CEO Puts Up $10,000 for Student Entrepreneurial Contest

An Alamance County businessman has agreed to provide $10,000 to support a student entrepreneurial contest each fall through Alamance Community College and its Business Administration program and Small Business Center.

This initiative promotes entrepreneurialism, encourages new business and job creation, and highlights the College's role in economic development. It fits ACC's workforce development mission and commitment to small business.

The College announced that Vernon Clapp of Clapp Investment Ltd has established a competitive program that will award up to two students or student entrepreneurial teams with funding to launch a business venture.

Individuals and teams will present their business plans to a 5-7 member committee comprised of College staff, the local business community, and Vernon Clapp or his designee. The committee will select the winning business plan with winners receiving up to $10,000 to fund committee-approved expenses directly related to the building and launching of the business venture.

The Clapp Entrepreneurial Opportunity (CEO) Initiative promotes entrepreneurialism, increases awareness of ACC's leadership in economic development, and encourages new business and job creation.

The competition is open to any ACC student and student teams currently attending or graduated over the previous two years in any degree, diploma, or certificate program.

“We believe this initiative can help increase enrollment in our Business Administration and Small Business Center courses,” said ACC President Dr. Algie Gatewood. “Bringing together the physical and intellectual capital of ACC with public and private sector resources is a significant boost to new business development.”

Small business provides 55 percent of all American jobs, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration.

“I'm excited about this partnership and deeply appreciative of Mr. Clapp's generosity and vision,” said Dr. Gatewood. “He has for many years now provided the financial resources and direction for a similar business plan competition at his alma mater, Indiana University, and it has been quite successful.”

The competition requirements are designed so that participating ACC students will receive education in entrepreneurship, business planning and development in three stages. Com-

How Do I Apply?

Interested in Entering the Clapp Entrepreneurial Opportunity Initiative Competition to Win $10,000 Startup?

WHO: ACC students, recent graduates–individuals or teams

APPLY: Submit an application by 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 7. Download an application at alamancecc.edu/sbc

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Highly-Acclaimed Literary Suspense Author to Hold Workshop at ACC

Get ready to spend a couple of hours with a North Carolina author who has spun “a tale of love and atonement, blood and vengeance...” in his 2015 novel, *This Dark Road to Mercy*.

Wiley Cash, the author of this fall’s Alamance Reads selection, *This Dark Road to Mercy*, will appear on the Alamance Community College campus for a writer’s workshop on Thursday, September 10, 2-4 p.m. in Patterson Auditorium in the main building. The workshop is free and open to the public.

Thursday, Sept. 10, 2-4 p.m.

WHAT: Writer’s Workshop open to the public
WHERE: ACC’s Patterson Auditorium, main building
ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Wiley Cash holds a B.A. in Literature from the University of North Carolina-Asheville, an M.A. in English from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, and a Ph.D. in English from the University of Louisiana-Lafayette. His stories have appeared in Crab Orchard Review, Roanoke Review and The Carolina Quarterly. Dr. Cash teaches fiction at UNC-Chapel Hill and in the Low-Residency MFA Program in Fiction and Nonfiction Writing at Southern New Hampshire University. A native of North Carolina, he lives in Wilmington, NC with his family.

ABOUT THE BOOK: *This Dark Road to Mercy* is a profound and poignant story about two sisters who go missing after being kidnapped by their well-intentioned but dysfunctional father. Told from the perspectives of three different characters, the novel is a tale of love and atonement, blood and vengeance, and of an enemy determined to see the father pay for his sins.

GOOD TO KNOW: The Alamance Community College library has scheduled public book discussions on *This Dark Road to Mercy* on Monday, Sept. 28, 11 a.m. and Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2:30 p.m. in the library. Mark your calendars for these discussions. Light refreshments will be served.

FOR MORE INFORMATION about the workshop: Call ACC’s library at 336-506-4116.

Celebrate Constitution Day Thursday, September 17

Constitution Day Features History Speaker, Club Activities

ACC’s Social and Behavioral Sciences department is sponsoring ACC’s annual Constitution Day to celebrate the 228th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution in September 1787, when 39 men changed the course of American history by adopting the basic laws that govern this nation.

STUDENT CENTER Give-aways and refreshments.

Participating clubs include Sigma Psi, History Club, Asian Culture Club, Math & Physics Club, Phi Theta Kappa. Best decorated club wins $200.


WHEN: 2 p.m.
WHERE: ACC’s Patterson Auditorium, main building

This event is open to the public.

Scott Washington is the former assistant director of the Orange County Historical Museum in Hillsborough, NC. An accomplished history researcher, writer, educator, and public speaker, Mr. Washington is one of the nation’s top experts on North Carolina’s 1788 Constitutional Convention held in Hillsborough, which was pivotal to Americans having a Bill of Rights (the first ten amendments) as we know it today.

