



February, 2009
Volume 5, Issue 4

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Issues of FP will now be published online. If you would like to receive each issue electronically (twice each semester) please send your email address to lstuart@ferrum.edu to be added to the e-mailing list. If you prefer not to share your email address, you may access the newsletter online at any time by viewing FP on the Ferrum College website (www.ferrum.edu/fp).

Senior Salute

Dear Parents,

I'd like to tell you about a new program we will be providing for seniors called SENIOR SALUTE during which we will "salute" our seniors as they are about to become Ferrum college graduates.

SENIOR SALUTE is an opportunity for all seniors to take care of any final college "business" during one three-hour period - all in one day without having to go from office to office. We realize that seniors can be extremely busy toward the end of their final semester trying to make sure they've got all their "ducks in a row," and our goal is to make this time a little less stressful. To make this happen, we've identified the following offices and organizations most seniors interact with during this period and have invited them to set up tables during the Salute: Alumni Office, Campus Bookstore, Career Services Office, Financial Aid Office, College Library, Registrar's Office, Senior Class, Service Learning Office, Student Accounts Office and Student Affairs Office.

At the end of any college career, there are important details that need to be taken care of - like making sure all college costs are paid so that when seniors cross the graduation platform they are actually receiving their official diplomas and not empty diploma covers; completing Financial Aid exit interviews; and picking up their CAPS and GOWNS at the Registrar's table! Along with the business of the day, there will be gifts and door prizes for students who stop at each table, music, banners, balloons, and great food. The Ferrum Mascot will be on hand for pictures and seniors will see streaming video of last year's graduation ceremony.

The SENIOR SALUTE will be on Wednesday, March 25th, from 3 to 6 pm in the Blue Ridge Mountain Room. Please encourage your senior to attend, enjoy time with their classmates, and get some business taken care of, all in one place! If you have questions about this event, please contact Mr. Rol Walters, Director of Career Services Office, at rwalters@ferrum.edu.

You may want to mark your calendar and remind your student about the SENIOR SALUTE a few days before the event!

Mr. Rol Walters
Director of Career Services

Career Week 2009

We all know the job market will be tough for this year's graduates, so we urge you to encourage your student(s) to attend these important events....

Saturday, February 21

Kaplan Free Test Drive

8:45 a.m. - noon

GRE, GMAT, MCAT, LSAT (DAT and OAT on request) - Students can take a free test and receive feedback about their results from a Kaplan Representative. Students will need to sign up at www.kaptest.com by 2/19/09 and contact the Career Services Office (ext. 4259) to let them know they registered. Location: Roanoke College

Tuesday, February 24

Career Premiere Internship and Employment Fair

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Salem Civic Center, Salem, VA

Advance Auto Parts
Aerotek
BB&T
Blue Ridge Behavioral Health
Busch Gardens and Water Country
Camp Virginia Jaycees
Carter Machinery Co., Inc.
CGI
Chesterfield County Police
Defense Energy Support Center
Department of Veterans Affairs-
Salem
DLT Solutions, Inc.
DMG Securities
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Family Preservation Services
Fastenal
First Investors Corporation
Geico
Gray's Family Dept. Store
Kroger

Internal Revenue Service
M. C. Dean
Mass Mutual Financial Group
Modea
National College
Neff Rental
Newport News Police Department
Northrop Grumman
Portsmouth Police Department
Prince William County Police
Project Horizen
Prolific Technology Consulting
Group, LLC
Sage Point Financial, Inf
Salem Police Department
Shelor Motor Mile
Sherwin-Williams
Target Stores
TEKsystems
U. S. Army Audit Agency
U.S. Army Recruiting

U. S. Marine Corps
University Directories
Virginia Army National Guard
Virginia Asset Management
Virginia Tech Human Resources
Walgreens
Wells Fargo Financial
Wolseley North American Division
WSET-TV/ABC

The number of employers participating in the fair is much lower than in past years, thus making events like this much more important. FOR A MORE UP-TO-DATE LIST of companies that are attending and to visit the websites, go to:
www.careerpremierfair.com.

