

CEHS Dean to Leave Longwood in June

By Copy Editor: Becca Lundberg

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Photo Courtesy: Longwood.edu

Dr. Deneese L. Jones, dean of the Longwood University College of Education and Human Services (CEHS), will leave the university come the end of the semester to assume the position of provost at Drake University. Jones, who will begin her duties at the Iowa university on June 1, was offered the position in mid-December.

As for who will replace Jones (a.k.a., Dr. Dee), Dr. Ken Perkins, interim vice president for academic affairs, will appoint who is going to fill the position, and it is expected that a national search for the new dean will begin next year.

Jones' departure is not sudden, but is instead part of a plan that has been in the works for decades. She said in an interview, "I've been a faculty member, an associate dean, a dean, [now] a provost ... the next step is president. It's a long-term decision."

Jones told her employers of her aspirations when she took the position of CEHS dean in June 2005, promising she would keep her position for at least five years. After over six years at Longwood, she felt it was time to move on after she was appointed provost at Drake University. She added, "I'd like to be a university president before I retire, so it's the most appropriate move."

According to Drake University's website, the institution sought "a new provost who will provide academic leadership within an environment that includes a tradition of outstanding education in the liberal arts and sciences, strong graduate and professional programs and broad creative

disciplinary program offerings." Jones claimed she would strive to achieve these goals. "It's not about me, it's about what their needs are," she said.

Jones said she started her time at Longwood with a vision. After speaking with members of the CEHS upon her arrival, she concluded that the faculty and staff had pride in the college but hoped it would improve overall.

The CEHS then decided on the sankofa, a Ghanaian bird, as a college-wide symbol. Jones explained, "[The symbol] means we embrace our past as we move forward in the future." Jones said the sankofa vision inspired the CEHS to create the five-year liberal studies program and her Sankofa Lecture Series, which Longwood's website describes as "a forum to discuss diverse ideas within the field of education today."

Jones said she has projects, such as the governor-initiated summer lab school project and the five-year liberal studies program, which will close around the time she leaves. "Whoever walks in the door can bring a brand new vision and start new projects," said Jones.

While Jones is ready for her new position, she said she would remember her time at Longwood fondly. "My greatest accomplishments were the relationships that I built and the development of the people," she said. She said she had solid relationships with faculty, staff and students that she will miss when she is in Iowa. She added, "I'm sure I will develop other relationships, but I'll miss the personal ones."

Peggy Ward, administrative assistant to the dean, has held her position since 1999 and has worked with Jones throughout her term as dean. According to Ward, Jones will be remembered for her "encouragement of professional development." Ward has personally been able to attend several conferences and return to campus to present what she learned. She said Jones helped her come across "a lot of opportunities a typical secretarial position does not have."

As for Jones' successor, Ward said, "I would hope that they would continue the momentum that the college has; the excitement and the collaborative atmosphere that has grown throughout [Jones'] years [at the university]."

Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Tim Pierson, who was on the hiring committee that employed Jones, said Jones' "transformative leadership in the CEHS has elevated the bar and prestige of these signature programs at Longwood."

According to Pierson, "The academic prestige and planning initiative has benefited from [Jones'] visionary leadership." He said some of her most notable achievements were helping get the Teacher Prep program reaccredited and starting the Call Me MISTER program, which was designed to increase the amount of male teachers from diverse backgrounds.

Pierson said he hoped Jones' successor would continue the various programs she has improved and established. He added that an ideal successor would be "really committed to students, committed to promoting diversity on campus."

Longwood Welcomes Alternative Form of Communication with Orca

By Copy Editor: Becca Lundberg

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While Longwood University students normally use fliers, emails, Facebook and word of mouth to invite classmates and faculty to activities around campus, students will soon have a new way to spread the word. Orca TV, which will serve as an outlet for student-created content and as an emergency alert system, will stream on televisions throughout campus starting in January 2012.

Orca TV is essentially a program which displays information students submit about various events, activities and organizations. The content is aired on one part of the screen while another program plays in the top right corner with a local business advertisement placed underneath it.

Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Tim Pierson said Orca TV was initially brought to the administration's attention because it could serve as an addition to the emergency alert system. "If there is an emergency or crisis, there will be an opportunity to put that directly on the air," he said.

Pierson said several people involved with Longwood's emergency alert system, including Longwood University Police Department Chief of Police Bob Beach, were in contact with Orca TV's CEO Rajiv Shenoy and decided to inform the administration about Orca TV. "We had a meeting a couple of months ago, looking at what the potential was for the campus not only in terms of safety issues, but ... trying to help students in organizations market their activities and their events," said Pierson.

Pierson emphasized the potential Orca TV gives students to present information in an organized, effective way. "We saw it as a really good way to get students involved and engaged and not only promote an event, but how to take that from start to finish," he added.

On Tuesday, Nov. 15, Shenoy presented his company's product to the Student Government Association (SGA). Pierson said it was important to notify SGA of the decision to bring Orca TV to campus because "SGA represents cross sections of students," and the product is for student use.

SGA President Brandon Fry said, "I think [Orca TV] will do great things for students." He said it is important for students to help "figure out how we think we should utilize it" in terms of advertisements and other forms of expression. "It will be a very good thing for the university to invest in," he said.

There is no cost for students who use Orca TV's services. The university will pay for Orca TV out of the excess student fees fall 2011's unexpected increased enrollment produced. Pierson said the fees will "help get this up and running" and money earned from local vendors that advertise on Orca TV will most likely "get this unit to where it is self-supporting." Both Orca TV and Longwood would receive a portion of the money from commercial organizations.

Orca TV is set to play on 19 screens throughout campus on televisions that Longwood currently owns, primarily in the academic buildings and on the upper level of Lankford Student Union. These are high traffic areas for students and will notify students of emergencies and events immediately.

According to Fry, Orca TV may play in the Lancer Café in the student union in the future. He also said the university's contract with MTVU may be dropped in the future so Orca TV could stream in Dorrill Dining Hall (D-Hall) instead.

While Orca TV will play in many buildings on campus, students will also be able to access it in their respective rooms. Two separate channels of information will play on channels 21 and 22.

Pierson said the administration ultimately wants Orca TV to benefit students. "I'm hopeful ... that it will be another vehicle for student expression," he said. "I hope it will also add to attendance at our events and more students are more aware and more conscious about the things that are going on."

Hazing Prevention Crucial in Maintaining Organization and Campus Reputation

By Copy Editor: Rebecca Lundberg

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While hazing is an activity frequently associated with fraternities and sororities, it can occur in other campus organizations as well. While some student groups may haze with malicious intent, others may believe their activities are harmless or might not even be aware they are hazing. However, hazing is prohibited in every sense of the word and can always be prevented.

The most important factor in hazing prevention in organizations is to read the Longwood University Anti-Hazing policy. The policy was created for members of all student organizations and athletic teams as a resource to prevent and stop hazing within these groups. It defines hazing, provides examples of hazing and presents the consequences of such activities.

The anti-hazing policy defines hazing as "any action taken or situation created intentionally, whether on or off Longwood property, by either fraternity/sorority organizations, student clubs/organizations, athletic teams, individual students or student groups, to produce mental or physical discomfort, endangerment of life, embarrassment, harassment, intimidation, or ridicule."

Hazing is not only forbidden at Longwood but is illegal in the state of Virginia as well. Code of Virginia 18.2-56 declares, "It shall be unlawful to haze so as to cause bodily injury, for any student at any school, college, or university. Any persons found guilty thereof shall be guilty of a Class 1 Misdemeanor, which carries a minimum of 12 months imprisonment or a \$2,400 fine."

While members of organizations may be aware of the legal ramifications of hazing, said members often continue to haze or be hazed for the sake of being part of the organization. "I realize it is a conscious decision that every individual makes," Longwood University Police Department (LUPD) Chief of Police Bob Beach said. "But it is not victimless [crime] in that if those people want to be involved and they don't want to be chastised ... they feel like they must go through with it."

