

community Access

SUMMER 2018

Quarterly Newsletter of
Alamance Community College

Register Now For Fall... Don't Delay!

Here's the 411 on
Registration and Payment
Deadlines

August 7

Payment deadline for Fall semester at 5 p.m.

August 8

Purge #1 for tuition non-payments

August 13

Open registration with faculty advisors, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 5-7 p.m.

August 14

Self-Service registration closes for Fall at 2:30 p.m.

Payment deadline 3 p.m. (for registrations since Aug. 7);

Purge #2 for tuition non-payments begins at 3 p.m.

August 15

Fall classes begin

August 15-17, 20

Drop/add classes

August 23

Purge #3 for tuition non-payments at 3 p.m.



Officially signing documents to seal the partnership during a June 7 ceremony on the ACC campus were ACC President Algie Gatewood and Dr. Louis Hunt, NCSU Senior Vice Provost of Enrollment Management and Services.

New Dual-Admission Agreement Offers ACC Students Pathway to NC State

Alamance Community College students who are interested in completing their bachelor's degree at North Carolina State University now have a fresh opportunity to get started with a new dual-admission program that guarantees university enrollment if they earn an associate's degree and maintain a 3.00 GPA while at ACC.

Beginning in fall 2018, the NC State Community College Collaboration, or NC State C3, provides a pathway toward full admission to NC State for high-achieving ACC students from low-to-moderate income households. The University is partnering with eight regional community college partners on this initiative.

The core values of the C3 agreement between ACC and NC State University include:

- Students apply for C3 admission immediately after high school completion or during their first year at ACC.
- Participants must be from low-to-moderate income households, defined as 200% of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines, or approximately \$50,000 for a family of four.
- Students will be dually admitted into the associate degree program at ACC and as a Non-Degree Studies (NDS) student at NC State University.
- Students admitted to C3 program will have up to 3 years to complete the Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degree.
- Completion of the associate degree and continuous maintenance of a minimum grade point average of 3.0 will result in guaranteed admission to NC State.

Another advantage for ACC students is that they will gain immediate benefits from NC State University. Students will have the opportunity to enroll in approved NC State courses while enrolled at ACC.

"This program will allow our students to get their first two years of college at a fraction of the cost they'd pay at a university," said Scott Queen, Executive Vice President at Alamance Community College.

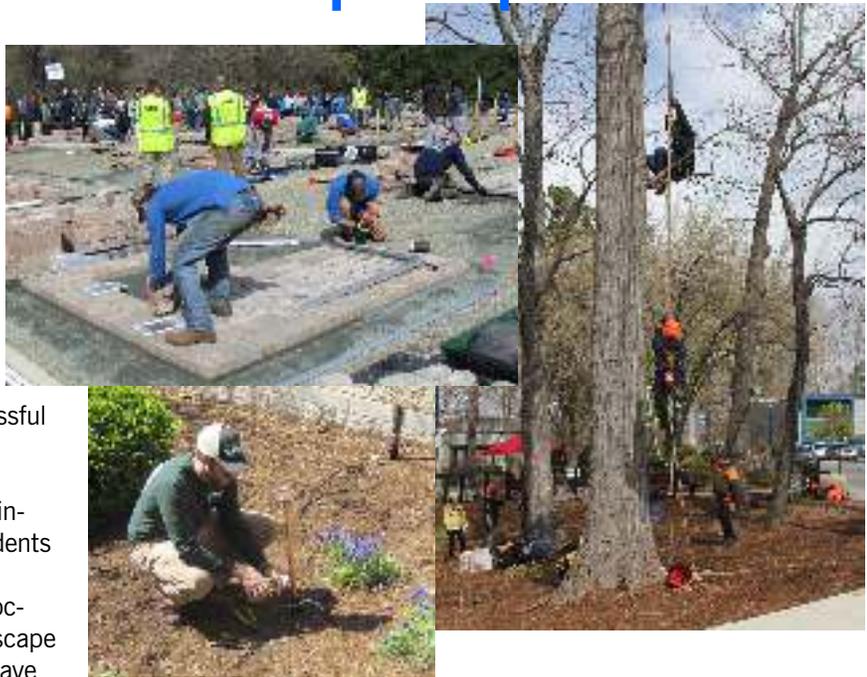
ACC Scores Big Hosting National Landscape Competition

