

The Scoop

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Parents Club President Message

Have you and your students settled into new routines? For freshmen, it's going to classes and completing assignments, making friends, thinking creatively, and gaining independence. I think that college is really hard work: four or more years of reading books, writing papers, and taking tests in order to meet requirements for an undergraduate degree. Along the way, we parents watch our students develop into adults while we learn to adapt to an emptier nest.

This year is bittersweet for my husband, Kelley, and me. It's wonderful and reassuring to know that our daughter, Anne, has achieved senior status at Concord University. Whew! There have been a few daunting challenges since the fall of 2007. The three of us have learned a lot along the way. Time seems to have evaporated.

Never in our wildest dreams did Kelley and I imagine how much fun being parents of a Concord University student would be. Perhaps I didn't think past the lists and packing that go along with sending a daughter off to college for the first time. We expected Anne to have a wonderful four years. We didn't realize that we would have an equally enjoyable experience. We have been fortunate to meet professors and administrators who've offered friendship and assistance to us since the very beginning. We treasure these Concord years and people. I'd love to be able to push a rewind button and do it again!

We are enjoying cheering for Concord at some of the football games this fall. We are proud of all of our teams and we celebrate when the Mountain Lions win!

Homecoming Week in October is going to be a lot of fun. There will be a parade through Athens beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday evening, October 14, followed by a bonfire in the valley. On Friday at 5:00 p.m., there will be a reception for alumni and friends of Concord in the Jerry L. Beasley Student Center. At 8:30 p.m. that night, the legendary and fiercely competitive Lip Sync performances among campus groups begin. It is usually standing room only. You can expect to have a good time at Lip Sync. Please come by the Parents Club table before the game on Saturday. We'll host a tailgate party beginning at 1:00 p.m. Concord kicks off against Glenville State College at 3:00 p.m. I hope that you'll come to all three of these events.

CU soon at CU!

Martha Endres

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Thanksgiving

Residence Hall closes

November 19, 2010 at
5:00pm

Residence Hall Reopens

November 28, 2010 at
1:00pm

Academic Calendar

- ✘ **October 16, Saturday**
Homecoming
- ✘ **Oct. 21-22 (Thursday - Friday)**
Fall break
- ✘ **October 26, Tuesday**
Health Fair & Flu Shots in Ballroom (time TBA)
- ✘ **October 29, Friday**
Last day for dropping a course with grade of "W" or changing course status from credit to audit 4 p.m.
- ✘ **November 4-19**
Advising for course selection for Spring 2011 Semester
- ✘ **November 10-19**
Course selection for Spring 2011 Semester (for students presently enrolled)
- ✘ **Nov. 22-26 (Monday - Friday)**
Thanksgiving recess
- ✘ **December 6, Monday**
Last day to withdraw from the University
- ✘ **December 10, Friday**
Last class day
- ✘ **Dec. 13-17 (Monday - Friday)**
Final exams
- ✘ **December 17, Friday**
Fall semester ends 5:00 p.m.
- ✘ **December 18, Saturday**
Fall Commencement 11:00 a.m.



Homecoming 2010—Schedule of Events

THURSDAY - October 14:

- * 6:00pm Annual Homecoming Parade (Vermillion Street, Athens)
- * 6:45pm Bonfire in the Valley (Rain site, Main Gym, Carter Center)

FRIDAY - October 15:

- * 9:00am - 3:00pm Annual Career Symposium
- * Concord Spirit Day!!! Wear maroon to show team spirit!
- * Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity Golf Outing, Foundation Springs Golf Course, time TBA, Pipestem State Park Golf Course, Reserved Tee Times for Homecoming Guests
- * 5:00pm Social, Alumni Lounge, Student Center
- * 6:00pm Homecoming Dinner and Entertainment, Ballroom, Student Center
 Reunion of the 10's - - 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010
 (Banquet - - \$20.00 per person, reservations suggested) **THE PUBLIC IS INVITED**
- * 8:30pm Lip Sync Contest, Main Gym



SATURDAY - October 16:

- * TBA Sorority Teas and Fraternity Gatherings
- * Phi Delta Pi Fraternity Reunion, Beckett Hill
- * 12:00noon All-Greek Luncheon (Active, Alumni Greeks and friends invited, only
 \$5 all-you-can eat)
- * 1:00pm Parking lots open for Alumni Tailgate
- * 1:00pm-third quarter Alumni Association Registration & Tailgate, Stadium Parking Lot
 (Tables available for the reunion of the "10's" - - 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010)
- * Pregame: Introduction of 1960 and 1985 Reunion Football Players
- * 3:00pm **KICKOFF - - - - - CU vs. GLENVILLE**





