The Alabama Community College Association

Journal

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The Alabama Community College System: Meeting the Challenge

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT...

For those working in higher education today, facing challenges is a required job function. What makes the employees of the Alabama C o m m u n i t y College System special is that we not only face challenges, we



Dr. Amelia Pearson, ACCA President

meet them. We recognize that we are stronger because of the challenges we meet. It strengthens us as educators, it strengthens the mission of our System, and it strengthens the students we serve.

Helping us prepare for the challenges we meet each day is the mission of the Alabama Community College Each year at our Association. conference, our members have the opportunity to receive professional development which allows us to learn and grow in our profession. It also provides us with the chance to share our own perspectives on how we meet the demands and challenges we currently face. I encourage you to submit a workshop for this year's conference, and share your own unique experiences in meeting your challenges.

Information on how to submit a conference workshop can be found in this edition of the ACCA Journal. Also included in this edition are articles describing the personal and professional accomplishments of our members, institutions, and students. Each article provides an example of a challenge met, and a success to share.

Thank you for your continued support of ACCA, and thank you for all you do each day to meet the challenges.

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- Commission Meetings
- Association Meetings
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Early Registration is \$75 per person Visit www.alabamacca.org, for all conference deadlines, updates, and speaker information

Information is tentative and is subject to change

Are you interested in presenting a session at this year's Conference?

Information on the submission process for the 2010 ACCA Conference can be found on page 14 of this edition of the Journal. You can also submit proposals online , by visiting www.alabamacca.org/accaproposals.

Proposals are due by July 9, 2010 and should follow one of these areas of interest:

- Teaching and Learning
- Student Success
- Staff Development
- Leadership Development
- Workforce Development

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"A HAPPY LIFE CONSISTS IN THE MASTERY OF CHALLENGES, NOT THE ABSENCE."

SNEAD STUDENT NAMED NEW CENTURY SCHOLAR



Snead State Community College Student **Susan Kornegay** was recently named a 2010 New Century Scholar and a 2010 Guistwhite Scholar, two significant recognitions never before obtained by a SSCC student. The Industrial Engineering major earned the distinctions through her association with Phi Theta Kappa. Kornegay serves as President of Snead State's Theta Iota Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa.

"I am thrilled to be selected as a New Century Scholar and one of the 2010 Guistwhite Scholars. I feel privileged to be able to represent Snead State as well as the state of Alabama," said Kornegay.

"We are very proud of Suzanne for all she has accomplished during her short time at Snead State,"

said Director of Campus Engagement Rian Edwards, who is also the Phi Theta Kappa sponsor.

The New Century Scholars program is an extension of the All-USA Academic Team, a program which recognizes the top achieving community college students in the country. Kornegay scored the highest in the state in the All-USA Academic Team competition for community colleges. The scoring system takes into consideration grade point average, as well as civic engagement and community service opportunities. As part of the honor, she will receive a \$2,000 stipend.

"The College has focused on offering more service learning opportunities for our students to help them grow as individuals and leaders, and many of those opportunities have been made available through Phi Theta Kappa. Suzanne is the perfect example of the positive impact those opportunities can have on a student's college career," said Snead State President **Dr. Robert Exley**, who served as the National Phi Theta Kappa president in 1979-80.

For updates on the ACCA conference, and other information, visit www.alabamacca.org



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FSCC CHEERLEADERS NAMED NATIONAL CHAMPIONS AGAIN

Faulkner State Community College's Cheerleading team won the Cheer, LTD National Championship Title for the Small Coed College Division in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina in March. The squad won the National Championship last year as well.

The competition was judged on showmanship, difficulty, execution and perfection of routine. The FSCC squad defeated 22 other teams from across

the nation to claim their third national championship.

"It is so rewarding to see all of the team's hard work has paid off," **Coach CeLeste Robertson** said. "We are especially grateful for the support our president and the entire Faulkner State faculty, staff, and stu-



dents have given us. We have the best students, fans and athletes, so there is a lot to cheer about at Faulkner State."

