

THE SCOOP

| | |
|--------------------|----|
| Calendar | 2 |
| Academic News | 3 |
| Campus Events | 3 |
| FAFSA Changes | 9 |
| Study Abroad | 10 |
| Dept/Division News | 12 |
| Campus Photos | 14 |
| Tutoring | 18 |
| Graduation | 19 |
| Veterans | 20 |
| Important Numbers | 21 |

CONCORD UNIVERSITY PARENTS CLUB November - December 2016

Dear Parents,

It has been a whirlwind semester at Concord University, filled with many “firsts” for freshmen, and some “lasts” for our graduating seniors. This issue of *The Scoop* highlights some of the activities of the past few months on the Campus Beautiful. While the Fall 2016 semester is rapidly drawing to a close, there are still many noteworthy events before Commencement on December 10th.

Registration for Spring 2017 is underway. Students who haven’t done so should meet with their academic advisor for course selection. It’s also time to complete the 2017-18 FAFSA, three months earlier than previous years. Filing early using 2015 tax information ensures students receive the maximum aid for which they are eligible.

CU was honored to present three internationally-recognized scholars, Drs. Jonathan Kozol, Nikki Giovanni, and Richard Wilkinson. Many thanks to the faculty and staff who made it possible to host these inspiring education leaders at Concord!

For those families with students graduating in December, we offer our hearty congratulations and invite you to stay connected with Concord in the coming years.

As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions and hope to CU soon!

On behalf of the Parents Club, best wishes and peace,
Marjie Flanigan
Vice President of Student Affairs & Dean of Students



Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world.

Nelson Mandela

Fall 2016 Academic Schedule

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Oct 17-Nov 4 | Advising for Course Selection, 2017 Spring Semester |
| October 28 | Friday, 4:00 pm Last Day for Dropping Courses with grade of W or Changing Course Status to Audit (AU) |
| Oct 31-Nov 9 | Course Selection, 2017 Spring Semester (for Students Presently Enrolled) |
| November 21-25 | Monday - Friday Thanksgiving Recess |
| November 28 | Monday, 4:00 pm; Last Day to Officially Withdraw from the University |
| December 2, | Friday, Last Class Day |
| December 5 | Monday, 8:00 am Fall Semester Exams Begin |
| December 9 | Friday, 5:00 pm Fall Semester Ends |
| December 10 | Saturday Commencement and Alumni Day |
| December 21 | Wednesday Last Day for Refunding Room Reservation Fee for Students who will not be Resident Students in Spring 2017. |



Be certain to check the [CU Activities Calendar](#) for the many events happening on campus. November & December offers theatre productions; musical events by students, staff, & others; senior art shows; athletics; and much, much more!



Academic News

New General Education Program of Studies

We are pleased to announce that Concord’s General Studies program has been updated in order to allow students more options in core requirements, while still maintaining a quality liberal arts curriculum. General Education is a set of requirements that all students must take, regardless of their academic major. “Gen Ed” assures a solid foundation for all college courses (e.g. English, Mathematics, Social Sciences, etc.) to ensure that students reach the learning outcomes necessary to compete in today’s global workplace.

In addition to more course flexibility for meeting Gen Ed requirements, the number of required hours was reduced to 39 credit hours. The reduction allows students to pursue additional elective courses that may lead to a double major or a course minor. The total number of required hours to graduation has not changed and a student’s major may require specific Gen Ed coursework. We urge students to meet with their academic advisor to ensure correct course selection.

