Making Tyme for Community
Matt Wilson – alumnus, entrepreneur and community activist

Practicing What We Teach
Delaware Tech’s role in creating a sustainable future for Delaware

Donors Making a Difference
Supporters of the College help provide access, opportunity, excellence and hope
IN THIS ISSUE

FEATURES

4 MEET THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
Executive Vice President Dr. Mark T. Brainard provides insight into his new role.

5 BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT
Meet three board members who got their start at Delaware Tech and returned to the College to give back.

9 PRACTICING WHAT WE TEACH
Delaware Tech takes an active role in creating a sustainable future for Delaware.

15 GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING/GAINING A WORLD VIEW
Programs promote international education and provide study abroad opportunities.

25 THE FRONT DOOR EXPERIENCE
A new comprehensive program prepares incoming students for long-term success.

27 DONORS MAKING A DIFFERENCE
Supporters of the College provide access, opportunity, excellence and hope for many Delawareans.

33 ACCREDITATION REAFFIRMED
The Middle States Commission on Higher Education gives Delaware Tech commendations for the quality of its self-study.

COVER STORY

17 MAKING TYME FOR COMMUNITY
Entrepreneurship graduate and community activist Matt Wilson shares his story.

IN EVERY ISSUE

7 STUDENT LIFE
11 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
13 PARTNERSHIPS
19 ALUMNI
20 ATHLETICS
21 ACADEMICS
31 EVENTS
34 APPOINTMENTS
We are well into a new academic year and there are several exciting initiatives to share with you in this issue of Delaware Tech magazine... from the greening of our campuses to life-changing international education opportunities for our students.

As I look around the College this fall, I am once again reminded of one of my favorite quotes: “Great institutions are great only because they have good people who do great things around a common purpose.”

In fact, at nearly every presentation I make to the College’s external stakeholders...to our Governor, the state’s legislators, and to our business and industry leaders, I end with this quote. I know that I couldn’t speak about the many accomplishments of this great institution without an entire team of individuals who are working tirelessly day in and day out to improve the lives of Delawareans.

It’s important to stop and take a moment to highlight those folks who have dedicated their talents to this institution and the success of our students. And in this and future editions of Delaware Tech magazine, you’ll learn about just a few of the board members, administrators, faculty and staff who are making things happen at Delaware Tech. They often are working behind the scenes to research new programs that will connect Delawareans with jobs; to drive key initiatives that are increasing student success; to ensure that we have the financial resources needed to support our mission; and to earn re-accreditation.

I hope you’ll enjoy learning a little more about the members of our Delaware Tech family. To all of them, I say THANK YOU!

Orlando J. George, Jr.
President

“Great institutions are great only because they have good people who do great things around a common purpose.”
MESSAGE FROM ALUMNI PRESIDENTS

In this issue of Delaware Tech, you’ll find stories of donors who have generously contributed to the College with funds that have supported a wide range of initiatives – from student scholarships to graduate placement.

Although not everyone is able to donate scholarships or equipment, everyone can become a donor at Delaware Tech! You can make a difference in the life of a student just by donating your time and energy at one of our campus events. We recognize that life is busy and your time is valuable, so there are many opportunities to get involved! Find one below that works for you.

• Want to help out behind the scenes at one of the College’s annual galas? Help give your community a night out to remember by volunteering at Mardi Gras in February, Starry, Starry Night in April, or the Gourmet Gala in October. Our annual galas combine delicious food with great entertainment and raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for student scholarships and to enhance our existing academic programs.

• Looking for ways to support the College while getting in shape? Sign up to walk or run a 5K at the Dover, Georgetown, or Wilmington Campus. Bring a friend or join with your fellow alumni and participate as a team. You can also volunteer to help set up or break down on the day of the event. To register for a 5K at Terry (February 15, 2014), Owens (May 4, 2014), or Wilmington (October 2014), go to go.dtcc.edu/events.

• Want to relive the excitement of graduation day? Volunteer at your campus graduation this coming May and cheer on our 2014 graduates.

• Have a success story you’d like to share? Volunteer at one of the College’s new student orientation sessions and talk to students interested in a career in your field. Connect with them and share your story!

To donate your time at any of these events, please complete the electronic form on the Web at www.dtcc.edu/about/giving/alumni. Become a Delaware Tech donor and touch the life of a student. See you on campus!
Delaware Technical Community College's Board of Trustees voted unanimously at its June 4, 2013 meeting to appoint Dr. Mark T. Brainard as executive vice president, a position established by the board in April as part of a presidential succession plan designed to prepare for the eventual retirement of long-standing College President, Dr. Orlando J. George, Jr. Upon Dr. George’s retirement, the board will post the president’s position to include an external search.

Dr. Brainard's extensive and varied executive leadership positions played a significant role in his appointment. He held the position of assistant vice president for personnel & legal affairs at Delaware Tech from 1995-1999 before going on to serve three years as executive vice president of the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce. He then served six years as chief staff to Governor Ruth Ann Minner. Returning to the College in 2008, he was appointed campus director of the Stanton/Wilmington Campus in 2010. Dr. Brainard is also a graduate of Delaware Tech.

Describe your new role and how your experience has helped prepare you for it.

I look forward to working with Dr. George to provide strategic direction for all administrative areas as well as having day-to-day responsibility for management of the major operational divisions of the College. Having worked in both the state’s public and private sectors, I know the critical role the College plays in connecting Delawareans with quality jobs and supporting the workforce needs of our state’s employers. I also know how important it is to be mindful of our students and stakeholders as we navigate internal policy and operational issues collegewide.

In what area(s) do you see the most opportunity for professional growth?

Like most sectors in this economy, higher education – particularly at the community college level – is experiencing very rapid change requiring new, nimble and creative thinking to respond to the challenges we face. These changes will, I am sure, generate countless learning opportunities for all of us.

Having graduated from Delaware Tech in 1981 and now assuming the role of Executive Vice President in 2013, what about the College has changed the most?

What has stayed the same is the deep commitment that our faculty and staff have to the success of our students and the community at large. Having been on the receiving end of that guidance, mentoring and coaching over the years, I know its impact. What has changed is technology and how it has transformed everything – from how we deliver instructional materials to how we keep our campuses safe.

What excites you most about this position?

Many years ago, Delaware Tech provided me the foundation to pursue and accomplish my educational and career goals, so I am honored and very grateful for this opportunity to support our students and serve the College that has done so much for me over the years. My time at the Stanton/Wilmington Campus was truly some of the most professionally gratifying and personally enjoyable years of my career since I was able to work so closely with the faculty, staff and administrators who serve our students every day. I now look forward to working with our entire team across all of our campuses.
Board Member Spotlight

The Board of Trustees of Delaware Technical Community College is the governing body of the institution. All members are appointed by the Governor of the State of Delaware with the consent of a majority of the State Senate. The Board of Trustees sets policy for the College and is responsible for ensuring that the institutional mission is carried out. Among its numerous responsibilities, the Board approves the College plan, is responsible for the management and control of the institution, has the power to appoint administrative and instructional staff, sets the tuition rate, and approves fees and budgets.

In this issue and in the spring/summer 2014 edition of the Delaware Tech magazine, you’ll find interviews with each of the College’s seven board members. We begin below with the three trustees who got their start at Delaware Tech.

Mark Stellini is a recognized business leader in Delaware and self-described “serial entrepreneur.” Since co-founding his first technology company with his father in 1981, he has received many awards including the U.S. Small Business Administration’s Business Person of the Year, the New Castle County Chamber’s Small Business Person of the Year, and Delaware Valley Entrepreneur of the Year. He is currently a Partner at Assurance Media, LLC, a company he helped launch in 2009, which provides premise security, audio/visual and cabling solutions for business.

Mark S. Stellini
Chairman Since 2011
Partner, Assurance Media, LLC
Honorary Degree, Delaware Technical Community College

Why did you decide to become a board member?
I attended Delaware Tech while starting my first business. It would have been impossible for me to grow my company and my career without the knowledge I gained and the help I received from the College. I owe them my success, and I am grateful for the opportunity to give back to this institution in a meaningful way.

What do you love most about the College?
What I love about Delaware Tech is that even if you don’t have a lot of money to put toward college tuition, if you work hard, you can be rewarded with opportunities for good-paying jobs. My grandfather came from Italy at 16 with $10 in his pocket, and he became a successful businessman. I learned the value of hard work early, and I understand how it can open doors. That’s what Delaware Tech does for students.

What do you feel is your greatest contribution to the board/College?
Anyone who knows me knows that I’m a passionate guy. And I’m very passionate about the College, so I think that comes through in my role as board chairman.

How do you enjoy spending your free time?
I enjoy spending time with my family and playing ice hockey.
Why did you decide to become a board member?
First, I believe that success starts with education. Delaware Tech provides an opportunity for individuals who might not otherwise be able to afford college to get an education. I was one of those individuals when I enrolled in Delaware Tech’s associate degree program in medical technology. My experience was very positive – it was the first step in my career – so becoming a board member was an opportunity for me to give back. In addition, the College’s mission supports the state of Delaware as a whole – relevant jobs that support our communities. As chief HR officer at Christina Care, what I do is aligned with this mission, so it’s a great fit for me.

