‘My Last Words’

The David London My Last Words lecture series asks faculty members to address students as if they had one last opportunity to impart wisdom and life lessons. Students nominate faculty for the honor. In October, David S. Sims, associate professor of English composition, brought his unique, energetic style to the Klump Academic Center with a program titled “Ho-ka Hey!” He shared the stage with a sunflower from his garden, reflecting on the power of a plant’s seeds to spread and germinate. Sims played guitar and harmonica and sang; he even swept the stage as he concluded his lively presentation.

Web Extra
View more photos and video from David Sims’ My Last Words lecture at oca.pct.edu
Paying it Forward
Clinical preceptors give back to the physician assistant profession, mentoring those who would follow in their footsteps.

Mustang Makeover
Four students take hands-on learning to a new realm, painstakingly restoring a classic car for the Antique Automobile Club of America Museum.

Q&A With Penn College Provost
Paul Starkey, vice president for academic affairs/provost, speaks of challenges and opportunities in preparing students for life and the world of work.

Stage X
A collection of images illuminate the most ambitious building program in Penn College history – construction/renovation projects benefiting students and brightening the campus.

One of a Select Few
Alumnus Michael Reeder, a wildlife conservation officer for the state Game Commission, helps to safeguard Pennsylvania’s animals and critical habitat.

True Blue
Strong-willed heart-transplant recipient John Greenwood, an alumnus and former cross-country team captain, finds support on the road to recovery.

On the Cover
Completed for the Stage X Building Program, Dauphin Hall is home to 250 students and part of the larger Rose Street Commons complex of residence halls and shared spaces. Stage X also featured work at the Avco-Lycoming Metal Trades Center, the Parkes Automotive Technology Center, and the Children’s Learning Center/Early Childhood Education Department and the science labs in the Hager Lifelong Education Center. See more Stage X photos on pages 12-15.

degrees that work.

Web Extra
additional content at oca.pct.edu
Website Honored Twice

Pennsylvania College of Technology’s website, www.pct.edu, received two prestigious industry awards. The site achieved University Standard of Excellence recognition in the Web Marketing Association’s WebAward Competition for 2010. The annual competition names the best websites in 96 industries, judged by a panel of independent Internet experts in such areas as design, interactivity, technology, content, innovation, copywriting and ease of use for the target audience.

Penn College was among 15 institutions worldwide recognized in the University category. Other honorees included Villanova, UCLA, and universities in Hong Kong, South Africa and Sweden. The Penn College site was judged most favorably for its interactivity and copywriting.

The website also received recognition from the International Academy of Visual Arts, which accorded it Silver Award status in the School/University category of its W3 Awards competition. The academy is an invitation-only body of top-tier professionals from a “Who’s Who” of acclaimed media, interactive, advertising and marketing firms.

The W3 Awards recognize excellence in websites, online marketing, and video and mobile applications. Websites are judged on their creativity, usability, navigation, functionality, visual design and ease of use.

Penn College Archer Wins Gold, Silver at World Championships

Danny Wido, a senior archer who won the men’s compound national collegiate championships the past two years, placed second in individual competition at the World University Archery Championships in Shenzhen, China, in September and was a member of the winning men’s compound team.

Wido qualified third to go into the elimination rounds and fought his way into the gold-medal match, where both he and Texas A&M archer Adam Gallant had 19 of 20 target hits. That prompted a closest-to-the-center shoot-off, in which Gallant was closest to the center by 1 inch on his final arrow.

“It wants me to put the bow in my hands more and get better,” Wido said. “I don’t take losing very lightly. I’m a very competitive person, and that just pushes me to achieve what I want to do.”

Wido, Gallant and Steve Gatto (Atlantic Cape Community College) combined for the men’s team title.

“Infinite Possibilities,” a collaborative work created by Pennsylvania College of Technology students, faculty and staff – and artist-in-residence Antonio Puri – graces the lobby of the Student and Administrative Services Center. A Nov. 16 reception was held to celebrate the artwork, which features 39 boxes and 100 canvases. The work shows how art and technology can come together and includes contributions from 54 students, who were selected by deans and faculty. For more on the initiative, look for the Spring 2011 issue of One College Avenue.
Coloring Book Offers Fun Way to Explore Careers

Appreciating that you’re never too young to chart a career path – and never too old to take crayons in hand – Pennsylvania College of Technology produced a playful way for children of all ages to find that dream job.

Developed by the College Information and Community Relations Office, a 24-page coloring book titled “What Does the Wildcat Want to Be When it Grows Up?” features the institution’s mascot in a variety of career fields represented by Penn College’s “degrees that work.”


Penn College volunteers handed out 2,000 coloring books along the Grand Slam Parade route during the kickoff to the 2010 Little League World Series, and copies were distributed during January’s Pennsylvania Farm Show.

Coloring-book pages can be downloaded from the college website. Twenty pages, depicting the Wildcat in careers as varied as automotive technology and hospitality management, have been reproduced at oca.pct.edu/kids, where they can be printed, completed and returned for online display.

Marcellus Shale Workforce Resource Center Opens

The Marcellus Shale Workforce Resource Center was formally dedicated in Grand Opening ceremonies held in October at Pennsylvania College of Technology’s Center for Business & Workforce Development.

The MSWRC provides a centralized location for industry, students and the public to obtain information regarding Marcellus Shale workforce-development initiatives.

It includes the Marcellus Shale Education & Training Center – featuring participation from Penn College and Penn State Cooperative Extension – which has provided workforce development, assessment and training services since 2008.

The MSETC has completed several workforce assessments and trained more than 1,000 people in natural gas related courses.

Also operating at the center is ShaleNET (Eastern Region Hub), supported by a $4.96 million U.S. Department of Labor grant and funding recruitment, training and job placement across the Marcellus Shale footprint. As part of the three-year initiative, the hub located at Penn College will serve to develop, standardize and coordinate several training courses for individuals seeking employment in the natural gas industry.
Clinical preceptors are an unparalleled commodity to physician assistant education. Offering their medical expertise and guidance to students, clinical preceptors make a genuine impact on the profession by ensuring that future clinicians are skilled, competent and compassionate. But despite the magnitude of their role in physician assistant education, quality clinical preceptors are becoming increasingly difficult to recruit.

In 2008, the Association of American Medical Colleges composed a projection of where health-care supply and demand may stand in the future. The report, titled “The Complexities of Physician Supply and Demand: Projections Through 2025,” noted that the physician assistant profession has grown at a faster rate than that of physicians – increasing more than 2 percent per year. The report predicts that the baseline demand for physician assistants will likely continue growing at this rate, leading to a projected 46-percent increase by 2025.

On the surface, this is good news for the PA profession, and with society’s need for health-care reform, there is a degree of comfort in knowing we are part of a thriving profession that has the ability to limit health-care shortages that are predicted for the future.

But despite the ability of the physician assistant profession to impact the health-care shortage needs, we must, in turn, acknowledge the fact that this would necessitate a nearly twofold expansion in graduates. According to a recent Physician Assistant Education Association survey, “While a majority of programs are willing to consider expanding their enrollments, limited clinical training sites and preceptors was the most significant barrier to PA program expansion.”