Ironically, those who haze often think of it as a bonding experience between organization members. "The problem is that as [bonding] morphs into different activities, it becomes dangerous," Beach said. "Every year a number of people will lose their lives due to a hazing type of event." He added that while death is an extreme consequence, students involved in hazing may be expelled from the university and essentially put their educational and professional careers at risk.

According to Vice President of Standards for Interfraternity Council (IFC) Matt McNair, "Hazing is wrong because you're basically forcing someone to do something that goes against the values of the organization it was founded upon." He said hazing that seems small or fun is still hazing, and it is still prohibited. He added that even just one organization hazing "affects the entire community" because people often associate the actions of one group with the university as a whole.

Beach agreed that hazing can put the university's reputation at risk. He said if Longwood developed a reputation for tolerating hazing, people outside the university, including prospective students and families and current students' future employers, might view the university as a low quality institution. "It affects both the university itself and financially and its public reputation," he said. "It also affects the students who go here."

In addition to hurting the reputation of the organization, its members and the entire university, hazing can damage victims emotionally. Assistant Director of Student Activities and IFC Advisor Billy Boulden explained, "The result of hazing or bullying or any of those actions is no matter how well off a person looks after they've gone through the experience, no matter how they may seem, they're still carrying scars and those issues with them no matter what the activity was."

Boulden said, "Organizations should find activities that are supportive and conducive to the mission of their organization." He said organizations should never stray from the values established along with the organization.

Vice President of Leadership and Membership Development for IFC Kenneth Parmely said it is the responsibility of experienced members to give new members a "clear-cut definition" of what the organization stands for because if they are misled or are unaware of what is going on, that could technically be considered a form of hazing.

Parmely said events such as rope courses or other team building exercises in which all group members are invited can be a great bonding experience between old and new members. These events help members feel more like equals and are less likely to lead to hazing. Older members can also emphasize appropriate rituals and help new members participate and feel more involved in the organization.

Parmely added that the presence of alcohol is a factor that can often lead to hazing. "When you have alcohol in a situation, it can escalate to something that could be construed as hazing," he said. "Not having alcohol creates a safer environment for new members."

Beach said he values tradition and bonding and will help organizations find ways to uphold these things without breaking policy. "I am willing to help [campus organizations] build a set of circumstances and situations that help them continue a tradition but do it in a legal fashion," he added. "All they have to do is just be willing to step up ... and take the leadership role of putting that in place."

While reporting hazing may be difficult for many students, the only way this act can be stopped and prevented in the future is if those aware of it say something. Reports are submitted anonymously and can be turned in to the LUPD, Boulden or any member of IFC, LUPD, the leader of the organization, or any qualified university official.

If students feel uncomfortable reporting hazing to an official in person, they can turn to several resources. Concerned students can reach Longwood's hazing hotline at (434) 395-2222 and the national hazing hotline at 1-888-Not-Haze.

Longwood Makes Strides in Acquiring More International Students

By Copy Editor: Becca Lundberg

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The Longwood University Office of International Affairs has recently brought efforts to recruit prospective students overseas. The recruitment endeavors, sparked by President Patrick Finnegan's initiative to bring more international representation to campus, began in August.

The Office of International Affairs decided to go to greater lengths to recruit international students in spring 2011. Special Assistant to the President for International Affairs, Dr. Wayne McWee, said the international recruitment fairs are essential due to the "cultural, religious and ethnic diversity" international students bring to the campus.

According to McWee, the office decided to hire consultant Ian Little from Hobsons Global Management Team, a marketing company geared to help educational professionals, for international recruitment advice. "Little helped us put together our entire strategic plan to help us get out there and go about recruiting international students," said McWee.

There are currently 39 international students at Longwood, but McWee said the goal is to have 200 international students attending the university in 8 to 10 years. Director of the English as a Second Language Program (ESLP), Keith Boswell, agreed and said he thought the recruitment efforts will help international students see what an education at Longwood can do for them.

