

THE SCOOP

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CONCORD UNIVERSITY PARENTS CLUB November - December 2015

Dear Concord Family,

As students, faculty, and staff prepare for the final week of the Fall 2015 semester, this is a great opportunity to look back at the whirlwind of activities that comprised the term. From Move-In Day and Welcome Week, to Homecoming and fall athletics and intramurals, to undergraduate research and student leadership initiatives, the semester has been jam-packed with exciting educational opportunities. Whether inside or outside of the classroom, your students were offered amazing growth experiences that should prove memorable for many, many years to come.

Please know that our faculty and staff remain committed to making a Concord University education one of quality, rigor, and excellence, regardless of discipline or major. Your students are growing intellectually, socially, and personally. I truly believe that Concord is blessed with the best that West Virginia offers—the best students, families, faculty, and staff. From small classes taught by experts in their field, to community service opportunities, to capstone coursework, Concord offers a well-rounded academic experience that is second-to-none.

Of course, we strive for continuous improvement and welcome your suggestions. Please let us know if you have questions or concerns.

On behalf of the Parents Club, we wish you all the best! With love and peace,

Marjie

Marjie Flanigan
Vice President of Student Affairs & Dean of Students

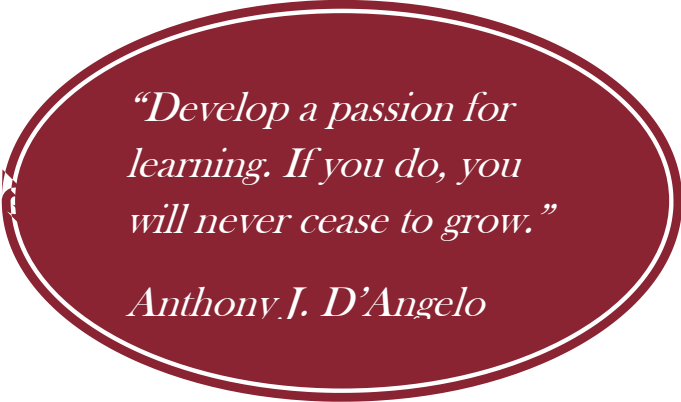
Academic Schedule

Fall 2015

Aug. 17	Classes Begin, Monday, 8am
Aug. 18	Late Registration Fee Begins
Sept. 4	Last Day to Pay Fees
Sept. 4	Last Day for Adding a Course, Friday, 4pm
Sept. 7	Holiday - Labor Day, No Classes
Sept. 15	Graduation Fair, 9:30am-2pm, Ballroom
Sept. 23	Last day to Make Application for Dec. Graduation
Oct. 10	Homecoming
Oct. 15-16	Fall Break, No Classes, Thursday & Friday
Oct. 26-Nov. 6	Advising for Course Selection for Spring 2016
Oct. 30	Last day for Dropping a Course with Grade of "W" or Changing Course Status from Credit to Audit, 4pm
Nov. 2-11	Course selection for Spring 2016 Semester
Nov. 23-27	Thanksgiving Recess, No Classes
Nov. 30	Last Day to Officially Withdraw from the University
Dec. 4	Last Class Day
Dec. 7-11	Fall Semester Exams
Dec. 12	Commencement, 11am, Carter Center gymnasium

Spring 2016

Jan. 11	Classes Begin, Monday, 8:00am
Jan. 12	Late Registration Fee Begins
Jan. 18	Holiday – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, No Classes
Feb. 19	Last day for making application for May graduation
Mar. 14-18	Spring Break Recess, No Classes
Mar. 28-Apr. 8	Advising for course selection for Summer & Fall 2016
Mar. 30-Apr. 8	Course selection for Summer and Fall 2016
April 29	Last Class Day
May 2-6	Spring Semester Exams
May 7	Commencement & Alumni Day



“Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow.”

