

REPORT TO BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES

May 11, 2015

Dr. Molly A. Parkhill

Risk Management Associates, Inc. (RMA) has completed the assessment of the security program at the Henderson County and Transylvania County campuses. Their review included evaluation of security threats, identification of gaps in the current security program, and recommend actions that the College should consider going forward to mitigate the probability and criticality of a future security event. The College was commended for the many security initiatives currently in place and planned for future expansion. They specifically noted that the new addition of the position of Director of Safety & Security will allow the College to bring together the current security elements in place and develop a comprehensive and integrated security program.

TECHNOLOGY & DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

The College has received the final edits of the commercial and recruitment videos produced by Spiracle Media Video Production. The twelve videos ranging from 30 seconds to three minutes capture the mission of the College and reinforce the importance of education and workforce development. Plans are currently underway to air commercials on WLOS during the summer months. Videos will also be posted on the College's website and used for recruiting visits.

The Marketing and Web Development Committee Web Usability subgroup recently held BRCC website usability testing sessions. These sessions were planned in order to test the site's user-friendliness in navigation and locating information. A total of five sessions were held with participants invited represented the following stakeholder groups: faculty and staff, currently enrolled students, business and industry, and high school counselors. Results from the session discussions will be used to make improvements to the website.

DIVISION OF INSTRUCTION

The Phi Beta Lambda chapter competed in the 61st Annual State Leadership Conference. At this year's conference, each student brought home a state award and placed within the top 8 in the state. There were a total of 7 individual events, 1 team event and 2 chapter awards, which means BRCC brought home 10 awards. Students also received certificates of participation in the SLC Leadership Development Program. Crystal "Destiny" Davis, Paulette LaBerge, Heather Rollins and Jennifer Rollins have advanced to represent North Carolina Phi Beta Lambda and Blue Ridge Community College in this year's National Leadership Conference being held in Chicago, IL this summer in June.

The following are winners with their ranking and event:

- Crystal “Destiny” Davis: 1st place in Computer Applications and 4th Place in Organizational Behavior & Leadership
- Paulette LaBerge: 1st Place in Desktop Publishing (Team with Jennifer) and 2nd Place in Personal Finance
- Jennifer Rollins: 1st Place in Desktop Publishing (Team with Paulette) and 8th place in Retail Management
- Heather Rollins: 2nd in Accounting Principles and 7th place in Word Processing
- Jaime Tankersley: 5th Place in Word Processing

The College’s 8th Annual Student Art Show held its opening night on April 23. The show consisted of student work from the Associate Fine Arts, Simulation and Game Development, and Film and Video Production. The Art Show continued through May 7.

The SkillsUSA Club students participated in the 2015 North Carolina State Conference in Greensboro, NC, April 21-23. There were approximately two thousand students in attendance for the competitions from community colleges and high schools across North Carolina. This was the first competition for most of the students and we are pleased to announce that Jeremy Stamey placed second in post-secondary Technical Drafting. Our students represented Blue Ridge Community College in an exceptional, professional manner

The College’s Automotive Technology NATEF program has received accreditation/renewal of accreditation. The site team was very impressed with the program and commented on the professionalism of the automotive instructors.

DIVISION FOR ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT/ CONTINUING EDUCATION (EWD/CE)

EWD/CE’s Manufacturing Advisory Council, composed of Plant Managers, Operations Managers and Human Resource Managers from the Henderson County Manufacturing community has been meeting quarterly to identify common manufacturing training needs and design programs to meet these needs. New training programs developed by the Council include:

- Industrial Maintenance Training Program piloted by Clement Pappas
- Machinist Certification Program piloted by Continental
- Certified Logistics Training Program piloted by Continental
- Supervisory Leadership Program piloted by Kimberly Clark.

At the March meeting, Jeff Frazier, an engineer with Eastman and Director of the Regional Center for Advanced Manufacturing (RCAM) in Kingsport, Tennessee spoke to the Council

about how the manufacturers in his region are addressing the issue of a shortage of skilled labor. Council members are organizing a trip to Kingsport to visit RCAM in the near future.

