

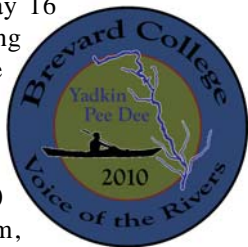
# Voice of Rivers 2010 to follow Yadkin, Pee Dee

## 14 students and faculty to paddle 400 miles in 19 days

One day after the BC commencement exercises mark the beginning of a new journey for the college's newest alums, another group of students and faculty will commence upon another journey with plenty of "exercise"—in kayaks.

The sixth Voice of the Rivers expedition will take place May 16 to June 3, following the Yadkin-Pee Dee River system from its beginning near North Wilkesboro to its end some 400 miles downstream, where it enters the Atlantic Ocean at Winyah Bay near Georgetown, S.C.

The 19-day paddling trip will include 11 Brevard College students, a BC student leader, and two faculty leaders, Jennifer Kafsky and Cameron Austin, who will be teaching a "LINC" course along the way on "River Recreation, Conservation and



Education" (WLEE 290) and on "Communication Analysis and Design" (ORG 290). In this interdisciplinary forum, students will examine the challenges facing the health of the waterway, learn about various river conservation efforts and groups, and examine their strategies aimed at protecting this endangered resource.

The Voice of the Rivers experience is open to students of all majors—not just WLEE majors. This year's group includes students majoring in art education, graphic design, religious studies, environmental science, exercise science, and psychology as well as wilderness leadership and experiential education. Along their journey to the sea, they are expected to talk with a variety of people and programs that support the river, media organizations and conservation groups in North and South Carolina.

They will also be posting daily journal entries, photos and videos of their travels and experiences online using Facebook, blogs and the Brevard College Web site.

Students on the 2010 Voice of the Rivers expedition are Austin Bunn, Rich Campana, Aislinn Dugan, Jana Eilermann, Marshal Hartley, Brian Henion, Katherine McKittrick, Daniel Modahl, Teresa Musick, Chelsea Preciado and Marcus Roberson.

Assisting on the expedition will be student team leader Tucker Lee and logistics coordinator Max Pelosi, both seniors majoring in wilderness leadership and experiential education at Brevard.

Since its inaugural 1997 expedition from Brevard to the Gulf of Mexico, the Voice of the Rivers program at Brevard College has offered students and faculty an opportunity to paddle and study a variety of ecologically and culturally significant rivers. Past VOR expeditions include trips down the Tennessee, Ohio and Mississippi rivers; the Green River; the Rio Santa Cruz, Rio Limay and Rio Negro rivers in Patagonia, Argentina; the Savannah River and the Catawba River.

You may follow the 2010 VOR expedition online on Facebook and on the BC Web site at [www.brevard.edu/vor](http://www.brevard.edu/vor).

## Looking ahead to next year: important reminders

In case you weren't paying attention last week because of the big project that was due, BC students received an E-mail with important information, including changes in BC policy and in federal law, that could affect you this semester or at the beginning of the fall semester. Below are some noteworthy highlights:

**Final grades** will be available on WebTwister beginning Friday, May 14. Printed reports will not be mailed out unless requested via a form on the Registrar's Office Web site.

**August confirmation:** Check WebTwister beginning Aug. 2 to see your financial status. If your account is not cleared, you will not be allowed to move into a residence hall and your schedule will be dropped at 4:30 p.m. on Aug. 24. For specific questions about your billing statement or clearance, contact the Business and Finance Office at (828) 884-8263.

**Financial Aid:** The recent passage of health care reform eliminated the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program, whereby education loans were made by

banks and other lending agencies. Replacing it is the William D. Ford Direct Loan Program, through which all federal student loans will be processed beginning with the 2010-2011 academic year. In the next few weeks, be on the lookout (via E-mail and a letter sent to your permanent address) for more detailed information and instructions on this process.

**Student Health Insurance:** Beginning with the 2010-11 academic year, any student enrolled at Brevard will be charged \$500 for health insurance provided by UnitedHealthcare. You can "opt out" if you provide evidence that you are covered by another health insurance plan. Additional information will be forthcoming soon.

**Vehicle Registration/Parking Decal:** All BC students are required to have a valid parking decal for each year they are enrolled. Upon registration, your account will automatically be billed \$75 per semester (\$150 a year) for a parking decal. All decals must be properly displayed or the student will face fines for failing to properly display a parking decal.

Students without a vehicle on campus can opt out of this charge by no later than Sept. 1. However, note that any student opting out of a decal who is then found with a vehicle on campus will be charged \$300. He or she will then need to register the vehicle and display the parking decal or be subject to additional fines/charges through the Social Code Review Process. (See 2010-2011 Student Handbook for more information).

**Miscellaneous:** Please double check your fall schedule on WebTwister to make sure you are registered in the correct classes and for the correct number of hours. Remember, if you are not registered for 12 or more hours, you are considered a part-time student, which can affect eligibility for health insurance coverage, financial aid, athletic eligibility, veterans benefits, residence hall room, and visa status.

Don't forget to have the proper paperwork on file prior to taking any coursework at another institution. The transient permission form is located on the forms page at <http://www.brevard.edu/registrar>.