Creating a Community of Learners

As I watch our communities flourish with excitement over the summer months I can’t help but think about how much we all depend on one another. The success of Gateway is not a single act of educating students but rather an integrated series of community connections. Most recently we have been working with the Racine Workforce Development Board in the development of a countywide workforce development strategic plan to connect education and training.

In Kenosha we are partnered with the Kenosha Area Business Alliance in providing the education and training to keep Kenosha a great place to live and work. Gateway also serves on the Walworth County Economic Development Alliance workforce education committee designed to stimulate greater opportunities for the advancement of manufacturing throughout the county. Building partnerships and aligning our resources is a cornerstone of our college.

Students that attend Gateway...employers that contract for training through Gateway... have a common path toward success. Our communities benefit from the expertise of the

Bryan Albrecht - President, Gateway Technical College
faculty and staff that live and work there. Through our extended campuses and community involvement we are helping to create a community of learners for all of southeast Wisconsin.

Gateway Studies Walworth County Educational Needs

Gateway Technical College’s Walworth County Education/Training Study Committee recommended a number of initiatives and areas of emphasis to the Gateway Technical College District Board of Trustees June 21, 2007. The Study Committee had been formed by Gateway to better identify the current and future educational training needs of the citizens of Walworth County and to develop a plan to address those needs.

Recommendations focused on four areas: new programs, expansion of programs, partnerships in the communities, and response strategies to best meet needs. In a general recommendation, the study committee urged Gateway and Walworth county leaders to work with legislators and the Wisconsin Technical College System to allow for more flexibility in meeting the needs of the communities by augmenting the traditional semester course offerings with targeted training that quickly addresses employers’ needs.

“I want to thank all members of the committee for their dedication to assisting Gateway in advancing its responsiveness to community needs,” says Bryan Albrecht, president, Gateway Technical College. “I’m looking forward to establishing action plans that will bring their recommendations to reality.”

The committee recommended developing programming plans that address four career pathways: Health, Construction, Hotel/Hospitality, and Manufacturing. Other recommendations included strengthening the relationships between high schools and Gateway in building these career pathways, including forming a subcommittee of Superintendents to consider development of high school academies. The committee also recommended increased attention toward seamless educational relationships among the UW four- and two-year colleges that will allow students to complete their career education at multiple locations as convenient or appropriate.

Gateway board action June 21, 2007 directed Gateway administration to develop the action plans, systems,
budgets, and timelines that move these recommendations forward.

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Gateway Offers a New Business Management Associate Degree

Gateway will be offering a new Associate Degree program beginning this fall—Business Management. The program will be based on the Racine Campus. Program courses will be offered in the accelerated format on Thursday evenings from 5:30-9:30 p.m. Fall classes include Accelerated Learning, Marketing Principles, and Intro to Business. Students can also register for Intro to Microcomputers, Written Communications, and Math with Business Applications. The program includes courses in accounting, business, and supervision. An internship course is also required during the last semester of the two-year program.

The Business Management program is designed to provide a broad background in business and management theory, human resource management and behavior, accounting, organizations, marketing, and business decision making. This program provides graduates with the business knowledge and skills to prepare them for a management trainee, assistant manager, or team leader position in a wide cross-section of business, government, and not-for-profit sectors of our economy.

As the program becomes further established, Gateway will develop articulation agreements with four-year institutions so that Gateway grads can continue their education for a bachelor’s degree in the partner institution’s Business Management area.

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Training for Your Workplace

Whether your workplace fits the office/supervisory mold or more closely is associated with manufacturing, engineering, and maintenance, technology advances and customer demands create a need for skill upgrades.

Gateway's mission is to work with you to ensure you and your employees keep pace with demands. Each and every semester, Gateway offers classes not just to degree seekers but to individual workers, supervisors, and business owners. A treasure trove of information can help make you more competitive, ensure the safety of your operations, and increase productivity. Please see a special
section on our website www.gtc.edu/workplace that outlines classes available for the Fall Semester beginning August 21.

Kenosha Testing Centers Consolidate

The Assessment Center geared for workplace skill assessments and the Kenosha Campus GED/HSED and CLEP testing have now consolidated and are located in the Center for Bioscience and Information Technology on the Kenosha Campus.

The new Assessment Center, originally located in LakeView Advanced Technology Center in Pleasant Prairie, specializes in testing for:

- Basic Skills
- Job-Specific Skills
- Employability/Promotability Skills
- Technology-Specific Skills

Gateway Technical College has collected some of the top industry worker skill assessment tools in the country for use by area employers, employees, and prospective employees. These online assessments can be conducted at the Assessment Center or the assessment tools can be brought to the workplace.

Some of the assessment tools for business and industry include:

- ACT WorkKeys
- Prometric (IT certifications)
- IC3
- MOS
- NOCTI - National Occupational Competency Testing Institute
- MSSC - Manufacturing Skills Standards Council
- Drake Kryterio
- QWIZ
- Profiles International
- ...and many more nationally standardized and validated assessments

The move to the Center for Bioscience and Information Technology on the Kenosha Campus allowed the center to extend its hours, increase capacity, and capitalize on testing resources from each facility—the Assessment Matrix for detailed information on the types of tools, assessments and certifications available. Please contact Debbie Davidson at 262.564.3422 for more information or davidsond@gtc.edu.
Gateway Opens Engineering Technology Center of Excellence

The public is invited to see Gateway’s Engineering Tech Wing’s new labs and classrooms at Gateway’s Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation (CATI), Sturtevant. An Open House will be held August 9, 5:00-7:30 p.m.

All Engineering Technology programs will become centralized at CATI beginning this Fall semester. Gateway offers engineering technology associate degrees in Civil Engineering Technology (three concentrations to choose from: Architectural/Structural, Public Works, Surveying), Electrical Engineering Technology (Electrical Engineering Technology, Electronics), Mechanical Engineering Technology (including Mechatronics) and an advanced technical certificate in Telecommunications.

The move will allow for advanced technology lab space and will be more accessible to businesses in the Renaissance Business Park (2320 Renaissance Blvd., Sturtevant) and others located along Highway I-94 for cooperative projects or skill upgrade training.

Sustainable Biofuels and Stem Cell Research—Two Presentations at Gateway Facilities

Gateway is proud to be among the hosting organizations for two presentations concerning important issues facing the country as well as our District.

Sustainable Biofuels & Local Climate Change Solutions:
The program will feature a demonstration of oil extraction technology, making and using biofuels, conservation benefits and programs, and the theory behind carbon credits. The presentation will be held from 9:10 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 14, at Gateway’s Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation. To register, call 800-272-5531.

Edge—Educating the Public is an outreach program dedicated to sharing information about advances in human embryonic stem cell research and the economic development potential of these innovations. The Wisconsin Edge is touring the state providing informational presentations to the general public and business leaders about stem cell research. The event will be held at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 15, at Gateway’s Center for Bioscience and Information Technology, 3520-30th Avenue. Registration is not necessary. For more information, contact Debbie Davidson 262.564.3422.

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Paying for College
It's often a Catch-22—one is told to attend college to become more successful and achieve a higher-paying job. However, many can’t afford college.

In addition to financial aid and Gateway's payment plan, Gateway offers students opportunities for scholarships. Gateway’s website offers students a fairly comprehensive list of scholarships—both through the Gateway Technical College Foundation, Inc. and through national sources. Please see Gateway’s website (www.gtc.edu) and look under Prospective Students and click into Scholarships.

Successful Scholarship Winners
Over the summer, Gateway has learned of several successful scholarship recipients. Among those include:

Louis Wegner, Racine, is a student in the Information Technology-Network Specialist program. Louis is one of just five students in the country to have won a $5,000 scholarship from CompTIA. In celebration of its 25th anniversary, CompTIA awarded a total of $25,000 in scholarships. Students were asked to write an essay about “The coolest new technology of the next 25 years.”

Louis’ essay outlined an idea to make hardware and software work smarter, not harder. Excerpts: "Since our industry is consuming so much power, we need to tackle the sources of the problem first. The biggest culprit when it comes to power consumption would be data centers .... What's currently being done about our power consumption? We, of course, have the Energy Star program. Computers that have met the Energy Star requirements utilize up to 70 percent less power than noncompliant PCs. ... What happens in the future depends on what's happening right now. The next big power saving innovation could come
Joanne Anderson, Burlington, is studying at Gateway to become a Surgical Technologist. She is the recipient of a $1,000 Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation scholarship. Joanne is among 400 recipients nationwide who have been recognized by the Coca-Cola Two-Year Colleges Scholarship Program, now in its eighth year. Student applicants are evaluated by criteria including academic success and community service over the past twelve months. Joanne has contributed to her community by increasing the awareness of homelessness—a growing issue that is often overlooked in the predominately rural areas of western Racine County. Joanne is attending Gateway while working full time as a journalist and supporting her two daughters. She appreciates the scholarship, which will pay for most of her Fall semester tuition and fees.

Alumni Association Kick-Off Event

Are YOU one? Gateway is proud to have provided degrees and diplomas to approximately 1,000 students a year. In addition, the college has helped tens of thousands more upgrade their career skills through select classes.

Now Gateway wants to honor its student partners by forming an Alumni Association. Among the many goals of the organization is providing the opportunity for Association members to network with one another and also to provide some formal and informal mentoring opportunities between Alumni and current students.

