



Get involved

Sweet Treats Stop
1st Wednesdays
9:00-10:00 a.m.—*2nd floor, Student Life Center*
Free sweet snacks (cookies, pastries, donuts, puddings etc.) for students and employees. The selection will vary month to month. Quantity limited. Compliments of Great Western Dining Service.

September First Friday Connection Breakfast
Friday, September 6
7:00-9:00 a.m.—*Life Center, Community Room*
Employees please register when you arrive. Sponsored by Grayson College. Hosted by Student Life.

September First Tuesday Connection Breakfast
Tuesday, September 3
8:00-9:00 a.m.—*main foyer, South Campus*
Sponsored by Grayson College. Hosted by Student Life.

Free September Late Night Food Event
Tuesday, September 10
9:00-10:00 p.m.—*Life Center, Food Court*
Late Night Hamburger Feed. Free to all GC students and employees. Compliments of Great Western Dining Service.

Student Government Association
Mondays (1st Monday of each month)
12:15-12:45 p.m.—*The HUB*
Student club and organization members are invited as well as all students. SGA is the voice of students at GC. SGA promotes “students leading students.”

BSM Welcome Luncheon
Wednesday, August 28
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.—*Baptist Student Union*
Free lunch for students and employees.

BSM Luncheon
Wednesdays
11:45-12:30 p.m.—*Baptist Student Union*

BSM Bible Study
Mondays
12:00-1:00 p.m.—*Baptist Student Union*

Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Tuesdays
6:00 p.m.—*Viking Residence Hall Main Lounge*

Student Life Welcome Picnic
Thursday, August 29
12-1:30 p.m.—*Life Center—east patio under the Bridge*
All students and employees are invited to attend and celebrate the beginning of the fall semester. Free picnic style lunch, live music, photo booth, caricaturist, games/activities, Student Clubs/Organizations Appreciation Day, table displays, community and local business representation, departmental information displays and more.

GC Fitness Center
GC students and employees are eligible to use the facility with a valid GC ID card. Electronic check-in required, along with the ID card. First-time users complete liability form. Call 903.463.2579 for days and hours of operation.

8 Ball, Foosball, Ping Pong, Table Games and Video Game (s) Tournament
All students and employees are invited to participate. Register in the Student Life Office. Registration period: September 23-October 4. Tournament play begins Friday, October 11. Participants will play the best 2 of 3 games, **except for video games**, with the winner advancing. The tournament deadline is Friday, November 1. T-shirts will be presented to the winners on or before December 2. (cont. on p. 2)

Pres. McMullen challenges college to “start right, engage, and finish strong” in address

Last Tuesday as part of his annual address welcoming back faculty and staff, Grayson president Dr. Jeremy McMullen exhorted the audience to “start right, engage, and finish strong,” then delivered a thought-provoking reflection on his goals for the college.

He focused on 4 central improvement goals for 2016 with associated action plans: enhancing access, success, engagement, and stewardship.

Over the course of last semester, the president introduced his plan to various faculty and staff groups, soliciting feedback. Tuesday’s presentation incorporated some of the suggestions he has received.

Regarding **access**, Grayson’s goals will be to increase enrollment by 20%, increase online enrollment by 30%, and increase non-credit enrollment by 20%.

The college plans to achieve these goals by hiring new faculty, enhancing marketing efforts, improving technology, and scheduling efficiently.

Regarding **success**, goals will be to increase course completion (grades of A-C) in non-developmental courses by 20% and in developmental courses by 20%, increase retention (fall to spring by 25% and fall to fall by 20%), and increase student milestone achievement (15 hours, 30 hours, 45 hours, CERT, degrees—each by 20% across ethnicities).

Other success goals are to improve efficiency of degree pathways (25% decrease in time to degree, from 4 to 3 years, and 25% decrease in hours to degree, from 88 to 66) and improve student transitions to bachelor’s degree by 100% increase in students who transfer earning more than 30 hours at Grayson.

Achieving these goals will involve encouraging students to enroll in more than 12 hours as full time, supporting students

who enroll in 15 hours to complete their hours, analyze programs that are efficient in meeting time to degree and replicating these practices, actively monitoring student progress so that we award a degree as it is earned, and proactively advising students at the 45-hour mark toward completion.

Regarding **engagement**, goals will be to improve all CCSSE Benchmarks to at least 50% and to improve business, industry, and community partnerships.

To achieve these goals, the college will focus on planning professional development on engagement techniques, ensuring students make presentations in class, developing an understanding of shared responsibility for learning, holding campus conversations about attendance and withdrawals, and increasing CWL training partnerships, university/college partnerships, and community partnerships through service learning.

Regarding **stewardship**, goals will be to align operational expenses with college goals, engage in “best in class” fundraising, and explore alternative revenue streams.



Pres. Jeremy McMullen emphasized goals of Grayson’s Strategic Plan, including access, success, engagement, and stewardship, in his State of the College address last Tuesday.

BSM hosts Back to School lunch Wed.

By Bernie Gallagher

Baptist Student Ministry Director

GC students, as well as faculty and staff, are invited to the *Welcome Back to School Luncheon* sponsored by the Baptist Student Ministry.

This “come and go” event will be held on Wednesday, August 28, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the BSM building

(next to the gym on the main campus).

Hot dogs and all the trimmings will be served at no charge. Live music will be an added feature.

Everyone is invited to come whenever you can and stay as long as you like.

Then on the following Wednesdays throughout the semester, the BSM is planning to provide a free lunch and program at the Baptist Student Ministry building.

We will begin serving the

meal, provided by area churches, at 11:50 a.m., followed by a brief program featuring music and speakers from area churches and/or the GC community.

For more information concerning how you can get involved in BSM, please stop by our building (open from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.), call us at 903-463-8798/903-465-2207, or email us at bsm6101@airmail.net.



Phi Theta Kappa Presents:

Grayson College Constitution Day Celebration

2013 **September 17 at 6:00 PM** in the Center for Workplace Learning Auditorium.

Join us as we celebrate this foundational document. Dr. Donna Kumler, Dr. Chase Machen, Professor Matt Hamilton, and Professor Mary Linder will present information about the Constitution, addressing both historical and contemporary constitutional issues.