More than 1,500 people—students, faculty, and industry representatives—swarmed the Alamance Community College main campus in mid-March 2018 as the College took on the massive undertaking of hosting the National Collegiate Landscape Competition (NCLC), the biggest green industry event in the United States each year.

Coordinating and hosting a major national competition such as this over the course of a week would be a mammoth task for any educational institution. But ACC's Horticulture Technology program, under the direction of Department Head Dr. Elizabeth Riley, and Industrial Technologies Dean Justin Snyder, along with the support of the College and volunteers, guided the NCLC to a successful run and conclusion.

ACC's horticulture students placed 8th overall out of 62 schools. Among 13 community colleges competing, ACC finished 2nd in the nation. The program also had several students place in the top three for their events.

Awarding a community college the host duties is a rare occurrence in the annals of the National Association of Landscape Professionals. Since 1977, only four community colleges have served as host site and in most of those occasions the community college was in a large metropolitan arena. Recent competitions took place at Auburn University and Colorado State University.



The required agenda for this annual event demanded a day of workshops led by industry professionals, a career fair featuring more than 100 top landscape companies from across the U.S., and more than 700 participants pitting their horticulture skills in numerous competitions.

Here are some key numbers for the 2018 National Collegiate Landscape Competition:

- 63 colleges and universities attended, including Michigan State University, N.C. State University, and Ohio State University. This included 2 U.S. high schools that qualified in a national landscaping competition, one of which was Southern Alamance High School.
- More than 750 students from across the U.S.
- 117 landscaping-related companies
- 170 local FFA high school students
- More than 250 local volunteers, 90% from local community and ACC alumni

“Being selected as the host for this event is the culmination of a dream that started when we attended our first national competition event back in 2004,” said Justin Snyder, Dean of Industrial Technologies and former Department Head for ACC's Horticulture Technology program. “This was a great opportunity for us to showcase our program, college and community. For a few days we were the center of the horticulture industry.”

Bringing this national event to the ACC campus is historically a significant marketing and public relations opportunity—as well as an economic boost to Alamance County. Area hotels, restaurants, and retail outlets reportedly expected an economic boost from the event.

“Students and horticulture faculty and staff from several states communicated to me that this year's National Collegiate Landscaping Competition was the best one they have ever attended. That's a huge compliment to Justin Snyder, the ACC Horticulture faculty and staff, and everyone at the College,” said ACC President Dr. Algie Gatewood.



ACC Awards 956 Graduates at Commencement



Alamance Community College awarded a total of 956 graduates with associate degrees, diplomas and certificates on June 8 during a commencement ceremony held on the Elon University campus.

The ceremony honored two groups of graduates: 750 earning traditional degrees and certificates in curriculum programs, 169 earning High School Equivalency (GED, HiSET) and 37 earning Adult High School diplomas.

Fifty Alamance County high school students earned college credit credentials through Career and College Promise. CCP allows qualified high school students to take community college courses for free, following a specific pathway that can lead to college credits, certificates, and the Associate in Arts and/or Associate in Science degrees that are transferable to four-year institutions.

Among those 50 CCP graduates were 31 high school students earning Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees with 60 or more college credits, allowing them to transfer with full junior class status. Completing 32 or more college credits, equal to a full year of college, were 19 high school students following the University Transfer Pathway. Earning certificates or diplomas in various career technical programs were 75 ABSS high school students.

Two high school students—Mary Elizabeth McCook (Culinary Arts) and Collin Avery Budrick (Information Technology—Systems Security Concentration)—completed Associate in Applied Science degrees.



