Celebrating a Century

PENN COLLEGE 1889

WA CC 1965

1914 CENTENNIAL 2014

Centennial Events & Activities
Marking the institution’s 100th anniversary in 2014 was – without a doubt – a highlight of my presidency. It was an incredible honor to serve in the leadership role during the historic Centennial celebration.

For me – and for many others who shared their personal reflections with me throughout the year – Centennial activities and events were both thrilling and humbling. Poignant memories of the past brought forth blurry visions of the future: What will the next century bring? What history are we making today that will be remembered in 2114?

The anniversary was an opportunity for reflection. Those of us with long, personal histories at the institution often revealed in glee as we shared old photographs and read stories of men and women who graced us with their presence in an earlier era. Images of old buildings, old haircuts and fashions, and old, friendly faces gave us a reason to pause and smile in fond remembrance.

We recalled that our leaders of the past – friends and colleagues over time – set a course that we were proud to follow. Now, it is our turn to navigate the challenges of our day and direct a path that will guide our students, faculty, and community through the 21st century.

I am confident we will continue the legacy and mission established on campus long ago. The pride and accomplishment of students, alumni, faculty, staff, and friends involved in planning and presenting Centennial activities and events provide all the evidence that I need to believe we are committed to honoring the past and persisting through the challenges of the present and future in order to realize our full potential as a national leader in applied technology education.

May our awesome first century be eclipsed only by our fearless commitment to achieve that vision and impact new generations of men and women over the next century.

People make the difference!

Davie Jane Gilmour, Ph.D.
President

Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.

Marian Wright Edelman
Employee Kick-off Reception
THURSDAY, JANUARY 9
Employees – who lifted the Centennial spirit all over campus throughout the yearlong observance of the institution’s 100th anniversary – enjoyed an opening reception featuring a nacho bar and customized candy bars.
Frank Lloyd Wright’s Samara: A Mid-Century Dream House

JANUARY 14 – MARCH 29

One of the century’s most renowned architects was the focus of a Centennial exhibition that attracted visitors from near and far to The Gallery at Penn College. In addition to displaying artifacts depicting a creative collaboration between architect and home owner, the gallery hosted talks by architectural historian Jack Quinan.

Student Kick-off Event

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

Bardo Gymnasium was the setting for a student-focused, kick-off event. The crowd, including more than 120 present and past Wildcat student-athletes, watched a doubleheader against Penn State DuBois and enjoyed free refreshments and souvenirs.
Centennial Kick-off Event
featuring John Ratzenberger
THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

“If you want to be truly famous, invent something that furthers mankind. Wake up each morning and put your hand to something useful,” John Ratzenberger told Penn College students. The actor and advocate for skilled American labor spoke to audiences in Klump Academic Center and the Community Arts Center during the public kick-off of the Centennial anniversary.

“Watching the College grow and evolve from a relatively small, simply outfitted, hands-on educational facility operating out of borrowed buildings using run-down facilities and equipment into what it is today makes me very proud. Who knew? It is a pride that is shared by all of those who were and are a part of the administrative transition, the curricular growth and the current campus facility.”
Fred Gilmour ’66, retired Penn College administrator
Oral History Project

The collaboration of a librarian and a history professor, working with Penn College video producers, made it possible for the institution to capture important stories about its history in time for the Centennial celebration.

Interviews conducted by Patricia A. Scott and Daniel J. Doyle became the basis for books and a public television documentary about the history of the institution.
Centennial Concert featuring Switchfoot
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20
Grammy Award winning band Switchfoot was joined by the Kopecky Family Band for a Centennial concert in Bardo Gymnasium. “It was a great way to celebrate the college’s centennial,” said Sara Hillis Ousby, associate director of student activities.

Visiting Chef Dinner featuring Shanna & Brian O’Hea
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21
Owners of Kennebunk Inn and Academe Maine Brasserie & Tavern Brian O’Hea and Shanna Katherine Harner O’Hea mentored students while preparing an elegant benefit dinner during a Centennial celebration of the Visiting Chef Series. Proceeds from the five-course meal, which included Academe’s signature Lobster Pot Pie, benefited the student scholarship fund.
Sustainable and Affordable Home Building
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27
Dorothy J. Gerring and Robert A. Wozniak, associate professors of architectural technology, and three students participating in the first U.S. Department Energy Challenge Home Student Design Competition – Maxwell A. Davert, Michael J. Engel, and Michelle M. Holzmann – led the series’ opening presentation, which invited audience participation through interactive polling.

“The amount of work and creativity that went into this project is extraordinary,” said Dr. Gilmour about a commemorative quilt made by Christine E. Adkins, coordinator of network accounts. “It’s a truly special gift, and we’re so pleased that Chris took the time to honor the institution in this way.” Adkins, who earned degrees from the college in 1986 and 1997, also attended high school in the landmark Klump Academic Center.
People and Computers: Who’s On Top?

MONDAY, MARCH 17

Virtual reality pioneer and best-selling author (You Are Not a Gadget and Who Owns the Future?) Jason Lanier offered his unique perspective on the economic effects of open-source information sharing in the Centennial Colloquia Series.

