



University System of Ohio

Accomplishments

Community Colleges

Belmont Technical College

Donation Received from CONSOL Energy to Train Workers in Mining and Mining Related Engineering

Belmont Technical College Foundation received a \$40,000 donation from CONSOL Energy to increase its capacity to provide technically trained workers in mining and mining related engineering occupations. It is the fifth major gift received by the company in as many years. Since the College's inception, CONSOL Energy has gifted \$58,500 to the College and \$125,000 to the Foundation for a total investment of \$183,500. The gift was made especially meaningful, as two of the presenters from CONSOL Energy were Belmont Technical College graduates who are now in important management positions at the energy company.

MOU signed with Monroe County Commissioners and Team Monroe

With the signing of a memorandum of understanding between Monroe County Commissioners, Team Monroe and Belmont Technical College the College assumed the leadership role in developing higher education in Monroe County. While other institutions of higher education are expected to participate in the planning process and eventually in the deliverance of higher education in Monroe County, the county is now looking to Belmont Technical College to provide leadership in formulating and managing the higher education plan. By doing this commissioners and staff of various Monroe County Departments can work through a single source for the higher education needs of the county. Another advantage will be the opportunity for the business community to work with one higher education entity to meet their workforce development and training needs. This agreement makes it easier for everyone in Monroe County to access the University System of Ohio through Belmont Technical College.

Joint Non-Credit Job Training Capital Improvement Grant Received

More high tech training for area workers will be the result of a joint state grant awarded to Belmont Technical College and Jefferson Community College. The Ohio Board of Regents announced the \$477,000 Non-Credit Job Training Capital Improvement Grant that allows JCC and BTC to purchase up-to-date training equipment and form a Regional Training Alliance (RTA). This alliance will offer high tech training that will meet the needs of employers in a four-county area (Belmont, Jefferson, Harrison and Monroe) and prepare a trained and ready workforce to attract new manufacturers to the Ohio Valley. The two colleges have joined forces in response to both the Governor's Turnaround Ohio plan and the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association plan to improve the dire economic conditions in their area. The purpose of this alliance is to share equipment, instructors, and leveraged funds to provide strong academic, workplace, and technical skills for their workers. Training for incumbent workers is needed as well as preparing a trained and ready workforce for manufacturers who plan to locate in the area. The unemployed must be retrained and receive help in finding employment so they will stay in the area. The colleges also recognize the need to attract new industry.

Central Ohio Technical College

The Gateway Recognized with 2008 Innovation of the Year Award

The National League for Innovation in the Community College recently recognized The Gateway, an initiative implemented this year at Central Ohio Technical College (COTC), with its 2008 Innovation of the Year Award.

In a letter to the college, it stated: "The Innovation of the Year Award was established 26 years ago, and was designed to recognize significant innovations developed and implemented by League member colleges. These innovations represent capstone achievements and the continuing renewal of the spirit of innovation and experimentation upon which the League was founded."

Operating under the slogan "Access, Progress, Success," The Gateway offers COTC students seamless service and a centralized location for the departments that are necessary to complete an associate degree at one of Ohio's top technical colleges.

Introduced for Autumn Quarter 2007 the response has been overwhelmingly positive as efficiencies are realized by both students and staff. Today The Gateway serves as a focal point for the campus and student body as a single point of access for student services with staff promoting and delivering excellent customer service to ensure "Access, Progress, Success."

Major Donors Kick Off Knox Capital Campaign

Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) officially launched a capital campaign last July to support the renovation of a downtown Mount Vernon building that will eventually serve as the COTC Knox Campus. A groundswell of community support emerged as the project was unveiled and became tangible with the launch of the capital campaign and the pledge of more than \$2 million by a local manufacturing company and the family who owns it. Karen Buchwald Wright, CEO of Ariel Corporation, announced the donation at the campaign kick-off July 20, 2007 and as a result, the Knox Campus building will be named Ariel Hall.

At the one-year mark, the campaign has reached half-way toward its goal of \$6.5 million and is set to conclude in December 2008. The renovation of Ariel Hall is expected to begin August 2010 with a one year construction timeline. Once complete, the building will be a full-service facility offering broad general programming and select nursing and allied health programs. It will house several classrooms, faculty and administrative offices, a large lecture hall, a student lounge, a distance education classroom as well as nursing and chemistry labs. Student services such as admissions and advising offices will also be located in the new facility.

The building itself is the result of community support and collaboration as it was donated to the college in August 2006 by a group of dedicated community and industry leaders interested in making associate degree education accessible in Knox County. While a quality educational system already exists in the Knox County area, there is a dramatic gap at the associate degree level. In Knox County, 79 percent of people over 25 years old do not have a college degree and the local demand for technically trained employees is growing.

COTC Opens Doors to New Facility in Coshocton

One of the most innovative approaches to higher education became a reality in January when Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) opened the doors to Montgomery Hall, the COTC campus in Coshocton. Offering associate, bachelor's and master's degree programs from COTC and Muskingum College, along with courses through Kent State University, certificate programs, GED testing, and non-credit courses through the COTC Business and Industry Institute, Montgomery Hall offers access to local residents for a variety of educational needs and will help meet the growing demand in Coshocton for an educated workforce.

Montgomery Hall is the direct result of a community committed to education and a grassroots effort that supported a campaign with a goal of raising \$4 million for the renovation of the facility, formerly The Roscoe Village Inn. The 18-month COTC capital campaign concluded with a final tally of \$4,004,904.50 pledged from 148 corporate and community partners.

The campaign funded the complete renovation of the former hotel and transformed it into a state-of-the-art educational facility featuring 15 new classrooms, laboratory space, a lecture hall, nursing laboratory and distance education classrooms. When the building opened in January, there were 94 classes being offered to more than 500 students who were attending from 24 Ohio counties.

Cincinnati State Technical & Community College

Partnership with The Kroger Co. Partners Provides \$1.2 Million in Sponsorship Funds

The Kroger Co. has partnered with the Midwest Culinary Institute (MCI) at Cincinnati State Technical and Community College to provide \$1.2 million in sponsorship funds. Funds are used to sponsor culinary programming such as “Creations,” the MCI’s community education, non-credit courses. Additionally, The Kroger Co. is the major sponsor of “The Dish.” This half hour television show is broadcast on the regional CBS affiliate every Friday, September through June. The program features Chef Meg Galvin, an MCI faculty member. The Kroger Co. is also a major sponsor of 1 Night 12 Kitchens, an annual scholarship fundraiser. Cincinnati State works with Kroger to develop and offer educational programs for Kroger employees. This training is technical, management-related and soft skills. One training session may be on butchery techniques; another may be team building in the kitchen.