Commencement speaker was Dr. Aaron Noble, Jr., City of Burlington's Director of Human Resources, and an alumnus of ACC with a degree in Business Computer Programming. Dr. Noble is also the recipient of the Alamance Community College Distinguished Alumni Award.



Special music by Anecdote, an a cappella group based in Durham.



Dr. Richard "Dick" Fisher, longtime member of the ACC Board of Trustees, was honored as a Trustee Emeritus during the commencement ceremony (seen here with trustee chairman Bill Gomory and ACC President Algie Gatewood).

ACC 16-Year-Old Headed to M.I.T., Credits Career & College Promise



Christian Williams

Alamance Community College graduates have transferred over the years to UNC, Duke University—and yes—prestigious out-of-state universities. Now add The Massachusetts Institute of Technology, better known as MIT.

That's where Christian Williams, a 16-year-old Elon resident who enrolled in ACC's Career and College Promise program, has been accepted for this fall's freshman class.

Christian, a homeschooled student, took higher mathe-

matics and physics and graduated this spring with an Associate in Science degree.

Christian's academic future seemed to be in the cards, noticeable since he was a kindergarten student.

"He was developing engineering-like skills at a young age," said his mother, Matrice.

Despite touring Ivy League schools such as Harvard, Yale, and Cornell, MIT was Christian's dream school.

"I found that MIT is less traditional, more geeky and techy like me. And MIT is more engineering-focused," he said. "MIT reached out to me to apply, and invited me to visit."

Christian will attend an institution which in 2016 had more than 19,000 applications and only made 1,511 offers of admission, or 8 percent, according to the school's website. Christian, whose SAT scores are in the 99th percentile, was among the 6-7 percent who received early admission status.

And how did Alamance Community College fit into Christian's academic plans?

Christian's older sister, Mela, attended Alamance Community College via the Career and College Promise (CCP) program—in which high school students can earn college credit simultaneously while they complete their high school diploma—and graduated from UNC Chapel Hill this spring.

"We thought CCP would also be a good fit for Christian because we had learned with our daughter how homeschoolers successfully incorporate ACC's college classes," said Matrice. "Furthermore, the CCP program benefits homeschoolers through exposure to larger peer groups who come from various backgrounds. And that introduction to people from different socio-economic groups and ages serves as a bridge to four-year universities."

ACC's Career and College Promise program proved to be an added asset for Christian when he first toured MIT.

"MIT wants to know who you are as a student and what makes you different," said Matrice. "I firmly believe that Career and College Promise helped to distinguish Christian from other applicants because, not only did it show initiative on his part to challenge himself, but it also validated the grades he was earning as a homeschool student."



Headed to the ACF national championship in New Orleans is ACC's Hot Foods Team, from left: Maria Limon-Cruz, Larry Winstead, Ian Macklin, Trevor Slosek, and Maribeth McCook.

For 2nd Time in 3 Years, ACC Culinary Team To Compete For National Title

Alamance Community College's Student Culinary Hot Foods Team earned honors as the best culinary program in the southeastern United States after taking the top prize at the American Culinary Federation (ACF) Student Hot Food Regional Competition in Charlotte last winter.

Next stop: the National Finals in New Orleans, Louisiana. That competition will be held July 15-19 at the Hyatt Regency. It will pit ACC's five student-chefs against winning teams from the Northeast, Central and Western Regions of the United States.

ACC's team competed for the first time in the national finals in Phoenix, Arizona in 2016, coming home with a silver medal.

ACC won the Regional in a timed cooking competition, in which points were tallied by professional culinary judges based on team work, preparation and presentations of an appetizer, salad, entree and classical dessert.

"This year's team has worked extremely hard to achieve the chance to compete for the National title," said Chef-Department Head Brian Bailey. "All of the team members are full-time students, have full or part-time jobs, and most have family obligations. The amount of dedication and practice that goes into this is unparalleled."

The ACC team had practiced extensively since early fall for the North Carolina competition in December, which they won for the second time in three years sending them to the Southeast Regionals. Bailey said the students often spent 10-12 hours practicing in preparation.

