



DESIGNED for SUCCESS

Racine Student Services Center recently renovated

Gena Checki
Staff Writer

If you have registered for classes recently, you might have noticed some changes on the Racine and Elkhorn campuses. The new Student Services Center on each campus is renovated to accommodate the needs of students and offer them better access to enrollment services.

On the Racine Campus, the Student Services Center has moved from the Lake Building to the third level of the Racine Building. In addition to the new location, the entire structure has been redesigned and re-engineered to accommodate the new student success model. The primary goals of this model are to reduce wait time for students and

improve efficiency. The campus bookstore also has moved from the Lake Building to the first level of the Racine Building.

The services offered to students are similar. The aim is to get students referred to the proper person for assistance without having to wait in long lines.

The newly revamped center has “(similar) faces in different or enhanced roles,” said Stacy Riley, dean of enrollment services. A team approach, along with a bright and inviting atmosphere, makes the center more accessible for students, Riley said.

Perhaps the biggest change for students is privacy. If a student needs to discuss financial aid problems or life issues, there is now greater privacy for them, Riley said. The goal is to have wait times of 10

minutes or less. If a student has a longer transaction, they will get referred to experts.

Another new feature is the addition of a workshop room. The workshop room is “a dedicated space to offer general college information sessions, financial aid workshops, financial literacy workshops and a variety of student support workshops,” Riley said.

Gateway Human Services student Frances Calhoun likes the professional look of the new space, which she said is quieter, with greater privacy, and has a neater and cleaner appearance.

“The impact of the remodel along with the student success model is that students have a great new place to come to receive services and a team of experts on hand to help navigate services they might need,” Riley said.

Plans for a similar remodel to the Kenosha Campus Student Services Center is part of the accelerated facility expansion plan. *See Skills, Career, Community story on page 4 for details.*



New Veterans Club seeking members

Randall Delaney
Staff Writer

U.S. military veterans and active reserve students who are taking classes at Gateway are encouraged to join the newly forming Veterans Club. The club will meet monthly across the college at all locations.

“We hope that all veterans and active reserve students will participate in the club,” Racine Dean of Campus Affairs Ray Koukari said. “It is important that our veteran students join this club to gain added social and leadership experiences.”

Club activities will include service and support projects, as well as generating funding for the veterans emergency fund and the veterans scholarship fund.

“We hope that all veterans and active reserve students will participate in the club.”

– **Ray Koukari**,
Racine Dean of Campus Affairs

The club will be aligning with the nationwide Student Veterans of America (SVA) club. Students also will have the chance to represent Gateway at a national convention. More information about the SVA club is available online at studentveterans.org.

The club is expected to officially come together in late January.

To join or learn more about the club, call Vickie Adams at (262) 619-6444 or email her at adamsv@gtc.edu to get on the Veterans Club email list.

Seeking to improve your Gateway experience

Skills. Community. Careers.

These three words epitomize what Gateway stands for – and what we hope to continue through a referendum proposal agreed upon by our board members at their January meeting. Their action means voters, such as yourselves, will decide whether our expansion remodel plan becomes a reality in the April 2 election.

Components of the referendum proposal build upon much of what we strive to achieve at Gateway. The proposal, makes sure we meet your future needs. You need access to state-of-the-art or improved technology and facilities – the same you will face on the job – and added career training options to diversify your career options.

Much of the referendum proposal focuses on academics and the needs of students, specifically, to improve your Gateway experience and your programs.

The **Elkhorn Campus** proposal calls for adding new programs in Culinary, Cosmetology and Veterinary Science there as well as expand manufacturing pro-



Bryan Albrecht
President, Gateway
Technical College

grams such as Welding, Automated Manufacturing and Computer Numerical Control through expanded and remodeled labs.

The Kenosha Campus. We plan to expand Student Services to better meet your needs as you enroll in courses, seek career guidance, financial aid advice and engage in tutoring, testing and other tailored learning services. The proposal also would remodel an area for a new Interior Design lab and Barbering classrooms. We also would add a new Fresh Water Resources lab on our **Racine Campus** and other remodeling projects.

Supporting a safe community is at the core of our proposed **Public Safety Training Center** at a central location in our district. A new facility would allow us to offer expanded and state-of-the-art training to students and professionals.

Skills, career and community – today and into your future.

Respectfully,
Bryan D. Albrecht, Ed.D.,
President,
Gateway Technical College

NEWS IN BRIEF

Let your Gateway enthusiasm shine; Star Ambassadors sought

Show off your enthusiasm about Gateway and technical education by demonstrating your leadership skills, public speaking skills and positive attitude. Become a Star Ambassador!

