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## SACJTC MEMBERSHIP VOTES TO CHANGE NAME

During the December, 2014 annual meeting of the Southern Association of Community, Junior, and Technical Colleges, the membership voted to change the name of the association to the Southern Association of Colleges with Associate Degrees. The SACJTC Board had proposed the new name during the 2013 Annual Meeting and had received approval during a first reading of the action in the luncheon meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.

The rationale for the change was to be more responsive to the changes that have occurred in some of the southern states with colleges beginning to offer some work force baccalaureate degrees in addition to associate degrees, certificates and diplomas. Many of these colleges have changed their names omitting references to community, junior, and technical colleges.

The mission statement for SACAD is:

“The Southern Association of Colleges with Associate Degrees (SACAD) provides a unified professional voice to address regional and national issues that have an impact on policies, procedures and practices related directly to associate degree granting institutions. The SACAD consists of accredited member institutions served by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges who offer more than 50% of their total degrees at the associate degree level. The SACAD provides opportunities for its membership to engage in professional development activities through scholarly publications, activities and events. The SACAD advocates and embraces the mission and goals of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.”

The goals for SACAD are to:

1. Annually recognize and publish outstanding practices among member institutions.

### CURRENT MEMBERS RENEW MEMBERSHIP TODAY

The SACAD Board has agreed to maintain the membership dues structure for 2015-16. Institutional membership dues remain at \$100.00. Dues notices will be mailed to current and potential members in June, 2015.

Please contact Dr. George D. Edwards, Executive Secretary-Treasurer at [gdedwards930@gmail.com](mailto:gdedwards930@gmail.com), 606-424-8867, or see the SACAD website at [www.sacad.org](http://www.sacad.org) for more information.

2. Develop forums for the exchange of ideas among CEOs, administrators and faculty.
3. Increase participation in submission of scholarly articles to the SACAD Journal.
4. Increase participation in submission of news to the SACAD Newsletter.
5. Increase attendance at the annual December membership meeting.
6. Increase membership in the Association.
7. Increase opportunities for professional development activities and events among the Association membership.
8. Establish ad hoc committees to address and recommend strategies to achieve each of the above goals.

The membership also approved a new constitution and by-laws for the association. A final vote on the constitution and by-laws will occur at the December, 2015 Membership meeting in Houston, Texas.

## SACAD BOARD SELECTS NEW EDITOR FOR JOURNAL



Dr. Lindsay Lynch has been tapped for the post of editor for the SACAD Journal. Dr. Lynch is the Director of Grants Development at South Florida State College. She earned a M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction and a Ed.D from the University of Florida.

*Dr. Lindsay B. Lynch* Dr. Lynch has worked in the Florida College System for nearly sixteen years. Prior to entering Grants Development and fundraising, she spent nine years working in community college adult education and early college programs, both as an instructor and administrator. Her research interests include minority student access and success and rural college development.

Lindsay resides in Sebring, Florida, with her husband, Jeffery, and their three children, Daniel, Nicholas and Anna.

## SACAD JOURNAL REQUEST FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Southern Association of Colleges with Associate Degrees (SACAD) is soliciting papers on the best practices in community college administration for their online journal at [sacad.org](http://sacad.org). We are asking 1-2 page abstracts be received by August 1, 2015 and 10-15 page final papers be submitted by October 1, 2015.

A blind double review will select one paper, based on the merits of their paper and their applicability to addressing a current issue for many community colleges for a \$500 honorarium. The honorarium will be awarded at the annual banquet at the SACSCOC conference in December 2015 in Houston, Texas. All submissions may be published online if the reviewers feel there is academic and practical merit in the paper.

Please submit your intention to apply to [editors@sacad.org](mailto:editors@sacad.org) and we will follow up with you throughout the process and answer any questions you may have.

The content of the SACAD online journal is distributed electronically to the community college presidents in the SACSCOC region.

