

Alabama Community College Association

Journal

**ALABAMA
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE
SYSTEM
RECLAIMING
THE DREAM**



ACCA President's Message



Hello to everyone! It is a great honor to be serving as the president of the Alabama Community College Association (ACCA) this year. From this vantage point, I can gain even more perspective on all the great things our community college system does to better the lives of Alabama's people. There is a kinship that we all have from those special moments when we realize that we have made a difference in someone's life.

We will be holding our conference at the Sheraton Hotel and Birmingham Jefferson Convention Complex (BJCC) in Birmingham again this year, November 23-25, 2014. Our ACCA Executive Committee is working to make the conference a rewarding, enjoyable, and memorable one for you. We will be adding Wi-Fi access this year, for example, as well as expanding our meeting room space, and having some optional guest rooms available at the adjoining Westin Hotel. Stay tuned for other developments and make your plans early to attend. The conference this year will be an exciting one!

Our conference theme this year is *Reclaiming the Dream*. Indeed, community colleges are being called on as never before nationwide to lead the way back to those days when the "American Dream" flourished and there was opportunity to pursue a better, fulfilling life. Our challenge as community college educators is to reclaim that "Dream" for our students and communities through our workforce training, adult education, and academic transfer programs. Few have any greater calling than the responsibility that rests with us.

I encourage you to submit a proposal for a presentation at our conference. Really outstanding work is going on at our System Colleges. It benefits us all to know of this work so that we may be able to help our students succeed and complete their programs of study and "Reclaim the Dream!"

Again, I look forward to working with you and seeing you in Birmingham later this year!

Sincerely,

David Campbell, Ph.D.
President, Alabama Community College Association

A wide-angle photograph of a large conference hall. The audience is seated in rows of chairs, facing a stage. On the stage, a man in a dark suit is standing and speaking, gesturing towards a large projection screen. The room is brightly lit, and there are floral arrangements on the stage.

November 23 through 25
Sheraton Birmingham Hotel and
Birmingham Jefferson Convention Complex

Registration is \$150.00 per person
Visit www.alabamacca.org for all conference deadlines,
updates, and speaker information

Call for Conference Presentation Proposals

Presentations should relate to one of the following professional development tracks:

- Teaching and Learning
- Leadership Development
- Workforce Development
- Student Support & Success
- Staff Development
- STEM Initiatives

Suggested Topics Include:

Transformative and Innovative Teaching/Learning Strategies, Student Success, Retention and Completion, Student Engagement, Mental Health and Awareness, Safety and Campus Security, Academic and Technical Partnerships and Collaborations, Professional Learning Communities, Mentoring and Coaching, Outcome Assessments, Workforce Development, Credentialing, Apprenticeships, Technological Enhancements, Funding Opportunities, and Best Practices.

Presentation topics other than the suggested topics above are welcomed; however, all presentation topics should support one or more of the six professional development tracks (areas of interest) listed.

To submit a proposal, use the online submission form available on the ACCA website.

Visit www.alabamacca.org/accaproposals



For additional information, contact
Dr. Bruce Crawford, ACCA First Vice-President
at acca@lawsonstate.edu

Deadline for submissions: June 30, 2014

Want to get involved in ACCA? Become a facilitator.

Duties include the following:

- Pick up facilitator folder and evaluation materials
- Locate the scheduled room
- Assist presenter with set-up
- Distribute handouts and evaluations
- Welcome participants and Monitor time
- Collect completed evaluation forms
- Assist presenter with removing materials
- Return completed evaluations and unused materials

If interested, please contact:

Jennifer O'Linger
jennifer.olinger@drakestate.edu
256-551-3125
or
Dr. Tangela Purifoy
tpurifoy@rstc.edu
251-578-1313 x 151

WCC Receives State-of-the-Art 3D Printer



Wallace Community College's Bencze Auditorium was filled with area business leaders, representatives from Dothan Technology Center, and WCC personnel and students eager to learn about 3D printing – Additive Manufacturing and how it will be used in different industries.

Additive Technology is a process of making three-dimensional solid objects from a digital file. The 3D printer adds layers of

material to develop the required shape, in contrast to traditional manufacturing methods that subtract material via machining, cutting, or drilling to make parts.

Dr. Linda C. Young, WCC president, welcomed guests saying, "This is a special day—celebrating long term relationships and making new ones." She continued by thanking Raymond Cheng of the SoZo Group for coordinating the presentation on 3D Printing.

Zang Liu, general manager of China's Nanjing Zinjin-Lead Electronic Group Co., Ltd., presented Dr. Young and Terry Scott, Principal of Dothan Technology Center, with 3D printers valued at \$10,000 each to be used in their classrooms.

WCC officials expressed gratitude for the generous donation and plan to integrate and utilize this rapidly growing technology in its automated manufacturing major.

The college's automated manufacturing program prepares individuals to apply basic engineering principles and technical skills in support of engineers and other professionals engaged in various manufacturing operations.

ISTC Employees Appointed by State

Bobby Luster was appointed by Governor Robert Bentley as a member of the Alabama State Board of Cosmetology and represents the Second Congressional District. His term of service is effective May 19, 2013, and will expire on May 18, 2017.

This position comes with the great responsibility of making important decisions that affect the citizens of Alabama. Luster is proud to be a servant of the people of Alabama. He fulfills his duties, and he also sets a standard for others to follow.

Luster joined another ISTC faculty member, Charles Owenby, who was appointed Secretary for the State of Alabama Plumbing and Gas Fitters Examining Board. His appointment was effective March 19, 2012, and will expire October 1, 2015.



AHO ARCHITECTS, LLC
ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES
BUILT ON RELATIONSHIPS

265 Riverchase Pkwy. East, Suite 204
Hoover, Alabama 35244
(205) 983-6000 www.ahoarch.com

We specialize in serving Community Colleges:

- *More than half of our projects in the past three years have been for ACCA members.*
- *We currently serve nine colleges in Alabama.*
- *Every college we have served has hired us again.*



Training Consultants, Inc.
1820 Country Club Road
Grenada, MS 38901
1-800-560-1744

NACC Chapter Earns Recognition

Northeast Alabama Community College's Psi Epsilon Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa was recently recognized and awarded for achievement at the Phi Theta Kappa Regional Convention held in Birmingham, on March 7-8.

Phi Theta Kappa's mission is to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students and provide opportunities for individual growth and development through participation in honors, leadership, service and fellowship programming.

The Psi Epsilon Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa was presented with five awards at the Phi Theta Kappa Regional Convention at Jefferson State Community College. Phi Theta Kappa officers Alicia Bearden, John Clements, Scott Ivey, Justin Miller, and Dusty Trotman attended the convention, accompanied by chapter advisor, Brad Fricks.

Besides being recognized as a Five-Star Chapter at the event, the chapter's Honors in Action project, "Food Insecurity in Northeast Alabama" received two awards, the Honors in Action Distinguished Theme Award and the Honors in Action Project Award. The Psi Epsilon chapter was also honored to be recognized as a Distinguished Chapter in the Alabama Region. In addition, Northeast was awarded the Most Distinguished Chapter Award, 3rd Finalist. This award places the Psi Epsilon Chapter in the top five distinguished chapters in the state of Alabama. "This officer team has worked extremely hard to better our campus and



our community. I am proud of their team work and all that they have accomplished. We are happy to bring this recognition to the college, and we could not have been as successful without the support and encouragement of Dr. David Campbell and all the faculty and staff here at Northeast," commented Fricks.