What do you love most about the College?
I love the variety of opportunities that are provided for students to learn and the passion of the people that work there. They’re committed. It’s also hard to find someone or someplace in Delaware that has not been touched by the College or a Delaware Tech student. Of course, eating all the things that the culinary students make is really wonderful too!

What do you feel is your greatest contribution to the board/College?
With my HR experience, I’m able to contribute to people practices that support the College’s success and to the College’s efforts to create a great place to work. I also enjoy helping to create an environment focused on student success.

How do you enjoy spending your free time?
What free time? Walking – anywhere outdoors – and playing in the garden!

Audrey Van Luven
Member-at-Large Since 2008
Senior Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, Christina Care Health System
A.A.S. Delaware Technical Community College
B.S. Wesley College
M.S. Wilmington University

Why did you decide to become a board member?
I was impressed with the College, its culture, mission and the special role it plays in the community. It gives opportunity to whoever wants an education, improving the lives of people and providing the workforce for our businesses and institutions, therefore participating in the economic growth of our state. I wanted to be part of this organization and contribute in any way to its success.

What do you love most about the College?
As a student, I appreciated everything that the school had to offer and the welcoming atmosphere it provided me at the time and still does. I am very impressed with the dedication of the employees who take pride in the institution. The leadership and the school are at the forefront of the latest advances occurring in the country. Delaware Tech is truly a special place!

What do you feel is your greatest contribution to the board/College?
I would say helping to start Delaware Tech’s Annual Fashion Show which we established to raise funds for study abroad scholarships and to support the College’s international education programs. Having had the good fortune to travel and visit other countries, I wanted to create a way for students to have the same opportunities. In today’s world, students need an international perspective in order to have a competitive edge in the job market, higher education, or simply just to work and live in a culturally diverse world.

How do you enjoy spending your free time?
I never tire of traveling because of the need to keep connecting with all people. Whether it’s Argentina, Timbuktu or San Diego, people are people no matter where you go...we all have the same basic needs and the same aspirations. I really think of myself as a citizen of the world.

Selham Sue Saliba
Member-at-Large Since 2007
A.A.S. Delaware Technical Community College
B.S. Wilmington College

A native of Senegal, West Africa and fluent in four languages, Sue Saliba is a Delaware Tech alumnus, member of the Owens Campus Development Council and College trustee. She has spent much of her career advocating for children as a Court Appointed Special Advocate in cases of child abuse and neglect. She has also promoted women’s physical, emotional and mental health issues as president of the Delaware Medical Society Alliance, a physician’s spouse organization. There, she led efforts to address domestic violence working through the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

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How do you enjoy spending your free time?
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It began with a few students producing a lunchtime holiday show on campus and progressed to include a trip to see “Young Frankenstein.” And they’re not showing any signs of slowing down. The Performing Arts Club (PAC) at the Owens Campus is working hard to recruit members and volunteers to be a part of their ever-expanding list of productions.

“The growth was really driven by the energy of the students,” said Chala Breen, advisor for PAC. “They wanted to start staging shows and plays, and I told them we’d support them, but they needed to step up and do the work. And they’ve done a fantastic job.”

They hosted their first “Delaware Tech’s Got Talent” show in the spring of 2012 with club members handling the show logistics and promotion as well as screening student performers. The show grew from 10 acts that year to 16 in the spring of 2013. The audience grew as well, and the acts diversified from mostly singers to represent a wide variety of talents – including musical instruments, dance and martial arts.

The club’s first production, “The Gift of the Magi,” involved partnering with the Owens Campus Music Club and the DelNotes, a choral group made up of students, faculty and staff that performs regularly at events. In the spring, they took on an even bigger challenge – dinner theater. Susan McCoy and Caitlyn Timko, the president and vice president, took “Alice in Wonderland” and “Through the Looking Glass” and wrote a play meshing both stories into a full-length play. “Then Susan came up with the idea to include dinner,” Breen said. “And we had a wonderful group of volunteers including students, staff and faculty who helped us make it happen. We even had a student from the Terry Campus, Dalton Wharff, who helped us with costumes and sets.”

Of course, all of it wouldn’t be possible without funding, so club members spend time raising money to support their productions. In addition to ticket sales from the talent show and plays, they have raised funds in a variety of ways such as selling candy and drinks at the campus outdoor movie.

The students have chosen “The Importance of Being Earnest, a Trivial Comedy for Serious People” by Oscar Wilde as their fall 2013 play. And they will continue to enlist volunteers and club members throughout the school year. “We have all kinds of opportunities for people to become involved,” said Candy Fortney, PAC president for the 2013-2014 academic year. “If students don’t want to act, there are plenty of jobs like set designers and builders, lighting and sound technicians, prop or stage assistants, costume designers, makeup artists and more.”

For more information on the Owens Campus Performing Arts Club, visit facebook.com/DeltechPerformingArtsClub or follow them on Twitter at DTCCArts.
When Veterans Counselor Brian Belcher says Delaware Tech is a military-friendly school, students know he means it. As a former master sergeant in the U.S. Air Force, Belcher understands the importance of helping veterans and service members reach their academic goals: “We owe it to those who serve our country to step up and show them what’s available to them.”

Delaware Tech’s veterans counselors help current and veteran service members and their dependents through the process of applying for benefits online and getting their tuition bills paid. “We make sure we afford them every opportunity as they begin using their benefits,” says Rebecca Craft, veterans counselor at Terry Campus. Counselors also assist with academic concerns. “Accommodations are made for deploying students and active duty members and we work with instructors on a case-by-case basis,” says Belcher.

The College continues to look for new ways to identify and support the members of the military community and this fall launched a new website specifically designed for them. “In May, the College will also be recognizing service members and veterans at graduation with special regalia,” says Veterans Counselor Wilford Oney.

Legislation is currently pending to offer in-state tuition rates to all service members and their dependents. For more information on military services, contact a campus veterans counselor.

Students Marcus Wright, Ronnie Webb, Caitlyn Timko, and Candy Fortney at the Maryland Food Bank with the warehouse manager (center)

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Spring break. For most of us, those words conjure up images of sunshine and relaxation. But for four Delaware Tech students from the Owens Campus, last April their vacation was the opposite of that – and they loved it. They spent the week in downtown Baltimore performing community service as part of the College’s first Alternative Spring Break.

The purpose of the program is to expose students to complex social and cultural issues through direct service in order to inspire them to become change agents in their own communities. During the trip, students develop and use leadership skills, have the opportunity to work with area non-profits, learn about the culture and societal needs of the community and develop connections through teamwork and networking.

The focus of the trip was homelessness and hunger, and the group worked on two major service projects:

Project PLASE (People Lacking Ample Shelter and Employment) offers short- and long-term residency and services for at-risk populations such as homeless people, veterans and people with HIV. “We completely reorganized all of the unused space in their basement,” said Caitlyn Timko, one of the students on the trip. “It was hard work but extremely rewarding.”

At the Maryland Food Bank, the group sorted food that had been donated by large companies like Walmart and Giant. The four students, along with Academic Counselor Jennifer Blackwell who organized the trip, sorted over 2,000 pounds of food.

According to Blackwell, “I’ve been very impressed with how they’ve been able to bring their knowledge and energy back home to help with homelessness and hunger here in Sussex County. From volunteering at local food banks to making presentations to researching volunteer opportunities for student clubs, they’ve taken on a variety of leadership roles to make a real difference in their own community.”

“The part I enjoyed the most was helping people and seeing the reactions on their faces. It was priceless to me to see how much they appreciated it.”

- Ronnie Webb

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VETERANS

Educational Services to Support Those Who Serve

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Practicing What We Teach
Delaware Tech’s Role in Creating a Sustainable Future for Delaware

In early 2009, the National Council for Workforce Education and the Academy of Educational Development issued a joint report entitled, “Going Green: The Vital Role of Community Colleges in Building a Sustainable Future and Green Workforce.” It argued, “Community colleges are at the forefront of [a] growing momentum for action on climate change, sustainability and green workforce development.”

And indeed, at Delaware Tech the wheels were already in motion. As early as the fall of 2006, the College had begun investigating the state’s workforce needs in the areas of energy management and renewable energy. In Delaware’s emerging green economy, it had become clear that there were homeowners, business owners and facilities managers who could benefit from expertise in energy.

By the time the report was released, Delaware Tech had assembled a statewide advisory committee of energy experts to help identify and create the educational offerings that would prepare Delawareans for these opportunities, offerings that would connect them with green jobs.

The original 30-member committee included representatives of business and industry, government and research such as Dr. John Byrne, director of the University of Delaware’s Center for Energy and Environmental Policy and Nobel Peace Prize laureate (with Vice President Al Gore); State Senator Harris McDowell, co-chair of Delaware’s Sustainable Energy Utility Oversight Board; Michael Bowman, chairman of the Delaware Technology Park; Delaware’s incubator of high tech business innovation; Secretary Collin O’Mara, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC); and owners of energy companies and utility company leaders.

