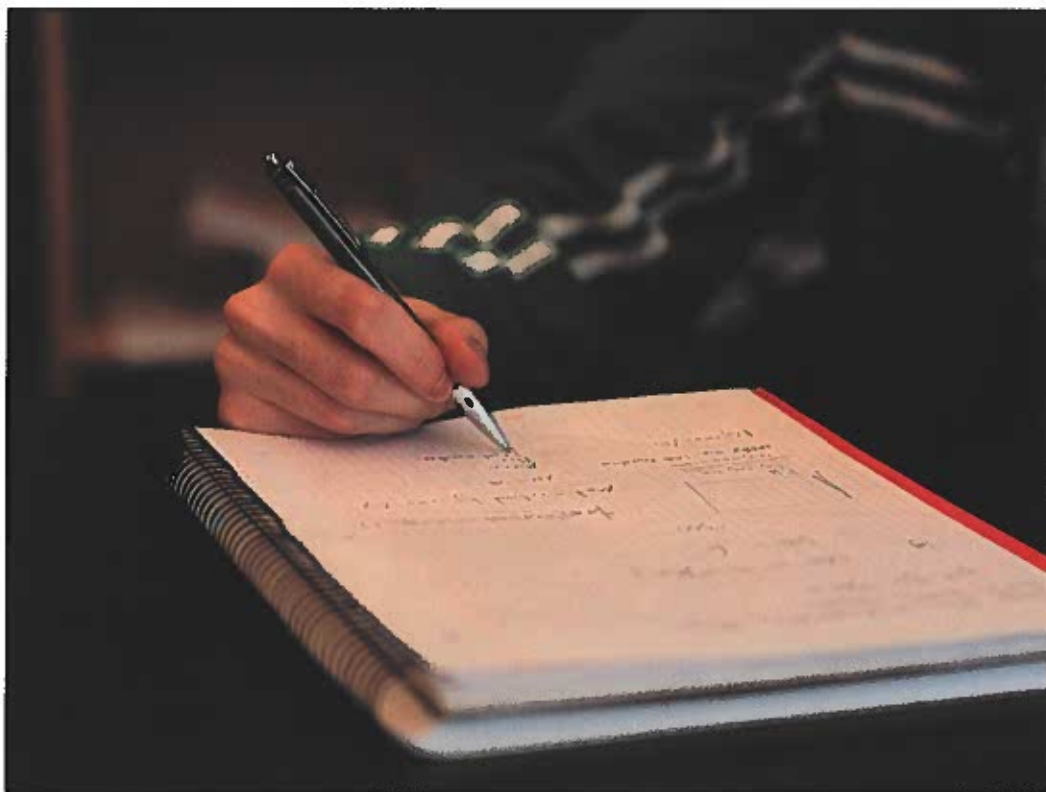


# the forum

Piedmont Virginia Community College

Volume 11, Issue 5: December 2012 - January 2013

## PVCC WORKS TOWARD 'ACHIEVE 2015' GOALS



VCCS's "Achieve 2015" goals encompass areas from affordability and access to resources.

Robert La Londe-Berg, Flickr

### GAISU YARI FORUM STAFF WRITER

PVCC is on its way to achieving the VCCS "Achieve 2015" goals through a six-year strategic plan. According to the VCCS website, VCCS is focusing on five categories to help achieve its goals: access, affordability, student success, workforce services and resources. Because PVCC is part of VCCS, PVCC has its own plan to help VCCS achieve the goal by 2015. VCCS aims to increase "the number of individuals who are ed-

ucated and trained by VCCS from 50,000 to 423,000" and to "maintain tuition and fees at less than half of the comparable cost of attending" a four-year school in Virginia.

Virginia's average of college participation and completion rate is below the average national of all community colleges in the United States. PVCC's President Frank Friedman said the reason behind this is "the college going rate is different between urban areas, suburban areas and rural areas," and there are "much lower college rates in Southwest Virginia

because there is not a culture and tradition of college education."

According to Friedman, because Southwest Virginia is a large part of the state, the college enrollment rate is much lower. "The most affluent and educated parts of Virginia" are Northern Virginia, Richmond, Charlottesville, and Norfolk, said Friedman.

Because the goal of VCCS for 2015 is high, it is important for PVCC to actively engage in this plan. "What has been happening

See "VCCS" on page 2.

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# NEWS

## VCCS

*Continued from page 1.*

in PVCC over the past five to six years is tremendous increase in enrollment. About six years ago in the fall semester, we had 4,100 students, but today we have 5,700 students," said Friedman. To keep more PVCC students, the president said PVCC helps students through scholarships and other funding.

VCCS has the goal to "maintain tuition and fees at less than half of the comparable cost of attending" four year-schools in Virginia. The tuition and fees in community colleges are about 37 percent of four-year schools. "The goal is to keep it to no more than half. We still have room there, and we would like to keep it around 37 percent. We do not want to keep

it at 50 percent," Friedman said.

