FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION UPDATE
By Larry Barnhill, Vice President for Finance and Administration

New River Business staff members have been attending Banner Training and continue to meet with Bluefield State staff to finalize all business office activities that must be completed by June 30, 2009.

Procedural Change Regarding Payroll Effective June 1, 2009

Effective June 1, the New River Business Office will be processing payroll for the college. All timesheets that will need to be paid for in June should be submitted by fax to the Human Resources office until a fax machine is set up in the Business Office.

Human Resources Fax Number: 304-929-6707

The mailing address is:
New River CTC Business Office
Attn: Heike Soeffker-Culicerto
Wilburn Bldg. Room W117
158 Dye Drive,
Beckley, WV

A Supervisor of Payroll has been selected, but until this individual is on board, please direct questions about payroll to Heike Soeffker-Culicerto at 304-929-6731 or extension 382, hsoeffker@newriver.edu.

ADMISSIONS UPDATE
By Tracy Evans, Interim Director of Admissions

New student orientation dates have been set for each campus. Postcard templates will be sent to program advisors by Friday May 22 so that announcements can be sent to students accepted for fall admission. A sample orientation packet and outline will be sent to each campus next week by inter-office mail. These can be replicated for use at orientation sessions.
New Student Orientation I
- Monday June 15 - Nicholas Co.
- Tuesday June 16 - Beckley
- Wednesday June 17 - Bluefield
- Thursday June 18 - Greenbrier

New Student Orientation II
- Monday July 13 - Nicholas Co.
- Tuesday July 14 - Beckley
- Wednesday July 15 - Bluefield
- Thursday July 16 - Greenbrier

NEW Mini Orientation Sessions - August 5 and 12 6-9pm - Wednesdays

These sessions are designed to attract late registering students who do not attend orientation in June or July. We would like to prevent as many last minute registrations as possible. The mini-orientation will be a condensed version of the regular orientation sessions and will be conducted by student services personnel. The dates will not be advertised, nor brought to the students' attention prior to the regular sessions. Postcard announcements will be sent at a later time to students who did not attend either the June or July session.

Fall applications are now being processed. Cindy Dalton led a Banner training session on application processing for three of our newer employees. Thank you Cindy! Training sessions will be ongoing in response to any error reports we receive.

Once again, I want to thank everyone in the Admissions offices for your support and contributions. You truly make a difference in our students' lives.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UPDATE
by Dr. David Ayersman, Chief Information Officer

Networking and Phones Project – We are currently waiting on the Purchase Order to be completed and signatures obtained and processed by Procurement. Vendor indicates an early August completion date is realistic if the purchase order is received within 10 days.

IVN Project – Classrooms must be functional by early August (we have only one summer IVN course which is being delivered during Summer II term using the BSC classroom in Lewisburg G417 and a room at the PHEC). We have 57 IVN sections scheduled for Fall 2009. Currently, this project is in procurement and Paul Rutherford indicated that the vendor should have the completed paperwork early this week. The vendor has indicated that if the project is completed this week, the August timeline should not be a problem. There are two remaining years of IVN project for us to complete, but they are not required for the separation of services from BSC.

SCT Banner – Fall schedule, registrations and enrollment are now being actively updated using the new Banner system at WVNET. The old Banner system at BSC will continue to be used until the completion of all summer terms (July 31, 2009). Tom Cook will be assisting us until early August to move data.
As you can see from the three projects identified above, we may need to formally clarify our relationship with BSC during that final month or so of the transition since it goes beyond the July 1, 2009 deadline.

Perhaps most importantly, please notice that two of the projects are in procurement and can’t commence until that phase is completed. If procurement takes longer than 10 days we jeopardize our ability to meet the early August deadline on these projects and would then extend them into the Fall term, which would be disruptive to classes and other services.

COMMENCEMENT 2009

The sixth annual commencement ceremonies of New River Community and Technical College were held on Friday, May 15, at the Beckley/Raleigh County Convention Center. New River awarded 240 associate degrees and certificates to 215 students, representing 74 communities in southern and central West Virginia and four other states. Of the 215 candidates for graduation, 56 were designated honor graduates, having earned an overall 3.4 or higher grade point average on a 4.0 academic scale.

Del. Linda Sumner (R-Raleigh County) of Beckley, who has been elected to four terms in the West Virginia House of Delegates, was the commencement speaker. She told the graduates: “Do something special! You are all gifted so that you can make a difference!” Ms. Sumner is committed to the philosophy of the community colleges as an instrument of economic development and as an institution providing access and opportunity to higher education.

A highlight of the ceremony was the electrifying moment when graduate Carl Eugene Sparks rose from his wheelchair, climbed the stairs and walked across the stage. Sparks not only received his college degree—for which he had been striving since 1984--but also a standing ovation from his fellow students and the large audience of family members and friends in attendance.

Sparks is a 21-year veteran of the armed services, including two stints in Vietnam. He began his college career on what is now the Mercer County Campus of New River Community and Technical College. Twenty-five years later, he completed his Board of Governors Associate of Applied Science degree as a member of the Class of 2009.
REGISTRAR’S OFFICE UPDATE  
by Donna Lewis, Interim Registrar

The New River Registrar’s Office has been working closely with Bluefield State’s Registrar’s Office to close out the end of the spring semester.

- We have converted all Incomplete grades from last Fall. If we did not receive a grade change they were rolled to "F".
- We have converted all of the "D" & "F" repeat grades.
- We are preparing the academic warning, probation and suspension list. A letter will be sent to each student informing them of their status.

Bluefield State’s Registrar’s Office is in the process of certifying the spring New River graduates and plans to send diplomas out in June. They will process graduation applications through the end of Summer 2009. Beginning with all December 2009 graduates and going forward, graduation applications and supporting materials should be sent to the New River Registrar’s Office for processing.

The Registrar’s Office and Admissions Office are finalizing the update and standardization of all forms currently in use and plan to have revised forms printed and disbursed to all campus locations in June.

****IMPORTANT****

Please make sure that all students enrolled for Spring 2009 are in BSC banner and marked paid. We will pull a current student list to set up our paper files for the Registrar's Office. Therefore, we must have all students in the system.