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OPEN DOOR POLICY

The only valid philosophy for North Carolina is the philosophy of total education, a belief in the incomparable worth of all human beings, whose claims upon the state are equal before the law and equal before the bar of public opinion; whose talents (however great or however limited or however different from the traditional), the State needs and must develop to the fullest possible degree. That is why the doors to the institutions in North Carolina’s System of Community Colleges must never be closed to anyone of suitable age who can learn what they teach. We must take the people where they are and carry them as far as they can go within the assigned function of the system. If they cannot read, then we will simply teach them to read and make them proud of their achievement. If they did not finish high school but have a mind to do it, then we will offer them a high school education at a time and in a place convenient to them and at a price within their reach. If their talent is technical or vocational, then we will simply offer them instruction, whatever the field, however complex or however simple, that will provide them with the knowledge and the skill they can sell in the marketplaces of our State, and thereby contribute to its scientific and industrial growth. If their needs are in the great tradition of liberal education, then we will simply provide them the instruction, extending through two years of standard college work, which will enable them to go on to the University or to senior college and on into life in numbers unheard of before in North Carolina. If their needs are for cultural advancement, intellectual growth or civic understanding, then we will simply make available to them the wisdom of the ages and the enlightenment of our times and help them to maturity. —W.D. Herring, 1964

MISSION STATEMENT

Edgecombe Community College is dedicated to fulfilling the educational, training, and cultural needs of the community.

EDGECOMBE COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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ON THE COVER:

Health Sciences students released balloons following the ribbon cutting to officially dedicate the new Biotechnology and Medical Simulation Center on the Rocky Mount campus.
In January 2016, Edgecombe Community College’s new Biotechnology and Medical Simulation Center opened on the Rocky Mount campus. This facility ushers in a new model for health care education – realistic training through the use of patient simulators.

The college will be able to expand and prepare the next generation of health care workers in this state-of-the-art facility equipped with the latest technology. This new construction is evidence of the college’s commitment to student success. Our goal is to provide students with training that is both relevant and life enhancing.

Whether students seek to improve job skills, transfer to a four-year institution, or complete a program in two years or less and enter the workforce, Edgecombe Community College provides the edge to help students succeed.

Efforts to build on existing programs and strengthen student success were plentiful in 2016.

The college will receive more than $2 million over the next five years to help increase retention and graduation rates of low-income and African American students. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, the grant is providing for two Student Success Centers, one on each campus.

Through these Success Centers, the college will use a case management approach to deliver intrusive counseling, advising, and support services for students, including services such as tutoring; academic monitoring; and financial, child care, and transportation assistance.

In August, the college joined the national effort to increase the number of college graduates while decreasing the financial burden for students by establishing the EDGE Scholarship Program, a three-year scholarship program that fully funds the education of qualified students.

The last dollar scholarship covers tuition, books, and fees. By meeting the requirements and remaining in good standing, EDGE Scholarship students will graduate with a debt-free community college degree.

The college held its first ECC Signing Day in May, during which Edgecombe high school seniors declared their intention to attend Edgecombe Community College.

Signing Day is a national initiative to celebrate students for making a commitment to higher education. College faculty and staff held ceremonies at the high schools to recognize each student.

Edgecombe Community College and North Carolina Wesleyan College reauthorized an agreement that enables ECC graduates of specific Associate in Applied Science degree programs to transfer to Wesleyan to complete four-year degrees.

For our health care students, a Cannon Foundation grant funded the purchase of a human trauma patient simulator for teaching medical care in crisis situations since students don’t have access to victims of gunshot wounds or head injuries, for example. The simulator will be used primarily in first responder training.

We are excited about these developments to strengthen teaching and learning, and we look forward to future initiatives. Students, citizens, elected officials, business and industry leaders and associates – all are our stakeholders and our partners in creating a thriving community and in improving the quality of life for the region.

Please read on and learn more about the people and events that shaped Edgecombe Community College in 2016. Thank you for your continued support of our programs and services.

Deborah L. Lamm, Ed.D.
President
About 350 public officials, Twin County residents, and members of the Edgecombe Community College community gathered on March 4, 2016, to dedicate the new Biotechnology and Medical Simulation Center on the Rocky Mount campus.

Visitors crowded into the auditorium in the new facility to listen as dignitaries congratulated ECC President Dr. Deborah Lamm and praised the state-of-the-art technology that is the hallmark of the new center.

Overflow from the auditorium watched the program through live streaming on TV monitors found on all three floors of the building.

“This is a great day for the city of Rocky Mount and the region,” commented Rocky Mount Mayor David Combs, who presented Dr. Lamm with a plaque commemorating the dedication.

“This facility is among the most significant things we’ve done as a board,” noted Leonard Wiggins, chair of the Edgecombe County Board of Commissioners. “It’s one that we’re proud of.”

Lauren and Trent McGee and other donors provided gifts to name the Obstetrics/Neonatal Training Room in memory of the McGees’ daughter, Adelyn Jane McGee, who passed away in infancy. Private donations are being used to provide equipment, technology, and instructional support in the Biotechnology and Medical Simulation Center.
of the most exciting projects I’ve ever worked on,” echoed Lorenzo Carmon, former Edgecombe County manager who was at the helm during a majority of construction.

