Students outsource accounting

KELLY CLINE

Business majors are required to take the Principles of Accounting introductory course, and many agree about the level of difficulty involved.

An option that’s become popular for business students is to take an easier, transferable course at community college. Some accounting students prefer to take their financial accounting class at community colleges to avoid the more difficult classes at Virginia Tech.

Michelle Gryzowski, a junior finance major at Tech, said she took the classes at a community college in northern Virginia during the summer of her freshman year.

“I’ve heard horror stories about how hard it is at Tech...and I didn’t think I would be able to handle it.” Gryzowski said, “I took it at community college, that allowed me to take it at an easier pace.”

But students who want to try this route had better check with the Accounting Department.

In order to maintain the reputation of their rigorous, yet successful program, the Accounting Department doesn’t always allow the credits to transfer from other institutions. According to Dr. Reza Barkhi, the head of the Accounting Department at Virginia Tech, when a student wants to transfer credits, the syllabus of the courses in question have to be evaluated by the corresponding departments at Virginia Tech.

When there is a Principles of Accounting course considered, Dr. Jennifer Clevenger forwards the syllabus to Dr. Barkhi and Professor Lynn Altmann to be reviewed. After looking over the syllabus, if the syllabus covers enough of the material that would be covered in the Tech class, a recommendation is made to accept or deny the credits.

New Hillel center unites community

LEAH KOMADA

Hillel, the Jewish community at Virginia Tech, opened a new $2.5 million building this month, with the hopes it would be a visible representation of support and opportunities for the Jewish community at Tech.

“Building provides an additional programming space for students to gather for learning, socializing and religious activities,” said Hillel Executive Director Sue Kurtz.

“We are not replacing the programming spaces we currently have here at the university, we are simply adding another.”

The building was created in memory of Malcolm Rosenberg, an entrepreneur and Jewish philanthropist, who endowed the Jewish student program at Virginia Tech.

“Malcolm always envisioned a modern center for Jewish life here at the university,” said Kurtz. “After he passed away, his wife, Diane sought to bring his vision to life.”

“The building contains several spaces available for students to hold meetings as small groups or larger organizations.”

It is often times difficult to have a meeting space consistent every week,” said Kurtz. “We invite all organizations to use the space available, not just Jewish students.”

Toxic chemical spill shuts down Draper Road for hours

Cameron Austin

A hazardous material spill on Tuesday caused the block of Draper between Booneke and Lee streets to be closed.

According to the driver of the truck, 30 to 30 gallons of copper amine C9 was spilled and traveled directly into a drain leading to a fresh water source.

The chemical is commonly used as a wood preserver, but can also act as a fertilizer, which is toxic to fish.

W.L. Incorporated is a hazardous material cleanup company that offers 24-hour services in Southwest Virginia.

The process of removing the chemical from the street involves vacuuming the areas and then incorporating the Blacksburg Fire Department to flush the drains with large amounts of water.

According to the driver, improper loading of the chemicals caused the spill, and he was not at fault. It will cost several thousand of dollars to clean up.

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality was on scene supervising the cleanup.

Follow the writer on Twitter: @CaustinCT

Hazardous material crews work to clean up a chemical spill along Draper Road. The spill caused a closure of the street for several hours.

Dean Seal

Skepticism inundated the latest discussion over the fate of the proposed development at the old Blacksburg Middle School.

The subject of the crowd’s attention varied but...