By August of 2010, the College had been awarded an unprecedented $4.3 million in funding from the U.S. Economic Development Administration to build energy education facilities at three of its campuses. The three facilities would function as a statewide learning system, serving as the region’s first comprehensive workforce development center in the field of energy. Each would house the College’s associate degree programs while making consumer education on energy-efficient and renewable energy available to the public.

The culmination of these efforts has made it possible for Delawareans to now pursue associate degrees in energy management and renewable energy solar or short-term training in areas such as energy-efficient manufacturing.

The College’s energy management program teaches residential and commercial energy use and analysis, energy efficiency and investment, and alternative energy technologies; it prepares graduates for positions ranging from facility manager to energy auditor with companies as diverse as engineering firms, public and private utilities, and energy and equipment companies.

The Renewable Energy – Solar program is designed to give students the skills and knowledge to sell and install photovoltaic and solar thermal hot water systems as well as perform site design. Graduates will be prepared to work at commercial and residential sites and in the office estimating, assembling and building systems.

Today, two of the buildings designed to house these programs are complete and have achieved LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) Platinum designation, the highest certification available from the United States Green Building Council.

Workforce development initiatives are just one aspect of Delaware Tech’s role in creating a more sustainable future for Delaware. “As a provider of energy education, it is also important that our own operations serve as a role model for our students, for the businesses we serve and for the community,” says Delaware...
Delaware’s emerging green economy is supported by state legislation including:

• A building code requiring that new construction in Delaware meet the latest energy standards

• An executive order requiring state agencies and departments to reduce energy consumption by 30% by the end of FY 2015

• A Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) that requires 25% of Delaware’s electricity to come from renewable energy sources by the year 2025 and provides incentives for local labor and manufacture of renewable energy systems

• A solar rights law that protects homeowners from unreasonable restrictions on the installation of solar systems

One way the College has done this is through a solar power purchasing agreement (PPA) with Standard Solar, Inc. The vendor assumes the costs to install and maintain solar panels on each of the four campuses, but benefits from tax credits and income generated from the sale of electricity and solar renewable energy credits (SRECs). Panels installed as part of this agreement are estimated to provide the College with 5-6% of its electricity needs and will also serve as a learning tool for students in the energy programs.

Construction has already begun with rooftop units to be installed at the Wilmington, Stanton and Terry Campuses and ground mounts at the Owens Campus; in addition, the Wilmington Campus will benefit from panels installed on one of its parking lots. All panels will be produced in Delaware by Motech, and the majority of labor to install them will be provided by Delaware companies.

Delaware Tech will also reduce its long-term energy costs and carbon footprint with the assistance of Delaware’s Sustainable Energy Utility which is helping state agencies and non-profits retrofit their buildings through the use of energy performance contracts. In partnership with Pepco Energy Services, Inc., the College is retrofitting more than 725,000 square feet of building space with $7 million in energy conservation measures such as installing variable air volume units and new chillers.

The majority of the project is financed by an energy efficiency tax-exempt bond issued by the Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility. Over the 15-year contract term, the College expects to save more than $9 million in energy costs, decreasing annual carbon dioxide emissions by more than 2,200 metric tons. Jerry McNesby, Vice President for Finance, has spearheaded the College’s energy initiatives: “Given the combination of these recent energy conservation measures and the installation of solar panels on every campus, the College is well on its way to achieving a 20% reduction in the next two to three years. That puts us several years ahead of schedule.”

Delaware Tech’s energy programs, facilities and commitment to reducing its carbon footprint are all part of its vision to become a regional center of excellence in energy education and to become more sustainable in all aspects of its operations.

In 2012, Delaware Tech was recognized for its efforts by the American Association of Community Colleges SEED (Sustainability Education & Economic Development) Center by being chosen as a runner-up for the Green Genome award. The award honors exemplary community colleges that have taken strategic leadership roles in sustainability and green economic and workforce development. According to President George, “I am proud of our leadership on this issue. The College is fully aligned with Governor Markell’s goals of creating new energy-related jobs for Delawareans, of leading by example, and of creating a healthier environment for all of us.”

Tech President Dr. Orlando J. George, Jr.

Thus, in 2010, on the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, Delaware Tech announced a comprehensive, strategic plan to reduce its carbon footprint 20% by 2020, putting the College in the top 1% of community colleges nationwide who had committed to such a reduction. According to Dr. George, “Developing and executing a sustainable energy management plan demonstrates that Delaware Tech is committed to practicing what we teach.” The plan was developed with the help of the University of Delaware’s Dr. John Byrne and his team at the Center for Energy and Environmental Policy and is based on the results of an energy use inventory on every campus. Although the plan estimates an average payback of four years, the College has sought to mitigate the initial capital costs associated with such an aggressive goal.

DID YOU KNOW?

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- A solar rights law that protects homeowners from unreasonable restrictions on the installation of solar systems
Building communities one cup at a time. That’s the goal of the Kauffman Foundation’s 1 Million Cups initiative, a program to engage, educate and connect entrepreneurs. Delaware Tech recently joined the effort with the launch of “1 Million Cups Delaware,” becoming the tenth location nationwide to host the weekly gatherings that are building startup communities over cups of coffee and conversation.

The 1 Million Cups program began in April 2012 in Kansas City, the hometown of its founding organization, the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. The popularity of the initiative became apparent quickly, and the network is on target to expand to 20 U.S. cities by the end of 2013 with at least one international city expected to join the mix.

Every Wednesday morning at 9 a.m. in each 1 Million Cups city and now at Delaware Tech, two early-stage startups present their business ideas to a diverse audience of mentors, advisers, students and, most importantly, other entrepreneurs. Each founder presents for six minutes and then fields audience questions for another 20 minutes.

“We’re extremely pleased to be partnering with the Kauffman Foundation to bring 1 Million Cups to the College and to the citizens of Delaware,” said President George. “And by hosting this exceptional program, we’re able to support entrepreneurs statewide.”

Recent presenters for the program have included Mike Nally, founder and owner of Lead Your Way Solutions, and go fish! restaurant owner Alison Blyth. Nally detailed how his leadership and organizational development startup helps individuals and organizations unlock and realize their potential. The company creates customized programs to meet the goals, strengths, needs and resources of diverse clients.

Owner of go fish! Alison Blyth shared the story of how her passion for authentic British comfort food led to the recent opening of go brit! fish + chips in the Lewes area. The fast-casual restaurant’s menu and décor pay tribute to London’s beloved landmarks. Blyth also discussed her plans to open go brit! franchises in the future.

Nate Olson, a Kauffman Foundation associate and one of the creators of 1 Million Cups, visited the Owens Campus and addressed the crowd at the event on September 11. According to Olson, “When we started this effort, we asked, ‘What would it look like if entrepreneurs in Kansas City had one million cups of coffee together? And then it spread across the country?’ Well, my goal was to get to 20 cities by the end of 2013, and I’m pleased to report that we’re already there. I’m really happy to visit Delaware and see what you’re doing here. This morning alone we’re reaching roughly 1,000 entrepreneurs in cities nationwide.”

Delaware joins Kansas City, Kan.; Des Moines, Iowa; Houston, Texas; St. Louis, Mo.; Cedar Rapids/Iowa City, Iowa; Reno, Nev.; Chattanooga, Tenn.; Denver, Colo.; and Chapel Hill/Research Triangle Park, N.C., in offering 1 Million Cups locally. Additional cities slated to launch 1 Million Cups are Columbia, Mo.; Lawrence, Kans.; and Orlando, Fla.

View the national website at www.1millioncups.com.

Mike Nally, founder and owner, Lead Your Way Solutions
W
gen Delaware biomedical research company Analytical Biological Services, Inc. (ABS) wanted to move its business to the next level, they decided to seek out ISO certification. ISO stands for the International Organization for Standardization and is a way for companies to quantify quality standards and reassure consumers and business clients that products are safe, efficient and good for the environment. In addition, ISO certification provides companies with potential cost savings, access to new markets and environmental benefits. Widely recognized overseas, the certification is becoming more commonplace in the United States – and more important for businesses to remain competitive.

Although there are several routes to take to getting certified, most businesses will need the guidance and expertise of a consultant in order to navigate the sometimes-complicated process. That’s where the Delaware Manufacturing Extension Partnership (DEMEP) comes in. DEMEP is a non-profit organization, affiliated with Delaware Tech, working to provide and transfer Lean Best Practices, Quality Systems Training, and Growth and Innovation opportunities to the manufacturing and business community in Delaware.

Cheri Miller, director of finance and administration for ABS, said a personal reference led her to contact DEMEP, and a positive working relationship was soon built. “DEMEP showed us how to get state funding to do the training and led the process,” says Miller. “Everyone in the company had to be trained. You really have to make a concerted effort at all levels of the company, especially top management. If you’re not putting out the resources and allowing people to use them, then it won’t be a success.”

