



# Smarties

For faculty and staff of Gateway Technical College

## **We've only just begun**

The conversation has ended – but in a way, it's just begun. Committee members will now begin to sift through the comments made by more than 235 staff and community members to develop overarching themes for the Community Conversations effort. Those great stories will then be shared with everyone. And the stories about Gateway successes shared in the five different topic areas were great. Those areas included:

- Passionate, student-focused teaching, diverse lifelong learning that makes all students better than they thought they would be.
- Planning that positively impacts students and creates value for the students and community's future.
- Commitment to creative partnering that serves our diverse community.
- Gateway's responsive, dynamic and collaborative relationship with the community and its changing needs.
- Collaborative inquiry that produces broad and deep knowledge.

There will be another chance to have your voice heard for this important process, so stay tuned!

## **Administering professionals**

Sandy Weber will present two workshops on Office 2007 at the Wisconsin Division Annual Meeting of the International Association of Administrative Professionals on May 18 in Appleton. Sandy will present a workshop on Word 2007 and one on Outlook 2007.

## **Innovation motivation**

Representatives from Gulf Coast Community College of Panama City, Fla., toured Gateway's advanced technology centers and hospitality program at Grand Geneva on April 22 and April 23 to learn more about Gateway's advanced technology models. Gulf Coast college was directed to Gateway by a number of sources who said Gateway is the place to look at if a college is looking for innovative practices.

## **Basically, it's a great program**

Gateway Technical College is one of three schools in the Wisconsin Technical College System for its adult basic education program to exceed the National Reporting System (NRS) target levels since it was implemented in the 2001-02 school year. The NRS are federal and state goals given to colleges to show how many of its students move from one level to the next in a set time frame. Gateway students exceeded those goals – a regular occurrence, since they consistently rank in the top three WTCS colleges in that category.

### **Racine: Jail literacy project remains strong**

The Jail Literacy Project based out of the Racine County Jail remains strong. Gateway instructors helped inmates individually or in classes to take the GED/HSED tests over the past six years. A total of 72 inmates took 174 GED/HSED tests in 2007-08, passing 160 of those tests. Inmates must be classified as minimum or medium-security risk to participate in the program.

### **Elkhorn: Taking care of business – and more**

Several Gateway Technical College employees helped with the Walworth County Job Fair held on the Elkhorn Campus. The fair hosted 39 employers and welcomed 485 job seekers. Nearly two of three employers say they hire applicants they see at the fair and 60 percent say they have hired a Gateway graduate.

### **Kenosha: Lights, camera, action!**

Marketing director Jayne Herring, counselor Sandie Bachmann, and RRCA Alysia Martinez oversaw filming done for 30-second promotions to be shown at all theaters in Lake Geneva and Whitewater for one year beginning this month. Programs, students, and services were filmed.

### **Burlington: Citizenship ready to set sail**

Three staff members are ready to take 17 students to New York as part of an International Club trip in June. Kathy Saunders, Dora McGill, and Debi Hankel will take the students to Ellis Island, the United Nations and other sites. Since several of the students are Burmese refugees, they will participate in a briefing on humanitarian assistance in Burma while they are at the U.N. A similar trip was conducted last year, to Washington D.C.

### **Safely and well alerted**

The system-wide test of the AlertMe messaging system was a success. The test not only proved our system design worked well on a large scale – but also helped identify a few areas needing to be worked on, and solutions have already been implemented for them. Most users received the test message in less than a minute after it was sent from the system.

### **By the numbers:**

**1.3 million:** Amount of money approved by the Wisconsin Technical College System for grants to the college. The grants include those for Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language, faculty innovation project, Nursing associate degree, as well as basic skills in a number of areas.

**12,580:** Our headcount as of April 24.

**2,000+:** The total number of email addresses/devices signed up for the AlertMe system.

**954:** The number of voluntary subscribers to AlertMe.

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