Before a pedestrian mall connected the campus, vehicle traffic moved along Susquehanna Street south of West Third Street.
Google Meets Aldo Leopold: Information, Technology and 21st Century Environmental Ethics

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

Mark D. Noe, professor of English, and Rob Cooley, assistant professor of anthropology and environmental science, used readings from Aldo Leopold and images from Google Earth to lead the audience on a “virtual field trip” that invited balanced thinking about human impacts on the natural world.
Automotive Centennial Celebration
FRIDAY, APRIL 25

A 1914 Ford Model T, which rolled off the assembly line the same year classes were first offered on campus, was on display in Madigan Library throughout the Centennial celebration. Industry leaders celebrated the century with Dr. Gilmour, students, faculty, alumni, and other invited guests.

1914 – 2014: Automotive Centennial
Celebrating 100 Years of Automotive Education
One of the nation's oldest continuous automotive programs

Pennsylvania College of Technology
WTI Centennial Reunion
FRIDAY, APRIL 25
Williamsport Technical Institute alumni, who were among the institution’s first graduates, gathered for a historic Centennial reunion that honored the past, present and future.
Penn College threw open the brief window between finals and commencement and welcomed its employees and retirees to a semester-ending Centennial Picnic on the Athletic Field.
Throughout 2014, Pennsylvania College of Technology invites alumni and the public to join the campus community in celebrating the milestone of its first 100 years and exploring the future of technology and society. As part of the yearlong celebration, three large-scale installations created by artists with the help of students, enrich the outdoor environment of the campus.

Campus art inspires all ages, including these youngest members of the Penn College family.

Centennial Mosaic

Ceramic instructor Dave Stuble worked with the Penn College community on a major Centennial mosaic that honors the history of Pennsylvania College of Technology, Williamsport Area Community College, and Williamsport Technical Institute. Stuble’s design relates to social connectedness, paths traveled, dreams, and the pleasure of learning through hands-on work. The mosaic project was created in part by the students in a course titled “The Art of the Mosaic” along with faculty, staff, and others, using donated ceramic tile, marbles, and mirror. The Centennial mosaic is approximately 17’ x 21’ and is located on the outside wall of the Physician Assistant Center (PMC).

Student Bodies

Metal sculptor and Penn College welding instructor Michael Pfister worked with students to create an installation of life-size, abstract human forms. The welding students had the chance to couple their manual skills with their creative energy in the fabrication of the sculpture. The collaboration of technology and art generated a fresh, new energy in the welding lab. The sculptures are made entirely of material harvested from scrap metal from the welding shop, and the forms appear on the grassy plains of the pedestrian mall in the middle of campus, running from West Third Street to the Broome Advanced Technology & Health Sciences Center (ATHS).

These Trees

...these trees shall be my thoughts...

Artsy Kathy Bruce andAllajay Noble worked with Penn College students to create a large-scale, outdoor art installation using a wide variety of tree species, text from Shakespeare’s A Midsummer Night’s Dream, and brass rhymes inspired in the broccoli series and busts of the golden ratio. Environmental artist Bruce and Noble have created site-specific installations all over the world, and used materials harvested from Penn College’s Schneebel Earth Science Center. The final piece is located on the west side of the Bush Campus Center (CC).
CENTENNIAL ART INSTALLATION

Centennial Mosaic

JUNE

Piecing together approximately 14,000 fragments of ceramic tile, marble, mirror, and stones, eight students and an instructor took one month to create a beautiful legacy in the center of Pennsylvania College of Technology’s main campus.

The Centennial Mosaic, designed by David A. Stabler, instructor of ceramics and wood sculpture, is located on a wall of the Physician Assistant Center in the middle of campus. Measuring approximately 17 by 25 feet, the mosaic’s design relates to “social connectedness, paths traveled, dreams and the pleasure of learning through hands-on work,” according to Stabler.
Boys and girls from the Robert & Maureen Dunham Children’s Learning Center frequently watched student/faculty progress on the Centennial Mosaic, resulting in lots of spontaneous collages upon their return to the center.
Foundation Golf Classic

MONDAY, JUNE 23

Under gorgeous conditions befitting the first Monday of summer, touring PGA pro Jason Bohn was the featured attraction at the Penn College Foundation Golf Classic.

Pack the Park

TUESDAY, JULY 22

Before a “Pack the Park” audience of 1,914 – appropriate attendance for a Penn College Centennial event – the Williamsport Crosscutters professional baseball team delivered a walk-off 6-5 win over the Batavia Muckdogs.
“We have different challenges and different opportunities, but this place will go on forever, and there will be new leaders, and there will be new marks of distinction, and there will be new significant accomplishments. And we haven’t even thought of them yet.”

Dr. Davie Jane Gilmour
President, Penn College
It was a “grand slam” year for Penn College, celebrating a 100th anniversary, for Little League Baseball, celebrating a 75th anniversary, and for Dr. Gilmour, who also served as chair of the Little League International Board of Directors during the milestone year. Penn College continued its annual hosting of a campus picnic for Little League players, coaches, and officials prior to the Grand Slam Parade. The College also joined with Lycoming College to sponsor one of the bronze statues put on permanent display in Williamsport’s Market Square to celebrate the home of Little League Baseball.