Says Mr. Washington: “I plan to bring history alive for the audience by putting into context North Carolina’s pivotal role in shaping the U.S. Constitution as we know it today. Without North Carolina’s unique contribution, it’s hard to say whether the Constitution and our country would be the same today.”
Meet 2015-2016 Student Ambassadors

ACC has inducted eight new Student Ambassadors to join five senior/2nd year ambassadors for the 2015-16 academic year. All were nominated by faculty or staff and selected by a screening committee. Ambassadors represent the College by hosting campus activities, conducting tours, recruiting new students, assisting in advancement activities and speaking to community and civic groups. The program was established in 1987 by the ACC Foundation.

This year’s group includes:
- Alexis Caldwell—Computer Information Technology
- Demi Covington—Office Systems Technology
- Marcus Glover Saunders—Automotive Systems Technology (senior ambassador)
- Willette Griffin—Welding Technology
- Vanessa Guerrero—Medical Assisting (senior ambassador)
- Luke Hessnice—University Transfer
- Autumn Hunt—University Transfer
- Carlos Mosqueda—University Transfer
- Alec Poteat—Advertising and Graphic Design
- Kasey Roberts—Associate Degree Nursing (senior ambassador)
- Sammy Robinson—Culinary Arts (senior ambassador)
- Jodie Thompson—University Transfer
- Devonna Whitehead—University Transfer (senior ambassador)

Need a student ambassador to assist with an event, guest, or campus tour? Contact Natalie Miles at ext. 4102.

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petitors then will prepare and present to program judges to determine winners that will enter the 12-month incubation process. The Small Business Incubator—a physical space dedicated to launching a new business—provides one year of mentoring, support and coaching which has been shown to improve the likelihood for long-term success.

ACC administrators pointed out that this initiative brings the physical and intellectual capital of the College together with the public and private sector resources of Alamance County to promote business development. In addition to encouraging the development of curricula and programs that foster innovation and entrepreneurship, it is expected to foster increased enrollment in Business Administration and Small Business Center courses.

The Small Business Center will work with the ACC Foundation to develop the mechanism to accept and disperse the competition award.

Entrepreneurs will be required to reach predetermined milestones to receive the award funds. These milestones will be unique to each business and will be mutually agreed upon by the ACC administrators and the winning entrepreneurs.


GET THE 411

CAMPUS RECYCLING
Here’s a reminder of ACC’s recycling policy: the large BLUE cans are for recyclable items ONLY, which include:
- nearly all plastics (no bags or styrofoam)
- aluminum and metal cans
- glass bottles/jars (unbroken)
- all kinds of paper (even if not listed on the container)

Please rinse food out of containers. Cardboard should still go in the market “cardboard only” recycling dumpsters outside.

ACC FOOD BANK
ACC Food Bank assists students, faculty, and staff who are in need. The Food Bank is located in the Academic Advising Center. Open Wednesdays & Thursdays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

ACADEMIC ADVISING CENTER
The Academic Advising Center is located near the lower commons in the main building. Hours are:
- Mon., 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
- Tues.-Thurs., 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Fri., 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Appointments preferred; call Virginia Jeffries at 506-4362.

CAREER SERVICES & COUNSELING OFFICE
The Office of Career Services & Counseling (G131) is pleased to offer individual appointments with students for the following:
- Career Exploration
- Resume Writing
- Interviewing Skills

Call 506-4146 to schedule an appointment.

ACC SECURITY/EMERGENCY:
Inside ACC—dial 2286
Outside—dial 506-4286

Students and employees should add these numbers to their cell phone directories.
Meet More New Employees

Zachary Mathews is a Mathematics instructor. Since 2013, he worked as math instructor at Beaufort County Community College in Washington, NC. He has also taught a sailing course in eastern North Carolina for almost ten years. He has B.A. degrees from UNC Chapel Hill in mathematics and political science. He has a M.A. in mathematics from East Carolina University.

Jame O’Sullivan has joined ACC as a psychology instructor after serving as an adjunct instructor here since fall 2014. She previously was an adjunct instructor at UNC Greensboro teaching general psychology. Jame has a B.A. in psychology and sociology and a M.A. in psychology, both from UNC Greensboro.

Ashley Rogers joins the Nursing department as an instructor. Since 2009, she has worked as a R.N. III Nurse at Annie Penn Hospital in Reidsville, serving in Telemetry, Med-Surgical, and Charge Nurse. She has an A.A. in Nursing from Rockingham Community College, a B.S. in Nursing from UNC Greensboro, and a M.S. in Nursing Education from UNC Greensboro.

Christopher Swinton is a Business Administration instructor with ACC. He worked since 2011 as an adjunct at the College, and as business teacher in Career and Technical Education with Alamance-Burlington Schools System. He earned his B.S. in Business Administration with concentration in Marketing and Masters of Business Administration from UNC Greensboro.

