

## GUS continues growing

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"Melanie and I co-founded GUS after a conversation we had while attending SNCURCS in 2007," said Whitnell. "After that, we ran it the first year ourselves."

This year, panel discussions and oral presentations were held in King Hall on a range of subjects, including artistic vocabulary, texting while driving and the anti-bullying policies in North Carolina schools. Posters were also displayed in the Carnegie Room, advertising projects from chemistry, biology and religious studies majors alike.

Senior and biology major Ellee Stapleton presented her findings on exotic invasive plant species, focused on edge influence and distribution, using the Guilford College woods as her research platform.

"It's really easy to get absorbed in the research element of a thesis," said Stapleton.

"It was wonderful to get beyond the initial research phase and present my findings to the Guilford community, not to mention GUS was the perfect environment to practice my presentation for future conferences."

Alongside posters of scientific theses was also a selection of student artwork. Junior Leah Netsky had a series of photographs entitled "ghostbabies," which were eerie photographs of her childhood toys.

Netsky described in her abstract how she admired her porcelain dolls as a child, but upon recently finding them at her parent's house, she was struck by their fragile and unearthly appearance.

"My dolls were no longer beautiful, flawless idols," said Netsky. "They were

disheveled, ghostly figures of the past. These photographs are my attempt to ... explore the disturbed, haunted quality of abandoned childhood toys."

Later in the afternoon, musical performances were also given. Among other students, junior Michael Luciano, junior Laura Boswell and senior Andrew Bracken performed guitar solos in the Art Gallery.

Boswell performed two waltzes and a tarantella.

"I really enjoyed playing (the music pieces)," said Boswell. "They pushed me to learn new techniques and become a better musician."

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Laura Boswell, Junior

Following the guitar performances, Part-time Lecturer in Music James Bumgardner conducted the Guilford College Chamber Singers in "Water Night" by Eric Whitacre.

"We all enjoyed sharing our art with the community," said Bumgardner. "Music is vital to human culture ... and the dramatic power outage in the middle of our piece really gave us a sense of the 'now' — something we're always striving for in art performance."

When GUS first started in 2008, 60 students presented 50 different presentations. According to Rob Whitnell, this year tallied a total of 84 presentations and 124 student presenters.

"(This year's GUS) left the planning committee in awe," said Lee-Brown. "The electricity, buzz and excitement around campus in the days just prior to and on the day of the symposium was both touching and inspiring."

## New athletics website launched

### REVAMPED SITE FIRST STEP IN INTEGRATED MARKETING PLAN

By Morgan Andrews  
STAFF WRITER

"Behind the times" might be an understatement when one thinks of Guilford's former athletics website. However, Feb. 17 marked the launch date for something entirely new and improved.

While both the athletics website and the entire Guilford site were in the works for an upgrade, the athletics website was the first to go live. Both redesigns were implemented with Guilford's new marketing plan in mind.

"The overall web redesign project is a component of the integrated marketing plan and the athletic site was a component of the overall Web redesign project," said Web Project Manager Aimee White in an e-mail interview.

PrestoSports, the website design company to whom Guilford outsourced the project, collaborated with Guilford on ideas for the redesign.

"The new site was created because the redesign project included an upgrade of the athletic pages, and we decided that going to a third party that could build the functionality we needed was the best way to go," said White.

An overarching focus of the athletics website redesign was to create something uniquely Guilford.

"We looked at a few sites Presto had done and gave them an idea of the look we wanted and they did the mockups and we tweaked," said White. "They built the site and we populated it with the content."

"The company asked some questions along the way to get a sense of what we were looking for," said Sports Information Director and Assistant Director of Athletics Dave Walters. "There is still room for growth and change as time goes on, which is nice."

Collaboration between Guilford and PrestoSports produced a new and different look for the college's athletics page. Now, the athletics website is easier to operate because of collaboration with PrestoSports and the ODAC website.

"The ODAC is also a Presto site and we now only populate on our (Guilford) site and it pulls the information into the ODAC site," said White.

"Once we have plugged the information into the system, it is amazing how the ODAC can receive the information on their site and it is instantaneously up to date," said sophomore Sarah Cutright, assistant in the Sports Information Office.

One of the other intended goals of the new site was to be more user-friendly. Through this new upgrade, users will be able to more easily access press releases, statistics, and student-athlete profiles.

"I was able to have a photo, story, and stats up from the women's basketball win over Bridgewater last night in around 30 minutes while sitting in the Salem Civic Center," said Walters. "On the old site, I wouldn't have been able to do that at all."

"It's awesome," said junior Andrew Thayer, a member of the golf team. "The site allows you to get instant stats and scores so you can see how other Guilford teams are doing."

Although the new site is officially up and running, it has not yet reached its full potential.

"While the site is live, I would say it's still very much a work in progress," said Walters. "Hopefully over the summer we'll be able to work on getting more archival data and other new elements in place."

## British playwright graces Guilford stage

(Below) Professor of Theatre Studies **David Hammond** (left) leads a workshop with British playwright **Simon Bent** (right) and guest artist **Tandy Cronyn** (center). (Left) Cronyn acts out Bent's new solo performance, emulating a disrespectful, lonely teenager who lost his parents in WWII. The discussion and performance took place on Feb. 25 in Sternberger Auditorium.