Tammy Monk

Director, Advancement/
Career Services

Concord University
PO Box 1000 - D112
Athens, WV 24712

Career Symposium

Your student has a special opportunity on Friday, October 15, to attend sessions during our 2nd annual Career Symposium – Lights, Camera, Action. Alumni are invited to return to campus for the day to talk with current students about careers in a variety of major fields, graduate school survival, enrolling in law school, giving back to the community, being a new employee on the job, etc.

Last year we hosted fifty alums who shared their stories with our currently enrolled students. Students found it quite interesting to hear about the life of a medical student; the challenges—and joys—of starting and running your own business; how to succeed as a professional; how to conduct a successful job search; the realities of a medical practice; how to create a realistic budget based on your salary; the rigors of advanced degree programs; establishing a successful legal practice; and more. Students, faculty, and alumni who participated all ranked the day as a huge success. In addition to students gaining valuable information for developing their own life/career plans, our alums were able to reconnect with former faculty and old friends.

Encourage your son/daughter to look at the sessions being offered during the Career Symposium and take advantage of the wealth of knowledge that will be available that day. It would also be a great opportunity for your student to talk with an alum about an internship or full-time job while polishing his/her networking skills.

Besenyei Named Interim Vice President For Advancement

ATHENS - Concord University President Gregory F. Aloia announces the appointment of Alicia Suka Besenyei as Interim Vice President for Advancement. Besenyei is currently Advancement Development Officer at Concord University and Interim Executive Director of the Concord University Foundation.

“Alicia brings a rich and diverse background to this position,” Dr. Aloia said. “She has shown dynamic leadership and ability to work with the advancement team and we are looking forward to her contributions to the Concord community.”

Besenyei joined the staff at Concord University in December 2009. Prior to this, she served as an anchor/reporter on regional media outlets.

A resident of Daniels, Besenyei received a bachelor’s degree in mass communications with a minor in journalism from North Carolina State University. She expects to complete a master’s degree in integrated marketing communications from West Virginia University in 2011.

“This is an exciting opportunity and I am very fortunate to be able to work with such a great team of people. I look forward to many projects and the chance to further develop relationships with more of Concord’s alumni, friends and the surrounding community,” Besenyei said.

Concord University Service Council

By Julia Spencer, Concordian Staff Writer

The Concord University Student Organization Service Council is bringing civic responsibility and engagement to the Campus Beautiful. When you go across campus and see flyers about volunteering or events that organizations are participating in, chances are that the Service Council is involved. The Service Council is a group on campus that meets once a month to better organize and help organizations on campus with service events. The Service Council is also a member of Campus Compact, which is a group of Universities and their Presidents that make a commitment to community service. The universities involvement in Campus Compact is what started the Service Council.

Anna Hardy, the Interim Director of the Student Center and Student Activities, is also the director of the Service Council here at Concord. Hardy says that the Service Council is a great way to get all of our service activities on campus more organized and also to gain attendance and participation in the service meetings. Concord has an abundance of groups and organizations on campus, but the number of organizations that participates varies from meeting to meeting. "We are trying to get all organizations to have a member participate in the service council meetings," stated Hardy. Every organization that is an official organization on campus is required to have a service council representative, and attendance to the Service Council meetings is highly recommended. These meetings give the organization's representatives a heads up about what service events are going on in the coming month.

So far in this school year, the Service Council has only had two meetings. But great things are in store for the Service Council. Hardy said that many projects are coming up at Concord. For example, the Service Council has already enabled a school supply collection with the United Way. From the Service Council meeting, the Student Activities Committee and the United Way was able to pair up for a night of bingo to help collect these school supplies for needy children in the area. The Student Activities Committee was also helpful enough to donate prizes for that event as well. This is just one example of a great project that can come from the Service Council.

Attendance is also needed to increase at these meetings in order to help organizations become readily involved. Incentives are being offered such as raffles. For the first Service Council meeting, all those representatives in attendance got their name put into a raffle, and the winning representative got \$25 in Flex dollars. The next meetings raffle will be for a \$20 cash card.