As for student success, there are some issues that PVCC noticed during the past years. Students are enrolling for classes, but at the end of the semester, they either drop the class or leave the class

education at a higher rate?" Beginning next semester, the program aims to help those students who are not doing well in their classes. A peer-mentoring program is designed to choose students who are in their second year and have

***VCCS aims to "increase the number of individuals who are educated and trained by Virginia's Community Colleges by 50,000 to a total of 423,000 and to maintain tuition and fees at less than half of the comparable cost of attending Virginia's public four-year institutions." - VCCS Achieve 2015***

with a grade of "incomplete."

"It is a problem all the community colleges face," said Friedman. "We have a large number of students coming in and starting their college education," but not trying to graduate within two years. "Over the last two years we have established what we call our Students Success Initiative," he added. "[We asked] 'What can we do to help our students complete their

been getting A's in their classes to go to the most difficult classes and tutor students who struggle with that particular subject. Friedman said, "Next semester, we are going to have about 20 classes where the tutor will be part of the class" to help students with the subject and not fail or drop the class.

Workforce Services is another large part of this goal. The plan for this department is to "double

the number of employer-provided trainings and services to 10,000." Workforce Services works with local businesses to train students in a specific skill.

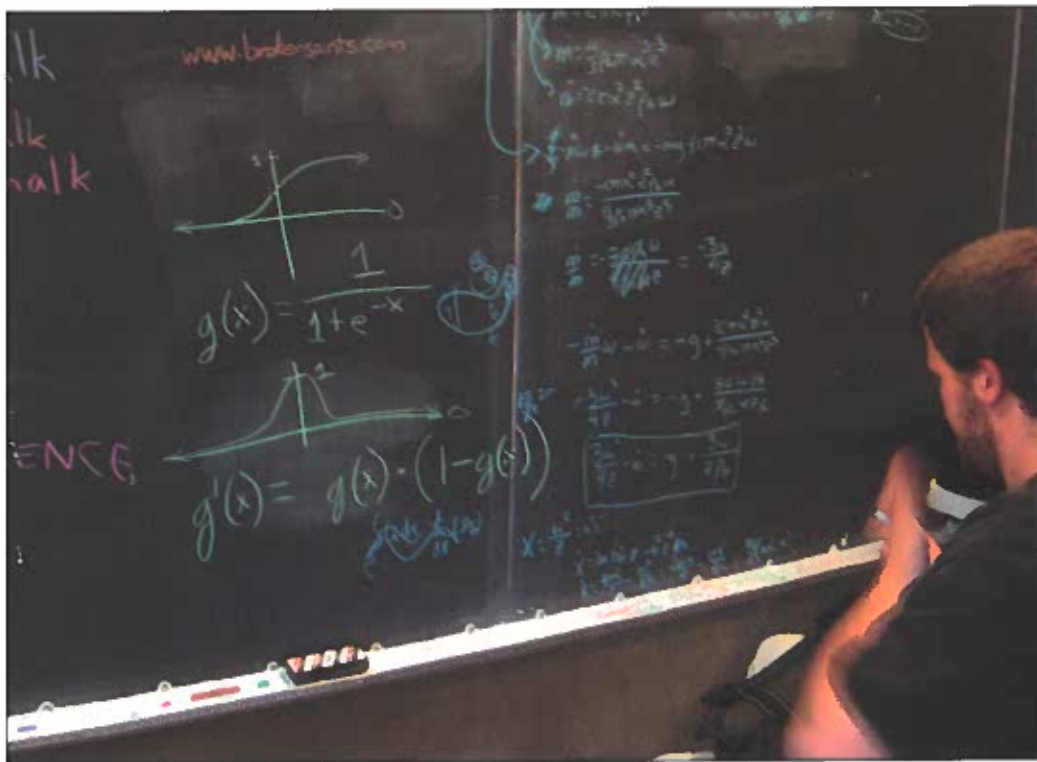
Valerie Palamountain, Dean of Workforce Services at PVCC, is happy about advancement in this field. "We have many programs, and the biggest program we have is processing the paperwork so students have clearance." If

students do not have clearance, employers will not consider hiring them. The training for this program requires 400 hours of class time.

"The area in which we have the largest number of students getting credentials is the basic contractor licensing. The people who remodel and build houses... must be licensed." On top of these two large programs, Workforce Services plans to implement a new program called Small Engine Repair.

"In 2011, we had 241 employers served," said Palamountain. "In 2012, we had 426," a 76.8 percent increase. Palamountain said three factors increased this number. "[We are] offering more classes, [and] we had to get involved in the student needs. We [also] improved our record keeping."

The most popular field of study at Workforce Services. According to Palamountain, 97 percent of the students are coming back after learning one skill, and there is more room for these kinds of students. She added, "Students start with very simple skills, for example, CPR. When they find what else we can do, they come back, and we offer them training with something else." Each of the programs are related to what companies want, so that PVCC can put a class together to get people ready for that particular job. "It is not something unusual," said Palamountain. "We get the call, put the class together, and let it go."



The Student Success Initiative will provide tutors in approximately 20 of the college's most difficult classes.

Matt Chan, Flickr



# MEALS ON WHEELS CELEBRATES 35 YEARS



Meals on Wheels depends largely on volunteers to fulfill its mission of feeding the hungry.

