

The Guilfordian

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Trustees converge on campus

Greg Loughlin
Staff Writer

The Guilford College Board of Trustees discussed a wide range of issues when they met on Friday, Sept. 25, for the first of their tri-yearly meetings.

The eight committees of the Board had already met to discuss specific subjects to be reported upon in the main meeting. Student representatives and faculty are represented in the committees, and Student Body President Jen Hill represents students in the full Board.

The Board approved the fiber-optic network which was reviewed by the Building and Grounds Committee and which will be laid out to Archdale, English and Hege-Cox during fall break. They also approved future plans to build a memorial garden where the semi-circle road is now between Archdale and Duke.

The Building and Grounds Committee also engaged in more planning in order to meet the American Disabilities Act of 1992. Projects include modifying bathrooms and making the second floor of Hege-Cox more accessible to disabled students.

The Strategic and Long-Range Planning Committee outlined various goals of the college to be maintained as it goes through financial reorganization. The Board emphasized the college's concerns about Quaker heritage, institutional viability, academic and faculty excellence, and the quality of student life.

On the recommendation of the Budget, Audit and Investment Committee, the Board approved last year's audit. The year ended with a balanced budget and an increase in the endowment, according to President Bill Rogers.

The Board of Trustees approved an upcoming capital campaign designed by the Promotion and Development Committee which it hopes will raise between \$20-\$100 million.

Increasing the school's endowment has been a major priority for the Board of Trustees, especially in recent years. It has grown from \$6 million to \$29 million over the last twelve years, and currently rates as the fourth or fifth largest in the state. However, it is still considered small.

President Rogers noted the importance of cultivating alumni giving because student tuition covers

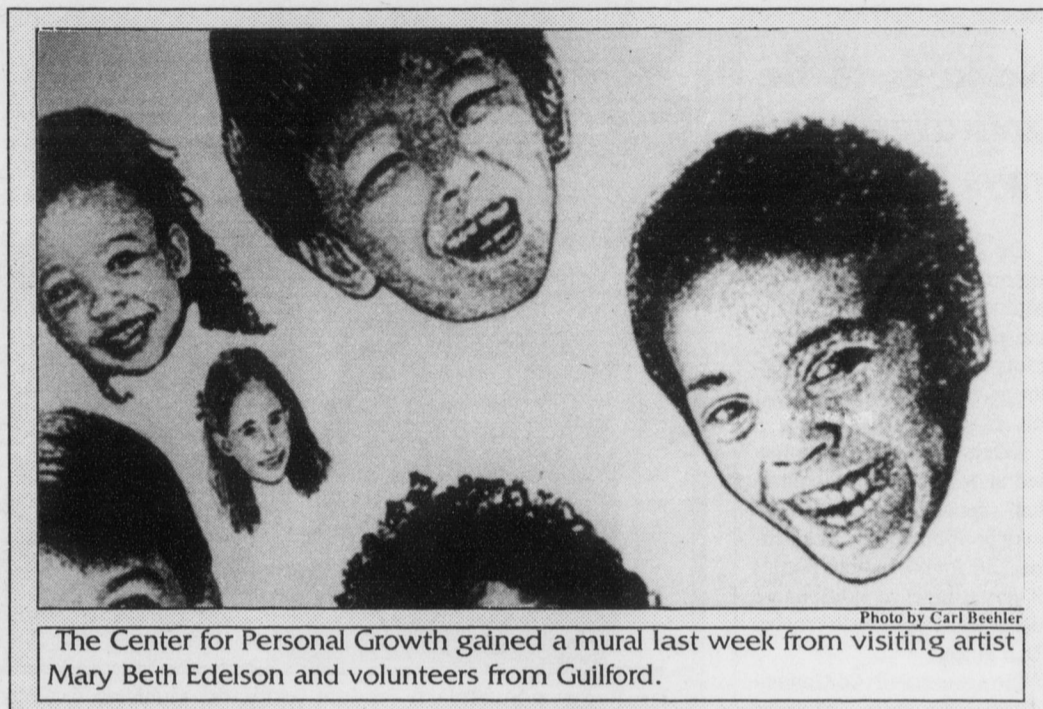


Photo by Carl Beehler

The Center for Personal Growth gained a mural last week from visiting artist Mary Beth Edelson and volunteers from Guilford.

only 79% of student costs. The other 20% comes from annual giving of alumni and friends, and income from gifts.

President Rogers noted that approximately 30-40% of capital given to the college comes directly from Board members. In addition, Trustees give between \$100,000 to \$150,000 in annual

gifts.

"The Trustees have been generous, and this year are extraordinarily generous," said Rogers. "They have increased their annual gifts by two to three times."

Senate President Jen Hill was excited by the willingness of Board members to send representatives to attend Senate meetings. "It's ex-

citing for me because they want to be involved with the students," said Hill.

The Board expressed a continuing concern about campus alcohol abuse and stressed the need to continue requiring counseling for alcohol offenders. During the meeting, representatives from Resi-

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Student contacts "But I Said No" players

Susan C. Roberts
Staff Writer

First-year student Brooke Plotnick has decided to take direct action against the frightening prospect of crime on campus.

This year's reported and unreported sexual assaults have moved her to contact Offstage Theatre, a

Charlottesville, Va. group, which performs a play about acquaintance rape on college campuses.

The group has appeared at colleges and universities all along the east coast, such as Georgetown University, the University of Virginia (UVA), the University of Richmond, Rutgers and VA. Tech.

The play, "But I Said No," was penned by Margaret Baldwin and Doug Grissom. During the 50-minute performance, "six professional actors portray the emotional and physical trauma of acquaintance rape through a collage of voices and interwoven stories," according to their promotional flier.

A 30-minute discussion follows the play, in which members of the cast, who are volunteers trained by the Charlottesville branch of the Sexual Assault Resource Agency (SARA), "provide a forum for students to speak openly about their reactions and feelings and to learn about positive steps they may take to help survivors..."

Offstage hopes its performances help people see the facts behind this frightening and all too common crime.

Although Offstage is non-profit, it requires a payment of a little over \$1000 to cover expenses. The money is reinvested in the Offstage organization, which gives unpublished writers a chance to see their work performed.

Plotnick has been seeking financial support to bring this group to campus, feeling that it would benefit the entire Guilford community.

"I am aware that it's hard for many schools to face these facts and keep their institutions attractive to prospective students. Guilford is a place where I believe it's possible to encourage awareness in a positive way," she said.

One in four college-age women (one in three women of any age) are survivors of rape or attempted rape. Of these cases, 95% go

unreported and of the 5% that eventually get reported, 25% involve more than one assailant.

In her efforts to get support, Plotnick has circulated a petition among students and gotten over 130 signatures of people who would be willing to attend the play and "even pay a dollar or two".

Student organizations are willing to help but none of them have actually offered financial support. The money, Plotnick says, doesn't have to be paid in advance, but "I have to know the money will be there the day of the performance." Plotnick hopes to schedule the troupe in mid-October.

Plotnick suggested that Family Weekend would provide a good opportunity to find support for an event like this.

"If anyone is interested in offering support either financially or any other ways, please contact me by phone at 316-3086, or my box number is 17488. I want to make a plea to parents and students alike. This is a



Photo by Carl Beehler

Brooke Plotnick

very important issue to face as early in the school year as possible," Plotnick said.

According to the flier, "But I Said NO" is a very "emotionally charged" production and Offstage requires that counselors trained in crisis intervention be present during and after the program.

"Offstage hopes to raise awareness about the difficult issues and misconceptions surrounding acquaintance rape and help create a community atmosphere which will be supportive of sexual assault survivors," the flier added.

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