

DEAN'S NEWSLETTER

JONES COLLEGE

Fall Semester 2011

Dorothy D Jones, Corporate President

Sue Nord, Member and Trustee of Jones College, passed away November 6. Mrs. Nord was born in Silver Point, Tennessee. She had a daughter, Bobbie Sue and son, Eric and many grandchildren.

Mrs. Nord was retired from the Duval County School Board having been a mathematics teacher for many years. She served on the Think Tank for NASA. She will be sorely missed.

Frank McCafferty, President of the College

Implementation of the regulatory changes imposed upon us by the U. S. Department of Education (USDOE) has proven to be quite a challenge. Unfortunately all of you, our students, have borne the brunt of the changes implemented. Many of you have had to reduce your course load to ensure you have had the time to get all of your required assignments turned in each week. The burden has impacted all of our faculty members just as much as they all had to modify their requirements to ensure all of you were meeting USDOE standards.

I wish I could tell you that these requirements will change and eventually be relaxed but it doesn't appear that will be the case. I anticipate we will have even more changes impact us in future semesters as our accreditor, ACICS, modifies the accreditation criteria to ensure it meets the requirements placed upon them by USDOE and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). As these changes are made, we will certainly do our best to keep all of you updated.

My primary purpose in writing this article is to ensure our entire student body fully understands the impact

of the two new probationary statuses the College has implemented. These probationary statuses, "Financial Aid Warning" and "Financial Aid Probation" will impact every student who has not met the College's academic standards of progress from this point forward.

Being placed into a "Financial Aid Warning" status is significant in that it gives the student one semester to improve his/her academic standards of progress issue (low GPA or course completion percentage) before the student has to be placed into a "Financial Aid Probation" status.

Significant consequences arise if a student cannot correct the issue(s) causing the violation of academic standards of progress during the semester he/she is in a "Financial Aid Warning" status. At the end of this semester, students will be moved into a "Financial Aid Probation" status automatically. Being placed into a "Financial Aid Probation" status will impact the student's ability to continue receiving Title IV, HEA funding for the purpose of continuing his/her education.

These probationary statuses are already in effect as mandated by USDOE. Every Jones College student who was notified of placement into one of the former probationary statuses, at the end of the previous semester, may consider themselves to already be in a "Financial Aid Warning" probationary status.

It has become quite apparent that the U. S. Department of Education intends to only provide funding to those students who are serious about completing the requirements needed to graduate from the academic programs they have enrolled in. The Department intends to weed out individuals who are not meeting established standards of academic performance by seeing to it these individuals no longer receive tax payer support to continue their

education.

I am providing the following information, all of which will be contained in the newest edition of the Jones College Catalog, for review. If you have any questions concerning these new probationary statuses, contact the Dean's Office or speak with your Department Chairperson.

Financial Aid Warning (FA Warning).

Academic standards of progress will be evaluated at the end of each financial aid payment period (each semester). If it is determined that any student is not making satisfactory academic progress, the following stipulations will apply:

1. Students will be placed on FA Warning for the payment period (semester) following the payment period (semester) in which the student did not make satisfactory academic progress.
2. Students placed on FA Warning will be required to attend academic counseling with their Campus Director/Dean and may be required to participate in a tutorial program.
3. Students placed on FA Warning may continue to receive Title IV, HEA program funding if they meet all other eligibility requirements for receipt of the funds.

Financial aid warning will last no less than one semester. Students will be removed from FA Warning if he/she meets all academic standards at the next financial aid payment period evaluation point (semester).

Financial Aid Probation (FA Probation).

Students who are currently on FA Warning will have their academic progress evaluated at the end of the financial aid payment period in which they were placed into this status. Those students who do not make satisfactory academic progress during the payment period will be placed on Financial Aid Probation (FA Probation).

FA Probation status removes a student's "regular student" status. Except as delineated below, students who have not achieved the required GPA, or who have not successfully completed his or her educational program at the required pace, are no longer eligible to receive assistance under Title IV, HEA programs or receive future Presidential Scholarship awards.

FA Probation Appeal Process.

To address the negative impact of FA Probation, the following appeal process/procedure is instituted. All students placed on FA Probation must follow this procedure to be considered for continued eligibility to remain enrolled at Jones College.

Students placed on FA Probation may remain enrolled, and eligible to receive Title IV, HEA program funding and Presidential Scholarships, if there were verifiable mitigating circumstances (injury, illness, death of a family member, other personal or family crisis, etc.) that hindered the student from meeting academic standards. In such situations, the student must submit a written appeal in which the student specifically addresses the circumstances hindering satisfactory academic progress and explains how circumstances have changed in the student's personal situation, thereby allowing the student to meet academic standards at the next evaluation. Additional documentation substantiating the information contained within the student's appeal must also be provided at the time the written appeal is submitted for review.

