

## PVCC Celebrates Golden Anniversary

Read articles from historical issues of *The Forum* inside

Gabriella Barber, assistant editor

On Sept. 25, 1972, PVCC opened classes to students. To commemorate 50 years of education, PVCC will be hosting many events over the next week and throughout the semester. PVCC has two events planned to celebrate on Sept. 27 and 28.

On Sept. 27, PVCC will host the Golden 50th Birthday Celebration in the Bolick Student Center. All festivities will occur from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.. There will be time allotted for speakers to give birthday messages and speeches, as well as cupcakes, a photo booth, and giveaways.

On Sept. 28, PVCC will be taking a schoolwide picture in celebration. The goal is to get between 150-200 people, according to the PVCC press release. PVCC needs this many people so they can set people to stand in the

shape of a “50” and have a drone take the photo. The whole PVCC community is welcome to join in the PVCC East Lawn at 11:45 a.m..

Other events will be held throughout the semester that relate to the school’s 50 years of history. Many of this year’s arts events feature artists and performers that have visited the college in the past, such as Latin Ballet of Virginia, Ty Cooper, and Tom Teasley.

An art exhibit in the Dickinson building also reflects on the college’s history. “In the North Gallery, ‘The Fall Line Retrospective: PVCC’s Literary Magazine Looks Back’ celebrates 14 years of creativity and collaboration with writings and artwork from the student-created magazine,” according to the PVCC website.

To continue the celebration, this issue of *The Forum* includes previous published articles, highlighting the history of the college.



The first PVCC commencement ceremony, 1974.  
 Photography courtesy of PVCC Marketing & Media

### In This Issue

- PVCC Events -pg. 2
- Tutoring Center -pg. 5
- *The Forum* -pg. 6
- Photo Spread -pgs. 12-13
- Nelsonite -pg. 15
- PVCC Panther -pg. 17
- Review -pg. 22
- Comics -pgs. 7 & 23

## DATES TO REMEMBER

— **PVCC is Golden Birthday Party \*** —  
Sept. 27, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Main Building

— **One Book Event: How to (and Why) Advocate for Climate Change\*** —  
Oct. 3, Noon to 1 p.m., M229

— **Fall Break** —  
Oct. 10-11, All Day, No classes

— **Latin Ballet of Virginia, *Alma Latina* ^** —  
Oct. 15, 7:30 p.m., Dickinson Building Main Stage

— **One Book Event: The Power of Visual Storytelling \*** —  
Oct. 17, 6-7:30 p.m., Dickinson Building Maxwell Black Box Theater

— **Documentary Filmmaking Workshop with Ty Cooper \*** —  
Oct. 21, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Dickinson Building

— **Free Movie Friday: *Nope* \*** —  
Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m., Dickinson Building Main Stage

— **Discovery Tours with PVCC's President Dr. Jean Runyon \*** —  
Oct. 25, noon, and Oct. 26, noon and 4 p.m.

— **Day of the Dead Candython \*** —  
Oct. 26, 3 p.m., Dickinson Commons

— **Tom Teasley & Stephen Nachmanovitch in Concert** —  
Oct. 29, 7:30 p.m., Dickinson Building Main Stage

— **Gallery Exhibition Opening Reception \*** —  
Nov. 18, 5-7 p.m., Dickinson Building Galleries

— **Thanksgiving Break** —  
Nov. 23-27, All Day, No classes

— **Let There Be Light \*** —  
Dec. 9 and Dec. 10, 6-9 p.m., Main Campus and Downtown Charlottesville

\*Free Event    ^Student Vouchers Available

## Editor's Note

Gabriella Barber, assistant editor

I have enjoyed writing since I was a child. I have fond memories of sitting at the dining room table in my home while tracing letters in a workbook when I was five. In High school I started taking journalism. I took this class for a couple of years and learned how to use photoshop, plan meetings, format a yearbook and take vibrant photos while also practicing a skill I knew well: writing and editing weekly papers.

When I started classes at PVCC in the Fall semester of 2018, only months after helping finish a fantastic yearbook for my senior year, I had no intent of taking journalism again. This is not because I did not enjoy journalism, but because I knew that journalism was not an easy elective class, a mistaken assumption I had made two years earlier in high school. But after three years of classes and a degree change, I decided that I was still interested in taking journalism again.

Throughout my first semester of journalism in Dr. Whyte's class, I struggled to fall back into writing weekly articles. Eventually, I had the opportunity to help format and design the articles that were to be published in *The Forum*. This made the long nights of writing and editing articles to be published and seen by the public worth it.



Photo courtesy of Gabriella Barber





# Student Government Association News

**PVCC|SGA**

# TOWN HALL MEETING

**Make Your Voice Heard**  
Free food & \$25 gift card raffle!!

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 5TH**  
@ 12:00 P.M. IN  
STUDENT CENTER

**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 16TH**  
@ 12:00 P.M. IN  
RM M229  
(ZOOM & IN PERSON)





Secretary Johnson Li, Vice-President Austin Warrington, President Hadrien Padilla, Treasurer Malcolm James, and Public Affairs Maia Smith  
Photo courtesy of PVCC Student Government Association

# The One Book Program: Global Warming Focus

Gabriella Barber, assistant editor

The One Book Program has a new book out for this Fall semester: *The Story of More: How We Got to Climate Change and Where to Go from Here*, by Hope Jahren. The book goes over the science and history of different inventions that are detrimental to the environment, in an attention-holding, interesting way. Many inventions gone over in the book are used daily by people, causing a large degree of damage to our environment.

The One Book Program not only offers the book for free, but also presents various events through the semester that relate to the book. Professor of English Dr. Tamara Whyte and Director of Library Services Crystal Newell, both co-chairs of the program, shared some events that have been announced.

One major event to be posted on the PVCC website is “Our Changing Climate: A Visual Chronicle,” a photo contest related to climate change. Submissions for the photography contest are being accepted through Nov. 7.

