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FRED W. BEAZLEY PORTSMOUTH CAMPUS

New campus brings the cool to school

By Carrie White
Correspondent

Students, faculty and visitors to Portsmouth have redefined what the letters TCC stand for: Tidewater's Coolest Campus.

The new \$65-million Fred W. Beazley Portsmouth Campus, located off Victory Boulevard on a 35-acre tract provided by the city, has one former student and current employee, James Boyd, saying, "I wish I could go back to school just to try all this stuff out!"

The Beazley School of Nursing, built in part with a \$1.4 million contribution from the Beazley Foundation, has some of the most impressive "bells and whistles." Set up to resemble a hospital wing, the four new classrooms are attached to fully functioning hospital wards, complete with multiple beds and equipment.

The nursing school has human-patient simulator labs. In each lab reside "he" and "she" rubberized models ready to be programmed to simulate symptoms. They say, among other things, "Ouch, you're hurting me." The female simulators can even give birth.



PAMELA NICHOLS | SPECIAL TO THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

The CADD (computer-aided drafting and design) lab boasts the Rapid Prototyper 3D Printer.

"It's like the replicator on 'Star Trek,'" said Dave Bond, one of the lab's managers.

The machine already has made a huge impact in the medical field, Professor David Steinhauer said.

"For instance, a doctor could scan someone's hip bone and make an exact replacement for it," he said.

In addition, if a surgeon wanted to create an instrument, "we could design it, print it, and then give it to him and say, 'Here it is.'"

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Provost Terry Jones said work on creating a new campus started almost 10 years ago, and when he became provost in 2004, his "job was to re-invent the campus."

from the editor

An education jewel opens

OF ALL THERE IS to be proud of in Portsmouth, the new Tidewater Community College campus is the latest and to many, arguably the greatest.

The \$65 million campus opened to students last Monday with numerous up-grades that no doubt will help thousands of people get a head start on or advance their careers.

Correspondent Carrie White gives us the highlights in her cover story today.

I do not hide that



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I am a proponent for community college systems.

My mother, who for decades was a stellar English teacher, put a life of sharecropping behind her when she became the first in her family to attend college, beginning at a junior college. My late father was a junior college president. And I know of countless others who would not have been able to afford an education had they not had quality programs close to home.

We've got a jewel right here in our pocket, all shined up and set to help us enhance ourselves.

CAMPUS

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Test it out," Steinhauer said.

The spacious and sunny Learning Resource Center, with the TCC Wave designed into the ceiling and a wall of windows overlooking a lake, features 100 computer work stations, as well as digital media labs.

TCC, in cooperation with the state community college system, guarantees access to a live human being 24 hours a day for informational needs, librarian Jacque Dessino said.

"The Firm," the business classroom, resembles a corporate office.

about TCC

Tidewater Community College was founded in 1968. It has four campuses (Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach), an Advanced Technology Center and a Visual Arts Center in Portsmouth. Classes also are offered at local military bases and schools.

For more information, visit www.tcu.edu

The professor often instructs from the receptionist's desk, and throughout the semester, students rotate throughout the various hierarchical cubicles to learn different aspects of the corporate environment.

When the students have

"made it," they meet in the luxurious, glassed-in board room, complete with an electronic ticker tape running across the wall.

Provost Terry Jones said work on creating a new campus started almost 10 years ago, and when he became provost in 2004, his "job was to re-invent the campus."

He and others made numerous trips visiting campuses around the country.

The faculty had a lot of input in every aspect, he said.

Jones is already working on plans for the campus to expand.

But for right now, the more than 10,000 students expected to take classes at the New Portsmouth campus are in for a pleasant surprise.