The William L. Mallory Early Learning Center Receives a Three-Star Step Up to Quality Award

The William L. Mallory Early Learning Center at Cincinnati State has been doubly recognized for its commitment to excellence. The center received a Three-Star Step Up to Quality award from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (Bureau of Child Care and Development) and five-year accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

The center applied for the Step Up to Quality award, a voluntary rating system that compares a center against an extensive list of quality benchmarks identified by experts as improvement areas for the growth and development potential of children. The award recognizes the center’s excellent child care program and its ongoing commitment to children, giving it three stars—the highest possible rating.

For the NAEYC accreditation, the center volunteered to be measured against new program standards that assess the program’s level of quality. The William Mallory Center was one of the first child care centers in Ohio to earn the mark of quality represented by the reinvented NAEYC accreditation system.

The center was established for students requiring care for their children in order to attend college. It also serves as a learning lab for Cincinnati State students, particularly those in the Early Childhood Care and Education programs.

Clark State Community College

Partnerships Allow More than 800 Local High School Students to Receive College Credit

Clark State Community College in Springfield has been an early adopter of the Strategic Plan’s goal to “help high school students aspire to and prepare for college.”

Through Post Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) and dual enrollment, more than 800 high school students received Clark State credit during the 2007-2008 academic year. These students attended classes at both their high school and Clark State’s campuses. More than 200 PSEO students completed 3,339 credit hours.

In less than two months, Clark State administrators and faculty recruited eighteen high schools in the dual enrollment program, including certifying the credentials of high school teachers and visiting each school several times to enroll the students. The College worked with three Educational Service Centers in Franklin, Montgomery and Shelby counties, which each administered the OBR/ODE dual enrollment grant for their regions.

Strategic Collaborations to Strengthen Educational Opportunities for Students

Clark State was awarded funding through an Ohio Board of Regents Future Jobs grant and is working with local universities and businesses to create an application oriented technical degree in Geospatial Technology. The College has also formed a collaboration with the Advanced Technical Intelligence Center (ATIC) to offer an in-demand Associate of Science degree and certificate in Advanced Technical Intelligence (ATI). Clark State will administer all courses except those that require a security clearance. ATIC is building a new facility adjacent to the Greene Center so ATI students will be able to complete their studies on one campus.

Clark State’s collaboration with Wright State University is a great example of a community college and public

university in close proximity enhancing existing partnerships to ensure student success, increase access to higher education and positively impact graduation rates. Clark State's Greene Center and Wright State are located less than two miles apart, making it convenient for students to move seamlessly between the two campuses.

Four study groups comprised of faculty and staff from both institutions were created to implement the partnership agreements. Highlights from these study groups include:

Articulation and Dual Enrollment:

- Develop a dual application process.
- Develop a financial aid consortium agreement between CSCC and WSU.
- Provide Wright State academic advising at both Clark State campuses.
- Develop pathways for in-demand majors so that students at CSCC can complete an associate degree and enter the major with junior status at WSU. Pathways that have been developed include: Business, English, Psychology and Social Work.

Medical Laboratory Technician Online Program Wins Two Online Learning Awards

Clark State Community College offers the highest percentage of online courses in the state. In 2008, the College saw the program continue to grow as 40% of students enrolled in online and hybrid courses. Clark State currently offers hundreds of online and hybrid courses as well as several online degrees, including both an Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degree.

The Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) program is unique in its ability to present content online, blending face-to-face lab work anywhere across the country in labs willing to facilitate this component. This program is used in hospitals and labs in both rural and urban areas across the county as their Medical Lab Technician development program because of the depth of sound instructional content and proven results. Clark State's online MLT program has had a 94% retention rate over the last three years, with 25% of the students being nontraditional lab students who never set foot on campus.

Columbus State Community College

Record Numbers Achieved for Enrollment and Graduation

Now the fifth-largest public college in Ohio, Columbus State Community College shattered its old records for the number of students and the number of graduates at the college during the 2007-08 academic year. With quarterly enrollments of 23,057 (autumn), 22,775 (winter), 22,631 (spring), and 13,663 (summer), Columbus State's total duplicated enrollment for the academic year was 81,631.

This enrollment increase was spurred, in part, by flat tuition; by continued expansion of the college's online program, which is No. 1 in Ohio in enrollment; and by a major initiative at the college to increase the number of classes offered at the most convenient times for students.

Columbus State also reached a record high in the number of graduates, with 1,576 students receiving associate degrees during the academic year. The Spring 2008 graduating class of 625 represented the first time that more than 600 students had graduated during any single quarter at the college.

Innovative Scholarship Program to Help 3,000 Adult Learners Go to College

In May 2008 Columbus State Community College created an innovative scholarship program that will provide \$1,000 scholarships to 3,000 new students age 25 or older over the next three years. The college is funding the program with \$3 million that became available when college enrollment for winter and spring quarters greatly exceeded expectations. The "Think Again" scholarship program will be the largest scholarship initiative in the 44-year history of the college.

The majority of the funding will be used to provide \$1,000 scholarships to new students who either have never been to college or who do not have a degree and have not attended college during the past year. Columbus State is seeking matching funds from private sources to expand—and possibly double—the number of students served and the overall length of this innovative program.

Ohio's new strategic plan for higher education calls for a 105 percent increase in the number of college students age 25 and older. "This program is a direct response to Ohio's strategic plan," said Columbus State President Valeriana Moeller. "Community colleges have been serving adult students for many years, and this is a giant step to expand our efforts to help adults who may have thought they missed their chance to go to college." The college will launch the Think Again program for fall quarter 2008. Students will be able to use the \$1,000 scholarship to pay tuition over three academic quarters.

Ohio University Partnership Opens Door for Students to Pursue Bachelor's Degree

In February 2008, Columbus State Community College and Ohio University formed a partnership that significantly expands access to higher education opportunities in central Ohio. The collaboration creates a new program that will allow many Columbus State graduates to pursue an Ohio University Bachelor of Applied and Technical Studies degree on the Columbus State campus.

The B.A.T.S. degree will be available for individuals who have earned an associate degree in one of Columbus State's 50-plus applied science or applied business programs. Beginning in Fall Quarter 2008, they will be able to complete the bachelor's degree from Ohio University by attending classes online and on the Columbus State campus. The program will help working adults and students with busy schedules complete a baccalaureate degree in the equivalent of two additional years of full-time study.

The degree maximizes the transfer of previously earned credits and helps the graduate qualify for advancement in the workplace. The structure requires only three core courses and 10 additional courses selected from four areas of concentration. Students will take three years of classes from Columbus State and one year from Ohio University at Columbus State.

Cuyahoga Community College

On-Going Partnership Maintains Cleveland Scholarships for Education and Training Initiative

As part of an on-going initiative to assist Cleveland Municipal School District 2008 graduates with continuing their education, Dr. Jerry Sue Thornton Cuyahoga Community College President has partnered with City of Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson and Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) CEO Dr. Eugene Sanders to develop *Cleveland Scholarships for Education and Training*. The goal of this program is to change the mindset of students to provide them with an incentive to complete high school and transition to pursuing a higher education degree or certification.

