From the Desk of . . .

Hola! Chao! Konnichiwa! Greetings from the Office of Multicultural Affairs! We invite you to celebrate International Education Week (Nov. 16-20, 2009) with us. A joint initiative of the U.S. Departments of State and Education, International Education Week was first held in 2000 and today is celebrated in more than 100 countries worldwide.

According to Open Doors 2009, West Virginia has seen an increase of 8.5 percent in the number of foreign students in the state. These students contributed $59.7 million dollars to the state’s economy. Concord University ranks among the institutions with the highest number of foreign students.

Not only are we working to attract future leaders from abroad to study on our campus, we are also developing programs that prepare U.S. citizens to live, work, and compete in a global environment.

Exchanges are critical to developing mutual understanding and respect, building leadership abroad, fostering an appreciation of the U.S. and investing in the future relationship between Americans and people around the world.

Concord has a rich tradition of international education that dates back to 1965 when the institution was first permitted to accept foreign students. Recently, I’ve had the opportunity to visit with groups of CU international alumni in New York City and in Washington, D.C. Without exception, each shared fond memories of people and events they enjoyed during their time here.

We look forward to increasing the opportunities for study abroad and to increasing the number of international students enrolled. Please join me, Sharon and Debbie in welcoming these students to the “Campus Beautiful” and in helping make their stay a pleasant one.

Nancy Ellison
Director of Multicultural Affairs / Disability Services Coordinator
CONCORD UNIVERSITY

Department Updates

On behalf of the West Virginia Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (WVASFAA) Concord University hosted the 2009 High School Counselors Workshop on Nov. 10, 2009. In attendance were 18 counselors from area high schools and outreach programs as well as Concord University’s Financial Aid staff. Topics included state and federal updates along with a detailed report on the new 2010-2011 FAFSA. Concord University President Dr. Gregory Aloia welcomed the counselors to campus and stressed their importance to future college freshman. Judy Kee Smith from the Higher Education Policy Commission updated the counselors on state funded programs. Director of Financial Aid Patricia Harmon outlined new options available for counseling students, updates in federally funded programs, and a financial aid counselor’s perspective on the new 2010-2011 FAFSA. Harmon will also be hosting High School Workshops for students and/or parents at area high schools starting in December.

Concord University is receiving $22,000 from the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission for its participation in the state’s Regents Bachelor of Arts (RBA) Today program. The Regents degree is designed for adults returning to college. RBA students are allowed to receive college equivalency credit for professional training programs to complement traditional coursework.

The RBA Today program provides greater opportunities to complete courses in an accelerated and flexible format. Beginning in fall 2010, three Concord faculty will make online courses available to RBA students statewide. Recreation and tourism management professor Dr. Linwood Clayton, sociologist Dr. Tracy Luff, and Dr. Hugh Campbell, professor of education, will work with the Dean’s Office to contribute upper division courses in their respective areas of expertise to the RBA Today curriculum.

West Virginia’s public colleges and universities introduced the Regents degree in 1974. In the intervening 35 years, the program has produced almost 20,000 graduates statewide. Nearly 500 Concord alumni hold the RBA. For more information about Concord’s RBA program, call Dr. George Towers at 384-5220 or send an e-mail inquiry to: towers@concord.edu.

Rahall Addresses Veterans Ceremony

Concord University resounded with patriotism and reverence Monday, Nov. 9, 2009 as United States veterans and military personnel were honored and remembered during a Veteran Appreciation and Flagpole Dedication Ceremony. The entrance of Marsh Hall served as the backdrop for the 12:30 p.m. outdoor program which was sponsored by Concord’s Veterans Committee.

“What an honor it is to start this Veterans Week on the campus of Concord,” U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (W.Va.), keynote speaker, said. “It’s not only this week but each and every day that we should say thank you, thank you to our veterans.”

He said it is important for everyone to remember veterans even if they may not agree with federal policy.

“To friend or foe, once a decision has been made, we will stand behind these young men and women 1,000 percent,” he said. “They don’t make our policy and they are our true American heroes. Make no doubt about it.”

Concord University Interim Vice President for Advancement Greg Quick greeted the gathering on the warm November afternoon calling the occasion a “day of remembrance, dedication, and reverence.”

Concord University President Dr. Gregory Aloia said honoring veterans is an important aspect of Concord. “The least we can do for our veterans is give them the respect they deserve, especially when they are pursuing their education,” he said. “We want to make sure that veterans can pursue civilian life and get an education as well.”

An estimated 90 veterans are attending Concord and are assisted by the Concord University Veterans Office. This office was established earlier this year and works with United States veterans, reservists and active duty service members to utilize benefits from the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

Concord student Megan Klein sang the National Anthem and the PikeView High School JROTC presented the colors. The ribbon cutting for the two new flagpoles was led by Concord student and Navy/Army veteran George Williams, who is also veteran advocate for the Concord Veterans Office.

Three Concord student veterans, Andrew Pritt, Charles Eary and Thomas Hilliker, raised a POW/MIA flag into the air then lowered it to half-staff in memory of the recent tragedy at Fort Hood, Texas. The Mercer County Veterans Council concluded the ceremony with a 21-gun salute.

Andrea Meador, a student majoring in communications with an emphasis in public relations, assisted in writing this article. Her hometown is Ghent.
Let’s hear a ‘ROAR’ for...

Dr. Lauri L. Reidmiller

Dr. Reidmiller, Concord University assistant professor of art, is the West Virginia Higher Education Art Educator of the Year.

Send us your news!

