FACULTY INSTITUTE KICKS OFF FALL SEMESTER

New River faculty members convened at Tamarack on Aug. 11 and 12 for a lively Faculty Institute. The attendees received updates on the state of the College, attended committee meetings and received some fascinating insights into how to assess student learning from guest presenter Susan Hatfield.

Dr. Harry Faulk, executive vice president and chief academic officer, welcomed attendees and introduced President Spring for an update on recent developments.

President Spring said that New River’s annualized head count at the end of the 2009-10 academic year was 3,053. He added that summer school enrollment set a record at 995.

He reported that New River’s budget now exceeds $13 million and warned that Governor Manchin has said that 2011-2012 will be a difficult budget year as stimulus funding will no longer be available. However, he stated that New River has been building a nest egg in preparation for that possibility and is pursuing every avenue for additional funding. He reported that the college has been awarded some $28 million in grants for capital projects in the past three years.

Spring said that the college is exploring contracts for housekeeping services, but current employees would be retained even if outside vendors are used. Now that a purchasing director has been hired, bulk purchasing and central warehousing of supplies and materials is being explored. Revenues from the online bookstore have been phenomenal, netting the college $40,000 last year versus the $10,000 that had been realized in previous years.

The decision as to where the new headquarters building will be located is still pending, but Spring said the issue should be resolved within a few weeks. He announced that a new strategic plan will be developed in the coming months with input from faculty and staff on all campuses. The new plan will not just be institution-wide, but will include plans for each campus as well.

Spring commented that the Facilities Master Plan has worked well, but changes are needed to reflect developments such as the acquisition of the Ghent building. “The plan may seem to be pie-in-the-sky, but it has really set the tone for this college,” Spring commented.

He noted that in light of the tremendous enrollment growth on the Nicholas County Campus, the priorities now need to be revised to make the renovation of the main building and addition of a technical center on that campus the next priority.

(Continued on next page)
Spring reported that negotiations are underway to add an allied health wing to the new headquarters building. That space would be shared by New River and other colleges. The wing would give the building an additional 4,000 square feet of instructional space.

Progress on the renovation of the former student activities building on the Greenbrier Valley Campus has been slowed by the discovery that the third floor of the building does not meet code and will have to be removed. The pool in that building has been offered to the Greenbrier County Commission to renovate and operate for use by the general public. New River’s architects are developing plans based on the assumption that the pool will be used.

Spring expressed an interest in developing a faculty development program to underwrite international travel and study for instructors who would develop a proposal to share what they have learned with the New River Community.

In conclusion, Spring reported that as of Aug. 11, enrollment was up approximately 12 percent over last year, and FTE was up 17 percent. He noted that the number of full-time employees has grown from 59 in October 2005 to 118 in August 2010. Now that a number of key administrative and staff positions have been filled, he said he would like to focus more on faculty in the coming year.

More on Faculty Institute on page 8.

FACULTY PROMOTIONS ANNOUNCED

Dr. Harry R. Faulk, executive vice president and chief academic officer, announced four faculty promotions during Faculty Institute. Sharon Evans has been promoted from instructor to assistant professor of Developmental Mathematics on the Mercer County Campus; Dr. Willis Nordlund from associate to full professor of Business on the Beckley Campus; Lizabeth (Libby) Rogers from associate to full professor of Business on the Greenbrier Valley Campus; and Dr. Nancy Wemm from associate to full professor Speech and Theatre on the Nicholas County Campus.
WELCOME NEW FACULTY MEMBERS

Vanessa Bailey is a visiting instructor of Allied Health who will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Practical Nursing students located on the Greenbrier Valley Campus. She also will teach Phlebotomy. A graduate of Bluefield State College, she has 20 years of nursing experience at Greenbrier Valley Medical Center. She most recently was an adjunct instructor of Phlebotomy and Medical Assisting for New River.