Phi Theta Kappans attend Texas Honors Institute 2013

By Cheyenne Arrington

Over the summer, members of Omicron Psi, Grayson College’s chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, ventured out of Denison to attend the 2013 Texas Honors Institute at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin, Texas.

The weekend was spent reuniting with old friends and making new ones while learning about The Culture of Competition and how to overcome self-doubt to achieve success.

Although it may have looked like members sat around watching movie clips the entire weekend, in reality they experienced three days of discovering ways to apply the competition elements seen in movies to their everyday lives.

To do this, clips from the movies *Up*, *Walk the Line*, *The Hunger Games*, *Apollo 13*, *The Blind Side*, *The Pursuit of Happiness*, and more were played to demonstrate competition between others, and within themselves.

Each day, students attended small group sessions that allowed them to explore the topics seen in the movie clips and the way those issues related to this year’s honors study topic, The Culture of

Competition.

Besides watching the big screen, motivational speakers helped to inspire young attendees of the Texas Honors Institute.

In attendance was Jerry Woodfill, the Apollo 13 Spacecraft Warning System Engineer, who taught students that even when facing overwhelming odds, failure is not an option.

Also present were Brent Baker, Vice President of Institutional Advancement at Weatherford College, Dr. Melissa Weinbrenner, advisor from Northeast Texas Community College, and Dr. Archie Wortham, an educator and writer. All of the presenters did an amazing job.

Other sessions included workshops, which taught Phi Theta Kappa Members everything they need to know from the very basics in “Phi Theta Kappa 1.0” to “Scholarship opportunities” to “Running an Effective Meeting.” Grayson College’s very own Genia Shipman, Omicron Psi Chapter President, and Katie Turner, Leadership Development Officer, did a wonderful job

See “Phi Theta Kappa” p. 3

N. Texas Tortoise Sanctuary and Conservation Center protects and educates

By Brittany Kindle

Many people do not understand tortoises. Some cannot distinguish a turtle from a tortoise.

The North Texas Tortoise Sanctuary and Conservation Center helps people become aware of the difference.

This Sanctuary is located on the outskirts of Melissa, Texas, and has been rescuing endangered tortoises for twenty years.

Kelly Hull, Director of The

North Texas Tortoise Sanctuary, started collecting different types of reptiles and animals at the age of five.

Although he has owned many species, Hull’s main interest was tortoises. His mother, Dr. Janet Hull, encouraged him to keep collecting.

Hull noted that he would buy as many tortoises as he could acquire for the least amount possible.

After a while, he then started to focus on rescuing

See “Tortoise” p. 4

Check out

THE VIKING

in full color online at

<http://www.grayson.edu/college-info/the-viking.aspx>, including archived earlier editions.

From the Grayson home page, click on “College Info” and then “The Viking.”

Men of Distinction
Thursdays
12:00-1:00 p.m. —*The HUB*
Tuesdays
5:00-6:00 p.m. —*The HUB*

Sisters of Destiny
Mondays
11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. (2nd and 4th) —*The HUB*
Wednesdays
4:00-5:00 p.m. —*The HUB*

Phi Theta Kappa
Wednesdays
12:00-1:00 p.m. —*The HUB*

Dental Assisting
Wednesdays
1:00-2:00 p.m. —*The HUB*

Speech Club
Every other Wednesday
3:00-4:00 p.m. —*The HUB*

**Writers Unlimited/
Sigma Kappa Delta**
2nd & 4th Fridays
12:00-1:00 p.m. —*GC Writing Center (Library, Rm. 110)*

Mu Alpha Theta
Tuesdays
2:00-3:00 p.m. —*The HUB*

Welding Association
Every other Tuesday
12:00-1:00 p.m. —*The HUB*

Cultural Diversity
1st & 3rd Thursdays
1:15-2:15 p.m. —*The HUB*

The Clay Club
Tuesdays
6:00 -6:30 p.m. —*AC 120*

**Eta Sigma Delta
(Culinary Honor Society)**
TBA

Student Ambassadors
3rd Monday of each month
12:00 -1:00 p.m. —*Bridge lounge-outside the HUB*

**MAS—Give More-
Get More**
Mondays
2:30-3:30 p.m. —*The HUB*

Delta Phi Delta Art Club
1st Wednesday of each month
11:45 a.m. —*AC105*

Grayson Nursing Student Association
Thursdays (last Thursday of month)
5:00 -6:00 p.m. —*The HUB*

Psychology Club
Tuesdays
12:15-12:45 p.m. —*CIS 202*

Paramedic Student Association
Meetings as needed.
5:00 p.m. —*HS 215*

Vocational Student Nursing Association
Tuesdays
12:00-1:00 p.m. —*South Campus*

Cosmetology Club
Mondays
3:45 p.m. —*CTC classroom*

TIPSS (Culinary Arts & Hospitality Management Club)
4th Monday of the month
2:00-3:00 p.m. —*Culinary Arts Building*

Criminal Justice Club (LAE)
Tuesdays
12:15-1:45 p.m. —*CJ 101*

Drug Alcohol Abuse Counseling Club (DAAC)
Mondays
8:20 a.m.-9:00 a.m. —*HS 202*

Radiology Technology Club
Contact Robbie Jackson, 903.463.8676 for meeting times.

Veterans Student Association
Contact the veteran student representative in the Student Services office.

Future Educators
Every other Tuesday
2:00-3:00 p.m. —*CIS 200*

Visit the Student Life link on the college website for current activity and event information or call 903.463.8693.

FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING

August 14 to September 12, 2013

2nd Floor Gallery

Arts & Communications Center / Grayson County College

Featuring 34 figurative works by Donna Finch Adams, Steve O. Black, Beverly Combs, Arlene Cason, Sarah Sparks Duran, Matthew Freeman, Jacquelyn Gardner, Sherry Hudson, Jeanetta Ita, Mary Karam, George Mason, Ilona Nogarr, John Pine, Lydia Pine, Thelma Scribner, Jeanne Sturdevant, Veronica Tredway, and Marie D. Van Arsdale.