With DEMEP’s help, ABS was able to earn its ISO-9001: 2008 certification in just six months. Jim Jones, a DEMEP specialist, said the company was exemplary in terms of following direction, embracing the process and making the necessary changes. “It was one of the fastest certifications I have ever witnessed,” said Jones. “They were a group of motivated and intelligent people, and they were extremely adept and dedicated.”

ABS’s achievement of ISO-9001: 2008 demonstrates its ability to consistently provide products and services that meet clients’ needs in compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements. According to Charles Saller, Ph.D., ABS president and CEO, “The ISO process has been instrumental in realizing our commitment to quality and client satisfaction. ABS’s ISO initiative has had the greatest impact on our mission of making biomedical research faster, easier and more reliable than any single project that ABS has undertaken. We are very pleased by some of the early results.”

These early results include:

- An increase in European sales by 15.8% from 2011 to 2012.
- An increase in total sales by 23.4% from 2011 to 2012.
- Significant improvement in product quality and efficiency according to early data.

ABS says they are particularly grateful to Jones who was invaluable as a consultant and trainer, providing expert guidance during this project. “Jim’s guidance was invaluable to ABS in greatly improving our operations and in achieving ISO certification. Without his assistance, the ISO certification process would have been much less effective and would have taken far more time. We are very thankful for his help,” Saller says.

ABS is looking forward to continued positive results from their certification process. “The way we approach things has dramatically changed,” says Miller. A yearly external audit with a third party group will ensure that the business keeps up on its changes. “I would definitely recommend that other companies look into this certification.”

To learn more about DEMEP’s many offerings, including ISO certification consulting, visit www.demep.org.
The Criminal Justice: Law Enforcement Option is an associate degree program designed and offered in collaboration with the Delaware State Police Training Academy, that provides Delaware Tech students and graduates of the Academy advanced standing opportunities. If accepted for employment by the Delaware State Police or a Delaware municipal police agency, graduates of the program may be eligible to receive up to eight weeks credit at the Delaware State Police Training Academy, thus reducing the time in the Academy from 22 weeks to 14 weeks. In addition, a graduate of the Academy who wants to obtain an A.A.S. degree in Criminal Justice will only need to attend the College full-time for three semesters instead of four.

The College greatly values its ongoing relationship with the Delaware State Police. According to Dr. Orlando J. George, Jr., "This Law Enforcement Option is one example of our partnership and is a 'win-win' for everyone involved. Delawareans benefit because they get a well-educated, diverse talent pool interested in law enforcement to protect our communities. The program's graduates benefit because this option gives them the opportunity for advanced standing status in the training phases of the Academy. And existing State Police Academy graduates benefit by being able to come to Delaware Tech and earn an associate degree in Criminal Justice in a shortened time-frame."

Colonel Nathaniel McQueen, Jr. of the Delaware State Police agrees. "The Delaware State Police is proud of our partnership with the College and its Criminal Justice programs. The Law Enforcement Option provides the opportunity for our troopers to meet and mentor young people preparing for a career in public safety. We are able to instruct their courses, familiarize them with our training academy facility and provide them with a realistic view of today's policing profession. Based on the recent graduates' accounts, it was evident that they took great pride in being the first graduates of the program, and they feel uniquely prepared to pursue a career in Delaware law enforcement. We would be very proud to see them reach their full potential and serve side by side with all of us protecting our Delaware communities."

Graduates of the program receive their Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Degree in Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement Option.

For more information on the Law Enforcement Option contact Mike Terranova, Stanton Campus (292-3898); Nichole Shuler-Geer, Terry Campus (857-1742); or Keith Faulkner, Owens Campus (259-6502).
Partners in Education: Discover Bank and Delaware Tech

One of the many challenges facing the spouses and children of active service members is finding employment close to home in order to stay near their families and communities. This summer, Discover Bank and Delaware Tech’s Terry Campus partnered to offer the Work-at-Home Jobs Program for Dover Air Force Base military family members. This customer service training program provides a virtual call center training facility for those seeking careers in the financial services industry and prepares family members for jobs that will offer flexibility in where and how they work. In addition to training, Discover supplies each new employee with the necessary equipment and installation support to ensure a successful working environment at home.

Piloted in Delaware, the jobs program could potentially go national if successful here. “Discover would like to expand this partnership with Delaware Tech,” explained Jeff Moran, Discover’s regional operations director, “and we’re currently discussing future customer service training opportunities.”

Partnering with Head Start to Better Prepare Early Childhood Educators

New Castle County Head Start, Inc. and Delaware Tech have partnered to provide an associate degree-level class for staff at the Absalom Jones Head Start center in the Cedar Heights area of New Castle County. This is the first course offered by the College’s education department at a partner location. The course, Childhood Nutrition/Safety, is required for an associate degree in early childhood education.

New Castle County Head Start provides continuing education assistance to its entire full-time staff. While all teachers have at least a bachelor’s degree, the agency has set a goal for 100% of their teacher assistants to earn an associate degree or higher. “We are excited about expanding our partnership with Delaware Tech,” comments Executive Director Jeffrey Benatti. “We hope this class will evolve into a cohort program for our teacher assistants to work closely together in their pursuit of an associate degree in early childhood education.”

Delaware Tech’s Education Department Chairperson Kimberly Krzanowski says, “Early childhood educators are at the forefront of a child’s learning experience, and we look forward to strengthening our relationship with Head Start as we work together to ensure students are better prepared to succeed in the field.”

The College’s early childhood education degree provides training in curriculum development and implementation, communication skills and classroom management strategies. Graduates of the program play an important role in the delivery of quality children’s programs in a variety of settings including home and child care centers and have a strong foundation for moving into a management position in this growing field.
Delaware Tech’s Global Understanding series brings rich cultural experiences to students, staff and the community at all four campus locations. This year the series included over 30 events statewide. Some highlights included:

**Lula Washington Dance Theatre Performance:** This premiere African-American modern dance company was featured in a performance that mixed athleticism, performance art, acting, jazz, ballet and street dance styles to reflect the African-American experience in innovative ways. The dance company explores social issues that call for global humanism.

**Global Voices: Carlos Andrés Gómez:** World-renowned award-winning poet, actor and writer Carlos Andrés Gómez presented a “spoken word” performance and signed copies of his book *Man Up: Cracking the Code of Modern Manhood*. A former social worker and inner-city public school teacher, Carlos grew up the child of a United Nations diplomat and indigenous rights advocate. The workshop focused on what individuals can do to connect and make an impact in the world.

**A Billion Acts of Green: From China to Delaware Tech:** Energy management instructor Ken Mecham drew on his professional development trip to China to illustrate the contrasts between sustainability in China and the College in “Postcards from China.”

**The Role of Bagpipes in Law Enforcement:** Sergeant Chad Bernat of the Dover Police Department entertained the audience with a performance and history of bagpipes in law enforcement. Bernat explained the piper’s role in military operations spanning back to the days of the Roman Empire. Eight local law enforcement agencies participated in the event.

To encourage student participation at events, students can obtain a “passport” to be stamped at each presentation they attend. Students who obtain passport stamps for seven or more events during the academic year are eligible to enter a raffle for a free Delaware Tech study abroad course.

Visit [go.dtcc.edu/global](go.dtcc.edu/global) to view current offerings. The Global Understanding series is open to the public.  

The Global Understanding series is comprised of four components:

- **Global Voices** – personal perspectives on a global issue, region, culture or people
- **Postcards from Abroad** – presentations by College staff, faculty and students from different cultures or who have participated in study abroad programs
- **Global Skills** – interactive workshops that teach participants new skills they can use
- **Culture and Arts** – presentations in dancing, cooking, traditional dress or theatre

From left to right: Sergeant Chad Bernat of the Dover Police Department plays the bagpipes while educating students about their history.

Lula Washington Dance Theatre performed at Delaware Tech as part of the Global Understanding Series.
Students Explore Alternate Energy Sources in Denmark

In late spring 2013, as part of the College’s study abroad program, Terry Campus Energy Chairperson Jennifer Clemons returned to Denmark with a group of students for a second year to explore how alternative energy is being produced and consumed on a large scale.

Danish consumers pay one of the highest rates for electricity of any nation across the globe; thus, there is a huge incentive to reduce consumption and produce energy from renewable sources. In fact, Denmark has one of the highest percentages of renewable energy consumption of all the industrialized nations — providing a fascinating learning opportunity for students.

The students’ most memorable stops on their tour of the country included a wind farm where they had the opportunity to climb a wind turbine, and a visit to the Siemens Corporation where the group saw large wind turbines — up to 6MW — being built. Denmark is currently exploring other clean energy sources including garbage and algae. As part of their study abroad curriculum, students also learned about the country’s “sin tax.” This tax is paid on the consumption of “dirty” energy sources and levies used to discourage driving such as 200 percent vehicle taxes and those assessed on the purchase of cars with a back seat.

