Technically Speaking

For Students, By Students

Tearing Down the Wall

Best-selling author Trice Hickman came to Forsyth Tech in September to educate students about her personal success story with writing and how students could use pointers from her to follow their own dreams. Hickman told funny stories about her life and was very entertaining. She left the audience thinking about their own lives and times when they may have given up but should have kept on going.

“If you have goals without a plan, they are dreams that will never be realized,” said Hickman. If Hickman had given up on her dream of becoming a writer, she would not be working on the seventh novel in her series today. She never would have reached her full potential and been able to influence people with her story.

Hickman told the audience of about 20 students and faculty to be prepared because success can come from anywhere, which is why it is important for people to surround themselves with people who can help them along their journey to a better place.

Watch for other Humanities Enrichment Speakers and Events posted on Techlink and posted on flyers around campus.

Bowling League

Creekside Lanes, on Peters Creek Parkway, has reserved lanes for Forsyth Tech students and faculty to gather on Wednesday afternoons with the bowling league led by Barry Lawing, a history instructor.

The bowling league was started around 20 years ago for students and faculty to get away from the classrooms and have some fun competition.

“Before I started the bowling league, there were free bowling nights for students and faculty and no one ever went,” says Lawing, Bowling League Advisor. “Since I’ve taken over, we usually have a decent turnout.”

Every year, Creekside Lanes hosts Forsyth Tech’s bowling league starting in October for the fall semester and in February for the spring semester. Banard Devane, a 36 year-old Forsyth Tech student, has been a part of the bowling league for twelve years.

“Being able to come together and meet other students, that I go to school with is what brought me to the bowling league,” says Devane.

For students that are interested in bowling but unable to join the bowling league, there is a bowling class that Forsyth Tech offers for a PE credit.
Editor’s Corner

From the Desk of the Student Government Association President

Hello, Forsyth Tech SGA! That’s right, each and every curriculum student makes up the SGA.

My name is Amanda Boston, and I am your Student Government Council (SGC) President. I take great pride in representing you, the student body, and Forsyth Tech as a whole. Like many of you, I am a full-time student. I also participate in the Federal Work Study program and am a mother of two, so I know what it means to be incredibly busy. As students, we often forget to take time to enjoy ourselves. Well, the SGC is here to help you do just that!

Our job is not only to be your voice but also to ensure that you enjoy campus life. The activities and events we plan are meant to support your ambitions and enhance your college experience. We hope that you make the most out of campus life by participating in events and/or joining one of over 30 student clubs and organizations on campus. Joining a club or organization gives you a chance to engage with fellow students who share your field of study or a common interest. You can also volunteer for a committee or help out at one of our many events, such as the upcoming Angel Tree Project.

I am so excited about serving you as SGA President. I look forward to working to make our college the place we want it to be.

Amanda

From the Desk of the Editor

Hello Forsyth Tech students, faculty, and staff. I hope everyone is having a good semester thus far. Keep up the hard work because you are over halfway done. We have Thanksgiving Holiday and Winter Break just around the corner.

Thank you for picking up the latest issue of Technically Speaking! I hope you find what you read is both informative and interesting. Keep an eye out for next month’s issue to stay updated on what is happening at Forsyth Tech later on in the year.

If you have any suggestions or contributions to make to Technically Speaking, feel free to email us at technicallyspeaking@forsythtech.edu.

Alexis
Scholarships

How am I going to pay for college? This is the question most of us ask ourselves when applying to a four-year university. Scholarships are available for students with financial need and with extraordinary academic track records.

The scholarships that are available for Forsyth Tech transfer students can be found on forsythtech.edu under the Financial Aid link. Scholarship information can also be found by visiting the Financial Aid Office, located in room 263 of the Allman Center Building; Neville Watkins has the scholarship applications.

Watkins, Compliance and Scholarship Specialist, says, “All students should check their announcements on Techlink every day to be updated with the scholarships that are out there and for the different things that are going on at the school.”

Rebecca Moore is a 23-year-old first-year student at Forsyth Tech and said scholarships will help her because “It’s free money I wouldn’t have to pay back.”

Melissa Dutton, a 19-year-old second-year student, said, “It’s beneficial for students with financial needs, and you don’t have to worry about your parents making too much money to be qualified.”

It is essential to know the costs and benefits of being awarded a scholarship.

Collegeboard.org has a wide variety of scholarships available for students and also makes the application process understandable. Most scholarships require applicants to write an essay and keep a minimum GPA. Scholarships help students of every background and program of study.

Are Community Colleges Doing Enough for Single Mothers?

April Rodriguez, 21, a single mother attending Forsyth Tech, works 40 hours per week as a cashier at Dollar Tree when she’s not in class or caring for her child.

“It’s really hard,” Rodriguez says. “You have to focus so much on your child, so it’s very difficult to find time for school work.”

Rodriguez earns minimum wage at her job, and due to the cost of raising a child, she says it’s not enough. “My job offered me a promotion, but I couldn’t work the amount of hours they were asking,” says Rodriguez.

