

The Scoop

Concord University - Parents Club Newsletter



Issue # 5

Parents Club President's Message

I hope the 2008-2009 school year has been rich with new courses, ideas, and friends for your students.

The Parents Club is growing and evolving. From its inception just three years ago, it has developed into an effective way to share information among parents to enhance our students' college experience.

We welcome your comments, suggestions, and participation as we plan for the 2009-2010 year.

I hope that you have a wonderful Summer.

Martha Endres

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Contact us at parents@concord.edu



Meet Mary Aloia - Multiple Perspectives from Concord's First Lady

By: Lindsey A. Mullins



Mary Aloia in front of the new Student Center pictures

When asked to describe Concord University in one word First Lady Aloia described it as, "Magical!"

Mrs. Aloia enjoys the natural beauty of West Virginia. She is excited to be close to Pipestem State Park and enjoys all of the beautiful scenery that abounds.

A lover of the arts, she is also excited about the Chuck Mathena Center and believes that it will bring a plethora of artists to our area.

When asked what she liked the most about Concord University, she quickly answered, "the wonderful people." Mary is excited to be here in Athens because she says that Concord University has such a strong sense of community. "They made me feel like I belonged," she said.

Current projects that Mary has been involved with include: The Scholars of Distinction Program, Discovery Day, and bringing back the Pine Tree Yearbook. Mrs. Aloia also recently joined the Athens Concord Town Social Committee. In addition, she enjoys volunteering at PikeView High School and always enjoys accompanying the student Clown Troop which does acts of kindness in the community.

She notes that when time allows she enjoys scrapbooking, studying genealogy and reading a good book.

Mrs. Aloia is excited about her new role as the First Lady of Concord because she has an unquenchable thirst for knowledge. She began her educational journey at the University of Texas and then went on to complete her Bachelor's degree from Western Illinois University. Mrs. Aloia is certified in Family Consumer Science grades 6-12, elementary education K-6 and also holds a Montessori certification. It took her over twenty years to complete her Bachelor's degree but she had a good reason. She was raising her seven children.

Reminiscing back to her own college years, Mary reflected on her own graduation day. She said, "It was wonderful to graduate with all of my children there to see me walk across the stage." The best thing about college for her was "looking at all of the areas of concentration and programs offered and finding myself."



When asked about her greatest accomplishment thus far in life, Mary said bringing her children into the world and sharing her life with them brought her the greatest joy. "My children are my jewels," she said.

Mrs. Aloia and President Aloia have been married thirty-four years and will share their thirty-fifth wedding anniversary this June. Their children's ages range from fifteen to thirty-four. Two of their children currently attend Concord University.

As a parent of college-aged students, there were several things Mary considered before making the move to Athens, WV. She liked the student-to-faculty ratio here at Concord and felt that this would allow her children to have more hands-on opportunities. She also examined the academic offerings and was pleased with the number of programs offered. Lastly, she looked at the safety of the campus and found it to be a safe campus for her children to learn on.

First Lady Aloia offered the following advice to parents who are transitioning their children into college-life:

- ✔ Check out the website www.concord.edu to learn information about Concord
- ✔ Attend the Discover Day's scheduled on campus
- ✔ Take a tour of the campus by calling 1 (888) 384-5249

She also offers the following advice to parents to stay involved in their student's educational journey:

- ✔ Join the Parent's Club!
- ✔ Volunteer on campus!
- ✔ Attend the Athletic Events and activities scheduled on campus with your student!
- ✔ Send care packages to let your student know you are thinking about them!
- ✔ Visit Concord!

Mary Aloia is the First Lady of Concord, an elementary teacher, a lifelong learner, a wife and a member of Pikeview's clown troop. Most importantly, Mary Aloia is a mother!

Lindsey A. Mullins is an Instructor of Communication Arts and faculty advisor to Concord's student newspaper, [The Concordian](#).

Concord has gone Facebook !!!

Concord's emergency text messaging system has been integrated into Facebook and Twitter. This will allow campus text message alerts to be pushed automatically and simultaneously to these two social media.

If you are a Facebook user, you can do a friend search for: CU Alerts

If you are a Twitter user, visit <http://twitter.com/CUAlerts>



Things You Should Know !!!

Students leaving for the summer - dorm closing dates; refunds; next year room reservations

Course Registration - students who did not pre-register for the Summer or Fall semesters can still do so.

- ✓ Students should contact their academic advisors or the Registrar's Office. The course schedule (and class sections with open and closed seats) can be accessed via <http://cc.concord.edu>

Financial Planning: - Concord recognizes that in these difficult economic times it is even more crucial to plan for your student's college expenses. Concord has taken numerous proactive steps to help students and parents prepare to meet college costs, including the following:

- ✓ **Financial Fridays** - Throughout April and May Concord staff have extended hours - 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - to meet with students to answer student questions and assist with outstanding balances, financial aid questions, and form completion.

