

March 2005

# CAMPUS Connections



Beaufort County Community College

## BCCC graduate finds interesting career in aircraft inspections

HAVELOCK - In a workroom on a recent Wednesday at the

Naval Air Depot, Beaufort County Community College graduate Amanda Hudspeth applied a green fluorescent gel to an aircraft part, and passed a wand over it.

The 23-year-old Belhaven native was demonstrating to visitors how she used gel and the device to check for cracks in metal aircraft parts.

As an apprentice inspector/evaluator in the non-destructive inspections, or NDI, division at the NADEP, Hudspeth is following a career path that calls for life and death decisions. And it could ultimately take her to military bases and hot spots around the world to help maintain and repair military aircraft. It's a career path that BCCC staff and faculty hope more women like Hudspeth will consider.

Sitting on some 145 acres at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, NADEP employs about 3,850 civilian workers, some 250 contractors, and 40 U.S. Marines in an industrial complex that includes more than 102 buildings with 1.8 million square feet of production space.

NADEP workers repair and maintain some 150 aircraft, 500 engines, and 45,000 aviation components each year, literally stripping the aircraft down to their skeletal hulls to recondition them to meet military specifications for another tour of duty.

The depot specializes in the support of Marine Corps aircraft, engines, and components and is the only source of repair within the continental United States for many jet engines and rotary wing engines.

"This is a great job," she said. "But not many people understand this trade because you have to go to an NDI school to learn how to do it."

Hudspeth, the daughter of Luke Cahoon and Joan Bogun of Belhaven, graduated from Northside High School in 1999. She earned an associate's degree from BCCC in mechanical engineering drafting and technology in 2003 and an associate's degree in mechanical engineering technology in 2004.

At the NADEP, she is one of two female apprentices in the NDI department and one of five females out of 48 people in the department.

As a young girl, Hudspeth always liked drafting and dreamed of becoming an architect. But when she arrived on the BCCC campus, she was reluctant to study mechanical engineering and drafting and initially turned down a scholarship for the program.

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*BCCC graduate, Amanda Hudspeth working at NADEP.*

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"I think it was the fear of the unknown combined with the fact that not many women were in the program," Hudspeth said.

But her love of architecture drew her to the classroom, and, although Hudspeth discovered that she was one of only three females in both mechanical engineering/drafting and mechanical engineering technology programs at the time, she was undaunted and enjoyed her studies.

"I think I have a pretty good personality," she said. "That's what helped me through it."

While at BCCC, Hudspeth applied for and was accepted into the Cooperative Work Experience, or Co-Op program at NADEP. Under the program, students work on the base during the day and attend class at night.

After completing her studies at BCCC, she was accepted into the apprenticeship program at NADEP in 2004. She attended NDI school in Pensacola, Fla., where, after a brief interruption in her studies because of Hurricane Ivan, finished at the top of her class in December.

Since joining the apprenticeship program at NADEP, Hudspeth has performed inspections on a variety of aircraft, including several different types of helicopters and the AV8 Harrier.

The importance of Hudspeth's work is not far from her mind.

"My job is to find things that are going to save people's lives," she said. "A small defect in any part of an aircraft can cause small pieces of metal to break off and cause catastrophic damage or even bring the aircraft down."

And Hudspeth has a personal interest in ensuring that the aircraft are properly inspected - her husband, Jeremiah, is a staff sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps who could be a passenger on one of the aircraft she has inspected.

At the end of two-year apprenticeship program, Hudspeth will be certified in three methods of inspections and can expect to earn a starting salary of about \$20 an hour. As she continues to work and train, she has the opportunity to become certified in five methods of inspections and earn an even greater salary.

She could even become a member of one of the NADEP's Aircraft Service Period Adjustment, or ASPA, teams that inspects, maintains and repairs aircraft on military bases throughout the world.

"The good thing is, it's very interesting work," she said. "You find new things every day. The bad thing is, you get a little dirty. You have to pull your weight. Some of the parts are a little heavy."

"I encourage other women to go into trades, like NDI," she said. "They might be surprised to discover how much they like it."

Another feature of the job is that Hudspeth has gained a measure of celebrity in Havelock, where she currently lives. As one of the few females in the NDI division, her coworkers often recognize her when she runs errands around town.

"They'll see me and ask, 'Don't you work at NADEP?'" she said.



## "Girls Night Out" Career Fair set at BCCC

Encouraging women and girls to consider careers in industrial trades and technology is the goal of a career fair set March 14 on the BCCC campus.

Dubbed "Girls Night Out," the event, which is free and open to all women and girls in BCCC's four-county service area will be from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in Building 4 on the college campus. Participants will have the opportunity to explore technical careers for women in the areas of automobile repair, biotechnology, computer networking and programming, criminal justice, drafting and design, electrical and electronic engineering, law enforcement, mechanical engineering and welding, among others. "The

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purpose of the event is to introduce girls and women to areas in which they had not considered developing a career," said Sandria McFadden, lead instructor in BCCC's mechanical engineering and drafting and design programs. "The opportunities are there for young women in these fields. The jobs are out there and are available locally." For more information on the event, contact Rhunell Boyd at 940-6353 or Sandria McFadden at 940-6314.

## BCCC seminar addresses minority needs

About two dozen faculty, staff and students at Beaufort County Community College participated in a seminar to learn more about serving minority and special needs students. The seminar, held on the BCCC campus Wednesday, February 9, was conducted by Renee Smith, an Eastern Regional Human Relations Specialist for the North Carolina Human Relations Commission who serves 24 counties in the eastern part of the state. Smith, a former police investigator for the Goldsboro Police Department, presented information on private and state-sponsored organizations throughout North Carolina that provide services to minorities or to people with special needs.



*Bill Polk discusses minority issues with Renee Smith.*

## Money raised for tsunami victims

Beaufort County Community College students, faculty and staff have raised Over \$500 to help victims of the recent tsunami in the Indian Ocean. The money will be donated to the Save the Children organization. "We are delighted with the campus response to our coordinated efforts by students, faculty and staff to raise money to help these victims," said Rebecca Spain, coordinator of Student Government Association activities. The BCCC SGA raised their share of the money from the sale of hamburgers, cheeseburgers, chips and soft drinks recently on campus. Pictured below, Spain and student government co-president Jimmie Clark sell hamburgers in the student lounge at BCCC.



## Nominations sought for BCCC Ambassadors

The BCCC Foundation is seeking nominations for applicants to represent the college as Ambassadors for the 2004-2005 school year. Those selected as Ambassadors will receive a one-year tuition scholarship and will help the college market its programs and services. To be considered for the program, students must be nominated by a faculty member and meet the following minimum qualifications: A high level of commitment to BCCC; an attractive presence and outgoing personality; good verbal communication and presentation skills; poise and ability to make a positive first impression; scheduling flexibility, and have their own transportation. Ambassadors are expected to maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or higher throughout their tenure. As part of the selection process, applicants will be asked to submit a resume and will be asked to participate in a videotaped interview. A panel comprised of members of the BCCC Foundation Board of Directors will conduct interviews in an informal setting with finalists for the position. BCCC is expected to choose between two and five new Ambassadors for the 2004-2005 school year. The deadline for faculty nominations is March 18. For more information about the Ambassador program, interested persons can contact the BCCC Foundation office at 940-6218.

**- from "Small Packages" by Patricia Tripp Cox**

"Organized chaos: The journey starts when someone fills an empty shoebox. They take it to their participating church or group. From there it is transported to a relay center. During National Collection Week, always the week before Thanksgiving, volunteers at the relay centers pack shoeboxes in cases and deliver them to a collection center like the one at Pinedale, which is the largest in North Carolina. Then, the Samaritan's Purse trucks transport boxes to the closest processing center. There are six processing centers in the United States, and the largest of those is in Charlotte. These centers are staffed by an amazing number of volunteers of all ages - 36,000 last year in Charlotte alone - giving their time not just willingly but joyously. "We start taking reservations [to schedule volunteers] in April," explains Joey White, manager of the Charlotte processing center and field representative for OCC in North Carolina and South Carolina. But even by February, there is already a waiting list of those who want to work at the center. Churches bring in groups. Other volunteers travel at their own expense from as far away as Texas and California and stay from a week to several months. For some, it is an annual event. As the boxes come in from regional collection centers, volunteers at the processing center along nine assembly lines check each one (of all 1.7 million shoe boxes last year), removing inappropriate items and filling up boxes that have empty spaces. The boxes and lids have been wrapped separately and secured by a rubber band for ease of inspection. Any unsuitable items are donated to local charities. "I think the best part is opening the box and seeing a person's hear," says Jean Hunt, a volunteer from Illinois, as she checks gift-filled boxes along the assembly line. At the end of the assembly line, boxes are taped up, put into a sea container, and sent to a port to be shipped out. "Organized chaos" is how John Allison, a retired mailman from Charlotte, describes it as he shrinkwraps caseloads of boxes coming off the assembly lines. "With nine lines humming, it's all we can do to keep up. This brings out the best and the worst in you. If the Lord wasn't in it, we couldn't do it."

**- from "Straight from the Heart" by Karen A. Thomas**

"Some robots save the universe, but others save lives one heart at a time. Centered within a farming community, East Carolina University's Brody School of Medicine has grown into a world-renowned center of robotic surgery, and on May 3, 200, Dr. W. Randolph Chitwood, chief of cardiothoracic and vascular surgery, became the first surgeon in North America to repair a damaged mitral valve using robotic technology. Today, Dr. Chitwood's Minimally Invasive Surgical Training Center is the first site in the United States to offer formal training in the procedure. Several hundred cardiac surgeons from around the world have traveled to this unlikely Mecca in Greenville to learn a new science that is no longer fiction. Traditional open-heart surgery required a foot-long incision, necessitating a long hospital stay and lengthy healing time. In contrast, robotic surgery is performed through three small incisions, resulting in less scarring and a quicker recovery for the patient. This less-invasive approach appealed to Dr. Robert Petrilli, an emergency room physician from the Charlotte area who was facing cardiac surgery. "My cardiologist, Dr. K.D. Weeks, thought that robotic surgery would be a good option," says Dr. Petrilli. "I did a lot of research into the procedure and spoke with a lot of CT [cardiothoracic] surgeons. Dr. Chitwood's name kept popping up. I learned that if Dr. Chitwood did it, it was tested, tried, and true." Indeed, Dr. Chitwood has

## BCCC writers read at library

**Bryan Oesterreich, creative writing instructor at BCCC, and three of his students – Patricia Cox, Steven Wilson and Karen Thomas – were recently invited to read at the George H. and Laura E. Brown Library from their works published over the last few months in "Our State" magazine. Oesterreich has had 15 pieces published at various times in the magazine. Cox, a Methodist minister in Belhaven and Pantego, was published in December 2004. Wilson, a former logger from Washington, was published in October 2004. Thomas had an article in the January 2005 issue.**



*Steve Wilson, Patricia Cox, Bryan Oesterreich, and Karen Thomas*

performed more robotic-assisted mitral valve repairs than anyone else in the world. Through his efforts, the Cardiovascular Center, a part of University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina affiliated with the ECU Brody School of Medicine, earned the first full FDA approval for the procedure in November 2002. The robotic system, known as the daVinci Surgical System, is a computer-assisted tool controlled by a surgeon who sits at a console several feet from the operating table. The robot's three hands are inserted through small incisions - one hand holds the camera that allows the surgeon to view and magnify the surgical field. While the other two hands hold surgical instruments manipulated by the surgeon.