Phi Theta Kappa officers represented Northeast Alabama Community College at the Phi Theta Kappa International Convention in Orlando, Fla. in April. The officers will attend workshops, interact with other Phi Theta Kappa members from across the United States, and hear globally recognized speakers.

Bishop State Instructor Receives Award



Dr. Kit Nast, a psychology instructor at Bishop State Community College, recently received an Instructional Resource Award from the Society for the Teaching of Psychology (APA Division 2) that will help him develop videos for the psychology page of his website - www.drkit.org/psychology.

Nast has been making videos in all disciplines in order to help students make decisions about a number of things, including what college degrees and careers to pursue. All of his resources are online and free to be used by anyone who is interested.

Nast is currently looking for faculty to assist in identifying people who may be willing to participate. Students in all disciplines can benefit from the page at www.drkit.org/students. The site includes links to the most valuable pages for students and to several videos related to how to be a better student.

SECURITY • AUTOMATION • SERVICE • PARTS

alabama controls

WHOLESALE CONTROLS INTERNATIONAL

WWW.ALABAMACONTROLS.COM

WWW.WCIPARTS.COM

BIRMINGHAM • GULF COAST • INTERNATIONAL • MONTGOMERY • PELHAM

ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY

BUILDING SUCCESS STORIES

www.athens.edu

CACC/SHS Students Address Legislature

Central Alabama Community College (CACC) and Sylacauga High School (SHS) students enrolled in the college's Dual Enrollment Program recently travelled to Montgomery in an effort to gain support and funding for more high school dual enrollment participation.

The three students spoke to the Alabama House of Representatives' Ways and Means Committee to share their experience and offer support for a Dual Enrollment bill. Luke Terrell, Erskin McKinney and Anna Wood told committee members that until these classes were offered at SHS, they had no idea of the job opportunities awaiting them upon graduation.

Career-tech dual enrollment programs allow high school students to take coursework toward a college degree, including technical skills training. Through the Dual Enrollment Program, CACC instructors travel to the campus of SHS and offer technical classes in Programmable Logic Controls; Robotics; OSHA/Lean Manufacturing; Precision Machining; DC Electrical and Construction Wiring. Expansion of the program in the summer and fall is to involve the surrounding Talladega County Schools. A key strength of this partnership is that CACC instructors teach on the campus of Sylacauga High School helping to eliminate barriers that prohibit students from earning college credit while in high school.

Only 6.7 percent of the state's 31,500 eligible students currently participate in career-tech dual enrollment programs. A major challenge of offering dual enrollment classes such as these is the cost of tuition. The goal of the legislation was to provide



students who may not be able to afford the classes more opportunities to take dual enrollment courses. The bill was signed into law by Governor Robert Bentley in April. The new law allows for a scholarship program to be funded through donations from individuals and businesses. In turn, those who donate money to the fund will receive a 50 percent tax credit. The maximum number of tax credits per year will be \$5 million.

"This scholarship program will allow even more students to have the opportunity to go to college and receive a quality education, along with the necessary training, that will in turn give them the tools and qualifications needed to be successful in the workforce," said Dr. Susan Burrow, president of Central Alabama Community College.

Lawson State Named Among Top Five

Lawson State Community College was named again as one of the top community colleges in the nation. Lawson State ranked fifth in the Best Community Colleges category of the 2013 *Washington Monthly* College Rankings. The *Washington Monthly* included about 700 institutions in the rankings analysis and Lawson State was the only community college in Alabama to rank in the top 50.

Rankings of the *Washington Monthly* measure institutions based on civic engagement, research, and social mobility. In the last community college rankings of the *Washington Monthly*, Lawson State ranked number 39 out of more than 600 institutions in 2010.

"We are very excited and humbled by this honor, especially to have been named in the top 50 by the *Washington Monthly* in its last two community college rankings," said Dr. Perry W. Ward, president of Lawson State Community College. "This is even more significant as it reflects a higher level of engagement and satisfaction from among our students and in total can be attributed to the hard work and dedicated efforts of our faculty, staff and students."

The Armistead Group
Advancing Community Colleges

L. Pendleton Armistead, Ed.D.
(859) 421-3876
pend@armisteadforward.com
www.armisteadforward.com

school roofing

fluid-applied PremiumCoat® Roof System
energy efficient
seamless
cool roof

save money!

Tomball Memorial High School
350,000 ft² - new construction
www.quest-cp.com

Jefferson State Ranks Among Top 10

Jefferson State Community College ranks among the top digital community colleges in the nation according to information released in April by e.Republic's Center for Digital Education (CDE).

"Community colleges across the country are employing technology in exciting ways to develop unique learning environments on campus and to expand online learning opportunities 24/7," said Alan Cox, senior vice president for the Center for Digital Education. "Many of the col-

leges honored this year have employed various technologies and social media to improve resources to further instructional goals. We are honored to acknowledge these community colleges' technology advancements!"

Survey questions and criteria examined and scored areas of digital and emerging technologies, such as use of mobile devices and technology integration into curriculum; strategic planning and data management; and professional development,

including availability of technology tools and training for faculty and students.

In addition, colleges were surveyed on their technology priorities, infrastructure and networks, collaboration and outreach efforts and use of technology innovations.

All accredited U.S. community colleges are eligible to participate in the survey within the three classifications based on size of enrollment.

Aspen Selects NACC for Recognition, Competition

Highlighting the critical importance of improving student success in America's community colleges, the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program named Northeast Alabama Community College as one of the nation's top 150 community colleges eligible to compete for the 2015 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence and \$1 million dollars in prize funds.

The prize, awarded every two years, is the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance among America's community colleges and recognizes institutions for exceptional student outcomes in four areas: student learning, certificate and degree completion, employment and earnings, and high levels of access and success for minority and low-income students.

The Aspen Institute identified the top 150 community colleges through an assessment of institutional performance, improvement, and equity on student retention and completion measures. Together, the 150 community colleges

eligible to compete for the prize represent the diversity and richness of the entire sector:

- They are located in 37 states across the nation;
- They represent urban, rural, and suburban markets; and
- They encompass big community colleges and small community colleges—from Miami Dade College in Florida, serving over 100,000 students, to Carver Career Center in West Virginia, serving fewer than 500 students.

Dr. David Campbell, NACC President, said, "We at Northeast are honored to be selected for this recognition. Our faculty, staff, and administrators do what is most important in community college education and this is working with and supporting students and giving them every opportunity to

succeed. I am very proud of our faculty, staff, and students for this."

Campbell noted that the college has received this recognition from the Aspen Institute before. "That we are a repeat selection says a lot about the college," Campbell stated. "It says that our personnel and students have institutionalized the pursuit of excellence as a standard."



ACCA Community Service Project

This year's ACCA community service project will support the Jimmie Hale Mission and Jessie's Place, which includes a homeless shelter for men and one for women and children. Online donation opportunities will be available at the conference; as little as \$1.95 provides a meal and \$19.50 will feed 10 people. We will also have a collection site for the following items: soap, safety razors, shaving cream, shampoo, stick deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs and brushes, diapers, teething medicine, diaper cream, pain relievers, vitamins, and feminine hygiene products. Start collecting these items now; collection bins will be available at ACCA.