Due to increased demand for various types of Industrial Maintenance technical training for incumbent workers in area manufacturing, EWD/CE will be hiring a full time Industrial Maintenance Instructor. Area manufacturers have agreed to assist the Division in the selection of this key faculty member.

EWD/CE hosted the Tenth Annual Kehr Lecture Series on April 8, featuring author and HGTV television host Jeff Wilson. The series focused on sustainable homes for the 21st century. Mr. Wilson presented ideas for creating a sustainable home as well as renovating to improve an existing home's energy efficiency.

On April 27, EWD/CE's Small Business Center partnered with Advantage West and BRCC's Simulation and Gaming program to offer a presentation to the Business Community on "Lessons Learned in Starting and Growing a Business." The event featured top entrepreneur Tim Sweeney, founder and CEO of Epic Games, a 3D technology and video game company headquartered in Cary, North Carolina. Following the talk, participants toured the BRCC Simulation and Game Development Lab.

EWD/CE is offering three new and unique outdoor recreation courses this spring. Each will offer a third party credential:

- Wilderness First Responder Certification
- Zip Line Guide Certification
- Bicycle Mechanics Certification

White Water Rafting Guide Certification is on the horizon for summer.

Valley Hill Fire Department Captain, Jimmy Gasperson is featured as the success story on the Summer 2015 EWD/CE Schedule. Helping his community as an emergency service worker was Jimmy's childhood career aspiration. He began volunteering with the Mountain Home Fire Department when he was fourteen years old. After completing Firefighter Training and Emergency Medical Technician Training, Jimmy was hired by Biltmore Forest Fire Department. He transferred to Mountain Home Fire Department; then moved to Valley Hill Fire Department where he now serves as Captain.

DIVISION OF STUDENT SERVICES

Pride Carson and Kirsten Bunch attended the Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) workshop at Guilford Technical Community College on April 29 in order to learn what is involved in developing a process for evaluating and transferring military credits. The training is in response to Section 3 of S.L. 2017-67 (SB 671) that directs the development of a state-wide system to

standardize processes at community colleges and universities for Prior Learning Assessment and Competency-Based Education for prior military training. With the knowledge gained at this workshop, a specific process for evaluating and transferring military credits here at Blue Ridge should be able to be developed relatively soon.

BRCC received information for our first group of students who opted in for the Reverse Transfer Program. The Reverse Transfer Program is a collaborative effort between North Carolina's Community Colleges and the University of North Carolina's 16 constituent institutions. Students who transfer to a North Carolina university from a participating North Carolina community college are given the opportunity to combine the credits earned at the university with credit already earned at the community college to determine if the associate degree requirements have been met. By July 2015, all North Carolina community colleges and UNC institutions will be participating in North Carolina's Reverse Transfer program. Details of the program and information for students can be found at <http://www.northcarolina.edu/reversetransfer>

Results for BRCC's first group of 51 students or "data pull" this March:

9 students will be awarded the AA degree

5 students have already graduated with AA (should not have been in data pull)

37 students were not complete—we will continue to monitor these students as they earn additional credit at the university.

In an effort to be proactive in encouraging students to enroll at BRCC, the Financial Aid Office has developed a postcard that was sent to students who have applied for financial aid but have not yet applied for Admission to the college. The goal is to translate inquiries about financial aid into actual enrollments for the college.

The College Financial Aid Department has received 328 BRCC Educational Foundation Scholarship applications for the 2015-16. This compares to 279 last year, which is a 17.5% increase.

A Program Specialist with the VA North Carolina State Approving Agency conducted a Compliance Survey/Audit on April 23. She noted two minor findings which were non-monetary and are now remedied or in the process of being remedied. She complimented Donna Turner, BRCC's VA Certifying Official, in her post-audit memo: "The extremely low number of discrepancies found is a testament to the excellent grasp you have regarding the reporting and recordkeeping requirements of the VA Education Benefits program. I commend you on the great work you are doing!" She also took note of several "best practices" that she has not seen at her previous college reviews.

On March 31, Blue Ridge hosted an all-day Student Leadership Academy in the Conference Hall. About 100 students from nine high schools in Henderson and Transylvania Counties

participated as well as Blue Ridge faculty and staff, Henderson County teachers and administration, representatives from four-year colleges, and individuals from the community.