## SACAD BOARD AND OFFICERS SELECTED FOR 2015

**PRESIDENT:** Dr. Edward Meadows  
Pensacola State College, FL

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Dr. Walter C. Bartlett  
Piedmont Community College, NC

**PAST PRESIDENT:** Dr. Gary A. McGaha  
Atlanta Metropolitan State College, GA

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER:**  
Dr. George D. Edwards (Non-board member)



Dr. Edward Meadows



Dr. Walter C. Bartlett



Dr. Gary A. McGaha



Dr. George D. Edwards

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Class of 2015

- Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover, President, Eastern Shore Community College, VA
- Dr. James David Campbell, Northeast Alabama Community College, AL
- Dr. Edward Meadows, Pensacola State College, FL
- Dr. Patricia A. Lee, Williamsburg Technical College, SC

### Class of 2016

- Dr. Karen Bowyer, President, Dyersburg State Community College, TN
- Dr. Beth Lewis, President, College of the Mainland, TX
- Dr. Gary A. McGaha, President, Atlanta Metropolitan State College, GA
- Dr. Ronnie Nettles, President, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, MS

### Class of 2017

- Dr. Walter C. Bartlett, President, Piedmont Community College, NC
- Dr. Kristin Williams, President, Henderson Community College, KY
- Dr. Joan Y. Davis, Chancellor, Delgado Community College, LA



Dr. Karen Bowyer



Dr. David Campbell



Dr. Joan Y. Davis



Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover



Dr. Patricia A. Lee



Dr. Beth Lewis



Dr. Ronald E. Nettles



Dr. Kristin Williams

## ALABAMA

### GOVERNANCE BILL BECOMES EFFECTIVE

The Alabama Legislature and the Governor have given final approval to legislation establishing an independent Board of Trustees for the Alabama Community College System. SB191, State Board of Education Governance Bill, became effective on Tuesday, May 12, 2015 .

Chancellor Mark Heinrich stated, "Approval of this legislation represents a fundamental commitment by our leadership to focus greater emphasis on the two-year colleges' core mission to provide a unified system of institutions delivering excellence in academic education, adult education and workforce development."

Prior to the establishment of the Board of Trustees, the Alabama Community College System had been governed by the elected Alabama State Board of Education, which also governed the K-12 system in the state. Members of the Board of Trustees will be appointed by the Governor of Alabama with approval by the Alabama Senate. SACSCOC President Belle Wheelan, in a letter to Governor Bentley, had urged the creation of a separate board for Alabama's community college system.

### ACCS PLAYS MAJOR ROLE IN TAKING CARE OF ALABAMA'S NURSING NEEDS

The Alabama Community College System is delivering a steady supply of trained workers for the state's most in-demand occupation -- registered nurse. The System's colleges also are preparing students for careers in other fast-growing health care occupations.

According to the Alabama Department of Labor, registered nurse is the state's number one high-demand occupation with nearly 2,000 job openings projected annually through 2020. ACCS colleges currently have over 5,700 students enrolled in the System's 20 separate college registered nursing programs.

"We are Alabama's workforce delivery system for nurses. More than 75 percent of the practical and registered nurses in Alabama are a product of the Alabama Community College System," Chancellor Mark Heinrich said. "When you visit your doctor or health care agency, you will likely receive care from a nurse who received their degree from one of our community colleges."

Other health care occupations are also in high demand in Alabama, according to the Alabama Department of Labor. Some of these include medical assistants and health information technologists, which together should see more than 1,100 openings annually through 2020. ACCS colleges currently have more than 2,000 students majoring in these programs alone.

The ACCS offers some 31 different allied health programs in occupations such as diagnostic imaging, radiology, emergency medical services, and physical and occupation therapy assistants.

"Health care needs in our state are increasing at an incredible rate, due in large part to an aging population," Heinrich said. "As a result, there is an extremely high demand for all health professions in the marketplace, and our programs are helping to meet this demand."

Average annual earnings for nurses in the U.S. top \$65,000, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The System also is a major provider of LPNs, with 18 practical nursing programs.

## FLORIDA

### PSC STUDENTS GET HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE USING NEW HIGH-TECH 3D COLOR PRINTER

Pensacola State College students in architectural design and construction programs are staying abreast of the latest manufacturing trends with hands-on experience using a new high-tech 3D color printer. Those who become proficient at using 3D printers can expect an annual salary of around \$51,000, according to Danny Steele, PSC director of applied technology.

With 3D printing, an idea can go directly from a 3D design file to a finished product, virtually skipping many manufacturing steps.

