



**News release**

May 11, 2009

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**Batten keynotes Gateway graduation  
ceremony slated for May 18**

KENOSHA – Twin Disc Incorporated chairman and chief executive officer Michael E. Batten will be the keynote speaker at Gateway Technical College's Associate Degree and Technical Diploma Class of 2009 Commencement 7 p.m. May 18 at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside Sports and Activity Center.

The ceremony will recognize an estimated 1,035 candidates for graduation.

Batten has been employed by Twin Disc since June 1, 1970 and has served a number of positions with the company. He joined the company as a financial analyst and has held the positions of assistant secretary; secretary and assistant treasurer; vice president; secretary; executive vice president; president, chief executive officer; and chairman and chief executive officer.

Batten serves as the chairman and director of the Racine County Workforce Development Board, is a member of Forward Racine and is a corporation director of the Milwaukee School of Engineering. He is the chairman and CEO of the Racine Commercial Airport Corporation and is a trustee emeritus

of The Prairie School. Batten earned his bachelor of arts degree from Yale University and his MBA from the Harvard School of Business Administration.

Other commencement highlights include the presentation of the 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award by the Gateway Technical College Foundation Inc. to Bruce Battersby, who graduated from Gateway in 1977 in Accounting and 1982 in Data Processing. Battersby is the manager of AS/400 Systems for Sensient Technologies Corporation, Milwaukee.

Battersby has remained steadfast over the years in his commitment to helping others in the community and “giving back” to Gateway. He has served as a Programmer Analyst Advisory Board member and chairperson since 2002, was instrumental in securing scholarship grants for Gateway students, and volunteers his time to provide professional expertise to the Programmer Analyst program. Batten has also served the community in many capacities with his service work.

Bryan Albrecht, Gateway president, will deliver the welcome. Pamela Zenner-Richards, chairperson of the Gateway Board of Trustees, and Albrecht will present degrees; Tiara Ormond, a student from the Kenosha Campus, will provide the Student Response; and Mike Vernezze, faculty member, will lead the ceremony opening and closing.

See the 2009 Gateway Graduation on Time Warner Cable – Kenosha/Racine on digital Channel 194, 7 p.m. May 22 and 2 p.m. May 24.

Gateway Technical College collaborates with communities in Kenosha, Racine and Walworth counties to ensure economic growth and viability by providing education, training, leadership and technological resources to meet the challenging needs of students, employers and communities.

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