

CAMPUS

Connections



Beaufort County Community College

Five chosen as new BCCC Ambassadors

Five students have been chosen by the Beaufort County Community College Foundation to represent BCCC as new Ambassadors for 2004-2005. Those selected are Maria Teresa S. Baluis of Washington, Ella Gaynor of Pantego, Edwin Gray Godley of Belhaven, Andrea Starkie of Chocowinity and Susan R. Woolard of Washington. "This is an excellent team of Ambassadors. They represent almost every curriculum program at the college and come from all walks of life and experiences. Each of them is self-confident and talented. They are a real testament to the high degree of professionalism our community college elicits," said BCCC Foundation Director Judy Jennette. Baluis is a student in BCCC's Associate Degree Nursing program. She graduated from high school in Quezon City, Philippines and earned a bachelor's degree in physical therapy from Far Eastern University in Manila in 2000. She served as a volunteer in the physical therapy department at Beaufort County Hospital from September 2002 to December 2003. Gaynor is a student in BCCC's Medical Office Administration program. She graduated from Beaufort County High School in 1968. Gaynor worked as a machine operator and instructor at National Spinning Co. for over 20 years from 1971 to 2002 and as a sales clerk for Wal-Mart from 1998 to 2002. She hopes to graduate in 2005 and obtain a position in a medical office. Godley is a student in BCCC's college transfer program and is studying psychology, chemistry and sociology. He earned his General Educational Development, or GED, from BCCC in 2002. He has worked as a waiter and cook at Andy's in Belhaven. Starkie is also a student in BCCC's college transfer program and hopes to graduate in 2005. A graduate of Hillhouse High School in New Haven, Conn., Starkie served in the U.S. Air Force from 1985 to 1987. She recently was one of two BCCC students to be recognized in Raleigh with an Academic Excellence Award. After graduating from BCCC, she hopes to transfer to East Carolina University and pursue a degree in social work. A 1993 graduate of Northside High School, Woolard is a student in BCCC's Associate Degree Nursing program and hopes to graduate in 2005. Woolard's work experience includes serving as a receptionist for H & R Block and as an ophthalmic technician. In 2001 she served as a volunteer on a medical missionary trip to Haiti. Since 2001, she has also studied at BCCC to obtain a Community Spanish Facilitator Certificate. The five join four others – Tabitha Fulford, Candace Sherrod, Cheryl Whitley and Conoley Williford – who will continue to represent the college as Ambassadors in the coming year. Those selected as Ambassadors receive a one-year tuition scholarship and help the college market its programs and services. For more information about the Ambassador program, contact the BCCC Foundation at 252-940-6326.



Andrea Starkie



Edwin Godley



Maria T. Baluis



Susan Woolard



Ella Gaynor

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Carter, Oesterreich cited for service

Their peers recently recognized two Beaufort County Community College employees – Clay Carter and Bryan Oesterreich – for their service to the college.

The BCCC Staff Association named Carter, director of evening, weekend and off-campus programs, BCCC Staff Member of the Year. The BCCC Faculty Senate named Oesterreich, an English instructor, Faculty Member of the Year. “Being named Faculty Member of the Year is very reassuring,” said Oesterreich on being told of the award “Student comments are treasured, but a statement like this from my peers is very humbling.” Carter said, “I am very flattered and honored. It’s a wonderful compliment from the people with whom I work. We are all such a wonderful team. It’s just very nice.” The program, to honor a staff member and a faculty member each year, was established by the BCCC Foundation to encourage and recognize excellence on the college campus. A \$500 monetary prize accompanies the award. Washington native Carter is the son of Sam T. and Tay Carter, also of Washington. Carter joined the staff at BCCC in 1987, first as an instructor in the prison in Creswell, then as a continuing education instructor with Human Resources Development and the Business and Industry Center on campus. Carter was later promoted to Director of Evening and Off-Campus Programs. As such his duties include working with high schools and other groups in BCCC’s four-county service area to develop educational programs and ensuring that evening operations run smoothly and that the students are well-served. He also works with dislocated workers to help them with their education plans. Oesterreich’s journey through education provides him with an interesting perspective and approach to his classes. A high school dropout, Oesterreich worked as a truck driver for several years. Oesterreich joined the faculty at BCCC in 2000 teaching American literature, creative writing, first-year composition, professional research and reporting and public speaking. In 2000 he also joined the adjunct faculty at East Carolina University, teaching English composition. Oesterreich has written articles for numerous publications, most recently for “Our State” magazine and the “Washington Daily News and most recently, three students from his creative writing class have written articles that have been accepted for publication by “Our State.” He has also developed several computer-based and video English and literature courses.