PVCC students, staff, and faculty are welcome to participate. For those interested in participating, the goal of the contest is to “...use a single photo to tell the story of and bring awareness to our delicate human relationship to the environment,” according to the PVCC website.

Opening night for the gallery of photos from the contest will be on Nov. 17 from 5-7 p.m. in the Dickinson Building Gallery. The photo exhibit will feature the work of both the participants and Michael O. Snyder. Snyder will be judging the photos, and he “...is a photographer and filmmaker who uses his combined knowledge of visual storytelling and conservation to create narratives that drive social impact,” according to the PVCC website.

Snyder will also be discussing how he approaches telling stories through visual media on Oct. 17 in the Dickinson Building Blackbox Theater from 6-7:30 p.m. The presentation is free.

Another event, “How to, (and Why) Advocate for Climate Change,” will take place on Oct. 3 from noon to 1 p.m. Speakers will discuss “how to advocate for legislation and policies in support



of fighting against climate change,” according to Newell.

The One Book Program has been active for nine years. Newell, says that picking out the book for the fall semester is “a very lengthy process,” and that “the entire spring semester is devoted to choosing the One Book.”

The committee and staff members in the program collect a list of suggested books. This collection of suggested books then gets whittled down to three choices after being checked for different criteria, and approved by the vice president of instruction and student services. Students and staff then get to vote on which of the three books should be chosen for the fall semester.

The book is offered through PVCC in some students’ classes and in the library for free. Just ask at the desk if you would like a copy. The goal of the One Book Program this year is to not only bring awareness to climate change but to bring everyone at PVCC together because, as Whyte says, “My favorite part of the One Book Program is that it brings people together across the college.”



# PVCC's Tutoring Center Reimagined

Gabriella Barber, assistant editor

PVCC is offering both in-person and online tutoring for a variety of different courses in the Tutoring Center room M253. Although this is where the First Quadrant Math Center used to be located, tutoring is still available for many math classes offered at PVCC through the newly renamed Tutoring Center.

Students can either schedule a tutoring session online through Navigate or stop by the center. If a student drops by without scheduling an appointment, they may have to wait for availability; the Tutoring center goes by a "First come, first serve," policy, said Director of Academic Support Services & First-Year Programs Dr. Todd Parks.

PVCC tutors are responsible for helping students understand materials in a course, and they often do this by "redirecting the student to their resources," according to Parks. These can include textbooks, handouts and notes. Parks said, "The assignments make a lot more sense when we read the instructions first," while discussing how often students will skip over the introduction or instructions and this often leads to initial confusion that can be cleared up easily.

Along with tutoring, PVCC also offers academic coaching. Coaches help students with overcoming difficulties with note taking or procrastination, for example. Students can set up an appointment with an Academic Coach through Navigate.

PVCC also has a Writing Center available to students in the Main Building room 617. There are few specific differences between the Writing Center and the Tutoring Center that are crucial to students.

"The Writing Center provides assistance with writing assignments regardless of class. Any writing assignment, any class," said Parks. This means that the Tutoring center does not help students with writing papers, but instead will help students understand material in a class. The Writing Center is also helpful for making PowerPoints and slide presentations.

The Tutoring Center not only offers tutors for a variety of courses, but it also has an open floor plan that welcomes students to gather in groups or work individually on studying for classes. The room includes TVs that students can wire their laptops to and many tables to sit at with classmates or tutors. The center is open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Tutors Darren Rose and Lily Huffsmith [left] studying with Front Desk Worker Byodunia Baluma [right].  
Photography by Gabriella Barber

# A Dream Fulfilled: Creating *The Forum*

Annie Hewitt, former staff writer

[August 25, 2003] The dream of a small group of students to create a student newspaper at PVCC has become a reality with today's issue of *The Forum*. What began as only a wishful thought has blossomed into something more that we could ever imagine.

This past spring Meghan Shaw, Haines Eason and I began work on creating a student newspaper. Our vision was to provide a place of connections for students, faculty, and staff. As PVCC President Frank Friedman said in a recent interview, "Students need to feel connected with their college."

With our goals set, the three of us tackled the daunting and at times overwhelming task. We decided the best course of action was to get together a staff and produce sample issues to determine whether or not our vision was even possible. So we made announcements in our classes, had our professors recruit students, and grabbed anyone we could think of to work with us towards our goal.

Truly it was these people that kept us going. We decided to run things as if we were an established newspaper, publishing every other week. Meghan, Haines, and I served as managing editors, giving out assignments, holding staff and editors meetings, and consistently looking ahead to the next step. We determined that if we were able to present ourselves to the college as a functioning organization we were more than likely to be accepted and supported.

Near the end of the spring semester we were informed that the college would support the student paper. In addition, the college would provide a class so that students would be able to serve on the staff while getting instruction and guidance.

As editors, the three of us were able to take the class this summer.

Our instructor, Mary Jane King, is a former newspaper reporter and journalism teacher. Already she has taught us a great deal and we are incredibly excited about what is to come. The road hasn't been easy, but it's been more than worth it.

Now, in coordination with Piedmont Virginia Community College, we present you with *The Forum*, a newspaper that is dedicated to you—the student, faculty, and staff.

Our purpose is to create a sense of community within the college by providing up-to-date and relevant information and a forum for the exchange of views. Our goals are [to] provide you with tools in your education career, acquaint you with multiple information sources, and of course give students the opportunity to explore a journalism career path.



The first issue of *The Forum*. Photography by Tamara Whyte



# The Wireless Revolution: Wifi Comes to PVCC

Sam Myers, former staff writer

[November 18, 2005] When I first received an email about the coming of a wireless network to PVCC, I honestly did not give it much thought.

However, after attending the introduction ceremony and posing a few questions to our chief information officer, Simeon Ananou, I have begun to realize the really profound impact it will have on our college experience.