WTI heavy construction equipment students excavated the grounds of Lamade Stadium, home of the Little League World Baseball Championship.
CENTENNIAL ART INSTALLATION

These Trees

SEPTEMBER

Over two weeks, more than 160 students from various majors participated in the creation of “These Trees,” an art piece utilizing a variety of tree species harvested from Penn College’s Schneebeli Earth Science Center and installed on the west lawn of the Bush Campus Center at the college’s main campus in Williamsport.

Working alongside internationally known environmental artists Kathy Bruce and Alastair R. Noble, the students assisted in creating Bruce and Noble’s vision of spiraling text.
Parent & Family Weekend
Centennial Celebration

FRIDAY – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 – 14

Pennsylvania College of Technology’s three-day Parent & Family Weekend, in which hundreds of participants joined with their favorite students to help celebrate the institution’s Centennial, offered a packed calendar of activities that included informal access to the president and senior administration, entertainment, food, games, tours, and a popular “mocktail” competition.

CENTENNIAL COLLOQUIA SERIES

Who Am I; Who Do I Claim To Be?: Protecting Identity In The 21st Century
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Weighing the promise and pitfalls of new technologies, including biometrics, while balancing privacy and cost-effectiveness in the process of ensuring identity protection, was the colloquia topic presented by Lisa R. Bock, assistant professor of computer information technology.
As part of its Centennial anniversary, Pennsylvania College of Technology welcomed 78 new “students,” many of which just might be around for the institution’s bicentennial.

Some of these “freshmen” could sustain a broken body part, and others might corrode. But if welding majors, faculty, and staff did their job correctly, the “Student Bodies” Centennial Sculpture will be still standing in 2114. Augmenting the campus mall, the large-scale project features 78 abstract human forms made of scrap-metal pieces welded together. The college formally dedicated “Student Bodies” during homecoming festivities. It was the third art installation meant to enrich the college’s outdoor environment.

“This work of art is a testament to the creative abilities and technical skills of our college community,” said Davie Jane Gilmour, president. “It’s very rewarding to know that students, faculty, staff, and visitors will be able to marvel at these creations for generations to come.”
Centennial Homecoming
FRIDAY - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10 - 12
Reunions, receptions, classroom visits, an art exhibit, and a campus carnival highlighted Homecoming 2014. Alumni returned to campus in record numbers to join students, faculty, and staff in activities that included the first-ever WACC Alumni Reunion and the unveiling of a series of unique, welded sculptures on the campus mall.

Welding Reunion and Centennial Sculpture Dedication with Resident Artist Mike Patterson
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10
When challenged to design a commemorative piece for the 100th anniversary, metal sculpture and welding instructor Michael K. Patterson said he “came up with this idea about having a bunch of abstract human forms walking down the middle of campus.” His vision and the work of 50 welding students who used 7000 pounds of scrap metal to create 78 life-size structures resulted in “Student Bodies,” an art piece formally dedicated during a Homecoming reunion of welding alumni.
“100 Work!” Centennial Juried Art Exhibit

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10 – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

“Past, Present, Future” was the theme of a special juried Centennial showcase hosted by The Gallery at Penn College; an opening reception was held during Homecoming 2014. Students, alumni, faculty, staff, and retirees of Penn College, WACC, and WTI were invited to submit original work. Alumnus Brandon L. Snyder captured Best of Show honors. Other awards went to Richard B. Karp, Kacey S. Ammerman, John M. McKaig, Judith A. Fink, William F. Geyer, Jeremiah C. Johnson, and Ronni N. Warner.

PC 1687.1 11/13

The Gallery
AT
Penn College

100 Works!
The Centennial Exhibition

www.pct.edu/gallery

gallery@pct.edu

570-320-2445

Deadline for Entries: June 20, 2014

All media accepted, full details online

www.pct.edu/gallery/100 works

EXHIBIT OPENS OCTOBER 10, 2014 • CASH PRIZES
"Our incredible leaders of the past were not caught up in worrying about their legacies. They were visionaries. They were strong individuals who fought for what they believed and built an institution that – in my mind – has no equal. One hundred years later, it is a vital leader in higher education ... a unique baccalaureate degree college connected to real-world, workforce and community influences."

Elaine Lambert, '79, special assistant to the president for creative development & public relations.
Thomas A. and June (Wigga) Zimmerman, WACC graduates and Penn College faculty members, were among the generous donors who established student scholarships during the Centennial year.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

Members and guests of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce, who joined in the anniversary celebration, were encouraged to stroll about campus and enjoy three outdoor art pieces installed in 2014: the Centennial Mosaic, “These Trees,” and “Student Bodies.”
One of the sugar sculptures that students in Penn College’s culinary class created. (See PENN, Page A-5)

ROBERT PHILLIPS/Sun-Gazette

Students in Penn College’s culinary department provided tours of the college’s culinary areas during Sunday’s centennial open house. From left are Nafis Wylie, Lyndsay Maynard and James Culp.

Penn College holds centennial open house

By ALYSSA MANEVAL

Prospective students, their parents and guardians and local people celebrated the centennial at the Pennsylvania College of Technology open house Sunday.

