

The Alabama College Association Journal

Volume 35

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Summer 2008



***The Alabama Community College System:
Developing Champions***

President's Message



Dr. Humphrey Lee,
2008 ACA President

The Alabama Community College System has many champions. Some champions provide leadership within our colleges and organizations. Some develop our students into champions and ready them for careers as well as the continuation of their educational goals. Still others are champions who develop our workforce. No matter what part of the system's mission they focus on, employees of the Alabama Community College System have the ability to develop champions, and do so each day. Assisting in this development of champions is the Alabama College Association.

By attending the ACA conference scheduled for November 23 through 25 in Mobile, you will have the opportunity to further develop your skills as a champion. Plans are currently being finalized to make this conference meet the needs of system employees and provide practical and relevant professional development. Throughout this edition of the Journal, you will see the many plans already organized to make this year's conference a place to develop champions.

I hope you have the opportunity to join us in Mobile and contribute your experience and ideas. I look forward to the conference and seeing firsthand the contributions all of our champions make to our system.

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ACA Elections

Ballots for the positions of Second Vice-President for the Alabama College Association will soon be distributed to ACA member institutions. The candidates are:

Dr. Tangela Purifoy, Reid State Technical College
Dr. Patricia Sims, J.F. Drake State Technical College

Candidate Information — Second Vice-President



Tangela Purifoy has served at Reid State Technical College as Assistant Dean of Enrollment Management since 2005. A graduate of Faulkner State Community College, Dr. Purifoy completed her Bachelor's Degree in Science at Troy State University. She received a Master's Degree in Business Education from the University of West Alabama and an Education Specialist Degree in Educational Management and Curriculum and Instruction, and her Doctorate in Educational Management and Curriculum and Instruction. During her tenure at Reid State, Dr. Purifoy has served as Director of Student Development; Director of Placement, Student Recruiter, Student Activities Coordinator; and Coordinator of Student and Fiscal Services.

In addition to her service on the Executive Board for the Alabama Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers and the Executive Committee for the Alabama College Association, Dr. Purifoy has served as President of Emerging Leaders of Alabama Education Association; President of the Alabama Education Association Reid State Technical College Chapter; Chair of the Local Arrangement Committee at Reid State; Chair of Professional Access and Equity for Alabama Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers; and Vice President of Professional Development for Alabama Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers. A member of the President's Executive Planning Council and of the All Alabama Academic Planning Team at Reid State Technical College, Dr. Purifoy has been honored as Administrator of the Year and Employee of the Month at Reid State, and received a Certificate of Recognition for National Education Minority Leadership Training Program.

Dr. Purifoy is also active in her community. She has served as a member of selection committees for the Escambia County Board of Education and President of the Parent and Teacher Association for four years at Escambia County Middle School. She also serves as youth counselor, church secretary, and financial board member at her church.



Patricia Sims has served at J. F. Drake State Technical College in student services administration since June 2002. She has over 15 years in the field of education. Her professional experiences includes serving as an administrator in the Huntsville City Schools system, a secondary classroom teacher, and as an adjunct faculty member at the university level.

Dr. Sims recently completed her tenure as President of the Alabama Deans of Student Affairs Association. She is currently serving as co-chair of the Nursing Admissions Committee and the Joint Policy Review Committee for the Alabama Community College System in addition to serving as Vice-Chair for the Commission on Students for the Alabama College Association. For the past two years, Dr. Sims has been a member of the All-Alabama Academic Team Foundation Board of Directors.

Her academic career includes earning a Bachelor's Degree in Biology from the University of West Alabama, a Master's Degree in Secondary Education from Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership and Organizational Development from Peabody College of Vanderbilt University.

Dr. Sims was a member of Class 17-Leadership Alabama, Class 14-Leadership Huntsville Focus, a graduate of the Alabama Community College Leadership Academy, and a graduate of the Harvard Leadership Development Program. She volunteers in her community for the Madison County Care Assurance System for the Aging (CASA) and serves on the Board of Directors for the North Alabama Sickle Cell Foundation, and the National Summer Youth Program. Dr. Sims is also actively involved in various church ministries.

