

# SACJTC Southern Association of Community, Junior, and Technical Colleges

## NEWSLETTER

June 2011

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### SACJTC Annual Luncheon Meeting Highly Successful

The SACJTC annual membership luncheon was held in Louisville, Kentucky on December 5, 2010. More than 280 attendees enjoyed an excellent lunch, and listened to speaker Dr. Michael B. McCall, President of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, who presented information on Kentucky's two-year college system efforts to "transform" many of the services and opportunities for Kentucky's citizens. Dr. McCall, the founding president of KCTCS, oversees a system of 16 individually accredited colleges with 68 campuses that now serves nearly 110,000 students.



Dr. Michael B. McCall  
KCTCS President

During the business session portion of the meeting, new officers for the association were introduced and the generous corporate sponsors for the luncheon were recognized. Corporate partners for the 2010 luncheon included: SSC, Sodexo, Barnes and Noble, Valley, BB&T, Cincinnati Bell Technology Solutions, and Hastings-Chivetta. Due to the generosity of these partners, the cost for luncheon attendees was kept to a minimum.

SACJTC Officers for 2010 include: President, Dr. Helen

McAlpine, President of J. F. Drake State Technical College in Alabama; Vice-President, Dr. Johnny Allen, President of Northeast Mississippi Community College; and Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. George D. Edwards, President of Big Sandy Community and Technical College in Kentucky.



Dr. McAlpine



Dr. Allen



Dr. Edwards

Outgoing board member and President of SACJTC, Dr. Tom Wilkerson, President of Bainbridge College in Georgia was recognized for his outstanding service to the Southern Association of Community, Junior, and Technical Colleges. New board members for South Carolina and Georgia were introduced at the meeting. They are: Dr. Kim McGinnis, President of Williamburg Technical College in South Carolina, and Dr. Gary McGaha, President of Atlanta Metropolitan College in Georgia.



Dr. Wilkerson



Dr. McGinnis



Dr. McGaha

#### CURRENT MEMBERS RENEW MEMBERSHIP TODAY

The SACJTC Board has agreed to maintain the membership dues structure for 2011-12. Institutional membership dues remain at \$100.00.

Dues notices will be mailed to current and potential members in June, 2011.

For more information, please contact Dr. George Edwards, Secretary-Treasurer at (606) 886-7332 or please see the SACJTC website at [www.sacjtc.org](http://www.sacjtc.org).

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## **DR. ERIC CLARK TO SPEAK AT SACJTC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON**

The SACJTC Board is pleased to announce the guest speaker for the annual membership luncheon to be held on December 4, 2011 in Orlando, Florida. Dr. Eric Clark began serving as Executive Director of the Mississippi State Board for Community and Junior Colleges in January 2008. He previously served for twelve years as the Mississippi Secretary of State and sixteen years as a member of the Mississippi Legislature.



*Dr. Eric Clark*

He attended Jones County Junior College and received a bachelor's degree from Millsaps College, a master's degree from the University of Mississippi, and a doctorate in history from Mississippi State University. Dr. Clark taught history and government at Jones for seven and a half years and also at Mississippi College for five and a half years.

Eric Clark is a member of the Mississippi Economic Council, Mississippi Farm Bureau, Mississippi Forestry Association, and Mississippi Historical Society. He was recognized with the American Family Association's "God and Country" Award for authoring the law that outlawed possession of child pornography in Mississippi. He was also awarded the Mississippi Wildlife Federation's Conservation Legislator of the Year for his efforts to preserve natural lands on the Gulf Coast. He was twice awarded the Mississippi Nature Conservancy's Public Service Award. He is also a Certified Public Manager.

He currently serves on the boards of the State Workforce Investment Board, the Mississippi Technology Alliance, the Mississippi Council for Education Technology, the Mississippi Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, the Mississippi Public Broadcasting Board of Directors, and on the Advisory Council of Mississippi Economic Council's Blueprint Mississippi 2011.

## **2011 ANNUAL SACJTC LUNCHEON TO BE HELD IN ORLANDO**

Make plans now to attend the 2011 Annual SACJTC Luncheon and membership meeting on December 4, 2011 from 12:00 n. to 1:30 p.m. in Orlando, Florida. Remember to register for the SACJTC luncheon as you register for the SACS annual meeting through their normal process. The cost for the luncheon in 2011 remains at \$30. Please check the website ([www.sacjtc.org](http://www.sacjtc.org)) for additional information as it becomes available.

If you already registered for SACS and did not register for the SACJTC luncheon please contact Margarita B. Hampton at 606-886-7332, or Michelle Meek at 606-886-7336.

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## **SACJTC BOARD MEMBERS TO TOUR CERTIFICATION CENTER**

Several SACJTC Board Members are travelling to Wisconsin in July to tour an NC3-National Coalition of Certification Center facility. NC3 is the outgrowth of the relationship between Gateway Technical College (WI) and Snap-on Inc. Snap-on has been an active proponent of technical education dating back to the 1960s. The company's work in diagnostics, and the study of electrical systems in vehicles, spurred development of training alliances around the country. In 2007 Snap-on teamed-up with Gateway to create a diagnostics training and certification center. Gateway and Oklahoma-based Francis Tuttle Technology Center were early contributors to the certification center model which started as the "Snap-on Network of Colleges", which has evolved to NC3-National Coalition of Certification Centers.

