

Fall 2004

Greetings Alumni and Friends! Another academic year is well under way and we couldn't be more excited. We hope you enjoy catching up on the latest from NRCC.

Calendar of Events

11/13	Fiddle, Banjo & Dance Club, 7:00pm, Edwards 117
11/17	Books are Fun book fair, 8:00-5:00, student lounge
11/18	Open House, Business & Technologies, 5:00pm, Edwards 117
11/22-26	Thanksgiving break (college closed 11/25-26)
12/11	Fiddle, Banjo & Dance Club, 7:00pm, Edwards 117
12/11-12/12	"Rough Night at the North Pole" children's Christmas play, 2:00pm, Richardson Auditorium
12/13-16	Fall semester exams
12/23-1/2	College closed for winter break

NRCC Foundation Announces One Million Dollar Book Campaign

Concerned with the rising costs of college textbooks, the NRCC Educational Foundation has launched a campaign to raise one million dollars to help students meet book expenses.

The Foundation's board of directors approved the drive at a recent meeting and designated the new fund as the "Ann Huff Book Fund." Ann Huff is a former Foundation board member and NRCC

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ODU-NRCC share 10 year partnership anniversary



members, NRCC faculty and staff and ODU representatives. The culmination of the morning was the official signing of an articulation agreement between the colleges by Dr. Jack Lewis, president of NRCC, and Dr. Runte of ODU.

NRCC and Old Dominion University celebrated their 10-year partnership through the TELETECHNET program. Dr. Roseann Runte, president of Old Dominion University, visited campus for a celebration breakfast with approximately 60 community

Hancock Named to State Board

Governor Mark R. Warner has announced the appointment of Pulaski attorney Gary C. Hancock to the State Board for Community Colleges.

Hancock has served as president of the NRCC Foundation Board of Directors and had recently been appointed by the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors to serve on the New River Community College Board, although that role will be superceded by his position on the State Board.



Formerly of Hillsville, Hancock received his Juris Doctor Degree from the University of Richmond T.C. Williams School of Law. He joined the Gilmer, Sadler, Ingram, Sutherland & Hutton law firm in 1977.

Commenting on his appointment, Hancock said "New River Community College is the crown jewel of our community. I am honored to be selected by the Governor to serve on the State Community College Board and will do all I can to strengthen, support,

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College Introduces New Full-Time Faculty and Staff Members

The following individuals have joined NRCC this fall:

Jenny Bolte, Middle College program director
Brian Clark, instructor of health, physical education, and biology
Montie Fleshman, associate professor of instrumentation
Janet Hanks, instructor of English
Tammy Harmon, administrative & office specialist, admissions
Jeff Levy, instructor of drafting
Graham Mitchell, assistant professor of psychology and religion
Laura Osborne, instructor of English
Janice Shelton, associate professor of English
Sarah Tolbert-Hurysz, instructor of English
Jeannie Southern, administrative & office specialist, workforce development
Toni Ramsey, administrative & office specialist, Middle College

New "Middle College" Program Launched at NRCC

Going back to school this fall holds a special significance for an increasing number of young adults across the Commonwealth thanks to the expansion of the Virginia Community College System's (VCCS) Middle College program, which will now include NRCC as one of its five state-wide program sites.

The program, for high school dropouts between the ages of 18 and 24, is designed for participants who are moving through the GED certificate program to flow directly into community college credit programs. These can be either workforce certificate programs or associate degree programs. The idea is for Middle College students to change the way they think about themselves—from the very start of the program—overturning the idea that "college is beyond reach."

For the 2004-05 year, the five program sites will offer services to an additional 150 young Virginians without a high school diploma.

Gov. Mark R. Warner supported the start up of the two pilot programs with a portion of funds from the Workforce Investment Act, and is continuing to fund them this year.

"We're grateful for Governor Warner's initial support to begin Middle College. The results from our first year are compelling and we are extremely pleased to expand the program," said VCCS Chancellor Glenn DuBois. "We've helped these students raise their expectations and take steps toward a more successful future."

tidbits...

Dan Lookadoo, professor of electronics and electricity, has been named interim dean of the division of business and technology.

Ron Chaffin, former dean of business and technologies, has been named the new vice president for workforce development.

John Van Hemert has been named vice president for finance and technology. Previously he served as the director of technology and facilities services.

Josie Martin, administrative and office specialist in admissions, was recently inducted into the National Society of Collegiate Scholars at Radford University, where she is pursuing a bachelor's degree.

