



The Alabama Community College Association

# Journal

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Summer 2010

*The Alabama Community College System:  
**Meeting the Challenge***



## Message from the President...

There is little doubt that the Alabama Community College Association meets the challenge of providing relevant and worthwhile professional development to our membership. For evidence of this, you would only have to review the numerous workshop proposals that have been submitted for consideration at this year's Annual Conference. Our members accepted the challenge of submitting sessions which meet the needs of our System employees through leadership, staff development, student success, teaching and learning, and workforce development.



**Dr. Amelia Pearson,**  
**ACCA President**

The ACCA Executive Committee is meeting the challenge too. We have heard your request to return to a three-day format and we continue to support the needed professional development of our members. Every plan for the conference is developed with our members in mind and designed to help them meet their own challenges.

You have a challenge to meet as well. Accept the challenge to be a part of this year's conference. In this edition of the Journal, you will not only learn about the accomplishments of system employees and activities, but you will learn about some of the speakers, meetings, and events scheduled for the conference. You will also learn more about the registration process for the conference and how you can be a part of it.

I hope you will accept the challenge of contributing to our conference by attending. All of our members can benefit from collaboration and networking. I hope you can attend and share how you continue to meet the challenge.

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# ACCA Elections

*Elections for the position of Second Vice-President will be held this fall. Ballots for both positions will be distributed to ACCA member institutions soon. Information about the candidates appears below.*



## **David Campbell, Ph.D. - President, Northeast Alabama Community College**

**Dr. David Campbell** has been a part of the Alabama Community College System since 1976, when he joined the staff at Northeast Alabama Community College (NACC) as an adjunct instructor. He has served as president of NACC since 2001. His tenure as president has seen unprecedented growth at NACC with the addition of new programs and the expansion of the college's mission. In 2009, Community College Week recognized NACC as one of the fastest growing community colleges in enrollment in the United States.

Campbell's professional activities include serving as the Vice-President of the Alabama Community College System's Presidents' Association, Chair of Commission on College's On-Site and Off-Site committees, and Chair of the Jackson County Economic Development Authority. He has been named Citizen of the Year in Jackson and DeKalb counties and has been recognized as an Exemplary Leader by the Chair Academy. He received the Chancellor's Award as the System's Faculty Member of the Year while an Instructor at NACC. Additionally, under Campbell's leadership, NACC became the host institution for the Alabama Community College System's Master Teacher Experience, an annual event for Instructors.

Campbell is a graduate of Auburn University (B.A.); Florida State University; and the University of Texas at Austin (Ph.D.). He has done additional graduate study at The University of Alabama. He and his wife Carole, a former teacher, live in Langston, and are the parents of one son, Jeremy, a television newscaster working in Tampa.



## **Herbert Riedel, Ph.D. - President, Lurleen B. Wallace Community College**

**Dr. Herbert Riedel** has been serving as President of Lurleen B. Wallace Community College since January 2009 and has 25 years experience in higher education, including universities, technical, and community colleges in Florida, South Carolina, and Texas. He has held positions as adjunct and full-time faculty member, Mathematics Department Head, Division Chair of Arts and Sciences, Deputy Director of Nanotechnology, and Vice President for Instruction and Student Development. His undergraduate degree is from the University of Pretoria, South Africa, and his master's and doctorate are in Pure Mathematics from the University of Waterloo, Canada. A native Canadian, Dr. Riedel is conversant in five languages and holds a fourth degree black belt in the Japanese martial art of Aikido, which he teaches in the physical education department of LBWCC.

His approach to education is student centered and focuses on the community college mission and continuous quality improvement. At LBWCC, he added program offerings, including Truck Driver Training, instituted a Foundation Mini-Grant Program, and established committees to create an Honors Program, to find ways to reduce the high cost of textbooks, and to boost class attendance. He serves on the Chancellor's Budget Allocation Committee and co-chairs the state's Dual Enrollment Policy Review Committee. He also served as a panelist in The University of Alabama Community College Leadership Academy.

Dr. Riedel resides in Andalusia, with his family. His wife Lisa is a research chemist and currently a stay-at-home mother. The Riedels have two sons, Willie, 14, and Matthew, 10. Dr. Riedel is active in the Andalusia Area Chamber of Commerce, the Covington County Economic Development Commission, the Alabama Partnership for Children, the Andalusia Ballet, Rotary International and church, and enjoys attending community events, regional cultural events, and little league baseball games.

# Meeting the Challenge...In Workforce Development

## Calhoun Holds Groundbreaking for Robotics Park

Alabama Governor **Bob Riley** joined over 200 local officials to take part in the groundbreaking event for the Advanced Technology Research and Development Center, Phase II of the Alabama Robotics Technology Park.