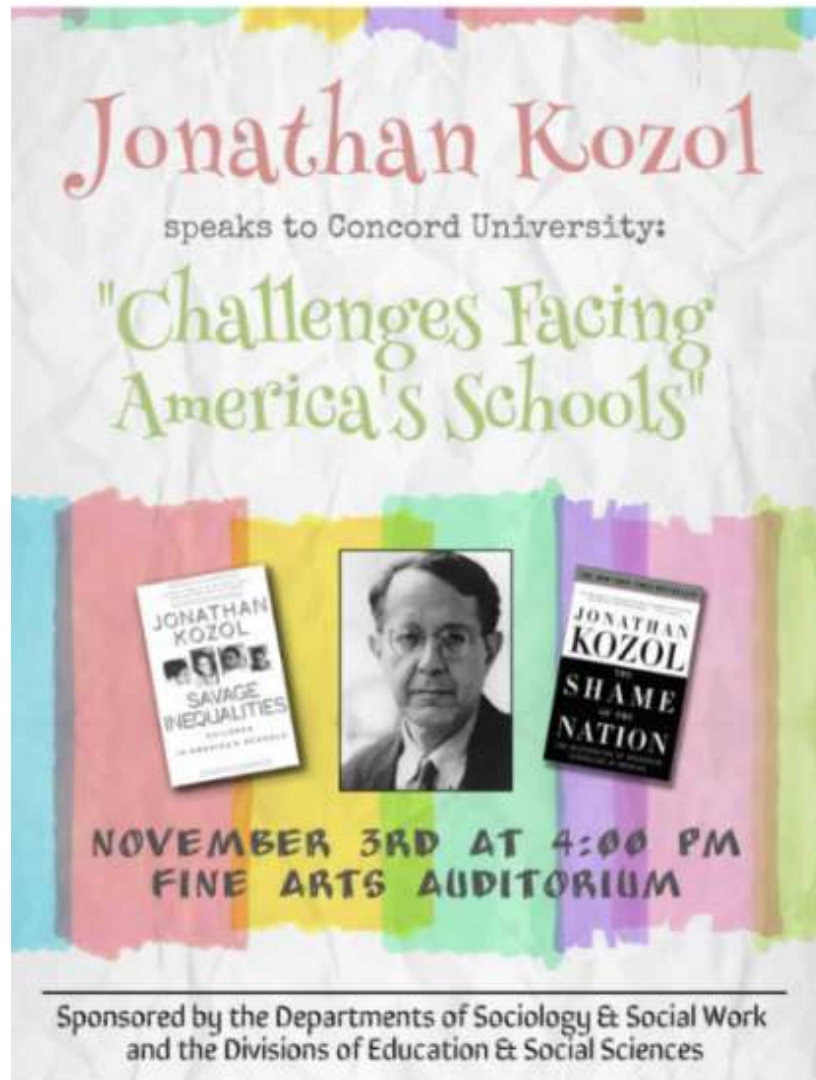
Additionally, the Registrar’s Office held several Question & Answer Sessions for assisting students and students are also encouraged to contact the Registrar’s Office at 304-384-5236, email registrar@concord.edu, or stop by Marsh Hall (Admin Bldg) Room 202.

Q & A Sessions:

| <u>Day</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Monday, November 7 | 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM | Library B8 (Bottom Floor) |
| Tuesday, November 8 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Library B8 (Bottom Floor) |
| Wednesday, November 9 | 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM | Library B8 (Bottom Floor) |
| Thursday, November 10 | 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM | Library B8 (Bottom Floor) |
| Friday, November 11 | 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM | Erma Byrd Higher Ed Center |

Exciting Opportunities at Concord University

Concord University is fortunate to have hosted three internationally acclaimed experts in their respective fields this fall: Drs. Jonathan Kozol, Nikki Giovanni, and Richard Wilkinson. Information from the respective media releases, authored by Sarah Dalton, are included below.



On Thursday, Nov. 3, 2016, nationally-acclaimed education author Jonathan Kozol addressed the Concord University community in a live presentation via Skype. His lecture was broadcast from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the auditorium of the Fine Arts Center. After his talk, he fielded questions from the audience.

Jonathan Kozol is famous for such books as *Savage Inequalities* and *Shame of the Nation*, among others. He discussed what he sees as the biggest current challenges facing schools in the U.S.

The event was free to Concord students, faculty, staff, and the general public. The event was sponsored by the Concord University Departments of Sociology and Social Work and the Divisions of Education and Social Sciences.

*“Deal with yourself as an individual
worthy of respect and make everyone
else deal with you the same way”*

CONCORD UNIVERSITY PRESENTS:

Dr. Nikki Giovanni



An internationally-known poet, Dr. Giovanni is a Grammy-Award Finalist, one of Oprah Winfrey's "25 Living-Legends", NAACP Image Award winner, New York Times and LA Times bestseller, civil-rights activist, professor at Virginia Tech, and much more.