This is where physician assistant alumni can help. Nationwide, the PAEA is working with the American Association of Physician Assistants to tackle one of the most important issues facing the PA profession: the shortage of preceptors and clinical sites affecting PA programs in many parts of the country. The theme of the initiative is “Pay it Forward,” the concept being that all PAs can use their knowledge and experience to help pave the way for the next generation and thus help propel the profession forward. On a more local level, we are proud to say that some Penn College alumni are already paying it forward.

“We can all remember and appreciate educators and clinicians who really took the time to help guide our developing careers.”

The Williamsport Hospital & Medical Center Emergency Department and its chief physician assistant, alumnus Christian Androvette, ’99, play a key role in the education of Penn College’s physician assistant students. Androvette is a clinical preceptor, providing a site for students to practice medicine under his guidance.

by Heather S. Dorman, clinical director, physician assistant program
Christian Androvette, ’99, is the chief physician assistant at the Williamsport Hospital and Medical Center Emergency Department. Androvette has worked expansively with the program, serving on its advisory committee and participating in situational exams for senior students. By far, though, Androvette’s greatest contribution has been that of serving as a clinical preceptor.

“Without a doubt, the key to my professional success was directly related to those who helped develop my career both academically and professionally,” Androvette said. “I feel it is essential as a practicing PA to, at some point, give back to the profession and honor those who created the opportunities for us.”

Each year, Androvette takes a few students under his wing at the Emergency Department, offering his clinical expertise, insight and guidance. “It is definitely a ‘pay it forward’ philosophy. We can all remember and appreciate educators and clinicians who really took the time to help guide our developing careers. Utilizing physician assistant students at our site gives us the ability to be part of the educational process from the clinical viewpoint. We are able to give feedback directly to Penn College in an effort to maximize the student’s clinical experience.”

Alumni like Androvette play a fundamental role in the program by serving as a bridge between didactic knowledge and the development of clinical decision-making skills. Additionally, the process allows students to interact with potential employers and future colleagues.

How Alumni Can ‘Pay it Forward’

The physician assistant program at Pennsylvania College of Technology would like to hear from those considering serving as a clinical preceptor.

In addition to contributing to the profession, preceptors are provided with the following annual amenities:

- One free, noncredit course offered through Workforce Development & Continuing Education, with a value up to $250
- A 50-percent tuition reduction on a credit course (up to three credits; books and lab fees are not included)
- A $25 gift certificate to The College Store
- Category II CME (Continuing Medical Education) hours
- Madigan Library membership, with on-campus access to most databases to which the library subscribes, the ability to check out print and nonprint media, and unlimited access to one of six members-only computers

For more information, contact Heather S. Dorman, clinical director, at hdorman@pct.edu or 570-327-4779; or Paula Holmes, program coordinator, at pholmes@pct.edu or 570-327-4779.

Alumna Mitzi Miller, ’09, the first physician assistant to work in the Jersey Shore Hospital Emergency Department.

“When Christian was my preceptor, I felt that the thing that set him apart from everyone else was his ability to think globally,” Miller said. “I feel that his past experience, as both a paramedic and a PA, has taught him to look at medicine differently. He is always up front with his patients, and very down to earth. He seems to have this natural ability to take complicated topics and truly educate his patients – to really talk to them at their level of understanding. He taught me how to put things into perspective – to do what’s cost-effective for my patients and to determine what’s best for each individual patient. Watching him, I knew I wanted to do that – I knew I wanted to be like that!”

Miller is an inspiring addition to the Penn College PA program alumni and a potential preceptor in the years to come.

“I’m definitely interested in being a preceptor in the future,” she said. “I learned so much hands-on knowledge when I was a student. I want to give that back to someone else.”

Alumna Mitzi Miller, ’09, the first physician assistant to work in the Jersey Shore Hospital Emergency Department, took inspiration from Androvette’s interactions with patients during her senior-year clinical rotation. She is helping to establish an urgent care center for Jersey Shore Hospital Urgent Care at McElhattan.
FouR PENNsylvaNIa CollEgE OF TEChNology sTudENTS

received a heroes’ welcome when their laboratory labor of love – restoration of a 1965 Ford Mustang for public display – was triumphantly returned to the Antique Automobile Club of America’s Museum on June 26.

As temperatures and humidity rose on that barely summer Saturday, with pets panting on the concourse and concessionaires’ wares melting in the swelter, the vintage automobile clearly was one of the coolest things in sight. The car was displayed near the museum entrance, its new paint job and dazzling chrome catching a glint of sun (as well as the warm admiration of passersby) during the institution’s 15th annual car show on its grounds in Hershey.

Amid the crush of car enthusiasts and the whirl of cameras, Penn College students Micah C. Kauffman, Beavertown; Charles D. Peterson, Cogan Station; Thomas G. Sylvester III, Manalapan, N.J.; and Daniel J. Walsh, Absecon, N.J., were applauded by attendees and complimented throughout the day by grateful museum officials.

“I am thrilled with the results. The car looks stunning and has received numerous comments from our guests,” said Jeffrey Bliemeister, museum curator. “I knew the results would be good, but the students have certainly exceeded our expectations.”

The project began during the Fall 2008 semester, when museum officials – learning of the college’s reputation from the automobile club’s active Susquehannock Region chapter – first entertained a joint venture. Earl L. Mowrey Jr., a part-time architectural technology instructor in the college’s School of Construction and Design Technologies, and Ed Stroble (both members of the AACA chapter’s board of directors) were instrumental in furthering the project and encouraging the students’ work as it progressed.

“It really began as a crazy idea, a way to put the collision-repair business into a historical perspective,” explained Mowrey, fittingly self-described as the “spark plug” for the cooperative undertaking. “The college has this massively gorgeous collision lab; why not coordinate something between the students and the museum?”

After months of discussions among Colin W. Williamson, dean of transportation technology; the museum; and the AACA chapter, the car traveled through the main-campus entrance and into its temporary College Avenue Labs cocoon.

Throughout the Spring 2010 semester, the four students and automotive technology instructor Roy A. Klinger – who termed the car a definite “cream puff” – worked at a diligent pace in the new Restoration/Modification class. With gloved hands and near-surgical precision, the students tagged and bagged and stored for safekeeping every piece removed from the automobile – from entire fenders to the smallest hardware – until reinstallation. Numbered swatches of masking tape dotted the exterior, marking blemishes that ranged from scarcely perceptible water spots to obvious dents.

The finishing touch to the restoration project was a new paint job – delivered via a waterborne basecoat system donated to the School of Transportation Technology by PPG Industries – one of the latest innovations in auto-body technology applied to a vehicle that came off the Ford assembly line a quarter-century before the youngest of Klinger’s students was even born.

“What is more realistic than taking something and doing a full-body restoration?” asked Steven H. Wallace, assistant dean of transportation technology, who introduced the students at Hershey and connected their painstaking project to the hands-on philosophy of Penn College’s “degrees that work” before giving Bliemeister the keys to the museum’s iconic vehicle.
Penn College students and benefactors stand behind their work outside the Antique Automobile Club of America Museum. From left are Earl L. Mowrey Jr., Susquehannock Region chapter board member (and part-time Penn College instructor); chapter board member Ed Stroble; and students Daniel J. Walsh, Kauffman, Charles D. Peterson and Thomas G. Sylvester III.