LEADERSHIP

JDCC's McBride to Serve on National Commission



Dr. Susan A. McBride, president of Jefferson Davis Community College, was recently selected

to serve on the Commission on Economic & Workforce Development for the American Association of Community Colleges and Schools (AACC).

Commissions provide advice to the AACC Board and staff; encourage collaboration among community college entities and organizations; provide a forum for focused conversation about the important community college issues and priorities of the day; provide for increased involvement in the Association by AACC member CEOs and other professional staff; and provide leadership opportunities for members of the AACC Board of Directors who serve as Chairs.

Each Commission consists of approximately 24 people from member institutions who are CEOs/administrators, plus additional people from organizations who work in areas that are relevant to the Commission.

Dr. McBride began her three-year term on the Commission in July.

Glenn Named President of Athens State University

Dr. Robert Glenn recently became president of Athens State University. Glenn replaced **Dr. Jerry Bartlett** who retired.

"In Dr. Glenn we have found a rising leader of higher education in the southeast," Chancellor **Bradley Byrne** said. "He brings a wealth of knowledge and great experience for Athens State as the great-grandson of a former president." According to Glenn, his great-grandfather, Edgar Massilon Glenn served two years, 1902 – 1904, as Athens' president when the institution was known as Athens Female College.

Robert Glenn has significant experience in institutions of higher education. He brings 33 years of administrative and leadership experience; eight years of experience at the vice president level; six years of experience at the vice provost level; six years of experience at the dean level; and adjunct faculty experience to his new position. He has served in various positions associated



with or directly linked to student enrollment and academic services across the country.

"I am both honored and excited to have this opportunity to come back to Alabama and to serve at Athens State University," stated Glenn.

Glenn received his Doctorate in Philosophy with an emphasis in Counselor Education and his Master's of Science with an emphasis in Student Personnel Work from The University of Alabama. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree with an emphasis in Chemistry from Birmingham-Southern College.



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LEADERSHIP

Lowe Selected as Bishop State President



The Alabama State Board of Education unanimously approved **Dr. James Lowe** as president of Bishop State Community College in May.

In recommending Dr. Lowe, ACCS Chancellor **Bradley Byrne** said, "We had an extraordinary group of finalists but after careful consideration it is clear to me that the best person to lead Bishop State Community College into the future is Jim Lowe."

Lowe was enlisted to lead the "Project Phoenix" effort to restore the viability and credibility of Bishop State Community College in June of 2007. Since August 1 of the same year, he served as interim president of the college.

Prior to his time at Bishop State, Lowe worked in several positions throughout the system. He served as vice chancellor of college operations; vice chancellor of instructional and student services at the Department of Postsecondary Education; interim dean of instruction at Chattahoochee Valley Community College; and interim president at Northwest-Shoals Community College.

Lowe received his Doctorate in Education Administration from San Francisco Technical University. He holds a Master's Degree in Physical Education and Administration from The American University, and a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education from Bethune-Cookman University.

Upon accepting the post, Lowe acknowledged the great work of the faculty and staff of the college. "(They) have shown great dedication, commitment and integrity through all of the college's ups and downs," he said. "We will continue to serve our students and community."

Snead President Serves on AACC Committee

Snead State Community College President **Dr. Robert Exley** has been asked to assume a leadership



role as part of a commission led by the American Association of Community Colleges.

Dr. Exley will be serving on the Commission on Academic, Student, and Community Development for a three-year term beginning July 1. The Commission on Academic, Student, and Community Development is one of seven commissions established by the ACCC to provide advice, a forum for focused conversation, and leadership opportunities for members of the AACC Board of Directors.

"I am honored and pleased to be able to serve community colleges in this way. I have been active nationally for a number of years, and it is beneficial for both Snead State and Alabama community colleges," said Dr. Exley.

The academic commission will be charged with reviewing activity areas such as accreditation, admission, athletics, certificates, degrees, faculty, financial aid, learning strategies, service learning, and transfer curricula.

