

Local high school seniors explore options at Randolph NEXT

BY COURIER-TRIBUNE
STAFF

ASHEBORO — Anna Phillips showed the X-ray of a human head to four high-school seniors, describing how the head needs to be angled a certain way to get the correct image, and pointing to and naming the various parts of the skull.

It was just part of a tour that Phillips, the head of Randolph Community College's Radiography Department, hopes will lead to more students in her classrooms.

The college may have started spring break on March 7, but the Asheboro campus was still humming as RCC hosted the second annual Randolph NEXT, an event that combines a community job fair with a chance for high school seniors to learn about the educational opportunities at the college. A partnership among RCC, Asheboro City Schools, the Randolph County School System, Uwharrie Charter Academy and NCWorks, the



Photo courtesy of RCC

Randolph Community College photographic technology student Toya Sloan, right, talks about the program to students touring the department during Randolph NEXT. Behind her is Asheboro High School senior Nicolas Chavez.

event started last year.

The 240 local seniors participating last week visited various buildings on campus Tuesday, maps in hand, as each student explored four programs they had chosen. Information on college admissions, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and Apprenticeship Ran-

dolph also was presented.

Providence Grove High School senior Haley Foust started her day at the RCC Greenhouse, learning about agribusiness technology and zoological horticulture.

"I didn't really know what I wanted to do in college," she said. "And

I really didn't know what to put for my fourth class. It's so interesting though."

Foust said she also was going to visit the Criminal Justice Technology, Advertising and Graphic Design, and Interior Design departments.

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Photo courtesy of RCC

Agribusiness Technology Department head Derrick Cockman, left, helps Providence Grove High School senior Haley Foust find her next information session.



Photo courtesy of RCC

Radiography Department head Anna Phillips shows an X-ray to visiting students.

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Asheboro High School senior Nicolas Chavez made a beeline for the Photographic Technology building.

“I’m taking year-book classes, and I changed my schedule to get in both semesters because I love it so much,” he said, noting that sports photogra-

phy is his favorite. “I’m most definitely looking at this as a career, and this is one of the best community colleges for photography.

“I’m interested in everything. I just love capturing stuff when it’s happening and reviewing it later — ‘I was there; I took that.’ It’s just a good feeling.”

RCC first-year student Ronald Sudduth decided to come to the Randolph NEXT

job fair, which boasted more than 40 businesses, to explore job opportunities.

“I thought it’d be interesting because I’m looking for a full-time job,” he said. “I’m really thinking of doing a trade next year. I was looking for something to do with my hands like machining or engineering. I’m leaning towards something to do with electricity.”