In June 2008, Governor Riley announced the selection of Calhoun Community College's Decatur campus as the site for the state's new Robotics Technology Park (RTP). When complete, the RTP will consist of three individual training facilities each targeted to a specific industry need. Cost for the three buildings has been estimated at \$73 million, including equipment. Construction of the RTP's first phase, the 52,000-square-foot Robotic Maintenance Training Center, is well underway; a ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremony for the Phase I will be held September 15, 2010.

The RTP's second phase will be a 35,000-square-foot, \$8.3 million building to feature a test facility for companies currently in the robotics manufacturing industry. The building will be used for the research, development and testing of leading edge robotics used for military projects and space exploration.

In addition to the Governor, others participating in the groundbreaking event included Calhoun President **Dr. Marilyn Beck**, State Board member **Dr. Mary Jane Caylor**, AIDT Executive Director **Ed Castile**, members of the RTP Executive Board, elected officials and business leaders from across the region.

## LBWCC Receives Robotics Donation

In a move to help boost worker skills, SMART-Alabama LLC recently donated two Fanuc robots, valued at \$52,571, to Lurleen B. Wallace Community College for training purposes. The robots are being installed in LBWCC's Luverne Center.

"We are more than thrilled to accept this level of technology and will use the robots to train students for the area workforce," said **Dr. Herb Riedel**, LBWCC president. "The SMART-Alabama company is a tremendous asset for Crenshaw County, and this donation helps workforce development efforts throughout the region."

SMART (Stamped Metal American Research Technology) located in Luverne currently employs about 700 and is a Hyundai Tier I supplier, providing the principal body frame and other metal parts. The company utilizes robots for high precision creation of products to be used in Hyundai automobile manufacturing.

"Workers not only need to know how to operate robots in this type setting, but also how to repair any problems. These donated robots will allow that training to take place in Luverne," said Riedel. "They are a huge benefit to our industrial robotics and electronics programs."



The Fanuc R2000iA robot is utilized for spot welding, and the Fanuc ARC Mate 100iC robot for MIG welding. Both robots have process attachment points for supporting several types of manipulators and are servo-motor driven.

## Wallace Community College Receives Department of Labor Grant

Congressman **Bobby Bright** recently announced that George C. Wallace Community College in Dothan will receive a \$2,995,970 grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. The grant is through the Community-Based Job Training (CBJT) program, which is designed to improve the ability of community colleges to train and prepare workers for employment in high growth and other emerging industries. The grant will be used to train workers in nuclear energy, which will help the college continue its close partnership with the nearby Farley Nuclear Station.

"This is great news not only for Wallace Community College, but for the entire Wiregrass," Bright said. "I am extremely pleased that CBJT funds are being put to good use by training students for 21st Century jobs in the Wiregrass."

Last year, Congressman Bright successfully secured \$200,000 for Wallace's Energy Innovations for Alabama Program. The Energy Innovations program targets the critical shortage in the local energy-related workforce through training activities to address current and future needs for first-line energy supervisors, industrial maintenance professionals, and engineers. The CBJT grant will build on the Energy Innovations for Alabama program and focus directly on education and training for nuclear energy workers.

"Nuclear technology has been identified as a critical workforce priority due to the current level of retiring workers and the projected growth of new jobs," said Wallace Community College President **Dr. Linda C. Young**. "This grant will allow us to place cutting-edge simulation technology into labs and prepare a new generation of nuclear energy workers who will enjoy job security and earning power."

# Meeting the Challenge...In Workforce Development

## ATN Launches Energy Initiative

Over 100 guests, including Governor **Bob Riley** attended the Alabama E3 – Economy, Energy, and Environment – Charter Signing Ceremony at Mercedes-Benz's training center to kick off the new initiative from the Alabama Technology Network (ATN). The event celebrated the E3 initiative, a coordinated federal and local technical assistance project that helps communities work with their manufacturing base to adapt and thrive in a new business era focused on energy sustainability. The project, with an initial focus on the automotive industry, is the first of its kind in Alabama.

At the ceremony, Gov. Riley commented that the E3 initiative "will make Alabama stand out as a leader among states in this new era that demands economic and resource efficiency. With a focus on economic development, energy performance, and environmental stewardship, we can strengthen our industries, promote sustainable growth, and become a more competitive state." In addition to Gov. Riley, others speaking included Alabama Community College System Chancellor **Dr. Freida Hill** and ATN President **Dr. Mike Bailey**.



## Gadsden State Breaks Ground for New Automotive Center



The City of Gadsden Workforce Development Partnership recently broke ground for the Center for Automotive Excellence on the East Broad Campus of Gadsden State. The partnership includes the Gadsden City Council, Gadsden State Community College, Gadsden City Schools, Alabama Technology Center, Industrial Development Authority, Gadsden-Etowah Chamber of Commerce and other business and community leaders.