Sallie McMullin, interim dean of admissions, said while Longwood has had international students for years, "the more active recruitment has started this fall." McWee is in charge of the fall 2011 travel schedule for international recruitment. Several representatives from the office are setting up programs in international recruitment fairs.

The most recent international recruitment efforts took place in South America, the U.K., Belgium, and the Middle East. McWee said the office will most likely send a representative on a trip to Asia in spring 2012 if the budget allows it. Recruitment would take place in Korea, China, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia.

Patti Trent, associate director of international admissions, came back to the U.S. on Oct. 7 after a two-week recruitment trip in the U.K. and Belgium. Approximately 4,000 students waited in line for the college fair in the U.K. due to the region's increased interest in U.S. higher education. Trent said the fairs were the "first time we've made a concerted and comprehensive effort" to get Longwood's name out beyond the U.S.

While the international trips help Longwood reach out to students on a personal level, virtual international fairs allow the admissions staff and student volunteers to interact with students from around the world from the convenience of their offices and homes. Hobsons hosts the virtual fairs and assisted Longwood in setting up one fair in Asia, one in India and two in South America.

In order to access university booths at virtual fairs, international students register with Hobsons and view a computer-animated "college campus" consisting of three buildings. Longwood's booth can be found in the first building and is embedded with links to Longwood's Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and official website, as well as a video about the university. From there students can chat online with International Affairs officers and student volunteers about the university.

According to McWee, who arranges the virtual fairs, approximately 4,000 students participated in the recent Asia fair. Over 100 attendants downloaded online materials containing information about the university.

While the recruiters may find many students who wish to study in the U.S., some may not have the English language skills to qualify. Students who do not know the English language or score low on their Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) will have the opportunity to attend Longwood's new ESLP, started by Boswell, on Jan. 12, 2012.

"If [international students] go through our program and are successful, they can go straight into academics without taking the TOEFL," Boswell said. He added that students who do not know any English will be in the program for about a year and three months, and students who know some English will take a placement test. The ESLP will host two seven-week sessions per semester. There will also be two five-week sessions held during the summer.

Boswell said the classes will focus on four main skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. "I prefer an integrated approach, which means putting reading and writing together and put speaking and listening together," Boswell said. After excelling in basic reading, writing and phonetics classes and speaking, listening and pronunciation classes, he said students will progress to more advanced classes.

Boswell said a larger number of students will most likely start the program on March 19 because they may need additional time to submit applications and make arrangements to travel abroad. McWee hopes to have at least 15 registered students by then.

As far as funding for the recruitment trips goes, McWee assured the office has not "taken any resources out of any academic program." Finnegan's contingency fund provided \$57,000 for recruitment trips and resources for the current academic year. McWee said the office's expectation is that the program will ultimately pay for itself with the money generated from the ESLP.

The office thinks recruiting more international students will ultimately benefit both international students and Longwood as a whole. McWee said increasing the amount of international students

should give Longwood students the opportunity to "receive a bigger world view of situations." Boswell said, "The hope is when [the international students] get back, they [also] have a broader view of the world."

"Hopefully way down the road, if we have better relationships with those people, we'll have better relationships with their countries as well," said McWee. McWee also said he hopes Longwood students will be open to visiting other countries after meeting international students. Boswell added, "I think there is a contribution Longwood can make to the future leaders of the world."

The Great Job Search: Where to Begin?

By Copy Editor: Becca Lundberg

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While senioritis may seem harmless at first, it is often followed by the "April panic." But there are many ways seniors can begin searching for jobs now in order to avoid a frantic search just weeks before graduation. In addition to speaking with advisers and senior seminar professors, the Academic and Career Advising Center (ACAC) can be a valuable resource for the seniors' search as well.

The most essential step in the search process is to begin looking for jobs as soon as possible. "We encourage the seniors to start early, just so they can pace themselves and kind of break up the process so it doesn't seem as overwhelming," said Sarah Hobgood, assistant director of the ACAC.

