Clip Boards are “Out.” Computers are “In.”

After many days of training and testing, the student services center at the Loudoun Campus unveiled the much-awaited computer sign-in system for students. Located in the main lobby of the Reynolds building, the new system provides an improved process for those students wishing to see a student services specialist.

The procedure is simple. A student enters his or her name andEMPLID number and then selects the service they require. They can choose a student services specialist by name or by request “the next available specialist” on the list. Once signed in, the students will wait in the lobby until the next available staff member is available.

Although it is based on the format of an older system, the new and improved “2.0 system” is able to track additional data which will be used to improve the students’ experience on campus. The learning curve has been minimal so the transition between the previous clip board sign-in and the new computerized system went smoothly.

As an additional enhancement, a student services professional is now located in the lobby. Their presence at the central kiosk, “The Watchtower,” has been extremely helpful in assisting students with their needs and directing them to the appropriate department. So far, the average wait has been averaging about 10 minutes. From May 21 through June 1, 549 students signed up for assistance.

“The computer sign-in has been a tremendous help in assessing the needs of the students on a daily basis,” says Gert Heslin, registrar and student services specialist supervisor. “It is more organized, more structured and students understand the process and have been receptive to the change. It certainly is an added attraction to the ‘one stop concept’ that we’re moving toward.”

5th of July Coming to Loudoun

Lanford Wilson’s 5th of July, directed by Mathew Randall, will be presented by the College Community Theater at the Loudoun Campus on July 5, 6, 7, 12, 13 and 14. Performances are at 8:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2:00 p.m. on Sundays in the Waddell Theater.

Set in rural Missouri in 1979, the play revolves around the Talley family and their friends, and focuses on the disillusionment with America in the wake of the Vietnam War.

General admission is $12. Students and senior citizen tickets are $10.00. Due to mature themes, this is not recommended for children under 16.

Note: A special “pay what you can preview” will be held on July 5 at 8:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Natalie Safley at 703-948-7701 or nsafley@nvcc.edu.

Mark Your Calendars

It’s not too early to plan to attend these events!

August 20 - September 14: Works by the Loudoun Campus Communication Design and Fine Arts Faculty. Waddell Art Gallery. Contact Don Depuydt at ddepuydt@nvcc.edu.

September 19: Constitution Day. David Stewart, author of The Summer of 1787, will deliver the Constitution Day address in the Annandale CE Forum at 12:30 p.m. Contact Terry Alford at talford@nvcc.edu.

October 2: 50th Anniversary of the Launch of Sputnik I, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. in the Waddell Theater. Contact Beverly Blois at bblois@nvcc.edu.

Watch for details in upcoming issues of Intercom!
Ensminger is Who’s Who Recipient

Ted Ensminger has been selected for inclusion in the 2006-2007 Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers. Ensminger, who teaches tennis at the Woodbridge Campus, was the youngest Nebraska state tennis champion in 1957. He also played in and organized tournaments throughout his military career before retiring from the Air Force in 1978. He currently serves as the tennis director for the Prince William County Park Authority.

Congratulations, Ted!

Who Writes Intercom? You Do!

Just a reminder that Intercom is a publication by and for the faculty and staff at Northern Virginia Community College. If you don’t submit your news to the Intercom mailbox, no one else will, either. So don’t be shy! Send your news items to Intercom@nvcc.edu.

Intercom Summer Schedule

Intercom continues on its summer production schedule. Please note the deadline is still 5:00 p.m. the Friday prior to publication. Send all news items to Intercom@nvcc.edu.

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Intercom will return to its weekly distribution schedule starting September 14.

Goodwin Seniors Complete Classes

The residents of Goodwin House, the continuing care retirement community across from the Alexandria Campus, successfully completed their ITE and ITD classes last month. The semester was chock full of learning experiences, including the acquisition of a whole new vocabulary. Words and expressions such as “booting up,” “thumb drives,” “blogs,” “Wikipedia,” “HTML” and “Googling” became second nature by the end of the sessions.

These successful experimental classes were extremely valuable to both the students and those who worked closely with them over the course of the semester, including Dean John Min, Professor Ed Delean, Public Information Coordinator Sue Davis and ESL Professor Agnes Malika (who, along with her class, graciously organized an end-of-semester party on May 7). These classes will become the prototype for other credit classes offered for senior citizens in the future.

Your Summer Vacation!

What are you doing on your summer vacation? Would you like to share your experiences with the rest of your NOVA colleagues? At the end of the summer, Intercom will start publishing some of your stories as filler material. If you’d like to tell us about any special trips or experiences, please send a paragraph or two (100 words or less) to Intercom@nvcc.edu. Include your name, title and campus in the e-mail. Photos accepted (one per submission) in .jpg format.

Photo credit: Kevin Mattingly