



## ***PRESIDENT'S REPORT JANUARY 2026***

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### **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS (Matt Janisin)**

#### **Academic Operations**

Academic Operations has been preparing for the spring Run/Cancel meeting on Tuesday, 1/6/26. With each Run/Cancel meeting improvements and efficiencies have been gained. With summer 2026 we hope to implement an even more streamlined process by using reports and data from Edify.

The review period of Deans and Chairs to provide feedback regarding course section offerings for the 26/27 academic year has closed. The Scheduling Office is now working to see if the feedback can be accommodated while also maintaining a student centered focus.

The IBD facilities meeting and event group created to discuss improved procedures and make recommendations to the College has begun meeting on a bi-weekly basis. This group has a wide range of members from most areas of the College. Discussions and ideas have already proven helpful and productive. The group is focused on making recommendations to the ELC by the end of March.

Spring 2026 is the rollout of an Equitable Access textbook program that the college has been working towards for a couple of years. This is being done in partnership with BibliU, our Gateway bookstore vendor. This program is designed to reduce the cost of textbooks, provide students with textbook access on day one, and improve retention and graduation rates.

#### **Racine Campus**

The Michigan Room served as headquarters for the Gateway Connect call event on December 3, 2025. 63 staff and faculty supported the event. 1685 students received a personal call.

The campus hosted Fast Track on December 16, 2025. 50 students were served.

The installation of all the new equipment for the dental programs will start the first week of January.

## **Kenosha Campus**

Kenosha Tech AHU and Inspire RTU projects are completed. Tech building corridor refurbishment is looking great and in the final stages of completion. A roofing repair project for the Kenosha Campus is in the review phase. Discussions of work needed for the Administration Building are in the design phase.

The Kenosha Campus hosted the Law Enforcement Academy graduation ceremony, the Kenosha Literacy Council, the annual craft fair, and several student events.

## **Horizon Center**

The Dyno room remodel is in the design phase and will entail a remodel of the existing space. Partners in Design are working on bid documents to go out sometime in January 2026.

## **iMET Center**

The School of Manufacturing Engineering and Information Technology (MEIT) continues to advance workforce aligned education by delivering high demand manufacturing and IT programs supported by our industry partnerships. We continue to remain focused on enrollment stability, curriculum alignment with industry credentials, and hands-on learning through our modern lab environments. Additionally, we continue with our ongoing grant activity, pathway development, and evaluation of capital needs to support continuous improvement and student success while positioning the School of MEIT for strategic growth to be aligned with the workforce demands.

## **School of Pre-College and Momentum Programs**

716 students were served district wide by the ELL program for Fall 2025.



*Level 1 - ELL (Kenosha Campus) - Dr. Debra Solomon*

## **School of Health**

- Substantial construction has been completed in the new Dental Hygiene (DH) labs. Patterson Dental is now installing the dental equipment. We will move Dental Assistant to start fall 2026 as planned. Based on an estimated accreditation timeline, we still plan on starting Dental Hygiene fall 2027.
- The nursing program recently held its fall pinning. The college pinned 50 Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) students and 16 Practical Nurses. A good portion of the ADN took advantage of early testing and passed their NCLEX exam. They now hold the title of RN.

## **High School Partnerships**

- Attended *Navigating Futures: Gateway Technical College & Middle Schools Summit* to strengthen early college and career awareness.
- Participated in the ACE Academy Partnership meeting with Burlington High School and AGC-WI to support construction career pathways.
- Finalized the 2026–27 High School Academy program offerings.
- Continued planning for 2026–27 contracted high school classes.
- Continued alignment of dual credit offerings with workforce and regional partner needs.

## **Program Effectiveness**

As a part of the college's Moon Shot for Social and Economic Mobility work, we launched the new Learning Experience Enhancement Process (LEEP) this fall. During phase I, programs were asked to update or revise course content (439 total courses) that did not meet local and state requirements. As of December, 133 courses (33%) were submitted for review, and seven total programs have fully completed their review. Work will continue in the spring semester to ensure 100% of programs meet required standards by May 2026.