State Board of Education Member **Dr. Mary Jane Caylor**, Alabama Community College System Director of Facilities **Sam Dixon**, and Gadsden Mayor **Sherman Guyton** assisted Gadsden State President **Dr. W. Darryl Harrison** with the groundbreaking ceremony.

State funding and support for the facility was provided by Lt. Governor **Jim Folsom Jr.**; Senators **Larry Means** (D-Attalla) and **Hank Sanders** (D-Selma); and Representatives **Blaine Galliher** (R-Gadsden), **Craig Ford** (D-Gadsden), **John Knight** (D-Montgomery), **Richard Lindsey** (D-Centre) and **Jack Page** (D-Gadsden). The City of Gadsden and the Workforce Development Partnership were also instrumental in securing grants to build the new automotive center.

The architect for this \$1.25 million project is **Timothy Aho** of Aho Architects, LLC of Hoover, Alabama. The project is scheduled to be completed in March, 2011. Students enrolled in Automotive Service Technology will begin classes in the new facility Summer Semester 2011.

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# Meeting the Challenge...In Teaching and Learning

## Drake State Begins New Medical Assistant Program

Drake State Technical College has begun enrolling students for a new Medical Assisting Program in response to the demand created by the area medical community for multi-skilled medical personnel. Students, who enter the program, may choose from an associate degree, a career entry certificate or a career skills certificate.

According to the United States Department of Labor's Occupational Outlook publication, employment for medical assistants is expected to grow 34% from 2008 to 2018. Utilizing multi-skilled medical assistants allows doctors to care for more patients and will further stimulate job growth for this sector of the medical field.

Also driving the growth in this field is the increasing number of medical practices, clinics, and other healthcare facilities that utilize support personnel, particularly medical assistants, who can handle both administrative and clinical duties.

The Medical Assisting Program compliments the Practical Nursing and the Nursing Assistant Programs offered by the college through the Health Sciences Division.

## Trenholm Radiologic Technology Program Receives Highest Accreditation

The Medical Radiologic Technology Program at Trenholm State Technical College was recently awarded the maximum eight-year accreditation by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT), the nation's premier radiography governing body and the only agency recognized by the United States Department of Education for the accreditation of traditional and distance delivery of educational programs in radiography, radiation therapy, magnetic resonance, and medical dosimetry.

"We are very excited and proud that we have received JRCERT accreditation. This is our gold seal of approval," said **Sam Munnerlyn**, president of Trenholm State. "Our accreditation promotes continual excellence in education and enhances quality and safety of patient care through the accreditation of our allied health education programs."

Programs accredited by the JRCERT must demonstrate that they are in substantial compliance with the relevant JRCERT accreditation standards: Standards for an Accredited Educational Program in Radiologic Sciences (radiography and radiation therapy), Standards for an Accredited Educational Program in Magnetic Resonance, or Standards for an Accredited Educational Program in Medical Dosimetry.

"Accreditation of our educational program assures patients that our students have appropriate supervision during the educational process and assures our community that graduates have met the minimum level of competency as defined by JRCERT. Accreditation allows our students to sit for the national certification examination administered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT)," said **Paul Littlefield**, program coordinator of the Medical Radiologic Technology Program at Trenholm State.

## Bishop State and UA Partner for Nursing Degrees

The University of Alabama's Capstone College of Nursing has partnered with Bishop State Community College to offer bachelor's and master's degrees online.

Registered nurses living in Mobile will be able to pursue and complete degrees in three semesters without ever having to go into a classroom. "The fact is they can do it online, can stay here and still earn a degree from the University of Alabama," **Sara Barger**, dean of the UA's Capstone College of Nursing, said. Students would complete a core curriculum at Bishop State before starting the online nursing training, and would still be required to do clinical work.

**Kimberly Rawson**, director of Nursing at Bishop State, said that the partnership is a "win-win situation" because the students can "stay in our community, do their course work here and then add to the workforce in our community."

**Rashmi Tandukar**, who will receive an associate's degree in nursing from Bishop next month, said that the program will enable her to hold a job at the same time that she furthers her career goals. "This kind of fell in my lap," said Tandukar, an international student from Nepal who eventually hopes to earn a doctorate in nursing.

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# Meeting the Challenge...In Teaching and Learning

## NACC Hosts ACCS Master Teachers

Instructors and staff members from throughout the Alabama Community College System (ACCS) recently met on the Northeast Alabama Community College (NACC) as participants in the Alabama Community College System Master Teachers Experience. This program permits Instructors from all disciplines to interact in order to share insights and perspectives on the teaching profession.

"We are honored to serve as the home college for the Master Teacher program. It is a great program and it brings together outstanding educators from around the state to share their knowledge," said **Dr. David Campbell**, president of NACC.

