Subject: Good news for Guilford Woods

Dear Guilford College alumni and friends,

I am delighted to share some wonderful news about Guilford Woods.

Piedmont Land Conservancy has been awarded $2.9 million from North Carolina's Land and Water Fund toward the purchase of the conservation easement for the Woods. The project ranked first among more than 70 applications statewide, recognized for the land's environmental, cultural and historical significance. And last week, voters in Greensboro said yes to a Parks and Recreation Bond that includes $2 million for Guilford Woods.

These awards build on the remarkable generosity of individual donors and local foundations who have made this campaign possible. I hope everyone in the Guilford community feels real pride in this moment. The College's decision to permanently protect these woods is a rare, lasting gift to this community, and it is what the state and our neighbors are responding to.

This funding moves us decisively toward closing the conservation easement, which we expect to complete by the end of 2027. But the campaign is not over. Your gifts are still needed to finish the job and to make possible everything that comes after.

Because of this momentum, we can now aim well beyond the basic trail work and signage budgeted when the campaign began in September 2025. Working in partnership with Guilford College, our goal is to do what these woods truly need: sustainable trails that limit impact on the forest; welcoming entryways at three locations that invite visitors in and introduce them to the community of species they are about to walk among; a rebuilt viewing platform at the Witness Tree that offers a place for reflection and protects this longtime friend; benches along the way; and serious restoration work, removing invasive plants and bringing back more native species. We expect to improve trails at neighboring Price Park as well. These upgrades, and the long-term care of the land, will depend on the continued support of this community.

Protecting the Woods is the beginning of our commitment. Piedmont Land Conservancy will be here for the long run, caring for this land alongside the College, so that it stays healthy and welcoming for generations of students, alumni and neighbors.

Thank you for all you have done to bring us here. Please stay with us. There is more to do, and we are grateful to be doing it together.

Sincerely,

Kevin Redding
Executive Director | Piedmont Land Conservancy | savingguilfordwoods.org