ACC, Guilford College Sign Historic Agreement

Alamance Community College has signed an historic arrangement with Guilford College to streamline the transfer of credits for ACC students enrolling at the four-year institution through its Center for Continuing Education.

It is the first formalized agreement in ACC’s history made with a private institution of higher education in the Triad on this scale.

ACC President Dr. Algie Gatewood and Guilford College President Dr. Kent Chabotar formalized the agreement on the Alamance Community College campus on March 24.

“We’re making history today with this articulation agreement,” said Dr. Gatewood. “At ACC, we take pride in the fact that our university transfer graduates do just as well academically—and in many cases better—during their junior and senior years at four-year colleges as the native students arriving at those institutions their freshman year.”

Said Dr. Kent Chabotar, Guilford College president: “The future of education will be one of more collaborative agreements between community colleges and four-year institutions...This agree-

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Horticulture Team Excels in National Competition; ACC Student Wins 2nd Place Overall

Competing against more than 740 students and 65 colleges and universities, 14 ACC Horticulture students excelled against their peers from across the nation in 28 events, finishing 15th overall and fourth among 24 community colleges at the Professional Landcare Network (PLANET) Student Career Days at Colorado State University.

ACC’s Matt Case placed second in the nation among 743 competitors, based on total points accumulated. Case was

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STUDENT CLUB EVENTS

CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

MEETINGS: 2nd Monday of each month, 12:15 p.m. and 4th Thursday, 2 p.m. in B200.

Meetings are informal. Interested students should bring an original piece of writing to share and receive feedback from the group—or just come and listen, no pressure to share work. All genres are welcomed: fiction, poetry, drama, song lyrics, etc.

CONTACT: Faculty

WHO: All students interested in writing are welcome.

WHERE: Student Commons

PTK TO MEET

PHI THETA KAPPA’S NEXT MEETING: Friday, April 4, 12:15 p.m.

WHERE: Student Commons

WHO: Eligible students must have completed more than 12 credit hours and have a GPA of at least 3.5.

CONTACT: Laura, Kassler@alamancecc.edu or Melinda.Holland@alamancecc.edu

SIGMA PSI MEETINGS

Interested in sociology or psychology? Join Sigma Psi (ACC’s psychology/sociology club).

WHEN: First and third Wednesday each month, 12:15 p.m.

WHERE: Room 230, Student Activities Center

JOIN ROTARACT CLUB

Are you a student interested in opportunities to network with businesses in the community? Consider joining Rotaract, an organization focused on “Service Above Self.”

CONTACT: Sheri Crofts at sherill.crofts@alamancecc.edu for more information.

HAVE A CLUB MEETING?

If your club has a meeting or an event, you may post your announcement in Campus ACCess. Contact Jon Young in the Public Information and Marketing office (A-03), call 506-4122 or e-mail jonathan.young@alamancecc.edu.

Left to right: ACC Executive Vice President Dr. Gene Couch; ACC President Dr. Algie Gatewood; Guilford College President Dr. Kent Chabotar; Guilford College Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Adrienne Israel

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ment is all about giving students more of a choice.”

The signing ceremony included representatives from both institutions. Guilford College’s guests included Dr. Adrienne Israel, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Academic Dean; Dr. Rita Serotkin, Associate Vice President and Dean for Continuing Education; and Page Stroud, Assistant Director for Admissions. ACC guests included Dr. Gene Couch, Executive Vice President; Cathy Johnson, Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences; Kelly Tate, Associate Dean of Health and Public Services; and Chris Seip, SGA President.

Although ACC students have regularly transferred to Guilford College for years, they have done so without a full understanding of how many more classes are needed for their intended major. All the state’s community colleges have a transfer agreement with the UNC system of campuses, but similar agreements with private colleges and universities are not as common.

The agreement stipulates that Guilford College will guarantee:

- transfer admission
- waiver of application fee
- acceptance of a maximum 64 credits that have Guilford College equivalents
- grant full junior status to ACC graduates who have followed a course of study as prescribed by Guilford College, including earning a 2.5 GPA while at ACC

ACC graduates will have an opportunity to earn a bachelor’s degree in 13 majors, including accounting, business administration, criminal justice, computing technology and information systems, forensic biology, and religious studies.

A tuition comparison provided by Guilford College shows that it stacks up competitively against North Carolina state institutions before any financial aid is applied. Because adult transfer students do not normally require room and board or participate in extra-curricular activities, the student fees are lower than at public universities. State, federal and institutional financial aid is available to adult transfer students.