The access points throughout the college are of a commercial grade for optimum efficiency, and they encompass virtually every part of the main and Dickinson buildings as well as sitting areas outside both. So bring your wireless-ready laptop and make good use of this new luxury.

The goal of the wireless initiative at PVCC is to revolutionize the way we learn, by providing extremely fast access to the Internet for pure web surfing enjoyment or more scholarly endeavors. Ananou said that while faculty and staff will benefit from the advancements, the new network was designed with a focus on students.

Over a year of planning and hard work has been given to this cause by our devoted IT staff, and I think we owe it to them to take full advantage of the fruits of their labor and not to abuse the trust they have placed in us. We are urged to remember that due to the wide open nature of the network, those using wireless computers should exercise caution when conducting confidential transactions or business.

The registration process, which takes about 2 and a half minutes, addresses security concerns.

Now if you are worried because, like certain staff writers, you are currently out of laptop funding, fear not, for in the Jessup Library you will find 15 such devices available to students for no charge. While using these computers is free, they cannot leave the library with you.

Piedmont also is purchasing 30 laptops which will make up two mobile computing labs. These can be wheeled to any room on campus after a teacher has reserved them.

This presents intriguing interactive possibilities, with students able to take an active part in lessons which might otherwise be just another lecture.

Ananou predicts that professors will begin to take advantage of this option by the end of this semester, with the full potential being realized next year when our instructors have had ample time to structure lesson plans with these assets in mind.

It may seem like a minor addition at first, but how many times have you been the odd student out of a library computer? And how many times have you wished you could relax in front of the majestic view behind the library while typing your term papers?

I believe this will impact many of us more than we realize, particularly in the classroom setting, and I for one will be looking forward to a bit of hi-tech variety next year.



Comic by Lauren Cottrell

# Woodrow W. Bolick Student Center Named

Megan Ford, former staff writer

**[October 21, 2005]** Laughter filled the hearts of students and faculty and the halls of PVCC when Woodrow W. (Woody) Bolick came back to the college to be honored for giving a large gift to the school.

Bolick and his daughter Cynthia Bolick Stultz gave the college \$500,000, the largest gift the college had ever received. In recognition, the college named the student lounge in the main building the Woodrow W. Bolick Student Center. The naming ceremony took place Oct. 12.

Bolick first walked into the life of PVCC back in the early 1970s when he became a member of the first PVCC Board. He walked back into our lives this month as an 86-year-old man who loves the college even more now than when he first started his journey with us.

His message is a simple one: people should always give back to their community.

With a big crowd looking on, President Friedman thanked Bolick and his daughter for their generosity. Student Senator Andy Modic

spoke for the students. “When you think of all the thousands, maybe millions of people who have walked through these doors, you’re the one to give back the most,” Modic said.

When the ceremony was over, Bolick lowered the new banner, completing the Woodrow W. Bolick Student Center.



Bolick being interviewed. Photo courtesy of PVCC Marketing & Media Relations

## PVCC Breaks Ground for Science Building

Emily Traylor, former editor-in-chief

**[October 24, 2008]** Wednesday, October 15, 12:30 p.m. - A crowd of people has gathered in the field to the right of PVCC's main building. A large, white tent stands near the center of the field, and it is overflowing with people.

Faculty, staff, and students look for seats and fill the standing areas outside the tent. Nursing students in their blue uniforms can be seen throughout the crowd of attendees.

The event is the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Kluge-Moses Science Building at PVCC.

The building was named after Patricia Kluge (founder, owner, and chairwoman of Kluge Estate Winery and Vineyard) and Bill Moses (CEO of the Kluge Estate Winery and Vineyard), who donated \$1.2 million for the project. The contribution is the largest in the history of PVCC. Kluge and Moses both spoke at the event and served as groundbreakers.

To open the ceremony, PVCC President Frank Friedman addressed the crowd with some introductory remarks and thanked everyone for attending.

The honorary speakers included Edward O. Watson (associate vice chancellor for facilities management service), Kluge, and Moses.

Kluge spoke about the importance of education and the benefits of the new building for science students.

A large puzzle showing an image the science building stood by the podium during the ceremony. At the conclusion of each speech, the speakers fitted one puzzle piece into the image. After the final speech, the puzzle was complete.

The building is state-of-the-art and is slated to include science labs, classrooms, faculty & dean offices, and common areas for socialization or study. Construction of the building is scheduled to be complete in time for the spring semester of 2010.



# New Center Offers Students Aid, Advice

Lauren Berge, former staff writer

**[November 2010]** Having trouble choosing classes for the spring 2011 semester? Need transfer help?

The Welcome Center and Counseling Center has merged to form the brand new Admissions & Advising Center.

The Admissions & Advising Center is also designed to provide PVCC students with transfer advice and registration help.

Mary Lee Walsh, the Dean of Student Services, said, "It's been a long time coming because the one thing that students have indicated to use is that they really need advising." The Center helps students choose the right classes to fit their requirements and schedules.

The new center is located in the main building in the space previously occupied by the Welcome Center. Students can make an appointment or walk in to talk to a counselor. "It is going to be much more convenient for students," Walsh said.

Kemper Steele, PVCC's new Coordinator of Advising and Transfer Programs, described his job as assisting students "by giving them the

necessary resources and guidance they need to make the process from the community college to the four year colleges as seamless as possible."

Steele also wants to educate more students about the Guaranteed Admissions Agreement with colleges and universities in Virginia.

"We want to make sure that students are not only utilizing that opportunity, but also understanding what the requirements are," he said.

Starting Monday, Nov. 1, PVCC faculty will also be available to advise students. "Students can meet with faculty advisors specific to the discipline that they are studying," Steele explained.

The new Admissions & Advising Center will be holding an open house on Nov. 1 so that students can talk to an advisor about spring 2011 classes.

Students are encouraged to register early because necessary classes fill up fast. Popcorn and other refreshments will be provided.

