Dear Alumni:

Welcome to NCC Connect, a new monthly e-newsletter that provides you with information about what is happening at New Century College. You are vital members of our community and we welcome your continued involvement in activities and events.

Crowdfunding campaign launches to help save honey bees

Bees are vanishing at an alarming rate and with serious consequences. Nearly 100 different crops would disappear in a world without bees. As part of the George Mason University Honey Bee Initiative, NCC and Sweet Virginia launched HiveStarter, the first crowdfunding campaign of its kind in the State of Virginia at the CHSS Beer and Honey Tasting over George Mason’s Alumni Weekend. Funds raised will go toward establishing additional Mason honey bee hives, repopulating Northern Virginia’s honey bees, and creating a model for sustaining honey bees that can be replicated around the world. Learn more about contributing to HiveStarter.

NCC's German Perilla was on hand Saturday, Oct. 5 at Mason's Alumni Weekend CHSS Beer and Honey Tasting to demonstrate beekeeping techniques and offer honey samples from the NCC-sponsored honey bee.
field station. The event proved to be the most popular of all the Alumni Weekend Events.

Our bees are causing quite the buzz! Checkout the Fairfax Times article about our bees.

Student Highlight

Justin Pile

Our students continue to amaze us with their extraordinary talents and achievements. Integrative Studies major and Cornerstones student Christopher (Justin) Pile, is one example. Pile graduated from the Burton Center for Arts and Technology in the Mass Communications program, was class valedictorian, lettered in marching band, interned for both Face the Nation in D.C. and WSLS 10, Roanoke's NBC affiliate, and won the 2013 Coach's Award for his high school soccer team. In his first six weeks at Mason, Justin joined the Ultimate Frisbee team, plays intramural 4x4 football, indoor soccer, and 7x7 football.

"My experience at NCC so far has given me amazing real world experience," said Pile. "The program has worked hard to give us many opportunities, for example, (taking part in) an immigration panel (in order to hear) real stories about the problems immigrants face migrating into America."

We can’t wait to see what Justin will achieve during his years at Mason!

Faculty Highlight

Welcome Dr. Gregory Unruh, PhD

NCC is pleased to welcome Gregory Unruh as Mason’s Arison Group Endowed Professor of Doing Good Values. The professorship was created with a generous donation from—American-Israeli businesswoman and philanthropist—Shari Arison. Unruh will conduct research and teach NCC classes focusing on the application of fundamental human values to global business and a strong global “moral economy.”

NCC sponsors Fall for the Book events

NCC sponsored three Fall for the Book Festival events with nearly 1,000 total in attendance: Shane Lopez, "Making Hope Happen;" Michael O'Brien, "We Shall Not Be Moved," and Zainab Salbi (NCC alumnus, BIS 1996), "If You Knew Me You Would Care" (co-sponsored with African & African American Studies). During the Festival, NCC faculty member Paul Gorski discussed his new book, "Cultivating Social Justice Teachers: How Teacher Educators Have Helped Students Overcome Cognitive Bottlenecks and Learn Critical Social Justice Concepts." Read more
Meet our new NCC advisory board and some outstanding alumni

We are proud to introduce our new NCC advisory board: Matt Bruno, BAIS ’05, MAIS 08, Kelly Jenkins, BAIS ’08, MPA ’11, Jamie Konstas, BAIS ’00, Dr. David Miles, and Diane Schulte (board chair). Read more

NCC Competencies

Remember the days of crafting portfolios and writing meaningful reflections on competencies? Competencies are still a focus of NCC and we currently have eight: communications, critical thinking, group collaboration, global understanding, civic engagement, digital literacy, aesthetic awareness, and well-being.

Most cordially,

Lisa Gring-Pemble
Associate Dean
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