Students and faculty members were on hand to give show-and-tell tours of the various fields available at the college.

Juniors Allen Higley, Ryan Fisher and Brandon Sick displayed the functional peddle-powered vehicles they made in a design class using mostly PVC pipes.

Higley, Fisher and the rest of their team decided to build a two-wheeled vehicle after hearing no one previously had done it.

“We wanted to take the challenge,” Fisher said. “We built a recumbent trike.”

After spending a lot of time researching the best way to build it, they spent two semesters during the twice-a-week class designing the tricycle with two tires in the front and one in the back. Most of the time was spent on design, with the last five weeks devoted to building it.

The hardest part of building the vehicles was getting all of the pieces to fit together, Higley said. And how many PVC pipes did they use?

“A lot,” Fisher said.

Those who are considering attending the college had chances to have their questions answered during informational sessions about choosing the right major, how to study abroad, how to transfer and what campus life and athletic opportunities are available to them.

Timelines throughout the university showed how fields have evolved over the years.

While touring the campus, open house attendees also saw the artwork and pieces commemorating the centennial, including a piece that uses a variety of tree species to create a 36-foot tall spiral called These Trees, the Centennial Mosaic and the 78 Student Body statues made of scrap-metal pieces welded together.

Anyone interested in a delicious major field of study received tours from culinary art students. Many people are familiar with the Le Jeune Chef Restaurant on the campus. What goes on outside of the eyes of restaurant-goers is a learning opportunity for students who wish to someday become executive chefs or own their restaurants.

“You learn the different stations,” sophomore Lyndsay Maynard said. “You learn all the basics.”

Even after they graduate from the college, education will continue for them at restaurants as they learn how they work, which is how Maynard wants it to be.

“I want to learn everything from the bottom up,” she said.

Sculptures completely made out of sugar adorned the tables. Using the same techniques as a glassblower, students took a ball of sugar and inflated it into the shape of a dove.

“It’s very hard to do it,” Maynard said. “It can crack. It can fall apart. It can explode.”

Centennial events will continue for the rest of the year.

(From Page A-1)
The Electrical Technology program started in the 1950s as part of the Williamsport Technical Institute. The roots of the program started with students developing practical skills to prepare for jobs in industry as electricians. This curriculum of developing practical skills to work with electrical machinery, electric and electronic machine control devices, and other electrical equipment continues to be the core of the Electrical Department. Over the years, the Electrical Department has grown to meet the needs of the industry by adding additional associate degree programs such as Electromechanical Maintenance Technology, Renewable Energy Technology, and Mechatronics Engineering Technology, plus a bachelor's degree in Building Automation Technology.

The future is bright in the Electrical Department!
Our Home In The Material Universe
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

Affirming that the speed of communication governs the pace of life, MIT professor, physicist, and author of Einstein’s Dreams (one of the most widely read novels on college and university campuses), Alan Lightman confessed to a large audience of students, faculty, and public guests: “I rarely goof off.”
Defining history as a “conversation between the past and the present … and almost always about the future,” faculty member Craig A. Miller delivered the concluding lecture in Penn College’s Centennial Colloquia Series.

“Looking back on all of the work experiences that I have had since graduating from high school in 1972, I can say working at the college as a faculty member and being an alumnus from here have been the most rewarding and most fulfilling position I have ever held. As a faculty member, I aspire each day to influence the students with whom I work the same way that … faculty … influenced me. It is largely because of my interactions with them and their dedication to and concern for me that I am where I am today. I would like to think that I, too, will be remembered as having contributed to helping students experience their dreams of being the best that they can be, just as others helped me in the late ’70s.”

Ken Kuhns, ‘79, assistant professor of electrical technologies/occupations
Centennial Legacy Celebration

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

The Centennial Legacy Celebration, recognizing the donors who help further Penn College’s mission—and showcasing the talented students in the School of Business & Hospitality—was held in the Hager Lifelong Education Center.
What’s a celebration without the right cake?
Students’ talents were on display at the Centennial Legacy Celebration.
A one-hour documentary that recaps a century of institutional history (and caps Penn College’s yearlong Centennial celebration) met with an enthusiastic and appreciative audience response at its on-campus premiere. The film also was broadcast on public television, along with interviews of campus and community leaders and introductions by the presidents of Penn College and WVIA Public Media.

“‘The national spotlight has been shining on this institution for a very long time. Working Class: 100 Years of Hands-on Education captures the history of our institution and underscores its connection to real-world issues over the last century.’

Dr. Dave Jean-Girard
President, Penn College

“We are pleased to premiere the documentary here on campus, where those who are closest to the story will be the first to enjoy it.”

Tom Davis
President, WVIA Public Media

Film to celebrate Pennsylvania College of Technology, work

By NIKE BEUTLER-----Penn College's School of Business Administration is proud to announce the premiere of 'Working Class: 100 Years of Hands-on Education,' a documentary produced by the American Institute of Architects' (AIA) Center for Architecture & Design.

The film was produced by WVIA Public Media, a media company based in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The documentary explores the history of hands-on education at Penn College, focusing on the college’s School of Business Administration, which has been in operation since 1914. The film features interviews with alumni, faculty, and staff who discuss their experiences at the college and the impact that hands-on education has had on their careers.

