



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

November 16, 2017

GATEWAY AS A LEADER

In collaboration with Veterans Support Services, we identified a local veteran to participate in our Veterans Honors event on November 7th. Mrs. Harriet Johnson served in the military during World War II and later became a graduate of Gateway Technical College in our Nursing program. She was honored during the awards portion of the Veterans Honors event. Mrs. Johnson also toured the Inspire Center and was thrilled to meet our staff as well as President Bryan Albrecht.



ACADEMIC AND CAMPUS AFFAIRS

Allied Health/Veterinary Sciences

Discussions were held this month with Froedtert South (formerly United Hospital System-Kenosha) to develop additional capacity in Medical Assistant, Phlebotomy training and explore the development of a respiratory therapy program. As a result, Froedtert South leadership has promised additional clinical placements within their system for MA and offered space to conduct an on-site phlebotomy Boot Camp which will be scheduled during the 2018 spring semester. We will facilitate

discussions with MATC which has offered to partner with Gateway to provide seats in their existing fully accredited Respiratory Therapy program based at the Milwaukee downtown campus.

Aurora Health Care has promised additional clinical placements for MA students in the Kenosha area. In addition, their leadership team has authorized Gateway Technical College to access their excess equipment inventory to acquire needed items for our new MA lab in Kenosha.

Over 30 area physical therapy professionals attended the PTA Clinical Instructor (CI) training we offered in Kenosha on November 4.

Dean Mike O'Donnell has been asked by the regional president of the Aurora Health Care facilities in Burlington and Elkhorn to serve on its Community Steering Council for another two-year term.

Mike met with the KUSD health careers club and their advisor Howard Towne, on November 7 to tour the Kenosha health program spaces and answer questions about the various program options offered at Gateway Technical College.

Mike attended the NaBITA national conference in San Antonio November 13-15 as part of his CARE Team responsibilities. He will also attend the Statewide Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) board of directors meeting on December 1 held at the UW-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health. Later that same day, Mike will join the Pharmacy Technician instructional staff at the Abbey in Fontana, WI to help celebrate the 5th Anniversary of the Elkhorn Open Arms Free Clinic.

Developmental Education

On October 24th, instructor Rich Malloy took the Elkhorn Adult High School students on a field trip to Precision Plus. This field trip is one of the activities for the Adult High School Workplace Learning Inspiration Grant funded by the Gateway Foundation. Jones Bus Company donated the bus. Future activities will include tours of the IMET and observation of the CNC Boot Camps.

On October 25th and October 26th, nine ABE and ELL faculty attended the 2017 Common Ground Conference, "Coordinating Efforts to Improve Student Success" hosted by the Wisconsin Technical College System.

From October 14th to October 28th ELL Instructor Ginger Karaway hosted Xioadan Wu, a visiting ELL instructor from China.

Twenty-eight students have earned their GED credential since the start of the academic school year.

Transition Specialist Linda Badillo presented to the following groups during the month of October:

Parent Group - Brass Elementary (KUSD)
ELS Parent Night - Bradford High School (KUSD)
Parent Group - EBSOLA Elementary (KUSD)

General Studies

Richard McLaughlin's manuscript was accepted for publication in the journal "Current Microbiology". This work was part of the Provost Honors Program. The first author, Jessica M. Schmidt, was a former Provost Honors student that did the research.

Reyna Juarez and Jennifer Cumpston attended the Wisconsin Women in Higher Education Leadership annual conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, which focused on celebrating diversity.

Soheila Brouk, Manal Rizek, and Jennifer Cumpston attended the 2017 Common Ground Conference in Appleton, Wisconsin, which focused on coordinating efforts between general education and ABE to improve student success.

Manufacturing/Engineering Technology

The Horticulture department provided emergency assistance in harvesting for a local urban farmer who had an urgent need for help (our farm manager, Ali Schultz). Students came together at a moment's notice to help with the harvest. It was an exhausting day, but wonderful sense of community to help one of our own.

The state Structural Welding Certification by one of three American Welding Society CWI's / State of Wisconsin Weld Test conductors on staff (Erik Ogren) is now being offered as a service to industry and the general public.