We are honored to host her presentation to students, faculty, staff and community members (book signing to immediately follow).

Monday, Nov. 7th, 2016

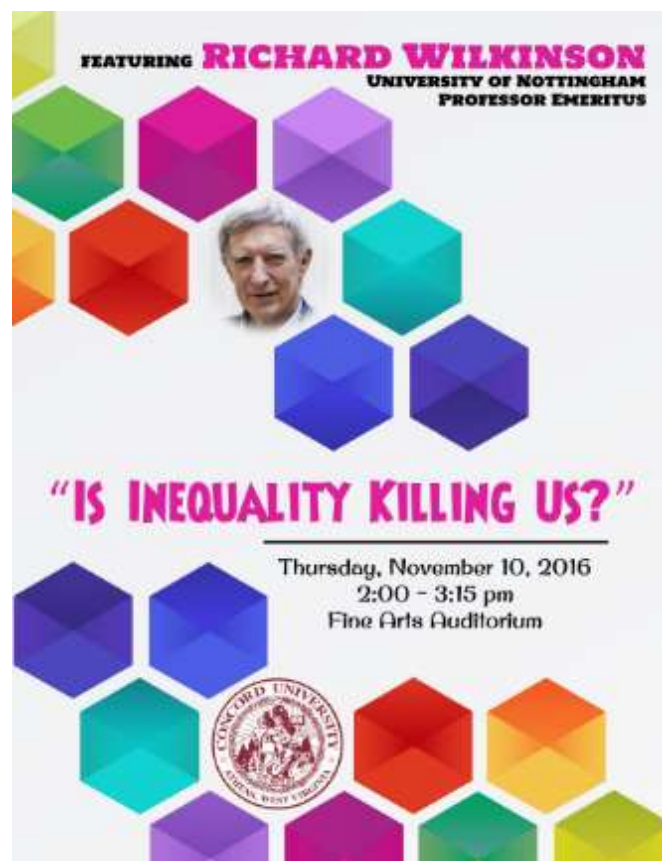
1:00pm - Main Auditorium - Alexander Fine Arts Center

Award-winning poet Dr. Nikki Giovanni presented at Concord University on Monday, Nov. 7 at 1 p.m. in the Main Auditorium of the Fine Arts Center. The event was free to Concord students, faculty, staff, and the general public. Additionally, high school seniors from PikeView and Bluefield High Schools attended the popular event. Prior to the presentation, Dr. Giovanni met for lunch with members of Concord's Black Student Union.

In conjunction with the CU Follett Campus Store, Dr. Giovanni held a book signing in the Fine Arts Lobby immediately following the presentation. Four of her books were available for purchase and autographing: *Chasing Utopia*, *Bicycles*, *Quilting the Black-Eyed Pea*, and *The Collected Poetry of Nikki Giovanni*.

Giovanni was born in Knoxville, Tenn. on June 7, 1943. Although she grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio, she and her sister returned to Knoxville each summer to visit their grandparents. Giovanni graduated with honors in history from her grandfather's alma mater, Fisk University. Since 1987, she has been on the faculty at Virginia Tech, where she is a University Distinguished Professor.

She has been awarded an unprecedented seven NAACP Image Awards; nominated for a Grammy; and been a finalist for the National Book Award. Giovanni has authored three *New York Times* and *Los Angeles Times* Best Sellers, an accomplishment that is unusual for a poet. Concord University's Student Support Services, Black Student Union and Office of Multicultural Affairs partnered to host Giovanni's appearance at Concord. The event is made possible with a West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission Diversity for Equity Grant.



EPIDEMIOLOGIST, INEQUALITY SCHOLAR RICHARD WILKINSON

Internationally-acclaimed epidemiologist and inequality scholar Richard Wilkinson addressed the Concord University community in a live presentation via Skype on Thursday, Nov. 10,

2016. His lecture was broadcast from 2 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. in the auditorium of the Fine Arts Center.

