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April 2010

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## Community of Learners

Did you know that 10 percent of students attending Wisconsin's Technical Colleges already have a bachelor's degree?

Gateway Technical College, like the other technical colleges, is a community of learners. The average age of our Gateway student population is 31 and we have an increasingly diverse demographic. Gateway is second only to Milwaukee Area Technical College in service to culturally diverse students. We are proud of our international students as well.

This year we sent students to China, Canada, Germany and soon to leave is a delegation to Brazil. Our high school partnerships continue to flourish with associate degree courses offer at several high schools, including Burlington, Wilmot, Lakeview, Whitewater, Badger and Elkhorn, in addition to others.

At Gateway, we believe in a community of learners and are proud to be rooted in community service.

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## Sustainable business CEO keynotes Celebrate Earth Day

Gateway Technical College hosted the annual communitywide Celebrate Earth Day on April 23 and April 24 on its Kenosha Campus, an event designed to increase environmental awareness and help participants become better stewards of the environment.

This year's event was expanded by one day, which featured guest speaker Tom Szaky, founder and chief executive officer of TerraCycle Inc., from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Madigrano Auditorium in Gateway's Conference Center, 3520-30th Ave. TerraCycle works to eliminate trash and waste by turning used wrapper, bottles and juice into more than 50 useable products such as office and school supplies, holiday items, gardening items, lunch boxes and backpacks. As a freshman, Szaky left Princeton University to found TerraCycle, building a company that has doubled in size every year since inception becoming the 233rd fastest growing company in America.

The free event provided many opportunities for the community to learn about the steps they need to take to



**Bryan Albrecht**

President, Gateway Technical College



In the photo is Jeannine Rollette and her son, Andrew, who is transplanting a seedling into a larger container.

positive impact the environment, including areas to drop off items for recycling, pick up free compost and saplings and enjoy workshops, activities, plant sales and displays. An area was even set aside for youth to engage in environmental friendly, hands-on activities, as well.

Gateway Technical College, along with Keep Kenosha Beautiful, Green Kenosha, Snap-on Incorporated and many other area organizations concerned with the environment have partnered to hold the event.

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## Gateway, Dremel team up to put on Pinewood Derby

Gateway teamed up with Dremel Inc. to put on the annual Pinewood Derby in March, an event which provides Gateway students the opportunity to learn engineering principles while building and racing a car.

Thirty teams of mechanical engineering and engineering students had a little more than two hours to carve and build their pinewood car using Dremel tools, making sure to adhere to all Pinewood Derby race rules. Dremel company experts helped put on the race and were on hand to demonstrate to students how to use the equipment.

The derby was held at Gateway's Center for Advanced Technology & Innovation, 2320 Renaissance Blvd.

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## Youth Options students capture fourth-place national honors

Two Kenosha Unified School District students taking classes at Gateway Technical College under the Youth Options program took fourth place honors at a national automotive technology contest Tuesday and Wednesday held in New York City.

The two, Brent Tate and Jayson DeCesaro, trained for the state and national competitions at Gateway's Horizon Center for Transportation Technology, 4940-88th Ave., Kenosha. Their adviser, Bill Fell, is a Gateway Automotive Technology Instructor.

DeCesaro and Tate, both of Kenosha, represented Wisconsin at the National Automotive Technology Competition and captured the fourth-place finish out of 30 teams from across the nation competing at the event, held



[www.gtc.edu/engtech](http://www.gtc.edu/engtech)



Jayson DeCesaro and Brent Tate train recently for their national automotive technology event.

[www.gtc.edu/horizoncenter](http://www.gtc.edu/horizoncenter)

as part of the New York International Automobile Show.

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## Advanced Propulsion Addition to open May 13

Gateway Technical College on May 13 will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony as it opens its Advanced Propulsion addition to the Horizon Center for Transportation Technology, 4940-88th Ave., Kenosha.

Speakers scheduled to commemorate the opening include Jane Oates, U.S. Department of Labor Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration; Nicholas T. Pinchuk, chairman, president and chief executive officer, Snap-on Incorporated; and Gateway President Bryan Albrecht. Doors to the event open at 10 a.m., the program begins at 11 a.m. and demonstrations in the diesel technology labs slated to be held 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

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

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## Solar tracker will provide students hands-on learning experience

A solar tracker has been installed at the Horizon Center for Transportation Technology, 4940-88th Ave., which will provide students enrolled in energy or green-related career programs with a hands-on and online learning experience.

The tracker can be accessed through the Internet and will be available for students enrolled in future Gateway energy career programs. The Web access will allow students 24-hour online access to the solar tracker to determine how it functions during different weather and climatic conditions.