"I have always grown from my challenges, that's when I've really learned."

- CAROL BURNETT

BISHOP STATE STUDENT SELECTED AS COCA-COLA SILVER SCHOLAR



Charles Eubanks, a Bishop State Community College sophomore, was recently selected as a 2010 Coca-Cola Silver Scholar. Eubanks was also one of two Bishop State students representing the college as a member of All-Alabama Academic Team. The other student was Jeffery Lehman, a sophomore nursing student.

Eubanks is enrolled in Bishop State's Air Conditioning/Refrigeration program and business classes. His selection was based on his scores earned in the recent USA Today All-USA Community College Academic Team competition. Criteria include grades, academic rigor, leadership, activities and most important, the student's essay describing his or her most outstanding intellectual endeavor while in college.

The Scholar program is sponsored by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation and is administered by Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. As a Silver Scholar, Eubanks will receive \$1,250 and a certificate. His selection is the first for Bishop State, said **Dr. Terry Hazzard**, dean of Students.

BSCC STUDENT WINS TECHNOLOGY AWARD



Richard Quiroga, a sophomore majoring in Drafting, Design Engineering Technology at Bevill State Community College, was selected as the 2010 Terry O'Banion Student Technology Champion. The annual award is given by the The League for Innovation in the Community College and Distinguished Partner, Microsoft Corporation.

"Richard Quiroga's name made its way to the top of the committee's list by inspiring all of us by supporting himself throughout school and receiving high honors while pursuing multiple degrees despite all his hardships growing up," said Tristan Gorringe of Microsoft Corporation.

As a result of the national award, Quiroga received \$4,500, plus a variety of software products from Microsoft.

JDCC STUDENT SELECTED AS FINALIST



Jefferson Davis C o m m u n i t y College student James Hamric, was selected as a 2010 Coca-Cola National Finalist. He is President of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society,

Secretary of the Honors Program, member of the All-Alabama Academic Team, and active in community service.

As a first-generation college student, Hamric decided that attending JDCC would provide him with the best opportunity to transition from high school to college life. He stated that his decision to attend a community college provided him the opportunity to develop his academic and leadership potential.

After Hamric earns his degree from JDCC, he plans to complete his Bachelor's Degree in Business from the University of West Florida.

As a National Finalist, Hamric will be provided with a check for \$1,000.





NW-SCC BREAKS GROUND ON MULTI-SKILLED TRAINING CENTER

The groundbreaking of the \$1.2 million Multi-Skilled Training Center will add a new dimension to the Phil Campbell Campus of Northwest-Shoals Community College. With the exception of the Nursing program, the Phil Campbell campus has long been known for its core academic curriculum which has prepared its students to transfer to four-year colleges/universities across the United States. The opening of the new facility will give NW-SCC students attending the campus the added option of training to enter the workforce in either Welding or Machine Tool.

The new 9,465 square-foot, two-story building will be the first building constructed on the campus since 1995. The



Multi-Skilled Training Center will be comprised of two classrooms, two faculty offices, and an equipment/training area for welding and machine tool students.

According to NW-SCC President, **Dr. Humphrey Lee**, he hopes to have the building ready for fall 2010 classes, but that may not be possible. "According to the construction bid, it should take nine months, but we also know there are a lot of variables that are out of our control, such as the weather," said Lee. "Worst case scenario, we will have it ready for the spring 2011 semester."

The construction of the facility is funded through Institution and Public School and College Authority (PSCA) Bond funds. The Multi-Skilled Training Center will be furnished with state-of-the-art equipment due to a \$335,000 Advanced Manufacturing Training Technology grant NW-SCC received in 2008 from the U.S. Department of Education which was secured with the assistance of Congressman Robert Aderholt.