“It would be helpful if Forsyth Tech offered childcare; I wouldn’t have to struggle to find someone to watch my son,” said Brianna Gaither, a single mother and Forsyth Tech student.

The Corporation for Enterprise Development gives an overview of single-parent households in Winston-Salem.

According to The Corporation for Enterprise Development, 67 percent of households in Winston-Salem are single-parent households. Single mother households, on average, spend about $595 a month on childcare alone, according to womenemployed.org.

This website breaks down the monthly costs for low-income single mothers who are community college students. The website shows that childcare is generally the most expensive monthly cost for a single mother.

Forsyth Tech offers “the North Carolina community college childcare grant, which provides students up to $750 a month to pay for child care,” said Forsyth Tech administrator George McClendon.
Alpha Mu Beta
Co-ed Service Fraternity

“We Commit Because We Care”

Alpha Mu Beta wants you to be a part of something bigger than yourself.

AMB Applicants must have at least a 3.0 GPA and be enrolled in at least 6 credit hours.

Applications Available on Techlink. Complete the SGA Application and choose AMB or complete the separate AMB Application.

Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview.

Ask AMB About Student Volunteer Connection (SVC)
A flexible program designed to serve any Forsyth Tech student who wants to volunteer but may not have time to commit to clubs and organization or who may need to satisfy a class requirement for community service. We have information about programs, projects, and agencies who need your help even if only for one hour.
We have officially started the Cell Phones for Solders campaign that will run until November 17.

There are drop off boxes set up on the fourth floor of TEC, the BIT lab, and Oak Grove with more locations to be established next week.

Please be sure to tell your friends about our drive. Thank you!
Forsyth Tech Golf Tournament

“A bad day on the golf course is better than a good day at work any time,” said Steven Anthony, father of Forsyth Tech student Nikki Anthony, as they approached the 7th hole.

Forsyth Tech has been offering intramural golf for all students and faculty for 20 years, and on September 26 with 15 total in attendance, the first tournament of the year was underway at Meadowlands Golf Course in Winston-Salem.

“It’s a nice break from work and school,” said Forsyth Tech student Michael Fernandez, 25, as he prepared to tee off on the 6th hole. It was Fernandez’s first time coming out to play for the intramural golf team. “It’s all about relaxing and having fun,” said Fernandez.

Barry Lawing, the Student Activities Advisor, encourages anyone interested to come check it out. Teams are chosen by captains and made up of four people, which means that everyone plays off the closest ball to the green. “You don’t have to be good to come out and play,” says Lawing.

For more information about Forsyth Tech sporting events contact Barry Lawing at blawing@forsythtech.edu.

Rice Video Puts the Violence Back in Domestic Violence

Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice was arrested for an altercation with his fiancée, Janay Palmer, in an Atlantic City casino elevator on February 15, 2014.

Rice received a two-game suspension and support from the Ravens organization and fans despite video evidence of Rice dragging his unconscious fiancée out of the elevator.

After Broncos kicker, Matt Prater, was suspended four games for a violation of the substance abuse policy, Americans took to twitter over the poor handling of the Rice situation, demanding that NFL commissioner Roger Goodell resign.

This outcry caused Goodell to overhaul the NFL’s policy on domestic violence. “I didn’t get it right,” Goodell said in a memo to team owners in August.

On September 9 after a few weeks had passed and things were beginning to settle down, TMZ released a new video showing Rice knocking his fiancée unconscious in the elevator, and in a very rare case, America got to see firsthand the true nature of domestic violence.

“It changed things,” said Ravens coach John Harbaugh, who just months before expressed his absolute support for Rice.

Hours after the video was released, Rice was cut from the Ravens and suspended indefinitely by the NFL. Coach Harbaugh was correct when he said that the video changed things; however, what does it say about America when we have to see a video in order to believe that violence exists in domestic violence?
Student Spotlight

A Moment Inside of Brent Patterson’s Life

By: Allison Clampitt

The greatest obstacle that Brent Patterson has faced in his life was the death of his mother in 2012 from cancer. A year after her death, Patterson went on a back-packing adventure across North Carolina to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Starting in Murphy, NC, and ending in Ocracoke Island, Patterson backpacked 546 miles and raised $4,000. While on his back-packing trip, he visited his mother’s childhood home where he released some of her ashes; the rest of the ashes were released at a stopping point on Ocracoke Island.

Patterson states that joining the Army for three years is one of the toughest decisions he has ever had to make, and that it was the main reason he did not attend college after he graduated from Ronald Reagan High in 2007.

While he was in the Army he lived in Hawaii, where he met a good friend who told him he should only worry about the things he can change, a philosophy he now tries to live his life by.

Patterson, of Pfafftown, plans to attend a four-year university after finishing at Forsyth Tech to either become a writer or be involved in marketing.

Meet Gage Gagner

By: Bryce Wishon

“I would want to go to the moon, just because everywhere else is within reach,” says Gage Gagner, 18, a Forsyth Tech student who lives in Wallburg.

