

Town hall meeting televised from UC Annex

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College President Dr. Keen and UNCP Chancellor Jenkins believe education is the key element to helping the economy during the economic downturn.

Dr. Keen has seen an increase in enrollment because of the changing workforce.

"The days of industry following cheap labor here are over," Dr. Keen said.

Dr. Keen went on to say that employers are

now looking for employees who have a good education.

Before, industry and manufacturers came to the rural Southeast because they knew they could find cheap labor here.

Now, the workforce has changed and having an education is important in finding a job.

Chancellor Jenkins believes the foundation for all the problems can be solved through education.

He said it is important to start at the lower levels of education with proper-

ly preparing the teachers.

"We have to change our focus," Dr. Jenkins said. "For too long we have focused on schools, and now it is time to focus on parents."

Dr. Jenkins said that it is important for parents to get more involved and to push their children to graduate.

He also said it is a responsibility of the colleges to make sure students graduate. He said there are too many college students dropping out, especially in rural North

Carolina, and they need to be more innovative and entrepreneurial.

"A college degree really transforms an individual and family," Dr. Jenkins said.

He added that it is the University's responsibility to be a leader in the community.

"Our greatest impact is being the most outstanding university that we can be," he said.

Dr. Jenkins said that the one thing he wants for people to take away from the town hall meeting is

"a more positive attitude."

"We need to have confidence that we have some future in the area," he said. "If we don't believe there is a future here, there won't be one."

All the people that attended the event were given a behind the scenes look at what goes into a television production.

Eight hours before the taping started, five cameras and a crew of nearly 20 people came to start setting up for the program.

The audience was

heavily involved in the "NC Rising" taping by submitting questions previously by email and on the floor before the show.

The "NC Rising" taped at UNCP aired Oct. 14 at 8 p.m. on UNC-TV.

There will be three more televised town hall meetings held at Western Carolina University Oct. 28, the United Arts Center of Catawba County Auditorium on the SALT Block on Nov. 4, and East Carolina University on Nov. 18.

Campbell Wellness Center receives new equipment

By Grant Merritt
Assistant News Editor

The Mac and Sylvia Campbell Wellness Center, otherwise known as the fitness center, received new workout equipment for the fall 2009 semester. Three new ellipticals were installed on Oct. 21 and four wide screen televisions are to be installed in the near future.

"We want to make sure we have top of the line equipment for the students," said Chair of the Physical Education Department Dr. Tommy Thompson. "If we put a piece of junk in there, it wouldn't last five minutes."

According to Director of Business Services Denise Carroll, the ellipticals and televisions were

purchased last April under the 2008/2009 budget using state appropriated funds.

"The ellipticals cost \$2,800 each, and two of the televisions were \$1,599 each. The other two were \$999," Carroll said.

The \$1,599 televisions are 50-inch wide screens and will be placed in front of the treadmills. The \$999 televisions are 30-inch wide screens and will be placed in front of the ellipticals.

The three new ellipticals were placed on the far end of the gym facing the Business Administration Building, and other rearrangements were made to accommodate the new equipment.

"I love the new ellipticals," said North Hall Resident Administrator Amanda Faulk. "I was

afraid before that someone was always going to be on the nice elliptical, and I would have to wait. Now there are five, and I won't have to wait at all. Makes working out so much more convenient in my opinion."

"Sometimes, I get in a rush and forget my iPod. So having a TV there will be great," Faulk said. "Having something there to focus on makes the time go by faster."

On the other hand, not all gym users agree that the televisions are beneficial.

"I am opposed to televisions in the fitness center for two reasons," said Department of Mass Communication Chair Dr. Jamie Litty.

"I don't want to have to compete with loud volumes from the televisions and my iPod. I already



Three new ellipticals are ready for use in the fitness center. Installed on Oct. 21, they cost \$2,800 each.

have to crank up the volume to compete with the music over the loud speakers. The televisions should be muted with

closed captions," Dr. Litty said.

"And two, what kind of shows will be allowed? I don't want to be subject-

ed to watching sexist music videos with women in bikinis while I workout," Dr. Litty said.

"The televisions cannot show the HBO channel. According to law, adult channels are not allowed to be shown in public places," Carroll said.

Over the summer, two bench press benches were installed along with one abductor/adductor machine. The bench press works the pectoral muscles, and the abductor/adductor machine works the inner and outer thigh muscles.

The Campbell Wellness Center's hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 10 p.m.

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MISSION:

The Office of Multicultural and Minority Affairs of UNC Pembroke provides programs and services that support the academic mission of the University by enhancing the educational, personal, cultural and social development of UNCP's students of color. As an agent of change, the Office of Multicultural and Minority Affairs seeks to value cultural diversity in order to promote an empowered society.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Nov 2, 2009 @ 3:30pm
Multicultural Center Room 124
"Violence Against Native American Women"
Facilitated by: Dr. Jane Haladay

Nov 16, 2009 @ 6:00pm
Multicultural Center Room 124
Cultural Diversity Movie/Film Series
"Celebrating Native American Heritage/Culture"
Discussion following the movie,
"When Your Hands Are Tied."
Facilitated by: Dr. Jane Haladay

Check out www.uncp.edu/oma for more info and upcoming events!

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