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VOR applications due Friday, Jan. 22

By Jessica Wiegandt

Staff Writer

BC's interdisciplinary river program, known as Voice of the Rivers, will be led on the Broad River this summer, with applications due Jan. 22. The WLEE and English departments have joined, with Clyde Carter and John Padgett as the two respective professors leading the trip.

VOR is an opportunity for 10-12 BC students to paddle a river from source to sea. The expedition is set to last 20 days this summer. Carter said for this summer's expedition, over 300 miles will be paddled in both canoe and kayak from the headwaters in Chimney Rock, North Carolina, to the Atlantic Ocean in Columbia, South Carolina, exiting through the Charleston Harbor.

"This will be my fourth VOR expedition to lead," Carter said. "I enjoy VOR for many reasons. VOR offers the most pure form of interdisciplinary study that I have experienced."

The courses offered for VOR will count for students' LINC credit. Students must take at least one LINC course during time at BC to graduate, earning six credit hours for two courses related to one another.

Carter will be teaching WLE 190K, River Expedition. According to Carter, the focus of the course will be on outdoor traveling and living skills, leadership skills and group dynam-



Photo by Anna Marie Conard

John Padgett and Clyde Carter at the VOR information booth Jan. 14.

ics. He also hopes to focus on the benefits of exploring rivers.

Padgett will be teaching ENG 220K, which is titled Carolina Creations: Fiction, History, Poetry and Song. "I'm really excited about this course, I am looking to incorporate a lot of Appalachian stories and song," Padgett said, "We'll be doing some singing during the trip."

An information booth was set up during lunch hours in the entranceway to the Caf on Jan. 14, with students able stop by and speak with the professors for the upcoming trip. Several past participants were also at the booth, able to

answer questions about past experiences and time spent on VOR.

Senior Julie Kroll was a part of the 2015 VOR expedition, which paddled 303 miles of the Savannah River. "It's definitely a trip I'd recommend to anyone," Kroll said, "You go boating, meet new people and learn some really great things from the professors you're with. It's something everyone should try to experience here."

Kroll said she was excited to help at the booth to be able to talk with those interested in going on VOR. She said it would allow her the chance to convince others to experience nature in the supportive community that forms during the trip.

"I love the camaraderie that develops with the team as we travel. I love the variety of people we meet along the river and their stories." Carter said, "We purposefully try to meet as many people as we can who live, work and care about the river. We listen to their stories and then share our story to anyone interested."

An email from Carter was sent out on Jan. 7 containing the application for students to fill out by Jan. 22. Once the deadline arrives, participants will be chosen by Feb. 5. From there, the members of the 2016 VOR team will begin training and bonding to spend 20 days this summer navigating the Broad River.

Campus nurse announces new BC health clinic services now available

By Sam Blakley

Editor in Chief

Beginning next Tuesday, Jan. 26, BC's Campus Nurse Pat Clackler will be able to perform any additional tests needed to determine the treatment course of an illness, in Stamey in the Nurse's clinic, under the supervision of an MD.

In the past, health services have referred patients to our local Urgent Care for additional tests if someone presented with symptoms of strep throat, the flu, mononucleosis, urinary tract infection, etc. Now, patients can be seen between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Tuesdays to receive this advanced service for a small fee, cash only. During this window, a MD from Urgent Care will be available to com-

municate as needed with the nurse for tests or prescribe medication. Results of the test(s) will be sent to the MD provider, which is through the Sister's of Mercy Urgent Care who will, in turn, prescribe medication as needed.

The fee to access this service is \$10 and an additional \$5 fee for each test used to determine course of treatment will be added. The only test that is not \$5 is the Flu test, which is \$10. "That's less than most co-pays," said Clackler.

The intention of the service is to lower costs of care for our BC members by reducing visits to the Urgent Care Clinic for such tests and prescriptions when seen by an Urgent Care MD. "We want to help as much as we can," Clackler said. "We hope this service will encourage



Photo courtesy of Pat Clackler

Pat Clackler (right) speaks to a BC student.

you to use health services on campus." In the email announcing the change, Clackler hints at the addition of another day or time slot to the Wellness center weekly calendar.

Clackler asks all students, faculty, and staff to "Please remember I am available at no cost for any health care or health consultation needs you have on Tuesdays 8:00-4:00 and Thursdays 8:00-4:30."