

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Held For the Global Education Department



President Gordon Burns, Vice President Dean Sprinkle, and Global Education Coordinator, Karen Staten, cut the ribbon for the new Global Education Department this summer. The department serves the international and intercultural needs of the college by providing opportunities for students, staff, and community members to celebrate diversity.

The Global Education Department is located in Hayes Hall, room 413. Dr. Staten's office is housed there as well as an international lounge for students from other cultures and visitors who are interested in intercultural education.

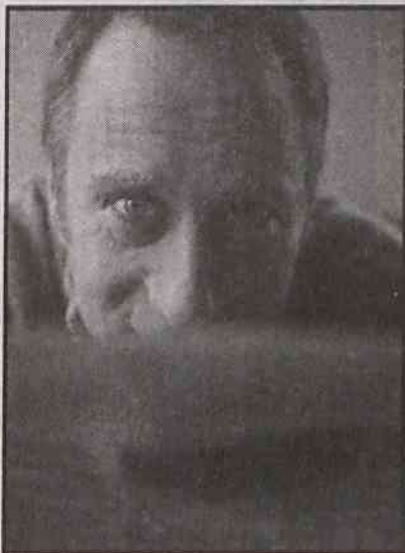
The department has various activities planned for the coming college year. Monthly topics in the WCC Lecture Series titled, "Surviving in a Diverse and Ever-Changing World" include presentations from a Wilkesboro Women Airforce Service Pilot during WWII, a local Holocaust Survivor, and an Intercultural Art Display donated by an international traveler from Boone.

A tour to Chicago is planned in October, 2007. Faculty and staff of the college will visit some of Chicago's ethnic neighborhoods such as Little

Italy, Chinatown, Greek Town, the Ukrainian Village, and Polish Town enjoying local cuisine, music, language, and atmosphere of different cultures. The Global Education Department plans to take students on the same tour the following year.

The culmination of the Global Education Department will be the second annual Cultural Celebration to be held on Thursday, February 28, 2008 from 4:00 to 7:00pm. A Hall of Nations filled with flags will be hosted by international students and members of the community sharing photos, arts & crafts, and dress of their native cultures. Over 35 booths hosted by students, faculty, staff, and community organizations will present topics of global interest. International cuisine, live music, dance, storytelling and theater will be featured as well as interactive activities for both children and adults. Wilkes Community College offers the Cultural Celebration free of charge as a gift to the community.

Anyone interested in knowing more about Global Education at WCC, and especially those interested in sharing their cultural customs and traditions, should contact Dr. Karen Staten at 336-838-6188, or by email: karen.staten@wilkescc.edu.



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GRUEN VON BEHREN IS COMING TO WCC

OCTOBER 15, 2007

Gruen was 13 when he tried spit tobacco (dip) on a camping trip with friends. Unfortunately, it wasn't a one-time deal. He ended up with a powerful addiction that changed his life forever. Just four years later, **at the age of 17**, he was diagnosed with **oral cancer**. To fight it, he's been forced to endure **35 painful surgeries**, including one radical surgery that removed half of his neck muscles and much of his tongue.

"If I had known then what I know now, I never would have put a dip in my mouth. Spit tobacco seemed harmless, but it has ruined my life,"
says Gruen Von Behrens.

Now 29, he travels the country to show the world the reality of spit tobacco. **Gruen will be on the Wilkes Community College Campus Monday, October 15 at 12:00 pm in Alumni Hall Lecture Room 1112**

All interested students and college employees are invited to attend.

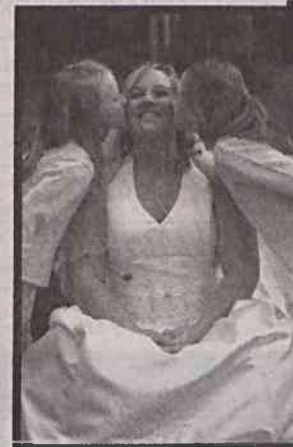
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