According to student Steve Seichepine, the impact of the trip went well beyond the curriculum: “I have nothing but positive experiences that I’ve taken from this opportunity and hope to apply lessons learned to challenges I may meet in the future, whether it be meeting new people, encountering a foreign culture, or discussing sustainability and renewable energy sources. I also hope to continue to nurture the personal connections I’ve made along my travels and continue to build these relationships across cultural boundaries and vast distances.”

“In Denmark, they’re doing in practice what we teach in theory. When students actually see it and experience it first-hand, there is a greater impact. They know that alternative energy is not just the future: it’s happening now.”

- Jennifer Clemons, department chairperson, Terry Campus energy department

Gaining a World View

Pictured left to right: James Volkomer, Energy Department Chairperson Jennifer Clemons, Steve Seichepine and Dean Zinetti on top of the Navitas Net Zero Energy Building in Denmark.
Next to an old loading dock in the heart of Wilmington is a hidden treasure. It’s a place for people to gather, have fun and learn new things – a place where the community has come together to convert an empty parking lot into a modern skate park. At the center of this effort is Matt Wilson – an entrepreneur, community activist and founder of Tyme Skateboard Co., a local manufacturer whose motto is “Moving the scene forward, one board at a time.”

Wilson started the company after completing the entrepreneurship associate degree program at Delaware Tech which gave him the skills and knowledge to transform an idea into a successful small business. The program is recognized by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs, a leading accreditation association for business education that embraces the virtues of teaching excellence. Wilson said the program not
only taught him how to start a business but introduced him to mentors who led by example and encouraged him to live up to his potential. He credits business instructors David Hall and June Roux with helping him to graduate from Delaware Tech with straight A's and go on to Goldey-Beacom College where he completed his bachelor's degree on a scholarship. He expects to complete his master's in business administration this winter.

“Matt has a deep passion for the sport of skateboarding,” says David Hall, chair of the entrepreneurship program at Delaware Tech’s Wilmington Campus. “I knew he was going to venture into something that reflected that passion. He has been an inspiration to our current students and to all those who have heard his story.”

While focusing on his education, Wilson has also been working on growing a grassroots business that combines his hobby of skateboarding with his passion for giving back to the community. “The skateboard industry has been taken over by just a few big companies. I felt there needed to be a change.”

To create that change, Wilson came up with a business model to donate money to the local skateboarding community with every board sold. The funds are donated on behalf of the skate shop that sells the boards, creating a win-win for the community and the stores. “It’s a way to give back without cutting into the store’s revenue stream,” says Wilson.

“I’m not in the business to try to make money; I am here to give the local scene a chance to grow their sport,” says Wilson. “The more support I get, the more I donate.” Wilson is a leader in the local skate community, helping to build skate parks which involves repaving and constructing ramps and structures on which skaters practice tricks. The skate parks improve and revitalize the communities in which they reside. He is also involved with the Wilmington Skate Project and works as a skate board instructor at a skate park in Kennett Square.

Wilson’s business keeps it local in every way. His skateboards are designed by a student volunteer who is growing his portfolio and getting the chance to see his designs come to life. Wilson said he is not sure what the future holds for him or for Tyme Skateboards. “I’m going to see where this goes as I pursue my other dreams,” Wilson says. These dreams include working as a college faculty member and giving back to the students like him who are seeking a fresh approach to teaching and learning. “Regardless of how the business turns out, I consider myself a success,” says Wilson. “I always say to do what you want to do, not what you’re told to do. That is success to me.”
Victoria Varga came to Delaware Tech because it provided her with focus and opportunity. With the help of a SEED scholarship, she began the nursing program at the Stanton Campus directly after high school. “I wanted to be a nurse because I wanted to make a difference,” she says.

And she has – both in the classroom and in the hospital. Her caring personality and commitment to the program impressed both her instructors and her fellow students. During her time at Delaware Tech, she earned a Mardi Gras Scholarship, served as treasurer of the Student Nurses Association, and received the Frank Linzenbold Award for the nursing graduate who exemplifies caring.

“As a nursing student, Victoria stood out because she was caring and motivated to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to deliver quality nursing care,” said Jackie Henaghan RN, Ed.D., one of Victoria’s nursing instructors.

Victoria also took advantage of Delaware Tech’s study abroad program while in school, traveling to Mexico with a group of fellow nursing students to learn about their health care system and explore the Mayan culture. “The study-abroad experience opened my eyes to how it must feel to be in a foreign place, speaking a language that most people don’t understand,” she says. This perspective has helped her to be a more empathetic nurse to her patients at Christiana Health Care System’s Wilmington Hospital, where she works as a Registered Nurse (RN) in the hospital’s stroke unit.

Victoria is currently working toward a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) at the University of Delaware after which she hopes to earn a master’s degree. “I want to continue nursing, maybe as a nurse practitioner one day.” For now, she is happily working at her dream job, practicing the lessons she learned at Delaware Tech. “Delaware Tech prepared me for my boards and for my job as a nurse in a hospital,” she says. She cites the real-world experience of her instructors as being especially helpful during her studies. “My nursing instructors at Delaware Tech have a special place in my heart,” she says. “They developed me and guided me. They were role models.”

The same could be said for Victoria who is now active on the board of the Delaware Nurses Association, an extension of her leadership experience in the Student Nurses Association at Delaware Tech. Victoria was recognized by her peers as one of Delaware’s top nurses by Delaware Today in May 2013. She has received numerous citations from her patients for her knowledge and caring attitude.

“Nursing is much more rewarding than I even thought it would be,” says Victoria. “It can be a challenging profession, but that one patient or family that you can help makes all the effort worth it.”
Trey Jewell never intended to serve as the leader of the Owens Campus golf team; it was just a role that he fell into naturally.

“I’ve played golf and baseball since I was around 3 years old,” says Jewell. “But I had to make a choice in high school and I was better at golf.” A native of Seaford, he graduated from Sussex Technical High School where he played varsity golf for four years and was named the team’s Outstanding Golfer as a senior. When Jewell enrolled at Delaware Tech in the fall of 2012, he viewed Delaware Tech’s golf team as an easy way for him to get involved with an extracurricular activity on campus. But he knew it would be harder than playing at Sussex Tech. “I needed to stay home and study instead of going out with friends, and I just practiced as much as I could. My first thought was just to do better than I did in high school. After our first match I thought, ‘I can beat these guys.’”

As a freshman player, Jewell emerged as the best golfer on the team with a 77 stroke average for the season. He was named First Team All-Region XIX and qualified for the National Junior College Athletic Association playoffs where he placed 44 out of over 100 golfers.

A strong mental approach to golf allows him to focus on one shot at a time and forget about the bad shots. And his practice time has allowed him to become more confident and consistent. Jewell has also started helping his own teammates by playing against them regularly in practice and putting together friendly bets to see who gets the best score. “I try to help everyone,” he says. “I’ve been in their shoes before – not being as good or getting frustrated – and I wanted to do anything I could to improve the team.”

“When it comes to being a role model for the other players, he’s exactly what all coaches would look for,” Head Coach Thomas Jackson says. “Being one of the youngest on the team, we didn’t expect him to shine as a leader, but he definitely embraced that role.”

As a student, Jewell decided to major in civil engineering technology after initially considering architectural engineering. “I always like designing stuff, and I’ve always liked math,” he says. “With civil engineering you’ll always need roads, bridges and things like that, so I figured there’ll be more of a demand for it.”

In addition to his classwork and playing golf, Jewell also volunteers with the Blades Fire Department and holds a job. His ability to become an elite athlete while balancing multiple responsibilities and maintaining his academic standing makes him a shining example of what a collegiate student-athlete can be. And he’s not satisfied with the status quo. About his upcoming season, he says, “I want to go back to nationals and play well enough to compete for the win. And I want to be an All-American.”
‘U Do the Math’ Expert Visits Math Success Centers

A visitor approaches a student working diligently at a computer in one of Delaware Tech’s Math Success Centers. “How are you doing?” he asks. The student looks up from his computer screen. “Hey, are you John Squires? I know your voice!”

Delaware Tech students regularly hear the voice of John Squires in Pearson’s MyMathLab series of 10-minute instructional videos, a data-driven learning program designed to improve student test scores in math. With more than 100 topics covered in these videos, Squires has become a math rock star.

Squires is math department head at Chattanooga State Community College in Tennessee. As director of “U Do the Math,” he is a nationally recognized expert in using technology to improve student learning. He visited the Delaware Tech Campuses in June to conduct a two-day site visit with College instructors, providing expert review of the College’s Math Emporium initiatives. These initiatives are designed to help students learn online at their own pace while the instructional team provides individualized coaching.

Squires advocates for “math on demand.” This is accomplished through flexible scheduling and extended hours including Saturdays. He says that students also must be allowed to advance seamlessly into the next level once they have mastered their current level.

“Students must know they can get help any time they need it in a friendly environment,” Squires said, adding that Delaware Tech’s Math Centers are accomplishing that mission. “Delaware Tech is turning road blocks into ramps of success for students,” he said.

Squires is a believer in providing educational opportunities online. He says it gives students who are typically reluctant to speak up in a traditional classroom the opportunity to ask questions and explore concepts in a non-threatening environment. But he is quick to add that students will always need great teachers to connect with.

