

# APSA's proposed structure puts sports on a pedestal

BY IAN PENNY  
STAFF WRITER

Never mind the fact that I had to log into GuilfordNet with a username and password just to access the Administrative and Program Services Assessment draft report. Perhaps I am alone in thinking this information should be easier to obtain.

In the 116-page PDF that is the APSA report, many recommendations are suggested regarding the future funding of student, faculty and administrative programs at Guilford College.

There is a simple rubric for each program's future: enhance, maintain, restructure or eliminate.

Moving forward, the school's tight budget dictates that some programs potentially face significant cutbacks or even

outright elimination.

The Friends Center and the Bonner Center must downsize, the Art Gallery faces possible elimination, and resources such as the Conflict Resolution Center and Multicultural Education Department are threatened.

What has been recommended for athletics?

Only one major change has been suggested regarding Guilford's Athletic Department.

Currently, the head basketball coach doubles as the college's athletic director. But within the next few years, as proposed by the APSA committee, the athletic director position will become its own separate entity and no longer tied to any coaching position.

And that is it. No other changes are recommended thus far.

"I am a little bit concerned that an unfair amount of cuts have been put on programs

that I love and not athletics," said sophomore and Quaker Leadership Scholars Program member Phoebe Hogue-Rodley.

Is this fair? Should community be cut before athletics? Better yet, should additional positions be created during a time of financial crisis?

Do not get me wrong, sports are an important part of student life and they do provide community benefits.

A few weekends back, when Guilford played Averett University for Homecoming, the campus was abuzz in rain-drizzled activities, tours and tailgating.

The spectacle was a community building experience more than anything else.

This goodwill pales in comparison to the work done by non-athletic organizations that are facing cuts and restructuring.

"We have to fulfill 140 hours (of community service) per semester," said first-year Bonner Scholar Danny Tejada.

That is almost six full days of volunteering a semester per student.

Guilford should face the facts: this is a small Division III school. It is not an athletic powerhouse by any means. Community is everything.

Even according to the NCAA, Division III places emphasis on having student-athletes "integrated on campus and treated like all other members of the general student body, keeping them focused on being a student first."

This means less time at practice and shorter playing schedules, but more time in class and — most importantly — more time to be involved with campus life.

In the APSA report, it may

say that the athletic director is marked for "restructure" in the same way as the Center for Continuing Education or Campus Ministries are on the rubric.

Adding a position, however, seems like an enhancement rather than a cut.

Backhandedly enhancing sports in this manner while important campus programs face cuts seems faulty.

What programs will be left on campus for student-athletes to be involved in?

Athletics has never been the priority. Aside from providing a strong academic curriculum, Guilford prides itself in the social atmosphere, devotion to equality and dedication to service that mold the school's image.

Without these programs the Guilford community, student-athletes and the Athletic Department included, suffers.

## Calendar of January Term deadlines

Monday, Oct. 28

Grant application deadline for J-Term.

Thursday, Nov. 7

Students notified of acceptance for activity and grant awards for programs at Guilford.

Nov. 11–18

Registration for J-Term at Guilford and for Spring semester 2014.

Friday, Jan. 3

J-Term begins at Guilford, unless your experience begins on another date.

## Readers of 'Sports section' do branch out

BY TY GOOCH  
STAFF WRITER

Just a few days ago, I thought that sports readers only read the Sports section. I was wrong. Sports readers: this is an apology to you.

It all started when I was sitting in class listening to a guest speaker talk about The Guilfordian's Sports section. Slouched in my seat, I listened to the speaker go over the basics: find a source, interview them and report out. Nothing I had not heard before.

But then something caught my ear.

"The problem with writing for the Sports section is that sports readers usually only read the Sports section and vice versa," said the guest speaker. "We don't really know why, but that's the way it is."

I sat up straight.

How could this be? Do sports readers really only read the Sports section?

Class dismissed and I approached the guest speaker. As a result of our brief encounter, I had a new story to write. I was going to get to the bottom of why sports readers only read the Sports section.

I was quickly made aware that sports readers do, in fact, read the other sections.

"I make it a point to get a copy of the paper," said Director of Sports Information and Assistant Director of Athletics Dave Walters. "I flip through it and stop at articles that grab my attention. Sometimes articles are in World & Nation, sometimes they're in Features and sometimes they're in Sports."

Walters continued, revealing what makes a story attractive.

"The stories that capture my attention most frequently are articles relevant to current Guilford events and students," said Walters.

Rugby player and junior Rich Adamson had a similar view.

"When something grabs my attention, it's about someone I know," said Adamson.

First-year Iain Parrott also prefers articles related to students.

"I'd like to see more articles about changes that affect students," said Parrott.

Unlike Walters, however, Parrott also

appreciates articles that cover off-campus events. "Guilford is a bubble," said Parrott. "I like articles covering Greensboro and the surrounding area."

First-year lacrosse player Austin Huddle agreed.

"While I do look at the Sports section first, I go on to read the whole issue," said Huddle. "I like war and politics. I like how world events are mixed in with campus news."

On the other hand, some readers are more concerned about the mood of a story rather than its subject.

"I'm looking for positive stories," said football coach Chris Rusciewicz. "I'll read any story that is positive."

Rusciewicz also gave insight on what he would like to see more of.

"I like stories of people saving somebody or giving back to the community," said Rusciewicz. "I like to read up on what other people are doing."

And community involvement is exactly what first-year Darion Bayles wants the Sports section to focus on.

"We need more health related articles," said Bayles. "An article on eating disorder awareness would be great, as many students suffer in silence."

Sports readers like senior Lawrence Blake are not so concerned with a story's content. For Blake, only a visually appealing story will catch his eye.

"I look for a nice picture or a good title," said Blake.

While all of these readers have different reasons for reading certain articles, it was made clear to me that they do not favor the Sports section above other sections.

"I am certainly not drawn to the Sports section," said Walters.

Adamson also admitted to not being drawn to Sports when he said that he mainly reads other sections.

While Sports readers' reasons for exploring the other sections differ, they all made it clear that they do branch out.

Yes, Sports readers read sports, but they are not calling timeout after doing so.