



2023-24 HIGHLIGHTS



July 2024

GUILFORD

COLLEGE

Friends,

The 2023-24 academic year at Guilford College was noteworthy for the accomplishments of our students, faculty and staff, for the launch of a number of new College initiatives and partnerships and for our progress in responding to financial challenges not unlike those facing colleges across the country.

We prioritized financial stability in ***Envisioning Guilford College 2027***, our strategic plan that was endorsed by trustees in the fall and is now being implemented. In accordance with the plan we are working to break the cycle of fiscal difficulties faced by Guilford over decades. We are trimming expenses and tapping new streams of revenue. For example, as a result of multiple proposals we received grant funding of \$1.8 million this year, a significant increase over past years.



We have much to celebrate, including the Final Four run by our men's basketball team in March, prestigious fellowships awarded to two professors, a record number of students receiving master's degrees, a series of conferences and forums on campus that welcomed hundreds of guests — many of them new to Guilford — and the support of generous benefactors including the largest gift by faculty members in our history.

In the new academic year, we expect to roll out a plan to strengthen our academic program and support those who deliver Guilford's excellent liberal arts education. We are taking steps to offer continuing education options that appeal to more adult students, and we are exploring an additional master's program. Also, we will continue to build our partnerships, locally, nationally and globally.

In these pages you will find a digest of highlights from the past year. I am grateful for the interest and support of our alumni, families and friends and look forward to your deeper engagement with the College in the coming year.

Warmly,

Kyle Farmbry, J.D., Ph.D.

President

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AUGUST

Two weeks before the 2023-24 academic year started, we celebrated the inaugural classes of two master's programs – ***Business Administration and International Sport Management.***

Ayesha Swinton was hired to lead our commitment to inclusivity and diversity on campus.

Friends Center found a new address in the historic Worth House that fronts on West Friendly Avenue.

Move-in Day,
August 2023



Andrew Milligan MBA '23 speaking to Master's graduates



Sully Sullenberger at the Bryan Series in September

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

Lauren Reinking joined the College as Director of Alumni Relations & Engagement.

The **Bryan Series season** kicked off with “Miracle on the Hudson” pilot Sully Sullenberger sharing stories at the Steven Tanger Center for Performing Arts. Other speakers during the year were producer and screenwriter Walter Parkes, Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Lynsey Addario, NASA administrator Charles Bolden and broadcast journalist Judy Woodruff.

The Board of Trustees endorsed **Envisioning Guilford 2027**, a strategic plan that will guide Guilford through 2027.

Four new trustees joined the Board: **Wendy Gates Corbett '91**, **Keith Ivory Millner '82**, Eric Hart and Darryl Spivey.

In a statewide competition mostly against graduate students, **four undergraduate Analytics students**, **Andres Mercedes '26**, **Roman Raies '23**, **Amy Mejia '24**, and **Evan Mendyk '25** (right), finished second and shared the \$2,000 prize.

Our Artificial Intelligence (AI) Forum provided attendees a clearer understanding of how artificial intelligence is transforming business and government.





NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

After seven months of renovations, The **Founders Hall Grill** reopened with new lighting, new equipment and a new menu for students.

At the annual **Service Awards luncheon**, Guilford recognized longtime Assistant Registrar Tammy Martin and 37 other employees for their dedication and service.

We welcomed six new members to the **Athletics Hall of Fame** including **Jennifer King '06**, who is an assistant coach with the NFL Chicago Bears.

As we closed out the year, much-loved Chemistry professors **Anne Glenn and Rob Whitnell** pledged \$1 million to the College over the next 10 years, the largest gift from faculty members in Guilford history.



Rob Whitnell & Anne Glenn



JANUARY/FEBRUARY

Ted Johnson was named the new Director of Public Safety.

Lincoln Financial Professor of English **Diya Abdo** was awarded a year-long Emerson Collective Fellowship to help create a documentary that tells the story of the impact of the Every Campus A Refuge (ECAR) program.

The College received a nearly \$1 million **National Science Foundation grant** to award 10 scholarships to budding, underrepresented students

pursuing degrees in Computer Technology Information Systems, Biology and Chemistry.

The grant was one of many awarded to Guilford during the academic year, ranging from a \$42,800 **National Park Service grant** to clean up and enhance the Underground Railroad Trail to a multi-year \$400,000 **Department of Justice grant** that will help reduce domestic and dating violence.