His talk is titled, “Is Inequality Killing Us?” After his presentation, he fielded questions from the audience. The event was livestreamed on the Concord University YouTube channel, “Concord University West Virginia.” Concord students, faculty and staff and the general public were invited to attend at no charge.

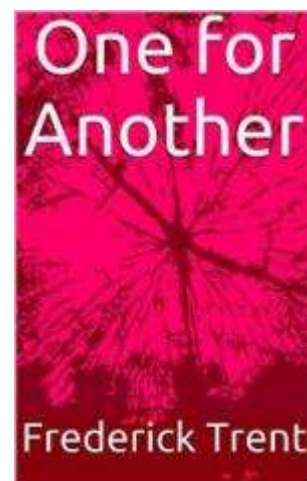
Richard Wilkinson has many well-known scholarly books and articles, including the book, *The Spirit Level* that he wrote with Kate Pickett, a best seller now widely regarded as a major seminal statement on the societal consequences of economic inequality. Wilkinson has played a formative role in international research on the social determinants of health and on the societal effects of income inequality.

He is now Professor Emeritus of Social Epidemiology at the University of Nottingham Medical School, Honorary Professor at University College London, and Visiting Professor at the University of York, as well as a board member of The Equality Trust, which he co-founded.

This event is sponsored by the Concord University Department of Sociology, Appalachian Studies Committee, and Division of Social Sciences.

Student Achievement

CU English major Frederick James Trent has a published short story that is available on Amazon.com through Kindle for only .99 cents. The title is “One for Another.” James is currently the editor for Reflexes, Concord’s literary magazine. If you want a quick read, check it out, and please give him feedback.



Suicide Prevention Information Table

On November 15th Students for Campus Safety Awareness, will be hosting a table in the Student Center, near Subway, on suicide awareness at Concord University. International Suicide Awareness is a time to draw attention to the fact that suicide can happen to anyone in any circumstances. Information will be available on our Counseling Center, overall student mental and emotional well-being, along with a list of important phone numbers for national and local resources. ALL students are greatly encouraged to stop by the table and pick up some information.



On Saturday, November 19, 2016 from 1 to 4pm at the Raleigh County Playhouse & Theatre, a presentation will be held for International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day. Admission is free and open to those 18 years of age or older. For more information, contact Amy Thomas at FMRS: athomas@fmr.org or 304-256-7100. (Information submitted by Lori Pace, Sociology Instructor).



Wellness Fair

The Athens campus CU Wellness Fair was held on Wednesday, 10/26/16 from 10am to 2pm in the Jerry & Jean Beasley Student Center Ballroom. Flu shots were available through the Mercer County Health Department. Many other organizations and vendors were present to share information and resources, including the WV Attorney General's Office (financial education and scam prevention); Coalition Against Tobacco; Mercer County Rape Crisis Center; Counseling Center, and much more. The Beckley campus Wellness Fair was held Friday, 10/28/16 at the Erma Byrd Higher Education Center.

Job and Resource Fair

A Job & Resource Fair was held on Friday, October 28th at the Erma Byrd Higher Education Center (Beckley Campus). All Concord students were invited to participate from 11am to 2pm in this exciting event, which included a visit from U.S. Senator Joe Manchin. The event was coordinated by the Beckley-Raleigh County Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with area colleges, including Concord University. Van service was provided from the Athens campus for interested students. All events were free and open to the public.



The 2017-18 FAFSA is Here!!

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) availability has changed. As of October 1, students and parents can now visit <https://fafsa.ed.gov> and complete the FAFSA for the 2017-18 academic year. Previously, the FAFSA was not available until January 1. In addition to earlier access, filers will use their 2015 income information—the same data as last year’s FAFSA. This means that students/parents will not need to estimate their 2016 income or taxes, since 2015 taxes are complete.

Concord hosted several events to promote FAFSA completion, including CU FAFSA Sunday on November 6, 2016 from 1:00 to 4:00pm in the Rahall Technology Center (Athens campus) and November 11 from 1:00 to 5:00pm at the Beckley campus (Erma Byrd Higher Education Center). Financial Aid staff and volunteers assisted students and families with FAFSA completion. All current students and any high school senior (even students who do not plan on attending Concord) were invited. Student attendees who completed FAFSA’s were entered to win one of several \$500 CU scholarships for next year. Other door prizes were awarded to all attendees.

