

# THE GUILFORDIAN

Greensboro, NC

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## Questions raised at forum

◆ Administrators addressed student concerns over the restructuring process at the Open Forum last Tuesday

BY KIM O'CONNOR  
Staff Writer

An open forum to learn about and discuss the restructuring of Guilford was held on September 30 from 7:30-9:30 in the caf.

About 100 students, faculty and administration members were present, including Don McNemar, Art Gillis and Kitty James as speakers. The forum consisted of an informational session followed by questions.

The first speaker was James, who is associate director of admissions. She stated that the purpose of the forum was to "dispel rumors and inform students about changes."

Directly following her was chief financial officer Gillis, who spoke about and presented a handout of Guilford's budget, including the costs of the many projects going on currently.

President McNemar was the last to speak, focusing on the rea-



Speakers at the forum said they wanted students to be involved in the restructuring process.

sons he feels change is inevitable at Guilford. He talked about preparing students to live and work in the 21st century, and cited the proposed changes as being a "real opportunity for Guilford."

McNemar explained that the way to be sure that Guilford is successful in the future is to make

cost-containment its priority. He wants Guilford to continue to be affordable and to provide scholarships.

"We want to reorganize the administration to do everything better with fewer people, rather than more people, to move that forward," McNemar said. Hence

the proposed faculty cuts.

McNemar explained he feels the changes need to happen as soon as possible in order to assist current and prospective Guilford students in future planning. He reassured concerned students that the changes will not happen all at once, but that there will be a transition period of a few years.

Before the questions began, he also went through the different task forces and their heads, and explained that their final reports are due in December. In January the results will be reported to the Board of Trustees.

Afterwards, students addressed a number of questions to Gillis and McNemar (see box page two).

The Forum adjourned around 9:30 with a moment of silence.

Q&A from the Open  
Forum on pg. 2

## Search for security director continues

◆ 3 of the 5 possible new directors have visited campus for interviews and one should be chosen by fall break

BY JESSE LAPLANTE  
Staff Writer

The search is on.

Since director of security Ben Johnson left Guilford in late July, the college has been interviewing applicants to fill the position.

Dean of Student Life Mona Olds serves on the committee in charge of the search. "All things being equal with candidates, if one had teaching experience and qualifications to teach at Guilford, specifically in JPS, we would be interested in exploring that possibility," Olds said.

Olds explains that strong teaching experience would

help acclimate the new director into life at Guilford and help the students see him or her as more than just a figurehead.

It would be easier for the students to relate to the new director better if they were able to know him or her in a classroom setting as well.

The search committee consists of Olds, Karen Behm, Elgina Manuel, Robyn Parsons, Barton Parks, and student representative Steve Karakasidis. The committee has narrowed the applicants from 35 total to five strong possibilities. Three of those five have come to Guilford for extensive interviews.

Jim Gibbons, who has served as interim director since Johnson's unexpected departure this summer, is looking forward to meeting the new director and hopes he will be able to stay on the security team as shift supervisor, which was his position since February 1997.

Speaking of his time as interim director, Gibbons said he was grateful for all of the student cooperation he received, claiming his job would have been a lot harder without it.

When asked what advice he would give to the incoming director, Gibbons said, "Take it slow. Get to know the ad-

ministration. Get to know students and student committees."

Offering a student's perspective on the search process, sophomore Steve Karakasidis said he was looking for someone who will easily relate to students.

Karakasidis also expressed interest in finding an applicant who could improve relations with the GPD and take input from students and administration.

The search committee hopes to have a new director selected by fall break so he or she can greet students when they return. Until then, the search continues.

*Words without actions are the assassins of idealism.—Herbert Hoover*