

# CONCORD UNIVERSITY PARENTS CLUB August – September 2017

**Dear Parents and Families,** 

Fall 2017 semester is off to an exciting and fast-paced start, as students settle into their class schedules and extra-curricular activities. We've welcomed our entering CU Class of 2021 and transfer students and reconnected with our sophomores, juniors, and seniors. We're thrilled to have campus buzzing again after a quiet summer. Many educational and fun activities await and we hope our students and families join us in our celebrations, including Homecoming on October 14.

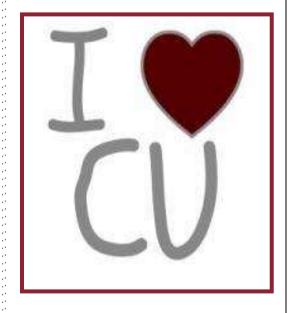
In the coming weeks, graduating seniors will participate in the Graduation Fair (Sept. 11, Student Center Ballroom) to apply for graduation and prepare for all things related to December Commencement. On Sept. 15 CU will host Dr. Sally Spencer-Thomas for a suicide prevention program, courtesy of Bluefield State College's BSC CARES program, coordinated by Rebekah Hatch. Constitution Day events are being planned by CU's Political Science Dept.; Student Affairs will distribute free pocketversion U.S. Constitutions. Also on Sept. 15, CU will air the documentary, *Vietnam: West Virginia Remembers* in the Fine Arts Auditorium from 2-3pm. The public is invited.

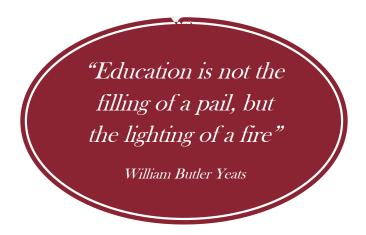
Please know that many free academic and resources are available to assist your students with maximizing their college success. The Academic Success Center (ASC), located off of the Rahall atrium, is a one-stop shop for any student with questions or needing a little extra assistance. Drop-in and on-line 24/7 tutoring, study skills information, academic advice, help knowing and utilizing resources, and more are available through the ASC.

On behalf of the Parents Club Committee, we wish you and your students a successful year! Best wishes and peace,

Marjie Flanigan
Vice President of Student Affairs &
Dean of Students

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## Fall 2017 Academic Schedule

- August 14, Students report for first day of classes
- September 4, Labor Day (no classes)
- October 4, Wednesday, 4:00 pm Mid-Semester Reports of Unsatisfactory Grades Due
- October 5-6, Fall Break
- October 14, Homecoming
- October 16 November 3 Advising for Course Selection, 2018 Spring Semester
- October 27, Friday, 4:00 pm Last Day for Dropping Courses with grade of W
- October 30-November 8 Course Selection, 2018 Spring Semester (for Students Presently Enrolled)
- November 20-24, Thanksgiving Break
- December 1, Friday Last Class Day
- December 4, Monday, 8:00 am Fall Semester Exams Begin
- December 8, Friday, 5:00 pm Fall Semester Ends
- December 9, Saturday Commencement 10AM & 2PM

For the full 2017 Fall calendar, <u>click here</u>. Be certain to check the <u>CU Activities Calendar</u> for the many events happening on campus. Concord University offers theatre productions; musical events by students, staff, & others; senior art shows; athletics; and much, much more!



#### **Announcements**

#### **Technology Services**

The Office of Technology Services is pleased to announce that all student housing was upgraded to high-speed wireless access in time for the August 14 semester startup. The new system uses the latest 802.11ac protocol and is the largest and fastest wireless network in southern West Virginia.

Students will find the "cusecure" network available in all of the residence halls. In order to maximize wireless availability and minimize radio interference it is important to note that personal routers are no longer authorized in the residence halls.

Students should call the Technology Services Help Desk at 304-384-5291 or e-mail <u>cuhelpdesk@concord.edu</u> to report any problems or difficulties. The office is staffed from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm Mon-Thu and 8:00 am to 4:00 pm on Fridays.

#### **Residence Life**

Come see our newly renovated residence halls! As the renovation in North and South Towers nears completion, excitement is growing on the Concord University campus for the September grand re-opening celebration, to read the full article follow the link:

<a href="http://www.concord.edu/sites/default/files/files/files/towers-renovation.pdf">http://www.concord.edu/sites/default/files/files/files/files/towers-renovation.pdf</a>

The Grand Re-Opening Celebration for the renovated North and South Towers residence halls will be held on Thursday, Sept. 14, 2017. A schedule of events for the celebration will be posted on Concord's website at www.concord.edu

## **Important Student Information**

Students should be sure to sign up for CU's Emergency Text Alert System!