The Center is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Fridays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Admissions and Advising center opening.  
Photo courtesy of PVCC Marketing & Media Relations

# Satellite Location in Greene County Approved

Patrick Wise, former staff writer

[November 2011] With power comes the ability to influence the community's future. Like chess players plotting the next move, powerful figures in society strategize this future.

As unemployment levels teeter at 9.1 percent, according to an Oct. 7, 2011, CNN.com post, Albemarle and surrounding counties in Virginia are devising plans to create revenue and local jobs.

Of these figures, Barbara Fried is interested in making Greene County a fertile residence for expected businesses and families in which they can reside and operate out of in the coming years.

This fertility includes offering higher education in the area.

Piedmont Virginia Community College will be outfitting a satellite location on the second floor of the Greene County library at a date not yet set in stone.

Of the projected \$750,000 it will take the outfit, equip and begin operating from this location, Barbara Fried has donated \$250,000 to PVCC.

The foundation to raise money at PVCC is in many ways responsible for the college's new growth.

Mary Jane King, Director of Institutional Advancement and Development, says that the \$750,000 mark is nearly met.

King provided a little background for this foundation by saying that the college receives enough money through federal grants and state funding to operate proficiently but that in order to offer scholarships, start new programs and grow the college needs donations from other sources.

There was debate over PVCC moving to Greene.

In a Feb. 2011 interview, Frank Friedman, president

of PVCC, said, "NGIC and DIA are in northern Albemarle County, it's about a 35 or 40 minute drive from DIA to here. So the center we want to open in Stanardsville is probably 20 minutes from DIA and NGIC. So we're trying to weigh will that being a little bit closer make it more convenient to DIA and NGIC and make it easier for their employees to take courses from us there, or will it really matter? Will it be just as convenient for them to come here?"

In the end, adding a satellite location to the growing community in Greene County won the vote.

Fried Companies Inc. are constructing a Terrace Green Apartment Complex project in Ruckersville and the Rapidan Center. Essentials catering to the defense contracting business that is booming, this project will provide jobs across the spectrum.

To benefit the economy, from business, engineers, retail, maintenance and all the way to lawn care, faith is once again placed in building and developing.

Piedmont Virginia Community College will be outfitting a satellite location on the second floor of the Greene County library at a date not yet set in stone.



Former PVCC Present Frank Friedman and Ethyle Cole Giuseppe.  
Photo courtesy of PVCC Marketing & Media Relations



# PVCC to Offer Degree Program for Inmates

Patrick Wise, former staff writer

**[December 2011/January 2012]** In a recent board meeting, Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) announced that the college intends to offer full associate degree programs to incarcerated individuals at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women (FCCW).

Although PVCC has offered on-site courses at FCCW for 6 years, this new initiative will greatly expand course offerings and will allow offenders to attain training and education credentials which may allow for more rapid entrance into the workforce upon the end of their sentence.

“PVCC has been offering college courses here [at FCCW] since at least 2005,” said Jennifer Patteson, College Coordinator/Vocational Evaluator at FCCW. Since then, PVCC has increased the classes they offer to eight.

In cases like this, where it is possible for a student to earn more than half the credits required for a particular program of study at an off-campus location, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) must be notified to evaluate the school and its operations.

“When we decided we wanted to offer enough courses and the right mix of courses that students could earn the general studies degree and also as a subset of that the general education certificate, we had to report that to SACS as a substantive change,” said Tara Atkins-Brady, Director of Institutional Research, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness at PVCC. “Gathering documentation that proved the school’s compliance with SACS standards and requirements took months.”

When SACS received notification from PVCC about its increasing efforts at the correctional center, SACS sent a team to evaluate the college and its operations. In this visit, SACS evaluated the college’s off-campus programs and gave the college a “no recommendations” outcome, which in accreditation parlance means that PVCC is in complete compliance and there are no corrective actions required. Such a report from SACS is

unusual, and is the best outcome for which a college can hope.

PVCC is working to offer associate degree program courses in sequential order, semester after semester. This will enable students to complete the two-year degree. There are, however, logistical issues associated with extending educational opportunities to the prison system.

Some PVCC courses in the general studies curriculum, such as Information Technology and Biology, require technology or equipment and are not easily offered off-campus, as inmates cannot have access to the internet and much of the equipment involved in science laboratories are prohibited.

Regardless of the obstacles, an informal committee consisting of Kathy Hudson, Dean of Health and Life Sciences; Jennifer Scott, Biology Lab Manager; and Joanna Vondrasek, Associate Professor of Biology, have begun to develop a plan that will give incarcerated students essential access to science courses requiring a lab.

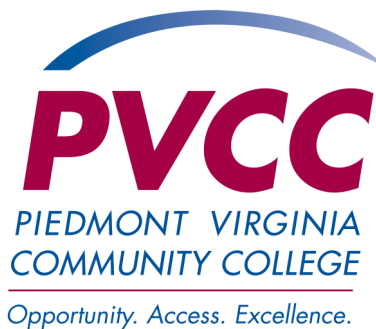
Henry Bohleke, Dean of Business, Mathematics and Technology said that his division is thinking about compiling the necessary data for IT classes on CD-ROMs.

When the departments of science and technology refine a way to deliver their classes to the incarcerated, a full two-year degree will be available for the correctional populace.

PVCC will continue to build and assess its outreach programs and advise students who are off-campus. John Donnelly, Vice President for Instruction & Student Services, along with one of the college’s academic deans, travels once a semester to a variety of satellite locations so that students receive individual advising.

Donnelly, who is also involved in the Germanna Community College and its programs of study offered to inmates of Coffeewood Correctional Center, was out of town and could not be reached for comment.

PVCC hopes to confer associate degrees to five students at FCCW within the 2011-2012 academic year.



