

Alabama Community College Association

# Journal

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*Alabama Community College System: Educating for Success*



*Dr. Patricia Sims, ACCA President*

# ACCA President's Message

After a short break, the Alabama Community College Association is back and better than ever. The Executive Committee is refocused, renewed, and reenergized to bring vital and relevant professional development to the employees of the Alabama Community College System. We have dedicated ourselves to making this year's annual conference one of the best ones ever.

To help focus on the importance of the conference and our organization, we have selected "Alabama Community College System: Educating for Success" as this year's conference theme. This theme encompasses everything that our System and Association represents. Whether it is education through academic transfer, career development, or workforce enhancement, our students receive the necessary guidance to provide them with personal success.

I invite you to review this edition of the *Journal* and see for yourself the many ways our System employees educate for success. We have outstanding stories to tell, and this publication is an excellent tool to tell them. I also invite you to become involved with ACCA this year. This includes submitting a workshop proposal, visiting our website and social media sites for updates, and most of all – attending the conference November 18 through 20 in Birmingham. Together we can make the return of ACCA another great success for our System.

## Call For Conference Presentation Proposals

*The Executive Committee of the Alabama Community College Association is now accepting proposals for the 2012 Annual Conference to be held at the Sheraton Birmingham Hotel and Birmingham Jefferson Convention Complex November 18 through 20.*

Presentations should relate to one of the following areas of interest:

- Teaching and Learning
- Student Success
- Staff Development
- Leadership Development
- Workforce Development



An online submission form has been created for your convenience on the ACCA website. If you would like to submit a proposal, please visit:

**[www.alabamacca.org/accaproposals](http://www.alabamacca.org/accaproposals)**

For additional information, contact ACCA First Vice-President Barbara Anne Spears at [vicepresident@alabamacca.org](mailto:vicepresident@alabamacca.org)

**Deadline for submissions is July 9, 2012**

# JDCC Welcomes New President



**Dan Bain, Ph.D.**, President of Jefferson Davis Community College since January 2012, comes to the Alabama Community College System with many years of experience in entrepreneurial and academic leadership.

Before coming to JDCC, Dr. Bain served as president of Independence Community College in Independence, KS. He is a founding board member of the League for Innovation in the Community College's Project SAIL initiative, and currently serves on the American Association

of Community College's (AACC) Commission on Research, Technology, and Emerging Trends. As a member of the AACC's Sustainability Task Force he works with over 300 community colleges on the Sustainability Education and Economic Development (SEED) initiative in partnership with ecoAmerica. He is a founding member of the Voluntary Framework of Accountability (VFA), a national initiative that focuses on accountability for community colleges which is currently in its pilot phase across the nation.

Dr. Bain holds a Doctorate in Higher Education Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Missouri-St Louis. He received his Master of Science in Vocational Education from East Carolina University in Greenville, NC and a Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Dramatic Arts/Communications from The University of Iowa.

## White House Recognizes Lawson State Community College



**Dr. Perry W. Ward**, president of Lawson State Community College, received recognition at the White House as a "Champion of Change," which is part of President Obama's *Winning*

*the Future* initiative. Dr. Ward and other college presidents were selected because of the impact they have had on their communities and their approaches and solutions in advancing educational and workforce opportunities.

"This was an outstanding honor for the college to be recognized for our workforce development programs and services," said Dr. Ward. "I was excited about the acknowledgement it brings to Lawson and to the Alabama Community College System, especially since Lawson State was the only two-year college invited from Alabama."

With an emphasis on President Obama's plan to out-innovate, out-educate and out-build the rest of the world, Dr. Ward participated in a roundtable discussion with other community college leaders.

"The roundtable brought forth ideas and exchanges on workforce development and the pathway to creating continued discussion and dialogues with the Department of Education and initiatives that can be considered around the country," Ward said.

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# BSCC's Ingle Selected as ATEA Faculty of the Year



**Maurice Ingle**, Drafting, Design Engineering Technology instructor at Bevill State Community College, has been selected as the Technical Faculty of the Year at the 49th annual meeting of the American Technical Education Association (ATEA).