Carmon pointed out that the new Biotechnology and Medical Simulation Center is only the “second project in North Carolina funded with new market tax credits, and the first designed under design-build legislation.”

“The project came in on time and under budget,” he added.

The three-story, 45,000-square-foot Biotechnology Center cost more than $9.7 million to build and over $2.5 million to furnish. The facility houses 18 programs of study in health sciences, including curriculum and continuing education programs.

More than 1,200 students will use the facility annually.

Rocky Mount City Manager Charles Penny thanked Edgecombe residents for making the project possible by approving a ¼ cent sales tax referendum in November 2012. “This facility exemplifies the heart and will of Edgecombe County and reflects the can-do attitude of its citizens,” he said.

Several of the speakers acknowledged the pivotal role of Dr. Lamm in the concept, development, and completion of the facility. In his remarks, Penny shared a quote from Ellen Sirleaf, president of Liberia and the world’s first elected black female president: “If your dreams do not scare you, they are not big enough.”

“Dr. Lamm, thank you for dreaming big enough,” he said.

Following a ribbon cutting led by Wiggins and ECC Board of Trustees Chair Wick Baker, and a balloon release by Health Sciences students, guests toured the facility to see demonstrations of the patient simulators by instructors and students.

The first floor of the new facility includes six training rooms furnished with pods, computers, and smart board technology to create a student-centered, active learning environment. A biotechnology lab also is housed on the first floor.

A simulated hospital environment fills the second floor, including an emergency room, imaging lab, exam rooms, phlebotomy lab, nursing skills lab, nurse assistant lab, debriefing rooms, and a nurses’ station.

The third floor features an operating room, obstetrics/neonatal room, occupational therapy lab, ICU, pulmonary function lab, respiratory care lab, home health/community health training room, counseling/mental health room, debriefing rooms, and a nurses’ station.

“Simulation technology can’t be appreciated until one sees students caring for and interacting with a lifelike manikin, one who is speaking and having difficulty breathing,” Dr. Lamm explained.

Christie Marsh, Nursing instructor and certified midwife, was in charge of demonstrations using “Victoria,” a patient simulator that gives birth to a seven-pound baby simulator. “My master’s program didn’t have this technology. All we had was a torso,” she said. “And that was just a year and half ago.”

In her closing, Dr. Lamm reminded guests of the core mission of the facility and Edgecombe Community College. “Today, as we applaud the new construction and state-of-the-art technology, we celebrate students – the cornerstone of everything we do and all that we represent.”
Graduation Sets New Records

Edgecombe Community College set two graduation records in 2016 by awarding the largest number of credentials to the largest number of graduates in college history. During the morning event on May 7, the college awarded 630 associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates to a total of 508 students. In addition, 49 individuals received Adult High School Equivalency and Adult High School diplomas.

“The Class of 2016 overcame tremendous obstacles to complete their programs,” said Michael Jordan, vice president of student services at ECC. “One young man who came to us homeless graduated with his degree. Another graduate was hospitalized the week before graduation. So many talented individuals pressed on until they finished, regardless of what they were up against. Many members of this class carried heavy loads each day to achieve their dreams.”

NC Representative Shelly Willingham, who represents Edgecombe and Martin counties in District 23, delivered the Commencement address and encouraged graduates to make the right personal choices throughout their lives.

“Education without character is a very dangerous combination,” he said. “Be reliable, have integrity, and be trustworthy. Treat everyone with respect, and be accountable for who you are.”

Maria Mosso, a senior at both ECC and the Edgecombe Early College High School, was honored as the 2016 Dallas Herring Achievement Award nominee. At ECC, she is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society, Student Government Association, and Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Mosso graduated with two degrees: an associate in arts and an associate in science. She received her high school diploma on May 26. Mosso is the Edgecombe Early College’s first North Carolina Academic Scholar.

Medical assisting student Kathryn Carpenter Hale was recognized as the 2016 North Carolina Community College Academic Excellence Award recipient from ECC. She has consistently been named to the President’s List, is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society, and served as president of the Student Association of Medical Assisting.

Juan Antonio “T.J.” Johnson Jr. was honored as the Governor Robert W. Scott Student Leadership Award nominee. Congratulating him is ECC President Dr. Deborah Lamm, and standing back is Michael Jordan, vice president of student services.
ECC and Wesleyan Sign Transfer Agreement

Edgecombe Community College and North Carolina Wesleyan College reauthorized a collaborative articulation agreement in June 2016 that will help qualified ECC graduates transfer to Wesleyan.

The goal is to enable a seamless transfer for students who enroll at Wesleyan following completion of their two-year degree at ECC.

The articulation agreement targets ECC students who complete specific Associate in Applied Science degrees: Accounting, Business Administration, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, General Education, Human Services Technology, Information Technology, Medical Assisting, Medical Office Administration, Nursing, and Office Administration.

Through the Independent Comprehensive Articulation Agreement with the North Carolina Community College System, ECC graduates who have completed an Associate in Arts degree or an Associate in Science degree may transfer to Wesleyan.

Transfer agreements for students who complete these degree programs have been in place for years between the community college and Wesleyan.

“We have a long history of successful partnerships with Wesleyan,” says ECC President Dr. Deborah Lamm. “This articulation agreement is especially beneficial to local students who prefer to stay in the area to pursue higher education.”