WE Energies – donated a generous amount of pipe and fittings to our welding program through a former graduate.

Elkhorn Campus

The campus will host an *Explore Gateway* session for local high school students on November 17.

The campus hosted the annual Transfer Fair on November 8 in which over 30 colleges participated.

The campus is gearing up to participate in the 2017 Christmas Parade held in downtown Elkhorn on December 2.

COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Work continues with updating graphics around the college to incorporate the new spaces with existing graphics. We also are working with staff on "Building Our Future" with the development of a marketing and communication plan.

Stephanie Sklba participated in a M7 (economic development partnership platform for the seven counties of southeastern Wisconsin) Higher Education Leadership Forum with colleges from across the region. At lunch, a group that included members of the Wisconsin Advisory Council of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition was joined by Mark Green, administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development. Great discussions came from these meetings.

Sustainability

We continued our growing numbers of Girl Scout troops that visit the Center for Sustainable Living.

Through the summer months, we have had 575 K-12 students and teachers visit the CSL, this is included in the numbers to total 900 visitors.

We held a STEM Girl Scout event at the Madrigano and hosted 2 tables during the event. It was great turnout and very informative for our guests.

Marketing and Communications

The SEM focus groups were held in October yielding fairly consistent results regarding campaign message and design choices. The decision, endorsed by the SEM consultant and ELC, is to keep the current Life is Big. Be Prepared theme for at least another 18 months. I Choose Gateway will be removed from more than 20 appearance ranging from business cards and letterhead to advertisements, web site, student and Staff IDs, light pole banners and more over the next 8 months. A great deal of writing and editing of approximately 85 marketing pieces is being done by our SEM consultants, our writer Abbie Ford, and Kristin Gunia in preparation of broadening and pushing out current and new communication tracks through recruiter.

The Marketing department is excited to receive 5 of the Innovation grants for the coming semester. The projects include a Virtual Reality-type tour of a couple of our programs, Spirit days on Gateway campuses, and others

Planning is beginning for the spring semester community events: Martin Luther King Day, Joint Chamber Business Blender, EcoFest Racine, Celebrate Earth Day, and Graduation.

Foundation

As of November 6, 2017, the Foundation has raised \$214,978. The generous gifts were from individuals (including Gateway faculty and staff as well as alumni), corporations, service clubs, and foundations. Donors have contributed to areas such as the mission of the Foundation, student scholarships, the endowment, the Gateway Promise Endowed Fund, student emergency funds, and the Boot Camps.

The Gateway Promise Endowment Campaign has reached \$2,061,416 in gifts and pledges.

In particular, the Foundation has received:

- \$50,000 from Promega Corporation in support of an endowed program fund to provide health career related camps to middle and high school students
- \$2,000 from Snap-on for the Gateway Promise Endowment
- \$2,000 from the Lang Family Foundation in conjunction with A & E Tools for its 4 annual scholarships supporting programs at the Horizon Center (2) and the SC Johnson iMET Center (2)
- \$10,000 from Barbara Stauner for the Fran & Barbara Student Emergency Fund

The Foundation celebrated their 40th year and hosted more than 150 guests at its three events located at the Inspire Center on the Kenosha Campus, Breakwater Dining Room on the Racine Campus and Community Room on the Elkhorn Campus. Guests included Honorary Co-Chairs of the event (John Andreoli, Jim Angelici, Jody Hart, Dan Peterson, Alice Morava, Dave Richmond, and Chuck Wood), current and past Foundation Board members, and past scholarship recipients. Three alumni volunteers spoke at the gatherings. Past scholarship recipients included recent awardees as well as recipients from as long ago as 25 years.

ENROLLMENT

Current year enrollments are up +1.1% compared to the same time last year. Fall enrollments remain positive at +0.6%. Online course enrollment is up +6.6% for fall compared to last fall. Spring priority registration begins in November.

FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION and FACILITIES

Business Continuity Plan

Over the course of 3 days, the Districts Mutual Insurance Business Continuity Consultant met with all different departments and divisions at Gateway Technical College to help us update and build an overall continuity plan for the college in case of an emergency.

The Business Office management team met with Joe Des Plaines and Tom Cousino to review our input into the Business Continuity Plan.