SOUTHERN UNION BREAKS GROUND FOR NEW BUILDING



Southern Union recently held a Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new Technology Building to be constructed on the Valley Campus. The college announced its intent to expand its technical programs to its Valley Campus last April. The 6,000 square-foot facility will feature labs and classroom space. The Technology Building will house courses leading to a short-term Manufacturing Technology certificate. Courses that lead to a Manufacturing Machine Operator certificate are already being offered in Valley.

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TRENHOLM STATE CELEBRATES NEW CENTER'S GRAND OPENING

Trenholm State Technical College recently held a grand opening for its Automotive Manufacturing Technology Center. The new facility, christened Building Q, features a spacious room with an assembly line in the middle, and doors leading to labs as well as a classroom.

One lab houses equipment that allows students to choose the type of car they want to assemble. The machine then communicates with the assembly line's computer, and the students get in their stations and build. "It teaches them to work in a station in a team environment," said Instructor Michael Barnett.

Trenholm President, Sam Munnerlyn said the building cost \$1.2 million, while the technologies inside cost over \$2 million. He said it was hard to secure funding and recognized Alabama State Board of Education Member Ella Bell as playing a huge part in the grant negotiations. The result is two phases -- the new automotive facility being phase one, and phase two will involve a second building to facilitate the college's welding and electric programs, among others.

During the ceremony Dr. Freida Hill, chancellor, said, "This (building) is a good example for what we're doing to turn the economy. I believe the economic turn of this state is on the shoulders of our community colleges. We're looking for some great technicians to come out of this program. We have faith in Trenholm."

DRAKE STATE HOLDS RIBBON CUTTING FOR NEW SITE

Drake State Community College President Dr. Helen McAlpine and Huntsville City Mayor Tommy Battle were joined by State Board of Education Member, Dr. Mary Jane Caylor and Dr. Freida Hill, Chancellor of the Alabama Two Year College System in the official opening of the college's downtown instructional site. The college recently completed a renovation of the historic Times Building. The site currently provides approximately 10,000 square feet of instructional and office space.

"We are delighted at the opportunity to provide additional instructional and workforce development programs which are paramount to the continued growth of our college and the economic development of our area," said Dr. McAlpine.

Research indicated a college would provide a much needed boost to the area through pedestrian traffic as well as additional training resources to businesses in the area. For the college, it provides additional instructional space as well as the opportunity to expand its workforce development and continuing education programs. The site provides computer labs, classrooms, and meeting space. There is the



opportunity to convert more of this existing space to instructional space for future growth.

"I am so pleased to see the tangible results of the cooperative efforts of Huntsville's officials, business leaders and educational community," said Dr. Hill.





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"Accept the Challenges, so that you may feel the exhilaration of victory." - George S. Patton

GSSC INSTRUCTOR PRESENTS AT INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM



Gadsden State Community College Biology Instructor, **Susan Sewell**, attended the 11th International Tardigrade Symposium held in Tubingen, Germany. The symposium is an international gathering of scientists who present research

findings on tardigrades, microscopic invertebrates. Sewell was invited to attend the conference because of the research she conducted while studying for her master's degree at Jacksonville State University.

Sewell gave two presentations at the symposium. The first was an oral presentation on the tardigrade population she discovered living on the rocks of a man-made waterfall at Cold Water Falls in Tuscumbia. In the second presentation, Sewell demonstrated her study on the different culturing techniques she used to grow tardigrades inside her laboratory.

For Sewell, the experience has made her a better scientist and teacher. "I teach the scientific method every day, but actually participating in research allows me to explain the techniques by experience," she added. "I also believe that being around experts from all over the world enabled me to learn new skills that I can bring back to Gadsden State to better help my students."

The symposium triggered an expansion to Sewell's current study, as several scientists present at the conference believe that she discovered a new species of tardigrades during her research. Sewell said that she, along with two researchers from Poland and Italy, will soon work to confirm whether the tardigrade she is working with is actually a new species.



ATN'S SMALLWOOD EARNS DOCTORATE

Audrey Smallwood, Technology Specialist at ATN's Corporate Office, recently earned her Doctor of Education Degree from The University of Alabama.