Associate in Applied Science degrees typically are not college transfer programs. Dr. Lamm explains, “Industry is starting to demand more than a two-year degree from prospective employees, so any steps we can take to strengthen training in the applied sciences will benefit students and local employers.”

The State Employees Credit Union Foundation awarded 10 scholarships to Continuing Education students in June 2016. Shown from left are scholarship recipients Patricia McDermott, Cyla Myrick, and Shakelia Williams; Doug Spencer, SECU; Katherine Lancaster, ECC; recipient Kiereny Speight; Lynn Cale, ECC; recipient Rachel Wells; Rhonda Wells, ECC, and recipient Phyllis Richardson. In 2012, the SECU Foundation established a Continuing Education Scholarship Program to help remove financial barriers for students seeking to gain new and/or upgrade job-related skills.
Students Win Top Prizes at National SkillsUSA Conference

Edgecombe Community College students received national awards in June 2016 at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference held in Louisville, Kentucky.

Students Jilianne Leary, Chris Nalepka, and Patrick Philips placed 1st in the nation in the Career Pathways Showcase: Industrial and Engineering Technology competition. Their advisor was Rebecca Stamilio-Ehret, Physics/Industrial Trades instructor.

Students Elizabeth Cross, Tarfee Hines, and Jacob Turner placed 4th in the nation in the Career Pathways Showcase: Human Services competition. Their advisors were Rick Basile, chair of Criminal Justice, and Gerald Pipkin, part-time Criminal Justice instructor.

Founded in 1965, SkillsUSA offers a contest program for students to demonstrate their career and technical skills.

More than 5,600 outstanding career and technical education students – all state contest winners – competed in 100 different trade, technical, and leadership events at the national weeklong conference.

NC Voters Approve $350 Million for NC Community Colleges, $7.3 Million Earmarked for ECC

North Carolina voters approved the March 15, 2016, $2 billion bond referendum with nearly two-thirds supporting the infrastructure projects, including $350 million designated for North Carolina’s 58 community colleges.

The vote marks the initial step in the first major infusion of capital funds for the community colleges since 2000.

The amount of funding designated for each college was established by the General Assembly using a formula that looked at the age of the college’s facilities as well as the economic distress of each college’s service area. New construction projects will require a local match, based on a sliding scale linked to a county’s economic distress, while repair or renovation projects will not require a local funding match.

Edgecombe Community College will receive $7.3 million for new construction and much-needed renovations.

The college’s top construction priority is a Center for Innovation. The proposed 17,000-square-foot facility will be constructed on the Tarboro campus and will house advanced manufacturing, robotics, industrial programs, heavy equipment operations, and supply chain management and logistics.

“We are very encouraged by the voters and their confidence in our community college system,” says ECC President Dr. Deborah Lamm. “They understand our need to provide modern facilities to train skilled workers. Education and training for the workforce have always been the guiding mission of our colleges.”

Lieutenant Governor Dan Forest led a Q&A session with about 70 business owners and local leaders during a small business roundtable held on the Rocky Mount campus in February 2016. The event was sponsored by the National Federation of Independent Business in conjunction with ECC and the Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce. Forest, who said he is “passionate about education and business,” is a member of the State Board of Community Colleges.
Unique Scholarship Program Announced

In August 2016, Edgecombe Community College joined the national effort to increase the number of college graduates while decreasing the financial burden for students seeking a college diploma.

The college launched the EDGE Scholarship program, a three-year scholarship program that will fully fund the education of qualified students at the in-state tuition level.

“The new EDGE Scholarship is generating excitement by cutting through barriers to help make a community college education attainable for a larger number of qualified students,” says ECC President Dr. Deborah Lamm.

The last dollar scholarship covers tuition, books, and fees for the recipients, who must be U.S. citizens. By meeting the requirements and remaining in good standing, EDGE Scholarship students will graduate with a debt-free community college degree.

Staton Dupree is among 30 area high school students from the Class of 2016 to receive the EDGE Scholarship. He entered ECC in the fall with 20 tuition-free college credits from the college’s dual enrollment program with high schools.

Dupree plans to transfer to NC State University for his junior and senior years. He estimates that the EDGE Scholarship will save his family more than $20,000 per year in college expenses before he transfers.

Students Experiment with High Altitude Balloon

It took two days of searching, but a group of Edgecombe Community Colleges students found an unmanned balloon that had soared to the edge of space and fell back to Earth.

Part of the college’s STEM program, the high altitude balloon launch in April 2016 was dubbed “critECCly stable.” Edgecombe Community College was among 10 community colleges in North Carolina to compete in the balloon challenge.

After ECC received a $23,000 grant from NASA and the NC Space Grant in September 2015, Rebecca Stamilio Ehret put together a team of eight students to work on the project – from the fields of engineering, nursing, environmental science, computer science, and others.

“We had a diverse group,” says Stamilio Ehret, physics/astronomy instructor and project coordinator. “The experience our students received in a real-world and exciting project was invaluable.”

The balloon’s payload included required equipment that would collect data such as compass readings, temperature, altitude, and barometric pressure. Each school could choose equipment for a secondary payload.