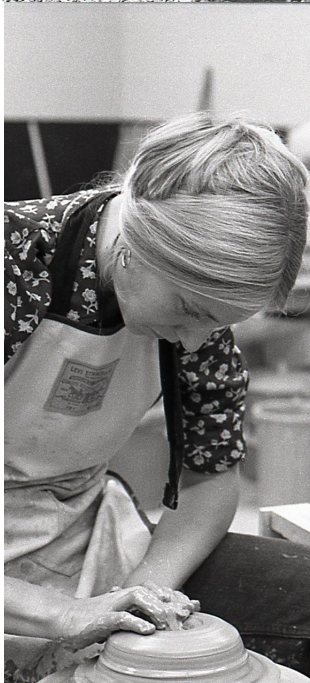




# PIEDMONT VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE



1973 original campus sign pictured at the top of the page. Main Building dedication pictured above. Photo courtesy of PVCC Marketing & Media Relations



1970s outdoor class pictured in the upper left. 1980s Ceramics class pictured on the left. 1970s Nursing graduates pictured on the right. Photos courtesy of PVCC Marketing & Media Relations





**Groundbreaking for the Science Building in 2008 pictured above.  
Photo courtesy of PVCC Marketing & Media Relations**



**1980s picture of students in the library pictured on the left. 1980s student group pictured on the right.  
Photo courtesy of PVCC Marketing & Media Relations**



# Local Winemakers Trace Roots to PVCC

Wayne Carr And Brittany Meeks, former staff writers

**[October 2012]** Since 2005, Workforce Services at Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) has been offering a wide range of programs. One that has been featured at the school for nearly four years is the Viticulture and Enology Program, which offers courses that teach students how to brew their own beer, to pair wine with food and to start their own vineyard.

“The [Virginia Community College System (VCCS)] offered a grant to develop Workforce Services. PVCC proposed a Viticulture and Enology Program and the VCCS accepted our proposal,” said Greg Rosko, Program Manager of Viticulture and Enology at Workforce Services.

Since the program was first offered, students have opened at least eight wineries and vineyards.

Hal White and Christine Wallin were searching for properties in Madison, Virginia when they came across the 30-acre Lazy Creek Farm. They were given a recommendation to speak with Gabrielle Rausse, a part-time instructor at PVCC, in order to assess the land for the potential of starting a vineyard.

“We browsed the PVCC catalog and decided to take the Viticulture and Enology Programs so that hopefully we would make fewer mistakes, and meet knowledgeable people associated with the wine industry,” said White.

Over time, the two considered many career options to occupy their time after they retired. White and Wallin never thought they would start making wine.

“When we first met, I hardly drank wine,” said White. “We had toured many wineries and I developed a fondness for wine. I had always dreamed of living on a farm, but had no experience in farming. We decided that starting a vineyard would be an endeavor that we could pursue jointly and it satisfied my desire for a farm.”

White and Wallin have not yet retired and still have full-time jobs in Arlington, Virginia. On the weekends they travel to Madison, where they have planted the first two acres of what will eventually be an eight-acre vineyard.

“We will be planting 2,800 vines on two acres in the spring, which will give us four acres of

vines. Tending them will take every spare moment of every weekend, during most of the year,” said White.

White and Wallin are happy with their decision to start a vineyard and to include PVCC in the journey.

“To anyone contemplating getting into vineyard and winery work we strongly recommend taking the courses in the Viticulture and Enology Program at PVCC,” said White.

Another local vineyard with connections to PVCC’s Viticulture and Enology Program is Stinson Vineyards, located in Crozet. Rachel Stinson moved from New York to Crozet in 2010 to help her father, Scott, start the vineyard.

“I think it had always been a secret dream of my dad to open a vineyard,” said Stinson. “His plan was to retire down here but somehow he found a property with an old vineyard. He decided he wanted to replant and possibly open a winery.”

In 2010, the vineyard made 600 cases of wine, 12 bottles per case, and last year they doubled that made 1200 cases. This year they will be making 1500 cases.

This spring, Stinson will be teaming with PVCC’s Workforce Services to teach others about her passion.

“We are very excited to be hosting two classes this March,” said Stinson. “The first class is Wine Blending on March 16 with Matthieu Finot and the second class is Winery Design and Equipment with Scott Stinson on March 23.”





# Petition To Make Nelsonite The State Rock

Nia'Ife Mukasa, staff writer

**[November 2015]** Forty-five states in America have an official state rock; Virginia is not one of them. Professor Larry Tiezzi thinks it is time to change that. Tiezzi teaches Honors Historical Geology and according to one of his students, Teshawna Quarles, Tiezzi decided to work with Assistant Professor Connie Jorgensen to petition to make the Nelson rock Virginia's official state rock.

A few students from Tiezzi's honors class, including Quarles and some from Jorgensen's political science class are involved in this project.

The rock they are petitioning for is the Nelsonite, named for Nelson County, VA. The petition efforts started the week of Oct. 19. It started in the testing center and moved to a table in the Bolick Center.

Many students did not know what the project is about and what a Nelsonite rock is, so Quarles was happy shed light on the subject:

What is the Nelsonite?

It's a rock that has some historical

significance to Virginia. It used to be mined for titanium. Its type locality is Nelson County, Virginia.

What does type locality mean?

Basically it's where the rock is originally found.

What does the rock look like?

It's a black and white speckled rock. It looks really pretty.

Why is there a push for naming the Nelson Rock as the state rock for VA?

It's supported by the Virginia State Geologists. Our state, Virginia, is one of five states that has no state rock.

Why is it important to you that VA has a state rock?

I just love the idea that there is a rock out there called Nelsonite which is in an area that people outside of Virginia and Nelson County know of.

Who is involved with this project?

There's our two professors, Jorgensen and Tiezzi. Four students from the geology side and four students from the political science side.

We called ourselves Students for Nelsonite.

How many signatures are you aiming for?

We're aiming for 2600.



## PVCC Students Make The Evening News

Nia'Ife Mukasa, staff writer

**[December 2015]** The Nelsonite petition project, initiated by Professor Lawrence Tiezzi, is gaining momentum. Three of the students petitioning for the Nelsonite to become Virginia's official state rock met with a reporter from Newsplex Channel 19 on Thursday, Oct. 29, Michelle Stanislaue, Owen Krug and Teshawna Quarles.