RECEPTION FOR THE ARTISTS
Thursday, September 12, 6PM TO 8PM

OPEN AND FREE TO THE PUBLIC

For additional information on the exhibit or future shows and events

SPIRIT DAYS



EVERY FRIDAY

Show Your College Spirit By Wearing GC Apparel And Blue Jeans

BSM Weekly Luncheon and Program



Every Wednesday

September – November 2013

11:45am – 12:30pm

Free Lunch And Program

Students And Employees Are Invited

Students Leading Students
Meets The First Monday Of Each Month
August-May 12:15pm-12:45pm HUB



The SGA is an organization of students who are interested in social, personal and academic growth. The SGA is the umbrella organization with representation from the 20 recognized student organizations at GCC. Individual students are also invited to attend the weekly meetings. This organization represents the 4900+ students and is the student voice to the President's Executive Council. Get involved! Make a difference!

Welcome Picnic 2013

Thursday, August 29, 11:30am-1:30pm

East Patio – Under The Bridge

Complimentary Lunch, Live Music,

Student Organization Displays,

Assorted Games/Activities

And More!

Sponsored By Student Life



AUDITIONS

BLACK SNOW

ACTF show. It's a comedy....it's about theatre.....It's a play....it's dark....it's Russian!

Thurs, Aug 29 6pm

Cruce Stark Cold Readings

For more info, contact Theatre Dept
903-463-8609 or theatre@grayson.edu

Performance dates for show: Oct 17-19
Rehearsals: Sun thru Thurs evenings 6-10pm

CLUB G

• Grayson Colleges No Alcohol Campus Night Club

• **FREE** Admission To Students,

• Employees And Their Families

• Thursday, September 26, 8:00pm-10:00pm

• Life Center/Community Room

Music Food Dancing Fun

It's My Life Student Leadership Series

In support of the GC Student Government Association and Student Life, Center for Workplace Learning Advisory Board will provide guest speakers monthly to facilitate discussion relating to various leadership topics. The venue will be public forums during lunch in which students, employees and guests will hear business leaders share their philosophy on leadership in today's competitive environment.

September 26, October 28 &

November 25, 2013

12:15pm-12:45pm – LA107

Theatre Department Information Meeting

Monday, August 26 at 6:30pm
Black Box Theatre inside Arts & Communication Center

All Welcome! We will discuss auditions, productions for 2013-14, and much more.

Karaoke!

September 12, 2013

11:30am – 1:00pm

Community Room In The Life Center

Join Your Friends

For 90 Minutes Of Fun!

Sponsored By Student Life



Be a G.S.A.!!!

Become a Grayson Student Ambassador

We are looking for NEW and active members

If you meet the qualifications and are interested

call Rhonda Marroquin @ 903-415-2611

Preferred Qualifications:

- Current student enrolled in at least 6 credit hours
- Interested in developing leadership & public relations skills
- Willing to serve as a college representative
- A 2.75 minimum GPA



2012-2013 Current GSA Members

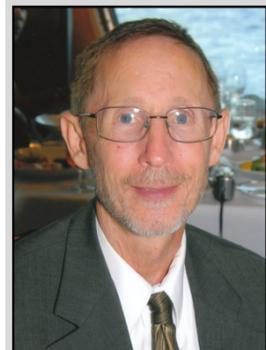
(Left to Right)

Top: Jordan Breaux, David Harman, Blake Bray Middle: Sponsor: Rhonda Marroquin, Dianna Clay Front: Mary Frazier, Celena Reed, Sara Arellano (Not all members pictured here)

A message from Dean Tony Stanzo. . .

By Tony Stanzo

Dean of Academic Instruction



If this is your first semester here at Grayson, welcome to the campus. If you are a returning

student, welcome back, and congratulations for sticking to your plan.

If this is your first time in college, welcome to the future. Actually, not just the future—your future.

By enrolling in college, you have made a decision to invest in your future.

Like any investment, it involves putting up some principal to earn a higher return.

The principal you're investing in is the form of all the sacrifices you are making – mostly money, time, and effort.

The potential return on this investment is, in addition to a certificate or degree, a documented skill set of critical thinking,

communication, teamwork, accepting responsibility, and both mathematical and scientific reasoning.

As you accumulate these skills—*core objectives*, we call them—you gain a higher capacity for navigating the complex world that surrounds all of us.

They make us better citizens, better parents, and better workers.

These are the skills employers are demanding, and with them, you will have a competitive advantage that will last a lifetime and be passed down to your children.

You will be hearing more about the Core Objectives, especially critical

thinking and personal responsibility, as you work through your classes at Grayson.

You will find them nestled within courses, bantered about in discussion groups, girding our student clubs and organizations, and woven into tests and assignments.

We encourage you to embrace them as part of your investment in your future. When you earn that certificate or degree, you will cash your investment in for a lifetime of rewards for you and your children.



All GC students and employees are invited to participate in this recreational activity. Registration begins September 23 and concludes October 4, 2013. Come to the Recreation Center counter and register. Tournament rules and playing brackets are available upon request. Personalized t-shirts will be awarded to the winners in each category. Tournament play begins October 11 and ends November 1, 2013. Sponsored by Student Life. **JOIN THE FUN!!!**

Phi Theta Kappa (cont. from p. 1)

directing the workshop entitled "Leading as a New Officer."

Being selected to present workshops at these conferences allows members to develop their leadership and communication skills, which are very important both in the academic world and in the workplace.

Other fun activities at the Texas Honors Institute included the Friday night talent show with a quartet, a band, and several comedians who kept everyone laughing until after midnight.

Saturday night, students got to "cut loose" at the dance, which was complete with a live DJ and a photo booth.

Several students won door prizes, and some were

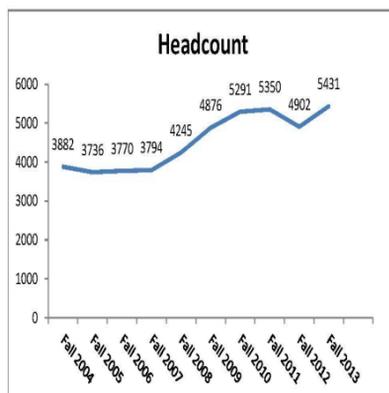
awarded scholarships.