All received appeals will be reviewed by the student's Department Chairperson and Dean. Students will be notified in writing of the College's decision regarding acceptance or denial of the submitted appeal.

Denied Appeals.

Students who have submitted written appeals, and had the appeal denied, will no longer be eligible to receive any Title IV, HEA program funding. Students receiving Presidential Scholarships who have had their appeal denied will become ineligible for future presidential scholarships. In both cases, students

with denied appeals may continue taking classes if acceptable payment plans can be established with the Financial Aid Department. In the cases where payment plans are established, the student may remain enrolled in a FA Probationary status until they once again establish satisfactory academic standards or reach a point where dismissal for non-achievement of academic standards is required.

Dee Thornton
Dean of the College

Winter 2012 is just around the corner... are you ready?

Winter 2012 schedules have been released. Contact the Dean's office before the semester ends to get scheduled before the Holidays. When determining the number of classes you will take during the Winter 2012 semester, remember the increased out of class work that is required in each class. Evaluate how you did this semester with the increased work requirements... Can you take on another class? Should you reduce by a class? Also take into consideration the Standards of Academic Progress that President McCafferty has explained in this newsletter. If you are on Financial Aid Warning it is extremely important that you increase your GPA and course completion percentage to acceptable standards within the next semester. You only have one semester to do so, before you could lose eligibility to receive Title IV funding. One of your highest priorities must be to focus on your school work to ensure you do not stay below acceptable standards. It has never been more important for you to register for the number of classes that you know you can manage and finish successfully.

With the Winter 2012 term, we will have another change with the Distance Learning program. Distance Learning courses will be taught on the new BlackBoard 9.1 platform. DL instructors have just completed their training for the BB9 and are excited about some of the new capabilities available within the course platform. Of course, with a change in the DL platform, all of our online students will have to become familiar with the all of the changes too. We have developed a student orientation module within

the platform so continuing students can become familiar with the new features. I encourage all online students to take advantage of this orientation; it will ease the stress of learning the new platform when the semester begins. Request that you be enrolled in the orientation by emailing wclarke@jones.edu and include your full name and last 4 digits of your SSN.

Focus on your classes these last couple of weeks and finish this semester strong. Enjoy the Holidays with your family and friends. Be ready to start the Winter 2012 semester...be determined to make 2012 your most successful year of school!

Mark Marianek
Interdisciplinary Studies Department Chair

Both as the chairperson of the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies and as one of the instructors of the history courses, I am fully aware that students often wonder why they have to take certain courses. I am sure that more than one student in Survey of Western Civilization I has grumbled something like, "How is remembering that the ancient Greeks established the first democracy in history going to help me get a job and keep it?" To be honest, it probably won't. But a college education means more than just knowing "stuff." Being educated means being skilled, and not only in the specific skills needed for a job. No, a college educated person is also skilled in thinking and communicating. Our courses, especially those deemed "general education," give students the opportunity to learn and practice skills in thinking and communicating.

Making a persuasive argument is one of the specific skills students need to master both in the classroom and in the workplace. Why is this important? Because, we are skeptics, at least most of the time. We don't just accept whatever someone is telling us. No, we require assurances that what the other person is telling us is correct.

One assurance we often rely upon is expertise. If we recognize that the person doing the talking is an expert in whatever he or she is saying, we typically defer to their expertise and accept what he or she is saying is indeed correct without a question. We recognize the expert as an authority who we should

listen to. This describes the typical classroom: The instructor is the expert and the students are the learners. However, few of us might qualify as an expert and none of us qualify as an expert at all times. As a history prof, I am an expert in history, but I don't know much at all about accounting or programming in JAVA and, thus, I will not be teaching those courses anytime soon. The professor, being the expert, can say, "The Industrial Revolution transformed the world," and we can accept it as correct. However, a student cannot. He or she is not recognized as an expert, therefore he or she has no authority. People will just dismiss what he or she has to say.

So, how can a student, or anyone who is not an expert, gain authority with an audience and prove that his or her statements are correct? The student needs to show to the audience that he or she knows what he or she is talking about. To do this, the student needs to "show their work." In a math class, the student needs to not only show the teacher the correct answer but the steps taken to arrive at that answer. In making a persuasive argument, the student must do the same thing. He or she shows the evidence used and the steps in logic taken in order to arrive at that argument. Therefore, the student who wants to say, "The Industrial Revolution transformed the world," must define and describe the Industrial Revolution and demonstrate through the use of evidence that it changed significant aspects of the world. This evidence should be specific, concrete facts that are difficult to dispute, such as the amount of cloth produced in Great Britain or the number of days it took to sail across the Atlantic before and after the Industrial Revolution. In effect, the student is proving two things. First, that his or her statement is indeed correct. Second, that the student is, in fact, an expert on the subject. Thus, the student demonstrates they are sufficiently educated on the subject and that the audience should pay attention to what the student has to say.