Also witnessing the car’s official return were Debra M. Miller, Penn College director of corporate relations; Loren R. Bruckhart, a member of the collision repair faculty; and representatives of the AACA’s Susquehannock Region, who funded and shepherded the project.

The students and their guests were treated to a VIP tour of the museum, including areas generally off-limits to patrons, and got a peek at the next car to be restored at the college: a rare 1978 Pontiac Firebird Esprit, owned by an Army nurse from the Washington, D.C., area who bought the vehicle as an 18-year-old and donated it to the museum in December.

“This was my first time at the Hershey museum, and I have to say I thoroughly enjoyed the tour, and looking at the vast array of classic and antique automobiles in its collection,” Walsh said. “I was also very flattered and came to realize how much people appreciated our work and dedication. It was at that moment that all of the hours we put in to this project paid off!”

The Mustang also has made the rounds of such high-profile car shows as Carlisle and Canandaigua, N.Y., thanks to Mowrey, who said he’s “really tickled” about the success of the project and touts the students’ handiwork everywhere he goes.

The new relationship with the museum also has opened the door for other vehicles to be shared with students – including a 1908 Ford Model K brought to campus for a close-up, hands-on inspection by students in the Ford ASSET and collision repair labs.

With another academic year under way, Klinger’s students are back in the lab for at least seven hours a week. And Walsh – who knows firsthand the joy of touching automotive history – wished the “best of luck” to the students working on the next project passed along by the museum.

“The Firebird is a special model, quite uncommon in terms of production numbers,” explained Bliemeister, who hand-picked the car from among the museum’s many donations. “It was purchased new by the donor when she was a teenager about to enter the Army nursing program. She was initially considering selling the car and found us because an appraiser ... suggested it be donated to the museum.”

Nearly a dozen students are working on the Firebird under a projected two-semester schedule, spending their Tuesday and Thursday evenings in the collision repair lab with Klinger and their industrious classmates.

“I knew the car needed more work than the Mustang, but I also knew it was worth fixing and was interesting from a young person’s point of view. I had told the donor that I would propose the car for the school to work on, but could not guarantee anything,” Bliemeister said. “Needless to say, she was thrilled when I e-mailed her that the project was accepted.”

The original owner is planning to travel to Hershey from Virginia when the car is completed, the curator added.

“All of us at the museum are grateful to the region and the school for their ongoing commitment to this yearly project and deeply impressed by the quality of the work produced by all the parties involved in this unique relationship,” he said. ■

Web Extra
For more photos of the students’ Mustang restoration, visit oca.pct.edu

Micah C. Kauffman painstakingly buffs the 1965 Ford Mustang in the collision repair lab.
Editor’s note: Paul L. Starkey, Pennsylvania College of Technology’s new vice president for academic affairs/provost, began his duties in July.

**What are your initial impressions of the institution, its administration, its faculty and its students?**

Penn College, and the town of Williamsport, has completely charmed us. We have been blessed to have a really smooth transition to the region. I’ve had the opportunity to meet many of our students, and I’ve been impressed with their work ethic and dedication to their fields of study. Penn College students take real pride in their chosen field and it shows. The faculty and staff here are phenomenal. The commitment to learning pervades the entire college and results in a level of collaboration and teamwork that is impressive. The faculty are amazing. Student learning comes first and foremost, and they bend over backwards to make sure that occurs. Our faculty are in the labs with students constantly. The relationships built there make for a great learning environment. The administration has a commitment to providing the resources to allow that learning to happen. This results in data-driven decisions and a bias for action. This is a fast-paced place that makes for an exciting work environment. I am very grateful for the opportunity the board and (President) Davie Gilmour have given me to be a part of this team. Davie and my colleagues here are amazing. They are warm, friendly, dedicated and talented. I am honored to be a part of the team.

**How has your previous experience in higher education (at Delta State University in Mississippi since 1986) prepared you for this leadership role at Penn College?**

I spent my entire academic career at Delta State University. While I spent the last 10 years prior to coming to Penn College in a series of administrative roles, my first 15 years were spent as a full-time teacher, and that is my first love. Indeed, I continued teaching in a part-time capacity throughout my time at DSU. Because of my background as a teacher, I hope to have an understanding of the needs of our faculty at Penn College.

My administrative experiences were varied. I have led a traditional academic department, outreach/continuing education units and a graduate school. In those roles I’ve been involved across the entire college and been heavily involved in building relationships. That broad base of experience is what I’m finding to be the most useful for me in my role here at Penn College.

I was very fortunate to have great mentors in my career. One was my former provost, and he really challenged me with new and varied assignments. That was tremendously
valuable in learning the complexities of college administration. Another mentor was in Student Affairs. His influence led to my deep appreciation for the “whole college” experience and the realization that learning doesn’t stop when students leave the classroom or the lab.

Penn College is a hands-on technical college emphasizing teaching over research. How does this approach differ from your previous work experiences, and has it required any adjustments on your part?

Penn College’s commitment to applied technology is markedly different than my background. I’ve gained a deep appreciation for the commitment of our faculty to the science and art of teaching and learning. I’ve also gained a real appreciation for the sheer amount of work our faculty members are willing to put in to assure that they are effective at what they do. This commitment to learning is admirable.

From an administrative perspective, Penn College’s commitment to applied technology has required me to very quickly learn about disciplines and fields of study with which I had practically no experience. The staff in Academic Affairs and the deans and assistant deans who lead the eight schools at Penn College have been very patient and helpful in teaching me about their programs and what goes on there. Tom Gregory (associate vice president for instruction) and Carolyn Strickland (assistant vice president for academic services) are two of the most talented administrators I’ve ever had the privilege of working with and are extraordinary in their efforts to ease my transition. Our commitment to applied technology also requires a real commitment to providing state-of-the-art resources for teaching and learning. A quick review of the investment the college made in the Stage X (Building Program) projects reflects that commitment.

Do you envision the college making any changes to its curricula as a result of the nationwide economic downturn?

The Penn College faculty and administration are constantly reviewing the curricula to assure that we remain current. Tom Gregory does a wonderful job of both encouraging innovation in curriculum offerings and in assuring the absolute highest standards and expectations. We continue to make adjustments, additions and deletions to our offerings. For instance, many of our information technology areas now focus on their baccalaureate (four-year) degree program rather than an associate degree (two-year) program because the job market simply demands that entrants in those fields be more thoroughly prepared for those careers.

We are constantly aware of the changes in industry and seek programs that fit our mission and allow us to serve our constituents. We will always maintain a focus on the applications of technology in our programs. I believe we are likely to consider expansion of programs that are “green” in nature. I also believe that geospatial technologies may be considered, as well as interdisciplinary efforts to blend the applications of diverse fields.

“I’ve gained a deep appreciation for the commitment of our faculty to the science and art of teaching and learning.”
The college takes pride in its ability to respond rapidly to workplace needs. Are there specific career areas that may generate new course offerings in the near future?