Anyone needing assistance with FAFSA completion is encouraged to contact the Financial Aid Office for more information at 304-384-6069 or finaid@concord.edu.



Study Abroad Opportunities

The GlobalWV Office at the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for our Affordable Statewide Summer Study Abroad Programs in Mexico or Canada!

10-days from June 16-25, 2017; Led by West Virginia professors! Priced to be the most affordable summer programs abroad!

Explore the cultural identity of Mexico in the historic city of Puebla while earning 3 credits from West Virginia State University. Cost: \$1350 – includes tuition (3-credits), housing, pre-departure advising, airport welcome, onsite director, cultural excursions, 24/7 emergency assistance, and comprehensive insurance.

Explore the cultural identity of French Canada in the French-speaking city of Montreal while earning 3 credits from West Virginia State University. Cost: \$1500 – includes tuition (3-credits), housing, pre-departure advising, airport welcome, onsite director, cultural excursions, 24/7 emergency assistance, and comprehensive insurance.

Application deadlines for both programs: March 10, 2017. Email globalwv@keiabroad.com, call 800-831-5095, or visit <http://www.globalwv.org/studyabroad> for more information and instructions to apply.



David R. Bard Study Abroad Program

Another wonderful Study Abroad opportunity is being offered through the David R. Bard Study Abroad Program at Concord University! Up to 6 credit hours can be earned for this 19 day summer program to the United Kingdom, including travel to London, Wales, and Scotland with an optional weekend in Paris.

Sites in London will include icons such as Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, and Tower Bridge. According to the trip announcement, the group will also visit and tour Parliament, Westminster Abbey, St. Paul's Cathedral, and the British Museum to name a few. Students will see a Shakespearean play at the Globe Theatre, as well as another popular show in the famous West End. In addition to the sights and experiences in London, the group will also travel to both Edinburgh, Scotland where they will tour Edinburgh Castle, Holyrood House, and hike to the top of King Arthur's Seat and to Bangor, Wales where they will tour multiple castles and hike in the Snowdonia Mountains.

Students will travel with CU professors Rod Klein (Psychology) and James White (Political Science). Coursework focuses on government, geography, theatre, culture, and personal growth. This very popular program has been a life-changing event for many students. Approximate cost is \$5,900 per student. This includes the cost of tuition, room & board, transportation, spending money, and miscellaneous expenses. The optional Paris excursion is an addition cost of \$650. For more information, contact Dr. Rod Klein at klein4@concord.edu or 304-384-5222.

**David R. Bard
Study Abroad
Program**

Travel and Study in the United Kingdom and earn up to 6 credit hours



**Summer - July
2017**

Spend approximately 10 days with the UK and travel to London, Wales, and Oxford to seek academic enrichment. This adventure trip is one and a half weeks long, with a 10-day course, the National Museum, Westminster Abbey, and Parliament and other interesting locations.



Professor Paul Shaw & James White will be leading Travel/Study courses in the United Kingdom during the summer (July) 2017 session. Students can earn up to six credit hours. The course will focus on government, political geography, history and culture. Some lectures, meetings, and reading materials will be provided during the program, and more to read.



**Travel - Study
in the United Kingdom**

COST:
The trip will cost approximately \$5,000 per student. This includes:
 • airfare and ground
 • lodging
 • transportation
 • meals and beverages
 • an optional Paris excursion will have an additional cost of approximately \$600.



A \$500 deposit will be required for a guaranteed reservation with a payment plan to follow.

Contact Dr. Rodney Eakin for more information and to submit a reservation form: DrRodneyEakin@psdschools.org and DrRodneyEakin@psdschools.org



Department and Division News

Geography: The West Virginia Geographic Alliance, hosted by Concord University, has received a grant from the National Geographic Society in the amount of \$37,000. This money will be used to assist classroom geography teachers. CU students benefit by working in the geography office in support of teacher activities. On November 20-22, CU students and faculty will travel to University of South Carolina for the annual meeting of Southeastern states.