ACC's Hot Foods Team is comprised of Maria Limon-Cruz, Larry Winstead, Ian Macklin, Maribeth McCook, and Trevor Slosek.

"A great deal of time, effort and practice went into winning both the state and regional competitions once again, and Chefs Brian Bailey and Todd Wanless and their students are to be commended for so generously giving their time and making us proud," commented ACC President Dr. Algie Gatewood. They will be well prepared for jobs in the nation's hospitality industry."

Student participation in the ACF competition is supported by the H. Joseph Schoeneck Memorial Endowment. Funds provided assist students with fees, uniforms, travel expenses and other related costs.

Alumnus Awarded \$10,000 as Winner of Entrepreneurial Contest

Marvin SeaBrooks, a client of the Small Business Center at Alamance Community College, was the winner in the Clapp Entrepreneurial Opportunity (CEO) Initiative competition that provides an ACC student, client or alumnus with \$10,000 to launch a business venture.

SeaBrooks' winning presentation was to increase marketing for a health beverage that he currently sells in 14 local retail stores. His was among two business proposals that were judged on the ACC campus May 11 by a panel of six Alamance County area entrepreneurs and business persons.

SeaBrooks last year founded a company called SeaBrooks Family Naturals after he researched a natural product targeted at immune-suppressed vinegar-conscious consumers, as well as diabetics. He said his product, All Natural Summer Water, is a natural and Homeopathic alternative.

SeaBrooks is a client of the Small Business Center and took the continuing education course, REAL, as a part of the CEO Initiative course work.

Judges were Ian Baltutis, Mayor of Burlington; Dr. Dick Fisher, a retired financial investments consultant and former ACC trustee; Shelia Huggins, an attorney; Ed Parrish, Senior Vice President of Fidelity Bank; Vernon Clapp, businessman; and Riley Ruske, a retired business executive.

Businessman Vernon Clapp of Clapp Investment Ltd. agreed two years ago to provide \$10,000 to support a student entrepreneurial contest each fall through Alamance Community College and its Business Administration program and Small Business Center.



Posing with CEO winner Marvin SeaBrooks (center) is Ervin Allen, Director of ACC's Small Business Center, and Vernon Clapp of Clapp Investment Ltd.

This initiative promotes entrepreneurialism, encourages new business and job creation, and highlights the College's role in economic development. It fits ACC's workforce development mission and commitment to small business.

Winner Marvin SeaBrooks now enters the 12-month incubation process. The Small Business Incubator—dedicated to launching a new business—provides one year of mentoring, support and coaching which has been shown to improve the likelihood for long-term success.

Cosmetology Students Excel at SkillsUSA Competition

Alamance Community College, in its second consecutive appearance at the SkillsUSA North Carolina Conference competition, came home with first, second, third, fourth, and fifth place finishes in Cosmetology at the 53rd annual conference held at the Greensboro Coliseum in late April.

ACC's results were most impressive because students were competing against hundreds of other community college students from across North Carolina, as well as high school competitors.

SkillsUSA is a national and statewide organization that provides educational programs, events and competitions that support career and technical education (CTE) in the nation's classrooms. The organization's website emphasizes its partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce.

The ACC cosmetology students won the top five awards in the category of Postsecondary Cosmetology Showcase.

ACC Career and College Promise student Ciara Ross won first place for her project titled "Once Upon a Time" in the Secondary High School Cosmetology Showcase. She is also a student at Western Alamance High School.

The Cosmetology showcase involved preparing portfolios and performing a hands-on exercise that demonstrated the outlined procedure.

ACC's participation in this huge event evolved a year ago following a united effort on the parts of Cosmetology and Dental Assisting department heads who had previously served as judges. With the belief that ACC students could compete at this level of competition, the instructors received go-ahead from administrators and used Perkins Grant funds to join the organization in 2017.