Anthony J. D’Angelo

Announcements

Registration for Spring 2016 Classes

Early registration for Spring 2016 classes was Nov. 2 – Nov. 11 but web registration will be open until Friday, Jan. 8. Classes begin on Monday, Jan. 11. Returning students must see their academic advisers to receive a six digit advising PIN for web registration.

DegreeWorks

Concord University has a new web-based tool for students to stay on track to graduation. Through DegreeWorks, students can monitor progress towards a degree at any time. A DegreeWorks audit is a comprehensive academic history record; it includes transfer credit, currently enrolled courses, and courses needed to complete the degree. Grade point average can also be calculated through the GPA Calculator and students can check out other majors under the “What If” tab. Access DegreeWorks under the “Student” tab in MyCU. For more information, click [HERE](#).

News from the Business Office, by Vickie Blankenship, Business Manager

The first set of spring bills was generated the week of November 11th. The second and final set of spring bills will be generated the week of December 7th. Please review the bill(s) for accuracy and follow all instructions regarding Confirmation of Attendance and payment. Please remember these are two different processes. Payment is due the first day of the term. Should you wish to utilize the payment plan option, the first payment is due December 18th. See the billing statement for more information. The Business Office will, as is past practice, send reminder emails for Confirmation of Attendance, check-change distribution, and book purchases through financial aid during December. Students will receive MyCU emails for details.

Business Office Hours: 8:00am to 4:00pm Monday to Friday

Cashier's Office Hours: 8:30am to 3:30pm Monday to Friday. We are open during lunch!

Graduation Information

The Concord University Fall 2015 Commencement Ceremony will be held December 12, 2015 at 11:00am in the Carter Center Main Gymnasium. Graduates should report to Gym II no later than 10:00am.

More information such as hospitality services, parking, guest information, climate, and on-line viewing can be found [HERE](#).

The Alumni Association and Career Services will be hosting a dinner for December Graduates on December 3, 2015 at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall at University Point.

December Graduates may pick up their regalia at the Senior Dinner. Those not attending the dinner may pick up their regalia at the bookstore beginning December 4, 2015.

Winter Break Information for Residential Students

Submitted by Bill Fraley, Director of Residence Life

Residence halls will close at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 11, 2015.

Students who do not have prior approval to remain in the buildings are required to vacate the residence halls for breaks at this time or 24 hours after the last final exam, whichever comes first, so make plans now. Students need to request and obtain permission to stay past the stated dates (at an additional cost); please contact the Office of Housing and Residence Life no later than 4 PM on Wednesday, December 9, 2015.

Students must turn in the key and must unplug everything in the room. The room must be cleaned, with the garbage taken out, and windows closed. The Office of Housing and Residence Life will be checking students' rooms for compliance and safety. Please take valuables home over break!

Residence Hall Hours for Check-Out:

Monday - Thursday	Dec. 7-10, 2015	10:00am – Midnight
Friday	Dec. 11, 2015	10:00am – 5:00pm

Spring 2016 semester check-in will be on Sunday, January 10, 2016 from 9:00am – Midnight.

Announcements from Career Services

Concord University's Career Services provides assistance to undergraduate, graduate and former students. We offer guidance in choosing a career path, building a solid resume, interview skills and much more. Considering graduate school? Career Services can help with graduate school research and admission assistance. Looking for experience? We can help with securing job shadowing opportunities and internships. Please contact our office at 304-384-5325 or careerservices@concord.edu to make an appointment.

Career Corner in the Library. Our wonderful Library staff has compiled a fantastic resource center. These resources can assist you on a wide variety of topics including; what can I do with this major, selecting a career, industries with the most growth potential, resume writing, interviewing, how to dress for an interview and much, much more.

Concord University Career Center will be hosting a Career/Job Fair on March 3, 2016. Along with Career opportunities, companies are also offering internships, volunteer opportunities, summer jobs, part-time jobs, and job shadowing opportunities.