"The obvious benefits are that 3D printing cuts time, costs and wasted material while allowing on-demand production," Steele said. "But, the really exciting aspect is that 3D printing makes it possible to create things that are impossible to produce otherwise, such as human organs.

"There is already documentation that a surgeon used a 3D printer to make a prototype heart for an infant who was born with a defective heart. 3D printing is affecting every part of industry and the possibilities are mind boggling."

Engineering Technology Instructor Wilson Rook said the new 3D printer adds excitement to learning as students take a concept from paper to a model they can hold.

"From designers to machinists, this early prototyping tool accelerates comprehension and mastery of required design and job market skills," he added.

To meet the growing demand for training on 3D printers, PSC recently purchased a smaller, more portable model that prints in plastic, according to Steele.

"The explosion of 3D printer use is so far-reaching, we wanted a printer that can be moved to other areas on campus so it can be used by our biological sciences stu-



dents, art students, culinary students – the list is endless,” Steele said.

### **PSC STUDENTS WIN 41 AWARDS AT 2015 AAF PENSACOLA ADDY GALA**

Pensacola State College (PSC) graphic design and photography students won 41 out of 61 awards presented to area college/university students at the 2015 American Advertising Federation Pensacola ADDY® Awards Gala February 20, 2015.

PSC students won Best of Show, a Judge’s Choice award, 11 Gold awards, and 30 Silver awards.

## **GEORGIA**

### **SWGTC SELECTED FOR NATIONAL ACT AWARD**

American College Testing (ACT) has selected Southwest Georgia Technical College (SWGTC) as Georgia’s Career Preparedness Award recipient. Only one exemplary college in each participating state received the honor from ACT.

The award is part of ACT’s third annual College and Career Readiness Campaign, its largest yet with 34 partner states, including Georgia. SWGTC now moves on to a selection process for national semifinalists of other statewide exemplars as part of this ACT Campaign. The Campaign culminates in ACT’s National Gala for College and Career Readiness in Washington, D.C. in June, 2015. One student, one high school, one community college and one employer will be chosen from among the state exemplars for national recognition. National award recipients will be presented with crystal awards and all recognized students—one from each participating state—will receive scholarships to the postsecondary institution of their choice.

### **ATLANTA METROPOLITAN STATE COLLEGE BACHELOR’S IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM**

A new bachelor’s degree program in Business Administration was approved for Atlanta Metropolitan State College by the University System of Georgia Board of Regents during the April 14, 2015 meeting. Students will begin enrolling in the program in August of this year. Business Administration is the largest academic program at AMSC with more than 450 students who are currently enrolled in the associate degree program. Other baccalaureate programs at the College include biological science, applied mathematics, criminal justice and digital media and entertainment design. AMSC also offers a joint bachelor’s degree in teacher education in collaboration with Kennesaw State University with a concentration in early childhood development.

### **GEORGIA PIEDMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE STUDENT WINS STATEWIDE GOAL COMPETITION**

Stephanie Jackson, a paralegal studies student at Georgia Piedmont Technical College (GPTC), has been named the Technical College System of Georgia’s (TCSG) 2015 Student of the Year. The award was announced during a recent TCSG statewide leadership conference. Jackson competed for the top student honor as part of the system’s annual Georgia Occupational Award of Leadership (GOAL) program, which recognizes the best students at each of the state’s 23 technical colleges and one Board of Regents college with a technical division.



*Dr. Jabari Simama, President, GPTC; Stephanie Jackson, GOAL 2015 State Winner / GPTC Student; Gretchen Corbin, Commissioner, TCSG*

## **KENTUCKY**

### **DR. JAY BOX TAKES OVER THE REINS AT KCTCS**



*Dr. Jay Box*

Dr. Jay Box assumed the leadership of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) on January 16, 2015. He is the second president of the statewide system of 16 colleges.

“My vision for KCTCS is to be the students’ Dreamcatcher,” said Dr. Box. “I envision a future where all of our students’ dreams translate into communi-

ties with a college-educated workforce, ready and able to fill the needs of local business and industry.