Dr. Smallwood's dissertation, titled, *Student* and Faculty Opinions on the Impact of Web-Enhanced Courses on the Educational Experience at Alabama Community Colleges, surveyed instructors at eight Alabama community colleges to examine the role of web-enhanced courses to determine their

perceptions toward web-enhanced instruction and its impact on the educational experience. She focused on the use of Blackboard and other course management systems (CMS) as a supplemental tool in traditional, face-to-face classes.

According to Dr. Smallwood, "I found that the majority of students and instructors had positive opinions toward the instructional strategy. However, it was interesting that instructors and students participating in the study reported using CMS tools designed to facilitate class management (e.g., announcements, posting syllabi, etc.) rather than those designed to enhance learning. Another interesting finding was that the technology-savvy Millennial students had less favorable opinions toward Web-enhanced instruction than those belonging to other generational cohorts."

LBWCC INSTRUCTOR NAMED TO BOARD



Monica L. Cauley, Lurleen B. Wallace Community College Health Science Division Chair, was appointed to the Alabama Board of Nursing by Gov. Bob Riley to fill a former board member's unexpired term. The Board of Nursing regulates nursing practice and education in the state.

In her role with LBWCC, Cauley is responsible for programs in EMS, practical nursing, associate degree nursing, diagnostic medical sonography, therapeutic massage, and surgical technology.





EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

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- Rudy Guliani

ATN EMPLOYEES WIN NATIONAL AWARDS

Three Alabama Technology Network (ATN) employees received awards from the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) at its national conference May 4 in Orlando. Among those receiving the honor were **Becky Estes** and **Gina Webb**, both of the ATN Jasper Center, and **Dana Stone** from ATN's Corporate Office.

Estes, office manager at the Jasper Center, received "Unsung Hero of the Year." According to the award criteria, the award recognizes individuals who have supported the behind the scenes work such as administrative, marketing, or human resources. Her nomination referenced the outstanding job she did at her Center and the many activities she engages in that require her to go beyond her normal duties.

The Newcomer of the Year Award went to Project Engineer Webb. The award recognizes an employee who has embraced the MEP system philosophy and has endeavored in their first year to enhance services provided to MEP clients or improve operations within the MEP network. Webb was recognized for her industrial maintenance training and for her help in developing ATN's Client Impact Tool.

Project Manager Dana Stone received the Practitioner of the Year Award for her dedication to the missions of ATN and MEP, and for her support shown to its clients. At the awards ceremony, she was described as being "steadfastly committed to her principles of fairness, openness, and loyalty."

"I am very proud of the accomplishments of Becky, Gina, and Dana and glad that each received this well-deserved honor. The fact that ATN employees were recognized in three of the six award categories is evidence of the quality and caliber of our employees," said **Dr. Mike Bailey**, president of ATN.

LAWSON STATE HOSTS SUMMIT

Literacy providers from around the state attended a summit hosted by the Adult Education Program of Lawson State Community College. The summit provided agencies the opportunity to gain and share information related to the delivery of literacy services and basic program structure.

"This summit provided a wealth of information that addressed the day to day needs of adult learners," said **Gwendolyn Ekundayo**, director of Adult Education at Lawson State.

The summit was sponsored by The Literacy Council, and the Adult Education Programs of Jefferson State and Lawson State Community Colleges.

JEFFERSON STATE WINS TOP HONORS

Jefferson State's Shelby-Hoover Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society recently earned top honors during the Alabama Regional Convention.

"The students have proven year after year that working toward this goal is important to them," said Advisor Dr. Leisl Ward.

During the last two international competitions, Jefferson State's Shelby-Hoover Chapter, Beta Lambda Delta, has taken home top honors out of more than 1,250 chapters worldwide and is the first international repeat winner in more than 20 years.





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"Any Challenge unattempted remains impossible ."

CALHOUN AWARDED GRANT

Calhoun Community College is among the institutions included in the U.S. Department of Labor's recently announced grants funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The college will receive \$3,470,830 to train participants through the new Alabama Center of Excellence in Clean Energy Technology (ACECET), to be located at the college's Decatur campus.

