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Kentucky Community & Technical College System

BLUEGRASS

NEWS

SPRING II 2007



From the office of the President

A s many of you have heard by now, I have chosen to accept the position of president at Gulf Coast Community College in Panama City, Florida, with an effective date of June 1, 2007. I plan to remain at Bluegrass Community and Technical College until after our Commencement Exercises on May 6, 2007.

While I make plans to assume my new leadership role in Florida, I want to personally thank our boards, our legislators, our community leaders and colleagues who have supported this great college over the past nine years. Thanks for the many wonderful memories and support shown during my 24+ years in Kentucky – in Lexington, and in Hopkinsville, Madisonville and Barbourville – it's been truly a Kentucky experience! I have grown to love this beautiful state and its people and will always cherish these years in Kentucky.

We have gone through much change as an institution. Bluegrass Community and Technical College (BCTC), evolved from the move of Lexington Community College from the University of Kentucky to the Kentucky Community and Technical College System and the consolidation of Central Kentucky Technical College. It has been my honor to be the first president of BCTC and to help form a new and dynamic institution. Together we have established a new campus in Winchester, collaborated with Eastern Kentucky University to serve our students in the Danville and Lancaster area, and increased general education course offerings to create a comprehensive college on all our campuses. We are in the design phase of a new campus in Georgetown that will showcase a new advanced technology center and we have completed the plans for the new "green" building on the Cooper Drive campus. BCTC has many new and innovative initiatives, ranging from nursing to a new equine studies program, energy management, human resources, a new and exciting filmmaking program, and many new technical degree proposals in the planning stages. More scholarship opportunities are now available to our students, to give even greater opportunity and access. We have put greater emphasis on technology, diversity and teaching, and I am proud of our outstanding faculty and staff.

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FREEDOM CALLS



Family members of soldiers stationed in Iraq signed banners at Operation Freedom Calls in Danville.

For some, it was an intimate conversation between Mom, Dad and the kids. For others, it was more like a family reunion. Operation Freedom Calls, was held on the Danville Campus of BCTC in March and helped unite members of the Kentucky National Guard's 410 Quartermaster unit with their families back home.

More than 25 soldiers spent some quality tech-time with their families thanks to a videoconferencing system, equipped with cameras, microphones and large TV screens. Over a two-day period, families visted Danville's Campus to talk on live television with their loved ones in Iraq.

The event was sponsored by Operation Freedom Calls and the Center for Rural Development. Members of the local VFW, American Legion and Am Vet showed their support by visiting with the families and providing coffee and donuts.

AFRICAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP BREAKFAST



Yolanda Harrison-Pace charmed the crowd at the African American Leadership Breakfast.

Leaders, role models and people who have had a positive effect on their community were recogonized recently at the third annual African American Leadership Breakfast. Nineteen individuals were honored this year on BCTC's Lawrenceburg Campus in February.

The annual breakfast, held in conjunction with National Black History Month, acknowledges the achievements and contributions of African American citizens.

Congratulations to the 2007 nominees: Antonio Barber, Eunice Beatty, Patricia Bell, Robert Blythe, James Chambers, Debra Corley, Hasan Davis, Chuck Fletcher, Lenelle Gill, Sherre Smith-Jones, Nellie McKnight, Donna Murphy, Nalerie Ogle, Yolantha Harrison-Pace, Runan Pendergrast, James Poole, Dorisa Slaughter, Ed Stewart and Charlene Walker.

SKILLS USA



Trouble shooting circuits was part of the competition for students in Auto Mechanics.

More than 230 high school students from across Kentucky gave their all to prove that they had what it takes at this year's Skills USA Regional Championship.

The event, held on the Leestown Campus of BCTC, is a showcase for our region's finest career and technical students. Based on their interest and skills, students had the opportunity to participate in more than fifty different competitions.

This year's competition was extra special because each first place winner received a \$500 BCTC President's Technical Scholarship. Following the competition, Dr. Jim Kerley awarded 66 scholarships to the winning students. The winners of each event will now advance to the state and then to the national competition.

DONATION DATELINE

Community support for the Winchester-Clark County Campus continues to grow. Lowe's of Winchester stepped forward to provide all of the appliances needed at the site. Most of the donated appliances will find a home in the new child care center. Pictured right - Dr. Jim Kerley met with Lowe's employees Neal Martin and David Hatton.

Thank you to the Home Builders Association of Kentucky for their continued support. In March they donated a 24×28 storage building for the Carpentry Program on Leestown Campus.













