

The Scoop

Dear Parents,

We hope that everyone enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving with their students, family, and friends! The hectic final weeks of the semester are here, with students completing assignments and projects, studying and taking final exams, and preparing for the end of the semester. After finals conclude, students will enjoy a month-long break before heading back for spring semester. Spring 2015 semester classes begin on Monday, January 12th. If your student has not yet registered for spring classes, there's still time to do so before heading off campus for the holidays.

For our December graduates, this time is often bittersweet, as they prepare for the next phase of their lives as Concord alumni! There are many activities planned for our graduates, including senior recitals and art exhibits, the Senior Dinner on Thursday, December 4th, and more.

On behalf of the Parents Club, thanks for your support during the semester! We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season, filled with joy and peace. And, of course, congratulations to our December graduates and their families! We hope you will stay in touch and visit often!



CONCORD UNIVERSITY TEAM PLACES FIRST IN SERMACS COLLEGE CHEMISTRY BOWL (Media Release, Sarah Dalton)

ATHENS, W.Va. – A team of four Concord University students won first place at the Southeastern Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society (SERMACS) College Chemistry Bowl held earlier this month in Nashville, Tenn.

Lucas Bolyard, Katherine Engo, Stacy Farley and Jesse Kidd took top honors following several rounds of a quiz bowl competition fashioned after the classic General Electric Television “College Bowl.”

The four students are members of Concord University’s American Chemical Society and were joined at the 66th SERMACS by fellow CU student members Rachel Bishop and Katherine Collins. During the meeting, the students attended seminars and poster sessions focused on various areas of chemical research, and visited with job recruiters and graduate school representatives.

Stacy Farley presented a poster titled “Immunoglobulin G biosensor based on surface-enhanced Raman scattering.” The poster presented the results from her research conducted during the summer at West Virginia University as part of the NanoSAFE REU program.

Jesse Kidd presented a poster titled “Mechanical activation of covalently linked spiropyran in PDMS networks.” His

poster also presented results from his summer research experience. Jesse participated in CCMR REU at Cornell University.

Stacy and Jesse are currently participants in the McNair Scholars Program, which prepares undergraduates for the graduate school application process and the graduate school experience.

Accompanying the students were Concord faculty members Dr. Dana Alloway, associate professor of chemistry; Dr. Kimberly Chambers, assistant professor of chemistry and biochemistry; and Dr. Darrell Crick, associate professor of chemistry. The conference was held Oct. 16 - Oct. 1.



Structural Geology Field Trip: Sauratown Mountains

-Dr. Joseph Allen

Students enrolled in Concord's structural geology course (GEOL 385) spent the weekend of November 1-2 camping at Pilot Mountain State Park, North Carolina to study the geology of the Sauratown Mountains. The students are junior and senior majors in Concord's environmental geosciences degree program. For some students, it was the first time they had been camping since they were in elementary school!



West Virginia Art Education Association Awards and Honors 2014

--Dr. Lauri Reidmiller

The West Virginia Art Education Association 2014 State Conference was held at the Parkersburg Art Center October 17-18. During the conference Associate Professor of Art, Dr. Lauri Reidmiller, was awarded the 2014 West Virginia Higher Art Educator of the Year. This award recognizes excellence in teaching, leadership, and contribution to the field of Art Education at the university and state levels.

The West Virginia 2014 Higher Education Art Education Student of the year award recognizes contributions to the field of Art Education at the university level. The recipient of the 2014 award is Concord University's art education student, Kimberly Sexton. Mrs. Sexton is presently student teaching in Raleigh County and looking forward to graduating. She is also the recipient of the 2014 Outstanding Senior in Art Education Award given by the Concord University's Art Department.

The West Virginia 2014 Elementary Art Educator of the year award recognizes exemplary teaching performance in the classroom. The recipient of the 2014 award is Wayne "David" Poticher III. David is a recent graduate and alumni of Concord University's Art Education program. Mr. Poticher teaches at Rainelle Elementary and Crichton Elementary. He is also the recipient of the 2013 Outstanding Art Educator in the Field Award given by the Concord University's Art Department.

"The recipients of these awards are multi-talented, hardworking, and dedicated educators who embody why art education is so vital. They have both served as presidents of the Concord University National Art Education Association Student Chapter, presented at state conferences, traveled to National conferences and serve their local communities.



