

# The Transfer Times



September/October 2009

Durham Technical Community College Transfer Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 2

## Campus Recruiter Visits and College Information Events

Students interested in learning more about undergraduate transfer admission, financial aid, and student services at any of the following schools are encouraged to take advantage of these information sessions. The schools listed have provided this information to Durham Tech; students interested in other schools should visit their admissions pages (see links to area schools at the Durham Tech Virtual Transfer Center site) for their events.

### At Durham Tech:

#### Transfer Workshop

October 6 (Tuesday) 5:00-6:00 pm  
October 7 (Wednesday) 12:00-1:00  
Transfer Center (Phillips 303)

#### UNC-Wilmington

October 20 (Tuesday) 10:00-1:00  
Transfer Center (Phillips 303)

#### North Carolina Central University (NCCU)

October 20 (Tuesday) 10:00-1:00  
Collins Building Foyer

#### UNC-Greensboro

October 28 (Wednesday) 10:00-1:00  
Outside of the Transfer Center (Phillips 303)

### At Area Colleges/Universities:

#### UNC-Greensboro Information Session

October 13 (Tuesday)  
For a list of UNC-G's ongoing information sessions and details about time/location, see <http://www.uncg.edu/adm/programs/info/session/default.htm>.

#### North Carolina Central University

North Carolina Central University encourages students to come for a tour of the campus, either alone or with a family or group. Sign up for a tour at <http://www.nccu.edu/formsdocs/campustour.cfm>

#### North Carolina State University

Open House '09  
October 17 (Saturday) 10:00-2:00  
Requires registration! To register, go to [www.ncsu.edu/openhouse](http://www.ncsu.edu/openhouse) or call (919) 515-2434.

## Get Connected: Activate Your Durham Tech ConnectMail Account Today!



Did you know that all Durham Tech students taking credit courses now have a **ConnectMail** account that will be their official means of communication with Durham Tech? ConnectMail will allow Durham Tech to keep you informed of important campus events or deadlines, including advising and registration alerts so you can sign up for classes early and get the schedule you want. ConnectMail will be a great way for advisors and advisees to schedule appointments and stay in touch with one another. In addition, you'll get ConnectMail, calendars, and shared documents powered by Google. Durham Tech email updates will notify you of

- \* your application status,
- \* your financial aid status,
- \* advising dates and times,
- \* registration dates and times,
- \* and upcoming student events.

Durham Tech's new "Connect" web site provides links to Blackboard, Student Services, the Distance Learning web site, and a faculty/staff directory, so you can get to frequently


used Durham Tech sites quickly and conveniently.

Don't delay! You should **activate your ConnectMail account as soon as possible** to take advantage of this FREE tool for helping to manage and make the most of your Durham Tech experience.

Activate your account by going to **connect.durhamtech.edu**. Click on "Get your username and password" and follow the instructions. If you need help, visit the Wynn Center Welcome Desk, the library, or a computer lab for assistance.

## Durham Tech Among Top 5 Performing Community Colleges in the State



Durham Tech has been identified by the North Carolina Community College System as one of the five colleges that has performed best over the last 5 years regarding college transfer. More than 90 percent of Durham Tech transfer students (who either completed at least 24 hours or were associate degree recipients) had a GPA of 2.0 or higher after one year of enrollment at a university in the UNC System or 4-year private colleges (based on 2005 Critical Success Factors - 2009 Critical Success Factors). This is just one more piece of evidence that you have made a smart choice by coming to DurhamTech. 

## More Turning to Durham Tech for 1<sup>st</sup> Two Years By Neil Offen

*The following article appeared in the **Durham Herald Sun** on September 21, 2009.*

DURHAM -- When Burgess Tilley graduated from Orange High School in Hillsborough a year ago last June, he had every intention of pursuing his education and getting a university degree.

What he didn't have was money.

"I didn't have a lot to put into a big, expensive university," Tilley said. "You can't really do a big, four-year university without a lot of money."

Instead, Tilley enrolled in Durham Tech's University Transfer Program, which allows students to complete up to two years of course work for a bachelor's degree and then transfer, for the remaining two years, to a four-year school. Next fall, according to the plan, he will enter UNC Chapel Hill as a junior, his basic courses taken care of, halfway to his degree in sociology.

