C-SPAN Digital Bus Wheels onto Campus

The C-SPAN Digital Bus attends events across the country. You can see the Bus at book festivals, education conferences, and political gatherings. Representatives work with local cable providers to bring the Bus to community events. These include high schools, universities, libraries, and many other locations. The Local Content Vehicle travels the nation, with the crew capturing unique stories along the way. The Local Content Vehicle crew also speaks to students and other groups about filming and video journalism production.

When: Wednesday, August 29th
Where: Ybor City Campus
YADM North Lot
Time: 11:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Alumni Spotlight: Dodé Ackey

USF College of Business alumnus Dodé Ackey came to the United States in 1996 as a refugee from the nation of Togo, he quickly began to study and learn English, taking advantage of education that had been limited in his native country.

Now, he is paying that education forward, giving back to youth in Africa by starting a nonprofit school.

Ackey began his studies at USF as a Gates Millennium Scholar in 2000, earning a bachelor’s degree in finance and his MBA by 2004. Ackey was inspired by the education enabled by the scholarships he received to think he might one day do the same for other African youth.

“I told myself that if I did anything to help people back home, because I know how they struggle over there, it has to be in the area of education,” he said.

In a class taught by entrepreneurship professor Michael Fountain, Ackey came up with the idea to start a university in his homeland to provide students with quality education. Despite it being the only idea in the class that was nonprofit, five classmates signed on to help him make the idea a reality. When he graduated, he started saving his money to put toward the nonprofit.

Now, Ackey, an assistant vice president with Citigroup in Tampa, has finally realized a portion of his dream. In 2011, he opened the International Academy of Niamey in his wife’s home country of Niger, providing education as well as school supplies to nine seventh- and eighth-grade students over the past year. The school costs about $2,000 per month to operate. He hopes to raise more money to be able to support more students, and he is looking for volunteers to help meet the nonprofit’s needs. He has worked with churches in Niger to help identify children that are in need of education but can’t afford it.

In its first year, all of the school’s students graduated to the next grade level, far outpacing Togo’s national average graduation rate. Ackey said he’s especially focused on helping girls receive an education, since families forced to choose between whether to send a son or daughter to school often choose to send the son.

Eventually, Ackey still hopes to launch a university in Africa. For now, though, he is concentrating on doing what he can in the present with the funds he has. However, he plans to travel to Africa at the end of this year to look for a piece of land that might be suitable for a university in either Niger or Benin.

“I knew that the need is everywhere in Africa, whether it’s an elementary school, middle school, high school, or university,” Ackey said.

Dode Ackey graduated from HCC in December of 1999 with an AA in Business.
Student Success Seminars

Unlocking the Mystery: Secrets to Better Writing
Wednesday, Sept. 5, 11 a.m., Ybor Room
Presenter: Ariel Gunn

Take Note: Learn Efficiently through Better Note-Taking
Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2 p.m., YPST 314
Presenter: Terry Varvil

Save Yourself: Personal Safety 101
Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2 p.m., Ybor Room
Presenter: Keith Barry

Health Starts Here: The 4 Pillars of Healthy Eating
Tuesday, Sept. 25, 11 a.m., Ybor Room
Presenter: Curtis Whitwam - Whole Foods

Making Moves: Transferring to a Four-Year College
Tuesday, Oct. 2, 11 a.m., Ybor Room
Presenter: Dr. Myrah Caya

Get Noticed: Creating a Stellar Resumé
Wednesday, Oct. 10, 12:30 p.m., YSSB 309
Presenter: Alisa Keaton

Stage Fright 101: Managing Communication Apprehension
Tuesday, Oct. 23, 11 a.m., Ybor Room
Presenter: Dr. Shelly Stein

Springing into Spring: College Survival Skills
Tuesday, Nov. 6, 12:30 p.m., Ybor Room
Presenter: Frances Cox

[Logo and contact information]
The HCC Ybor City School of Visual and Performing Arts Gallery presents

The Jerry and Steve Show
An invitational exhibition by alumni students of HCC professors Jerry Meatyard and Steve Holm, celebrating their 30-year commitment to arts education
September 7–28, 2012

