FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: July 30, 2015

Keywords: north Georgia, north Georgia technical college, associate degree, criminal justice, habersham

NGTC Criminal Justice students externalize learning

For students who successfully complete the eight required core Criminal Justice courses at North Georgia Technical College, an additional learning experience affords them the opportunity to solidify their knowledge. These students participate in an externship which, in a manner of speaking, internalizes their knowledge.

Sharing the knowledge and experience gained with others completes the process and therefore, Instructors Pamela Segers and Stephen Hill brought the students together for an afternoon of presentations.

Several students shared stories and perceptions from their time spent with a variety of local agencies ranging from District Attorney’s Offices to Sheriff departments to women’s centers. In addition, some selected the practicum experience over the externship, and those studies were also presented.

“For the employer, the student can be a valuable worker. For the student, the career-related work experience is invaluable,” said Stephen Hill. “We work to place students with an agency that they are interested in working with after graduation.”

Student Dawn Perkins confirmed this effort during her presentation. “For the first several days I was uncomfortable and I called Mr. Hill and told him I wanted out,” she said. “Then I started talking to the clients, and I was hooked. I know now that this is my calling and I want to stay in the field of victim advocacy.”

Ms. Segers and Mr. Hill have strong working relationships with various agencies across northeast Georgia including Sheriff’s Department (various counties), Police (various jurisdictions), District Attorney’s Office (various circuits), Power House for Kids, Sentinel Probation, Child Support Services, Stephens County 911 Center, Colwell Detention Center and many others.

For other students, getting into the field made them realize that their initial concept of their future career may need to be adjusted. Kayla Garrison who worked with a local sheriff’s office found that while her ultimate goal may be CID (Criminal Investigation Department), putting in the time riding patrol was not something she wanted to do. Instead, she now knows she will look at some other options.

Along with the law enforcement agencies, Criminal Justice graduates have opportunities in all levels of business, no matter how small, because all have security concerns such as fraud, theft, computer hacking, economic espionage, employee misconduct, and workplace violence.

“We are proud of our students and proud to place them with our partners across the state,” said Pamela Segers. “They have the knowledge and skills when they go out on the externship, and the employers recognize their dedication and talent.”

For more information about programs of study at North Georgia Technical College, call 706-754-7700 or visit www.northgatech.edu.

Picture: (L-R)