“ Since its founding, KCTCS has had a significant impact on both the state’s educational attainment rate and economy. In a recent National Center of Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) report, KCTCS was ranked 4th in the nation for total credentials awarded among the nation’s community and technical college systems, and 5th in enrollment growth.

“Jay Box has a strong background in and love of community colleges,” stated KCTCS Board of Regents Chair P.G. Peeples. “Like me, he’s a community college graduate. His experience as a faculty member, college president and KCTCS chancellor uniquely qualify him to understand the system at all levels. I’m so energized by his vision for students and his emphasis on completion. There’s no one better to lead KCTCS into its second chapter.”

## DR. TONY NEWBERRY ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT



Dr. Tony Newberry

Dr. Tony Newberry, president and CEO of Jefferson Community and Technical College since July 2002, will retire effective June 30, 2015.

Dr. Newberry joined Jefferson as president after serving as chancellor for community colleges of the newly formed Kentucky Community and Technical College System. He was tasked with helping to lay the groundwork for the new system, which combined the community colleges, formerly operated by the University of Kentucky, and the state’s technical schools.

In 2002, then new KCTCS President Michael B. McCall, appointed Newberry president of Jefferson Community and Technical College (JCTC), the system’s largest college. It was a homecoming of sorts for Newberry, who began his community college career teaching history at Jefferson in 1976.

Later he was dean of academic affairs at Southeast Community College and president of Ashland Community College.

## WKCTC AMONG TOP THREE COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN AMERICA BY ASPEN INSTITUTE



WKCTC President Barbara Veazey and WKCTC graduate Justin Jackson

The Aspen Institute announced March 18, 2015 that West Kentucky Community & Technical College (WKCTC) is a Finalist-with-Distinction for the 2015 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. Selected from 1,123 community colleges nationwide, this is the second time WKCTC has been awarded this honor along with \$100,000 in Prize funds to support its programs.

The Aspen Prize, the nation’s preeminent recognition of high achievement and performance in America’s community colleges, is awarded

every two years and recognizes institutions for outstanding outcomes in four areas: student learning; certificate and degree completion; employment and earnings; and high levels of access and success for minority and low-income students.

“West Kentucky Community & Technical College has been a steady improver and built a community-wide college-going culture in an area where few people sought a degree beyond a high school diploma,” said Joshua Wyner, Executive Director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program and author of *What Excellent Community Colleges Do*. “Faculty and staff are constantly working hard to improve their teaching and get students on the path to a better future.”

WKCTC has ranked as a Top Ten Finalist every year the Aspen Prize has been awarded since its launch in 2011. Located in a region with low educational achievement and significant industrial decline, WKCTC has worked to draw first-generation students into college and make sure they succeed. Faculty and staff consistently track student learning and completion outcomes, and use data to improve teaching and guidance practices in response. These efforts have resulted in an increase in student retention and degree completion. And, as thousands of jobs have left the region, the college has been a primary player in efforts to expand economic growth, from creating a high-tech industrial training facility for area companies to adding programs in anticipated growth areas, including marine technology and logistics and operations management.

## LOUISIANA

### DELGADO HOSTS GROUNDBREAKING FOR NEW MARITIME AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTER

Groundbreaking ceremonies took place at Delgado Community College for the new Delgado Maritime and Industrial Training Center on Friday, April 24, 2015. The \$7 million



Groundbreaking for Delgado Community College

project is funded by state bonds authorized through Act 391 during the 2007 Legislative Session. Completion is expected by February 2016.

The new Delgado Maritime and Industrial Training Center will be located on the site of the existing facility at 13200 Old Gentilly Road, New Orleans.

The Maritime, Fire and Industrial Training Facility at Delgado Community College has earned a national and international reputation for providing high-quality maritime and industrial firefighting, radar, safety and U.S. Coast Guard-approved training including full mission bridge simulator courses. For over two decades, Delgado's experienced instructors have helped provide training to licensed mariners and industry personnel in the maritime, oil and gas, and safety/homeland security fields, among others. Courses are tailored to meet the specific needs of industry.

## MARTIN HALL IS NOW PART OF THE DELGADO LANDSCAPE ON CITY PARK AVENUE

Delgado Community College held ribbon-cutting ceremonies for H. Giles Martin Hall on Friday, May 1, 2015 at the City Park Campus, 615 City Park Ave., New Orleans.