"It would have cost me exponentially more money if I had gone to UNC directly," Tilley said. "Doing it this way has saved me thousands of dollars. If you're looking for affordability, this is the way to do it."

During difficult economic times, it's the way to do it for an increasing number of local students.

Over the past year, Durham Tech has seen a 15 percent increase in the number of students in its university transfer program, which currently enrolls more than 1,500. The program, under an agreement with the UNC system, guarantees that all credits earned at Durham Tech during those first two years will automatically transfer to the four-year campuses. "It's an agreement that protects the student," said Thomas Gould, Durham Tech's associate dean for university transfer.

The savings for students who choose the program are substantial. For in-state students, Durham Tech tuition and fees is \$50 per credit hour, or \$640 for 12 hours worth of credits. At UNC Chapel Hill, tuition costs in-state students \$3,865. Add to that the nearly \$9,000 cost of room and board for most UNC students -- Durham Tech students generally live at home -- and the difference is around \$15,000 per academic year.

That's a lot of money at any time, but particularly now.

"The economy is the primary reason [for the student increase in the transfer program]," Gould said. "But it's sort of a perfect storm of factors now. There's also, I think, the growing awareness that university transfer is academically a very effective and efficient way to complete the first two years of higher education."

The program has been very efficient; program graduates earn their bachelor degrees from UNC system schools at a rate equivalent to students who began their academic careers at the four-year institutions, and even manage higher grade point averages. The program has been identified by the North Carolina Community College System as one of the top 5 performing transfer programs in the state for the past five years.

The reason for the success, Gould said, is that the students are fully prepared for the switch.

"We do a lot of advising with them," he said. "We get them into study tracks and make sure that -- depending on what they want to major in -- they have taken the appropriate courses. And we have very high standards -- for instance, we require more foreign language and mathematics than other university transfer programs demand."

About 200 new students enter the program each year. Tamika Stanton is now in her third semester, with one more to go before she transfers to Chapel Hill.

When she graduated from Hillside High School in Durham in 2000, college wasn't immediately on the horizon. She was a teenage single mother, and she knew she had to work. Her son was 2 at the time.

She worked in child care at first and then, at Durham Tech, got an associate's degree in cosmetology. But "there's no benefits with hair," she said. "And it's a lot of wear and tear on your body."

She became a caseworker for a Head Start program and saw her new career path: she wanted to get a degree in social work.

"I need to get my degree," Stanton said, "and this is the only way I could afford to do it."

You shouldn't, she added, "put a price on education. But you have to. And this price is a lot better." ---

### Benefits of program

Other than the obvious -- the reduced cost of attendance -- why would a student choose Durham Tech's university transfer program? What are the benefits of becoming an official university transfer curriculum student?

The college says there are many, including:

- Enrolled UT students get the help of an experienced adviser -- an advocate who can assist with planning courses and making sure the student takes the courses needed to graduate and transfer.
- Enrolled UT students get to register early; in fact, they get to register first. That means they can usually get the courses and schedule they want because of registering on the first two "bonus" days of telephone registration for each semester.
- Enrolled UT students receive a plan of study that outlines the kinds and number of courses in each discipline that a student must take to graduate and to transfer.
- Enrolled UT students qualify for scholarships. Durham Tech offers a number of substantial financial scholarships to eligible students who are enrolled in the UT program.
- Enrolled UT students can earn money for their four-year degree. Each year, the UT program recognizes outstanding UT students who will graduate and transfer to four-year institutions with financial awards.



### Transfer Workshop

Do you have questions about the process of transferring? Come get your questions answered by attending a **transfer workshop** that will detail the steps you need to take to have a smooth landing at your next university. When: Tuesday, **October 6**, 5:00-6:00 p.m. or Wednesday, **October 7**, noon-1:00 p.m. Where: **Transfer Center, Phillips 303**

### Reminder: C-STEP (Carolina Student Transfer Excellence Program)

#### Applications Due October 1!

For more information see <http://www.durhamtech.edu/html/prospective/programsofstudy/asut/cstep.htm> or contact Dr. John Martin at [martinj@durhamtech.edu](mailto:martinj@durhamtech.edu)

