

Inside this
issue:

Academic Calendar	2
Free FASFA Help	3
Book Store Information	4
December Graduation	5
Annual Groundhog's Day Breakfast	6
CU Mock Trial Success	7
Loss of Dr. Charles Grindstaff	8
Sport's News	10- 11
Changes at the Athens Campus	12

The Scoop

Edition 18

Welcome!

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the spring 2012 semester of Concord University! We are excited to have our students return to campus and we look forward to an exciting second half of the academic year. Whether your student is a returning freshmen or a soon-to-graduate senior, we hope that spring 2012 is the best one yet!

The January edition of the Parents Club newsletter is filled with important information, including an introduction to the new Concord Cash student identification card that serves as a campus I.D. and a free Discover debit card. Students must opt in or out of the debit card function and we have included instructions on how to do this. The article on Page 3 provides more detail on the Concord Cash card. An introductory video about the One Card can be viewed on the Concord University website (<http://concord.edu>)

Also included in this edition is news from the Bookstore, including textbook rental procedures; important dates; updates from news releases; information regarding the new location of campus offices; athletic happenings and more.

Please note the financial aid information and deadlines on Page 3. We are excited that Concord will again be participating in the national event of *College Goal Sunday* for FAFSA assistance. This year, we will also be hosting the Beckley location at the Erma Byrd Higher Education Center. Remember to file your FAFSA early—by March 1st for maximum aid.

The entire Concord family mourns the loss of Education professor Dr. Charles Grindstaff who was an inspiration and mentor to students and colleagues. A news release featuring some of Dr. Grindstaff's accomplishments appears on Page 8.

As we begin a new year and a new semester, please know how much we appreciate having you and your students as part of our Concord family! Please let us know how we can be of assistance in 2012.

On behalf of the Parents Club,

Marjie Flanigan

Marjie Flanigan
Vice President of Student Affairs

Academic Calendar—Select Dates of Importance

Monday, January 16: Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Wednesday, January 18: Classes begin, 8am

Tuesday, February 28: Founders Day Convocation, 1pm

Monday - Friday, March 12 - 16: Spring Break

Monday, March 18-April 16: Advising and course selection for summer and fall 2012

Friday, May 4: Last class day

Monday - Friday, May 7 - 11: Final Exams

Saturday, May 12: Commencement

Concord Cash, New ID Cards for Spring 2012

All students are being issued a Concord Cash Card for the Spring 2012 semester. The Concord Cash Card will replace any current University ID. The Concord Cash Card and starter packet can be picked up at the Welcome Center located on the second floor lobby of the Jerry L. Beasley Student Center beginning Monday, January 16, 2012 from 8am-4pm. Students must show some form of picture identification to receive their new card. Students with the last names beginning with A-L can pick up their card at the Student Center Office and students with the last names beginning with M-Z can pick up their ID card up from the Student Center Study Lounge. Aramark will be issuing meal plans in the Student Center Hallway located between the Dining Hall and the Stateroom on Monday, Jan. 16th - Friday, Jan. 20th from 8am - 4pm.

The initial Concord Cash Card is being provided free of charge. A fee of \$25.00 will be charged for replacement IDs. The Concord Cash Card will continue to allow access to dining services, the Library, campus events and Athens Medical Center services. The additional benefits being provided by the Concord Cash Card include:

1. Ability to opt-in for the electronic disbursement of check change. Eventually students will be able to direct deposit their student payroll to the Concord Cash Card.
2. Ability to use deposited funds anywhere Discover is accepted.
3. Free withdrawals of funds from a designated campus ATM and any AllPoint ATM off-campus.
4. Ability to write checks.
5. Ability to manage deposited funds online with bill pay options.

All students must visit <http://www.concord.edu/onecard> to opt-in or out of the Discover portion of the new Concord Cash Card. In order to have check change, payroll (from any employer) or funds from your parents electronically deposited onto the Concord Cash Card, you must opt-in to the Discover portion. The Concord Cash Card, while it is hosted by Discover, is NOT a credit card. The Concord Cash Card is a prepaid, debit card that cannot be over-drafted.