Unfortunately, such a busy and exciting weekend had to come to a close. Omicron Psi members attended the last sessions said goodbye to their Phi Theta Kappa family, and made the trip home.

Omicron Psi members are very excited for their many upcoming projects this Fall semester and are eager to attend the Leadership Conference this October at Texas A&M in College Station!

Those who are interested in taking part in the exciting opportunities Phi Theta Kappa has to offer should check out their chapter website, ptkomicronpsi.org, or attend one of the weekly meetings held each Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. in LA 101.

GRAYSON COLLEGE STUDENT PROFILE: FALL 2013



Fall Enrollment Targets	Headcount	Credit Hours	Contact Hours	New Students
2012 Enrollment	4,905	46,321	987,225	1,497
2013 Enrollment	5,431	52,012	1,105,001	1,641
Percentage Difference	10.72%	12.29%	11.93%	9.62%

Gender	
Female	59.98%
Male	39.88%
Unknown	0.15%

Financial Aid	
Pell Grant	42%
Student Loans	36%
All Financial Aid	63%

Enrollment Status	
Full Time	44.92%
Part Time	55.08%

Ethnicity	
American Indian	2.17%
Asian	1.00%
Black	6.65%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.16%
Hispanic	11.86%
International	1.66%
Multi Racial	4.19%
Unknown/Not Reported	1.02%
White	71.28%

Classification	
Freshman	69.78%
Sophomore	19.45%
Other	10.77%

Residency Status	
Foreign Student	1.86%
In-District	71.50%
Nonresident	5.16%
Out-of-District	21.43%
Other	0.05%

Dual Credit	1034
First Time In College	1040
Fall 2012 Retention	48%
Spring 2013 Retention	58%

Age	
< 18	16.58%
18-21	33.23%
22-24	11.94%
25-30	12.39%
31-35	8.11%
36-50	13.14%
51+	4.61%

Major Type	
Academic Studies	49.57%
Workforce	50.43%

Total Number of Courses Offered: 918

Average Class Size: 19.8

% Courses taught by full-time faculty: 60%

Brent Archer, Institutional Research Analyst

Get involved in a club!

DAAC – Drugs and Alcohol Counseling Susie Fry 903-463-611 frys@grayson.edu	Care Center BSM Bernie Gallagher 903-463-8798 gallagherb@grayson.edu
Cosmetology Charlotte McLain 903-415-2588 mclainc@grayson.edu	Delta Phi Delta Art Club Steve Black 903-463-8662 blackst@grayson.edu
Dental Assistants Club Wendy Renfro 903-415-2529 renfrow@grayson.edu	Fellowship of Christian Athletes Bernie Gallagher and Theresa Barnett 903- 814-3603 903-463-8753 gallagherb@grayson.edu tbarnett@grayson.edu
Grayson Nursing Students Association Shirley Greenway 903-463-8675 greenways@grayson.edu	Criminal Justice Club (LAE) Dwayne Barber 903-463-8703 barberd@grayson.edu
Clay Club Kristin Vilbig 214-293-1432 Vilbig@grayson.edu	Mu Alpha Theta (MAT/Math) Dayna Ford 903-463-8663 fordd@grayson.edu
Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society (PTK) Mary Linder 903-463-8616 linderm@grayson.edu	Sigma Kappa Delta English Honor Society (SKD)/Writers Unlimited Richard Davis 903-415-2502 davisre@grayson.edu Marlea Trevino 903-415-2585 trevinom@grayson.edu Kay Dishner 903-415-2526 kaydishner@yahoo.com
Eta Sigma Delta (Culinary Arts & Hospitality Management Honors Society) Rusty Weatherly 903- 415- 2583	

Psychology Club Carla Fanning 903-415-2555	Veteran Student Association Barbara Ward 903-463-8692
Student Government Association (SGA) Gregg Miles 903-463-8693	Welding Technology Association Greg Beckley 903-463-8657
Vocational Nursing Students Association (VNSA) Lisa Fair 903-415-2508	Men of Distinction Charles Leslie 903-415-2532
Student Ambassadors (GSA) Rhonda Marroquin 903-463-2611 marroquinqr@grayson.edu	Sisters of Destiny Melissa Young 903-463-2531 youngm@grayson.edu
Cultural Diversity Club Brad McClenny 903-463-8749 mcclennyb@grayson.edu	Radiology Technology Club Robbie Jackson 903-463-8676 jacksonr@grayson.edu
Paramedic Student Association (PSA) Brandon Poteet 903-463-8677 poteetb@grayson.edu	Grayson College Music Club David Tercero 903-463-8728 tercerod@grayson.edu

HALO (Hispanic American Leadership Organization) Sandra Sibrian 903-463-8743 sibrians@grayson.edu	Table Tennis (Ping Pong) Club Tony Stanzo 903-463-8608 stanzot@grayson.edu
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Future Educators Keri Harvey 903-463-2556 harveyk@grayson.edu	TIPSS (Culinary Arts & Hospitality Management) Joanna Bryant 903-463-8654 bryantj@grayson.edu
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Grayson Hair and Nail Salon
903.463.8744

Team Registration For
4 on 4 Flag Football And 5 on 5 Soccer
AUGUST 26 – SEPTEMBER 12, 2013
Register at the Recreation Counter located on the 2nd floor of the Life Center.
A \$20 per team forfeit fee must be paid at the time of registration.
Refundable if team does not forfeit a game.
The captains meeting will be held September 19, 12:00noon in the Student Life Conference Room.
*Play begins September 24 and 25 at the Rec. Sports Field. Call 903 463-8633 for details.

Free X-Rays and Dental Impressions!
Fridays: 8, 9, 10, 11 a.m.
Call for appointment
Wendy Renfro,
Director of Dental Assisting
903.415.2529
RenfroW@grayson.edu

Enjoy gourmet menus

... at budget prices in GC's student-run restaurant.

Six Ninety-One

Reservations for Wednesday and Friday lunch service: 903.415.2605

Culinary Arts Building



Do you have a track to run on?

By Kay Dishner
Asst. Writing Lab Coordinator



Learning to live successfully requires projecting the image of success, which is not of who you are, but rather who you want to become.

If you can dream, you can become the architect of your own life. The dream becomes the goal, and you draw the plans to achieve the goal.

