

Penn College® Alumni



Happy Holidays!

The Penn College Alumni Relations Office would like to wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season and joyous New Year!

Alumni Relations Events

Alumni Basketball Event

Are you a former Penn College basketball player? Join us on Saturday, January 21, 2017 for an alumni basketball event including a women's basketball alumni game, brunch, Penn College women's and men's basketball games, and an alumni banquet. The event will be free of charge to alumni. The cost to bring a guest will be \$15. Registration deadline is Monday, January 9, 2017. [Register](#)



Tickets are On Sale Now! Ski Sawmill Snow Tubing

Alumni and family are invited to join Penn College Alumni Relations at Ski Sawmill Family Resort for a morning of family friendly tubing. We've reserved the tube slide for our group on Saturday, February 4, 2017 from 9-11 a.m. After our time together screaming down a seventy foot drop the length of close to two football fields, plan to stay the rest of the day to enjoy

the slopes. Cost is \$10 per person and the deadline to register is Monday, January 23. [Register NOW!](#)

Alumni Relations News



Second Group of Concrete Wedges Rises at 'Garden' Site

Another set of vertical walls for [Penn College's Recognition Garden](#) was erected this week by Franklin H. Reber, instructor of construction technology, and students from one of three classes working on the project. Using Centre Concrete's conveyer truck just west of the Bush Campus Center, the group (which also built the wooden forms) poured the second of three units that will hold commemorative plaques. The site, to be dedicated in the spring, is a successor to the inscribed bricks that line the Hagan Way entrance to main campus.

Horticulture Instructor, Students Experience Industry Events

A member of Penn College's horticulture faculty recently attended the [GIE+Expo](#) in Louisville, Kentucky, and "Landscapes 2016," a simultaneous educational/networking event sponsored by the National Association of Landscape Professionals. Carl J. Bower Jr. was joined by four students in the college's landscape/horticulture technology: landscape emphasis – three who traveled to the expo and a fourth who represented Penn College as a student ambassador for the NALP. Alumnus Jeremy L. Thorne, who graduated in 2013 with a pair of horticulture-related degrees, was an ambassador as a student and still volunteers to help NALP run its ambassador program. Ambassadors are chosen from landscape and horticulture programs across the country, and Justin M. Rinehimer of Mountain Top, was one of nine students nationwide to be selected. The ambassadors help the NALP register individuals, set up the educational sessions and introduce the speakers.



Successful Business Alums Share Wealth of Real-Life Advice

A group of business professionals – including four alumni – attended a recent mixer with students in [Penn College's business majors](#). The pros offered a panel talk and lessons they've learned in navigating their careers. Advising students on such practical tips as submitting resumes, networking, and managing work-related stress. Alumni panelists were Ryan M. Enders, '13, technology management, and '11, aviation technology, who is a field service representative for Lycoming Engines; Tracy L. Schroeder, '13, business administration: banking and finance concentration, who is program coordinator for InCourage Financial Wellness; Scott D. Rinker, '12, business administration: marketing concentration, who is a branch manager for Jersey Shore State Bank; and Anthony J. Peachey, '09, business administration: marketing concentration, who is product manager for Construction Specialties Inc. and holds LEED Green Associate certification.

Horticulture Grads Share Real-World View With Current Students

[Penn College's Horticulture Club](#) went on a field trip earlier this month to Good's Tree and Lawn Care in Harrisburg; Hershey Gardens in Hershey; and Ruppert Landscape and Nursery in Laytonsville, Maryland. Eighteen students made the trip – along with faculty members Carl J. Bower Jr. and Dennis P. Skinner – which included informative visits with alumni. Aaron M. Shippling, '82, landscape/nursery technology; and Alyssa B. Richner, '10, ornamental horticulture alumni.



Missed Any Previous Alumni Newsletters?

Visit the [alumni page](#) of the Penn College website to view all of the archived editions.

Save the Date-Homecoming and Family Weekend 2017

Make sure to mark your calendars for next year's Homecoming and Family Weekend festivities, which will be held Friday, October 6 through Sunday, October 8, 2017. Watch upcoming newsletters for more detailed information and check the [Alumni events website](#) or [Alumni Facebook](#) page. Remember to like our Alumni Facebook page to stay current on all things happening in Alumni Relations. We look forward to another great Homecoming!!

Penn College News



High School Students Celebrate STEM Day at Penn College

A group of 90 high-schoolers spent November 8 at Pennsylvania College of Technology, where they explored a variety of careers as part of National STEM Day. "STEM" is short for science, technology, engineering and math. [Penn College's STEM Day](#) activities were designed to give high school students a hands-on glimpse of some in-demand STEM-related careers. To kick off the day, the students attended a presentation by Maggie Jackson, '08, civil engineering alumna and project manager for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Central Susquehanna Valley Transportation Project, a 13-mile,

four-lane highway construction project that is expected to take eight years from groundbreaking to completion. Students were given a tour of campus before visiting one of three hands-on sessions in the college's industry-standard labs. Participants represented Jersey Shore Area, Troy Area, Montgomery Area and Loyalsock Township school districts, as well as homeschooled students. The first National STEM Day was implemented on Nov. 8, 2015, by toy company MGA Entertainment in conjunction with its dolls and accompanying Netflix series that feature four smart girls who are part of a spy organization called NOV8 (pronounced innovate).