Newly Designed Nursing Program Offers Additional Options

Delaware Tech’s nationally accredited nursing program combines cutting-edge classroom technology with clinical experience at local hospitals and community sites to ensure graduates have the skills employers are seeking. And now, the College is helping aspiring nurses to reach their career goals much faster. With a Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, the College has recently created an accelerated option to help students complete their degree in just 18 months.

Although the non-accelerated option still exists for students who want to attend college part-time or take longer to complete their degree, the newly designed accelerated program offers a variety of choices that did not exist in the past.
In response to a joint request from the three county paramedic agencies and the Delaware State Police, Delaware Tech is doubling the size of its paramedic program. As large numbers of baby boomers are leaving the workforce, attrition is expected to reach 15 percent each year through 2018 and contribute to as many as 37 new openings per year. The College’s expanded paramedic program, housed at the Terry Campus, will prepare approximately two-thirds of the paramedics needed to fill those spots.

Allied Health Chairperson and Paramedic Program Coordinator Chris Hainsworth explains how the College found a solution to the challenges that come with expansion. “Larger classes won’t work. You need clinical space, and you need field training spots within the 20 paramedic units in the state.” So the College will run classes in January and May to avoid the overlap of clinicals. In addition, two new instructors have been hired, and classroom and lab space have been added to accommodate the additional students.

The College is proud of its close partnership with the state’s first responders. As Hainsworth notes, “Not everyone who comes into the program gets through, but nearly everyone who gets through and gets certified goes to work in one of the three counties.”

More information about the College’s paramedic program can be found at go.dtcc.edu/paramedic or by contacting Chris Hainsworth at chainswo@dtcc.edu.

The new program allows students to:
- Obtain the Certified Nursing Assistant credential (CNA) at the beginning of their coursework and begin to work as a CNA
- Opt out after successfully completing either the first or second semester of the clinical program’s courses and transition into the College’s Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) program
- Enter the program as an advanced placement student if they hold a current license as a CNA, LPN or paramedic and meet program requirements
- Begin working as a registered nurse upon completion of the program if they are successful on their national board test; and transfer to another institution to complete their bachelor’s degree in nursing

“The multiple points of entry and exit offer students a choice,” says TAACCCT Grant Project Director Julia Seeley. “With this new program, students can not only finish the nursing degree at a rapid pace – they can also choose to exit the program if their circumstances or goals change and still obtain a credential that will allow them to earn a meaningful wage.”
Across the nation, there is a shortage of professionals training in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). Delaware is no different, so how do we ensure that our state’s workforce is prepared for STEM careers? One way is through the National Science Foundation’s (NSF’s) Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) which provides significant investment in 28 states to catalyze novel and innovative mechanisms to promote scientific progress nationwide.

Delaware Tech and its higher education partners—Delaware State University, University of Delaware and Wesley College—are a vital part of this effort, having recently been awarded their third EPSCoR grant entitled, “Meeting Delaware’s 21st Century Water and Energy Challenges through Research, Education and Innovation,” a five-year Research Infrastructure Improvement grant. Leading the effort at Delaware Tech is Dr. Virginia Balke, a biology instructor at the Stanton Campus and a pioneer of undergraduate research at the College. Dr. Balke and her team will work to encourage students to enter STEM careers and increase retention and graduation in STEM programs. They will also create student research opportunities in the College’s environmental engineering, energy management and water quality programs.

The grants’ research theme is focused on energy, water and the environment and the work at Delaware Tech will involve:

➤ Providing professional development for faculty to embed research opportunities into associate degree curricula

Dr. Balke will run workshops to train instructors on how to develop successful undergraduate research programs in the grant areas.

➤ Collaborating with other grant partners to develop research internships for students

Dr. Balke will continue to collaborate with scholars from Delaware State University, University of Delaware and Wesley College to identify core projects that can be brought to Delaware Tech. This collaboration will also encourage those senior institutions to open up their labs for summer internships, as they have been doing in biology as part of the EPSCoR grant.

➤ Developing STEM learning opportunities for K-12 students

As part of the grant, students and instructors will conduct site visits at middle and high schools throughout the state in order to expose younger students to STEM careers. STEM-centered summer camps funded by a previous EPSCoR grant will continue, with a goal to increase the diversity of the students attending by increasing marketing efforts at target feeder schools and offering scholarships.

“This grant is a great opportunity for Delaware Tech to engage our students in the classroom with active learning and high-impact practices. It will also open up additional job markets for our students.”

- Dr. Virginia Balke

➤ Working with CIRWA and other experts to map the STEM pipeline of career opportunities and educational requirements

Delaware Tech’s Center for Industry Research & Workforce Alignment (CIRWA), is a future-focused, labor-market research and analysis center aimed at identifying evolving change within an industry and assessing the impact on educational programs and the available workforce within the region. According to CIRWA Executive Director Veronica Buckwalter, the group will be working in conjunction with the EPSCoR grant to look at STEM-related jobs in the industries identified in the grant to educate middle and high school students about lesser known or emerging careers they may be unaware exist, and to create a career map for the students so they can clearly see the educational pathways they need to take.

“STEM skills overlap into every industry today,” says Buckwalter. “Learning STEM principles at an early age is critical so that students have the foundation they need to be successful in college and in careers in these areas.”

A developing the next generation of STEM professionals
For Dr. Tommy Lu, chairperson of the computer information systems department at the Wilmington Campus, teaching is a privilege. Having begun his professional career as a teacher, he left the profession to work in private industry, where he often recalls watching the clock and seeing the hours tick by slowly. When he returned to teaching at Delaware Tech nearly 20 years ago, he realized it was his true calling. “Here,” he says, “quitting time always comes as a surprise.”

In addition to being an active member of the Delaware Tech community, Dr. Lu has a passion for teaching Chinese students, holding leadership positions at the Chinese-American School for many years and recently forming the Delaware Chinese Teachers Association in Delaware. He also lends his expertise on the Chinese language through the American Council of Teaching Foreign Languages.

This past summer, through a College Faculty Innovation Grant, Dr. Lu developed a Delaware Tech youth camp on information security to introduce middle and high school students to the topic and encourage them to seek a career in the field.

“Information security is a new field and a new way of using computer tools,” says Lu. “This age group tends to break the system. This camp gave the students a more positive way to think and protect data.”

At Delaware Tech, Dr. Lu devotes his time and energy to his students and says he enjoys the community college atmosphere. “I love the focus on teaching and the chance to collaborate with community members at the College,” he says. “Each year my proudest moment is to watch the students walk across the stage and get their degree.”

As a long-time instructor and former department chairperson of the Owens Campus engineering technology program, Dr. Doug Hicks has seen first hand the importance of a good foundation in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) for students entering college programs.

As acting chair of the Higher Education Subcommittee of the Delaware STEM Council, he’s taking a leading role in improving college readiness for Delaware schoolchildren.

As Delaware Tech’s representative on the Council, he is working with Delaware State University and other members of his subcommittee to put together a proposal for a National Science Foundation grant in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Talent Expansion Program (STEP) grant that would total $2.5 million over five years. The project is focused on getting more students interested in STEM careers, increasing their college readiness, and keeping them in the pipeline to complete college degrees.

“The effort involves organizing and promoting STEM pathways, as well as providing feedback mechanisms to school districts to help them better prepare students to succeed in degree programs,” says Hicks.

The Delaware STEM Council, consisting of 25 members representing education and industry statewide, was established by Governor Markell in 2009 with the goal of making Delaware a leader in STEM education by inspiring and preparing students to use innovation and creative problem solving to excel in the global society.

For more information on the Delaware STEM Council, visit www.DelawareSTEM.org.
Delaware Tech is giving new meaning to new student orientation. Instead of the typical one-hour, one-time event, the College is now offering incoming students the Front Door Experience, a comprehensive program that provides activities and resources designed to prepare students for long-term success.

Based on research on student success and what drives students to stay in college and finish, the program was developed to foster a student’s commitment to attending Delaware Tech, provide opportunities for students to engage with peers and connect with campus resources, and support the academic and social transition to the collegiate environment.

According to Dr. Kimberly Joyce, associate vice president of academic affairs, “The Front Door Experience is a proven national best practice for student success and retention. New students need a clear academic pathway and plenty of support. We designed it as we would a class. We asked ourselves, what do new students need to know, think and do in order to have a successful start at Delaware Tech? Then we wrote learning outcomes for each component to ensure that every new student is informed, engaged and encouraged.”

The components were also shaped by student feedback received through the Community College Survey of Student Engagement and the Noel Levitz Student Satisfaction Survey. The College learned from these studies that students place a high value on advisement and orientation, but that these opportunities were under-utilized and misunderstood.

Each of the Front Door Experience components sets different expectations of student participation. Initial advisement is mandated, and students may not register until they have completed this step.

The College is now offering a QuickStart program that encompasses initial advisement, placement testing and registration in a single visit to the campus to help students complete each step quickly and efficiently.

