Students: Apply for Federal College Aid Feb. 28

Alamance Community College financial aid officers will be available on Saturday, Feb. 28 from 9 a.m. until 12:00 noon to help high school seniors and current ACC students complete and submit their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) forms.

The FAFSA is required to be considered for all federal and most state financial aid, including scholarships and grants.

High school seniors need to register for the event through the College Foundation of North Carolina (www.cfnc.org/FAFSAday). High school students do not need to be planning to attend the college hosting the event.

Here’s the 411 on FAFSA Day:

- The application process takes about 30 minutes.
- Although not required, it’s best if parents and students come together.
- Parents and students need to bring all tax documents (Federal 1040 tax forms) and income statements they have.
- Each participating student and one parent are encouraged to obtain Personal Identification Numbers (PINs) from the U.S. Department of Education website, www.pin.ed.gov, prior to FAFSA Day.

For more information about the February 28 application day at Alamance Community College, contact the Financial Aid Office at the campus, 336-506-4340.

ACC Appoints Executive VP Queen on Permanent Basis

Scott Queen, who has served as Executive Vice President on an interim basis since June 2014, has been appointed to the position on a permanent basis by Alamance Community College President Dr. Algie Gatewood.

Queen had filled the position vacated by Dr. Gene Couch, who accepted the presidency of Virginia Highlands Community College.

“I am honored to serve the College in this capacity,” said Queen. “I have been training for this opportunity for 15 years.”

A graduate of ACC, Queen has been with the College since 1999 serving as both adjunct and full-time faculty, Distance Learning Coordinator, Business Administration Department Head, Associate Dean for Business Technologies, and now as Executive Vice President.

“During the past eight months, Scott has done an outstanding job in the interim role,” said Dr. Algie Gatewood. “He continues to work effectively with faculty and staff to increase enrollment and to improve student success, which are paramount to the success of ACC. I am a tough grader with very high expectations and he has passed.”

Queen’s contributions to the College as Executive Vice President during his interim tenure include:

- Instrumental in crafting and co-presenting a presentation to the Alamance County Commissioners that resulted in a 5-0 vote to fund the College’s new Advanced Applied Technology Center
- Played a significant role in planning the College’s recent reorganization

See QUEEN on page 3
PART Bus Relocates ‘Stop’ Site on ACC Campus

The PART Bus Transit stop location has changed on the Alamance Community College campus, effective immediately.

Students must now load and disembark the PART bus at a marked location on the linking road between the Animal Care Bldg. & upper Parking Lot L at Entrance #1.

PART is a public transportation system that serves and connects some major metropolitan areas in North Carolina’s Piedmont region.

Three eastbound and three westbound stops are scheduled Monday through Friday at Alamance Community College, providing commuter options both in the morning and in the afternoon.

The Alamance Express Route also connects Greensboro (Regional Hub, 602 S. Regional Road) and Chapel Hill (UNC Hospital Ambulatory Care Center, 102 Mason Farm Road) stops.

PART information is available in the Advising Center, Student Success office and Marketing office.

PART was created in 1997, based on regional cooperation and improvements to transportation systems in the Piedmont Triad region of North Carolina. For more details on route locations and schedule of pick-ups and drop-offs in Alamance County, visit www.partnc.org/route4express.

Tickets for PART can be purchased in the College’s Business Office in Student Success, G100A. FARES: One-way $3.00 (half-price $1.50 for students, disabled, Medicare Cardholders) PASSE: 31 Day Pass, $90.00 (half-price $45); 10 Ride Pass, $30 (half-price $15).
Instrumental in the implementation of the College's Strategic Plan

Exercised essential leadership in working with colleagues to navigate the challenges of the recent fire in the automotive building.

A former recipient of the W. Ronald McCarter Excellence in Teaching Award, Queen has been recognized for teaching excellence in both the Computer Information Technology and Business Administration Departments. He is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in Community College Executive Leadership from Wingate University.

Except for a few years at UNCG to earn his B.S. and master's degrees, Queen has spent nearly all his adult life at ACC. In 1993, he started like many students, unsure of his major. But once he discovered where his interests and skills lay, he focused and earned three degrees over time.

In the fall of 2009, he found himself as the youngest among four associate deans at the College as head of the Business Technologies division where he oversaw programs in which he once took classes as a student.

It was a relatively short journey for Queen, less than 20 years in the making from student to associate dean and Executive Vice President.

“It was a little surreal when I first became a dean,” he said. “I became colleagues with instructors who taught me when I was a student.”

In the beginning, Queen admits he was not so self-assured about his future. After ditching the idea of becoming a pharmacist, he opted to try the growing computer field and enrolled in ACC's Business Computer Programming curriculum.

