From the Desk of . . .

I am very pleased to have this opportunity to speak to you about recent activities in the area of business and finance. I joined Dr. Aloia’s team in January and the journey thus far has been both exciting and invigorating. With a great deal of help from E.J. Cahill, Libby Webb, and other dedicated people in the business office, this past spring we rolled out a new budget process that is more inclusive and transparent. Gary Hylton and Erin Clark assumed new duties and challenges in procurement. Andrea Webb and Tess Vaught have teamed up to ensure that we all get paid. Tammy Brown and Angie Taylor continue to amaze me with their upbeat attitudes as they field phone calls and serve students at the cashier’s window.

For those of you with an interest or a desire to help the University by securing grants or contracts, Scott Inghram and Vickie Blankenship are available and eager to assist in that endeavor. Scott returns to Concord with extensive experience in grant and contract administration. Vickie has readily agreed to divide her time between the Business Office and the Research Corporation to provide accounting expertise to the Corporation. Go see them.

In the bookstore, Chris Smallwood, Wayne Gunter, and Steve Jarvis have led the charge to provide affordable alternatives to the rising cost of textbooks. Students, you should check out the new clothing lines and ask Chris about the textbook buyback program.

Finally, I want to spend a moment to offer my sincere thanks and appreciation for the hard work and devotion to duty that I see each day from our campus security and facilities and maintenance personnel. Mark Stella in Security, and Jeff Shumaker in the Physical Plant are tasked each day to ensure our safety and comfort. When you see a police officer on patrol, a custodian emptying the trash, or a maintenance worker fixing a thermostat or a plumbing fixture, remember them, or better yet, thank them for the things that they do.

Please come by the Business Office if you have any questions or concerns. We are here to assist in any way possible.

Regards,

Chuck Becker
Interim VP Business & Finance
Drs. Rowe, Campbell, and Burton attended a Professional Information Session at the Arrowsmith School in Toronto, Ontario on Friday, Oct. 16, 2009. The session was a formal presentation discussing the theory and methodology of the Arrowsmith Program and was followed by a visit to the school where they had an opportunity to observe students working on the Arrowsmith Program exercises. The Arrowsmith Program is founded on neuroscience research and 30 years of experience demonstrating that it is possible for students to strengthen the weak cognitive capacities underlying their learning dysfunctions through a program of specific cognitive exercises. The program identifies, intervenes and strengthens the weak cognitive capacities that affect learning. Students are able to capitalize on their increased learning capacities and after a three or four year program can function without special education assistance or program accommodations. The Arrowsmith Program is suitable for students with mild to severe learning problems. The impact of this trip may have significant implications for the future development of methods courses for both general and special education teacher candidates at Concord University.

Students in Concord University’s Bonner Foundation sponsored Community Based Research course had the opportunity and privilege to travel to Princeton, N.J. and the Washington, D.C. area over Fall Break. They travelled to observe and experience the effects of economic disenfranchisement first-hand. During their three-day trip, students participated in service projects and valuable lectures regarding methods to address the issues of homelessness, hunger, poverty, and environmental protection. Students discussed current policy and were invited and encouraged to develop and explore potential policies from a variety of perspectives.

Upon arriving in Alexandria, Va., the group was greeted by Volunteer Coordinator Allison Clausen at the Carpenter’s Shelter, a homeless shelter providing all the necessary resources to return needy individuals and families to self-sufficiency. Clausen explained that Carpenter’s provides shelter, medical resources, food, and training and/or educational opportunities to these individuals and families for an average of eight to ten months. In preparation for the coming holiday season and the increased donations that will accompany it, students worked to complete several tasks at the facility to lessen the burdens that would otherwise fall to the staff. Their experiences at the Carpenter’s Shelter revealed to them the complexity involved in successfully maintaining such an operation and the tremendous goodwill of those who have dedicated their lives to helping those less fortunate.

At the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., students were presented with an account of the evolution of tax policies and their effects on different income groups by Senior Research Associate Ben Harris. They then travelled to the Bonner House in Princeton, N.J. for an informative lecture by Eileen McGinnis, former Chief of Policy to Governor Whitman. She emphasized the importance of developing policies that encourage an active role for the private sector in addressing homelessness and other issues. McGinnis also discussed with students the many faces of activism and the different levels of government as they relate to social change.

Before returning home, students visited Terhune Orchards in Princeton, N.J. for a service project with Farmers against Hunger, an organization that emphasizes the importance of providing fresh, healthy foods for those whose resources are too inadequate for such commodities. Working with Bonner representative Michael Richardson, students spent a morning sorting and organizing approximately 20,000 pounds of food that were delivered from a Bruce Springsteen benefit concert. Student work facilitated delivery of the donations to various smaller charitable organizations throughout the region. The work done was both a service to Farmers Against Hunger and an eye-opening experience to students who realized both the magnitude of poverty within our country and the power of a few willing hands. Following the service project and a lecture by Terhune Orchards owner Pam Mount about the mission of Farmers Against Hunger and a description of its operations, students reflected on an enlightening and memorable three days during their nine-hour ride home.
Concord University Veterans Office

Concord University has been selected as one of America’s Top Military-Friendly Colleges and Universities by Military Advanced Education magazine. The list of 2009 honorees will appear in the publication’s November/December print edition and the online version.