Informal talks between Alamance Community College and Guilford College began as early as 2009. ACC students transferring to Guilford College also have an advantage if they work during the day: the institution offers course work on two nights and Saturdays for many majors offered through the Center for Continuing Education.

ACC is Safe Zone for LGBTQ Students

Students who self-identify as LGBTQ can rely on the offices of multiple ACC employees as safe havens.

A group of 20 ACC faculty and staff recently participated in ACC’s first Safe Zone training. Safe Zone is a nationally recognized initiative designed to enhance higher education communities’ support of LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning) individuals on campus. Faculty and staff participated in educational activities, engaged in discussions, asked questions, and made recommendations for best supporting students on both ACC campuses. The group agreed to reconnect in coming months for follow-up discussions and idea sharing.

Following the training, all participants were asked to consider signing an agreement to serve as Safe Zone Allies. The role of an Ally, as described in training, is to provide a safe place for individuals to speak freely, ask questions, and share concerns. Allies listen, help connect students with resources on campus and in the community, and advocate where necessary. Allies are not counselors, nor are they political advocates.

Safe Zone Allies can be identified by the small triangular symbol (pictured above) located in their offices or in their classrooms. Students, faculty or staff wishing to learn more about Safe Zone Allies and/or resources available at ACC or in the community are encouraged to call Ilona Owens at 506-4146 or Erin Flowers at 506-4361.
In his final semester at ACC last spring, Matt Gordon was the big winner in the annual Graphic Design competition, taking first place honors for Drawing and Illustration, Photography, and Graphic Design—not to mention his blue ribbon as the top winner in the student fiction writing category. Matt further added to his resume at ACC with a design seen by motorists traveling on the interstate near the ACC exit—a building wrap on one side of Horticulture Technology’s hydroponic greenhouse.

But Matt’s unique skills have never gone to his head. In fact, his life is one that cares deeply for humanity, probably borne from the five years he spent with his family in Pakistan where they founded a school for poverty-stricken children as part of a Christian organization.

Matt met his wife Aimee overseas, and they returned to her native Alamance County to marry and enroll at Alamance Community College. Aimee matriculated through the university transfer program to pursue a degree in special education. But Matt, who had discovered his artistic abilities while in Pakistan, had heard good things about ACC’s graphic design program.

“ACC gave me the opportunity to explore and develop my artistic abilities,” he says. “Instructor David Davenport was a big influence in helping to develop my abilities. His assignments helped me realize my potential.”

Upon graduation last year from ACC, Matt was hired as a production designer at Northstar Marketing based in Burlington (the same company that redesigned ACC’s current web site). During his studies at ACC, Matt met Northstar founder Andy Lynch, who advised him to obtain more experience through the college’s graphic design program. That’s exactly what happened. Matt was hired in summer 2013 following the completion of his degree.

As a production designer at Northstar Marketing, Matt works on everything from web design to brochures to billboards.

Says Matt: “ACC’s graphic design department was tremendous in helping me learn tools that I now use in my profession as I pursue my dreams.”

Registration Calendar—Summer, Fall 2014
Students: Don’t forget to see your faculty advisor before registration. Your advisor’s name and contact information can be found in WebAdvisor under “My Profile.”

APRIL 21—Priority registration opens for degree-seeking students with 50 or more completed credit hours.
WebAdvisor registration opens at 12:01 a.m.

APRIL 23—Priority registration opens for degree-seeking students with less than 50 completed credit hours.
WebAdvisor registration opens at 12:01 a.m.

APRIL 30—Summer & Fall registration opens for new, returning and non-degree seeking students.
WebAdvisor registration opens at 8:00 a.m.

MAY 12—Payment deadline for early summer registrations.
WebAdvisor registration closes (final) for 2014 Summer at 3:00pm

MAY 13—No registration (campus or WebAdvisor)
Graphic Design Students: Reaching Across the Sea for African School Kids

What does an ACC instructor’s visit to Africa, a coloring book, and the talents of student graphic designers have in common? They all played an integral part in helping young children learn to read in the African nation of Malawi.

As a NC A&T State University PhD student, ACC’s Horticulture Technology Dept. Head Justin Snyder, spent the summer of 2012 in the African nation of Malawi as part of a service learning project. He and other A&T students and advisors worked with teachers from Domasi Demonstration Primary School to create a garden to supplement its school feeding program.

