



2009



# THE SCOOP

Concord University - Parents Club Newsletter

## PARENTS CLUB PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Can you believe that we are nearly half way through the second semester? I hope that you and your students are having a worthwhile experience this year at Concord University that is full of new people, courses, and ideas.

My husband, Kelley, and I have been impressed with the quality and variety of activities available to Concord students and their families. In addition to numerous athletic events, there are quite a few social and cultural programs scheduled for the remainder of this semester. We are looking forward to Thursday, March 19th, when *The No Pants Players*, an improvisational comedy group, is scheduled to perform. This will be a very funny evening!

We hope that both the men's and women's basketball teams advance to the WVIAC tournament playoffs at the Charleston Civic Center in early March.

We are eager to meet more families, students, alumni, and other Concord friends and are in the early stages of planning an event this Summer. It will probably be a picnic or pot luck dinner at a park in the Kanawha Valley. If you are interested in participating if the date is convenient, please let us know. If you live in another area and are willing to help spearhead an event in your community, please let us know.

Martha Endres

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Contact us at: [parents@concord.edu](mailto:parents@concord.edu)

### THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Ability may get you to the top, but it takes character to keep you there.

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR

<b>February 14, Sat.</b>	FAFSA—Application recommended Filing Date
<b>February 27, Fri.</b>	Last day for making application for May graduation 4 pm
<b>March 1, Sun.</b>	FAFSA—West Virginia Residential Deadline
<b>March 6, Fri.</b>	Mid-semester reports of unsatisfactory grades due to the Registrar's Office 12 noon
<b>March 9-13 (M-F)</b>	Spring recess
<b>March 27, Fri.</b>	Last day for dropping a course with grade of "W" or changing course status from credit to audit 4 pm
<b>April 7-16</b>	Advising for course selection for Summer and Fall 2009
<b>April 13-16</b>	Course selection for Summer and Fall 2009
<b>May 1, Fri.</b>	Last day to withdraw from the University
<b>May 8, Fri.</b>	Last class day
<b>May 11-15 (M-F)</b>	Final exams
<b>May 15, Fri.</b>	Spring semester ends 5 pm
<b>May 16, Sat.</b>	Spring Commencement 10 am



## IT'S FAFSA TIME !!!

Concord University strongly encourages all students to complete the FAFSA each year in order to receive financial aid. **Now** is the time to complete the 2009-2010 FAFSA! For West Virginia residents, the deadline is March 1, 2009, but we recommend that you submit the FAFSA by Valentine's Day—February 14<sup>th</sup>—to be certain it is complete and received by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Although you can still file the FAFSA after this date, March 1<sup>st</sup> is the cutoff for in-state students for the West Virginia Higher Education Grant.

Out of state students can qualify for campus-based aid by completing the FAFSA by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Again, file early to be certain that you meet the deadline. **We recommend that all students complete the FAFSA by February 14.**

If you need help completing the FAFSA, contact the Financial Aid Office at (304) 384-6069 or the Academic Success Center at (304)384-6035. We can help you and your student successfully complete the aid application process. Assistance from FAFSA is available at **1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243)**

**REMEMBER: Students must complete a new FAFSA each year.**



## UPCOMING GRADUATION FAIR

The semi-annual Graduation Fair for seniors planning to graduate in May or August 2009 will be held 9 am to 1:30 pm February 16th in the Student Center Ballroom. Students can apply for graduation, pay application fees, get measured for caps and gowns. There will be gifts and food. The Grand Door Prize is a \$1,500 student loan reduction provided by the Concord University Business Office.

Also between those times in the TV Lounge of the Student Center, we will have graduate school representatives on-campus to talk with students about their graduate programs. Underclass students are especially encouraged to stop by and gather information about programs. Any seniors that haven't finalized grad school plans might also find it helpful to stop by.



Currently, we have the following schools that will be represented:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
|  Radford University School of Social Work    |  RU College of Graduate and Professional Studies |
|  University of Charleston School of Pharmacy |  WVU, Social Work Dept                           |
|  WVU Public Administration                   |  WVU College of Business and Economics           |
|  WV Wesleyan MBA and General Studies         |  West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine    |

## EVENTS FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

There are a number of events coming up in February in celebration of Black History Month that are sponsored by the Student Activity Committee and the Multicultural Office that you may be interested in promoting for extra or cultural credits. They are:

**Tuesday, 10 Feb** Comedian Ty Barnett **(9 pm at Subway Stage)**

Ty appeared just last Friday on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno. He was second in NBC's "Last Comic Standing" in 2006. He is known for putting his sly, humorous spin on racism, addiction, and the state of the country and the world. (Ty Barnett replaces Regency, which was scheduled to appear, but had to cancel their tour).

