

Campus counseling, health respond to criticism

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students to go to the person that they feel most comfortable with."

"A lot of times it's that initial fear 'this problem I have is so big that it's irresolvable.' What I do is end up breaking it down with students, (asking) 'What's the immediate concern?' Let's break it down and then try to build a plan of how to help," Lundquist said.

Solutions differ, but the Counseling Center can make referrals to counselors in Greensboro or arrange ongoing counseling with Guilford's staff.

"Confidentiality is the biggest thing," Lundquist said. "I always tell students who I'm going to talk to about what they've told me, if anyone. It's not a public discussion."

Resident Advisors (R.A.s) work closely with Campus Life, and are bridges between that office and the students they live with. One Binford resident committed suicide last fall, after withdrawing from Guilford. Binford R.A. Will Johnson said that though his residents had varying degrees of association with the victim, they were all shocked and disturbed.

"Even though RAs are trained for this possibility," Johnson said, "I don't think that anything can really prepare you for the effect that's going to have on you, and on the entire community."

"I know that a lot of students have frustrations with the Campus Life office," Johnson said, "Even though I have had complaints, on this issue they did a good and thorough job of trying to be as sensitive as possible."

"A counseling center can always get a reputation," Lundquist said, "because sometimes the person's confronting you about things that you don't want to be confronted about. When students are engaging in behaviors that are harmful to themselves and someone is helping them try to address it, that can be uncomfortable and they might be kind of angry for a while."%

Students neglect Bryan series

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access to in our lives."

Buckner and his colleagues try to get people that attract a diverse crowd. There is always one speaker that headlines the program - Mikhail Gorbachev for this year- and several others that adhere to the current Guilford theme. These others are meant to attract all possible audiences.

In the fall of '03, College Relations circulated two audience surveys to determine popular speakers for the future. "We want feedback," says Buckner, "I don't want to make decisions in a vacuum."

The importance of connecting to the community is shown when the college hosts Bryan Series lectures off-campus. These are the events that get the most attendance.

According to Buckner, transportation is free to students for off-site events, and no one ever has to pay for these lectures. With this in mind, other reasons for the lack of attendance by Guilford students must be explored. "I don't go just because I don't have the time," says first-year

Amy Phillips.
Buckner believes that it



AARON VARNAM/GUILFORDIAN

Speakers in 2004 included former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev



KARIM ALI/GUILFORDIAN

Another 2004 visitor was Cokie Roberts

may be the phrase, "lecture," that turns some off to the Bryan Series. But those that

have attended can vouch for the fact that the events are more than that. There is always a question-answer session where you get an opportunity that students elsewhere may not have.

One possibility is the receding novelty of the program, says Buckner. In March of 2002 when Ralph Nader spoke, Dana auditorium was almost filled - a venue with 1000 seats. In March 2003 when Robert F. Kennedy Jr. spoke, the group was small but enthusiastic. Turnouts since then seem to have steadily decreased.

The organizers of the series see this, and they are working toward a solution by studying input from surveys. At the Michael Beschloss event on February 10, another survey of the audience will be taken. "It's a living, ongoing effort," says Buckner, "We will continue to try to improve on it and keep it fresh. There are so many competing programs at Guilford, we have to keep it appealing and vibrant."

If students have any ideas for a Bryan Series speaker, they can submit them to the Bryan Series page on the Guilford website.%

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Are you unsure about socially responsible job opportunities?

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Guilford College will host an Idealist Career Day in February. This training helps students explore nonprofit and socially responsible career options. There will be multiple workshops to teach students about non-profit organizations, what



they are and how to get involved, myths about the non-profit sector, and networking and informational interviews. There will also be a "Non-profit Insiders" panel with speakers from Community Partners, Volunteer Center, and ASC.

Idealist Career Day is on Feb. 12, from 12:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. in Bryan Jr. Auditorium. Since seating is limited, and Guilford is known for its socially active student population, you should sign-up early. Register by picking up a form in Founder's Lobby. If there are any questions call Project Community at extension 2137.