Tuesday, February 24 through April 21

Career Focus Dinners

Presentation and free dinner: 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. (Students should dress appropriately to meet Employers!)

The Roanoke Times (2/24) www.roanoke.com/wb/xp-index
BB&T (3/3) www.bbt.com (Spring Break)
Carillion (3/10) www.carillionclinic.org/Carillion/Home+Page
Smith/Packett Med-Com (3/17) www.smithpacket.com
Breakell, Inc. (3/24) www.breakellconstruction.com/main/index.php
Cox Cable (3/31) www.cox.com
Optical Cable Corp. (4/7) www.occfiber.com/main/index.php
Western Virginia Regional Jail (4/14) www.westernvaregionaljail.org/tba - Public Relations, Advertising, Marketing Firm (4/21) www.tbtheagency.com

Professional Protocol Dinner for Seniors

We all know the old saying: “You only have one chance to make a great first impression.”

First impressions take place every day of the week and in all types of situations, but perhaps none is as important as the first impression you make on a prospective future employer. That is the very time when he or she is forming an opinion and deciding whether or not to hire you.

Job interviews do not always take place in an office setting. It is not uncommon for an interview to take place over lunch or even dinner in a restaurant and employers are definitely watching how you handle yourself. They want someone who will represent them and their company well, whether it be in a social setting, business meeting, or business lunch.



On April 1st, our seniors will have a chance to polish their professional image for the employment or graduate school seeking process by attending our annual “Professional Protocol Dinner.” This dinner, which is free for students, is their opportunity to see firsthand the kinds of experiences it takes to make a “positive first impression.” They will be served a three-course dinner with a community leader host and fellow students to learn the finer points of dining etiquette followed by a short fashion show of professional work attire. There will also be an informative quiz on the international professional protocol they could face if they work in a global company as well as wonderful door prizes and an opportunity to talk with possible employers in attendance.

Each senior will receive a formal invitation after they return from Spring Break (February 28 - March 8) and will need to RSVP. Please encourage your senior to attend this great image-building experience. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Rol Walters at rwalters@ferrum.edu.

What is an RA?

This may be a question on your mind as you are talking to your college student about life at college. An RA is a Resident Assistant, the title of an undergraduate student who lives in the residence halls and apartments and helps other students living in that communal environment. This student leader has been hired to be a role model for behavior (both academic and social) and to be a liaison between the students and administration of the college.

Resident Assistants are an essential part of the Residence Life & Housing team! They are responsible for getting to know everyone in their area (usually there is an RA for every floor of a residence hall or for each apartment area). Within the first two weeks of school, the RAs are busy getting to know their residents as well as learning interesting details about each student. This information will help the RAs as they plan quality programs for residential students to enjoy throughout the semester.

But their job doesn't stop there! Resident Assistants provide much needed support to several departments. They document maintenance and housekeeping issues for Residence Life & Housing so swift action can be taken to repair or clean as needed. They provide academic support by checking on students who might be ill or have missed class. They will contact students who need to speak with Student Accounts or the Registrar's Office. RAs also help students find tutoring support by referring them to the Academic Resources Center. Resident Assistants are also called "resource gurus" because they can usually help with almost any problem a student may be encountering. If they do not know the answer, they usually know exactly where to find it and can help point students in the right direction. When it comes to customer service, our RAs are top notch!

When it comes to exciting programs for our students to enjoy, our Resident Assistants try to bring the best ideas to fruition. RAs are responsible for creating programs every month that fit into our programming themes. Some of these themes include financial responsibility, sex, drug, and alcohol awareness, diversity, and studying tips and stress relief. In addition to these great programs, RAs also try to help out other campus events by urging their students to participate. By attending these programs offered by the college, there's usually something educational or entertaining for students to enjoy.

