

Update on Guilford College

By Faith Josephs, Guilford College Alum, Class of 2009

Guilford College, an important Quaker institution in Greensboro, NC has been having serious financial challenges. [Save Guilford College](#) was started in response to draconian cuts proposed to balance the budget. We are a group of over 3000 alumni, students, faculty and staff, and friends of the college. Our goal is to ensure the college remains a place with a unique liberal arts identity grounded in Quaker values.

Save Guilford College is now working with the Board of Trustees on a variety of critical ways to support the college to overcome the financial and enrollment challenges.

Thanks to advocacy from Save Guilford College, Quaker meetings, especially those in NC, and many others, the problematic program prioritization plan proposed by the previous interim director was set aside. Now, Jim Hood, a Quaker and long-time professor at Guilford is the new interim president and had a recent vote of confidence from the faculty and staff.

Guilford is at an inflection point. The trustees are listening to the greater community. Save Guilford is collaborating with Guilford College Development staff and together exceeded the initial fundraising goal of \$2M by March 31st. Save Guilford College alone raised over \$230,000 from over 400 donors, many of whom were giving for the first time.

Quaker meetings can continue to help support these efforts:

1. **Student Recruitment:** share about Guilford in your communities and encourage young people to connect with alumni like myself, or those you know, and to consider attending Guilford College.
2. **Fundraising:** Many meetings and Friends have helped Guilford reach its fundraising goals, please continue to consider donating to the [Save Guilford College Fund](#). The next goal is to raise an additional \$2M by May 31st.
3. **Communicating and Networking:** spread the word about the current challenges and importance of supporting Guilford to others in your community. Consider drafting a minute of support to the college as many have done already.

Attending Guilford College and participating in the Quaker Leaders Scholarship Program along with many fellow Quaker students, was one of the best decisions of my life. Guilford prepared me for the many challenges ahead professionally and spiritually. That is why so many of us, and Quaker alumni especially who make up much of the Save Guilford College volunteer leadership, are working to ensure more students have the opportunity for a unique liberal arts education grounded in Quaker values.

Thank you for your support and please reach out with any questions: faith.josephs@gmail.com. More details can be found on the Save Guilford College Website: www.saveguilfordcollege.com.