New student orientation, which has been enhanced this year, is offered throughout the months leading up to the start of classes. Students are welcome to attend an orientation session before or after they complete initial advisement. Some exciting changes to look forward to include online orientation advisement and the use of peer leaders as facilitators for in-person orientation.

Welcome Week offers an array of fun and interactive student activities during the first two weeks of school for new and returning students. This initial two-week period has been identified as a critical decision-making period for new students to decide if they will continue in school, so it is important to offer opportunities to become connected to the College. Activities include the Presidential Welcome, an outdoor movie screening, information sessions, picnics and scavenger hunts, all designed to introduce students to Delaware Tech and its many resources.

Tamara Thomas, a second-year nursing student at the Stanton Campus, said she enjoyed the events of Welcome Week and would like to become more involved in student life this year. She plans to join the Student Nurses Association and an arts club, which she signed up for at a student life expo during
Welcome Week. “It will look good on my résumé when I’m job searching, and it will help me to become more invested in my College,” said Thomas. “I also want to run for student government.”

The final component of the Front Door Experience is SSC100, a first-year seminar that is encouraged for new students. The course is an introduction to college life that teaches the tools necessary for success at Delaware Tech.

Across all of the Front Door Experience programs is an emphasis on establishing relationships and creating opportunities to make connections. According to Dr. Joanne Damminger, assistant vice president for student affairs in the Office of the President, Dr. Damminger most recently worked at Salem Community College, where she served as chief student affairs officer. Prior to her career at Salem Community College, Joanne served as director of student transition and leadership programs and executive assistant to the vice president for Student Affairs at Rowan University. In addition, Dr. Damminger serves as adjunct faculty at Rowan University in the doctoral program in Educational Leadership. She holds a master’s degree in Student Personnel Services and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from Rowan University.

Dr. Damminger recently began a term as president of the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising), an international non-profit association that promotes quality academic advising and professional development for over 11,000 faculty members, professional advisors, administrators and counselors in academic and student affairs. We sat down with Dr. Damminger to learn more about her background and plans for student success at Delaware Tech.

What brought you to Delaware Tech?

I’ve worked in student affairs for many years. Serving students and providing support to help them be successful is really a passion of mine. We couldn’t do this work if we didn’t love it. When I saw the position at Delaware Tech, I knew it would afford me the opportunity to serve more students by working at a much larger venue. I also really loved the challenge of coordinating student affairs across four campuses. I believe in the community college mission. I believe that we serve the needs of a large group of students who otherwise might not be going to college. We have to think strategically because our students are coming in with many of life’s challenges, and they really need our help.

How did you become involved with NACADA, and why did you decide to serve as president?

NACADA is the global community for academic advising. In my first professional position, my supervisor encouraged me to think about where I wanted to develop and demonstrate my leadership. I attended a NACADA annual conference in 1998 and found that the culture of NACADA was very engaging and empowering. It is a grassroots, volunteer-led association where you can get as involved as you want, and you can aspire to and develop skills for a leadership position. I got involved at a regional level and then was asked to serve as chair of a national committee for member career services. I was then nominated for the Board of Directors, elected as the vice-president and then elected as president. As a NACADA leader, I feel that I am giving back to the association and its members, and I can inspire and mentor others while providing leadership for the association.

Can you tell us about your philosophy on advising?

I believe, much like many experts who have studied student success, that advising may be the only major support area that has the potential to impact every student. Students need someone to guide them through their educational experience and today more than ever, to help them realize that the educational choices they make must tie together with their goals. Recent studies show that advising has to be more than just choosing a sequence of courses because it has the potential to help students think about their life and vocational goals and how their choices for majors and courses factor into them.
Delaware Technical Community College is supported by a generous group of donors from across the state – people just like you who contribute in a wide variety of ways to help the College provide educational access, opportunity, excellence and hope for Delawareans.

Donations go to support many aspects of a student’s journey to graduation and beyond. Examples include student and youth camp scholarships, high-tech equipment for state-of-the-art learning labs, and funding for student success initiatives like tutoring programs – just to name a few.

When you donate, you invest in the success of our communities! Your generosity makes it possible for students to obtain a high-quality education resulting in access to good-paying jobs and a brighter future for themselves, their families, our communities and our state.

Learn more about the donors highlighted on the next few pages who are helping turn obstacles into opportunities for our students.

**THANK YOU!**
Bank of America is a great example of an organization stepping up and contributing to a brighter future for the state. Administered by Delaware Tech’s Corporate and Community Programs Division, the $60,000 grant funds a project to improve job placement for underserved Delawareans who complete workforce training programs at the College.

The funding is being used to hire three part-time employment services specialists to forge relationships with employers, set up internships and help students connect and persist in jobs for which they have successfully trained.

The College serves between 500 and 600 individuals annually with job training. Students participate in programs such as food service, Microsoft office technician, dental assistant, certified nursing assistant, electronic health records, medical assistant, pharmacy technician, phlebotomy technician, operations and maintenance technician, personal trainer and early childhood education. Each program includes classroom training, a clinical or internship rotation, and work readiness and soft skills training.

Employers interested in learning more about the program or posting job opportunities can visit go.dtcc.edu/continuinged.

student scholarships

The Arthur & Ruth Ellen Challman Endowed Scholarship provides funds for tuition, books, fees, equipment and other costs for students who are enrolled at the Jack F. Owens Campus in any Health Career Technology program.

Student(s) may be enrolled full time or part time and must have and maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or greater with at least 30 credits earned. Preference is given to students who submit a letter of recommendation from their church official.

“The first scholarship I received, the Little Scholars Child Care Scholarship from Discover Bank, allowed me to continue my son’s enrollment in Delaware Tech’s Child Development Center. It is important to me that I was able to have him on campus at all times in case of an emergency, and he has been taught so much while attending the center. My second scholarship, the Arthur & Ruth Ellen Challman Endowed Scholarship, assisted me with tuition and the purchase of my books.

I am so thankful that these scholarships are available to students. It has allowed me to return to school as a single mom and complete my dreams, and lessening the financial burden has allowed me to focus my time to my studies. I have also been given the opportunity to serve as the President of the Physical Therapist Assistant club where I am able to dedicate a lot of time outside of school volunteering in college and community activities.

It is because of these scholarships that I am able to devote my time to my studies, community and my son. Without them, I am unsure if I would have been able to return to college because of the financial burden.”

– Brittanie Truitt

opportunity

Dental Assistant program
When Tom Hawkins, Jr. of the organization Plug In Electric Vehicles Delaware (PIE Delaware), a meetup.com group based in Newark, was looking for a place to donate his electric car, Delaware Technical Community College came to mind. He knew the school was interested in energy conservation and sustainability, and he was familiar with the Stanton Campus’ automotive department. It seemed like the perfect fit.

On October 12, 2012, he dropped off the car in person, to a group of Delaware Tech faculty and staff.

The electric car is a bright green Zap Xebra, an eye-catching vehicle with one front wheel and two back wheels that seats four people. The Zap Xebra is the only city-class electric vehicle in production, costs approximately three cents per mile to run, and can reach speeds up to 40 miles per hour. It runs on six 12-volt batteries.

Delaware Tech’s automotive department will use the car in its automotive electrical training class to teach students theory and practice of electric vehicles, how to properly charge the batteries, and how to maintain safety around high voltage.

“\textit{The electric car will tie in very nicely with our commitment to sustainable energy management. The students will enjoy having a hands-on way to learn about electric cars.}”

- John Hoopes, department chairperson of the Stanton Campus automotive department

Struggling to find the perfect gift for the person who has everything? Thinking about giving less “stuff” this season? Want to make a difference for a Delaware Tech student? We’ve got some great ideas for you!

**Shop and Search for a Cause!**

It’s as easy as using GoodShop (www.goodshop.com) when you shop online and GoodSearch (www.goodsearch.com) as your search engine. Visit one or both of these sites, and be sure to select Delaware Technical Community College as the organization you support. The College receives donations from the site’s advertising income, and you don’t pay anything extra! You even get access to GoodShop special deals and coupons!

**Giving Tuesday**

Be part of a growing, national movement of online giving this season. On December 3, 2013, the day after Cyber Monday, make an online donation to Delaware Tech’s Educational Foundation at go.dtcc.edu/giving and clicking on “Donate Online.”

**Sport a Delaware Tech License Plate!**

Show your Delaware Tech spirit by purchasing a Delaware Tech specialty license plate for yourself or as a gift. Two-digit plates cost $100, and three- and four-digit plates cost $75. Many numbers are still available! All but $10 is a tax deductible donation. Send an email to Donna Connor (dconnor@dtcc.edu) with your request.

**Donate in Someone’s Honor**

In the true spirit of the season, make a donation in someone’s honor, and we’ll let them know of your heartfelt tribute to them. It’s a great gift for the person who has everything!

You can donate online at go.dtcc.edu/giving or print the online form, complete it and mail it to the address below with your check payable to the foundation.