Gary Lerude, Flickr

## MAX COLLINS FORUM STAFF WRITER

A hot meal is a luxury that can often be taken for granted, but for some elderly and disabled Charlottesville residents, the tasks associated with cooking and shopping can be overwhelming and unfeasible. Thankfully, Meals on Wheels of the Charlottesville/ Albemarle area is celebrating its 35th year of providing hot and nutritious meals to those facing such a challenge.

Though it is a relatively small operation, Meals on Wheels (MoW) delivers a nutritious lunch to approximately 275 people in the greater

Charlottesville area Monday through Friday, every week.

According to Keith Halford, the volunteer director at MoW, there are only about 40 drivers and food-packers on staff, but with the help of over 300 active volunteers, the local non-profit organization is able to fulfill its mission.

"We have a lot of college students that help out," said Halford. "This community really comes together to help its members that are in need."

While there is a national MoW office located in Washington, D.C., each local branch is independently operated and funded.

"99.5 percent of ... fund-

ing comes through individual and corporate donations," said Halford. He also noted that because the charity does not receive state funds, it is not bound by the restrictions and red tape linked to state-funded non-profits.

"The Jefferson Area Board for Aging (JABA), the only other charity in the area with a meal-delivery system, receives a substantial portion of their money from state and federal governments, so they are heavily regulated and restricted," said Halford. "JABA refers a lot of clients to us because we have a lot more flexibility."

According to Halford,

Meals on Wheels of Charlottesville/ Albemarle served their millionth meal this past spring. Looking forward, Halford anticipates the demand for the program will continue to grow. The constant need for new volunteers has warranted an extensive new recruitment program. Halford, along with a recruitment committee, has been distributing bulletins and posters throughout the area, as well as taking advantage of a local community service program that provides free advertising on local TV and radio. For more information about Meals on Wheels, or to become a volunteer, visit [cvillemeals.org](http://cvillemeals.org).

# FDA: ENERGY DRINKS MAY BE TO BLAME FOR AT LEAST 18 DEATHS

**JACKIE WATTLES**  
U. CONNECTICUT  
via UWire

A recent incident report from the federal Food and Drug Administration said energy products like Monster and 5-Hour Energy may have caused up to 18 deaths.

The report has led the FDA to announce last Tuesday an investigation into whether energy products pose a particular threat to teenagers or people with previously existing medical conditions.

"FDA takes every adverse event report seriously and investigates and evaluates other possible causes before deciding whether the product actually caused the medical problem," the FDA's report said.

The report lists the incidences of "adverse health" gathered by the Food and Drug Administration that occurred since January 2004 in connection with 5-Hour Energy, Monster,

Rockstar and RedBull products. Of the 18 deaths, 13 were associated with 5-Hour Energy products, five with Monster and none with Rockstar or Redbull.

A majority of the incidents involved increased heart rate, headaches, changes in blood pressure, nausea and dizziness, which are all common side-effects of caffeine. Of the 166 incidents reported, 95 were considered serious, life-threatening or required emergency hospitalization.

U.S. Senators Dick Durbin of Illinois and Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut have been trying to convince the FDA since April to put energy products up to further scrutiny.

"There is very clearly a lack of understanding about the health effects of energy drinks and their ingredients especially on children and adolescents," said Durbin in a letter to the FDA. "I am glad to see that the FDA is undertaking a review but more needs to be done and

quickly. For instance, FDA can and should take action now to regulate energy drinks that are marketed as beverages, like Red Bull which has more than the standard of 71 mg of caffeine per 12oz which beverages like Coke and Pepsi are held."

Energy products can contain anywhere from 50mg to 500mg of caffeine per serving, up to seven times the amount of caffeine in a can of soda.

The products are relatively new to the market, and many are sold as "dietary supplements" rather than conventional foods, which are subject to a much more lenient set of regulations under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

According to the FDA's website, dietary ingredients require no FDA pre-approval before being put on the market, and the regulatory legislation puts the burden on the FDA to prove it is harmful before it can be taken off the market.

"The FDA is aware that

new products and patterns of use require us to remain vigilant, and we are working to strengthen our understanding of the nature of 'energy drinks' and any causal risks to health," the FDA announced in a letter.

5-Hour Energy, the company whose products were associated with the highest number of adverse incidents, said its products are safe if used responsibly.

"We recommend on product labels and our website that individuals consume no more than two bottles of 5-Hour energy shots per day, spaced several hours apart," said Elaine Lutz, of Living Essential, a distributor of 5-Hour energy products. "We also recommend individuals new to 5-Hour energy try half a bottle to start, wait 10 minutes and consume the rest later."

