

# communityconnections



[Subscribe & Connect](#) | [Archives](#) | [Current Issue](#)

June 2007

Previous Issues:

- [Class of 2007!](#)
- [Gateway 2007 Commencement](#)
- [Alumni Association is Formed](#)
- [Horizon Center Advances](#)
- [Hot Rod Power Tour Visits Gateway's Racine Campus](#)
- [Register Now](#)
- [Breathe Easy](#)
- [Flag Dedication](#)
- [Students are National/International Winners](#)
- [Gateway Technical College and Instructor Win Prestigious Award](#)
- [Gateway Hosts First System-Wide Robotics Challenge and Fourth Annual High School Competition —Engineering Tech moves to CATI](#)
- [Industry Leader Donations Vastly Expand Gateway's Telecommunications Instructional Capabilities](#)
- [Gateway Hosts Mrs. Doyle—The Wisconsin Covenant](#)
- [Gateway Increases its efforts in Strengthening Math and Science](#)
- [MSSC Certification](#)
- [Gateway Board to Hold Annual Budget Public Hearing](#)

## Class of 2007!

On May 22 Gateway graduated over 1000 students with an associate degree or technical diploma. We are very proud of each and every past and present graduate. Dan Peterson, president of A&E, Inc. in Racine, received this year's outstanding alumni award. As I greeted not only the grads but the two thousand family members and friends, I was struck by the important role that Gateway plays in our community. I've had the opportunity to meet with police officers, engineers, nurses, bankers, business leaders, teachers, chefs, accountants, real estate brokers, firefighters, scientists, and so many more professionals that all received their start at Gateway Technical College. As a community leader, I hope that you are as proud of these graduates as I am. They are, in many ways, the backbone of our community.

As we begin to plan for the 2008 academic year, I am



Bryan Albrecht - President, Gateway  
Technical College

encouraged by the commitment by our Board of Trustees and the community to continue to support Gateway in so many ways. This Fall, we will open our new Horizon Center. This is the first transportation center of excellence in the country to offer Snap-on Diagnostics certification. That is not all. We will also open our Center of Excellence in Engineering at CATI, a new HAAS Manufacturing Center on the Racine Campus, and start construction on a new Business Excellence Center and a new Health Services wing--both in Racine, and develop plans to expand offerings on the Elkhorn Campus. As you can see, Gateway is moving forward with a solid vision for progress. Your support is what makes all of this possible for our students and community.

Thank you for your investment in our shared future.  
Bryan

[\[back to top\]](#)

## Gateway 2007 Commencement

Gateway Technical College's Associate Degree and Technical Diploma Class of 2007 Commencement Exercise was held May 22. The ceremony recognized 1,031 candidates for graduation.

**Roberta Gassman**, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, delivered the commencement address. Secretary Roberta Gassman serves in the cabinet of Governor Jim Doyle, leading the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development and overseeing 2,000-plus employees charged with strengthening Wisconsin's workforce. Gassman recognized the achievements of all graduates and congratulated them on their choice of Gateway with its excellent record of employability and of being innovative in educational delivery. She cited the many successes of May graduates who placed well in national and international career competitions.

The 2007 Distinguished Alumni Award by the Gateway Technical College Foundation, Inc., was presented to **Dan Peterson**, a 1967 graduate of Gateway Technical Institute—the name predecessor to Gateway Technical College. Peterson applied his associate degree in business to a distinguished 30-year career in sales, customer service, marketing, business development, and senior-level management in the automotive tool industry. Since 1990, he has been president and chief operating officer of Racine-based A&E, Incorporated.



Secretary of Workforce Development Roberta Gassman presented the Keynote address.

Bryan Albrecht, Gateway president, delivered the welcome. Ron Jandura, chairperson of the Gateway District Board of Trustees, along with other board members, presented degrees; Jeannie Eggert, a medical assistant associate degree graduate from the Elkhorn Campus, provided the Student Response; and Diane Leisemann, senior faculty member, led the ceremony opening and closing.

[\[back to top\]](#)



Dan Peterson received the Distinguished Alumni award from the Gateway Technical College Foundation, presented by Tom Mahoney, Foundation Board member.

## Alumni Association is Formed

Gateway Technical College alumni, through a steering committee comprised of Gateway alumni and staff, have formed the Gateway Technical College Alumni Association. The purpose of the Association is to keep alumni and current students connected and involved in the promotion of Gateway Technical College's educational mission.

