

The Guilfordian

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NEWS LINE

GUILFORD CCE RECEIVES \$25,000 ENDOWMENT FUND

Guilford received a gift of \$25,000 to create the initial funding for an endowed scholarship for CCE students from a current student in Guilford's Center for Continuing Education.

The scholarship will support students who are returning to college after having spent time in a career and/or raising a family. The intention is to assist students who have already shown strong academic performance, particularly at Guilford, but who might otherwise not be able to complete their education because of financial limitations. Two annual scholarships are now available due to a second anonymous donor to the endowment.

Susan Heider, business and finance major, and Sandra Cummings, accounting major, have been chosen to receive the first annual Continuing Education Endowed Scholarships. The two women, full-time Guilford students, are single mothers raising their children and working outside the home to support them.

HILLEL TO HONOR TREES WITH SEDER

Hillel will be honoring Tu B'Shvat (The New Year of the Trees) with a traditional seder on Monday, Jan 24, at 8:00 PM in the Hut.

Legend has it that the trees requested a cold date in the dead of winter for their celebration because they realized that only following winter rains would they flower and prosper in the spring.

Rabbi Andy Koren of Chapel Hill will be the featured guest at the dinner, which is being held as part of Religious Emphasis Week. The event is open to the community.

King holiday observance debated

Christian Scanniello
Staff Writer

Despite recent proposals to observe the federal holiday of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, the Guilford community celebrated the civil rights leader's birthday in traditional fashion.

Provost Dan Poteet said that an open forum regarding the future status of the day is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 2. Poteet said shortly after that forum is held, the Administrative Council will decide whether or not to suspend classes and grant a staff holiday on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in 1995.

The issue has been debated in recent faculty meetings, raising many concerns regarding this complex issue. Currently, classes are held but professors have the option of granting students the holiday so that they are able to attend the day's events, which include panel discussions, workshops, and prayer services.



Anne Gailliard and Shelley Oldfield check out information about MLK.

The designation of King's birthday as a campus holiday poses a particular problem to the science department.

"We're concerned that canceling classes for one day would affect the scheduling of an entire week of labs for those courses that have

more than one laboratory section per week," said Lynn Moseley of the biology department.

"We're certainly willing to consider any way of celebrating this occasion that will take into account our scheduling problems," Moseley said.

One such proposal that is being discussed is the rescheduling of those Monday classes and labs on either the first or second Saturday of the spring-semester.

Still, some are concerned about the implications of Guilford recognizing its first federal holiday.

"In general, I am opposed to the proliferation of holidays, and it's not that I have any particular objection to Martin Luther King," said Richard Kania, chairman of the justice and policy studies department. "I would agree to support special recognition on a pattern that we have followed for several years, but I do feel that if we start the practice of giving the day off for this celebration, then why not for George Washington, why not for Abraham Lincoln, why not for Robert E. Lee for the people who feel he's special, why not for a bunch of other people."

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Garden forum hears concerns, questions

Chris Hosford
Staff Writer

A forum to discuss the proposed and still debated Sesquicentennial Garden, a memorial for the late Grimsley Hobbs to be built in the oval area between Duke Hall and Archdale, was held Jan. 12.

The Senate's normal Wednesday meeting was canceled so that senators could attend.

At the meeting students aired their feelings and two alternative versions of architect Richard Bell's design were presented by senators Melissa Hoopes and Laura DeBlois.

The alternative designs eliminate the flower beds in between the walkways and add more benches for a potential outdoor class area and more space for quiet reflection and meditation. Their purpose is to use the space more efficiently and simply.

Hoopes said, "If the garden is intended as a meeting place for the campus it seems wiser to reduce the thirty-foot walkways. I would suggest removing the plant mate-

rial from between the walkways in order to give more room for benches and outdoor classrooms."

DeBlois said, "Mr. Bell was very appreciative of the alternative designs."

There appear to be three major sticking points with the garden as it is currently proposed:

First, some students have raised the issue that the garden's walkways form a cross and are bothered by the potential religious symbolism of such a structure on campus.

However, according to DeBlois, the cross design is purely coincidental, a natural result of the oval-shaped area the garden is to occupy.

Senator Brian Burton said, "The cross is not a symbol. It is the natural flow of traffic."

Second, some students are bothered by the perceived frivolousness of spending money on a garden at a time when Guilford is experiencing a financial crunch.

According to DeBlois, the money for the garden was donated in 1987 for the specific purpose of building a garden. The money can-



The proposed garden, shown at the forum.

not be used for any other structure.

DeBlois said, "There's a lot of hostility from students who see this as frivolous, but they need to realize that this was a gift to the college and we should accept it graciously."

Finally, there is the issue of the Lichfield Gates, which the original design called for to be placed at the main entrance to the garden. This proposal has been shelved.

The gates originally came from a plantation in South Carolina and there is concern over the potential perception of them as a symbol of

racism, oppression and slavery, especially at a Quaker school in an area that is historically linked with the Underground Railroad.

Burton said, "I don't agree with the idea

of the gates since they are from a plantation."

Also, some students have raised concerns over the garden's alleged lack of simplicity, which contradicts Quaker tradition.

Burton said, "There have been some complaints that the garden is not simple enough. If you look at the sketch, how could it be more simple?"

No ground-breaking date on the Sesquicentennial Garden has been set. More forums are planned for the future and students are invited to come and participate.

Photo by Rob Davidson

Photo by Daphne Lewis