Snead State Students Named Gold Scholars



Snead State Community College students McKayla Edmonds of Grant and Daniel Garcia of Albertville have been named 2014 Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Gold Scholars. As Gold Scholars each receives a \$1,500 scholarship and special medallion. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation sponsors the Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team program by recognizing 50 Gold, 50 Silver and 50 Bronze Scholars, and providing nearly \$200,000 in scholarships annually.

Edmonds is a general education major and is active with student organizations including the Ambassadors, Phi Theta Kappa and Student Government Association. She is the 2014 Homecoming Queen. She plans to transfer to The University of Alabama to pursue a bachelor's degree in human development and child studies and in early childhood education. Her educational goal is to earn a master's degree in occupational therapy, and her career goal is to work in pediatric occupational therapy.

Garcia majors in business and is active in student organizations such as Phi Theta Kappa, Ambassadors and the Pan Latino Student Organization. He plans to attend the University of Alabama to pursue a bachelor's degree in management information systems. His goal is to become a CEO and travel around the world when he retires.

They also represented Snead State as part of the All-Alabama Academic Team recognition in April.

Drake State Trains Older Workers

J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College was recently chosen to join the Plus 50 Encore Completion Program, a national effort to train 10,000 baby boomers for new jobs in health care, education and social services. The program is sponsored by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC).

The college will assist adults age 50 and over in completing degrees or certificates in high-demand occupations that give back to the community. With many adults age 50 and over out of work or seeking to transition to a new career, the program offers skill updates and career makeovers for baby boomers. Drake State will focus on promoting healthcare as a career field, specifically its certified nursing assistant and new medical billing and coding program. The most recent State of the Workforce Report for Region 2 reveals three of the top five high-demand occupations, four of the top five fast-growth occupations, and eight of the top ten high-earning occupations in the area are in the healthcare field.

Ingram Competition Boosts Morale

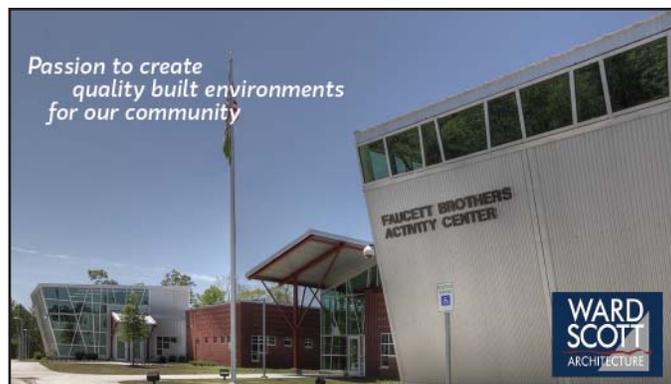
Ingram State Technical College offered the first ever speech/oratorical contests in March for students at each facility. This competition was a huge success for the college as well as its unique population of students thanks to the leadership of Dr. Brannon Lentz, speech instructor, and the teams of college employees providing vital assistance. The contests boasted 64 correctional education students registered for the competition where ISTC employees volunteered to serve as judges to determine first and second place winners at each ISTC facility. The contest was a tremendous morale boost for not only the students participating, but also the student body as a whole. One competitor, incarcerated at Julia Tutwiler Prison for Women, offered a speech on how higher education opportunities in corrections can make a positive difference. Within her message she referenced how she had battled breast cancer while in prison. She expounded upon her pride in having participated. This successful effort received great feedback and enlightens us all to the fact that inspiration can come in many ways, shapes, and forms.

BSC

Business Systems & Consultants, Inc.

"The Document Management People"

113 Little Valley Court
Birmingham, AL 35244
(205) 988-3300 / Fax (205) 985-9510
www.bsolutions.com



Trenholm State Achieves SACSCOC Candidacy

H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College is now a candidate for accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). Candidate institutions have demonstrated compliance with Core Requirements 2.1-2.11, three Comprehensive Standards (3.3.1, 3.5.1, and 3.7.1), and the Federal Requirements of SACSCOC's Principles of Accreditation. Candidate institutions move into membership after demonstrating compliance with the remaining Comprehensive Standards.

The college's candidacy status is the result of an intensive self-study process followed by a candidacy visit conducted in April 2013 by representatives of SACSCOC-accredited institutions from other states.

That team's report was then reviewed by the Commission on Colleges' Committee on Compliance and Reports, which voted in June to grant candidacy based on their review.

The college is now undertaking a second self-study that will incorporate all Comprehensive Standards and update all information previously submitted for the candidacy visit. SACSCOC membership will require completion of that self-study; a second peer visit with a much larger review team in which Trenholm demonstrates compliance with all Core Requirements, Comprehensive Standards and Federal Requirements; and review and approval by the Committee on Compliance and Reports. SACSCOC candidacy does not guarantee that membership will follow.

"Although much work still lies ahead for Trenholm State to achieve full SACSCOC membership, we are incredibly excited and proud to achieve candidacy," said Sam Munnerlyn, president.

"This achievement represents an important step in the life of the college, and the Commission's award of candidacy confirms that we are moving in the right direction. Our goal, as always, is to better serve our students and our community. SACSCOC candidacy demonstrates our commitment to excellence."

Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Ga., 30033-4097 or call (404) 679-4500 for questions about the status of H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College.

Wallace - Dothan Holds Annual Science Decathlon

Wallace Community College in Dothan held the First Annual WCC Science Decathlon in November 2013. Local high school students competed for trophies, plaques, and the opportunity to drop an egg (without breaking it!) from the second floor balcony of the science building.

Teams studied and practiced in the weeks preceding the Decathlon, and went all-out in events such as *Crafty Cell*; *Stop, Drop and Egg Roll* (Ashford High School was successful and had the only unbroken egg); *Forensic Frenzy*; *Fallout*; *Blood is Thicker Than Water*; and *Ramp It Up*. The events were designed to give students hands-on experience in Life Science, Earth Science, Chemistry, Physical Science, and Forensics Science, and to create a passion for learning science.

Top-place science category teams in Division I were GW Long High School (Life Science); Ashford High School (Physical Science); Ashford High School (Earth Science); and Ashford High School (Chemistry); GW Long was the Overall Quiz Bowl winner in Division I. Winning trophies in Division I were Ashford High School (first place) and GW Long High School (second place).

Division II science category winners were GW Long High School (Life Science); Northview High School (Physical Science); Northview High School (Forensic Science); and Dothan High School (Chemistry). Dothan High School was the Overall Quiz Bowl winner in Division II. Winning trophies in Division II were Dothan High School (first place), Northview High School (second place), and Carroll High School (third place). Jack Stansell from Dothan High school was the winner of a \$1500 Wallace Community College scholarship.

In addition to WCC faculty and staff, Polyengineering, Inc. and Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Inc. provided volunteers to work events. Cub Scout Pack 124 of Headland loaned their Pinewood Derby track to the Ramp It Up event.



DONALD "D.J." BOS
TEGG SERVICE SALES

CROSBYELECTRIC
COMPANY, INC.

