guilford is pricing itself out of its own market.

Nancy Cable-Wells, dean of students and vice-president of financial affairs, said that two budgets are currently under consideration, one based on receiving tuition from 1090 students, and one based on an enrollment of 1062 students. Last year's budget planned for an enrollment

of about 1185 students, and while the administration counts on 40 or 50 over this amount to enroll, only 1154 actually enrolled.

Cable-Wells said this year she supports the lower estimate for "prudent planning." This is partially due to last year's enrollment shortage and not knowing whether the trend will continue. Cable-Wells also said that the lower the school estimates the number of enrollees, the more money it will have over the projected budget when more students actually enroll.

Newlin supports working with both budgets. "[Budgets] don't go into effect until June, and by February we should know something about next year's enrollment."

The 1090 budget includes about a 2.3 percent across the board pay increase and allocates \$50,000 for equity adjustments (adjustments for out of line salaries). Newlin said that the 1062 budget shows a deficit of about \$400,000. To balance it would require one of three things: no pay raises, cuts in on-campus positions, or cuts in departmental programming.

At the forum, concerns were



photo by Charles Almy

Bill Stevens, Elwood Parker and Bill Rogers at Wednesday's tuition forum.

expressed about Guilford's high rate of tuition dependency, which was said to be around 80 percent. Professor of Management Bill Stevens said this is because Guilford's tuition goes up more rapidly than its endowment.

Newlin said that while this is

true, Guilford gave about \$4 million in financial aid last year, and this was categorized with tuition money and was not paid by students. He said that this means that more like 60 percent

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Drug study results suspected inaccurate

Officials estimate higher usage rates

David Simpson
Copy Editor

Statistical evidence from a study conducted in November 1988 shows levels of student substance abuse at Guilford College to be higher in most categories than the average levels of all other Piedmont Independent College Association (PICA) institutions.

The survey, which was conducted through the PICA by two UNCG graduate students, was administered in classes to obtain statistical breakdowns of the reasons for use of controlled substances and the types of substances used. It was given at all six PICA institutions and Wake Forest University to a sample of

under 100 students at each school. Results of the study conclude that 95 percent of Guilford students use alcohol. Of that 95 percent, 20 percent drink several

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'EL TRICICLO'



photo by Charles Almy

Tyson Whitney reads en espanol to Eric Dawson during the Thursday night performance of the Spanish Club's 'El triciclo.'

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