Emergency Text Alert System: We strongly encourage all students to sign up for the CU Emergency Text Alert System -- a text messaging alert system that is used to notify students of security, safety, and weather related notices on campus. You can easily register for this service by going to <a href="http://sms.concord.edu/">http://sms.concord.edu/</a>. If you have any questions, please call the IT help desk at ext.5291 or by email at <a href="mailto:cuhelpdesk@concord.edu">cuhelpdesk@concord.edu</a>.

Inclement Weather Schedules: To view the Inclement Weather Schedules for both the Athens Campus and the Beckley Campus, follow this link: <a href="http://www.concord.edu/emergency-alerts">http://www.concord.edu/emergency-alerts</a>

Get Microsoft Office for Free as a Concord student! Concord University is a member of Microsoft's Student Advantage Program where currently enrolled students are eligible for a free license to download and use Microsoft Office Professional Plus. This license was automatically assigned at the start of enrollment at CU and remains until withdrawing or graduation. Students can install on up to 5 machines, windows or mac, as well as use the

mobile versions of Office Mobile. After withdrawal or graduation the license is removed and the software enters a reduced functionality mode limiting it to viewing or printing only. Graduates can visit the site OFFICE 365 EDUCATION, enter their @mycu.concord.edu email address and get the license re-instated. For more information visit our support page at http://www.concord.edu/office365

#### **Student News**

It's been a great start to fall 2017 semester, welcoming our freshmen class of 2021, students who transferred to Concord for the first time, and our returning Mountain Lions!!

Please check out this article on College Fashionista by our very own Keri Watters <a href="http://www.collegefashionista.com/author/keriwatters/">http://www.collegefashionista.com/author/keriwatters/</a>. Keri is a junior at Concord and is studying pre-professional biology.

James Kemp, past president of CU's BSU, had the opportunity to travel abroad this summer with CU Geography Professor Joe Manzo, CU Emeriti Sharon Manzo, and fellow CU student Alysan Miller. When asked to comment on his experience, James had the following to say:

This past summer, I participated in the Summer International Program at Kangwon National University, located in Chuncheon, South Korea. The purpose of the program was to foster stronger relations between students of various ethnic and national backgrounds as well as to give an opportunity for international students to learn more about Korean history, culture, and society. Countries represented in the program included the U.S., China, Taiwan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Russia, the Czech Republic, and Hungary.

At KNU, I attended courses in the cultural anthropology of Korea and basic Korean language. We also embarked on a number of field trips around South Korea, including an excursion to Seoul where we focused on Korea's history and art. We experienced many facets of Korean culture first hand by eating traditional foods, learning to play traditional instruments, receiving a lesson in Tae Kwon Do, and participating in an overnight stay at an ancient Buddhist temple.

This was my first time visiting another country, and the overall experience was fantastic. Aside from learning much more about a different society, I learned a lot about myself and my own society. Being an international student gives one a different perspective, and seeing how others live their day to day lives makes one far more aware of not just our differences, but our similarities as humans.

Overall, it was a fantastic experience. I still remain in contact with all of my fellow international students, and many of us have plans to visit one another's countries or possibly meet up with one another again in Korea. I am strongly considering moving to Korea after I graduate from Concord.



Photos from Tokyo and South Korea
Bottom Left: Dr. Joe & Sharon Manzo, Alysan Miller, James Kemp,
& CU Alumni Rumi Watanbe and Mai Aoki in Tokyo, Japan



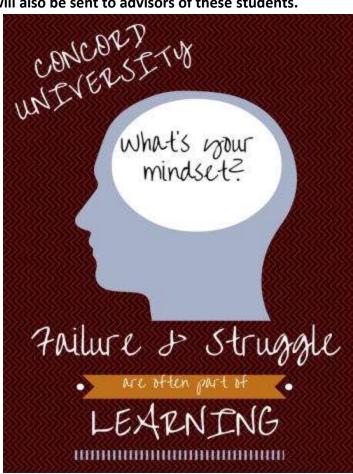
#### **Student Services**

## **Tutoring**

Free help is available to CU students to assist them with coursework! Drop-in tutoring is available for most courses at convenient times primarily in the G.R.I.P. Center, Rahall 130. (Visit https://apps.concord.edu/tutoring/ for a complete listing by course.) SMARTHINKING online tutoring is also available 24/7 for many subject areas, including essay assistance for papers and other writing assignments.