6012 EAST SHIRLEY LANE
P.O. BOX 240368
MONTGOMERY, AL 36124
334.272.2085 FAX 334.272.6768
DJBOS@CROSBYELECTRIC.COM WWW.CROSBYELECTRIC.COM



HUNTINGDON COLLEGE
W. James Samford, Jr. School
of Business and Professional Studies

Renee D. Culverhouse, Director
Adult Degree Completion Program
(256) 393-2999
rculverhouse@huntingdon.edu
www.huntingdon.edu

AU Offers Scholarship for MMI Grads

In October 2013, Auburn University formalized a Marion Military Institute (MMI) Leadership Scholarship (\$5,000 for in-state transfer students and \$15,000 for out-of-state students) who earn their associate's degree from MMI and meet certain academic/program criteria. There will be two awarded per year for out-of-state and two per year for in-state students. The scholarships are for four semesters at AU. Cadets must have a GPA of at least 2.75 to be considered. This new agreement, starting in Fall 2014, is another great example of partnering with a regional university that values Marion Military Institute's strong academic & leadership foundation.

A similar agreement has already been established with Troy University, offering a \$2,000 Leadership Scholarship for MMI graduates. Special credit transfer agreements are also available at Auburn University-Montgomery, University of North Georgia, and the University of West Florida.



Bishop Dean Seeks to Advance College

The new Dean of Technical Education and Workforce Development at Bishop State Community College said she is excited about her new job that allows her to help young adults, career switchers, and others improve their quality of life.

Dr. Kathy H. Thompson was appointed by President James Lowe, Jr., in July 2013 to head the technical education and workforce development department at the college.

Dr. Thompson said her team-oriented and collaborative style of management is the product of 23 years of combined experience in workforce and economic development and postsecondary education. With that experience, she said she plans to use it to elevate the college to be a regional leader of technical education that meets the workforce needs of business and industry and the community.

Prior to joining Bishop State Community College, Dr. Thompson served as the Executive Director of the Macon-Bibb County Workforce Investment Board, Inc. (MBWIB, Inc.).

In 2008, the state of Virginia's workforce delivery system was consolidated with the Virginia Community College System. Dr.

Thompson was appointed Director of Post-secondary Education and Senior Workforce Analyst. She built partnerships with the 23 community colleges in Virginia to implement career and technical education and worked with the 15 local workforce investment boards to create a workforce delivery system throughout the state.



Dr. Thompson's career includes college-level teaching experience as a professor of political science at the University of Richmond, where she taught courses in public policy, public administration, leadership and women in politics with her research focused on workforce development and the intersection with economic development and education (secondary and postsecondary).

A native of Mobile, Thompson earned a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Public Policy and Administration from Virginia Commonwealth University Center for Public Policy, a Master of Public Administration degree from Auburn University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Work from The University of Alabama.

A logo for PH&J Architects. The letters 'PH&J' are large and stylized in a dark blue color, with 'architects' in a smaller, sans-serif font to the right. Below the logo, it says 'Founded 1957 Pearson, Humphries & Jones Architects'. Further down, it lists 'Ren Jones, MBA, AIA' as the 'Principal Architect'. At the bottom, it provides the website 'www.phjarchitects.com', the phone number '(334) 265-8781', and the email 'e-mail: phjarch@bellsouth.net'. There is also a small Facebook 'f' icon.

A logo for Samford University Evening College. It features a stylized building icon to the left of the text 'SAMFORD UNIVERSITY' in a large, serif font, with 'EVENING COLLEGE' in a smaller font below it. Below the logo, the website 'www.samford.edu/evening' is displayed. At the bottom, a dark blue banner contains the text 'Now offering affordable degree-completion programs for ACCS graduates' in white.

ACCS Employees Present at National Conference

Three Alabama Community College System employees recently presented at the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) National Conference in New Orleans.

The presentation, entitled *Creating a Winning Team: Ideas to Increase Cooperation Between Marketing and Recruiting*, highlighted research about marketing and recruiting practices within the Alabama Community College System.

The session was presented by Dr. Chris Franklin, director of Public Relations at Bevill State Community College; Kristen Holmes, director of Communications and Marketing at Wallace State Community College; and Lisa Patterson, Advertising and Publications Specialist at Lurleen B. Wallace Community College.

The majority of the session centered around Dr. Franklin's dissertation research which examined the practices, strategies, and collaboration of college marketing and recruiting departments. From recommendations made as a result of Franklin's research, board members of the Alabama Community College System Public Relations Association (ACCSPRA) focused on using the professional development association as a tool to increase collaboration between public relations and recruiting professionals. All three presenters have served as ACCSPRA president.

The National Council for Marketing & Public Relations is the only organization of its kind that exclusively represents marketing and public relations professionals at community and technical colleges.

As one of the fastest growing affiliates of the American Association of Community Colleges, NCMPR has more than 1,550 members from more than 650 colleges across the United States, Canada and other countries.

Reid Implements New Program

Reid State's newest program addition is Emergency Medical Services (EMS). The program serves students on the Atmore campus and opened Spring Semester of 2014. Students enrolled in the Emergency Medical Services Program may choose to earn a short term certificate in Emergency Medical Services. The first certificate of completion is the EMT Level (EMT) and the second is the Advanced EMT level (AEMT). Upon successful completion of each certificate, the student is eligible to apply to take the National Registry Examination at his/her respective level of training. Upon successful completion of the examination, the student will be eligible to apply for licensure to practice in the State of Alabama as an EMT or AEMT.

Huebner Wins Award



Dr. Tom Huebner, acting president at Bevill State Community College, has been recognized for outstanding contributions to Pi Kappa Delta, the nation's oldest and largest organization honoring excellence in intercollegiate speech and debate (forensics). Huebner was named the *John A. Shields Award* winner at Pi Kappa Delta's November 2013 meeting, which was held in conjunction with the National Communication Association annual meeting in Washington, D.C. Dr. Huebner received the

honor while serving as Dean of Student Services at Shelton State. Gina Adamo-Jensen, the organization's national president, said of Huebner, "During his tenure as national president, Dr. Huebner re-envisioned the workings of the organization, designed a strategic plan that has served as a model for our recent growth, and laid the foundation for our partnership with the National Speech and Debate Association (formerly the National Forensics League). His impact is far-reaching and very positive." Huebner served the organization as national president from 2007 to 2009.

Pi Kappa Delta, whose national offices are located in Ripon, Wisconsin, was founded in 1913, has more than 80,000 members, hosts intercollegiate speech and debate tournaments, and works to promote the growth of competitive forensic activities worldwide.

DESIGNING BUILDINGS TO ENHANCE THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE

BIRMINGHAM
120 23rd Street South
Birmingham, AL 35233
205.322.7482
www.dadot.com



ATLANTA
1000 Marietta Street NW
Atlanta, GA 30318
678.705.7904
www.dadot.com

DAVIS
ARCHITECTS

ARCHITECTURE • INTERIOR DESIGN • MASTER PLANNING



JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY
www.jsu.edu • 256-549-8390

TSTC Program Earns Reaccreditation

Trenholm State Technical College Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) program has been reaccredited through 2023 by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). According to Brandi Merrill, program director, “the CAAHEP Board of Directors found the Ultrasound Program to be in substantial compliance and issued the maximum award of ten years instead of the regular five year award. This is a huge success for the program and the College and I want to thank our faculty, staff, and students.”

Ultrasound imaging, also known as sonography, uses high-frequency sound waves to produce images of internal body parts to help health care providers diagnose illness, injury or other medical problems.

