Chipola nursing program earns national accreditation

The Chipola School of Health Sciences has been approved for national accreditation for the college’s nursing programs by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). College officials made the announcement at a press conference Monday at the college.

ACEN conducted a site visit to Chipola in January with the team recommending both Chipola’s Associate Degree Nursing and Baccalaureate Nursing programs for national accreditation for five years.

The accreditation journey began in February 2013 with the acceptance of candidacy status for national accreditation of both programs. Chipola’s nursing programs have maintained continuous accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) since their inception. The Health Sciences Department pursued the national accreditation status for both programs. Statistics reveal that graduate nurses from nationally-accredited programs have enhanced opportunities for employment and educational advancement.

Dr. Vickie Stephens, Chipola Dean of the School of Health Sciences at Chipola, says, “This ACEN accreditation is a testament to the professionalism of our educational team. We embrace the opportunity to provide quality health education through innovative teaching and partnerships with our community.”

Dr. Jason Hurst, Chipola President, says, “National accreditation by ACEN will greatly expand the career and educational opportunities for our nursing graduates. I congratulate Dr. Stephens, the Chipola nursing faculty and staff for their diligent work on this initiative. ACEN accreditation is an important milestone in the life of our health science programs.”

Chipola offers the RN to BSN Degree with all upper level classes available online. The Associate Degree Nursing program provides training to prepare students for certification as Registered Nurses. For information about Chipola’s Nursing programs, call 850-718-2316 or visit www.chipola.edu

AUGUST
25 MONDAY
  • SGA Meeting, Bldg. Z rm. 116; 1:30 p.m.
26 TUESDAY
  • Student Ambassadors, Bldg. Z rm. 201; 1:30 p.m.
  • Campus Blood Drive
  • Community Chorus, CFA Experimental Theatre; 6 p.m.
28 THURSDAY
  • FCA Meeting, Staff Dining Room; 7 p.m.

Blood Drive - August 26, 2014 • 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Chipola employees awarded for service

Employees of Chipola College were recognized for years of service during the first staff meeting of the school year on August 11.

Five year employees are, from left: Dan Sims, Jennifer Ham and Vickie Stephens. Not pictured is Virginia Staley.

Ten year employees are, from left (back): Matthew White, Stan Young, Renee Hopkins, Terri Fowler, Belinda Hendrix, Glenda Bethel, Lillie Hamil, Kathy Dunaway, Mark Ebel, Amy Myers, Robert Martin and John Tracy Spikes.

Fifteen year employees are, from left: Richard Hinson and Charles Sirmon. Not pictured Vickie Jones.

Twenty year employees are, from left: Vicki Mathis, Julie Fuqua and Shanda O’Bryan.

Twenty-five year employees are, from left: Angela Tyler, Mary B. Hamilton and Kim Collins.

Dennis Everett (right) accepts his 30 year award from Dr. Jason Hurst.

Rotary helps Chipola—The Marianna Rotary Club recently made the annual monetary contribution to Chipola College. Pictured from left, are: Chipola College President Dr. Jason Hurst, Rotary President Ron Duell and Chipola Foundation Director Julie Fuqua. President Duell said, “Chipola is a tremendous asset to our community and Rotary is proud to continue our support.” Many previous Rotary scholarships recipients have completed their courses of study and are productive members in the community. Marianna Rotary was established in 1929 and follows our motto “Service Above Self.”

Visit our new site at

www.Chipola.edu
Odom receives Sportsmen’s Scholarship

Scholarship chairman Lee Anderson, says, “The Chipola Sportsmen’s Club is extremely excited to present this scholarship to Cassidy Odom and wish her well on all her future endeavors. In addition to this scholarship, our group intends to support area outdoor youth organizations, as well as help establish some new programs that promote safety, ethics, and interest in the outdoors. We hope that in the years to come, we are able to help improve the outdoor experience for everyone, both young and old, in the Chipola and surrounding areas.”

Law Enforcement classes now forming

The Chipola Criminal Justice Training Center will offer an evening Law Enforcement Academy and a Corrections to Law Enforcement Cross-over class beginning September 12th, 2014. Classes will meet weeknights from 5:30 – 9:30 P.M.