The film was produced with support from the AIA Center for Architecture & Design and the Pennsylvania College of Technology.

The film will be shown on Saturday, January 21, at 7 p.m. in the C.B. Smith Theatre on the campus of Penn College.

For more information, contact Mike Brown, Director of Development, at (570) 322-1270 or mbrown@penncollege.edu.

Penn College's School of Business Administration offers a variety of degree programs, including business administration, accounting, finance, and marketing. The school also offers a master's degree in business administration. The school has a long history of hands-on education, with students gaining real-world experience through internships and other practical learning opportunities.

The School of Business Administration is committed to preparing students for success in their careers, and the documentary is a powerful reminder of the value of hands-on education. The film will be available for streaming online after the premiere, and copies of the DVD will be available for purchase on campus.

For more information, contact Mike Brown, Director of Development, at (570) 322-1270 or mbrown@penncollege.edu.
A look back at Penn College’s Centennial

HAPPY WILDCAT PRIDE WEEK!!! Blue Crew dyed the fountain blue to kick off homecoming week!

@PennStateUniversity #Coach Caravan is at @PennCollege today! @PennCollege WeArePennState @PennStateFB #PSUCaravan @gopsusports @pennstatefootball

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Students’ Centennial kickoff tonight! Basketball double-header, free refreshments, giveaways, and a shot at $10,000! 6 p.m. Bardo Gym #PCT100 bit.ly/KBWCYd

A picture worth 100 years! #pct100

Anxiously awaiting Centennial mural.... pic.twitter.com/u3cRXSKYtu

New experiences for friends at #homecoming: #PCT100

Penn College is ready for the #LLWS! #littleleaguerowdieseries #baseball #littleleague #littleleaguepin #PCT100

Penn College hosted its first major concert since 1983 yesterday as part of our Centennial celebration, I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to a history of excellence... pctswitchfoot #pct100

Fun at the Alumni Golf Outing! #PCT100

Penn College hosted its first major concert since 1983 yesterday as part of our Centennial celebration, I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to a history of excellence... pctswitchfoot #pct100

@PennCollege hosted its first major concert since 1983 yesterday as part of our Centennial celebration, I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to a history of excellence... pctswitchfoot #pct100

So proud to be part of the Centennial class at Penn College #2014 #100Years

@pennstatefootball #psucaravan @gopsusports @pennstatefootball

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Students’ Centennial kickoff tonight! Basketball double-header, free refreshments, giveaways, and a shot at $10,000! 6 p.m. Bardo Gym #PCT100 bit.ly/KBWCYd

A picture worth 100 years! #pct100

Anxiously awaiting Centennial mural.... pic.twitter.com/u3cRXSKYtu

So proud to be part of the Centennial class at Penn College #2014 #100Years

@pennstatefootball #psucaravan @gopsusports @pennstatefootball

@pennstatefootball #psucaravan @gopsusports @pennstatefootball

So proud to be part of the Centennial class at Penn College #2014 #100Years

@pennstatefootball #psucaravan @gopsusports @pennstatefootball
“I will forever be a supporter of the college and its programs and proudly proclaim that I am a graduate to anyone who will listen. I look forward to attending the activities associated with the college’s celebration and hope to see some of my former classmates and instructors at the gathering of alumni and staff.”

Linda L. (Maurer-Springman) Miller, ’79, retired from Susquehanna Health

"I have said that it is a year to celebrate our history, our legacy and, perhaps most importantly, define our future. It is all of us today – each of us in this room – who will determine how the beginning of the next 100 years is remembered. I ask each of us to remember we leave footprints and fingerprints every day, and that is an incredible responsibility."

Dr. Davie Jane Gilmour
President, Penn College
all-college meeting, Jan. 2014
Dan Vilello and Kevin Bryerton have been friends since grade school and attended WACC together:

“My degree from WACC gave me the opportunity to be a tradesman, a businessman and an elected official; can’t ask for much more than that. Congratulations on 100 years of success.”

Dan Vilello, ’74, local government liaison for state Department of Environmental Protection Northcentral Region, 2006 Distinguished Citizenry and Humanitarian alumni award recipient

“Part of my responsibility includes the hiring of electricians. I have hired electricians that have an education from WACC/Penn College. I believe and trust in the college and education these individuals received. … The education (I) received while attending WACC has been a large factor in allowing (me) to make a good living, raising (my) family and enjoying (my) grandchildren. I am proud to say that Dan and I have been friends since first grade, but equally as proud to say I graduated from WACC, and have been using my education since 1974. Congratulations on your first 100 years; may you continue to grow in the next 100.”

Kevin Bryerton, ’74, supervisor of renovations for Penn State
Celebrations focus on piece of city’s educational past: Part II

The public is invited to visit Pennsylvania College of Technology from 4-9 p.m. Oct. 26, to experience the past, present and future of the institution, which celebrates its 125th anniversary this year.

Education on the Penn College campus has its roots in 1914 at Williamsport Technical Institute, which grew into the institution that is now Pennsylvania College of Technology.