Future Mountain Lions by Kent Gamble, Director of Enrollment

The Office of Admissions is seeking new Mountain Lions for the Spring 2016 and Fall 2016 semesters. If you know of any potential Concord University students, please submit their name, address, email and phone number to the Office of Admissions at admissions@concord.edu or call 1-888-384-5249. Thank you in advance for your support in helping us grow the Concord family!

Student Services

Disability Services by Nancy Ellison, Director of Multicultural Affairs

Concord University is committed to working with students with disabilities to assist with academic accommodations that may be necessary and appropriate due to their disability. The Office of Disability Services assists in the coordination of appropriate services, based on each student's individual, documented needs. We also seek to enhance understanding of disabilities and provide support within the campus community. For more information, please see our [Website](#), contact the Office of Disability Services at disabilityservices@concord.edu, 304-384-6086, or stop by Student Center, Room 107.

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

Academic Success Center

Is your student in need of assistance with coursework or study skills? Concord and the Academic Success Center (ASC) has a number of academic resources for assistance:

- **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 Assistance**--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 6,500 videos with instruction on everything from arithmetic to physics, finance, and history and hundreds of skills to practice at your own pace, and also test prep for graduate school entrance exams—such as the GRE, MCAT, & GMAT

For more information, contact ASC Program Coordinator Steve Jarvis at 304-384-6074 or Director Sarah Beasley at 304-384-6298, or email asc@concord.edu.

Microsoft Office ProPlus For Students

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>

Athens Family Practice Medical Center

Athens Family Practice is a medical clinic available to all Concord University students and is 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,” as it takes a possible appointment time away from someone else. Athens Family Practice is reserving appointment times on Thursday afternoons specifically for students. For more details regarding physicians and the clinic, click on the following links.

[CU Graduate Jessica Aliff Appointed Physician At Athens Family Practice, Athens Family Practice](#)

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 a student encounters 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](#) when a problem arises. 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, 7:30am-8pm; Friday 7:30am-4pm

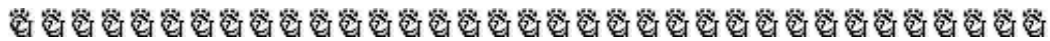
Phone Number: (304) 384-5291

Email: cuhelpdesk@concord.edu



Upcoming Athletic Events

12/3/2015	Women's Basketball	vs Glennville State	Athens, W.Va.	5:30 p.m.
12/3/2015	Men's Basketball	vs Glennville State	Athens, W.Va.	7:30 p.m.
12/5/2015	Women's Basketball	vs West Virginia Wesleyan	Athens, W.Va.	2:00 p.m.
12/5/2015	Men's Basketball	vs West Virginia Wesleyan	Athens, W.Va.	4:00 p.m.
12/5/2015	Women's Track	at JDL Fast Track	Winston-Salem, NC	All Day
12/5/2015	Men's Track	at JDL Fast Track	Winston-Salem, NC	All Day
12/12/2015	Women's Basketball	at Radford	Radford, VA	2:00 p.m.
12/14/2015	Men's Basketball	at Davis & Elkins	Elkins, WV	7:00 P.M.
12/14/2015	Women's Basketball	at Winston-Salem State	Winston-Salem, NC	TBA
12/16/2015	Women's Basketball	at Davis & Elkins	Elkins, WV	2:00 p.m.
12/17/2015	Men's Basketball	vs Bluefield State	Athens, W.Va.	7:00 P.M.



Student News

University Geology Awarded National Science Foundation Grant for Teaching and Research Innovation

Concord University just announced receipt of a major new grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). Dr. Joe Allen and I are the lead faculty. Dr. Elizabeth Creamer, a major name in education research and a professor at Virginia Tech, is signed on as evaluator. You may visit the press release [HERE](#).

