

Editorial Board

Adam Lucas
Laura Parker
Marjorie Hall
Ellen Yutzky

Statement of Purpose

The Forum exists to facilitate dialogue and expression on matters of importance to Guilford College and its mission. Toward this end, active community participation in these pages is vital.

Editorial Policy

Every effort will be made to print appropriate submissions of editorials, cartoons and letters to the editor. They must be signed, with the phone number of the author or artist included and turned in to the box outside the publications suite by 3:00 on Monday before that Friday's publication date. Editorials must be no longer than 400 words and letters to the editor must be no more than 250 words. The Guilfordian reserves the right to edit submissions for grammatical correctness and brevity.

Open dialogue is a necessity

STAFF EDITORIAL

As Guilford prepares to enter a time that is almost certainly going to cause friction within the community, it will be essential to keep in mind the aspects of a positive discussion. If we are to open a constructive dialogue instead of starting pointless arguments, then we must encourage everyone to be open-minded and willing to listen to others' points-of view.

On Wednesday WQFS held a "Guilforum" where two students interviewed the new director of African-American affairs, Santes Beatty. One of the students took an obviously confrontational approach to the interview, interrupting Beatty in mid-sentence and rushing to get to his next confrontational question. Beatty did an admirable job of remaining calm and persistent in his attempts to answer the questions posed. A lesser person would have let the discussion degenerate even further.

We point out this incident, not to criticize the student, but to make the point that conversations of this type are not going to lead to any growth of the Guilford

community. In the coming months, we need to take the time and make the effort to truly listen to what other members of the community have to say.

Instead of anticipating what we expect to hear, we need to attempt to understand what others tell us. After we listen, we should take time to consider what was said before we begin to question their thoughts.

If we refuse to question our own assumptions and mindsets, we set the scene for nothing but frustrating reiterations of what we have already said. To move towards a goal it is necessary that we each move, that we each change our own ideologies and challenge our assumptions.

Sweet Honey in the Rock performed the African spiritual "There is a Balm in Gilead." In explaining the basis of the spiritual and the story behind it, Bernice Johnson-Reagon said that it is possible to stay in a place or group that has hurt you. But if you want to stay and heal in the place that has hurt you, you must make the commitment to change that place.

We now have decisions to make. We can begin to change the atmosphere and institution that has apparently injured many. We can make Guilford a better place for the future. With the national attention drawn by recent events, we arguably even have the opportunity to make a national statement with our actions.

The choice is ours to make. Either we can have an open, honest dialogue, or we can stay on our soapboxes and carry our axes to grind. Forgiveness and understanding are going to be valuable commodities at Guilford.

We understand that the staff and editorial board of *The Guilfordian* have much to learn ourselves. We encourage the dialogue currently taking place in the community.

We would like to do our part and be fosterers of this communication. This section is called the "Forum," and like any forum at Guilford, it is a place to express ideas. If we all take the time to thoughtfully and carefully consider and respond to what is happening, the Guilford of the future will not be the Guilford of the past.

THE GUILFORDIAN

"Since 1914, but never quite like this."

Editor-in-chief.....Adam Lucas (286-1214)
News editor.....Marjorie Hall (316-3171)
Features editor.....Will Dodson (316-3727)
World editor.....Ellen Yutzky (316-3808)
Editorials editor.....Laura Parker (316-3683)
Sports editor.....Dan Gatti (316-3843)
Photography editor.....Becca Lee (316-3446)
Co-photo editor.....Chris Carlstrom (316-3752)
Layout editor.....Alicia Grogan-Brown (316-3120)
Online editor.....Steven Rentz (316-3278)
Business manager.....Amy Broach (286-1214)
Faculty advisor.....Jeff Jeske (316-2216)

Staff writers: Laurah Norton, Betsy Blake, Paige McRae, Greg Rinaldi, Astor Ankney, Allison Strizak, Morgan Reffell, Chris Weber, Jack Shuler, Amanda Becom, Annie Buchanan-Clary, Jonathan Carter, Kelton Cofer, Kelly White, Zack Hample, Matthew Zuehlke, Jacob Noble, Katy Hunter, Phoebe Jewett, John Clinton, Dana Mendoza

Staff meetings are Mondays at 7:30 pm in the Passion Pit. All are welcome.

How to reach us:

By mail: 5800 W. Friendly Avenue, 17717 Founders Hall, Greensboro, NC 27410

By phone: (910)316-2306

By fax: (910)316-2950

By e-mail: Guilfordian@rascal.guilford.edu

On the Internet: www.guilford.edu/Guilfordian

Will the nonsense cease?

BY JACOB NOBLE
Staff Writer

Last Thursday a forum was held to discuss alleged tampering of ballots. The weak allegations were brought to the attention of Senate by Colin McFadden-Roan, current treasurer, who was on the losing ticket.

What has happened to our community? This was a truly tasteless act which should have been shot down at the Senate meeting the afternoon before. The idea that a meeting should be held to discuss whether a driver's license should or should not be considered an acceptable form of ID is not only absurd but a plain slap in the face to the elections committee.

Instead of a ticket bowing down gracefully and accepting defeat, time—which could have been spent doing important activities—was wasted so that one voice with no valid arguments could be heard one last time.

This is why the administration should start stepping in and taking a stand. We must remember that, whether we like it or not, we are still kids, and what happened this Thursday is another example of us acting childish.

When is an administrator who advises

Senate going to step in and say this is absurd? Sure, one might argue that everybody has a right to raise their voice, and to them I say true. Sometimes, however, we as students need to be put in our place and told to start acting maturely. I, for one, am no exception to this rule. This meeting does nothing to improve Senate's reputation for not adhering to issues of importance.

As for the concerns raised about the Union Ticket: there is no case. The Thomas ticket, which made the allegation that favoritism was played towards the Morgan ticket, was the same ticket exempted from a rule clearly outlined in the Constitution stating that the presidential candidate must serve on the steering committee in order to be eligible to run.

The students raised their voice when we voted. If the volume for the Martin and Morgan tickets was louder, suck it up. Remember, if we had wanted the person making allegations, he would have been elected. Both Union tickets were shaky to begin with, and it was alleged that nobody had expressed extreme interest in running. As for the Senate tickets, McFadden-Roan was offered the opportunity to run with Martin but declined. As he is now discovering, the grass is not always greener on the other side.