*Jackie Wattles is a reporter for the Campus Daily of U. Connecticut*

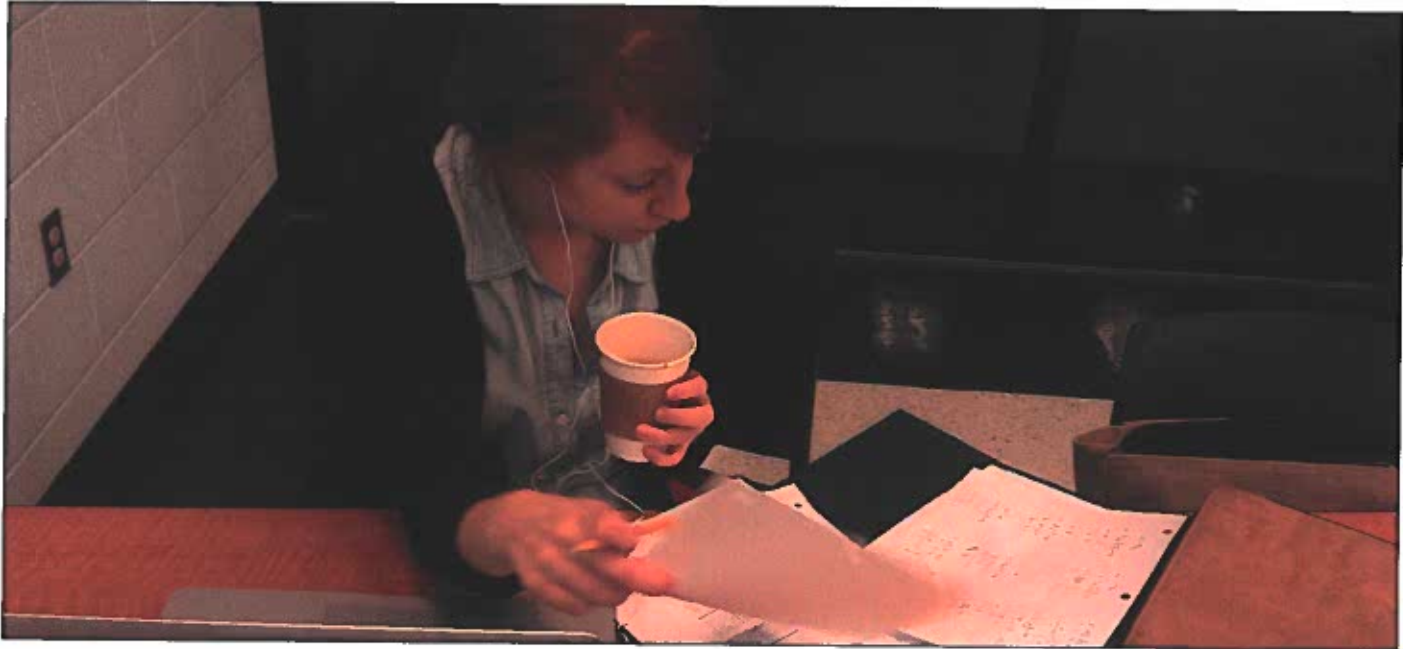


The FDA has launched an investigation into the correlation between energy drinks and 18 recent deaths.

Emmanuel Keller, Flickr



# STUDENTS SUPPORT LISTENING TO MUSIC DURING TESTING



PVCC student Brittany Cominos believes listening to music while taking exams could be beneficial for students.

Adam Colvin

## ADAM COLVIN FORUM STAFF WRITER

Studying and taking tests can be two of the most stressful aspects of college. To help circumvent the stress of studying, some students listen to music in an effort to relax. Others believe it helps improve knowledge retention.

A study conducted at Stanford University School of Medicine in 2007 found that the areas of the brain related to paying attention are stimulated when listening to music.

On the other hand, a more recent study conducted by researchers at the University of Wales Institute, reported by CNN in 2010, found that "music may impair cognitive abilities ... [but] if you're trying to memorize things in order, you may get thrown off by the changing words and notes in your chosen song."

No matter the study, students may perform better on a test if they find that listening to music aids them in studying.

"It would be relaxing, and certain music makes me feel more confident," said PVCC student Brittany Cominos about the idea of listening to music while taking a test. Other students reiterated Cominos' answer. "If I listened to the same

PVCC student Jennifer Hoppe.

While many students respect a teacher's right to restrict music, not all agreed that cheating would increase if listening to music while testing were allowed. Cominos and Hoppe did not think cheating would increase, but when asked whether others who had not previously cheated would cheat if music were allowed, Nguyen

they would actually take advantage of this to cheat." Rees said she realizes this is a pessimistic view of the students, but she is not the only one to express the concern.

"I would allow it, but I would have to guarantee there was no cheating. I see a lot of problems, but if these problems could be solved, I would absolutely allow it," said PVCC

Professor Sam Pincus. Pincus indicated the issue could create a productive discussion between students and faculty.

***"I see a lot of problems, but if these problems could be solved, I would absolutely allow it." - PVCC Professor Sam Pincus on playing music while students take tests.***

music I studied to, I believe it [would] help me do better on a test," said 5th semester PVCC student Tuan Nguyen.

Many felt it would be acceptable if other students listened to music and that they should be allowed to listen to music while taking an exam. "I think students should be allowed to listen to music of their choice while testing," said first year

said, "Yes. Not all, but yes."