On November, 20-22, CU students and faculty will be travelling to the University of South Carolina for the annual meeting of the Southeastern states.

Geology: The Concord Department of Geology has recently acquired a drone. Here is an aerial view of Athens from the Concord University campus courtesy of the CU Geology drone.



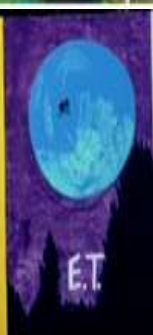
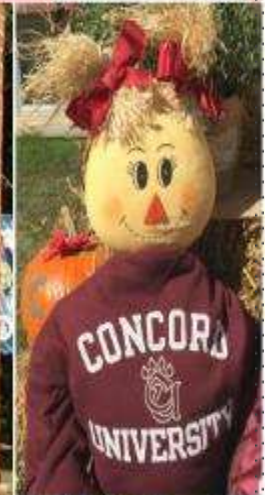
Social Sciences: The new Social Sciences class, *Beginners Grassroots Advocacy and Community Development*, started this fall at Concord University. This class is an interactive course for students interested in obtaining firsthand experience in field research, grassroots community organizing, political advocacy, and local/state government. The inaugural *Advocacy Class* also took the necessary steps to form as a student chapter of *Our Children Our Future*, an organization striving to make WV the best place in the world to live, work, and raise a family – no matter who you are.



In the first part of the semester, students took the lead in organizing and hosting the Mercer County Our Children Our Future bi-partisan candidate forum. Six candidates for the WV House and Senate came together on campus and answered questions about their positions on a range of issues impacting youth and families in Southern West Virginia. The next class activity was on November 5th; students facilitated a *Get Out The Vote* non-partisan phone bank. These full class participation assignments will lead up to individual projects which students have been working towards. Throughout the semester, hands-on experience is integrated with lectures, readings, and reflections.

As the major individual project, students pick an issue they are passionate about and develop/execute a community action campaign. This semester's students are tackling bullying, mental health on college campuses, animal rights, after school programs, recruiting more Certified Nursing Assistants, and safe place conversations on campus. Stephen Smith, the author of the class textbook *Stoking the Fires of Democracy*, served as guest lecture during an October class. Stephen spent time individually with students on their action campaigns. Kristen O'Sullivan, MSW is the class instructor. Another section of Beginners Grassroots Advocacy and Community Development will be offered in the spring 2017 semester. The course is open to all majors.





Campus and Homecoming Photo Collages









Drop-In Tutoring Location (Fall & Spring Semesters)

Concord has an extensive peer drop-in tutoring program available from noon to 9pm in Rahall 102 (GRIP Center). The GRIP Center is open Monday through Thursday, 9am to 9:30pm for studying, study groups, study skills assistance, and as a computer lab. Visit <https://apps.concord.edu/tutoring/> to find the drop-in tutoring schedule. If you have questions, please contact Academic Success Center (ASC) at 304-384-6298 or Student Support Services at 304-384-6088 for assistance.

The GRIP Center

Need tutoring or a place to study?

Located on the ground floor of the Nick Rahall Technology Center, The GRIP Center is the place for any student to go for tutoring and study hall needs.

Open Monday-Thursday 9 AM – 9:30 PM
Drop-In Tutoring Services Available 12 PM – 9 PM

Coordinated by Athletics, SSS, Bonner, Student Affairs, and the ASC Questions? Need more info? Call 304-384-6074

Graduating Seniors & Commencement News

It's an exciting time for the students and families of our soon-to-be graduates! To make certain that you and your student have the most current information, be sure to check out the [Registrar's Graduation Webpage \(http://www.concord.edu/commencement/node/3\)](http://www.concord.edu/commencement/node/3).