Opening Reception
Friday, Sept 7, 6:00-9:00pm

Gallery Talk
7:00pm, Curator Patrick Thomsen

Closing Reception
Thursday, Sept 27, 5:30-10:00pm, Art Gallery

Awards Ceremony and Jerry and Steve Roast
Thursday, Sept 27, 7:30-9:30pm, Mainstage Theatre
Second Annual Ybor City Campus Welcome Back Event in High Gear

By Dr. Shelly Stein

This year, we are pleased to say that we had even MORE participation in the faculty/staff effort to welcome back the students for the Fall 2012 semester. The idea of Welcome Back is to show our students that the Ybor campus cares about their academic success by proving extra assistance the first few days of the semester. From the feedback we received last year, students appreciated this “personal touch.”

This “personal touch” looked like this: offices and other groups staffed information tables around campus to answer questions for students on the first several days of class. Tables were decorated with balloons and had a campus map/ Frequently Asked Question flyer to distribute along with candy and water. We plan to do the same this year.

A big thanks goes out to the committee members and many others: to Judith Freeman and the SGA for help with everything; to Angela Walters for assisting with the Map/FAQ flyer; to Myrah Caya for coordinating YSSB; to Charles Coney and Debra Magwood for parking and security; to Brian Gonzales, Rick Still and the crew for set-up; and to the following participants who are listed by table or area: Testing Center, Office of Students with Disabilities, Enrollment Services/Faculty Volunteers, EAP Program/Art Gallery, Office Administration/ Medical Coding, PTK/Faculty Volunteers, Career Services Center, TRiO, Academic Success/Library Services, Criminal Justice (YPST Building).

Shelly Stein and Sarrah Conn, Co-chairs
Much of the public might be increasingly sick of politics these days with all the attack ads streaming out of the presidential campaigns, but not six students from Hillsborough Community College.

When the Republican National Convention opens in Tampa, they'll be on the inside with the delegates, GOP stars and media. They'll see the political process up close in all its rough intensity.

And they can't wait.

"I want to be in there to hear what they're talking about and see what they're doing. It's not often you get to see things like this happen right in your face," said HCC student Patrick Brathwaite.

He and the others were given RNC internships through a partnership between HCC and The Washington Center, a nonprofit group that helps colleges and university students find internships to foster their civic interests.

They were chosen based on essays they wrote about an excerpt from Alexis de Tocqueville's "Democracy in America."

The political philosopher from France toured the United States in the 1830s and was intrigued by its burgeoning democracy. He wrote of the power of many voices united as one through civil organizations allowed to freely convene in public.

In other words, wrote intern Emily Duren, "No average Joe could get tens of thousands of people to a political event, like, say, the Republican National Convention. But could the whole Republican Party do it? Of course."

They're spending the weeks before the convention learning about the roots of American democracy, campaign ethics and political rhetoric.

When the convention starts they're likely to be doing other sorts of things, such as fetching coffee, moving equipment and carrying messages across the convention floor. Three will work with CNN. Three will work with the RNC Committee on Arrangements.

But it's worth it just to be close to the action, said Brathwaite, who already is planning his political career.

One of the other RNC interns, Analise Griffith, is studying business and marketing. She doesn't really like politics. "I feel like everyone is always at each other," she said.

But she, too, wants to see the action up close. "I may never get another chance like this," she said.

Intern Woohyoung Lee, who goes by Tony, is a graphic artist who grew up in South Korea reading about Augustus, the founder of the Roman Empire. He considers himself a connoisseur of political drama and hopes to see a few dramatic moments on the convention floor.

"Politics can be beautiful," he said.

He's not as wide-eyed about it as de Tocqueville seemed 180 years ago.

"Contemporary American politics have taken an unfortunate turn toward more rigidity," Lee wrote in his essay. The dominance of two parties has "somewhat perverted the spirit of voluntary association. It has increasingly become difficult to affect government from outside the established party."

Still, he wrote, he believes in the power of "citizens to continually fix and improve our government and country by active civic participation and involvement."

And if what he witnesses at the convention falls short of that expectation, he won't be disappointed. It will all be fodder for his artwork.