After months of planning, the colleges launched their balloons on April 9 at Catawba Valley Community College in Hickory. The ECC group tracked their balloon throughout the day through GPS sensors on board until it landed somewhere near Barbecue, a small community in Harnett County. It had climbed to between 70,000 and 80,000 feet above the Earth.
DOE Grant Will Support Student Success

Edgecombe Community College is scheduled to receive more than $2 million over the next five years to help increase the college’s retention and graduation rates of low-income and African American students.

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, the grant of $2,047,745 will fund, among other things, two Student Success Centers – one on the Rocky Mount campus and the other on the Tarboro campus.

College officials have dubbed the project Providing Students The Edge.

“This is not just a grant for African American students,” says Tony Rook, dean of enrollment management.

“It’s an infrastructure-improving grant, and it will strengthen our services that we provide for our entire student population.”

To be eligible for the grant, a college’s student population must be more than 50% African American. African American students at Edgecombe Community College make up 51% of the student body.

Students who met certain criteria prescribed by the grant are part of a cohort that began in Fall 2016 and will be tracked until credential completion. Criteria include such circumstances as the student must be enrolled in college for the first time or the student must be a first generation college student. Subsequent cohorts will begin each fall of the next four years.

Rook says the college is taking a hands-on approach in the new Student Success Centers, providing help with registration, student planning, goal setting, and access to tutoring, among other services.

In addition to the Student Success Centers, the grant will be used for computer software so faculty and staff can better monitor students’ progress. Faculty and staff also will undergo professional development training to help them get a better understanding of the issues that come with being first-generation, first-time, low income, or minority students.

In addition, the grant will provide for coordination of clubs and activities for low income and minority students.

ECC Receives Tri-County Industries Award

Edgecombe Community College received the Rehabilitation Service Award from Tri-County Industries during the organization’s 50-year celebration in July 2016.

Tri-County Industries (TCI) enriches the lives of people who are disabled or disadvantaged through work assessment, job training, and placement.

The organization provides services to businesses, such as sorting, collating, counting, and labeling.

“TCI has enjoyed a wonderful working relationship with Edgecombe Community College for many years,” says TCI President Brenda Cogdell.

“For us to prepare individuals for competitive employment, we feel there are some areas that we simply need to partner with others to provide. Edgecombe Community College has worked with our program staff in developing classes.”

For short-term clients, ECC instructors teach classes in Super Man and Super Woman, which are personal empowerment classes that focus on life skills; Job Seeking/Keeping; and Financial Literacy classes.

The college also partners with TCI to teach Adult Basic Education classes for long-term clients. Students focus on reading, writing, simple math, and counting money, among other skills.

Cogdell adds, “The two most important aspects of our partnership with Edgecombe are that the classes are taught on levels that our clients can understand – classes are customized to meet their levels of education – and whenever our staff has a new idea about a class that would enhance our training program, Edgecombe Community College is always willing to help develop that class.”
Employees Complete Safety Training, Campus Security Strengthened

Spurred by mass shootings in communities across the United States, Edgecombe Community College broadened its safety training in 2016 for faculty and staff on both campuses.

“We’ve always tried to have core people trained,” says Robert Whistler, coordinator of Emergency Services and Public Safety Training. “But the Wayne Community College incident pushed the issue to the forefront.”

In 2015 in Goldsboro, a man shot and killed a Wayne Community College employee on campus. The campus was locked down while law enforcement searched for the suspect. He later was captured in Florida.

Soon after, ECC President Dr. Deborah Lamm tasked the college’s Emergency Services department to begin widespread training for faculty and staff. The focus goes beyond shootings; it deals with a wide variety of emergency situations.

As a result of the training, about 75% of the faculty and staff are now certified in CPR and first aid. Approximately 50% of college employees have completed a FEMA-designed National Incident Management System (NIMS) training program that deals with large scale emergencies.

In addition to advanced emergency training, the college has beefed up its security infrastructure by adding more cameras to both the Tarboro and Rocky Mount facilities and grounds.

At present, 58 security cameras monitor activity on both campuses, and the college hopes to add more security cameras on the Rocky Mount campus.

Other security measures include emergency alerts to students and employees via email or text, and announcements through loudspeakers stationed across both campuses.
Cannon Foundation Grant Will Strengthen Training in Emergency Medicine

In October 2016, the Cannon Foundation awarded $63,000 to the college to purchase a human trauma patient simulator that will be used primarily in first responder training.

Before students become nurses, paramedics, or EMTs, they need exposure to realistic crisis situations. But students don’t have access to victims of gunshot wounds or head injuries.

That’s where Trauma Hal comes in. Trauma Hal is a human trauma patient simulator for teaching medical care on the battlefield. Its rugged and resilient design withstands extreme hot and cold temperatures and wet and dry conditions.

Trauma Hal can mimic realistic injuries. It can bleed and breathe; its blinking eyes can react to light; and it has a heartbeat, blood pressure, and detectable oxygen saturation – all programmable from a nearby laptop.

Trauma Hal will be used in the college’s mobile health lab, known as the HealthCare Simulator, and students and instructors will have more flexibility in their training without fear of damaging the manikin.

The Cannon Foundation has been awarding grants for more than 50 years – chiefly in North Carolina and primarily in the fields of health care, higher education, human services, and community.

Playscape Features All-Natural Materials

Program Director Aidil Ortiz Hill of the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust visited the Tarboro campus in August 2016 to tour the most recent addition to the campus, the Natural Playscape, located adjacent to the entrance of the Wetlands Trail.