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STUDENT SUCCESS

Southern Union Students Recognized

Students of the Southern Union welding program were recently recognized for outstanding achievement in their field.

Brett Mooney won the local Skills USA welding competition at Southern Union in February. Mooney went on to win the silver metal in the State Skills USA welding competition in April.

Alumni of the SU welding program have fared very well in competitions as well. Former welding student **Mark Hill** earned a bronze medal at the Associated Builders and Contractors craft championship last March. **Logan Weathers**, another former student, won the gold metal in state apprentice competition in May and competed in the Southeastern Region apprentice competition in June, where he won the gold metal.

MMI Students Earn Appointments

One hundred and one students entered the Marion Military Institute Service Academy Prep (SAP) class in the fall, and by the end of May, 75 graduates had earned appointments to one of four U.S. Service Academies. Some earned multiple appointments. Among them is **Paul Maile**, a native of Augusta, Ga., who completed the school year with appointments to four U.S. Service Academies. As a result, Maile was in the unique position to decline offers from the Air Force, West Point and the Coast Guard. When he transfers to the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., he hopes to major in astronautical engineering.

MMI will have the highest representation in the West Point class of 2012 of any of the nation's five military junior colleges, due to the impressive number of 40 cadets receiving appointments there—a school record.

SAP Director **Colonel Gerry Lewis** expects to have another strong SAP class for the 2008-09 school years considering at least 88 Academy-sponsored students will arrive on campus this fall. Non-sponsored cadets also add to the SAP program and follow the same rigorous academic curriculum as their peers.



Cadet Titterington, a graduate of Marion Military Institute's SAP program, shows off his appointment to the West Point class of 2012

Jefferson State Group Receives Award

The 420 chapters from around the world recently competed in Phi Theta Kappa's International Hallmark Awards program. Of these chapters, Jefferson State Community College's Beta Lambda Delta received Phi Theta Kappa's highest honor when it was named the Most Distinguished Chapter within the entire international society.

Jefferson State's two Phi Theta Kappa chapters, Beta Lambda Delta and Pi Pi, returned from the Phi Theta Kappa International Convention in Philadelphia with numerous International awards. Pi Pi's **Shelley Coley** received the Paragon Award for new advisors, and Pi Pi was named a top twenty-five chapter of service. Beta Lambda Delta's **Dr. Liesl Ward** was named a Distinguished Advisor, and Beta Lambda Delta was named a top twenty-five chapter in the areas of leadership, scholarship, and service. Finally, Beta Lambda Delta's **Maggie Webster** was elected as one of four International Vice Presidents for the society.

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STUDENT SUCCESS

Wallace Student Earns Awards at Competition

Wallace Community College student **Clayton Barnett** placed first in masonry at the Alabama Skills USA Championships this spring enabling him to compete at the national SkillsUSA Championships in Kansas City, MO.

More than 5,000 students from across the country compete in 73 occupational and leadership skill areas at the national level. The competition is held in conjunction with the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference, attended by more than 12,000 students and teachers, representatives of business, industry, education and government.

SkillsUSA is a national organization of approximately 250,000 students and educators and serves trade, industrial, technical and health occupations

students in public high schools, vocational centers, area vocational schools and two-year colleges.

The program is an applied method for preparing America's high performance workers in public vocational-technical programs and provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development.



WCC Instructor C.W. Bynum (left) with Barnett.

WCCS Student Receives Award

Timothy Purdie, Jr. was awarded the James B. Allen Award at Wallace Community College Selma's 2008 Spring Commencement Ceremony. The award is presented to a graduating sophomore who exemplifies scholastic achievement, service to the community, and leadership qualities. Purdie was also a recipient of the Academic Excellence Award for graduating with a 4.0 GPA. Purdie was one of 31 Selma Early College High School (SECHS) students that participated in the graduation ceremony.