Administration Center Office Space

Office space challenges in the Administration Center were resolved with the move of two non-management personnel into cubicles and freeing up offices for two new management personnel.

Village of Mt. Pleasant TID Joint Review Board - Foxconn Facility

Bill attended the initial hearing of the Mt. Pleasant TID Joint Review Board to review the establishment of a \$754 million TIF for the new Foxconn facility. The final approval will be sought in November.

S.C. Johnson iMET Center Expansion

Expansion plans for iMET financed by a potential \$5 million State grant continue to evolve.

Kenosha Campus Student Commons Patio Project

The Student Commons patio project for the Kenosha Campus is on-going. The area has been cleared and is being prepped for concrete to be laid.

Kenosha Campus Gas Utility Project

The bridge to the Gas-Utility area on the Kenosha Campus is in the final stages with the majority of the work completed and the bridge paved.

Financial Advisory Services

An RFP for financial adviser ended with Baird being selected for a new 3 year term.

Year-End FY 2016-2017

The 2016/17 fiscal year has been closed! The Business Office is awaiting the finalization of the CAFR which should be in the next few weeks!

Risk Management Project Award

Districts Mutual Insurance awarded Gateway Technical College \$30,000.00 to improve our roof-top fall protection at their quarterly Risk Managers meeting.

Legal Issues Conference Presentation

On November 2, 2017, Tom Cousino presented on the unique challenges the Clery Act poses to technical colleges at the Legal Issues Conference held at Waukesha County Technical College.

Special Revenue Fund Update

First Quarter meeting of the Special Revenue Fund was held with Project Managers and included review of current project status (performance and financial), distribution of guidelines information for WTCS grant proposals due in January, 2018 along with project ideas to date and funding allocations. The grant team continues to engage in learning opportunities by attending monthly webinars related to Federal grants and gain important announcements.

FY 2018-19 Budget

Initial review and discussions of the FY18-19 budget assumptions and calendar are happening throughout the month of November. This information will be presented to the Gateway Board at the December 21, 2017 board meeting. All other budget packets and budget related materials are being updated to prepare for "budget

kickoff week" in which the budget office meets individually with all budget officers to review their budgets, questions, and outlook for the upcoming year.

Concur Travel and Expense Software

Concur travel and expense software will automate Gateway's travel and expense reimbursement process. The implementation team has been meeting regularly to discuss, review, and test the system before the initial roll out in the upcoming calendar year.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Jennifer Charpentier, Rachel Christman, and Bill Whyte created a Jeopardy game for the Administrative Staff In-service with frequent questions that come to various staff throughout the college. It was a good way to engage people in a competitive process for learning.

A difficult transgender benefit charge has been filed against Gateway and our health insurance company where the employee has filed with the EEOC for lack of coverage for surgical processes. The issue is complex because it is groundbreaking since there is no precedence in the court system.

We successfully completed a search for the Vice President, Business and Workforce Solutions position to be vacated in December with the retirement of Debbie Davidson. We had candidates from all over the country and selected Matt Janisin, from within Gateway, for the position.

Bill Whyte, Debbie Miller, John Frost, and Jacqueline Morris recently attended the WTCS Director's meeting in Waukesha and the Legal Conference on 'Legal Issues Facing Wisconsin Technical Colleges'.

Debbie Miller, Josh Vollendorf, and the rest of the CARE Team attended Bystander Training. This training encourages people to speak up when they witness inappropriate behaviors.

Jacqueline Morris, Mary Halberstadt, and Magan Lawrence recently attended the annual NEOGov conference. They attended training sessions about upgrading our three modules; Insight, Onboarding, and Performance. Magan Lawrence was a presenter at the conference on 'Implementing Perform & Onboard Products-Lessons Learned'.

Selina Bohn was a volunteer for College Goal Wisconsin, an organization that promotes the education and value of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This event brings awareness to the financial resources available for students and families. She greeted and registered over 60 attendees.

INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

With the new vision and mission statement approved, Anne Whynott and John presented a framework for the next strategic plan to the ELC at their October retreat. Our next step will be to design a survey to gather stakeholder input for the college's long-term strategies. The plan will be ready for Board approval in summer 2018 as Vision 3.2.1 ends.

