

Concord University

Campus E-News

Faculty/Staff Newsletter

Welcome to a new year and a new look for *Campus E-News*. While the appearance of this publication may have changed, the purpose of CU's faculty/staff online newsletter remains the same: To provide interesting, helpful and newsworthy information to the campus community.

As we settle into the month of January, our focus turns to the opportunities awaiting us in 2022. A fresh new year – and in the academic world – a brand new semester are before us. This is a time of setting goals and making plans for what we want to accomplish in the days ahead.

For all Concordians, 2022 brings the milestone of “150 Years of Concord.” The year-long celebration that began during Homecoming 2021 continues with an array of events and activities. [Click here](#) for more information.

Happy New Year & Best Wishes for a Bright 2022!



Calendar

Wednesday, Jan. 5

Admissions
Spring Orientation - Virtual

Friday, Jan. 7

Admissions
Spring Orientation - In-person

Monday, Jan. 10

Classes Begin
Spring 2022 Semester

Monday, Jan. 17

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Holiday - Campus Closed

Wednesday, Jan. 19

CU Collegiate Recovery
Meet & Greet
Noon – 3 p.m.
Student Center
Ground Floor Lobby

Monday, Jan. 24

CU Day at the Legislature
West Virginia State Capitol
Charleston

Thursday, Jan. 27

Paint The Campus Beautiful
With Artist Amy Williams
6 p.m. - Pais Fellowship Hall
University Point

Wednesday, Feb. 2

Groundhog Day Breakfast
8 a.m. – Pais Fellowship Hall
Featuring Concord Charlie &
Grand Groundhog Watcher
Mr. Stacey Hicks

CU Celebrates 23rd Fall Commencement during Three In-Person Ceremonies



Valedictorian Chris Billings

Members of CU's Fall 2021 class had their moment in the spotlight during three Commencement ceremonies, all held in the Carter Center main gym. Master's degree candidates for graduation were honored the evening of Dec. 10. Candidates for undergraduate degrees were recognized on Dec. 11 during ceremonies at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Christopher Adam Billings of Princeton, W.Va. is the class valedictorian. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, *summa cum laude*. His major was business administration with a concentration in marketing and an entrepreneurship minor.

Cydney Smith Fields, the reigning Mrs. West Virginia America, brought the keynote address. Fields earned a both a Bachelor of Social Work and a Master of Social Work from Concord.

The Commencement ceremonies are archived on [CU's YouTube channel](#).

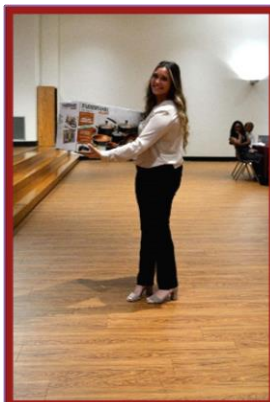


Mrs. West Virginia America Cydney Fields

Congratulations Graduates!

Soon-to-be Graduates Honored at Senior Dinner

A special tradition at Concord continued this past semester with the Senior Dinner. The gathering, held in the Student Center Ballroom the evening of Dec. 2, honored the Fall 2021 class.



Seniors and their guests enjoyed a meal together and the soon-to-be graduates had an opportunity to win door prizes.



Director of Alumni and Donor Relations Blake Farmer presents Valedictorian Chris Billings with a Concord memento.

Collegiate Recovery



CU Collegiate Recovery Coach Brandon Whitehouse is hosting a Meet & Greet on Jan. 19 and Mood Disorder Education and Awareness Day on Jan. 26. Both events will be held from noon to 3 p.m. in the Ground Floor Lobby of the Student Center. Brandon assists and supports CU students by advocating and providing prevention and recovery resources. He may be contacted at bwhitehouse@concord.edu or 304-800-7945.

Paint Night



Paint "The Campus Beautiful" with local artist Amy Williams on Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 6 p.m. in the Pais Fellowship Hall.

Enjoy light refreshments, food, and fellowship while painting your very own masterpiece! RSVP [here](#).

CU Donates to Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program



Since 1988, the Concord community has supported the Salvation Army's Angel Tree program, bringing a brighter holiday to countless children. The outpouring of generosity continued in 2021 with donations of bicycles, bags of toys, clothes and other gifts.

Groundhog Day Breakfast Plans Underway

Join Grand Groundhog Watcher Stacey Hicks, Princeton Rescue Squad CEO, on Wednesday, Feb. 2 at 8 a.m. to learn if Concord Charlie predicts an early spring or 6 more weeks of winter!

Concord's popular Groundhog Day Breakfast will be held in the Pais Fellowship Hall. You may make your reservations [here](#).

President's Ball



Enjoy an elegant evening of dancing and dining as the CU community celebrates 150 Years of Concord at the President's Ball on Saturday, Feb. 26.

Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. followed by live musical entertainment, all in the Student Center Ballroom. RSVP [here](#).

Save the Date



Saturday, March 19
Benefitting the Seat for U
Theatre Renovation
More info [here](#).