The College hosted a recruiting fair at West Henderson on Wednesday, April 1. The event ran all day with West teachers bringing their classes in to talk with Blue Ridge faculty.

Hendersonville Middle School 8th graders toured BRCC April 2 and were able to see program areas and demonstrations by BRCC faculty and students.

BRCC Recruiter Rita Blythe organized a tour of BMW the week of April 27 for automotive and mechatronic students as part of the Student Recruit Student Campaign. BRCC faculty and Henderson County Public School staff also participated. Forty high school students participated with some currently enrolled in BRCC through the Career and College Promise program and some prospective students for next year.

NC New Schools recognized Henderson County Early College (HCEC) at the April 13 Henderson County Board of Education meeting for receiving the Innovation and Excellence Award. This recognition is awarded to a limited number of innovative schools that meet a strict criteria and demonstrate excellence in academic achievement.

The HCEC Spanish Club participated in a Spanish Quiz Bowl at WCU on March 17. They had several top finishes in the team events. Hannah Lunsford finished first in the poetry category.

The HCEC 2015 Student Showcase was held on March 30, from 3:30 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. This event allows students to showcase their work by creating unique displays that highlight some of their talents and accomplishments.

The HCEC Key Club partnered with BRCC SGA in a Habitat build on March 21. The Key Club also helped with the Henderson County Education Foundation Hall of Fame event that took place on the BRCC campus on April 16, as well as participating in the Historic Johnson Farm Festival on April 25.

BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Support and revenue totals \$529,160 through March 31 with assets at \$10.8 million. Investment returns for the trailing 12 months were 6.17% and 8.48% for the trailing three years.

Major Gifts

Ellen Perstein gifted \$148,841 that will provide for annual scholarships (\$841); an additional \$1,000 to each already established Roper Scholarship Endowment Fund (\$8,000); a new Roper Scholarship Endowment Fund (\$40,000); the Pay It Forward Engineering Technology Instructor position for 2015-2016 (\$25,000); and \$75,000 to the Pay It Forward Endowment.

The American Association of University Women-Brevard pledged \$9,500 with \$5,500 being awarded as 2015-16 scholarships and \$4,000 contributed for their scholarship endowment fund.

Major In-Kind Gifts

Henderson County Robotics donated two flat surface steel tables with Plexiglas sides that have security driven locks. These two cabinets (total value \$10,000) will be used by the Mechatronics Engineering Technology program to run projects in an enclosed environment.

James Graves made an in-kind gift of numerous tools and supplies to the Automotive Systems Technology program with a total value of \$17,275.40.

Transfer of the Roughgarden Student Loan Fund Trust to the Foundation

On April 13, 2015, Superior Court in Transylvania County, NC, approved the termination of the George Coventry Roughgarden Student Loan Fund Trust and distribution of the Trust's property to Blue Ridge Community College Educational Foundation; with the Trust's principal and undistributed income added to the George Coventry Roughgarden Student Work-Study Endowment Fund. The Trust's assets (\$50,000 principal and \$66,336.04 income) were transferred from the College to the Foundation on May 4, 2015.

2015-16 Board of Directors

At their meeting on April 22, 2015, Blue Ridge Community College Educational Foundation Board of Directors appointed its 2015-16 officers: President Kaylyn "Katie" A. Siegmund, Vice President James "Jim" W. Rudisill, Secretary Cindy N. Walker, Assistant Secretary Molly A. Parkhill, Treasurer Hilliard Staton, Assistant Treasurer Carolyn W. Alley, and Executive Director Ann F. Green.

Ken D. Adams, Vikki D. Bailey, C. Page Collie, Patsy Farmer Jones, and Sandy Tallant will rotate off the Board of Directors at June 30. Carolyn W. Alley, Russ E. Henson, Mark A. Isabelli, and Hilliard Staton were appointed as new directors beginning July 1.

2014-15 Audit

At their April meeting, the Board of Directors ratified the actions of the Audit Committee to engage Carter, P.C. for the 2014-15 audit. Preliminary audit work is scheduled for June 8, 2015, with fieldwork scheduled for the week of July 13.

Save the Date

The Foundation Appreciation Breakfast will be at 7:45 a.m. on Wednesday, May 20.