Being able to construct persuasive arguments, then, is an important skill. It does not matter if you want to impress upon your history instructor that you truly do understand the Industrial Revolution and its effects upon history, teach new information or skills to coworkers, share ideas in a meeting, or convince your boss you have a good idea that will save him

money. Our courses give you the opportunity to learn and practice making good arguments that have impact upon an audience.

From the Default Prevention Office Teresa Whiteford

Federal Student Loans....Borrow Now and Pay Later

Borrowing money from the Federal Student Loan Programs is easy if you qualify. It is important to remember that every dollar borrowed must be repaid. Since these are Federal Funds, there are a few facts that all borrowers should consider when borrowing from this program.

Federal Student Loans are scheduled to begin repayment six months following your last date of attendance on a least a half-time basis. If for some reason you are unable to make your scheduled payment, there are many deferment and forbearance options available to delay repayment of your loan. It is important to realize that many options are available, but it is your responsibility to exercise your right to a deferment by making application.

If a borrower fails to make a payment, and does not apply for a deferment, the loan will eventually default. Unlike other consumer loans, student loans usually can't be discharged through bankruptcy and will likely stay with borrowers for the rest of their lives. A borrower with a defaulted loan faces these consequences:

- Payment of entire loan balance becomes due immediately
- Garnished wages and Federal and/or state tax refunds
- Withheld Social Security retirement benefits AND disability benefits
- Additional charges, late fees, and collection costs
- Damaged credit rating
- Loss of eligibility for deferments and other financial aid

As a general rule, borrow only the minimum funds you need to finance your education. The Federal Student Loan Program provides generous repayment

plans with flexible repayment options. These programs allow borrowers to finance a quality education that will reap a lifetime of benefits. However, failure to comply with the repayment terms can cause a lifetime of added expense, regret, and involuntary seizure of funds by the Federal Government to repay your loan.

Choose wisely when borrowing Federal Student Loans.....borrow only what you absolutely need to finance your education now. When loan repayment begins later, you will be happy with the conservative choices you make today.

FINANCIAL AID NEWS

Becky Davis

In manning the Financial Assistance phones, the number one question we receive is "When will I receive my funding?". Therefore, I would like to offer you the following information:

Our number one processing priority is for our continuing students. Once a semester is under-way, we immediately begin working towards clearing our continuing students for the next semester. For example, as soon as the current Fall 2011 semester drop/add was over (on September 12, 2011), your Financial Advisor began sending via e-mail the necessary paperwork for clearance for the upcoming Winter 2012 semester. We process all continuing student applications as received. If you complete the paperwork in time, we will have your grant and/or loan proceeds processed and in the mail to you the third Thursday of the semester. Next we begin processing re-entry students. If you apply on-time and are a prior borrower, we will attempt to have your funding in at the same time as continuing students. If you apply at the last minute, we may not be able to get your funding until the fourth week. Finally, we begin processing new students that have never borrowed before. Federal regulations require that we not disburse funding to first-time first-year students until you have been in attendance for 30 days. We therefore attempt to receive, process, and mail your funding to you after the 30th day of the semester.

There are a number of variables that can change the above listed disbursement dates. If you are under

verification, no aid will be processed until the verification process is complete. If continuing students do not complete their paperwork in a timely manner, we have already moved on to new and re-entry and therefore will not get your paperwork processed in time to be received by the above listed dates. If you only partially complete your paperwork, leaving off some required information, then all processing stops. For example, when applying for a loan you must list 4 references including name, address, phone number and relationship to you. If we can not verify through the US Post-Office that the address given is a "good" address, all processing stops. If we do not receive all four of the required references all processing stops. Another variable that slows down processing is when a student applies for a large amount of loan funding based on taking an increased credit hour load. The amount of funding you can borrow is based not only on the annual limits, but also based on your cost of attendance. Sometimes you are eligible for only a smaller loan if you end up "certing" in only 6.0 hours rather than the 12.0 hours you originally requested. We do not process a loan such as this until you "cert" in all classes. If you delay your "cert" until the last minute, we may not get your loan processed in time.

I hope this information is helpful. Remember that if you want your funds processed in a timely manner you must apply on time. Feel free to contact the Financial Assistance Office if you have questions.

