

Community Senate's corner space: weekly update

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Community Senate President

“**M**anagement works in the system. Leadership works on the system.”

--Stephen R. Covey

This past week we all should have received a pamphlet in our mailboxes that briefly outlines the Strategic Long Plan.

In last week's issue of *The Guilfordian* President Chabotar (Kent) wrote a "State of the College" memorandum outlining the major priorities of the Strategic Long Range Plan, affectionately called "The Plan." In this article Kent mentioned a trend that many in our community, including myself, have been disturbed by this past semester -- that is, the lack of student involvement in

institutional decision making. As Kent stated, this was not necessarily due to lack of opportunity to be present and share, but rather to "not showing up."

If there is one thing that I've learned from being at Guilford it is the ease in which someone can take part. Any member of our community with the desire and dedication to affect change or be a part of decision making can do so.

In my experience, there is no one at Guilford who is inaccessible. Through open discussions, forums, open office hours, surveys, meetings, e-mail, and good old fashion conversation, we are offered the opportunity to share our thoughts, concerns, or even just ask questions to anyone in our community.

From the President of the college, to the Manager of the

Caf, we virtually have full freedom of access.

I wonder where I might have the same opportunity in my experience outside of Guilford; to sit in on a meeting about long range decision making just by virtue of being a part of that community.

Then I consider the likelihood of being able to share my opinions, and, more importantly, to have my opinions heard and considered as valuable input, again just by virtue of being part of the community affect.

Looking at environments around us, whether work, politics, family, church or whatever we may find ourselves a part of, I recognize Guilford as an extremely unique atmosphere, one where anyone can express their opinions and contribute to the overall process of governance, even with out being in

Proposals:

Biohazard (Ultimate Frisbee) approved

Scheduled this week:

"Reach for the Rock" (Rock Wall) **Update pending**

Tri Beta Regional Undergraduate Conference **Update pending**

On Deck:

American Sign Language Proposal

Decision Pending: *heard but decision not been made*
Update Pending: *heard but awaiting update*

Scheduled: *on agenda for current week's Senate meeting*

On Deck: *received by Steering but not scheduled for Senate meeting*

a position of authority.

The fact is, by being on this campus you are already in a position of power, a power that will likely not be echoed nearly as loud or as clear outside this community as it is now.

Specifically, as students we have the power to be informed about and take part in the future of our school.

More than just a couple years of your life, the name

on your degree will always show Guilford College. As a student both of academia and of life I hope we make use of these rare opportunities to take part in our future, to take part in the future of others, and take part in the future of this college.

I hope we will all be active in our futures, and at very least, show up to hear about it, even if its one meeting at a time. ☺



THE GUILFORDIAN

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Every effort will be made to print appropriate submissions of editorials and letters to the editor. They must be signed, with the phone number of the author or artist included and received by 5:00 p.m. on the Monday before that Friday's publication date. Editorials must be no longer than 400 words and letters to the editor must be no longer than 250 words. The Guilfordian reserves the right to edit for grammatical correctness and brevity.

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Members of The Guilfordian meet at
7:30 p.m. on Mondays in the
Commons of Founders hall.

Corrections

The Guilfordian strives to maintain accuracy and balance in our reporting. If you should discover any factual error printed in this edition, please leave a detailed message for Editor-in-Chief Taleisha Bowen in *The Guilfordian* office at extension 2306, or e-mail the paper at guilfordian@guilford.edu. Please include the word "correction" in the subject line.

Mission Statement

The Guilfordian, a student publication, seeks to promote fair and accurate coverage of campus, local, national, and global news and opinions. In the spirit of Quaker traditions, *The Guilfordian* also provides an opportunity for free and open dialogue among members of the Guilford community.

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