## **College Excellence**

Institutional Research continues to work on the development of the college's data resources. Sean Riordan, Manager of Business Intelligence, has worked with subject matter experts and our data platform vendor, EAB, to develop several new groups of data insights to inform decision-making. Three new tools are now available for staff use:

- Course Planning Optimization Accelerator - this group of data insights is designed to support the alignment of course offerings with demand. It includes trends in course registration and fill rates.
- Program Health Workspace - this group of data insights supports decision making around program offerings. It includes trends in program enrollments, course fill rates, course success rates, and program migration patterns.

- Strategic Enrollment Management Accelerator - this group of data insights is designed to support the recruitment and enrollment processes. It includes data and trends related to enrollment, enrollment outcomes, and conversion rates at various stages of the enrollment process.

## **Business and Workforce Solutions**

We are proud to celebrate the completion of the first Mechatronics cohort at Robert E. Ellsworth Correctional Center! Over 15 weeks, students completed 450 hours of intensive training and earned 19 college credits in advanced fields like robotics and PLC programming.

- Program concluded with a Resident Open House attended by 45 peers
- Hosted a public showcase with 70 community members in attendance
- Industry leaders from Aptar and Spectrum Plastics attended and expressed strong impressions of students' technical skills and employability
- Successful launch established a strong foundation for future cohorts and meaningful career pathways for students

## **FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION & FACILITIES (Sharon Johnson)**

### **Community Connectedness**

- Joint Review Board Meetings: Village of Paddock Lake; City of Kenosha
- RAC Board of Directors Meeting
- United Way Racine County - Community Investment Financial Team Meeting
- Tempo Board Meeting

### **Student Accounts**

- Continued implementation of the Completion Microgrant for Fall 2025, focused on supporting students with outstanding Summer 2025 balances who were within 9 credits of completing their academic program during the Fall 2025 semester.
- Funded by the Gateway Foundation, which provides an annual allocation of \$20,000 to support student persistence and program completion.
- 6 students were awarded microgrants during the Fall 2025 cycle, with a total disbursement of \$8,609.74.
- This targeted support helped remove financial barriers for near-completers and directly contributed to improved student retention and success.

### **Facilities**

- Kenosha Tech Corridor and Toilet Room projects reached substantial completion.
- Equipment installation in Racine Dental Lab is underway.
- Working to finalize the Capital Plan for FY 26-27.

## **Safety and Security**

- Updates to Emergency Management Plan completed and submitted to Sharon for initial review.
- The capital project adding door fob readers is now headed to Racine. Kenosha and Elkhorn are complete.

## **Budget and purchasing**

- Budget development week for FY 2026-27 kicked off on January 6th and runs through January 15. The meetings are once again being held virtually via zoom with all of the budget managers to review and analyze their budgets in a one on one setting.
- Budget managers have through the end of January 2026 to prepare their initial submission to the budget office for review.

## **LEARNING INNOVATION DIVISION (Jeff Robshaw)**

### **Information Systems**

- The implementation of OCR transcript processing using ProcessMaker is nearing completion. It will use API integrations with both Perceptive Content and Colleague. Acceptance testing is in progress.
- The search for a replacement for Perceptive Transform, a web based fill in form product that directly integrates with Perceptive Content, our Document Management System, is in progress. Once a replacement is found it will proceed to implementation.

### **Information Technology**

- We conducted a “soft launch” of our Tech Central AI Chat Support Agent, TeeCee, on 12/22/25. The goal was to evaluate whether the AI could independently resolve login issues—a common ticket type during the holiday shutdown. During the pilot, TeeCee handled 42 conversations. Of these, 30 resulted in a confirmed successful login, and 7 produced an otherwise satisfactory outcome (such as correct guidance or appropriate ticket creation). The remaining 5 conversations did not provide enough information for resolution, but they offered valuable insights that we are using to strengthen the knowledge base. When staff returned from the break, the Help Desk had only 3 login-related tickets, compared to the 30+ we would typically expect. Most importantly, more than 30 students were able to regain access immediately, without waiting for assistance.
- Worked onsite with BD to implement and configure a new district-wide shared Medstation ES server and deploy new Medstation hardware for the Kenosha Nursing Program. The Pyxis medication dispensing system is an automated, computerized cabinet widely used in hospitals and healthcare facilities to

securely store, track, and dispense medications. By integrating with electronic health records and pharmacy systems, it improves patient safety, reduces medication errors, and provides accountability for controlled substances. Teaching students how to use the Pyxis system in a 2-year college program is highly advantageous because it prepares them with hands-on experience using the same technology they will encounter in clinical settings. This not only builds their confidence and competence but also makes them more competitive in the job market, as employers value candidates who are already familiar with essential healthcare tools and workflows.

