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Office of University
Communications

December 10, 2014

Local Partnership Provides Internship Opportunities for Disabled

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – Gardner-Webb University hosted an open house aimed at helping youth with disabilities find meaningful, competitive employment through on-site internship experiences. The Project SEARCH open house took place on Thursday, Dec. 11 at the Williams Observatory.

Interns discussed their employment interests, previous work experience, and upcoming internship opportunities. They learned more about how they can gain transferable working skills by receiving instruction and completing three separate internships on campus.

“Our staff developed the open house to showcase our interns and the skills that they have learned,” said Joshayla Terry, a Project SEARCH job coach, “as well as to introduce Project SEARCH to various departments throughout the campus with the goal of exposing interns to multiple areas of interest and to be an asset to Gardner-Webb.”

Project SEARCH is a national and international program based in Cincinnati, Ohio, with locations throughout the nation. The open house is supported through several partnership entities within the community between Gardner-Webb, Cleveland County Schools, North Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation, Cleveland Vocational Industries, and Partners Behavioral Health Management.

“I’ve heard good reports from different areas, and we are excited about how it’s gone so far,” said Scott White, director of Human Resources, who facilitated the process of hosting Project SEARCH at Gardner-Webb.

For more information, visit projectsearch.us.

Since its inception, Project SEARCH has grown from a single program site at Cincinnati Children’s to over 300 sites across the United States and Canada, England, Scotland, Ireland, and Australia. Project SEARCH’s primary objective is to secure competitive employment for people with disabilities.

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University offers a comprehensive academic experience that introduces students to the diverse world of ideas and to the people who think them, preparing them for professional success and for productive citizenship.