The \$176,000 grant is from the NSF's Improving Undergraduate STEM Education program. What we're doing is studying an innovative new curriculum which puts research experience and communication experience into a 2+ year sequence of core courses. This will provide our geoscience majors, all of them, with a top-notch learning experience that they won't get anywhere else. NSF is really interested, hence the big grant to study the results. Dr. Allen has also been asked to present the project framework and goals at the national conference of the Geological Society of America in Baltimore in a couple of weeks.

The grant builds on other unique capabilities that we have at Concord, especially the Microanalytical Laboratory. Concord operates the only electron microprobe in WV - i.e. this is something that neither WVU nor Marshall can do. Typically this sort of equipment is found only at major research universities (think Virginia Tech, Harvard), government institutions (think Oak Ridge National Lab or the Smithsonian), or major corporations (think General Electric, IBM) because new ones cost \$1-2 million. In fact, Concord is the only primarily undergraduate university in all of North America capable of this, and we put undergrads in the driver's seat 4-5 days per week.

Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting by Dr. Joseph Manzo, Professor of Geography

Concord University students enjoyed stellar victories at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, Pensacola Florida, November 21 -23, 2015. Students Elisa Sperandio and Katie Testerman swept the undergraduate poster competition in physical and human geography. Student Robert Jessee, the high scorer in the world bowl competition, earned a trip to San Francisco for the March meeting of the Association of American Geographers.

The student poster competition involved undergraduate students from ten states. It was judged by faculty from the region, who remained anonymous by mixing with interested members of the audience as they viewed the posters on display, asked questions, and heard presenter responses.

Elisa Sperandio, working under the guidance of Dr. Shimantini Shome, presented on Eastern European migration into Germany. Elisa's work is titled *Life Through the Eyes of the 'Invader': A Case Study of Immigration in the Düsseldorf-Essen*. She conducted research with refugees in Germany over the summer.

Katie Testerman worked under the guidance of Dr. Tom Saladyga. Her poster was titled *Fire History and Avian Species Composition in a Ridgetop Dwarf-Tree Forest*. Katie conducted fieldwork on Spring Mountain in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania in May 2015 where she surveyed bird species in a globally rare ridge top dwarf-tree forest landscape. Also presenting were Logan Knight and Nick Edwards.



Upper left to right: Logan Knight, Elisa Sperandio
Middle left to right: Katie Testerman, Nick Edwards
Bottom left: Robert Jessee

More News from the Geography Department

In early November, Dr. Joseph Manzo and Linda Poff gave a workshop on “Opportunities in Geography Education” to principals and counselors at the Morgan County Board of Education.

On November 14, the Geography Department and Concord University hosted sixteen high school geography bowl teams. Students came from all over the state, including Wheeling Part, Huntington High, and Webster County High Schools. Local teams included Montcalm, Pikeview, and Princeton Senior.

Dr. Shimantini Shome’s Urban Geography class just returned from doing fieldwork with ethnic enclaves in New York City.

The WV Geographic Alliance is giving away 100 pizzas to teachers who participate in geography awareness, an initiative of the National Geographic Society. Theme of this year's event is "Explore! The Power of Maps." "Any teacher wishing to hold an event at his or her school during Nov. 30 – Dec. 4, 2015 will receive a classroom prize from the West Virginia Geographic Alliance upon reporting their activity," Dr. Manzo said. "The first 10 schools to register will, after completion of their activity, receive up to 10 large pizzas for their class or grade level." For more information, click [HERE](#).

Beckley Campus News

CU's Beckley Campus students participated in Beckley's Veteran's Day Parade on Wednesday, November 11. They had a truck full of students recognizing friends and family.



On December 4, the Beckley Campus will be having Christmas with the Buddies! The Buddies are a close-knit group of families whose children have Down syndrome. These families are coming to the HEC to join in a Polar Express Experience complete with a train conductor, golden tickets, hot chocolate, popcorn, games [including giant Jenga, bowling and ring toss], and crafts for them to take home!