**DTCC Educational Foundation**

Donna Connor, Office of the President
P.O. Box 897, Dover, DE 19903

All donations go to Delaware Tech’s Educational Foundation to help bridge the gap between the needs of our students and the resources available to meet those needs.
The Legacy Society is a special group of donors who contribute lifetime gifts of at least $50,000 and/or have announced their intention to leave a gift to the College through estate planning.

Honorary Legacy Society members are individuals designated to carry on the wishes of the Legacy Society donor.

Legacy Society

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Events

Economic Summit, Terry Campus

Citizens, community leaders, business leaders and local government officials gathered on Tuesday, September 24, for the 5th Annual Kent County Economic Summit. The Summit provides a voice on the economic development of Kent County.

Speakers included Governor Jack A. Markell; the Hon. Alan B. Levin, secretary, Delaware Economic Development Office; Dr. Mark T. Brainard, executive vice president of Delaware Tech, and many other government and community leaders.

Distinguished Alumni/Walk of Success, Owens Campus

Sally Broadhurst of Lewes and Rodney M. Layfield of Georgetown received the 2013 Distinguished Alumni Award for the Jack F. Owens Campus on September 25.

The award is presented each year to graduates in recognition of excellence and outstanding achievements in their professional careers. Both of their names will be added to the Campus’ Walk of Success.

Alumni and Friends 5K, Stanton/Wilmington Campus

The Alumni and Friends 5K Run/Walk, held October 2, raises money that provides scholarships to students through the Alumni Board Scholarship Fund. This year’s event, the sixth annual, raised more than $9,000.

Flavors of the World, Stanton Campus

The annual Flavors of the World, an international food and wine-tasting event, held on October 12, benefits study abroad scholarships at Delaware Tech. Participants enjoy cuisine prepared by the Delaware Tech Culinary Department, wine and beer, and live music.

Delaware Tech is grateful to the numerous individuals who contribute their time, effort and money to College events. Events are a valuable asset to our community and students. These events provide networking and conversations about our community and workforce, honor alumni and raise funds for College initiatives and student scholarships.
November 23, 2013
Saturday Before the Season; Village Shoppes and Fashion Show, Owens Campus, Georgetown

Saturday Before the Season offers a day of elegant fashion and pre-holiday shopping. This year’s event includes the sixth annual Fashion Show to raise money for study abroad scholarships and international education, as well as the Village Shoppes – a unique opportunity that allows visitors to peruse a collection of local boutiques and restaurants under one roof. Contact Sarah Smith at (302) 259-6089.

February 8, 2014
An Evening of Mardi Gras, Stanton/Wilmington Campus, Wilmington

An Evening of Mardi Gras is an exciting, fun-filled evening with exceptional New Orleans style music, entertainment, casino games, food and celebration. This event will raise funds for the Educational Foundation while developing and strengthening community friendships. Contact Carolyn Moloney at (302) 292-3872.

February 15, 2014
Valentine Chocolate Lovers 5K Run/Walk, Terry Campus, Dover

This annual event raises funds to support study abroad scholarships and the Global Understanding Series. The scholarships provide deserving students with financial assistance for study abroad which helps prepare them to compete in today’s global workplace. Register at TriSportsEvents.com.

April 26, 2014
Starry, Starry Night Gala, Owens Campus, Georgetown

Starry, Starry Night, the annual black-tie optional gala, is a highly successful themed event for 500 guests featuring a reception, dinner, performance, art exhibit, cultural activities and specialty desserts and beverages. Proceeds benefit the Educational Foundation. Contact Sarah Smith at (302) 259-6089.

May 2014
Roady 5K, Owens Campus, Georgetown

The annual event, held on campus, is sponsored by the alumni association and student government association and supports the graduating class gift to the campus. Contact Jason Bentley at (302) 259-6024.

Sussex County Today & Tomorrow Conference, Owens Campus

Community leaders, educators, businesspeople and elected officials joined together to raise public awareness regarding current economic issues at the 20th annual Sussex County Today & Tomorrow Conference on October 30 in Georgetown. This year’s conference focused on employees as an organization’s most valuable resource as the county continues to grow and present opportunities and challenges.

Gourmet Gala, Terry Campus

This annual black tie-optional event, held on October 19, showcases outstanding local chefs, microbrewers, restaurateurs and vinters. Open bar, silent auction and live music were featured. Proceeds benefit the Educational Foundation Endowment Fund providing scholarships and financial assistance to deserving students.
Delaware Tech is proud of its recent re-accreditation by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) with commendations for the quality of the self-study process. This is a significant achievement as federal regulations for increased accountability in education have resulted in the Commission more closely examining standards related to student learning, assessment and institutional outcomes.

The decennial re-accreditation process, conducted by MSCHE, is a 10-year cycle of review that includes the submission of an in-depth self-study report and an on-site evaluation team visit comprised of college presidents, vice presidents, faculty and staff of regional peer colleges and institutions.

The self-study process provided Delaware Tech with the opportunity to reflect, explore and analyze how well it is meeting MSCHE’s 14 standards for accreditation in relation to the College’s mission and reaffirmed the institution’s commitment to continual improvement. The College also leveraged the self-study to improve services for students and enhance the use of assessment results in ways that lead to meaningful improvement.

“The reaffirmation of Delaware Tech’s accreditation, with commendations from the Middle States Commission on the quality of our self-study process, confirms that the College is an institution of excellence focused on high-quality instruction and student success,” stated Dr. Orlando J. George, Jr. “This re-accreditation also proves that the College continues to fulfill its mission and is well positioned to continue to provide access, opportunity, excellence and hope to Delawareans to better their lives through education.”

Hundreds of Delaware Tech faculty, staff and administrators participated in the in-depth review at all four campus locations. Evaluation of the College’s programs, services, finances and operations took over two years and resulted in a 100-page comprehensive self-study report for each campus, with additional documents containing evidence and resources.

Upon submission of the self-study report, Dr. James Sunser, president of Genesee Community College in New York, led a team of reviewers from several peer community colleges on a three-day intensive visit that included meetings, discussion and document review. Governor Jack Markell welcomed the accreditation team via a live video feed and spoke about the importance of Delaware Tech to the state and the College’s success in meeting its mission and serving the residents and businesses of Delaware.

Other than the standard five-year Periodic Review Report due on November 1, 2018, Delaware Tech has no requirements for further action related to this re-accreditation. The College is in a select group, as only 29% of the MSCHE institutions most recently reaffirmed through the self-study process had no follow-up actions required.

In addition, out of the 60 institutions that were re-accredited this year, Delaware Tech’s re-accreditation process was chosen as a “best practice” and the College was selected to present at the 2013 Middle States Self-Study Institute.

“The College presented its self-study in a highly factual, honest, and complete manner and embraced this process as an opportunity for continual improvement. It is clear from the excellent feedback received from the Middle States Commission and the evaluation team that our approach was commendable; they were very complimentary of the College. This is the best possible outcome for Delaware Tech, and I am extremely proud of our Board of Trustees, faculty, staff and administrators for their efforts in our re-accreditation.”

- Dr. Orlando J. George, Jr., President
APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Kathy Janvier – appointed acting vice president and campus director for the Stanton/Wilmington Campus. Kathy began her career at Delaware Tech as an instructor in the Nursing Department in 1989. She was promoted to department chairperson in 2004 and became instructional director in 2007. In June of 2011, Kathy was appointed dean of instruction for the Stanton/Wilmington Campus.

Dr. Kathern R. Friel – appointed acting dean of instruction for the Stanton/Wilmington Campus. Kathy began her career at the College in 1985 as an instructor and program coordinator for Dental Hygiene. She then served as instructional director and department chairperson. In 1999 Kathy became assistant dean of instruction at the Wilmington Campus and since July 2012 has served as assistant dean of instruction for the Stanton Campus.

Dr. Cory Budischak – appointed to the State of Delaware’s Green and Better Building Advisory Committee. Cory is an Energy Technologies and Electrical Engineering Technology instructor at the Stanton Campus. Dr. Budischak received his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and has conducted research in the areas of photovoltaic module thermal management and high penetration of renewables on the electric grid.

Dr. Virginia Balke – appointed project director for the College’s EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement grant. This five-year grant seeks to encourage students to enter STEM careers, increase retention and graduation in STEM programs, and expand research opportunities for students in areas related to the grant’s research themes. Dr. Balke is a science instructor at the Stanton Campus and is currently the principal investigator (PI) on a National Science Foundation Advanced Technological Education grant and co-PI on the Community College Undergraduate Research Initiative and National Institutes of Health Delaware INBRE grant.

Mary M. Doody – appointed acting assistant dean of instruction for the Stanton Campus. Mary began her career at Delaware Tech as an instructor in the English Department in 1991. In 2003 Mary was appointed instructional coordinator, and in 2011 she was appointed department chairperson of the English/Reading Department at the Stanton Campus.
Take control of your financial future today.

Don’t let money worries today interfere with your career dreams of tomorrow!

Get free expert help with financial aid, taxes, debt, budgeting and financial goal setting.

Available to the public, make an appointment today!

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