NACC serves as the permanent host institution for this program and a number of its faculty and staff assist in conducting the activities.



## Bevill State Nursing Receives High Ranking

Bevill State Community College has once again been ranked among the top 50 nursing program producers for two-year colleges across the nation, based on a report release by *Community College Week* recently.

The College ranked 39, moving up five spots from the previous rankings in 2009. Each year, *Community College Week* releases a special report featuring the top 100-degree & certificate producing two-year institutions in the nation. This year, Bevill State was also the only school in Alabama to make the list.

Bevill State's 39th place status was a result of the college's Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program awarding 213 ADN degrees during this 2008-2009 year, a 10% percent increase in the number of degrees awarded from the previous year.

"This is a great accomplishment for our college," said Bevill State President **Dr. Anne McNutt**. "Throughout west-central Alabama, our institution produces a high majority of nurses for health-care providers. The demand has been high and we are proud to have met the task and provided well-trained nurses in the region."

"This recognition is also a great achievement for the faculty and staff who work so hard each and every day to provide instruction and hands-on training needed in this field," she said. "As a rural institution, to be listed among the top 50 in the nation with much larger two-year institutions in urban areas is outstanding."

## Trenholm State Program Approved by HACR Board

The Board of Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors has approved Trenholm State Technical College's diploma program for heating, air conditioning and refrigeration contractors requesting to sit for the examination prior to becoming certified in Alabama.

"This is a significant milestone at Trenholm State. Because graduates who complete our program will now be able to take the contractors test and start their own business," said **Heath Flowers**, instructor in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration at Trenholm State.

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# Meeting the Challenge...in Leadership

## Athens State Named a Great College to Work For

Athens State University is one of the best colleges in the nation to work for, according to a new survey by *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

The results, released in The Chronicle's third annual report on The Academic Workplace, are based on a survey of more than 42,000 employees at 277 colleges and universities. In all, only 97 of the 277 institutions achieved "Great College to Work For" recognition for specific best practices and policies. The survey results are based on a two-part assessment process: an institutional audit that captured demographics and workplace policies from each institution, and a survey administered to faculty, administrators, and professional support staff. The primary factor in deciding whether an institution received recognition was the employee feedback.

Athens State won honors in three categories this year: compensation and benefits, work-life balance, and facilities, workplace and security.

"*The Chronicle of Higher Education* confirms what has been common knowledge in North Alabama for the last half-century, or so, and that is that Athens State University is one of the best places to work within higher education," states President Dr. Bob Glenn. "Whenever you talk to a member of the faculty or staff it won't be long before they start talking about how much they love their work, and, how much they love working at ASU. The people here are the heart and soul of the institution and as long as we are smart enough to recognize and honor that fact, we will remain one of the very best places to work."

## Wallace State Employees Graduate from Leadership Program

Wallace State Community College in Hanceville recently recognized 12 employees, who completed the Leadership Wallace State yearlong training course.

The Leadership WSCC class participated in monthly leadership sessions from October 2009 to April 2010, concluding with presentations to the Wallace State cabinet.

"Wallace State Community College implemented Leadership Wallace State in summer 2006 and with each successive year the participants of the program gets stronger in its quest to develop leaders from within the college.

Although a self-nominating procedure is used to participate, group members are selected each year from various positions of the college and with varying lengths of service," said Wallace State Vice President for Students **Dr. Tomesa Smith**.



Sessions included an "Economic Development Field trip" within Cullman County, touring the Topre Corporation, learning about the industrial parks in Cullman and meeting at a luncheon with staff members from the Cullman Economic Development Agency and the Cullman County Economic Development office. "With the sessions, field trips and group project opportunities, Leadership participants are exposed to elements of the college, the system, and the community that most would normally see in their day-to-day operations," Smith said.

The 2009-10 Leadership WSCC group consisted of **Russell Moore**, staff writer in Communications and Marketing; **Gary McMinn**, Machining instructor, **Lea Casey**, career coach; **Courtney Walker**, assistant bookstore manager; **Jennifer Eddleman**, financial aid; **Tammi Gattis**, ACTION Center academic advisor; **Lauren Cantrell**, Theatre and Dance instructor; **Malinda Morton**, GED examiner and administrative assistant to the Vice President for Learning/Dean of Applied Technologies; **Susan Smith**, Business Department instructor; **Diane Wilhite**, Nursing instructor; **Donna Specker**, English/Spanish instructor and **Pam Murff**, switchboard operator.

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# Meeting the Challenge...In Leadership

## Sykes Appointed President of Alabama Southern Community College



Dr. Freida Hill, chancellor of the Alabama Community College System, recommended and the Alabama State Board of Education approved Dr. Reginald Sykes as president of Alabama Southern Community College in Monroeville.