The award is presented annually by ATEA and recognizes full-time postsecondary technical instructors from anywhere in the nation whose performance and contribution is exceptional.

Ingle began her teaching career at Bevill State more than 13 years ago, but her association with the College began as a student in drafting and design. Ingle took classes at night while working full-time and raising a family. She was hired in the drafting field while still in college and graduated with her Associate Degree in Applied Science in Drafting and Design in June of 1997.

"To be recognized for a national award by ATEA is an incredible honor," said Ingle. "I feel very fortunate to be at Bevill State. As a non-traditional student, Bevill State was very good to me and I am thankful to have the opportunity to help other students find success."

ATEA Awards Chair Mike Mires (L) presents Maurice Ingle with the Technical Faculty of the Year Award

As an instructor at the college, Ingle has seen the drafting program revitalized by increasing enrollment and completion rates. She has implemented an interactive curriculum that provides students with classroom instruction as well as "hands-on" skills training through projects and activities. In addition to her teaching duties, Ingle serves on various committees and boards at the college as well as in industry.

"We are extremely proud of Ms. Ingle and this accomplishment," said Bevill State President **Dr. Anne McNutt**. "It is rewarding for our instructor's efforts to be recognized, especially on the national level. This award is yet another testament to the quality of instruction that can be found at our College."

# Drake State's Henry Receives Noble Laureate Award



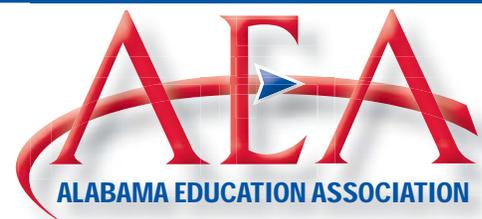
**Karl Henry**, electronics instructor and chair of the engineering technology division at J.F. Drake State Technical College, has been recognized as a 2012 Noble Laureate by the National Association For Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO).

Henry was chosen for the award due to his contributions to the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) field. The award was presented at the NAFEO Distinguished Alumni Gala in Washington, D.C., in March 2012.

Henry has been recognized nationally as an innovator in his field for a research project in Field Programmable Gateway Arrays (FPGAs). Under his supervision, Drake students developed a renewable energy project that was presented at the 2012 Emerging Researchers National Conference in STEM. Henry has been with Drake State since 1993. He holds a Bachelor's in Electrical Engineering Technology from The University of Alabama and a Master's in Industrial and Technology Education from Alabama A&M University.



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## Trenholm's Scott Named Instructor of the Year

Last fall, **Dr. Ken Scott** (right), Computer Information Systems instructor at Trenholm State Technical College, was awarded the 2011 Academic Faculty Instructor of the Year at the Alabama Community College System's 25th Anniversary Chancellor's Award.

Scott was recognized by President **Sam Munnerlyn** (pictured above with Scott) as having revived the college chapter of SkillsUSA that led to several gold medal winners in state competition and one gold medal winner at the national level.

Scott has an A.A. degree from the University of Maryland, a B.E.T. degree from Georgia Southern University, a M.Ed. degree from Auburn University Montgomery, and an Ed.D. degree from Auburn University. He is director of the CISCO Regional/Sponsored Curriculum Academy.

## Bishop State Wins National Awards

Bishop State Community College captured two first place trophies in the Paragon Awards competition held yearly by the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR). NCMPR is the only organization of its kind that represents marketing and public relations professionals at community and technical colleges. Bishop State's Public Relations Director, **Herb Jordan**, accepted the awards during a banquet in San Francisco in March. According to NCMPR Executive Director Becky Olson, there was a total of 1,800 entries and 80 judges in this year's contest.

Bishop State was a winner in the following categories: *Single Television Ad* for "Get Your GED," which aired on several local television stations and can be found on Bishop State's Web site under "Watch Videos," and *Print Ad Series*, which was published in several local newspapers.

According to NCMPR Executive Director Becky Olson, there were 56 entries in the Television Ad, Single category and 34 entries in the Print Ad, Series category.



## Wallace State Instructor Featured in Art Exhibition

Wallace State Community College Art Instructor **Adrian Scott** was among a select group featured in the "Alabama's Finest Artists" exhibition at the Gadsden Museum of Art.

