Campus Life revamps sexual conduct policy
Handbook changes pending Community Senate approval

Megan Feil
Senior Writer

The Guilford College Handbook gives students no definition of consent in relation to sexual conduct, which poses a problem in judicial cases and the community's role in preventing sexual misconduct.

"Usually these cases are really emotional and not always clearcut," said Alyson Kienle, Associate Dean for Campus Life. "Sometimes it comes down to believing one student over another."

Kienle, along with the rest of the Campus Life staff, created a list of proposed changes, including defining consent, for the 2006-07 handbook. These items are pending approval at the April 5 Senate meeting.

The new definition of consent for the handbook gives examples of what does not count as consent - silence, implied approval based on previous actions, and anything said under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

The current handbook's only reference to consent states only one of these cases: "Consent cannot be legally given when alcohol or other drugs have been consumed."

The Guilford community expressed concern in reaction to assault incidents on campus, prompting a desire to re-define consent.
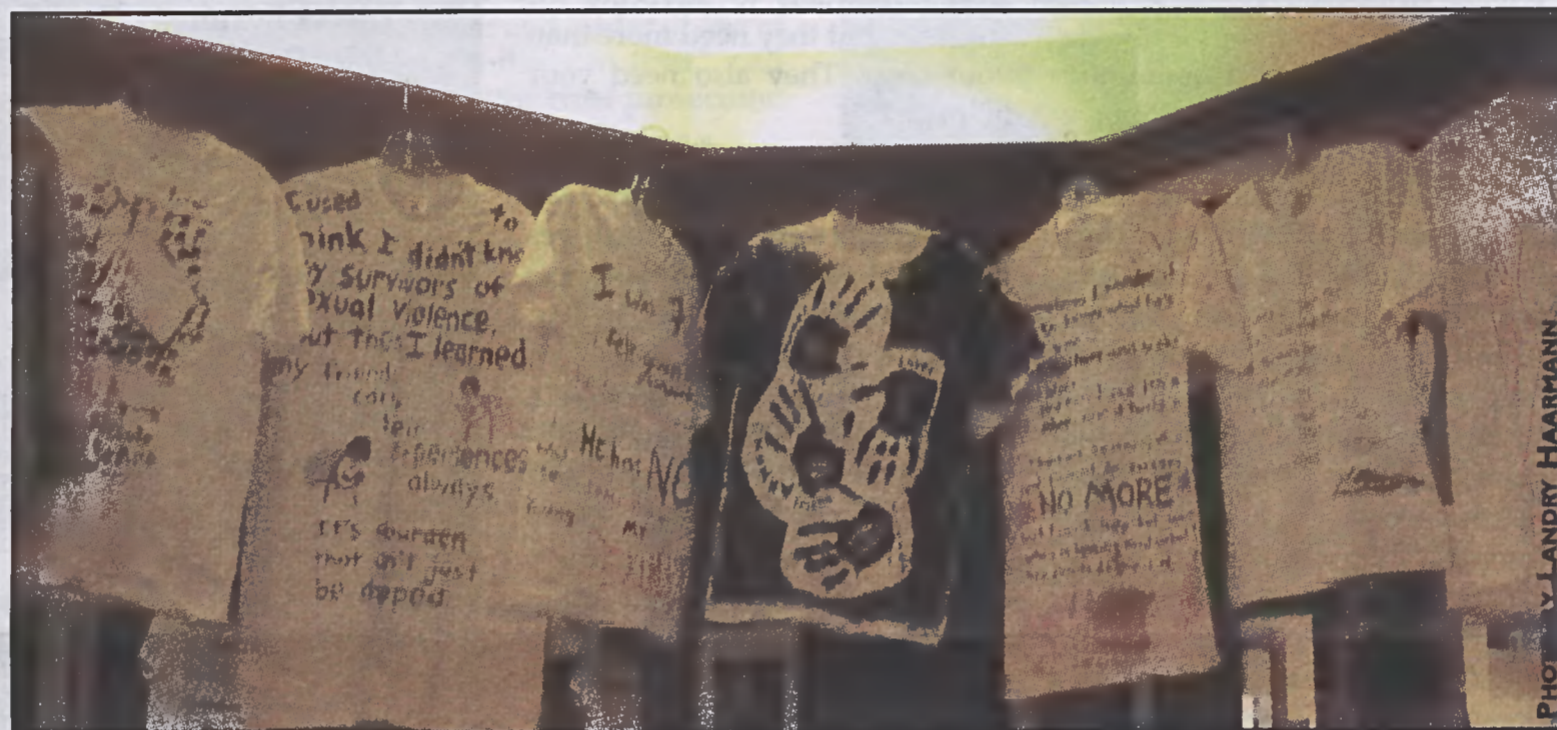
"If the policy only said consent is not given by saying 'no', variations in how people respond to stress in sexual situations are being ignored," said Kathryn Schmidt, Assistant Professor of Sociology and Anthropology and Director of Women's Studies.

