

# What is an employer looking for?

Joni Tyler  
Staff Reporter

"Experience Volunteer State Community College...Experience Success!"

That's the message Director Rick Parrent and the office of Career Placement and Cooperative Education is trying to get out. April 18 - 22 is Career Week at Vol State.

"The entire weeks events are community related," said Parrent.

Each day will include events geared toward student and community interaction, with an emphasis on job placement strategies, career planning and input from Vol State alumni.

The first day of career week includes a "meet and greet" with Vol State alumni. This is the first time Vol State has hosted such an event.

"It's a great opportunity," stated Parrent. "It's about time we got serious about connecting with alumni."

The Career Alumni Network reception begins at 12:15 p.m. at the Rochelle Center. The reception will give students a chance to talk to alumni and hear their success stories that began with being a Vol State student. Several alumni have agreed to be mentors and advise students on

career choices.

Day two will be dedicated to helping students learn skills that are vital to finding employment.

Three separate one-hour sessions are scheduled and will be taught by professionals "who represent the community at large," said Parrent.

The first session, Resume Development, will be presented by Lisa Boblett of Look Sharp Resumes. Students will learn how to write a professional resume. The session will take place in the Jim Moore conference room in the library's upper -floor.

The second session will include learning interview skills and will be presented by Sara Curp of Prospect.

Students will be taught proper interview decorum and tips on how to dress. This session will be in the 100 Annex Building, room 108.

The last session will be Job Search Strategies, presented by Karen Faulks of Workforce Essentials.

Springfest will kickoff day three of career week. It is sponsored by student services, office of career placement and cooperative education and corporate sponsor, FedEx.

Springfest is an event that will incorporate all of the health and physical education fields.

According to Alice Amonette of

the physical education department, booths that day will include health screenings for BMI or body mass index, blood pressure checks and bone density testing.

Amonette also wants students to be aware of the fitness facilities available to them. Any Vol State student can use the fitness equipment.

These events will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

FedEx, one of the main corporate sponsors who has helped with financing the events, will also have giveaways in the main campus-courtyard, where the event will take place.

The career placement office will have a table set-up as well, "to encourage people to come to their office," and utilize the job placement services they offer, Parrent said.

The courtyard will play host to a fashion show on day three. Sponsors for the fashion show will include, The Men's Wearhouse and The French Shoppe.

Both stores will be furnishing clothes that are appropriate for job interviews and what to wear once you get the job. Vol State President, Dr. Warren Nichols, is one of the

dignitaries scheduled to appear on the runway.

Day four will be the Spring Job Career Fair, sponsored by Vol State and corporate sponsor, UPS.

There will be 40 to 45 vendors on hand in the Rochelle Center starting at 10 a.m.

"That's a big deal," stated Parrent.

Students will have the opportunity to interact with vendors and to learn what jobs are available in the area.

Also, vendors will be able to let students know what they are looking for in an employee.

The last day of career week is dedicated to students who are looking toward a career in the education field.

Parrent said the credit for Education Day goes to Dr. Karen Valencia of academic services.

Potential education opportunities will be highlighted, and sessions on the field of education will be available.

Career week will have something for all students whether they are looking for immediate employment or are just starting their education.

All students are encouraged to participate and the entire community is welcome to come and take part in Vol State's career week.

## Staff spotlight: Angie Jowers

Jason Drumm  
Staff Reporter

Angie Jowers has been employed at Vol State since February of 2004. Before coming to Vol State, she was the Director of Marketing and Public Relations at Jackson State Community College in Jackson, TN for five years.

Before the Director of PR position, she was the Media Relations Coordinator of Vol State. You might have seen her around campus taking snap shots during the majority of events.

Angie Jowers is the Director of Public Relations (PR) at Vol State. Her department is in charge of all publications, all advertising and marketing, and building relations with the community. They produce publications like the catalog that come out every year for the college and the printed versions of the class schedules.

She received her degree at Memphis State, now known as the University of Memphis. Her degree is in journalism and advertising. She also worked for the University of Memphis while attending the university as a secretary



Angie Jowers is the long-awaited new Director of PR.

and office manager.

She has always wanted to be in marketing and advertising, especially after seeing the movie, "Nothing in Common" with Tom Hanks and Jackie Gleason.

"I knew when I saw Tom Hanks working in an ad agency and all the creativity the goes into it, I thought, that's what I want to do," she said with look of reflection, followed by a smile.

She is tired of people referring to Vol State as, "the best kept secret." This inspires her to strive for more when concerning the future of Vol State.

She went on to say, "One of the main things that I want to do is increase public awareness and show that Vol State is, in most cases, a better experience than you would have at a university."

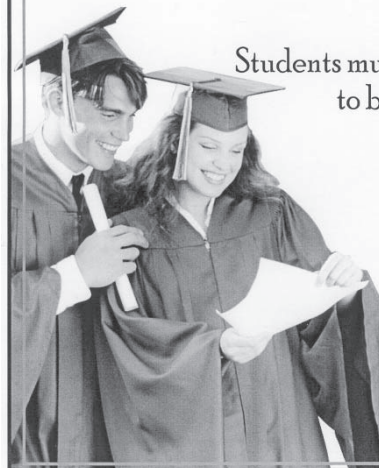
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