

August 19, 2014



Dear Friends,

The start of the 2014-15 academic year is upon us, so it's a good time for a brief overview of what's new with Yavapai College. If there's anything that you want to know more about, we'd be happy to meet with your group and answer your questions. Call Karen Jones at 776-2307 to invite a Yavapai College rep to one of your meetings.

Overall enrollment in for-credit classes for the fall semester is down slightly, which historically suggests an improving economy. Within the for-credit classes, tech ed and online enrollment continue to increase. It's a challenge to keep up with this growth, but it's one we welcome.



The College's teaching winery on the Verde Valley Campus will open this semester, and we hope you'll join us at the grand opening ceremony, September 12 at 4:30 p.m. Enology students will begin producing their first cases of wine as part of our "growing" viticulture and enology

programs. In conjunction with the completion of this significant structure, mark your calendars for our "Southwest Wine & Dine in the Vines" gala celebration on Saturday, October 18 at the new Teaching Winery. It promises to be the event of the season in the Verde Valley. For more information about this event, call Jill, 928-634-6572 or email jill.gioello@yc.edu.

Later this semester, we will begin some building renovations on the Prescott Campus that are part of our long-term planning. These renovations are intended to enhance the student experience and improve student success.

Yavapai College has 6 new academic programs beginning this fall: Athletic Coaching, Canine Care and Handling, Electric Utility Technology, Therapy and Service Dog Team Skills, and new welding programs. The College also has several updated programs, such as the Industrial Machine Mechanic program. The College now has 28 degree or certificate programs that can be completed entirely online. More information is available online at <http://www.yc.edu/academics/degrees-and-certificates/>.

Looking ahead, the College is evaluating two new academic programs for the Verde Valley Campus: hospitality (with a culinary component) and archeology (working with the Verde Valley Archeology Center in Camp Verde). Both programs are naturals for the area and transition well into related programs at NAU. Stay tuned for updates on these exciting developments.



Students will be living in renovated on-campus housing this semester on the Prescott Campus now that work on both the Marapai and Kachina residence halls has been completed. The new dorms incorporate many energy-saving and safety features and meet ADA (Americans with Disabilities) requirements. New furniture has been installed in the common areas and student rooms, and acoustics and Internet access

have been upgraded. In all, about 220 students will be living in on-campus housing this year in the two residence halls.

Yavapai College is hosting two national events this semester that will bring hundreds of visitors to the area:

September 24-26, Yavapai College is the host for the national conference of the Rural Community College Alliance (RCCA) at the Prescott Resort. The conference includes a visit to the Teaching Winery in Clarkdale for dinner, wine tastings and tours to illustrate the College's continuing commitment to regional economic development.

November 18-23, Yavapai College is the host college for the 2014 NJCAA Men's Division I National Soccer Tournament, which will be held in Prescott and Prescott Valley. Yavapai College is the nation's premier NJCAA soccer program with 7 national championships in its 25-year history.



With student success as the goal, Yavapai College is now requiring in-coming freshmen to attend an orientation session to better prepare them for college life. The College also offers a new credit course, "Success in College, Career and Life," as part of its first-year experience program for new students. All 15 sections of the course were filling up as the start of the fall semester approached.

Those are a few headlines. Once again, if there's anything here that you want to know more about, call Karen Jones at 776-2307 to invite us to one of your meetings. We look forward to working with you throughout the coming academic year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Penny Wills
President, Yavapai College