Hill noted that Sykes comes highly recommended to the position of president. "I am very pleased to have Dr. Sykes coming on board as the leader of Alabama Southern," said Hill. "He brings a wealth of knowledge to the position and I

know that he will be a great asset to the college and the system."

Dr. Sykes comes to the system with many years of experience in all levels of education. He has served as a college vice president, a dean of student services, an adjunct and full-time instructor and, most recently, as assistant commissioner for community and junior college relations with the Mississippi Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning. Sykes has Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Education - Physical Education, from Jackson State University in Jackson, Miss. His Doctorate is in Education - School Administration, from Mississippi State University.

## NACC's Buttram Elected as ALADE President

**Shirley Buttram**, coordinator of Developmental Studies at Northeast Alabama Community College, has been elected to serve as president of the Alabama Association for Developmental Education (ALADE).

**Dr. David Campbell**, president of NACC, stated, "I would like to congratulate Ms. Buttram on this honor. ALADE has chosen a person who has a great interest in developmental education to be their leader."

Buttram said, "I feel honored to serve ALADE because of its impact on Alabama's developmental students. I enjoy my work at Northeast and hope to continue to serve our developmental students."

## Athens State Names Two Vice-Presidents

Athens State University has named two new Vice Presidents. Earlier this year, **Jim Hutto** was selected as Vice President for Enrollment Services and Student Support Services, while **Mike McCoy** was recently named the institution's Vice President for Financial Affairs.

Hutto, most recently held the position of Assistant Vice President for Enrollment at the University of Texas at Tyler. Past positions he held in Alabama include Dean of Enrollment Management at Troy University for 17 years, and the Director of School Relations at Birmingham Southern College.

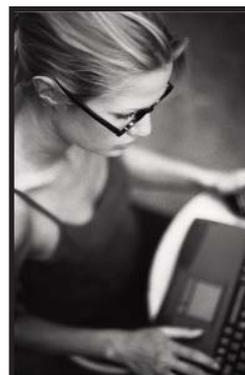
"We look forward to Mr. Hutto's partnership and welcome him as our newest team member," remarked **Dr. Bob Glenn**. "His experience in enrollment management and student support services is an excellent match to both our needs and the mission and goals of Athens State."

The former Business Office Manager at Athens State, McCoy holds a bachelors degree in accounting from the University of North Alabama and an associate's degree from Martin Methodist College. Prior to joining the staff at Athens State, McCoy was a partner with Johnson, Feigley, Newton and McCoy, LLP.

"Mr. McCoy brings a wealth of knowledge about both Athens State and the Alabama Community College System to the position," stated Dr. Glenn. "I believe he will provide a long career of excellent service to our campus."



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# Meeting the Challenge...in Student Success

## Dream Fulfilled Through JDCC's GED Program

Seventy-year old **Jessie Amerson**, who quit school in the ninth grade, fulfilled a life-long dream when he received his GED through a class taught by Jefferson Davis Community College Instructor **Sharon Dewitt**.

For more than 35 years, Amerson made his living doing odd jobs that included successful ventures in the oil field business. After leaving the oil field business a few years ago, he began interviewing for jobs, but the same question came up again and again. He was qualified and everything looked good, but he didn't have the education required.

"I came back to work and had some good offers," he said. "But I got turned away because I didn't have the education."

He said being the oldest in his GED class wasn't a problem and he hopes he showed some of the younger ones that they needed to get their education.

DeWitt said Amerson was a great role model for her younger students as well. "He showed them anybody can do it. If you have the desire, you can do it regardless of your age."

Amerson said the experience has been rewarding, not only in receiving his degree, but talking to the younger students about the importance of an education. "I've talked to some of them," Amerson said. "I explained the difference in getting a job with a degree vs. no degree. I hope I made a difference for some of them."

## Reid State Student Returns to College and Finds Career

At the age of 45, **Kim Whitman** never thought of returning to school and continuing her education. This all changed when her mother was stricken with a rare form of cancer that took her life in 2005 and resulted in Whitman's return to college.

She received a phlebotomy certificate at Reid State Technical College which has opened doors that she never imagined. She began working for the American Red Cross shortly after graduation in May 2010. Her new position has her working in the Red Cross's donor room in Montgomery performing Apheresis, the removal of platelets used for cancer patients, bone marrow transplants and more, and for blood donations.



Whitman has attended six weeks of additional training with the American Red Cross, learning how to operate the equipment, properly handle the blood components, taking donor histories, and specific venipuncture training. She looks forward to her new career in the phlebotomy/lab world and with continuing her education.

"The phlebotomy program at Reid State prepares you very well for the working world. Everything you see, hear and do is taught in the program. Reid State, the phlebotomy program, director, staff and instructors are wonderful people," said Whitman.