The Beckley SGA will be hosting a Connect and Relax week with events each day leading up to finals. The schedule includes: Shifoto photo booth on Monday, giant bowling and giant Jenga with smarties on Tuesday, movie and popcorn on Wednesday, big sandwich and chips on Thursday, and yoga on Friday to round out the week!

United Way's "Baby Closet", by Lori Pace, Sociology Instructor

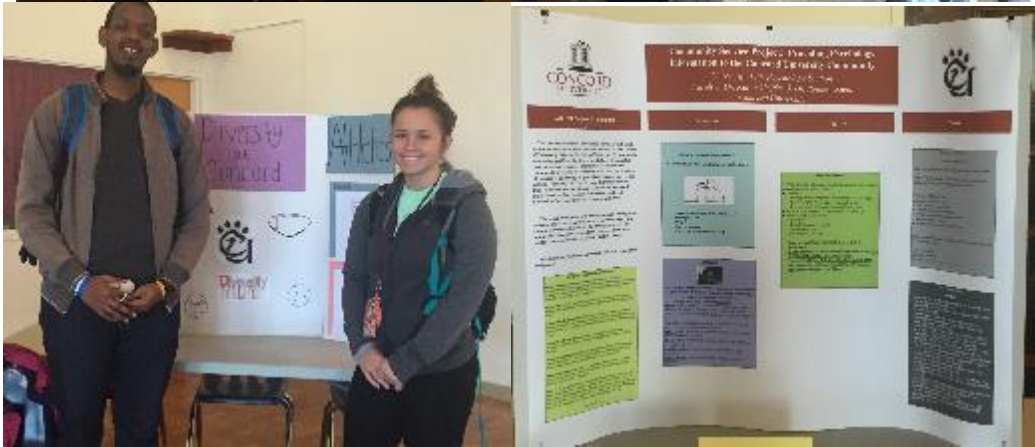
On October 12, the Director of the United Way of Southern WV, Margaret O'Neal, brought her demonstration babies to Lori Pace's Violence in America class. The three dolls illustrate the physical and developmental damage a drug affected, fetal alcohol syndrome, and shaken baby might experience. Ms. O'Neal also reminded the class that the United Way has a community "Baby Closet" in the Dream Center that parents can utilize through DHHR, local shelters, or direct referral. The Sociology students decided to have a November collection to support this Baby Closet. Diapers, wipes, hygiene items, clothing, and baby equipment was donated. Visit unitedwayswv.org/ for more information.

UNIV 100

Final Projects & Celebration

The UNIV 100 First Year Experience course introduces student success skills and Concord resources to incoming students. The required course is designed to connect students to mentors—faculty, staff, upper division students, and peers—familiarize students with Concord policies, procedures, and traditions; and to smooth the transition to college, both in and outside of the classroom. The course concludes with a final project. Below are some images from the Fall 2015 UNIV 100 final project celebration.





Finals Week!

It wouldn't be college without the stress of Finals Week! As your students complete their projects, study for exams, and submit those last minute assignments, Student Activities plans some diversions to ease the strain (see poster below). In addition to the Library remaining open non-stop from Sunday, December 6 at 2pm until Friday, December 11 at 4pm, various offices and Student Affairs provides some relief in the form of pizza parties (courtesy of the Geographic Alliance), free coffee, 24/7 study areas, a free late-night breakfast served by CU faculty and staff, and more.



The Library staff wishes everyone the best during finals!

Ready for Finals & Vacation?
Take a study-break with S.A.C. during FINALS week!

MONDAY, Dec. 7th	Dec. 8th	Dec. 9th	Dec. 10th
 ALLEN SMITH & Ryan Kennedy Subway Stage, 11:00am	 Parachute Brigade Subway Stage, 8:00pm	 LATE NIGHT BREAKFAST! 9:30pm	 ANDY CRAWFORD 11:00am
			 Subway Stage 8:00pm

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.

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 nellison@concord.edu.

Important Numbers

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