

**Subject:** CNU Outlook-Notes From Paul Tribble

**From:** Paul Tribble <ptribble@cnu.edu>

**Date:** Mon, 29 Sep 2003 13:46:43 -0400

**To:** facstaff@cnu.edu

**I hope you enjoy this edition of the CNU Outlook.**

### **Class of 2007 Arrives!**

The CNU campus came to life bright and early on Wednesday, August 20 as parents and relatives said their good-byes to 1,215 energetic and enthusiastic freshmen. Volunteers from throughout the CNU community – Residence Life members, staff and upperclassmen – all helped make the job easier and less stressful for freshmen and their parents. Click on the site below to view some of the moments captured on film that sunny August morning!

<http://www.cnu.edu/outlook/#2007>

### **Freshman Convocation and Honor Code Induction Ceremony**

Tradition continued on Friday, August 21 as CNU faculty and staff participated in the second annual Freshman Convocation and Honor Code Induction ceremony in The Freeman Center. This ceremony emphasizes the serious nature of the academic journey that our students are about to experience and the critical importance of the CNU code of honor. To read remarks delivered by Dr. Quentin Kidd and view photos, please click on the link below.

<http://www.cnu.edu/outlook/#convocation>

### **Faculty/Staff Family Picnic and Football Game**

Please make plans to join us on Saturday, October 18 at 11:00 a.m. for our faculty/staff family picnic and then cheer the CNU Captains on to victory against Chowan at 1:00 p.m.! Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to spend a very special day with your friends and colleagues and their families as we gather on the Great Lawn for “food, fun and music.” Get all the details by clicking on the site below.

<http://www.cnu.edu/outlook/#picnic>

### **Center for the Arts Update**

Construction on Phase I of the Center for the Arts is moving along -- on budget and on schedule! As you drive down Shoe Lane, you can see that the colonnade, the 440-seat theatre, the 250-seat experimental theatre, the amphitheatre and the teaching and learning spaces are quickly taking shape as this magnificent facility becomes a reality. Please click on the link below to view photos taken recently of the colonnade, both theatres, and some of the rehearsal rooms and classrooms.

<http://www.cnu.edu/outlook/arts/>

### **CNU Village**

The much anticipated widening of Warwick Boulevard presents a unique opportunity to partner with our city to improve and enhance the “landscape” of mid-town Newport News. As the older buildings come down on the East side of Warwick Boulevard, a beautiful new residence hall and commercial enterprise, CNU Village, will take shape. Please click on the site below for additional details and to view renderings of this beautiful new addition to our campus.

<http://www.cnu.edu/outlook/#village>

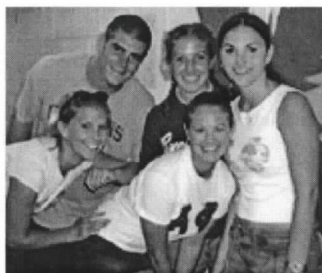
# CNU OUTLOOK

notes from Paul Tribble

September 29, 2003

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[Faculty/Staff Picnic & Football Game](#) | [Center for the Arts Update](#) | [CNU Village](#)

## Class of 2007 Arrives↑



At most other universities, freshmen and their families can count on move-in day being an emotional and physically exhausting experience.

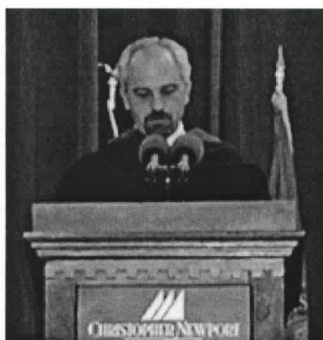
### ***But, not here at CNU!***

Every year, volunteers from across this campus pull together in an amazing display of comraderie to make the process fun, easy and stress-free.

Click to see [move-in photos](#).

## Freshman Convocation & Honor Code Ceremony↑

The Freshman Convocation and Honor Code Induction tradition continued on Friday, August 21 as CNU faculty and staff participated in the second annual ceremony.



*"The most important responsibility you have here is the responsibility to learn. While you are here at CNU, your number one priority - the very reason for you being here - is to learn... Learn about vector calculus. Learn about lighting and scene design. Learn about theoretical physics. Learn about Indian and Chinese philosophy..."*

View complete [remarks by Dr. Quentin Kidd](#)



Click on any image above to see larger view.



## Join Us for Faculty/Staff Family Picnic & Football Game⬆



### **CNU Family Picnic Saturday, October 18, 2003 11 am on the Great Lawn**

*Rain Plan: Regatta's*

Paul and Rosemary Tribble invite you and your entire family to join them for a CNU Faculty/Staff Family Picnic prior to the Captains' home football game against Chowan College - **Saturday, October 18, on The Great Lawn at 11 a.m.**

Dr. Harold Cones, Dr. Ed Weiss and the rest of the crew from the Department of Biology, Chemistry, and Environmental Science will provide "the best barbecue

ever" for everyone. We ask that each family bring a favorite dish to share. CNU will provide soft drinks, cole slaw, all paper products, tables, chairs, and entertainment.