The scholarships will allow students to begin their college education at Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) in Fall 2008. This scholarship program which has raised \$900,000 to date can provide the resources for 275 full-time students and 60 part-time students for the 2008 Fall and Spring semesters.

As part of the scholarship, eligible students, beginning the freshman year, will be awarded up to \$3,000 for full-time students and \$1,250 for part-time students (depending on enrolled credit hours) for tuition, books and instructional fees. This will allow students to pursue their first year of college. Dollars awarded for tuition, books and instructional fees not spent will be returned to the scholarship fund for reallocation.

Recipients of the Cleveland Scholarships for Education and Training program will also have a designated mentor to provide additional academic support services during the school year. These services will include academic counseling, career services, tutoring, peer mentoring, services from the Access Office for students with disabilities, specialized assistance with English courses through the College's Writing Center and workshops to maintain student success.

Several Governmental Partnerships Provide Funds Totaling Over \$10 Million

The U.S. Department of Energy has allocated funds to Tri-C to update its training labs and curriculum to accommodate emerging alternative energy technologies to improve the education of Engineering Technology, Pre-Engineering, and Automotive Technology students and workers. Cuyahoga Community College is committed to the education and training of technicians in the design, design modification, installation, repair, and maintenance of all alternative energy technologies.

Capitalized on New Investment Authority

Cuyahoga Community College was the first community college in the State of Ohio to take advantage of recent

changes in the Ohio Revised that allow public colleges to invest in the equity and private sector fixed income markets. Based upon the new law, the College completely revised our investment process and portfolio in October, 2007. This includes the formation of a Board level investment committee; the hiring of a professional investment advisor; and the development of a completely new investment policy that went into effect on February 16, 2008.

The Investment Committee is responsible for reviewing and recommending revisions to the Investment Policy, providing the Board with advice and recommendations on its investments, and retaining the services of an investment advisor. The role of the independent and objective investment advisor is to assist in the selection, monitoring and reporting of the College's investments and their performance.

The new Investment Policy allows for the creation of a Long Term Pool, which is invested in approximately 65 percent equities and 35 percent fixed income. Over the past 15 years, the return on this asset allocation structure was more than double the return on our previous asset allocation structure (8.83% vs. 4.12%). Given our \$60 million Long Term Fund investment level, the new structure will result in approximately \$3 million additional annual earnings to the College.

Edison Community College

The New Emerson Center Recognized from Coast to Coast

A significant accomplishment of Edison Community College in the last year was the opening of the 34,000 square foot Emerson Center on the main campus in Piqua.

Designed to train more nurses to meet the needs of the health care industry in west central Ohio, this Regional Center of Excellence on Edison's main campus has also "raised the bar for higher education architecture to new heights," according to a national panel of experts who represent architectural services used by universities.

In fact, the Center was recognized by the US Green Building Council as a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Certified building which optimizes performance well beyond building codes producing significant energy and financial savings.

The national American Institute of Architects (AIA) said that Edison's new facility is "at the forefront of the green building movement," which estimates that approximately one-third of the energy used today is consumed by buildings.

Industry Donations Help Make the Center Happen

Emerson Climate Technologies, based in Sidney, provided the single largest gift of \$1-million to The Campaign for Edison Community College. Wayne Hospital in Greenville, Wilson Memorial Hospital in Sidney, and the Upper Valley Medical Center in Troy provided a total gift of \$1-million to launch the campaign.

Edison combined state assistance with nearly \$6-million raised through the Campaign to construct the more than \$9-million facility, the college's first expansion since 1994.

Leading the Way in Utilizing a \$2-Million Grant to Assist Current and Displaced Workers

The 14-partner Western Ohio Training Consortium and the \$2.03-million grant it received to deliver advanced manufacturing training to hundreds of current and displaced workers "are making a difference in the western Ohio region," said Edison Community College President Dr. Kenneth A. Yowell.

"Edison and its partners continue to be catalysts for economic and social change."

The community college is leading this collaboration in an effort to maximize the region's educational resources and offer an industry-driven curriculum that is extremely cost efficient. The training phase of the grant program, which is concluding its initial year, enables men and women to upgrade skills and utilize new and emerging technologies which impact today's advanced manufacturing processes.

This western Ohio project targets employers in Auglaize, Darke, Greene, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby, Van Wert and Warren counties. The ten-county workforce development program is funded through the US Department of Labor's Community-Based Job Training initiative.

Edison is joined by several education partners-- Sinclair Community College, the Wright State University (WSU) Lake Campus in Celina, and the Upper Valley JVS in Piqua. The Job Center Network is also an original member.

In addition, nine major industries, including Honda of America Manufacturing and Emerson Climate Technologies, are consortium members. All nine have worked in concert with at least one of the consortium's educational partners in the past.

Hocking College

Academic Affairs Unit Named National Winner for Institutional Progress in Student Learning Outcomes

In January 2008 the Academic Affairs unit at Hocking College was named one of three national winners by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) for their Institutional Progress in Student Learning Outcomes. The award was established by CHEA to acknowledge outstanding institutional progress in developing and applying evidence of student learning outcomes as part of the ongoing evaluation and improvement of college and university programs of study. Key points in Hocking College's assessment of student academic achievements are summarized below:

Hocking College is dedicated to excellence through outcomes based educations, exemplified through Outcomes-Based Education model of curriculum development. Without faculty support, efforts and leadership, the institution would not be able to achieve its level of desired quality.

"Early Adopter" Seniors to Sophomores Grant Received

A "Seniors to Sophomores Grant" was awarded to Logan-Hocking Schools with Hocking College as the postsecondary partner. Hocking is also partnered with Logan-Hocking Schools for a College Tech Prep program in the state pilot for Biomedical Science. Hocking is also working with three area schools to create seamless College Tech Prep pathways for Project Lead the Way.

\$1.6 M Grant Received to Fund First Building on Energy Institute Campus

Hocking College received a \$1.6 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) to help fund the first building on the Hocking College Energy Institute campus in nearby Hocking County. The Energy Center is seeking a platinum level LEED certification. It is expected 90 new jobs will be created and \$3.4 million in private investment will result from this project. An additional \$192,000 was received from the Appalachian Regional Commission for equipping the facility.

The Hocking College Energy Institute will operate as an alternative energy lab for training technicians in various types on alternative energy, such as fuel cells, wind and solar power, bio fuels, and hybrid vehicles. It will be developed in phases and additional pods will open as needed. The first building is expected to open in fall of 2009. Hybrid Vehicle classes will be offered at leased site adjacent to the Energy Institute while construction is on-going. A Bio-fuel testing lab also offers testing to business and industry and is another opportunity for experiential learning for students.