Some notes of interest:

Graduation Checklist

Cap & Gown Pick-Up (at Senior Dinner on Dec. 1 or in the Campus Store beginning Dec. 2nd)

Senior Dinner—December 1, 6-8pm, University Point

Commencement—December 10, 11am, Carter Center Main Gym



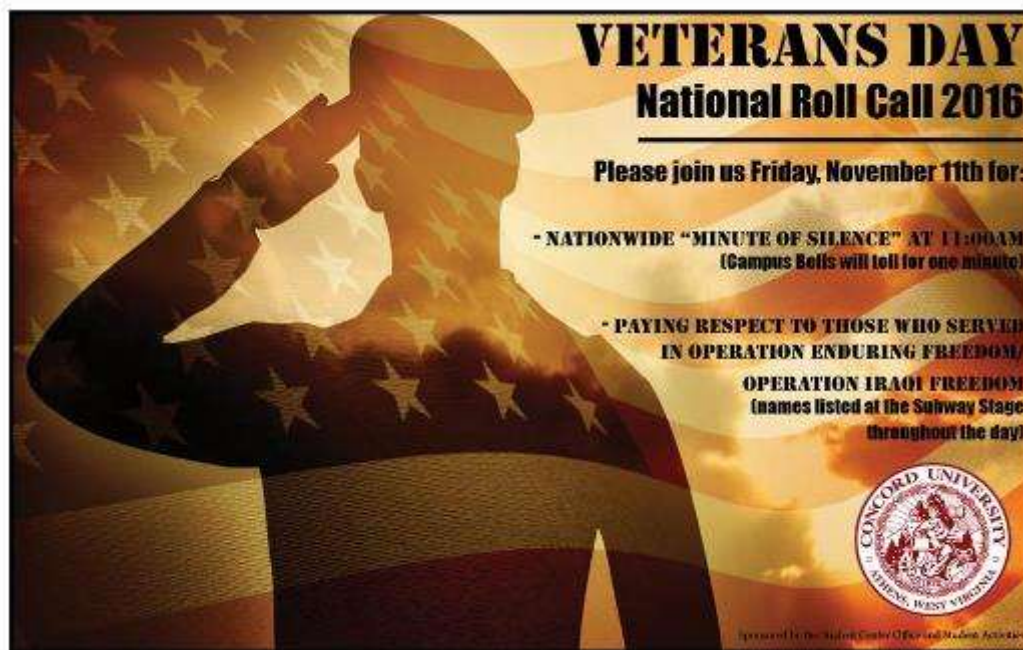
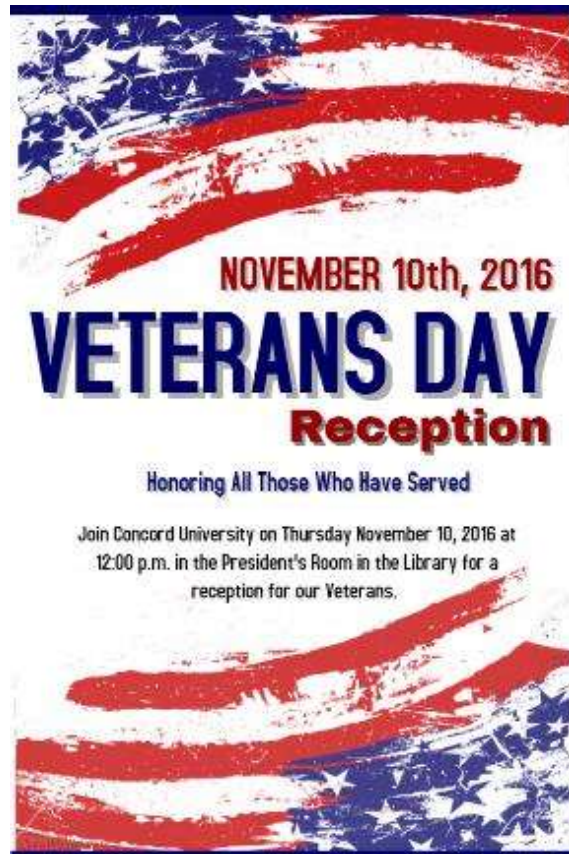
CU's Towers Residence Halls Renovations Update October 2016

Since the last update, the top four floors of North Towers East is completed. Housing staff has returned furniture to the area. Students are now living on the top four floors. All of North Towers is projected to be finished around mid-January. Renovations will then move on to South Towers with total completion expected around October 2017. As of late, the project is actually ahead of schedule. For more information about this exciting project, visit [HERE](#).



Artist Rendering

Concord University Honors Veterans!!



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 |

