

Senate restructures to ignite interest

Seth Van Horn

Staff Writer

Community Senate, Guilford's student governmental organization, was so poorly attended last year it could barely function. To encourage attendance and try to make it easier for students to have their voices heard, last year's Senate voted to change their representation system. People who ran or voted in the elections on Tuesday viewed the results.

There will now be four rotating seats. Students may register for a single senate meeting if they want to bring up an issue or vote on a topic they find particularly important, said Senate Vice-presi-

dent Tamara Asad during the senate meeting on Aug. 27.

Classes no longer have representatives. Instead groups of clubs with similar basis will have one or more senate seats. For instance, all "awareness clubs," which include a.i.d.s About AIDS, Gender Awareness, and SAFE, have a single representative. The clubs were categorized by Asad, and are subject to revision.

"That doesn't mean they all have the same issues; they're different groups, but it will be helpful for different groups to come together, promoting communication between the groups and at the same time having representation in Senate. But at

the same time, of course, if they disagree on something they still have the rotating four seats," said Asad.

The club categories include a "special interest" category. This classification was added by executive decision of Asad and Senate President Floyd McKissick III the night before the election.

"This is a group for any member of a club who doesn't feel as though they fit into the other categories," said Asad.

There are also eight athletic student appointments, four for each semester. Student athletes will hold their seats for the semester their sport is not in season. They switch halfway through the year so that their Senate participation will not conflict with their practice schedules.

"It would be useful to get someone on the budget committee," said Jeff Frisbee, a member of the football and cheerleading teams and of the rugby club. "I mean, we don't need a whole bunch of people on there, but the rugby team needs some new jerseys," said Frisbee.

Just like last year, there are still seats for an international student, transfer student,



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Emily Rush casts her Senate ballot in Founders

GLBTQA senator, and chairs of other Guilford Committees, like an Academic Affairs chair and a Secretary of Union chair.

Dorms still elect representatives, but they have only a single representative apiece, reduced from the three seats Binford, Bryan, and Milner had last year.

There is only one day-student representative this year, cut from last year's two. There are two students of color representatives, increased from last year's one. All the changes bring the total number of Senate seats to 48, eight more seats than last year.

"This reorganization of the representation is designed so that the senators have a constituency group which to go to discern the issue that gets

brought to the table. So, in that regard, it should hopefully increase participation and the effectiveness of Senate," said Senate advisor Rebecca Saunders.

The Senate Executive Council, composed of the Senate president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary, also hopes to encourage attendance through this restructuring.

"We had such poor attendance toward the end of last year that we couldn't get anything done, because we needed at least one third of the people there to vote and still be Quakerly," said Senate Fall Treasurer, Cassandra Baker.

Gwako receives grant

Continued from page 1

students with an informed understanding," said Gwako.

Gwako hopes the project will also bring greater understanding of research methods. Students who join Gwako benefit because they will learn how to analyze data.

"The part I found most interesting is the fact that students will have the opportunity to formulate their own the-

sis from collected data and the freedom to collect their own data," said senior SOAN student Debbie Harris.

To be eligible to go to Kenya, Guilford students must be honor students working on a thesis. It would be preferable that they are SOAN majors, but it is open to students from all departments. How the students will be chosen has not been determined yet.

Continued on page 3