Beckley Campus Events

-Lori Pace

Chili Night



As always, there are lots of activities happening at the Erma Byrd Higher Education Center (HEC)! Sociology students sponsored a Tailgate Halloween booth for Just For Kids Child Advocacy on October 25. Roar was there to greet the over 1,000 children and their families. Later that afternoon, James Miller, Beckley SGA Delegate, sponsored a Concord Student day at the Beckley Area Derby Dames “Night of the Living Derby.”

Beckley Gerontology students visited the Veterans Administration on November 3, bringing donations of snacks, laundry supplies and socks to the two floors of retired veterans. Korean War veteran, Edward Cucumber, an 80 year old Cherokee, sang Amazing Grace in his native language for the students, and they visited many of the other residents who have served all branches of the military. Students were reminded how essential volunteers and donations are to support the services of the Beckley Veterans Administration. If you would like more information about the VA, contact Cheryl Yost at 304-255-2121 ext 4162.

Concord University’s Beckley Campus had a presence in this year’s Veterans’ Parade held in Beckley on November 11, and will participate in the Christmas Parade on Dec. 6.

Sociology students are considering the department’s new internship program where field placement time builds their resume, affords experience in multiple agencies, and earns credit hours. Twenty students attended the Criminal Justice Task Force’s (CJTF) two day Crimes Against Children conference in Charleston November 19 and 20 with instructor Lori Pace. This is an extraordinary training and networking opportunity afforded by over \$1,000 worth of scholarships from the CJTF.

James Miller will sponsor this year’s “Connect & Relax” week at the HEC December 1-4 with food, fellowship, and fun planned each day of that week before finals. If your student attends classes in Beckley, tell him or her to look for posters with more information and check the Facebook page, “Concord Beckley Student Services,” for updates.

-Lori Pace



Financial Aid and Business Office-Courtesy of Debbie Turner, Financial Aid Director (finaid@concord.edu; 304-384-6069)

Withdrawing from classes has an impact on future eligibility for financial aid. Colleges are required to have a Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) policy to determine if students are meeting a grade point average (GPA) requirement and completion ratio to ensure they are on pace to graduate within 150% of the program. Concord's SAP policy is located on our web page at www.concord.edu, click on Quick Access, then the Financial Aid link (scroll down to locate the policy). Currently available via http://www.concord.edu/userfiles/files/Financial-Aid/Finaid_SAP_Policy.pdf

There are times when it is better for a student to withdraw from a class than receive a failing grade, but the class will count toward the completion ratio. Students must pass 67% of the classes they attempt. For example, a student enrolled in 12 hours who withdraws from one class the completion ratio would be 75% (9 hrs earned divided by 12 hrs attempted), so the student is above the 67% requirement. But if the student withdraws from two classes, the completion ratio drops to 50%, and the student is not meeting the 67% completion ratio requirement. Students not meeting any of the standards of the SAP policy are ineligible to receive financial aid in the future. Students are given a one semester "Warning" status to correct the deficiency.

If after the warning semester, the student is still not meeting SAP, he/she must appeal to be considered to receive aid in the future. Refer to the policy regarding the appeal process. If a student becomes ineligible for aid, it does not matter how long he/she sits out. They will always be ineligible. The student will have to submit an appeal and be approved to be eligible to receive aid.

* In addition to meeting SAP to be eligible for financial aid, some awards have additional renewal criteria. For example, WV students receiving the Promise Scholarship must complete 30 hours and meet a minimum GPA requirement to be eligible for the next year. If a student withdraws from a class, he/she may not meet the renewal criteria for a grant or scholarship. If your student has questions about the SAP policy or how withdrawing from a class will affect future eligibility for financial aid, please have them contact our office.