The SECHS program, which is the first of its kind on a college campus in the state, is an innovative partnership with WCCS, Tuskegee University, Alabama State University, and Selma City Schools, with initial funding from SECME, Inc. through the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

"To date, SECHS is graduating the largest number of Associate degree recipients. This is reason for the community to be proud," said **Michael Webb**, associate Vice President of Jobs for the Future.

**For ACA Conference Updates, visit
www.alabamacollegeassociation.org**



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(251) 639.0993
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**2008 ACA Conference
Registration Information
Registration fee \$155 per person**

****Special Early Bird Registration Fee**
\$130 if registered by October 24, 2008**

Fee includes three light meals (2 breakfasts and one box lunch)

Questions?

**Contact Registration Coordinator: Necedah Henderson
c/o Athens State University
300 North Beaty Street
Athens, AL 35611**

Phone: (256) 233-8217

FAX: (256) 233-6565

Email: conference@alabamacollegeassociation.org

Registration forms are coming to your campuses soon. Please use one institutional P.O. with your registration form. For updated information on the conference, visit the Alabama College Association's website at www.alabamacollegeassociation.org.

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Vince Lombardi Jr. to be Keynote Speaker at 2008 ACA Conference

Vince Lombardi has a clear and inspiring message to share about the qualities and commitment found in high performance people, a message which stems from a lifetime of experience and observation.

As the son of the late Vincent T. Lombardi, one of the greatest football coaches in history, Lombardi's early years were spent in an atmosphere of personal power and achievement. Armed with honesty, integrity and authenticity, virtues he places above all others, he earned a law degree and maintained a private practice while serving in the Minnesota legislature.

Lombardi made the jump from law and politics to professional football in 1975 when he joined the fledgling Seattle Seahawks as an assistant to the General Manager. He went on to become Assistant Executive Director of the National Football League Management Council as a labor negotiator and later led two United States Football League teams as President and General Manager.

To each of these organizations he brought direction, enthusiasm, and the impetus to succeed. He has the remarkable ability to put people ahead of the organization, allowing each individual to do what he does best without losing sight of team goals. He gained a reputation for being tough, yet fair; uncompromising, yet supportive. The qualities and character of Vince Lombardi are exciting to witness.

It is an emotional uplift to watch and listen to Lombardi as he weaves together his childhood experiences with his father and his adult experiences from law, politics and professional football. His enthusiasm for growth, change and improved performance, blended with his strong personality and first-hand knowledge of his legendary father's leadership techniques makes for a dynamic presentation.



Commission Speakers



Commission on Administration Speaker —

Stephen M. Gower, CSP, President, The Gower Group, Inc.

What Do They See When They See You Coming? Leadership Re-Think!

Leadership is not what it used to be. Leadership is not an elitist club; it is an embracing culture. It is not centered in control event, or imposition. It is grounded in communication, people, and inspiration. Leadership has less to do with inserting what you do not have and more to with releasing who you are. There is a leader and a follower within you. Claim and polish both. Authentic leadership will never invite you to be who you are not.



Commission on Faculty Speakers —

Dave Laton, Assistant Director, Career/Technical Education, Alabama Community College System

Applying the Teaching and Learning Continuum to Develop Champion Students—Students come to our various programs with a wide variety of knowledge, skills, and attitudes. It is incumbent upon us to tailor our teaching styles and methods to match the needs of these students to facilitate their transition from capable learners to champions. This presentation provides insights into how to move students along a teaching and learning continuum that, if properly applied, creates champion performers.



Commission on Students Speaker —

Stan White, Former Quarterback, Auburn University and New York Giants

Building a Champion—This session will address the issues faced by individuals as they strive to become a **L.E.A.D.E.R.**, namely **L**ove what you do and who you do it for; **E**xpect to succeed; **A**ttitude is everything; **D**rive or Determination; **E**ndurance to handle tough situations; and **R**esponsibility for yourself and your team.



Commission on Support Speaker —

Clair Berger, CEO, FunnyWorks, Inc.

