



Vol. 2, Issue No. 4

From the Hawk's Nest is distributed on the first and third Friday of each month. We need your input! Please send your ideas for stories on upcoming events, reports on attendance at conferences, awards and honors received, photos or information on outstanding employees or students to Barbara Elliott, bellott@newriver.edu. **The deadline for submitting items for the next issue is 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19, 2014.**

Community Outreach at the Women's Expo

by Tracy Evans

On Friday, February 28, and Saturday, March 1, New River CTC participated in the 17th Annual Women's Expo at the Beckley/Raleigh County Convention Center. Representatives from the Office of Communications, faculty, Enrollment Services, Admissions, and most importantly, students were on hand to represent the College. Dr. Washington visited on Friday and was able to experience the Expo and network with participants.



"We were able to reach out to the community at large and speak with business owners, vendors, attendees and potential students about the opportunities that are available to them. The Expo proved to be an excellent opportunity to increase our visibility, strengthen community ties, and share our successes," said Tracy Evans, director of enrollment services.

Connie Rhodes, visiting instructor of MAST, and her students were available on Friday to take blood pressure readings. On Saturday, Tiffanie Snyder, instructor of Practical Nursing, and her students were available. Overall between Friday and Saturday, around one hundred readings were taken Rhodes and Snyder estimated.



Amanda Smarr, student recruiter, felt there was an increase in interest from previous appearances at the Women's Expo. Aside from teaming up with Allied Health students, she felt it was also due "to increased quality education, flexible class schedules and the addition of a variety of new, in-demand programs."

A new game was introduced at the New River booth, Win it in a Minute. Amanda had a great idea, she is very creative and we will continue to use this collection of games in the future." Evans said.

Other Participants in the Women's Expo included: Beckley Campus Medical Assisting students Sara Bailey, Britany Akers, Vicki Claypool, Donna Mullins, and Lisa Cole with Connie Rhodes, Visiting

Instructor of MAST; Beckley cohort Practical Nursing students Courtney Adams, Brooke Allen, Shanti Basham, Presley Catlett, Chelsey Daniels, Michael Dick, Katie Ellis, Jason Gibson, Tawny Holcomb, Sarah Shuck and Emily Wilson with Tiffanie Snyder, instructor of Practical Nursing; Libby Belcher, chief communications officer; Cindy Dalton, student program advisor; and Karen Sparks, records assistant.





(l-r) Tracy Evans, Amanda Smarr, Cindy Dalton

News from the Bridging the Gap Grant

by Amanda Sauchuck

The Bridging the Gap committee met for the first time on Friday, January 31. At this meeting, Amanda Sauchuck, transformation leader, discussed the grant overview and the responsibilities of New River. Since the January meeting, New River received equipment request approval for digital classrooms that will allow for collaborative technology-based learning at the classroom/laboratory site and at remote sites at institutions across West Virginia.

In addition, Candice Stadler and Boulal Boulali have been added to the grant committee to facilitate the student services and counseling areas identified in the grant. These individuals will help in training peer coaches and give students individualized student support.

The suggested New River BTG programs are identified below. These programs will be reviewed from a job outlook perspective in collaboration with the entire grant consortium. Once the programs are assessed, New River will work to link and restructure the programs to meet grant strategies of enhanced career pathways, online and modularized academic instruction, individualized student support, and continuous program improvement.

Planned Grant Programs

- Computer Science: Network Operating Systems Administration AAS
- Residential Energy Management CAS
- Weatherization Technology AAS
- Industrial Technology CAS (Mechatronics)
- Industrial Technology AAS (Mechatronics)
- Machining CAS
- Modularized Welding (non-credit, leading to national AWS certification)
- Welding Technology CAS

Update on Personnel Positions

The Institutional Technology coordinator position has been advertised. Application review will begin immediately. Please find more information regarding this position on New River's human resources employment opportunity web page.

Next Steps

We anticipate an entire consortium level meeting early April. New River's BTG committee will continue to meet bi-weekly.

Special Thanks

A special thank you to Dr. Allen Withers, Leah Taylor, Candice Stadler, Peggy Epling and Dr. Renae McGinnis for helping with grant initiatives.

For more information, visit the Bridging the Gap page located on New River's Intranet.

Line Service Students Learn about Financial Planning





On Monday, February 24, Ray Morton from Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., in Beckley spoke with students in the Line Service Mechanic Program about financial planning. The session focused on understanding employment benefit packages, saving for retirement, and insurance options. This is the first in a series of employment sessions to be held at the Advanced Technology Center from the Office of Career Services. Future sessions include resume writing and interviewing skills

MAST Students Receive CHERP Training

In February, Vanessa Bailey (back row, center, in light blue sweater), visiting instructor of Medical Assisting at the Greenbrier Valley Campus, arranged for Dr. Wayne Miller (back row, second from left), director of the Center for Rural and Community Health at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, to provide her students training as Community Health Education Resource Persons. The CHERP program trains paid or volunteer health specialists to help friends, neighbors and community members gain access to health care and develop a healthier lifestyle. A CHERP is trained to answer basic questions about health, disease, nutrition, physical activity and health behaviors.





Karen Tully's Medical Assisting Students did a great job of raising awareness of women's heart health at the **Go Red Day** event on Feb. 20 (postponed a week by snow!). The students provided valuable information as well as yummy treats to attract visitors to their display. They will make presentations at the Senior Center and Women's Club in Summersville at a later date.

The **Diversity Day** events at each campus were wonderfully diverse themselves. At the Nicholas County Campus, Kenady Bailes (drawing the winning ticket in photo at bottom right) spoke about the meaning of diversity. At the Mercer County Campus, SGA members dressed as members of different cultures. At the Beckley Campus, SGA members talked about diversity and the origins of some of the foods served and invited participants to put their handprint on the "Diversity Tree." At the Greenbrier Valley Campus, Rev. Nelson Staples (bottom left photo) presented a very informative program on Hate Crimes in West Virginia. At each campus, a drawing was held for a basket of foods from around the world. Thanks to all who helped plan these informative and fun events.





Help us celebrate the good work being done at New River. Submit your *Kudos* to Barbara Elliott, bellioth@newriver.edu. The deadline for the next issue is **4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19.**

Thanks to Karen Tully, Tracy Evans, James Froemel, Candice Stadler, Vanessa Bailey and Justin Rader for sending photos and information this week.



Keep Us Posted!

We encourage you to check the New River Facebook page for additional updates on student activities and college events. We also encourage you to let us know about upcoming events so that we can share information across the college. Send information for the Facebook page to Michael Meador, mmeador@newriver.edu. Send items for the newsletter or for news releases to Barbara Elliott, bellioth@newriver.edu.