

BLUEGRASS DISTRICT NEWS

Cooper Campus • Danville Campus • Lawrenceburg Campus • Leestown Campus • Regency Campus • Winchester-Clark County Campus



Prospective graduates line up for graduation practice at Memorial Coliseum on May 5.



Students enjoy free pizza after graduation practice courtesy of the BCTC Alumni Association.



These students were all smiles as they waited backstage at Rupp Arena before graduation.

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From the Desk of the President

June, 2006



Jim Kerley

President/CEO
Bluegrass Community
and Technical College

The greatest celebration of the year happened the first Sunday in May and it had nothing to do with horse racing. On May 7th, Bluegrass Community and Technical College held its first graduation! More than 1,000 students were eligible to receive associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates. The excitement reached its peak as family and friends celebrated while graduates walked across the stage to receive their credentials. The camera flashes, the celebratory applause, along with the smiles, handshakes and hugs made it a very special night for all.

Many of BCTC's students will be transferring to four-year institutions while others plan to go into the workplace. Our strong transfer and technical programs have prepared our BCTC students for their next step, and I am confident that they will be successful.



Rupp Arena rocked as the class of 2006 prepared to begin BCTC's first commencement ceremony.

Our graduation speaker, Mr. Cecil Keeney, CEO of Walle Corporation, encouraged graduates to set high goals and to never give up on achieving and reaching their dreams. Keeney, a high school drop out, achieved his GED and was encouraged to attend Ashland Community College where he graduated. He then enrolled at the University of Kentucky, receiving a degree in Engineering. Now, as the CEO of his own business, Keeney advised that anything is possible.

We have started our Summer I session with a record 2,800 students attending classes on our six campuses, a 13% increase from last year. Many young people from area middle and high schools will also be attending summer camps and participating in various educational experiences.

As we end the academic year, we thank the students for choosing our college and wish them the greatest of success. And, as always, we thank our gifted faculty and dedicated staff!

Jim Kerley

2006 Outstanding Alumnus of the Year



Pictured left to right: Mr. David Prewitt, Mr. Cecil Keeney, CEO Walle Corporation, Mr. Tom Masterson, President of the BCTC Alumni Association and Dr. Jim Kerley.

David Prewitt, a Lexington resident and owner of Prewitt Mechanical Contractors, was honored at the BCTC graduation commencement on May 7 as the 2006 Outstanding Alumnus of the Year.

Prewitt was selected based on his ability to run his own company while attending school. Mr. Prewitt graduated from LCC in 1985 with a degree in Engineering Technology.

BCTC Carpentry Instructor Recognized with National Award



Pictured left to right: Ms. Bonnie Nicholson, BCTC Academic Dean, Mr. Claude Gross and Mr. David Jackson, President of AGC.

Congratulations to Claude Gross, Carpentry Instructor at BCTC, for being named the recipient of the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of America's National Construction Craft Instructor Award. The award recognized Mr. Gross for his high standards and quality craft training and education in the construction industry.



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Shining Stars at BCTC

Congratulations to the following faculty and staff members for receiving the college's highest awards at the 2006 Bluegrass Community and Technical College Faculty and Staff Awards Banquet held on the Leestown Campus on May 5. You make us proud!

Ms. Linda Faul, Senior Administrative Assistant for the V.P. of Student Development & Enrollment Services, was the winner of the Eva Bellamy/Linda Faul Award. Ms. Faul has been with the college 26 years and is known as dedicated, empathetic and student oriented. Congratulations to Ms. Faul!



Linda Faul

Ms. Libbie Ritchie, Dental Instructor, was awarded the Outstanding Adjunct Technical Education Faculty Award. She has been with the Dental Assisting Program since 1990 and is an advocate for student education and success in the dental program. Congratulations!



Libbie Ritchie

Dr. James Wright, English Instructor, received the Outstanding Adjunct General Education Faculty Award for 2006. He is a 20-year veteran of BCTC and is known for his willingness to share ideas with other instructors and his genuine interest in the subjects his students research. Congratulations Dr. Wright!



James Wright

Mr. Brandon Knight, Adult Education Instructor, was the proud recipient of the Carolyn Beam Award. Mr. Knight has worked for the college for five years and is known as an excellent instructor and outstanding faculty member. Congratulations Mr. Knight!



Brandon Knight

BCTC Awarded HP Technology Grant

BCTC was recently selected as one of 40 two- and four-year colleges and universities nationwide to receive the 2006 HP Technology for Teaching Grant.



Pictured left to right: Dr. Michael McCall, KCTCS President, Mr. Brent Eldridge, Project Coordinator and Dr. Jim Kerley.

The grant, valued at more than \$69,000, will use HP wireless Tablet PC technology to enhance learning in engineering, math, science, computer science and business courses. To learn more about the 2006 Hewlett Packard Technology for Teaching program visit www.hp.com/go/hpteach.

Good News Grapevine

- ☑ The Dental Laboratory Technology program had a 100% pass rate on the Recognized Graduate Exam. The 2005 test scores currently rank the program as #2 in the nation.
- ☑ Congratulations to BCTC students George Donkor, Jr. and Kathryn Clark, members of the 2006 All-Academic Team who were recognized at a KCTCS dinner in April. They were honored for their scholarship, community service and extracurricular activities.
- ☑ Congratulations to Virginia Fairchild and our Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) for recently winning the regional SIFE competition in Cincinnati. The team won five of six special competitions and is the only community/technical college from Kentucky to advance to the nationals.
- ☑ The BCTC Office of Employment Services and Experiential Education hosted the 2006 Spring Job Fair in April on the Cooper Campus. The spring fair attracted 50 employers and more than 90 employment recruiters. Thanks to Anthony Roberts and all those who volunteered their time putting together another successful job fair.
- ☑ The BCTC Office of Hispanic Outreach and Services was awarded a \$4,500 grant by LFUCG's Partners For Youth to fund the College Experience Camp designed for rising Hispanic high school juniors and seniors seeking help to prepare for college.
- ☑ BCTC hosted the 23rd Annual Kentucky Association of Blacks in Higher Education Conference for the first time in April at the Marriott. More than 120 educators turned out for the highly successful event chaired by faculty members Charlene Walker and Stacy Webster-Little.
- ☑ Congratulations to BCTC students Michael Orr, Nicholas Berweiler and Justin King for receiving the UK/BCTC Computer Science, Engineering, and Mathematics Scholarships (CSEMS) for 2006-2007.