## Southern Union Hosts Student Summer Camps

Southern Union State Community College welcomed children and young adults to a variety of summer camps recently. The health sciences division's MICRO camp was held for junior high and high school students. Offered in conjunction with East Alabama Medical Center, this camp helps area students discover the numerous career options in health care.

Fine Arts Camp, on the Wadley campus, gave seventh grade through college age students a chance to study music, dance and drama under the guidance of the college's faculty. Fine Arts Camp had a record 90 participants this year and brought in students from five states.

The 36th annual Southeastern Baseball Camp brought aspiring baseball players to campus. Attendees learned fundamentals of the game as well as skills that will enable them to fully develop their talent.

One can never be too young to be introduced to the offerings at Southern Union. Kids Kollege proved this by bringing 76 first- through sixth-graders to the Wadley campus, to explore and develop a variety of skills in a fun, creative environment.

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# Meeting the Challenge...in Student Success

## Snead State Students Partner with Florida Students

When a group of students from Snead State Community College, joined a group of students from Miami Dade College (MDC) in Florida, the differences in cultures and lifestyles melted away into a special camaraderie that sparked the beginning of a unique partnership.

At the urging of Snead State President **Dr. Robert Exley**, the two colleges brought the students together to experience different cultures, different colleges, and unique opportunities to learn through service.

“The partnership shows students a different world from that of their daily routines. A kinship that crosses cultural barriers quickly formed. No longer are there two groups of students from two different colleges and cultures. There is now one family living in two different states yet deeply connected with one another,” said Dr. Exley, who served nearly 10 years at MDC.



Fourteen representatives from SSCC traveled to Miami in February, and twelve from MDC visited Boaz in March. During the trips, the groups, known as the “Sneaders and the Daders,” volunteered at a recycling center, a women’s shelter, and a center providing relief to Haitian earthquake victims. They examined and compared the natural environments of South Florida and Northern Alabama, visited various cultural sites and learned much about one another’s college.

“Perhaps the single most significant thing was the appreciation I gained for the powerful learning that can take place through civic engagement and the ‘informal learning’ that took place on a person-to-person basis,” said Snead State Chief Academic Officer **Dr. Larry Miller**, who participated in the partnership.

Plans are in the works for future projects and joint trips anchored by civic engagement to expand this learning experience for more students.

“We can be a model for other colleges around the world,” said SSCC Director of Campus Engagement **Rian Edwards**, who spearheaded the partnership development. “I had no idea the magnitude of how life-changing this would be.”

## STEM Camp for Students Held at Gadsden State

Juniors and seniors from area high schools attended the fifth annual Consortium for Alabama Regional Center for Automotive Technology (CARCAM) sponsored STEM Camp this summer at Gadsden State Community College.

STEM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, and the camp is part of CARCAM’s Student Career Pathway Initiative. The goal is to encourage interest and prepare students for jobs in the high-tech automated manufacturing industry in Alabama.

“Through STEM Camp students explore many diverse technical careers and experience real-life applications of math and science principles through hands-on learning,” said CARCAM Director **Beverly Hilderbrand**.

During the camp, students were divided into groups named after five of the major automotive plants in our region—Honda, Hyundai, Mercedes, Toyota and Volkswagon. They participated in classes such as collision repair, electronics, industrial automation, mechanical design and welding.

Students were assigned a specific hands-on project designed by instructors and allowed to keep the item that he or she had made. They also had an opportunity to build and test robots to demonstrate the principles they had learned during camp. The students were mentored by Gadsden State students and career coaches.



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# Meeting the Challenge...in Staff Development

## ATN's Franklin Named Communicator of the Year



**Chris Franklin**, Public Relations and Marketing Specialist at the Alabama Technology Network, received the Alabama Community College System Public Relations Association (ACCSPRA) "Communicator of the Year" award at the association's recent summer conference.

The award is presented to an ACCSPRA member in recognition of a special level of leadership, ability, or innovation in marketing, public relations, communication, or recruiting.

"I am very grateful to receive this honor. It is always special to be recognized by your peers, and it means even more to me because ACCSPRA is such a great organization made up of outstanding colleagues," said Franklin.

Before joining ATN in 2006, Franklin worked at Lawson State Community College and the former Bessemer State Technical College.

## Shelton State's Coats Named Music Teacher of the Year

**Syble Coats**, music instructor and Fine Arts Division Chair for Shelton State Community College, is the recipient of the 2010 Alabama Music Teacher Association Teacher of the Year award.

The award recognizes excellence in teaching, musicianship, and service to AMTA and to the community. Throughout her successful 39-year career, Coats has gained recognition from colleagues, former students, and members of the community for her exceptional teaching, musicality, and organizational talents.

