

## CSP

### Mission

### Statement

*The mission of the NCCU Centennial Scholars Program is to provide participants with relevant academic, professional and social experiences to be productive citizens without excuses.*

The CSP staff is always open to suggestions about how we can better serve you. Please feel free to send your comments and suggestions to us at [csp@ncu.edu](mailto:csp@ncu.edu) or call 919-530-7814.

# Centennial Scholars Program Eagles' Talon

## Summer Bridge Students Get Leg-Up on Experience



Clarence "Cory" Williamson (left) and Shakeel Hargrove (right) clean the baseball field at the Durham Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club.

While many college-bound 17 and 18 year olds spend the summer before their freshman year flipping burgers or soaking up the sun on the beach, 48 of this year's incoming Centennial Scholars Program students chose instead to spend it hitting the books in the Summer Bridge Program to get a head start on their academic careers.

These young men are in the midst of this five-week program that allows them to take a math class and an English class, participate in workshops and development sessions, live on campus, eat in the cafeteria and take

part in off-campus trips. All of this academic and personal enrichment is provided at no cost to the students.

The participants have learned that the transition from high school to college is sometimes a challenging process.

"Before entering into this program, I always had problems with keeping an organized schedule. Now that I

have been given the proper guidance on how to manage it, I am able to do all my work, get extra help and have free time," said Xavier Hodge, a law major from Durham, NC.

In addition to academics, the Summer Bridge Program has also helped students get a leg-up on the community service hours they are required to complete each semester. The scholars visited the Durham Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club one Saturday morning to volunteer.

Clarence "Cory" Williamson, a business finance major from Greens-

boro, NC, cleaned the areas around the baseball field. "This experience was humbling because I am playing baseball for NCCU, and I know there are few African-American males in baseball. I felt that I was helping the cause."

The Heritage Tour around the city of Durham was an eye opening experience for many of the students who were unfamiliar with its rich history. "I did not know that Durham was so deeply rooted in the development of African-American leadership and power," said P.J. Ezuma, a business administration major from Raleigh, NC.

As the session draws to a close, the students are turning their focus to the fall semester that will include a full class load, more freedom and more opportunities to get involved on campus.

"I'm most looking forward to continuing to focus on succeeding," said undecided major Randy Persson of Knightdale, NC. "I have high goals for myself, and the Summer Bridge Program has helped further motivate me."

## CSP Summer Bridge Staff Appreciation

It takes a lot of time and effort from several people to make this program successful.



(Right) CSP members and Summer Bridge Residential Assistants Steven Cannady (left) of Durham, NC, and Craig Bullock (right) of Manson, NC, were a tremendous help to the program participants during the five weeks they served in McLean Hall.

(Left) Pictured are (front, l to r) Graduate Coordinators Courtney Ward, Krystal Johnson and (middle) Deshea Spurgeon; Academic Coordinator Dana Jones; Graduate Coordinator Michael Evans; (back) Academic Coordinator Serge Zeze; English Instructor Eddie Moore; and Academic Coordinator William Robinson. Staff members not pictured are Academic Coordinator Kevin Myers and Math Instructor Tonny Sangutei.



# Scholar Highlight

## Chancellor's Corner

*Tia Marie Doxey, Director of Student Life Assessment, provides leadership, coordination and expertise in designing, implementing and interpreting assessment projects related to student development, learning outcomes and Student Affairs' educational programming and services. Doxey collaborates with the Centennial Scholars Program staff on assessment initiatives, grant writing and implementation of the First-in-Flight program.*

"I encourage you to remember to communicate with confidence," she advises. "You can be confidently wrong or right! Having confidence is all about believing in yourself and the only way you can build your belief in what you are capable of is by taking action in the world and learning through trial and error.

"While you are here at NCCU, take every opportunity to step outside of your comfort zone and interact with people who are different from you. By doing this, others are able to learn about your unique experiences and you will broaden your understanding of diverse cultures, lifestyles, ideas and experiences. Welcome to NCCU. I am here to support your leadership."

## Mercer Spends Summer Interning with Congressman in Washington, D.C.

For any political science major, snagging an internship with a legislator is a huge honor and the competition for such a coveted spot is fierce. But after Rep. David Price (D-NC) and his staff heard NCCU then-sophomore Korey Mercer of Durham, NC, advocate for Pell Grants while they toured the campus in February, they personally invited Mercer to join their team for the summer.