In 1914, when the Public Works Administration sought to lay the groundwork for a systematic approach to recovery from World War I, the Williamsport Plan was established. On May 10, 1940, when the Nazis marched into Holland and Belgium, a world of work was changing, and WTI was quick to respond.

“Early in 1931, the first vocational-education program in Williamsport opened when the Good Depression began,” said Robert F. Bushey, director of the school’s vocational-education program.

In those days, WTI’s curriculum was centered on preparation for full-time, paid employment. But today’s students, whether full-time or part-time, youth or adults, are seeking education for health care, manufacturing, information technology and a host of other fields.

Carl E. Holsinger, who served as WACC’s executive director and later as the college’s president, led the college from 1952 to 1971.

In 1931, six years after the WTI plan was adopted, the school’s drafting program graduated its first student — Carl E. Holsinger. It was a program that would become a national leader.

“Carl graduated from the Williamsport School of the Blind, one of the nation’s first comprehensive schools for the blind, and during his time at WACC he honed his skills in voice and finger technique,” Bushey said.

In 1938, the Chamber of Commerce advocated local industry and discovered that WTI could assist in matching the right worker with the right skill set. It was during this period of growing nationalDepression-era unemployment, there was a substantial need for specific occupations that would not only provide a job but also fill a needed slot in the economy.

The logical solution was to develop programs that would provide a route to self-sufficiency, and the logical place to do it was a State School.

Carl told state legislators in 1931 that WTI was “the logical solution to the unemployment problem, if it does not solve the root power behind the college, guiding the college in its development which, to date, has been largely a matter of needs, rather than an anonymous, and a mission to serve.”

A Williamsport native, Carl graduated from Williamsport High School in 1923 and later earned his teaching certificate at the legislature.

By the 1950s, when some 10,000 “GI Bill” veterans were gaining workforce skills, including trade, and retraining unemployed men and women. By 1941, the year WTI officially was founded, the college had 6,500 full-time students. By 1944, when the school opened to the public, WTI was employing 2,800 full-time employees.

In 1945, when the Nazis surrendered, the college was operating a veterans’ dormitory in the city’s public school classrooms.

While he continued the college’s original effort, the company turned to the school for help setting up the assembly line, matching the right worker with the right skill set to manufacture the Lycoming R-680 engine for the war effort, the company turned to the school for help setting up the assembly line, matching the right worker with the right skill set to manufacture the Lycoming R-680 engine for the war effort.

In the 1950s, WTI began programs all cost more to operate than the college could afford, so it began to look globally for opportunities for alumni to revisit their alma mater.

The college’s early history is one of the people of Williamsport, the city, the state of Pennsylvania and the nation that place in American history, developing a system of vocational-technical education that would make a difference in the world and the lives of the students who were taught in it.

In 1873, the Williamsport School District educators, a group of workers, including World War I veterans, sought training. Their steps gained a dynamic power behind their energy, their extraordinary efficiency, their unflagging zeal, their kindliness.

In 1914, when the college became known across the country as The Williamsport Plan, was due to make a sizable transformation into WACC, and the college, which is celebrating its 125th anniversary, is due to make a sizable transformation into WACC, and the college, which is celebrating its 125th anniversary, is due to make a sizable transformation into WACC, and the college, which is celebrating its 125th anniversary.
Celebrations focus on piece of city’s educational past: Part III

During the second half of the 20th century, Williamsport Area Community College continued to mature and become a more significant player in the education landscape of the city. The college, which had its roots in the Williamsport Area Vocational School, had been established in 1947. It underwent a name change to Williamsport Area Technical Institute in 1960. A decade later, in 1970, it was renamed Williamsport Area Technical College.

In 1970, Williamsport Area Technical College was designated as a community college. This designation allowed the college to offer more degree programs and expanded its focus on providing education that was career-oriented. The college continued to grow, and by the 1980s, it had established itself as a major provider of higher education in the region.

In 1989, under the leadership of President Bryce A. Casey, the college underwent a significant transformation. This was characterized by the search for a new academic center and the resignation of the college’s long-time department chair, John W. Turner. These events set the stage for the college’s future growth and development.

In 1992, the college entered into an affiliation agreement with Penn State University, which was to have a profound impact on the college’s structure and offerings. This affiliation allowed Williamsport Area Technical College to offer more Penn State courses and programs, and it also provided opportunities for students to transfer credits to the state university system.

In 2009, the college celebrated its centennial year, marking 100 years of service to the community. This celebration was a testament to the college’s commitment to excellence and its role in the region’s educational landscape.

As the college continued to grow, it faced the challenge of a changing workforce and emerging technologies. The college responded by offering more advanced technology programs and workforce development courses. This focus on emerging technologies and workforce development helped to ensure the college’s continued relevance and success.

The city of Williamsport, with a population of approximately 20,000, is home to the college and the county’s largest employer. The college’s relationship with the local community and economy is a testament to the importance of higher education in the region.

In 2014, the college celebrated its 100th anniversary, marking a century of service to the community. This celebration was a time to reflect on the college’s past, honor its contributions to the region, and look forward to a bright future.
Penn College keeps evolving while maintaining philosophy

Pennsylvania College of Technology has seen a transformation over the past century, but the fundamental philosophy and mission of the college have remained consistent.