We do recognize the ever-shifting landscape of the demands of the workplace, and we have a history of anticipating such changes and preparing for them. Some recent programmatic initiatives are wonderful examples of this responsiveness, including “green” programs in building science and sustainable design, renewable energy, building automation, the emphasis on hybrid power in automotive, and on-site power generation, to name just a few. We have also led the nation in response to the development of the natural gas industry in the region. Practically every program in the schools of Natural Resources Management and Industrial and Engineering Technologies have made curricular adjustments to the needs of this industry. The schools work closely with industry and often partner with Workforce Development & Continuing Education at Penn College to address the needs of employers in the state and across the region. Practically every program in the schools of Natural Resources Management and Industrial and Engineering Technologies have made curricular adjustments to the needs of this industry.

Penn College offers a variety of academic support programs. How important are these for students, and do you envision any changes in these areas?

Two of the principles to which I am firmly committed as an educator are that we should never lower the standard of excellence to which we hold our graduates, and that we have an obligation to meet every student at their point of need. Aligned with the first, I have seen the college’s high expectations of performance in all programs. We do not lower these expectations because then we devalue education across the board. If we are to be the premier college of technology in our region, we must produce the absolutely best-prepared graduates. Evidence of this commitment to excellence is our recent ranking as one of the Top 10 public colleges in the North Region by U.S. News & World Report.

Penn College is, at the same time, an open-admissions institution. This means that our students come to us with varying levels of preparation. We must recognize this and craft means by which students can attain the levels of excellence we expect of our graduates. We must meet them at their point of need.

To that end, Penn College has made serious commitments to assuring success for our students. We recently reorganized the Academic Success Center to broaden the services offered and make them available in many more locations. We recently launched SupportNET, a means of identifying students who may be struggling academically. Most importantly, Penn College undertook the Foundations of Excellence process in 2009-10 and is in midst of implementing the recommendations that resulted. We will see many changes in the future that directly address assisting our students as they make successful transitions to college and throughout their academic careers.

Are more adult/nontraditional students enrolling at Penn College? What special challenges do they face, and how does the college help them cope?

We are seeing an increasing number of nontraditional students enrolling at Penn College. Over the last years, our numbers of students over 25 years old, the standard for identifying nontraditionals, has increased to over 20 percent of our total student body. Those over 30 years old make up almost 12 percent of our student population, a double-digit increase over three years. We are seeing an increasing number of returning veterans, as well as more students retooling for new career fields.

Penn College recognizes that nontraditional students have unique needs, including balancing family, work and school. We address those needs in
numerous ways. Many of our programs have Prior Learning Assessment options to award credit for professional and life experiences, thus shortening their time required for graduation. Residence Life recently created a department to assist with off-campus housing, and Student Activities has created a lounge specifically for commuting students, with both programs serving primarily nontraditional students. Penn College has been recognized on multiple occasions as a Military Friendly School. As part of the Stage X renovations, the Children’s Learning Center has new expanded space with priority placement awarded to children of students. We have a number of 2+2 programs and many are offered via distance to serve adult learners. Adult learners are a high priority for the college.

Bachelor-degree majors now account for 42.5 percent of enrollment at the college. Is that percentage expected to change? How does the college serve (and market its programs to) both associate- and bachelor-degree student populations?

In the 20-plus years Penn College has offered baccalaureate degrees, we have seen a steady rise in the number of students pursuing them. This trend is expected to continue as more and more career fields make the four-year degree the standard in their respective professions.

One of the things that first attracted me to Penn College was the manner in which many of our programs are structured to allow a steady progression of advancing degrees. For instance, in Construction and Design Technologies, a student could pursue a certificate in residential building. Those courses transfer directly into at least two associate-degree programs with no loss of credits. All associate-degree programs can then be used in baccalaureate programs. Similar degree progressions exist in every school and program. There is a seamless transition that allows students to move forward with maximum use of credits, and every single student earning a two-year degree can move forward to a four-year program. We often tell our potential students that they don’t have to commit to the baccalaureate program upon entry, but start with the first two years, and then do the last two.

The bachelor’s degree in technology management has become our umbrella program, providing a route to a four-year degree in fields that may not have a program of their own. There are a number of 2+2 programs, designed to make the maximum use of credits earned in an associate degree. There are several distance-based programs that are designed for those students employed full-time. All of these programs stress the need to continue lifelong learning.

The Foundations of Excellence initiative that the college is implementing aims to have more first-year students stay on track and continue their education. What can we expect from FoE in the coming year?

The Foundations of Excellence report was distilled down to 37 recommendations by the Implementation Team. These recommendations are in nine different categories and all have plans for implementation. Some are already complete and most are in progress.

What may be the most visible of the recommendations is the requirement for all first-year students to take the First Year Experience course beginning in Fall 2011. This course aims to acclimate first-year students to Penn College, to aid in development of academic and social skills, while providing an environment for students to build relationships that are likely to last a lifetime.

FoE implementation, led by Carolyn Strickland and Eugene McAvoy, dean of academic services and first year programs, is involving every aspect of the Penn College campus. This is truly a collegewide commitment to ensuring that our first-year students get off on the right foot and continue to succeed at Penn College.
Stage

In a crowd-pleasing ceremony dedicating the Avco-Lycoming Metal Trades Center, Board of Directors Chairman Robert E. Dunham and President Davie Jane Gilmour sever a chain with welding torches, assisted, respectively, by David R. Cotner, instructor of welding, and Donald O. Praster, dean of industrial and engineering technologies.

Ambitious Building Program Changes Face of Campus
Prior to a dinner formally dedicating construction of Dauphin Hall, attendees toured the new residence hall and the shared areas of Rose Street Commons, including the Capitol Eatery.

Formal dedication ceremonies were held in September and October for the $45.27 million Stage X Building Program construction and renovation projects on the main campus of Pennsylvania College of Technology.

Ceremonies marking the official opening of the renovated and expanded Avco-Lycoming Metal Trades Center, Parkes Automotive Technology Center and science labs in the Hager Lifelong Education Center were offered Sept. 10.

On Sept. 12, the new Children’s Learning Center and the Early Childhood Education Department, which were moved to the LEC from the Bush Campus Center, were formally dedicated.

A dinner heralding the opening of Dauphin Hall, the college’s newest student housing unit, was offered Oct. 8 during Homecoming 2010 festivities. This year’s Homecoming theme, “Stage X: Building the Future,” showcased the institution’s historic growth.

Visitors to the Metal Trades Center participate in a hands-on demonstration of a welding process.

Dauphin Hall accommodates 250 students. It integrates with the former Rose Street Apartments and College West Apartments to form Rose Street Commons, a six-hall complex featuring shared dining facilities and various common areas and offices.
Enlisting the help of children, parents, staff, faculty and students, Dunham and Gilmour cut a paper-chain ribbon created by the center’s children during a unique ceremony at the Children’s Learning Center/Early Childhood Education Department in the Hager Lifelong Education Center.

President Davie Jane Gilmour and Board of Directors Chairman Robert E. Dunham drive a new Acura through a checkered flag to begin the formal dedication of the renovated and expanded Parkes Automotive Technology Center.
The new Children’s Learning Center offers a bright, colorful environment for children, students, faculty and staff.

A crowd assembled in a spacious, multimedia-equipped classroom for the ceremony dedicating the renovated science labs in the Lifelong Education Center.