Mercer, CSP member, spent six weeks of his summer in Washington, D.C. during which he assisted with preparing daily reports for the congressman, researching current bills, giving tours of the capitol, greeting constituents and attending briefings and hearings with the congressman and his staff. He also answered phone calls and spoke with different constituents about various legislative and local issues.

Mercer was able to experience all the sights of the nation's capital with the benefit of being somewhat of an insider. "I had the opportunity to visit the Capitol and White House for the first time. As an intern, I was available to see more because of my position," Mercer noted. "Being able to see all the history and talk to government leaders was great."

Having this experience under his belt has helped Mercer develop his skill set as he works to become an attorney in entertainment and sports law.

Mercer indicated that participating in the Centennial Scholars Program for two years has been an asset academically, socially, and professionally. "With the start of my third year in college, I have really enjoyed my academic and social achievement and a lot of this is because of the hard work and dedication of the CSP staff. I am really grateful to be a member of the Centennial Scholars Program because this opportunity would not have happened without them."



*Rising sophomore Korey Jerel Mercer of Durham, NC, spent six weeks interning with Rep. David Price (D-NC) and his staff in Washington, D.C.*

## Director's Message

Greetings Scholars, Families and Partners:

I hope our newsletter finds you enjoying a pleasant and productive summer. In the CSP house, we have been busy working with our 48 Summer Bridge Program students and five Summer Bridge Program transfer students and preparing for an exciting fall semester.

While summertime is undoubtedly a time to kick back and have fun, we would like to remind everyone to take proper safety precautions. Many of the same safety rules that apply during the school year still apply when you are at home or on vacation. It is important to be aware of your surroundings regardless of your location and practice common sense. Lock your doors and windows at home and in your vehicle. Do not leave personal belongings unattended. Do not travel alone in poorly lit areas. If your intuition tells you something is off, it generally is. Do not put yourself in a situation that may make you sorry later. We want everyone to return to campus in August happy, healthy and ready to tackle the year ahead.

Warmest regards,

Jason J. Dorsette



*Jason J. Dorsette  
CSP Director*

# CSP Gets Fit With Campus Recreation

In conjunction with Chancellor Charlie Nelms' new initiative to promote a healthier campus, the Centennial Scholars Program (CSP) has been doing its part in promoting physical activity and wellness for its Summer Bridge participants.

CSP has implemented a recreation period for students participating in the Summer Bridge Program that is geared toward physical wellness, nutrition and creating friendly competition between students. These activities allow the students to develop leadership, interpersonal and social skills. The purpose of the Campus Recreation Department is to support the personal development and well-being of students on campus through physical activity.

"Initially, the Summer Bridge students were reluctant to participate in the activities," said Chio Sheppard, Assistant Director of Campus Recreation. "As time progressed, we began to notice that competitive edge kicking in, and many of them began encouraging each other to participate. They have displayed the enthusiasm and motivation to be more physically active students."

Students have the opportunity to partake in various sports such as volleyball, bike riding, dodgeball, kickball, basketball and other team-oriented sports. For participating and completing these activities, students have the opportunity to obtain group points and individual points. To obtain individual points, students can partake in individual activities such as walking the "Jesus Steps," riding the campus bike trail, participating in push-up competitions and running laps around the track. The points help determine the winning team that will receive Campus Recreation T-shirts at the end of the program.



Chio Sheppard, Assistant Director of  
Campus Recreation

Sheppard noted that these activities have had a positive impact on student behavior and interaction. "Not only are we able to provide diverse forms of recreational activities that aid in the development of self-confidence, but we also are encouraging movement and physical activity," he said.

In the fall, all students will be able to get nutrition lessons and participate in activities such as Zumba, Insanity, water aerobics, intramural softball, intramural soccer, flag football, swim classes, yoga, basketball, paintball and weight lifting.

## CSP's Scholarly Tips

Whether you are an incoming freshman or a veteran of residence hall life at North Carolina Central University, the dawn of a new academic year always raises the question, "What should I take with me to college?" There's no need to fret. We are here to help. Before you make your shopping list and venture out to the big box stores in an effort to stock up on supplies and essentials for the upcoming school year, make sure you check out our list of do's and don'ts first.