Some PVCC professors agree, but delve further into the concerns. "I am for anything that improves student scores," said Associate Chemistry Professor Frances Rees. "[However] earphones are going to bring up the issue of students who are not actually playing music, but may be [listening to] class notes to help them on the test, meaning

"If more students brought it up, it would get faculties' attention. Whether it'll fly or not, I don't know." He mentioned the possibility of getting student government to present ideas or concepts to the college senate, which is represented by students and faculty alike. As for the faculty's willingness Pincus expressed, "If students are serious, we will listen."

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# SAME-SEX MARRIAGE ISSUES REACH U.S. SUPREME COURT

**MEREDITH POLSDOFER**  
IOWA STATE U.  
via UWire

On Friday, Dec. 7, the U.S. Supreme Court announced its intentions to review the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act and Proposition 8.

The Defense of Marriage Act, enacted in 1996 by President Bill Clinton, is famous for its law in regarding that the marriage of same-sex couples in one state does not have to be honored in another state. Under the Defense of Marriage Act, a marriage in the state of Iowa between a same-sex couple does not mean the marriage will be honored in states that choose not to recognize same-sex marriage.

Currently, there are nine states that allow same-sex marriage in addition to the District of Columbia. Likewise, there are 31 states that have constitutional amendments in their state constitutions banning same-sex marriage.

Proposition 8 was the people of California's attempt to overturn the California Supreme Court's ruling on the banning of gay marriage in the state. Passed during the November 2008 elections, California passed Proposition 8 into their state constitution with a vote of 52.24 percent, a little over 7 million votes.

Both Defense of Marriage Act and Proposition 8 will be reviewed by the U.S. Supreme Court for its constitutionality. The U.S. Supreme Court's session is between October and June. So it is believed that the U.S. Supreme Court will make the decision by the end of the session in June after hearing oral arguments, which are predicted to begin in March.

Dirk Deam, senior lecturer in political science, said that if the U.S. Supreme Court agrees with the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals and the federal

court that oversees the state of California in addition to eight other states, then same-sex marriage will be legal in all 50 states as federal law.

Each decision made by the U.S. Supreme Court is seen as constitutional law; thus, if the U.S. Supreme Court finds the ban of same-sex marriage unconstitutional, then the decision is seen as federal law.

If the U.S. Supreme Court decides to overturn the ban of same-sex marriage as unconstitutional, then the decision will affect all 50 states because the U.S. Constitution defines the Supreme Court's decision as the "supreme law of the land" as stated in Section 4, Article VI of the U.S. Constitution.

However, if the U.S. Supreme Court does not rule the Defense of Marriage Act or Proposition 8 as unconstitutional, then the decision of same-sex marriage will be left up to the states to decide.

Deam explained that the U.S. Supreme Court can look at the case by viewing homosexuals as a suspect class, a group of people who have been traditionally discriminated against, or by invoking the right to privacy, marriage and procreation.

If the U.S. Supreme Court treats homosexuals as a group of people who have been discriminated against by law, then the court will treat the case with special consideration. Deam stated that sexual preference has not traditionally been considered a suspect class, but some states, such as Iowa, have treated homosexuals as a suspect class. The classical example of a suspect class is race and ethnicity.

One of the most famous cases that considers privacy as a fundamental right is *Roe v. Wade* (1973), which ruled abortion as being the privacy issue of a woman. Extended to same-sex marriage, the argument would be that the issue of marriage is private between the parties wishing to be married.

"In many ways, I do see this compared this to the 1967 supreme court case of *Loving v. Virginia* in which the Supreme Court struck down laws in a number of Southern states outlawing sexual relationships between people of different races," said Warren Blumenfeld, associate professor of the School of Education, who teaches queer studies classes at Iowa State. "It hopefully will end the debate on whether

or not same-sex couples will have the same rights as different-sex couples to marry."

Blumenfeld was grading papers for his multicultural class when he said his phone and email blew up with news of the U.S. Supreme Court reviewing the Defense of Marriage Act and Proposition 8. Blumenfeld said he hopes that the case will give recognition and publicity to gay rights and issues.

A common misconception about same-sex marriage is that laws regarding same-sex marriage occur because of the "right" of same-sex couples to be married. The 14th Amendment is often cited as the reason why some state constitutions overturn the ban of same-sex marriage as unconstitutional marriage.

The Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment states that the rights of one group of people cannot be denied the same rights and privileges of another group. Thus, same-sex marriage is not legalized due to a person's right to be married to someone of the same sex, but from it being unconstitutional to ban the marriage of same-sex couples according to some state constitutions.

Blumenfeld said he is "cautiously optimistic" about the Defense of Marriage Act and Proposition 8 reaching the U.S. Supreme Court.

"I believe even some of the more conservative justices on the Supreme Court understand and follow the Constitution," Blumenfeld said. "Therefore, I believe they as well will vote for marriage equality."

Family Leader, an organization with a platform opposing same-sex marriage, has been contacted for comment but could not be reached.



The Supreme Court will review the Defense of Marriage Act and Proposition 8.

Sean Hackbarr, Flickr

*Meredith Polsdofer is a reporter for the Iowa State Daily of Iowa State U.*



# MICHIGAN BECOMES 24TH RIGHT-TO-WORK STATE

DANIELLE RAYKHINSHTEYN  
U. MICHIGAN  
VIA UWIRE

LANSING—Republican Gov. Rick Snyder has signed controversial right-to-work legislation into law, significantly curbing the activities of the state's public and private sector unions.