The launch of the National Coalition of Certification Centers (NC3) represented a move forward for public/private training partnerships into a new model of technical training in the U.S. What started as collaboration between one manufacturer and a single technical college today incorporates 40 advanced technical education centers, community colleges and manufacturer-sponsored training programs.

NC3 was established to facilitate the development of partnerships between industry and educational institutions. In that capacity the organization provides comprehensive curriculum development and access to skill-standard certifications. The curriculum is developed collaboratively with industry experts and educators; the certifications validate skill sets required to meet performance standards.

NC3 works with associations to develop industry-specific training. The Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA) is an

example of such a connection. The Stevens Point, Wis.-based organization is working with NC3 to develop training for a myriad of “green” skills from installation of solar panels and small wind turbines on homes to creating programs to teach the techniques necessary for structural assessment.

Current certification curriculum includes diagnostics, diesel engines, wheel service and vehicle information management, multimeters, hybrid safety, tool control, and torque technology. Additional curriculum being developed includes advanced propulsion systems, aviation, renewable energy and manufacturing.

The NC3 strategy provides the platform for members’ schools to work with other educators, industry partners, and organizations in their geographical area.

The “train-the-trainer” effort is designed to provide standardized training and guidance to new and existing organizations. The organization is designed to foster improved communication and idea sharing across the network at all levels from student to instructor to administrators.

Most authorities agree that the vast majority of jobs created in the United States during the first three decades of the 21<sup>st</sup> century will require training above high school but less than a baccalaureate degree. This leaves community, junior and technical colleges with the responsibility for creating new programs and curricula to train for these occupations without the experience necessary to know the emerging fields of technology from which the new occupations originate. The purpose of the visit to Wisconsin is to determine the feasibility of hosting a session at the SACS annual meeting designed to help its member colleges deal with these demands. Please watch for additional information as the SACJTC Board researches this potential opportunity.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

The Southern Association of Community, Junior and Technical Colleges (SACJTC) is seeking proposals on the following topics:

**Short Papers**-We are looking for 2-3 page reports on best practices in Quality Enhancement Programs (QEP). All of the proposals who meet peer-reviewed criterion will be published in the SACJTC online journal.

<http://www.sacjtc.org/>

**Academic Paper**-We are looking for longer papers (15-20 pages) on the best practices in SACS accreditation, which may include the QEP portion as well. All proposals are welcome and we encourage those proposals on 5-year interim affirmations as well. Papers on community college best practices are also encouraged. **The best paper will be eligible for a cash prize of \$500.**

Detailed proposals are acceptable by the proposal deadline, however, final papers will be due at the time of the SACS conference in December, 2011.

All proposals should be written in accordance with the standards used in most educational journals (such as the Community College Journal of Research and Practice). Any questions and papers should be directed to the editor:

[matthew.basham@wku.edu](mailto:matthew.basham@wku.edu)

Student papers are encouraged. If enough student papers are received a stipend may be awarded for the best student paper.

The DUE DATE for the proposals is AUGUST 1, 2011.

All submissions will be blind and peer-reviewed.

Winning proposals will be recognized at the 2011 meeting of SACJTC at the annual meeting of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) December 3-6 in Orlando, Florida.

Self-nominations for reviewers are also being accepted.



## News From The States

### ALABAMA

#### NEW OPTIONS... A PATHWAY TO A BETTER LIFE

Many adults recognize the need to return to college later in life. Some stop working for many years to raise a family. Others face life changing situations such as divorce or the death of a spouse. Still others find their current skills obsolete in a fast paced and ever-changing job market.

Often these individuals think about beginning college or re-entering college for quite some time. Although they know education is the path to a better standard of living and opportunities for the future, many students don't know where to begin. Busy lives provide many excuses not to begin college, but the real obstacles are anxiety, doubt, and fear.

Jefferson State Community College began a program called New Options in the early 1980's that proactively addressed the need to help these students. The program was originally funded by a federal grant to help displaced homemakers and under employed/under educated women get updated job skills to advance in the workforce. Jefferson State utilized federal grants to offer a series of free seminars to participants who met specific federal guidelines. Seminars addressed issues such as admissions, financial aid, major selection and scholarships.

"Adults sometimes don't understand that it doesn't matter what kind of student they were at 17 years old," said New Options Administrator Ann Fulmer. "They are a different person now with a new perspective on life. Many students realize they can do the work and actually thrive in college classes."

The program was a success from the beginning. Many of the women who participated were able to update job skills by taking a few classes, complete two year degrees and transfer to four year colleges and universities. After a few years, when federal programs were no longer available, community members provided funding during a transition period. Jefferson State currently funds the program which is supplemented by grants and donations used for textbooks and scholarships.

Today, the New Options program is offered on Jefferson State's Jefferson and Shelby-Hoover Campuses as well as the Clanton and Pell City locations. It is also open to both men and women. In addition to the seminars, the program also provides a text-book lending service to participants allowing costly textbooks to be borrowed each semester.

The success of New Options is obvious by the success of participants, both academically and personally. Participants have received the confidence needed for college and completed associate degrees in numerous fields such as nursing, hospitality management, and office administration.

"I was very unsure of myself," said New Options Participant Martha Ahern. "They encouraged me and gave me the confidence I needed to go forward with my dream of graduating from college. After enrolling in college, my husband and I divorced. My husband provided our only source of income. College became so much more than my dream . . . it became necessary for my survival."