A Nationally Certified Teacher of Music, she joined the faculty at Shelton State Community College as an adjunct instructor before becoming full-time in 1983. She became the Fine Arts Division Chair in 2009. An active member of AMTA for more than 35 years, she has held several important positions on the organization's executive board and was an original member of the local West Alabama Music Teachers Association.

Coats' passion for teaching and drive for student success have enabled her to exhibit the level of excellence recognized by the AMTA. "What is most rewarding to me is to see young people who want to study music develop and improve," says Coats. "It is my goal, and the expectation of what we do at Shelton State, to provide students with something that they can use for the rest of their lives."

## Alabama Southern Coaches Named Coaches of the Year

Alabama Southern Community College Men's and Women's Basketball Head Coaches were named the 2009-2010 Alabama Community College Conference (ACCC) Coaches of the Year.

Alabama Southern Women's Basketball Head Coach, **Rosalind Jennings**, was named Women's Basketball Coach of the Year for the Alabama Community College Conference (ACCC) South.

Jennings came to Alabama Southern in 2006, from an assistant coach's position for the Mercer University Bears. Jennings spent four years at Mercer as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator. Prior to her arrival at Mercer, Jennings spent four years as recruiting coordinator and assistant coach at Troy University. She also made coaching stops at Paris Junior College in Texas, Lander University and Erskine College, her alma mater.

Alabama Southern Men's Basketball Head Coach, **Ben Hicks**, was named Men's Basketball Coach of the Year for the ACCC South. Hicks is in his third year as Head Coach. Before joining the college, he served in coaching positions at Chattahoochee Valley Community College and Middle Georgia College.

Hicks was also has named the 2009-2010 Birmingham Tip Off Club Glen Clem Award/Junior College Coach of the Year.

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# ACCA Staff News Briefs

**Mattie Davis**, Health Sciences Instructor at Drake State Technical College, has earned her Doctorate of Nursing Practice from the University of Alabama Birmingham. Davis has been a full-time instructor at Drake State since 2002. She has also served as the coordinator for the Certified Nursing Assistant Program and will coordinate the new Medical Assisting Program.

**Dr. Peggy S. Palombi** has been hired as the Dean of Academic Services at Shelton State Community College. Dr. Palombi comes to Shelton State from Darton College in Albany, GA, where she served as the Dean of the Science and Mathematics Division and as an instructor in the College's biology department.

**Dr. Charles Murray** has been named the Dean of Career Technical Education and the Sumiton Campus at Beville State Community College. He will oversee the college's career technical education division for all five locations and serve as the campus Dean for the day-to-day operations on the Sumiton Campus. Before joining Beville State, he served as Associate Dean for Career Tech at Lawson State Community College.

**Dr. Timothy Broughton** of Bishop State Community College has been appointed to the United States Sports Academy's Board of Trustees. The United States Sports Academy is an independent, nonprofit, accredited, special mission sports university created to serve the nation and world with programs in instruction, research and service. The role of the Academy is to prepare men and women for careers in the profession of sports.

**Kimberly Rawson**, director of nursing at Bishop State Community College, has been appointed to the National League for Nursing Ambassador program. Rawson will help keep faculty and administration informed about the NLN's initiatives, grant opportunities, conferences, publications, workshops, and benefits available to league members.

**John Meeks** has been named Head Coach of Wallace State Community College's men's basketball team. Meeks joins Wallace State from Louisburg College. Prior to Louisburg, Meeks served three years as Assistant Coach at NAIA Lee University in Cleveland, Tenn. His experience also includes serving as Assistant Men's Basketball Coach at Martin Methodist College and as Assistant Men's Basketball Coach and Head Men's Junior Varsity Basketball Coach at Bluefield College in Virginia.

**Vincent P. Vincent**, coordinator of noncredit training at Wallace Community College, was recognized by Training for Existing Business and Industry Network (TEBIN) for developing and implementing a certified nurse assistant "Train the Trainer" program, a short-term course that prepares registered and licensed practical nurses to teach CNAs. The college received the Workforce Development Award from TEBIN for the third consecutive year.



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# Author Dr. Gerald Amada to be Keynote Speaker at ACCA Conference



**Dr. Gerald Amada** will deliver the Keynote Address at this year's Alabama Community College Association's First General Session. Dr. Amada was one of the founders and a director of the Mental Health Program, City College of San Francisco and is now retired after a thirty-year career at that college. He has also recently retired from a forty-year career as a private psychotherapist. He has published eleven books and over 100 articles and book reviews on the subjects of mental health, psychotherapy, and disruptive student issues.

His books on psychotherapy include *A Guide to Psychotherapy*, *The Mystified Fortune-Teller and Other Tales From Psychotherapy*, and *The Power of Negative Thinking*. His books on college student conduct issues are: *Coping with the Disruptive College Student: A Practical Model*, *Coping with Misconduct in the College Classroom: A Practical Model*, and *Mental Health and Student Conduct Issues on the College Campus: A Reading*.