Please plan to spend a special day with your colleagues and their families. Join us for music, a giant slide and moon walk, face painting, and Captains' football!

Call Lucy Latchum at 594-7702 and let her know how many family members will join you. Download [Faculty/Staff Picnic Flyer](#) (976 KB)

## Center for the Arts Update⬆

Despite the recent challenges imposed by Mother Nature, the construction on the Center for the Arts is moving along.

[View recent construction photos.](#)

## CNU Village⬆



The residence halls at CNU are widely considered to be the very best in Virginia and this magnificent facility will be no exception. This beautiful 4-story building will continue the architectural theme emerging on our campus through the use of CNU brick, pre-cast and roofing materials. Clark Nexsen, located in Virginia Beach, is the architectural firm and W.M. Jordan Company in

Newport News will build the project. Construction is set to begin in May of 2004 and will be completed during the summer of 2005.

The complex will contain 17 retail spaces designed for commercial uses compatible with both the University and the community at large; including restaurants, a bookstore and coffee shop. CNU Village will also be home for 400 upper class students with 44 two-bedroom units, 32 three-bedroom units and 54 four-bedroom units. Amenities will include private bedrooms and bathrooms, full kitchens, living rooms, washers and dryers, high speed Internet access and basic cable and digital telephone service.

This complex surrounds - and entirely conceals - a parking garage that will contain 400 individually designated spaces for each of the student residents. Students will enter the garage using a card key and be able to park in their assigned space on the same floor as their apartment. There will also be 116 spaces set aside for the retail enterprises - some surface lot spaces and a few in one area of the garage.

As CNU's reach and reputation continues to spread, more and more students are competing to live on campus. This residence hall will allow us to increase the number of residential students to approximately 3,000 and achieve the "critical mass" necessary for a truly memorable campus experience.

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[\[Faculty/Staff Home\]](#) [\[The Mainsail\]](#) [\[CNU Home\]](#)

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1 University Place  
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First-Year Student  
move-in  
2003



[Back](#)



[Back](#)**Convocation Remarks by Quentin Kidd**

August 22, 2003

*Thank you Ashley.*

On behalf of the faculty, I want to welcome the Class of 2007 into this academic community.

You've come from all parts of the commonwealth and many states to make CNU your home for the next four years.

I know these last few days have been a whirlwind for you. You've been making new friends and getting used to new places. You're getting used to thin mattresses and group bathrooms, but I bet the hardest thing to get used to is rediscovering what morning is, right? And, the first day of classes is only right around the corner. In fact, in just three days you'll begin the most exciting intellectual experience of your life as a new college student.

Today, we gather as an academic community to convey to you the importance we place on honesty, integrity, and responsibility. The culmination of this gathering will be your taking a pledge to uphold the Christopher Newport University honor code.

I want to take just a few minutes to talk to you about your academic responsibilities as you begin this journey.

1. The most important responsibility you have here is the responsibility to learn. While you are here at CNU, your number one priority - the very reason for you being here - is to learn. And there are all sorts of things to learn here. Learn about vector calculus. Learn about lighting and scene design. Learn about theoretical physics. Learn about Indian and Chinese philosophy. We don't care what you want to learn, we just care that you make learning your top priority.

Yes, you'll have plenty of time to play too. You'll have time to hang out with the new friends and to go to the beach. But playing should never become more important than learning.

2. Now many of you would say that you already have learning as your top priority. But let me warn you, college is manifestly different from high school. For most of you this will be the first time you've lived away from the rules and regulations of home. Mom won't be here to worry about you if you aren't in by midnight. With the exception of a lock-down dance every so often, the structure you've been used to doesn't exist at college.

It will be very easy – too easy in fact – to forget why you are here until it's too late. We hate to hear how many of our freshmen end up on academic probation

by their second semester because they have too easily fallen prey to the seductive tendencies of Freshman Freedom.

I think it is very easy to avoid this problem, though. Make a commitment to yourself to manage your time well. I believe that a good portion of succeeding in college is understanding and practicing how to manage your time.

Make a commitment to attend your classes regularly, to adopt behaviors that are appropriate to the importance of the learning process, and to do the work that you are assigned. Build for yourself a new structure – one that places learning as a top priority.

3. You might be asking, what does it mean to make learning a top priority? Well, it means taking an active role in your own learning. I'll give you an example of this.

Last semester a student turned in a very well written draft of a literature review for a paper he was writing in one of my classes. I noticed that he made reference several times to a "personal communication" with the number one authority in the nation on the topic about which he was writing, a scholar who teaches at the University of Minnesota.

When I met with this student to talk about his paper I asked him about the personal communication references. Anticipating my query, the student showed me a six-page long e-mail conversation that he had had with this professor at Minnesota about his paper.

This student took his learning seriously enough such that he wasn't content to be limited by what he could find researching his topic in the library. He was serious enough and bold enough to venture beyond the "normal" boundaries – to seek out more information.

You have to be prepared to do these things too. You have to be prepared to take initiative and be active in your own learning. What you get out of your four years here is going to be heavily dependent upon what you want to get out of it. Part of what makes college life so different from high school life is that you largely answer to yourself – you set your own boundaries and your own priorities.