Martha needed financial assistance to continue college. Once again, the New Options program was there to provide guidance and support. "They found grants, loans and scholarships, and encouraged me all the way," said Ahern.

There are many students like Martha in our communities. She is representative of many adults who do not qualify for academic scholarships designed for traditional college students who are just out of high school. Often, returning students graduated from high school many years ago or did not complete high school and never considered college an option. New Options helps these students realize that earning a degree is an attainable goal and walks them through every step of the way.

New Options has helped change the lives of countless Jefferson State students by giving additional support needed for returning to college. "I am leaving Jefferson State a new woman," said Ahern. "I will soon be a nurse and am now confident I can care for and make a difference in the lives of my patients and their families. My job skills empower me to fully support myself financially for the first time in my life."

### FLORIDA

#### GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE: *THE COMMUNITY'S COLLEGE EXPANDS ITS MISSION*

Mohandas Gandhi once said, "You must be the change you wish to see in the world." That philosophy rings true not only

for successful people, but also for successful organizations. Businesses that cannot change and adapt will shrink and ultimately, wither and die. Institutions of higher education are no different and that includes Gulf Coast State College. The recent name change from "Community College" to "State College" is a reflection of the many positive changes occurring throughout the school and Northwest Florida. A tremendous amount of in-

put we received from students, faculty, staff and the stakeholders who live in our communities. A new chapter is beginning for our institution, and with help from the citizens we serve, we will keep pushing this college forward to even greater achievements as we enrich and improve the lives of our students and the entire community.

Of all the changes that have taken place in 2011, the introduction of the baccalaureate degree program expands the current mission of the College. In development for two years, the new bachelor's degree in Technology Management is designed to give students the knowledge and skills to become managers and leaders in technology-related industries. The degree was seen by local industry and engineering firms as a needed step for their employees to advance into management roles within teams of engineers and other technicians. Active support and documented needs assessments from area business and industry was critical to the successful planning and launch of the program.

Another key to the success of the bachelor's degree is due to the College's ongoing commitment to offer courses in online and hybrid formats, giving students the flexibility to continue their education while working full-time. Dr. George Bishop, Vice President of Academic Affairs & Learning Support, has commented that "we were able to create this program using existing College strengths and resources so that our technology and business students would have a viable bachelor's option without leaving the area."

One of the benefits of offering the 4-year degree is that it bears the same affordable, accessible and flexible high-quality education as Gulf Coast's associate degrees and certificate programs. In fact, Florida statutes explicitly state that colleges offering baccalaureate degrees must remain steadfast in their commitment to the core mission of serving their communities. The expansion of the College's mission acknowledges the need to bridge the gap between education and the local workforce needs.

Expanding the mission is fiscally sound, too. By collaborating with FSU Panama City, Troy University and the University of West Florida, taxpayers are assured of maximizing resources. In fact, one of the Technology Management courses will be taught by an FSU PC professor. Even more evidence of the strong partnership between GCSC and FSU PC can be found in the enhanced 2 + 2 "Connect" joint program which offers seamless advising and a smooth transition for students transferring between the schools. The cost savings of a state college offering the first two years and a university offering the second two years has not been lost on local and state legislators, and serves as a model of collaboration during these lean economic times.

Gulf Coast State College also takes its role seriously as a full partner in regional economic development efforts. One of the most technologically-advanced learning facilities in the country is starting to take shape along the northeastern edge of the main campus. The Advanced Technology Center (ATC) will be a state-of-the-art training and education facility which addresses emerging workforce needs of the technology, engineering, alternative energy industries, IT, entrepreneurship, business and industrial training and a focus on emerging technologies.

The College's new programs and ATC are consistent with regional economic development efforts to attract companies developing and deploying alternative and renewable energy solutions. The ATC will provide a flexible environment to help educate a new high-tech workforce with the anticipation of attracting new industry with high-paying jobs. We can bring in industry, but if we don't have the workforce in place, it won't work. Our new Advanced Technology Center is a transformative facility which will promote job creation and economic development.

## **INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE TO OPEN NEW CENTER FOCUSED ON ENERGY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

Indian River State College is connecting training in alternative energies with services for entrepreneurs to create a powerful launching pad for new jobs on Florida's Research Coast. This potent combination of resources will be based in the Brown Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship now under construction at the College's Main Campus in Fort Pierce. Set to open in early 2012, the multi-purpose center will prepare students for cutting-edge careers in emerging technologies and house a "virtual incubator" offering a wide range of services for entrepreneurs. A model of green construction, the \$20 million building is being built to Gold LEED standards. A solar panel farm and wind turbines will provide a portion of the energy to power the 65,000 square-foot building. The plans call for a solar charging station for electric cars and a solar concentrator dish what will not only produce electricity, but serve as learning tools for students.

Instruction in clean, alternative energies and energy efficiency will be integral to the center's mission. A dynamic flow loop simulator in the Nuclear Energy Lab will provide a real-life training environment. Students in the College's highly successful Power Plant Technology Institute will learn how to take apart and assemble the equipment under the same rigid protocols used in the nuclear power industry, with the guidance of subject matter experts from IRSC's partner, Florida Power and Light.

The Sustainable Building Design Lab will focus on advances in energy efficiency, including materials and methods of construction. Segments of a 500-square foot house will be assembled and disassembled in the lab as a hands-on green construction training resource.