The groundwork (bylaws, membership structure) has been set and the Association is now accepting memberships. There are two levels of membership: **Graduate**—for those who have graduated with an Associate Degree or Technical Diploma, and **Collegiate**—for those who have attended Gateway for skill upgrade classes or want to support the college's mission in their community.

Association benefits will be implemented over this first year. The Association wants to give members opportunities to connect with former classmates and instructors through an online newsletter, alumni directory, and invitations to College events and Alumni Association events.

One of the purposes of the Association is to increase the connection between students and alumni. Association members will have the opportunity to serve in a mentoring



Join us for our Friday, September 7, Alumni Association Kick-off Event

Cookout at Gateway's Kenosha Campus  
4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

E-mail [gtcalumni@gtc.edu](mailto:gtcalumni@gtc.edu) to receive detailed information.

[Download the alumni membership form.](#)

role for students, promote Gateway at community functions, and serve on Alumni Association committees to develop activities.

A number of extras are also under development: career services, library privileges, community business discounts, discount on Gateway products/apparel, purchase of Alumni Association apparel, and travel opportunities.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## Horizon Center Advances

Gateway's Horizon Center for Transportation Technology will open for the Fall Semester, with a Grand Opening / Open House planned for September 20.

Horizon Center is a community venture to support the advancement of transportation—vehicular and aeronautic—technology training in southeastern Wisconsin. Horizon Center is garnering the support of major automotive-related industry such as Snap-on Incorporated, a primary partner in this training effort. Over \$1.5 million has been generated in community support from companies and individuals. They are supporting equipment, furniture, and student scholarships. Companies range from automotive equipment manufacturers, automotive dealers, and individuals and organizations concerned with ensuring that a skilled technician workforce is available in Southeastern Wisconsin.

The Horizon Center will serve the most advanced of high school and college automotive students. It will feature the first Snap-on diagnostic tool certification program in the country. The Gateway associate degree automotive program will become year-round, six days a week, 7a.m.-10:00 p.m. The service area will mimic that of an actual service center—from customer service technician through repair.

[\[back to top\]](#)



To learn how you can be a part of Gateway's Horizon Center, contact Ken Vetrovec, [vetroveck@gtc.edu](mailto:vetroveck@gtc.edu) 262.564.2866.



## Hot Rod Power Tour Visits Gateway's Racine Campus

The Gateway Racine Campus was transformed June 4 as hundreds of vehicles streamed into Downtown Racine, checking in at the Racine Campus for Hot Rod Magazine's Hot Rod Power Tour.

Rods lined all major downtown roads, and hundreds of area visitors checked out the vehicles and automotive-related displays. Gateway took the opportunity to introduce its new Horizon Center for Transportation Technology and state-of-the-art automotive technology training beginning with this fall semester. Gateway's tent drew hundreds of visitors along Pershing Drive, just north of the Gateway Campus. The display featured Snap-on diagnostic equipment and tools, several vehicles, and information about Gateway's Automotive Technician associate degree program.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## Register Now

Amaze Yourself! is this fall's Gateway registration campaign... It is so much more than a slogan. The thought comes from the many conversations Gateway has with its students and graduates of all ages and backgrounds. So many tell us that they really didn't think they could do it (be successful in college; change careers; upgrade their skills; balance family, work and school). They were amazed at their success at Gateway and then in their new career.

So, we invite each of you, your family members, and your employees to amaze YOURselves and consider a course or a degree from Gateway.

Register NOW for Fall Classes at Gateway!  
Classes begin August 21.

New this Fall:

**Business Management Associate Degree** program is designed to prepare students for entry level management positions such as supervisor, an assistant manager, team



For more information about Gateway's Automotive Technician program contact Gateway counselor Jim Lawton, [lawtonj@gtc.edu](mailto:lawtonj@gtc.edu); 262.564.2526.



**Curriculum:**  
**Business Management**  
**Telecommunications**  
**Psychosocial Nursing**



leader, or management trainee. The 68-credit program includes a broad array of courses touching on human resource management, budgeting and accounting, business decision making, marketing, and more.

### **Telecommunications Advanced Technical Certificate**

offers specific telecommunications technician industry-standard training. The curriculum is aligned with the Electronic Technicians Association (ETA) International's telecommunications requirements, and prepares students for successful completion of ETA's telecommunications certification. The program is appropriate for graduates of related Gateway associate degree programs (such as electronic engineering technician) or for those currently working in the telecommunications industry who wish to achieve certification. Classes will be taught at newly constructed labs at Gateway's Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation (CATI) in Sturtevant.

### **Psychosocial Nursing Advanced Technical Certificate**

is appropriate for any Registered Nurse who wishes to better understand working with patients' emotional difficulties associated with their illness or hospitalization... or for nurses who wish to work in medical facilities that deal with patients suffering mental illness.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## **Breathe Easy**

All Gateway Campuses—buildings and grounds—will become tobacco-free August 1. In an effort to support a healthy lifestyle for all Gateway students, employees, and visitors, Gateway will ban use of any tobacco products within its property lines.

To support students and employees who are looking for help in quitting, workshops have been held and additional sessions are planned as we near August 1 and the start of fall classes. Many online support resources also exist and Gateway will develop a collection of these to make available to students and staff.

Gateway thanks all visitors to Gateway facilities for respecting our tobacco-free environment.

[\[back to top\]](#)

You can now **order Gateway information on-line**. Fill out the electronic form and you will receive a PDF of a Gateway brochure, featuring the Gateway program information of your choice within minutes.

## **Breathe Easy...**



## Flag Dedication

The new flagpole, located to the east of the district Administration Center on the Kenosha Campus, was dedicated prior to the Gateway Technical College District Board of Trustees meeting May 17. The flag, provided by First District Congressman Paul Ryan, had once flown over the Capitol in Washington, D.C. The pole was erected and dedicated to the past, present, and future students of Gateway Technical College.

In addition to several presentations by officials and students, children from Every Child's Place, the child care facility located at Gateway's Center for Bioscience and Information Technology, performed the national anthem in sign language. Every Child's Place is designed to serve children with special needs as well as typically developing children.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## Students are National/International Winners

Students returned victorious from national competitions. In our last edition of Community Connections, we reported on successful state and regional competitions. In the next chapter of success, a number of Gateway students involved in Gateway student professional organizations have also received national awards.

Six students from **Business Professionals of America (BPA)** traveled to New York City for the national leadership conference and competition. Sidney Lee, graphic design May graduate, took a first place. This means that her design might be used for the next year's national leadership conference logo. Ms. Lee and Anna Konkol, both students on the Elkhorn Campus, also placed in the top eight for Presentation Management Skills.

The students and staff who traveled to New York City also proudly donned their Gateway Technical College...That's Smart T-shirts and made an appearance on Good Morning America.

Twenty Gateway Technical College Kenosha Campus **marketing and design students** won awards, including



Elkhorn Campus Graphic Design student Sydney Lee (center) took a first in national competition for her design, which may become the logo for next year's conference.

two first place awards, at the 46th Annual Delta Epsilon Chi's International Career Development Conference held in Orlando, Florida, April 21-24, 2007. Over 1500 two-year and four-year college/universities students competed in 20 events. Professionals in each of these fields are chosen to serve as judges for these events. Nineteen of twenty-seven Gateway Technical College competitors made event finals and fifteen competitors were recognized for achieving Top Ten status or higher.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## Gateway Technical College and Instructor Win Prestigious Award

Gateway Technical College and Information Technology-Programmer/ Analyst instructor Jim Buck were awarded the IT Innovation Award for Educational Excellence by IBM at its third annual IT Innovation Awards Ceremony in Anaheim, California Monday night. The awards are part of the COMMON (IBM System i user group) conference involving thousands of IBM System i users.

Gateway and Jim Buck were honored for their efforts in bringing together the regional System i user group with current students to increase job opportunities for graduating students and to educate businesses of the latest System i tools and technology.

The award was presented by Mark Shearer, international general manager for IBM's System i set of products. In presenting the awards Shearer, who conducted a roundtable IT discussion at Gateway April 19, said, "The Innovation Awards showcase System i innovations that help our clients succeed, as well as deliver more value to their own customers."

The other Innovation Award winners were:

Bank of America Foreign Items Systems received the Infrastructure Simplification award; Walt Disney World Co., the i5/0s Focus award; FedEx Ground, the Business Resiliency award; and Angus the iT Chap, Community Service award.

[\[back to top\]](#)



Jim Buck, Gateway IT-Programmer/Analyst instructor, wins prestigious national award. For information on Gateway's PA associate degree program or on IBM System i workshops to be scheduled in fall, contact Jim at [buckj@gtc.edu](mailto:buckj@gtc.edu).



## Gateway Hosts First System-Wide Robotics Challenge and Fourth Annual High School Competition —Engineering Tech moves to CATI

Gateway hosted the first Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) Robotics Challenge to be held system-wide. Eleven teams from seven Wisconsin Technical Colleges journeyed to Gateway Technical College's Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation (CATI), Sturtevant, Saturday April 28

Each college team competed in three events: a design presentation, design documentation, and a timed event. This is expected to become an annual event.

The Wisconsin Technical College System-wide challenge began as a Gateway District event sponsored for middle and high school students from throughout the district. It is sponsored by the Gateway Technical College Engineering Tech Wing. This year's middle and high school event was held at CATI May 17.

Gateway offers the following engineering technology associate degrees: **Civil Engineering Technology** (Architectural/Structural, Public Works, Surveying), **Electrical Engineering Technology** (Electrical Engineering Technology, Electronics), **Mechanical Engineering Technology** (including Mechatronics) and an advanced technical certificate in **Telecommunications**. All engineering technology courses will be moving to CATI in Fall 2007.

The move will allow for advanced technology lab space and will be more accessible to businesses in the Renaissance Business Park for cooperative projects or skill upgrade training. Several agreements exist between Gateway and Milwaukee School of Engineering and Marquette University's engineering program that allow Gateway engineering technology graduates to transfer credits into their four-year bachelor degree engineering programs with sophomore or junior standing. These agreements offer many benefits to the engineering bachelor's degree seeker:

- Study locally for the first couple of years
- Save tuition money on a 4-year engineering degree
- Gain engineering technology career skills so one can work in industry while finishing bachelor's degree

[\[back to top\]](#)



Both HS and college robotics competitions were held at CATI this spring.



All Engineering Technology programs will be taught at CATI beginning in August.

## Industry Leader Donations Vastly Expand Gateway's Telecommunications Instructional Capabilities

Belden is a world leader in the design, manufacture, and marketing of signal transmission solutions for data networking and a wide range of specialty electronics markets. On April 17, they formally announced their partnership with Gateway Technical College, which will serve as the company's Midwest training center for its client base. Gateway instructor Randy Reusser, through the college's Workforce and Economic Development Division, will teach new and existing users of Belden products how to work with the latest and most cutting-edge products.

To implement this agreement, Belden has provided an in-kind donation of more than \$20,000 in classroom equipment, which has been installed in a telecommunications lab at Gateway's Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation in Sturtevant, Wisconsin. In addition, Belden has provided training that led to Belden certification of instructor Reusser--an estimated \$3,000 investment.

These donations will provide benefits far beyond current Belden customers. The most up-to-date lab equipment and training of a Gateway instructor will positively impact Gateway's degree-seeking students by expanding telecommunications training (see story on addition of a Telecommunications Advanced Technical Certificate). It also benefits area telecommunications companies who require customized training for their workforce to keep pace with ever-changing technology.

Only 65 trainers have been certified by Belden in the world—Gateway's Reusser is one of those. "We have invested in Mr. Reusser because of his background as well as his enthusiasm," says Guylaine Boisvert, manager of Belden Training, Technical Support & Certification. "Client satisfaction requires us to make sure they have the best understanding of our product features and proper usage. Training is the key."

The cutting-edge Belden technology will constantly be updated so its Midwest clients have access to it for both training and potential purchase. This same equipment will be available to Gateway Technical College telecommunications students, along with other brands and configurations. Reusser will teach traditional Gateway



For more information about Gateway's Telecommunications ATC, contact Randy Reusser; [reusserr@gtc.edu](mailto:reusserr@gtc.edu).

degree-seeking students, as well as through Gateway's customized training program.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## Gateway Hosts Mrs. Doyle—The Wisconsin Covenant

A ceremony and activities were held in conjunction with the signing of the Wisconsin Covenant by approximately 150 eighth graders from Racine's McKinley and Mitchell Middle School on Friday, May 11. The event was held at Gateway Technical College's Racine Campus Conference Center, 1001 S. Main Street. Jessica Doyle, wife of Governor Jim Doyle, addressed students and explained the importance of looking to the future and how her husband, the Governor of Wisconsin, is trying to partner with them.

The Wisconsin Covenant is a Governor Doyle initiative, in conjunction with Wisconsin higher education institutions—both public and private, to guarantee those who sign the Covenant as an eighth grader a place at their college if certain requirements of the Covenant are met. The eighth graders pledge to earn a high school diploma, maintain a "B" average, and participate in their communities.