Greenery brightens the exterior of the renovated Lifelong Education Center.

Web Extra
Find more photos of the Stage X Building Program projects at oca.pct.edu
In 2011, Pennsylvania enjoys a diverse wildlife population, a turnaround from what could have been when, in the late 1800s, wildlife was declining in the face of widespread deforestation, unregulated hunting and trapping, and pollution.

According to the Pennsylvania Game Commission, the state today is home to more deer, bear and turkeys than when colonists first arrived, through efforts of the commission and other organizations to study and protect wildlife, improve its habitat, and educate the public. Its policies have become a model for other states.

On the front lines of those efforts are the commission’s 135 wildlife conservation officers, of which Michael J. Reeder, ’96, is one. Reeder covers about 350 square miles in northern York County, with the assistance of volunteer part-time deputies who help to patrol the area. The job entails not only enforcing hunting and trapping laws, but also investigating hunting accidents, conducting wildlife surveys, assisting in wildlife research projects and providing education programs.

“It is never the same from day to day. … It can never get boring like some jobs can,” he said. “I like challenge and something different every day, and this job is just that.”

Pennsylvania’s wildlife continues to face threats, the most serious of which, Reeder said, are loss of habitat and poaching; changing case law – as well as new laws as they are enacted – constantly alter the way wildlife conservation officers do their jobs. His time might be spent helping biologists with research by performing turkey surveys or banding doves so that the commission may study their population and dispersal. The information helps the commission to determine the best way to manage the state’s wildlife.

But much of his attention is given to the people who reside in his region. He conducts education programs for local schools, including some college students. One of his favorites is a Wildlife Forensics course, during which Reeder teaches students how to use science to solve a crime. Following a 45-minute classroom discussion, he takes them outdoors, where he has fabricated a complete crime scene, with bullet casings, blood and a deer carcass (roadkill he’s picked up) hidden in the bushes. The students find the body and take measurements off the deer, including using a thermometer to take its nasal temperature, to help solve the case.

“It’s the whole CSI effect,” he said. “They love it.”

Often, his day is dictated by the calls he may receive from “There’s a raccoon in my garage,” or “My daughter just brought home an opossum,” to the bizarre incidents that Reeder declines to repeat.

“Everybody gets into this job because they want to help wildlife,” Reeder said. “But you end up dealing with people.”

He deals with his share of disgruntled constituents, who face citations for such incidents as breaking hunting laws or boating or driving under the influence, but his affable demeanor and his law-enforcement training help to keep confrontations in check.

“I’ve never been in a situation where I’ve been in a shouting match; we’re really taught to use our mouth,” he said. He realizes most of those who confront him with hostility are angry, but not at him. “I let them vent. … Every time, I’ve been able to talk them down. I’ve never had to reach for pepper spray or a firearm, I usually never raise my voice.”

Reeder set his sights on becoming a wildlife conservation officer in 1993. A Loyalsockville native, he had no plans to attend college when he graduated from Montoursville Area High School that spring.

“I just didn’t think I needed it,” he said.
Passing the Torch

Reeder, a wildlife conservation officer in northern York County, was selected by his classmates at the Ross Leffler School of Conservation to receive the Torch Award for Leadership.

He was subsequently selected to serve as a resident instructor for the next class of wildlife conservation officer cadets, who expect to graduate from the school in March.

Until, that is, he got a part-time job working with his uncle as a wildlife propagator at the Loyalsock State Game Farm. The farm, operated by the Game Commission, raises pheasants that are released for hunting across the state. When commission officers visited the farm, Reeder listened to the “great stories” they told about their recent cases and other details of their job.

“I said, ‘That’s what I want to do. I know that’s what I want to do,’” Reeder said.

A Pennsylvania College of Technology student told him about the forest technology program at the college, and he decided to enroll in the Fall 1994 semester.

“After I started classes, I thought it was great that I could go to school for what I wanted to go for,” Reeder said. “Which made it very interesting and fun!”

He completed the associate degree and graduated in May 1996 with knowledge in dendrology, botany, wildlife management, forest ecology and forest recreation.

Reeder continued to work at the pheasant farm and bolstered his experience with volunteer activities, maintaining a website for the Lycoming Audubon Society and taking over a bluebird box trail for his neighbor, wildlife rehabilitator Ed Reish, ’56.

In 2001, Reeder transferred to York County, where his wife grew up, and became a part of the “food and cover,” or habitat maintenance, crew.

“We maintained the state game lands, which included planting crops and trees for wildlife, cutting trees, repairing roads and trails, mowing, and general maintenance,” Reeder said.

In 2005, he became a volunteer deputy, and in 2007, he was one of about 25 cadets accepted to the Game Commission’s Ross Leffler School of Conservation in Harrisburg. The school was founded in 1936. Only about 600 wildlife conservation officers have graduated from the school since its inception.

The application and acceptance process alone takes about a year, Reeder said. The candidate pool begins with about 2,000 hopeful applicants, but only about 900 applications are accepted. Then comes a two-hour “written” test (administered by computer). Written tests are scored, and the best are selected for an oral test, which is videorecorded and evaluated. Written and oral test scores are combined, and the best applicants are selected for interviews in their homes, where the selection committee can speak with their families, “because it’s quite a commitment,” Reeder said.

Then comes a final interview, when the applicant answers questions from nine interviewers, followed by a psychological test and a physical test that gauges his or her ability in swimming, running, agility and endurance.

By the time the 27th class entered the Ross Leffler School in March 2007, the pool had been narrowed to about 25 cadets. Classes are accepted at the school only when there are sufficient job openings, which left a seven-year gap between the 26th class, which graduated in 2001, and Reeder’s.

“We have guys that could retire but keep going,” Reeder said. “They’re very dedicated people; they want to do this.”

Reeder feels the same.

“This is all I’ve ever wanted to do,” he said.
THE IMAGE OF THE SOLITARY ATHLETE IS AN ENDURING ONE: THE LONG HOURS OF INDIVIDUAL EFFORT prefacing those comparably few minutes of competition, the pre-dawn ritual of anonymous sacrifice, the neon-colored beads of sweat in an energy-drink commercial.

John R. Greenwood’s experience is anything but the fictional “Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner,” however. Throughout the greatest race of his life – a relative sprint between his initial symptoms and his record-setting recovery from a Fourth of July heart transplant – the Pennsylvania College of Technology graduate has been blanketed in a support system that rivals any championship team anywhere in the annals of sport.

There’s his transplant team at Hahnemann University Hospital (Drs. Howard Eisen, Percy Boateng and John Entwistle, as well as Barb Carrow, Carolyn Cassano and Teresa Rowe on the nursing staff); his former teammates on the cross-country team; his contingent of registered nurses and exercise physiologists at the the Cardiac Rehabilitation and Wellness Program facility at the Penn State Hershey Heart and Vascular Institute; the T-shirt-wearing “Blue Crew” back on campus; and, of course, parents Robert and Barbara.