Donation Dateline

On April 24, BCTC hosted a live auction and telethon to raise funds for a permanent Winchester-Clark County campus. The auction and telethon generated more than \$9,000 in proceeds from the purchase of auction items, donations and pledges.

The auction, broadcast on Adelphia Channel 5 and WYAH 93.7 FM in Winchester, included a display of more than 100 items generously donated by the Winchester-Clark County community. The event would not have been possible without the many community volunteers that gave their time, money and auction items. Thanks to all who helped make this event a success. A special thanks to our sponsors - Adelphia, WYAH 93.7 FM, and Something Mohr Production Company, and to our emcees - John Roche and Kevin Welsh.

Our Faculty and Staff Make A Difference . . .

David Wachtel, Professor of Sociology and Director of China Partnerships, was elected to the board of directors at the Midwest Institute for International and Intercultural Education in April.

Timothy Cantrell received the Hall of Fame Award from the Lexington Fayette Urban County Government on May 4, 2006.

James Goode, Professor of English, received the 2005 Danny Plattner Award for Outstanding Poetry from the *Appalachian Heritage Magazine*, for his poem entitled "The Small End of Nothing Sharpened."

Congratulations to **Kevin Dunn**, Assistant Professor of Engineering Technology, **Cindy Barber**, Professor of Math, and **Kathy Swango**, Assistant Professor of English, for being named as outstanding teachers in the 2006 edition of *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*.

Congratulations to **Claude Gross and Lavina Williams** for receiving the New Horizons Award from KCTCS.



Dr. David Hellmich has been named Vice President for Learning Support and Academic Affairs. Dr. Hellmich will join the BCTC family in early June. His office will be located on the Leestown Campus in the Manufacturing Building.

Mark Showalter, Shirley Whitescarver, Kevin Hopper, Allan Robertson, Kristin Tiedeman, Norman Strobel, Anna Jones, Claude Gross, Erin Howard, Sylvia Williams and Lavina Williams were awarded the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Award.

Groundbreaking News



It's almost time to celebrate! Preparation for ground breaking at the new Winchester-Clark County Campus is now in progress. This long awaited event is scheduled to take place at 10:00 am, Tuesday, June 27, at the Winchester-Clark County Industrial Park. Mark your calendars for this special day!

2 + 2 + 2 = Access & Opportunity



Dr. Jim Kerley (left), Georgetown College President Dr. William H. Crouch, Jr. and Scott County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Dallas Blankenship joined Scott County High School Students at the press conference on March 8, 2006.

Against the backdrop of a handsome brick fireplace in the Ensor Learning Resource Center at Georgetown College, a new higher education agreement was announced between BCTC, Georgetown College and Scott County High School. The new initiative, a 2 + 2 + 2, is the first of its kind in the state of Kentucky and will help to bring higher education to gifted and talented students from Scott County High School that need financial assistance to attend college.

Beginning in their junior year, as many as six Scott County high school students will be chosen to participate in the program. After they complete a rigorous college preparatory program, they will be eligible for four-year scholarships which would provide tuition at BCTC for the first two undergraduate years and tuition at Georgetown College for two additional years. The 2 + 2 + 2 plan will lead students to an Associate in Arts or Associate of Science at BCTC and a Bachelor's Degree at Georgetown College with the possibility of studying at Georgetown's Oxford University partner, Regent's Park College.

Courtyard Capers at Leestown

Things are looking lovely on the Leestown Campus nowadays thanks to Dana Barr, Carpentry Instructor Claude Gross and his students. Over the past several months Claude and his students worked diligently on a new patio located next to the Manufacturing Building. What once was an unused area has been transformed into a new student courtyard sporting new tables, chairs, flower boxes and landscaping.

The new courtyard was officially opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony in April. At the ceremony, Gray Construction, Messer Corporation MMI Corporation and the Associated General Contractors of Kentucky (AGC) were recognized for donating their time and materials that helped make this wonderful new area for BCTC students a reality.



Joining Dr. Kerley for the ribbon cutting at Leestown's new outdoor patio were (left to right) Claude Gross, Jim Wilkerson of Gray Construction, Lee Recor of Messer Corporation and Dana Barr.

Living Large in the Capital City!

It was an exciting day for Bluegrass Community & Technical College Adult Education English as a Second Language program students when they visited Kentucky's Capitol in March. The students toured the city of Frankfort, including the State Capitol and the Vietnam Memorial. While in the city, they also visited the Frank Lloyd Wright house, the Kentucky History Museum, the old State Capitol, as well as various government buildings.

The students, who come from all over the world, are taking part in new classes offered at Bluegrass, which are based on a civics curriculum. Using United States history as a context, the classes are intended to teach students the fundamentals of United States government, government services, and the responsibilities of being a good citizen. The classes also serve to transition traditional ESL students into mainstream college courses or college ESL classes. Now in its first year, the program has more than 80 students enrolled.



BCTC Adult Education ESL students in the rotunda of the Kentucky State Capital.