The Natural Playscape is a playground constructed entirely with wood and other natural materials.

A $25,000 grant from the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust’s Healthy Places NC initiative funded the project.
Extensive Flooding Impacts College

Hurricane Matthew hit North Carolina on Saturday, October 8, 2016. The storm brought widespread flash flooding and record river flooding to eastern North Carolina where hourly rainfall estimates from radar were as high as seven inches per hour, according to the Weather Channel. Buildings were flooded, roads washed out, and sections of Interstates 95 and 40 were flooded in the state. In its aftermath, Edgecombe County experienced devastating flooding. Many students and employees and their families were displaced.

Approximately 600 students live in the areas impacted by flooding. Of these, 258 did not return to campus when the college re-opened on Monday, October 17.

ECC established a Student Recovery Team to identify impacted students and to attempt to find those who did not return to class following the flood.

The college held a drive for food and supplies and created the Matthew Fund for accepting monetary gifts for students. About 50 students asked the college for help replacing their water-logged textbooks, restoring Internet access to continue their online and hybrid course work, and meeting their transportation needs to get to campus.

The college expects the impact of the storm to be felt well into the Spring 2017 semester. As ECC President Dr. Deborah Lamm said, “Edgecombe Community College is so ingrained in the fabric of this community that when an event impacts the county, it impacts the community college as well.”

ECC and Chinese School Form Partnership

Edgecombe Community College and Shaanxi Provincial Tourism School signed an agreement in October 2016 that provides for exchange opportunities for students.

The institutions are establishing a 2+2 program that will enable graduates of the Shaanxi Provincial Tourism School to study two years in the United States at ECC.

Shaanxi Provincial Tourism School is a vocational high school. Students in the 2+2 program will obtain vocational school degrees recognized by the Ministry of Education in China and the community college’s degree or certificate.

The 2+2 initiative will focus, among other possible programs, on cosmetic arts, computer technology, and certified nurse assistant programs at ECC.
Communities in Schools students from Edwards, Parker, and Rocky Mount middle schools toured the Biotechnology and Medical Simulation Center in October 2016 to learn about various career pathways offered at the college. Students participated in interactive demonstrations in surgical technology, first responder, criminal justice, and STEM fields. Pictured is Suzi Shippen, program chair of Surgical Technology, showing students the implanted components for a hip fracture.

College Is a Leader in Career Preparedness

Edgecombe Community College is giving job applicants an edge through a program that certifies essential workplace skills.

For the past 15 years, Edgecombe Community College has offered the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) for its students. Since 2010, all curriculum students have been required to take the assessment.

The CRC is a portable skills credential that gives employers and job seekers a uniform, standard, objective measure of key workplace skills. It certifies that a person has workplace skills that are transferrable between industry sectors and across jobs within a sector.

“Business and industry want to know that a student can work in the real world,” says Sylvia Hinton-Grant, CRC coordinator. “Having the technical prowess in your field of study is important, but a Career Readiness Certificate gives employers more confidence when making a decision.”

The CRC is accepted by more than 10,000 employers nationwide as a reliable way to verify work skills.

The assessment is divided into three tests: reading for information, applied math, and locating information. A fourth assessment – applied technology – is administered to students in manufacturing. The student’s score determines what certificate level is awarded – bronze, silver, gold, or platinum.

Hinton-Grant says that many companies are making the CRC part of the application prerequisite, and more are using it to award raises and promotions.

For the past several years, Edgecombe Community College has been ranked in the Top 5 among North Carolina community colleges in the number of CRCs awarded. Annually, the college administers up to 4,000 CRC assessments to about 1,500 people. The number of assessments is based on the individual phases of the program.

While the CRC is a requirement for ECC graduates, the assessment also is available to the public, and local employers are utilizing it, Hinton-Grant explains. Area companies including Keihin Carolina System Technology, OIC, Ilco Unican, Manpower, Kelly Services, and the Action Group have partnered with the college to get many of their employees certified.
Community Partners Strengthen CCR Career Fair

The Division of College and Career Readiness (CCR) held its annual Career Fair on the Rocky Mount campus in September 2016. College and Career Readiness students from the Tarboro campus and seven CCR off-site locations also attended. In addition, a record number of community partners from area organizations participated.

Through this annual event, CCR students have an opportunity to participate in employment-related activities with the CCR staff and local employers. This engagement informs students about career-related skills and credentials and also helps place students in jobs.

This year’s Career Fair was strengthened by a new component: Student Pathway Alliance sessions. “We have seven career pathways that have been created for our students,” explains Jerry Harper, director of CCR. “Through these pathways, students may earn an industry credential in addition to improving their basic skills.”

These pathways are in Automotive Technology, Barbering, Cosmetology, Certified Production Technician, Early Childhood Education, Emergency Medical Technology, and Nurse Aide I.

Community partners from area agencies, businesses, and organizations who aligned with these pathways met with students during the CCR Career Fair. They shared with the students information about careers in their respective fields and the preparation necessary to become employable.

“All of our students ultimately select a career pathway,” Harper says. “Through these pathways, College and Career Readiness students complete course work in a curriculum that is taught in the context of their chosen career pathway.

“Our mission is to ensure that what they learn at ECC is relevant to their goals.”