*You may already know to bring items like:*

detergent  
laundry softener  
bleach  
stain stick  
laundry basket  
cleansers  
extra-long twin bedspread  
extra-long twin sheets  
pillows  
pillow cases  
hangers  
towels  
washcloths

*It may have also crossed your mind to pack:*

alarm clock  
cable cord  
desk lamp  
mp3 player  
mini-fridge  
cable-ready television  
surge protectors  
backpack  
laptop/computer  
notebooks  
pens  
pencils  
umbrella

*With the essentials out of the way, what should you leave at home? The following items are prohibited in the residence halls:*

burners  
candles  
incense  
crock pots  
electrical heaters  
extension cords  
George Foreman-type grills,  
hotplates  
microwaves (except when rented in the micro-fridge combination)  
street signs (or other highway and utility signs)  
toaster ovens

Now you're an expert on what to bring and what NOT to bring. As you begin your shopping spree, be sure to take this handy little cheat sheet with you. It will be your guide to a smart shopping excursion. This list provides tips and is not meant to be an exhaustive list of college necessities. Generally speaking, if you follow these do's and don'ts you'll be ready.



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# Did You Know?



NCCU Sports History Edition

The first organized team sport at NCCU was a baseball team that first took the field in 1911.

NBA Hall of Famer Sam Jones, who played for the Boston Celtics from 1957 to 1969, was the first NCAA All-American basketball player from a Historically Black College and University. Jones graduated from NCCU in 1957 and was selected eighth overall in the NBA draft.

NCCU alumnus Lee Calhoun won an Olympic gold medal in the 110-meter hurdles in 1956 and 1960.

NCCU's former athletic conference, the CIAA, founded in 1912, was originally named the Colored Intercollegiate Athletic Association. The CIAA changed its name to the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association in December 1950.

## Centennial Word Search What to bring to school

Z	K	R	F	P	K	V	D	A	E	R	P	S	D	E	B
U	T	E	N	S	I	L	S	Y	F	H	C	I	W	G	S
Q	I	F	C	H	A	R	G	E	R	T	B	V	A	L	T
S	E	R	C	C	C	Y	C	A	M	E	R	A	S	L	E
N	J	I	P	O	D	H	L	K	J	L	O	T	H	L	E
E	C	G	K	L	P	K	S	Y	R	E	B	O	C	T	H
P	Z	E	Q	U	B	O	R	Q	X	V	E	I	L	O	S
A	Q	R	W	M	N	O	E	A	P	I	L	L	O	W	V
C	W	A	R	B	M	B	G	T	H	S	T	E	T	E	I
D	E	T	E	R	G	E	N	T	I	I	W	T	H	L	R
U	P	O	D	E	E	T	A	P	I	O	P	R	S	S	O
C	A	R	X	L	R	O	H	P	E	N	C	I	L	K	N
U	W	W	X	L	P	N	E	N	O	H	P	E	L	E	T
B	N	H	L	A	P	T	O	P	V	Y	Q	S	H	H	H
R	E	K	C	O	L	T	O	O	F	H	J	K	P	I	Z

### Find and Circle

- BEDSPREAD
- CAR
- CAMERA
- CHARGER
- DETERGENT
- FOOTLOCKER
- HANGERS
- IPOD
- IRON
- LAPTOP
- NOTEBOOK
- PENCIL
- PENS
- PILLOW
- REFRIGERATOR
- ROBE
- SHEETS
- TELEPHONE
- TELEVISION
- TOILETRIES
- UMBRELLA
- UTENSILS
- WASHCLOTHS
- TOWLES

# Summer Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Time	Place
August 4	Last Day of Summer Session II classes		
August 5-6	Summer Session II final exams	All day	
August 5	All tuition payments due by 5 p.m.		Bursar's Office
August 10	RSVPs due for CSP Welcome Program (new students & families only) <b>E-mail <a href="mailto:dkelly17@nccu.edu">dkelly17@nccu.edu</a> to RSVP</b>		
August 12	Financial aid posted		
August 13	Residence hall check-in for all new students CSP Welcome Program	9 a.m. – 5 p.m. 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.	Residence Halls B. N. Duke Auditorium
August 14	Week of Welcome (WOW) begins		
August 18-21	Residence hall check-in for continuing students	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Residence Halls
August 22	First day of classes		
August 29	First day to withdraw		
September 5	Labor Day observance – No classes		



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