Two students, Tim Scales and Andy Freedman, created a group for men to help end sexual violence on campus.

"I feel like men are indoctrinated with the message that our sexuality is a form of oppression against women. This needs to be redefined through the issue of consent, which is what our group hopes to do," Freedman said.

A group of students involved in the Women's Studies program, including Leise Gergely (Hall Director for Shore hall), organized the "Take Back the Night" event on March 23. The event focused on asserting women's power in a

Shirts hang in the Greenleaf with statements of hope regarding rape recovery.

CCE SGA elections hurt by technical difficulties

Ben Dedman
Staff Writer

The CCE Student Government Association (SGA) held an executive board meeting on March 26 to discuss their recent elections, which was the first time CCE students could vote for their SGA officers online.

The elections were originally scheduled for March 12-18, but the process encountered difficulties, so the voting was postponed until March 14 and ended on March 20. The main order of business at the SGA meeting was discussing the problems that the election process encountered, and brainstorming ways to avoid these problems in the future.

"We help to work as a liaison between the students and the administration," said senior Larry Draughn, the CCE SGA's current publicity officer. The SGA works alongside the administration to ensure that major decisions on campus are made with CCE students in mind. Among the major duties of the SGA are organized events for CCE students, such as getting food for the Homecoming cookout, Valentine's Day Dance, and the CCE banquet, which will be held on April 22. They also work in conjunction with the Strategic Long-Term Planning Committee and the CCE administrative staff to ensure that adult students have a say in Guilford's important daily decisions.

The CCE SGA typically does not coordinate with Community Senate, the traditional students' government.

Lakecia Boyd, SGA President,

oversaw the elections, and SGA coordinated with Teresa Sanford and IT&S to help with the programming and set-up of electronic voting. The election process raised concerns from many CCE students and members of the SGA, including Felicia Kornegay, who was on the ballot for SGA President.

"There are aspects of the 2006 CCE SGA election that cause major ethical concerns," Kornegay said. "This election process is counter to Guilford College's core values of community, diversity, integrity, justice, equality and stewardship."

The SGA executives do recognize that there is room for improvement of the electronic voting process. "We tested this thing several times," Boyd said. "There were concerns that arose beyond our control and foresight."

These concerns included technical difficulties with Internet links, the fact that candidates for the elections could run for multiple offices at once, and insufficient publicity for the elections.

"The SGA began publicity for the elections in January," Boyd said. "Announcements were placed on the student Buzz, and flyers distributed around campus and placed in Hendricks Hall throughout the spring semester."

Kornegay said, "It has been observed that the system also allows CCE students to vote more than once. This will skew the voting outcome."

"One person voted 31 times," Boyd said. Boyd emphasized that extra votes were dis-

Fliers were placed in Hendricks Hall to publicize the election.

Floydricka Pettress, Kecia Boyd, Larry Draughn, Lora Robbins