While there Snyder met a Malawi teacher named Alinane Misomali, a participant in the Literacy in Mother Tongue (LMT) project which teaches children to read in their own language. Jump to Spring 2013: Brittany Gaither, a second year student in the graphic design program, was selected to illustrate the coloring book titled “Vain Hope.” The book was produced with the help of Becka Paskins, ACC print services supervisor, and sent to the students at Domasi Demonstration school as part of the ACC FLORA Club’s community service project in May 2013.

As a result of the coloring book’s popularity, the Malawi teachers sent to ACC 18 poorly constructed story books — created by the school teachers on whatever kind of paper material they could find — in the hopes of getting them illustrated and printed.

Graphic design instructors David Davenport and Denise Archuleta took on this project in fall 2013. ACC design students were tasked with illustrating the stories in the crudely-made booklets. “Our students were not shown the big books [from the African children], but in- stead they had to research their story to fit with the Malawi lifestyle,” said Archuleta.

Once the ACC students’ illustrations were approved, this semester the students were assigned to design logos for the book project — the winning effort to be emblazoned on the back cover of each newly designed and produced coloring book. A winning selection will be made after the students present their logo ideas to Horticulture’s Justin Snyder on April 26.

In May, the Malawi school children will receive the newly illustrated coloring books based on the original stories they sent to ACC.

Said Archuleta: “ACC has put into place ‘Writing Across the Curriculum’ as part of our QEP this year, and the Advertising and Graphic Design students are ‘Drawing Across the Continents.’”
Miller Retires with 35 Years at ACC
ACC’s longest serving current employee Sherry Miller (seen here with ACC President Dr. Algie Gatewood) was feted with a retirement reception to honor her 35 years working at ACC, primarily in financial aid where she has coordinated benefits for veterans. Sherry has worked at ACC since 1978, shortly after she graduated from the college.

Meet New Veteran Affairs Employee
Melissa Baity is the College’s new Veteran Affairs/Financial Aid Technician. She replaces the retired Sherry Miller. Since Feb. 2013, Baity has worked part-time at ACC as a financial aid counselor. Her previous employment included six years as a Senior Accounting Specialist at Blue Cross Blue Shield in Durham; and bookkeeper at General Services Corporation in Durham, 2005-06. She has a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Minor in Business Management (Cum Laude) from Elon University.

Campus Fund Drive for Part-time Employees
Adjunct faculty and part-time staff are encouraged to help make a difference in the life of a student by participating in this spring’s ACC Foundation 2014 Campus Fund Drive. A raffle will be held for all donations in increments of $10. Questions? Contact the ACC Foundation office at ext. 4102.
Poet to Hold Workshop
WHO: Author/poet Maureen Sherbondy will read from her work. Sherbondy is a graduate of Rutgers University and has published seven books of poetry and one book of short stories, winning many awards and accolades.
WHEN/WHERE: Tuesday, April 1, 1 p.m., Room 351 of Academic Skills Lab.
BEST BET: The reading will be followed by a talk on the publication process and a writer’s workshop for students. Bring your poetry and learn how to publish it.

Open Poetry Reading—All Welcome
WHAT: Open poetry reading for all those interested
WHEN: Thursday, April 10, 10-11:30 a.m., Library
BEST BET: Everyone interested is welcome drop in, read, or listen.
Sponsored by the Introduction to Poetry Class, the Creative Writing Club, and the English Dept.

History Buffs: Help Research Historic Document
The History Club is sponsoring a research activity in partnership with ACC instructor Dave Crane.
Crane recently acquired a piece of local history: the original deed to the Graham Courthouse in 1851. Crane says students can pick up a copy of the document from his office door (B113), then email him (david.crane@alamancecc.edu) to receive their research assignment.
“It will be something simple, like researching a name, a date, or event,” says Crane.
Students who participate will be invited to the History Club pizza party at the end of April, where the research work will be discussed.