Before the victory lap could be run, though – 14 months before – the picture was far from a celebratory one for the award-winning alumnus. A member and captain of coach Mike Paulhamus’ Wildcat cross-country squad, a certifiable picture of health and fitness, Greenwood showed his first troubling signs of physical ailment on May 29, 2009. “I’d go up a flight of stairs, breathing a little heavier than normal,” he recalls. “I couldn’t sleep; it felt like there was fluid in my lungs.” He saw his local physician the following day, was told it could be the flu or bronchitis, was administered a few antibiotics and was sent home to get better.

But “better” turned to worse: Fatigue and a racing heart prompted a chest X-ray and other tests that indicated his resting pulse rate was 120 – double what it should be. He consulted his cousin, Dr. Michael Bosak, a Harrisburg cardiologist, who discovered through ultrasound testing that the left side of Greenwood’s heart was ejecting only 5 percent of the blood per beat (55 to 60 percent is normal, he said).

“It was pretty bad,” said Greenwood, who traveled to Hahnemann’s heart-failure clinic in Philadelphia for a June 4 visit that turned into a six-week stay. On June 24, he received an L-VAD: a battery-operated left ventricular assist device that was implanted in his chest to artificially supplement the pumping of his ailing heart.

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Wellness Program facility at Penn State Hershey Heart and Vascular Institute.

John R. Greenwood works out on a treadmill in the Cardiac Rehabilitation and

and his parents were at Hahnemann. After

infection should a donor heart be available.

within two hours of Philadelphia and

minored in mathematics

and from school every day; if I needed to

required him to tote spare batteries and an extra control unit. He also had to regularly change the sterile dressing around the entry site of the pump and, while unable to shower, had to waterproof the bandages just to give himself a sponge bath.

Throughout the continuation of his senior year, Greenwood remained on a transplant list, accruing seniority but opting not to accept any offers until after his graduation. While travel was compromised, he was able to complete an internship and his senior project, building the pieces he needed within the college’s School of Industrial and Engineering Technologies.

He graduated May 15 with a bachelor’s degree in manufacturing engineering technology and associate degrees in automated manufacturing technology and toolmaking technology; he received the Board of Director’s Award for “achievement under exceptional circumstances” and the Alfred L. Hauser Sr. Memorial Award for a manufacturing major who exemplifies the college’s philosophy of excellence. (He also minored in mathematics.)

Following commencement, Greenwood returned to the “accepting list,” staying within two hours of Philadelphia and curtailing activity to minimize the risk of infection should a donor heart be available. At 2 a.m. July 4, the call came; by 5 a.m., he and his parents were at Hahnemann. After a seeming eternity of blood work and other compatibility tests, he was in surgery from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

“I had some problems during the surgery, some complications before the new heart was in,” Greenwood said, explaining that his heart went into fibrillation and doctors had to perform an emergency bypass procedure to stabilize him and continue the transplant without further event.

“I was up walking two days later and was discharged July 12 after only being in the hospital for eight days,” he said. “That is the shortest recovery at that hospital by two days.” Since then, his progress has been steady: frequent blood tests and biopsies have shown his body’s acceptance of the new organ, resulting in the lowering of his medication levels, and his exercise regimen at Hershey has shown improvement by the two days.”

His recovery, obviously, has much to do with youth and his athleticism.

“I don’t have any circulatory system problems otherwise, I’m not overweight, not diabetic, not 50 or 60 years old,” said Greenwood, who turned 25 in August. The benefit of his cross-country experience wasn’t limited to the physical; his sporting life provided some all-important moral support, as well.

“My team really helped me a lot,” he said of those preoperative days. “I lived off campus, and they made sure I got to and from school every day; if I needed to get to the mall, they got me around.” He’s particularly grateful for his roommates – Travis M. Cain, Jeffrey J. Faherty and Mark B. Cordeiro (Class of 2009) – as well as Bradley T. Robinson (’10), who, as president of the Student Athletic Advisory Council, organized the sale of “Blue Crew” T-shirts that filled the Bardo Gymnasium in solidarity with Greenwood and his parents.

As of this article’s writing, Greenwood is focusing on his thrice-weekly regimen of rehab. Employment befitting his academic credentials remains an objective, but, he concedes, “Trying to find a decent job is pretty near impossible” given his rehabilitation schedule. His success is considerable; in the first three months after the operation, he had worked his way up to 15 minutes jogging and walking on a treadmill, 15 minutes on the elliptical, 15 minutes on the seated bike.

He downplays the extraordinary nature of his recovery, the personal tenacity that makes him a winner. He and his family know that, in life and in sports, collaboration makes the difference.

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He downplays the extraordinary nature of his recovery, the personal tenacity that makes him a winner. He and his family know that, in life and in sports, collaboration makes the difference.

“From the bottom of our hearts, we appreciate the all-important role that the college, John’s department and the cross-country team played in his health over the past year,” his parents said. “If John didn’t have the purpose, the discipline and the fun of these three elements, he would have stayed home with his L-VAD and become a very depressed heart patient.

“First came the assurance of excellent stand-by health care at the campus clinic, then came the assurance of shop safety for John, then came coach Paulhamus’ creative ideas for including John in cross-country training and meets,” they continued. “Some of this response stems from professionalism, but mostly from the good hearts of the good people at Penn College.”
Technologies

Business and Computer Technologies

Daniel W. Yoas, assistant professor of computer information technology, helped members of Susquehanna SeniorNet, a regional computer club, traverse the terrain of technological innovation. The organization was formed as a means of educating area seniors about the Internet, e-mail, word processing and other computer-related topics. Yoas met with members and presented information on the iPhone, iPad, ‘smart phones,’ laptops, desktops, dual-screen computing, Web books and Kindle. The program included a discussion of purchasing equipment and presenting user needs, instead of a set of specifications, to computer salespersons.

Health Sciences

Tammy S. Clossen, assistant professor of dental hygiene, was invited to provide input on a newly published textbook. Clossen was a reviewer for “Quick & Easy Medical Terminology,” 6th Edition, by Peggy C. Leonard. The textbook is being published by Saunders/Elsevier, 2011.

Paul A. “Babe” Mayer, associate professor of fitness and lifetime sports, made several presentations to organizations in the region. Mayer was keynote speaker at the Loyalsock Township High School Girls Basketball Awards Banquet, presenting “The Origin of American Team Sports Evolved From Community Spirit.” He also served as keynote speaker at the Annual District IV All-Star Football Game Banquet, offering a talk titled “The Greatest Speech of All Time Was Only Five Words Long,” referencing Winston Churchill’s address to the British Commonwealth at the end of World War II. Mayer presented twice at the Pennsylvania State Strength & Conditioning clinic, held at Juniata College. The two sessions were titled: “The Foundations of Human Movement” and “The Fundamentals of Core Training.” When Penn College hosted the Sport Literature Association’s annual conference, Mayer served on a writer’s panel and presented a paper titled “Babe Ruth, The King of Baseball, Played at Penn College.”

Integrated Studies

Debra S. Morris, assistant professor of English-technical communication, was invited to deliver a presentation as part of the Honors Lecture Series presented by Harrisburg Area Community College. Morris offered “The Censoring of Mothering: Images of Women in ‘Fahrenheit 451.’” The presentation was recognized in a letter sent to Morris by the director of the Honors Program at HACC as “the best thing a good teacher could hope for – solid information passed on in a clever, humorous and accessible way.”