A Materials Sciences Laboratory will provide an opportunity to tap into emerging technologies through nanotechnology, including transformation of silicon wafers into photovoltaic cells, biomedical and chemistry applications.

Students and entrepreneurs eager to transform this type of knowledge into new businesses will get the help they need from the Virtual Business Incubator. A hybrid of the traditional incubator model, the Virtual Incubator will provide business

start-up guidance, temporary office and meeting space, and workshops and networking opportunities.

The Brown Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (BCIE) will be an important resource in the region's efforts to increase business and training opportunities, further diversify the economic base and provide new and existing businesses with the support and well-prepared workforce they need to succeed.

## GEORGIA

### THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA NAME HENRY HUCKABY AS THE 12<sup>TH</sup> CHANCELLOR FOR THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On May 6, 2011, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia (USG) announced the appointment of Henry "Hank" M. Huckaby as the chancellor-designate of the University System of Georgia.

Huckaby was a student in the University System, earning both a bachelor's degree in political science and an MBA in International Business from Georgia State University, as well as pursuing additional graduate studies at the University of Georgia. He earned an associate's degree in Liberal Arts from Young Harris College.

During the 1960's and 70's, Huckaby taught at the college level, including DeKalb College (now Georgia Perimeter College) and Emory University. He also has lectured at UGA and Young Harris College.

He also has served in a number of key administrative positions within the USG, including early in his career in the area of admissions at Georgia State University (1967-71) and Gordon College (1972-73).



"Hank" M. Huckaby

Later, Huckaby was director of the Fiscal Research Program at Georgia State University (1995-97), director of the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at UGA (1997-2000), senior vice president of Finance and Administration at UGA (2000-06), and a special assistant to the president at UGA on a part-time basis (2006-09).

Huckaby's career goes beyond his long association with the University System. He also has extensive experience in state finance, serving in the Governor's Office of Planning and Budg-

et, first as a senior policy coordinator from 1973-75, and then as its director, from 1991-95, where he was responsible for overseeing the state budget on behalf of the governor. He also served as the interim chief financial officer for then Gov. Sonny Perdue during Perdue's transition period.

### REGENTS APPROVE 'STATE COLLEGE' STATUS FOR FOUR USG INSTITUTIONS

Four of the University System of Georgia's (USG) current two-year colleges are set to offer limited bachelor's degree programs, after being approved on May 10, 2011 by the Board of Regents to change their institutional mission to that of a "state college." The four institutions are Darton College in Albany; Georgia Highlands College in Rome; and in metropolitan Atlanta, both Atlanta Metropolitan College and Georgia Perimeter College.

The state college sector was established in 1998 and categorizes two-year, associate-degree granting institutions that have been authorized by the Board to offer a limited number of four-year baccalaureate degree programs. The University System's other institutional categories are: research universities, regional universities, state universities, and two-year colleges. Now there are 12 USG institutions in the state college sector.

Two of the mission changes – at Darton College and Georgia Highlands College – reflect the regents' ongoing focus on meeting the growing need and ongoing shortages of healthcare professionals in Georgia, specifically in nursing.

Both institutions currently offer associate's level nursing programs. The Board's approval will allow them to offer a bachelor of science in nursing degree, targeted to existing holders of a registered nurse license and associate's degree who wish to complete a bachelor's degree.

In 2006, the Health Resources and Services Administration of the US Department of Health and Human Services reported that Georgia would have a deficit of nearly 38,000 registered nurses by 2020, absent any action by state leaders. Further, a 2010 re-

port from the Institute of Medicine indicated the need for each state to raise the credentials of its nursing workforce towards the baccalaureate degree to improve quality of care, and reduce medical errors and costs.

A review of registered nurse job openings at area hospitals in Darton's service area found that approximately 232 registered nurse positions exist at various hospitals and health-related agencies. Darton's new nursing program will help to increase the production of nurses in the region, complementing the existing efforts of both Albany State University and Georgia Southwestern State University's nursing degree programs.

Georgia Highlands College's new nursing degree will help to meet the needs for nurses in north and northwest Georgia and serve the educational needs of local students who for time and financial limitations cannot pursue a baccalaureate degree outside the region served by the College.

In the Atlanta metro region, the change in mission status for Atlanta Metropolitan College, located in south Atlanta, and Georgia Perimeter College, which serves Atlanta's northeast and eastern suburbs, will result in very different targeted bachelor's degree offerings.

Atlanta Metro will offer its first bachelor of science with a major in the biological sciences. This degree is specifically designed to increase the pipeline of students who earn degrees

in STEM disciplines – science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It will also prepare students for professional schools in the health sciences such as Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy. While the program as approved by the Board does not include a teacher certification component, College officials have future plans to add this. Program graduates will have entry-level opportunities for immediate employment and offer the foundation for those students who seek a master's or higher-level degrees.

At Georgia Perimeter, the Board has authorized the establishment of two bachelor degree programs: a bachelor of arts with a major in sign language interpreting and a bachelor of science with a major in health informatics.

While Georgia Perimeter currently offers an associate and certificate level program in sign language interpreting, a new requirement by the field's national professional organization and certifying body that goes into effect in July 2012 will require candidates who wish to sit for the Registered Health Information Administration Certification exam to have earned a bachelor's degree or higher. The new bachelor's degree program at the College will ensure program graduates are eligible for certification.

