Organizations use ECU event to find volunteers

By Josh Humphries
The Daily Reflector

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East Carolina University students found new ways to connect at the community Wednesday afternoon at the 2009 Spring Service Fair held on campus.

The service fair featured about 25 local agencies that need volunteers and dozens of students walked from booth to booth gathering information on agencies like the Pitt County Humane Society and the Little Willie Center.

Shawn Moore, community partner coordinator at ECU's Volunteer and Service-Learning Center, said the fair connects students to volunteer opportunities every semester.

"It is just a great way to let students know what each agency has to offer," Moore said.

Angela Pantuso, volunteer coordinator at the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina Greenville Branch, said it is a great way to recruit volunteers who are looking to help in the community.

"Students can come up and ask questions if they are interested in volunteering," Pantuso said.

"I encourage them to bring their special skills to the food bank."

Caroline Moskwa, a sophomore nursing major, used the fair to find a place to volunteer locally, a recommended part of her program at ECU.

"You can see a little of everything and talk to people about the specifics of volunteering," she said. "It is quicker than calling them individually."

John Harer, coordinator of the Challenger Little League program, said he needs about 90 volunteers to work with special needs kids who play baseball every year. ECU is a good place to find individuals willing to help out, he said.

"This has always been a great way to find volunteers," he said. "Having the students here helps meet the need."

Contact Josh Humphries at jhumphries@coxnnc.com or (252) 329-9565.

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University to open branch

JANE STANCILL, Staff Writer
Comment on this story

RALEIGH - The University of Phoenix, a large, for-profit university, will dedicate a learning center today in the Brier Creek area of Raleigh.

The center can accommodate as many as 600 students for on-site classes, the university said. It is the school's second location in Raleigh and eighth in North Carolina. There also are sites in Charlotte, Fayetteville, Greensboro and Asheville.

The university, which offers online and traditional courses, enrolls nearly 385,000 students in North America, but the company won't say how many are from North Carolina. Its courses and degree programs are primarily aimed at working adults. In Raleigh, the university offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in business.

The Brier Creek center has six classrooms, conference rooms, study areas, 18 computer stations, a student lounge and counseling services.

David Fitzgerald, director of the Raleigh campus, said many Phoenix students live in areas around Brier Creek.

"For us, it's an opportunity to be where our students needed us," he said.

The other Raleigh location, near Jones Franklin Road and the inner Beltline, opened in 2005.

Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton will speak at today's opening, university officials said.

Earlier this month, the University of Phoenix had a presence at the inaugural celebration for Gov. Beverly Perdue. Dalton and members of the Council of State. The university donated $25,000 to be a sponsor of a "Rock the Ball" concert.

"It is very much about being part of the community," Fitzgerald said of the sponsorship.

He said tuition at the Raleigh campuses is $1,040 per course for the associate's degree program, $1,230 per course for the undergraduate program and $1,565 per course for the graduate program. Online courses cost about $1,750. Students can take a combination of online and face-to-face courses.

The new learning center is in an office park at 8045 Arco Corporate Drive off I-540.

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Shorelines always shifting and it's unavoidable, expert says  

Geologist Stanley Riggs will speak about the subject tonight at UNF.

BY STEVE PATTerson  

STORY UPDATED AT 6:33 AM ON THURSDAY, JAN. 29, 2009

LECTURE

Beach expert Stanley Riggs will talk about shoreline changes and rising sea levels at 8 p.m. today at the University of North Florida's University Center, 12900 Alumni Drive.

When storms that can swallow beaches and roads menace Florida, the ones that miss often hit North Carolina.

And someone there has been taking notes.

After more than 40 years studying changes to the Carolina coast, an expert on beach dynamics will visit the University of North Florida tonight to talk about adapting to shifting shorelines and rising seas.

"We've got to think differently about how we approach this," said Stanley Riggs, a geologist from East Carolina University.

"We have more and more and more people moving to the coast and building on the assumption that those shorelines are fixed forever. Well, they're not," he said. "Shorelines are still moving and we are sitting in the way."

Sea levels that are rising now make movement in the shoreline unavoidable, he said.