Financial and Career Planning Workshops
WHAT: HOME BUYING 101
WHEN/WHERE: April 1, 2-3 p.m., G234

WHAT: SAVING FOR RETIREMENT
WHEN/WHERE: April 7, 12:30-1:30 p.m., G233
BEST BET: $25 gas card give away at this session

WHAT: DEBT MANAGEMENT
WHEN/WHERE: April 29, 1-2 p.m., G233
BEST BET: $25 gas card give away at this session

WHAT: BUDGETING 101
WHEN/WHERE: April 30, 12:30-1:30 p.m., G233
Extra Credit passes will be available.
Sponsored by Student Development, Financial Aid, and Career Services

Spring Career Fair Next Week
Wednesday & Thursday, April 9 & 10
10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. each day
Student Activities Center
BEST BET: Students are encouraged to dress professionally and bring resumes. Get a free resume critique each day. On-site interviews are possible.

TO PREPARE:
TUESDAY, APRIL 1
Career Fair Etiquette: Room 230, 11:15 a.m. & 5:15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2
Career Fair Etiquette: Room 230, 11:15 a.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3
Five-Minute Resume’ Review: Student Center, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 7
Five-Minute Resume’ Review: Student Center, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Career Planning Workshop: G119, 12:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8
LinkedIn Workshop: G119, 12:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9
Volunteer for Your Career: G119, 12:30 p.m.

More than 25 employers are expected, including:
Adecco, AKG North America Inc., Apex Mills, Brady Services, Carolina Meadows, Durham County Sheriff’s Department, Fastenal, Flo Products, Hillsborough Police Department, Home Instead Senior Care, Mebane Police Department, NC Dept. of Public Safety, NC Highway Patrol, Orange County Sheriff’s Office, Prime Personnel Resources Inc., Sports Endeavors, and UNC Public Safety
High school students from the area visited the ACC campus on March 13 to learn about the college’s allied health programs with some hands-on activities.

Health service instructors in Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting, Medical Lab Technology, Nursing Assistant, and Nursing partnered with Alamance-Burlington Schools, Orange County Schools and Chapel Hill Schools to provide an up-close look at programs that have robust career opportunities.

While on campus, the students rotated through live demonstrations and hands-on activities in all five health career areas, as well as learn more about high school and post-secondary courses that will prepare them as they pursue their career interests.

This event was part of the local Pathways to Prosperity partnership that is supported by the NC State Board of Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education, and Jobs for the Future.

In addition to the hands-on activities, the students were welcomed by ACC President Dr. Algie Gatewood, and heard from experts in the health care industry and other related businesses.
The ACC Foundation Campaign kicked off at the March faculty/staff meeting as campaign chair Lakeisha Vance urged college employees to support scholarships with their donations. Welding student Allen Gaincy spoke about how a Foundation scholarship helped him.

Brain Awareness Week
For the third straight year, the Social and Behavioral Sciences Dept. sponsored Brain Awareness Week to raise awareness of the human brain’s capabilities and to encourage students to keep their brains healthy. Psychology instructor Dr. Nancy Honeycutt conducted “test your brain” activities, such as “Fake Hand Illusion,” in which a student’s brain was fooled into thinking an artificial hand they saw being stroked before them was their actual hand—concluding with Dr. Honeycutt unexpectedly hitting the fake hand with a hammer, causing the student to jump as they saw “their” hand struck. The week concluded with an appearance by Dr. Chris Smith from UNC Chapel Hill who spoke about his neuroscience research.

Speed Interviewing Workshop
Chrissy Dawkins, a student in Medical Office Administration, was one of 22 students who took advantage of Student Development’s speed interviewing workshop (seen here with volunteer Dr. Laila Moustafa). Volunteer faculty and staff conducted faux applicant interviews to give students practice in job interviewing.

Having Fun to Promote Literacy
Gary Saunders, Dean of Continuing Education; Sherri Singer, Social and Behavioral Sciences Department Head; and Dr. Algie Gatewood, ACC President, acted as judges for the Times-News’ Current Events Challenge fundraiser for Literacy. Local high school teams were quizzed on questions based on news stories in the Times-News. The $3,200 in proceeds benefitted ACC’s Adult Literacy programs and the Newspaper in Education program.

The Medical Assisting Club
has kicked off a fundraiser now through April 14 to raise money for the program’s pinning ceremony. Buy $1.00 raffle tickets to qualify to win a variety of Easter baskets. Purchase tickets in the Powell Building from Medical Assisting students. Pictured are 2014-15 Medical Assisting Club officers: (clockwise from lower left) Amanda Shore, fundraiser; Melissa Lowe, secretary; Kim Riley, historian; Shawanda Bass, treasurer; Lakeshia Willis, SGA representative; René Lassiter, vice president; and Amanda Matkins, president.