Left, ACC Cosmetology student Ciara Ross won first place in her competition at SkillsUSA and right, Madison Globuschutz competes in the Postsecondary Hair Coloring category.



Distinguished Alumni winner Leon Saul (above left) with Charlie Harris of ACC Foundation Board.



Inspiration Award winner Rosa Davis (above center) is flanked by (left) Carolyn Rhode, Executive Director of the ACC Foundation, and Stacey McDonald of ARMC/Cone Health.

ACC Honors Distinguished Alumni and Employees

Alamance Community College alumni, faculty, staff, and students were honored by the College on May 31 at the 2018 Celebrating Excellence Awards, hosted by the ACC Board of Trustees and the ACC Foundation Board of Directors.

2018 Distinguished Alumnus

Leon Saul has been a business leader in Alamance County for many years. He is an Alamance County native and a graduate of Western Alamance High School. After he graduated from Western at Technical Institute of Alamance, where he earned an Associate Degree in Business Administration in 1974. Using those skills, he went to work with his father at the small family plumbing business, and together they expanded it greatly over the years. Now known as Willie Saul & Son Plumbing, the organization has grown from four employees to 27. The business provides service to up to 30 residential, commercial and light industrial customers per day. Services include new construction and remodeling, repair, water treatment, drains, sewers and pumps. Saul also gives back to the community through such organizations as Civitans, youth sports teams, and his church, New Life at Hocutt. He is a church elder, runs a ministry for young men, and has traveled to Romania eight times as part of mission work. He has been instrumental in reviving the plumbing program at ACC, donating equipment, time, classroom space, and committing to hire graduates. One of his favorite activities is teaching a class on pumps.

The Distinguished Alumni Award is for an alumnus who has achieved a significant level of professional success as a direct result from the education gained at ACC.

At the Celebrating Excellence event, Saul was awarded the Presidential Medallion. The medallion was designed by Jesse Vaughn, retired Mechanical Drafting Technology instructor, and crafted by faculty and students in the Computer-Integrated Machining Department. Made of brass, the medallion features the college seal and a blue ribbon.

2018 Inspiration Award

Rosa Davis, a 1991 graduate of ACC's Associate Degree in Nursing program, initiated and runs the Wings to Recovery program at the Cone Health Cancer Center at Alamance Regional. In that role, she is committed to the survival of all cancer patients and to matching each patient with a survivor who has completed cancer treatment. Through the Wings to Recovery program, current patients are provided with hope, inspiration and additional support. She is also known for her expertise in chemotherapy infusion. Always seeking to improve, Davis is on track to earn a bachelor's degree in nursing in the fall of 2018. Her colleagues at the Cancer Center note that it is an honor to work alongside Davis, and that her life truly is an inspiration to current nursing and allied health students at ACC.

Other nominees for the Alumni Awards were:

- **Ravonda Cole**, Owner of CMIT Solutions of Chapel Hill
- **William S. Horn**, Retired Biomedical Equipment Engineer from the Clinical Engineering Department at Duke University Medical Center
- **Kenneth W. Knight**, Retired Engineer and small business owner
- **Sgt. Jennifer Matherly**, Burlington Police Department
- **Jonathan R. Richardson**, Law Office of Jonathan Richardson, PLLC
- **Caroline S. Sykes**, Director of Sunrise Corner at UNC Horizons Child Development Center

Also recognized were:

- **Courtney Doi**, English Instructor and Director of the ACC Writing Center, as Excellence in Teaching recipient
- **Jody Bussell**, Computer-Aided Drafting Instructor, as Adjunct Faculty Member of the Year
- **Shekitha Rogers**, Financial Aid Specialist, as Staff Member of the Year
- **Beth Snow**, Academic and Career Readiness Instructor, as Workforce Development Instructor of the Year

Burlington Biotech Company Partners with ACC for Tissue-building Training

The Biotechnology department at Alamance Community College shows no signs of slowing down its historic push to provide students with the latest cutting-edge training in new technologies.

