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CCCC News

- Want an alternative to high prices at the pump? CCCC may soon have one. The NC Community College System's BioNet-work just recently awarded the college \$58,190 in grant money to plan a new curriculum in biofuels development. The new program would launch on the Pittsboro campus. Some of the course work in this growing and environmentally friendly field will be offered online.
- The CCCC Foundation, directed by Diane Glover, recently hosted its 17th annual Golf Classic. Held at Quail Ridge, the event raised more than \$30,000 to be used largely for student scholarships. 170 golfers hit the links to help CCCC students get an above par education.

Distance Ed Connections

A Newsletter for CCCC's Distance Students

www.cccc.edu/de.html

Spring 2007

English Instructor Gives American Lit a Web Makeover

Ty Stumpf is CCCC's English and Humanities Lead Instructor based on the Lee Campus. Stumpf earned his B.A. in English from Catawba College before receiving his M.A. in English with a concentration in Creative Writing from North Carolina State University. Though Stumpf has been an instructor at the college for five years and has used the web professionally for his seated classes and personally for his civic activities, the fall semester was his first opportunity to teach an online course, ENG 233 Major American Writers. Stumpf had taught numerous sections of ENG 111 Expository Writing via the telecourse/VHS delivery method previously.



English & Humanities Lead Instructor, Ty Stumpf

When asked about the rewards of teaching entirely via the Internet, Stumpf replied, "I feel considerably more connected to my online students than I did with my cassette students. Because students in online courses are using email and take advantage of discussion boards, we've opened up a freer and faster dialogue than the use of regular mail." Online instruction also allows Stumpf to incorporate more varied multimedia resources like online journal articles, streaming video, and simulations (strategies Stumpf employed in ENG 233 this fall). Stumpf hopes to teach ENG 233 online again to continue polishing the course and finding new resources that allow students to appreciate American literature. Stumpf added, "Using modern technology has allowed me to bring long-dead writers to my students and help us breathe life into their already great works." You can reach Stumpf at jstumpf@ccc.edu or (919) 718-7376.

2 + 2 = Career as a Classroom Teacher for Distance Students

In an effort to train and recruit quality teachers during our state's critical teacher shortage, East Carolina University is pleased to announce the start of online 2+2 programs in special education, elementary education, and middle grades education with concentrations in math and science. ECU and its corporate partners at Wachovia are looking forward to collaborating with the North Carolina Community College System to produce more teachers for the state by reaching the best qualified applicants for these new programs.

After earning two years of degree work at Central Carolina Community College, CCCC students can fulfill their ambitions to become classroom teachers via virtual learning. For further information, speak to your academic advisor at CCCC as well as Dr. Vivian Martin Covington, Director of the Office of Teacher Education at East Carolina University. Dr. Covington can be reached at convingtonv@ecu.edu or (252) 328-2156.

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire." William Butler Yeats

Coordinator's Corner: What's New in Distance Ed?

Amanda Carter, CCCC's Distance Education Coordinator, knows plenty about the online environment. Not only has Carter worked in a variety of capacities in the Distance Education Department, but she has been an online student. Carter first took online courses at CCCC before transferring to East Carolina University, where she earned a B.S. in Business Education with a concentration in Information Technologies online. In fact, Carter's first footsteps on the ECU campus were graduation day in December 2005. Carter now is working on her graduate degree online, a M.S. in Vocational Education, also from ECU.



DE coordinator, Amanda Carter

Carter is committed to CCCC distance learners and works tirelessly to improve the resources and services available. In fact, Carter used her time interviewing for this piece to share the many improvements in distance education in the last year. Carter was pleased to be an integral part of the college's recent upgrade to a portal system with Blackboard Enterprise 7.0. Because of her business and education background, Carter is pleased the Public Administration curriculum is new to online delivery this year. Carter also oversaw new resources posted to the Distance Education website at www.cccc.edu/de.html. Carter was also responsible for the Distance Education Student Guide makeover. This must-have resource now makes critical information easier to find.

Carter spends her time cheerfully assisting students, faculty, and staff with their technical questions as well as conducting training. Contact her at abcarter@ccc.edu or (919) 718-7515.

DE Calendar & Important Reminders

February 26 & 27 - On-site Distance Education Midterm Exams (Online exam dates may vary.)

9:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Dennis Wicker Civic Center, Lee Campus

April 2 - Last Day to Withdraw Without a "WF" for Traditional Semester

(Minimester 1 & 2 dates vary. Check website for details.)

April 3 - 9 - Spring Break (Classes Resume April 10)

April 10– April 20 - Early Advisement/Student Registration for Summer and Fall 2007 Semesters

April 23 & 24 - On-site Distance Education Final Exams (Online exam dates may vary.)

9:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Dennis Wicker Civic Center, Lee Campus

"I don't want to get to the end of my life and find that I just lived the length of it.

I want to have lived the width of it as well." Diane Ackerman

Earn a Library & Info Tech Degree via Distance Ed!

If you want to work in a library setting and love helping people in search of answers, check out the online Library & Info Tech degree. Courses include, but are not limited to, Electronic Library Databases, Library Services for Special Needs, and Library Services for Children.

Student Martha Fonville, who works in the Meredith College Library, praised the program: "My library courses at CCCC were a mixture of historical perspective, theory, and practical knowledge, with emphasis on intellectual freedom and service to library users. The library instructors were top-notch!"

For more information, contact Ellen Dickey, Library & Info Tech Lead Instructor, by email at edickey@ccc.edu or by phone at (910) 814-8849.

A Note from the Academic Assistance Center



Accessing the online resources at CCCC is getting easier with fewer usernames to remember. SMARTHINKING, CCCC's free online tutoring service, now uses the same username convention as Blackboard and NetMail.

SMARTHINKING LOGIN:

<http://www.cccc.edu/smarthinking.html>
(icon on college home page)

Username: first initial, middle initial, first four letters of last name and the last two digits of SSN.

Password: cccc

SMARTHINKING provides CCCC students ten free hours of live, around-the-clock academic assistance facilitated through online discussion boards in the following subjects:

Accounting, Anatomy & Physiology, Biology, Chemistry, Economics, Finance, Mathematics, Spanish, Statistics, Writing

Take advantage of this valuable service. For more information, contact Dawn Harris, Academic Assistance Coordinator at dharr06@ccc.edu or 919-718-7361.

*"One that would have the fruit
must climb the tree."*

Thomas Fuller