Are We Having Fun Yet? 52 Ways to Have More Fun @ School and in Life —Through this highly interactive presentation, Claire inspires audiences to be more positive and productive by incorporating more fun in their lives. She accomplishes this by creating awareness to the numerous benefits of humor in promoting the health and well being of both students and faculty. Claire is living proof that tapping into the power of humor increases productivity, enhances relationships and ultimately contributes to a healthier and happier life.



Commission on Workforce Development Speaker —

William J. Flynn, Managing Director, National Council for Continuing Education & Training

Trends to Watch (and Watch Out For! - Forward-thinking college leaders must look for trends that may affect their mission and sustainability. During this session, learn how four coming trends could combine to severely damage your college's ability to serve its community and its workforce. Participants will be asked to identify specific impediments to college effectiveness on the local and regional level, as well as potential responses to these challenges.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

ATN's Brabham Visits Chile

Amy Brabham, director of the Alabama Technology Network's Eufaula Center, recently traveled to Chile to learn more about international higher education. Brabham is a student in the Executive Ed.D. program at the University of Alabama and the trip was for the program's international component requirement.

According to Brabham, each year's cohort travels to a different country once during the course of the two year program to compare other higher education systems to that of the U.S. The comparisons of systems help the students determine best practices in universal higher education. Students are required to write two papers and pass a three hour class for the summer term from their experience of the trip.

Before her trip, Brabham said that she hoped to experience other cultures and see how higher education is conducted in foreign countries. She explained, "Exchanging ideas and exploring new possibilities for the U.S. is important to those involved in higher levels of education and administration."

Two ASCC Employees Earn Doctorates

Melinda Byrd-Murphy and **Melissa Haab**, two employees of Alabama Southern Community College recently received their Doctorates.

Haab, associate Dean of Academic Affairs for Instructional Design, completed her Ph.D. in Instructional Design and Development in December 2007 at The University of South Alabama. She has the distinction of being named the University's 2007 Instructional Design Doctoral Student of the Year. Additionally, she has published several articles and led training sessions in the areas of retention, trust as a condition of implementation of innovation, integration of instructional technology into higher education, the role of all personnel in student retention efforts, and the management of change.

Byrd-Murphy, director of the Alabama Center for Literary Arts, received her doctorate in Higher Education Administration from the University of Alabama in May. Dr. Byrd-Murphy's dissertation was titled *Students' Perceptions of Academic Experiences Related to Student Retention at Community Colleges*. As a doctoral student, Dr. Byrd-Murphy was selected for membership in the Golden Key International Honor Society and Kappa Delta Epsilon National Education Honorary



Since her graduation, Dr. Byrd-Murphy has presented parts of her research entitled Effective Institutional Practices for Student Retention in Community Colleges at the Educational Policy Institute's International Conference on Student Retention in San Diego. Her co-presenter for this event was Dr. Haab.

Dr. Byrd-Murphy at her commencement ceremony in May

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STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Wallace State Recognizes Learning College Academy Graduates

Thirteen faculty and staff members were recognized recently as the first graduating class of Wallace State Community College's Learning College Academy. The two-year program is designed to create a community of scholars to understand the existing learning culture, share that understanding with others, and enhance the learning environment.

Graduates include **Mark Bolin**, bookstore manager; **Connie Briehn**, biology instructor; **Clay Cobb**, library assistant; **Mary Crosby**, auxiliary services; **Becky Graves**, financial aid director; **Jenifer Hays**, admissions; **Mona Hopper**, speech instructor; **Bruce Tenison**, director of eLearning; **Karon Welch**, research assistant; **Donny Wilson**, museum director; **Stacey Brunner**, psychology instructor; **Pam Murff**, switchboard operator, and **Dr. Stephanie Turner**, nursing instructor. The Learning College Academy is facilitated by Wallace State Instructional Designer and Trainer **Lynn Harris**.

During the first year, participants gathered monthly to discuss issues and how to address them using learning-centered principles. Faculty and staff members were divided into teams for the second year to follow separate tracks.

The second Learning College Academy class is underway. The program will be offered each year to employees.

NW-SCC PTK Chapter Honored

Northwest-Shoals Community College's (NW-SCC) Alpha Zeta Iota chapter (Phil Campbell campus) of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society was recently recognized at the 90th Phi Theta Kappa International Convention in Philadelphia.