Your plans will fail or succeed according to your work ethic and commitment to achieving the goal.

Both the goal setting and then the planning and working the plan will fail or succeed according to your own time management of your 24 hours each day.

Time and how you use it (spend it, save it, invest it or waste it) will always determine your success in any endeavor.

The first step in learning time management is to schedule a normal day and week of your time and how it is spent, so you will have a track to run on each day instead of always

running to catch up.

Once you begin to master your time, you will begin to realize the tremendous power time exerts in your life.

Setting goals, both long-term and short-term, will make you aware of time and how it will need to be spent or invested in order to achieve your goals.

Short-term goals help in getting through a day or week because you have created a track to run on.

Long-term goals (dreams) must also be planned and managed just like short-term goals.

Breaking your long-term goal (degree) into smaller goals that can be achieved daily or weekly will give you the plan to achieve your dream.

Finally, the work ethic you apply to your schedule will determine the outcome of plans to achieve your dreams.

If you will commit to doing all the work required to accomplish your goal, then it becomes a matter of accomplishing the steps of your plan.

Hard work and commitment will always lead to success in achieving goals.

So, what can you depend on yourself to do? Will you set goals, manage time and work hard to achieve your goals?

A committed, hard-working, and on-time person will always be successful. So project your image of success, and watch your life become successful and satisfying.

Swimming with sharks

By Mallory White

I remember the pool, the way the waves hit the concrete and splashed over on the deck, the ants that were crawling on the hot patio ground before being swept away by the water.

“Good riddance,” I would say. I hated the ants that fell into the pool and ruined everything by getting trapped in my hair and biting me.

The chlorine was very strong, and my eyes burned and stung to the point that I was worried I would lose my sight if I kept swimming.

I didn’t like the deep end very much, I got panicky and always thought I would never make it to the ladder. So I stayed on the steps in the shallow end and enjoyed my time in the water like I would never swim again.

“Look at me, Mom; look at me. I am a mermaid!” I would call out; she would reluctantly look up from her book and smile or nod. She was too busy sun bathing to care what silly game I was playing.

When I was in the water, I could pretend I was anything. My world would transform. Suddenly I wasn’t in my Grandma’s pool; I was in a beautiful cove near the ocean.

I was surrounded by my make-believe sisters, mermaids who were all beautiful and lovely. We all sat on rocks and discussed the news of our underwater world.

All my sisters had boyfriends or hus-

bands. I was the only one who didn’t, but that was okay. I was the adventurous one.

We all had our traits. I would swim with dolphins or the string rays, and they would brush their hair.

One day I decided I would swim with sharks! “How bad could they be after all? They get a bad rap for being mean,” I thought.

So I swam out to the middle of the ocean and went down really deep to find them. I twirled and flipped around with them, holding my breath for ages. I would get really close—only an arm’s length away at times—and they would just watch me.

I had never been this deep before. The sharks were friendly enough, until they got hungry. I noticed they started getting closer, and I immediately got alarmed.

I started swimming up to the surface, but they grabbed me, and I couldn’t get a breath I desperately needed.

I was confused and dazed. Which way was up? I was out of air. I opened my mouth to scream, but all I got was water.

All of sudden everything slowed down, and everything came into focus. I was in the deep end of the pool, not the ocean, and I was drowning.

Right when I quit swimming and my lifeless body was just floating in the water, I heard a scream, a splash, and then I was in my mother’s arms.

She pulled me out of the pool, I coughed and sputtered up water, and she hugged me and cried. It was the first time I had ever seen her cry.

We hugged for what felt like eternity, and then she asked me what had happened. I replied, “I swam with sharks.”

Tortoise (cont. from p. 1)

endangered tortoises. By the age of seventeen, Hull had the largest collection of this endangered species in Texas.

These captive tortoises are from all over the world. Hull shared that some of these tortoises have been bought out of pocket because of how rare they are.

Some have been given to the sanctuary because they have been abused or malnourished. This sanctuary offers tortoises of all kinds a place to recover and enjoy their long lives.

While in captivity, the sanctuary creates habitats close to their natural environment in the tortoise’s native country.

The habitats’ humidity can be extremely high or low, depending on the environment that the tortoise comes from.

With love and care, this sanctuary creates the habitats by duplicating their surroundings, including greenery and small ponds.

This makes it more comfortable for the tortoises and easier for them to relax.

The environments are diverse and accommodate 178 tortoises.

This sanctuary is still growing and creating new habitats to accommodate incoming tortoises.

Dr. Janet Hull, curator and a professor at Texas A&M Commerce, devotes most of her time to this amazing species. “People just don’t respect these awesome creatures,” says Hull.

Her favorite tortoise out of the 178 are the Mountain tortoises because “it is the most intelligent; they have the mentality of a two-year old,” notes Hull.

The pancake tortoises, which are uniquely flattened, are another one of Dr. Hull’s favorite.

The tortoises’ having offspring is a key goal to this sanctuary. The sanctuary tries to contain breeding pairs so they can help populate the species.

Many of the tortoises that are accommodated at this sanctuary are endangered or near extinction. Each female tortoise can produce one clutch a year for incubation.

The hatch rate can vary each year when incubated, but their odds of having offspring are higher in captivity.

Even though the tortoises produce offspring, the sanctuary does not introduce tortoises back into the wild because they would never have a chance to live.

People in different countries eat

them because it is their only food source.

Markets for selling tortoises have made poachers rich and their species more endangered. “We are trying to protect them the best we can and give them a life that is stress free,” comments Hull.



With the help of volunteers, this sanctuary is expanding and introducing newer habitats for these endangered tortoises.

The volunteers “help out with feeding, cleaning up the habitats and help build new habitats for the tortoises,” comments William Eubanks, seventeen years old, who has been volunteering for over a year.

Donations are made infrequently to this organization. “Most of this sanctu-

ary is out of pocket,” Hull notes.

There are people around the community who are kind and helpful, such as the nearby grocery store, which donates fruit and vegetables to the sanctuary.

However, fundraisers are now starting to pick up due to the website, <http://www.tortoisesanctuary.org/>.