Important Dates from Housing!

Monday, January 16, 2012 - Residence Halls open for check-in 10am-Midnight

Tuesday, January 17, 2012 - Residence Halls open or check-in 10am-Midnight

Friday, March 9, 2012 - Spring Break: All Residence Halls Close at 5pm

Sunday, March 18, 2012 - Residence Halls reopen at 1pm

Friday, May 11, 2012 - Summer Break: All Residence Halls close at 5pm

It's FASFA Time!! Get Help with your FASFA for Free!

Parents and students should be completing the 2012-2013 FAFSA to ensure maximum financial aid. Concord University offers assistance with initial and renewal FAFSA's , including participating in College Goal Sunday.

College Goal Sunday™ is an opportunity for students and families to get FREE help with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Anyone planning to attend college is eligible to participate — regardless of your age or income.

JOIN US ON FEBRUARY 12, 2012 FROM 1:00 TO 4:00 PM!

WHERE: Two Locations; (1) University Point, Athens Campus

(2) Erma Byrd Higher Education Building , Beckley WV

WHAT TO BRING: In order to complete the FAFSA at a College Goal Sunday workshop, parents and students must bring several documents, including 2011 federal tax records. If 2011 tax records are not available, please bring 2010 records (but please note: the FAFSA must be edited later).

Please bring:

Student's and Parent's driver's license (if you have one)

Student's and Parents' Social Security number

2011 tax records, including W-2 forms and filed tax returns for:- Student and parents/guardians- Student's spouse (if married)

2011 untaxed income records, including:- Child Support, given or received- Worker's Compensation- Untaxed Portions of Pensions- Any other untaxed income received by the student's or family.

Information about student's and parents' investments and bank account balances

Student's alien registration or permanent resident card (if not a U.S. citizen)

Please note: The volunteers at College Goal Sunday workshops are professionals who will not share or misuse your personal information. Your FAFSA will be submitted through a network secured by the Federal government.

CU Students to Present at Undergraduate Research Day at the Legislature

Submitted by Dr. Jonathan Berkey, Chair, Division of Social Sciences

Recreation & Tourism students Wendy Pace and Jaime Smith have been selected to present a poster for Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol on January 26th. (Stay tuned for more details in the February-March edition)



Bookstore Hours of Operation

Starting January 17, 2012 the Bookstore will be open :

7:45 am to 5:45 pm Monday through Thursday

7:45 am to 4:00 pm Friday

Students will be able to sell back books at any time during the semester.

Books can be ordered through the bookstore by going to the Bookstore website under Quick Access at <http://concord.edu>

In addition approximately 48% of books required are available for rent through the bookstore. By renting students can save up to 50% of the new price. To rent a book students must have a credit card for registering their account; however there will be no charges made to this card. Students will keep rented textbooks through their exams.

Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress

To qualify for federal student financial aid, students must meet satisfactory academic progress (SAP). Concord's SAP policy can be viewed at <http://concord.edu/admissions/financial-aid>. Some key CU SAP requirements are presented below:

Students must maintain a GPA requirement based on hours earned as shown in the chart below:

Hours Earned	SAP GPA
0-14	1.357
15-29	1.690
30-44	1.795
45-59	1.847

Hours Earned	SAP GPA
60-74	1.919
75-89	1.933
90-112	1.973
113 +	2.000

Students must also complete 67% of attempted hours in order to remain eligible for financial aid. This is found through a ratio of earned hours divided by attempted hours. Students must also complete their degree program within 150% of the credit hour requirements for the degree. This means that if your degree requires 120 hours that you have 180 attempted hours to complete it and still to be eligible for aid. If a student changes majors and exceeds this 180 hours, aid will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

Financial Aid Deadlines

January 1, 2012: 2012-2013 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) became available online at <http://fasfa.gov>

March 1, 2012: Deadline to apply for-

The Promise Scholarship

The WV Science , Engineering, and Technology Scholarship

The Underwood-Smith Teacher Scholarship

April 16, 2012: Deadline to submit FAFSA to be considered for WV Higher Education Grant.