The start date for the five new bachelor's degree programs at the four institutions will vary, dependent upon review and approval from the relevant accrediting organizations.

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## KENTUCKY

### **KCTCS SIGNS STATEWIDE ONLINE TRANSFER AGREEMENT WITH MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY**

Transferring to a four-year institution became easier for Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) students recently with the signing of a statewide agreement with Morehead State University (MSU), enabling KCTCS students with an associate degree in applied science (AAS) to pursue an online bachelor's degree at MSU.

Upon completion of an AAS, KCTCS graduates who meet the admissions requirements and academic policies of MSU will be eligible for admission to an online bachelor of university studies in professional studies at MSU.

"As Kentucky's largest provider of online education, this program is a perfect companion to our Learn On Demand online associate degree program," said KCTCS President Michael B. McCall. "It is specifically designed to provide adult students who must juggle many personal and professional responsibilities with a convenient, flexible education option. We are extremely proud of our partnership with Morehead State Uni-

versity and believe it will increase student access and success."

Students seeking admission to MSU must (1) complete an AAS degree, (2) meet MSU's requirements for admission, which include a minimum grade point average of 2.0 for all classes taken, and (3) apply to and be accepted into MSU's bachelor of university studies in professional studies program. Details and application materials are maintained on MSU's website.

"We are answering the challenge from Dr. McCall and several of his institutions' presidents to remove barriers which make it difficult for many KCTCS alumni to finish a four-year degree," said MSU President Wayne D. Andrews. "We value our partnerships with the KCTCS institutions and we look forward to signing more agreements which make it simpler for students to convert their associate degrees and two additional years of study into a bachelor's degree."

### **KCTCS HONORS 2011 ALL-ACADEMIC TEAM**

Thirty-two of Kentucky's top college students were honored as members of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System's 2011 All-Academic Team during the 10th annual KCTCS Student Academic Achievement luncheon held recently at the

Lexington Convention Center.

Students from each of the 16 KCTCS colleges were chosen for the All-Academic Team based on a rigorous selection process that focuses on academic performance and campus involvement. Each member of the All-Academic Team received a \$500 gift from their college, as well as scholarship opportunities to continue their education from 15 Kentucky public and private universities. Together, the scholarships are valued at more than \$500,000. The 2011 KCTCS All-Academic Team Scholars are part of a national program sponsored by national honor society Phi Theta Kappa, USA Today and the American Association of Community Colleges.



*President Edwards, Chelsea Lafferty, and Dr. Jay Box*



*President Edwards, Lisa Rutherford, and Dr. Jay Box*

## MISSISSIPPI

### NEMCC PLANS TO LAUNCH IPAD PILOT PROGRAM IN FALL

Once again, Northeast Mississippi Community College is taking the lead on the technology front. As a result of the rising cost of college text books and information on ebooks received at an Apple workshop last fall, Northeast officials will launch a pilot program this fall where students in its Radiology and Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) programs will access text books using ebooks on an iPad instead of using a traditional hard copy book. Currently, Northeast is among the first colleges in Mississippi to initiate such a program.

In addition to the 20 percent reduction in textbook costs, MLT program director Rita Murry says the benefits of the program are immeasurable to faculty and students alike.

"The implementation of the iPad for instructional purposes will give both the students and faculty access to the most up-to-date technology," Murry explained, "and increase collaboration and engagement between students as well as between the students and instructors. It will basically create 24/7 connectivity." Murry said the students will be able to make notes in the margin of the ebook page that all students in the class will be able share and that will also be accessible to the instructor.

"Students will be able to highlight in the ebook just like in a traditional text book," Murry continued. "They will also be able to download free apps that will augment the learning process." A student will also be able to research information from more than one book at a time more efficiently.

Murry said she believes the program will better prepare students for entering today's high-tech workforce. According to Dr. Charles L. Barnett, dean of instruction at Northeast, if the

program is deemed successful, school officials will most likely integrate it into other programs.

"Ebooks not only lower the textbook cost for our students," Barnett said, "but allow our instructors to develop innovative curriculum from a variety of knowledge banks accessible through the internet. This is just another example of how our faculty at Northeast continues to set the bar for the use of today's technology in the classroom."

A trainer from Elsevier Publishing of Maryland Heights, Missouri is scheduled to conduct a training event at Northeast this fall for the incoming students admitted into the two programs.

### PRCC COMPETING FOR \$1 MILLION ASPEN PRIZE

Pearl River Community College has been named to a list of national two-year colleges under consideration for the \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. The winner and a runner-up will be announced in December. Officials at PRCC were notified of the college's selection just days before the official announcement on April 25 in Washington, D.C., said PRCC President William Lewis.

"It certainly is an honor to be selected to be a finalist, as only 120 community colleges across the nation were selected for the final competition for the award," he said. "We are certainly grateful that the Aspen Institute has recognized the value and the quality of education that Pearl River Community College students receive, and we look forward to competing and, hopefully, winning this coveted prize."

The Aspen Institute's mission is to foster values-based leadership, encouraging individuals to reflect on the ideals and ideas that define a good society, and to provide a neutral and balanced venue for discussing and acting on critical issues, according to its website. The institute is based in Washington, D.C., Aspen, Colo., and Maryland's Eastern Shore.



The institute looked at publicly-available data on graduation rates, retention rates and the total number of degrees/certificates awarded relative to total enrollment to select the 120 community colleges.

