

# The GUILFORDIAN

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## Milner change delayed pending community approval

Peter Smith  
News Editor

Richard Ford, the associate dean of students, decided Friday to reverse his decision to convert Milner Hall into a co-ed residence hall after receiving strong

protests from various student groups on campus.

In a memorandum sent Feb. 9 by Residential Life to Dean of Students Nancy Cable-Wells and SRC Co-Chairs Chrissy Lawrence and Stuart Vaughn, Ford said the decision was "controversial" and that "strong feelings" existed on both sides of the

issue, resulting in a decision to keep Milner a "single-sex residence hall for men through 1990-91 academic year."

"There was a lot of resistance to this proposal," said Ford. "At a Quaker institution, such a big decision needs to be heard by a larger group. We need to have more open forums and debate on

this issue."

Ford also called for the formation of a special Housing Assignment Task Force to review the current housing assignment patterns across campus and to assist planning for future housing allocations.

The task force will examine admissions data as to the per-

centage of incoming men and women, and will meet throughout the remainder of this semester. The task force could also determine changes in Milner housing patterns after the next academic year.

Ford said there still remain "compelling issues" concerning the lack of co-ed spaces available to students and the lack of options for men outside of Milner. In a memorandum issued Jan. 26, Ford outlined six reasons for changing Milner to a co-ed hall. These included the fact that 30 percent of the college's living space is co-ed but over 50 percent of the students desire co-ed living arrangements.

Other reasons for converting Milner included a desire to balance the male/female ratio in Bryan, to provide new renovated rooms to a larger group on campus to insure greater freshman distribution on campus, to reduce vandalism, and to foster a more positive feeling about the community through living in the spirit of cooperation.

Said Ford, "The bottom line is that making Milner co-ed is a good idea, but the timing is bad. Making a hasty decision is the wrong thing to do. We need to know more about what the statistics show for next year's enrollment and consider what the larger community has to say."

## Off-campus selection process under review

Larisa Hulnick  
Staff Writer

The administration is considering alternatives to the increasing problem of too many students applying for too few spaces in the off-campus education programs, a problem which has caused some students to question the selection policy.

According to Martha Cooley, director of off-campus education the semester in London program usually has twice the number of applicants as spaces, and some qualified students are inevitably disappointed.

Jennie Wisler, a junior math/accounting double major, was recently accepted, after initially being put on the waiting list, to the semester in London for next fall, led by political science professor and former Director of Off-Campus Education Bill Schmickle. She said she had a good GPA, no judicial

record, and a good record of student activities, and she thought she belonged in the program. Her application, however, was incomplete initially. She said she fought the decision actively, and was the second student to be admitted on the waiting list. She had some complaints about the system as a whole.

One of Wisler's complaints was that there was no interview involved in the process. Schmickle said that since there were 60 applicants, and since he did not consider an interview under a half hour to be of any quality, he chose not to interview the students. She said she was also disturbed by the fact that no math or accounting majors were accepted.

According to Miriam Collins, the administrative assistant for the office of off-campus education, Wisler was one of the two accounting majors to apply for the program.

Wisler was also concerned about the lack of stricter academic guidelines. She said she wanted to go to London to "learn, not party."

Another student, who asked that her name not be printed, had applied three times before finally being accepted to the program in London. She said her second application went to the faculty leader who had a very strict set of guidelines. She said the selection process had a "lack of consistency in all respects." She said, "There needs to be more focus on academics." Schmickle said that "each faculty leader does it differently," and that there are no rules of selection, but "traditional tendencies."

Neither student knew how the selection policy worked before applying to go abroad. Martha Cooley said the committee for off-campus education is beginning to realize that students don't know the policy, and in the future there will be a description of the process attached to the application form.

The application for off-campus programs includes two recommendations from faculty members and a written statement by students. There will also be a new form that goes to the student's hall director. Schmickle said, "Everyone who has cause to know the student fills out forms." For programs that emphasize language, such as France or Mexico, language teachers are also consulted. All information about the student is given to the faculty leader of the program.

The faculty leader may conduct interviews, but is not required to do so. The leader makes the final decision. Cooley said the committee believes the leader should select people he or she can live with overseas for four months.

Schmickle said that since many of the leader's activities center around the subject the leader teaches, many choose people who will benefit from these activities. He said he looks at people's interests when making his selections, and he prefers applicants who

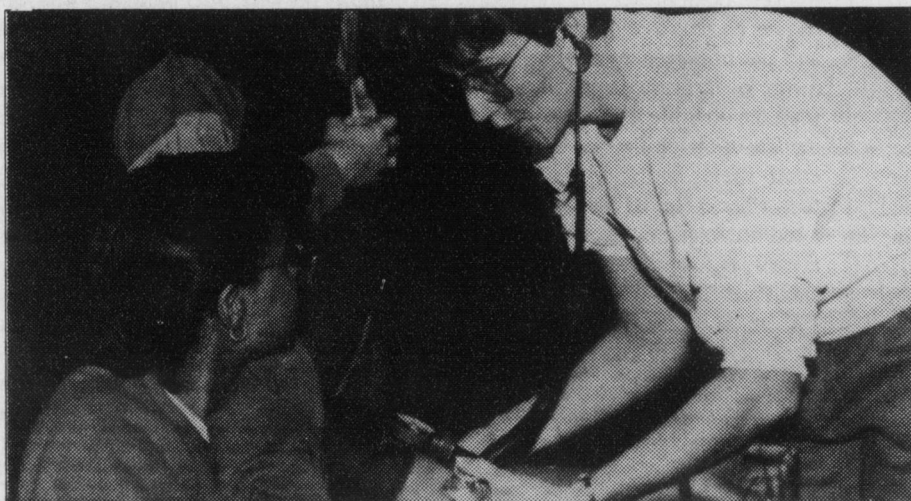


photo by Charles Almy

Health center sponsored a blood pressure booth at Tuesday's Wellness Fair. Students at the fair learned that the ideal blood pressure is 140/90.

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