For more information see cfwv.com

CU Holds Fall 2011 Commencement from CU News Release

ATHENS, W.Va. - Concord University held Fall Commencement on Saturday, Dec. 17, 2011 in the Leslie R. and Ruby Webb Carter Center. The ceremony began at 11 a.m. in the main gym.

Candidates meeting requirements for graduation in December 2011, as well as those who qualified for graduation in August 2011, participated.

The Registrar's Office reports that eight graduate candidates applied for December graduation along with 131 undergraduate candidates. Thirty-six individuals graduated with honors. The Division of Education and Human Performance had the largest number of graduates and the Division of Social Sciences was second.

Of the total number of graduates, 120 are West Virginia residents. Other states represented include Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Virginia and Florida.

Three international students representing Japan and Canada are also among the graduates.

Valedictorian is Penny Susan Lawson of Athens, W.Va. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in studio art, summa cum laude. This is Lawson's third degree from Concord. She earned two degrees in 1989 as a non-traditional student.

A reception was held in the Carter Center small gym following the ceremony.



Penny Susan Lawson – Valedictorian
*Concord University Photo by Lance
McDaniel*



Listen to WCUR Student Radio

Student produced public relations are not only limited to the *Concordian* student newspaper. Students within Radio Workshop classes will host a weekly one to two hour show. Students will also produce news, sports, and public service announcements. When student-produced programming is not on the air, the radio staff and students are working towards a 24/7 automated broadcast system. This would allow the station to always have music playing. The radio station can be heard online at <http://wcur.concord.edu>.

PETE BALLARD NAMED CONCORD UNIVERSITY'S 2012 GRAND GROUNDHOG WATCHER

from CU News Release

ATHENS, W.Va. – Artist, educator and Concord alumnus Pete Ballard has been named Grand Groundhog Watcher for the 34th Annual Concord University Groundhog Day Breakfast. The yearly gathering of food, fellowship and folklore will be held on Thursday, Feb. 2, 2012 at 8 a.m. in the Jerry L. Beasley Student Center Ballroom on the Athens campus.

The Grand Groundhog Watcher honor is bestowed on an individual who has positively impacted life and culture in West Virginia.

Ballard was born in Welch, W.Va. and received a degree in education from Concord in 1953. He taught for many years at the North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston-Salem, N.C. His career as an educator also took him to Saudi Arabia, Vietnam and China.

He is a nationally known costume designer, museum costume historian and conservator. His exquisitely designed and crafted fashion dolls and hat dolls have also brought him acclaim as an artist. These delightful creations are part of numerous museum collections, all donated by Ballard.

In the area of civic involvement, he has served as board chairman for the Coal Heritage Highway Authority of West Virginia and commissioner on the West Virginia Archives and History Commission and the West Virginia Commission on the Arts.

The recipient of many awards and honors, Ballard was named Concord University's Golden Alumnus in 2007. He is among the Outstanding Educators in America and has received the Order of the Arts and Historical Letters from the West Virginia Division of Culture and History.

His work with costumes earned the Award of Merit from the North Carolina Historic Preservation Society and a Golden Globe Award from the National Retail Merchants Associates. The West Virginia Cultural Center hosted a gala in his honor and an exhibition of his fashion dolls and paintings in 2007.

He is recipient of the Distinguished West Virginian award – the most prestigious honor presented by the governor – and the State's Order of the 35th Star. Ballard currently resides in Peterstown, W.Va. where his art continues to flourish with the addition of new dolls and paintings.

Ballard will share the spotlight with Concord Charlie. The famed groundhog weather prophet has a standing appointment with Concord University's President each year to offer his predictions and insights on the duration of winter. President Gregory F. Aloia will relay Charlie's forecast to the breakfast guests.

