



Eastern-in-the-News



'BACK-TO-SCHOOL' FINDS EASTERN COLLEGE IN NEW 'LEARNING PALACE'

Moorefield, WV — July 30, 2009 — As “Back-to-School” days roll around again, learners looking to register at Eastern WV Community and Technical College will likely find at least one big change: the college has moved its Moorefield headquarters lock, stock and barrel to a brand new state-of-the-art learning center. Overlooking Corridor H (new State Road 55), the new building features nine classrooms and computer labs (several of which can double as conference, administrative or testing rooms), a science lab, a magnificent, cathedral-ceilinged learning resource center, and spectacular views of the South Branch Valley and surrounding mountainsides.



Back-To-School' Finds Eastern College In New 'Learning Palace': As fall semester approaches, Eastern WV Community and Technical College has relocated its Moorefield classrooms and administrative headquarters to a brand-new learning center overlooking Corridor H. During the last week of July, the administration and staff were busy putting all the structural elements in place.

FROM LEFT: Kimbra Chirchirillo, Access Center Advisor, and Deb Backus, Academic Director for General Education and Instruction, discuss the setting-up of the new resource center. Floor-to-ceiling windows look west towards the Corridor H bridge over Route 220 in Moorefield.

“It’s majestic—a palace for learning,” said Bob Sisk, Eastern’s interim president, “a great place to study, to acquire new skills and understanding. To a person, the faculty, staff and I feel very fortunate that the community and the state have championed our educational mission with such strong support.”

The college is located at 316 Eastern Drive, a hard-packed gravel road (scheduled for paving later this fall) at Corridor H’s first working exit *east* of Route 220 in Moorefield. Those coming from Baker and Wardensville, heading *west* on Corridor H, should continue past the exit for Eastern’s old building on old State Road 55, merge into the Corridor’s left lane, and turn left where the sign points to “Eastern Drive.” To reach the college, follow the exit road uphill to the end, and then turn right to the parking lot.

“As we open our first semester in this wonderful facility,” Sisk said, “we’re all very excited. And I know that as soon as our students come in to visit and work, they’ll share that excitement. Because in the first and last analysis, it’s really all for them, for their future, and for the growth and prosperity of our families and community.”

Informal Open House

Although the formal dedication ceremony is scheduled for the first week of October, the college has invited all new and returning students—and anyone thinking about coming to Eastern—to drop by at the new building for an informal Open House August 18. Faculty will attend an orientation and dinner the same day.

Registration for Eastern’s fall semester is ongoing during regular business

hours through Friday, August 21. Classes start August 24, and late registration (for a small late fee) runs until Friday, August 28. Fall semester schedules are available at all of Eastern's access centers throughout the Potomac Highlands, and at area libraries, retail stores, professional and governmental offices, and on the college website at "www.eastern.wvnet.edu." For more information, call 304-434-8000; or toll-free at 877-982-2322.

"We're up and running, and ready for folks to come in to begin the registration process," said Dave Jones, the college's learner support services counselor. As an open admission college, Eastern enrolls as regular students anyone who has graduated from high school or completed GED requirements.

"The college may also admit, on a conditional basis, individuals who may benefit from college level work, but who have not graduated from high school or completed GED requirements," Jones noted.

Orientation & Financial Aid

All new students must attend an orientation session, and Eastern has scheduled sessions Thursday, August 6, and Monday, August 10, from 4:30 – 7:30 pm, and Thursday, August 20, from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. Transfer students should attend the August 6 orientation, Jones said.

"And for all new students, we'll provide brief, straight-forward and comfortable placement tests to help them choose the level of classes that best suits their background and preparation," he pointed out.

Academic counselors will also assist students in deciding on majors and areas of concentration. And, according to Jones, Eastern offers an ample variety of financial aid opportunities designed to allow nearly everyone who wants to learn at college to afford it.

"For recent high school graduates and for all adult learners who wish to come back to school to develop marketable skills

for the new economy, these orientations serve to provide information about financial aid, the registration process, and Eastern's counseling, placement and tutorial services," Jones noted.

Degree Programs

New students will also receive Eastern's Orientation Guide that includes a student handbook and offers tips on how to focus on learning goals and achieve college success.

Wherever those goals may lead for any particular individual, Eastern can serve as the first step on a college-to-career accomplishment ladder. In addition to providing many general education classes that will transfer one-to-one for credit at four-year programs, the college offers two-year, associate in applied science (AAS) degrees in Automotive Technology, Business Management, Electromechanical Technology (suitable for careers in Wind Energy Turbine Technology), Information Technology, Early Childhood Development, and Administrative Support Technology. (Learners may also pursue a one-year College Certificate—or shorter Skill Set series—for many of those fields, as well as for Accounting and Paraprofessional in Education.)

Serving the residents of Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Mineral, Pendleton and Tucker counties, Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College, fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, is a comprehensive and equal opportunity community and technical college bringing the resources and assets of Education That Works to the families, communities and employers of the Potomac Highlands.