New Staff Members

We are welcoming two new staff members to the Institutional Effectiveness Division. Michael Smith is the Director of Institutional Research. He has experience in higher education in an institutional research capacity as well as working with veteran students, and is completing his doctorate program in Higher Education Leadership and Administration. Michael will be leading research and data analysis to support decision-making as well as working with academic departments on new program development. Robbin Vester is our new Manager of Organizational Excellence. She has a background in process improvement in the insurance industry and is a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt. She will be leading the college's quality initiatives.

Employee Learning

Employee Learning focused on supervisor training as Gateway welcomed eight new staff members to supervisory positions. DDI is a global leader in providing leadership training and Gateway is lucky to have seven DDI trained facilitators on staff. Six DDI training modules were set up for the new supervisor cohort to give them a strong foundation in the leadership skills they will need at Gateway.

Career Pathways

The Career Pathways Manager attended the National Career Pathways Network annual conference in St. Louis, MO, during the last week of October. During the conference, the Career Pathways Manager co-presented on our secondary to postsecondary automotive career pathways model with Racine Unified's Park High School with Matt Janisin, NC3 Coordinator/Instructor. The presentation generated interest from several attendees who have connected with the Career Pathways Manager to request a copy of the presentation and more information on the best practices shared during the conference. Gateway Technical College was also recognized in the conference compendium as a career pathways promising practice site for our CNC adult and high school boot camps.

LEARNING INNOVATION

The Learning Innovation Division held its annual In-Service. We received very positive feedback from staff, especially with regard to our keynote speaker, Jim Stickley. Jim's company, Stickley on Security, is our cybersecurity training partner. Jim was kind enough to do an interview with Jeff Robshaw on various aspects of cybersecurity as well as record brief public service announcements for the college to

use with internal staff only. These will help us as we expand our cyber security awareness training effort. We hope to be able to facilitate another visit from Jim with our students in the future.

Distance Learning

We are continuing to evaluate video and captioning solutions for instructors and students. These systems will integrate with Blackboard to allow for an efficient method of creating and sharing desktop video as well meeting the requirement for captions to be placed on videos created by the college. We are working with Disability Support Services and a group of faculty to assist in the evaluation process.

Information Systems

The Concur Travel and Expense implementation is progress. I.S. will be providing processes to import and export the necessary data to and from Colleague.

A replacement for ILP (Intelligent Learning Platform - Ellucian's interface between Colleague and Blackboard) is being created to alleviate the manual work that is being done to compensate for ILP's currently unresolvable issues.

Work is being done on Colleague UI 5.3 to allow it to work in the Chrome browser with Perceptive Content (our document imaging system).

Grant Effort Reporting was updated to allow online viewing of additional history.

Infosilem Suite and DCU (used for section and room scheduling) was upgraded to version 10.

Registration rules were put in place to require the student's CBC (Criminal Background Checks) be valid until the end of certain Nursing classes at the point of registration.

The advisor assignment process was augmented for Faculty Advising. Assignment criteria is being associated with individual programs to simplify and speed up the Faculty Advisor assignment process.

Technology Operations

The Network Operations and Infrastructure teams have performed upgrades and reconfiguration to our core network to replace equipment which has gone out of support and to improve our network up-time. Of course, there is never a good time for a network outage but some work requires that.

Our fiber relocation in Burlington has been completed. The relocation was required due to the new roundabout constructed adjacent to the 496 building, however the cost of that fiber relocation was charged to Gateway proportionally to the number of fibers we share on that route.

Training and handoff for our video wall in the Inspire Center was provided for our Marketing Department who now has the ability to modify and schedule the creative content displayed on the video wall.

The LAN Tech team has been busy configuring our new Nutanix hyper-converged servers into our server environment. These new servers will eventually replace our Cisco UCS servers and will operate everything from WebAdvisor to Infosilem room scheduling, academic applications to ImageNow. This process will take about 24 months to complete as we migrate and carefully test the systems during implementation.