Interested students should complete an application and obtain faculty/staff endorsement. Students need to be prepared to participate in the Star Ambassador competition by giving a short presentation to a panel of three judges.

One winner is selected from Kenosha, Racine and Elkhorn as the campus star ambassador. One of the three will then be selected as the district star ambassador.

Each of the campus Star Ambassador winners are awarded a \$250 Gateway Technical College Foundation Inc. scholarship to use toward their continued education at Gateway.

See gtc.edu/starambassadors for information and an application. The application deadline is Jan. 31.

Get back on track with Adult High School classes held at Racine Campus

Adult High School classes have just begun this semester at Gateway's Racine Campus. The classes are open to students who are at least 18, who are not currently enrolled in high school and who are short of completing a high school diploma. The classes are offered in the daytime as well as evening to accommodate working adults. Classes in math, history, government, social sciences and English are

available. There is a fee. For more information, call Rosalva Santana at (262) 619-6612 or Kevin Gerou at (262) 564-2348.

Gear up for GED; with changes coming, time is now to finish

The current version of the GED® test is expiring at the end of 2013 and your scores will expire, too, if you don't finish and pass all sections of the GED® test by then. If you act soon, you won't have to retake the parts of the GED® test you've already passed.

Don't miss this chance to turn one small step into your next big opportunity in life. You're almost there!

Don't feel prepared to finish the GED® test? Don't worry. Gateway can help. Even with your busy schedule, you can prepare, plan and succeed. Visit a GED® testing center at the Kenosha, Elkhorn or Racine campus, or go to gtc.edu/testing.

We'll ensure you're registered for the GED® test and have all the support you need to finish and pass.

Go shopping, help global scholars

The Gateway Technical College Global Scholar Craft and Vendor Fair, featuring handmade items from area crafters, will be held 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2 at the college's Racine Campus, 1001 Main St.

All proceeds from the fair will help pay for Gateway Global Scholar students to study abroad in Germany.

Admission is free and food will be available to purchase. A raffle will be held.

Contact Jill Buchmann at (262) 619-6356 or Sherry Bigalke at bigalkes2@mail.gtc.edu for more information.

Calendar of events

Wednesday, January 23

• Financial aid census date. Details at gtc.edu/census

• Last day to use Spring 2013 financial aid book authorizations

Friday, January 25

• WinterGreen Horticulture Conference; 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Kenosha Campus - Madrigrano Auditorium

Thursday, January 31

• Star Ambassador application deadline. Details at gtc.edu/starambassadors

Friday, February 1

• Last day to enroll in payment plan for Spring 2013

February 4 - February 8

• Summer 2013 Semester - Academic advising

Friday, February 8

• First batch of financial aid grant refunds sent to Gateway Plus cards. Continuing every Friday until all grant funds are disbursed.

February 11 - February 20

• Summer 2013 Semester - Priority registration for continuing students

Tuesday, February 12

• African American Heritage Celebration; 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; Elkhorn Campus - Student Commons

Wednesday, February 13

• African American Heritage Celebration; 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; Kenosha Campus - Student Commons

Thursday, February 14

• African American Heritage Celebration; 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; Racine Campus - Student Commons

Friday, February 15

• First batch of financial aid loan refunds sent to Gateway Plus cards. Continuing every Friday until all loan funds are disbursed.

Be a Gateway Star

WIN a \$250 SCHOLARSHIP!

Show your leadership skills, enthusiasm about Gateway and represent the college at the same time

Apply to be the next Star Ambassador!

Apply at gtc.edu/starambassadors

Deadline is January 31, 2013



Gateway Electrical Engineering Technology student, Melanie Kelly was a recipient of the Katy Ganaway Memorial Scholarship. Pictured L-R: Pat Hoppe, Electronics instructor; Randy Reusser, Electronics instructor; Melanie Kelly; Fred and Debbie Ganaway, donors.

More than 150 scholarships awarded

Michael Sosinski • Staff Writer

The Gateway Technical College Foundation has reached new milestones for the 2012-13 school year, opening doors to Gateway students who are in need of financial assistance to pursue their educational dreams.

A scholarship awards ceremony was held Jan. 8 in front of a standing-room-only crowd in Madri-grano Auditorium in Kenosha. Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Charpentier oversaw the awarding of 159 scholarships, up from 133 awards issued the previous school year, solidifying the foundation's continued mission to support the college.

"More than \$87,000 in scholarships will be awarded tonight," Charpentier said as she kicked off the scholarship ceremony.