Dr. Jimmie Williamson, president of the NC Community College System, toured the Rocky Mount campus in November 2016. Accompanying him in the Radiography lab in the Biotechnology and Medical Simulation Center is Desiree Duncan, program chair of Radiography. Dr. Williamson began his post as president of the NCCCS in July 2016, and he visited ECC as part of a tour of community colleges across the state.
Students Complete First Community Health Coach Class

Edgecombe Community College offered its first Community Health Coach class in 2016 with ten community members successfully completing the program in May.

Community Health Coach is a unique collaboration between ECC and the East Carolina University Brody School of Medicine. At this time, it is the only program of its kind in the state.

Through the program, the college is teaching students that small changes lead to big results.

“We are watching what we eat, reading food labels, drinking more water, and sharing everything with family and friends,” says Katie Staton, who completed the class.

The Community Health Coach curriculum focuses on chronic disease prevention and management, obesity and weight management, and access to care.

Graduates can work in numerous health care settings under licensed health care professionals, as well as in churches and other community organizations to help ensure that community members are seeking to improve their health.

Community Health Coach is a 100-hour course. Graduates receive a certificate of completion.

College Celebrates New Students on Signing Day

Edgecombe high school seniors declared their intention to attend Edgecombe Community College at ECC Signing Day held in Edgecombe high schools in May 2016.

Signing Day is a national initiative to celebrate students for making a commitment to higher education.

Students, parents, and college and high school officials attended ECC Signing Day events at North Edgecombe, SouthWest Edgecombe, and Tarboro high schools.

Seniors from North Edgecombe, SouthWest Edgecombe, and Tarboro High School officially joined the student body of Edgecombe Community College.

Created as part of Michelle Obama’s Reach Higher initiative, Signing Day is way for educators, counselors, and parents to encourage students heading to college.

Honor Society Wins Regional Awards

Edgecombe Community College’s student honor society won 16 awards at the March 2016 Phi Theta Kappa Carolinas Regional Convention.

Three students and Advisor Tamara Frank-Pourvady represented ECC’s chapter, Alpha Omega Nu, at the annual convention held in Columbia, SC.

ECC’s chapter received six individual awards and ten chapter awards. The honor society has been a Five-Star chapter since 1996 and a Carolinas Super Star chapter since this award was established in 2000. Typically, only about 16 chapters achieve Five-Star and Super Star designation.

To be a member of Phi Theta Kappa, students must have completed 12 credit hours in an associate degree program and have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher. Students must then maintain at least a 3.25 grade point average to remain in the group.
Two Appointed to Board of Trustees

Two Edgecombe County natives and community leaders were named to the Edgecombe Community College Board of Trustees in July 2016.

Governor Pat McCrory appointed Betty Jo Shepheard of Tarboro to serve as a trustee.

The Edgecombe County Board of Commissioners appointed Carl Warren of Pinetops to serve as a trustee.

Shepheard is the eastern regional field representative for U.S. Senator Richard Burr. After completing a 26-year career with Sprint, she began a second career working for Sen. Burr in 2005. She covers 30 counties in North Carolina for the senator.

She is a former president of the Tarboro Pilot Club and also served as chairman of the Edgecombe County Board of Elections. She is a member of Saint James United Methodist Church

Warren is retired materials manager at Superior Essex in Tarboro. He worked at Superior Essex for more than 32 years and served as plant manager of the Tarboro facility and plant controller in Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

Warren is a member of the Pinetops Presbyterian Church, where he is an elder and president of the board of trustees. He also is the Edgecombe County representative on the Rocky Mount-Wilson Airport Authority.

The ECC Board of Trustees has 12 members, each serving a four-year term. The Office of the Governor appoints four members. The Edgecombe County Board of Education and the Edgecombe County Board of Commissioners each appoint four members.

President Leads State Community College Organization

Dr. Deborah Lamm, president of Edgecombe Community College, began a one-year post as president of the North Carolina Association of Community College Presidents (NCACCP) in July 2016.

Overall, as president, she will serve as planner, convener, and advocate for the NC community college presidents.

Dr. Lamm, a 37-year veteran of the North Carolina Community College System, has been at the helm of Edgecombe Community College since 2004.
Established in 1982, the Edgecombe Community College Foundation is a non-profit organization set up to receive donations to the college. Since its founding, the Foundation’s primary mission has been to meet the financial needs of students. In 2016-2017 the organization awarded $100,000 in student scholarships. More than 100 students benefit annually from these funds. The Foundation provides mini-grants to faculty and staff and also sponsors the Keihin Endowed Faculty Chair Award, the Excellence in Teaching Award, the Staff Award, and the Student Ambassador program. We are grateful to all of the donors for their loyal commitment and generous gifts to the college and the Foundation.

**ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS**

- ACT 1 – The John and Elretha Bryant Family Mike Alford Memorial
- ALLTEL Communications
- Berry L. Anderson Sr. Memorial
- T. Wes Bailey Memorial
- Guy E. and Alice A. Barnes Memorial
- Robert E. Barnhill Sr. Memorial
- Baker Mabrey Bass Jr. Memorial
- Kim Bell, RHIA, Health Information Technology
- Francis E. Blackwell Memorial
- Joel K. Bourne/Edgecombe County Veterans Memorial
- JoAnn Brown
- A. R. Burnette Family Memorial
- Johnnena Poulos Cannon Memorial
- John Cherry Memorial
- Robert “Bob” Cole Memorial
- Glen and Patricia Daughtridge
- Stanley L. Daughtridge Memorial
- Emily “Mimi” Havens Edmondson Memorial
- Ronald G. Ellis Jr.
- Erich Family
- Jason Iam Erich Memorial
- Cindy Fiore Memorial
- Fleetwood
- Dr. Thomas S. Fleming Memorial
- Judge George M. Fountain Memorial
- Nina W. Fountain Memorial
- Richard T. Fountain and Katherine B. Fountain
- Dr. Hartwell H. Fuller Jr. Endowed Merit Scholarship
- Dr. Hartwell H. Fuller Jr. Memorial
- Annie Louise Gaynor Memorial
- Vivian B. Godwin Memorial
- Ernest and Helen Goff Memorial
- Jack Havens Memorial
- Dan E. Herring
- John R. and Yantus S. Jenkins Memorial
- Dr. Geraldine Jordan Memorial
- Carolyn Weeks Kalamajka Memorial
- Major Linwood Thomas Lewis Sr. Memorial
- Gladys C. Harrison Mathewson Memorial
- Lacy and Gracie G. McBryde Memorial
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- Norman T. Parker Jr.
- Berry Pittman Jr. Memorial
- General Henry Hugh Shelton
- Charles Sherrick Sr. Memorial
- Shook – Williamson Memorial
- Tony and Judy Silveri
- Vivian Patterson Smith Memorial
- Carl W. Stephens Jr. Memorial
- Mary Thigpen Strickland Memorial
- Tarboro Lions Club
- Tarboro Student Aid Association
- Fred Lewis Tolson Memorial
- Janice Bradford Tolson
- Vidant Edgecombe Hospital
- Eddie Walker Memorial
- Veryl Wood Memorial
- Sylvia “Red” Baker York Memorial

**FOUNDATION BOARD**

- Jean M. Bailey
  - President
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  - Vice President
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- Jane Thorne
- Joe P. Tolson
- Ann Warren
- Margaret Anne Wooten
- (seated, from left) Gladys Shelton, Executive Director Karen Andrus, Jean Bailey, Dr. Deborah Lamm, Jessie Jones, Jane Thorne, Robert Ladd, Joe Tolson, Susan Barkalow, Curtis Edmondson, Viola Harris, Charles Penny, Jamilla Hawkins, Ferrell Rollins, Russ Saputo, James Marrow, Ann Warren, Mahlon DeLoatch, and Bill Clark.
Early Childhood Instructor Receives Prestigious Teaching Award

Jennifer Derby, instructor of Early Childhood Education, was awarded the 2016-2017 Keihin Endowed Faculty Chair in August 2016.

The chair was endowed by Keihin Carolina System Technology (KCST) through a $100,000 gift in 2007, and it rewards excellence in teaching.

“Thank you so much for this wonderful gift,” Derby said in accepting the award. “To be among those who have won before me and were nominated this year is truly an honor. I will continue to work hard to be worthy of this distinction.”

Derby joined the Early Childhood Education department at ECC in 2004 and served as an adjunct instructor for two years prior to her full-time appointment. She played a pivotal role in the program’s 2015 accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). NAEYC accreditation is not required for early childhood teacher education programs, but it is a recognized standard of excellence for programs that prepare teachers at the associate degree level.

In addition, she has developed partnerships with area preschools in an effort to find quality placements for student interns.

Derby holds a B.S. degree in early childhood education from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and an M.Ed. in early childhood education from the University of Houston at Victoria.

The Keihin Endowed Faculty Chair is the highest distinction the college can bestow on a member of its faculty.

As the Keihin chair holder, Derby receives $2,500 and a chair with an engraved brass nameplate.

Derby is the tenth Keihin Chair holder at the college. Previous recipients are instructors Dr. Johnica Ellis-Kiser, 2015; Rebecca Stamilio-Ehret, 2014; Ann Kent, 2013; Tim King, 2012; Pam Morgan, 2011; Ralph Webb, 2010; Bruce Panneton, 2009; J.H. Koonce, 2008; and Monika Fleming, 2007.

Employees Receive Awards at Graduation

An instructor and staff member received special awards from the ECC Foundation at the college’s graduation exercises in May 2016.

Dr. Johnica Ellis-Kiser, program chair of Business Administration/Accounting, received the 2016 Excellence in Teaching Award.

Dr. Ellis-Kiser, who has served as program chair of Business Administration/Accounting since 2011, established the online Business Administration degree and Accounting degree programs. She also developed the Hunting and Shooting Sports Management concentration as well as a new Logistics Management certificate program.

An ECC faculty member since 1996, she holds a bachelor’s degree from North Carolina State University and M.B.A. and Ed.D. degrees from East Carolina University.

Debra Glover, administrative assistant II-instruction, received the 2016 Staff Award.

Her responsibilities include assisting the vice president of instruction and curriculum faculty, working in the ECC Box Office, and supporting facility management. She also manages the activities of the SkillsUSA student club, which participates in state and national competitions.

Glover, who joined the college in 2004, also has worked in the college’s Financial Aid and Foundation offices.