According to the grant, the goal of the ACECET is to meet regional needs for energy certified practitioners in the areas of energy assessment and energy efficient installation. Calhoun's award was one of only 55 made from over 1400 proposals submitted nationwide and the only award made in the state of Alabama.

"The ACECET project is the first of its kind in the state of Alabama leading to an industryrecognized certification and will serve as a national model for community and technical colleges and workforce training providers," said Debi Garrison, **dean for planning**, **research and grants at Calhoun**.

ALABAMA SOUTHERN RECEIVES RENEWED FUNDING FOR GRANT

Alabama Southern Community College has received almost \$3 million renewed funding for the Advanced Technological Education (ATE) National Center of Excellence Grant by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The grant will help the college continue its innovative leadership in workforce development for the pulp and paper industry.

Through initial funding of this grant in 2004, Alabama Southern Community College established the National Center for Pulp and Paper Technology on its Thomasville Campus and has led the development of the National Network for Pulp and Paper Technology Training (npt)².

"We are proud to announce funding to enhance the innovative (npt)2 program at Alabama Southern, said **Dr. William Blow**, interim-president of Alabama Southern. "Providing our students with cutting edge educational facilities and hands-on technology training is vital to the mission of our college. The industry employees of the future must be multi-craft and multi-skilled employees."

The grant for \$2,942,763 insures that the Center can continue its mission for another 2 years. The National Center and Network, with the support of other twoyear colleges, universities, an array of national pulp and paper companies, mills and organizations, is to provide the pulp and paper sector of the United States forest products industry with a technologically advanced workforce (TAW) that will preserve this core American industry and help to assure it is globally competitive.

SUSCC RECEIVES GRANT TO HELP STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Southern Union State Community College is part of an alliance that will receive a \$3 million grant from the National Science Foundation to help Alabama students with disabilities earn college degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and, ultimately, enter the workforce.

The funding was granted to the Alabama Alliance for Students with Disabilities in STEM, which is a collaborative effort involving Alabama State University, Auburn University, Auburn University Montgomery, Tuskegee University, Central Alabama Community College, Southern Union, and the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind. The alliance also includes six school districts, six counties and has an outreach component that covers the entire state.

According to Dean of Students **Gary Branch**, the college will identify eight students to participate in the program who maintain a 3.0 GPA and establish a Peer-Mentoring program to help these students along the way. "Through this mentoring program, and other initiatives, we hope to encourage those taking part in the program while increasing the interest of students with disabilities in pursuing careers in these disciplines," he said.

The grant will fund peer-mentoring endeavors such as Bridge to the Baccalaureate and Bridge to the Post-Baccalaureate programs, as well as a Graduate Bridge program and summer research internships. Undergraduate students with disabilities participating in the Bridge programs will receive a renewable \$2,000 stipend per academic year while participants in the Graduate Bridge program and summer research internships will receive \$3,500 each. The grant will also provide mini-grants for research-based interventions at colleges and universities and will fund technology enhancements for Alabama Science in Motion.

"Challenges make life interesting; overcoming them makes life meaningful." $\,$

· Joshua J. Marine

CVCC HOLDS NURSING DISASTER SIMULATION

The Nursing Department at Chattahoochee Valley Community College held a day long disaster simulation on its campus recently. The exercise was designed to give nursing students first-hand experience in preparing for and responding to a disaster. Many of the "victims" had injuries or illnesses that corresponded with content in the nursing curriculum. "Student learning is at the heart of our institutional mission here at CVCC. We strongly support events such as the disaster drill, which provide unique opportunities for students to apply classroom learning in real world situations," explained Dr. Greg Labyak, dean of Instruction.

First-year students were the "victims" who were moulaged and assumed various injuries. The second-year students were the "nurses" charged with treating their patients appropriately. Caregivers were divided into seven different groups, each of which had several victims in need of treatment. CVCC nursing faculty assisted the second-year students in caring for their patients. A debriefing session following the drill allowed students and faculty to review and discuss the outcomes.