Among the awards the group received included the Leadership Hallmark Award, the Service Hallmark Award, the Top 100 Chapter Award, and the Distinguished Chapter Award. **Dr. Humphrey Lee** received the Distinguished Region Award and the Distinguished Chapter Advisor Award was awarded to **Nora Lee**.

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TEACHING AND LEARNING

Trenholm's Culinary Program Recognized

Trenholm State Technical College's culinary arts program has received the prestigious "exemplary" program distinction and a seven year accreditation renewal by the American Culinary Federation Foundations Accrediting Commission (ACF-FAC).

"We are very pleased to have received this distinction. Our faculty and staff are among the best in the industry and are dedicated to providing an excellent culinary education. The seven-year accreditation renewal demonstrates that our program has exceeded industry standards by providing a quality culinary arts curriculum," said **Sam Munnerlyn**, president of Trenholm.

To qualify as an exemplary program upon renewal application of ACFFAC Accreditation, "a program will have had no areas of non-compliance in the last two site visitation reports. Those programs meeting that standard shall receive a grant of accreditation for seven years," said **Candice Childers**, ACF Accreditation Manager.

"We are excited. This distinction goes hand-in-hand with our vision to prepare our students for a great career in the hospitality industry," said **Mary Ann Campbell**, certified Executive Chef and Instructor. Trenholm Tech's program offers an Associate Degree in Applied Technology in Culinary Arts.

CACC Hosts STEM Camps for Second Straight Year

Recently, Central Alabama Community College hosted the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Camp for rising high school juniors and seniors. The camp is a means of exposing students to the technical fields and technology as a whole.

"The goal is to attract students who want to make this a career," said **Mike Mann**, the technology division chairman at CACC. "They can see what classes at CACC are like and what the industry is like."

Twenty-eight students attended each separate camp, which lasted for an entire week. Each

student received a \$100 stipend, which is funded by the National Science Foundation, for participating.

Some activities included training on how to build and program automobiles, using Lego Robotics to design and race a toy car, and receiving an introduction to programmable logic controllers and introduction to robotics.

According to Mann, the program was developed three years ago to acknowledge the shortage of robotic technicians in Alabama. Mann instructed the students with help from **Nick Nicholson**, **Jeff Maddox**, **Barry Duck**, and student assistant **Holly Thomas**.

LBWCC to Offer Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Lurleen B. Wallace Community College has been approved by the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education to offer a certificate in Diagnostic Medical Sonography. Plans are to begin offering the program Spring Semester of 2009.

Sonography, or ultrasonography, is on the forefront of modern medicine. Its uses in diagnosis are continually growing and actually replacing more invasive procedures. Students will prepare to work in hospitals, physicians' offices, diagnostic imaging centers, ambulatory care facilities, and mobile units by performing high frequency sound wave patient examinations to image internal structures.

Health Science Chair **Monica Cauley**, stated that LBWCC will apply for accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). Once the program is accredited and registry guidelines are met, graduates of the program will be eligible to apply for the National Registry Examination by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS). The ARDMS credential is becoming an increasing condition of employment for ultrasound technicians.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

NACC Adds Collaboration Suite to Technology Support

Northeast Alabama Community College (NACC) has purchased the Wimba Collaboration Suite. NACC will use the Suite to expand the delivery of online as well as on campus instruction. The Suite offers a collection of tools which will allow faculty to preserve the personal and energetic environment of traditional classroom instruction.

By using Wimba, instructors and students at NACC can engage in live chat and instant message exchanges. Through web-cams and voiceovers, faculty and students also can interact through audio and video projections. Instructors may

incorporate power point slides, documents, graphics, movie clips, web pages, and other images in their presentations, either online or in the classroom. These presentations can be recorded and archived and reviewed by students at any time from computers on or off campus.

“We want to be on the cutting edge in providing educational technology for our staff and students,” stated **Dr. David Campbell**, NACC President. “The Wimba system is one more step in our efforts to bring the best educational technology to our staff and students.”