A longtime proponent of incorporating natural materials from the environment and found objects into his artistic creations, Scott, who is director of Wallace State's Visual Communications associate degree program and an art instructor, describes himself as a multimedia artist who uses a variety of digital and traditional art making processes.

"I find that my artwork largely is a mythologization and thematic exploration of the rich and potent visual iconography and history of my home state Alabama, but I have long been influenced by comics, anime, science, consumerism and questions of sustainability," said Scott.

Scott has been a member of the Wallace State Art Department faculty for more than 12 years, where he has been instrumental in organizing community arts events and engaging students and the community in art and art education.

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## ATN Campaign Seeks Standardized Curriculum for Shipbuilding Industry

For centuries, lighthouses have been used to guide ships to safety. Today, the Alabama Technology Network (ATN) along with a group of shipbuilders and industry supporters are using the lighthouse as a symbolic representation of guidance towards a standardized curriculum and credentialing system for entry-level shipfitters. The initiative is the result of a project to develop a standardized, entry-level shipfitting curriculum for members of the Gulf States Shipbuilders Consortium (GSSC).

GSSC, comprised of shipbuilders, ship repairers, suppliers, economic developers and educational partners from organizations along the Gulf Coast, was established in 2006 from a Department of Commerce grant received by ATN.

GSSC, along with leaders in the maritime industry, recently launched the "Lighthouse Campaign," an initiative that seeks to fund a critical need for a formal, national workforce system for the maritime industry. The system will include the development of standardized task-based curricula for production crafts such as shipfitting, pipefitting, welding, etc., along with a credentialing system that will provide individuals and employers access to transcripts and assessment results through a national registry.

"During the process of developing the curriculum for entry-level shipfitting, we quickly realized that this was not just a regional need, but a national one," explained **Dr. Audrey Bandy**, Technology Specialist for ATN and the project manager for the GSSC grant. "Moreover, we learned that shipfitting was not the only craft that lacked a standardized curriculum and credentialing system."

GSSC is currently piloting the standardized entry-level shipfitting curriculum it developed which includes a portable skill certificate for entry-level shipfitters in three 10-week "Shipfitting Bootcamps." Prior to acceptance into the program, individuals participated in intensive pre-qualification activities that included drug testing, Workkeys testing, shipyard tours, presentations by industry representatives, and interviews.

With two completed bootcamps, and one in progress, GSSC officials plan to schedule additional ones as funds become available to assist those seeking employment within shipbuilding and help provide the industry with the best skilled workers possible.

## GSSC Nursing Grads Post 100% Pass Rate

Gadsden State Community College's Licensed Practical Nursing Program announced a 100% pass rate for first time test takers on the national licensure exam. A total of 58 graduates were included in the candidate pool recently reported by the Alabama Board of Nursing.

"The licensure exam is designed to test minimum competency for entry into practice and is a national benchmark for program quality," said **Dr. Susan Tucker**, nursing program director. Gadsden State graduates exceeded both the state pass rate of 94.7% and the national pass rate of 86% for the same period.

GSSC President **Dr. Raymond Staats** said, "We are very pleased with the high standards maintained by our faculty and their commitment to excellence. Our graduates leave the program ready to meet the workforce needs of our area. In addition to our licensure pass rates, our graduates are recognized for being well prepared to serve the needs of patients and function as members of the healthcare team."

Gadsden State offers a practical nursing program at three locations—Valley Street, McClellan Center, and Gadsden State Cherokee—and has recently completed an accreditation visit by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission.



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# Athens State Partners on Initiative

Athens State University and Calhoun Community College are joining together in an effort to increase the number of students obtaining their associate's degree through a new initiative called the Reverse Transfer Program.

**Dr. Robert Glenn**, president of Athens State, **Dr. Marilyn Beck**, Calhoun president, and representatives from both institutions met in February 2012 to sign the articulation agreement officially kicking-off the program.

According to the partnership agreement, the program gives students who attended Calhoun but transferred from the college to Athens State prior to completing their associate's degree an opportunity to earn their degree. While attending Athens State, university credits will be transferred back to Calhoun, allowing these students to complete their degree requirements without losing any university credit. There will be no additional cost to the students for participating in the reverse transfer program.