User Experience

There have been some staff assignment changes in User Experience. The staff members moved are:

- Equainess Price to the iMET Center (Changing positions from LAN Tech to CST)
- Eric Weiss to the Racine Campus
- Assad Assad to the Kenosha Campus (Working on special projects)

STUDENT SERVICES

Financial Aid

Since July we have been diligently processing Federal Work Study job postings and applications. Due to the popularity of the program, we have already allocated all of the \$290,000 budget to students. We have hired over 72 students to help fill various positions throughout the college and assist students with getting additional work experience while they complete their degree. We also held College Goal Wisconsin at the Elkhorn and Kenosha campuses over the last month. This event had over 60 participants at each campus. College Goal Wisconsin offers the unique opportunity for students from around the area to get one on one assistance in completing their FAFSA. A huge thank you goes out to the volunteers and site coordinators Andrea Delgado and Alysse Luedtke.

Student Accounts

The student accounts team welcomes Michelle Ferba-Davis as a Student Accounts Specialist and Tanya Doherty as the School Certifying Official. Student Accounts is doing outreach to connect with students on payment plan and end of term balances and will be connecting with all Veteran students using benefits through personal outreach to encourage priority registration and answer any payment and benefit questions.

Academic Advising

Academic advisors are continuing their work to guide new and current students to develop academic/graduation plans. This allows for students to know what to take next and helps to ease the registration questions once the opportunity opens up. Over the last couple months, the advisors are also heavily participating with the

program advisory committees and fall curriculum committees. In addition, advisors are involved with curriculum sheet redesign project, online orientation project and initial stages of planning student worker support for the department.

Career & Employment Services

Throughout of the months of September and October, Career and Employment Services has successfully supported Foxconn in their recent internship recruiting efforts. CES conducted mock interview training services to 12 of Foxconn's hiring managers. CES also supported Foxconn's internship recruiting efforts by providing and/or supporting marketing, facilities arrangements, and qualified student candidates. As a result of these efforts Foxconn extended internship offers to at least 13 Gateway Technical College students from our IT, Engineering, and Manufacturing programs. CES hosted our Annual Fall Career Fair on October 3rd where we had 35 participating employers from a variety of industries and over 60 job seekers in attendance. CES will be hosting the Healthcare Career Fair on November 2nd 9am to 12pm on the Kenosha Campus at the Madigrano auditorium. Currently there are 35 employers registered to participate. CES has hosted Amazon at Racine and Kenosha campuses all summer long to recruit for their Part-Time Seasonal Sortation Associates and Full-Time Fulfillment Associates. Amazon will continue to recruit at both campuses for the remainder of the year.

Express Services

On Friday, Oct 13th, the Express Services staff along with the entire Student Services Division had the benefit of reviewing training points provided by all functional areas including, Admissions, Student Accounts, Financial Aid & Registrar's office at our fall training day. Additionally, staff participated in an excellent interactive workshop on diversity presented by our multicultural team, and also a presentation/workshop on professionalism by John Thibodeau. Staff also toured the new Inspire Center and Kenall Protective Services Training Center.

LEARNING SUCCESS

Student Support Counselor

Student Support Counselors provided suicide prevention education on each campus by highlighting educational materials as well as facilitating QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) . This is a one to one and half hours skill based training. These educational materials and training increase awareness and knowledge of the community resources as well as how to intervene in a personal situation. Further educational opportunities occurred at employee learning day when the student support counselors offered QPR to the faculty and staff as well as Psychological First Aid. By increasing awareness and offering these educational opportunities, the entire community will be better equipped to address the increase of mental health issues on the college campus.

TAG

TAG facilitated a session on Employee Learning Day entitled Walk a Mile in My Shoes. Students shared their personal stories about being a person with a disability, and how it impacts their daily lives. One student had never told anyone her story before, and it was a very moving experience. Many staff members felt that all faculty and staff should attend this session whenever the opportunity presents itself. Gateway's TAG program was recently invited to be a member of Onondaga Pathways to Careers Community of Practice whose goal is to facilitate adoption and adaptation of inclusive and accessible education programs that provide pathways to careers with living wages in high demand industries.