Amy Hall, executive assistant to the president at NRCC, was recently elected as the treasurer of the Virginia Division of the International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP) for the upcoming year.

New River Community College was honored with the IAAP Virginia Division Corporate Award for Excellence for the year 2003-2004.

Louise Billaud, instructor of music, was one of eight semi-finalists in an international music competition this year.

passing...

We're sorry to report that Dr. Margaret Smith, retired professor of English, passed away on August 26, 2004.

James W. Robertson Memorial Scholarship Fund Established

A new endowed scholarship fund has been established at NRCC thanks to a generous bequest from the late James W. Robertson.

Eventually totaling more than \$170,000, the James W. Robertson Memorial Scholarship Fund will be a part of the endowed scholarship program managed by the NRCC Educational Foundation and will provide scholarships to deserving students on an annual basis. The bequest itself will remain intact, with interest earnings used to support scholarship awards. Preference for scholarships will be given to students who are practicing or retired New River Valley barbers or to children, spouses or grandchildren of practicing or retired NRV barbers.

Robertson was a widely respected Pulaski County citizen. He served as a barber in Pulaski for more than 53 years, and was a World War II veteran.

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and promote the role of community colleges in the Commonwealth."

NRCC president Dr. Jack Lewis remarked, "To my knowledge, this is the first time that an individual from the New River Valley has been appointed to the State Board for Community Colleges. Obviously, Gary Hancock's appointment is a manifestation of the high regard in which he is held at the state level. I'm sure he will do an outstanding job in this important role."

Hancock is married to Carol Thomas Hancock who teaches third grade at Critzer Elementary School in Pulaski. The Hancocks have a son, Matthew, who lives in New York City.

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college board member, and the wife of prominent area businessman H. W. Huff, Jr. An emeritus member of the Foundation Board and long-time supporter of the college, Mr. Huff kicked off the campaign with a generous contribution in her honor.

According to Dr. Mark Rowh, executive director of the Foundation and vice president for advancement at NRCC, the Foundation will seek private contributions from alumni, the business community, civic organizations and other groups, as well as the public at large. "Any donation, no matter the size, will help in this effort," he said.

While tuition and fees are substantially lower at New River and other Virginia community colleges than at public universities and private colleges, the cost of textbooks is equivalent to that at more expensive institutions, and is controlled by national trends in the textbook publishing industry. A single textbook commonly costs more than \$100, and may exceed twice that amount in some cases.

Funds raised in this campaign will be used to help students offset some of these costs. Rowh said that 100 percent of funds donated will be applied toward books-no funds will be applied to administrative costs or other overhead.

Questions about the campaign may be directed to Rowh at 540-674-3617 or 866-462-6722, Ext. 4241.

Scholarship brunch held recently



Recipients of NRCC Educational Foundation Endowed Scholarships had a chance to meet with donors at a scholarship brunch held at the college October 13. The foundation awarded 118 scholarships this year. Applications for next year's scholarships will be available in January 2005.

Alumni Help Needed

Contact Dr. Alona Smolova (674-3690) or Dr. Mark Rowh (674-3617) to get involved in the alumni program and to help out in these or other ways:

Student Mentorship Program

The NRCC Alumni-Student Mentorship program is designed to strengthen the connection between current NRCC students and NRCC alumni. As somebody who "has been there," you know what it takes not to give up but continue on until the completion of a degree.

Help with Recruiting

NRCC continues to identify alumni who are interested in supporting the recruiting function of the college. Many of our prospective students would embrace the opportunity to meet with NRCC graduates to ask questions about our college and degrees, share fears and concerns, seek inspiration and encouragement.

NRCC Theater presents TRIFLES

NRCC Theater will present TRIFLES, a play in one-act by Susan Glaspell November 4-6 and November 11-13. All shows begin at 7:30 p.m. and admission is \$5.00.

TRIFLES, first produced in 1916, is about a murder investigation set in the late 19th century. Although the play concerns a murder investigation, the story is not a whodunit as much as it is a mystery of motive. As the women in the play discover the motive by paying close attention to "women's trifles," the theme of the play is revealed.

NRCC holds youth theatre camp



Over thirty children participated in a youth theater camp put on by NRCC this summer. The camp is a part of NRCC Theater, a program that offers acting and behind-the-scenes opportunities for students and community members. Three plays are produced each year and acting classes are offered in the fall and spring. For more information, contact Sandy Moye, coordinator of NRCC Theater, at nrmoyes@nr.edu or by calling (540) 674-3600 ext. 4443.