"The reporter heard about us from someone in the community and contacted the college to do a story," Stanislaue wrote in an email.

"The guy that was here for the Heritage or Hate speech, he signed our petition and ... he was interested by it," Quarles said.

Many of PVCCs staff and students have already supported the Nelsonite petition with their signatures. According to Quarles, the number of signatures is "in the ballpark of 400." There has not been an official count yet, but Stanislaue said that the group intends to collect more signatures.

As the petitioning process continues, the group has moved on to the legal aspects of getting the Nelsonite to be recognized as Virginia's state rock. Stanislaue mentioned that their group has an appointment with a senator of Nelson County to ask him to sponsor their bill.

They will have more details after Nov. 11. According to Quales, the group cannot disclose the name of the senator until the process is further along.



Rodney Davis, Daniel Hull, and Andrew Oxford talking about their experiences with NASA.  
Photography by Deadra Miller

## Student Launch Team’s Adventures with NASA

Deadra Miller, former staff writer

**[October 2017]** The Piedmont Student Launch Team (PSLT) landed in Huntsville, Alabama, earlier this year with a 9-foot handmade rocket to compete with other community colleges and universities alike in various categories at NASA Marshall Space Flight Center. Representing the only community college in Virginia, entered into the competition and working with astronauts on their rocket was an accomplishment for PSLT.

The team has nine members. At the meeting, three members (Rodney Davis, Daniel Hull, and Andrew Oxford) explained the technical qualities involved with the project. They held a meeting in the North Hall Meeting Room from 12-1 p.m. on Sept. 13. A fair number of intrigued individuals made it to see what PSLT was all about.

The PVCC PSLT had eight months from the time of submission to Launch Day to conduct all the documentation, tests, and adjustments to solidify their place in Huntsville. While this was going on, they also had to learn and find a place to do teleconferences with the NASA astronauts they were consulting with, while they are stationed in Alabama.

Not only did they assemble a 9-foot final rocket to participate in Launch Day, but they also built a 6-foot subscale rocket to use for testing.

The test results that were needed for April 2017 Launch Day was roll induction, meaning that once the rocket began to roll in flight, the team had to figure out a way to counteract that action with a device that was to be concealed within the rocket shell. These findings were in 15 to 100-page reports sent via email and sometimes U.S. mail to the astronauts that were assigned to mentor the projects and teams.

Roll induction was not the only task that PSLT competed in; unofficially, they also competed in the altitude challenge. This year, PSLT is attempting to compete in “altitude and payload challenge with landing a rover with unfolding solar panels,” according to the 2017-2018 NASA Student Launch Proposal. Ideas and designs are underway for the 2017-2018 season as of Sept. 20.

Along with these requirements, PSLT has to produce educational engagement events involving the community and college.

Last year’s choices were Girl Geek Day and a Family Space Exploration Event. With these two events and others, the PSLT exceeded their minimum requirements in attendance by 250 percent.

For more information about The Piedmont Student Launch Team, please check out [www.piedmontlaunch.org](http://www.piedmontlaunch.org) or their Facebook page @PiedmontLaunch.



# The PVCC Panther has Arrived

John Matthews, former staff writer

**[March 2018]** On Wednesday, Feb. 21, PVCC held an event to reveal the college's first-ever mascot since the school's conception in 1972. After PVCC students voted on what the mascot should be, the Panther was finally revealed for all students and faculty to see.

The bright green eyed, black coated Panther wore a maroon PVCC polo shirt. The mascot posed for pictures with students and faculty and trotted around interacting with people in the food line and those receiving the first PVCC Panther t-shirts. The mascot also handed out the award bags to the panther-based trivia game winners and tossed balls and flying discs to people in the Bolick Student Center.

Submissions for the Panther's name will be accepted until Feb. 28, which is when the Student Government Association (SGA) will select the top five choices to be voted on by the student body. Students can vote on the name between Monday, March 5 and Friday, March 9. The official name for the Panther is scheduled to be revealed the following Monday, March 12.

Shawn Anderson, coordinator of student engagement and student life, described the push for a mascot. He said the "SGA made it an initiative to school spirit." The goal was to "get students more involved."

The event was a success. SGA President Michael Apgar said they gave away 100 PVCC Panther t-shirts in 10 minutes. "Students were getting involved with pictures," Apgar said.

The Panther mascot was joyfully received by both students and faculty, who showed their excitement by participating in the trivia game and getting pictures with the mascot either through the school's photographer or taking their own selfies.

There was a general consensus among students that they liked the choice of Panther as the school mascot. Madison Weikle said she liked its "similarity to the marvel character." Another fellow student, Navashree Singh, said it was "pretty cool but a little creepy."

The mascot event was joined by the Hope at Piedmont Club, described by Brianna Wayne, Hope at Piedmont's liaison, "Hope gets it popping."

They gave out prizes and free popcorn to those in attendance at the event. Hope at Piedmont Club is a club against sexual assault and an advocate for students fearing pregnancy or emotional crisis.

The University of Virginia Community Credit Union also joined the event. Kelsey Waters, their representative, was there giving out free flying discs and discussing programs available at UVA's Community Credit Union and the differences between them and other banks.

The Panther Mascot Event was filled with excitement and laughs throughout, with endless interactions between the mascot and students and faculty. Pictures to high fives, the Panther gives PVCC spirit a thumbs up.



Pouncer the Panther.

Photo courtesy of PVCC Marketing & Media Relations

# Student Financial Resource Center Opens

Aleena Haidari, former staff writer

**[April 2019]** The Student Financial Resource Center is established to accommodate PVCC students' needs and assist them with their finances.

The Student Financial Resource Center had a grand opening on March 28 from noon to 2 p.m. which was open to all PVCC members. The mission of this resource center is to educate, connect, and help PVCC students navigate the resources available to them.