Let us know what’s new with you or your department...e-mail Campus E-News at enews@concord.edu. Be sure to include your name and telephone number so we can contact you, too. Deadline for submissions is 4 p.m. on the Monday prior to publication. Campus E-News is a biweekly newsletter published every other Thursday for the Faculty and Staff of Concord University. The next issue will be on Thursday, Dec. 3.

Notable & Newsworthy

Research completed as part of Concord’s summer geology field course (GEOL 404) was presented at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America in Portland, Ore. in October. The work was presented by Dr. J. L. Allen with CU student co-author Johnny Bragg, CU alumnus Ian Ware, and Montana State University student Patrick Dyess.

The paper, entitled “Laramide partitioning of basement-involved deformation along the southern margin of the White River uplift, Colorado,” examined newly discovered fault zones that controlled the uplift of a mountain range in the Colorado Rockies. CU students Jesse Dolinar and Adam Lilly also attended the field course and contributed data used in the study.

Concord University’s mock trial team placed third in the Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity’s National Conference and Mock Trial Competition in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 11-14, 2009. This is the fifth Concord team to have placed either first, second or third in the competition in the last five years.

Twelve Concord students participated in the Mock Trial Competition. They were divided into three teams. The team of Robert Elsaid, Cari Harper, Kelsey Queen, and Jacob Simmons defeated one of the teams from Indiana University in the finals to place third in the competition behind the University of Arizona and another team from Indiana University. The other Concord students participating were Matthew Belcher, Akeya Carter-Bozman, Grace Hurney, Joshua Lawson, Chris Matheny, Kiwa Nadas, Svitlana Olenich, and Witney Meshell Shaffer. Joanna Mills was the alternate for the teams. The students play the part of both attorneys and witnesses in the competition.

Concord’s mock trial teams are coached by Concord Interim Director of Human Resources Marshall S. Campbell, who is also a local attorney and a pre-law instructor.

Mercer County Health Department dispensing H1N1 vaccine on CU campus

The Mercer County Health Department will dispense the H1N1 vaccine on the Concord University campus Wednesday, Dec. 2, and Thursday, Dec. 3, 2009 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Jerry L. Beasley Student Center Ballroom.

Individuals between the ages of 3 and 24, unless already sick or having other medical challenges which would prohibit dispensing, will be served for as long as the vaccine lasts. The Health Department cannot provide vaccine to children under the age of 3 at this temporary Concord station. Persons over the age of 24 who meet exception criterion can also receive the vaccine. Parents, who have a 6-month-old (or younger) infant in the home, may also receive the H1N1 vaccine.

The Mercer County Health Department will take Medicaid/Medicare and all other forms of health insurance. For those uninsured, a $10 fee is expected, however anyone who cannot pay the fee should talk to the nurse in charge.
Jennifer Parsons selected
First STAR Student Employee

Jennifer Parsons of Peytona, W.Va. has been named Concord University STAR Student Employee of the Month for October 2009. She is the first student selected for the honor which recognizes exemplary student employees and is sponsored by the Office of Advancement/Career Services. Jennifer was nominated by her supervisor, Janet Heaton, Concord administrative secretary senior for the Division of Natural Sciences.

In her nomination letter, Ms. Heaton shared that Jennifer is dependable, conscientious, focused on task, and is a quick learner who takes initiative and is willing to go beyond what is expected. Jennifer is in her junior year at Concord and is majoring in Education. She has worked in the Division of Natural Sciences for three semesters. In addition to her job in the Natural Sciences office, Ms. Parsons has homework, classes, observation hours at area schools, and a job off campus. And, if that’s not enough, when Jennifer goes home, she resumes a job she has been working since last summer.

Dr. Gregory Aloia and Tammy Monk, director of Advancement/Career Services, presented a plaque to Jennifer in a surprise ceremony in Ms. Heaton’s office on Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2009.

“We are proud of you...you are setting an example for other student workers,” Dr. Aloia said. “The things you do, people really, really appreciate.”

“I just think it’s a big honor. It’s wonderful that somebody thought of me the way Janet thinks of me. This is an awesome, awesome, present,” Jennifer said.

“I feel privileged that I have someone like Jennifer to nominate,” Ms. Heaton said. “She deserves it.”

Twenty-one Concord students were nominated for the first STAR Student Employee of the Month award. In the spring the STAR Student Employee of the Year will be selected from the monthly honorees.

---

D.C. Gathering...


Bulletin Board

Mark your calendars...The 20th Annual Employee Covered Dish Christmas Luncheon is scheduled for Dec. 10, 2009 at noon in the Student Center Ballroom. All employees of Concord University are invited to attend. Aramark provides the turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, rolls, coffee and iced tea. Each employee then brings a salad, dessert or vegetable dish. Bring your recipes to share with others, too! See you there!

Calling all children...The Kid’s Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009 at 6 p.m. in the Student Center Subway. This event is open to the families of faculty, staff, and students as well as the Concord Daycare children and community children. The kids will enjoy making Christmas ornaments and decorating sugar cookies while eating treats and having a good time. The children’s age limit is 10 and they must be accompanied by an adult. This annual holiday gathering is sponsored by SAC.

Reminder...Concord’s HR Office requests that its faculty and staff complete the Concord University Employee Emergency Information Form. (This form was e-mailed to faculty and staff on Monday, Nov. 16.) It requests your emergency contacts and information on any allergies or medical conditions that would be helpful in the event of an emergency. Please note that providing this information is voluntary. Moreover, it will be kept only in the HR and Campus Police Offices and will be kept in a confidential manner. You are urged to provide the medical and emergency contact information so that it can be provided to emergency first responders if you have a medical emergency. It could help save your life. Please send the completed forms to HR by Friday, Nov. 20. Contact Marshall Campbell for more information.