"We believe the reverse transfer agreement helps our students and helps our community college partners in significant ways," stated Glenn. "My only regret is that we did not put this into place sooner because it is a true and tangible benefit to all the parties involved."

Students will have to meet the degree requirements for Calhoun and will then be eligible to participate in the college's graduation ceremonies.

## Calhoun Among Fastest Growing Community Colleges

In a November 2011 issue of Community College Week, Calhoun Community College was the only Alabama community college with enrollments over 10,000 included in the list of the nation's "Fastest Growing" community colleges. The analysis was based on data provided by the U.S. Department of Education's annual IPEDS (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System) report.

Based on the report, Calhoun was listed as #20 out of the nation's top 50 *Fastest Growing* public colleges with enrollments of 10,000 or more. While the overall growth for many of the colleges surveyed for the report was on the decline, Calhoun's enrollment growth for the considered time period was up 10% or 1,129 students (up from 11,005 students for fall 2009 to 12,134 students for fall 2010).

According to the report, the listings were based on changes in enrollment from Fall 2009 to Fall 2010 and only considered students who were enrolled in courses that can accrue toward an associate's degree, certificate or other formal award. For the national survey, the enrollment trends at 1,129 of the nation's two-year institutions were examined.

"We are pleased to be included among the list of America's fastest-growing community colleges," commented Calhoun President **Dr. Marilyn Beck**. "Our sustained enrollment growth is clear evidence of the hard work of our faculty and staff and of our efforts to successfully meet the educational and training needs of the communities we serve."



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# Benefit Honors Snead State Student's Memory

Less than a year after the devastating tornadoes that took the life of Nursing Student **Jennifer Garmany Hallmark**, friends, family, and supporters of Snead State Community College joined together to raise money for the endowed scholarship fund established in her name.

Larry Gatlin headlined the benefit held in March at the Bevill Center Concert Hall. Gatlin shared much of the music that he and his brothers made popular, but the highlight of the show was a rendition of "Jesus Loves Me" which he performed with Jennifer's daughter Ari, and her niece Anna Claire Garmany.

Hosted by the Snead State Foundation, the benefit raised more than \$10,000 for the scholarship that will aid a future nursing student in following the dream Jennifer shared.

"The benefit was more than just an opportunity to raise scholarship money. It was an evening to remember and honor the life of an extraordinary young mother. Jennifer is not the first student we've lost at Snead, but she is an example of how deeply we're affected when a promising life is cut short. She was part of the Snead family, and we were honored to pay tribute to her in this way," said **Dr. Robert Exley**, president of Snead State.



*Larry Gatlin was joined by Jennifer Garmany Hallmark's daughter, Ari, and her niece, Anna Claire Garmany, in a rendition of "Jesus Loves Me" at the concert to raise money for the scholarship which bears Jennifer's name.*

## Wallace Student Presented with First Mixson Scholarship

Wallace Community College presented the first annual *Dr. Imogene Mathison Mixson Endowed Scholarship* during spring term 2012. The recipient of the scholarship is **Tyler Friesen**, a general studies major at the College. Dr. Mixson endowed the scholarship in November 2011 through the Wallace Community College Foundation.



*Pictured (left to right): Dr. Imogene Mathison Mixson, Tyler Friesen, and Dr. Linda C. Young, Wallace Community College president*

Dr. Mixson, a legendary educator and lifelong resident of the Wiregrass, began her career as an English teacher at Dothan High School. In August 1982, she became an English instructor and chair of the Language Arts Department at Wallace Community College, and she subsequently became assistant academic dean. She also served as academic dean from 1983 to 1996. During her tenure, Dr. Mixson was instrumental in expanding health sciences program offerings. Mixson served as interim president at both Wallace Community College and the Alabama Aviation and Technical College.

Friesen, who is a 2011 graduate of Dale County High School, is grateful to be the recipient of the Mixson scholarship. "Thank you for awarding me the Dr. Imogene Mathison Mixson Endowed Scholarship for spring term 2012. This scholarship will definitely help me reach my future goals," said Friesen.