The resource center provides numerous resources that students are encouraged to utilize, and it is located in M103. To fulfill their primary mission of educating students about financial literacy, this resource center will have workshops and literacy sessions to assist students with their budgets. Further, they connect students to PVCC resources and community benefits such as SNAP, TANF, WIC, and energy assistance for car gas. In order to thoroughly assist students with these resources, they help students by applying to the aforementioned benefits. They also help eligible students apply for FAFSA and other forms of aid. If students are not eligible for FAFSA, PVCC offers Scholarships, which are great resources that assist students in applying and paying for school.

While the Student Financial Resource Center assists students with financial hardships through the Hudson Foundation and other aids, their

primary mission is to educate students about resources that reduce their dependence on benefits. This helps students to be financially literate and independent.

Amanda Key, the Financial Resource Center coordinator, is dedicated to fully supporting and helping students throughout their schooling at PVCC. Though the center did not officially open until March 28, Amanda has already helped many students who have sought assistance. When asked about her hopes for the future of this center, she replied, "I highly encourage all students at PVCC to reach out and seek help and support one another."

Key also hopes that students will contribute by volunteering in the clothing stock and food pantry. The Student Financial Resource Center provides pop-up shop clothes for students to prepare for their jobs interviews. In addition, they also provide food from the Pantry to students who lack access to nutrients and sustenance.

The Student Financial Resource Center is always seeking volunteers to help out with their clothing stock and food pantry. If anyone is interested in helping their fellow students, reach out to Amanda Key in Room M131 or by emailing her at [akey@pvcc.edu](mailto:akey@pvcc.edu). There are many resources available at PVCC and in the community that strive to help students be successful, but students must always initiate by seeking assistance.



The grand opening of the Student Financial Resource Center.  
Photo courtesy of PVCC Marketing & Media Relations





Group of Otto Krause students visiting PVCC. Photo courtesy of PVCC Marketing & Media Relations

## Beyond the world of PVCC

Callan Shore, former assistant editor

**[February 2019]** The community of PVCC does not end in Charlottesville because PVCC offers experiences all around the world. One of those experiences is the exchange program with Otto Krause, a secondary school in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Each year for over 25 years the Blue Ridge Rotary Club has funded a PVCC student to visit Argentina. Additionally, students from Otto Krause are able to be a temporary student at PVCC. This year's exchange student is Ernesto Brañeiro.

When PVCC students visit Buenos Aires, they live with a local family and attend classes at Otto Krause for six weeks. This exchange typically happens in June, but the application process starts months earlier. The only requirements for candidates to apply are that they are enrolled at PVCC, are between 18 and 21 years old, and have completed Spanish 202 or the equivalent. Additionally, low application numbers show that few students even know about this program.

However, this is not only an opportunity available to students. Since 2013, faculty have

also engaged in the exchange. Faculty member Fabian Blanco from Otto Krause is currently visiting PVCC for two weeks. Blanco teaches science in Argentina, and despite English being his second language, he recently gave a public talk at PVCC called "Things About Science They Didn't Teach You in School."

Blanco said, "PVCC is different than Otto Krause in many ways, for example, students at Otto Krause cannot choose their schedule."

The community has welcomed Blanco and PVCC professors are even hosting him at their houses.

One of his hosts, Professor of English and Writing Center Coordinator Jennifer Koster, visited Otto Krause for two weeks last year. On her trip, she attended English, literature, and history classes and visited the school's Laboratorio de Lenguas, which was inspired by PVCC's Writing Center and mainly helps students with English.

"The faculty at OK made me [and my family] feel very welcome. We learned a lot about the Argentine educational system, as well as the history and culture of Argentina," said Koster.

# Celebrating Success: Online Graduation Update

Jude Bolick, former assistant editor

**[September 2020]** On August 17, PVCC hosted a virtual graduation ceremony followed by a campus drive-through in order to safely honor the graduates during the Coronavirus. The virtual ceremony began streaming on the PVCC website at 2 p.m., running until around 3:30 p.m. The footage was then made available on PVCC's YouTube page. The drive-through took place from 4:30-6 p.m. on the same day. PVCC faculty and staff lined College Drive to cheer on the graduates. There was also music and decorations, which added to the celebration. Participants were given gift bags filled with PVCC swag.

"Everything we're doing now is different than we've done it before," said Andrew Renshaw, the dean of student services at PVCC, who planned the event.

The virtual ceremony was pre-recorded but has the feeling of a live production. The ceremony included speakers, a commencement address given by Mark Warner, and a speech

from Frank Friedman, the president of PVCC.

"Some parts of it will be the same as a traditional graduation ceremony," said Renshaw in an interview prior to the ceremony. "There are things that we need to do with a virtual ceremony, but we need to move through it in a way that is sensitive to the fact that people will be watching it online."

Instead of having students walk across the stage, each student had a personalized slide with their name, degree, and Latin honor, which were compiled into a slideshow of all the graduates. Students were given the option to send in a picture of themselves to add to their slide. A professional speaker read off each slide to honor the graduates. Each student was required to send in a recording of themselves saying their name prior to the ceremony, "so when the professional speaker says the person's name, they know it will be pronounced correctly," said Renshaw.

For more information about upcoming graduation ceremonies, contact Renshaw at [arensaw@pvcc.edu](mailto:arensaw@pvcc.edu).





# Professor wins Outstanding Faculty Award

Ginger Hood, former assistant editor

**[March 2021]** The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) Outstanding Faculty Award is an award given to faculty members who “have a demonstrated record of superior accomplishments in teaching, research, knowledge integration, and public service,” according to the SCHEV website. This year, there were 72 faculty members nominated; only 12 of those 72 were recipients. Among these recipients was Jennifer Koster, an English professor and the writing center coordinator at PVCC.

