

News

A welcome from the president

Dear Guilford Students:

I am pleased to welcome you back and wish you well in your academic and cocurricular pursuits this year. I challenge you to make this your best year ever. Everyone in the Guilford College community is looking forward to helping you meet your goals.

Guilford's 165th academic year is off to a great start. We have another large first-year class of over 330 new first-year students and our largest enrollment since 1992 - more than 1,400 students. Included in that total are approximately 450 Continuing Education students. Their number is growing every year and they are an important part of our community.

Our thanks go out to CHAOS leaders who made the first-year students' transition smooth with a great orientation program. These hard-working leaders are terrific representatives of the college and we thank them for their efforts.

As always, I enjoyed meeting you and your families as you

came to campus. I look forward to seeing your folks again during Family Weekend on September 21-23. By then you'll have lots of experiences to share, particularly if you're a first-year student. Please encourage your parents and other family members to come back for that special weekend.

Several students requested that changes be made in the college's handling of substance abuse on campus. They asked for greater clarification of policies in the student handbook and for more consistency in enforcement. Please be attentive to changes that have been put in place to improve every resident's safety and quality of life.

You'll find that continued progress has been made in the area of residence hall renovations. The work on Bryan Hall is nearly finished, including new HVAC, renovations to bathrooms, new suite doors, new outside perimeter lighting and hard wiring with fire and smoke detectors in every room. As you know, the resi-

dence halls are full and we appreciate everyone's cooperation this year.

We're excited to announce an impressive line-up of speakers for the Bryan Distinguished Visiting Professorship this year. There are eight events related to our yearlong theme, Human Rights: Global and Cross-cultural Perspectives. Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright will present a lecture November 1 and consumer advocate Ralph Nader and Nobel Peace Prize recipient Oscar Arias will debate March 21. In addition, author James Carroll will be the featured speaker for the college's Opening Convocation October 15. Mark your calendars and be enthusiastic participants in these programs.

I hope you will support your fellow students in all of their endeavors. We have a myriad of performing arts programs, club activities and athletic events during the academic year.

One of the earliest opportunities for the community to join together is the home football



Don McNemar.

opener September 8 against Methodist. I hope to see you there and at many athletic and community events this fall.

Let me close with a hearty welcome, a rededication to our traditions of outstanding teaching and Quaker values, a recommitment to preparing young people to "be the change" in this world and an expression of gratitude for all the blessings we enjoy at Guilford College.

Don McNemar

Watkins moves to Washington and Lee

Katy Wurster
NEWS EDITOR

When Dawn Watkins sits on her front porch this fall, she will be watching the leaves change along the Blue Ridge Parkway.

"It's absolutely gorgeous," said Watkins, the former Associate Dean of Student Life for Community Activities. Watkins and her family recently moved into their new home on the campus of Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia.

Watkins began her new position as Dean of Freshmen at the University this August.

Watkins cited several reasons for the move. Both she and her husband, who will be working as a technology integration specialist, are from the area. "That was probably the biggest attraction," she said.

In addition, her new position is "a step up," Watkins said. "I'll be the number two student life person [at the University]."

The University has also provided Watkins with on-



Dawn Watkins.

campus housing, which will allow her to spend the maximum amount of time with her daughter Jill. "It's ideal for having a really young child," she said.

Watkins has been at Guilford since 1996, during which time she has completed a doctoral dissertation entitled "The Effects of Strategic Planning on Student Recruitment and Retention at Tuition-dependent Independent Colleges."

And, while she is excited to be moving on to new adventures, Watkins is grateful for the time she has spent here. "It's not, by any stretch, that I'm rushing out of Guilford," she stressed. "It was just the right thing at the right time."

McEachern transfers to Santa Fe Community College

Katy Wurster
NEWS EDITOR

The 2001 CHAOS Team describes their former leader, J.J. McEachern, as irreplaceable.

And while they have learned to function without his advice and assistance over the past few months, McEachern's contributions to the First Year Center will not soon be forgotten.

This past June, McEachern left Greensboro for a position as the Associate Director of Santa Fe Community College, in Gainesville, Florida.

"I left Guilford because I am getting married," said McEachern. His fiancée studies pediatric dentistry at the University of Florida. They will be married this November.

McEachern "developed relationships that will last a lifetime" with many students during his three and a

half years at Guilford. "We grew together and I am grateful for the seeds that they planted in my life," he said.

McEachern mentioned some positive trends he noticed during his time at Guilford. Specifically, he applauded improvements in the residential facilities and "the way the college is working to manage the budget and think more long-term."

"I would like to challenge all the new faculty and staff to treat every student as an individual and appreciate the riches they bring to the campus," he continued. "I learned so much from the students and I believe they learned from me, too. Stay student-centered!"



J.J. McEachern with the 2001 CHAOS Team.