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Office of University Communications September 11, 2014

Career Coach and Author to Visit Gardner-Webb University

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – The Dimensions program at Gardner-Webb University announces its third guest for the academic year in partnership with the Office of Career Development. Andy Thomas, career coach and author, will speak about career development on Tuesday, Sept. 16 at 9:25 a.m. in the Paul Porter Arena, located inside the Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center (LYCC). The event is free and open to the public.

Thomas's background is a mix of sales, broadcasting and career counseling that has allowed him to help thousands of unemployed and employed individuals pinpoint their strengths and find the confidence to pursue their dreams. He continues his work through his recently launched Charlotte-based company, Andy Thomas Careers Now, which provides individual career coaching, college tours and business workshops.

"We are excited to host Mr. Thomas to help convey to our student body the significant and pressing nature of career development in 2014," said Lisa Yerrick, director of Career Development. "A college degree and a good resume will no longer land you a job. That fact reflects great changes in the last five years. Students need a 'career education' in order to become prepared for their journey. A career education includes multiple components and takes time and effort."

Thomas is the author of "The Job I Need, Needs Me," which advises professionals to identify their passions, brand themselves for the job marketplace, and eventually launch a career. He has over 30 years of experience working in radio, television and with digital corporations including: CBS, NBC, Deluxe and Gannett.

"We want to urge students to take full advantage of the resources they have at GWU to examine their calling and strengths, formulate a strategy, as well as gain experience, skills and confidence for the career journey ahead. We have a semester full of career events planned for our students," Yerrick said.

A smaller group of students will gather with Thomas later on Tuesday at 3 p.m. to discuss personal branding. Interested parties should contact the career office at 704.406.2170 to RSVP.

Auxiliary aids will be made available to persons with disabilities upon request 48 hours prior to the event. Please call 704.406.4264 or email servicerequests@gardner-webb.edu with your request.

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.