James A. Rhodes State College

Second Third Frontier Grant Received

In June, Rhodes State College along with partners, American Trim, The Edison Materials Technology Center, Ohio Energy & Advanced Materials Center - City of Lima and Ohio Northern University was recently awarded its second Third Frontier grant in the amount of \$3 million.

This project intends to spur economic development, job retention and job creation by establishing a multi-use facility to develop and demonstrate technology-driven manufacturing methods. Specifically, the project funds will be used to create a Materials Deposition Center (MDC), intended to commercialize advanced functional and decorative thin-film coating processes.

The MDC will scale up laboratory-proven coating technologies into modularized, production-scale digital application systems for near-term commercial projects. The first project will be the development and demonstration of a

low cost engineered finish simulating stainless steel sheet material suitable for use in refrigerators, ovens, microwaves, washers, dryers and control panels for the \$300 million decorative stainless steel appliance market. Team collaborator American Trim has direct access to \$90 million of this market through its appliance original equipment manufacturer customers and expects to create 136 new jobs by using the new engineered finish.

\$1.99 Million Received from the President's Community-Based Job Training Grants Initiative

Rhodes State College received \$1,999,054 from the U.S. Department of Labor in March 2008 as part of \$125 million awarded to 69 community colleges and community-based institutions under the *President's Community-Based Job Training Grants Initiative*. The institutions chosen will use the funds to prepare students for careers in high-growth industries. Rhodes State was chosen from among 341 applications received across the nation in response to a competition announced August 8, 2007.

Introduced by President Bush in his 2004 State of the Union address, *Community-Based Job Training Grants* improve the ability of community colleges to provide their regions' workers with the skills needed to enter growing industries. The first round of 70 competitive awards was made on October 19, 2005. The second round of 72 awards was made on December 11, 2006.

Rhodes State College's project "A Consortium Approach to Meeting the Needs of Healthcare in Northwest Ohio," encompasses 25 mostly rural counties in Northwest Ohio where the demand for allied health professionals is critical in the small community hospitals that operate in this region. From data supplied by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, over 450 allied health professionals will be needed in the next seven years in the four regions that make up Northwest Ohio. Though there are several two-year colleges in the region, the cost of beginning and sustaining allied health education programs is prohibitive.

In order to assist the region in securing the needed allied health professionals, Rhodes State College has partnered with Marion Technical College, Northwest State Community College in Archbold, and Urbana University to begin the Allied Health Education Consortium in Northwest Ohio. The Consortium offers five of the six programs with the highest employment prospects. Rhodes State offers Radiologic Imaging, Respiratory Care, Physical Therapy Assistant and Occupational Therapy Assistant; and Marion Technical College offers the Medical Laboratory Technician degree.

Finalist of Bellwether Award

Rhodes State College's "The Compass Rose Effectiveness Model" was selected as one of ten finalists for the prestigious Bellwether Award of the Community College Futures Assembly in the Planning, Governance and Finance category. The Assembly is sponsored by the Institute of Higher Education at the University of Florida and focuses on cutting-edge, trendsetting programs that other colleges might find worthy of replicating. As a national finalist, Rhodes State presented the model at the Community College Futures Assembly, held in Orlando Florida in January 2008.

The Compass Rose, Rhodes State College's comprehensive model of institutional effectiveness, displays the mission criteria at the center of the model, the key performance indicators (KPIs) demonstrating the level of mission achievement and the stakeholders whose needs help to drive the expectations for mission achievement. The Compass Rose graphically connects the College's mission to the needs of its stakeholders through measurable outcomes of effectiveness. The analyses derived from the measurements included within the Compass Rose are used as a basis for reviewing existing institutional plans and building continuous improvement plans.

Jefferson Community College

Partnership Created for New Multi-County Community College System in Northeastern Ohio

Jefferson Community College is a partner with the Implementation Team for Expanding Community College Education in the Eastern Ohio/Mahoning Valley Region in creating a new multi-county community college system in northeastern Ohio.

OMEGA Grant Received for Establishing the Energy Distributive Technician Program

The college received an OMEGA Grant for the purpose of establishing the Energy Distributive Technician (electrical lineman and cabling) program conferring an associate of applied science degree. The college is collaborating with the AEP company in the development and administration of this program. The program will be instituted in the 08-09 academic year.

Achieving the Dream Student Success Program Meets Several Targeted Goals

The college's Achieving the Dream student success program met several of its targeted goals. Our course completion rate was 81% for all students. The pass rates for our English 101 students was above targeted levels; and our fall completion rate for new, degree-seeking students was at target. Six of our gatekeeper courses are above target in student pass rates. Our student satisfaction ratings in both Noel-Levitz and in the CCSSE are above national averages.

Lakeland Community College

The Lakeland Foundation Capital Campaign Raises More Than \$ 4 Million

The Lakeland Foundation raised more than \$4 million during its three-year capital campaign, "Campaign for the Future," which ended in September. Over 9,000 separate gifts were received from more than 2,300 generous donors to ensure that Lakeland continues to make a difference in the lives of students and the community. The funds raised will provide scholarship dollars and technology grants for students, faculty grants to encourage innovation in teaching, and dollars for special projects to give students the best college learning experience possible. The campaign goal was achieved through a combination of solicited gifts, sponsored events, and individual and corporate donations.

Partnership with Cleveland State to Establish Several Degree Programs

Lakeland Community College and Cleveland State University are partnering to bring several Cleveland State degree programs to the Lakeland campus. Through this partnership, Lakeland students are able to transfer seamlessly into these programs and complete their degrees close to home. Lakeland graduates who transfer to Cleveland State have the same rights and privileges accorded students who began their initial studies at Cleveland State. This includes equal opportunity for registration, financial aid, scholarships, and advising, use of the University Library and recreation facilities, and participation in student activities.

Associate of Technical Studies Degree Offered to Adult Learners

Lakeland Community College is partnering with four other Ohio community colleges to offer an Associate of Technical Studies degree and support services to help adult learners make the transition back to college. The ATS degree is unique because it takes into account past academic and work experience, which can help students earn a degree faster. Students age 24 or older with some academic and work experiences are eligible for this fast track. Students choose one college to award the degree and receive the advantages of taking courses from other colleges. The ATS degree transfers into selected online bachelor's degree programs at three Ohio universities.

Lorain Community College

Named Project Leader for \$ 4.9 Million National Science Foundation Program Establishing a National Center for Welding Education and Training

Lorain County Community College has been named project leader for a \$4.9 million National Science Foundation (NSF) program establishing a National Center for Welding Education and Training on the LCCC campus. The Center will increase the number of science and engineering welding technicians to meet workforce demands.

The Center will be housed in LCCC's Manufacturing Center for Excellence in the Nord Advanced Technology Center. It will promote a comprehensive reform in welding education by providing technologically current educational materials and professional development opportunities to two-year colleges and other educational institutions.