Career/Advancement Services

Tammy Monk-Director

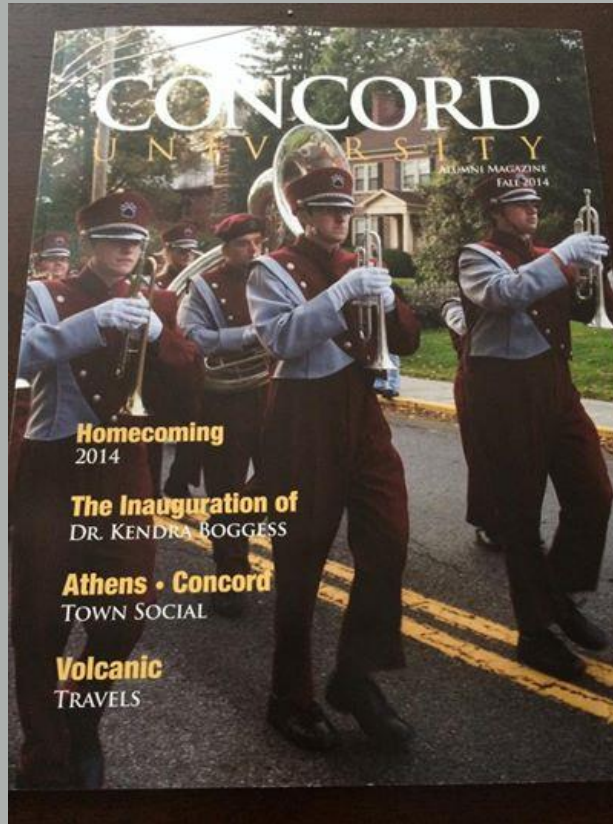
Commencement is fast approaching. The Career Services office and Alumni office will be hosting a senior dinner for our December graduates on Thursday, December 4 at 5:00 pm. Graduating seniors will be our guests for the evening. Parents and other guests are welcome to attend the dinner at a cost of \$23.00 per person. Graduating seniors were sent an e-invite prior to Thanksgiving break. Reservations are required for the evening. Each graduate will receive a small gift and there will be door prizes as well! Graduates will also be able to pick up their commencement regalia at the dinner. Students choosing not to attend the dinner will need to pick up their cap and gown at the Bookstore starting Friday, December 5 through commencement day. The Bookstore will be open for your convenience on Saturday, December 13 from 10:00 am-2:00 pm.

FYI- The cost of cap and gown is covered in the graduation fee that a student pays when applying for graduation. If students meets the academic requirements, they will be eligible to purchase an honor stole at a cost of \$19.50. Masters' students will pay an additional \$32.00 for their master's hood. Occasionally students wish to purchase an extra tassel, which is available at a cost of \$5.00. All of these purchases can be made through the Bookstore.

Graduating students are reminded to close out mailboxes with the Mail Office before leaving campus. December graduates should also make certain all of their contact information is updated with the Registrar's office before leaving Concord.

December graduates are also reminded that they should schedule a time to meet with the Career Services staff. Staff are available to critique resumes, provide help in preparing for an interview, planning a job search, etc. Upcoming graduates can make an appointment by calling the Career Services office at 304-384-5325.

The Career Services office is selling Concord BBQ aprons to raise money for the senior dinner. Cost is \$15.00 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling if you'd like the apron mailed to you. A great gift for the Mt. Lion in your life! If you'd like to purchase an apron, please email your information to: careerservices@concord.edu. Thanks in advance for your support of our senior dinner!



Check out the latest edition of CU Alumni magazine!

Looking for Concord Christmas gifts for your student? The Alumni Office has a McComas Hall ornament for sale for \$20 and a P. Buckley Moss print of “The Campus Beautiful” for sale for \$100. Contact the office at alumni@concord.edu or 304-384-5348 to purchase yours today!



Intramurals

-Chris Smallwood, Recreation and Wellness Coordinator

Congrats to our 2014 Co-Ed Flag Football Champions, *The Replacements*, who went undefeated for the season and the playoffs. One of the best teams ever in Intramural Flag Football history who played well every game and exhibited great sportsmanship throughout the season, they will receive Champion t-shirts of their choice of color and design.

Congrats to all 12 teams and all 120 students who participated this year as well as our fan base who came to watch the games. It was one of the best seasons ever!