Gagner is employed with Wagners Appliances as a delivery driver, and he says that he does not have much time for himself. “Honestly, here lately I’ve just been working a lot and playing video games,” says Gagner. “Not a whole lot of free time.”

Gagner has not made an official decision on the career he would like to pursue once he is finished with school.

“I want to get some more experiences in with a bunch of different fields and try to find something that really truly interests me. I mean, if you can’t have fun at work, why go?” says Gagner.

Gagner says he is grateful for one of the most inspirational people that he has ever known in his life: his grandfather. He says that he called him “Pepere,” which is French for grandfather.

“He made a very successful life for himself and did it doing something that he loved to do--making maple syrup,” says Gagner. “I don’t plan to run a sugar house anytime soon, but Pepere really enjoyed doing it.”

Free Dental Clinic!

The Dental Hygiene Club is offering a free dental clinic and they need your help!

They need volunteers to help with:

- Emptying trash
- Loading/unloading trucks
- Writing information for patients
- Moving patients from one location to another
- Cleaning up
- Helping with parking

**Students and their family members (adults only) that need free dental treatment are welcome to come!**
The Angel Tree Project is about assisting Forsyth Tech students who are unable to provide gifts to their children during the Holiday Season. If you are interested in being a sponsor, pick an angel from the tree, which will be located on Main Campus in the Allman Center, and take it to the Information Desk to sign it out and to get further instructions.

Angel Tree applications will be available on Techlink October 24-November 10, 2014, to students who would like to apply for assistance in providing their child(ren) with gifts this Holiday. All applications must be submitted by noon, November 10, to be considered.

The tree will go up on November 24, 2014, in the Allman Center Lobby

This project is only for Forsyth Tech Students. If you have any further questions please contact us at: StudentActivities@forsythtech.edu

Thank you for your support!

Angel Tree Project Coordinators:
Student Government Association
Alpha Mu Beta
The recent room makeover at Open Arms was the third collaboration with Forsyth Tech's Interior Design Program and The Living Room Heals. At the initial site visit, it was decided that the students would focus their efforts on the children's TV/Reading Room at the front of the house. There was a need for organization and rearrangement to help the room accommodate a varying number of children and activities.

A local carpenter donated his time and talents to build additional shelves and a storage bench on one wall of the room. A fun red loveseat, pillows, children's rug, and picture frames were brought in from The Living Room's donated items. Brightly colored storage and accessories were purchased from the provided budget. Over the course of three hours, the team of seven students and one instructor emptied the room, cleaned and organized it, then reassembled the room with the new storage, vibrant loveseat, beanbag chair, pillows, and accessories. A few of the existing pieces were reused or repurposed. The TV armoire's doors were previously damaged; using foam core, colorful scrapbooking paper, decorative tape, and decals new door insets were created. The rearrangement of the furniture and removal of two of the arm chairs really opened the space and will allow for more versatility in its use.

Working with The Living Room Heals provides our students with the opportunity to directly impact our community while providing valuable lessons in design and illustrating the impact that well-designed and functional spaces have on occupants. We look forward to our next room makeover.

The Team: Salem Wendling, Rosemary Deal, Paige Deputy, Denise Hickman, Stephanie Nichols, Terry Hyland, and Vicki Sigmond (Open Arms Director). Gisele Taylor Wells and Shannice Collier not seen.
Downtown Winston-Salem will be seeing some improvements in the near future according to a Winston Salem Journal article (7 January 2014, Editorial: Salem Creek Connector will be an improvement for Winston-Salem). The goal of these changes is to make Downtown more accessible by creating a direct route from Business 40 going into Downtown. This will make the area easier to get to for local college students.

The manager of Mellow Mushroom, Margaret Dickerman, spoke positively about the revitalization efforts: “They’re starting to bring Downtown back,” says Dickerman.

After a risky move opening the restaurant, Dickerman says Mellow Mushroom has been very fortunate. She says when the restaurant first opened, Downtown was a great place but recently has gotten better and continues to do so.

Heather Shepard, 45, a Winston-Salem local, says she believes with the growing number of college students, those changes will continue.

“I think it’s more of the college scene than it ever was,” says Shepard.

Mellow Mushroom, Hutch and Harris, Foothills Brewery, and King Crab Shack and Oyster Bar say they have all seen an increase in customer traffic and are expecting this trend to continue.

“Downtown will be something one day,” said Al Lamer, a bartender at Hutch and Harris.
Get Involved with Forsyth Tech’s QEP!

As you wander around campus, you probably see signs regarding Forsyth Tech’s QEP. What is a QEP anyway? QEP stands for Quality Enhancement Plan, a program designed to improve an aspect of education; Forsyth Tech has chosen Information Literacy as our QEP. Watch for upcoming seminars throughout the year to learn more!

Help Save The Planet: Recycle!

Thanks for reading Technically Speaking, but give a hoot and don’t pollute. Share it with a friend or put it in the recycle bin.

Recycle bins can be located in and around campus buildings!

Did you know?
The North Carolina state butterfly is the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail.
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