



Washington County Community College

Calais, Maine

Discover Choices • Create Success

The President's Message:

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Washington County Community College has had another successful academic year in 2016-2017. The college continues to garner national attention, having been named the Top Community College in Maine in 2016 by BestSchools.com, and one of the Top 50 Community Colleges in the USA in 2016 by TheBestSchools.org. These honors are a direct reflection of the talent and hard work that is demonstrated in the classrooms, shops, and offices across the school by our faculty and staff.

As you may have heard, WCCC has been partnering with Calais Regional Hospital over the past year and half to bring a nurse training program back to Calais.

Nursing programs are highly regulated and very expensive to run, but the need for well trained nurses is acute in Washington County and across Maine. With an immense amount of work by both WCCC and CRH, we have together been able to secure the commitment of Northern Maine Community College in Presque Isle to bring its Nursing program to Calais starting in September. This joint effort will utilize the strengths of all three partners, with NMCC offering nursing courses, CRH providing a clinical setting for students, and WCCC providing general education courses for the nursing candidates. The Maine Community College System has agreed to fund the lion's share of this program for two years through its Bring College to ME program. All three partners have agreed to commit to two years of instruction under this model while exploring ways to make this program a perennial offering.

WCCC and the entire Maine Community College System have received a grant of

more than \$800,000 from the Kresge Foundation to fund participation in the national Achieving the Dream (ATD) program. ATD is a consortium of some of the best community colleges in America and focuses on strengthening and building a college's capacity to ensure that more students complete their college education and have greater opportunity for economic success. Through evidence-based strategies and access to experienced coaching teams, ATD supports colleges as they undertake institutional change to increase student success. WCCC looks forward to working with our partners in higher education across Maine and the United States to reflect on what we do that works and what we can do better to serve our students in Downeast Maine.

As always, thank you for your continued support of our college and our students. We couldn't do what we do without you.

Joseph L. Cassidy, Esq.
President

16th Annual Golf Tournament

Raising funds for the WCCC Direct-to-Student scholarship fund

An exciting day is planned for the 16th annual Washington County Community College Golf Tournament on Saturday, July 8, 2017, at the St. Croix Country Club.

There will be two shotgun starts, the first at 7:30 a.m. and the second at 1:00 p.m. The tournament showcases the College's goal to raise money for its annual Direct-to-Student scholarship fund. Last year, individuals and businesses raised \$10,500 and 30 WCCC students were awarded scholarships.

The lucky golfer who hits a hole-in-one on the first hole will win a brand new automobile. Tournament co-sponsor Ian Pratt, of Pratt Chevrolet Buick GMC on the River Road in Calais, is the sponsor of that prize. Pratt also plans to donate other prizes for the tournament.

What makes this scholarship program so unique is the role that the individual or business that donates plays in the life of the student, as each scholarship created goes directly to the student. As in the past, donors are able to create a scholarship in their name or their business's name, or in memory of a loved one. The scholarship can also be anonymous. Donors choose the program of study they wish to support and create the scholarship criteria. A \$250 or more donation is presented to the deserving student at the end of the year. It is all tax deductible to the donor.

"Although the tournament is an exciting event each year, this is really about helping Washington County students," WCCC President Joe Cassidy said. "We have seen year after year that a single donation can make the difference for helping a student stay in school."

Anyone who would like to participate in the scholarship program can send their donation to Tina Erskine at Washington County Community College, One College Drive, Calais, ME 04619. Please make checks payable to the WCCC 2017 Scholarship Fund. For more information about the golf tournament or the scholarship program, please call Erskine at 454-1002.

Congratulations, Gayle!

There will be one less smiling face on campus as TRIO Director Gayle Moholland has retired. Students will remember Gayle fondly for her ability to manage crises as deftly as she handled math problems. Gayle began her work in TRIO as a math tutor before becoming director five years ago. Now that she has reached the end of her journey in student support services, she will be joining her husband Bob as they hit the open road in their camper to parts unknown. Gayle says she will miss having day-to-day contact with students and seeing those who "have worked so hard to get their reward" walk across the stage at graduation. From all of your friends and colleagues at WCCC, we wish you well, Gayle!



Honoring The Distinguished Alumni of WCCC



The halls of WCCC have been walked by many students who have gone on to distinguish themselves in remarkable ways. To celebrate those alumni, the college has begun collecting and sharing their stories, posting them in various places around campus and online.

Julie Clark-Allen (pictured above) began her college career at WCCC in 1999 in the Office Information Systems program. Since then, she has received her BS, MS, and her PhD, graduating with highest honors in Institutional Design and Technology. Now, Clark-Allen teaches full time for a large university in Florida that specializes in online learning. "My experience at WCCC shaped who I am as an educator...My associate's degree gave me the start I needed to jump on a path of lifelong learning and I hope to ignite that same fire for my students."

Jane Andrews also fulfilled her childhood dream of teaching via WCCC. After completing the Early Childhood Education program, she finished her BS and was immediately hired at Princeton Elementary. In 2015, Andrews was named Washington County Teacher of the Year. Though Andrews remembers being "petrified" when she first came to WCCC, she said of the experience: "It was wonderful. There were always people to help."

Wayne Jackson's main goal after graduating from WCCC's Plumbing and Heating program in the 1980s was opening his own business in Old Town. Jackson Plumbing and Heating has since expanded to include five technicians and an office manager and multiple service vehicles. "I got everything I needed from WCCC. I never looked back after that."

A 2015 graduate of the Automotive program, Rebekah Tolatovicz is now enrolled in Eastern Florida State's world-renowned Aerospace Technology program with a goal of becoming an aerospace engineer. She was homeschooled before coming to WCCC. "[Being at WCCC] really helped me grow up...I don't think I would've gone away to school if I hadn't come to WCCC first."

Over \$10,500 Raised at WCCC Polar Bear Dip



The 17th annual Polar Bear Dip netted \$10,554 as a direct result of donations contributed in support of participants and Sarah's House and the Ronald McDonald House in Bangor, two causes that are near and dear to the hearts of the Downeast community. The dip, sponsored by the Student Senate of Washington County Community College, was held in March at Split Rock, Pleasant Point.

The warm weather that had graced much of February left as quickly as it arrived, leaving brave dippers to face

temperatures in the single digits and winds of up to 25 mph. The sun came out to shine brightly over the huddled masses of dippers, most of whom were glamorously adorned to meet this year's theme of "Glitter and Gold".

The dip originally began as a dare amongst students at WCCC, but it quickly became a major fundraising event for the Ronald McDonald House in Bangor. The Ronald McDonald House provides a place to stay for parents whose children are being seen at the nearby hospital rather than forcing them to drive several hours each day. In recent years, the funds have been split with Sarah's House in Holden, a home for patients undergoing cancer treatments and their families to stay at when needed. Since the dips were first held, close to \$320,000 has been raised from contributors, many of whom are in Washington County. Some dippers and donors come from outside the county, including Northern Maine

Community College, which has been present at the past few events.

Among the largest fundraisers this year was Team LEO, composed of officers from the US Customs and Border Protection. The team raised a staggering \$4,317, all of which will go to Sarah's House and the Ronald McDonald House.

The WCCC Student Senate wishes to thank all donors and participants along with volunteers and contributors that helped to create a safe, fun event. Special thanks to the Passamaquoddy tribe for the use of land and standby ambulance service.

WCCC Partners with NMCC, CRH for Nursing Program

One of the most consistently in-demand vocations in our aging society is that of nursing, and WCCC is extremely pleased to announce that it has resumed its nursing program. The program is possible thanks to a partnership with Northern Maine Community College and Calais Regional Hospital.

The partnership will enable 8 well-qualified local students to complete the majority of their associate nursing degree in Washington County, beginning in the fall semester of 2017. There has been substantial interest in the program and many prospective nurses have signed up for the wait list for future cohorts.

Students that participate will have access to an on-site nursing faculty member and technology-mediated lecture instruction. The two-year degree will comprise of both academic instruction and clinical experiences. The majority of the required clinical experience will take place in Washington County.

WCCC's Teddy Bear Clinic Delights Local Children

More than 60 pre-school age children were delighted when they went on an adventure to Washington County Community College and each received a teddy bear—teddy bears that were all given a clean bill of health by the college's Medical Assisting students. The occasion was the annual Teddy Bear Clinic, an event coordinated by both the Medical Assisting program and the Early Childhood Education program. "This is an opportunity for children to see and touch medical equipment and care for their teddy bears that are receiving vaccinations, being weighed and measured, having their blood drawn and blood pressure taken," explained Medical Assisting program director Cindy Moholland. During the "office visit", the medical students treated the bears as the patients and the children as the caregivers.



"My bear loves getting shots!" said one excited young boy. Another child kissed the band aid applied to his bear after it was given a shot. "This was a great hands-on opportunity for the WCCC students who plan and execute the event," Moholland said. "For the Medical Assisting students, it was a chance to practice interacting with children and explaining medical procedures in terms that young children will understand."

The teddy bear clinic is held in late March each year.

Upcoming 2017 Community Education Offerings

For more information, please contact Nichole Cote,
Associate Dean of Community Education
at 454-1012, or ncote@wccc.me.edu

Summer 2017

Information Technology Essentials Workshop
Photography
Introduction to Acting Course **
Sports Camps
First Responder Camp
Art Camp
Sailing Camp

Fall 2017

History of the English Language **
Introduction to American Sign Language **
Introduction to Film Studies **
Emergency Medical Technician
Advanced Emergency Medical Technician
Certified Nursing Assistant
Painting **

**for college credit

WCCC reserves the right to cancel any offering due to low enrollment



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