The Tourney results for the eight teams that made the playoffs were:

- 1) The Replacements
- 2) Real Tree
- 3) Concord's Most Wanted
- 4) Furry Turtles
- 5) Car Ramrod

- 6) Llamas4Lyfe
- 7) Kobe
- 8) RAs



Academic Success Center

Is your student in need of assistance with coursework or study skills? As we prepare for the spring semester, some students and parents may be reflecting on the past semester with a little anxiety. The ASC has many resources to help with coursework, including:

- **SMARTHINKING**-- a free online tutoring program that provides tutors 24/7 for most classes;
- **Drop-In-Tutoring**-- we can refer you to one of the peer tutors for help with your class;
- **ASC Study Hall**--one-on-one assistance with study skills; organized study groups; mentor program. Stop by the ASC office in the Rahall Atrium, Suite 243!
- **Study skills** -- learn how to focus your study time for the best results.
- **Khan Academy** -- a free online resource with over 3,200 videos with instruction

on everything from arithmetic to physics, finance, and history and hundreds of skills to practice at your own pace.

For more information, contact Program Coordinator Steve Jarvis at 304-384-6074 or Director Sarah Beasley at 304-384-6298.

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 www.concord.edu/administration/business-office .

Business Office

8am to 4pm Monday to Friday

Cashier's Office

8:30am to 3:30pm Open during

Technology Help Desk and Support

The IT Help Desk is Concord University's single point of contact for all technology related issues for students, faculty, and staff. If you encounter a problem with anything from accessing email to using Blackboard or Banner, the IT Help Desk is here to offer the technology support that you need. [We encourage you to look through our Frequently Asked Questions section at](#)

<http://www.concord.edu/student-affairs/academic-success-center/faq> when a problem arises; you will find answers to many of the most commonly asked questions there. If you are encountering an issue that isn't covered in the FAQ, then please contact the IT Help Desk either by phone, email, or in person.

Hours of Operation: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m. and Friday 7:30 a.m.-4:00p.m.

**Phone Numbers: On Campus – ext. 5291
Off Campus – (304) 384-5291**

Email: cuhelpdesk@concord.edu

Emergency Text Alert System CU has 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 <http://sms.concord.edu/>. If you have any questions, please call the IT help desk at ext.5291 or by email at cuhelpdesk@concord.edu.

Student E-news: We are pleased to announce the launch of a new electronic publication for students. The Student E-News is designed to keep students informed of important resources, deadlines, processes and campus happenings to ensure that students stay current. E-news is emailed to students' Concord email addresses and is archived on the university's website via <http://www.concord.edu/student-affairs/student-e-news>. The first Student E-news was distributed in mid-November, with a second edition slated for early spring 2015 semester. The Student E-news is a collaborative effort of Student Affairs, Advancement, the Academic Success Center, Career Services, Admissions, Academic Affairs, and other campus offices and administrative offices.





Congratulations to the Concord University Mountain Lions football team for its 51-36 victory over West Chester in the NCAA Division II Playoffs on Nov. 29th! This was Concord's first-ever home playoff game at Callaghan Stadium. Next up, the Mountain Lions take on Bloomsburg on Saturday, December 6th at noon. Come cheer on the team at Callaghan Stadium as the Mountain Lions hope to continue their undefeated 2014 season! Visit cumountainlions.com for more information. *Go CU!!*

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 you can visit www.remind.com/join/cuparents or text the message “@cuparents” (without quotes) to (304) 241-2045.

Important Numbers

- Main Phone: 1-800-344-6679
- Academic Success Center: 1-304-384-6074
- Admissions: 1-888-384-5249 or 1-304-384-5248
- Beckley Center: 1-304-255-0793
- Business Office: 1-304-384-5234
- Career Services: 1-304-384-5325
- Counseling Center: 1-304-384-5290
- Disability Services: 1-304-384-6086
- Financial Aid: 1-304-384-6069
- Housing: 1-304-384-5231
- Police: 1-304-384-5357
- Registrar: 1-304-384-5236
- Student Affairs: 1-304-384-5256
- Student Support Services: 1-304-384-6088



Important Dates

- December 5, Friday-Last Class Day
- December 8, Monday 8am-Final Exams Begin
- December 12, Friday, 5pm-Fall Semester Ends; Residence Halls close (or 24 hours after last exam, whichever is first)
- December 13, Saturday 11am**; Carter Center Main Gymnasium-**Commencement**
- December 17, Wednesday 4pm-Grades available to students via MyCU
- December 23 through January 1-Campus Closed
- January 2, Friday 8am-Administrative Offices Reopen
- January 11, Sunday 9am-midnight: Residence Halls Reopen/Check In
- January 12, Monday 8am**-First day Spring 2015 classes

Commencement Information is available via <http://www.concord.edu/academics/graduation>