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Mitchell Farrell keynotes Gateway graduation ceremony

Mitchell Farrell, a Climate Solutions district manager for Trane, will deliver the keynote address at Gateway Technical College's Associate Degree and Technical Diploma Class of 2014 Commencement 7 p.m. May 13 at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside Sports and Activity Center, 900 Wood Road, Kenosha.

The ceremony will recognize 718 prospective candidates for graduation from the Spring 2014 and Summer 2014 semesters. An estimated 308 are expected to participate in the ceremony.

Farrell has worked in the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) industry for more than 28 years and at Trane for more than 14 years in a number of leadership capacities. His experience at Ingersoll Rand – which acquired Trane in 2008 – in addition to his current district manager position includes as a national service solutions leader and the Northeast Territory Leader. He began in the industry working for a family-owned HVAC business while continuing his higher educational studies.

Currently, Farrell leads more than 300 sales, service, contracting and parts associates in providing building owners and their influences with energy efficient HVAC-refrigeration systems and services. Together, he and his team deliver economical and environmentally conscious HVAC solutions to colleges and universities, K12 school districts, hospitals, industrial buildings and other businesses throughout Trane's Great Northern Plains District.

Farrell earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing and Business from Concordia University in St. Paul, Minn., and studied Mechanical Engineering at the University of Minnesota.

Other commencement highlights include the presentation of the 2014 Gateway Technical College Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award, which will be awarded to Steve Sturycz Jr.

Sturycz is a May 2012 graduate of Gateway Technical College's Marketing and Business-To-Business Marketing programs. He currently is a sales manager with the WD-40 company.

Bryan Albrecht, Gateway president and CEO, will deliver the welcome address.

The commencement program will be available for download from Gateway's Web site in early June. Please check the college's Web site at www.gtc.edu/graduation for updated information.

Gateway Technical College collaborates with communities in Kenosha, Racine and Walworth counties to ensure economic growth and viability by providing education, training, leadership and technological resources to meet the changing needs of students, employers and communities.