The Underground Railroad Trail lies within the wooded area of campus





MARCH

The **men's basketball team** advanced all the way to the NCAA Division III Final Four before losing in the semifinals. **Tyler Dearman '23 MISM '24** earned the National Jostens Award and conference Player of the Year.

Alumni and friends contributed \$322,247 during the **Guilford Madness** spring giving campaign, a 39% increase over last year.

Lincoln Financial Professor of History **Damon Akins** was awarded the prestigious Billington Professorship.

Jean Parvin Bordewich, a playwright, consultant and

former Congressional Staff member, became chair of the Board of Trustees.

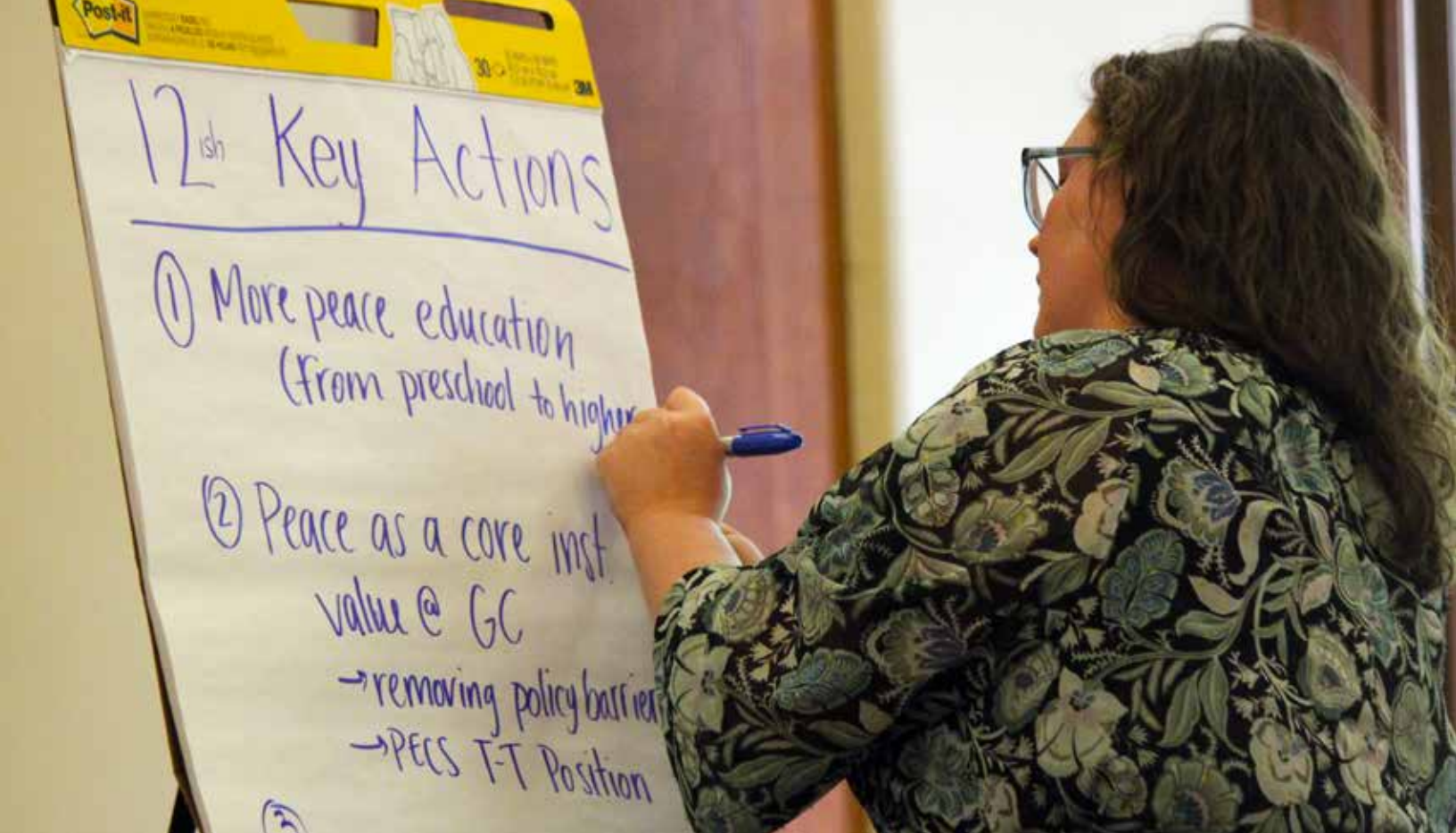
The College restarted its chapter of the **Omicron Delta Kappa national leadership honor society** by inducting 13 members.