The *Dr. Imogene Mathison Mixson scholarship* is awarded to a Wallace Community College (WCC) Wallace Campus student majoring in academic transfer or health sciences. The recipient is required to maintain a 2.5 grade point average and must be enrolled as a full time student.

## Drake Students Present Energy Project at STEM Conference

J.F. Drake State Technical College students **Amber Davis** and **Tina Hoots** presented a renewable energy project at the 2012 Emerging Researchers National (ERN) Conference in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) in February.

Under the supervision of Electronics Instructor **Karl Henry**, the students wanted to find ways to stop electrical items from releasing phantom power, thus saving energy and money. Phantom power is electricity consumed by appliances and gadgets that are turned off but still plugged into a wall socket. They designed a wireless disconnect that could completely shut off electricity at the control panel and the specific sockets. Davis and Hoots gave a PowerPoint presentation of their proposed wireless disconnect device.

About 850 students - twice as many as last year - participated in the conference, which aims to highlight the research of undergraduate and graduate students and help students improve their science communication skills and prepare for careers in the global workforce.

## Faulkner State Alumna Wins Photography Contest

**Kathy Hicks'** career success as a photographer began when she completed Faulkner State Community College's Commercial Art and Graphic Design program in 2005. She continues to be recognized for her photography and clean graphic design works.



Hicks was most recently acknowledged in one of the most successful international photography magazines earlier this year. In the January 2012 issue of *Popular Photography*, Hicks was published as the winner in the Animals category of the 2011 Annual Readers' Contest.

Hicks enrolled at Faulkner State at age 42. Over the course of two years in the classroom, she learned quickly that accepting constructive criticism pushed her to continue her projects and to strive to do better.

"I still hear the critiques of my instructors in my head as I work on projects today," Hicks said. "And that's a good thing. It makes me better at what I do. **Ken Bethea** and **Walter Allen** were my primary instructors during my time there, with **Steve Strickland** coming on board my last year," Hicks said. "All three were extremely knowledgeable and I feel lucky to have been taught by them."

Hicks also had the honor this year to grace the cover of *Mobile Bay Magazine* with one of her photographs. This magazine is native to Mobile and Baldwin counties and has a large following from its readers. Having several independent jobs in the graphic design and photography fields, Hicks has received recognition for her outstanding works. She has had photographs published by *Forbes Online*, *The Nature Conservancy*, *Antique Roadshow*, *Science Daily*, and several other international, national and local publications.

"It was not easy going to school at 42, but it was definitely worth it. Photography was something I had always liked," Hicks said. "But I fell in love with it at Faulkner State."

## LBWCC Student is New Century Scholar



Lurleen B. Wallace Community College Student **B.J. Ammons** is gaining the attention of the academic world.

He is one of 50 community college students from the United States, Canada and Guam recognized as a New Century Scholar, a program providing a total of \$100,000 in scholarships and sponsored by the Coca-Cola Foundation, Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and American Association of Community Colleges.

In addition, Ammons is one of 20 selected by Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society as a \$5,000 Guistwhite Scholarship recipient and will receive special recognition at PTK's annual convention in Nashville, Tenn.

"To say we are proud of him is an understatement," said **Dr. Herb Riedel**, LBWCC president. "His accomplishments in academics, as well as his involvement on and off campus, earned him this well-deserved recognition."

Ammons is the first of his family to complete college and is interested in pursuing a medical degree.

"I am grateful for the sound academic foundation provided by LBW's faculty and staff," he said. "These scholarships give me the opportunity to obtain the goals I've set."