The Center will focus on strengthening the educational aspects of welding technicians. The availability of welding technicians is essential to maintaining manufacturing strength in the United States.

Ranked Among Nation's Top 10 Community College Foundations

The Lorain County Community College Foundation, which is a direct support organization for LCCC that leverages resources from the philanthropic and leadership community, was ranked eighth nationally this past year by the National Association of College Business Officers. LCCC's Foundation, which has more than \$25 million in assets,

provides the College with the “margin of excellence” to assist the College in achieving its mission.

During 2008, the LCCC Foundation received two unprecedented gifts in Ohio community college foundation history. A \$5 million endowed gift by Mrs. Beth Stocker was given to the LCCC Foundation making it the largest gift ever provided to LCCC as well as the largest in Ohio. This \$5 million gift was designated to support programming at the C. Paul Stocker Fine Arts and Humanities Center on the college’s campus, LCCC’s University Partnership Program and LCCC Foundation’s general endowment fund. Mrs. Stocker passed away in 2005 at the age of 97. Since opening in 1980, the Stocker Arts Center has served over 1 million patrons and is among the leading providers of children’s programs in the state.

A \$3 million commitment to name the College’s new Library/Community Resource Center has also been garnered, which is the largest campaign gift in the LCCC Foundation history.

Partnership with University of Akron to Strengthen the Innovation Alliance

The University of Akron (UA) and Lorain County Community College (LCCC) continue to strengthen the Innovation Alliance — a unique partnership enhancing innovation and economic growth in the region — through the signing of a new agreement to share “back office” technologies that will benefit both institutions and be a model for the new University System of Ohio and nationwide.

Dr. Luis M. Proenza, president of The University of Akron, and Dr. Roy Church, president of Lorain County Community College, signed the agreement on May 30. In the agreement, UA will act as a service provider for LCCC enterprise business applications utilizing PeopleSoft Campus Solutions software. Student-services applications include admissions, records, accounting and financial aid. Applications for financial services include budgeting, accounts payable, purchasing and non-student accounts receivable. Human-resources applications include employee records, payroll and benefits.

Marion Technical College

“Early Adopter” Seniors to Sophomores Grant Received

MTC has partnered with Highland Local School District for nearly a decade to not only transition its graduates to go to college, but also in assigning regular full-time faculty to teach college courses at the school campus under Ohio’s Post-Secondary Enrollment Options Program. As a result, many seniors have graduated with roughly 25 credit hours to jump start their college career.

Our longstanding School-College Partnership with the Highland District rose to new heights as an OBR *Seniors to Sophomores Early Adopter Grant* was awarded to accelerate the number of students who graduate from 12th grade with at least sophomore standing at USO institutions. A total of 15 Highland seniors were admitted to the Marion Technical College to begin full-time student enrollment on the MTC campus during their senior year beginning in September, 2008, during the pilot year. We look forward to developing student support to ensure success, following the progress of these seniors to sophomores, and assessing the longitudinal outcomes of the initiative.

Partnership Established the Allied Health Education Consortium of Northwest Ohio

Marion Technical College helped establish the Allied Health Education Consortium of Northwest Ohio. Under the leadership of Rhodes State College, MTC, Northwest State Community College, and Urbana University, were awarded a 1.2 million dollar grant from the U.S Department of Labor to build the capacity to educate workers for high growth employment in the allied health care industry where demand for qualified workers outstrips the supply. College partners are sharing their current programs to expand capacity, transferring credit hours, and attracting workers of the future into allied health programs through generous scholarships.

Post Secondary Enrollment Option Enrollment Numbers Increase by 12%

Post Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) has been a focus of the Marion Technical College Strategic plan. Through this focus, Fall 2007 PSEO enrollment numbers increased by 12% to 341 students. This brings the Post Secondary Enrollment Option students to total 16% of the student population at MTC. Increased focus on enrolling high school students aligns well with the state’s focus (i.e. Seniors to Sophomores).

North Central State College

Early College Experience Enrollment Numbers Increase

North Central State College dramatically increased the number of participating school districts and students in the second year of the HB 119 dual credit grant program. It provided site-based coursework at 13 districts (63% increase) to approximately 260 students (50% increase). Of 32 students responding to an online survey, 97% agreed/strongly agreed that their dual credit experience was more difficult than high school coursework. Also, 69% reported they were more likely to apply to college after participating in the program. In addition, for the past two years a portion of grant funds has been used to provide discipline-specific graduate coursework to high school teachers at Ohio State University-Mansfield with the intention of creating a future pool of site-based, qualified adjunct professors. Eighteen teachers took classes this year. Given this increasing demand for dual credit coursework, a portion of a Seniors to Sophomores grant will facilitate discussions amongst secondary/postsecondary to provide creative financing options for future dual credit opportunities.

North Central Ohio P-16 Council Created

North Central State College led the effort to convene a multi-county P-16 council. It helped facilitate intensive planning during Fall 2007 involving more than 150 individuals. The council has branded itself Succeed and Prosper through Education – Ashland, Richland and Crawford (SPARC), and is currently executing its extensive strategic plan. It reached its goal to fund a professional support structure (two-years) in only a few months; it is facilitating an effort to universally offer the ACT EXPLORE and PLAN assessments over its partner counties (including follow up); and it is intending to pilot of series of high school workshops to help ease the transition to postsecondary. Topics could include admissions process, financial aid, postsecondary expectations, placement tests, etc. Finally, it has engaged a national expert on the millennial generation to craft community workshops to help both educators and employers better engage these youth.

Regional Innovation Grant Received to Align Educational Resources to Support Economic and Talent Development Strategies

North Central State College is helping administer a \$250,000 federal planning grant to better align educational resources to support the economic and talent development strategy over nine counties of North Central Ohio (EDR 6). It is helping to gather key statistical data, including a ground-breaking report correlating the occupational (O*NET) skills of dislocated workers to comparable regional occupations with higher growth/earnings potential. It has also interviewed more than 130 major manufacturing and health care companies to gather contextual data around these statistics. It is simultaneously serving as the regional coordinator of the Ohio Skills Bank, where it is sharing data with regional employers and workforce providers to help drive career pathways planning.

Northwest State Community College

Winner of 8th Annual USA Intercollegiate Recylmania Competition

Northwest State's expanding sustainability organization led by faculty, staff and students, has culminated a mindset-change across the campus with the news that NSCC is now a national champion in recycling. Dr. Edward Singer, instructor and co-chair of the Education for Sustainability group at Northwest State, announced that the college had finished at the top of the 8th Annual USA Intercollegiate Recylmania Competition. Our first place award was in the category of generating the least amount of trash per capita (among students, faculty and staff on campus) over a ten-week period during spring semester 2008. The college also finished 8th out of more than 400 colleges and universities competing for the grand prize. Across all competing campuses more than 58 million pounds of waste was recycled.