Dr. Hull’s future daughter-in-law, Jenna, came up with the idea of taking pictures of the tortoises’ shells and making the pictures into clothing, hats, and backpacks for additional fundraising material. It is a unique way to help these gentle creatures.

Visit the North Texas Tortoise Sanctuary and Conservation Center for more information on how to donate to this great cause.

Support the Cause

The North Texas Tortoise Sanctuary is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to the sole conservation and survival of endangered and threatened tortoise species from around the globe.

Poets' Corner

Breaking

T’would follow Western breeze to seek
For hidden rimes and desert peaks
To follow where the cacti bloom
To sit and ponder with the moon

Twenty -five years wayfaring west
Stopping at the designated rest
A fire of oak to keep off the cold
A fire of paper to sweeten the soul

Dry as a drum, we dug in our packs
Bought in the Star though others are lax
Transported, nay smuggled across the line
Two magnum bottles of Lone Star wine!

Watch yonder for the lights of the swine
Blue, then red, then blue red line
And gathering wondrous electric spark
Brings music to cold dry wet hearts

With music, and fire, cacti, and wine
We ponder the fearsome lights of the swine
Who descends upon man, for alighting too quick
Takes of their gold, and gives them a kick

Then sets them free, and their ice hearts like rust
Repast for the desert and their eyes turn to dust
Watching the swine lights, the desert lay dripping
Earth on her axis, round the sun she was tripping

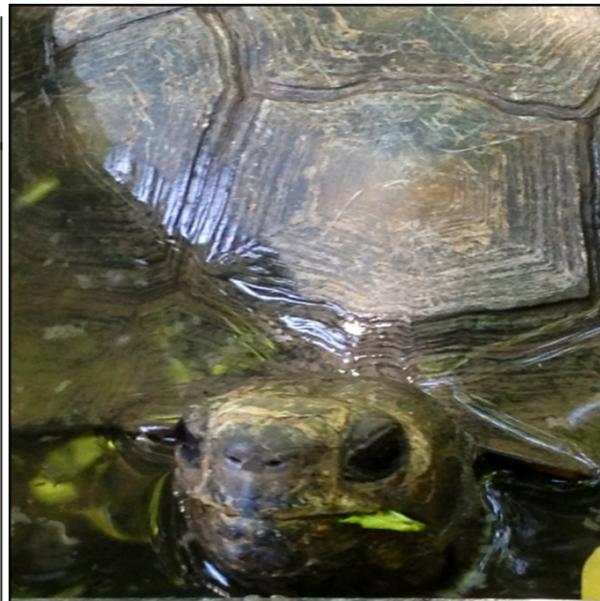
So with music, and fire, cacti and wine
We stayed ‘neath the notice of the lights of the swine

—David Harman

Seams

Shallow seams of a shallow mind
Sewn with streamers
Salvaged
At the
Convention
A political kind
But I’ve got to hurry
There’s not much time
They serve a scarce two hundred
With three thousand in the city soup line

—David Harman



Big Poppa relaxes in the water at the North Texas Tortoise Sanctuary.

Write for

The Viking!

Submit articles, flyers (jpeg format), poems, cartoons, and photos with captions to

TrevinoM@grayson.edu.

Next deadline:

Wed., Sept. 25, 2013



Top 10 Career Strategies for Freshmen and Sophomores

By Bob Omdorff. Courtesy of the National Association of Colleges and Employers, copyright holder, www.naceweb.org.

You control your career destiny! Just going to class and picking up your diploma doesn't cut it. You need to become active on and off campus.

Here are the top 10 things you can do during college to make yourself marketable at job-search time. In fact, if you do all 10 of these, you'll be unstoppable:

- Keep your grades up**—Employers and graduate schools want candidates with good grades. That will probably never change. Doing well academically not only proves that you have a good knowledge base, but indicates a strong work ethic—a trait that employers value.
- Identify your interests, skills, values, and personal characteristics**—The first step to clarifying your career goals is to go through a process of self-assessment. Visit your career center and take advantage of the self-assessment instruments it has to offer.
- Actively explore career options**—You owe it to yourself to find a career that enriches your life, not one that brings you down. Actively exploring careers means talking with professionals in occupations of interest and observing professionals on the job. Your career center probably has alumni and other volunteers who are willing to talk to you about their careers. Also, attend any career expos, career fairs, and career speaker panels that are offered.
- Become active in extracurricular activities and clubs**—Active involvement in activities and clubs on campus is highly valued by employers and graduate schools. Joining a club is fine, but becoming active within that club is what matters most. Become a leader, hold an office, or coordinate an event. You will develop your skills in leadership and teamwork—skills that recruiters covet!
- Get involved in community service**—It's important that you begin to understand and appreciate the importance of giving back to your community, and that you live in a larger community than your college or hometown. Typically, students look at community service as a chore. After they've served, however, it's usually one of the most rewarding experiences they've had! Recruiters love to see that you've volunteered to help in your community.
- Develop your computer skills**—Take advantage of the computer courses and workshops your college offers. You can also learn a lot by just experimenting with different software packages on your own. Finally, you should learn how to develop your own web page or web-based portfolio. There are many web-design software tools that make it real easy to develop your own web page! Contact your college's information technology office to see how to get started.
- Develop your writing skills**—Over and over, company and graduate school recruiters complain about the lack of writing skills among college graduates. Don't avoid classes that are writing intensive. Work at developing your writing skills. If there is a writing center on campus, have them take a look at your papers from time to time. Remember, the first impression you give to recruiters is typically your cover letter or personal statement.
- Complete an internship in your chosen career field**—More and more, internships are the springboards to employment. Many recruiters say that when they need to fill entry-level jobs, they will only hire previous interns. In addition to making yourself more marketable, internships also are a great way to explore careers and determine whether or not certain careers are for you. When you work for a company as an intern for three to four months, you get a really good feel for whether the field (and company) is one in which you want to work day in and day out!
- Gain an appreciation of diversity through study, foreign languages, and courses**—We are now, more than ever, working within a global work force. For you to be successful at work and in your life, you must stretch yourself, and learn about people and cultures different than yours.
- Use your career center**—Your college career center can help you throughout your entire college career. Here is just a sampling of what your career center can help you do:

- Choose your major and career direction,
- Explore career options,
- Obtain an internship,
- Write a resume and cover letter,
- Develop your interviewing skills,
- Identify your skills, interests, and values,
- Develop a job-search plan,
- Connect you with prospective employers (career fairs, on-campus recruiting, and more), and
- Connect you with alumni mentors.