The students also attended three career and education presentations prior to Jessica Doyle's presentation and the ceremonial signing—one on engineering, another on emergency medical services, and another on barber/cosmetology.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## Gateway Increases its efforts in Strengthening Math and Science

Gateway is part of a national effort to integrate and strengthen Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education. Because of the College's earlier efforts, Gateway president Bryan Albrecht was asked last year to present at a prestigious U.S. Department of Education summit on improving math and science education among young women. Gateway's initiatives in the areas of science, technology engineering, and math continue.

- A major expansion of the engineering programs is underway with moving all engineering programs to the CATI center allowing for a stronger focus on the importance of the integration of STEM and the



Students from McKinley and Mitchell Middle Schools participated as some of the first to sign the Wisconsin Covenant at the Gateway Racine Campus. Details on the Wisconsin Covenant can be found at

[www.wisconsin covenant.wi.gov](http://www.wisconsin covenant.wi.gov).



For more information, contact: Stephanie Sklba, Vice President Community and Government Relations, at [sklbas@gtc.edu](mailto:sklbas@gtc.edu).

connections to the business community.

- Gateway is currently participating in the Southeast Wisconsin STEM initiative to advance regional partnerships promoting education and business partnerships through science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.
- Gateway will be hosting regional focus group sessions to gather input from the community on advanced education needs in the STEM area.
- In partnership with UW-Parkside, UW-Whitewater and Carthage, a teacher education conference on STEM initiatives to strengthen the programming opportunities in Southeast Wisconsin is being planned for the upcoming academic year.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## MSSC Certification

Five students who recently completed Gateway's second Welding Boot Camp are among the first in the country to achieve Manufacturing Skills Standards Council (MSSC) certification in Safety.

Gateway is one of the first educational institutions in the country to have been nominated as a national MSSC assessment and certification site. The MSSC has become a nationally recognized certification indicating to employers that individuals who pass their certification have documentable and transferable skills in one of four areas of manufacturing concern.

The five students—Robin Koeller, Andrew Reimann, Renee Preston, Kathy Veto, and Joshua House—passed the Safety MSSC exam as a capstone of their 8-week welding bootcamp experience. This certification shows that those who passed meet the standard set by hundreds of large corporations across the country. It is a signal to potential employers that these individuals come to them with competencies that other candidates do not.

Gateway is taking a leadership position among educational institutions by integrating these new MSSC certification exams into their career training programs. Gateway incorporates all four exam areas into its Automated Manufacturing Systems program and one or more of the MSSC tests into the Welding and CNC Boot Camp programs.

[\[back to top\]](#)



Of the Welding Boot Camp completers, these individuals also completed the Safety MSSC certification exam. From left to right: Bryan Albrecht, Gateway president; Robin Koeller; Kathy Veto; Renee Preston; Andrew Reimann; Joshua House. For more information on MSSC certification see <http://www.msscusa.org/>



## Gateway Board to Hold Annual Budget Public Hearing

On June 11, Gateway will be holding its public hearing for the FY 2008 budget. Our goal throughout the budget process is to position the college for growth, in alignment with Gateway's Vision 2012—a strategic planning effort designed to guide Gateway's growth and direction over the next several years. The budget includes new positions to support distance learning initiatives, new program and curriculum development, and expanded educational offerings.

The budget process challenged the board and administration to establish a plan which keeps spending in line with anticipated revenues. As a result, Gateway will be holding the line on spending; operating expenses are budgeted to increase by only 3% next year and the budget includes a modest 4% increase in our tax levy. Gateway's tax levies and rates are consistently below the average of the other technical colleges. The budget to be presented on June 11 reflects a fiscal policy that is responsive to the taxpayers and provides expanding quality training and educational services for district residents.

The budget hearing will be held June 11 on the Kenosha campus. A presentation of the College's FY 2008 financial plan will be made and citizens' comments will be invited.

[\[back to top\]](#)

You may email questions or comments about Community Connection to Jayne Herring at [herringj@gtc.edu](mailto:herringj@gtc.edu) or Lee Colony at [colonyl@gtc.edu](mailto:colonyl@gtc.edu)

Get Connected! Tell a friend or colleague about Community Connection. [Click Here](#)

To unsubscribe, please [Click Here](#)



**2007-2008**

**BUDGET**



The budget public hearing will be held 7:00 p.m. Monday, June 11, 2007 on the Kenosha campus in the Center for Bioscience and Information Technology, room 120. Questions about the budget can be addressed to Mark Zlevor, Chief Financial Officer, [zlevorm@gtc.edu](mailto:zlevorm@gtc.edu).