Hundreds of Students Enjoy Late Night Breakfast during Finals Week

Faculty and staff volunteers served 242 students at the Late Night Breakfast during finals week. Volunteers included: Michael Bean, Sarah Beasley, Dave and Kim Chambers, Angela Fedele, Kevin Jennings, Todd May, Tony Patricia, Ray Smith, Lindsey Spangler, and Carolyn Worley. Special thanks to Aramark's Kristen Bailey, Shannon Boyles, and staff for the delicious meal.



Submitted by:
Sarah Beasley
Vice President of Student Affairs &
Dean of Students

COVID-19 UPDATE FOR CONCORD UNIVERSITY

Throughout the pandemic of 2020, 2021, and now 2022, guidance and requirements have changed frequently. Over winter break, additional guidance has been received regarding "Pre-semester Testing" and both "Quarantine and Isolation." Please read this notice carefully and see the CDC link for full details at <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s1227-isolation-quarantine-guidance.htm>.

Pre-Semester Testing

All on-campus University employees and on-campus contractors are required to complete a rapid COVID test. The testing will be provided **at Concord**. The testing schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, January 4, 2022	9am-1pm Ballroom – CU and EDC STAFF & CUSTODIAL (HES)
Friday, January 7, 2022	9am-1pm Ballroom – FACULTY
Sat./Sun., January 8-9, 2022	2pm-9pm North Towers Lobby – RESIDENTIAL STUDENTS
Mon./Tues., January 10-11, 2022	9am-4pm Ballroom – COMMUTER STUDENTS & ARAMARK and ANY FACULTY/STAFF who were not on campus 1/4 or 1/7)

Upon entry to testing site, individuals will be provided a self-administered rapid test. Any positive rapid test will be followed up with a PCR test administered by one of our medical staff. There is no charge for this testing event.

Quarantine and Isolation Guidance

The CDC has shortened the recommended time for quarantine and isolation for individuals exposed to, and/or infected with, the COVID-19 virus. The change is motivated by science demonstrating that the majority of SARS-CoV-2 transmission occurs early in the course of the illness, generally in the 1-2 days prior to onset of symptoms and the 2-3 days after.

Given the role of the booster in determining quarantine requirements, please submit your updated proof of vaccination with booster to www.concord.edu/vaccine. We will need to know your status for contact tracing purposes.

Quarantine

The CDC has updated the recommended quarantine period for individuals who are exposed to the COVID virus, i.e., close contacts. Quarantine refers to the time following exposure to the virus or close contact with someone known to have COVID-19.

- A. Individuals who are **unvaccinated or** are more than six months out from their second mRNA dose (or more than 2 months after the J&J vaccine) and **not yet boosted**, are to quarantine for 5 days.
- B. Individuals who are within six months of having received the two dose Moderna or Pfizer vaccine series or within two months of having received the J&J vaccine and not eligible, therefore, for the booster are not required to quarantine.
- C. Individuals who have been **fully vaccinated and received their booster shot do not need to quarantine** following an exposure.

- D. If **symptoms occur**, individuals should immediately **quarantine** until a negative test confirms symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19.
- E. For all those exposed, **best practice** would also include a test for SARS-CoV-2 at day 5 after exposure. Encouraged but not required by CU.

Isolation

Isolation relates to behavior after a confirmed infection to help prevent the potential spread of the infection to others. **People with COVID-19 should isolate for 5 days, if asymptomatic. COVID positive individuals with symptoms must remain in isolation at least 5 days and continue isolating until their fever has remained below 100 degrees for at least 24 hours and other symptoms are resolving.**

SAFETY ALERT

Recent TikTok activity regarding threats against schools, violent events around the country, and unprecedented storms serve as reminders that we must be ever vigilant with regard to safety and security.

- Our mantra is, as the scouts say, "Be Prepared." Each of us must be aware of our surroundings and know what to do in the event of an emergency. CU has an all hazards emergency plan – Call 911. Get yourself, and if possible others, to safety away from the hazard, i.e., outside. Do not attempt to leave in your vehicle.
- If you see something [suspicious], say something®. Call 911 and CU Public Safety to report known or suspected threats. Report any suspicious behavior or occurrence.
- If you receive a threat by phone, do not hang up. Listen carefully, record as much information as possible. Write down the number if displayed, and call 911 from a different phone. Do NOT use a cell phone, radio, pull the fire alarm.
- Homeland Security provides a helpful checklist for anyone receiving a bomb threat. It may be useful for other emergencies as well. The Threat Procedure is included with this Alert.
- Be familiar with multiple exits from each floor and building. Exits are clearly marked and you should have a plan for exiting in the event of fire or other emergency. Enter the stairwell, walk downstairs, and open the exit door, and continue walking until you reach a safe place away from the building.
- If someone is threatened by a weapon, then Call 911 to report the threat. Remember the priorities for active shooter situations: Run, Hide, Fight
 - If it is safe to do so, get out of the area. Do not go to your vehicle and attempt to drive away.
 - If it is not safe to run, then hide. Stay low and away from windows. Lock and barricade the door, if possible.
 - If you are in immediate danger, then counter attack. Throw objects at the intruder. If with others, group swarm and subdue the intruder until public safety arrives.

Submitted by:
Daniel Fitzpatrick
Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Chief Human Resources Officer

Campus E-News Submission Reminder

Please submit items to be considered for publication in the February 2022 issue to sdalton@concord.edu by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, January 19, 2022. Thank you.