Two bills were pushed through state House votes on Tuesday. House Bill 4003 — which applies to public sector unions — was passed at about noon in a 58-51 vote, and Senate Bill 116 — which applies similar regulations to private sector unions — passed 58-52 shortly after. Both bills consolidate legislation that passed through the House and Senate last week.

House Republicans invoked a motion to reconsider the private-sector bill in order to prevent Democrats from doing the same, but rescinded that motion later in the day.

Right-to-work legislation would prohibit the requirement of union membership in any job and outlaw mandatory fees associated with membership for most public and private-sector employees, excluding police and firefighters. Currently, 23 states have similar policies. During the November election, Michigan voters turned down a ballot proposal that would have enshrined collective bargaining into the state constitution.

Proponents testified that the legislation would increase workers' options and freedom of speech. Opponents believe the legislation is an attack on Michigan's unions, which have played an important role in decades of national organized labor debates.

East Lansing Police Officer Todd Quick said the ELPD was prepared for unruly behavior, such as protesters rushing the doors of the Capitol building, but he found it unlikely that dangerous



Right-to-work legislation would prohibit the requirement of union membership in any job.

Matthew Ralston, Flickr

situations would arise.

"Once it's voted yay or nay, it's basically done," Quick said. "Nobody's been unruly, out of hand, nobody has bothered us ... everybody's been friendly."

However, protesters did knock down and vandalize a tent owned by Americans for Prosperity — a conservative group that came to support the legislation — situated on a reserved space of the Capitol building's front lawn. Police were concerned about the incident because two people and a propane tank were caught under the canvas.

Law enforcement officials on horseback kept the crowd at bay while they retrieved the tank and trapped people. Once the risk was removed, police vacated the area and protesters went back to chanting.

"Down with the Snyder regime. One dumb turd," read a union member's sign.

Alex Neitzke, a second-year graduate student and Teaching Assistant at Michigan State University, said he thinks the passage of right-to-work will disintegrate unions, and he can't imagine unions not being around.

Although from Chicago, Neitzke said he doesn't think the

decisions made by Snyder in the past two years have Michigan's best interests in mind.

"He's always centrist in rhetoric, but very conservative in actions, and so I think Snyder should be judged by his actions, and thus negatively," Neitzke said.

Lame duck legislators — those who are nearing the end of their term and generally have successors named — were a prevalent topic of discussion at the rally.

Barb Fuller, a volunteer with Planned Parenthood, said term limits increase the turnover rate of legislators, decreasing their personal responsibility.

"So between term limits and lame duck, there are people who can cast any vote they want to without any accountability or repercussions," Fuller said. "So what you're seeing is some pretty radical legislation."

Jeanne Hummel, an employee at the Monroe Department of Human Services and Chief Steward for UAW 6000, said she was at the protest to support middle class families who need the unions in order to make a living.

"The thing that's really sad is that the governor flip-flopped," Hummel said. The governor

initially stated right-to-work was not high on his agenda before eventually pledging support.

Earlier in the day, Marica Close, who also works at the Monroe Department of Human Services, said there is only one thing that she hopes to happen if right-to-work legislation passes: "Recall Governor Snyder."

Members of the Graduate Employees Organization and the University of Michigan Professional Nurse Council were in the capitol to protest the legislation, along with thousands of members of other unions. They could not be reached for comment Tuesday afternoon.

On Monday at the Detroit Diesel plant in Redford, Mich., President Barack Obama criticized the legislation.

"What we shouldn't be doing is trying to take away your rights to bargain for better wages," the president said. "These so called right-to-work laws have nothing to do with economics, they have everything to do with politics."

*Danielle Raykhinshteyn is a reporter for the Michigan Daily of U. Michigan.*



## CHARLOTTESVILLE OFFERS VARIOUS WINTER BREAK ACTIVITIES

**RILEY JONES**  
FORUM STAFF WRITER

With classes temporarily on hold and temperatures dropping, wintertime in the Charlottesville area offers a number of outings and entertainment options. There is something for everyone, and most of these trips will not put a strain on wallets.

The Virginia Cavaliers men's and women's basketball teams have games scheduled at the John Paul Jones arena through the month of March, so there are plenty of opportunities to catch the Hoos in action. The action really begins to pick up in January, when both teams will begin to face some of their toughest competition. Prices vary throughout the season, but tickets to a majority of

the games can be purchased for less than \$15. Basketball fans can visit [virginiaspports.com](http://virginiaspports.com) for more information.

Charlottesville's music venues are loaded with concerts throughout the season. The Jefferson Theater, which reopened to the public in 2009, has a variety of acts on the horizon, including Yo La Tengo, Purity Ring, Citizen Cope, and a Michael Jackson tribute show. Meanwhile, there are a handful of other venues in the area offering smaller-scale shows. The newly opened Main Street Annex on the Downtown Mall promises to unveil a winter schedule soon, while The Southern, also downtown, offers shows from smaller and local artists. For more information,

visit [jeffersontheater.com](http://jeffersontheater.com), [thesouthernncville.com](http://thesouthernncville.com), and [facebook.com/MainStreetAnnex](http://facebook.com/MainStreetAnnex).