Part of the learning experience will be to see the power produced by the tracker. The solar tracker will be plugged into Gateway's electrical grid to help power the nearby Horizon Center.

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For more information,  
[www.gtc.edu/greencareers](http://www.gtc.edu/greencareers)  
**enphaseENERGY**



## Gateway president honored with international award

Gateway Technical College President Bryan Albrecht was presented the 2010 International Exemplary Leaders Award on March 17 at the 19th Annual International Chair Academy Leadership Conference in Minneapolis.

Albrecht was cited for bringing an innovative spirit to the Gateway community. Specifically, the awards committee recognized his leadership in developing business partnerships and his work with the U.S. Department of Education's international education initiatives.

"It is an honor to receive this award because I know it is a reflection of all the work that everyone at Gateway provides for our community every day," said Albrecht. "Our college has many exceptional leaders."

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## Albrecht named chairman of Wisconsin Campus Compact

Gateway Technical College President Bryan Albrecht has been named chairman of the executive committee of the Wisconsin Campus Compact.

Campus Compact is a national coalition of nearly 1,200 college and university presidents and chancellors - representing some 6 million students - who are committed to fulfilling the public purpose of higher education. As the only national association dedicated to this mission, Campus Compact is a leader in building civic engagement into campus and academic life.

Wisconsin Campus Compact's membership includes public, private, two-and four-year institutions across the spectrum of higher education. These institutions put into practice the ideal of civic engagement by sharing knowledge and resources with their communities, creating economic development initiatives, and supporting service and service-learning efforts in key areas such as literacy, health care, hunger, homelessness, the environment, and senior services.

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**Bryan Albrecht**

President, Gateway Technical College



<http://www.wicampuscompact.org/>

## SimplexGrinnell donation to benefit HERO Center training

Students at Gateway Technical College's HERO Center will benefit from \$100,000 in detection, alarm, mass notification, and suppression training system equipment donated by SimplexGrinnell.

The equipment will train students to properly use the emergency notification system which is set up to operate as an actual building system for a high-rise apartment building. It will allow firefighters to train in a simulated emergency or rescue situation with state-of-the-art equipment which SimplexGrinnell is an industry leader.

Students will also be able to also train on Grinnell fire suppression and sprinkler systems.

SimplexGrinnell, a Tyco International company, is a longtime leader in life safety and property protection. The company delivers its industry-leading solutions in buildings and environments where life-safety protection is absolutely vital – from schools, universities and hospitals to commercial properties, industrial buildings and government facilities.

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## Gateway hosts legislative breakfast

Area lawmakers attended a legislative breakfast hosted by Gateway Technical College in late February at the Racine Campus. They addressed many topics including the college's role to train workers and provide them with career and skill upgrade training, especially during this era of a soft economy.

Several lawmakers or their representatives attended the event, including: Sen. Bob Wirth (D-Pleasant Prairie); Sen. John Lehman (D-Racine); Rep. Samantha Kerkman (R-Genoa City); Rep. Scott Gunderson (R-Waterford); Rep. Peter Barca (D-Kenosha); U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan, (R-Wis.) represented by David Craig; U.S. Sen. Russ Feingold, (D-Wis.) represented by Michael Wilder; and U.S. Senator Herb Kohl (D-Wis.) represented by Judy Huffman.

Lawmakers talked on a number of issues, including transfer agreements between colleges and the work Gateway has done to train students in green careers. And students there, too.



[www.gtc.edu/fire](http://www.gtc.edu/fire)  
[www.gtc.edu/ems](http://www.gtc.edu/ems)



State and federal lawmakers and their representatives attend a legislative breakfast hosted by Gateway.

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## **Fred Burkhardt attended the ACCT National Policy Summit**

Gateway Board Chair Fred Burkhardt attended the ACCT National Policy Summit. The event brought together college trustees from throughout the country to share the important role community and technical colleges play in re-skilling America's workforce.

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Gateway Board of Trustees  
President Fred Burkhardt  
attended a national policy summit.

## **Albrecht receives honor for serving as ACTE president**

Gateway President Bryan Albrecht received an award from the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) to honor his commitment to serving as president of the board for the national group.

ACTE gave Albrecht a windmill and plaque for serving on the board. He currently serves as the past president and previously served as the group's president and president-elect prior to his current post.

ACTE is the largest national education association dedicated to the advancement of education that prepares youth and adults for careers. ACTE is reflected in its diverse membership composed of nearly 30,000 career and technical educators, administrators, researchers, guidance counselors and others involved in planning and conducting career and technical education programs.