The college, now more than ever, is focused on preparing students to be competitive and successful in their chosen fields. This is reflected in the college’s six schools: Business, Engineering, Health Sciences, Fine & Performing Arts, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Professional Studies.

The college’s “degrees that work” philosophy is reflected in the wide range of programs and certificates offered, from traditional four-year degrees to certificate programs that can be completed in as little as one year. This flexibility allows students to pursue their goals in a variety of ways, whether they are interested in a traditional academic path or a more hands-on, career-focused education.

The college is also dedicated to providing a quality education that is affordable and accessible to students from a wide range of backgrounds. This is reflected in the college’s commitment to providing scholarships and financial aid to students who might not otherwise be able to afford a college education.

The college’s location in the heart of Pennsylvania’s Susquehanna Valley provides students with access to a rich cultural and natural environment, as well as opportunities for internships and practical experience in a variety of fields.

Overall, Pennsylvania College of Technology is committed to providing a quality education that prepares students for success in a rapidly changing world. Whether students are interested in pursuing a traditional academic path or a more hands-on, career-focused education, the college is dedicated to helping them achieve their goals.

Penn College dedicates ‘Student Bodie’ centennial sculpture

An exhibit by the College’s Fine & Performing Arts faculty features the “Student Bodie” sculpture created to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the college.

The exhibition of student body parts was initiated by Professor William G. Patterson, a full-time instructor in the Fine & Performing Arts department.

The sculpture was created in celebration of the college’s centennial anniversary and is a testament to the college’s commitment to education and excellence in the arts.

The exhibit is open to the public and is located on the campus of Pennsylvania College of Technology, 79 Main St., Lewisburg, PA 17837. For more information, please contact the Fine & Performing Arts department at (570) 323-3770 or info@pct.edu.
“Penn College’s History Trail is an excellent public history project. Their wayside markers and complementary website connect the college’s history with that of the Greater Williamsport community in a way that is fun and educational and accessible to all. They’ve done a tremendous job capturing and presenting stories collected from past faculty and students, and community residents and leadership.”

Melinda Meyer, a volunteer with the American Association for State and Local History State Leadership Team, which honored the project with an Award of Merit.

“I invite members of the community to come on campus to walk the Penn College History Trail and learn more about the institution. The college has been part of this community now for a century. The history trail captures the essence of that connection.”

Dr. Davie Jane Gilmour
President, Penn College

www.pct.edu/trail
Scholarship Campaign Exceeds Goal, Raises $6.4 Million

Capping a year of celebration to commemorate the Centennial anniversary of Pennsylvania College of Technology, the institution’s most significant fundraising effort more than doubled its original goal, raising $6.4 million in private scholarship support.

The success of the Penn College Scholarship Campaign will allow the Penn College Foundation to provide more than twice the amount of scholarship aid to students than it did prior to the launch of the campaign in 2011.

“Penn College is poised to become a national leader in applied technology education,” said Davie Jane Gilmour, the college’s president. “The success of the Scholarship Campaign will help hundreds of students have access to that education.”

Seventy-five new scholarships have been established as part of the Scholarship Campaign, including 45 endowed or building-to-endowed scholarships that will provide perpetual scholarship aid to Penn College students.

While the campaign came to a close on Dec. 31, celebrations were held in November, with a reception for all donors at the college’s Field House, followed by a private concert by the a cappella group Home Free at the Community Arts Center; and on Dec. 6, with a gala dinner for the campaign’s lead donors.

“The generosity of our donors has an immediate impact on many of our students,” Gilmour said. “A scholarship award can literally be the difference between a student being able to attend Penn College or not. “Thanking those donors for their commitment to Penn College and giving them the opportunity to celebrate with us was one of the highlights of the Centennial.”

The Penn College Scholarship Campaign was launched with a silent phase in July 2011 in anticipation of raising at least $3 million by the end of the Centennial celebration in 2014. By the time the campaign was publicly announced in August 2013, lead donors had already committed more than $3.3 million in outright gifts, pledges and planned gifts. A $1 million donation by Amerikohl Mining later in 2013 provided the momentum for the campaign to finish at record-setting levels as the college community celebrated its Centennial.

“As a member of the Foundation Board of Directors, I’ve seen firsthand the opportunities created by a Penn College education,” said Patrick Marty, Foundation Board chairperson. “Penn College graduates are doing exciting things and contributing to their communities in meaningful ways. This overwhelming achievement will ensure that generations of future students will have those same opportunities. Further, the campaign has established a culture of philanthropy at Penn College that bodes well for the sustainability of this vital institution.”

A total of 1,988 donors made gifts to the Scholarship Campaign, including $1,322,291 in pledges and $2,025,000 in planned gifts.

More than 800 alumni participated in the Scholarship Campaign, including 357 who made their first-ever donation to Penn College. More than 475 current employees and retirees of the college also joined in the effort that epitomized the community spirit of the institution.
The investment of alumni, employees and friends translates directly into increased scholarship assistance.