Mark D. Noe, professor of English, hosted the Sport Literature Association’s 27th annual conference at Pennsylvania College of Technology, which attracted more than 50 attendees from across the United States and six other countries. Presenters included Douglas M. Sherry, part-time instructor of sociology, who offered a paper titled “The Crisis of Authority in Sport Films of the 1970s.”

Abdul B. Pathan, professor of economics, presented a paper at the Pennsylvania Economic Association annual conference at Grove City College. Pathan’s paper, “Successful Teaching of Economics Principles to Beginning Students,” discussed strategies for preparing lectures and for keeping students motivated throughout the lecture. Pathan also served as a discussant for a student session on economic development, while Gerald “Chip” Baumgardner, associate professor of business administration/management (School of Business and Computer Technologies), served as chair and discussant for a session on public economics. The PEA is a professional association of economists and allied social scientists in Pennsylvania and neighboring states. Baumgardner is 2009-10 president of the association’s executive board; Pathan is a member of the board of directors.

Joan E. Schell, assistant professor of English composition, was selected for inclusion in the 2010-11 Edition of “Who’s Who of American Women.” The 2010-11 Edition, which was released by Marquis Who’s Who in September, contains the biographies of approximately 40,000 notable American women, featuring personal and career histories, education, achievements and memberships.
Natural Resources Management

Dennis F. Ringling, professor and lead faculty, forestry, presented “Let Nature Nurture Your Health,” in a Madigan Library Forum program in November. Ringling’s discussion of ways that children and adults can be healthier by connecting with nature drew from the concept of “Nature Deficit Disorder,” a term coined by Richard Louv, author of “The Last Child in the Woods,” who wrote of “an increasing divide between the young and the natural world.”

Student Affairs

Jennifer A. George, student development information specialist, designed a poster that was awarded first prize in its category by the National Association for Campus Activities. The winning artwork was created for the 2009 program in the David London My Last Words lecture series at Penn College. Students, staff and faculty at NATAC member schools in the Mid-Atlantic region who fashion promotional posters, fliers, announcements and other materials were invited to participate.

Workforce Development & Continuing Education

Katie C. Bell, Keystone Innovation Zone coordinator, presented at the NIST Manufacturing Extension Partnership National Conference in Orlando, Fla. Bell’s workshop, “Greenovation: A Unique Approach Encouraging Green Product Development,” offered the opportunity for the IMC – a partner in the KIZ’s work with local business and industry – to pass along a successful program that was developed in central Pennsylvania. MEP is the IMC’s federal sponsor and supports the needs of manufacturers through centers nationwide. MEP’s annual conference offers such centers the opportunity to network, learn and share best practices.

College Appoints VP for College Services

David Kay was named vice president for college services at Pennsylvania College of Technology. Kay had been assistant vice president for human resources. In addition to supervising The College Store, he will continue to be responsible for all human resources functions relating to employee recruitment, hiring, compensation, benefits, wellness, policies, faculty-bargaining issues, salary systems, unemployment compensation and employee orientation. He has been employed in the Human Resources Office at Penn College and its immediate predecessor institution, Williamsport Area Community College, since 1986.

Dean of Academic Services, First Year Programs Named

Eugene M. McAvoy was named dean of academic services and first year programs at Pennsylvania College of Technology. McAvoy served previously as assistant dean of integrated studies-programs. He also has been an assistant professor of English composition and department head for media arts in the School of Integrated Studies. A recipient of the college’s Excellence in Teaching Award in 2007, McAvoy also has served as chair of College Council for the college’s Internal Governance.

In Memory

Gideon J. Wray, assistant professor of business administration/accounting, died Oct. 28.
Robert Grabowski, ’57, drafting, resides in Somerset, N.J., and is retired as director of operations for Celgene Corp. in Summit, N.J. He was responsible for safety, health, plant engineering and new construction, as well as Food and Drug Administration and Drug Enforcement Administration interactions for the pharmaceutical company.

Sherrill R. Harris, ’61, mechanical drawing, retied as a mechanical design supervisor from GE’s Industrial Technology Division. He resides in Spring Mills.

Paul J. McCann, ’67, electronic technology, resides in Wernersville and is technical director for Berks Community Television.

Lynton N. Perry, ’67, liberal arts, retired after 41 years as a pastor in the Free Methodist Church of North America, primarily in upstate New York. He earned a bachelor’s degree in education from Mansfield University in 1969 and a Master of Divinity degree from Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Ky., in 1977. He resides in South Williamsport.

Ronald R. Heiber, ’68, electrical construction technology, is a traffic signal electrician for the City of Las Vegas. Prior to that, he was employed for 27 years by Pennsylvania Power & Light Co. He lives in North Las Vegas.

Clark Rightmire, ’69, machinist general, is a former machinist and professional logger who resides in Benton. Rightmire conceived the idea for a hitch that would facilitate his skidding operation by pulling/dragging multiple articles at a time. Once in place, he recognized the potential beyond logging and so, with his cousin, a retired engineering professor, they began to market the “Butch Hitch” and have a patent pending for it. Because of the success of the larger hitch, a smaller version, the “Baby Butch,” was conceived and is available.

Jean J. McGavin, ’70, business management, is general manager for Medical Office Technologies LLC and resides in Tunkhannock.

Michael A. Fallon, ’75, construction carpentry, resides in Green Lane and is project manager for Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County. He is a certified National Association of the Remodeling Industry Remodeler and Sustainable Building Advisor, and he’s received numerous professional awards over the years, including a certificate of appreciation from the New York City Police Department in 2001 and a Salvation Army Katrina Award in 2008.

Kenneth L. Snyder, ’75, forest technology, is a youth services specialist at Northwestern Academy in Coal Township. Snyder completed training in plate and pipe welding from Lincoln Electric Welding School in 1980. He resides in Klingerstown.

Russell J. Hackenburg Sr., ’79, diesel mechanics, resides in Pittsburgh and is a maintenance repairman II for Pittsburgh Public Schools. He maintains a production line that makes 13,000 lunches for elementary students. He and a helper maintain all of the food-preparation equipment in more than 100 school cafeterias.

Kim Landis, ’79, mechanical drafting, worked for three years after graduation as a draftsman in the engineering department for Kennametal Mining Tools. He then moved to Florida and started work at Lee County Electric Cooperative, where he has been employed for 25 years. Landis resides in Cape Coral, Fla.

Roger M. Williams, ’84, architectural technology, is an architect for Geisinger Health System. He designs, documents and serves as design liaison for select projects. He is also the sole proprietor of a small, part-time architectural firm in Bloomsburg, where he lives.

Rich Hoffner, ’87, graphic arts, is a press operator for the Dauphin County Library System. He resides in Shermans Dale.

Scott A. Hunter, ’93, civil engineering technology, earned a bachelor’s degree in structural design and construction engineering from Penn State in 1995. He is a senior bridge engineer/project manager for McTish, Kunkel & Associates in Montoursville.

Michelle A. Ashley, ’94, dental hygiene, graduated cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in health science from the Medical University of South Carolina in 2009. She is a dental programs instructor at Greenville Technical College in Greenville, S.C. She lives in Simpsonville, S.C.