Kevin Bennington graduated from the Art Institute - Miami International University of Art & Design with a terminal degree of M.F.A. in Graphic Design with honors on Sept. 26, 2009. “This journey has taken me almost three years to complete and in reflection I would not change the experience. My thesis topic enabled me to create and study communication mediums of art in print design, web design and studio art. These communication mediums were used to conduct both qualitative and quantitative examinations that I published at an online book publisher Lulu.com,” he said. “I feel that my study at the Art Institute - Miami International University of Art & Design has opened my eyes to how graphic designers can help affect positive influence within today’s society. This experience has given me a stronger knowledge base and tools to affect positive change with the students in the Graphic Design Program and Concord University.” Bennington has donated a copy of the thesis publication Time for Influence: An Exhibition of Communication and Influence through Awareness-Based Design Mediums to the Concord Library and it is held in the special collections area. His web site study is found at: http://www.time4influence.com/2/

Karen Vuranch has recently been awarded the Tamarack Fellowship. The award was presented at the 2009 Tamarack Foundation Gala held Sept. 19, 2009. Three Tamarack artisans were awarded $2,500 each to recognize artistic excellence, accomplishment, dedication to discipline, lifelong community achievement and involvement in promoting and fostering the arts. Vuranch weaves together a love of history, a passion for stories and a sense of community. She has created a full-time career collecting and telling stories of resilient, wise and hard-working people and has performed in all 55 counties of West Virginia, 30 states, China and Great Britain. In addition to her career as a storyteller and actress, she has served as an adjunct faculty member at Concord University for 17 years, teaching Theatre, Speech and Appalachian Studies.

Concord University Homecoming 2009

The temperature hovered in the chilly range, but that didn’t keep the excitement from radiating during Concord University’s Homecoming Week 2009. A busy, busy agenda featured a mix of activities including the parade, bonfire, Alumni Career Symposium, Discover Days, alumni social and dinner, lip sync, football locker room dedication, cheerleader reunion, football reunion, tailgates, reunion of the 9’s classes, coronation ceremony, resounding 52-34 victory roar from the Mountain Lions, and MORE!
**Giveaways**

The Concord University McNair Scholars Program hosts a recruitment tent with fun giveaways during Homecoming Week.

**Thanks!**

The Classified Personnel Association sends a big thank you to everyone who helped make the Homecoming hot dog and bake sale a success. The event raised $884.88 for the scholarship fund.

**Festive fall**

The hallway between the Administration and Science buildings offers a happy harvest greeting.

**Way to go Alumni!**

Just where does a Concord University education take a person? For the 50 alumni returning to campus for the Alumni Career Symposium, the answer ranged from a career in law, communications or the medical field to education, business and government. The event, held Friday, Oct. 16, offered students the opportunity to hear first-hand experiences and advice from successful Concord graduates who “March to the Beat of Many Different Drummers.” Tammy Monk, director of advancement/career services, coordinated the symposium.

**Bulletin Board**

**PEIA to cover H1N1 (swine flu) vaccine...**

When it becomes available, the vaccine for the H1N1 (swine flu) virus will be covered in full for members under Preferred Provider Benefit (PPB) Plan A or B. Standard flu shots also are covered in full.

**Now showing...**

The Concord Film Society presents the semester’s documentary, Home Movie, this week (Oct. 22-24). The Halloween feature is Let the Right One In (Oct. 29-31). Show times are: Thursday, 8 p.m.; Friday, 3:30 p.m.; Saturday, 6 p.m. All films are shown in A-320.

**Participants needed...**

The Office of Admissions will host the Fall Mountain Lion Open House Program on Saturday, Nov. 14, 2009. Traditionally, faculty have represented their divisions and departments and addressed academic and career concerns of prospective students and parents. The academic fair will be held in the auxiliary gym from 9:45 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. Displays should be set up by 9:15 a.m. Tables may be reserved by contacting Kent Gamble at ext. 5316 or email at k gamble@concord.edu.

**ZUMBA is back...**

The Housing and Residence Life Office is sponsoring the return of ZUMBA classes on campus. All classes are held in the Student Center Ballroom. The dates and times are: Oct. 22, 5-5:45 p.m.; Oct. 27, 5-5:45 p.m.; Oct. 29, 4:15-5 p.m.; Nov. 3, 5-5:45 p.m.; Nov. 5, 4:15-5 p.m.; Nov. 10, 5-5:45 p.m.; Nov. 12, 4:15-5 p.m.; Nov. 17, 5-5:45 p.m.; Nov. 19, 4-15-5 p.m.; Dec. 3, 5-5:45 p.m.; Dec. 8, 4-15-5 p.m.; and, Dec. 10, 5-5:45 p.m.

**CU at Booth #113 -**

Concord University is a sponsor and participant in the Princeton Mercer County Chamber of Commerce Women’s Expo being held Friday, Oct. 23 and Saturday, Oct. 24 at the Brushfork Armory. Tickets are $5 at the door.