She holds an associate degree from Edgecombe Community College and has completed course work at Nash and Wilson community colleges.

The ECC Foundation honored Dr. Ellis-Kiser and Glover with a $250 check and a plaque.
Golf Tournament Raises Funds for Scholarships

Thirty-six teams played in the Edgecombe Community College Foundation’s 31st Annual Golf Tournament held September 15, 2016, at Maccripine Country Club.

The tournament is the largest fundraiser for student scholarships held by the college.

“It was a beautiful day, the players enjoyed themselves, the volunteers were tremendous, and much money was made for scholarships,” says Karen Andrus, executive director of the ECC Foundation.

Corporate sponsors of the golf tournament were Cummins Rocky Mount Engine Plant and Keihin Carolina System Technology.

Gold sponsors were Edgecombe-Martin County EMC and Tyson Foods.

Silver sponsors were DeLoatch, Hinton & Peters, PLLC; Edgecombe Garage Doors; Hartcom; Piedmont Natural Gas; SunDrop Bottling Company; Twin County Motorsports; and Welcome to Tarboro Magazine.

First-place winner of the ECC Foundation Golf Tournament was PNC Bank #2, with team members (from left) Monty Pollard, Ben Anderson, Jerome Creech, and Tee Boyd. Shown center is Angela Hicks, Tarboro branch manager of PNC Bank.

Second-place winner was Abrams, with team members (from left) Roy Henderson, Kendall Strickland, and Justin Harrell.

Ambassador Program Recognizes Student Achievement

The ECC Foundation sponsors the Student Ambassador program each year to reward academic excellence. Students Ambassadors for 2016-2017 are:

- Mikaila Harrison, Health Information Technology, Tarboro
- Genesis Munguia-Valencia, Practical Nursing, Tarboro
- Iridani Rauda-Betancurt, Medical Assisting, Tarboro
- Haley Reason, Health Information Technology, Rocky Mount
- Nicole Wainright, Associate Degree Nursing, Rocky Mount

The ECC Foundation sponsors the Student Ambassador program each year to reward academic excellence. Student Ambassadors must maintain a 3.25 grade point average.

These students give campus tours, host campus activities, recruit students, speak to community groups, assist with orientations and in the bookstore during registration, welcome groups to the campus, and assist with ECC Foundation activities.

For their service, the Foundation awards $500 and provides college clothing.

Teresa Bottoms, student counselor, is the Student Ambassador advisor.

From left are Student Ambassadors Nicole Wainright, Genesis Munguia-Valencia, Haley Reason, Mikaila Harrison, and Iridani Rauda-Betancurt.
The ECC Foundation awarded scholarships to more than 140 ECC students during a scholarship awards ceremony held in November 2016. Over 160 scholarships were awarded, with scholarship amounts ranging from $100 to $2,000. Shown is College Transfer student Alex King receiving the Dr. Thomas S. Fleming Memorial Endowed Scholarship from Gladys Shelton. The Fleming Scholarship was established in 1999 by Dr. Fleming’s wife, Louise Fleming, to honor Dr. Fleming and his 36 years of service to the college as a member of its Board of Trustees, including 29 years as chairman.
Jersey Mike’s in Tarboro raised $1,380 for scholarships in September 2016. From left are owner Chris Wooten, Dequisha Clark, manager Margaret Clark, and Sarah Wooten.

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GIFTS-IN-KIND
Abrams
Ace Home Center
Adams Wholesale
BB&T
Bill Goode Photography
Brewer’s Jewelry
Bud’s Grill
Bullock Furniture
Canteen
Carolina Eagle Distributing Company
Carolina Mudcats
Chick-fil-A
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Gene Hudson
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J & A Embroidery
Jessie Jones
Ed & Linda Karolak
Krispy Kreme
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Mayo Knitting Mill, Inc.
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Rex Jewelers
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Joe Stankus
Sundrop Bottling Company
Davy Tarney
The Main Course Restaurant
Thorne Drug Center, Inc.
Joe P. Tolson
Tyson Foods
Underground Pub
Vidant Edgecombe Hospital
Wildwood Lamps

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## Financial Information for ECC and ECC Foundation

### Edgecombe Community College

#### Operating Budget
July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

**Revenue**  
- State: $16,186,469  
- County: $1,681,000  
- Federal: $14,107,000  
- Institutional: $2,941,000  
**Total Revenue**: $34,915,469

**Expenditures**  
- Academic Support: $2,468,000  
- Instruction: $9,318,198  
- Auxiliary Enterprises: $2,200,000  
- Student Services: $1,263,710  
- Plant Operation: $1,482,300  
- General Institutional Support: $3,287,697  
- Financial Aid: $14,123,000  
- Capital Outlay: $772,564  
**Total Expenditures**: $34,915,469

### Edgecombe Community College Foundation

#### Financial Statement
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

**Revenue**  
- Contributions: $240,413  
- Net Projects & Other Revenue: $9,548  
- In-kind Rent & Services: $111,000  
- Interest & Investment Income: $2,142  
**Total Revenue**: $358,819

**Expenditures**  
- Grants/Scholarships/other programs: $465,566  
- Operating Expenses: $142,314  
**Total Expenditures**: $607,880

**Increase in Fund Balance**: $-249,061  
**Total Net Assets June 30, 2016**: $2,053,852

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Edgecombe Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates.