Planning for the new year

This year sure came and went by fast and I am sure 2009 will be no different – that is, unless you make it different for yourself and those with whom you work.

Have you ever considered education as a gift for those “hard to buy” friends and employees? It is one of the few gifts that never lose value. Education and training enhances opportunities to increase personal growth and employee value.

Gateway has many ways to meet individual needs, whether it is through personal skill development, team training or corporate strategic planning and development. An investment in education and training is an investment in the future of your organization and the people who make it great. For more information on how to include Gateway in your 2009 planning, drop me a note at albrechtb@gtc.edu.

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St. Cloud State, Gateway sign articulation agreement

Gateway Civil Engineering Technology graduates have a new opportunity to transfer directly into a 4-year St. Cloud State University program.

The articulation agreement allows Gateway Civil Engineering Technology program graduates to transfer 38 credits into the Land Surveying and Mapping Science program at St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, Minn.

With more than one third of their requirements complete, Gateway graduates would need to earn the remaining 84 credits at St. Cloud State to complete the degree. Gateway Civil Engineering graduates can begin the St. Cloud State as early as January 2009.

Gateway to offer seminar for owners of small business

Gateway Technical College will offer a three-part seminar series on strategically developing a business in a world of change.

Bill Matelski will lead the series, to be held 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation, 2320 Renaissance Blvd., Sturtevant. The series will include:

- Jan. 22: "Strategic Competencies for the Small Business" focuses on the five strategy competencies every organization should acquire.
- Feb. 5: "Increasing Productivity Through Employee Engagement." This seminar will help participants to actively engage their workers to boost productivity.
- Feb. 19: "Small Business Leadership" will provide information on the importance of effective leadership and its role in helping a business grow.

Cost for the seminars is $10 per person, per seminar. Cost includes a $10 voucher per person to be applied toward the Profiles International assessment tool.
Gateway supports United Way

Gateway Technical College raised more than $14,144 for the United Way of Racine County and more than $10,000 for the United Way of Kenosha County.

The Racine Campus figures represent an all-time high. Staff members, student clubs, and specific classes helped raise the money on the Racine Campus as well as Kenosha Campus.

“This shows that the staff and students of the Racine Campus are connected and in touch with their community,” says Ann Henderson, Racine Campus dean of campus affairs. “We know that in our current times, there are people in need and this shows the responsibility of the campus as a whole to help fund the services of the United Way.”

Hispanic Business and Professional Association works with Gateway on business development

Gateway will be submitting a proposal for a Workforce Advancement Training (WAT) grant to deliver training for a pilot group of minority-owned businesses.

The goal is to increase supplier diversity for Racine County and surrounding regions through contracted projects with the Racine Unified School District, City of Racine, and Racine County. Training topics will include such areas as procurement, determining project scope, estimating costs, subcontracting, and general construction.

Following the completion of the training, participating businesses will be matched with business mentors in areas such as roofing, heating and air conditioning, interior painting, concrete, hazardous material abatement, and carpentry -- consistent with contractual job opportunities with RUSD as part of the 5-year maintenance plan for the district. The mentoring phase of the project takes six months and is paid for through a grant received by HBPA from the Racine Community Foundation.
WGTD receives public broadcasting grant

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting has awarded WGTD a $70,000 grant to help cover the cost of a new digital transmitter.

The new transmitter will replace an aging piece of equipment. More importantly, the replacement will allow WGTD to broadcast in HD, and make possible the addition of programming channels.

These new channels will only be available to listeners with HD radios. The new transmitter is expected to be in place before the end of the year. HD (technology) Radio allows radio stations to deliver their broadcast digitally – rather than in an analog wave – allowing for a clearer and higher quality signal.

New health careers wing announced in Elkhorn

A new remodeling project on the Elkhorn Campus has been announced, which will provide training for students on equipment and situations they will encounter in the working world once they graduate, which makes their training even more realistic and increases their chances to land a job and do well in their career.

Students in the Medical Assistant, Nursing Assistant, and Community Pharmacy Technician programs will use the remodeled space. The 6,600-square-foot project remolds existing space and doesn’t add on to the Elkhorn Campus buildings. Walworth County residents will benefit by the remodeling work, too. Demand for health careers will grow in importance as the country’s population ages and depends on the services provided by these graduates.

The work done is another result of a commissioned study group of Walworth County residents which recommended changes to programs and services needed for the region. The project is expected to be completed by the fall of 2009 semester.
High school students benefit from new Gateway scholarship

Gateway scholarships will now benefit students in each of the high schools in the Gateway Technical College District.

A $300 tuition voucher for the Gateway President’s Opportunity Scholarships will be awarded at public and private high schools in Kenosha, Racine, and Walworth counties for students who will enroll at Gateway. The scholarships are intended to build upon the academic and occupational preparation students demonstrated toward their career while in high school.

The intent of the scholarship program is to award one Gateway scholarship to each high school within the district. The scholarship is another way that Gateway supports high school students in their pathway through college. Deadline is March 15, 2009.

Funds for these high school scholarships were donated by Gateway Technical College faculty and staff and were matched by a generous gift from the Kloss Fund.

Scholarships to benefit nearly 100 Gateway students

Nearly 100 Gateway Technical College students received a total of $40,000 in scholarships from the Gateway Technical College Foundation, Inc. at the November awards ceremony.

The 96 scholarship recipients coming from many different programs and backgrounds benefit from the scholarships which provide increased opportunities for their education at Gateway.

If a business or individual would like to provide scholarship funds or establish a named scholarship, contact Ken Vetrovec at (262) 564-2866, or foundation@gtc.edu.
Gateway asked to give update on award-winning program

Gateway Technical College officials have been asked to provide an update on a program which won the 2003 Community Colleges Futures Assembly Bellwether award for its exemplary work in the area of workforce development.

Gateway’s partnership with SC Johnson in its “Link” program received the Bellwether award and the assembly requested an update at its national conference in January in Orlando, Fla. Gateway and SC Johnson officials will present their findings through a DVD which will be broadcast at the convention.

The presentation will include the growth of the program, its evolution, impact and lessons learned by company and college officials. The program’s focus has grown with its enrollment, from an initial goal to train SC Johnson employees in the skilled trades areas to a program now that includes administrative, robotics, machining technology, and lean manufacturing skills.

Gateway president emcees national tech educators conference

Gateway Technical College President Bryan Albrecht, in his role as president of the Association for Career and Technical Education Board of Directors, emceed and helped direct this year’s national convention.

A total of 4,200 educators and attendees from every state and 50 countries attended the ACTE event, the largest conference to support career and technical education in the nation. Albrecht hosted the general sessions and provided leadership for the business partnership meetings. Albrecht’s work at the convention gave him opportunities to network with members of the business community from throughout the nation and work to inspire and encourage colleges to take the next step and raise the level of commitment they have for students in career and technical education.

The convention focused on the academic and occupation improvement for the nation’s young people as they prepare for the workforce. Sessions focused on new approaches to classroom instruction, business partnerships, and technology integration into the classroom.
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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