In order to be involved, you must get involved, and that is exactly the message the Service Council is trying to get out there. Since every organization must already have a representative, participation is a must. The Service Council meets once a month on the first Tuesday of every month at 5pm in the State Room on campus. If you are involved in an organization and want to know more, make sure that your organization has a representative at each meeting every month. For extra information on this great way to get involved, you may contact Anna Hardy in the Student Center.



Concord Welcomes New Financial Aid Director

Jessica Fowler
The Concordian, Issue date: 9/15/10

Concord University recently brought in a new director for the financial aid office. After interviewing many candidates, CU decided on Debra Turner.

"The office is very excited about our new director and ready to work on new ideas of how to improve the financial aid process," Lisa Spencer, financial aid advisor, said. "We interviewed several candidates but Mrs. Turner brought so much prior knowledge and experience in financial aid. She has a wonderful personality and is very student oriented."

Turner has worked in financial aid for 21 years and has experience as an assistant director, associate director, and director.

"I liked that Concord University is a smaller college and is part of the four-year university system," Turner said. "When I came for the interview I felt comfortable immediately and could tell that people liked working at the college."

Before moving to Athens, Turner lived the past two years in Bainbridge, GA. Prior to that, she spent most of her life in Virginia. Having lived in Princeton before, Turner said she is familiar with the area.

"Athens is beautiful," she said. "It has a country setting and is convenient to other cities. Students, faculty and staff have welcomed me and have been very helpful."

Turner said Concord University is different from the school she worked at in Bainbridge. "Bainbridge College is a two-year public college," she said. "There were no residence halls and a larger non-traditional student population. Prior to Bainbridge College I worked at two four-year institutions, one public and one private."

Turner believes financial aid is the most important aspect of college for every student. This is why she said she wants students to be as informed as possible about the process.

"Having been a college student, the parent of a college student, and an administrator I can relate to all aspects of the financial aid process," she said. "I know how important financial aid is and how confusing the process can be. I want students to have information as soon as possible and understand the various types of financial aid so they can make informed decisions."

"I have experienced staff and we work together to ensure students receive the same level of service as in the past," she added.

She said she is also taking steps to ensure that Concord students get the best service possible concerning their financial aid. She plans to improve the financial aid department by reviewing the current processes to see what is working and what processes need improvement.

If students or staff have suggestions email Turner at turner@concord.edu.





A Message From The New Financial Aid Director

The Financial Aid Office has undergone several changes this fall. The transition to Direct Lending for student loans has gone well. Students and parents who borrowed loans in prior years and a direct loan this year will have at least two monthly payments when they begin repayment. A Direct Consolidation Loan allows a borrower to consolidate (combine) multiple federal student loans into one loan. The result is a single monthly payment.

For more information, go to <http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/consolidation.jsp?tab=repaying> to see if loan consolidation is a good option for you and/or your student.

We also have two new staff members. Trena Stovall is the Loan Counselor. She is a local resident and an alum of Concord University. I, Debbie Turner, am the new Director and have worked in financial aid for over 21 years. I recently relocated to Athens from Georgia but lived and worked in Virginia most of my life.

We look forward to serving the Concord community in the upcoming year. Please contact our office at (304) 384-6069 if you have any questions.

Debbie Turner



A Message from Admissions

Dear Parent 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



PROGRAMS AVAILABLE IN THE INTERNATIONAL/DISABILITIES OFFICE

HOMESTAY PROGRAM AT CONCORD UNIVERSITY

The Homestay Program at Concord University 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.

Have you ever....

- * been alone away from home, and wished for someone to talk to?
- * wanted to know more about another country or culture?
- * wanted to make friends with someone different from you?
- * wished you could do a little to help the cause of peace and understanding?

Then you should consider becoming a friend to an international student. A "friend" can be an individual, a couple, or a family, anyone who would like to know a student from another land and help him or her to understand our American way of life, our language, our customs, and our community.

QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

What kinds of people make good international friends?

- * Single people, couples, people with children, retired people... neither your marital status nor your age is a factor.
- * People who want to share their lives with others...you don't need to fit a "mold" of any kind... if you want to share your life with someone from another culture, you'll make a good friend to an international student.
- * People who have an interest in expanding their horizons...perhaps you are a world traveler or perhaps you have never been outside West Virginia...experience is less important than interest. You'll make a good friend to an international student if you want to be one!

How will I benefit?