Read more about BCCC honorees Carter and Oesterreich by clicking on the News and Events page at www.beaufortccc.edu.



Bryan Oesterreich is the 2004 Faculty Member of the Year at BCCC!



Clay Carter is the 2004 Staff Member of the Year at BCCC!

BCCC offers new industrial technology scholarships

Beaufort County Community College is offering eight new \$2,000 scholarships for high school graduates who enroll in industrial technology courses at BCCC. The scholarships, which would cover tuition costs for two years of study at BCCC, are the first of their kind to be offered to industrial technology students. The application deadline is July 12. Although the economy in our area has been depressed in recent years, graduates from the college’s industrial technology programs have been able to secure employment in our service area with good pay and benefit packages,” said Wesley Beddard, BCCC dean of instruction, in announcing the scholarships. “These scholarships will provide more students with the opportunity to continue their studies and help ensure a stream of highly qualified employees for area businesses and industries - a win-win scenario for our students, area employers, and our entire community,” he said. Students accepted for the scholarship will be required to maintain a 2.5 grade point average to remain eligible for the scholarship. Money for the scholarships comes from a pool of money allocated by the General Assembly to community colleges statewide for scholarships. For more information about the scholarships, interested persons can contact the BCCC Office of Financial Aid at 252-940-6219.

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BCCC/DOT partnership completes successful first semester



Terrill Gibbs, BCCC student intern, inspects a floodlight at the DOT highway maintenance garage in Washington County.

CRESWELL - On a recent Wednesday afternoon, Cecil Bowser, equipment supervisor, faced a challenge at the state Department of Transportation's maintenance shop near this Washington County town. That night, the DOT was scheduled to install four culverts on N.C. 94 near Kilkenny. Workers were to stop traffic about 7 p.m. along the two-lane road that runs from Hyde County to Columbia, cut the road, install the culverts and reopen the road about 6 a.m. the following day. Bowser's job was to make sure the equipment the DOT road crew needed to do the job was in place on either side of the work site. And because the road would be cut and he could not easily replace any equipment that malfunctioned during the job, Bowser had to make sure that each piece was in good working order. To perform the important inspections on the equipment and make any needed repairs before it was trucked to the work site, Bowser called on Beaufort County Community College student Terrill Gibbs. Gibbs' job was to inspect the motors and electrical equipment on four large portable floodlights and make any needed repairs that Wednesday afternoon in order to have the equipment at the job site that night. "Tonight we don't want any breakdowns," said Bowser of the task before Gibbs and other members of the maintenance staff. "We will have equipment on both sides of the road when it is cut and we need to make sure the equipment is up and running while the work is done."

Gibbs, of Swan Quarter, is one of three BCCC students who have been working for the past semester in DOT highway maintenance garages as part of a first-of-its-kind partnership between the DOT and the community college. Jeremy Pickett of Deep Run has worked in the DOT's highway maintenance garage in Lenoir County and Angelo Ward of Belhaven has worked in the Washington garage.