A Finalist Selection Committee of former community college presidents and faculty, along with researchers and policy experts, will review extensive data reports submitted by each participating community college to select eight to 10 finalists. The final group will be named in September, and site visits will be made to each college.

The Aspen Prize will honor excellence, shine a spotlight on community colleges that deliver exceptional results in student completion rates and workforce success, stimulate innovation and define success, according to the institute's website.

Should PRCC win, the prize money would directly benefit students, Lewis said. "It would certainly be used to enhance our instructional program in whatever ways were dictated," he said.

### **HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT ELECTED PTK INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT**

Hinds Community College student Tameka Wilson was elected International President of Phi Theta Kappa during the society's annual convention in Seattle, Wash., April 7-9,

2011. Hinds Community College is headquartered in Raymond, Mississippi. Wilson, 28, is a member of the Gamma Lambda Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at the Raymond Campus of Hinds Community College in Mississippi. A business/language major who plans to attend law school, she has served in the U.S. Air Force and has done one tour of duty in Afghanistan.



*Tameka Wilson*

As president of Phi Theta Kappa, she will represent the organization this year at official events including the Honors Institute at Boston University in June, next year's annual convention in Nashville, and at state/regional events across the country.

Wilson is the first International officer from Hinds Community College, the first female African American International president from the state of Mississippi, and the first female International president from Mississippi in 75 years. She is also one of the first female veterans ever to serve as an International officer of Phi Theta Kappa.

At Hinds Community College, Wilson is a successful resident assistant, has spearheaded a GED tutoring program in the Honors program and is the vice president of community service with the Raymond Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. She represented community college students statewide in a February news conference at the state Capitol, advocating for level funding.

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## **NORTH CAROLINA**

### **SEVERAL NEW PRESIDENTS HAVE TAKEN THE HELM OF INSTITUTIONS THIS YEAR**

The Brunswick Community College Board of Trustees announced Dr. Susanne H. Adams as president. Most recently, Adams was Vice President of Student Services and Academic Support at Sandhills Community College in Pinehurst, N.C., since 2006. Prior to her current position she served as Vice President of Planning and Special Projects at Sandhills from 2004-2006 as well as other positions since 2001.

Dr. John Boyd, most recently president of Colorado Northwestern Community College (CNCC), began his role as president of Mayland Community College in January 2010. He served as president of CNCC from 2006 through 2009. He previously served as interim provost at Grand Strand Campus Horry-Georgetown Technical College (HGTC) in South Carolina from 2005-2006. At HGTC he served as chair of the Criminal Justice Department from 1999 to 2006.

Dr. George R. (Randy) Parker, president of Vance-Granville Community College, has been selected to succeed Dr. Donald W. Cameron as president of Guilford Technical Community College effective September 1, 2011. Since 2004, Parker has presided at Vance Granville CC in Henderson, N.C.

Dr. Michael Helmick of Morganton, N.C., was appointed president of Rockingham Community College and began work March 1. Since 2007, Helmick served as vice president for academic affairs at Western Piedmont CC. In the community, Helmick helped establish the Burke County Manufacturers Association and developed new programming and cooperative agreements with Burke County Schools.

South Piedmont Community College appointed Stan Sidor, as president beginning July 1. Sidor, a community college official in Florida, will guide the college serving nearly 15,000 students in Union and Anson counties with campus sites in Monroe, Polkton and Wadesboro. He served as provost of the Advanced Technology Center Campus and was associate vice president for the College of Engineering Technology and Occupational Programs at Daytona State College in Florida.

The Southwestern Community College Board of Trustees confirmed the selection of Dr. Donald Tomas of Aledo, Texas, as the college's sixth president. His appointment was approved by the State Board of Community Colleges on May 20. Tomas will assume his duties as president on July 1. Weatherford College, where he currently serves, is a comprehensive two-year community college serving more than 202,430 residents of a rural four-county region.

Jim Reeves, a veteran educator and college administrator, was appointed Surry Community College's interim president effective May 1. Reeves served as a counselor, dean of continuing education, Vice President of student services and Vice President for instruction (1966 - 1994) during his career in the NC Community College System. Reeves will serve as interim presi-

dent while the Board of Trustees conducts a search for a replacement for Dr. Deborah Friedman who retired April 30.

### **NEW SYSTEM OFFICE LEADERSHIP**

Doug Drabble is the director of BioNetwork and Life Science Initiatives for the System Office. Previously, he worked at the BioNetwork Pharmaceutical Center for Forsyth and Guilford Technical community colleges as the center director for more than three years. He oversees the operations and direction of all seven BioNetwork centers located throughout the state. Drabble has more than 20 years of pharmaceutical-related experience and an additional 10 years of industry experience.

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## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

South Carolina's 16 technical colleges have had an unprecedented year of growth. Three of the state's five largest public colleges and universities are technical colleges. South Carolina's apprenticeship programs were featured in The Chronicle of Higher Education on September 19, 2010 and readySC was featured on CNN. Updates from some of the technical colleges are included below:

### **OCTECH DESIGNATED FESTO TRAINING CENTER FOR NORTH AMERICA**

FESTO Corporation, a global manufacturer for automation technology components and systems, and their Learning Systems Division, designated Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College (OCtech) as an authorized vocational training center for North America. The FACT (Festo Authorized and Certified Training) designation makes OCtech the only location of its kind to provide automation training with the FESTO brand. The FESTO brand is recognized globally for excellence in engineering, innovation and leadership in industrial technology training in North America and throughout the world.