The Academic Success Center is located in Rahall 234 (Atrium) and can be reached via asc@concord.edu or by phoning 304-384-6074. The ASC is a one-stop-shop to help students succeed at Concord. The ASC website also has valuable resources, including links to Khan Academy, Guide to Grammar & Writing, OWL at Purdue, Study Skills help, and more!

Faculty will be reporting mid-term, unsatisfactory grades (D's and F's) to the Registrar's Office by Wednesday, October 4. Students will able to view these on their MyCU accounts. Also, the Academic Success Center will send emails to students who have two or more mid-term grades. An email will also be sent to advisors of these students.



## **On-Campus Counseling**

The Concord University Counseling Center, located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Student Center, is open from 9am to 4pm Monday through Friday, and by special appointment at other times, to assist students. Counselor David Bailey, MA, AADC-S, LSW is available to meet with students.

Appointments can be made by emailing counseling@concord.edu; phoning 304-384-5290; or

online via <a href="http://www.concord.edu/student-life/node/5">http://www.concord.edu/student-life/node/5</a>. The Counseling Center offers free, confidential services to currently enrolled students.

If your student is in need of help, or he/she knows someone who is, there's an easy way to seek assistance. Student Affairs maintains an online referral form for student issues. Visit the Concord University website>Student Life>Referral

or <a href="https://apps.concord.edu/forms/view.php?id=77398">https://apps.concord.edu/forms/view.php?id=77398</a>. Alternatively, contact the Office of Student Affairs at 304-384-6035 or studentaffairs@concord.edu for assistance.

#### **Business Office**

The Concord University Business Office is committed to providing exceptional service to students, faculty, and staff in a professional and courteous manner, while maintaining the highest possible standards of accuracy in administering the finances for Concord University. Aside from processing payments both manually and electronically, and disbursing check change, the Business office also handles student work-study payments, and approves book loans—in conjunction with the campus bookstore—for students who meet the necessary criteria. For more information on this and other features, please click on the link <a href="http://www.concord.edu/business-office/">http://www.concord.edu/business-office/</a>. Business Office Hours: 8:00am to 4:00pm Monday to Friday Cashier's Office Hours: 8:30am to 3:30pm Open during Lunch Monday to Friday.

#### **Office of Disability Services**

Letters of accommodation are available for pick up in the Office of Disability Services. Get your semester off on the right foot by sharing your letters with your professors at the beginning of the semester.

Concord University will be offering skills building groups for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder through The WV Autism Training Center. These skills groups called <sup>3</sup>Discovery Groups<sup>2</sup> will cover a variety of topics such as managing a stressful college lifestyle and the transition to and out of college. To register for the skill building groups contact the Office of Disability Services at 304-384-5256. More information on the Discovery Groups, as well as registration information for the more comprehensive Fall 2017 program, visit http://hub.concord.edu/multicultural/node/16.

## **Athens Family Practice Medical Center**

Athens Family Practice is a medical clinic available to all Concord University students. Conveniently located just off campus, Concord alumna Dr. Jessica Aliff and her staff are ready to meet students' needs. This is not a drop-in clinic, so appointments must be scheduled in advance. Students must bring their insurance card and student ID. If your student finds that he/she cannot make a scheduled appointment, please avoid a "no show". It takes a possible appointment time away from someone else and leads to increased student costs. Athens Family Practice is reserving appointment times on Thursday afternoons specifically for

students, but if these appointments are not filled, they will fill with community members. For more details regarding physicians and the clinic, click on the following link.

http://www.pchonline.org/about/affilia tes/Athens.aspx

### **Beckley Campus News**

This summer we are visiting the Energy Express students at all 5 elementary schools! We take a book to read that fits the theme for the week [family,



friendship, making the world a better place, etc.], taking them an activity book, and taking ROAR for pictures [and maybe a little dancing!] Our visits included or will include, Coal City, Bradley, Cranberry-Prosperity, Beckley and Fairdale Elementary schools!

We helped Lisa Moten, Director of the Erma Byrd Higher Education Center Complex, plan our 10 year anniversary! We buried a time capsule with well wishes and advice for those 20 years in the future. We also held a Beckley student Orientation on Friday, August 11.