# Southern Union Celebrates 90 Years of Excellence

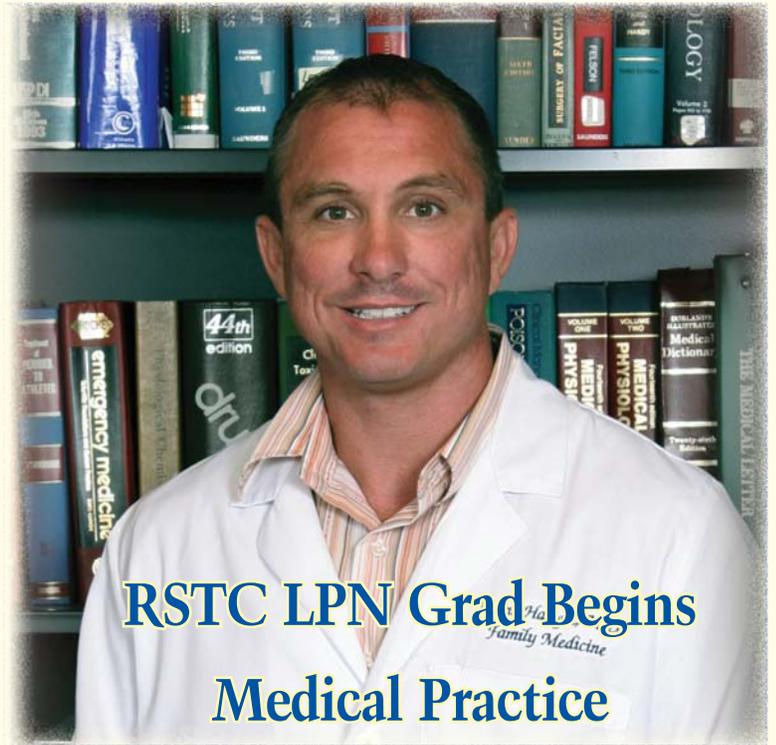
In 1922, 51 students stepped into a single building in Wadley, Alabama, at what was then known as Bethlehem College. Ninety years later, more than 5,000 students roam the campuses of the institution known today as Southern Union State Community College.

“Southern Union has been serving the community for 90 years, not just through educating individuals, but through providing an avenue to contribute to the community’s success,” said **Dr. Amelia Pearson**, who serves as the 17th president at the college. “This year we want to celebrate how SUSCC has made an impact in so many lives and offer our thanks to the communities and people who have helped make us who we are.”

Originally chartered by the Southern Christian Convention of Congregational Christian Churches, the college remained church related until 1964, when it was deeded to the state and became part of the newly-created system of two-year colleges. The name became Southern Union State Junior College. In 1993, the Alabama State Board of Education merged Southern Union State Junior College and Opelika State Technical College to form Southern Union State Community College.

Today, SUSCC serves residents of an eight county area of East and Central Alabama as well as neighboring Georgia.

“Our 90th anniversary is a time of reflection, not only to remember the past, but to look to the future,” said Pearson. “By building on our tradition of excellence, we can only hope and expect that our college continues to make an impact in our area for many years to come.”



## RSTC LPN Grad Begins Medical Practice

Since 1966, Reid State has had numerous graduates of the Licensed Practical Nursing program. In 2012, the first LPN graduate will begin his practice as a physician. **Dr. Shane Harigel** has spent 20 years pursuing his dream and continuing his academic advancement. This year he will return to his community to serve as a physician after prior service as a nurse.

Dr. Shane Harigel’s dream of working in the medical field began at Reid State’s Atmore LPN site in 1992. His education continued to include a BSN and a MSN from the University of Mobile as a Family Nurse Practitioner. He practiced in Atmore several years before attending St. Matthews University School of Medicine. After graduating 1st in his class, he is completing his Family Practice residency at UAB Selma campus. Twenty years after his pursuit of a LPN degree, Dr. Harigel will return to Atmore in July to open his first practice.

Dr. Harigel expressed his thanks to Reid State and Janice Chapman, LPN instructor, for the encouragement and opportunity they provided by opening the door for him to pursue his dreams.



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# NACC Approved for New Building

The Alabama State Board of Education has approved the construction of a Math, Science, and Engineering Technology Building at Northeast Alabama Community College. When completed, this 46,000 square foot, state-of-the-art facility will house classrooms, anatomy, biology, mathematics, and physics/engineering laboratories, faculty offices, and student study areas.

“This building comes at what we consider the right time for Northeast students,” stated **Dr. David Campbell**, NACC President. “We need the space due to our enrollment growth and the building in particular focuses on subjects of study that address core education, our health-care programs, and trends in employment in mathematics, science and engineering fields in our area.”