*Delgado Chancellor Joan Y. Davis, and members of the H. Giles Martin family*

College personnel, students and visitors were joined by officials from the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, the State Legislature and other entities involved with planning and building the new structure.

The new 14,438-square-foot, two-story building houses Delgado's digital media, small business and entrepreneurship programs.

"Opening a state-of-the-art classroom and laboratory building like this one, H. Giles Martin Hall, is a landmark

event in the 94-year history of our college," said Delgado Chancellor Joan Y. Davis. "The State of Louisiana is very generous in providing the funds to build it. We are excited to begin offering an array of educational programs inside this beautiful facility designed to enhance 21st-century careers."

H. Giles Martin was Delgado's first director and its longest-tenured leader, serving from 1920 until 1954. The new building named in his honor overlooks the landmark Isaac Delgado Hall, which was erected in 1920-1921 and named after the college's founder. The proximity of the two buildings is symbolic of Martin's overseeing Isaac Delgado Hall's construction and the college's formative years.

## MISSISSIPPI

### HIGHER EDUCATION APPRECIATION DAY HELD

The 28th annual Higher Education Appreciation Day Working for Academic Excellence (HEADWAE) was held on February 17, 2015 in Jackson, Mississippi. Outstanding students and faculty members from 34 Mississippi public and private universities and colleges received special recognition from the Mississippi Legislature during this annual event. HEADWAE is chaired by Lieutenant Governor Tate Reeves and was established by legislative resolution to honor individual academic achievement and the overall contribution of the state's public and private institutions of higher learning and community/junior colleges.

### DR. JOHNNY ALLEN RETIRES



*Dr. Johnny Allen*

Dr. Johnny Allen, president at Northeast Mississippi Community College and current chairman of the MACJC, announced his retirement effective June 30, 2015. Dr. Allen has been an educator for 38 years and served as president of the college for the past eleven years. Dr. Allen was also a former Board member of SACAD. His dedicated leadership will be missed by everyone at NECC and across the state of Mississippi.

### FUNDING COMMITTEE APPOINTED

Recently, Dr. Eric Clark, Executive Director of the Mississippi Community College Board appointed an Outcomes Based Funding Committee to study and make recommendations to the MACJC (the Presidents' Association) and ultimately to the MCCB with regard to the creation and implementation of an outcomes-based funding formula to be used to disburse funds to the fifteen community colleges. This is in response to requests made by members of both the Senate and House Appropriations Committees. This work will also be used to inform the Education Achievement Council, which was charged in 2011 (HB 875)

with developing a funding mechanism for community and junior colleges and universities based on productivity, in addition to enrollment. This effort will be facilitated by Dr. Jimmy Clark and Ms. Martha Snyder, of HCM Strategists. HCM Strategists has worked with numerous state systems across the U.S. in developing outcomes-based funding models.

## NORTH CAROLINA

### ACC INSTRUCTOR AWARDED STATE'S TOP HONOR



John Neathery

The North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) has given John Neathery, Alamance Community College instructor, its highest award as the top community college instructor in North Carolina.

This is the first time that an instructor from Alamance Community College has been honored with the North Carolina Excellence in Teaching Award. North Carolina has 58

community colleges and each nominates an instructor for consideration. ACC has had a few instructors in the past who reached the regional level of competition.

Neathery has taught at ACC since 2003. An instructor since 1997, he graduated with honors from Appalachian State University (ASU) where he earned both a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in sociology. He also earned an Education Specialist (Ed.S.) post-graduate degree in Higher Education Teaching, with a concentration in Criminal Justice.

Established in 1985 by the State Board with financial support from R.J. Reynolds, the Excellence in Teaching Award recognizes full-time teachers who exemplify the highest standards of instruction and professionalism in the classroom and who consistently demonstrate excellence in service to their colleges and communities.

### ACC AND GOODWILL INDUSTRIES FORMALIZE JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP

Alamance Community College (ACC) and Goodwill Industries of Central North Carolina formalized a partnership at a signing ceremony in March 2015 at the Goodwill Industries Community Resource Center. Signers included ACC President Dr. Algie Gatewood and Debbie Tuggle, Vice President of Career Development Services, Goodwill Industries of Central North Carolina.