Shelton’s Electrical Technology Program Lends Support

Since 1999, students in Shelton State Community College’s Electrical Technology Program have participated in the construction of Habitat for Humanity homes under the guidance of Instructor **William Quimby**. During the spring semester of 2008, Quimby and his students completed their 14th Habitat project.

Quimby explained, “Students receive ‘real-life’ experience in the electrical requirements of building a home. They can put into practice mandatory standards set by fire and electrical codes. Also, the ability to serve others in a community aided effort teaches the rewards of giving to others.”

Through volunteer labor and tax-deductible donations of money and materials, Habitat for Humanity builds and rehabilitates simple houses with the help of the homeowner (partner) families. Habitat houses are sold to partner families at no profit, financed with affordable, no-interest loans. The homeowners' monthly mortgage payments are recycled into a revolving Fund for Humanity that is used to build more houses.

GSCC Receives Grant

Gadsden State Community College has been awarded the 2008 Hewlett Packard Technology for Teaching Grant for the Ayers Campus. The college is one of 44 institutions of higher learning in North America selected to receive the award and the only community college in Alabama chosen.

Associate Dean of Institutional Advancement & Community Services **Pamela Johnson** was responsible for writing the grant application. She said it was very competitive, with almost 400 two and four-year colleges applying. Math instructor and Acting Ayers Campus Director **Dr. Ramona Gartman** will serve as the director of the grant program.

The grants are designed to support innovative and effective uses of technology in higher education learning environments. Gadsden State will receive HP technology valued at approximately \$57,000, along with \$20,000 in cash, and Microsoft is adding free software valued at almost \$7000.

The Gadsden State program is entitled "Technology Aids Math Excellence" or TAME. It will provide remedial math courses for students at the Ayers Campus. Johnson estimated that approximately 400 students needed remedial math courses in the past two semesters. The grant will allow for the installation of a computer lab in Dr. Gartman's classroom, benefiting these students needing the extra help.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Lawson Participates in Pilot Program

Lawson State Community College has been selected to participate in a national pilot program. Adult Career Pathways: A Second Chance at Education, will serve to identify, enroll, educate, and prepare underemployed adults for high-demand career opportunities with local industries. In partnership with The Center for Occupation Research and Development (CORD), and the Clements Group, Lawson State will be one of eight pilot community colleges to prepare, implement, and refine the program.

Each college must have criteria essential to developing an appropriate response to defined workforce needs. **Dr. Richard C. Hinckley**, president of CORD stated, "Lawson State was selected due to three distinct factors. They gave the pilot project a large metropolitan city with diverse industries; have a reputation among community colleges as being especially concerned with workforce and economic development issues; and they have a president who has shown leadership in seeking solutions to the educational and workforce needs of young adults."

"We are proud to be included in this vital program," said **Dr. Perry W. Ward**, president of Lawson State. "Manufacturing and Logistics are booming in Alabama and we are committed to taking the necessary steps to ensure a skilled workforce is available."

Calhoun Chosen for Robotics Center

Governor Bob Riley recently announced that Calhoun Community College has been selected as the site for a new robotics research, education and training campus that will help the state attract new industry, support the needs of existing industry and train workers for high-tech careers. The Advanced Technology Robotics Research and Development Complex will consist of three separate facilities, each targeted to meet a specific industry need.

"Our vision from the beginning was a state-of-the-art robotics campus affiliated with a two-year college that is close to Huntsville's aerospace research hub and easily accessible to our manufacturing industries," Riley said.

Calhoun President **Dr. Marilyn Beck** pledged to utilize the college's resources to make the Governor's vision a reality. "Calhoun has become known as one of the leaders in education in our region, and this new robotics campus will definitely take the college to the next level."

Chancellor **Bradley Byrne** of the Alabama Community College System said, "With this new robotics center, our system will be a national leader in robotics training on all makes of robots."

The three individual training facilities will each target a specific industry need. All three buildings will have an investment of approximately \$71 million including robotics equipment.