Tutoring Services

Tutoring Services facilitated mandatory training for tutors on Employee Learning Day that focused on building positive relationships with students as well as setting and maintaining appropriate boundaries with them. This training aimed to help tutors learn and practice strategies for reflecting students' thoughts and feelings, redirecting students back to academic work, and, when needed, referring students to appropriate experts, such as student support counselors. Because of the training's practical focus on academic content and building relationships at the college, students who utilize tutoring services will not only become better equipped with strategies for success in coursework and working through personal barriers, but will also feel more connected to Gateway and empowered to persist through and complete their studies at the college.

Disability Support Services

The recent Closed Captioning Policy, H151 implemented by Gateway is assuring equal communication and total inclusion for everyone. We are able to provide captions to benefit students, faculty and staff in classrooms, workshops, meetings and our community. Since the start of the fall 2017 semester, the DSS/Deaf and Hard of Hearing Department has added 54 captioned videos to our already growing library of media, with requests being made weekly. We are working diligently to caption these videos with accuracy and within the timeframe requested. This commitment of captioning continues to assure the academic principles of equality and accessibility.

Testing Services

On September 23, 2017, the State of Wisconsin increased the passing score for the Civics exam from 60 to 65. All students taking the Civics exam after this date, including GED, HSED, and Adult High School students, will be required to earn a score of 65 or higher to earn their credential. Study resources are available both online and at our Learning Success Center. Students who have any questions about the change can be directed to their nearest Testing Services Center for additional information.

BUSINESS & WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS

On Friday, October 6th iMET hosted the Manufacturing Diversity Institute's Innovation Cafe a panel led discussion on how to connect the under served populations to the ecosystem of Industry 4.0. Featured panelists included: Bryan Albrecht, Wendy Baumann, WWBIC, Matt Kirchner, LAB Midwest, Georgia Maxwell Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development and John Sibley Butler, University of Texas at Austin. The interactive event had over 80 attendees and was held on National Manufacturing Day.

On October 16th Gateway started a CNC training program with Ellsworth Correctional. The cohort is receiving the Workplace Excellence Series from Workforce Development. Plans are moving forward to develop an additional cohort for Ellsworth and Racine Correctional for Spring of 2018.

On October 18th- 20th Kate Walker and Neil Petersen attended the NCATC Conference in Portland. They attended sessions on Swiss Machining, Innovation in Workforce Education, Talent Development, Robotics, and Apprenticeship as well as an industry tour of Nike's world headquarters. They have follow up planned to connect with Haas, Opus Works, NOCTI, and the Advanced Robotics for Manufacturing institute.



Oct. 18 - St Rita School STEM Club learned soldering skills in the Fab Lab with the assistance of Electrical Engineering instructor Jill Sammons and the Fab Lab staff. Besides the students having a great time, their parents got to learn about a variety of technical programs available at Gateway.

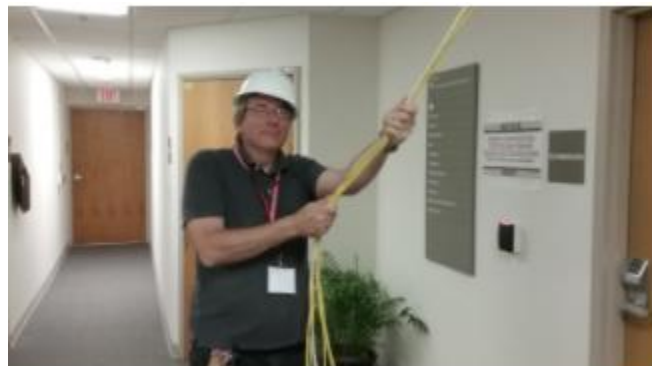
Greg Herker, attended the NACCE conference which focuses on bringing entrepreneurship education to students. Greg also led a workshop on Fab Labs with Jeff Boerner, Fab Lab Manager from Northampton CC in PA. Some of the highlights include meeting with the Michelson Foundation 20mm.org Through them we are obtaining free teaching resources around the area of Intellectual Property for use in our LaunchBox and Fab Lab, as well as any Gateway programs that have a need. We also have gained access to a variety of excellent entrepreneurial training through

HP-Life. <http://www.life-global.org/> Greg got a private tour of the Sofwerx facility in Tampa, a non-profit that serves the needs of our Military under SOCOM (Strategic Operations Command) to bring innovation and rapid proto-typing from the community to solve problems that challenge our military today.
<https://www.sofwerx.org/>

Rob Alderson, Randy Reusser, and Matt Janisin attended the NC3 “Train the Trainer 26 at Wayne Community College in Goldsboro, North Carolina. Randy and Rob taught the Greenlee/NC3 certification classes VDV, Pathways, and Bending. Currently Randy is completing development on a VDV Fiber course for Greenlee/NC3.