**Sunday, 15 Feb** The Black Student Union Dinner and Program **(4 pm in the State Room)**

This will be entitled "The African-American Freedom Struggle." Contact Terri Philpott at 5282 for information and reservations.

**Tuesday, 17 Feb** Wastelands Paradise presents "Bessie's Blues" **(8 pm at Subway Stage)**

Based upon the life and music of Blues legend Bessie Smith, it also touches on the racial climate and the language of that time.

**Thursday, 26 Feb** Preacher Moss **(9 pm at Subway Stage)**

Preacher Moss is a comedian and writer for "the Damon Wayans Show" and "Saturday Night Live." He has the "End of Racism" Comedy and Lecture Tour.

**Saturday, 28 Feb** Black Gospel Music **(1 pm in the Fine Arts Auditorium)**

This will be a celebration of black gospel music in which the Black Choirs compete.



## UPCOMING CAREER FAIR



Each year, the students in the Recreation and Tourism Management (RTM) 415, Events Planning class are charged with hosting a Career Fair. The date for this semester's event is Tuesday, March 3, from 11am until 3pm in the Student Center Ballroom. Although planned by RTM students, this event is open for all students and majors. Tammy Monk from Career Services is assisting this year by contacting over 200 potential employers from her data base.

There will be additional job fairs at area colleges in April, so encourage your child to connect with the Career Services office so they are aware of these forthcoming opportunities. Once again, with the current economic situation, students need to understand that they will need to pursue multiple avenues in trying to find employment. In good years, a job search averages 6-9 months, so they should anticipate an even longer search period during difficult economic times.

Plans are also underway for an etiquette dinner where students will learn about proper dining. With many job interviews held over lunch or dinner, this is a program worth attending. As well, it is consistently one of the highest rated programs hosted by the Career Services office. It's always a great meal with lots of good information, an opportunity to network with others, and a safe environment in which to work on dining skills.

This event is planned by students, for students. The atmosphere encourages dialogue between organizations and students, so please encourage all students, regardless of rank, to attend.

If you have business contacts, please forward their contact information to Susan Williams at [swilliams@concord.edu](mailto:swilliams@concord.edu) or (304) 384-6026 and an invitation will be sent to them immediately. Graduate schools are welcome to attend as well.

## THE HIDDEN JOB MARKET

In light of the expected tight job market, we will be hosting a webinar entitled, **Seven Secrets to the Hidden Job Market on Thursday, February 26 from 1 pm – 2 pm**. Students can attend either in Athens (Room B29A) or Beckley (Room W17).

Donald Asher, national career and graduate school guru, will address topics such as:



Targeting jobs



Networking, including Social Networking



Tweaking resumes



Info Interviewing



Creating jobs



Getting Started



Researching



What to do if you're shy



Jumping hurdles



Owning the process



## WORKSHOPS FOR STUDENTS

The Academic Success Center is sponsoring informational workshops for students throughout the spring semester. In January, the ASC helped students register for **SMARTHINKING**, a free online tutoring program (<http://www.concord.edu/current-students/smarthinking>). February workshops include:

-  ***It's FAFSA Time—Help!!*** - Every Monday & Tuesday in February, 2 pm - 4 pm in the ASC Office (Room A332, Marsh Hall)
-  ***The Best Formula for Success in Your Math Class***      Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm, Room A331  
    Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, noon, Room A331
-  ***Improve Your Interviewing Skills*** (with Dr. Aloia) - Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm, The State Room  
 He will provide winning answers to typical interview questions.
-  ***The Science Behind Studying for a Science Class***      Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm Room A331  
    Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, noon, Room A331



Participation for all workshops is **FREE!!** Please encourage your students to attend.

## VISIT CONCORD'S NEW WEBSITE

Have you seen Concord's new online look for 2009 ???

The Concord website received a major makeover during the winter break! We hope the website is now more user-friendly and easier to navigate. We invite parents and students to visit the website and provide feedback regarding the site. Use the Quick links or Search features for easily finding information.

Your student can use the "MyCU" feature for accessing Ellie (online registration, transcript, and account information), email, and Blackboard (instructional course software). Alumni can also use "MyCU" for accessing their Ellie information and viewing past financial contributions to the University.

For current students, there's an easy access button for accessing Financial Aid (including—new for 2009—necessary financial aid forms); course information, Smarthinking tutoring, and much more. We believe the new website will make it easier for prospective and current students, parents, and alumni to find information efficiently.