On June 21, 2008 Northwest State, Archbold Area Schools, and Pettisville Local School districts received a grant from Green Energy Ohio to construct a wind study tower to measure wind speeds at varying heights over the next year. The Anemometer Loan Program which was awarded in May, 2008 will offer data that local school and college officials believe will lead to a future wind turbine at one, or more of the three schools involved in the project. As the first project of its kind in Ohio, two public school districts are working in collaboration with their community college to develop wind energy in Northwest Ohio creating an outstanding opportunity for learning and economic development for the area.

Partnership with Rhodes State College Provides Students Opportunity to Enroll in Radiology Program

The Northwest Ohio Allied Health Education Consortium received a federal grant to fund new educational opportunities for students in the allied health field. With this consortium, students will have access to degrees not currently available at their community college. These programs are respiratory care, radiographic imaging, and medical lab technology. Students enrolling in these plans will complete their general education course work at their "home" community college and their technical courses will be offered by the providing college. Beginning Fall Semester 2008, Northwest State students will have the opportunity to enroll in the radiology program offered through Rhodes State. Students will take a portion of the course work on our campus, a portion through video conferencing with Rhodes State on our campus, and travel to Rhodes every other Saturday for lab course work. The clinical portion of the program will be completed at our local hospitals.

Partnership with Defiance College Allows Students to Pursue Nursing Degree

Northwest State and Defiance College, (a local private 4-year college) are partnering for a bachelor's degree in nursing. Prior to this partnership, students in Northwest Ohio desiring a bachelor's degree in nursing were required to travel 50 plus miles. Beginning fall of 2008, students can enroll in a four-year program with two years being completed at Defiance College and two years at Northwest State. This new program has the financial endorsement of the eight area hospitals.

Owens Community College

The Success Program Collaborative Scholarship Initiative an Early Success

The Success Program collaborative scholarship initiative began with the quest to reach out to urban high school students enrolled in the Toledo Public School District, located in Lucas County, Ohio. (As a matter of reference, Lucas County's poverty rate is 15.2 percent.) Only 38 percent of the Toledo Public School District's high school graduates become first-year college students at Ohio colleges. (Source: Ohio Board of Regents) In recognition of the need to provide these graduates with access to higher education, the Owens Community College Foundation collaborated with the Toledo Public School District to pilot a scholarship success program for Woodward High School Class of 2008 graduates. The Owens Success Program supplements students' financial aid using resources raised by the Owens Foundation. At the kick off event that was held at Woodward High School last February, senior class students were asked to accomplish three objectives...the first was to graduate from Woodward High School; the second was to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); and, the third was to enroll at Owens Community College for fall semester 2008 classes.

Owens Community College is already celebrating the early success of this program. The Woodward High School graduates, who have qualified for full federal financial aid, told us that they would have never aspired to college without the assurance of the Owens' Success Program. Many high school graduates from the Toledo Public School district become first-generation college students. Knowing this, college administrators designed a "Summer Bridge to Success Program" to jump-start these new students' academic success and to fully prepare them for the rigor of college courses.

The Owens Foundation has raised \$112,000 in donations toward the implementation of the Success Program, which is being piloted fall semester 2008 for graduates from Toledo's Woodward High School (Lucas County) and Findlay High School (Hancock County). *It is the College's goal to eventually extend the Success Program to all high schools located in the College's legal district and service area in Lucas, Wood and Hancock Counties, and it involves raising \$12 million to endow the program.*

By removing financial barriers and providing needed support services, Owens Community College is helping urban and rural high school graduates to achieve their dreams of higher education.

Partnership with The University of Toledo Provides Greater Access to Applied Technology Associate Degree Graduates

The success of a community depends on its educated and trained citizens. Owens Community College and the University of Toledo have created a unique pathway giving greater access to higher education for Northwest Ohio's applied technology associate degree graduates.

A pervasive challenge that has existed for many years in Ohio is the lack of degree completion programs at the baccalaureate level for applied associate degree graduates of public two-year colleges. Specifically, applied technology degree graduates of Ohio's two-year colleges have very few options within four-year public institutions to continue their higher education. Recognizing this unmet need, Owens Community College collaborated with the University of Toledo to pilot an applied bachelor's degree in the college of Business called the Bachelors of Applied Organizational Technology. This new degree recognizes all of the technical and general education coursework completed as part of the applied business associate degree and creates a pathway curriculum comprised of advanced business and general education coursework. The degree awarded is more closely aligned to a "traditional" business degree and is much more understandable to employers.

Collaboration with Lucas County Commissioners Opens Learning Center at The Source

Our mission, "We believe in our students and our communities. Your success is our mission," leads Owens Community College to explore all the possibilities of giving all citizens access to higher education.

Owens Community College advocates for adult workers to enroll and complete their associate degrees. Owens collaborated with the Lucas County Commissioners to open a learning center at The Source, a one-stop employment and training center located in downtown Toledo, to provide Lucas County adults with access to higher education and career training. Since the Owens Learning Center's August 2007 launch, more than 1,000 students have enrolled in classes and about 25 percent of these students have been new to Owens Community College. (As a matter of reference, Toledo has an unemployment rate of 6.4 percent.) Course offerings include English, math, computers, office administration, nurse assistant training, and skilled trades and class schedules are developed with consideration of the unique needs of the urban, older adult student population of the learning center.

Owens Community College actively cultivates partnerships with governmental agencies, businesses, industries and community organizations to advance the opportunities, earnings and health of the people living in our communities.

Rio Grande Community College

Collaboration in Meigs County Opens the Meigs Center

During this past year, Rio Grande Community College has finalized a community partnership in Meigs County among the Community College, the Meigs Local School Board, and the Meigs County Community Improvement Corporation. Together, the entities have constructed a \$2.3 million, 13,000 square foot facility called the Meigs Center, on property donated by and adjacent to the Meigs Local Middle and High School facilities. The building includes eight classrooms, a computer lab, and a distance learning classroom. Through cooperative funding arrangements, including state and federal grants and local contributions, the Community College will lease the facility from the CIC at cost with the option to purchase the building in fifteen years for \$1.

Rio Grande Community College has also developed a cooperative agreement with the University of Rio Grande to teach courses at the Center. The agreement provides for the Community College to operate the Center with the University providing academic programs and classes. The Community College is also discussing plans with all three local school districts in Meigs County to increase postsecondary enrollments at the Center. As the Eastern and Southern local school districts provide transportation to Meigs Local for vocational/career program classes, it is possible to transport postsecondary students to the Center under the same transportation arrangements. The Center will open for classes on August 25, 2008.

