

## Evelyn Blount named interim library director



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**Evelyn Blount**  
interim director of the library

By Mary Bubar  
STAFF WRITER

Previously serving as the head of Information and Reference Services in Hege Library, Evelyn Blount is now the interim library director.

"Both the students and faculty have been wonderful to serve in my capacity as interim library director and as head of Information/Reference Services," said Blount, who succeeded Mary Ellen Chijioke when the latter retired in December.

Blount graduated from Elizabeth State University, where she received her B.S. in elementary education. Though she received her degree in education, she has always wanted to work in a library.

"When I was an undergraduate student, I worked in the library as a student worker, and I really enjoyed the work," said Blount. "That is when I realized that I would like to pursue a career working in libraries."

It was her instructor in media education who encouraged her to get an M.L.S. degree in library science, which she pursued at North Carolina Central University.

Before coming to Guilford, Blount worked in several university libraries including Elizabeth State, North Carolina A&T, Fayetteville State,

as well as the library at North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics in Durham.

Transitioning from state-funded libraries to Guilford, Blount currently faces the challenges of budget cuts.

The library had to give back some of the library book funds in the budget and they will also not be able to fill the electronic resources librarian position that had been advertised for this semester.

Besides budgeting, Blount is responsible for overall management and administration, program development, and external relations.

Her latest project involves an interlibrary loan service that allows the Guilford community to make their own requests for resources online.

Previously, requests were made through the Hege Library staff; the adjustment allows the students, faculty, and staff to go directly to the source. Hoping to have this service available by spring break, Blount's advice to the Guilford community is to be patient while her staff works hard to make this service available.

Despite the easy access of online research, Blount feels that the library averages the same number of students who want to get help in

person.

"Some students have indicated that they have much better luck using the library's technology as opposed to their own technology at home," said Blount.

Blount likes to read; she prefers non-fiction books, memoirs and historical information. She recently read and recommends "Mama Made the Difference: Life Lessons my Mother Taught Me" by T.D. Jakes. Having recently read Barack Obama's biography she hopes to soon delve into his new book, "The Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream."

However, transitioning from resource librarian to her new position does not allow her time to read all that she wants.

"People think because you work in a library you get to read everything. That's not the case," said Blount. "There are so many books in this library that I want to read but I just don't have the time."

When she isn't helping students and staff, Blount likes traveling, sightseeing and antique shops. Last year she visited the Smithsonian with her 16-year-old daughter and her husband, an associate professor of mass communications at Winston Salem State University Dr. Brian Blount.

## RAD prepares women for worst-case scenarios

By Sallie Chase  
COPY EDITOR

One in six women will be sexually assaulted during their lifetime, and college-age women are four times more likely to be assaulted, according to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN).

Women at Guilford can learn to fight back. Rhonda Johnson, a public safety supervisor, is offering a female-only Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) class this semester.

Its four meetings will run from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the Community Center on Feb. 15, Feb. 22, March 1, and March 8.

Johnson said the class not only teaches women defensive techniques, but it also boosts their self-esteem.

"It is important as it gives a woman options on what to do if attacked or harassed by men," said Johnson. "Women learn self-esteem and they also learn that they are not helpless over men."

Each session will last three hours, and there will be four sessions total with one each week. The final session is a simulation of a situation where students can put their training into use.

Johnson was certified to teach the class in December 2007 and has since taught the class three times: two were for the staff, and the third was for students.

"The ones who have taken it feel empowered and the (student) class said they would like to see it as part of FYE or CHAOS," said Johnson.

Johnson would like to offer the classes at least once per semester, and is willing to hold more if there is enough interest.

First-year Meg Holden said she would be interested in taking the class.

"I think women should be able to defend themselves since rape is a lot more common than people think it is," said Holden.

According to RAINN, there were 272,350 victims of sexual assault in 2006 and 64,080 of them were rape victims. About 80 percent of these victims were white.

First-year Monica Burgin has already taken a self-defense class and feels it's important to practice.

"I took a self-defense class in high school, and while I'm kind of glad I took it, I feel like I'd be freaking out too much to remember it in an actual situation," said Burgin. "If you remember it really well or practice enough that it becomes instinct, I think it can help a lot, though."

If you are interested in taking the class or would like more information, please contact Public Safety at [publicsafety@guilford.edu](mailto:publicsafety@guilford.edu) or contact Rhonda Johnson directly at [rjohnso3@guilford.edu](mailto:rjohnso3@guilford.edu).

## HOUSING

### Housing changes favor rising sophomores

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Because the housing plan gives juniors the latest sign-up time, some worry about where they will be able to live. The squatter's rights were implemented to help alleviate this issue, but they do not include Bryan Hall.

"I really have no desire to live in the apartments," said rising junior Destiny Carden, "I am worried I will lose ideal housing options because (rising) sophomores get first choice."

Current first-years are having problems deciding where to live, now that the apartments are no

longer an option.

"I don't want to live in an all-girls' dorm, but I'm not particularly thrilled with being trapped behind the prison bars of Bryan either," said first-year Laura Kopal.

According to some first-years, being pulled into the apartments by upperclassmen is not only an honor, but an appropriate move as well.

"We should be able to (accept an invitation to) live in the apartments if upperclassmen invite us," said first-year Gabriel Lowder.

Student-athletes provide another viewpoint about sophomores

living in the apartments with upperclassmen.

"The idea of living with an upperclassman on my team is great because I would get to have fun and learn with them," said first-year student-athlete Brittany Speed. "They're more wise than I am, from experience, and will provide guidance."

In the past, rising juniors and seniors have not been able to live in the apartments and moved off campus instead because rising sophomores joined with upperclassmen with good lottery numbers.

This year, in the case of a hous-

ing shortage, the goal is to keep younger students on campus and send upperclassmen off campus. Because of this, off-campus applications are necessary and will be reviewed thoroughly.

Residence Life encourages students to complete off-campus housing applications by March 7. Permission will be granted by March 14—just in time for the on-campus housing application deadline in case applications for off-campus residency are denied.

Problems? Let your voice be heard, for the housing battle for the 2009-2010 academic year has not yet been decided.