Training for the next economy

While we work to climb out of our nation’s current economic slump, it’s also a time to begin training for careers in the next economy.

Gateway offers training in more than 65 career options that will give you the skills to enter the workforce with confidence. If you’ve recently been laid off, we have a program that will get you back on your feet quickly and into the workforce. This short-term training courses -- Smart Career Restart -- provide completers with marketable skills to land a job in in-demand career areas -- even in today’s tough economy. Completers can also apply the credits they’ve earned in the course toward a Gateway technical diploma or associate degree.

The next economy may demand a different set of skills – or multiple skill sets – in a career. Through its many courses of study, Gateway provides you with cross-training opportunities. You may want up add skills that take you one step ahead in your current career or that provide certification to prove your skills meet high industry standards. Or consider training in a similar position, making you even more valuable to employers, now and into the future.
As our economy shifts or the skills needed in careers change, growing your skill base will likely provide you with additional employment security.

Gateway begins Fall 2009 semester with increased enrollment, opportunities

Gateway Technical College opened its Fall 2009 semester with greatly increased enrollment and new career opportunities.

The college’s enrollment jumped by 17 percent in its full-time equivalent student numbers compared to last year for the three-county district of Kenosha, Racine and Walworth counties.

“In a changing economy, education is often viewed as the pathway to opportunity,” said Gateway Technical College President Bryan Albrecht. “We are encouraged by the increased service we are able to provide to the citizens of Racine, Kenosha and Walworth counties.”

Gateway continues to work on initiatives to grow “green career” programs in geoexchange technology and wind energy; has expanded its engineering technology program offerings to include a new Fresh Water Resources degree; and continues to offer a new agreement with UW-Parkside which allows a block of 30 approved general education credits to be transferred from Gateway to the four-year college.

A new Health Wing opened on the Elkhorn Campus this semester, ground was broken last month on an Advanced Propulsion training addition to the Horizon Center for Transportation Technology in Kenosha and two new labs - welding and industrial mechanical technician - will provide opportunities for students on the Racine Campus.

Gateway this semester continues to grow its “green” programs such as geoexchange technology.

[back to top]
Gateway breaks ground on advanced transportation facility

Gateway broke ground on its 12,800-square-foot Advanced Propulsion Training addition to the Horizon Center for Transportation Technology, 4940-88th Ave., Kenosha, a project which will expand opportunities for Diesel Technology students and area employers.

The addition on the north side of the Horizon Center further elevates Gateway's position at the cutting edge of the transportation industry in Southeastern Wisconsin. The training done there will provide qualified technicians for the advanced diesel, diesel hybrid and alternative fuel industry.

“The addition is needed to expand Gateway programming in new areas of advanced propulsion, diesel and hybrid technology,” Gateway Technical College President Bryan Albrecht said.

The addition is expected to be done in 2010 and in time for Fall 2010 courses. When the lab opens for classes in Fall 2010, it will house courses for the college’s Diesel Technology programs, diesel diagnostics certification industry workshops and torque training for the wind industry.

Putting the green in green practices

Gateway will offer another round of seminars to show businesses how to be more profitable through the use of green practices.

Seminars will benefit facility maintenance personnel and operations managers. Gateway is providing the seminars in response to business leaders asking for training in how to implement green practices into their everyday operations.

The first seminar, held September 17, provided an overview of how certain green changes can benefit a company. The next seminar, to be held October 15, is “The Building Envelope,” which shows how design and operation of a building can conserve energy and provide a safe and healthy environment for employees.

Other seminars include:

- Nov. 12: “HVAC Systems”
- Dec. 17: “Green Cleaning”
Jan. 21: “Green Behavior”
Feb. 18: “Introduction to Alternative Energy”
March 18: “Return on Green Investment”

All seminars will be held 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at the Center for Advanced Technology & Innovation, 2320 Renaissance Blvd., Sturtevant. Cost is $25 per person.