- ✓ **Payment Plans** - Concord now offers the option to enroll in a monthly installment payment plan. Students and parents can make monthly payment for tuition, fees, room, and board. A new application must be submitted every semester and the first month's installment must be made prior to the beginning of each semester. The initial installment must be equal to or greater than 25% of the outstanding balance. Please contact the Business Office for further information or to enroll:

Phone: (304) 384-5972 or (304) 384-5212

Fax: (304) 384-9044

Email: acctsrc@concord.edu

- ✓ **Ellie Notification** - Students are now able to check the status of their account, financial aid, grades, and other pertinent information by accessing their Ellie accounts. Students are notified via Ellie of outstanding financial aid requirements - such as paperwork and verification documents - that must be submitted to Financial Aid.

- ✓ **On-line Forms** - Students and parents can now download Financial Aid Forms from the Concord website, <http://www.concord.edu> then click on **Prospective Students** or **Current Students** and then on **Financial Aid**. Every Concord student who receives Financial Aid must complete a Financial Aid Data Sheet. Other forms are for students/parents selected for **Verification**. (Students selected for verification will be notified via mail and Ellie, but students should check with the Financial Aid Office to be certain that their paperwork is complete.) Completed forms can be hand-delivered to Financial Aid, mailed, emailed, or faxed. The fax number is (304) 384-3084.

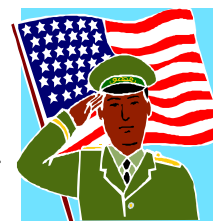
- ✓ **Early Award Letters** - Concord has implemented new procedures to reduce the amount of time required to notify students of estimated awards. The benefit is that students and parents will know sooner how much to expect in financial aid for the coming year. Aid applicants must realize that **actual awards are subject to change**, based on additional information received, federal and state program allocations, students' academic progress, outside scholarships, and the like.



- ✓ **Student Grades** - Concord no longer mails semester grades to students. Course grades are available electronically through your student's Ellie account. Final grades are available approximately one week after the end of the semester, so your student should check for his/her grades after Commencement, which is on Saturday, May 16th. Please note that according to federal **FERPA Regulations (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)**, Concord cannot release a student's grades to anyone other than the student, including parents. However, there is no law prohibiting students to discuss their grades with you!
- ✓ **May / August Graduation** - To avoid overcrowding and assure a positive experience for students and their families, Concord will have two Commencement ceremonies for graduates on Saturday, May 16, 2009. The following schedule is in effect for Commencement 2009:
- 🕒 **10:00 a.m. ceremony** - students with degrees conferred from the Divisions of Business, Education and Human Performance (including all Masters degrees), and Fine Arts.
 - 🕒 **2:00 p.m. ceremony** - students with degrees conferred from the Divisions of Languages and Literature, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Interdisciplinary Studies, and Regents Bachelor of Arts.
- ✓ **Satisfactory Academic Progress** - Please be sure that your students review the policies regarding Satisfactory Academic Progress, including the specific requirements for financial aid recipients. These policies can be found in the Concord University Academic Catalog, which is also available online at the Concord University web site: www.concord.edu/academics.

Concord For Veterans

Concord University is proud to announce the addition of a new Veterans Office to our campus. This office is located in the Student Center, across from the Post Office in the same room as the Career Services Office. The purpose of this office is to assist Concord veterans in every aspect of college, from counseling to financial needs to housing assistance. Additionally, it is our goal to provide access to education for as many veterans as possible. Please feel free to come by with any questions or requests for assistance, or e-mail us at veterans@concord.edu.



First Year Student Orientation

Our orientation will start on Saturday, August 15. On this day, incoming freshman will be able to move in the residence halls.

PLEASE NOTE : Although all classes start on Wednesday, August 19, the University 100 - First Year Experience Classes for freshmen will begin on Monday, August 17. The final schedule will be mailed this summer to all incoming freshmen.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2009

- 8:30 a.m. The Student Center, Dining Hall, and Residence Halls open.
- 10 am - 4:00 pm The Admissions Office, the Financial Aid Office, the Bookstore and the Business Office will be open
- 11:00 a.m. Mandatory Opening Session in the Fine Arts Auditorium for students with last names A - L
- 11:00 a.m. for students with last names M - Z, Commuter Student meeting in the Student Center Ballroom while residential students M - Z move-in.
- 1:00 p.m. Mandatory Opening Session in the Fine Arts Auditorium for students with last names M - Z.
- 1:00 p.m. for students with last names A - L, Commuter Student meeting in the Student Center Ballroom while residential students A - L move - in.
- 3 pm - 3:45 pm Financial Aid Meeting in Student Center Ballroom.
- 3:45 pm - 4:30pm Parents Club meeting in the Student Center Ballroom.
- 4:30 p.m. Orientation Picnic on the front lawn of the campus.
- 7:00 p.m. Residence Hall meetings
- 9:00 p.m. First Night Party in the Subway area of the Student Center.


SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2009

- 1:00 p.m. Alcohol 101 -- an interactive video event that has students make their own decisions about alcohol. Attendance will be taken and there will be door prizes. In the Student Center Ballroom.
- 2:00 p.m. Technology Orientation -- learn about some of the technology on campus and how to access it and use it. In the Student Center Ballroom
- 3:00 p.m. MANDATORY Work-Study/University work program meeting. Interested in a job on campus? Then, you need to come to this meeting! Student Center Ballroom
- 9:00 p.m. Comedian and magician Derek Hughes performs at the Subway Stage at the Student Center.


For updated information on orientation and much more, we are now available on Facebook. Visit us at <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?gid=804022106694&ref=ts> and give us your feedback.

Summer Visitation

Students and parents who are interested in Concord University can take advantage of one of the following summer visitation days:

 Friday, June 26th

 Monday, July 6th

 Friday, August 7th

Students and parents will have the opportunity to tour the campus and residence halls, view a PowerPoint presentation, discuss campus life with our students, learn about our award winning faculty ... and, enjoy lunch in the University's Cafeteria! To register, students or parents may contact the Office of Admissions at 1 (888) 384-5249.

Looking For New Mountain Lions

Dear Parents Club Member,

The Concord University Office of Admissions is currently looking for new students. If you know of a potential student, please complete this form and return to the Office of Admissions.

I thank you for recommending potential students to the University.

Sincerely,

Kent Gamble
Director of Enrollment

To submit a recommendation, please call 1-888-384-5249, email your recommendation to admissions@concord.edu or simply mail this form to **Kent Gamble, Campus Box D-127, PO Box 1000, Athens, WV 24712-1000**

Student's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Name of High School: _____

Graduation Date: _____

Thank you for your recommendation!

Alumni Banquet Slated for Friday, May 15

Concord will host its annual Alumni Banquet Friday, May 15 in the Jerry L. Beasley Student Center. The reception will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Alumni Lounge on the third floor and the banquet will begin at 6 p.m. in the ballroom. Concord University Head Football Coach, Mike Keller, will be the guest speaker.

Kellar began as head football coach at Concord in December 2008, following a successful five-season stint as offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach at California University of Pennsylvania. The Vulcans reached the NCAA Division II national semi-finals in 2007 and 2008. They won or shared the championship of the competitive Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Western Division the last four seasons. The Vulcans compiled a record of 41-8 in that time. A native of Shinnston, West Virginia, Kellar is familiar with the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. He was the starting quarterback for both Glenville State College and Fairmont State College in the early 1990s. He began his coaching career at FSC in 1994.

The Alumni Association will be honoring Gregory M. Allen '70, William "Bill" Baker '62 and Nell Kessinger Jeffries '53.

Gregory Allen, recently elected as chair of the Concord University Foundation, was chosen as Concord's Outstanding Alumnus of the Year. To qualify for this award, one must be an alumnus of Concord University and have made "outstanding" accomplishments in one's professional and civic life. Allen graduated from Concord in 1970 with a B.S. in business administration and a concentration in economics. Since then, he has served in various management positions with Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley and Bank of America. In addition to his professional responsibilities, he has been active in the New Mexico Air National Guard, Texas National Guard, and Oklahoma National Guard. He was honored by the Oklahoma National Guard and Texas National Guard for outstanding service. Allen's resume also includes adjunct teaching for the University of New Mexico and Oklahoma City University.

William Baker was chosen as Concord's Golden Alumnus of the Year. To qualify for this award, one must be an alumnus of Concord University, contribute one's time and talents to Concord and the Alumni Association and have no fewer than 25 years of service to the University community. Baker graduated from Concord in 1962 and began his career as a math teacher and coach at Collins High School in Oak Hill. He served as assistant superintendent for Wood County schools and superintendent for both Raleigh and Mercer county schools. He served on the Raleigh County Commission, and was appointed by the governor to the state's Economic Development Grant Committee. He was awarded the Beckley-Raleigh Chamber of Commerce's 2005 Community Service Award. He was awarded the "President's Award for Service to Others" by Concord President Jerry Beasley in 2008.

Nell Jeffries was chosen as Concord's Alumnus of the year. To qualify for this award, one must be an alumnus of Concord University, a member of the Alumni Association and contribute one's time and talents to the university and Alumni Association. Graduating from Concord in 1953, Jeffries has worked as a member of the Athens Order of the Eastern Star, is a member of the Pine Trees Chapter of the Concord University Alumni Association and a lifetime member of the Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority. She was inducted in the PikeView Hall of Fame in 1995 and taught secondary school for 36 years.

The cost per person for attending the banquet is \$20. Those interested in attending are encouraged to make reservations by contacting Kati Whittaker by email alumni@concord.edu, or by phone at (304) 384-5348 / 6056.