You will gain a new level of understanding about yourself and our own country. The process of trying to explain an American holiday or our concepts of freedom or child rearing can help to clarify your own beliefs. Children learn first hand about the peoples and countries they study in school. Best of all, being a friend to international students gives you a window on the world through the medium of friendship-friendship, which can lead to letters, travel and new horizons.

Can I choose the nationality of the student you assign to me?

On your application you may indicate a preference for a particular country if you wish. We always do our best to meet specified preferences. Our most well represented geographical areas are Asia, Europe and Africa.



What kind of food should I serve?

Almost anything is appropriate because the students are open-minded enough to try new dishes and want to learn about American food. However, it is wise to ask the student before hand if there are any foods that he or she can't eat for health or religious reasons.

How should I act?

- * Be yourself! The students are interested in learning about how Americans live, so do what you always do.
- * Involve children or grandchildren, if you have them; it is often easier for the visitor to relax first with them because of their openness and enthusiasm.
- * Show interest in the student's country, family, customs. They will also enjoy sharing such information with you.



What about religion?

International students come from a variety of religious backgrounds. Many are not Christian. While discussing and sharing information about each other's religious beliefs and practices can be interesting and informative, it is important to respect the student's beliefs. One should not befriend international students for the purpose of changing their religious beliefs.



What about money or financial problems?

As a condition of their admission, all international students at Concord University show full funding for the expenses of their studies and maintenance costs. When unexpected financial problems do arise, the staff of the International Student Office is prepared and trained to assist students in resolving their concerns. You are not expected to provide financial support of any kind.

What do I do if there is a problem I can't solve?

Contact the International Students Office. We're here to help.

How can I get involved?

Contact the International Student Office for an application. Our telephone number is (304) 384-6086. Our email is nellison@concord.edu. After we receive your application, you will be matched with an international student(s).



The International Students' Club Delivers!

The International Students' Club is delivering birthday greetings to students on campus. Club members will deliver a birthday cake from Wal-Mart, balloons, birthday plates and forks to your child's room on his/her special day. There are white cakes, chocolate cakes and even cookie cakes available!

To request a birthday greeting for your child, send us your child's name, cell phone number, residence hall and room number, date of birth, type of cake desired, and the name(s) of the person giving the surprise along with a check for \$25 made payable to the International Students' Club. Our address is: Box 86 Concord University, Athens, WV 24712.



Software Developed at Concord University Part of State Fair Exhibit

ATHENS - eigenweg™ is traveling to the state fair.

The eigenweg™ system, an innovation that provides a one-stop digital source for tourist information, will be demonstrated at Concord University's tent at the State Fair of West Virginia Aug. 13-20, 2010. The tent will be located behind the grandstand from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.

Eigenweg (pronounced ike-en-vek) translated from Dutch means "my way."

The software is a product of Concord University research and development team Dr. W.R. Winfrey, professor of mathematics, and Miranda N. Martin, a 2009 Concord graduate and Oak Hill native. Their work is based in the Rahall Technology Center on Concord's Athens campus.

"eigenweg™ is a solution to a fundamental problem in the tourism industry, i.e. connecting brochures to digital sources of information about tourist attractions," Winfrey said. "This is provided via a kiosk in a tourist information center, a hotel lobby, an airport, a railway station or a ferry terminal. Also, it can be provided via a smartphone and a website. The digital information is accessed via a QR code (a two-dimensional bar code) printed on a brochure or in advertising."

Inspiration for the software came about from discussions Winfrey and Martin had with Jerry E. Berry, president of Three Rivers Travel Council and an occupant of the Rahall Technology Center's business incubator. In his work Berry has encountered a problem with traditional printed brochures adequately reaching the tourist audience.

"Tourism literature, either a brochure or an advertisement, is limited by what can be displayed on a printed page," Winfrey explained. "It's not always simple to get to additional sources of information, such as the attraction's website. It is not practical to customize brochures to a particular point of distribution.

"The eigenweg™ system offers better interaction between selected attractions and potential customers, plus an integrated view of all local attractions, large and small. It sells the region, not just individual attractions and offers a common interface for all attractions. It does not replace brochures and web sites but, instead, adds to their value," he said. "Also, it offers affordable global access for small local attractions."

Berry serves as distributor of the system through eigenwegUSA. He says that while the product was inspired by the tourism industry, eigenweg™ is now being used by the business world as well.

For more information call 1-304-384-6301 or email info@eigenwegUSA.com.