College's Role as PFEW Host Featured in Newscast

Penn College's annual participation with [Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week](#), a summer program that offers rising high school juniors and seniors a unique and challenging opportunity to run their own businesses, was mentioned in a recent [news story](#) on WHTM in Harrisburg. The piece is introduced by Flora Posteraro, a co-anchor at the ABC affiliate whose son is a PFEW graduate. Students who attend qualify for a \$2,000 scholarship to the college; the 2017 session will be July 30-Aug. 5.



College's Leadership Training Series Reaches National Audience

Through its Workforce Development & Continuing Education (WDCE) office, Pennsylvania College of Technology began an ambitious project in 2015 to develop a new leadership training program for companies. In partnership with

respected program developers representing many employment sectors, a curriculum was built to hone the skills of front-line leaders, mid-level managers and senior executives. It incorporates online materials and was crafted with customizable

modules based on industry type and/or company-specific input. Dubbed the [Penn College Leadership Series](#), the program rolled out late last year and has quickly become an acclaimed training product reaching a national audience.

College's Madigan Library Part of 'Star'-Quality Statewide Initiative

Highlighting Pennsylvania libraries and their role in powering progress throughout the commonwealth, the Pennsylvania Library Association announced the January rollout of the PA Forward Star Library Program during its annual state conference earlier this month. Pennsylvania College of Technology's Madigan Library is among the participants in next year's statewide launch of the initiative. [Read more.](#)



Penn College Awarded 'Military Friendly' Designation

Pennsylvania College of Technology's dedication to veterans has earned the institution "["Military Friendly"](#)" status for the eighth consecutive year. Victory Media, a veteran-owned business that compiles data-driven ratings to assist service members in choosing post-military education and career pursuits, named Penn College a 2017 Military Friendly School. Penn College will be featured with the other 2017 Military Friendly Schools in the annual Guide to Military Friendly Schools, special education issues of G.I. Jobs and Military Spouse Magazine, and [online](#).

College Receives Grant to Boost Cyber Security Workforce

The National Science Foundation has recognized Pennsylvania College of Technology's commitment to tomorrow's workforce by awarding the institution a grant intended to bolster the pipeline of information assurance/cyber defense professionals. The \$438,391 [CyberCorps grant](#) will facilitate the college's efforts to excite high school students about rewarding careers in cyber security. The college is developing an after-school program for high schoolers, who will earn college credit for free while being introduced to the academic and professional aspects of the information security field. The college anticipates that up to 70 students will complete the program during the three-year grant. Thereafter, the college projects approximately 40 students annually participating. At least 50 percent of the students are expected to pursue a cyber security-related baccalaureate degree. Penn College offers several information technology degrees, including an information assurance and cyber security bachelor's degree.



Architecture, Construction Students Apprised of Certification Opportunity

Students in Penn College's School of Construction & Design Technologies recently had the opportunity to meet Jim Ellwood, educational liaison for the International Codes Council, who visited Building Code-based classes taught by Rob A. Wozniak and Harry W. Hintz Jr. Ellwood introduced students to the [ICC certificate opportunity](#) that he started a few years ago while maintaining his other role as a plans examiner.

His goal is to better prepare the upcoming workforce to better understand and use Building Codes. By the end of the semester, both groups will have the opportunity to take the test that Ellwood provides. If students pass, they will receive the ICC certificate – another resume-building tool that Penn College students have over competing graduates. While other institutions have inquired, Ellwood mentioned that the college is one of only three in the nation currently involved in this training.

Penn College Family

Celebrating the spirit of the Penn College community-Visit the [Penn College Family](#) website for on-campus stories from students, faculty, and staff.

Volunteer Opportunities

Thank you to the following alumni who have volunteered in the past month:

- **Brittany Adams**, 2013 Health Information Coding Specialist & 2013 Health Information Technology
- **Lyndsey Diehl**, 2011 Health Information Technology & 2013 Health Information Management
- **Tiffany Farran**, 2013 Health Information Technology & 2013 Health Information Coding Specialist
- **Scott Fohringer**, 1998 Landscape/Nursery Technology
- **Maggie Jackson**, 2008 Civil Engineering
- **Annie Reynolds**, 2015 Health Information Management
- **Keane Scholl**, 1991 Landscape/Nursery Technology
- **Kaitlin Ulrich**, 2009 Architectural Technology, 2013 Ornamental Horticulture & 2013 Building and Science Sustainable Design
- **Jeffrey Walizer**, 1993 Landscape/Nursery Technology

If you would be willing to [volunteer](#) to share your life experiences and knowledge with Penn College students, please contact Rhonda at rsw7@pct.edu. We need you!!!

Penn College Giving

Remember Penn College in Your Year-End Giving Plans

Gifts to the Penn College Fund provide scholarships, purchase the latest equipment and technology necessary to give our students the skills they need to compete in industry, and support the academic programs that make ours *degrees that work*. You may direct your gift to the scholarship fund, school, major, or other area that you are most passionate about. [Make a gift](#) today!