Medical Department

Lisa Elerby Department Chair

Health Fair

The Medical Assistants held a very successful Health Fair at West campus. Mr. Paxton's and Mrs. Woolbright's classes would like to thank everyone for coming out and for your support.

NCCT

There will be an eight week NCCT review for Medical Assistant graduates beginning January 7th, 2012. This review course will prepare graduates for all components of the Medical Assistant Certification exam. Graduates should contact Lisa Elerby at ext. 211 for more details.

Caring Hands Toy Drive

Jones College's Medical Club, "The Caring Hands," is having a toy drive. Please bring your toy donation to Lisa Elerby at the West Campus. The deadline for toy donations is December 9th 2011. Our Christmas party will be held on Dec. 16th from 12PM to 3PM. For more information contact Mrs. Elerby 743-1122 EXT. 211

Elementary Education**Daphney Lockette
Department Chair**

Professor Lockette wants to compliment the Future Educator of America (FEA) club on a successful Boogram fundraiser. Over 50 students supported FEA in purchasing Boograms.

Also, the students in Elementary Education are performing well in their assigned field experiences. Keep up the good work!

**FROM THE DESK OF DEAN BOGGS
West Campus**

Last week I had the pleasure of attending the Jones College Health Fair Fall 2011 put on by the Future Medical Assistants from Mrs. Woolbright's evening classes at West Campus. I was most impressed with the professional atmosphere of the simulation in general. The students ran the office visit with great efficiency and confidence. I was promptly greeted, given a health questionnaire to fill out, called in for my appointment within just a few minutes. My checkup was also very well managed and there were no "health surprises"—hooray! The student's findings were quite accurate as every reading was very close to those I received from my own physician just a month ago. Every patient was also provided with an appointment card and a mini-bottle of water with a colored pictured of the Medical Assistants insignia and notation of the event and sponsors. Again, just another detail that made the experience all a simulation could hope to be—definitely a credit to the Jones College Medical Assistants' Program.

**Linda Vaughn
Admissions Director**

In one ear and out the other!

How often did we hear that growing up? The saying dates back thousands of years to Quintillian, a famous Roman orator, but it is still well-used today. Why? Often we act like we're listening to another person but our mind is planning the next day's activities or reviewing the TV show we saw last night. So we miss the point the instructor is trying to make or we don't hear the reading assignment and then wonder why the next lesson is so hard. Effective listening is necessary in order for communication to take place.

The same principle applies to speech. Are you asking questions? (Did you mean..., Could you repeat..., I don't understand, can you say it a different way?) Giving information is important also. Tell the instructor in advance if you know you're going to be absent or late. Don't assume he/she won't notice. You're important to us here and you need to be part of a TWO-WAY communication.

We are not mind readers, COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY.

SGA News

The 2011-2012 Jones College SGA Officers are:
 President - Michelle Royal
 Vice-President - Jennifer Smith
 Treasurer - Michelle Schults
 Secretary - Denise Neal
 Assistant Secretary - Lynn Bailey
 Committee Coordinator - Michelle Peace
 Parliamentarian - Brian Houghton

Kathy Eckersberg
Student
Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies

As this semester progresses most of us plod through our courses completing the requisite work to pass the class without much enthusiasm. That is the exception in Ms. Fuchs' ESOL class for education on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Jones College West Campus. Ms. Fuchs is an enthusiastic instructor who inspires her students. In turn we get quite excited about our weekly assignments and presentations. We end up competing to outdo the presentation of our peers; but not with malice. Each student has brought their own style to their presentation on a world culture. Some have brought in food, artifacts, personal family history, music, but most important all have brought enthusiasm. The classroom can get a little loud, but it is a constructive noise, filled with an exchange of ideas, laughter, and debate.

It is this type of classroom that does what college is supposed to do for the student- educate through exchange and higher thinking. Straight lecture, especially following the pages in the text is boring. As future educators and/or leaders we must realize that kids through adults need an environment to learn that is varied and welcoming. Our ESOL class is just that. Ms. Fuchs sometimes (happily) tells us that we "education majors are overachievers." This may be so, but it is also due in part to a facilitator that fosters that overachiever lurking inside most of us.

Dean Smith
Dean/Director West Campus

I concur with Ms. Eckersberg point of view "As future educators and/or leaders we must realize that kids through adults need an environment to learn that is varied and welcoming." As current educators we must provide an environment that will inspire our students to want to be in class and learn. Furthermore, current students have to have the desire and enthusiasm to want to learn, and be the best educators and managers of tomorrow. Let's all take it up another notch, and show our families, friends, and the Jacksonville community what an education at Jones College can do for the future of this city.