GOOD NEWS GRAPEVINE

We are proud to announce eight new associate degrees will be offered at BCTC beginning in the fall of 2007: AAS in Air Conditioning, AAS in Machine Tool Technology, AAS in Construction Technology (Carpentry), AAS in Computer Aided Drafting and Design, AAS in Welding, AAS in Air Conditioning (HVAC), AAS in Equine Studies and an AAS in Human Services.

☑ Congratulations to the BCTC Hispanic Outreach program for being chosen as one of four community college finalists for the National Excelencia in Education Award.



☑ The BCTC Intamural Sports Basketball League had a very successful first year with more than 60 students participating. The Hoop Artists (above left) and the Thoroughbreds (right) played in the championship game.

BCTC student, Maria Church, was invited to attend

the American Association of Community Colleges Conference in April and was recognized as an All USA New Century Scholar for Kentucky. Maria also received a \$2,000 scholarship from AACC.



☑ The Glitz, Glitter, Glamour Fundraiser will be held at the Winchester Opera House on May 18. Proceeds from the event will be used to help furnish the new Winchester-Clark County Campus. For ticket prices and information call 859.246.6588.

☑ The first annual BCTC Alumni Association Golf Scramble will he held on June 8 at the University Club of Kentucky Wildcat Course. For information and registration forms visit http://www.bluegrass.kctcs.edu/development/alumni_association or call 859.246.GOLF (4653).

☑ Congratulations to Dr. Bonnie Nicholason and Dr. Aminato Cairo for receiving their doctorate degrees in March!

OUR FACULTY AND STAFF MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Clovis C. Perry, Jr. has been appointed as a Reader at the College Board's 2007 AP Human Geography Reading to be held at the University of Lincoln, Nebraska in June.

Terry Buckner has been awarded the Centennial Future 100 Award from the University of Kentucky School of Human Environmental Sciences. The award is given to those who the school feels will ensure and sustain human environmental science at UK over the next 100 years.

Mary Bailey has been nominated for Who's Who among American Cosmetology Teachers.

Teresa Isaac has been chosen to receive the Najeeb Halaby Public Service Award. The award recognizes her public service as Mayor, Vice Mayor, college professor and head of the Lexington Fair Housing Council.

Janella Spencer has been chosen to be one of the College of Health Sciences 40 Outstanding Alumni of 2007. Recipients of this honor are graduates of the College who

have achieved excellence in their Health Sciences related professions.

April Jeffries has been named co-chair of the planning committee for the annual Kentucky Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD) conference to be held in April at Kentucky Dam Village.

Christina Lovin recently served as the Spring 2007 Writer-in-Residence at the H. J. Andrews Experimental Forest as part of the Spring Creek Project. In addition, five of Lovin's poems were named grand prize winner of the Dancing Galliard Sonnet competition by *Prism Quarterly*.

The Computer Information Technology Program and the Information Management & Design Program are collaborating with team teaching by faculty from both programs in a new selected topic course, RSS and Podcasting. Instructors for the program are **Drew Hunt**, **Tony Rose** and **Martha Birchfield**.



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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

A firm foundation is in place to support future growth, and I ask that you pledge your strong support to this outstanding and unique institution and to the role it plays in the Bluegrass Region. We do not have a basketball or football program or major research labs, but we have small classes and programs to help our students get excellent jobs or transfer to great universities. Our philosophy is that all people deserve a chance for a better life, with no exclusions and no roadblocks!

More than 2,500 BCTC students transferred to over 131 four-year institutions of higher learning located in 35 states between 2002 and 2006. While attending BCTC, these transfer students were enrolled in 53 different academic programs and in 194 academic plans. We have about 4,800 citizens from Lexington alone

attending this institution It is truly amazing what an impact this community and technical college makes in our community and throughout the entire region!

Thanks again for providing me the opportunity to serve you. My wife Donna and I wish all the best to BCTC and to the entire Bluegrass Region. Moreover, we say thanks to Kentucky for allowing us to be a part of this great state for 24+ years!

Jim Kerley, President/CEO



BCTC BENEFACTOR OF THE YEAR

Carla Van Meter, Chair of the Clark County Community Foundation accepted, on behalf of the Foundation, a Benefactor Award from Dr. Jim Kerley in March. The award recognizes individuals and organizations that have demonstrated outstanding voluntary support of KCTCS and/or one of its colleges.