Rachelle L. (Downs) Sheets, ’90, secretarial office administration, is an administrative assistant at Croda Inc. in Mill Hall. She resides in Woolrich.

Mike A. Streich, ’97, manufacturing engineering technology, ’96 toolmaking technology, is an engineering manager for GKN Sinter Metals in Emporium, where he resides. As engineering manager, he oversees the Product Engineering, Tool Design, and Manufacturing Engineering departments.

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The Gallery at Penn College will showcase the many artistic facets of the alumni community! This juried exhibit is open to all alumni of Pennsylvania College of Technology, Williamsport Area Community College and Williamsport Technical Institute.

*Original works of art in all media are eligible, and cash prizes will be awarded.* Details and entry information may be found on the gallery’s website. Submit your creative work for the first alumni art show!

**Date**
Fall 2011
**Entries due by April 20**
**Website**
oca.pct.edu/gallery
**click on “Kaleidoscope”**
**Gallery phone**
570-320-2445

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Victoria A. Blucher, '99, nursing, received a master’s degree and certificate in family nurse practitioner from the University of Maryland in 2008. She resides in Joppa, Md., and is employed as a nurse practitioner for Drs. Gehris, Jordan, Day & Associates in Bel Air, Md.

Crystal L. Dawson, '99, radiography, resides in Orlando, Fla., and is lead radiography technologist at Arnold Palmer Children's Hospital. In addition to the hospital’s Level 1 Trauma Center, her department also provides radiology needs to the Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women & Babies connected to the hospital.

Amy B. Weaver, '01, baking & pastry arts; and '03, technology management, resides in Hellam and is an office supervisor for AAA Southern Pennsylvania.

Patricia R. Chadderton, '02, applied health studies: occupational therapy assistant concentration, received a degree in physical therapist assistant from Penn State University in 2008. She resides in Cogan Station and is a physical therapist assistant at Williamsport Physical Medicine.

Joseph R. Yost II, '03, heating, ventilation and air conditioning technology, is an HVAC service technician for J. Grilli and Associates. He lives in Townsend, Del., and is a member of U.A. Local 782 Plumbers and Pipefitters in Seaford, Del. He also has his journeyman license in Delaware and Maryland and is working on a master's license in Delaware.

Erin L. (Yocum) Marshall, '04, early childhood education, earned a bachelor’s degree in early childhood education from Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania in 2008. She is employed by the Bennett Family Center at The Pennsylvania State University. She resides in State College.

Eric M. Fry, '06, computer aided product design, is a CAD support supervisor for Southland Industries. Fry, who resides in Baltimore, received AutoCAD 2010 Certified Associate and AutoCAD 2010 Certified Professional designations.

Benjamin P. Gasparin, '07, design engineer for Komax Solar, where he designs the automated machinery that builds and assembles solar panels. Gasparin resides in York.

Matthew A. Marchiori, '08, automotive technology management, is a service assistant at Aubrey Alexander Toyota in Selinsgrove. He resides in South Williamsport.

Jonathan A. Hardy, '09, automotive technology management, is a service adviser at Toyota Center in West Columbia, S.C. He resides in Lexington, S.C.

Justin J. Kovaleski, '09, construction management, resides in Lemoyne and is a project manager for Eastern PCM LLC. He is pursuing a master's degree in sustainable business and green development from MaryHurst University.

Mathew J. Younes, '09, electrical technology, resides in Williamsport and is a controls technician for NRG Controls North Inc.

Mallory L. Decker, '10, graphic design, is head spec artist for the Williamsport Sun-Gazette. She resides in Williamsport.

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**2000s**

Kimberley W. (Williamson) Jacobs, '01, physician assistant, is a physician assistant at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center.

Michelle Sullivan, '01, computer information technology: data communication and networking concentration, resides in Shippensburg and is rent analyst for European Foot Locker. Her responsibility is the timely payment of all lease-related charges at 585 company locations.

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**Marriages & Births**


Wendy A. Mazur, '03, culinary arts technology, and Donald R. Carl, '03, culinary arts technology, were married June 7, 2008, and welcomed their first child June 6, 2009.

A son, Brayden J. Hummel, was born Jan. 6, 2009, to Nina M. (Jordan) Hummel, '03, mass communications, and William H. Hummel Jr., '03, networking and technical support.

Randeen B. Schorr, '05, early childhood education, and Jeffrey R. Orner, '04, computer information technology: data communications and networking concentration, were married July 18, 2009.

Tarah L. Hiepler, '06, construction management, and Andrew W. Lackman, '06, residential construction technology and management, were married Aug. 29, 2009.


Leah M. Kirchner, '07, surgical technology, and Kevin A. Hickman, '08, physician assistant, were married Aug. 9, 2008.

Melanie L. Miller, '07, office information technology: specialized office information emphasis, and Adam C. Rockey, '06, computer aided drafting technology, were married May 8, 2010.

A son, Levi R. Vance, was born March 15, 2010, to Meghann (Stasko) Vance, '07, residential construction technology and management, and Richard Vance.

Ashley D. Corl, '08, nursing, married Chad Packer on April 10, 2010.

Andrew P. Schwalm, '08, information technology: network specialist concentration, married Amanda S. Adams on May 21, 2010.

Rose A. Larsen, '09, technology management, married Kevin B. Mumbauer on Aug. 8, 2009.

Ryan S. Schauder, '09, automotive technology, married Sarah B. Pierson on April 17, 2010.

Ashley M. Gingrich, '10, business administration: marketing concentration, and Paul A. Roma Jr., '08, information technology: security specialist concentration, were married Aug. 7, 2010.
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Pennsylvania College of Technology became an affiliate of The Pennsylvania State University in 1989 after establishing a national reputation for education supporting workforce development, first as a technical institute and later as a community college. Today, Penn College is a special mission affiliate of Penn State, committed to applied technology education. Conveniently located in Williamsport (northcentral Pennsylvania), Penn College attracts the second-highest enrollment in the Penn State system. In addition, Penn College manages the state's largest worker-training program through Workforce Development & Continuing Education. The modern Penn College campus offers students hands-on instruction and access to the latest equipment, leading to excellent graduate placement and degrees that work.

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Pennsylvania College of Technology does not discriminate in admission by race, color, religion, national origin, sex, handicap, age, sexual orientation, political affiliation, status as a protected veteran, or any characteristic against which discrimination is prohibited by applicable law, and operates on a nondiscriminatory basis throughout the institution.

Commuter Lounge Opens

The Commuter Lounge, located in the Bush Campus Center, provides a comfortable site where students can go before, between or after classes to socialize, study or rest. The lounge offers study tables, comfortable furniture, computer and Internet access, and an information center.

Read One College Avenue online at oca.pct.edu. The online edition features articles found in the print edition, as well as Web-only content, including additional photos, interactive content, and more alumni and student news. Sign up for e-mail announcements regarding the online edition by sending your e-mail address to onecollegeavenue@pct.edu.
Kyle G. Mason, electronics and computer engineering technology, and Stephanie D’Avella, applied health studies: occupational therapy assistant concentration, were crowned king and queen for Homecoming 2010, celebrated Oct. 8-10. The Homecoming court competition generated nearly $1,000 in contributions for the Tracy A. Garis Memorial Scholarship.