Melliny Macklin, chair of the Health Sciences Division, explained "Our disaster simulation offered a wonderful opportunity for both instructors and students to assess learning outcomes for our LPN and ADN programs. It is good to know that in the event of an emergency, our students will be prepared to assist first responders in meeting the healthcare needs of victims. We will be using evaluations from this event in planning future drills, in which we hope to involve the greater community."

RSTC AND JDCC PROVIDE TRAINING

Employees of Muskogee Technology recently received certificates of completion for Machine Tool Technology training provided by Reid State Technical College and Jefferson Davis Community College. The joint training venture provided certification for training in Shop Math, Shop Safety, Machinist Handbook Functions, Basic Blueprint Reading for Machinists, Introduction to Machine Shop I & II, Lathe **Operations, Milling Operations, Introduction** to Computer Numerical Control, Drill Press and Power Saws and Precision Grinding Machines I.

Muskogee Technology provides parts for the Department of Defense, the aerospace industry, and private companies. Customers of Muskogee include Boeing, Lockheed Martin, BAE Systems, the United States Air Force, and the United States Army.

Machine Tool Technology at Reid State is directed by Lynda Davis, coordinator for Ready to Work and Training for Existing Business & Industry.

WALLACE STATE INITIATIVE WINS INNOVATION HONOR

The First Year Gateway Initiative at Wallace State Community College recently received Innovation of the Year honors from the League for Innovation in the Community College, an international organization committed to improving community colleges through innovation, experimentation, and institutional transformation.

The Initiative is a committee of WSCC faculty and staff members who are dedicated to improving the first year experience of students through academic support and interaction, engagement with students, and improving overall student satisfaction, retention, and grade point averages.

According to Dr. Beth Bownes-Johnson, chair of the committee, the focus of the Initiative is "not to reform the student, but to change the way we service and meet the needs of students."

As a result of the Initiative, Wallace State implemented Learning Communities last year which paired certain courses, allowing students more time to develop relationships with instructors and fellow classmates. Structured Learning Assistance courses were also developed which provided academic support through student peer teachers.

Members of the First Year Gateway Initiative Committee include Dr. Bownes-Johnson, Wes Rakestraw, Rebecca Reeves, Ricky Burks, Rob Metcalf, Renee Quick, Donnie Rice, Whit Rice, Karon Welch, Cindy Mallard, Lisa Harris, James Tidwell, Cheril Grimmett, and Brandi Gindhart Reeves.

CACC ALUMNUS FIRST WOMAN TO BECOME ABC CRAFT CHAMPION

Holley B. Thomas, a Certified Structural Welder and alumnus of Central Alabama Community College became the first woman welder in the sixty year history of the ABC National Craft Championships to take top honors in welding. Thomas, who holds a degree in robotics from Central Alabama Community College, became interested in welding while earning her degree in 2007.

Two months after starting a welding job, Thomas began training for the ABC National Craft Competition, which was held in February in San Diego. For more than 26 weeks, Thomas trained daily after hours for two to three hours each evening –four days a week for a total of more than 400 hours. She has successfully completed three levels of NCCER welding training curriculum. Those she has trained under



include Frank Smith of Southern Union Community College Alabama Community College and D.J. James from CACC.

Thomas says her motivation for training was to make her instructors proud and to bring a focus to the importance of training. "I think for younger people, especially young women watching the competition, my involvement could have a huge influence on the industry, " said Thomas. I have the privilege of sending an important message to those watching that no matter who you are, you can do whatever you put your mind to. It doesn't matter if you are young, male or female; if you have the desire and you are willing to train, you can be successful at anything you undertake."

Thomas says her ultimate career goal is to be part of an orbital welding team. "I think this would be a good marriage between my two skills of robotics and welding."