The Memorandum of Understanding signing ceremony officially acknowledged Workforce Development activities between the College and Goodwill Industries aimed at helping more Alamance County residents find gainful employment.

Programs that are to be delivered at Goodwill's community center include: GED, English as a Second Language (ESL), Human Resources Development, Employability Skills, Pharmacy Technician and Nurse Aid 1.

### HCC PAVING THE WAY FOR STUDENTS THROUGH NCWORKS CAREER PATHWAYS PROGRAM

Halifax Community College (HCC) was approved for the NCWorks Career Pathways Activities Grant through the North Carolina Community College System on October 17, 2014. Halifax Community College NCWorks Career Pathways program is a strategic partnership for workforce development between the community college system, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the North Carolina Department of Commerce.

Funding was provided for \$35,000. These funds are being used in support of the HCC project and in accordance with the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006. The grant's goal is to find career pathway program strategies where secondary and postsecondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) providers work with employers and workforce development boards to educate, train and place individuals in the workforce.

This leadership grant is being used to improve CTE career pathways between high schools and community colleges with special emphasis on employer engagement, rigorous programs of study, career advising and work-based learning.

HCC is an active member of the North Carolina Northeast Pathways to Prosperity partnership. In 2013, Halifax County was one of four northeastern North Carolina counties chosen by the North Carolina Department of Commerce to initiate a pilot project designed to select and implement career pathways that would be aligned with high growth business sectors in the region. Initial steps for the first two career pathways have been completed. The third pathway chosen was advanced manufacturing.



Dr. Ivan T. Mosley Sr.

HCC Project Coordinator/Instructor of Advanced Manufacturing & Industrial Technology Dr. Ivan T. Mosley Sr. will work with area businesses on the NCWorks Career Pathways project.

Ruby Vincent Ward, who successfully headed up HCC's North Carolina Back-to-Work Program last year, has been named the coordinator for the pathways program and will work with schools in the area. Students in grades 9 through 12, meeting certain criteria, are eligible to enroll in the program.

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

### **NEW ACADEMY FOR FEMALE STUDENTS ANNOUNCED**

The South Carolina Technical College System's CodeIT Academy is a highly selective retention and completion initiative that aims to assist female students enrolled in IT programs in the South Carolina Tech System. The pilot cohort consists of 10 students from seven colleges. Targeted activities assist participants with increasing their IT content knowledge, self-confidence, and overall acuity concerning IT-related skills.

The SCTCS CodeIT Academy functions with the support of a number of partners, including the National Center for Women in Technology, Microsoft Research, IT-ology, U.S. Forest Services, and the SC Department of Education.

### **YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP**

Combine a relevant education with on-the-job experience and one has the makings for a successful career. That's the formula that drives South Carolina's youth apprenticeship program. Headed up by the SC Technical College System and run through Apprenticeship Carolina, youth apprenticeship is an extremely hot topic when it comes to workforce and economic development.

Youth apprenticeship works to ensure a well-educated, well-trained workforce and in turn South Carolina's continued competitiveness in attracting and retaining business and industry. In addition, it offers a surplus of benefits for both employers and young apprentices.

Employers are able to create crucial recruitment pipelines, decrease costly turnover and influence, as well as mold and shape potential future employees. Employers also qualify for a South Carolina tax credit for each apprentice. High school apprentices can earn a wage while they learn as well as enhance their employability by obtaining critical work skills that are immediately sought by employers. The youth apprenticeship program also works to strengthen students' academic skills and in turn their academic success. High school completion is a requirement of the program.

"In the past few months, we've definitely noticed increased interest in youth apprenticeship. In fact, about 80% of our recent conversations with business and industry have revolved around developing youth apprenticeship programs," said Brad Neese, director of Apprenticeship Carolina. "Our goal is to have a registered youth apprenticeship program in every one of our 46 counties by December 2015."

## **TENNESSEE**

### **TENNESSEE LAUNCHES "DRIVE TO 55" INITIATIVE**

Governor Haslam has challenged Tennessee with a critical new mission: The Drive to 55's initiative is to get 55 percent of Tennesseans equipped with a college degree or certificate by the year 2025. It is not just a mission for higher education but a mission for Tennessee's future workforce and economic development. Reaching this goal will create more opportunities for more Tennesseans and will also improve the quality of life in the State.