Dr. Amada has been a book reviewer for the *American Journal of Psychotherapy*, *University Press of America*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, and the *Journal of College Student Psychotherapy*, where he is also a member of the editorial board and is book review editor. He is the recipient of the 1984 Award of Excellence in the category of administrator, Postsecondary Education, conferred by the National Education Special Needs Personnel, Region 5, which comprises eighteen states. Dr. Amada has lectured at over 130 colleges and universities throughout the United States and Canada on the subject of the disruptive college student.

## Conference Registration

**Early Registration Fee - \$75 per person  
\$100 per person if registered after October 29, 2010**

**Registration forms will be sent soon. Please use one purchase order per institution.**

**For additional information, contact ACCA Registration Coordinator, Necedah Henderson at (256) 233 - 8151, or by email at [Necedah.Henderson@athens.edu](mailto:Necedah.Henderson@athens.edu)**

## Hotel Information

**Contact the Renaissance Montgomery Hotel directly to make your reservations - 334.481.5000 or 877.545.0311, or Click [Here](#) for online reservations.**

**To receive the special conference rate of \$89 (plus tax), be sure to mention Group Code - alcalca**



# ACCA Conference

## Commission Speakers

### Commission on Administration

**Debra Beebe,**  
Principal,  
J.F. Drake Middle  
School

***My Torch is Still  
Burning Strong:  
True Survivor  
Experiences and  
Leadership  
Lessons Learned***

A former contestant on Survivor, Debra Beebe, will discuss how her experience changed her as a leader, friend, and overall individual. Through this fun and informative presentation, she will share how living without anything has altered her leadership philosophies and re-defined her role as a principal.



### Commission on Faculty

**Dr. Frankie K. Williams,**  
Department Head  
and Associate  
Professor,  
Mississippi State  
University

***A Model for  
Promoting a  
Positive Learning  
Environment***

Learn to promote a positive learning environment for the complexity and diversity of community college students. Included are examples from practices employed in the studio-based learning (SBL) model. Strategies and techniques are presented for: guided field experiences; studio design time during class; design case; sketch book; mini-lectures from students, teacher, and other experts; critiques; and varied design project types.



### Commission on Students

**Yvonne Harvey Williams,**  
Author and TV  
Personality

***Real Students,  
Real Issues, and  
Real Answers***

This session will discuss how to continuously help students regain their momentum one semester at a time until they reach the finish line & reignite vision. The session will also discuss the “winning characteristics” of Passion, Ambition, Communication, Leadership, Teamwork, & Time Management, as well as having a plan that assists with navigating through life, staying focused and help in overcoming the everyday obstacles of just being an “everyday student.”



### Commission on Support

**Cedric Pendleton**  
CEO,  
Pendleton  
Enterprises, Inc.

***Train to “Meet  
the Challenge”***

A native of Florence, actor and entrepreneur Cedric Pendleton will share his experiences and perspectives in this presentation that focuses on training to “meet the challenge.” His presentation will explain how working internally first allows individuals to see the external as an accomplishable goal.



### Commission on Workforce Development

**Kathy Yeager,**  
President,  
Contract Training  
Edge

***Seven Simple  
Steps for Growing  
Workforce  
Training***

In today’s economy, colleges have experienced a slow-down in workforce workshop will give the foundational tools needed to bring in more business. Participants will walk away with ideas on pricing to make a profit, methods for approaching the decision-maker, solution selling techniques, proposal writing, and more. **W o r k f o r c e D e v e l o p m e n t P r o f e s s i o n a l .**



Alabama Community College Association  
**2010 Annual Conference**  
 November 21 through 23, 2010  
 Montgomery Renaissance Hotel and Convention Center

**Tentative Conference Agenda**

**Sunday, November 21**

12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Registration
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Facilitators' Workshop
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Cosmetology Workshops
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Association Meetings
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Chancellor's Awards

**Monday, November 22**

7:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	Light Breakfast
7:45 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Cosmetology Workshops
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Registration
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Vendor Expo
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	HVAC Workshops
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Electronics/Robotics Workshops
8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Newcomers' Session
8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Concurrent Workshops
9:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	Vendor Expo/Coffee Break
10:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	First General Session
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Concurrent Workshops
2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Transitional Break
2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Commission Meetings
3:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Refreshment Break
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Chancellor Q & A
7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.	ACCA Dance

**Tuesday, November 23**

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Light Breakfast
7:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Cosmetology Workshops
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Vendor Expo
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Concurrent Workshops
9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Coffee Break
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.	Second General Session
	Chancellor's Address
	ACCA Business Meeting