A fun event is planned for all those who have graduated or taken classes from Gateway. The Alumni Fall Kick-off is scheduled for Friday, September 7, from 4:00-7:00 pm, and will feature prizes, a cookout, and live music. It will be held on the Gateway Kenosha Campus grounds (or in Madrigano Auditorium in case of inclement weather).

We would love to celebrate your successes and our partnership—join us for the fun!
Annual Report Outlines Recent Successes and Future Efforts

Gateway has had an exciting year of change, success, and positioning the college for even greater service to its students and all Gateway’s communities. Some of these successes and some vision for the future are captured in the online version of Gateway’s 2006 Annual Report.

The report, located at www.gtc.edu/annualreport, takes a look back over the last year and a half at the organizational changes designed to make the college more responsive to the needs of students and employers who hire Gateway graduates. The report highlights the facility, technology, and curriculum upgrades that have taken place; faculty success; and Gateway’s connections to its communities. Most importantly, the report looks forward to the future through Vision 2012 and many of the enhancements planned for the future.

CPR Saturday: Preparation for the Unexpected

For Waterford police officer John Shanning, it was just another Sunday morning. He had played three games of racquetball and was feeling just fine. He was walking through his house when he dropped down to the ground. He was alive, but barely. By the time the paramedics arrived, his heart had stopped. He was clinically dead for two and a half minutes. Through a combination of CPR and a defibrillator, he was resuscitated and sent by ambulance to the hospital in Burlington, where his condition warranted a repeat of the procedure.

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation, or CPR, is an emergency procedure for someone who is in cardiac or respiratory arrest. The procedure keeps blood flowing to the brain and increases oxygenation throughout the body, limiting the damages and delaying death. It played a huge part in saving John Shanning’s life. Without it, he could have suffered extreme brain damage, or, even more likely, he would have remained dead.

CPR training through Gateway Technical College can give any average person the ability to administer CPR in an emergency situation. If trained, you could help save a life like that of John Shanning.

Gateway is offering a CPR training event August 25 inside
and outside Madrigrano Auditorium on its Kenosha Campus. This event is geared toward any community member who may want to be better prepared for an emergency. Up to four sections will be offered that day at a cost of just $10 per person. For more information or to register, please call 800-861-4667.

Major Donation of EMS Equipment to Gateway

The Kenosha County Sheriff’s Department donated defibrillation equipment to Gateway Technical College valued at over $60,000.

The donation includes twenty-one Life Pak 10s with manuals and battery packs, which are defibrillators/pacer units. These surplus units were acquired by the Sheriff’s Department specifically for Gateway use. While this version of the unit has been replaced by more updated versions, these never-used, once considered top of the line units are still in use by many agencies throughout the country. When new, each unit would have cost approximately $8,500 each.

Sheriff David Beth explained, “Through the 1033 program, federal surplus equipment is made available to government agencies such as the Sheriff’s Department. When I saw the equipment was available, I immediately tagged it with the plan to donate it to Gateway. Gateway provides the training for the vast majority of our department, and I saw it as a great opportunity to give back in appreciation for all Gateway has done for our department.”

Gateway Technical College President Bryan Albrecht expressed his appreciation for the donation. “We will definitely be putting these like-new units to work in a variety of our training programs including Paramedic training and Nursing. Gateway students appreciate training on real-world equipment and having enough units to maximize their experience on the machine.”

The defibrillators are portable units that also include pacemaker capability. Defibrillators are used in cardiac emergencies by sending a brief, high-energy pulse of electricity to the heart.
Gateway Receives Caregiver Training Grant

Gateway Technical College is proud to announce that it is one of just 12 community colleges in the country to receive a grant to develop innovative training programs for in-home caregivers for the elderly. This is a rapidly growing need as the pool of caregivers shrinks and the population of those in need grows.

The $25,000 grant was awarded by The Caregiving Project for Older Americans from the MetLife Foundation. The grant will allow Gateway’s Health Occupations division to create training modules to be implemented in work-based environments and will be made available to both paid and nonpaid caregivers.

Increasingly large numbers of people throughout the country are having difficulty finding high quality, affordable in-home care for older adults. The pool of caregivers is shrinking at a time when the population in need is growing. The “Community College Caregiver Training Initiative” is sponsored by The Caregiving Project for Older Americans—a MetLife Foundation effort. The 12 recipients were chosen from a field of 75 applicants. Those chosen represent a cross-section of urban, rural, and minority populations throughout the country.

You may email questions or comments about Community Connection to Jayne Herring at herringj@gtc.edu or Lee Colony at colonyl@gtc.edu

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