Remember, you control your career destiny. Don't wait until you've graduated to start realizing your goals. Your career train is on the move. Jump on board now so you can reach your destination!

Contact Grayson College Career Services, **Gretchen Huff**, huffg@grayson.edu, 903-415-2544, for assistance

Math, Economics, Physics, Chemistry. . . Help!

By Dayna Ford

Math Hub Coordinator

Whether you are a returning student or this is your first semester at Grayson, we all welcome you this fall.

The Math Hub staff is ready to serve you in all your math needs.

Need help with your math homework? Need help with those formulas in your Economics class? Need help with conversions in Chemistry?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you will find the Math Hub extremely helpful. We are here to help with all these situations.

We have made some changes.

All students will need their student ID to sign in with. The individual tutoring sessions will be a little more private now. We have also added new staff members.

Please watch the bulletin boards around campus, in your classrooms, and in the Math Hub for announcements. We will be holding workshops and Saturday sessions again this semester.

If you have any questions, please look us up on our website at tinyurl.com/mathhub. On this site, you will find our hours, contact information, directions to us, tutoring applications, and much more helpful information.

“How do I get a student ID?”

Present the following at the Life Center check-out desk:

- Driver's license, passport, or high school ID card w/photo
- Copy of paid receipt from the “Pay-Review” screen on Campus Connect
- Your 9-digit Grayson student number



College Police

903.463.8777

Career Coach

<https://grayson.emsicareercoach.com/>

Do you know what to do if you witness an active shooter?

RUN, HIDE, FIGHT

- **“Run” away from the scene now.** Leave your stuff, look for escape paths; don't use elevators. Shout at others to come with you, but don't wait on them. When you're safe, call 911.
- **If you can't safely run, then “Hide.”** Lock and barricade the door. Close and lock windows/close blinds. Turn off lights and all electronic devices. Remain silent. Put a sign in exterior window with number hiding. Hide along wall closest to exit, out of view from hall. Stay put until you hear an “all clear” message or the police come.
- **If the attacker finds you, “Fight” with whatever you have.**



Personal counseling

Grayson Counseling Center 903.463.8730

Math Hub Schedule

Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Fri. 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Room 113 Success Center



Dayna Ford, Coordinator

Writing Center

Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Fri. 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Bring a copy of your assignment so the tutor can help you better!

Room 110 Library



Kay Dishner, Asst. Coordinator

Need a job? Need an employee?

www.collegecentral.com/grayson

Are you job searching?

Grayson College has an online job board where students and alumni may view job postings from area employers.

Register at www.collegecentral.com/grayson.

Check it out frequently to view new jobs!

Career Services can help with your job search: resume writing, cover letters, completing job applications, interview preparation, developing job search strategies & more!

Preparation can make the difference in YOU getting the job!

Contact Gretchen Huff, Job Placement Specialist, in Advising in the Administrative Building. huffg@grayson.edu, 903-415-2544.



WHAT IS THE CWL?

By Lauren Hummert
Enrollment Specialist

WHERE CAN YOU LEARN...

- ✓ to cook a gourmet meal?
- ✓ gun safety?
- ✓ to save a life?



Check those items off your **Bucket List** today by experiencing those opportunities at **The Center for Workplace Learning** at Grayson College.

The CWL is the continuing education and life-long learning department at Grayson College. We offer a variety of non-credit, mirrored and certificate classes for every student of every age. We also partner with businesses in the community to provide business technical, general technical and soft-skill training for employees.

Classes at the CWL fall under four main categories:

- Business/Professional
- Healthcare
- Personal Enrichment
- Technical Training

Are you searching for a fun class to take in your spare time? Check out our culinary, photography or yoga classes at www.cwlgcc.org.

Are you interested in doing something in the medical field with a shorter training time frame? We have several classes available including: Certified Nurse Aide, Pharmacy Technician, and Clinical Medical Assistant. The CWL offers a fast track to rewarding careers.

Are you looking to improve your training in a technical industry? The CWL offers an Industrial Maintenance Program, Welding, HVAC classes, and a Machining Program will be starting soon.

Visit our website at www.cwlgcc.org, give us a call at 903-463-8765, or stop by our office today. Our registration process is fast and easy. CE classes provide continuing education units but will not affect your GPA. Excellent customer service is a daily benefit to anyone who comes through our door. We invite you to **START** your Career Training with us today, learn from **ENGAGING** instructors and **FINISH STRONG** at the Center for Workplace Learning.

Explore YOGA!

Check out these courses the CWL is offering this semester:

1. DaMo QiGong form, Nei Dan

Medical QiGong is a gentle exercise, synchronized breath and focused intention, which is working with the acupuncture system throughout the body. This DaMo QiGong form is 1500 years old and part of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) including the foundation of acupuncture, Tai Chi and Martial Art. It boosts natural immunity as well as prevents and treats ill health. This is a co-ed program and no previous experience or fitness level is required.

Nei Dan: Level I

– start Aug 26-Sept 23 Mondays, 5:15-6:30pm. \$65 (5 weeks)

We will learn the basic QiGong practice; with intention we bring awareness how to align the body and synchronize the breath followed by gentle slow movements, which will harmonize the mind and balance the body to improved health. We will learn one movement per class to get familiar with the flow of the practice and finally in the end you have learned the full program of 6 movements that anyone can master. The class includes also an acupressure program that balance and stimulate the acupuncture system for improved well-being.

Nei Dan: Level II: start Oct 7- Nov 4, Mondays 5:15-6:30pm \$65 (5 weeks)

In Level II, you will deepen the practice for better understanding of alignment, movements, breath-work, and mind, which improve the flow of Qi (bio-electric-chemical energy) in the body. This class will help governing your vigor to improved and enhanced health.

Nei Dan: Level III:

start November 11- Dec 2, Mondays 5:15-6:30pm \$52 (4 weeks)

In this series of classes we continue to repeat the practice. The benefits of the practice begin to become well-defined, when we learn to deepen our self understanding and body awareness. This class supports your own private daily practice.