Gateway introduces use of solar energy to keep water warm

Gateway Technical College has introduced its first use of solar energy. The solar water heater, and photovoltaic system which powers the pump, is used to provide hot water to the new health wing and surrounding area of the Elkhorn Campus.

The introduction of a solar water heating system contributes toward the college’s districtwide effort to use alternate energy sources and support a greener environment.

Gateway is also in the planning stage on a solar water heating system at the Kenosha Campus and a solar photovoltaic system for the Racine Campus.

Gateway provides student e-mail services through Google Apps

Gateway Technical College now provides Google Apps Education Edition to all Gateway students, including Google Apps e-mail which provides access to more than 7 gigabytes of e-mail storage.

The additional mailbox capacity allows Gateway to e-mail all information and correspondence such as financial aid notifications, admissions status notifications, student activities announcements and correspondence from instructors. Gateway is pleased to provide this more direct and rapid delivery form of student communication.

Using Google Apps Education Edition as the provider for student e-mail saves taxpayer dollars while offering an expanded, quality e-mail system to Gateway students.

Google Apps Education Edition is a free suite of Web-based communication and collaboration applications designed specifically for schools and universities. The Google Apps...
service provides online document storage, calendar tools and collaboration tools.

Gateway student places in top 20 in national floral design contest

Gateway Technical College student Kayla Schnuell, Kenosha, took 19th place out of 36 contenders July at the American Institute of Floral Designers national symposium in Kansas City.

Schnuell created floral designs in the area of Bridal Bouquet, Buffet Design, Napkin Décor and Sweetheart Table. She was the only competing student from Wisconsin at the national event, in part because Gateway is the only college in the state with the ability to create an official Student American Institute of Floral Designers chapter. Schnuell is the president of the Gateway SAIFD.

Schnuell placed 19th overall, but placed seventh in the Napkin Ring category; 11th in Buffet Design; and 19th in Bridal Bouquet and Sweetheart Table.

Schnuell also was awarded two scholarships during the symposium. One was a $1,500 Allen Shackelford AIFD Foundation Scholarship, another was a $600 Koehler-Dramm Institute of Floristry Scholarship, to be used at the Koehler-Dramm Institute in Minneapolis.

APICS names Gateway business of the year

Gateway Technical College has been named the Racine/Kenosha American Production Inventory Control Society (APICS) Company of the Year for the 2008-09 business year.

The group presented Gateway with the business of the year plaque because of the college’s continued support of APICS and its educational offerings.

“It’s a wonderful recognition of support from groups such as APICS as we extend education out to local businesses,” said Ed Knudson, executive director, Workforce and Economic Development Division.

APICS, the association for operations management, is the global leader and premier source of the body of knowledge
in operations management, including production, inventory, supply chain, materials management, purchasing, and logistics. APICS honored Gateway because of the college’s support of education through providing space for training and delivering specialized APICS curriculum to local businesses and industry.

[back to top]

Scholarship established in honor of late foundation director

The Gateway Foundation has established a Gateway Scholarship in honor of the late Gateway Technical College Foundation Inc. director Ken Vetrovec. The scholarship is being established with the support of Ken’s family.

The scholarship ensures Ken’s legacy and will support his mission to provide educational opportunities for as many students possible. Ken passed away in July.

Contributions can be sent to the foundation. Stephanie Skiba, Gateway vice president Community and Government Relations, is serving as interim foundation director.

[back to top]

Albrecht helps direct Scouting anniversary celebration

The Boy Scouts of America, Southeast Wisconsin Council #634, recently held its 100th anniversary of Scouting celebration directed, in part, by Gateway Technical College President Bryan Albrecht, who serves on the council’s executive board of directors.

Albrecht is Vice President for Marketing for the Southeast Wisconsin Council. Scout teams from Detroit, as part of their “A Century of Values” journey, were crisscrossing the United States to celebrate a century of Scouting. Kenosha was one of their stops along that journey.

[back to top]

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

Get Connected! Tell a friend or colleague about Community Connection. Click Here
To unsubscribe, please Click Here