

The Student Connection

Volume 8, Issue 1

A Learner Support Services Publication

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“If a man empties his purse into his head, no man can take it away from him. An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest.”

~Benjamin Franklin

Learner Support Services is happy to welcome our new Financial Aid Director, Amanda Sites. Amanda will begin on November 1 and will be located in room 116.

Inside this issue:

Funky Monkey Bingo	2
Assessment at Eastern	2
Constitution Bowl Champs	2
Test-taking Tips	3
Waffle Brunch	4
Important Dates	5

The President’s Message

As the Interim President of Eastern I was very proud to be a part of the Groundbreaking Ceremony for our new facility held on October 12, 2007. That program marked a significant event for the Potomac Highlands region. The completion of this new facility will greatly enhance our learning community by enabling Eastern to promote our services in workforce education and training, developmental education, career and technical education, continuing & community education and the baccalaureate transfer courses. It will also help us to advance the realization of our mission and that mission is

to be the community’s college as well as representing the continued access to affordable higher education and training to the citizens of our region. I feel it is vital for our students, young and old to have a chance to earn the benefits that higher education

offers. I know without any doubt, that the fruits of our labors will be seen for generations to come.

I look forward to moving to the new site sometime in the summer of 2008. It will be a beautiful building with a breathtaking view of the natural beauty of our area. I

think this new building will bring a renewed vigor to our learning environment that will result in new programs, new students and a sense of hope that through education and training peoples lives will be enriched and changed in a very positive and real manner. I look forward to be involved in this process.

–Robert H. Sisk.



Pictured above: Eastern’s Interim President and Board of Governors breaks ground with Governor Manchin.

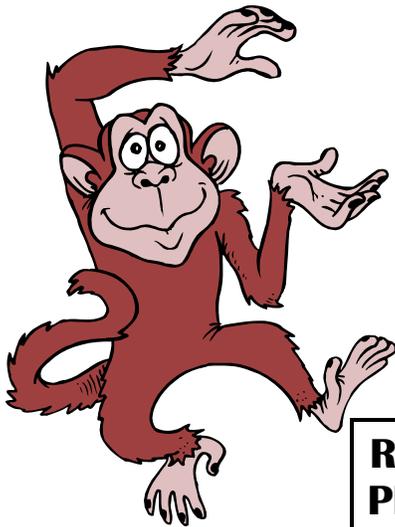
SGA Plans Food and Toy Drive to Benefit Community

Eastern’s Student Government Association is asking students, as well as faculty and staff to help them help the community. Starting in November, the SGA will be running a food and toy drive which will benefit families in our area. Collection boxes will be located by the Evening Coordinator’s desk

(adjacent from the Resource Center). Starting November 1, nonperishable food items will be accepted and beginning November 12, new toys will be accepted. The SGA thanks you in advance!



Funky Monkey Bingo set for November 12



Eastern's SGA has gone bananas planning its first Funky Monkey Bingo event scheduled for November 12 from 4:30 until 6:30 p.m. in the Resource Center. According to Jennifer Fitzwater, SGA President, "We are excited to offer this activity to students and encourage everyone to drop in anytime between 4:30 and 6:30 to play a game of Bingo and grab something to eat in between class." Door prizes will be awarded throughout the evening and while the event is free, the SGA is asking participants to bring in a nonperishable food item for the holiday food drive they are conducting. All items collected will be donated to a local food pantry.

REGISTRATION FOR SPRING 2008 BEGINS NOVEMBER 1. PLEASE SEE PATTY GOLDIZEN IN ROOM 138 TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH YOUR ADVISOR!

DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA ON HOW TO MAKE THE COLLEGE BETTER OR DO YOU HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT THE COLLEGE?

If so, tell your Student Government Representatives about it! Email them at their new address: ewvctcsga@yahoo.com

SAVE THOSE CANS!

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) is collecting aluminum cans to recycle to help pay for scholarships for new members and other items that PTK may need. If you would like to help, please drop them off at the front desk at the College.

All help would be greatly appreciated.

April Poling, PTK President



Assessment at Eastern

In the previous edition of the newsletter, we introduced you to assessment at Eastern. Assessment gives Eastern two kinds of information. First, it lets us determine if students are really learning what is needed for graduation in their chosen fields. Second, it helps us to identify areas of improvement so we can continually improve our programs and services.

Assessment activities are intended to provide useful information to faculty, staff, and administrators. This information helps us improve the learning environment and services provided for you. Assessment

is your chance to tell us how we are doing. We value your opinion and will use your feedback to enrich the learning environment for future students. For example, Eastern has been conducting an assessment of the New Student Orientation Sessions for several years. We have used the results of that assessment to expand the orientation sessions by offering a special track for transfer students and to improve advising that you receive while enrolled at the College. Faculty have used assessment information to change individual courses and to redesign graduation requirements for some

programs so that students are better able to develop essential skills and competencies needed for success in their field of study.

In many cases, you will receive the results of the classroom assessment activities in which you participate. Assessment activities in your major often provide feedback about your strengths and weaknesses, which enables you and your professors to celebrate your strengths as well as improve your weaknesses. Awareness of your own capabilities is an important ingredient for success both in college and after graduation.

Daring Delegates Celebrate Victory in Third Annual Constitution Bowl

The Daring Delegates claimed their victory over the Proud Patriots in Eastern's Third Annual Constitution Bowl. Teams answered a variety of questions about the U.S. Constitution during the Bowl, which was held in honor of Constitution Day.

Bowl participants are shown in photo from left: Cindy Drumm, Franklin's Bodyguard; The Proud Patriots Team of Hannah Salyers and Sasha Nau; Ben Franklin, Host; The Daring Delegates Team of Marina Swaffar and Jennifer Fitzwater.



Test-Taking Tips

When you get the test...

- Write your name on the test.
- Survey the test.
- Write out any memorized lists or formulas on the exam.
- Read the directions carefully.
- Answer the ones you know first and then go back.

Multiple Choice Questions

- Try to recall the answers before reading the choices.
- Identify any key words.
- Read all possible choices before making a selection.
- Eliminate obviously false choices.

True/False Questions

- Read carefully---- Sometimes one word can make the entire sentence false.
- Look for qualifiers (all, none, everyone, no one, rarely, often, most, etc.)
- Absolute qualifiers like "always" or "never" usually indicate a false statement.

Moderating qualifiers such as "usually" or "often" tend to be true more often than not.

If the statement contains a clause like "and" both clauses have to be true. If it contains "or", only one statement has to be true for the statement to be true.

Don't spend a lot of time on these.

Short Answer/Fill-in-the-blanks

If you do not know the answer, make an educated guess and write something, as long as you are not penalized for guessing.

Make sure that your answer fits grammatically and logically.

Scan the test for possible clues.

Essay Questions

Make sure that you know what the question is asking. For example *contrast* means to show the differences between two items, while *describe* means to explain a certain item.

Make an outline before you start.

Write legibly...your instructor will thank you.

Free Waffles!



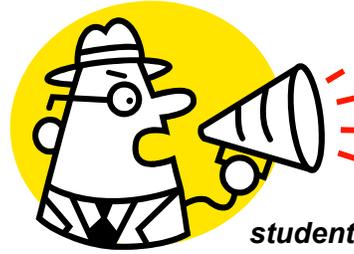
Learner Support Services is planning a free Waffle Brunch for students during the week before Final Exams. "We want to show our appreciation to students and wish them well during Finals Week," reports Monica See, Eastern's Associate Director of Admission. Waffles with all of the toppings and drinks will be served to students by Learner Support Staff on the following days:

- Dec 3 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Dec 4 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Dec 7 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

EASTERN WV COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Phi Theta Kappa reminds students who have been invited to join the honorary that they are encouraged to attend the business meeting on Tuesday, November 13 at 4:30 p.m. in the Harco Room and are expected to attend the Induction Ceremony at 5:30 p.m. at the same location.

Planning to graduate in May 2008? Graduation applications are due on November 2 to Monica See.

All students are invited to attend the SGA Meeting on Tuesday, November 6 at 3:30 p.m. in room 133.

Eastern thanks everyone who attended the Welcome Back Picnic and participated in the Constitution Bowl!

ATTENTION STUDENTS

The Student Connection wants to hear from you! We are interested in publishing the New Years Resolutions of our students, faculty and staff in our January edition. Please send these to Cindy Drumm at cdrumm@eastern.wvnet.edu by December 18, 2007.

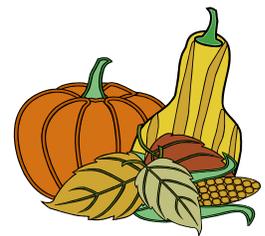
All other comments, suggestions or submissions can also be sent to Cindy Drumm at cdrumm@eastern.wvnet.edu



"I have a suggestion that would help fight serious crime. Signs. There are lots of signs for minor infractions: No Smoking, Stay off the Grass, Keep Out, and they seem to work fairly well. I think we should also have signs for major crimes: Murder Strictly Prohibited...Thank You for Not Kidnapping Anyone. It's certainly worth a try. I'm convinced Watergate would never have happened if there had just been a sign in the Oval Office that said, Malfeasance of Office Is Strictly Against the Law, or Thank You for Not Undermining the Constitution." ~George Carlin

IMPORTANT DATES

Nov 1	Registration begins for Spring 2008
Nov 2	Last day to withdraw with a grade of "W" for Eastern courses
Nov 2	Deadline for spring 2008 graduation applications
Nov 6	SGA Meeting at 3:30 p.m. in room 133. All students are welcome to attend.
Nov 12	Funky Monkey Bingo, 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the Resource Center
Nov 13	PTK Meeting 4:30 p.m. & New Member Orientation 5:30 p.m., Harco Room
Nov 19-24	Thanksgiving Holiday-No Classes
Dec 3, 4 and 7	Free Waffle Brunch for students, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. (next to Resource Center)
Dec 10-14	Final Exams for Eastern courses
Dec 24-Jan 1	Anticipated Holiday Break-College closed



Learner Support Services wishes students a safe, restful and happy holiday season!