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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Reid State Partners for Program Development

A partnership between Reid State Technical College and Jefferson Davis Community College (JDCC) will allow both colleges to expand services. The colleges have joined to provide machine tool classes through an equipment acquisition provided by the Office of Workforce Development.

Final details of the agreement are in progress. **Dr. Douglas Littles**, Reid State President explains, "Dr. Susan McBride (of JDCC) and I have met and will continue discussions to solidify the agreement. Specific details with Muskogee Metal Works regarding placement are also in the planning phases." Muskogee Metal Works, provides parts for the aerospace industry and will house the equipment.

The venture also allows the colleges to join forces with area businesses, the Alabama Technology Network (ATN), and Alabama Industrial Development Training (AIDT).

Georgia Pacific will benefit from the equipment through machine tool training developed to provide skills this industry is seeking to develop multi-craft training.

Dr. Alesia K. Stuart, associate Dean of Community Development at Reid State explained, "Reid State and JDCC began working with Georgia Pacific following their purchase of the Smurfit Stone mill. After assessments by ATN, curriculum to provide multi-craft skills and industry specific skills were developed. One of the skills areas demanded equipment which was not available on either campus. Through the knowledge and expertise of ATN, AIDT, Reid State, JDCC, and the support of the Office of Workforce Development, machine tool equipment was made available for the colleges to serve existing industry and develop a program to provide machine tool skills for Southwest Alabama."

Drake Offers Entrepreneurial Resources

Drake State Technical College is offering students and the community two options to learn about entrepreneurship. Potential entrepreneurs can receive one-on-one consulting with Women's Business Center of North Alabama president, **Joanne Randolph** or enroll in the national entrepreneurial program FastTrac.

Randolph provides free personal consultations regarding business practices in the areas of finance, marketing, and business planning on the Drake campus.

In addition to Randolph's entrepreneurial services, Drake is the first college in the area to offer a national entrepreneurial program called FastTrac, which is offered through the Drake workforce development division. The accelerated business boot camp for entrepreneurs, "Planning the Entrepreneurial Venture," was developed by the Ewing Marion Kauffman foundation in partnership with Cisco Learning Institute (CLI).

Bevill Receives Grant for Incubator

Bevill State Community College plans to revitalize the small business incubator development program in Walker County thanks to a \$300,000 grant secured by Congressman **Robert Aderholt**. These funds for the business incubator will enable the College to boost the facility's ability to foster new business and expand the offering of technology and services.

The incubator, located in the Bevill Industrial Park in Jasper, was established in 1990 by Walker College through grant monies has assisted several businesses in the area over the past years.

Bevill State Interim President **Neal Morrison** stressed the importance of improving the incubator facility and the impact such a facility has on the community. "These funds will allow us to make improvements to the incubator complex and provide an outstanding facility and resources for the people of this area who are interested in growing small businesses," he said.

The incubator facility consists of two buildings for potential businesses and office space. Ultimately, according to Morrison, the long-range plan includes establishing a small business center in the office space that would provide information and services to entrepreneurs who wish to start a business.

The Alabama Community College System: Developing Champions

November 23 — 25, 2008

**Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel and
Arthur R. Outlaw Convention Center - Mobile**

Tentative Conference Agenda

Sunday, November 23, 2008

12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Registration
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Facilitators Workshop
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Cosmetology Workshop
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Association Meetings
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Chancellor's Awards
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Chancellor's Reception

Monday, November 24, 2008

7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Registration
7:15 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.	Facilitators Workshop
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Vendor Expo
8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	Light Breakfast Provided
8:20 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.	Newcomers' Meeting
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Workshops
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Vendor Expo/Break
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	First Plenary Session
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Light Lunch Provided
1:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Commission Meetings
2:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Workshops
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Workshops
8:00 p.m. - Midnight	ACA Dance

Tuesday, November 25, 2008

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Light Breakfast Provided
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Vendor Expo
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Workshops
9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Break
9:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Second Plenary Session ACA Business Meeting

The Alabama College Association