



# THE GUILFORDIAN

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## Student activity fee to increase

Julia Swce  
Staff Writer

Starting next fall, the student activity fee will be increased by \$30, rising from \$270 to \$300.

Dave Watkins, Associate Dean of Student Activities and Event Planning, said, "One of the things the student budget committee has been doing is a fairly significant over-funding of clubs and particularly smaller clubs."

Therefore, rearranging had to be done. "Because all the clubs are run by student activity fees, it is obvious that an adjustment to the current rate might be warranted to consider," Watkins said.

A redistribution of the money will then have to occur, Watkins said. "It will go through the budget committee of Senate, which has members of Senate as well as other members, going through the regular allocation process."

Although it is not clear whether this increase will help the social atmosphere on campus, Senate is sure of a few things, Watkins said. "Senate has been working hard to get student response. They have found that the students want the smaller organizations to get the money."

Organizations like the Spanish and dance club receive no funding at all, while others receive very little, like the Guilford Christian Fellowship.

Even though there seems to be a decrease in club participation, the need for money has increased. "I would help bring the budget back to the level that it was in the past," Watkins said.

It is not clear how much of the increase will be used for the smaller organizations. "I would help bring the budget back to the level that it was in the past," Watkins said.

## Guilford crime statistics released



DAVE SCOTT

An example of crime on campus: thievery.

Angela Rioux  
Staff Writer

When you come to college you worry about what classes you have to take, what people you will meet, and, of course, what party you should go to. You don't think of college as being an unsafe place; it's college and it's in a little bubble.

Every year private and public schools that receive funds from the federal student financial aid program must release information concerning crime on its campus in the past year. These actions are enforced by the U.S. Department of Education and by the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Campus Crime Statistics Act.

The Clery Act was named after Jeanne Clery, who was murdered while asleep in her dorm room during her freshman year at Lehigh University in 1986. Her parents learned after the murder that there were 38 violent crimes on Lehigh's campus before Clery had enrolled. The crimes were not made known to incoming and current students, which prompted the actions of Clery's parents in hopes of preventing any other campus crimes.

Because of the act, future and current students of Guilford College and colleges throughout the country are able to find out how safe their campus is. Guilford students can go to web sites, to our security office or to the library to get the information about the school.

Sylvia Chilcott, Director of Security, said that you must look at Guilford's crime statistics in relation to other colleges in the community. As well, look to see if the campus is open or closed with security and gates. Another point to think about is whether the campus security is just now beginning to enforce the national laws. If that is true, it is more than likely that there would be a large increase of criminal incidents during the period of time that enforcement of the laws increased.

On Guilford's campus, the incidents being reported have not changed much in the past three years. According to the Department of Education web site, in 1998 on-campus burglary totaled four incidents, and seven in 1999. Residence hall burglary, that is burglary that occurs in the residence halls, (mostly stealing from students' rooms), went from three to five incidents between 1998 to 1999.

One group of incidents that has changed drastically is the disciplinary actions/judicial referrals on campus. Those include liquor-law violations, drug abuse violations and weapon

possession. From 1998 to 1999, the liquor-law violations dropped from 47 to 17, whereas the other two violations remained the same: 13 and one, respectively.

A comparison school, but in a slightly different location is Greensboro College. Comparably, numbers at Guilford show that the overall location, of a school may have an effect on the crimes occurring on its campus. Greensboro College went from 75 to 48 liquor-law violations, nine to 12 drug abuse violations, and from three to seven weapons possessions in the year 1998 to 1999.

Comparing these schools with statistics alone may show that one campus is more prone to crime than the other, which may be true. However, the surrounding community has a large effect on the campus. If Greensboro had gates to supervise people coming in and out of campus, their crime rate might instead be lower than Guilford's.

Students on this campus believe that it is safe. "The campus is small and there is always someone around if something goes wrong," said freshman Joe Norman.

Junior Erica Brammer echoed what Norman said, agreeing that it is small and people always seem to be around.

If you want to find out more information about Guilford or other schools in the United States you can go to [www.ope.ed.gov/security/Search.asp](http://www.ope.ed.gov/security/Search.asp) and type in the school or area you want to look for or go to [www.soconline.org](http://www.soconline.org) to find out information on the Clery Act. Those sites can then lead you to other links, which can give you more information about campus security.

For statistics on Guilford crime rates, please see the chart on page 3.

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