In July 2013, the Ultrasound Program underwent a rigorous and extensive reaccreditation process by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRC-DMS) and the CAAHEP board of directors. CAAHEP is the largest programmatic accreditor in the health sciences field. In collaboration with its Committees on Accreditation, CAAHEP reviews and accredits over 2,000 educational programs in twenty-three (23) health science occupations. CAAHEP is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

“This reaccreditation provides our faculty, staff, students, and prospective employers in the River Region with confirmation that Trenholm State adheres to the highest quality in imaging standards. Our faculty and staff are committed to providing our students with the necessary skills to be successful in their career choices,” said Sam Munnerlyn, president of Trenholm State.

Wallace - Dothan Participates in BEST Robotics

The Dothan Civic Center was buzzing last November as students and their robots met to compete in the BEST Robotics event. Wallace Community College-Dothan, one of the sponsors of the annual event, was represented by Industrial Systems Technology Instructor Tony Greene and WCC student volunteers. Greene served as a judge for the competition.



Eleven area schools sent teams of students who spent several weeks building robots and drafting a marketing presentation. Teams presented their presentations at WCC in November to BEST judges. The teams met at the Dothan Civic Center the next day to compete with their robots in a series of three-minute events. This year’s game was called “Gatekeeper,” where students were required to build a robot capable of building a CPU.

Participating students learn the practical use of math concepts and applied physics, while solving real-world science and engineering problems, and experiencing product development from design to market. The event encourages interest in engineering, math, and science.

BEST Robotics Inc. (BRI) is a non-profit, volunteer-based organization headquartered at Auburn University. Schools participate at no cost, and any school may participate. Engineers, business and other professionals serve as team mentors. Over 3500 volunteers help run local competitions and regional championships. The mission of BEST is to the advance the practical use of math concepts and applied physics.



ACCA is on Twitter!
Follow us @alabamacca

Calhoun Joins Achieving the Dream National Reform Network

During DREAM 2014, the national conference for the Achieving the Dream Network, Calhoun Community College was among the 12 community and technical colleges from eight states and the only Alabama college to be welcomed into the Achieving the Dream National Reform Network. This cohort, serving nearly 75,000 students, will immediately begin the challenging work of identifying and implementing evidence-based strategies for closing achievement gaps and increasing student retention, persistence, and completion rates.

“We are delighted to welcome the 2014 cohort of colleges into the Achieving the Dream National Reform Network as we celebrate our 10th year of working to improve student success and completion rates across the country,” said Achieving the Dream President and CEO William E. Trueheart. “These 12 colleges represent a diverse group of students whose success means much more than just a personal goal secured. It means improved skills, better employability, and economic growth for their community and our nation as a whole.”

Achieving the Dream, Inc. is a national nonprofit leading the nation’s most comprehensive non-governmental reform network for student success in higher education history. The Achieving the Dream National Reform Network, including over 200 institutions, more than 100 coaches and advisors, and 15 state policy teams - working throughout 34 states and the District of Columbia - helps nearly 4 million community college students have a better chance of realizing greater economic opportunity and achieving their dreams.

Shelton State Partners with Manufacturer to Develop Lab

A major international manufacturer has developed a state-of-the-art teaching lab at Shelton State Community College. Shelton State is set to become the first community college in the United States to partner with German based U.I. Lapp Group. With its U.S. headquarters in New Jersey, Lapp is one of the world’s leading developers and manufacturers of wire and cable technology.

In October 2013, Andreas Lapp, chairman of the Lapp Group, and members of his executive team were on campus for an inauguration event and “cable cutting” ceremony for the LAPP Center for Excellence in Cable Technology at Shelton State Community College. Shelton State and the Lapp Group, with the support of the Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development Authority (TCIDA), organized the inauguration event.

According to Tuscaloosa Mayor Walt Maddox, “The LAPP Center is a wonderful asset to Shelton State and to the Tuscaloosa community. This partnership will advance not only cable technology but also student knowledge through hands-on experience.”



Accuracy, reliability and security are the cornerstone of any effective administration system. Those are the hallmarks of CampusKey, the comprehensive ERP system available from Alliant Data Systems, Inc.



Tel: 251-281-1665
3421 Highway 21
Atmore, AL 36502
www.alliantdatasystems.com



BayCare Behavioral Health

Student Assistance Program

For Additional Information:
Chris Yarnold | (727) 561-2569
BayCareSAP@Baycare.org

BayCare.org/SAP

Calhoun Outstanding Technical Faculty Selected

Mark Branon, an instructor in Calhoun Community College's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program and Department Chair for Allied Health, was honored among the state's most outstanding faculty with the Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Technical Faculty for the Alabama Community College System (ACCS). Branon was recognized during the annual ACCS Conference held in Birmingham.



Among his accomplishments, Branon has been very successful in developing and growing Calhoun's Health Sciences Dual Enrollment program by offering EMS classes in seven local high schools. Under his leadership, Calhoun was selected as a finalist for a 2013 Bellwether Award, which annually recognizes outstanding and innovative programs and practices that are successfully leading community colleges into the future. The college's program, "A Solution to the Healthcare Needs of the Graying American Population," was named as a finalist in the *Workforce Development* category. In 2012, Calhoun was the only Alabama college named as a top ten finalist for the Bellwether Award.

Branon is very active in the local community, recently returning from a medical mission trip to Nicaragua where he and a team of medical professionals treated villagers for a variety of illnesses and also offered dental care.

Jefferson State's Veterinary Program Selected

The Veterinary Technology Program at Jefferson State Community College was recently selected by VetTechColleges.com as one of seven top programs in the nation.

The selection process considered accreditation, graduation rates and overall accessibility of the program. For this selection, the ranking considered programs accredited by nationally recognized organizations in the field of veterinary technology, such as the American Veterinary Medical Association. This accreditation ensures the program has been thoroughly evaluated for completeness and adherence to veterinary standards. The graduation rates help measure the overall success of the program, while clinical components (hands-on experience) are vital to the success of students.

Veterinary technicians are sometimes referred to as veterinary assistants and indeed their job often involves assisting veterinarians. Officially speaking, however, veterinary assistants do not require any specialized training whereas veterinary technicians must have a formal education in the field and pass either a

state or national exam demonstrating competency. This can make distinguishing among available programs somewhat difficult. This selection helps differentiate top programs throughout the country.



exford
ARCHITECTS

The Forum Building
950 - 22nd Street North, Suite 825
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
205.945.2997 / 205.945.2988 Fax

Architecture • Interior Design • Program Management • Planning
carlexford@exfordllc.com

EXCELLENCE IS NEVER AN ACCIDENT



Marketing Works

Jeff Poore
205.585.0381
jeff@amarketingstore.com

Icons: T-shirt, Shopping bag, Water bottle, Pens

We Put Your Logo on Stuff!

LBWCC Named Bellwether Finalist

Lurleen B. Wallace Community College (LBWCC) participated in the 20th anniversary national convention of the Community College Futures Assembly (CCFA) in Orlando in late January as a Bellwether Award finalist.

The CCFA issued a call for nominations in the fall of 2013. The field of Bellwether nominations was very competitive this year with more than 400 applications. Ten finalists were chosen in each category: Instructional Programs and Services, co-sponsored by the National Council of Instructional Administrators; Planning, Governance and Finance, co-sponsored by the Council for Resource Development; and Workforce Development, co-sponsored by the National Council for Continuing Education and Training.

