

BC welcomes new, returning students

By Mary Lewe
Editor in Chief

Brevard College welcomed its largest class of incoming freshmen ever this past week. Along with the hustle and bustle of moving televisions and mini fridges, first year students participated in a variety of games and activities facilitated by campus housing staff, residential assistants (RAs), First-Year Experience (FYE) peer leaders and many others around campus during Campus Readiness and Experiential Education Kick-off Week (better known as CREEK Week).

"I thought it was a really good way to meet other people and get comfortable on campus," freshman Breanna Shields said before Monday evening's convocation ceremony.

CREEK Week involved a variety of planned activities, including a campfire courtesy of the BC Outing Club. "I thought it was good to have a bit of unstructured time in the midst of all the structured activities," senior Abi Fuesler said. Fuesler is a member of the Outing Club's executive board as well as an FYE peer leader and freshman programmer.

"CREEK week was a really positive start to the new school year," Fuesler said.

Returning students were also welcomed to campus, with what was — according to many on campus — the best executed check-in in Brevard College history.

"Compared to last year it was much quicker," senior Jason Doroski said at check-in. "I didn't get held up in a line at all. The check-ins prior to this one were incredibly long."

Peer leaders assisting with the check-in process were also impressed with this year's system. "I thought it went a lot better than in my past experience," peer leader Cameron Ranslow said on Monday. "Things were a lot smoother and faster and when there were hiccups, they were resolved quickly," Ranslow said.

Assistant to the Vice President and Dean for Students Margaret Dellinger knows a thing or two about the check-in process. Dellinger has worked for Brevard College for over a decade and has assisted with every check-in since her hiring. Although she too was impressed with

this year's process, she believes it will continue to improve.

"The more automated they can make it the easier it will be," Dellinger said.

The new online "Express Check-In" option for students decreased the amount of paperwork that needed to be completed for many students, easing congestion in the library and streamlining the whole check-in process.

"Thank you to the students who completed Express Check-In," Associate Dean for Student Success Shirley Arnold said, "You made everyone's life better."

Students who completed Express Check-In will be rewarded with additional flex dollars for use in Coltrane and Bill's Boiler House.

Students both new and returning were formally welcomed at Monday evening's convocation ceremony. In keeping with Brevard College tradition, new students were presented with notes handwritten by faculty, staff and student leaders.

"This officially marks the beginning of the semester," President David Joyce said at the start of the ceremony. "On behalf of Brevard College, I welcome the class of 2023," he said.

Following a prayer by campus minister Sharad Creasman, president for academic affairs and dean of faculty Scott Sheffield delivered a speech that took his audience on a journey through time. From ancient Greece to the storming of the Bastille, Sheffield offered examples of revolutionary moments in history lead by young people.

Sheffield urged students to stand for liberty, equality and fraternity, challenging them to have the courage to do what is right in times of unrest and civil injustice. "Can you imagine yourself having that courage?" he asked.

"It's easy to believe all that you've been told and never question things," Sheffield said. Sheffield reminded the audience of their duty to preserve education and justice.

"Continuous learning and freedom can and must coexist," he said.

Artistic additions

New sculptures adorn campus

By Margaret Correll
Staff Writer

Three new permanent sculpture installations were put into motion this past July by local sculptor and Brevard College teacher, Kyle Lusk. They will be fully constructed on the Brevard College campus and the neighboring First United Methodist Church side of Broad Street.

The City of Brevard commissioned Lusk to make three sculptures that would mark the entrance to downtown. This project was spearheaded by Red Wolf Gallery owner, Ann DerGara. She and Lusk worked together to come up with instruments that became the inspirations for the sculptures. "This project started off with several meetings with Ann DerGara and city officials to discuss what they wanted out of this project," said Lusk.

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Photo by Florian Peyssonneaux
Kyle Lusk's Saxophone sculpture.