## **Geography News** (submitted by Dr. Joe Manzo)

Dr. Tom Saladyga, Geography, and Dr. Tom Ford, Biology, submitted a joint successful grant proposal to the Allie Irene Strasko Research Endowment to investigate the development and resiliency of a rare bottomland oak swamp located along the Meadow River in Greenbrier

County, WV. Their research will address questions related to an abnormally high rate of tree mortality within the last few years by assessing site hydrology and contemporary and historical forest dynamics. The grant provides funding for two student research assistants, while additional students will have an opportunity to contribute to the research through independent or class projects.

The West Virginia Geographic Alliance was awarded a \$36,000 grant from the National Geographic Education Fund for teacher professional development in geography education.

Social Sciences was awarded the President's Cup for Excellence in Sponsored Programs for 2016-17. Social Work led the way followed by Geography.



#### **Athletics**

Come out and support Concord Athletics! Concord's Fall sports are just beginning and the schedules for these events can be found when visiting <a href="http://www.cumountainlions.com/">http://www.cumountainlions.com/</a>

Enjoy some photos from the first home tailgate and football game, Thursday, August 31!



Bonner Scholars host the UNIV 100 Student Affairs tailgate







#### **International Student Services**

Concord University is home to more than 100 international students representing more than 30 countries. The Host Family Program provides an opportunity for American families to learn about other countries and cultures by having an international student stay in their home during university breaks. In turn, the international student benefits by being able to practice English conversation and learn about American culture first hand in the comfortable, friendly environment of an American home. If you would like more information, please email Nancy Ellison at <a href="mailto:nellison@concord.edu">nellison@concord.edu</a>.

CU welcomed 39 new international students this fall to our Concord family! August-September events for the Multicultural Affairs Office include: International Orientation, including a trip to Blacksburg and the World Food Market (8/19); International Friendship dinner at Concord United Methodist Church (8/25, 9/29); White Water Rafting & Zip Lining with Ace Adventures (9/17); New International Student Reception at President's House (9/25); and several other international-focused on campus events. Catherina Santos serves as President of the International Students Club for 2017-18.





**International Student Orientation 2017** 

#### Welcome Week 2017 & Start of Semester Activities

The start of the semester is always activity-filled, not only with classes, but required events for freshmen to help them acclimate to college. For first-year students there were mandatory education programs on student safety issues such as alcohol/substance abuse, sexual violence prevention, suicide prevention, and bystander intervention, PlayFair, and Freshmen Convocation (formal welcome to the Concord University Academic Community). Veterans Orientation welcomed our newest veterans to campus. For everyone, fun events such as Black Light Bingo, Disc Golf, Organizational Fair, outdoor movie, Greek Life recruitment, CU at the Princeton Rays, Laser Tag, and Solar Eclipse viewing were just a few of events during a whirlwind start to the semester.

Some photos from Welcome Week and Solar Eclipse viewing follow. Many thanks to Dr. Alice Hawthorne-Allen for hosting an Observatory viewing of the eclipse and to Andrew Sulgit, Technology Services, Bonner Scholars, Academic Success Center, and Student Affairs for their coordination efforts.

**Bonner Scholars Orientation, Fall 2017** 



Organizational Fair and Tree Planting Ceremony 2017





**CU Night at the Princeton Rays & Solar Eclipse** 



**Other Welcome Week 2017 Activities** 



## **Concord University Class of 2021**

(Photo by Jasmine White)



## **Parent Information**

## **Sign Up for CU Parents Club Text Messages**

CU Parents, now you can sign up to receive CU Parents Club text messages. These short texts will include important Concord University deadlines, reminders, and events. To join, visit www.remind.com/join/cuparents or text the message "@cuparents" to (304) 241-2045.

# **Important Numbers**

	200 200 2000
Main Phone	800-344-6679
Academic Success Center	304-384-6074
Admissions	888-384-5249 or 304-384-5248
Athens Family Practice	304-384-7325
Beckley Center	304-384-5614
Business Office	304-384-5234
Career Services	304-384-5325
Cashier	304-384-5972 or 304-384-5212
Counseling Center	304-384-5290
Disability Services	304-384-6086
Financial Aid	304-384-6069
Housing	304-384-5231
Police	304-384-5357
Registrar	304-384-5236
Student Affairs	304-384-5256
Student Support Services	304-384-6088
Technology Help Desk	304-384-5291
Title IX	304-384-6035