Meigs County is rated as the Ohio county with the highest potential for economic development in the next few years. Rio Grande has entered into discussions with Belmont Technical College to offer its deep mining program at the Meigs Center in cooperation with Rio Grande Community College and the Meigs County CIC. The Community College has also discussed with the University of Rio Grande the possibility of offering most of the Power Plant Technology program at the Center. The Ohio Valley Electric Corporation at Kyger Creek, Gallia County, plans to use the Center for some of its training meetings and programs and has already utilized business and industry training provided by Rio Grande Community College on its main campus.

Sinclair Community College

NSF Awards Dayton Urban STEM Academy Grant

The National Science Foundation yesterday awarded Sinclair Community College the Dayton Urban STEM Academy grant for \$642,863 for three years beginning January 1, 2009. This STEM teacher talent professional development initiative will create:

- An environment where urban high school students pursue urban teaching careers.
- A STEM teacher development pipeline with articulation from high school to community college to four-year universities to produce the next generation of STEM educators for impoverished urban schools.
- A new K-12 science and mathematics teacher education paradigm that utilizes national and state Tech Prep program standards and best practices in STEM education to provide future teachers a solid, content-rich foundation in STEM disciplines and the pedagogical framework to effectively teach STEM subjects.

Courseview Inks Five Collaborative Agreements

Five area universities will soon be offering classes at the Sinclair Community College Courseview Campus Center in Warren County. Each university will offer specific programs, including:

- University of Dayton – Master’s level education courses
- Miami University – Baccalaureate engineering and nursing courses
- University of Cincinnati – Two teachers licensure programs
- Wright State University – Master’s level education courses now, full MBA this fall
- Wilmington College – Baccalaureate business administration courses

Sinclair and Area Health Care Providers Collaborate

The Online Nurse ReEntry project funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services offers an online, career ladder program via distance learning to prepare inactive licensed RNs for reentry into clinical practice. The partners are: Miami Valley Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital, Greater Dayton Hospital Association, the Ohio Nursing Association, and the Nursing Institute of West Central Ohio. Sinclair received the grant award last year and the program started July 1, 2008.

Southern State Community College

Collaborations Increase Dual Enrollment Options

In 2007, Southern State received a grant to offer courses at Miami Trace High School for their students. Earlier this year, the program received an additional \$10,000 in state funding. The program at Miami Trace continues to be successful, with the school district reporting a record total of 34 participants as of October, 2007. In addition to the increased participation in the Miami Trace program, Southern State has seen an overall increase in PSEO enrollment of 68% since 2007.

While the PSEO program has been beneficial for high school students, the dual enrollment option is another choice for qualifying juniors and seniors to take college courses in the STEM disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). Courses in foreign language may also be taken. In spring of 2007, Southern State Community College participated in the Dual Credit Network Region 14 Grant. The college’s Dual Credit program has three focuses: 1) Southern State offered math courses online to incoming juniors and seniors starting Spring Quarter 2007; 2) Summer Quarter 2007 to present, Southern State has offered courses in science and math for incoming juniors and seniors; 3) The college offered Summer Institutes in 2007 and 2008 for high school chemistry teachers.

Southern State has expanded the dual enrollment program in the area of chemistry. Dr. Don Storer, Professor of Chemistry at the college, worked with three area high schools – Blanchester, Clinton-Massie (both of Clinton County), and Washington Court House (Fayette County) to bring their chemistry students to the college’s Central Campus in Hillsboro to do experiments in the college’s laboratory. This summer (2008) the three high school chemistry teachers joined Dr. Storer for a three-day workshop at Mount Vernon where they were involved in archaeological excavations at Washington’s home. During this year’s Summer Institute, those same teachers, along with several others, analyzed the soil samples obtained from the excavations.

As the enrollment in Southern State's Dual Credit continues to grow, the college will expand its offerings accordingly. For the upcoming academic year, approximately ten high schools in the college's service region will take advantage of this program. In addition to chemistry and math, Southern State will also offer English courses to students eligible for the dual enrollment option.

“Early Adopters” Seniors to Sophomores Grant Received

As part of the S2S initiative, Southern State joined forces with Shawnee State University and Scioto County Career and Technical Center to form a pilot program called the “Early Adopters.” The partnership received an \$89,000 grant that will be used primarily within two areas: 1) Southern State will offer courses that are not offered by Shawnee State to Scioto County CTC students; and 2) Through articulations and Career Technical Credit Transfer (CT2), allow high school and adult students to earn college credit for technical courses.

Named Host of OCAN's Southern Ohio Center of Excellence Pilot Program

In February 2006, Southern State Community College became a site for the Ohio College Access Network's (OCAN) pilot project known as the Southern Ohio Center of Excellence (SOCOE). The Center's mission is to increase the number of young people and adults in the region who enter into and successfully complete postsecondary education. To help achieve this mission, the Center works to develop partnerships with local workforce boards, school districts, criminal justice systems, faith-based community organizations, and Chambers of Commerce. Strategic partners help to provide services such as classroom enrichment activities, student financial aid advising, college tours, last dollar scholarships, and a college access resource center in each of the five service counties. One year after its formation, the Southern Ohio Center of Excellence was selected as one of only three college access organizations across Ohio to earn OCAN's Seal of Excellence for exceptional success providing low-income, underserved youth and adults the opportunity to go to college. By earning the Seal, the Center has met OCAN's highest standards of operation and established the national, statewide, and local credibility for the next two years. During the 2006-2007 school year, SOCOE provided access services to more than 8,000 students in Adams, Brown, Clinton, Fayette and Highland Counties.

Stark State College of Technology

Expansion of Fuel Cell Technology Initiatives

In 2007-08, Stark State College has continued to expand its fuel cell technology initiatives. Such expansions include a \$1.6 million four-year grant from the National Science Foundation that will enable the College to broaden its previous NSF-funded fuel cell curriculum development work into a five-state region, promising to lead to development of a Great Lakes Fuel Cell Education Center in five years. The College also has received a \$787,200 U.S. Department of Energy grant, which will enable fuel cell technology students at Stark State to test the reliability of fuel cell balance-of-plant components with partner Lockheed Martin; and recently received a \$3 million Third Frontier Wright Projects grant to expand the College's Fuel Cell Prototyping Center and further its partnerships with Rolls-Royce Fuel Cell Systems (US) and Contained Energy, Inc. These three projects take the College's total of grants received for fuel cell initiatives to more than \$11.8 million, making it one of the leading two-year colleges in the country in fuel cell technology.

Associate of Arts/Associate of Science Degrees Articulated with Kent State University

In an effort to foster greater access to quality and affordable higher education and to advance economic development, workforce development, social justice, and social equity Stark State College of Technology and Kent State University gained permission to expand associate and bachelor's degree offerings from the Ohio Board of Regents. Collaboration between Stark State College of Technology, Kent State University, and the Kent State Stark Campus will enable the citizens of Stark County to access a full range of associate degrees and a wider range of Kent State University's bachelor's and selected master's degrees at our co-located campuses. The collaboration between campuses provides students the opportunity to transfer courses seamlessly and to climb the degree ladder from associate to bachelor's to master's degrees.