According to Groundhog Day tradition, if Concord Charlie sees his shadow the morning of Feb. 2, six more weeks of winter can be expected. An early spring will be on the way if he doesn't see his shadow.

The Concord Charlie tradition was originated in 1978 by the late Professor R.T. "Tom" Hill. As chairman of both the geography department and the Appalachian Studies program at Concord, he started the Groundhog Day Breakfast as a means to celebrate a bit of Appalachian heritage and highlight the program.

Cost for this year's ham and eggs breakfast is \$10 per person in advance or \$12 at the door. Current members of the Concord University Alumni Association (2011-2012) may attend the event for \$8. Reservations are requested.

For additional information about the breakfast, including payment options and to make reservations, contact the Concord University Office of Advancement at 304-384-6311 or advancement@concord.edu

Persons with disabilities should contact Nancy Ellison, 1-304-384-6086 or 1-800-344-6679 extension 6086 if special assistance is required for access to an event scheduled by the University on campus.



Concord Students Place Fourth in National Mock Trial Competition from CU News Release

ATHENS, W.Va. – Concord University’s mock trial team placed fourth in the Phi Alpha Delta Fraternity’s National Pre-Law Conference and Mock Trial Competition held in Washington, D.C. Nov. 9 -12. This is the seventh Concord team to have been in the final four of the competition in the last seven years.

Eight Concord students participated in the Mock Trial Competition. They were divided into two teams. The team of Joseph Dean II, Anthony Heltzel, Grace Hurney and Karina Rahall made it into the final round of four teams. They squared up against the team from Texas Tech University in the final round. The judges’ scores for the teams ended in a tie. The tie-breaker went to Texas Tech. First and second place went to the two teams from the University of Florida. Concord’s other mock trial team consisted of Angela Cannon, Bradley Click, Danielle Knight and Chelsey Rowe.



Concord’s two mock trial teams at the Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Conference

The mock trial case this year concerned whether an 18-year-old with Asperger’s Syndrome was guilty of theft and unauthorized use of a 1967 Shelby Ford Mustang. The defendant claimed that, due to his Asperger’s, he believed that he had permission to use the car and did not fully understand questions by the police when he allegedly confessed to the crime.

Pre-law undergraduate students from universities across the United States competed in the trial competition. Concord was joined in the competition by much larger schools including teams from the University of Florida, the University of Arizona, Louisiana State University, Central Florida University, Texas Tech University, the University of Houston, Western Illinois University, Florida Gulf Coast University and Florida International University.

Concord’s mock trial teams are coached by Marshall S. Campbell. A local attorney, Campbell is a pre-law instructor at Concord, and the University’s Director of Human Resources.

“I am extremely proud of the members of Concord’s teams,” Campbell said. “They continued the legacy of bringing a competitive ‘final four’ team to the competition. The positive result again this year evidences Concord’s strong legal studies and pre-law program.”

The competition is part of the Phi Alpha Delta Fraternity’s National Pre-Law Conference, which also includes speakers on law school applications, financial aid, LSAT test preparation and how to be successful law students.

Campbell thanked several local judges. “We went to the Mercer County Courthouse on Nov. 1 and had local Circuit Judges Derek Swope, William Sadler and Omar Aboulhoshn and Family Court Judge Mary Ellen Griffith judge practice rounds. We greatly appreciate their willingness to assist us. Their excellent advice on the case is invaluable,” he said.

Besides the mock trial class, Concord offers a variety of pre-law classes that assist students in preparing for law school or other careers

CU Mourns the Loss of One of Their Own– Dr. Charles Grindstaff from CU News Release

ATHENS, W.Va. – Concord University is mourning the loss of Dr. Charles Curtis Grindstaff, Associate Professor of Education. Dr. Grindstaff passed away unexpectedly Friday Dec. 2.

A highly respected educator and community servant on the Concord campus and throughout southern West Virginia and southwest Virginia, Dr. Grindstaff joined the Concord University Faculty in 2008 after 39 years of service as both a teacher and administrator in the public schools. His experience spanned all grade levels, which included positions as a principal of the elementary school, middle school, high school, and career and technical school, as well as, a supervisor at the district level. For more than 15 years he served the Town of Tazewell as councilman and mayor, a position he held at the time of his death. He performed in local theater and was an avid sportsman and musician.

