

Cougar Cry Editorial Guidelines

The Cougar Cry is a publication of the student activities office of Wilkes Community College. Its objective is to keep the students of WCC informed of issues, interests, and events related to campus and academic life. The Cougar Cry does not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the faculty and/or staff of WCC.

The Cougar Cry welcomes articles, stories, opinions, photographs, and artwork for publication consideration. However, everything that is received cannot be published and the right is reserved to reject any material with or without cause.

The Cougar Cry will be published as staffing and resources permit. All submissions must include the author's name, phone number, and email address. Constructive criticism is acceptable, while defamation of individuals or organizations is not; no material which defames or insults any individual or group will be published. Opinions, editorials, or viewpoints should be clearly labeled as such. Material that is obscene, libelous, not in keeping with local standards of decency, or disruptive to the instructional or administrative

process will not be published.

All submissions must be in accordance with the above



stated objective: namely, they should be of specific relevance to WCC students. The staff reserves the right to edit for size, content, grammar, spelling, typographical errors, good taste, and civility. Once an article has been revised, it will be reviewed with the author before it is published. Articles without time sensitive content that are received near publication deadlines may be published in later editions because of time and/or space restrictions.

It is strongly recommended that the author have her/his submission edited for grammar and style before it is submitted to the Cougar Cry. It is the author's responsibility to ensure the accuracy and spelling of names, program names, abbreviations, logos, etc. Copyrighted material will not be used without written permission of the copyright owner.

To submit an article to the Cougar Cry please send email to wcc.newspaper@wilkescc.edu with the article attached in word format.

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Welcome to a new academic year at WCC!

On behalf of our entire faculty and staff, I welcome you to Wilkes Community College. Every student that attends WCC is here for one common reason- success. Every faculty and staff member is here to help you achieve that goal. I sincerely believe that we can all help each other achieve our goals of success by working together.

Success is defined differently for different people. For one person, it may mean obtaining a high school diploma. For another, it may be transferring to a four-year university to obtain a bachelor's degree. For yet another, it may be completing a course to gain new skills for their job. Here at WCC, we define success by helping you reach your goals.

There are many services and tools available to help you reach your goal. Our advisors and counselors can help guide you through your time at WCC and even through the job search. The staff of the Student Success Center and the Learning Resources Center will be available if you need assistance in a class or finding references for a project. The bookstore is a convenient spot to pick up your school supplies throughout the year.

Occasionally, we need a break from work and school, and I am proud of the many opportunities

students have to be involved in campus clubs and activities. There is always something going on from sports to club events to theater productions and more! I encourage you to get involved and have fun while you are a student with us.

Our college is dynamic, constantly changing to provide the community with the highest quality educational opportunities available. We opened Lowe's Hall, our state-of-the-art science and technology center, in January of 2007. It was exciting and fulfilling to see students taking advantage of the latest equipment and facilities as they explored science and technology with their instructors. Other buildings on campus are continually updated and adapted to new needs. Outside, our gardens flow beautifully from one season to another and welcome guests to campus.

I want each of you to know that my door is open to you. Do you have a suggestion? Did you experience something that you really enjoyed? Do you have a question about WCC? I would love to talk with you.

Again, I welcome you to WCC and applaud you for choosing to work for that goal of success!

Dr. Gordon Burns

MerleFest 2007 Sets New Records

MerleFest 2007 set a record economic impact on the region by contributing \$17,144,109.70 to the regional economy. The estimated economic impact includes spending at the four-day festival as well as spending in the community for items such as gasoline, lodging, dining and other items.

For Wilkes Community College, the total benefits of the festival equal \$1,366,716 for 2007. That includes a total of \$41,000 that went to scholarships, \$8,550 in donations to WCC clubs for services, \$70,299 of net income to WCC Clubs on sales activity, and \$1,246,867 in capitol improvements and other subsidies. For the festival's 20 year existence, a total of \$8,432,549 has been contributed directly to WCC.

MerleFest is the college's largest fundraiser and WCC students proudly participate as volunteers throughout the event. The festival would not be able to operate without the generous contribution of time and energy from volunteers and the

support of the student body is both impressive and encouraging.

4,566 volunteers contributed a total of 43,312 hours to the festival in 2007.



New College Transfer Advising Center 419 Hayes Hall

The new WCC College Transfer Advising Center (CTAC) will open this fall. Located in 419 Hayes Hall on the Wilkes campus, CTAC will provide ongoing assistance to all WCC students enrolled in the AA, AS, AFA and AGE programs to facilitate successful transition to a senior institution.

the lead transfer advisors will meet individually with all transfer students in the fall. At this time, students will begin the development of a plan that will guide them in the courses they take at WCC so that they will be ready to transfer to a 4-year college or university and enter the major of their choice.

Once the transfer plan is made, students will work with their assigned faculty advisors to create semester schedules and register for classes. They should return to CTAC for additional advising if their academic goals change or as new questions arise. WCC's new College Transfer Advising Center will provide the necessary support and resources so that when it is time to transfer, WCC students can be confident they are well prepared to successfully transfer to the four-year college or university.



CTAC has four major goals:

- To provide adequate time and resources for WCC students to explore majors/careers, programs of study, transfer options, scheduling parameters and academic goals.
- To provide consistent and timely information to students regarding WCC course offerings, degree requirements at WCC and transfer requirements at four year institutions.
- To assist students in the preparation of a semester schedule to make the registration process easier for both student and faculty member who will key the schedule into the system.
- To serve as a resource for faculty advisors in the division of Arts and Sciences.

The center will be staffed by three lead transfer advisors: Cinnamon Martin, Instructor of Psychology; Sam Sink, Lead Instructor of Spanish; and Blair Hancock, Dean of Arts and Sciences. After meeting with incoming freshmen in small groups during orientation in August,

College Calendar

August 13, Monday (9:00am - 8:00pm)	Late Registration for Fall Semester
August 14, Tuesday (9:00am - 4:00pm)	Late Registration for Fall Semester
August 16, Thursday	First Day of Classes Fall Semester
August 20, Monday (4:00 pm)	Drop/Add Ends
August 27, Monday	Last Day to Withdraw to Receive a Refund
September 3, Monday	Labor Day Holiday
September 4, Tuesday	Classes Resume
October 8 - October 12	Fall Break
October 15, Monday	Classes Resume
November 1, Thursday	Last Day to Withdraw from a Class