Proposal calls for some firsts, expansion at Elkhorn Campus

Training sought by employers, students

A proposal for the Elkhorn Campus would improve its capability to offer new and updated training labs and new programs of study for jobs in demand in Walworth County.

Those are some of the Walworth County components of Gateway's expansion proposal, to be decided by voters April 2.

Much of the Walworth County portion is being proposed in response to feedback Gateway received from business leaders and students over the past six years on how Gateway should expand its services on the Elkhorn Campus. Gateway has initiated some program changes already.

The proposal calls for some firsts for Gateway, to be offered initially only at the Elkhorn Campus. It provides for Gateway's first Veterinarian Technician program, as well as a lab for student training. It also calls for a new Food Processing Technician program and lab (see related story, Page 4).

The proposal expands Cosmetology and Culinary Arts to the Elkhorn Campus. This, added to the existing Hotel/Hospitality program, strengthens tourism industry career offerings. Employers are asking for new skills and students are eager to train in their home community.

The current Elkhorn Campus commons area would be remodeled and reconfigured to provide for a working kitchen staffed by Gateway Culinary Arts students to train in a real-world setting, in the same way that the kitchen is currently staffed on the Racine Campus.

The proposal also calls for adding CNC and expanding Welding and Automated Manufacturing programs. An increasing number of job openings in Walworth County manufacturers in these three areas have prompted Gateway officials to consider the move to increase lab capabilities.

Study abroad trips offer credits, culture

By Michael Sosinski
Staff Writer

Interested in studying abroad? There are a number of opportunities through the Gateway Global Scholars program where you can earn credit while traveling to a different country. Scheduled around breaks to avoid conflicts with class schedules and coursework, study abroad opportunities run two to three weeks, but the benefits of learning about new cultures through real-world experience will last a lifetime.

The first opportunity is open to Horticulture, Information Technology and Nursing students and assists the nonprofit agency Peacework with community building projects in Orange Walk, Belize. Tentatively scheduled for Jan. 1 through Jan. 11, 2014, this program had 22 student participants in Jan. 2013.

Students interested in earning three credits for an International Business internship course can work with a sister school in Hanau, Germany, to create a customized project to assist a business client. German students will visit Gateway in October, and participating Gateway students will travel to Germany in March 2014.

Open to students in Graphic Communications, Professional Communications or Marketing, there is an opportunity to travel to Paris and Berlin to create a multimedia project with an international advertising firm. Students also will visit cultural and historical sites such as Notre Dame and the Louvre. Tentative dates are Feb. 28 through March 15, 2014.

For more information, visit www.gtc.edu/studyabroad, or contact Chinedu Obowu at obowuc@gtc.edu. Each program has its own participation criteria and application deadline.

Floral design students gain practical experience

Gateway Floral Design students gained valuable experience in preparing for a major Kenoshawest event. Students created centerpiece pieces for a Feb. 9 benefit for the Shalom Center, which serves the community by providing emergency food and shelter to the homeless. Gateway students, in turn, served the Shalom Center though this effort.

“This isn’t just a classroom experience,” explained Floral Design instructor Jane Edwards. “This is a real event the students are planning and preparing for. It’s a real-life experience for them and it helps the Shalom Center.”

Brad and Jan Weinstock, longtime owners of Kenosha’s Sunnyside Florist and liaisons for the Shalom Center, approached Edwards about the centerpiece project. Gateway provided the facility and students to complete the floral artistry for the event. The Weinstocks were on hand to help the students with their creations.

Gateway has a chapter in the Students of the American Institute of Floral Designers, a nationally affiliated club, with the art of floral design as its primary focus. The American Institute of Floral Design certification stands for the highest level of achievement a floral designer can attain. The club is designed to expose students to the art and profession of floral design. Activities include hosting design shows, making floral arrangements and competing in national design competitions.