\$1.53 Million in Choose Ohio First Scholarship Funds Received

Choose Ohio First scholarship funding is provided by the State of Ohio to significantly strengthen the ability of the state and its citizens to compete in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), as well as in medical fields and STEM education. Stark State College is receiving \$1.53 million in Choose Ohio First scholarship funds over the next five years as a result of its partnerships with Kent State University (KSU), University of

Akron (UA) and University of Toledo (UT). The project with KSU focuses on biotechnology; the Akron project, on biotechnology and engineering technology; and the UT project on engineering technology.

Terra Community College

Terra Awarded \$1.416 million Title III grant from the U.S. Department of Education

The crux of the 50-page grant proposal is that Terra seeks to expand student access to learning experiences through development of a comprehensive distance learning program. The grant will allow the college to increase the number of courses, instructors and students at a much faster pace than it could do on its own.

The grant project has very specific goals which college officials plan to meet by September, 2013. Terra will improve its current modest distance learning program by:

- Increasing the number of distance learning course sessions offered by Terra from 38 to 67.
- Increasing the number of students enrolled in distance learning courses from 527 to 884.
- And, increasing the number of full-time and part-time faculty who are teaching distance learning courses from 25 to 52. They will use the Angel course management system that has already been purchased by the college.

Major Gifts Campaign Nears \$2 Million Goal

The goal of Terra's major gifts campaign, *Investment in the Future*, is to raise \$2 million. The campaign, the first in a decade at Terra, is designed to provide needed support in two primary areas:

- State-of-the-art instructional lab equipment for new and existing academic programs
- Additional assistance to students through need-based scholarship awards

Gifts to date total \$1,503,500 with the largest sums coming from local business and industry. The target date for wrap-up of the campaign is Sept. 25, 2008.

Terra and Lorain County Community College Collaborate on Clinical Laboratory Science Program

In June, the presidents of Terra and Lorain County community colleges signed a unique memorandum of understanding that paves the way for the new Clinical Laboratory Science degree collaboration.

Beginning Fall 2008, students will take their general education courses at Terra. In 2009, they will begin taking the technical portion of the CLS program through Lorain, most likely via videostreaming. They will complete the lab portion also at Terra and will be placed in clinical sites in this area.

Washington State Community College

Collaborative Agreements Help High School Students Aspire and Prepare for College

Project Lead the Way – Through this College Tech Prep collaboration with Marietta High School, students begin an engineering career path with specially designed high school classes leading to college coursework in Engineering Technology. This fall the first group of Project Lead the Way high school juniors will begin courses on the Washington State Campus.

Dual Enrollment STEM Courses – Through a collaborative effort with the University of Rio Grande, Hocking College, Ohio University, and several area high schools. Washington State is offering dual enrollment credit in College Algebra or Trigonometry to students at Meigs High School, Morgan High School, Marietta High School, and Belpre High School. Courses are team taught by a high school and a college instructor. Thirty students successfully completed one of these courses through WSCC during 2007-2008. An Ohio Department of Education grant through HB 119 is providing an additional \$225,000 in Southeastern Ohio for this effort in 2008-2009.

Seniors to Sophomores – Washington State is partnering with Morgan Local Schools to provide 40 credit hours of

Transfer Module and Transfer Assurance Guide (TAG) courses to 20 high school seniors. This innovative program begins in August 2008 and includes a variety of course delivery options including team teaching, interactive video, and hybrid courses. Students will attend classes at both Washington State Community College and the Morgan County Learning Center. A \$65,000 Seniors to Sophomores grant supports the effort.

Online Chemical Operator Certification Program Created for Non-Traditional Students

Partnering with the chemical manufacturer industry, Washington State Community College's (WSCC) Academic and Workforce Development departments worked together to develop a chemical operator certification program to meet Ohio's needs for skilled chemical operators. Certification courses were designed to enhance technology, critical thinking, decision-making and communication skills. For incumbent chemical operators, who by-and-large are all non-traditional students, higher education isn't often feasible because of time and location constraints nor is it a personal goal because they have good jobs. To overcome these constraints courses were made a priority by employers and the college created online delivery. Online course delivery opened several opportunities for employers, employees, and WSCC Workforce Development.

Online course delivery made content available to the workforce anytime and anyplace overcoming the barriers many non-traditional student populations express. This meant that the employee could 'attend' class at any-time and, because it was supported by the employer, most often right in his/her work environment. Due to work schedule and family conflicts, availability turned out to be critical as most full-time employees do not have the time flexibility to attend a traditional class. Online course delivery also meant that the courses could be flexibly scheduled rather than locked into the academic calendar. This often proved to be better suited for the employer and consequently the employees.

One very positive outcome of the partnership between Washington State and industry showed a strong positive return on investment for both entities. For example Evonik-Degussa, a Belpre, Ohio, chemical manufacturer, and WSCC piloted the online chemical operator certification program in the fall of 2007. Evonik-Degussa required all chemical operators to take the Introduction to Chemical Operator course; Evonik-Degussa offered salary incentive for completion of the introductory course. Upon course completion of the introductory course, Evonik-Degussa showed an increased profit directly tied to the training as production showed a 57% increase and a 93% decrease in off-spec inventory. This profit allowed the plant to reinvest in its infrastructure to reactivate an idled production unit yielding higher margin products for Evonik-Degussa. For WSCC, there has been an increased enrollment in the chemical operator program. Additionally, success of this the online chemical operation certification program has produced a working educational model that will be used to offer similarly based certification programs.

Zane State College

Ranked 9th Among Two-Year Colleges by Washington Monthly Magazine

In the fall of 2007, Zane State College was ranked ninth among two-year colleges in the nation, according to a report released by Washington Monthly magazine. The results were based on graduation rates and on student feedback as collected in the Community College Survey of Student Engagement. Specific measurements in determining the rankings included: academic challenge, student-faculty interaction, support for learners, student effort, and graduation rates.

Student Winner of Prestigious New Century Scholars Award

Zane State College student Dale Bookless, Jr. was selected as the winner of the prestigious New Century Scholars Award, which named him as the top two-year college student in the state of Ohio. Bookless' achievement marked the first time a Zane State College student has been recognized as the New Century Scholar in the College's nearly 40-year history.

Ten Students Qualify to Advance to the Business Professionals of America National Competition

Ten Zane State College accounting students were qualified to advance to the Business Professionals of America (BPA) national competition, making Zane State College the best performing college in the state BPA conferences. Four of the ten qualifying students attended the national competition in Reno, Nevada where the students captured a number of top awards, including first place in Fundamental Accounting and Financial Math and Analysis; second place in Payroll Accounting; and second place in Fundamental Accounting.