### **End User Computing and Distance Learning**

- Our technicians have completed the installation of all multimedia equipment at The Cut in Burlington and the new computer will be installed on Thursday. After that, their new classroom will be ready to go. Also, they will be completing the multimedia upgrade in T118 on the Kenosha campus this week.
- The campus Computer Technicians and Distance Learning teams are preparing for the start of the Spring Semester. Campus techs are checking all classrooms and meeting spaces to make sure we are ready for a great start. The Distance Learning techs are working within Brightspace to see that all courses are ready and that faculty have what they need from us for a successful start.

## **STUDENT AFFAIRS (Tammi Summers)**

### **Student Support Programs (Jomarie Coloriano)**

#### **Scaling Student Support Capacity to Improve Retention and Completion Outcomes**

Student Support Services continues to advance student retention and completion through strategic capacity-building, evidence-based training, and high-impact engagement initiatives. In support of these efforts, staff completed Phase I of the Wisconsin Navigator and Career Pathway Cohort's 40-hour intensive training and certification exam, strengthening institutional readiness to support student persistence. Phase II will further align these competencies with newcomer retention and completion strategies, while complementary initiatives focus on engagement and first-generation student success.

#### **Key Highlights**

- Navigator & Career Pathways Capacity-Building: Completion of Phase I (40-hour intensive training and certification exam) through the Wisconsin Navigator and Career Pathway Cohort, strengthening coordinated retention and completion support.



- Newcomer Student Retention (Phase II): Next phase focuses on deepening cross-campus connections to support newcomer student retention, navigation, and credential completion.
- HEADS UP Mentoring – Student Experience: Strengthened engagement and persistence efforts through the program’s inaugural Mentoring Week in January, designed to build connection, belonging, and momentum toward completion.
- First-Generation Student Success: Continued participation in the NASPA First-Gen Forward Network, advancing institutional strategies that support first-generation student retention, persistence, and completion.

## Hispanic Student Programming (Elizabeth Rosiles-Zavala)

### HSI Grants Development Institute (Professional Development) sponsored by the University of Arizona

- Attended the HSI Grant Development Institute along with Dr. Cynthia Galvan, Dr. Jay Johnson, and Jomarie Coloriano on Friday, December 5, 2025, at Pima Community College, Tucson AZ.



- The team learned about HSI-related grant opportunities, building a stronger understanding of HSI models/frameworks, and effective practices.
- Cultivated networks among faculty, administrators, and partners who share common interests in grant development and student success.
- Its purpose was to equip colleges/universities with greater awareness of HSI-specific grant opportunities, understanding of HSI models and the servingness frameworks, and enhance the ability to design projects grounded in student success.

## **Student Accommodations & Accessibility Services (Katie Lohre)**

In December SAAS supported our students from semester stressors to finals stressors. During Fall semester SAAS Coordinators proctored 932 tests. Which is an incredible number of our students getting the resources and support that they need to be successful.

In addition, the SAAS Transition Expo was hosted in Elkhorn, and the turnout of prospective students was very exciting. Several High Schools, as well as specialized schools like the school for the deaf, came out to hear what college can be like, and what Gateway has to offer.

### *Deaf and Hard of Hearing:*

The fall semester concluded with one Deaf student successfully completing her 5.09 high school diploma. This accomplishment represents a significant milestone; once she committed to the goal, she demonstrated perseverance and dedication in seeing it through to completion. The interpreter team worked closely with instructors and the student to ensure she fully understood each topic. She is now looking forward to graduating in May, with her family in attendance to celebrate her achievement.

Planning is well underway for Hear a Better World, the annual event hosted by the Deaf/Hard of Hearing team. The event is scheduled to take place on the Kenosha campus on March 26. This interactive experience is designed to help the hearing community gain a deeper understanding of deafness and hearing loss.