“Our students are getting a great experience,” Edwards said. “We have done a lot of projects for use within Gateway, but it is a great benefit for the students to do an outside project like this, especially since we brought in people like Brad and Jan for them to learn from and work with.”
Springing ahead

College expansion proposal on April 2 ballot

Even with snow still on the ground as I write this, you can begin to feel the season changing, becoming spring. The days are longer and the sun feels warmer.

With the change of the season, nature brings us a fresh new environment. Flowers will begin to burst through the ground and tree branches fill with leaf buds.

Gateway also is growing this spring. With a referendum vote on our horizon, we are hoping to bring you new programs, facilities and career opportunities. Throughout the district you will see posters of our “Skills, Career, Community” informational campaign. This effort is just the change that our college needs to nurture the growth of our college, you our students, and the community. We encourage you to find out how we are planning to help you spring into a brighter future through our expansion plan by viewing our website at www.gtc.edu/proposal. You are the fresh new workforce our community is looking for this spring. Remember to get out and vote April 2.

Respectfully,
Bryan D. Albrecht, Ed.D., President and CEO, Gateway Technical College

Calendar of events

Friday, March 22–Saturday, March 30
• United Student Government officer elections; vote online at gtc.edu/usg

Monday, March 25–Friday, April 5
• Fall 2013 semester academic advising

Thursday, March 28
• Second payment plan installment due

Friday, March 29–Monday April 1
• College closed

Monday, April 1
• Deadline to apply for May 2013 graduation

Tuesday, April 2
• Asian Heritage Celebration
  11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
  Kenosha Campus: Student Commons

Wednesday, April 3
• Asian Heritage Celebration
  11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
  Racine Campus: Student Commons

Thursday, April 4
• Asian Heritage Celebration
  11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
  Elkhorn Campus: Student Commons

Friday, April 5
• Financial aid appeals and plans for
  Summer 2013 semester open

Monday, April 8–Wednesday, April 17
• Fall 2013 semester begins for continuing program students

News in brief

Energize career plans at free conference

Get a jump on your career by attending the free Student Leadership Conference on April 4 and April 5.

The first day of the conference will be held from noon to 5 p.m. in the conference center on the Racine Campus. Students will hear from experts in various career fields, learn about resume development and interviewing, attend a job fair and enjoy a luncheon.

The second day of the conference is optional and is geared toward students who are considering continued education beyond Gateway. Participants will have a chance to travel to the University of Wisconsin–Parkside, the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee and Milwaukee School of Engineering to learn about transfer agreements, tour campuses and hear from students.

The registration deadline is March 19. For more information and registration, go to www.gtc.edu/studentleadership.

Gateway Technical College graduates are eligible for a 10% tuition discount.
Think ahead for advising, registration
Fall semester academic advising will be held March 25 through April 5. Students who have not completed 12 or more program credits (not including current semester courses or general studies courses) should meet with an academic advisor. Students who have completed 12 or more program credits should meet with a faculty advisor. Find more details at gtc.edu/academicadvising.

Priority registration for continuing students will be held April 8 through April 17. Students can login to WebAdvisor to find their priority registration date and register beginning at 6:30 a.m. on their assigned date. If students have questions while using WebAdvisor, they can call 1-800-247-7122.

Graduation deadline approaching
March 31 is the deadline to apply for May graduation. All potential graduates need to submit an application for graduation regardless on if you plan to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Students can stop by any student services center to obtain an application or it can be found at gtc.edu/forms. May commencement will be held May 14.

Make most of weekend with Study Sundays
Study Sundays will continue through April on all three Gateway campuses. Students are welcome to study, meet with a team or use the library, open computer lab and Academic Support Center/Learning Resource Center.

Gateway campuses will be open from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the following Sundays: March 24, April 7, April 14, April 21 and April 28.

Students should follow entrance directions for each campus:
• Elkhorn: Enter the North Building at the Student Services entrance.
• Kenosha: Park in the south parking lot and enter through the south doors near the library.
• Racine: Enter through the SC John-

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Hear what others have to say about Lakeland at Lakeland.edu/Adult.
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