

The Bruin Bulletin



COMMUNITY AND
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College

November 2013

Message from the President

The semester is quickly progressing and before long we will be celebrating with family during the holiday season. It is a special time of year and we hope that each of you has a wonderful time. Our college has seen its best enrollment in the history of the institution at just over 5,000 students and for that we are very grateful to our student body for making Blue Ridge one of the largest institutions in West Virginia.

The path we have taken to get here has not always been smooth. And you may have heard that the financial picture of our state is not robust. In fact, West Virginia is experiencing the issues of many states in that revenues are decreasing and costs for items such

as health care and transportation are increasing. As a state institution, the decreasing revenues are a great concern for us and especially for you as students. We shall see what the upcoming legislative session brings, but I can tell you from this vantage point there are already talks of budget cuts for higher education. I have heard ranges of between 7.5% to over 9%. A funding reduction of that magnitude has implications for all of us.

There are only two major sources of funding that allow us to run our college: state allocation and tuition and fees. The state allocation comes to us from the state legislature and we generally know what that allocation is just shortly after the

legislative session concludes. This year that date should be toward the end of March. The timing of that notification allows us to determine whether or not we need to increase tuition and fees in order to meet the expenses of the college.

We have been very lucky in the past 6 or 7 years in that we have not increased our tuition and fees in many of those years. However, the picture I see at this point is not so kind. The college is mindful of the expense of education, and we are keenly aware of the great sacrifices that students can go through in order to pay for a college education. It is our goal to increase costs to students as little as possible while still maintaining good

service and quality academic work. The upcoming legislative session will be an interesting struggle, as it most often is, for allocation of scarce resources and funding. My hope is that the college can secure a fair share of the allocation in order to keep student costs low.

I also hope that your semester ends well and your holiday season brings you great joy.



Dr. Peter Checkovich

Mock Interviews Prepare Medical Assisting Students for Future Employment after Graduation.

Interviewing for a job can be intimidating. To better prepare students, on October 28th, the Office of Career Services piloted a Mock Interview project for Blue Ridge CTC's Medical Assisting program. Fifteen students interviewed with industry experts and received constructive feedback on their interview question responses and resumes.

While most students were nervous, all participants agreed they gained usable skills and would apply them to their professional life. One student responded to

our survey stating, "My interview gave me a lot of tips to prepare me for further job interviews including ways to boost my self-esteem."

Everyone agreed that others should participate in a mock interview if given the opportunity.

For more information about interviewing, assistance with your resume, developing a job search plan and more, contact Chris Cobian, Coordinator of Career Services at careerservices@blueridgectc.edu

INTERVIEWERS

Interviewers came from 3 area organizations:

- American Public University
- Berkeley Medical Center
- Winchester Medical Center

THE QUESTIONS

Among the questions students used to prepare for the mock interviews:

- Tell me about yourself.
- What is your greatest weakness?
- Why should I hire you?
- Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

May Graduates

If you have applied for May Graduation and have at some point taken a student loan, you now need to complete Exit Counseling!

The Exit Counseling session is available at www.studentloans.gov and should be completed as soon as possible. It will take approximately 20 minutes to complete the counseling session.

You will need your US Department of Education four-digit personal identification number (PIN). Be sure to submit the session when you are finished so that the results will be sent to us electronically.

If you have questions about the status of your Federal Direct Loan(s), please contact Borrower Services at 800-848-0979.

The Office of Financial Aid Staff





Family Night

Friday, November 22

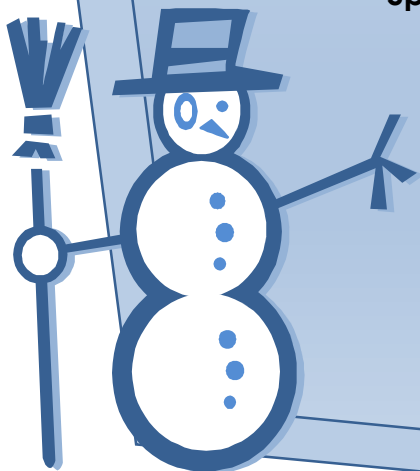
5pm-8pm
Main Campus

Come out and join the Student Leadership Academy for the annual Family Night events. **Free** to all Blue Ridge students, and the community!

Games • Food • Prizes • DJ

Santa & Mrs. Clause & Much MORE!

Sponsored by Student Leadership Academy (SLA)



MATH around the RIDGE

WIN A FREE NOOK!

Enter by correctly completing the below puzzle. Your name will be entered for a monthly Nook Tablet drawing. Winner will be contacted by mid to late December! Enter for your chance to win a FREE NOOK. **Deadline is December 12, 2013.** Please make sure you fill out the contact information with the completed puzzle. Winners can only be official Blue Ridge CTC students. Turn in to **Jamie Harrison** in **Suite 2400**.

Birthday Problem:

Part 1: Suppose that a room contains 25 people. What is the probability that at least two of them have a common birthday (born on the same day of same month, but not necessarily in the same year)?