## **Academic Advising (Olivia Mayen)**

December is a busy advising month since we are getting ready for winter break and the Spring 2026 semester starting soon after. Below is some of the data that showcases the busy month we had.

Text Messages Conversations: **1750**

Appointments Completed: **950**

Phone Calls Completed: **550**

**Total of 3250 student interactions!**



## **Student Support Counseling (Katie Lohre)**

In December, the Student Support Counseling team leaned into a busy season of stress, worry, transition, and holiday celebrations by hosting a program for students to create memorial votives. This program was offered during finals week, providing students with an opportunity to step away, decompress, and acknowledge their feelings of grief or worry. This program was well-received on all campuses, with requests to repeat it. Grief is always present, and acknowledging it is an essential part of the grieving process. Being a stressful month, Student Support Counselors saw an increase in sessions and new clients.

## **Impact Program & Connection Center (Sarah Marbes/Jomarie Coloriano)**

### **Basic Needs as a Retention Strategy: TEFAP Partnership Impact**

In December, Gateway Technical College launched a TEFAP partnership with the Racine/Kenosha Community Action Agency to support students' basic needs through monthly food distributions at the Connection Centers on the Racine and Kenosha campuses. Food deliveries occur on the 5th of every month, strengthening Gateway's commitment to reducing food insecurity and supporting student persistence. During the initial month, the partnership demonstrated strong utilization and immediate impact across both campuses.

### **TEFAP Partnership Key Highlights**

- Total Impact (December): 99 unique individuals served across 135 total visits
- Kenosha Campus: 60 individuals served through 78 visits
- Racine Campus: 39 individuals served through 57 visits
- Infrastructure Investment: With funding from the Kloss Foundation, a commercial-grade refrigerator and freezer were purchased to support TEFAP food storage and distribution at the Racine Campus
- Ongoing Support: Monthly TEFAP food deliveries occur on the 5th of every month to meet students' basic needs

## **PRESIDENT'S OFFICE (Interim)**

### **Foundation (Jennifer Charpentier)**

- **Direct Aid to Students:** Thanks to the generosity of Gateway Foundation donors, the Foundation was able to award more than \$338,300 to students during the New Adult Learner and Continuing Education Scholarship application periods.

- **Save the Date:** The Foundation's Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony will be held on Saturday, February 21, 2026: doors open at 11:30 am, lunch is served at 12:30 pm, and the ceremony starts at 1:15 pm (anticipated schedule).
- **Total dollars contributed** in support of Gateway students, the college and the foundation as of December 30, 2025: \$482,552.40 from 296 donors.

## **TALENT & CULTURE and MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS (Interim)** **Jacqueline Morris)**

### **Talent & Culture -**

- **Payroll Department Recognition**
- A special and well-deserved acknowledgment is extended to our exceptional Payroll Department for their outstanding work during the most demanding period of the calendar year. December is traditionally one of the most complex and high-risk months for payroll operations, and this year was particularly significant as it marked the first calendar year-end completed following the retirement of our long-tenured Payroll Manager, Alan, who concluded an extraordinary 24-year career with the organization in July 2025.
- Despite this transition, Michelle and Dario, our Payroll Team, rose to the occasion with professionalism, precision, and resilience. They successfully managed three accelerated payroll cycles, ensured accurate balancing and reconciliation of all state and federal payroll taxes, and flawlessly processed approximately 1,200 W-2 forms—all while maintaining compliance and operational continuity.
- Additional recognition is extended to Charles in Information Systems for his critical partnership and technical support throughout the year-end process. His collaboration was instrumental in ensuring systems stability and accuracy during this intensive period.
- December truly belongs to Payroll, and this team's performance exemplifies dedication, teamwork, and excellence. Their efforts reflect a strong foundation for the many successful calendar year-ends to come.

### **WGTD -**

- WGTD's coffee-and-kringle 50th anniversary celebration held in the WGTD studios last month was a big success with over 150 in attendance. Several dozen birthday greetings were recorded and are now airing. Historical information about the radio station is posted at [wgtd.org](http://wgtd.org)