Gateway President Bryan Albrecht also addressed the audience, acknowledging the efforts of donors, faculty, foundation board members and the student body for making the annual event possible. When addressing the award recipients, Albrecht pointed out that a scholarship is "a symbol or token that shows that someone has value in you."

Students from all three campuses received awards presented by the award donors, and some students received more than one scholarship. Grace DeLuca, a student in the Administrative Professional program, and Steven Davis, Horticulture student, both were awarded four separate scholarships.

In addition to scholarships, the Gateway Technical College Foundation also provides emergency grant funds and inspiration grants. The emergency grants help students who encounter unforeseen financial difficulties that would otherwise keep them from attending college. The inspiration grants help students further their studies with additional research and internship opportunities.

"We are really here to close gaps for the college and students," Charpentier said of the foundation.

Students interested in applying for scholarships for the 2013-'14 school year should check the foundation website at gtc.edu/foundation for information on when and how to apply.



Horticulture student, Diana Haglund was awarded the Alpha Beta Hortus Scholarship by Horticulture instructor, Kate Jerome.

THERE IS HELP AT HAND

Gateway offers variety of student support services

Gateway offers a variety of support services to help students succeed in their program of study and beyond. These support programs are designed to support and assist students in a variety of ways - from providing workshops to one-on-one assistance. Students are encouraged to take advantage of these no-cost services to make the most out of their Gateway experience.

Disability Support Services: Disability Support Services provides a full range of support services and reasonable accommodations to adult learners with documented disabilities (learning, physical or emotional). In order to receive services, students must have documentation from a medical doctor indicating the specifics of the disability and how it impacts learning. Services are available on all three campuses and Burlington Center. Students should contact the disability support instructors for an appointment. Walk-in services are available as well.

Displaced Homemakers & Non-Traditional Occupation Program: Gateway Technical College's Non-traditional Occupation Program is designed to give support to students who are pursuing a trade in which women or men comprise 25 percent or less of its employment. This program strives to help students think outside the box to recognize all career opportunities through job shadowing, career exploration and professional readiness. The Displaced Homemaker Program assists displaced homemakers on the road to self-sufficiency. Gateway provides its displaced homemaker students services in the areas of career development, job readiness and placement assistance.

Multicultural Program: Multicultural Program encourages the success of students of color by offering comprehensive services that promote academic achievement, career building, cross-cultural engagement and leadership development. Some of the program components include one-on-one support, workshops, connection to campus and community resources, job fairs, networking, mentoring and tutoring.

Student Support Counselors: When students face difficult life situations that are interfering with their academic progress, counselors can provide short-term counseling and help with problem solving, goal setting, coping strategies and decision making. Often students see a counselor when they are having difficulty with transitioning, relationships, communication, stress, anxiety or grief/loss. Counselors can assist students who are in need of emergency grant funds and will work with them to connect with other community resources. All counselors can be seen by appointment or have walk-in times available each week.

TRiO: TRiO helps students with disabilities manage the demands of college by establishing a student success plan each semester and a close relationship with their TRiO specialist. TRiO helps students learn college success skills like time management, study skills and even financial literacy. TRiO students are guided toward academic success, graduation and transfer to a four-year college to earn their bachelor's degree.

To find out more or to take advantage of the available services, visit gtc.edu/support-services.

Area provider helps Nursing students

An effort by area health providers has paved the way for standardized health requirements for Gateway Nursing students to enter their off-site clinical experiences, resulting in reduced costs and a more efficient way for them to complete their degree.

Kenosha Community Health Center has even stepped forward to offer their professional services to Gateway students at little cost and decrease the health exam fee to \$25 a student, much lower than the \$200 to \$300 cost some students may have had to pay to go through their private medical providers.

"I find strong value in partnering with the community," said Gateway dean of Nursing Diane Skewes. "This is a great opportunity provided to us by Kenosha Community Health Center, not only to reduce the cost to our students, but to also provide them with a heightened career awareness for groups such as these."

Last summer, Gateway Nursing department officials began the effort to standardize clinical health exam requirements and make student costs more standard, as well. Some

clinical sites required only a simple test for students to gain clinical experience, while others required more, presenting a disparity in cost and requirements.

Skewes, a leader in and in cooperation with the Southeast Wisconsin Nurse Educator Alliance, worked with area health care providers to develop one set of standards for students to be accepted to their sites. The result by fall 2012 was providers from a six-county southeastern Wisconsin area - ones with sites where Gateway Nursing students receive clinical experience - agreed on standardized health requirements.

