

May 3, 2018

College Update

In a busy week after time away from the campus on vacation, I am delivering the May College Update a bit later than usual. It is a challenge to fit all the recognitions into two pages! Among the major activities on campus going on now (in addition to the presidential search) are both state and county budget lobbying, fundraising for the Smith Student Advancement Center, Everett and Early College High School construction, and, of course, student recognitions and upcoming Commencement ceremonies.

The Academic Excellence and STAR Awards programs went very well with outstanding individual students and clubs honored. Please see the PCC website for a full listing of those recognized. These are some of our highest performers!

Two regional educational leaders are stepping down from CEO positions with many years of accomplishments and a bright future for students. Rob Peterson, Head of Oakwood School, has led this growing school for ten years and I have been proud to serve on the Advisory Board for Oakwood School. Phil Kerstetter has served almost this long as the President of Mount Olive University with steady and innovative leadership.

I was honored at a Recognition Breakfast hosted by the Town of Farmville at our Farmville Center on March 8. It was a long road to establish this important Center, which is a catalyst for business development as well as student success led by Sara Singleton. Farmville people invested time and resources to make this happen. We are currently exploring options for expanded offerings in Ayden and Bethel as part of our "Extending Learning to the Community" initiative, first started in 2009 and led by Trustees Paul Davenport and Charles Long.

Accomplishments and Recognitions

- Mitch Butts was named Faculty Member of the Year and Jasmin Spain Staff Member of the year at the Employee Appreciation Event at Rock Springs on April 6. Many Service Awards and 2017-18 retiree recognitions were announced, including Sue Jefferson, Rob Conway, and Jacqualane Jones.
- NSLS (National Society of Leadership and Success) inducted 58 new members and made awards to Walter Underwood, Jaysen Arno, Melissa Parris, Nicholas Visnesky, and me (Honorary Membership) on April 28. Great work by Lynda Civils and Faith Fagan.
- Region Q Workforce Youth Programs sent 9 youth from 4 counties, reports Charlanda Shepherd, to the 2018 NC Youth Summit in Cary on April 13-14.

Mario Satterwhite and Ernis Lee facilitated the Next Generation experience. Lee and VP Gould have secured \$15K for summer youth training.

- Joseph Jeansonne spoke on teaching traffic analysis in Cyber Security courses at the NC Computer Instruction Association meeting in March.
- “Go-Green 2018: Mental Health Awareness” was presented by the PCC Sociology and Psychology Association. Let by Patricia Adams.
- Dr. Robert McIntyre (Chemistry) with other faculty/staff hosted students and teachers from Wintergreen School for a STEM experience in the Williams Science Building. A “fabulous” time was heard from parents of attending students!
- Mandy Bowers (Marketing) let three students to the National Collegiate DECA Conference in Washington, D.C., the largest NC delegation.
- The Health Sciences Division once again hosted a campus and community Health Fair on April 11.
- Building Construction Technology students had two houses featured in the Pitt County Parade of Homes on April 28-29, in Davencroft development off Thomas Langston Road and on campus with the Tiny House – One (“Contemporary”). Great display of their craftsmanship! Also, Automotive students held the 3rd Annual PCC Car Club Car/Truck & Bike Show on Saturday, April 14th, 2018.
- Kristen Braswell, Jerry Jones, and the Continuing Education Department had a ribbon-cutting and have welcomed many groups, including the Trustees, to the Greenville Center Annex, now an impressive training center. Many thanks to Tim Strickland and Rick Owens for once again transforming a facility for PCC!
- Lisa Elmore and the PCC AEOP sponsored a WORKshop for members as well as guests from Wayne CC and GUC featuring outside speakers and interactive learning focused on improving our services for students and the community.

Best wishes for a great month of May, and don't forget the graduation ceremonies next week, including the Adult High School/HS Equivalency program on May 9.

G. Dennis Massey, President