The Tennessee Promise Scholarship Program is one initiative to help Tennessee reach the goal of having 55% of the workforce with a postsecondary credential. About 57,000 high school seniors in 2014-2015 applied for the Tennessee Promise Scholarship. It is both a scholarship and mentoring program what provides a last-dollar scholarship. The scholarship will cover the tuition and mandatory fees not covered by the Pell grant, the HOPE Lottery scholarship or state student assistance funds. Students may use the scholarship at any of the state's 13 community colleges, the 27 colleges of applied technology (TCAT) or other eligible institutions offering an Associate Degree program. Out of the 57,000 who applied approximately 35,000 students have met the various deadlines required in the Program. Many did not make the February 15, 2015 deadline to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Applicants also had to attend two mandatory meetings which were coordinated by one of the partnering organizations. There are upcoming deadlines this summer. They include applying to a community college or TCAT, completing the FAFSA verification and completing the first 8 hours of community service. It is expected that 20,000 of the 57,000 applicants will actually enroll in a community college or TCAT this fall. As a result many community colleges will see enrollment increases this fall.

### **MATH TRANSFORMATION INITIATIVE**

Recently the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation issued a Higher Education Transformation report on Reforming Remedial Math in Tennessee. Seamless Alignment and Integrated Learning Support (SAILS) is a bridge math course for high school seniors that incorporates the five competencies that students must master in order to be ready for college-level mathematics. The course is a hybrid, a mix of online and face-to-face instruction. The self-paced program allows students to learn at their own speed, and teachers can work one-on-one with students who are struggling. If they master the five competencies early, students may move on to take college-level math for credit through dual enrollment while still in high school. The pilot class for SAILS started in the spring of 2012 at Red Bank High School where Chattanooga State Community College (ChSCC) offered a dual enrollment program. That first year, of the 200 students connected to ChSCC, 83% met all five competencies. By fall 2014, the program was in 184 of the





state's 318 high schools. Over 9000 students were enrolled in the fall of 2014, and another 4000 are enrolled in the spring of 2015. The 13,000 students represent almost half of the 30,000 students who need bridge math courses. The state grant used to cover the cost of the program is \$2.45 million. Approximately 8600 high school graduates this spring will be college-ready in mathematics because of the SAILS Math Tennessee Program. It is estimated that these 8600 students will save at least \$4 million in tuition by not having to enroll in a remedial math courses in college. The state also saves money by not having to make an appropriation for these student credit hours.

## TEXAS

### TECHNOLOGY PROFESSOR EARNS DEGREE AT AGE EIGHTY-FIVE



*Pete Rygaard with his students*

Many students have walked the graduation aisle thanks to the dedication of College of the Mainland professor Pete Rygaard. On May 16, 2015 it was Rygaard's turn. Granted a special exception to teach based on his 50-year work history in

the petrochemical industry, Rygaard became the oldest COM graduate at 85. The COM process technology professor of 43 years completes his associate degree this summer.

"Who would know I'd be a college grad? That wasn't in my furthest dreams," said Rygaard. A first-generation American, Rygaard dropped out of high school his senior year to work at Union Carbide, helping support his mom as his father died when he was three. He received his GED in 1956.

Excelling first as an operator and then trainer, Rygaard taught in the COM Process Technology Program from its inception. He has nurtured generations of student, including his great-grandnephew, in the finer points of operating gears, turbines and compressors.

Generally requiring professors to complete graduate hours in the subject they teach, the College allowed Rygaard's extensive working experience to qualify him as long as he pursued a degree.

Beginning classes in 2010, Rygaard often learned alongside his current students. "It was actually a lot of fun," said Rygaard. "They had established study habits. It was

beneficial."

One of his students, Christy Torres, took chemistry with him. "His energy level is up there with the rest of them," said Torres. "We were two in the front row. You know how much fun it is to sit next to the professor?"

Ever energetic, Rygaard while teaching completed four terms as La Marque mayor from 1987 to 2000, becoming the longest-serving La Marque mayor. "I never lost a mayoral election," he said. Rygaard also is passionate about the Lions Club leadership and service. One project he advocates are holiday parties at Independence Village, a home for mentally challenged individuals.