The result, however, was that while costs remained the same for some, they increased greatly for others. Kenosha Community Health Center then stepped in to provide a nurse practitioner, medical assistant and financial specialist and offered to hold four clinics for students with a cost of \$25 per student. About 70 students have taken advantage of these clinics so far, and the plan is that this service will continue for Nursing students.



Interior Design student, Jennifer Ulrich shows a mock-up of Gateway's "man cave" room design for the NARI show.

Students put interior design skills in motion

Randall Delaney
Staff Writer

Interior Design students in the space planning course are revving up for competition in the Milwaukee National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) Home Improvement Show next month.

With the guidance of instructor Rita Serpe, students will create their motorcycle-themed "man cave" design while competing against Interior Design students from three other colleges. The winning student team will win a \$1,000 gift certificate to use for program activities or supplies.

The team is given a day and a half to transform an empty space into a fashionable room, complete with flooring, painted walls, stylish furniture and carefully chosen accessories.

"In addition to actually designing the spaces, where some of the students will be using power tools for the first time to install flooring and molding, they also have to learn how to negotiate with ven-

dors on a \$250 budget," Serpe said. "It's a really great hands-on experience."

The Gateway team's design includes a TV, raised flooring with two comfortable chairs, a mini-fridge filled with cold beverages, a variety of pictures and a peg board with tools.

Some of the items have come from the college, such as Snap-On toolboxes from the Pike Creek Horticulture and iMET Centers, as well as a comfy chair from the office of Gateway President Bryan Albrecht.

When asked about what she gained from the experience, Interior Design student Jennifer Ulrich said, "I think I've gone outside of my comfort zone a bit, because this would probably be the last thing I'd choose to design."

The competition is Feb. 7 through Feb. 11 at the Exposition Center at Wisconsin State Fair Park in West Allis. Serpe and her students are hoping members of the Gateway community come out to see their design and vote for them.

Skills, careers, community

Student, employer need drives referendum proposal

New programs to provide students training for family income-sustaining careers, manufacturer need for skilled workers and measures to make the college energy efficient and even more student-friendly are some of the conditions driving Gateway to propose an accelerated expansion and remodeling plan. Voters will be asked to vote on the referendum April 2.

Gateway Technical College Board of Trustee members Jan. 14 unanimously voted to approve a resolution to move forward with a \$49 million referendum proposal to be decided on by voters in Kenosha, Racine and Walworth counties in the April 2 election.

Gateway has continued to expand and remodel its facilities and keep its curriculum up-to-date to meet the needs of students and employers. The college has expanded its course offerings and the way in which students can take courses and has updated its equipment and information technology to mimic a real-world workplace setting. In addition, Gateway continues to hire industry-savvy instructors who deliver hands-on training to students.

Components of the package are part of the college's overall planning effort. This would bring much of that plan to reality in a shortened time frame to meet today's demands.

Students at all three campuses

For more

For more information on the referendum proposal, please go to www.gtc.edu/proposal

would benefit from the proposal. Student-focused parts of the proposal include:

The Elkhorn Campus proposal calls for creating a Food Processing lab; remodeling and expanding the commons area into a Culinary Arts student-run kitchen where students could get hands-on training; a new Cosmetology lab to meet the needs of Walworth County students and employers; and expanded and remodeled labs in CNC, Welding and Automated Manufacturing.

The Racine Campus proposal calls for creating a Water Resources lab for students there to access equipment used in today's industry.

The Kenosha Campus proposal calls for remodeling and expanding the Student Services area to provide better student access and service and remodeling to provide industry-specific space for Interior Design and Barbering students.

The largest part of the referendum proposal, calls for a Public Safety Training Center to be developed, which would benefit area emergency workers and law enforcement officers as well as Gateway Law Enforcement Academy students. A location in the center part of our district is being sought.

More than 500 honored at first fall semester graduation ceremony

Mark Dirr, director of research and development at Xten Industries LLC, Kenosha, told Gateway Technical College graduates they are a part of revitalizing America's economy during his keynote address of the college's Associate Degree and Technical Diploma Commencement ceremony Dec. 20.

"Graduates, you are the ones to keep the infrastructure of our economy advancing," Dirr said at the ceremony, held at the Indian Trail High School Auditorium, Kenosha.

The ceremony recognized 527 candidates for graduation.

For more

The ceremony can be viewed at gtc.edu/graduation

This is the first time Gateway held a fall semester graduation. The college decided to hold a fall ceremony because of the increasing number of graduates due to high student enrollment, and to better accommodate the needs of fall semester and summer semester graduates.

Caesar Garcia, a graduate in Gateway's Computer Support Specialist program, provided the student response.



Graduates crossed the stage to receive their diplomas at Gateway's fall commencement on Dec. 20.