While studying hard at ACC, he spent nine years working at Burlington Brands, including stints as system administrator and operations manager. But education was always his focus.

“I was extremely well prepared for UNCG after going to ACC for two years and earning my associate's degree,” he says about enrolling next in the Bryan School of Business and Economics.

But ACC refused to let him go. For three years while earning his bachelor's degree, Queen worked evenings as an adjunct instructor at ACC. Upon his UNCG graduation, he joined ACC full-time teaching in the newly-named Information Systems department.

That led to heading the Business Administration department and, in 2009, appointed to Associate Dean of Business Technologies. From there, Queen gained additional leadership experience that led to his current appointment.
The Child Care Center at Alamance Community College (ACC) has been awarded a $52,200 grant from Impact Alamance. The funds will be used to expand and renovate an outdoor learning environment designed to encourage a higher level of outdoor physical activity.

New equipment will replace and enhance dated facilities that no longer model best practice. The improvements will create a model outdoor environment for the more than 200 students annually enrolled in the early education program at ACC and will benefit childcare providers throughout the county.

“Outdoor learning environments promote increased physical activity for children and have been proven to enhance engagement with both students and teachers in and out of the classroom,” says Jeanne Proctor, Early Childhood Department Head at ACC. “This facility will serve as a learning lab for our students, will be used for continuing education with the potential to benefit many childcare workers throughout the community, and will certainly promote increased physical activity for our 54 children.”

The grant will provide enhancements such as shade structures, a cement bike pathway and ride-on vehicles, fencing, benches, balancing equipment, expansion of the playground with an outdoor playhouse and a permanent outdoor art and music area.

Playground items will be acquired by late spring. The facility is expected to open by summer and accommodations will be made for a child area during the construction process.

“Child Care Center Awarded $52,200 Grant for Playground Renovation”

ACC Welcomes Employees

The College welcomes two full-time employees who have been awarded permanent status.

Tyeshia Smith has worked as Accounting Clerk in Administrative and Fiscal Services since May 2014. She has an associate’s degree in Medical Assisting from ACC and was a work-study student and part-time hourly employee in the same office since 2012.

Mary Alva has worked as Print Center Clerk and a graphics assistant in Public Information & Marketing since January 2014. She has an associate’s degree in Advertising & Graphic Design from ACC and a bachelor’s degree in Sociology from UNC Chapel Hill. Mary served in the U.S. Coast Guard, 2003-2008.

ACC’s on-campus Child Care Center is open to children of students, faculty and staff, and the general community. ACC’s center has a 5-star rating from the NC Division of Child Development and serves up to 50 children per day. The center provides programming designed for the optimal development of infants and children and serves as a lab for the training of students enrolled in the Early Childhood Associate curriculum. All the lead teachers in the center have an associate or higher college degree in the early childhood field. The Center serves children aged six weeks through five years.

Impact Alamance’s mission is to strategically invest in Alamance County for hope, health and prosperity. Founded in 2013, the foundation is result of Alamance Regional’s merger with Cone Health.
Student, Family Travel 1,469 Miles to Attend ACC

How far would you travel to attend Alamance Community College? For one student, driving with her family 1,469 miles in about 23 hours seemed like the right thing to do to take advantage of ACC’s programs.

While it may seem unusual, Kelsi Edens, 19, moved from Midland, Texas with her family last summer solely to be a part of the CSTEP program (Carolina Student Transfer Excellence Program) at ACC.

CSTEP, in place at the College since 2006, targets high-achieving, low- to moderate-income community college students and guarantees junior admission to UNC Chapel Hill as long as they complete an associate’s degree and comply with all other CSTEP program requirements.

The how and why of this unusual journey began when Kelsi’s parents approved of her search for the best college—in-state or out—for her intended career goal as a dietician. Kelsi’s parents, Brian and Krisi Grigsby, both held good jobs in Texas. Midland—a wealthy “oil” town where mom worked as a land technician for an oil company, and dad worked for the county’s Road and Bridge department. But both parents told their daughter they were interested in pursuing new careers elsewhere if her college plans led her out of Texas.

Kelsi, an excellent high school student and member of the National Honor Society, hit the computer to find the best possible nutrition and dietician programs. When the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill kept popping up in her searches, she decided this was the school for her.

“My mom and I visited Chapel Hill and the campus in January 2014 and fell in love with the area,” says Kelsi. “We lived about 10 hours from the ocean, and here the mountains and the coast are both only about three 3 hours away.”

Everything seemed set when Kelsi applied to UNC, but because she was an out-of-state applicant, she was not accepted in the first round of early admissions. The family still wanted to be in North Carolina and began looking at community colleges.