Time management is hard under normal circumstances, but finding the time to look for a job in between classes can be even more difficult. "We encourage the students to almost treat the job and internship like a class and schedule in a few hours each week to devote time to it," Hobgood added.

The very thought of looking for a job may be overwhelming at first, so Hobgood suggested seniors narrow down their search according to their interests and start from there. She added that students could benefit from contacting a company they worked with or had an internship with before as well. But she also reminded students to not limit their search to just a few companies. "You want to apply to as many different places as you can; try to be as broad as you can in your search."

Ellen Masters, associate director of the center, advised seniors to "be open minded about what the opportunities are. You never know what a company has to offer."

Masters reminded seniors that companies need graduates of all majors and areas of expertise. "Don't let the name of the company hinder you from talking to them." She added that even if a particular company is not the right fit for you, they may be able to connect you to an organization that is.

Masters stressed the importance of networking in the job search process. "Draft an email to everybody you know," she said. She said if students send an email describing what type of job they are looking for and an attached resume, the email recipients may be able to aid them in their search with various connections.

In addition to emails, Masters said students should "use social networking to let people know [they] are looking." But she also warned students to make sure their personal web pages are free of incriminating posts or photos. There was an incident where a Hampden-Sydney College student was a top candidate for a job but was rejected due to what his employers found on his Facebook page.

After the student was rejected by the company, one of the college's advisers made a personal Internet self-audit sheet to help college students avoid a similar fate in the future. The self-audit form is currently available in the center for Longwood students. Masters said it is important because students should not allow social media to "hinder you from getting a job you are otherwise qualified to do."

Hobgood said another major setback for seniors is putting off the job search for too long. "Know what the deadlines are for your industry area," she said. Certain career fields require interested applicants to apply early, causing seniors who procrastinate to miss deadlines.

Masters assured, "It is a scary process, but that's why [the center is] here. [The seniors] don't have to go through this alone." The center provides advisers who will help students look for jobs, apply for jobs and practice with mock interviews. The center also has a job database called Career Connect that is updated weekly with job openings within the state and nationwide.

While graduate school hopefuls would benefit from searching sophomore or junior year, the center also has resources that can help students of any year prepare for graduate studies. Students can visit the center to discuss graduate school options with an adviser and sign up for a practice Graduate Record Examination (GRE).

The center will host the annual Job and Internship Fair in Blackwell Hall on Wednesday, Feb. 15 at noon. This event will expose students to a variety of career opportunities. The Student-Alumni Networking Event (SANE), an opportunity for students to speak with Longwood alumni in the career world, will be held in the Lankford Student Union Ballroom on Feb. 24 from 1- 4:30 p.m.

Above all, Hobgood encouraged students to remain positive throughout their search. "The economy is tight and the market is tough ... but I would definitely encourage students to not let that get them down." She said it is important to vent to a confidant or adviser when frustrated, especially because so many people can relate to the job search process.

Masters reminded students to remain motivated, especially because there are positions being added to Career Connect constantly. She added that students do not have to worry about finding their dream job right away. "Your first job doesn't have to be the job you have forever," she assured. "You can always move up within an organization or do something totally different."

The center is located in room G08 in Lancaster Hall, and the center's various resources for graduating students can be found at <http://longwood.edu/career>. However, it is important for seniors to utilize the center's resources as soon as possible. Hobgood added, "We're definitely happy to help, but it can be more helpful to start earlier."

After Dark Campus Safety Walk Will Address Longwood Community's Safety Concerns

By Copy Editor: Becca Lundberg

While a burnt out light bulb or overgrown shrubbery may seem trivial, such issues have the potential to be major safety hazards on and off campus. In order to identify and address such safety concerns of students, faculty and staff, the Longwood University Police Department (LUPD) and Residential & Commuter Life (RCL) plan to host Longwood's first annual After Dark Campus Safety Walk on Tuesday, Nov. 8 at 7 p.m.