Employee Service Awards in August

Top: 5-Year Awards—ACC employees who received pins in August for 5 years of service to ACC were (with ACC President Dr. Gatewood): Winfield Henry (Director of Information Services), Dr. Carol Disque (VP of Student Success), Laura Kassler-Gaines (Instructor, Computer Information Technology), Colleen Heise (Instructor, Biology), Kay Corbett (Payroll Technician), Melissa Cook (Dept. Head, Mathematics), Debra McCusker (Instructor, Computer Information Technology), Marian Anders (Instructor, Developmental Reading), Melinda Holland (Instructor, Biology), Elizabeth Williams (Instructor, Developmental English), Julie Trotter (Instructor, Humanities & Developmental Reading), Mariel Conlon (Instructor, Mathematics). Absent: Linda Smith.

Middle: 10-Year Awards—ACC employees who received pins for 10 years of service to ACC were (with ACC President Dr. Gatewood): Belinda Robertson (Accounting Technician), Marc Hunter (Dept. Head, Automotive Systems), Michael Covington (Instructor, Welding).

Bottom: 15-Year Awards—ACC employees who received pins for 15 years of service to ACC were (with ACC President Dr. Gatewood): Bill Fonville (Coordinator, Academic Skills Lab), Cindy Thompson (Dept. Head, Medical Assisting), Sherri Singer (Dept. Head, Social & Behavioral Sciences), Joanna Roberts (Instructor, Dental Assisting). Absent: Julie Moore (Instructor, Advertising & Graphic Design).
Keeping the Revision Process under Control

There is a common stereotype about students who write research essays the night before they are due, but of course this is not true of everyone. Some students may find themselves either so concerned about or so absorbed in their research essays that they have difficulty finding their way to the end of them. This is not a bad thing overall. From Isaac Newton to Bill Gates, history books are full of the names of people who got one idea and could not stop running with it. However, the research paper is due on a particular day, and in order to get the proper credit for all that hard work, you need to get it all together by then.

As you work through the assignment, pay attention to the basics like the thesis statement and works cited list before worrying about fine tuning the wording. You need a thesis to guide the paper, and as for the sources, you may think that you will remember where all that information came from, but a night’s sleep may wash away those connections, leaving you frantically searching the Web to find it again.

Once at the revision process, there are a few things to keep in mind that will help you get the paper in order. You don’t need advice from everyone. Sure, you have Mom, your best friend, and even that guy on the bus, but you are the writer. Your instructor knows what he or she is looking for, and you should make sure you understand what that is before proceeding too far. Beyond that, whether you visit the Writing Center or look to friends, try to find one person whose expertise you admire, someone who will help you to achieve your own ends and learn as you go, not just offer a different take on the information.

Because there are so many ways to say the same thing, getting layers of advice on a single draft can be confusing. If someone has read all through your paper and written notes, go all through it yourself before getting more advice. In addition to keeping your own mind clear, you will be respecting the time and effort that your reader has put into the process.

A good research paper for a course is most often the result of an inspired idea and a methodical process for getting the job done. Once you find a process that produces good results, you can approach the next assignment with confidence.

For help or questions about writing, students are invited to stop by ACC’s Writing Center, located in the Skills Lab.
The Educator Expo...
held at Holly Hill Mall in August provided a platform for ACC educators to maximize the College’s exposure and meet Alamance-Burlington Schools instructors to tell about Career & College Promise, University Transfer and Early College. Helping out at ACC’s booth were Ed Williams, Beth Brehler, Sonya McCook, Dr. Clara Vega, Anne Helms, Julie Spomer, Duncan Shaw, Jennifer Jones, Adam Self, Courtney Doi, Lakeisha Vance, and Jennie Brownell.

Teaching Mechatronics
A robotic arm is being utilized by Industrial Systems students this fall. Dr. Mohammad Haj-Mohammedi, Department Head (seen here with students) says the device is already teaching students the skills needed for a mechatronics program, which the College is developing to provide a degree that encompasses several disciplines, including mechanical engineering and electronics engineering. Mechatronics will teach skills that are being requested by numerous industries in Alamance County.

Welcome Back!
Below: Students and ACC employees were treated to free hot dogs and Pelican’s Snoballs by SGA members at the end of the first week of fall semester as part of a Welcome Back Celebration.

Return to the Classroom
Foundation Champions—citizens or company representatives who have donated $1,000 or more to the ACC Foundation—were invited to participate in a “Return to the Classroom” event on September 2. The guests participated in some hands-on activities—such as a Jeopardy-style “Are You Smarter Than a GED Student?” game and instructor John Neathery using a card “trick” to talk about sociology.