Also responsible for the safety of the residential buildings, RAs do their part to be excellent role models for students. RAs go thru extensive training during the summer so they can handle whatever comes their way. From roommate squabbles to policy violations; our RAs are ready to handle the situation. Most RAs do not relish having to enforce policies, but they are committed to keeping watch over their buildings and making sure their area residents behave responsibly.

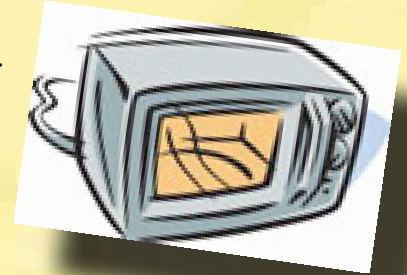
Being an RA trains a student in so many areas, which explains why it's an excellent résumé builder! We are currently accepting applications thru February 19, 2009 for the Resident Assistant position. If you think your student has what it takes, encourage them to see Cat Trovato to apply. The RA position offers more than just a résumé bullet point - it offers a caring family environment that can help your student blossom into their full potential!

THE FABULOUS LIFE OF RA PROGRAMMING!

Microwave Cooking:

Presented by: Sam Catron; *Bassett*

As a program designed to educate students on financial responsibility, MICROWAVE COOKING taught students how to make a tasty, cost-friendly meal, right in their own rooms, without a kitchen. Residents learned how to make things from cake to bean dip to lasagna; all made in a microwave. Sixty-two students learned new meals to make for themselves, MICROWAVE COOKING truly was an amazing and successful program.



Let's Get Baked:

Presented by: Alexis Hurdle; *Village*

With the goal in mind to inform students about drug awareness and focusing on the short and long term effects of drug use, LET'S GET BAKED educated residents through discussion - including writing reasons to remain drug-free. The program concluded with goodie bags of cookies being handed to the residents to represent the theme of 'let's get baked.'

An inspiration to other staff members of an awesome program and majority of floor attendance, LET'S GET BAKED is definitely a program to repeat.



Stress Relievers:

Presented by: Dakota Baughan & Keona Walton; *Bassett & Lakeside*

In an effort to enlighten students on stress and ways to relieve stress, STRESS RELIEVERS gave residents information on stress in its different forms as well as ways to relieve it. Residents were taught how to make stress relief balls, giving each resident in attendance a little stress reliever to take with them. With an outstanding fifty-five resident turn out, STRESS RELIEVERS was an instant hit with residents.



Sue Vegas:

Presented by: Jerrica Barksdale, Tonya Wright & Ashley Hardy; *Lakeside*

In an effort to bring the residents of Sue Wes, an all-female residence hall, together, SUE VEGAS will be a fun-filled night of education and socialization. With mocktails and pixie sticks, residents will play casino games trying to win special prizes. At the same time residents will learn about the dangers of risky behaviors known to Vegas. In the hope that the knowledge and fun residents get from this program will be shared with the campus, SUE VEGAS is sure to be a classic program for all residents.



FREE.. FREE.. FREE.. FREE..

If you live in Franklin County, Virginia, and meet certain income requirements, you can have your **income taxes prepared free-of-charge** by Ferrum College students enrolled in the Accounting Practicum classes. The students will be in Room 202 in Beckham Hall, Ferrum College campus, on Tuesdays from 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m., and Thursdays from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., and at the STEP office in Rocky Mount on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. All tax preparations are reviewed by Ferrum College Associate Professor of Accounting, Dave Sulzen, for accuracy.

For more information, please contact Mr. Sulzen at dsulzen@ferrum.edu or by calling (540) 365-4316.

Spring Break Trip!

Three days of **back packing** on the Appalachian Trail in Virginia followed by single day events such as **mountain biking, rock climbing, and hang gliding!** Cost is \$200.

Interested students can contact Ferrum Outdoors by phone (540) (365-4324) or stop by the Ferrum Outdoors office in the Fitness Center.