

# THE SCOOP

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## CONCORD UNIVERSITY PARENTS CLUB

October – December 2017

Dear Concord Parents and Families,

What a fast-paced semester it's been! Your students are in the midst of preparing for end-of-semester activities and final exams. For our December graduates, there's packing to do, and plans for new jobs or graduate school, but first, the all-important Commencement ceremony on Saturday, December 9 at 11am in the main gym of the Carter Center to be shared with family and friends!

Please remember that now is the time to file the 2018-19 FAFSA, using income information from 2016. If you and your student have not done so, the semester break is a good time to file! Concord's administrative offices are open for much of the break, so please contact the Financial Aid Office if you need assistance. A renewal FAFSA is required each year, and it's important to file early to receive maximum allowable aid.

Also as a reminder, returning students should have already registered for Spring 2018 classes. The Academic Success Center (ASC) has been sending reminder emails, calls, and texts, and the wonderful staff are available to help your student with the process. (Email [asc@concord.edu](mailto:asc@concord.edu) or call 304-384-6074).

As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions and hope to CU soon! We wish you all a very happy holiday season!

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



*“Education is not the  
filling of a pail, but  
the lighting of a fire”*

*William Butler Yeats*

## Fall 2017 Academic Schedule

- October 4, Wednesday, 4:00 pm Mid-Semester Reports of Unsatisfactory Grades Due
- October 5-6, Fall Break
- October 14, Homecoming
- October 16 - November 3 Advising for Course Selection, 2018 Spring Semester
- October 27, Friday, 4:00 pm Last Day for Dropping Courses with grade of W
- October 30-November 8 Course Selection, 2018 Spring Semester (for Students Presently Enrolled)
- November 20-24, Thanksgiving Break
- December 1, Friday Last Class Day
- December 4, Monday, 8:00 am Fall Semester Exams Begin
- December 8, Friday, 5:00 pm Fall Semester Ends
- **December 9, Saturday Commencement 11:00 AM, Main Gym, Carter Center**

For the full 2017 Fall semester calendar, [click here](#).

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

To view the full academic planning calendar to prepare for the Spring 2018 semester, [click here](#).



## **Announcements**

**Students should be sure to sign up for CU's Emergency Text Alert System!**

**Emergency Text Alert System:** With wintry weather upon us, we encourage all students to sign up for the CU Emergency Text Alert System -- a text messaging alert system that is used to notify students of security, safety, and weather related notices on campus. You can easily register for this service by going to <http://sms.concord.edu/>. If you have any questions, please call the IT help desk at ext.5291 or by email at [cuhelpdesk@concord.edu](mailto:cuhelpdesk@concord.edu).

**Inclement Weather Schedules:** To view the Inclement Weather Schedules for both the Athens Campus and the Beckley Campus, follow this link: <http://www.concord.edu/emergency-alerts>

**Get Microsoft Office for Free as a Concord student!** Concord University is a member of Microsoft's Student Advantage Program where currently enrolled students are eligible for a free license to download and use Microsoft Office Professional Plus. This license was automatically assigned at the start of enrollment at CU and remains until withdrawing or graduation. Students can install on up to 5 machines, Windows or Mac, as well as use the mobile versions of Office Mobile. After withdrawal or graduation the license is removed and the software enters a reduced functionality mode limiting it to viewing or printing only. Graduates can visit the site OFFICE 365 EDUCATION, enter their @mycu.concord.edu email address and get the license re-instated. For more information visit our support page at <http://www.concord.edu/office365>

**It's FAFSA time!!!**

Students and parents can now visit <https://fafsa.ed.gov> and complete the FAFSA for the 2018-2019 academic year. Income information from 2016 will be used to complete the FAFSA. Students are encouraged to fill out their FAFSA as soon as possible to ensure they receive all the financial aid they are eligible for.

Concord hosted several events to promote FAFSA completion, including CU FAFSA Sunday on November 5, 2017 from 1:00 to 4:00pm in the Rahall Technology Center (Athens campus) and October 23, 2017 from 1:00 to 6:00pm 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 high school seniors (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 tuition vouchers for next year.