Dr. Grindstaff applied his understanding of administration as an instructor in Concord's Educational Leadership Master's program. In addition, he taught undergraduate courses in assessment for the Teacher Preparation program.



"The entire Concord University community is deeply saddened by the loss of Dr. Grindstaff," Concord University President Dr. Gregory F. Aloia said. "He was admired and respected for his outstanding abilities as an educator and his exceptional character and friendship. He adhered to the highest standards in the classroom, and he had a gift for connecting with students that encouraged them in their studies and challenged them to reach for excellence."

"He was a well respected and loved faculty member whose impression on students, faculty and staff was that of a servant-leader," Concord University Interim Vice President and Academic Dean Dr. Kendra Boggess said. "He was humble. He always tried his very best to take care of student needs and they are just heartbroken about what has happened, as are all of us at Concord."

"Dr. Grindstaff was an asset to the Teacher Education Program at Concord. He brought a wealth of experience and expertise to our undergraduate and graduate students, and was a role model for all of us. He will be sorely missed," Dr. Kathryn L. Liptak, chair of Concord's Division of Education and Human Performance and director of Teacher Education, said.

A resident of Tazewell, Va., Dr. Grindstaff grew up in Bishop, Va. and graduated from Tazewell High School, East Tennessee State University, Radford University and NOVA University.

Dr. Grindstaff was a nationally certified evaluator for AdvancEd, and served as the Chair on numerous Quality Assurance Review Team visits to schools within the state of Virginia. While at Concord University, he served on the Strategic Planning and the Human Resources Advisory Committees.

Along with Dr. Anita Reynolds and Dr. Terry Mullins, he made presentations at state, national, and international conferences, showcasing their 21st Century innovative online team-teaching approach for Educational Psychology, Assessment and Technology (EPAT). Dr. Grindstaff and his two colleagues received the Excellence in Teaching Award at Concord University for their work on EPAT. In addition, he was honored by the Student Government Association with the Friedl Award in May, 2011, for teaching excellence.

-CU-



Marsh Hall added to Cat's Meow Collection

A campus landmark is part of the Cat's Meow collection. The Pine Trees Chapter of the Concord University Alumni Association commissioned a miniature of Marsh Hall and the delightful collectible is available for \$15.

Proceeds help fund a Pine Trees scholarship for Concord freshmen. The piece features the Marsh Memorial Carillon. For more information, email the chapter at pinetreesalumnichapter@hotmail.com or call 304-384-9457. The Advancement Office can also provide ordering information at advancement@concord.edu or 304-384-6311.

FERPA Release of Information

In accordance with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), all information regarding a student's record, with the exception of certain directory information, is considered private between the student and the university and requires a release for discussion of this information with a third party. The student may wish to grant permission to all or some information, including financial aid, student accounts, grades, and other university information to a parent, spouse, employer, agency, or other person of the student's choosing.

Students wishing to release information to a third party can do so by completing the FERPA/ Information Release Form. Directions for completing the form are outlined below:

Students should: Log into MyCU (<http://mycu.concord.edu>)

Click on the Student tab

Click on FERPA/Information Release under the Information box on the left side of the screen

Complete the form, assigning a PIN number for the individuals to whom you are granting permission to your indicated university information

Provide the PIN number to the person(s) to whom you are allowing information access. NOTE: Information will not be released to an authorized individual without the person knowing the PIN. This is for your protection.

Sports News from Kyle Cooper, Sports Information Director



New Softball coach is Ready to Hit the Field

The biggest news from Concord Athletics is the hiring of Alisa Tasler as the Mountain Lions' new softball head coach, following a nationwide search.

Tasler comes to CU after six seasons as head coach at Neosho County Community College in Chanute, KS. The Panthers recorded a .538 winning percentage in the rugged Jayhawk Conference the last two seasons.

