

Small Business Incubator

News

FSU-backed Biz Center works to help local businesses

By Ash Smith
Business Manager

In the March 12 issue of *The Voice*, I wrote an article about FSU's involvement with Murchison Road Businesses. In that editorial article, I claimed that Fayetteville State didn't do enough for local businesses, especially those on Murchison Road.

After the article went to print, I came across the Fayetteville Business Center, located on Murchison Road. The center is sponsored by Fayetteville State and helps local businesses. It was only fitting that we cover the organization in this issue. Thank you.

Many students, faculty, staff, and members of the community have probably driven down Murchison Road and noticed a small multi-office building bearing the all-caps title "FAYETTEVILLE BUSINESS CENTER." However, few seem to know about this discrete little building and its ties to Fayetteville State University.

The Fayetteville Business Center

was started in partnership with Fayetteville State University and the FSU school of Business and Economics in 2001.

Since then, it has served the City of Fayetteville and the Murchison Road community as a business incubation center.

According to the center, the purpose of business incubators is to provide "comprehensive support to companies in their start-up stages, help entrepreneurs achieve their dreams, and help communities develop more vibrant economies."

"It provides a wonderful opportunity for the growth of these businesses," says FBC director Floyd Shorter. He is also a professor of business at FSU.

The "business incubator" model provides a multitude of services to businesses. These services might include things like "marketing assistance, help getting ready for financing, innovation assessment, legal direction, help with intellectual property issues, one-on-one mentoring, use of lab space, help



Photo By: Ash Smith

with building a management team, venture capital forums, and many other things." The program has also worked as an internship opportunity for Fayetteville State students.

Mr. Shorter believes that the work done for local businesses is rewarding. "[I like] providing a service to them and seeing them grow," he says.

"It's almost like seeing a small child start out crawling and watching them grow up."

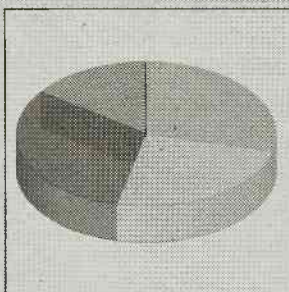
The business center currently serves over 100 businesses throughout the community and is constantly looking to help others. They are located at 2520 Murchison Road and can be contacted at 910-222-8910.

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This Issue's Poll:

Do you believe that racism is a problem at Fayetteville State?

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GET YOUR FREAK ON

Take some time out of your day to dance, even if you do it by yourself. Unless you are slow dancing. That's just sad.

Holocaust Expert to Speak

By FSU Public Relations

Dr. Patricia Heberer, a renowned expert on the Holocaust, will present a lecture on "Nazi Ideology and Eugenics" on Monday, March 31, at 7 p.m. in J.W. Seabrook Auditorium on the Fayetteville State University campus. Admission is free and open to the public.

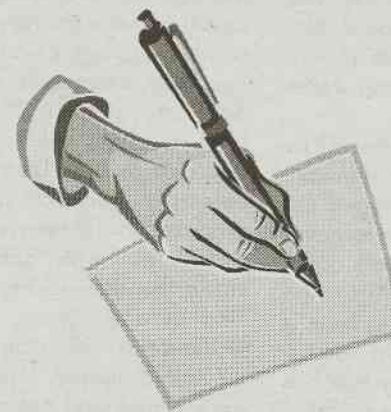
Dr. Heberer has served as an historian with the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington since 1994. There, she functions as the Museum's in-house specialist on medical crimes and eugenics policies in Nazi Germany.

Dr. Heberer earned her bachelor and master's degrees from Southern Illinois University. She pursued doc-

toral studies at the Free University of Berlin and the University of Maryland, receiving her Ph.D. from the latter institution.

A contributor and consultant historian for two United States Holocaust Memorial Museum publications, "1945: The Year of Liberation" and "In Pursuit of Justice: Examining Evidence of the Holocaust," she is currently in the final stages of producing a history of the Hadamar "euthanasia" (T4) facility for publication. A further publication, "Atrocities on Trial: The Politics of Prosecuting War Crimes in Historical Perspective," co-edited with Juergen Matthäus, appeared this year (2008) with the University of Nebraska Press.

For more information, please call (910) 672-1474.



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