



# Smarties

For faculty and staff of Gateway Technical College

## **Conversation quiet, but potentially resonate forever**

The Conversation hasn't ended yet – it will continue to resonate with Gateway for many years.

A meeting was held in May to determine trends among the comments made by the more than 100 employees and community members who responded to our invitation to join in the Gateway Conversation. The larger group broke into smaller groups to develop the various topics and highlight what had been said and use those stories to determine the core of Gateway's success.

The Conversation serves as a backdrop to what the college can become by allowing us to develop a description of the Gateway people want. If you haven't joined in the Conversation yet, please consider adding your voice to this effort over the next year.

## **Snow foolin'**

Gateway Controller Beverly Hansen and Racine Facilities Director John Thielen led the way to apply for \$28,000 in funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the high costs to remove snow this past winter. A grant was submitted to the state for reimbursement, as well. There is still no word on whether Gateway received either of those grants.

## **Delivering a final exam**

Student Sarah Hanna in Faye Pickett's class showed up in Elkhorn for her final medical terminology exam to take her mind off the pain – of childbirth. Hanna arrived dilated at 4 cm and likely to give birth at any time. After Hanna declined Pickett's offer to take an "incomplete" to tend to childbirth, Pickett made sure Nursing Assistant instructor Jo Hart was in the building, just in case the little one decided to enter the world early. The baby didn't, and Hanna made it through the exam without delivering the baby, but did deliver a passing grade on the exam. She later gave birth to a girl.

## **Rain, rain, go away**

The Racine Campus is working with the Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network to establish a rain garden on the campus. Rain gardens are landscaped areas that soak up water from rainfall runoff from areas like roofs, driveways or lawns. The water filters into the ground rather than going into storm sewers.

## **Above and beyond**

Jim Buck received a special award from IBM for helping develop three different IBM Certification exams over the past year. The exams are geared toward professionals with three to five years experience in the field.

### **Kenosha: Competing att the Speling Bea**

Gateway sponsored a team for the Kenosha Literacy Council Spelling Bee named the Letterheads. The team of Gateway staff members included Sheri Eisch, Chris Lazaro, Sarah Nielsen and Mary Ann Ours. Nielsen served as the captain of the team.

### **Elkhorn: Leading the way**

University of Wisconsin-Stout's School of Education Advisory Board awarded Grace Kragness with a certificate for exemplary leadership service. Kragness has served on the board – developed when UW-Stout combined all education majors into the School of Education – since Fall 2004.

### **Racine: Rolling out the red carpet**

Deb Reinemann and the Gateway Human Services Club hosted a spring dance, the Red Carpet Theater Premier, for adults with disabilities at the Racine Commons. The group served about 140 guests this year, the biggest in the past 10 years.

### **Mentoring others**

Several Gateway employees mentored fifth-grade students from Frank Elementary School in Kenosha, including Zina Haywood, Ann Henderson, Paulette Jenrette, Debbie Miller, Tina Schmitz, John Thibodeau, Bill Whyte and Julie Whyte. Students and staff members communicated through e-mail about school activities, careers and professionalism. Students and their mentors toured Gateway to experience the many career opportunities available to them as they grow older.

### **Beginning the journey**

The college's employee development program is preparing to launch The Gateway Journey, a yearlong new employee orientation program which will introduce staff to all functions and locations of the college. July 1 has been set as the tentative date to start the program.

### **By the numbers**

**210,000:** Amount of federal dollars allocated to Gateway to provide scholarships for disadvantaged students in Gateway's health occupations programs.

**13,143:** Student headcount as of May 16, a 3 percent decrease over last year.

**2182.5:** Full-time equivalent student numbers as of May 16, a 1.2 percent increase over last year.

**10:** The percentage increase of applications to Gateway this year compared to last year.

*Smarties is a publication of Gateway's Marketing and Communications Department.*