Anyone needing assistance with FAFSA completion is encouraged to contact the Financial Aid Office at 304-384-6069 or [finaid@concord.edu](mailto:finaid@concord.edu).

## **Student Loan Help: CU Student Loan Dashboard!!**

To help students stay informed and manage their loan debt, Concord University created a Student Loan Dashboard. The Dashboard provides a picture of a student's federal loan status, including the amount borrowed to date, potential repayment amount, borrowing limits, and percentage of academic program completed.

All students are encouraged to become informed consumers, particularly about how much they have borrowed and the importance of student loan repayment. While student loans can be an excellent way to help finance an education, students are cautioned to only borrow the minimum amount needed. Unlike grants, loans must be repaid, with interest.

To access the Student Loan Dashboard:

- Log into MyCU
- Click on the Student Tab
- Click on Student Loan Dashboard

For most students, the federal loan program is the first encounter with borrowing and establishing credit. Failure to repay student loans can result in negative consequences for both the student and institution. For students, this might entail having paychecks and/or tax refunds garnished (taken directly from a paycheck/refund); a poor credit rating, which hurts future borrowing and increases the amount of interest charged on future loans and credit cards; inability to obtain future financial aid; and other penalties. Institutions are penalized when students default on their loans by having restrictions placed on their current students' ability to borrow and through disbursement restrictions.

Currently, the Dashboard is just for undergraduate students. Under the Dashboard's "Note the Following," some limitations are explained. Students are asked to read these carefully and visit the links provided.

For comments and suggestions, please contact Student Affairs at [studentaffairs@concord.edu](mailto:studentaffairs@concord.edu) or 304-384-6035. For problems accessing the Dashboard, please contact the Technology Services Helpdesk at [cuhelpdesk@concord.edu](mailto:cuhelpdesk@concord.edu) or 304-384-5291.

**Summer Pell** is back! This counts as a semester of eligibility.

### **Spring 2018 Registration**

Students returning for the spring 2018 semester are encouraged to register for the classes they will be taking soon. Students should meet with their advisors and/or go to the Academic Success Center for help with course selection, adding, or dropping classes.

## Stanford Partnership for Sense of Belonging

This fall Concord participated in Stanford University’s Project for Education Research that Scales (PERTS) Social-Belonging for College Students program. It is a free, evidence-based program designed to support a sense of belonging on campus to improve engagement, retention, and achievement for students at four-year colleges and universities. It was developed by leading researchers at the College Transition Collaborative, and has been rigorously tested and scientifically validated in trials with thousands of students. Almost all first-year students experience challenges in the transition to college, such as failing a test or feeling like they aren’t making friends. For students who are socially disadvantaged in higher education—including students of color, low income students, and first-generation college students—persistent negative stereotypes and underrepresentation can lead them to wonder if they belong in college, especially when faced with challenges and setbacks. This concern can lead to social and academic withdrawal which, in turn, leads to lower academic achievement and persistence. The Social-Belonging Program aims to help all students view challenges encountered in the transition to college as normal and improvable so they are more able to remain socially and academically engaged in the face of challenges. It can also help provide insights into student experiences at Concord, which may inform other institutional programs around student achievement, persistence, and wellbeing (2017, PERTS, excerpts from *Brochure: Social-Belonging for College Students*).

All incoming first-year CU students were required to participate in the 30-minute online program during the first week of Welcome Week activities. Students saw stories from current and former students from a variety of colleges about their experiences coming to college. Then they also got to share their thoughts and feelings about becoming a Mt. Lion to help improve the transition for future CU students. If you have any questions about the program, please contact Sarah Beasley ([sbeasley@concord.edu](mailto:sbeasley@concord.edu) or 304-384-6298).



## Student News

Senior dinner was November 30. What a great way to celebrate our soon-to-be alumni!!



### Senior Art Shows & Recitals

Senior Art Shows were held November 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>. Every semester the graduating art majors put on an art show to display their hard work and talent. Jacob Pauley presented his senior recital on November the 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

### Gown Steaming

Concord started the tradition of fellow students, faculty, staff, and alumni steaming the graduating class' cap and gowns a few years ago. The idea was for members of the CU campus community to steam past students, office workers, and club / organization members gowns as a farewell. Many thanks to Graduate Assistant Hanna Jackson for coordinating this semester's gown steaming and Bonner Scholars!

## Homecoming

Homecoming week is always a fun time at CU, filled with excitement and CU pride. We had the annual parade, a variety of activities on campus, Greek competitions, and, of course, the Homecoming game that Saturday.

The 2017 Homecoming Royalty, crowned at the game were Haruka Ishikawa from Kiyose-shu, Tokyo, Japan, representing the International Students Club and Osisioma Okorigbo from Abuja, Nigeria, representing Phi Delta Pi.



**2016 & 2017 Homecoming Royalty: (L to R): Catherina Santos, Osisioma Okorigbo, Haruka Ishikawa; Levi Osawe**

## What's going on in the Geography Department? A note from Dr. Joe Manzo

- On October 25, 26, 27, and 28th, the Concord Geography Department conducted its fall field trip to Washington, DC. Dr. Shimantini Shome's Urban Geography class and Dr. Joe Manzo's North America Geography class were co
- There were visits to Congressman Jenkins' office and Sen students were particularly interested in answers to geographical questions on infrastructure, the wall and its impact on agriculture, national service, and pulling out of the Paris Climate Accord.
- Students were divided into teams to observe examples of gentrification and urban, ethnic neighborhoods. Twenty concord students made the trip.
- On October 5, 2017, Geography took four international students to Berkeley Springs High School. Kpoto/Edith Martiez/Catherina Santos/ Anastasiia Vorol education in their countries.



Faith is from Liberia. Edith is from Colombia, Catherina is from Brazil, and Anastasiia is from Russia.

As a reward, the women spent the next day in Washington, DC.







Independence Pass, Colorado (12,095 ft).

## What's going on in the Geology Department? A Note from Dr. Joe Allen

- Mathew LaMothe, Environmental Geosciences senior, was featured in the "Geology Spotlight" published by the Appalachian Geological Society. The Geology Spotlight features West Virginia geology students that completed their summer field geology course. The Appalachian Geological Society donated \$750 to be used for travel associated with the summer 2018 geology field course.

<https://www.appgeosociety.org/geology-spotlight>

### Matthew LaMothe

#### Concord University

Our class worked on projects in Colorado at Glenwood Canyon, Colorado National Monument, Gunnison-Crested Butte, Buena Vista, in the Sawatch Range northwest of Leadville. We also worked at Arches National Park, Utah.

Being able to be out in the field and study all the geological wonders that the Rocky Mountains hold really helped me to piece everything together what I have learned throughout my other coursework on campus. This experienced helped to build skills that future jobs may require me to use as a geologist.

- The Environmental Geosciences program was awarded a grant for \$15,000 from the Appalachian Electric Power Foundation. The funds will be used to upgrade a micro-X-Ray fluorescence spectrometer (XRF) that is used extensively for Concord courses in geology and chemistry. It is also used for K-12 and public outreach efforts. The XRF uses a powerful beam of X-rays to allow the user to quickly determine the chemical composition of solid materials. It is also able to make a map of the distribution of chemical elements in the material. The instrument has thousands of uses in the real world, including product development and manufacturing of pharmaceuticals, circuit boards, batteries, solar panels, and other materials. It is also used in geology, environmental science, mining for rare-Earth elements, forensics, and public health. As an example, it can be used to detect toxic levels of lead or mercury in soils, paint, or children's toys. Dr. Joseph Allen, Professor of Geology, served as principal investigator on the grant proposal.



### Mock Trial

Members of Concord University's Phi Alpha Delta Fraternity participated in the National Pre-Law Conference and Mock Trial Competition in Washington, D.C. and placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the final round! This is quite an honor, as Concord's students competed against much larger universities, such as University of Florida, Texas Tech, Indiana University, and Florida International. We're extremely proud of our delegation for continuing Concord's winning tradition! Way to go, CU PAD!!



### Study Abroad

KEI accepted applications through November 10<sup>th</sup> for many study abroad opportunities. Opportunities included Australia, Peru, China, Russia, Ecuador, Scotland, England, Spain, France, Thailand, Ireland, UAE, and Italy.

### **Veterans Upward Bound**

Concord University is the recipient of a federal grant of more than \$260,000 to begin a program to assist veterans succeed in college. The announcement was made by U.S. Representative Evan Jenkins (R-WV).

The grant will provide \$263,938 to Concord from the United States Department of Education to start a Veterans Upward Bound program at the University. Increasing the rate of participant enrollment in and completion of a college education are the program's primary goals.

Veterans Upward Bound is set up to work with veterans in developing the skills necessary for them to be successful in postsecondary education programs. Counseling, mentoring, tutoring and academic instruction in the core subject areas will be available to the participants.

Kudos to Interim Director Katrina Matney for writing the grant and now leading the program!



## **Student Services**

### **Tutoring**

Free help is available to CU students to assist them with coursework! Drop-in tutoring is available for most courses at convenient times primarily in the G.R.I.P. Center, Rahall 130. (Visit <https://apps.concord.edu/tutoring/> for a complete listing by course.) SMARTHINKING online tutoring is also available 24/7 for many subject areas, including essay assistance for papers and other writing assignments.

The Academic Success Center is located in Rahall 234 (Atrium) and can be reached via [asc@concord.edu](mailto:asc@concord.edu) or by phoning 304-384-6074. The ASC is a one-stop-shop to help students succeed at Concord. The ASC website also has valuable resources, including links to Khan Academy, Guide to Grammar & Writing, OWL at Purdue, Study Skills help, and more

### **On-Campus Counseling**

The Concord University Counseling Center, located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Student Center, is open from 9am to 4pm Monday through Friday, and by special appointment at other times, to assist students. Counselor David Bailey, MA, AADC-S, LSW is available to meet with students.

Appointments can be made by emailing [counseling@concord.edu](mailto:counseling@concord.edu); phoning 304-384-5290; or online via <http://www.concord.edu/student-life/node/5>. The Counseling Center offers free, confidential services to currently enrolled students.

If your student is in need of help, or he/she knows someone who is, there's an easy way to seek assistance. Student Affairs maintains an online referral form for student issues. Visit the Concord University website>Student Life>Referral or <https://apps.concord.edu/forms/view.php?id=77398>. Alternatively, contact the Office of Student Affairs at 304-384-6035 or [studentaffairs@concord.edu](mailto:studentaffairs@concord.edu) for assistance.

### **Business Office**

Now that pre-selection for the spring 2018 term has ended, the Students Account Office is working on preparing student invoices for the Spring 2018 term. Please be sure to read the back of the billing statement for important regarding deadlines for confirmation of attendance, purchasing books from financial aid, payment of tuition and fees and more. Payment plans must be requested each semester. The first payment on the payment plan for the spring 2018 term is due December 20<sup>th</sup>. The Student Accounts Office can be contacted at (304) 384-5212 or 5972 or by email at [studentaccounts@concord.edu](mailto:studentaccounts@concord.edu) to answer any student billing related questions.

All students who receive any form of financial aid are required to take action beginning December 1, 2017! Effective December 1, 2017, BlackBoard will be disbursing all financial aid refunds. The Student Accounts Office will no longer be disbursing financial aid refunds (check change) except in certain cases involving parent loans. This change is being made in order to serve our students better. BlackBoard has the capability of depositing the funds to an individual bank account, depositing the funds onto the Concord OneCard or issuing a paper check to the home address on file. All of the options are free of charge to our students.

Any student expecting a financial aid refund Concord University must visit [www.enroll.moneynetworkedu.com](http://www.enroll.moneynetworkedu.com) and select a preferred disbursement method. When making a selection, consider the following:

#### **1. ACH to the student's chosen bank account**

a. Funds are credited within 3-4 days of release. For example, Concord sends the funds to BlackBoard on January 8<sup>th</sup>, the funds will be sent to the requested bank on January 9<sup>th</sup>. Depending upon your bank's policy, the funds could be credited any time between January 9<sup>th</sup> and January 12<sup>th</sup>.

b. You control the banking information through your online account.

c. The current Discover OneCard will continue to act as your student ID, meal plan use and Library card.

#### **2. Concord OneCard**

- a. Funds are credited within 1 day of release. For example, Concord sends the funds to BlackBoard on January 8<sup>th</sup>, the funds will be loaded on the OneCard by January 9<sup>th</sup>.
- b. This option will require the issuance of a new Mastercard OneCard. Funds can no longer be loaded to a Discover OneCard after November 30, 2017. A new OneCard can be obtained at the Student Center Office beginning December 1, 2017. The selection can and should be made prior to having a new card issued.
- c. The Mastercard OneCard will also serve as your student ID, meal plan use and Library card.

### 3. Paper check

- a. Funds are mailed within 1 day of release. For example, Concord sends the funds to BlackBoard on January 8<sup>th</sup>, the check will be printed and mailed by January 9<sup>th</sup>. The time it will take to receive the paper check will depend on the US Postal Service delivery time which could be between 7 and 10 days.
- b. You will be responsible for ensuring you maintain a current, valid mailing address with BlackBoard.

### Office of Disability Services

Do you know a student who had a 504 plan or IEP as a high school student? Would that student benefit from academic accommodations as a college student? Did you know that any student at Concord University who discloses a disability to the Disability Services Coordinator, presents adequate documentation of the disability and requests accommodations that are appropriate for the effects of the disability will receive a letter of accommodation. The letter of accommodation will state the necessary accommodations for each course. The letter of accommodation does not disclose any information about the student's disability. When the student is requesting accommodations that involve the instructor or the classroom setting, the student must share a copy of the letter of accommodation with that instructor for the accommodations to be implemented.

For example, if the student has an approved accommodation of extended test time, the Instructor will not be able to provide extended test time without a copy of the letter of accommodation. More questions? Feel free to contact the Office of Disability Services. Reach us by phone at 1-304-384-6086 or by email at [ods@concord.edu](mailto:ods@concord.edu)



### Autism Training Center

The College Program for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder at Concord University is now accepting applications for the 2018-2019 academic year! The College Program provides individualized supports to degree seeking students with Autism Spectrum Disorder through a mentored environment while navigating a college experience at Concord. For additional information, please contact us at 304/696-2332 or visit our Concord tab at [www.marshall.edu/collegeprogram](http://www.marshall.edu/collegeprogram).

### International Student Services

Concord University is home to more than 100 international students representing more than 30 countries. The Host Family Program 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. If you would like more information, please email Nancy Ellison at [nellison@concord.edu](mailto:nellison@concord.edu).

### Transportation Assistance Available

The Office of Multicultural Affairs will be providing transportation assistance to the airports in Charleston, WV and Roanoke VA; the MegaBus stop in Christiansburg, VA and the Amtrak Station in Hinton, WV beginning on Friday, December 8th and continuing through December 10th. This service is offered at no cost to students. Students should complete the following form in order to sign-up for the service. This same assistance will be provided to students arriving on January 5th 6th and 7th.

### Transportation assistance for students leaving in December:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeijfSIDR7sJBcCc3yi8EsC8EDYI9sB1v3jZwHFZc6iKyEdw/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeijfSIDR7sJBcCc3yi8EsC8EDYI9sB1v3jZwHFZc6iKyEdw/viewform?usp=sf_link)



### [Transportation assistance for students leaving in December 2017](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeijfSIDR7sJBcCc3yi8EsC8EDYI9sB1v3jZwHFZc6iKyEdw/viewform?usp=sf_link)

[docs.google.com](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeijfSIDR7sJBcCc3yi8EsC8EDYI9sB1v3jZwHFZc6iKyEdw/viewform?usp=sf_link)

The International Center provides transportation assistance to students who are leaving campus for the upcoming winter break. This assistance is offered at no cost to students.

**Transportation assistance for students arriving in January**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd1G2LyLRFpM1\\_jmjbb0xuxOpWRsNdnsZ6UAqxB67kU3eMXBg/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd1G2LyLRFpM1_jmjbb0xuxOpWRsNdnsZ6UAqxB67kU3eMXBg/viewform?usp=sf_link)



**[Transportation assistance for students arriving in January 2018](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd1G2LyLRFpM1_jmjbb0xuxOpWRsNdnsZ6UAqxB67kU3eMXBg/viewform?usp=sf_link)**

docs.google.com

**Host Families Needed**

The Homestay Program at Concord University provides an opportunity for American families to learn about other 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. Please contact the Office of Multicultural Affairs if you would like more information. Reach us at nellison@concord.edu or by phone at 1-304-384-6086.

**Athens Family Practice Medical Center**

Athens Family Practice is a medical clinic available to all Concord University students, conveniently located just off campus. This is not a drop-in clinic, so appointments must be scheduled in advance. Students must bring their insurance card and student ID. If your student finds that he/she cannot make a scheduled appointment, please avoid a “no show.” It takes a possible appointment time away from someone else and leads to increased student costs. Athens Family Practice is reserving appointment times on Thursday afternoons specifically for students, but if these appointments are not filled, they will fill with community members.



**Events**

The Annual Concord University Wellness Fair took place on Wednesday, October 25, 2017. The fair included 20 vendors from both on and off campus with a variety of health and wellness information ranging from nutrition and fitness to essential oils. A total of 206 people attended the wellness fair, with 68 receiving their flu shot while they were there. Several mini-fitness classes were offered throughout the day by Brickhouse Cardio Club, Death by

Crossfit, Jeri Elmore (Yoga Instructor), and USA Martial Arts. Mindfulness meditation sessions were also offered by the Social Work Organization. A total of 59 students participated in the fitness and mindfulness classes.



On November 1<sup>st</sup> International Pool Champion Paul Gerni amazed the folks at Concord University with three separate events in the Student Center Gameroom. He put together a “teaser” demonstration, did a few give-aways, did a workshop/clinic for those players interested in developing their own technique and bettering their pool skills, and then The “Main Event”, a live trick-shot demonstration, give-aways, prizes and autographs from The Ambassador of Pool!



### Veterans Day Ceremony

The Concord University Veterans Association hosted a special ceremony to honor local veterans on Friday, Nov. 10, 2017.

The ceremony began at 9 a.m. in the Wilkes Family Chapel in University Point in Athens. The general public was invited to join the Concord campus community.



**“We really like to take advantage of military holidays and show the support that Concord University has for the men and women who have fought and died for our country, and we especially like to honor those who are still with us, whether it be in the surrounding area or right here on campus,” stated Steven Kennedy, Concord University Veterans Advocate.**

For additional information contact Steven Kennedy at [kennedys24@mycu.concord.edu](mailto:kennedys24@mycu.concord.edu) or 304-384-6300. Information on services and programming for veterans at Concord is available at <http://www.concord.edu/veterans/>

### **First Generation Initiative**

**On November 8, 2017 many Concord faculty and staff who are the first in their families to graduate college wore t-shirts proudly proclaiming their first-generation status.**

**It takes grit, perseverance, thousands of study hours and class time, and money to earn a college degree—whether you are a first-gen or a continuing-gen student. One thing on which we all agree: earning our college degrees made a profound impact on our lives, in a very positive way!**

**Research demonstrates that college graduates versus non-college peers are likely to earn \$1,000,000 more over their lifetime, are less likely to be unemployed, are healthier, more likely to volunteer, twice as likely to vote in political elections, and self-report greater life satisfaction.**

**As one student telling her “*I’m First*” story said, “Do NOT give up on this journey! There are going to be nights when you are homesick. There are going to be days when you feel like maybe you just can’t get out of bed. The work will be hard, but it will be well worth it...”**



## Beckley-Raleigh County Foundation

This year at the Beckley-Raleigh County Foundation we had special guest Monte Durham. Monte Durham, who is from Southern West Virginia, is now a celebrity stylist and fashion director for TLC's "Say Yes to the Dress: Atlanta".

### **Jack Tales** submitted by Professor Karen Vuranch

A celebration of Appalachian culture was at the heart of the recent production of the Concord University Theatre Department., *The Jack Tales*, featuring music by Colleen Anderson. Jack Tales are traditional mountain stories brought to Appalachia from the Old World. There are hundreds of old stories where Jack is the hero. This play brought five of these stories to life. The five short plays were comical and provided lots of opportunities for silliness, creativity and improvisation. At the same time, they rejoiced in and celebrated the uniqueness of the



Appalachian culture. Four performances of the play were presented to packed houses and appreciative crowds. 22 students had roles in the production and another 6 students served as the technical crew. There were also three faculty members and a community member who participated. *The Jack Tales* will be remembered as a joyful expression of the Appalachian mountains.

Cast photo of Jack Tales



**The finale of The Jack Tales as the cast sings Y'all Come Back by Colleen Anderson**

**In The Witch's Tales, Jack is now Jackie, played by Brianna Duckworth who is talking to an enchanted grist mill played by Caleb Marcellais, Brandon Thomas and Caleb Zopp.**



**Jack Sheffler, Chair of the Fine Arts Department, played the King of West Virginia, talking to Foolish Jack played by Caleb Marcellais.**



**Concord Students Preparing to help with the high school Geography Bowl**



**Geography Bowl** submitted by Dr. Joe Manzo

For approximately 15 years, Concord University, The Geography Department, and the West Virginia Geographic Alliance have been hosting the WV High School Geography Bowl. This year's event took place Saturday, November 11. About 130 students, representing sixteen teams, spent the day competing and displaying their knowledge of geo facts. The morning round-robin competition began after a full cafeteria breakfast, welcoming remarks by CU administrators, introductions, and reading of the rules. Members of the community served as readers, timers, and scorers, as did Concord students. Following a pizza-buffet lunch, the last two rounds took place and the top two teams were announced. The championship round, read by Dr. Peter Viscusi, CU Provost, was between Wheeling Park and Independence with Wheeling Park taking home the top prize trophy. Top scorers who attend Concord University will receive attractive financial aid packages. Also, other students who participated and enroll at CU will be offered a \$500 scholarship. Geography enjoyed a great day on the Campus Beautiful.

**The winning team- Wheeling Park**

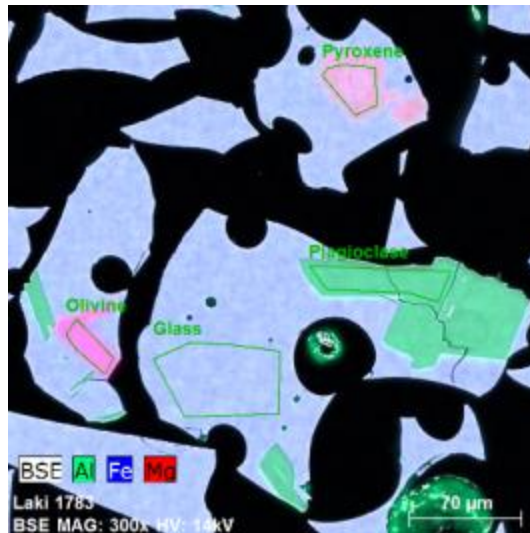


**Science Bowl** submitted by Dr. Steve Kuehn

On Saturday, November 11, Concord University hosted a 12-county preliminary qualifying competition for the West Virginia Science Bowl. More than 100 people were involved in Concord's Science Bowl Saturday including 12 high schools, 19 teams, 80 high school students, 14 teachers, and many parents. Another 30 plus CU faculty and student volunteers helped organize and run the event which was coordinated by Dr. Steve Kuehn. Following a 1:00 pm welcome, the competitions extended well into the evening. Pairs of teams faced-off in a fast-paced question-and-answer format with topics from a full range of science-related disciplines including astronomy, biology, chemistry, geology / Earth science, physics, energy, and mathematics. In a surprise outcome, a Braxton County High School team overtook and until then an undefeated Shady Spring team in the final two rounds to take first place. Six teams and two alternates qualified for invitation to the state-level competitions in February. Competitors came from Raleigh, Summers, Monroe, Mercer, McDowell, and Wyoming counties (RESA 1 area) and from Braxton, Webster, Pocahontas, Greenbrier, Fayette, and Nicholas counties (RESA 4 area). Some very interested and excited students also requested a visit to Concord's electron microprobe lab where Dr. Kuehn demonstrated the instrument's capability to capture scientific information from literally specks of dust using a sample of volcanic ash from Iceland. We look forward to another great turnout next year.

We also had some students visit the electron microprobe lab. Below is an image from some volcanic ash collected during that visit.





## **Athletics**

Come out and support Concord Athletics!

Concord's Winter sports are just beginning and the schedules for these events can be found when visiting <http://www.cumountainlions.com/>

Our Fall Mountain Lion sports:

**Men's Cross Country-** Concord won its third straight Mountain East Conference Championship. Senior Justin Snyder was named the MEC Runner of the Year and First Team All-MEC by winning the individual championship. Jason Weitzel, Tyler Kosut, and Michael Ruhnke were all first team all-conference. Samuel Haynes and Samuel Thomas were Second Team All-MEC.

Snyder, Weitzel, and Kosut were named Atlantic All-Region by finishing in the top 25 at the regional meet. Weitzel earned a spot at the NCAA Division II National Championship as he finished eighth at the regional championship.

**Men's Golf-** Freshman Brett Laxton was the runner-up at the MEC Championship. Laxton became the highest finisher at a conference championship for Concord in three years.

**Women's Cross Country-** Freshman Sydney Hayne was selected as the MEC Freshman of the Year after the conclusion of the MEC Championship. Haynes was also a member of the All-MEC First Team. Bailey Knowles, Karleigh Thompson, and Aidan Payton were named to the All-MEC Second Team by finishing in the top 20.

**Women's Golf-** Sophomore Natalia Jornet won her second straight MEC Championship at Glade Spring Resort in Daniels, West Virginia. Jornet won by 16 shots. It was the fifth straight win for Jornet at an MEC golf event.

**Women’s Soccer-** Concord made the conference tournament for the first time since 2012. Four players, Morgan Carmichael, Pilar Elias, Sarah Hill, and Courtney Wallace, were voted as All-MEC performers. Hill was named the MEC Freshman of the Year. Elias tied for second in the league in goals while Wallace led the MEC in assists.

The Mountain Lions made the postseason with 10 wins, just a year after winning three games.

**Men’s Soccer** Concord Lands Four on All-MEC Team, sophomore forward Sam Ashton, junior defender Xander Bailey, sophomore defender Pedro Bassin, and freshman midfielder Moulay Hassani earned All-Mountain East Conference accolades Tuesday afternoon as the conference office released its postseason awards.

**Volleyball** Concord qualified for the MEC Tournament for a second straight year and the fourth time in five years. The Mountain Lions made it the quarterfinal round of the MEC tournament.

**Football** The Concord University football has had six players selected to the All-MEC Team including three first-team selections, the league office announced.

Senior defensive back Jeremiah Johnson, senior punter Garrett Lee and freshman wide receiver Tywan Pearce were first-team selections. Junior offensive lineman Derek Dressler and junior linebacker Zach Malone were second-team picks and senior tight end Jordan Bryant was named to the honorable mention squad.



## **Parent Information**

### **Sign Up for CU Parents Club Text Messages**

CU Parents, now you can sign up to receive CU Parents Club text messages. These short texts will include important Concord University deadlines, reminders, and events. To join, visit [www.remind.com/join/cuparents](http://www.remind.com/join/cuparents) or text the message “@cuparents” to (304) 241-2045.

## Important Numbers

<b>Main Phone</b>	<b>800-344-6679</b>
<b>Academic Success Center</b>	<b>304-384-6074</b>
<b>Admissions</b>	<b>888-384-5249 or 304-384-5248</b>
<b>Athens Family Practice</b>	<b>304-384-7325</b>
<b>Beckley Center</b>	<b>304-384-5614</b>
<b>Business Office</b>	<b>304-384-5234</b>
<b>Career Services</b>	<b>304-384-5325</b>
<b>Cashier</b>	<b>304-384-5972 or 304-384-5212</b>
<b>Counseling Center</b>	<b>304-384-5290</b>
<b>Disability Services</b>	<b>304-384-6086</b>
<b>Financial Aid</b>	<b>304-384-6069</b>
<b>Housing</b>	<b>304-384-5231</b>
<b>Police</b>	<b>304-384-5357</b>
<b>Registrar</b>	<b>304-384-5236</b>
<b>Student Affairs</b>	<b>304-384-5256</b>
<b>Student Support Services</b>	<b>304-384-6088</b>
<b>Technology Help Desk</b>	<b>304-384-5291</b>
<b>Title IX</b>	<b>304-384-6035</b>