"This designation solidifies OCtech as a regional and national leader in training strategically situated in the heart of the area's global logistics triangle," said Dr. Anne S. Crook, president of OCtech. "Our partnership with FESTO will not only continue to provide our students with singular opportunities but also allow companies from across North America and the local area to train on equipment here in Orangeburg."

The OCtech/FESTO training lab is equipped with the most advanced automation technology training systems available today. Students will learn the fundamentals of industrial automa-

tion technology including fluid power, PLC controls, robotics, sensor technology and information technology.

### **WILLIAMSBURG TECHNICAL COLLEGE SERVES THE COMMUNITY**

Williamsburg Technical College's Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) students and instructor have been working with the Williamsburg Regional Boys to Men Club, Inc. to help with their home repair "Summer Breeze Program" to provide air conditioning options for area elderly and needy persons. According to Club executive director Alex L. Montgomery, Sr., the projects start with evaluation of the needs of those who apply for assistance. Generally persons who are selected are elderly, handicapped, disabled or low-income. WTC Cosmetology Department Raises Awareness and Money for Cancer. Students wearing pink clothes and pink hair adornments provided free hair, nail and makeup treatments to cancer survivors and family members throughout the day. They also served guests pink cupcakes and pink punch. The students raised over \$400 for the American Cancer Society.

Williamsburg Technical College's Alpha Sigma Gamma chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) International Honor Society held several activities to help area entities. The group first helped beautify the Williamsburg County Vital Aging building by getting WTC heating, ventilation, and air conditioning instructor Willie Morant to help clear concrete out of a planter under the sign for the agency. After the area was clear of concrete, students and advisors planted yellow mums. Also, PTK students and advisors collected blankets from College students, faculty and staff for the Williamsburg County Animal Shelter as another community service project endeavor.

They also held a hot dog sale which raised over \$320 for the Kingstree Nursing Facility and they sponsored a “green” balloon release to help promote smart use of the earth’s resources. The students are currently holding a canned food drive for St. Anne’s Catholic Church.

In the past the WTC PTK has sponsored such community-enhancing events as assisting with Meals on Wheels for Vital Aging, raising money for the Red Cross, and donating to a local high school honor society trip. PTK is also active on campus assisting as hosts for various events and sponsoring food and bake sales for faculty, staff and students.

Six area high schools competed in the thirteenth annual Williamsburg Technical College math contest on February 11, 2011. Among those participating were C.E. Murray High School, Carvers Bay High School, Hemingway High School, Kingstree Senior High School, Johnsonville High School and Williamsburg Academy.

Williamsburg Technical College hosted College Goal South Carolina for area students and parents on Saturday, March 5, 2011. From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to provide information and assis-

tance for persons regarding the Free Applications for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

## YORK TECHNICAL COLLEGE LAUNCHES THE HIVE—AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO LEARNING

At the beginning of the spring semester, York Technical College launched The Hive, a work-based learning cooperative in Old Town Rock Hill focused on Internet marketing as well as web design & development. The program includes 30 students from York Tech and Winthrop University, who not only learn Internet marketing and web design/development skills, but work with Rock Hill-based web marketing company RevenFlo to provide those services to real clients—local small businesses and non-profits—bolstering the success of those organizations while using the work as curriculum.

The Hive is a collaboration of York Technical College, Winthrop University, Comporium, the City of Rock Hill, Becca & Harry Dalton, and RevenFlo, all having found a way to align their goals, objectives, and efforts to create a true synergy. The initiative also serves the community by bringing more energy and people to Old Town Rock Hill and by training students for the new knowledge-based services economy.

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## TENNESSEE

Dr. Allen Edwards, President of Pellissippi State Community College, plans to retire on June 30 after serving for 18 years in TN and several years in Kentucky. In April he received the Michael Bennett Lifetime Achievement Award from Phi Theta Kappa, the largest higher education honor society in the nation. He was one of seven retiring presidents and campus leaders to receive the award because of the years of service to the society and local chapters. Allen provided the leadership in TN to begin the Tennessee Consortium for International Studies (TnCIS). This summer TnCIS is offering 15 study abroad programs of approximately 3 weeks duration each. The website is [www.tncis.org](http://www.tncis.org). His colleagues in the nation and around the world wish him the very best in his well-deserved retirement.



Dr. Allen Edwards

A new Outcomes-Based Formula will be used by the TN Higher Education Commission to determine appropriations for higher education in 2011-12. The new formula will be phased in with

65% of the recommended appropriation determined with the new method for 2011-12. Outcomes to be considered for community colleges include the following: Students accumulating 12, 24 and 36 hours; number of dual enrollment students; number of Associate Degrees and Certificates awarded; number of job placements for the graduates; success of remedial and developmental students in college level courses; number of students transferring out with at least 12 hours; and the number of contact hours of workforce training offered through Continuing Education. The Performance Funding score for each community college will also be used in the formula calculation.

There will be a 2% reduction in state appropriations which amounts to \$4,321,700 for the 13 community colleges. The recurring appropriation for 2010-11 for community colleges was \$184,784,300. The Federal Stimulus (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) dollars helped buffer loss of state dollars for the past two years.