His advice gleaned from 43 years on both sides of the classroom is "You're never too old to learn. I'm a testimonial."

## VIRGINIA

### DR. SCOTT RALLS TO BECOME NEXT PRESIDENT AT NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE



*Dr. Scott Ralls*

The next president of Northern Virginia Community College is Dr. Scott Ralls, currently president of the North Carolina Community College System. Dr. Ralls will assume his new post in early September, replacing Dr. Robert G. Templin, who retired in February, 2015.

Dr. Ralls has served as CEO of the 58-community-college system in North Carolina since May 2008. Before that, he was president of Craven Community College in New Bern and Havelock, North Carolina from 2002-2008, and he was vice president for economic and workforce development for the North Carolina Community College System from 1999-2000.

### DR. DEAN SPRINKLE TAPPED FOR WYTHEVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESIDENCY



*Dr. Dean E. Sprinkle*

Dr. Dean E. Sprinkle, of Statesville, North Carolina, has been appointed president at Wytheville Community College effective July 1, 2015. Dr. Sprinkle replaces retiring president Dr. Charlie White.

Dr. Sprinkle is currently senior vice president of instruction at Wilkes Community College in Wilkesboro, North Carolina, a position he has held since 2010. Previously, he was vice president of instruction and student

services at Wilkes from 2005-2010, dean of student services 2003-2005, and institutional effectiveness officer 1997-2003.

Dr. Sprinkle first joined Wilkes Community College as a counselor in 1992, after having served as staff psychologist for Tri-County Mental Health of Statesville and for Wake County Mental Health in Raleigh.

He holds a doctorate in curriculum and instruction from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, a master's degree in clinical psychology from Western Carolina University, a bachelor's degree from North Carolina State University and an associate degree from Lees McRae College in Banner Elk, North Carolina.

## DR. CHARLIE WHITE ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT



*Dr. Charlie White*

Dr. Charlie White, who has served as the president of Wytheville Community College since May of 2006, announced his intention to retire effective June 30, 2015.

He has been employed in various positions within the Virginia Community College System since 1971, his longest period of service being at New River Community College in Dublin, Virginia.

Dr. White holds a doctorate from the University of Tennessee and bachelor's and master's degrees from East Tennessee State University. He also holds an associate's degree from Hiwassee College in Tennessee.

## DR. WILLIAM C. AIKEN NAMED INTERIM PRESIDENT OF PAUL D. CAMP COMMUNITY COLLEGE



*Dr. William C. Aiken*

Dr. William C. Aiken has been appointed interim president of Paul D. Camp Community College.

Dr. Aiken, retiring President of Sampson Community College, in Clinton, North Carolina, has also served as the interim president of two other North Carolina institutions: Haywood and Rockingham Community Colleges. Dr. Aiken's higher education career includes numerous positions at institutions

throughout Tennessee and North Carolina, dating back to his first job as a teacher in Athens, Tennessee in 1965. He holds a doctorate and master's degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

## DR. PAUL W. CONCO ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT



*Dr. Paul W. Conco*

Dr. Paul W. Conco, announced his intention to retire as president of Paul D. Camp Community College (PDCCC) after leading the college for five years. Dr. Conco previously served as a vice president at Virginia Highlands Community College, in Abingdon, Virginia nearly a decade.

Dr. Conco holds a Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina-Columbia.

## 2015 CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP IN PHILANTHROPY

Leading philanthropists selected by community colleges across the commonwealth were recently honored with the Chancellor's Award for Leadership in Philanthropy. Hosted by the Virginia Foundation for Community College Education, the 10<sup>th</sup> annual event honors philanthropists from the statewide foundation and each of Virginia's 23 community colleges. This year's class of distinguished philanthropy leaders has contributed a combined total of more than \$12 million dollars to Virginia's Community Colleges.



*Connie Kincheloe, center front, former State Board and Foundation Board member, was the VFCCE recipient of the Philanthropy award. She is shown here with former Governor Gerald Baliles, current chair of the VFCCE board (far left); VCCS Chancellor Glenn DuBois (left) and members of her family.*



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