You should assume the following for part 1:

1. *Every day of the year (365 days) is equally likely to be a birthday.*
2. *Disregard leap years (disregarding any February 29th birthdays).*
3. *Birthdays of 25 people are unrelated (no twins present)*
4. *Ignore the fact that birth rate varies during the year.*

Part 2: How many people must you ask in order to have a 50: 50 chance of finding someone who shares your birthday?

**To support your answer, please provide us with your solution.*

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| NAME: _____ | C#: _____ |
| BRCTC EMAIL: _____ | PHONE NUMBER: _____ |

Participants of October's puzzle: *(Participants receive a Bruin Café voucher)*

Autumn Cheeks
Ashley Clapp
Judy Jeffares
Joanna Johansen
Lorraine LaPlante
David Weaver

And the WINNER of October's NOOK is.....AUTUMN CHEEKS

Solution to last month's puzzle:

| Equation | Check work | Answer |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| $100y+x-5 = 2(100x+y)$ | $x = 31, y = 63$ | Amount of the check was: \$31.63 |
| $100y+x-5 = 200x+2y$ $\quad - 2y \quad \quad -2y$ | $98(63) - 199(31) = 5$ $6174-6169 = 5$ | |
| $98y+x-5 = 200x$ $\quad -x \quad \quad -x$ | Teller switches dollars and cents (x and y) from \$31.63 to \$63.31 | |
| $98y-5 = 199x +5$ $\quad +5 \quad \quad +5$ | Customer bought five cent item at store: $\$63.31 - \$0.05 = \$63.26$ | |
| $98y = 199x+5$ $\quad -199x \quad -199x$ | Customer has left exactly twice as much as original check: $\$63.26/2 = \31.63 | |
| $98y-199x = 5$ | | |
| x and y must be between 0 and 99 | | |
| $x = 31, y = 63$ | | |

CISCO Certified Network Associate Boot Camp

January 6 – January 18, 2014

Description:

\$2500 Includes all course material, exam fees, and books.

Financial Aid available for qualified WV Residents

This fast paced workshop prepares participants for the CCNA Certification Exam. Geared towards individuals with 3-5 years of experience in network environments, all topics and subject matter for the CCNA certification exam will be reviewed. The course is 54 hours total of intense classroom training.

1/6/2014 – 1/10/2014 Mon- Friday 6-9:45pm

1/11/2014 Saturday 9am – 5pm

1/13/2014-1/17/2014 6-9:45pm

1/18/2014- Saturday 9am-5pm

Registration deadline is December 20, 2013

To register online – www.Blueridgectc.augusoft.net or email askme@blueridgectc.edu for an application

Call Ce Nichols, Enrollment Specialist 304-260-4380 ext 2411 for questions or to register by phone.

Blue Ridge CTC Mission Statement

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College is dedicated to providing a diverse student population with collaborative programs and support services to improve the quality of life and promote economic development in its service area. Its quality academic programs are learner centered and focus on career entry, university transfer, developmental education, and workforce development.

WHERE DO I GO FOR???

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Academic Standing | Welcome Desk |
| Adding Classes | Faculty Advisor/ BRIDGE |
| Assistance for Multicultural Issues | Welcome Desk |
| Billing Questions | Cashiers Office |
| BRIDGE Student ID | Security Office |
| Buy Textbooks | Bookstore |
| Career Services | 1400 Success Center |
| Change of Address or Name | Welcome Desk/WEBSITE |
| Change of Advisor / Degree | Welcome Desk/WEBSITE |
| Class Absences | Instructor/ Welcome Desk |
| Class Schedule | Faculty Advisor |
| Clubs and Organizations | Welcome Desk/WEBSITE |
| Computer Support / Help Desk..... | 1320 IT Services |
| Course Catalog | BRCTC Website |
| Disability Services | Welcome Desk |
| Dropping Classes..... | Welcome Desk/BRIDGE |
| Email / BRIDGE / BlackBoard | Welcome Desk |
| Enrollment Verifications | Welcome Desk/WEBSITE |
| Fee Assessment | Cashiers Office |
| Financial Aid Questions | Welcome Desk |
| Graduation Applications | Welcome Desk/WEBSITE |
| Graduation Evaluations | Faculty Advisor |
| Help with Study Skills..... | Welcome Desk |
| Help Writing a Paper | Welcome Desk |
| Loans/Grants | Welcome Desk |
| Orientation Information..... | Welcome Desk |
| PASS Program..... | Welcome Desk |
| Placement Testing (Accuplacer)..... | 1400 Success Center |
| Room Reservation | Office 2300 |
| Scholarships | Welcome Desk |
| Security Issues..... | Security Office |
| SKILLS 101 Program | 1400 Success Center |
| Student Activities | Welcome Desk/WEBSITE |
| Student / Refund Checks | Cashiers Office |
| Transfer Credit Evaluation..... | Welcome Desk |
| Transcript Request..... | Welcome Desk/WEBSITE |
| Tutoring Services | Welcome Desk |
| Veterans Assistance | Welcome Desk |
| Veterans Edu. Benefits | Welcome Desk |
| Withdrawing from Classes..... | Welcome Desk/WEBSITE |
| Work Study | Welcome Desk/HR |

Don't see what you need? You can always call 304-260-4380 for assistance!