UT, WSCC Target Engineering Students

WSCC is part of a new partnership designed to train more engineering students in East Tennessee. Engage 1st links the University of Tennessee with community colleges to recruit high school juniors and steer them toward pre-engineering coursework. After high school, students study a year at a community college and intern with selected companies for the summer. Engage 1st is funded by a $375,000 National Science Foundation grant.

See A Classic at WSCC

The WSCC Music and Theatre Department has two outstanding dramas lined up to brighten cold winter nights. The Lion In Winter is planned for Dec. 13-15 and Jan. 10-12 in the theatre of the Judge William H. Inman Humanities Complex. The Miracle Worker takes to the stage on Feb 7-13 and Feb. 9-16. Join us for these two timeless classics.

Celebrate With WSCC

The WSCC Humanities Department is ready to help you get in the holiday spirit with a line-up of music that offers something for every ear. On Dec. 3, the Jazz Band takes the stage for a concert in the theatre of the Judge William H. Inman Humanities Complex. On Dec. 6, the WSCC Choral Concert, also at the theatre. Both events are free. Then, on Dec. 13, take in a magical night at the WSCC Madrigal Dinner at the Sevier County Civic Center. Enjoy a complete madrigal meal, drama and choral concert. Tickets are $30 and all proceeds support the Walters State Professional Entertainment Program. For more information, call Chester McCurry at (865) 774-5831.

Professors, Students Benefit From MBSS Upgrades

When students returned to class this fall, a completely refurbished Math and Behavioral/Social Sciences building awaited them.

Most WSCC alumni have taken at least one course in the building, built in 1978. For many years it also housed the college's Natural Science division.

The year-long renovation project replaced old science labs and aging classrooms with new computer labs, two auditorium classrooms and student study rooms and lounges.

Each classroom is now multimedia-ready with a computer, DVD, CD, video player, an overhead projector and an interactive whiteboard that are all interconnected to a ceiling-mounted projector. Classrooms and labs also have Internet connectivity and closed circuit television capabilities. The new tools enable professors to add new methods of teaching to reach different learning styles.

“This new technology will create an interactive learning environment and will greatly enhance our instructors’ ability to bring the world into Walters State classrooms,” said Dr. Lori Campbell, dean of the college's behavioral and social sciences division and professor of education.

The $3 million renovation project is part of Walters State's continuing expansion plans. Since 1997, the college has added two buildings to its Morristown campus: a new library and the Natural Science building.

Future campus expansion projects include additional renovations to the College Center Building and the East Tennessee Regional Public Safety Center, as well as the construction of a 22,000-square-foot administration building.

Vanderbilt Officers Train At WSCC

Since 1986, the Walters State Basic Police Recruit School has trained thousands of law enforcement recruits from city and county police and sheriff’s departments from across the state. And since 1993, the recruit school has trained every new recruit from the Vanderbilt University Police Department.

The recruit school, which is held at Walters State's Greeneville campus, offers the eight-week training required of all new law enforcement recruits during their first year of employment. The school is part of the East Tennessee Regional Law Enforcement Academy established at Walters State by the Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission.

The most recent recruit class, which graduated in November, included six individuals from Vanderbilt.

Chief Allan Guyet of the Vanderbilt University Police Department says he is especially pleased with the quality of training his officers receive at the recruit school.

“When our officers return from Walters State’s recruit school, they comment on the high quality of instruction they received and the fact that the instructors care about them personally,” said Guyet.

Calendar

Fall Semester Ends
Dec. 6

Spring Semester Begins
Jan. 13

Miracle Worker
Feb. 7-9; Feb. 14-16

Volume 23
Number 1
December 2002
As we approach the holiday season, our college is teeming with activity, and there is an air of optimism and excitement throughout our four East Tennessee campuses.

As I indicated in the August edition of The Hub, we were very pleased that the Tennessee General Assembly acted to avoid the DOGS budget and provided funding sufficient to allow us to continue serving our current enrollment of approximately 6,000 students in credit courses. Our current operations budget did, however, require a 7.5 percent increase in tuition, which is a matter of concern for all of us who recognize the importance of access in preparing today’s youth for tomorrow’s jobs.

Looking toward the next General Assembly, I have been encouraged by my meetings with East Tennessee’s newly elected state senators and representatives. Their understanding of the importance of higher education to the future of Tennessee gives me hope that Walters State will continue to exceed student and community expectations in providing both access and quality in our higher education programming.

Our faculty and staff are excited about the prospects for enhancements to both our Greeneville/Greene County and Sevier County facilities. We have initiated dialogues with the leadership in both of those counties concerning the desired level of future operations in their communities and have been encouraged by the initial response received from both local government and the private sector.

As this edition of The Hub goes to press, we have just celebrated the dedication of the new beautiful Ephraim E. Ogle Reflecting Pool and Fountains on our Sevier County Campus and are in the process of negotiating a contract for reroofing the entire Greeneville/Greene County Center for Higher Education.