LBWCC's application titled "Transforming Campus Culture through Student Housing at a Rural Community College" resulted in the national finalist designation in the planning, governance and finance category, which recognizes programs or

activities that have been designed and successfully implemented to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the community college.



Gadsden State's Automotive Program Earns Master Accreditation

Gadsden State Community College's Automotive Service Technology Program recently received the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) Master Automobile Service Technology accreditation. Master level accreditation is the highest level of achievement recognized by NATEF.

Founded in 1983, the mission of NATEF is to improve the quality of automotive technician training programs nationwide at secondary and post-secondary, public and proprietary schools. To accomplish this mission NATEF examines the structure,

resources and quality of training programs and evaluates them against standards established by the industry. These standards reflect the skills that students must master to be successful in the industry.

Gadsden State is among the first group of colleges to receive the accreditation since NATEF's new standard requirements changed last year. According to NATEF President, Trish Serratore, "The new standards were updated in 2012 to reflect the latest standards of knowledge as defined by the industry to ensure the supply of qualified, entry-level automotive professionals well into the future." NATEF evaluated the program in all areas from the newly-constructed facility to the number of instructional hours.

In a letter to Tim Green, dean of technical education and workforce development, Serratore wrote: "Although many educational institutions strive for it, only a small percentage achieves this accreditation. Both the educational and automotive communities should be proud of your commitment to quality Automobile training programs."

Dr. Bill Blow, acting president, said, "This recognition is an example of the high standards our college sets for our graduates. We are proud to know that our students will carry with them into the workforce the most state-of-the-art performance skills and knowledge available."



www.alabamacca.org

For conference updates and other ACCA Information

Cummings Named Bevill State Dean of Instruction

Dr. Leslie Cummings was recently appointed as Bevill State Community College's Dean of Instruction. She had served as Interim Dean since June 2013.

In her role as Dean of Instruction, Dr. Cummings is responsible for managing the college's instructional programs and policies, course scheduling, and overseeing the day-to-day instructional operations of the college.

Dr. Cummings began her academic career as a graduate teaching assistant at Mississippi State University. She joined Bevill State in 2000 as a psychology instructor. Additional positions held at Bevill during her tenure include College-Wide Chair for Distance Education, Interim Dean of the Sumiton Campus, and the Interim Dean of Academic Transfer and the Hamilton Campus.

"The opportunity to serve as an instructor at Bevill State has provided me with a faculty member's perspective, and my administrative roles have allowed me to see the many facets of college organization. I look forward to combining these two viewpoints to work with all college employees in furthering the mission of Bevill State. I am honored to have this opportunity," said Dr. Cummings.

Dr. Cummings attended Bevill State Community College; holds a BA in Psychology from The University of Alabama; a MS in Clinical Psychology from Mississippi State University; and a Ph.D. in Community College Leadership from Mississippi State University.



Bishop Names All-Star

Bishop State Community College General Education student Justin Wells of Mobile is among 75 students listed as a 2014 Historically Black College and University (HBCU) All-Star, a White House initiative.



Only 75 students in the country were selected and only seven from Alabama.

Wells, a sophomore, is a Bishop State EPECS (Engineering, Physics, Economics, and Computer Science) Scholar, a program designed to prepare students for leadership roles in the field of Homeland Security and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

He is also Vice President of Bishop State's Student Government Association.

CVCC Exceeds Goal

The Chattahoochee Valley Community College Foundation announces a historic fundraising success. The Hall of Fame and 40th Anniversary Celebration event at the Country Club of Columbus raised over \$50,000 to benefit student scholarships, the largest amount raised by the Foundation in one event in its 29-year history. "Our goal was \$40,000 for the 40th, and we blew by that amount. This accomplishment will greatly impact student success at CVCC" said Dr. Glen Cannon, president.

The CVCC Foundation awards scholarships on a semester basis to deserving CVCC students. Amounts vary from a few hundred dollars to over \$1,000. Tiara Lawson, a CVCC Foundation scholarship recipient, is a single mother who wanted to attend college to better herself, her family and her community. In a video addressing attendees of the event she stated, "The CVCC Foundation has been behind me the last five semesters helping me throughout the whole ordeal."

Seven individuals were also inducted into the Hall of Fame.



AMERESCO
Green • Clean • Sustainable

Ameresco is proud to support the Alabama Community College Association.

Ameresco helps community colleges implement **self-funding** programs to reduce their energy costs and update their facilities.

Learn more at: www.ameresco.com | 1.866.AMERESCO

© 2013 Ameresco, Inc. Ameresco and the Ameresco logo, the orb symbol and the tagline "Green, Clean, Sustainable" are registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. All rights reserved.

**MORE OPEN
MORE ACCESS**

Try Canvas, the easy-to-use LMS that does open-access like you do. Visit us at www.instructure.com/acca



ASCC's Phi Upsilon Earns Awards

Officers and advisors from Alabama Southern Community College's Phi Upsilon Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society attended the regional convention at Jeff State Community College in Birmingham in March. Comprised of three districts with twenty-one chapters, the Alabama Region meets annually to review collaboration with other chapters for regional goals, attend various educational seminars, and celebrate individual chapter and member achievements in the Hallmark Awards Presentation. For the 2014 service year, Phi Upsilon earned eight accolades, including the following:



- Continued Excellence Award for the Chapter - A total of four awarded in Alabama.
- Distinguished Officer Team Award - A total of two awarded in Alabama.
- Most Distinguished Chapter Award in the Region-3rd Finalist
- Distinguished College Project Award - A total of five awarded in Alabama.
- Distinguished Honors in Action Project Award - A total of five awarded in Alabama.
- Continued Excellence Awards for Advisors - A total of two awarded in Alabama.
- Advisor Paragon Award – A total of two awarded in Alabama.
- Certificate of Achievement for Five Star Chapter Plan

Thirty students across the region were pinned for completing the Five-Star Competitive Edge Program, totaling nine from ASCC. Phi Upsilon also tied for first in the spirit competition and was second runner up in the service project competition. Phi Upsilon travelled to the International Convention in Orlando in April where they joined chapters from across the United States and from nine different countries. Alabama Southern has approximately 70 students in the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society.

WCCS Trains Local Employees

Local employees are relying on innovative technology to perfect their welding skills.

Wallace State Community College held a virtual welding training for International Paper. Participants were educated about the proper way to weld using Wallace's virtual welding machines, instructor-based soft skills training and computer skills and customized videos produced from the Advanced Visualization Department.

"This is going to save material. When we're doing the big process, it's going to save gas," welding instructor Eddie Harrison said. "They'll still get a chance to really go through the process without actually using all of the metal."

The college is able to fund the classes through a \$21,967 grant they were awarded for training with Renosol Seating and Globe Metallurgical.



ACCA is on Facebook!

Like us @alabamacca

Hundreds Tour New Building at Wallace State - Hanceville

Former students who toured the new School of Nursing and Center for Science at Wallace State Community College were somewhat jealous as they walked through the new facilities in March during a ribbon cutting and open house of the facility. The impressive simulation center, larger classrooms, lecture halls and labs, as well as enclosed study areas — some with whiteboards as the walls students can use to map out their lessons — were things some only dreamed of.

“It really is a dream long overdue, finally come true,” Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Hawsey Karolewics said during the ceremony prior to the ribbon cutting for the building.