Krisi Grigsby called ACC and talked to Cathy Johnson, Vice President of Instruction, explaining the family’s desire to move to the area so her daughter could attend UNC. Johnson thought Kelsi would be a good candidate for CSTEP and put them in touch with Perry Hardison, University Transfer Coordinator and CSTEP advisor. Kelsi applied to the program and was accepted.

That’s when Kelsi and her family made the decision to pick up and move to the Tar Heel State, more or less sight unseen. Both Brian and Krisi Grigsby quit their jobs without prospects and drove with their daughter and belongings to Chapel Hill.

“People and family in Texas thought we were crazy,” says Kelsi. “But we and others used the phrase ‘leap of faith’ a lot. We were stepping completely into the unknown. We knew we were heading some place where we didn’t know anyone. We wondered ‘Are we doing the smartest thing?’

But it worked out. We went from Midland where it’s very easy to get a job due to the oil economy to a place where it wasn’t going to be so easy. We had to get a hotel room for a week with our two dogs. As soon as we got here, we had a real estate agent find us a house in Chapel Hill.”

Brian Grigsby pursued becoming a real estate agent and earned his license. It took a little longer—about three months—for mom Krisi Grigsby to land her job as a data manager at an elementary school in Chapel Hill.

Kelsi’s membership in the latest CSTEP group of 12 students mandates participation in the program’s activities aimed at bringing together the students headed to UNC. It also means taking courses toward earning an associate’s degree. Kelsi completed 17 hours last fall at ACC which included the mandatory ACA class, Spanish 111, Pre-Calculus, History, English 111, and Old Testament. This spring she is taking Spanish 112, English 112, Public Speaking and Biology.

Ironically, Kelsi says her original goal of becoming a dietician is no longer her first choice as a career goal.

“It’s still an interest since that’s what brought us here,” she says, “but my dad said that maybe the dietician program was God’s way of getting us to North Carolina.”

Kelsi says she is now considering speech pathology or communication.

Kelsi can be found four days a week working at ACC’s Information Desk as a work study student. “I really like it because it gets me accustomed to the school by answering the phone and helping people up front. It helps me learn more about ACC and the faculty and programs.”

Maybe it helps to solidify her family’s ‘leap of faith’ that making North Carolina, and Alamance Community College, their destination was indeed the right move.
Who Are ACC’s Teachers of the Year?

Do you know an ACC instructor who deserves recognition for his or her excellent teaching skills? The Faculty Affairs Committee is now receiving nominations from each of the three curriculum divisions in order for faculty to select a:

- Full-time instructor as the Excellence in Teaching recipient for 2014-15
- Part-time faculty member from each of the four curriculum divisions

Students, Faculty, and Staff are encouraged to nominate instructors. Write a letter of nomination, outlining why the instructor is worthy of the honor, and send to dean of appropriate division (listed below).

Nominations are requested from each division:

- Health and Public Services (Kelly Tate, dean)
- Business, Arts and Sciences (Sonya McCook, dean)
- Industrial Technologies (Wally Shearin, dean)

Eligibility: All faculty, credit and non-credit, who taught at least one course during the summer of 2014 or the current academic year, are eligible for consideration.

Selection Process: Deans will select from the nominees the individuals to be interviewed by the award selection committee to determine the overall winner from the three division winners.

The selection committee will be made up of two faculty members: one full time, one part time, one staff member, one administrator, and one student.

Deadline for receipt of nominations is Friday, March 6.

ACC Foundation Phonathon Has Begun

February kicks off the ACC Foundation’s annual phonathon, in which student ambassadors call alumni and friends of the College to update records and solicit donations for student scholarships. Over the past several years the ambassadors have secured an average of $25,000 in pledges.

Participating student ambassadors are Christopher Bray, Nicholas Crisp, Melirose Dobbs, Marcus Glover-Saunders, Vanessa Guerrero, Rebecca Landon, Denhora Mendez, Kasey Roberts, Sammy Robinson, Jeff Webster, Devonna Whitehead, and Alfred Williamson.

Special thanks go to those who have donated incentive gifts and meals for the volunteer callers: ACC Foundation Board members Helen Brennan, Ami Hill, Jack Overacre, Russell Wilson (Emeritus), Reggie Lipscomb, and ACC Trustee Jerry Bailey.

The Phonathon ends at the end of February.

2015 Celebration of Excellence: Call for Distinguished Alumni Nominees

If you know of an ACC Alumnus/a whose career success or community service involvement has been shaped by his/her experience as an ACC student, consider nominating them for the Distinguished Alumni Award. Nomination form can be accessed at www.accfoundation.com under “What’s New.”

Welcome 2015 ACC Foundation Board Members.