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## Lab to benefit Surgical Technology and Dental Assistant students

A project will be completed by the end of summer which will provide Surgical Technology and Dental Assistant students with an expanded lab setting as well as adding newer equipment that mimics the working environment in which our graduates will enter.

The project calls for expanding our Surgical Technology and Dental Assistant labs in the Science Building on the Kenosha Campus. Space was freed up for the remodeling when biology classes shifted from being held in rooms next to the labs over to another building.

The renovation will accommodate more students, giving an added number access to training in the two programs. Equipment upgrades include adding digital radiography capability to the dental assistant lab and laproscopic surgical suites becoming part of the new Surgical Technician lab/operating room environment.

Health occupations such as dental assistant, surgical technology and nursing are high growth/high demand occupations within southeast Wisconsin, and these programs are vital to meeting the healthcare workforce needs of the state. Funding for the project comes from the federal budget as a result of the work of Senator Herb Kohl.

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## AITP does well at national competition

Gateway Technical College student Jenny Counter brought home first place while Jordan Mahoney took second at the 15th Annual Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP) National Collegiate Conference in St. Louis.

Counter took first place in the Student Banner Competition while Mahoney took second in the Institute for Certification of Computing Professionals (ICCP) Exam Competition.

Mahoney and Joseph Bergles were awarded ICCP Associate Computing Professionals certifications.

A total of 27 Gateway students traveled to the competition, competing against their peers from two-year and four-year colleges from across the country.

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[www.gtc.edu/health](http://www.gtc.edu/health)



Gateway Technical College student Jenny Counter and Jordan Mahoney took honors at a national information technology professionals competition.

[www.gtc.edu/Itcareers](http://www.gtc.edu/Itcareers)



## FastTrac entrepreneurial training program begins

Gateway Technical College has redeveloped an Entrepreneurship Certificate program to shift its business planning curriculum to the nationally recognized Kauffman FastTrac training – allowing it to partner with a four-county, three-year training program and allowing students who enroll in the program through Gateway access to free books and materials.

The Walworth County Economic Development Corporation (WCEDA) partnered with Gateway and several others to help offer the entrepreneurship training program FastTrac, which has begun providing opportunities for entrepreneurs on Gateway's Elkhorn Campus and will begin offering courses on Gateway's Kenosha Campus in June.

The program offers opportunities for graduates by preparing them to operate their own business. They will receive training in such areas as business feasibility, new venture planning and operations management which will take them from knowing whether they should embark upon the life of an entrepreneur – to planning how to handle day-to-day operations. New courses have also been developed for the current business owner to evaluate and grow their business in today's challenging business environment.

WCEDA and its partners received a \$687,100 grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce – Economic Development Administration to cover about two-third of the program over three years. Part of that funding includes free books and materials provided to students in the Gateway program.

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For more information, contact WCEDA at  
(262) 741-8527, or e-mail  
[info@walworthbusiness.com](mailto:info@walworthbusiness.com)

## Walworth County Job Fair attracts 1,000 job seekers

More than 1,000 job-seekers attended the 19th Annual Walworth County Job Fair hosted by Gateway Technical College in March, an event which offers job seekers many opportunities to meet with employers and apply for openings within those companies.

The event was a one-stop place for job-seekers in many categories to find employment. Full-time, part-time, seasonal and temporary positions were provided, and employers from a range of industries were represented. Employers connected with applicants during the fair.

The event is put on by Gateway and the Walworth County Job Center.

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## Agreement with Ottawa University expands career options

Gateway Technical College and Ottawa University signed an agreement that allows any Gateway student who has earned an associate degree to transfer up to 80 credits toward the 128 credits needed to earn a degree at Ottawa University in Oak Creek.

"The transfer agreement will provide our graduates with yet another opportunity to continue their education at a quality college," said Gateway Technical College President Bryan Albrecht. "The blanket agreement we've signed with Ottawa allows for added career pathways for their futures."

The agreement provides a seamless opportunity for Gateway associate degree graduates to continue their education by transferring to Ottawa University. The new agreement will allow graduates of any associate degree program to transfer credits, including Gateway's apprenticeship program.

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[www.gtc.edu/careers](http://www.gtc.edu/careers)



[www.gtc.edu/transfer](http://www.gtc.edu/transfer)

## Gateway presents at "Green" conference

Gateway HVAC and geoechange instructor Tom Niesen provided a presentation on Geoexchange Systems for Residences and Business applications at the 2010 Green Energy Summit at the Midwest Airline Center in Milwaukee on March 25.

Instructor Larry Hobbs also provided a presentation at the summit, called Torque Training for the Wind Industry. Niesen and Hobbs answered questions from their booth at the summit focusing on Gateway's GeoExchange and Torque Programs.