Wallace State broke ground on the new School of Nursing and Center for Science Building in February 2012. Classes began in the facility during the spring semester as the final touches were added and faculty and staff settled into their new offices. The 115,000 square foot, state-of-the-art facility houses nursing, biology and other health science classes.

Area high school health science teachers and members of the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) recently received a sneak peek of facility prior to the open house, and spent some extra time in the Simulation Center.



Lawson State Nursing Programs Achieve 100% Pass Rate

Nursing programs at Lawson State placed in the superior category based on board pass rates. The Associate Degree Nursing Program and the Practical Nursing Program both accomplished 100% pass rates on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for the fiscal year 2013.

“This achievement is particularly impressive for our program,” said Dr. Sherri Davis, academic dean at Lawson State. “The level of difficulty increased on the examination for registered nursing (RN) applicants this year, making it the most difficult examination for RN licensure in the history of NCLEX.”

Over the last three years, the NCLEX-RN scores for Lawson State students have steadily increased from 83.8% in FY 2011 to 95.6% in FY 2012 to 100% in FY 2013. The NCLEX –PN scores have been exceptional with 94.7% in FY 2011 to 100% in FY 2012 to 100% in FY 2013.

The Lawson State pass rates have increased even as industry requirements have met with dramatic changes. According to the National State Boards of Nursing, “effective entry-level RN practice requires a greater level of knowledge, skills and abilities than was previously required, due to changes in the U. S. health care and nursing practice, resulting in the passing standard increase.”

Trenholm State Dean Named Instructional Officer of the Year

Barbara Anne Spears, dean of instruction at H. Council Trenholm State Technical College, was named 2012-13 Instructional Officer of the Year by the Instructional Officers Association (IOA) during their summer conference in Orange Beach. The award of distinction is given by the IOA for outstanding service and leadership in the role of instructional administrator within the Alabama Community College System (ACCS).



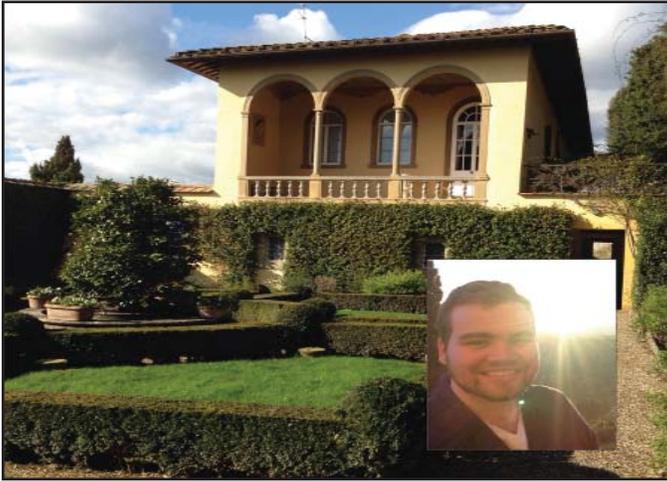
Spears began her career at Trenholm State in December 2006 as the Dean of Academic Services. She chairs the Academic Council, is active in the two-year college system, has served four years as treasurer for the IOA, and is the past president of the Alabama Community College System Association (ACCA). Prior to employment at Trenholm State, Spears worked at Central Alabama Community College and the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education.

Trenholm State’s President Sam Munnerlyn was beaming with pride when he said, “Dean Spears is truly the consummate professional, a hardworking, effective, hands-on administrator. Being named instructional officer of the year by her colleagues is a great honor and demonstrates that her work here at Trenholm State and throughout the two-year college system is recognized and highly respected.”

Snead State Alumnus Studies Abroad

A Snead State Community College alumnus is spending the spring semester studying abroad in Florence, Italy.

Sardis native Landon Naylor is participating in a study-abroad program available through Georgetown University. Landon arrived in Florence on Jan. 11 and was scheduled to return to the United States on April 26.



Landon graduated with his associate degree in 2012 and enrolled in Georgetown as an art history major. Georgetown is known for its School of Foreign Service and is very focused on its study-abroad programs.

The Villa Le Balze program allowed Landon to enhance his study of art history through his personal experiences of the Italian culture and civilization. A Tuscan villa in the hills of Fiesole just above Florence, Villa Le Balze means House of the Cliffs and was built for Charles Augustus Strong in 1911. Strong married Elizabeth Rockefeller in 1889, and their daughter, Margaret Rockefeller de Larrain, donated the Villa to Georgetown in 1979. The Villa Le Balze program has hosted between 10-40 students each semester since it began in the 1980s.

As a relatively small university, Georgetown provided the same one-on-one experience between students and faculty that Landon was used to after being a student at Snead State.

“I think that’s something special about the university that I couldn’t have gotten anywhere else,” he said. “I’ve really enjoyed living on a campus where no one commutes and we all live together because there’s a strong sense of community. I’ve loved getting to know the students at Georgetown because they’re all amazing. It will be very exciting to see what the people I’ve met end up doing.”

Faulkner Employee Recognized for 30 Years of Service

Dean Lena Dexter, who has served as PTK Advisor since 1982, was recently recognized by her peers and the state by receiving the *Continued Excellence Award for Advisors*. Dean Dexter began working at Faulkner State Community College in 1971 as a mathematics instructor. Since that time, she has served as Director of Student Support Services, and as of 1993, she has served as the Dean of Federal Programs.

The Pi Psi Chapter, under the direction of Dean Dexter and Dr. Charles Lake, also brought home the Distinguished Chapter Award and was the 4th Finalist for the Most Distinguished Chapter Award at the Alabama Regional Conference.

The Pi Psi Chapter’s main service project is dedicated to Breast Cancer Awareness. Each October, with the assistance of Mr. Ed Perry and Mr. Kevin Watson, there is a Breast Cancer Awareness Program open to students, employees and the community. These efforts are continuously acknowledged at the state level.



PCH Hotels & Resorts 

RENEE' BROWNING | DIRECTOR OF ASSOCIATION SALES
PCH HOTELS & RESORTS - MONTGOMERY SALES OFFICE
201 Tallapoosa Street Montgomery, AL 36104
334.301-0472 Renee.Browning@pchresorts.com www.pchresorts.com

SEA SAIN ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES, INC
An Employee-Owned Company

Your Solution for Energy Efficiency

Energy Assessment/Audit Services
Commissioning Services
Resource Efficiency Management Services
Renewable and Alternative Energy Services
Water Conservation /Efficiency
LEED® Accreditation Services

100 Corporate Parkway
Suite 100
Birmingham, AL 35242
P: 205.979.9966

www.saineng.com



Gadsden Alumna Chosen for AACCC Award

Toshiko Abe, deputy foreign minister for the Japanese government and a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, is a recipient of the 2014 Outstanding Alumni Award presented by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACCC).

Abe chose Gadsden State Community College as her first educational experience in the United States from 1998 to 1999. She continued her education at Jacksonville State University for one semester and then attended the University of Alabama in Birmingham achieving her master of science in nursing. Abe relocated to Chicago and earned her doctorate in administrative studies from the University of Illinois.

After completing her doctorate, she served as lecturer at Gumma University and assistant professor at Tokyo Medical and Dental University. Abe was elected to the House in 2005, after serv-

ing as vice president of the Japanese Nursing Association and parliamentary vice minister of foreign affairs. Her desire with the political arena is to reform the social welfare system. Her education in health care was driven by a passion to serve the poor, children, and the elderly.

