

## Community Senate encourages student participation

David Unger  
Staff Writer

If there is one thing that can be learned from the past two weeks of discussion on reforming Community Senate, it is this: use the resources provided to you to affect change.

Once the usual arguments over how much of a voice students have and the administration's responsibilities to the student body subsided, the conclusion remained the same. Everything you could want to do is in Senate; you just have to know where to go and who to talk to.

Most of the disagreements about Senate structure can be solved in the bylaws committee that is meeting this year to enact changes to the Senate's constitution. I urge people to run for Senate - join a committee that

works on the problems you have with Guilford and you'll see all the positive impact you can have.

Lately I have heard from students upset about the increase in tuition without an accompanying increase in scholarships. However, I only saw myself, Ali Stewart, Michael Crabtree, Will Vormelker and a Guilfordian reporter at the recent budget hearing.

The meeting was publicized with flyers around campus and took place during community time, when, theoretically, all students should have been available to attend.

At the meeting, Ali was able to pose several important questions regarding CCE student increases, tuition hikes and the distribution

of scholarships, all of which Kent Chabotar, who was sitting right in front of us, promptly answered.

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How's that for a personal touch? Don't expect that kind of treatment at a state school.

It's not that hard to get responses from the administra-

tion. You just need to know where to be and act like reasonable people when approaching them. Don't duct tape your mouths and sit in silence in Founder's hall - take that tape off and go to a Senate meeting.

Our new structure allows for more time in Senate itself to talk about these student issues. Another forum for your grievances to be heard is at the Board of Trustees meeting, which will be happening again in a few weeks.

I know in the past students in the past have felt like the board is unwilling to listen to our problems, but again, there are ways of getting your voice heard. Every executive in Senate is assigned to attend at least one committee meeting dur-

ing the Board's visit.

If the executive is going to a meeting that deals with your issue, be sure to pull that executive aside and say how you're feeling about the issue. They will be more than happy to relay your concerns to the Board members.

I am on the Investment Committee, so if any of you economists out there have ideas on how to increase the performance of our investment portfolio, please be sure to stop by; my office hours are on Mondays from 3 - 5 p.m.

For those of you out there who want to change the world, remember that Senate isn't Soviet Russia and the executives aren't power-hungry monsters. We want to see Guilford become as great as it can possibly be too.

So come and help us help you be the change you want to see in both Senate and the world. ☼



## Staff survey results

Continued from page 1

"The Buzz and The Beacon are the ways to receive campus information," said Teresa Sanford, Associate Director of Applications Development and Support. "If people choose not to read it, then they may miss important information."

"A lot of people in facilities don't bother to check the e-mail because they don't get personal e-mail," said Billy Rogers, Assistant Manager of Building

Services. "Some of them don't even know how to use a computer. If you really want feedback, there is a way to do it. On The Buzz, not everybody will respond."

In response, Chabotar said in an e-mail, "There are two unassigned computers in facilities, and facilities folks have also regularly used the computers in Bauman, Founders, and elsewhere. I am disappointed that more folks did not find twenty minutes over a three week

period to complete the questionnaire."

"It's discriminatory toward people who don't have desk jobs when all the information we get is online," said an administrative staff member who wished to remain anonymous. Likewise, many staff members refused to comment on the survey or be quoted for fear of possible administrative retribution.

"I'd ask them to cite a single incident since I arrived when I have fired or disciplined anyone for telling me the truth or what they thought was the truth and backed it up with data," said Chabotar. Yet he agreed to have both paper and electronic ballots for the next survey in 2007 to maximize participation.

The new survey will measure management satisfaction not only by division, but by department, which can add precision to the study as well as increase response rates in all divisions. According to Chabotar, it may as well be extended to student-workers, whose feedback has thus far been limited.

"It is the college's continuous effort to get data and fact as opposed to anecdotes and bias," said Chabotar. "Some folks never let the facts get in the way of their prejudices." ☼

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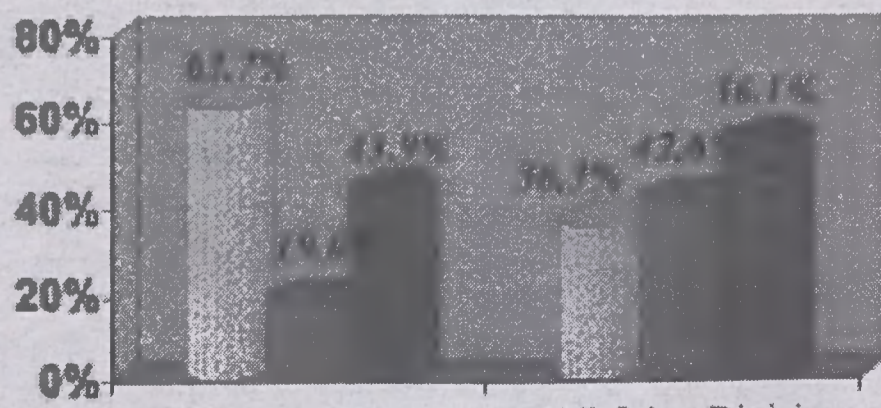
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### GMQ 2005 Response Rate



Faculty & Finance  
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PHOTO BY KATE TALBOT

Distribution of survey responses

Members of The Guilfordian meet every Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Founders Hall Commons. These meetings are open to all members of the campus community. To contact The Guilfordian, email [guilfordian@guilford.edu](mailto:guilfordian@guilford.edu) or call 336-316-2306.