In addition to facilities enhancements, access in Sevier County has taken a giant step forward with the creation of the Sevier County Partners in Progress Scholarship Program which will underwrite two years of study at Walters State for every Sevier County high school graduate with a 2.7 or better grade point average. This program, which is being funded by the Sevier County Commission, will begin with the graduates of this year’s senior class and promises to be a major shot in the arm for building a highly competitive workforce for Sevier County. I offer my congratulations to Larry Waters, Sevier County Executive; the Sevier County Commission; Allen Newton and the members of the Sevier County Economic Development Council; Jack Parton, Sevier County Superintendent of Schools, and his staff, and everyone who has contributed to this admirable achievement.

Everyone needs a will. Please consider making the Walters State Community College Foundation a part of your legacy.

Walters State Community College

The fight against terrorism isn’t just confined to the halls of justice or military battlefields. It’s also happening in research laboratories, and WSCC Nursing graduate Pat (Pickel) Gideon (’81) is at the forefront.

Gideon is a research clinical specialist at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. This fall, she’s embarked on a one- to two-year study to uncover any relationship between drugs that would be used to counter a bioterrorist attack and birth defects. She combs through medical records of expectant mothers to determine which ones have taken the medicines in question and then tracks the mother through birth and the newborn child through age one.

“Certain antibiotics, for example, were in the news last year because of their association with anthrax. Those same drugs are often used to treat many other ailments. They’re not just reserved for illnesses that result from a bioterrorist attack,” she said.

By uncovering any relationship between the drugs and birth defects now, the nation’s decision makers will know more about unintended effects should the drugs ever need to be administered on a large-scale basis following an attack.

The last project Gideon completed involved studying the effects drugs and staff training had in controlling the number of falls at nursing homes. The team’s research culminated with publication in the New England Journal of Medicine and the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Prior to joining Vanderbilt, Gideon worked in many leadership positions at Children’s Hospital in Knoxville, including directing the hospital’s juvenile arthritis clinic. She also established the hospital’s sex abuse clinic. Those positions were very different than her current responsibilities.

“This is totally different. I do no hands-on care, and I do miss that.”

While she no longer helps patients heal one-on-one, she has the satisfaction of knowing that her work may help prevent tragic birth defects for thousands of infants.

Victoria Whitehead and Raycene Brewer, Nursing, were delegates to the Tennessee Nurses Association in October. Barbara McNeely served as an alternate.

Raycene Brewer, Nursing, has been elected to the District II Board of Directors of the Tennessee Nursing Association.

Richa Russell, Nursing, has been elected president of the Tennessee Association for Associate Degree Nursing. She presented a paper on preceptorships at the national conference.

Dr. Judy Hector, Mathematics, presented a paper on teaching programming to future engineers at the International Symposium on Integrating Technology in Math Education in Vienna, Austria.

Jill Fanter, Developmental Studies, and Julianna Gregory, Mathematics, spoke on “Fun Activities to Enhance Learning in a Developmental Math Classroom” at the Tennessee Mathematics Teachers’ Association Fall Conference in Nashville.

Malcolm McAvoy, Speech Communication, presented the TCA Communicator of the Year Award to Dr. Kay Clark, TBR Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges, at this year’s Tennessee Communication Association Conference. Randolph Handel, English, also participated in the conference.

THE HUB ONLINE
http://www.ws.edu/hub/

FACULTY FOOTNOTES

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THE HUB ONLINE
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Laptops Make Learning Mobile

WSCC and Dell computers have partnered to create a computer lending system for students.

The Texas-based computer manufacturer, which has a manufacturing facility in Nashville, has donated three laptop computers to be used in a pilot project at the college. Any registered Walters State student may check out the laptops for three-day periods from the college’s library.

“This is just another way we can make computers accessible for our students,” said Dr. Eddie Stone, associate vice president for Computer Services. Stone expects the computers to be heavily used.

Being able to take computers home from the library will make completing assignments easier for many of the estimated 13 percent of the student body without access to off-campus computers. Those aren’t the only ones, though, targeted by the program. The convenience of laptop computers will enable all students to make learning mobile.

“Students may be going to a conference or working on a special project,” explains Doug Cross, dean of Library Sciences. “These are things that students need to do that can’t always be done in the library or even at home. The laptops will give them a lot of options that may not currently be available.”

Making laptops available to students is in line with the college’s goal of providing the latest technology to all students. Walters State ranked 16th in a recent listing of the most wired community colleges by Yahoo! Internet Life magazine.

FROM THE FOUNDATION UP

At the fall board meeting on Oct. 21, the Walters State Foundation trustees learned that the foundation has received over $122,000 in contributions since its annual meeting in May. It has also received over $40,000 in new pledges during the past several weeks.