2. Tibetan Ayurveda Yoga is the confluence of centuries of ancient Indian, Chinese, and Tibetan practices. It is a complete practice cycle, and is sufficient to achieve and maintain body-mind fitness, which extends beyond the movements we make on our mats. This form, or "exercise," portion that we experience together in class is just one part of the system to support vitality and happiness in its practitioners. Tibetan Yoga hones the practitioner's faculties and supports the manifestation of natural perfection.

No previous experience or fitness level is required. There is no competition, no striving, and no ultimate goal to be attained. All can derive benefit from these practices.

2 a. Gentle Ayurveda Tibetan Yoga: The Body Sequence start Aug 27- Sept 24, Tuesdays, 5:15-6:45pm. \$70 (5 weeks)

Oct 8- Nov 5, Tuesdays, 5:15-6:45pm, \$70 (5 weeks)
Nov 12-Dec 3, Tuesdays, 5:15-6:45pm, \$55 (4 weeks)

It includes self-massage and acupressure, postures, stretching, dynamic movement, breath-work, gestures, progressive relaxation, and meditative contemplation, to center the practitioner and align body, energy, and mind.

2 b. Gentle Ayurveda Tibetan Yoga: The Energy Sequence

start Aug 29 –Sept 26, Thursdays, 5:15-6:45pm, \$70 (5 weeks)

start Oct 10- Nov 7, Thursdays, 5:15-6:45pm, \$70 (5 weeks)

start Nov 14, Nov 28 & Dec 5, Thursdays, 5:15-6:45pm, \$42 (3 weeks)

It includes self-massage and acupressure, postures, stretching, dynamic movement, breath-work, gestures, progressive relaxation, and meditative contemplation, to center the practitioner and align body, energy, and mind. This Yoga form is related to the Body Sequence mainly governing the energy system in the body. The movements are mostly softer and gentler similar QiGong movements.

3. Radiant Lotus Women's QiGong

Whether you are undergoing a health challenge and want to learn how to accelerate healing or have a disorder to reduce stress, improve mental focus and physical fitness; Radiant Lotus Women's QiGong program is here to support you when you rediscover yourself in a whole new way.

Level I: start Aug 28- Sept 25, Wednesdays, 5:15-6:30pm, \$65 (5 weeks)

In this first series we will learn basic vertical alignment by proper posture, stimulate and activate the acupuncture system with shaking, cupping, acupressure, and self-massage. In addition, we practice dynamic yet gentle QiGong forms with slow movements and mindful breath-work that will support our personal development and self-healing knowledge.

Level II: start Oct 7- Nov 6, Wednesdays, 5:15-6:45pm, \$70 (5 weeks)

Here we will continue our practice from Level I. In addition, learn further forms, which will intensify the practice with; emotional stress release-, anti aging- techniques, six healing sounds practice among others. Here we get the opportunity to go deeper in the self learning then reflect back on life with loving acceptance, yet making the present moment count by living passionately and courageously in here and now.

Level III: start Nov 13 – Dec 4, Wednesdays, 5:15-6:45pm, \$56 (4 weeks)

Finally we bring the entire Radiant Lotus Women's Qigong program together. We explore the practical nature of QiGong and how it can be used as a tool for personal transformation and self-healing.

Contact: Katy Wilson, Program Assistant

kwilson@swlgcc.org, 903.463.8731

Grayson Salon 903.463.8744 Mon., Or. Day / 2nd Tues., \$2 cuts, mani

Dept. # and Price	Service
1. \$3.50/\$3.00	Shampoo/Set, Two Braids, Re-combs
2. \$1.75	Shampoo Only
3. \$.50	Rinse
4. \$2.25/\$2.00	Bang and Neck Trim
4. \$3.50/\$3.00	Hair Cut or Hair Shaping
4. \$7.00/\$6.50	With Shampoo/Set or Blow Dry
4. \$8.00	Up do
4. \$8.00	S/S with Marcel
4. \$5.00	Finger Wave
4. \$6.75	Freeze
4. \$12.00/\$11.00	Pony Tails
4. \$12.00/\$11.00	Corn Rows
4. \$15.00	Braids with Extensions
4. \$40.00 fee and \$10.00 a track	Extensions
4. \$7.00	Twisty Braids with Extensions
4. \$20.00	Dreadlocks
4. \$40.00	Crochet Braids
5. \$17.50/\$15.00 partial \$8.75	Color
6. \$11.50/\$10.00	Semi-Permanent Color
7. \$23.00/\$20.00	Frost
*Each color comes with a S/S	
*Each additional color is \$10.00 more	
8. \$34.50/\$30.00	Complete Bleach
9. \$34.50/\$30.00	Bleach Retouch
10. \$34.50/\$30.00 partial \$17.50	Weave, Foil, or High-lights
11. \$10.25/\$9.00	Condition Treatments
12. \$23.00/\$20.00	Relaxer
13. \$30.00/\$27.00	Hair Straightening
14. \$23.00/\$20.00	Permanent Wave-Short Hair
15. \$34.50/\$30.00	Permanent Wave-Long Hair
16. \$34.50/\$30.00	Pre-Straightened Curl Perma-nents
17. \$2.25/\$2.00	Manicure
18. \$3.00/\$2.50	Hot Oil Manicure
18. \$2.00	Paraffin Wax- feet & hands
19. \$1.00	Polish Change
20. \$12.50	Acrylic Nails
21. \$10.00	Acrylic Nail Fill
21. \$5.00	Acrylic Nail Soak
22. \$1.25/\$1.00	Eye Brow Arch
22. \$3.50/\$3.00	Eye Brow Wax
23. \$4.00/\$3.50	Lip or Chin Wax
23. \$20.00/\$17.00	Back, Leg, or Arm wax-full
23. \$10.00/\$8.50	Back, Leg, or Arm wax-partial
24. \$10.00/\$8.50	Underarm Wax
25. \$10.00/\$8.50 includes: Cleanse, Exfoliate,	Special Facial-
	Mask, and Massage – 45mins.
26. \$5.00	Back Facials – 30 mins.