New board members are (l-r): Dr. Rosemary Stein (ACC Trustee liaison to ACCF); Grover Moore, Carolina Biological Supply; Brad Harmon, Syntech of Burlington, Inc.; Justin Church, SunTrust; Vicki Moran, ARMC; Charlie Harris, ACCF Board President; and Carolyn Rhode, ACCF Executive Director.
Student Activities Calendar

FREE ICE SKATING–COURTESY SGA. Join your SGA for a free evening of family fun ice skating.

WHERE: Hillsborough Triangle Sportsplex (101 Meadowlands Drive, Hillsborough, NC or get directions at: http://goo.gl/maps/IBJuk)

WHEN: Saturday, Feb. 21, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

FREE TICKETS: Pick up free passes outside the College’s SGA office 228 (Student Center)

BEST BET: Students and employees may pick up tickets for family and friends; one ticket per person. Skate rental is included with ticket.

Good Things to Know

CROSSROADS: SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE & RESOURCE CENTER. Counselor on campus, Room 228, Student Center, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. every Monday.

DISCOUNTED MOVIE TICKETS. SGA is offering discounted movie tickets to Carousel Cinemas for $7 each. Tickets may be purchased from the Cashiers office (first floor Gee Building). Tickets expire Dec. 31, 2016. Tickets are not valid for special attractions; a list of restricted titles and dates are available at carouselalamancecrossing.com, or by calling the box office.

Distance Learning Center Offers Training Sessions

WHAT: Distance Learning Center offering series of training sessions for faculty and staff.

WHEN: Each session is Monday, 2-3 p.m. and Tuesday, 9-10 a.m.

WHERE: All sessions are offered in B214.

BEST BET: If unable to attend a session, materials and handouts are available online after the training sessions. To access the materials, visit the Online and Distance Education page on the ACC website. Click on the Faculty Resources page.

Training Sessions

FEB. 16-17: MOODLE GRADEBOOK. Learn how to set up your gradebook in Moodle. Participants receive handouts on weighting grades, editing grade items, and importing/exporting grades.

FEB. 23-24: NCCCS TOOLS FOR TEACHING. Participants will learn about free resources available through NC Community College System for designing and teaching courses.

Culinary Serves Meals

Culinary students serve meals in A238 dining room on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Dine-in on china or “to go” boxes available.

• International buffet lunch every Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Cost: $8.00
• Thursday lunch from 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; dinner from 5:15-6:30 p.m. Cost: $7.00
• Students will post menus around campus each Friday before the next meal.

Workshops for English Language Learners

The Writing Center (Room 353 in Skills Lab) has scheduled sessions for students needing help with English grammar and composition.

“For students who grew up speaking a different language, learning English well enough to get a college degree can be a big undertaking,” says Writing Center Coordinator, Debra Burdick. “English language learners already studying for a degree can get additional help with English through ongoing weekly workshops held in the Writing Center.”

English Language Learners–Weekly Workshops (Room 353, Writing Center/Skills Lab)

• Tuesdays, 11:10 a.m.-12 noon
• Thursdays, 10:10-11 a.m.
• Fridays, 10:10-11 a.m.
• Fridays, 1:10-2:00 p.m.

QUESTIONS? Stop by the Writing Center or call 336-506-4190.

11th Annual Jean Slaughter Scholarship

BOOK SALE

Wednesday, Feb. 11, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
Main Building, in front of Bookstore

PAPERBACKS & VIDEOS $1

HARDBACKS & DVDS $2

• Fiction, nonfiction, children’s books, classics, audiobooks, assorted videos and DVDs
• The sale is intended for students, faculty and staff to purchase books.

NO BOOKSELLERS BEFORE 1 p.m.

For more information: 336-506-4268
Susan Dalton, English instructor

All proceeds go to the Jean Slaughter Memorial Scholarship Fund

Donations: Bring books now through early February to B206 (office of Anne Helms & Susan Dalton).
Proud CIT Students
The Connecting Networks class (Computer Information Technology) participated in several Cisco webinars recently by virtue of the College being a registered Cisco Networking Academy institution. The designation means that ACC offers valuable training in the marketable skills of network configuration, cybersecurity, and IT troubleshooting, which allows students to learn through hands-on lab projects, topology simulations and industry-sponsored webinars on topical issues. Students who participated in the recent webinar received NetAcad Advantage T-shirts as a reward. Seen l-r are students Gene Mattice, Sam Chanda, Bill Johnson, Stephen Wade, and Jonathan Dix.

Health Sciences Job Fair
A Health Sciences Job Fair was held on Jan. 28 for students pursuing degrees, certificates or diplomas in one of ACC’s many health science curricula. Participating vendors included LabCorp, Moses Cone Health Systems (including ARMC), and various healthcare businesses.