According to Associate Director of Housing Operations Doug Howell, RCL decided to team up with the LUPD and conduct the walk after evaluating the department's professional and departmental goals concerning "safety education and ongoing safety initiatives and programming."

Howell said the walk will stress the importance of members of the Longwood community working together to make campus safer. "Every initiative we have as a university to involve faculty, staff and students, every opportunity to make us a safer campus, we should go after that opportunity," he said. "Campus safety is a shared responsibility."

Apartment Manager Jennifer Paulett said she hopes the walk will "raise awareness that the small things make a big impact." She said to always submit a work order if something looks hazardous or out of place or call campus police at any time if an area seems unsafe.

Howell said the safety hazards addressed are generally from a facilities or grounds perspective (i.e., lighting and landscaping). However, anyone who is concerned about peculiar people or situations in certain areas should notify the LUPD immediately.

The walk is going to be run by eight coordinators who will meet at five areas on campus and three areas off campus. The coordinators include Howell, Paulett, LUPD Sgt. Ray Ostrander (who will oversee community policing for the event), Facilities Operations Manager Ben Myers, Space Planning and Real Property Manager Louise Waller, and students Misty Watkins, Kathleen Carey and Claire Williams.

Watkins, a senior who became involved with the walk through her internship with Sgt. Ostrander, said the meeting locations will be marked with red and black balloons. Upon meeting with the attendees at each area, the coordinators will take participants on a walking tour to identify problems or split up each group and later reconvene to share what hazards they identified with the others.

Watkins said, "We want Longwood to be a safer environment to everyone." She said the input of volunteers at the walk would hopefully improve the different areas of campus. "The purpose of what we're doing is to go out there and identify problem areas," Watkins said. "And not only identify them, but afterwards to fix them."

Paulett said attendees should meet at the area they frequent the most because they are more likely to recognize consistent or new safety hazards in those areas. She said the LUPD and RCL may not be aware of certain issues because the staff does not see the different areas every time of day, so the input of students and faculty who do will help identify more problems.

The key idea is for participants to let coordinators know what seems hazardous to them. Paulett said, "We want people to shout out stuff they see that would bother them or needs fixing and we'll jot all that down."

Howell added that students or faculty who are unable to attend the walk are welcome to notify the coordinators of the walks of their safety concerns. The coordinators will look at those areas for the absent people and address those concerns. "If you're not present, you still have a voice," he said.

The day after the walk, the walk coordinators will reconvene to discuss what walk participants identified. No more than two days after the walk, Paulett and Howell will submit work orders for any legitimate safety hazards volunteers recognized. Paulett said all issues should be addressed in some way by the following Friday.

Howell reminded students and faculty that while the coordinators plan to have safety issues fixed as soon as possible, some concerns might take time to repair. There are concerns that can be fixed almost immediately (i.e., a burnt out or broken light bulb) and more time-consuming issues that involve scheduling and planning (i.e., an uneven sidewalk). "But we want to be able to take our findings and turn it around as quickly as possible," he said.

The walk is open to everyone on campus who wishes to help improve the safety of the community. The meeting locations on campus are the Lankford Student Union Mall, Wheeler Hall Mall, Blackwell Hall Fountain, CHI Fountain, and the entrance to the Health and Fitness Center. The off-campus areas are the Longwood Landings front desk and the Lancer Park and Longwood Village clubhouses.

The walk received financial support from the RCL Advisory Board, which assisted with printing materials for advertising, and the Real Estate Foundation, which provided a \$100 Visa gift card that all attendees will have a chance to win. The LUPD will also be giving away key-ring flashlights to all participants.

The walk will most likely be held each semester after a time change occurs. Howell said more concerns will be addressed if there is a "fresh set of eyes and ears out there to look around each semester."

The walk coordinators hope to have as many people involved as possible. "We want [students and faculty] to come out and have a say," said Howell. "To get [them] involved, give them ownership and find other ways to make this campus safer."