Gamma Beta Phi celebrating 30th anniversary

Planning is underway for the observance of Gamma Beta Phi's 30th anniversary on the Beaufort County Community College campus during the 2004-2005 academic year. Gamma Beta Phi leaders hope the 30th anniversary celebration will mark the beginning of a new chapter for the college's only honor society. Officers for the 2004-2005 academic year are Amy Ketner, president; Robin Jackson, vice president; Mathew Whitley, secretary; Laurie Rayburn, treasurer, and Mary Godley, reporter. "The college's administration, faculty and staff agree that there should be a place for students to be recognized for their academics," said Mandy Jones, allied health admissions coordinator. "All of us who have been involved in Gamma Beta Phi are excited about celebrating this milestone." Jones has been advisor for the group for 10 years. Dr. Mike Davis, an English instructor took on a co-advising role for the group last year. With national headquarters in Oak Ridge, Tenn., Gamma Beta Phi's goals are to recognize and encourage educational excellence; to promote the development of leadership ability and character in its members, and to foster, disseminate, and improve education through appropriate service projects. Membership is by invitation only. To be eligible, a student must be currently enrolled, must have completed at least 13 semester hours of college work and must have a 3.3 grade point average, among other membership criteria. Recent Gamma Beta Phi service projects at BCCC have included a mentoring program and supply drive for the Boys and Girls Club, campus Blood Drive and co-sponsorship of the annual BCCC Job Fair. The group has also provided Christmas stockings for the Salvation Army and held a Book Drive to replace books lost in a past Chocowinity Primary School fire. The BCCC Chapter of Gamma Beta Phi was chartered in May 1975 under the leadership of Betty Cochran, former chairman of BCCC's Arts and Sciences Division, who served as advisor for the group for 10 years. The officers for that year were John Hendricks, Jr., president; John Carson, III, vice president; Ruth Hatcher Teeter, secretary, and Benjamin Adams, treasurer.



BCCC employee and foster parent draw on training, support groups

"Everyone has situations that are different," foster parent Norma Crutchfield recently told the Washington Daily News. "That goes for any parent, but these are kids that often have additional needs. Crutchfield, a BCCC employee, became a foster parent in 2001. She discussed her experiences as a foster parent with Jules Norwood, a reporter for the Washington Daily News. Crutchfield knows from experience what it's like to foster a child with additional emotional or physical needs. At one point, the article states, she took in an 11-year-old boy who became very aggressive. "I've always done well with teenagers," she said. "But he pushed everything to the limit. I tried to find a way for him to stay here, but in the end it was better for everyone involved to let him go to a home where he had a male role model to look up to. "It hurts to let them go," she said. "But when it's for the better, you have to do it." Read more of Norwood's article on Norma Crutchfield's experiences as a foster parent in the May 31, 2004, edition of the WDN.



BCCC offers first advising center for students

For the first time this summer Beaufort County Community College will offer one-stop advising for new and returning students in a centrally located Advising Center that will give students the opportunity to meet with members of the college faculty and to map out their course work. The Advising Center will be in room 113 of Building 3 and will be open Mondays through Fridays during telephone, or RAP, registration, Wesley Beddard, dean of instruction at BCCC announced this week. The new system should be a definite improvement over past advising offered at the college, Beddard said. In the past, without a central Advising Center, students have been required to meet with their advisor, who may or may not have been on campus during the summer. This has led to confusion and frustration for students, he said. The hours for the Advising Center are as follows: Monday, July 12, through Thursday July 15, the center will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday, July 15, open from 8 a.m. to 12 noon; Monday, July 19, open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Tuesday, July 20, through Thursday, July 22, open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday, July 23, open from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. The Advising Center will be staffed by 12-month faculty members and by nine- and ten-month faculty members who volunteer for extra work during this time. For more information about the Advising Center or enrolling in fall semester classes at BCCC, interested persons can contact the college Office of Admissions at 940-6233.

Upcoming Events

Ongoing through August 17 – Summer term daytime operating hours are in effect.

July 1 – Deadline to submit items for the "Race for Iraq" supply collection. For more information, contact Penelope Radcliffe at 940-6325.

July 5 – Holiday

July 6-9 – Student/Faculty vacation

July 8 – 12 – Phi Beta Lambda National Leadership Conference and Institute for Leaders management Program

July 19 – New student advising day

July 12-23 – RAP Registration for Fall Semester

July 12-23 – Student Advising Center opens. For more information, contact the Office of Admissions at 940-6233.

August 5 – Exams

August 16-17 – Late Registration for Fall Semester

August 17 – Fall Semester begins

September 6 – Labor Day Holiday

September 7 – Gamma Beta Phi membership meeting. For more information, contact Mandy Jones at 940-6242.

October 1 – BCCC Student Government Association will sponsor a non-partisan "Get-Out-The-Vote event. For more information, contact Rebecca Spain at 940-6259.

October 1 – Gamma Beta Phi membership meeting. For more information, contact Mandy Jones at 940-6242.

Students, faculty and staff - publicize your campus-based fundraiser and or other event in this column monthly. Contact the public relations staff no later than the 15th of the month in order to list your event in the next edition of Campus Connections. Please email your announcements via Groupwise to Betty Gray.