**- from "Slave Poet of Chapel Hill" by Steven L. Wilson**

"Called to the rhythm: George Moses was born the property of William Horton, as were his mother, brother and sisters: his father was another man's property. Although no birth date was recorded, he is believed to have been born some time during 1797. As George Moses said later, "to account for my age is beyond the reach of my power." William Horton's farm was a small tobacco operated located in Northampton County, but continual tobacco production eventually depleted the land of its richness, and in 1800, William Horton moved to newly settled Chatham

County, where corn, wheat, and the grazing of cattle were the rule. There, it was young George Moses' job to drive the cows to and from the pasture. During this period, Methodist revivals were sweeping across North Carolina. At camp meetings, young George Moses observed men and women speaking and singing from books, and the desire to read took hold of him. He studied from old spelling books at night, of which he said, "I had to sit sweating over my incompetent bark or brush light, almost exhausted by the heat of the fire and almost suffocated with smoke." Eventually, he started to read the Bible and Methodist hymnals. It was in the simple rhythm of the hymns that he found his fascination with poetry. As his fondness for poetry grew, he gathered verses to hoard, storing the rich words in his mind and the meter and rhyme in his hear. Eventually, he tried his own hand at composing. His early attempts had the themes of the camp meeting: "Rise up, my soul, and let us go/ Up to the gospel feast;/ Gird on the garment white as snow,/ To join and be a guest."

**- from "Ring of Cheer" by Bryan A. Oesterreich**

The setting is the centuries-old Orleans Cathedral, near Paris, France. It's time for the Loire Valley Handbell Festival. Hundreds of people have quietly filed in and taken seats. Frescoes adorn the ceilings; stained glass windows cooler the flood of light. A handbell choir is positioned just below the altar. Each member is wearing black slacks, a starched white shirt, and white gloves. The conductor raises her baton, and the audience grows silent. Then, the brass bells begin to ring. What makes this performance different from the thousands of others held at this cathedral is that the Bill Bagwell Bell Handbell Choir traveled from Washington in Beaufort County across the Atlantic to ring their bells in joyful memory of one of their own. The choir's story goes back to 1989 and to the man named Bill Bagwell. After graduation from Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Bagwell returned to North Carolina and worked as a chaplain, always sharing his compassion for others. "Bill was always the family mediator," says his mother, Hannah. "He always found a way to set things right." In July 1989, at the age of 33, Bagwell died after a short struggle with a cancerous brain tumor. The following year, his parents, Hannah and James Bagwell, and family friend Grover Boyd, who had started a handbell choir in his Sunday school class at First Christian Church, decided a choir bearing his name would continue his life's legacy of giving joy. Long associated with the First Christian Church in Washington, the Bagwells approached the church congregation with a plan: If the church would raise some of the necessary funds, the Bagwells would set up a music endowment fund to ensure the future of the choir for many years. The money was raised, and the work began. Bells were purchased, sheet music was obtained, auditions for bell ringers were scheduled, and a director was found - Sally Love, music director of the First Christian Church. The choir is made up of members of both the church and the community and includes members ranging in age from 20 to 80 years old. Their level of experience also varies. Bell ringing is an accessible form of music, even to novices who can't read music. "If they have some rhythm and an ear for notes, they can ring bells," says Love. In fact many of the members of the Bill Bagwell Handbell Choir had no previous musical instrument experience."

**Read more of these articles by Cox, Thomas, Wilson and other BCCC student writers at BCCC's website. Click on Student Stories under the News and Events section.**