Tasler's last two squads at NCCC posted the highest team grade point average in that school's athletic department. Tasler began her coaching career as an assistant at Pittsburg State University in Kansas.

A native of Newcastle, OK, Tasler played softball and basketball at Northern Oklahoma College. She set a number of school records as a pitcher and helped the basketball squad to back-to-back conference championships.

Tasler will also serve as Concord's Game day Management Administrator.

The Lady Lions open their 2012 season on Saturday, February 11, with a visit to non-conference foe Fayetteville State (NC). CU's first home date is Tuesday, March 20, when Lees-McRae College (NC) visits Athens for a 3:00 pm doubleheader.

CU Football Receives National Recognition

The Concord football team received national recognition at the very end of 2011, earning a spot in the final American Football Coaches Association NCAA Division II Top 25 national poll.



The AFCA ranked the Mountain Lions 33rd in the country after a 7-4 season that included a WVIAC championship and an appearance in the NCAA tournament.

Concord went 7-1 in the WVIAC to win the league title outright and qualified for the NCAA Super Region 1 playoffs. The Mountain Lions just missed a road upset of 3rd-seeded Kutztown University (PA), falling 17-14 on November 19.

The WVIAC championship was CU's first since 1990 and its playoff appearance was the first since 1992.

CU Basketball headed towards the top

Concord's women's basketball team took a 9-2 record into mid-January, including a seven-game winning streak that lasted from November 22 to December 31.

The Lady Lions are 6-1 in the WVIAC and stood in 1st place with 15 games remaining. The conference's pre-season coaches' poll predicted CU would finish 2nd in the league.



CU's men's basketball team went into mid-January with a 7-4 record. The Mountain Lions bracketed the New Year by winning four out of five games and stood at 4-3 in the WVIAC.

Concord is squarely in the running for a finish in the league's top half, and home-court advantage in the first round of the conference tournament in late February.

Women's Soccer Receives Academic Honors

This past December, the Concord's women's soccer team found out it's among the winners of the National Soccer Coaches Association's Team Academic Award for the 2010-11 school year.



The Lady Lions posted a cumulative grade point average of 3.27 in 2010-11. To qualify for the NSCA honor, a team must post a grade point average of 3.0 or better.

Concord's men's soccer team also got some good news as 2011 drew to a close. The National Soccer Coaches Association of America named Ivan Deyanov to its All-Atlantic Region 3rd Team.

CU Student qualified for Championship

In men's indoor track and field, R.J. Anderson has provisionally qualified for the NCAA championships in the 60-meter dash and 200 meter sprint.

The senior from Seffner, FL has at least seven meets left this season to secure a spot in the national meet, which will be held March 9-10 in Mankato, MN.



Visit our website at
<http://concord.edu>

Changes to Athens Campus Offices

To better serve students and families the Athens campus has relocated several offices, including:

Financial Aid— Marsh Hall 204, across from Admissions

Housing and Residence Life —Student Center Room 201 and 209, formerly Financial Aid

Dr. Marjie Flanigan, VP of Student Affairs — Student Center Room 201, formerly Financial Aid

Student Support Services— Rahall Atrium, formerly Housing and Residence Life

Academic Success Center — Rahall Atrium, formerly Judicial Affairs & Continuing Education.

All phone extensions, emails, and campus addresses are the same.

A Message from Admissions

Dear Parents Club Member,
 The Office of Admissions is currently looking for new Mountain Lions. If you know of a potential Concord student, please let us know. I thank you for recommending potential students to join our Concord family. Submit the following information through email: admissions@concord.edu or call toll-free 1-888-384-5249:

Student's name, address, phone number, e-mail, name of high school and graduation date.

Sincerely,

Kent Gamble, Director of Enrollment
 Kent Gamble

UNIVERSITY
POINT

The perfect venue
for your

Wedding
or
Special Event

1-304-384-6286
cuevents@concord.edu
www.concord.edu