Also during the meeting, foundation trustees established a target of $65,000 for the Annual Fund campaign, which generates funds for student scholarships.

At a November meeting of the Walters State Sevier County Development Council, members learned that enrollment at the Sevier County Campus has more than doubled over the past five years, making its only building a bit crowded.

Dr. Campbell told council members that he is seeking their input on future growth at the campus. He and other Walters State officials will be meeting individually and collectively with Sevier County leaders and development council members to assess the college’s next step.

While the college can utilize a few unused hours to double up on basic general education courses, the lack of space likely prohibits additional academic programs.

Following the council meeting, Walters State honored the contributions of one of Sevier County’s pioneers and expressed its gratitude to one of its most generous donors at a dedication ceremony for the Ephram E. Ogle Reflecting Pool and Fountains.

The water feature, which is located in front of Maples-Marshall Hall, has been named in honor of Ephram E. Ogle, who was a teacher, merchant, and postmaster in Gatlinburg in the early 1900s. Wilma Maples, a long-time supporter of Walters State and one of the namesakes of Maples-Marshall Hall, donated money to fund construction of the feature and requested that it be named in honor of Ogle, who was her late husband’s grandfather.

Her wish is that we all will recognize that much of the prosperity enjoyed by those living in the area today is the result of the hard work, vision and legacy of previous generations.

1977
Chip Winstead, A.S., Architectural Technology, is an affiliate broker with All Seasons Real Estate in Morristown. Chip earned a B.S. from the University of Tennessee and is also a licensed auctioneer.

1978
Ronald Haun, A.S., Criminal Justice, has just published his first novel, Spirit of the Bayonet. He lives in Kodak.

1990
Eric McDaniel, A.S., Business, has been named vice president and senior operations officer of Jefferson Federal Savings and Loan in Morristown. Eric has earned a B.B.A. in Banking Finance and a masters in Accounting from ETSU.

1994
Susan Hance Miller, Respiratory Care Certificate, is an officer in the United States Air Force serving at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Miss. Susan earned a A.A.S. in Respiratory Therapy and a B.S.N. from East Tennessee State University. She and her husband, James, have three children.

1995
Jamie Charles Anderson, Basic Emergency Medical Technician, is director and paramedic at the Hancock County Ambulance Service.

1996
Kari Sawyer Fields, A.S., Elementary Education, teaches third grade at Rogersville City School. She recently completed her master’s in Educational Media at East Tennessee State University with a perfect 4.0 GPA.

2000
Cheikh A. Soumare, A.A., French, is now a French teacher at West High School in Knoxville. He recently earned his bachelor’s from the University of Tennessee and is currently working on his master’s. He and his wife, Teresa, have two children.

2002
Larry Derry, A.S., Mathematics Education, has been elected president of the state-wide Tennessee Student Education Association.

Alumni News

Full name __________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________
Years Attended _____ Area of study _____ Degree ___
Current position and/or activities_______________________
Full name of spouse _______________________________________
No. of children _______
Name and address of someone who will always know your address ____________________________

Return to Office of College Advancement, Walters State Community, 500 South Davy Crockett Parkway, Morristown, TN 37813 or e-mail your news to debra.williams@ws.edu.
Follow the Senators and Lady Senators
Visit www.ws.edu for schedules and more information.

WSCC Basketball Teams Ranked In Top 25

Both Senators basketball teams began the 2002-03 season with top 25 rankings in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) preseason Division I polls.

Coach Bill Carlyle’s Senators are ranked 10th following the most successful season in the program’s history. The 2001-02 team won both state and regional titles, and earned their first appearance in the NJCAA national tournament. The Senators finished the 2001-02 season ranked eighth with a record of 26-11.

The team is depending on seven returning sophomores including second team All-American Jerry Nichols, a guard from Memphis Westwood High School, and forward Corey Wade of Chattanooga. Nichols led last year’s team in scoring.

Last year’s success aided recruiting efforts, leading to what Carlyle calls “one of the best freshmen classes” to play at Walters State. Forward/post player Tyrone Smith from Whitmire, S.C., was named Single A Mr. Basketball in his home state. Anton McKinney, a freshman at forward/post from Johnson City, will also be expected to make considerable contributions.

Coach Dave Kragel’s Lady Senators crack the poll at No. 24, following a year that saw them go to the regional finals and finish 26-8. Kragel says the ranking is a pleasant surprise.

“I was very pleased with the play of our team in the fall,” said Coach Bill Gardner. “As we get into the spring, though, and we have to make our way into the state and regional tournaments, things get trickier. If we get through those and get to the national tournament, competition gets even tougher.

“We had a good season, but we have to make improvements if we’re going to compete in the national tournament.”

Baldwin led all golfers for the fall season, shooting an average of 75.

The golf team will begin their spring season in March.