## NCCCS Seeks Funds for e-learning

Enrollment in online classes offered through Beaufort County Community College has skyrocketed over the past five years. A growing number of students are logging on to take some of their classes from home or even in the college's library using a public, stationary personal computer or a wireless laptop owned by the school, according to a report in the Washington Daily News. Since 2000, BCCC has seen a 39 percent increase in the number of courses offered online. This increase tracks statewide figures reported in the News & Observer in Raleigh which showed that since 1999, online course registrations at community colleges have increased tenfold, to more than 119,000 statewide. But no new money has been spent since then on running the program, according to the News & Observer report. "People have put a lot of good work into this, but you can only stretch things so far," said Bill Randall, an associate vice president of the community college system who oversees its technology issues. "We're reaching our limits." Community colleges officials say it will take \$38 million over the next two years to catch up with demand. That request was waiting when the General Assembly opened January 25. The money would be used for equipment, technical support and incentives for faculty to teach online and better organization of a system that has grown without much overall planning, among other things. Partly to accommodate demand, courses are kept on computer systems scattered throughout the state, instead of being stored in a central location. People involved in the system say changes are overdue. The growth is especially surprising given the clunky format of the classes. Unlike the more sophisticated classes offered by many four-year universities, most community college courses lack video and pictures. For the most part, lessons are delivered in large blocks of text. Surveys suggest that 119,000 online registrations last year were spread among about 58,000 students. The 58-campus system enrolls about 275,000 students statewide in classes that offer credit. Many students take both online and traditional courses. With the online program stretched about as far as it can go, Randall says, its future will depend on money. He thinks he can sell the request by showing lawmakers how online courses help more students graduate sooner on their way to new or better jobs. "We've got to do something to help meet demand," Randall told the N&O. Otherwise, students might just love the program to death.

## BCCC Campus Police offer safety tips for women

Because of a recent series of assaults against women in Washington, the Washington Police Department has recommended some safety measures for women. The BCCC campus police are advising women to follow these same safety measures while on campus as well.

- When walking from a building to a parked vehicle or when exercising outside, stay aware of your surroundings and the people around you when you are alone;
- Wear or carry a whistle to use to signal for help if needed;
- Do not talk to strangers that speak to you or ask you for things;
- Always try to run or walk with a group or partner when exercising after dark or before sunrise and stay in well-lit areas;
- When walking or running along streets, wear light-colored and reflective clothing and lights on your clothing to be visible to passing vehicles. Also, walk or run facing traffic.

## Relay for Life volunteers sought

Registration is underway for participants in BCCC's Relay for Life team, the BCCC Seagulls - Flying for a Cure. The relay will be held April 29-30 at the Washington High School track. Begun in 1985, when Dr. Gorgan Klatt ran around a track for 24 hours to raise money for the fight against cancer, Relay for Life is the signature fundraising event of the American Cancer Society. In 2004, BCCC raised \$2,786. BCCC team captain Julie Ellis is looking for employees to start scheduling their time to walk. She says that those who can't walk can donate some of their time to help out in this great cause by raising money. For more information, contact Ellis at 940-6222 or by email at [juliee@beaufort.cc.nc.us](mailto:juliee@beaufort.cc.nc.us)



## BCCC faculty attend teaching workshop

Thirteen faculty members from Beaufort County Community College were among 20 teachers from Beaufort and Hyde counties to attend a Great Teacher Retreat on Ocracoke Island recently.

The retreat, held February 3-6 at the Ocracoke Island Community Center, was sponsored by BCCC for college and public school faculty in the college's four-county service area.

"We have a large number of high school students that take advantage of our Huskins and Dual Enrollment opportunities," said Wesley Beddard, BCCC dean of instruction. "This retreat provided significant networking opportunities for all involved as we learn from each other."

Those BCCC faculty attending the retreat were Debra Baker, Dixon Boyles, Donna Dunn, Laura Gipson, Caroline Hardee, Brown McFadden, David McNiel, Lori McNiel, Diane Mills, Dana Sauls, Bill Smith, Eunice Williams and Kay Woolard. Also attending were BCCC staff members Beddard and Clay Carter, director of evening and off-campus programs.

Jacqueline Lawrence, BCCC's drafting teacher at Southside High School and six other area high school teachers attended. The retreat leader was Steve Smith, criminal justice department chairman at Richmond Community College.

The range of experience included first year faculty and those with more than 30 years experience teaching. Disciplines from many



BCCC drafting instructor Jacqueline Lawrence and Eunice Williams, Lead instructor of BCCC's cosmetology program, enjoy a break during the recent Great Teachers' Retreat.

areas of the college were represented, including chemistry, mechanical engineering, computer information systems, business, office systems, early childhood education, English/communications, history, information systems, drafting, math, psychology, sociology, computer programming, trade and industrial programs, cosmetology, religion, English as a second language, health and Spanish.