Guilford Business Summit 2024

Jean Bordewich



Experts told attendees at the **second Guilford Business Summit** about the virtues of sustainability in local and state economies.



APRIL

The College celebrated research our students produced this year at the annual **Guilford Undergraduate Symposium**.

Hundreds of local residents were on campus for a **solar eclipse viewing** in an event organized by the Physics Department.

More than 60 members of the **Classes of 1973 and 1974** returned to campus to celebrate 50 years as Guilford alumni.

That same weekend, **Black Alumni of Guilford College** members gathered to reminisce and to celebrate and support Black Guilford graduates.

Our **Conceptualizing Peace forum** brought together more than 100 people from around Greensboro to discuss ways for reducing conflict.

And we partnered with Cornell University to hold a summit in Washington to forge more **U.S and African higher ed partnerships**.



Guilford Undergraduate Symposium

The University Partnership Summit





MAY

Our **three-week term** included a class that traveled to India to learn stories of Tibetan refugees. They **met with the Dalai Lama**.

James Alden '24 competed in the NCAA Golf Championship after winning the ODAC individual title.

Wendy Poteat '10 (left), President and CEO of shift_ed, was featured speaker at our Commencement ceremony.

We announced that the **Bryan Series' upcoming season** will feature LeVar Burton and Ashley Judd at Tanger Center.

JUNE/JULY

Steve Mencarini, Dean of Students since 2018, was named Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management and Retention. He succeeded **Kyle Wooden '11**, who worked in Admission at Guilford for 12 years.

Susanna Westberg, a Student Affairs administrator for 19 ½ years, will be interim Dean of Students.

The third **Guilford Dialogues** (below) extended the conversation among business, nonprofit and higher ed leaders about economic inclusion.



Steve Mencarini (above)



Susanna Westberg (below)

Lou Anne Flanders-Stec begins working as Vice President for Strategic Initiatives, focused on innovation and entrepreneurial development and a number of other much-needed revenue-generating strategies for the College.

The **Eastern Music Festival & School** is in residence for its 63rd season. Two Guilford Music students, **Lexi McGraw '25** and **Shemar Roberts '26**, are performing.



IN MEMORIAM

Among Guilfordians who died in the past year, we lost nine members of our community who had a long standing impact at the College.



Gertrude Upperman '69 was one of our early African American graduates, having grown up two blocks from the College. She was a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and was one of the organizers of the Black Alumni of Guilford College. She died Aug. 2.

Sarah Malino taught History for 34 years until her retirement in

2013 and helped organize what is now the Women's Gender & Sexuality Studies program. She died Sept. 7.

Gene '49 and Eldora '49 Terrell met as first years at Guilford, went to medical school together and shared a practice for 45 years. She served as a trustee. They died seven weeks apart, Nov. 20 and Jan. 7, respectively.

Ruth Anne Hood volunteered in the Friends Historical Collection (now Quaker Archives) for 24 years and was active with the American Friends Service Committee. She died Jan. 3.

Helen Womack was a graduate of Goucher College (Md.) but joined her husband, Winslow '50 in Guilford activities for decades and was named an honorary alumna. She died Dec. 1.

Ted Benfey was Dana Professor of Chemistry and History of Science and helped revitalize the Chemistry program in 15 years before retiring in 1988. He died Jan. 24.

Ann Deagon, who taught at Guilford for 36 years before retiring in 1992, was Hege Professor of Humanities and writer-in-residence as well as a noted poet. She died June 24.

Bill Stevens, who was on the Business faculty for 24 years and led CCE to record adult enrollment in six years, died July 1.





Photography by: Michael V. Crouch '10 & '12 • Robert Bell '11 • Deon McFarland '24 • Julie Knight •
Melissa Kelly • Jay Capers • Hardy Event Photos • And the staff of His Holiness, the Dalai Lama

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