

## News Release



### Bladen Community College goes green

It takes only a quick glance around Bladen Community College's main campus in Dublin to see that a number of changes are in progress. One building project is in the beginning stages and another is nearing completion. However, another less obvious change is beginning to take shape across the campus—a *green* revolution.

Recycling containers are popping up at strategic locations throughout the campus as the college embraces the national campaign to reduce waste and conserve resources.

The initiative began last year when BCC Trustee Shirley Clark approached then Student Government Association (SGA) President Jason Britt suggesting that the organization sponsor a recycling program on the campus.

Clark explained that the Town of Clarkton had undertaken such a program in partnership with a privately-owned recycling company. She said the volume of waste generated at the college would likely be sufficient to be of interest to the company.

Britt visited the Town of Clarkton to learn more about its program. There he met with Fulton Bryant, owner of Bryant's Recycling, and learned how the company partners with

agencies and municipalities to recycle such things as plastic, aluminum and paper products.

Britt took the idea to the college's administration and trustees, winning their strong support. Then, with the support of the SGA governing board, Britt contacted the owner of the recycling company to work out the details of implementing the program on campus.

Chad Smith, who had previously been SGA Vice President, became President in January when Britt stepped down. He took up the cause and worked with college officials and the recycling company to get the containers on campus.

Smith says he expects it will take a while to get the students to systematically use the containers for waste disposal.

"We need to publicize the program throughout the campus to get the students familiarized with it and in the habit of putting their recyclables in the appropriate containers," he said. "It won't happen overnight, but I believe we will eventually get the support of everyone if we continue to emphasize it.

"The faculty and staff of the college will likely use the containers faithfully as they become aware of their locations," he said.

"We in the SGA will make a concerted effort to gain student support for the project," Smith added.

BCC President Dr. William Findt expressed his support for the project, stating that the college will continue to emphasize its importance.

"Recycling of products that we use every day can go a long way toward reducing the amount of trash we must dispose of," Findt said. "Moreover, it conserves our national and worldwide resources as the earth's population grows and requires ever more products to sustain it.

"We here at BCC will do our part to become a part of the solution rather than adding to the problem," he added.