Richard Bernhardt joins New River as an instructional specialist and coordinator of the Emergency Medical Services/Paramedic program on the Beckley Campus. He has 21 years of experience in the medical field and holds certifications in CPR and multiple life support methods. He has master’s degrees in Health Education/Promotion from Virginia Tech and Business Administration from National College.

Mark Ellis is an instructor of Mathematics on the Nicholas County Campus. He has been a visiting instructor of Mathematics at Glenville State College and most recently taught at Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, NC. He holds a master’s degree in Mathematics from Marshall University.

Anna Marie Fuda is instructor of Medical Assisting on the Mercer County Campus. She previously taught in the Practical Nursing program at the Mercer County Technical Education Center. She received her degree in Nursing from Bluefield State College and recently completed a master’s degree in Adult and Technical Education at Marshall University.

Michelle Johnson is now a full-time instructor in the Practical Nursing program on the Nicholas County Campus after teaching on a part-time basis for the past year. A 30-year veteran of the nursing profession, she has done extensive teaching with patient and family groups. She received her RN/BSN degree from Mountain State University.

Danielle Lehsten is an instructor of Chemistry on the Beckley Campus. She most recently taught Organic and General Chemistry at Duquesne and Carlow Universities. She earned her master’s degree in Chemistry from Harvard University. She is most likely the only member of the New River faculty who is also a ballerina.

Pamela McLaughlin is visiting instructor of Allied Health for the Greenbrier Valley/Pocahontas County cohort of the Practical Nursing program. She will teach Phlebotomy and Geriatrics and serve as lead clinical instructor for the cohort. She joined New River in the fall of 2009 as an adjunct instructor. She received her BSN degree from Bluefield State, and she is experienced in multiple areas of nursing.
STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS SHAPES THE FUTURE OF NEW RIVER

Strategic planning meetings will be held on all campuses this semester, and all employees are encouraged to participate. These meetings will be on Wednesdays at alternating campuses. Meetings will alternate between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. so that faculty will have a better chance of attending.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>Greenbrier Valley Campus</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8</td>
<td>Mercer County Campus</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 15</td>
<td>Nicholas County Campus</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 22</td>
<td>Ghent</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 29</td>
<td>Mercer County Campus</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 6</td>
<td>Nicholas County Campus</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 20</td>
<td>Beckley Campus</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 27</td>
<td>Greenbrier Valley Campus</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 10</td>
<td>Ghent</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 17</td>
<td>Beckley Campus</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 1</td>
<td>Greenbrier Valley Campus</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 8</td>
<td>Ghent</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 15</td>
<td>Nicholas County Campus</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 22</td>
<td>Mercer County Campus</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The first strategic planning session on the Beckley Campus was well attended. Pictured are (L-R): Amanda Baker, Human Resources; Twana Jackson, Purchasing; Renae McGinnis, Institutional Effectiveness; Tracy Evans, Enrollment Services; Beckley Campus Dean Carolyn Sizemore and faculty members Dr. Carolyn Browning and Dr. Shirley Davis. Libby Belcher, director of college relations, is seated with her back to the camera. Photo courtesy of Susie Atkins
BEAUTIFUL WEATHER + FANTASTIC FOOD + GREAT PEOPLE = ONE TERRIFIC DONOR APPRECIATION PICNIC!

Libby Rogers (L) chats with BOG Chair Leslie Baker. In the background, Lucie Refslund (left) visits with Andrea Spring.

(L-R) Dr. Michael Curry, Karen Tully, Debbie Curry and BOG member Al Martine.

BOG member Dave Nalker and his wife Susie (left foreground) are pictured with Dr. Spring and Dr. David Ayersman.

Above, a fabulous picnic buffet was enjoyed by one and all.

At left, super host Bill Loope gives a thumbs-up to Greenbrier Valley Campus Dean Roger Griffith.
WELCOME TO NEW RIVER

Martha Baisden is the new student program advisor for the Nicholas County Campus. A resident of Summersville, Baisden earned associate’s degrees from Glenville State College and Marshall University Community College and a board of regents bachelor’s of arts degree from Glenville State.

Donna Polk has joined the staff of the Greenbrier Valley Campus as a student program advisor. A resident of White Sulphur Springs, Polk holds bachelor’s degrees in Sociology from Virginia Tech and Early/Middle Education from Bluefield State College.

MEET A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

David Nalker has served on the board of governors since 2005 and is currently serving as secretary. He was vice-chair of the search committee that recommended Dr. Spring to the board as president.

Originally from Indiana, Nalker has lived in Lewisburg since 1975. He retired in 2003 as president of Mountain International Trucks, a dealer for trucks and school buses. He has served as president of Lewisburg Rotary and has served on the boards of directors of Carnegie Hall and Greenbrier Valley Theatre. He recently completed two years as president of the Board of Trustees of the Greenbrier County Public Library.

Nalker and wife, Susie, have a son and daughter and five grandchildren.

FACULTY TRANSITIONS

Karen Carter-Harvey is now a full-time instructor of Psychology on the Beckley Campus. She had been a visiting instructor.

Sherry Garavaglia was a visiting instructor and is now a full-time instructor of Practical Nursing on the Nicholas County Campus.

JoAnna Perry is now a full-time instructor of Practical Nursing and off-site coordinator for the Clay County Cohort. She had been a visiting instructor.
Classified Staff Council Chair Mary Igo entices new members with a piece of mouth-watering red velvet cake, one of the offerings at the potluck on Aug. 26.

**CLASSIFIED STAFF COUNCIL POTLUCK**

The Classified Staff Council held a potluck on the Beckley Campus on Thursday, Aug. 26. The group discussed ideas for an employee-sponsored recognition program and for future guest speakers for the meetings. Igo encourages the many classified employees who have joined New River in recent months to come and learn what the organization has to offer.

The next meeting will be on the Greenbrier Valley Campus on Friday, Sept. 24, at 10 a.m. Dr. Spring will be the guest speaker.

Taking Steps to Provide Overflow Parking

Grace Griffin (L) and Susie Atkins try out the new steps that lead to the 221 George Street parking area from the overflow parking lot that has been constructed to accommodate students attending classes on the Beckley Campus. The new lot is now striped and signage has been installed.

Do you have a great story to tell? Transitions welcomes ideas for stories about students, faculty or staff. If something interesting is happening on your campus, please let us know!

Send your story, photo, or story idea to Barbara Elliott in the Public Relations Department, bellott@newriver.edu.
On the second day of Faculty Institute, guest presenter Dr. Susan Hatfield conducted a thought-provoking session on assessment of student learning. She began with an overview of how assessment methods are changing, and noted that assessment is really intuitive. “Good teachers do it all the time,” she said.

She stressed that there is a difference between assessing program effectiveness and student learning, providing many examples to illustrate the differences between the two. After her formal presentation, Hatfield divided faculty members into departmental groups and assisted them in developing assessment criteria for their disciplines.

Hatfield has taught at Winona State University in Minnesota since 1981. During that time she has taught in the Communication Studies department, served for nine years as chairperson of that department, and 14 years as WSU’s Assessment Coordinator.

Over the past 10 years, Dr. Hatfield has been invited to present workshops at numerous regional, national, and international conferences on issues related to accreditation, assessment and promotion of student learning. She is a peer evaluator for the Higher Learning Commission and has conducted training, facilitated strategy sessions, and participated in think tanks for the HLC.

Hatfield will continue to assist New River’s assessment efforts as part of the Assessment Academy of which the College is now a member.

---

**Free Food!**

The Beckley Campus SGA kicked off the new semester with a week of free food served in the lounge in the Wilburn building. Faculty, staff and students enjoyed the food and camaraderie. Thanks SGA!

---

**Take Two . . .**

Students on the Nicholas County Campus had their turn in front of the cameras when WVNS-TV shot a New River commercial on Wednesday, Aug. 24. Cameraman Donnie Aliff is filming nursing student Chad Grizzell entering the Allied Health Education Center while Stephen Hendrick waits his turn.