Of course, winter in Central Virginia is not complete without a few rounds of snow sports. Wintergreen Resort, adjacent to the Blue Ridge Parkway, offers a handful of winter sports, including skiing, snowboarding, and snow tubing. The resort has a handful of experts on site who are able to assist with lessons and staff to assist skiing and snowboarding novices. Wintergreen offers a number of college specials for students, and for \$159, students can obtain four one-day lift tickets, which essentially allows for four days on the slopes for the price of three. For more information,

visit [wintergreenresort.com/College-Specials/](http://wintergreenresort.com/College-Specials/).

Moviegoers will be thrilled with the all-new Regal Cinema IMAX at the Stonefield shopping center. A handful of buzzed-about films are on the horizon for December and January, so readers are encouraged to keep an eye on Regal's schedule. Films to note include Quentin Tarantino's "Django Unchained," released on Christmas day, as well as January's releases of "Gangster Squad," "Broken City," and "Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters."

There is no limit to the abundance of winter fun to be had in Charlottesville. Music fans, sports fans and athletes alike will all be able to find something to suits one's personal tastes.



The Charlottesville area offers a wide array of winter outings, including skiing and snowboarding at Wintergreen Resort.

Josh Dobson, Flickr

# COLUMN: PAYING STUDENT ATHLETES

**JONATHAN MORRIS**  
MINNESOTA U.  
VIA UWIRE

The Big Ten recently announced the addition of U. Maryland and Rutgers U., bringing the conference to 14 members. In addition to bringing inroads into the East Coast TV markets and the all-important revenue that will result, the two research institutions also joined the Committee on Institutional Cooperation with considerably less fanfare. The CIC consists of the Big Ten institutions, plus the University of Chicago, which was a founding member of the Big Ten until it withdrew from the conference in 1946 in order to prioritize academics over athletics. The decision would be unthinkable today.

Prior to the addition of Maryland and Rutgers, the Big Ten earned nearly half a billion dollars from football revenue alone and profits somewhere around half of that. Yes, some of this goes to support other sports and supports Title IX-mandated women's sports. The new TV deals stemming from the addition of Maryland and Rutgers are predicted to add some additional \$200 million annually. Coaches make big bucks — Iowa's football coach Kirk Ferentz is the highest-paid employee of the state of Iowa, commanding some \$3.8 million annually. Minnesota's own Jerry Kill makes at least \$1.2 million a year. Announcers and TV networks profit. Vendors are



Student athletes generate tremendous income for universities.

Ben Stanfield, Flickr

paid for the new facilities. All in all, college athletics is a high-dollar affair.

But where do the student-athletes fall in this scheme? Generously, a full-ride scholarship is in the ballpark (pun intended) of \$50,000, covering tuition, room and board, books and health care. This figure omits the extra "gifts" players receive upon earning bowl berths. Of course, athletes are also prohibited from receiving fringe benefits from boosters,

which at big-name schools can include big-ticket items like cars or money from selling jerseys. Violations have led to high-profile sanctions upon the biggest programs. Yes, such practices may not be completely ethical, but given the short end of the stick athletes get in the NCAA, it is hard to blame them for taking outside boosters up on their offers. Many students come from humble backgrounds and cannot even afford

to fly family members to bowl or tournament games.

Recently, the NCAA decided to allow colleges to provide student-athletes with a pittance of an extra \$2,000 stipend but quickly suspended the measure after backlash from institutions unwilling to commit the extra \$1 million for athletes to pay for their families to travel to see them play. Student-athletes are also prohibited from earning more than that \$2,000 working a part-time job. While, yes, receiving pay without working would be unethical, such a prohibition seems to only incentivize players to take advantage of those other offers given by boosters outside the NCAA's ability to effectively monitor and control. Simply paying athletes a reasonable compensation for the services they provide in generating millions of dollars in profits for their university, which also fail to include the alumni donations brought in by exposure of the athletics programs that benefit the general student population, seems reasonable.

As the super-conferences align and the ever-increasing TV revenue deals continue to provide college athletics with expanded revenues, the time has come to abandon the antiquated and unfair idealism of clinging to amateurism. These institutions owe a lot to their athletes and should compensate them as such.

*Jonathan Morris is a reporter for the Minnesota Daily of Minnesota U.*



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(HSR#12656 and #14427)

## COLLEGE DATES AND EVENTS

What: Christmas and New Year's Break, PVCC closed  
When: Dec. 22 - Jan. 2

What: Spring classes begin  
When: Jan. 14

What: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, PVCC closed  
When: Jan. 21



UNIVERSITY  
OF VIRGINIA  
HEALTH SYSTEM

## Do you drink a lot at least one day per week?

If you are 18 to 25 years of age you may be interested in participating in a clinical trial. The University of Virginia Health System Center for Addiction Research and Education, UVA C.A.R.E., is conducting clinical research to see if an investigational medication helps reduce the cravings for alcohol.