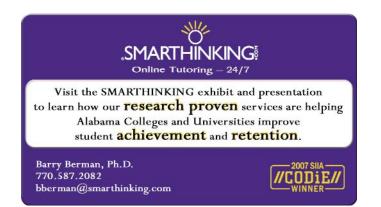
NACC'S MUSTANG CAM SHOWS CAMPUS LIVE

Want to see in real time what is going on at Northeast Alabama Community College? With the addition of a web cam on campus, it is now possible. The camera is focused on the NACC Quadrangle at the college's Student Center and provides live images of the area twenty-four hours a day. College officials have labeled this as the Mustang Cam in honor of the schools long-time symbol.

"Web cams are growing in popularity," stated **Dr. David Campbell**, president of Northeast Alabama Community College. "After watching some real time broadcasts from throughout the world, we began thinking why not provide the same service here at Northeast. After checking into what was involved in bringing a web cam to campus, we found that we could install one at a minimal cost. With all the technology we have on campus, our infrastructure already was in place. So the Mustang Cam is now in operation!"

Campbell complimented NACC staff members **Dr. Joe Burke**, **Kent Jones**, **Sam Dobbs**, and **Cain Fairbanks** for their work in purchasing the web cam and getting it installed.

Students, staff, and the public can access the web cam by going to the colleges web page and clicking on the link, Mustang Cam. With this addition, Northeast becomes one of the few community colleges in the Southeast with web cam service.





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ACCA Employee News

Laura Elliott, community education coordinator and director of Lurleen B. Wallace Community College's Luverne Center, recently received the highest recognition from the Alabama Community Education Association with the Charles Stewart Mott Award. The award, named for the person who started Community Education in Flint, Mich., in the 1930s, recognizes Elliott's outstanding contributions to the field.

Elliott was also appointed by the Obama Administration to serve a term on the Alabama Farm Service Agency, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's state committee charged with helping farmers and ranchers build and maintain successful operations to produce a safe, nutritious food supply and spurring economic development in rural communities.

Brian Geislinger, Ph.D., Gadsden State Community College physics instructor, was named the recipient of the 2010 Vernier Technology Award. The award, which is also sponsored by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), is presented to seven individuals nationwide who promote cutting-edge techniques for data-collection technology using various handheld electronics in the classroom. Geislinger is the only recipient at the college level.

Martha Lavender, RN, MSN, DSN, was named to the Alabama Board of Nursing. Lavender, assistant to the president of Gadsden State Community College for Cherokee County Operations, was appointed to serve a four-year term as one of three nursing education representatives by Governor Bob Riley.

Susan Williams Brown, Ed.D was named to the editorial board for *Thought & Action*, the National Education Association Higher Education Journal. Brown is the Assistant to the Dean of Instructional Services at Gadsden State Community College.

Dr. Kim Ennis was named Bevill State Community College Dean of Students in January 2010.

Ben Hicks, Men's Head Basketball Coach at Alabama Southern Community College, was named the 2009-2010 Birmingham Tip Off Club Glen Clem Award and Junior College Coach of the Year.

Jefferson State Community College Business Management Instructor **Mildred Lanier** was recently named a 2010 Woman of Distinction by the Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama. The award honors women who have made a significant impact upon their communities, have a personal record of leadership, have achieved recognition and success within their profession, and are an exemplary role model for Girl Scouts.



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2010 ACCA CONFERENCE CALL FOR PRESENTATION PROPOSALS

The Executive Committee of the Alabama Community College Association is now accepting proposals for the 2010 Annual Conference to be held at the Montgomery Renaissance Hotel and Convention Center November 21 through 23.

Presentations should relate to one of the following areas of interest:

- Teaching and Learning
- Student Success
- Staff Development
- Leadership Development
- Workforce Development

An online submission form has been created for your convenience on the ACCA website. If you would like to submit a proposal, please visit:

www.alabamacca.org/accaproposals

For additional information, contact ACCA First Vice-President Dr. Patricia Sims, at acca@drakestate.edu

The deadline for submissions is July 9, 2010