“PVCC salutes Jenny Koster on this tremendous accomplishment,” said PVCC President Frank Friedman in an article about the award. “Professor Koster is a talented, dedicated faculty member who is committed to providing opportunity for students. She goes the extra mile to help all students succeed. She epitomizes the quality of faculty that students encounter at PVCC.”

In addition to teaching and acting as coordinator of the Writing Center, Koster has been the coordinator of the Virginia chapter of the Southeastern Writing Center Association (SWCA) and the Virginia representative to the SWCA Board for the past four years. She also helped initiate Virginia’s first statewide tutor collaboration, TuColla-VA, in 2020.

“We call it TuColla — it sounds like a music festival,” said Koster. “It was in October, and we invited tutors from all around the state to submit proposals ... we had representatives from 16 schools in Virginia, and I think 70 people signed up. It was a great week.”

Of the 12 recipients of the Outstanding Faculty Award, Koster is the only recipient from a community college. “It’s nice to be recognized, particularly in a community college. We often get a little overlooked,” Koster said. However, when it comes to personal recognition, Koster is more hesitant. “I’m trying not to, but it feels funny to get [the award] because so many of my colleagues are

such talented and deserving people. It’s strange...I’ve struggled with the attention.”

Attention is not the only overwhelming factor of winning the SCHEV Outstanding Faculty Award — a lot of work goes into providing examples and resources for review. “The honor of being nominated comes with a lot of work,” says Koster. “You work with the president’s office putting together a package, so it’s quite a bit of work, actually. I found out a couple of weeks before the holiday, it was surprising— it’s a big honor,” she said. She continued with a chuckle, “A lot of people kept calling me tireless, and I was like— I’m very tired! It’s very tiring.”

Besides all the work of being nominated, Koster has also been kept busy with transitioning both her classes and the writing center online. “I had thought I would spend the summer doing creative writing. But with getting the Writing Center and also getting teaching completely online, it’s been very consuming,” Koster said. “I was kind of in the groove, and then [the pandemic] came along.”

Among all this work, Koster still finds the time to encourage her students to use their voices. She cites her upbringing as part of her inspiration: “My mother’s family is Mexican; Mexican families are very close. They’re very tight knit. We would spend a lot of time traveling to visit various family members, but I did not speak Spanish— I was not raised speaking Spanish, though my mother was raised bilingual. That was a challenge ... I couldn’t speak to my grandmother, who only spoke Spanish and who very much wanted to be a good grandmother. I was terrified of her most of my childhood because I couldn’t speak to her,” she said. “Language, family — that’s something that comes up in my writing a lot, I think it’s really just wanting people to be able to speak their experiences and— I hate to say it, it sounds a little hokey— but speak their truth, and be able to express themselves.”

To learn more about the 2021 SCHEV Outstanding Faculty Award, visit [www.schev.edu](http://www.schev.edu).

# The Freshest Food for the Busiest Bees: Feast!

Makenzie McCoy, staff writer

It's the beginning of the semester. Let's face it, our schedules are packed right now. Simplifying our daily routine is number one on a lot of people's lists, so why not combine lunch, grocery shopping, and catching up on some work into one stop? Feast! is home to a variety of cuisines, all made with locally sourced ingredients in their cafe. While you wait on your order, you have an entire market to explore where local brands are featured, or you can catch up on some work in your choice of either indoor or outdoor seating.

Feast! is a cafe and grocery store fusion on West Main Street in Charlottesville, only five minutes away from PVCC. When visiting their website, I was guided through their cafe menu, in-store items, and even gift box options. The FAQ page informs readers on the store's hours: Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. They also include information on their online pickup and delivery options, gift cards, and catering. It

was easy to navigate and provided several contact methods in case any questions or concerns came up.

When you first enter the store, you are immediately hit with the smell of fresh ingredients cooking in the cafe. There was an array of wine on several racks throughout the store that included staff suggestions to the customers. Towards the back of the market there is a large selection of pre-made bowls, dips, and soups made inside the cafe available to shoppers. I find this especially helpful for those busier days when you don't have much time to wait for food to be made. I picked up their pre-made mezze tabbouleh bowl (\$9.95) during my last visit and paired it with an oat milk cold brew (\$4.95) sold in their market.

The mezze tabbouleh bowl is on their seasonal menu for fall. It is entirely made from fresh and local ingredients including quinoa, hummus, roasted eggplant, cucumber, pickled carrots, red peppers, olives, lemon dressing, kale, and other

seasonings and spices. Everything included in the bowl was cooked well, and the serving size was just enough for a light lunch; however, I do wish there was more dressing included as it felt a bit small for the serving size. Overall, I felt like I was getting everything that I paid for and would certainly buy it again and explore their menu further.

It was a great experience to both try and learn more from and about Feast!. My mom is a part of their staff team, so I always hear so much about it, but experiencing the food and the environment on my own was lovely.



Feast! Mezze Tabbouleh bowl. Photography by Makenzie McCoy





"Pumpkin Spice is Here"  
October 2016 Comic by Andi Meddaugh



2015 Comic by Bridgette Lively

Pincushion & Tag-a-long by: Caroline m.



October 2016 Comic by Caroline Morris



October 2021 Comic by Sarah Louis

# Classifieds

THE WRITING CENTER@PVCC PRESENTS

## English Conversation Circle

For non-native English speakers  
Room M617

Wednesdays, 12:00 - 1:00

Join us to practice speaking English in an  
informal setting.

No homework is required.

English Conversation Circle will not be held  
on days when classes are not in session.

Sep. 28: Education  
Oct. 5: News & Media  
Oct. 12: Parenting  
Oct. 19: Autumn  
Oct. 26-Dec. 7: To Be Announced

Questions? Contact The Writing Center at  
PVCC (434-961-5499).



Check us out on social media

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The Forum offers classified space to the PVCC community free of charge. Please send announcements along with full name, email, and phone number to: [twhyte@pvcc.edu](mailto:twhyte@pvcc.edu).

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