The Tennessee Board of Regents is considering a 9.5% tuition increase for community college students. If approved the tuition per credit hour would increase from \$118 to \$130. The new dollars generated from this increase will help fund a 3% across the board Cost of Living Adjustment on July 1 (the state is providing 1.6% of the 3%) and a bonus of \$1000 in October. Faculty and staff in community colleges have not had a raise in three years.

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Community Colleges may also use up to 2% of their June 30, 2011 payroll to make equity adjustments in Board approved compensation plans. The dollars for the equity adjustments must be found in institutional budgets.

Record breaking, double digit enrollment increases of the past two years have slowed during spring and summer semesters. In fact, some institutions are beginning to see a decrease.

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## **VIRGINIA**

### **GOVERNOR MCDONNELL PRESIDES OVER HISTORIC ODU-VCCS AGREEMENT SIGNING**

Old Dominion University (ODU) and Virginia's Community Colleges (VCCS) recently signed an historic partnership agreement that better leverages each institutions' assets and commits to future collaboration to further the goals that Governor Bob McDonnell has set for Virginia higher education.

"The partnership between Old Dominion University and Virginia Community Colleges is precisely the kind of innovative approach I have challenged our higher education institutions to pursue," said Gov. McDonnell. "This agreement serves as a model for delivering rigorous, affordable, and accessible education to the citizens of the Commonwealth, and helps ensure our goals for the future of Virginia will be met."

Through collaboration, shared technologies, and innovative solutions, the agreement addresses the Governor's goals of ensuring instructional excellence; creating affordable pathways to college degree attainment for many thousands more Virginians; preparing citizens for employment in the high-income, high-demand fields of the new economy; and ensuring affordable access to post secondary education, training, and re-training for all Virginians.

"Old Dominion University has enjoyed a long relationship with Virginia's Community Colleges, from our distance learning programs on the VCCS campuses to our 2+2 partnerships, guaranteed admissions and state-leading acceptance of VCCS transfer students," noted President Broderick. "This agreement further cements our joint dedication to serving the educational needs of and ensuring educational affordability and access for Virginians."

"Through partnerships like this one we are creating the best transfer environment of any state in the nation," said Chancellor DuBois. "Together with ODU, and our other university partners, we are making the pathway to a bachelor's degree more accessible and more affordable than ever before in Virginia."

As a result, the new partnership agreement makes it easier and faster for community college students with an associate in applied science degree to obtain bachelor's degrees. Com-

bined with a General Education Certificate, students can transfer to ODU and take all their upper division courses through distance learning. More than 100 new program articulation agreements have been signed to date, and the institutions are working on agreements for nursing, civil engineering technology, mechanical engineering technology, electrical engineering technology, criminal justice and human services.

### **JOHN CAPPS TO BECOME PRESIDENT AT CENTRAL VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

On March 1, Dr. John S. Capps of Roanoke became the next president of Central Virginia Community College (CVCC) in Lynchburg, Virginia, announced Dr. Glenn DuBois, chancellor of Virginia's Community Colleges.

Capps was vice president of academic and student affairs at Virginia Western Community College in Roanoke, and recently served as interim president at Lord Fairfax Community College while a presidential search was under way there.



*John Capps*

"I've worked with John during my entire tenure as chancellor of Virginia's Community Colleges," DuBois said.

"He is an outstanding administrator and I'm confident he will do a terrific job at CVCC."

"On behalf of the college board and community, we feel a very robust and thorough process yielded an excellent group of candidates," said Martin F. Giudice, chair of the college board at CVCC.

"After receiving excellent input from the college and community, we believe this appointment will provide the leadership required to take CVCC forward in the manner of excellence that we, as a community, were looking for and have come to expect."

"I'm thrilled to have this opportunity," Capps said. "CVCC enjoys an enviable reputation for academic excellence, and its workforce development programs are second to none. I am honored to count myself as the newest member of this outstanding institution, and I look forward to serving the college community as we work together to advance the mission of CVCC and meet the needs of Region 2000."

Capps has served as vice president of academic and student affairs at Virginia Western since 2002, after serving in a number of leadership positions at that college, including chair and dean of the division of humanities; director of distance learning; interim dean of the divisions of health technology, natural sciences and mathematics; interim director of development; and program head of the English Department. He began at VWCC as an English instructor in 1978.

## **VCCS STILL EXPERIENCING RECORD ENROLLMENTS**

Virginia's Community Colleges have established new fall enrollment records every year since 2006, and 2010 was no exception. Over the last four years, an additional 26,967 students have enrolled in Virginia's Community Colleges in the fall semester – an increase of more than 31 percent.

That includes a nearly five percent increase between fall 2009 and fall 2010.

“There can be no doubt that Virginia's Community Colleges are playing a vital role in arming people with the skills and knowledge they need to secure the top jobs of the 21st century,” said Glenn DuBois, chancellor of Virginia's Community Colleges. “We are excited by and supportive of the governor's call for generating and additional 100,000 Virginia college graduates over the next 15 years and know that Virginia needs our community colleges to take a leadership role in meeting that challenge.”

Nineteen of Virginia's 23 community colleges experienced FTE fall enrollment growth between 2009 and 2010. The largest increase was reported by John Tyler Community College, at nearly 12 percent, followed by Paul D. Camp Community College at 10.4 percent.

In terms of headcount enrollment, 17 Virginia Community Colleges experienced growth between the falls of 2009 and 2010. The biggest increase, 10.3 percent, was found at Rappahannock Community College.



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