Randy Reusser participated in the Gateway Technical College Occupational Competency Grant program with CC&N in October. He worked at several jobsites and also went with Matt Hay their Technical Training & Safety Manager to check on crews and projects.



During the 40 hour Randy worked at Twin Disc in Racine, Aurora Burlington Memorial Hospital in Burlington, Carroll University in Waukesha and the Brookfield City Hall and Fire department complex in Brookfield, WI. It was a great experience for Randy and the folks at CC&N.

The Apprenticeship department had the opportunity to share the wonderful opportunities Apprenticeship has to offer at Gateway's Manufacturing Day event. We spoke to approximately 500 high school students and counselors and even had our very own, Ben Bergum, Tool and Die Apprentice, speak to the students regarding his Apprenticeship experience.

National Apprenticeship week is closely approaching! Please join us to learn more about Youth Apprenticeship, Registered Apprenticeship and opportunities to bridge from Youth to Registered Apprenticeships. The celebration will take place on Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at the Veterans Terrace in Burlington beginning at 7:30AM. Please register online at training.gtc.edu. We hope to see you there!

Thalia Mendez, Business Resource Specialist met with 14 individuals to discuss their small business needs and signed three new Launch Box membership agreements in October. The three new businesses are, Data Entry/Case Management, Transportation and Promotions. In addition she coached another client that auditioned for Project Pitch It. Planning continued for Kenosha Startup Week (in Racine) November 6-12th. A new workshop was added to the schedule, *Foxconn Is Coming! Entrepreneurs Are You Ready?* Existing business owners are you prepared for growth? Not in business yet, we can help you map out your two year plan.

Additional partners have been identified and all agree that in 2018 there will be a Racine Startup Week added to the Statewide network for entrepreneurial events.

Thalia successfully presented a proposal for reallocating Racine County Matching Grant Funds from RCEDC to the Launch Box Growth Accelerator. These additional \$17,500 will be used as match for the WEDC Seed Accelerator grant of \$80,000. Accelerator participants up until week five (mid-October) thought they were receiving a \$2500 seed grant upon completion. However with these additional funds secured Thalia announced that now there will be an Accelerator Pitch Competition and 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will receive \$5000, \$4000 and \$3000 each and the runners up will still receive the \$2500 as promised. As expected this was very exciting news for the cohort, they are working on their pitches and looking forward to the event: November 21st 9-11am at the SC Johnson iMET Center auditorium.

Thalia attended the City of Racine Fair Lending & Small Business Summit and the Milwaukee 7 Entrepreneurial Advisory Council.

Stacia Thompson was selected as an inaugural participant of the National Council on Workforce Education New Workforce Professionals Academy. The Academy convened at the National Conference held in Salt Lake City, Utah October 24-27. As part of the academy she was also provided with a mentor and will be making 2 site visits this year to see Workforce training in action.

Stacia Thompson was invited by the National Skills Coalition to bring 2 employer partners to the Business Leaders United and NCWE Fly In. This invite only fly-in will provide a platform for community colleges and their business partners to advocate together for policies that support the needs of industry and working learners in your region. Currently we will be speaking to policy makers about allowing Pell be used for short term workforce training. She has invited Waylon Gross of Kenall Manufacturing and Mike Reader with Precision Plus to attend with her.

Northern Iowa Community College visited Gateway on October 25th to benchmark against our programs at the iMET and Horizon Center in addition to our HVAC program with Trane.

Debbie Davidson participated in the Racine County Information Session on Foxconn at Veterans Terrace in Burlington on October 24th. The event allowed for Gateway's role in training and education to be highlighted and for attendees to learn more about our programs and services related to the current and new opportunities throughout southeast Wisconsin.