NACC has experienced a one hundred percent enrollment increase since 2001 and has twice (2009 and 2010) in that time been named by Community College Times as one of the fastest growing community colleges in the United States. More than 3,000 students are enrolled in credit courses at the college.

“We are very appreciative of the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education and ultimately the Alabama State Board of Education for approving our proposal for this building, as well as assisting us with the planning along the way,” Campbell stated. Campbell added that both Postsecondary and the State Board have a thorough and detailed process in place for approving building projects. Project need, building function and design, and college financing are just a few of the criteria that must be addressed before approval of a new building is granted.

The architectural firm of Seay, Seay, and Litchfield of Montgomery has developed the preliminary plans for the building. Northeast selected Seay, Seay, and Litchfield from forty applicants for architectural services for the building. **Larry Guffey**, Dean of Administrative Services at Northeast stated, “We have been extremely pleased with the work they have done thus far and are looking forward to working with them through the completion of the project.”

Northeast officials hope to have a groundbreaking ceremony for the building within the next few months. Tentative plans are for construction to begin this summer with the completion scheduled for the fall of 2013.

## Trenholm State Awarded Grant

The Learning Resource Center at Trenholm State Technical College was awarded a \$45,000.00 grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation through its “Preservation of Photographic Collections in HBCUs” project. The college is one of twelve Historically Black Colleges and Universities selected to participate in the project at the national level and one of two HBCUs in Alabama.

“We are grateful to the Mellon Foundation for the opportunity to improve preservation of significant photographic collections of Montgomery’s Civil and Voting Rights Movements held within our Archives and Special Collections here at Trenholm State,” said **Sam Munnerlyn**, president of Trenholm State Technical College.

The purpose of the Archives and Special Collections is to preserve institutional records, history, and legacy of Montgomery’s Voting Rights Movement for research by students, scholars and the general public. The Archives produces programs and multi-media presentations for institutional and public outreach.

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## Wallace State's Chapman Published in Journal



**Laura Chapman**, a Nursing Instructor at Wallace State Community College, joined a team of researchers to study students' perceptions of personal and program preparedness for disasters. The results of the study are presented in the article, "Exploring Nursing Students' Level of Preparedness for Disaster Response,"

which was recently published in *Nursing Education Perspectives*, the research journal of the National League for Nursing.

The study analyzed results of an online survey to 1,348 nursing students in every state in the U.S. as well as Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, that explored the students' level of preparedness education, the impact of disasters on nursing students, and strategies to assist nursing students during disasters. Results indicated that better disaster preparation is needed for nursing students across the country. Data collected from the study will assist in the design of appropriate educational resources and experiences both in and out of the classroom for disaster preparedness.

## GSCC's Reagan Selected for Hall of Fame

**G**adsden State Community College Band Director **Billy E. "Rip" Reagan** was selected as the 2012 Alabama Music Educators Hall of Fame Inductee. He was recognized for his accomplishments and inducted into the Hall of Fame during a ceremony at the Alabama Music Educators Association Conference held in Montgomery in January.



Reagan has been the director of the Gadsden State Show Band for 26 years. In addition to his teaching, he has been the principal music arranger for this group that performs for college functions, community events, and recruiting shows. During his many years as a music educator, Reagan has become a legend throughout the south and his influence is known internationally. Many of his students have become music educators or professional performers.

## Athens State and Snead State Develop Collaborative Program

Athens State University and Snead State Community College entered into an articulation agreement regarding the transfer of students between the two institutions. The articulation agreement allows students to have an uninterrupted transfer of the Associate's Degree from Snead State to the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Religion at Athens State.

The degree is received by completing a course of study at Snead State to include *History of World Religions*, *Survey of the Old Testament*, *Survey of the New Testament*, and *Introduction to Preaching Ministry*. Upon completion of these courses, students would matriculate to Athens State as a junior to complete the required coursework for a bachelor's degree.

"I am delighted to be able to extend our partnership between our schools with this agreement," said Snead State's Chief Academic/Student Services Officer **Dr. Larry Miller**.



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