Completion of either of these programs prepare candidates to take the State Board Examination and become certified by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission upon becoming employed with a law enforcement agency.

Prior to admission, all candidates must earn a passing score on the Criminal Justice Basic Abilities Test (CJBAT) offered at the Public Service Building every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. Cost of the test is $45. The deadline for all applications will be September 5th.

Applicants must have a standard high school diploma or its equivalent and must undergo a medical physical examination, background check and drug screening. Financial assistance is available based upon need and eligibility. For information regarding the application process, contact Steven Stewart, Law Enforcement Coordinator, at 718-2286.

Student Support Services is accepting applications for the 2014-15 year. SSS helps students prepare for academic success to higher education. Students are eligible to receive the following services from SSS:

- Tutoring • Grant Aid Scholarships
- Academic Advising • Peer and Professional Mentoring • Financial Aid Advising • Workshops on a variety of topics • Career Exploration • Cultural trips and University visits • University/College Transfer Assistance

Please contact Donna Chandler in the TRiO Office at 850-718-2431 or come by A-119 for more information and an application.

Theatre Showcase is Sept. 18

Charles Sirmon, Chipola College Director of Theatre, will begin his 16th season at the college with a Theatre Showcase, Sept 18, at 7 p.m.

Chipola Theatre majors will present scenes and skits in a showcase that Sirmon says, “It’s a lot like Saturday Night Live on a Thursday.” The production is general admission and allows all theatre majors the opportunity to share their talent and many for the first time.

Tickets—$10—go on sale Sept. 4, and are available to purchase from theatre majors, at the Center for the Arts box Office, or online at www.chipola.edu.

The Showcase is a fundraiser to help Chipola theatre students with their annual trip to Atlanta where they will take a master class in improvisation and attend a performance with a professional theatre company.

For ticket information, call 850-718-2420 or visit www.chipola.edu
Chipola’s Endless Summer a success

More than 400 friends of Chipola College attended the Chipola Appreciation Club’s “Endless Summer” dinner and dance on Aug. 16.

Sen. Bill Montford (Chipola Class of 1967) was the special guest for the evening. The $50-a-ticket event raised thousands to endow a college scholarship in his name. The Villagers, a 1960’s rock band made up of Chipola alumni, performed for the Chipola faithful.

Former Chipola basketball player and Appreciation Club President Robert Trammell said, “The commitment of alumni and supporters has been the key to Chipola’s success over the years. Without strong support from our people, Chipola would not be what it is today. This support helps our athletic programs compete on the national stage year after year.”

Sen. Montford said, “Working on Endless Summer has been great fun and a very satisfying experience. Chipola College has a great reputation built on generations of success and respect. People trust and appreciate Chipola and we had a successful and enjoyable event that will benefit many students.”

At the Endless Summer event, Chipola College President Dr. Jason Hurst introduced the Chipola coaches and highlighted the success of all five sports programs. Hurst said, “Here’s the score: at Chipola, we win, our students graduate and move on to the next level, and we have the best supporters of any community college in America.”

In support of this statement, Hurst reported that the Appreciation Club contributes more than $80,000 to the college annually to help with scholarships, recruiting, tutoring and meals. Over the last 10 years, the Club has raised an additional $112,000 to help Chipola teams travel to state and national tournaments. Through events like Endless Summer, the club has raised more than $1.5 million for an endowment. Interest from the endowment will be used to add six new baseball scholarships this year and three new basketball scholarships next year.

Hurst said, “In academics, athletics and many other areas, Chipola is simply the best. I’d like to thank everyone, especially Sen. Montford, for giving their time and money to support Chipola College.

Chipola began in 1947 and has enjoyed more than 67 years, including numerous state and national athletic titles – with thousands of individual success stories among its graduates.

Incoming Appreciation Club president Shannon Saunders invites all Chipola alumni and friends to join the club to help continue the success of the college’s athletic program.

For information, call 718-2451 or visit www.chipola.edu.