This is the second time a Gadsden State student has been a recipient of this prestigious award. In 2002, Jeff Cook, singer and songwriter in the country music group Alabama, received this award.



WCCS Offers New Program

Wallace Community College students will have a new medical program starting in Fall 2014.

In October 2013, Wallace Community College—Selma received a \$3.25 million grant through the Department of Labor's Better Occupation Outcomes with Stimulation Training Program. After receiving the grant, the college launched its BOOST program, named after the grant. The program offers students an opportunity to earn three different medical certificates — electrocardiography, nursing assistant and phlebotomy. Part of the grant was also dedicated toward the improvement of the Advanced Visualization Center at Wallace, which offers students an opportunity to work with 3-D models of organs and body parts. Wallace spokesperson Johnny Moss said the grant would allow students to create 77 additional objects.

BOOST program director Veronica Brown said students could continue through the whole program, becoming certified as a patient care technician, or stop at any point, after receiving a certificate.

"Students don't relate to lecturing right now," Brown said. "The

BOOST Program will allow students to be hands on learners and become involved with technology. It's a good starting point for students that are interested in health care."

The BOOST Program will admit its first cohort of students in fall 2014, with a targeted admission number of 48, according to Brown. The program will admit a new cohort each semester.

Other instructors at Wallace, who may not teach nursing, will help with the BOOST Program according to Brown. "We want to facilitate learning so that the students aren't just operating in a box," she said.

Previously, Wallace Community College only offered a nursing assistant program, Brown said. The graduation rate for the program averaged 80 to 85 percent, according to Brown. Surveys taken six months after graduation showed 98 percent of students were employed. Brown said she expects similar results from the BOOST Program.

A total of \$474.5 million in grants were given to colleges around the nation as a part of the BOOST Grant.

Plan. Construct. Develop. Achieve.
E1 Saint Joseph Street, Suite 902
Mobile, Alabama 36602
P: 251-482-3480
F: 251-482-3482
pcda.net

Technical Training Aids

Bobby Conrad

2076 Valleydale Terrace
Birmingham, AL 35244

Toll Free: 800-851-3987

Cell Phone: 205-936-1485
Phone: 205-988-9231
Fax: 205-987-7460
Email: bobby@ttaweb.com
Web: www.ttaweb.com

ASCC Employees Recognized at ACCA Chancellor's Awards

Four Alabama Southern Community College employees were recognized during the Chancellor's Awards in November at the 2013 Alabama Community College Association (ACCA) Conference in Birmingham. The Chancellor's Awards serve to recognize employees of the Alabama Community College System who exemplify outstanding performance and commitment to their institution.

Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services, Roger Chandler, was named the 2013 *Administrator of the Year*. Chandler has been a valued employee of Alabama Southern Community College for over thirty years. His positive attitude and love for the college is reflected in his work every day. In addition to serving as vice president of finance and administrative services, Chandler serves as campus director of the Monroeville campus.



Administrative Assistant to the President, Donna Reed, received recognition as a staff support member. She has been employed with the college since 1992 and has been in her current position for 14 years. She graduated from Patrick Henry State Junior College in 1992 and finished her bachelor's degree at Faulkner University in 1997.

Melinda Byrd-Murphy was recognized as an academic faculty member. Dr. Byrd-Murphy currently serves as an English instructor, the humanities division chair, and director of the Alabama Center for Literary Arts at Alabama Southern Community College. Byrd-Murphy graduated from Patrick Henry State Junior College in 1989 and continued at The University of Alabama where she received a bachelor's in English in 1992. In 1997, she earned her master's in English from the University of West Alabama. She received her educational specialist degree from the University of South Alabama in curriculum and instruction in 2004 and in 2008; she completed her doctorate of education in higher education administration at the University of Alabama. She is currently taking classes in strategic communication at Troy University.

Gene Tindle, machine technology instructor, was recognized as a technical faculty member. Tindle has been an instructor at ASCC for 11 years. Prior to becoming an instructor, he was employed at Alabama Power, NASA and owned his own business for 31 years. Tindle received his degree from Southwest State Technical College in Mobile. He has been working in the machine technology field for 55 years.

"We are extremely proud of Chandler, Reed, Byrd-Murphy and Tindle for receiving this recognition," said Alabama Southern Community College President Dr. Reginald Sykes. "Our institution is a better place because of their outstanding performance and dedication to our college."

Alabama Southern's nominees for the 2013 Chancellor's Awards were also recipients of the annual Alabama Southern Instructor of the Year and IMPACT Awards. Nominated by faculty, staff, and students of ASCC, the Instructor of the Year and IMPACT Awards honor ASCC employees based on academic excellence, dedication and professionalism both inside and outside of the classroom.



ACCA is on Instagram!

@alabamacca

Drake State Instructor Receives Award

Dr. Thuy Lam, Co-Chair of the Health Sciences department at J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College, was presented with the Chancellor's Award as the 2013 Academic Faculty Member of the Year for the State of Alabama.

Every year, the Chancellor's Office recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of employees of the two-year college system in each of four categories: administrators, support staff, academic faculty and technical faculty.

Dr. Lam was nominated by a committee of her peers based on criteria established by the Chancellor's Office. The selection panel evaluated each nominee's service to the community and students, contributions to program planning and development as well as personal and professional development.



"We are extremely proud of Dr. Lam for her accomplishments and are appreciative that the selection panel officially acknowledged her contributions not only to Drake State, but to our community and the two year college system," said Dr. Helen T. McAlpine, President of Drake State, who also noted that Dr. Lam is the third Drake State recipient of this statewide honor.

Dr. Lam has been employed at Drake State for 13 years where she also teaches practical nursing. Initially, Dr. Lam was employed as a part-time clinical instructor. As a result of her positive experience, she was instantly attracted to further her career in education. After completing her Master's Degree in Nursing, Dr. Lam was hired as a full-time instructor in fall semester of 2002. In 2012, she completed her doctorate in Nursing.

Gadsden State Students Work with NASA

Seven Gadsden State students recently began a new chapter with NASA. This is the second team of students from Gadsden State chosen to participate in a NASA project.

Previously four students participated in the Reduced Gravity Education Flight Program, which is a partnership with the International Space Station National Lab and a part of the Minority University Research and Education Program. Several teams of undergraduate students from across the nation were selected to work with NASA mentors on current NASA research pertaining to experiments in microgravity. The team was selected based on scientific merit and education outreach potential.

Instructors for the team of students are Dave Hyatt (Civil Engineering Technology) and Audrey Webb (Electronic Engineering/Industrial Automation Technology). Team members include Karen Billingsley, Steven Martinez, Jacob Morris, Jenny Plimpton, Michele Scarber, Tyler Strong, and Dre Wright.



advising | tutoring | early alert | conversations | analytics
(800) 745-5180 | www.gradesfirst.com

PROUD AFFILIATE MEMBER OF THE ACCA

The leader in on-demand student support

Fifteen post-secondary institutions in Alabama use Smarthinking.

Visit us in the exhibit hall to learn why.

Dr. Barry Berman ★ barry.berman@smarthinking.com
www.smarthinking.com ★ 770.587.2082

ACCA Conference Proposals

Submit your conference proposals by June 30
to be considered for the 2014 conference.

The online submission form can be found on the ACCA website.

To submit a proposal, go to:

www.alabamacca.org/accaproposals