"The Great Teacher Retreat was certainly a good experience," Woolard said.

"Because of the uniqueness of the event, each person left the retreat with individual meaning. For me, it was a renewal of the 'spirit of teaching.' I also enjoyed the camaraderie and found it beneficial to share experiences and ideas."



BCCC faculty members joined high school teachers from Beaufort and Hyde counties, February 3-6, at the Great Teacher Retreat in Ocracoke.



Teachers from Hyde and Beaufort County Schools joined in at the Great Teacher's Retreat sponsored by BCCCC.

During the retreat, participants discussed teaching innovations that they have used in their classrooms. They also discussed teaching difficulties and shared solutions to these problems. Discussions included topics such as managing the classroom, developing student skills, instilling student responsibility, engaging students using alternative teaching methods, maintaining classroom standards and developing teacher skills, among others.

In addition to the structured retreat activities, participants found time to share ideas during meals and late-night discussions. A browsing library, including books brought by participants, was made available during the retreat.

Begun in 1969, Great Teacher seminars and retreats were created to provide an opportunity for teachers to improve their skills and to ponder and, if appropriate, to adjust their methods, behavior and attitude as teachers. It is based on the premises that teachers learn teaching best from one another and that creativity in teaching is enhanced by mixing teachers of diverse teaching fields, experience levels and interests.

The focus is not on the teaching of specific disciplines, but rather on the art of teaching as such. The emphasis is on the universals of teaching and on the special nature of those who are and will be great teachers. It is based also on the notion that, if properly tapped, the collective wisdom, experience and creativity of any group of practicing educators far surpasses that of any individual expert.

## Upcoming Events

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

**March 1** - Job Ready Workshop, 12 to 2 p.m., multipurpose room, Building 10. For more information, contact Rhunell Boyd at 940-6353.

**March 1** - Faculty Senate meeting. For more information, contact Debra Baker at 940-6229.

**March 8** - Industrial Trades and Technology Open House for faculty and staff, Building 4. For more information, contact Rhunell Boyd at 940-6353.

**March 14** - Girls Night Out, career fair for women and girls interested in entering industrial trades and technical fields. For more information, contact Rhunell Boyd at 940-6353 or Sandria McFadden at 940-6314.

**March 15** - Phi Beta Lambda membership meeting. For more information, contact Debra Baker at 940-6229.

**March 17** - BCCC Staff Association annual Chili Cook-Off. For more information, contact Margie Cobb at 940-6315.

**March 18** - Deadline for BCCC ambassador nominations. For more information, contact Marcia Norwood at 940-6218.

**March 21** - Last day to drop with no penalty.

**March 22** - Job Ready Workshop, 12 to 2 p.m., Multipurpose Room, Building 10. For more information, contact Rhunell Boyd at 940-6353.

**March 22** - Myers- Briggs personality Test professional development workshop. For more information, contact Marcia Norwood at 940-6218.

**March 28** - Easter Holiday.

**March 29** -April 1 - Student/Faculty vacation.

**April 4-6** - Spring Fling. For more information, contact Becky Spain at 940-6259.

**April 5** - BCCC Board of Trustees meeting. For more information, contact Judy Tice at 940-6202.

**April 19** - Workshop in due process procedures and dealing with disruptive behavior. For more information, contact Sandra Sauve at 940-6216 or Marcia Norwood at 940-6218.

**April 19** - Annual BCCC Job Fair. For more information, contact Rhunell Boyd at 940-6353.

**April 26** - Graduate Recognition Ceremony, 3 to 5 p.m., multipurpose room, Building 10.

Students, faculty and staff: Publicize your campus-based fundraiser and other events 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 month's edition of Campus Connections. Please email your announcements to Betty Gray.