Participants receive study-related medication or placebo, physical exam and study-related tests provided at no cost. Compensation for study completion is \$260.

Contact UVA C.A.R.E. | Charlottesville / Richmond  
434.243.0541 or toll-free 1.888.882.2345

Principal Investigator: Bankole Johnson, MD | IRB-HSR # 13610

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# CLASSIFIEDS

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Museum Exhibits

December and January  
The Kluge-Ruhe Collection will be closed Dec. 24 through 26, reopening Dec. 27 with free tours most days through the month. It is the last opportunity to see the exhibit "What they Wanted," an exhibition of glass works by Aboriginal artist Yhonnie Scarce, which ends the last day of December. The next big, new exhibit opens on Jan. 22 and will be at Kluge-Ruhe until May 19. In "We Bury our Own," leading contemporary Aboriginal Australian artist Christian Thompson presents a new body of work that explores the spiritual repatriation of archival materials in the Pitt Rivers Museum at Oxford. For more information on this and all the exhibits at Kluge-Ruhe, go to [kluge-ruhe.org](http://kluge-ruhe.org) or call 434-244-0234.

### Great Gifts Holiday Show

Dec. 3-24  
The third annual Great Gifts Holiday Show, showcasing handmade wares from local artisans, will be held Dec. 3 through Dec. 24 at the Bridge Progressive Arts Initiative at 209 Monticello Road in Charlottesville. The show is open daily and refreshments will be served. For hours and more information, go to [thebridgepai.com](http://thebridgepai.com) or call 434-984-5669.

### Holiday Market

Saturday, Dec. 22  
8 a.m.  
The last Charlottesville Holiday Market of the season will be held Saturday, Dec. 22 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Water Street lots. The holiday version of the popular City Market features over 75 local vendors with a variety of homemade treats and unique handmade gifts and ornaments for the holiday season. For more information, visit [charlottesville.org](http://charlottesville.org) or call 434-970-3371.

### "Hope Chest" Give-Away

Saturday, Dec. 22  
9 a.m.  
The Mama's Kitchen Club at St. Anne's-Belfield school has teamed up with The Hope Community Center to present the "Hope Chest" Give-Away this holiday season. This annual clothing, toy, and household item give-away will take place at Venable Elementary School on Saturday, Dec. 22 from 9 a.m. to noon. The event is open to the public, but is specifically to benefit low-income and refugee families. Volunteers are needed to help with the event, and businesses are welcomed as sponsors. For more information, contact Debbie Lyle at 434-981-4618 or visit [hopecommunitycenter.org](http://hopecommunitycenter.org).

### First Night Virginia

Monday, Dec. 31  
3 p.m. to 12 a.m.  
Tickets for the 2013 New Years Eve extravaganza are now available. First Night Virginia Entertainment, which runs from 3 p.m. until midnight on New Years Eve, will be headlined this year by illusionist Jason Bishop. Music from blues to bluegrass will be showcased at many venues throughout the evening. Kids can enjoy entertainment at "Coney Island," an event featuring boardwalk-style carnival games and street performers, as well as magic and juggling performances. A processional down the mall will lead to a bubble wrap stomp. To see a schedule, please visit [firstnightva.org](http://firstnightva.org).

### Ash Lawn Opera Auditions

Sunday, Jan. 6  
The Ash Lawn Opera Company is holding auditions for its summer productions of "La Boheme" and "Carousel." Singers, dancers and actors of all ages are needed and there are plenty of non-singing roles available. Auditions will take place Jan. 6. For more information on specific roles and audition requirements, visit [ashlawnopera.org](http://ashlawnopera.org). To schedule an audition, call 434-293-4500.

### Community Center Opening

Saturday, January 19  
10:00 a.m.  
The historic Jefferson School in downtown Charlottesville is soon to become a community center. The opening ceremony and open house will take place on Jan. 19 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Community Center will be anchored by a new Carver Recreation Center and an African American Heritage Center with exhibits, lectures and art and language classes. The building will also hold health and wellness service providers and counseling services. PVCC will offer classes, and the YMCA will provide child care. The Vinegar Hill Cafe in the building will feature healthy local food on the menu. For more information, go to [jeffersoncitycenter.org](http://jeffersoncitycenter.org) or call 434-981-0643.

### Poetry Discussion

Friday, Jan. 25  
7 p.m.  
At the upcoming event WriterHouse event "The Voices in Noise: The Poetry of 'Clangings,'" Steven Cramer will discuss his fifth collection of poems, "Clangings," with fellow poet John Casteen. In this work, Cramer imagines the "clangings" of schizophrenic and manic speech into a poetic narrative evoking an interior landscape intimate, unsteady and stirring. The program is on Friday, Jan. 25 at 7 p.m., at WriterHouse and is free and open to the public. WriterHouse is located at 508 Dale Avenue in Charlottesville. For more information, go to [writerhouse.org](http://writerhouse.org).

*The Forum offers classified space to the PVCC community free of charge. Please send announcements, along with full name, email, and phone number to [theforum@pvcc.edu](mailto:theforum@pvcc.edu).*

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