Riggs will talk with the public at UNF's University Center at 8 p.m. about ways shorelines have moved for thousands of years, and what that tells scientists about changes happening now. He's scheduled to lecture faculty members Friday.

"He's really good at making plain folks understand why this is important to them and giving some context," said Courtney Hackney, director of UNF's coastal biology program.

He called Riggs "one of the foremost coastal geologists in the world."

People don't need to abandon the shore, Riggs said.

But he said islands and coastal areas should be analyzed better to see which ones are most vulnerable.

Some parts of the coast should probably only be public parks, he said, but there's nothing wrong with building on other parts of the shoreline.

"We can use the devil out of it, but we should use it based on what the dynamics of that site are," he said.

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Sandra Kay Yow

Sandra Kay Yow, 66, of Cary, died peacefully January 24, 2009, after a courageous and inspirational battle with cancer. Born on March 14, 1942, in Gibsonville, NC, to Hilton Lee and Elizabeth Cora Scoggins Yow, she was the oldest of four children. She received her Bachelor degree in English, with a minor in library science, from East Carolina University in 1964 and her Master’s degree from UNC-Greensboro in 1971. She was a member of Cary Alliance Church.

For more than four decades, she was a basketball coach, a teacher and role model to the players she coached at Allen Jay High School in High Point; Gibsonville High School; Elon College and NC State University. She taught them to be fiercely competitive in the game she learned to love from her parents, yet accept both their wins and losses with grace and dignity. She won eight NCAAIAW state championships at Elon and NC State, guided the Wolfpack to four ACC Tournament titles and was honored as the state, ACC and national coach of the year on multiple occasions. In 1998, she took the Wolfpack to the Final Four, the pinnacle of her 20 trips to the NCAA Tournament.

On Dec. 14, 2008, in her next to last game on the sidelines, she became just the third coach in history to coach more than 1,000 games at the same school. In 38 years as a college coach, she compiled a 737-344 record.

In 1986, she led the United States to gold medals in the World University Games and the Goodwill Games. In 1988, she was the head coach of the United States that won an Olympic gold medal in Seoul, South Korea, just 10 months after being diagnosed with breast cancer.

In 2002, she became just the fifth woman in history to be enshrined in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, for her national and international success as a coach and her pioneering efforts to grow women’s college basketball.

Her greatest victories, however, came not on the basketball court, but in her public battles with cancer, the disease that claimed her mother, Lib; her hero, Everett Case; and her friend, Jim Valvano. First diagnosed in 1987, she lived cancer-free until 2004. Over the last five years, she waged a gracious fight, never complaining and always maintaining a positive outlook in the face of painful and arduous treatments. “When life kicks you,” she said, “let it kick you forward.”

She was a role model to millions, a friend to many and a kind, smiling companion to strangers. Kay found her strength and courage through her relationship with Jesus Christ, whom she accepted in 1975. She studied His words in the Bible, and lived them on a daily basis. She found peace and comfort in her final days, knowing that she had done good work here on earth and her next place would be at her Savior’s side.

She is survived by her brother, Ronnie Yow of Greensboro; sisters, Deborah Ann Yow and husband, Dr. William Bowden of College Park, MD and Susan Lee Yow of Charlotte; nephews, Jason Andrew Yow and wife, Melissa Ann, Zachary Lee Yow, and James Dylan Yow; one great-niece, Isabelle Kay Yow.

A public viewing will be held Friday, Jan. 30, from 10:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. at Colonial Baptist Church, 6051 Tryon Road, Cary, NC 27518, with the funeral to follow at 3:00 p.m., with Pastor Mitchell Gregory. The burial will take place Saturday, January 31, 2009, 10:00 a.m. at the Gibsonville City Cemetery, 1208 Springwood Avenue, Gibsonville, NC 27249.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Kay Yow/WBCA Cancer Fund and mailed to The V Foundation for Cancer Research, 106 Towerview Court, Cary, NC 27513, Phone: (919) 380-9505 (Toll free 1-800-4JIMMYV), https://www.jimmyv.org/support-us/connie-nc w.html or Cary Alliance Church, 4108 Ten Ten Road, Apex, NC 27539, (919) 467-9331. Arrangements through Brown- Wynne Funeral Home, Cary. Audio and written condolences may be sent to the family at www.brownwynne.com