Employees & Retirees
486 Donors

Corporations
196 Donors

Alumni
660 Donors

Friends
646 Donors

$2,613,339
$1,835,825
$1,367,494
$993,122
$1,367,494
$2,613,339

Employees & Retirees
486 Donors

Corporations
196 Donors

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$2,613,339
$1,835,825
$1,367,494
$993,122
$1,367,494
$2,613,339

Employees see every day the impact a Penn College education can have. Faculty and staff alike expressed their continued commitment to students by establishing new scholarships and helping grow existing scholarship funds.

Kenneth C. Kuhns, ’79, assistant professor of electrical technologies/occupations, and Diana L. Kuhns, assistant professor of mathematics, established a scholarship fund. “It gives me great pleasure to set up a scholarship so that others may benefit from a Penn College education,” Ken Kuhns said.

About a dozen employees of Workforce Development & Continuing Education at Penn College contributed to the newly established Workforce Development Scholarship to benefit students in the School of Industrial, Computing & Engineering Technologies.

6,409,780 total dollars raised
660 number of alumni participating (not including those employed by the college)
30 percent of employees participating
75 number of new scholarships
143 percent increase in scholarship aid from 2011 to 2014 (from $248,712 in 2010-11 to $605,367 in 2014-15)
Centennial Commencements
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MAY 16 & 17
SATURDAY, AUGUST 9
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20
On a hot summer day, kids and staff from the Robert & Maureen Dunham Children’s Learning Center gathered on a campus lawn to playfully form a living Centennial tableau.
Penn College staff and students who contributed photos to this book were:

- Jennifer A. Cline
- Maxwell A. Davert
- Larry D. Kaufman
- Marc T. Kaylor
- Whitnie-rae Mays
- Cindy D. Meixel
- Abdullah H. Muaddi
- Becky J. Shiner
- Sarah R. Shott
- Craig R. Urey
- Dalaney T. Vartenisian
- Thomas W. Wilson
Are Pennsylvania residents well prepared to make a living?

This is an important question – one that educators, business and industry leaders, and public officials must be prepared to answer in addressing the challenges that face our generation and the next.

More than one-third (39%) of Pennsylvania’s 5.8 million jobs now require a college degree or some postsecondary education/experience. Projections indicate that number will grow over the next decade.

### Educational Preparation Required for Jobs in Pennsylvania Projected through 2022

- College graduation 39%
- High School Graduation or Other Special Training 18%
- No High School or Other Special Training Required 53%
- Some High School or Occupational Training 4%

### Employment Growth by Educational Level

Source: The Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry Center for Workforce Information & Analysis

In honor of the Centennial, Penn College published a companion booklet that described the state of the commonwealth’s workforce in 2014.

### Educational Preparation

Pennsylvania College of Technology

In The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

What We Do for a Living

What We Do for a Living

In The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania College of Technology

Educational Preparation Required for Jobs in Williamsport, Pa.

- College graduation 39%
- High School Graduation or Other Special Training 18%
- No High School or Other Special Training Required 53%
- Some High School or Occupational Training 4%

Educational Preparation Required for Jobs in Williamsport, Pa.
Centennial Book Series

Four books capturing the institution’s 100-year history were published between 2010 and 2014. The books may be read online at www.pct.edu/about/history.htm#books.
A familiar ballad, sung at New Year gatherings around the world, reminds us not to lose touch with the past. In days gone by, revelers often formed a circle while singing the tune, crossing their arms and joining hands with friends at their sides.

Pennsylvania College of Technology’s 2014 Centennial Celebration might be viewed as a modern interpretation of Auld Lang Syne. Throughout the year, the Penn College community joined together with friends, old and new, to mark an historic milestone: 100 years of hands-on education at our Williamsport campus.

A century is a long time. Condensing the celebration of 100 years into the timeframe required for the anniversary year’s activities meant that many, many individuals worked tirelessly month after month to plan and present events that were both enlightening and entertaining.

Each activity forged new connections and renewed old acquaintances. Present-day students and supporters mingled with alumni, former faculty and administrators who shared fond memories of Penn College, Williamsport Technical Institute and Williamsport Area Community College.

A sacred bundle of stories about the history of the institution was collected throughout the celebration. Those who read, watched, and listened to stories of the past 100 years discovered how the institution earned a national reputation during times of crisis. They also had the opportunity to consider how important it is that Penn College continues to turn present-day and future challenges into opportunities.

For years, many have struggled to label this college, to fit the institution into a mold in order to make it easier to compare in the higher education marketplace. But the truth is: Penn College is unique. We have taken the best of many worlds – academic rigor, vocational-technical education, associate and baccalaureate degrees, transfer options, workforce development, hands-on laboratories, technology-based learning, and culturally-enriched student experiences – and created our own masterpiece.

May all who experienced the Centennial keep in their hearts forever the pride and privilege of contributing to this masterpiece and to the past, present, and future of Penn College.

Elaine Lambert, ’79, special assistant to the president for creative development and public relations
Distinguished Alumnae, Williamsport Area Community College

Original Scottish verse, Robert Burns, 1788

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And days of auld lang syne?

CHORUS
For auld lang syne, my jo,
For auld lang syne,
We’ll tak’ a cup o’ kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

Original Scottish verse, Robert Burns, 1788

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And days of auld lang syne?

CHORUS
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