

The Guilfordian

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

Once more into the breach...

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increase of 115 percent. We now exist in an evenly divided traditional and adult (CCE) student environment, with about 1,300 each, and another 100 early college students.

"Now we are looking at a 30 percent increase, but it's spread over five years," said Boothby. "It is a much more controlled growth."

But increasing the head count does more than bring in money for the college. It strengthens the feasibility of the college's unusually large number of programs.

"Our curriculum is far broader than any of the places with which we compare ourselves," Chabotar said. "At its height in the Fall of 2003, with a student population of 2000, our curriculum was similar to Duke."

"We don't want to spread ourselves too thin," Poston said.

The average number of programs for schools Guilford's size is 44. We have 80.

There are .75 faculty members to each program.

The faculty is collecting data this year to determine what programs should be added, consolidated, or removed over time.

While programs will be decreasing, faculty numbers have increased by 26 full-time teachers.

"At minimum we want to keep the faculty to student ratios the same or less," Boothby said. "We're not going to just keep adding students and not increase the faculty as well."

In addition, faculty will receive a seven percent salary raise in December.

The Year of Spirit and Spirituality (YSS), on the other hand, does not chafe Guilford's budget. Joseph M. Bryan Jr. began the Bryan Series with a one million dollar gift, specifically designed

to pay speakers to come to Guilford.

YSS will follow themes of religion, theology and spirituality for the college, with many speakers throughout the year including Desmond Tutu, Karen Armstrong and Bill Moyers.

"We think it's timely," Chabotar said, "given issues about church and state, morality when it comes to war and environment, students wanting values in their education, and the Strategic Plan."

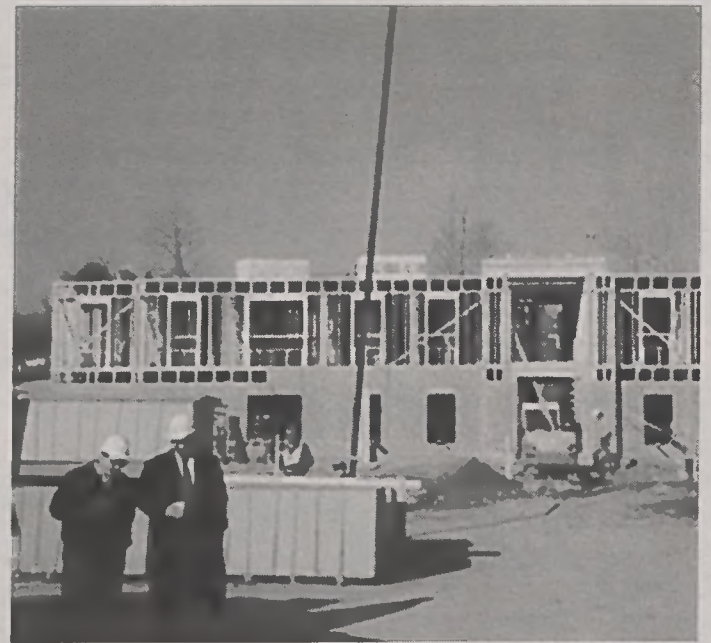
With the new apartments completed in time for the fall semester, and the Community Center slated to be completed by the beginning of September, the next big project will be a renovation of King hall starting in December.

Guilford continues the process for reaffirmation of accreditation. Adrienne Israel, Vice President and Academic Dean, leads the school in the extensive task to meet the demands of the evaluating SACS body.

The Master plan is being developed this year that will project Guilford's direction for the next 25 years. It will address issues of parking, housing, renovation, land development and preservation, and a plethora of other long-term concerns.

Chabotar has final say over the Master Planning process, but he has no desire to power play the community.

"I'm going to schmooze it up like crazy," Chabotar said. "I'm going to listen to everybody, and I don't think that what we actually come down with is going to be that much different than what the community consensus is." ❧



GUILFORDIAN STOCK PHOTO

The new Apartments during construction

Apartment construction finished

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a separate budget from the college's overall budget.

Under the previous plan, all rent from the apartments would have gone to NCICU for the next 30 years to pay for the apartments.

"Overall the end product, with the type of bond issuance that the college was able to achieve, was extremely favorable to the college in terms of financing," Boothby said.

Risks associated with outside contracting were also decreased. Jonathan Varnell, Director of Facilities and Campus Services, thinks a more hands-on approach to the project helped gain support from both the community and upper classmen looking for alternative housing to live in.

"The trend is clearly towards single-rooms," Varnell said, "especially for upper classmen. I think it's what people want." The apartments are also a logical progression towards bringing the school's housing closer together: "We're still after community life."

After all the hard work from both Boothby and Varnell, the apartments were finished and ready for the fall term. Many students are pleased with the results of the location and accessibility.

"I think they made a good choice for the placement of the houses. It didn't obstruct the trails or lake, which was pretty nice," said sophomore Catherine Cummings. "I really like our new apartment. The good thing about it is that everything is new and there is ample space."

"It helps having a kitchen and a living room of your own, and it makes it easier to separate your studying from your social time," said sophomore Maria Walsh-Cole. "Whereas before if I needed to study I'd have to kick people out, now I can just go in the other room."

The new apartments represent a new phase of the school's community life and record growth. While the original developing team, Capstone, did build the actual apartments, the school was itself responsible for financing the project. ❧

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