Niesen and Hobbs will further spread the word about these new green career training efforts through presentations at a statewide career and technical education meeting later this month.

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## New apprenticeship training lab opens on the Racine Campus

New apprenticeship training lab  
opens on the Racine Campus

Gateway has remodeled space on its Racine Campus to offer additional opportunities for students in the college's sheet metal fabrication apprentice program.

Classroom and lab space were remodeled in the Technical Building for the apprentice program in addition to equipment being added to provide realistic, hands-on training.

Some of the space in the remodeled area continues to be dedicated to welding training as space that could be used for customized business training or for when it was needed because of large student enrollment numbers in Gateway's welding program.

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## Gateway receives VISTA grant to support service learning

Gateway will increase its efforts to engage students and employees to meet the needs of our local communities by becoming a host site for an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer beginning in July.



Gateway instructor Tom Niesen at the  
Green Energy Summit.  
[www.gtc.edu/greencareers](http://www.gtc.edu/greencareers)



[www.gtc.edu/apprenticeship](http://www.gtc.edu/apprenticeship)



AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) is a national service program in which full-time volunteers aged 18 and older live in the communities they serve, designing anti-poverty programs that will continue after they complete their service.

Working with its community partner, United Way of Racine County, Gateway's VISTA will work with community agencies to identify and expand opportunities for Gateway students and employees to assist in the agencies' anti-poverty activities. At the same time, the VISTA will work within Gateway to identify classes, clubs, and students or employees who wish to experience service learning. Then the VISTA will connect these Gateway resources to the community agencies.

To make this an even greater learning experience for students, a team of interns from Gateway's Biz Squad program will work with the VISTA to establish an Office of Student Civic Engagement at Gateway. Interns will create the office's identity, help write policies and procedures, and set up the infrastructure to maintain the service learning projects. The Biz Squad will also market the office's activities within Gateway and the community.

The host site application can be renewed for two additional years, so once the model is established, Gateway will expand its efforts into Kenosha and Walworth counties.

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## **Gateway students take honors at statewide culinary competition**

Seven Gateway Technical College students earned bronze medals at the Wisconsin Restaurant Expo 2010 College Culinary Arts Competition held earlier this month in Milwaukee.

Zachary Stensland, Louis Aulozzi, James Houston, Amanda Lunetta, Carmen Escobedo, Sheresa Bailey, and Kristen Nelson won bronze medals – third place – in the competition.

The students' entries in the cold plate portion of the competition were judged based on appearance, presentation and creativity. Students cook the food prior to the competition and then present it, with an aspic glaze, to be judged by industry professionals. Students gain real-life experiences as these professionals give them a realistic view of whether their dish could be a viable menu item in a



**Gateway Culinary Arts** students at a statewide competition.



Wisconsin restaurant, and if a restaurant would be willing to serve that dish once food and staff cost and time are calculated.

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## Interior design students capture first-place honors

Gateway Technical College students April Yazji, Jennifer Juskiewicz and Laura Dipper took first-place honors at the Wisconsin Technical College System Interior Design Competition held March 5.

Yazji took first place in Residential Design – First Year, Jennifer Juskiewicz captured first place in the Textiles exam and Dipper took first place in an academic exam testing a student's breadth of knowledge in interior design and building codes, a new event to the annual statewide competition.

Several Gateway students captured second and third place as they competed in three knowledge areas: a test of historical furniture, textiles, interior design qualifications and an on-the-spot design scenario. Each participant was given a project scenario along with several finish samples to choose from and three hours to create a plan and presentation board. Industry professionals judged their design solutions.

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## Nearly 300 helped by College Goal Sunday

Nearly 300 attended College Goal Sunday Wisconsin – Weekend Edition on one of three Gateway campuses to learn how to navigate the paperwork and requirements of college financial aid.

A total of 38 volunteers helped attendees to fill out and complete 135 financial aid forms at the annual event designed to be an approachable way of learning how to apply for financial aid and get individual assistance in completing the application.

Paying for college is one of the many important questions students need to address – and it has become especially important for those who are dislocated or seeking educational training in today's soft economy.

Gateway offered College Goal Sunday information sessions



**Interior Design** students at a recent statewide competition.



Nearly 300 helped at **College Goal Sunday**

at the Elkhorn, Kenosha, and Racine campuses.

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## Gateway releases Fall 2009 Dean's List

Several students earned the honor of being included on the Gateway Technical College Dean's List for the Fall 2009 semester.

This award is reserved for those students completing at least six hours of postsecondary courses and achieving a grade point average of 3.75 or higher. This distinction recognizes the determination, dedication and effort necessary to attain this level of academic success.

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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)

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