4. Now, I don't mean to suggest that you have to go around contacting every expert in the world to show that you are serious about your education. There are unlimited ways that you can take initiative and be active participants in your own learning right here on campus.

You've got a university full of scholars who are experts in what they teach and in the areas in which they research. Use them! Seek them out for advice. Seek them out for inspiration. Seek them out for challenge. The faculty is the most valuable resource you have here and it is up to you to seek them out and draw on that resource.



5. CNU is a traditional honor code university, one of about 100 colleges and universities around the country with an honor code that a) asks you to sign a pledge and b) gives you a central role in enforcing the code. You should learn the honor system at CNU and make it the governing principle of your academic behavior.

Most schools have codes of conduct, but the research shows that in reality a lot of students at those schools don't even know what they are. Why? Because very few schools ask the individual level of commitment to the code of conduct that you have chosen – you have chosen – to give here at CNU.

Quite frankly, you are joining an elite community of schools in this regard. You should feel proud of yourself for that and give it the serious attention it requires.

6. You should learn the general requirements for graduation. Why? Because, ultimately you are responsible for meeting them.

You all have access to the Undergraduate Catalog. If you don't have a copy, get one. The catalog is available in the university bookstore and on the university's web site. This catalog contains all of the requirements you will need to meet in order to graduate with your degree. Take the time to read these requirements and keep this catalog handy – it is your guide for the next four years.

7. Finally, my last point is both a promise and a petition.

CNU is a liberal arts university. That means as an academic community we seek to develop in you a general intellectual capacity, a capacity that will in turn solidify your freedom as a human being, so that you know best how to use your mind and are able to think for yourself.

Thus, at CNU, liberty of thought and freedom of speech are encouraged, supported and protected. The only limits to liberty of thought and freedom of speech are those of civility and the proper order needed to promote intellectual inquiry.

The faculty as the embodiment of the institution, respects you as an individual in the pursuit of truth. We take this responsibility very, very seriously. And so should you.

You should know that it doesn't matter whether you are black or white, it doesn't matter whether you are Muslim, Jewish or Christian, it doesn't matter whether you are straight or gay, it doesn't matter whether you are tall or short, it doesn't matter whether you are man or woman, you will be respected in this academy as you pursue truth and develop your intellectual capacity.

That's the promise.

But the catch is this: You should always accord the same respect to others in the academic community. Without this mutual respect the whole enterprise falls apart and what should be an exciting intellectual experience will sadly become



something much less.

So, in the months and years ahead, I hope you will hold yourself to high standards, set your own goals, open yourself to this community of learning, and make learning your top priority.

I know I speak for all-of-the faculty when I say Welcome, and we look forward to seeing you in our classes in the years ahead.

Thank You.

*Join Us for Family Fun, Food and Music*

# CNU Faculty/Staff Family Picnic

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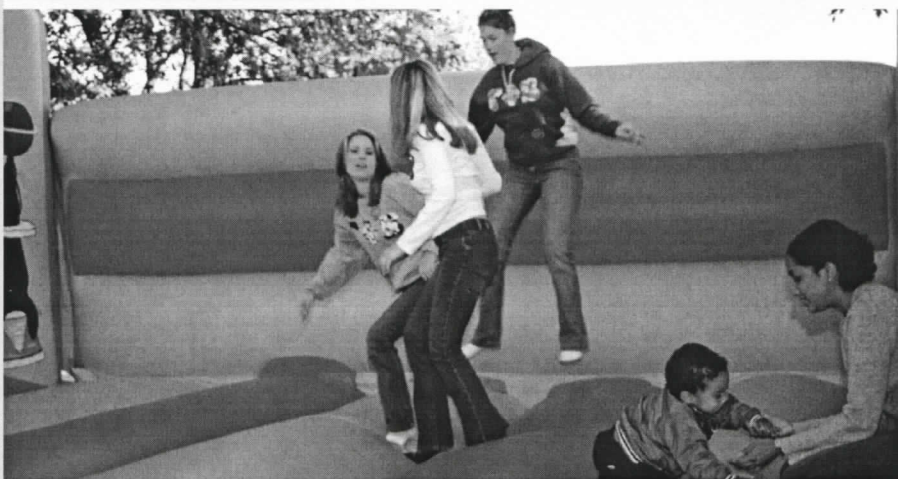
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Please plan to spend a special day with your colleagues and their families. Join us for music, a giant slide and moon walk, face painting, and Captains' football!

Call **Lucy Latchum** at **594-7702** and let her know how many family members will join you.

**11 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.**  
**Great Lawn**

*Rain Plan: Regatta's*



**SATURDAY**  
**OCTOBER 18**

For football ticket information call 594-7880 - The Freeman Center Athletic Ticket Office or [sportix@cnu.edu](mailto:sportix@cnu.edu)



Center for the Arts update  
Fall 2003

[Return to OUTLOOK](#)



[Colonnade](#)



[250-Seat Theatre](#)



[440-Seat Theatre](#)



[Amphitheatre](#)



[Amphitheatre](#)



[Scene Shop](#)



[Typical Classroom](#)