The latest state-of-the-art technology comes courtesy of Flexcell International, a niche biotechnology company located in Burlington, that distributes an enabling technology—mechanobiology devices—to the field. Accordingly, Flexcell has donated a \$40,000 piece of equipment—a Tissue Train Flexercell Strain Unit—that give students yet another entryway into the latest niche in life science careers.

“Having Flexcell as one of the premiere tissue engineering facilities in the world right down the road [from ACC] provides an added component to the training here for biotechnology students,” said Dr. Al Banes, Flexcell founder and president. “These students get a shot at tissue building by training as technicians to work in twenty-first century labs, where building tissues to create bladders and other organs is already happening.”

The Flexcell’s Tissue Train System equipment provides a way for biotech students to simulate growing human tissue from a surgical specimen in 3D culture, without the need to invade the actual human body.

Using this equipment, cells behave just as they would inside a human body.

Michelle Sabaoun, Department Head of ACC’s Biotechnology



Seen from left, David Frazee, Dean of Health and Public Services at ACC; Dr. Al Banes, Flexcell founder and president; Michelle Sabaoun, Department Head of ACC’s Biotechnology program; and Yonnie Butler, Executive Director of ACC’s Center of Excellence.

department—who took part in the training—says she is grateful for the donation of the equipment.

“Our students will have hands-on experience with 3-D tissue culture for the first time,” she said. “This will take them a step beyond what we currently do in cell culture. Training with this new equipment is the precursor to building skin grafts and 3-dimensional tissues.”

“We are truly grateful for these types of life science-business partnerships that helps us to facilitate the work ACC does in providing our students with crucial hands-on experience, working alongside industry experts on state-of-the-art technology,” said David Frazee, Dean of Health and Public Services.

State Official’s Visit to ACC Focuses on Women’s Employment Issues

NC Department of Administration Secretary Machel Sanders visited Alamance Community College on June 6, in conjunction with the NC Council for Women and Youth Involvement, to talk about the state of employment and earnings for women in the state.

Jennifer Clark, Director of Communications at the Institute for Women’s Policy Research, reported that North Carolina earned a C in the area of Employment & Earnings, an improvement from the D that the state received more than ten years ago. Consequently, North Carolina ranks in the middle third for three

out of four indicators, and in the bottom third for the share of women in the labor force.

Secretary Sanders praised the College for initiatives that help women matriculate through their studies, including the presence of a five-star, on-site childcare center, which provides care for the children of students, the community, and faculty and staff—but also serves as a learning lab for students studying Early Childhood Education.

ACC President Algje Gatewood said in opening remarks that the College’s proposed \$39 million capitals bond referendum includes \$1 million toward renovation and expansion of the on-site childcare center. Voters will make their decision on the bond in November.

Following the presentation of the Status on Women report, Secretary Sanders toured the childcare center with Kristina Ketcham, Department Head for Early Childhood Education.

Referring to the Status on Women Report, Secretary Sanders said women’s underemployment and wage earnings “is not a woman’s issue, not a family issue...it’s an economic issue that affects the entire community and state.”

Governor Roy Cooper appointed Machel Sanders Secretary of the N.C. Department of Administration in 2017. Secretary Sanders oversees the state agency that oversees building construction, purchasing and contracting for goods and services, facilities maintenance, management of state vehicles, and acquiring and disposing of real property.



Machel Sanders (center), Secretary of the NC Dept. of Administration, tours ACC’s five-star childcare center with Kristina Ketcham (at right), Dept. Head for Early Childhood Education.



ACC, IBM Collaborate For 'Ladies In Tech' Robotics Camp

Alamance Community College operated a summer camp for 20 middle school girls in late June to broaden interest in technical careers for women.

The camp provided the girls with an opportunity to work with female IBM engineers to build and program their own TJ Bot that connects to IBM's Watson, the supercomputer that combines artificial intelligence (AI) and sophisticated analytical software for optimal performance.

The Ladies in Technology (LIT) Summer Robotics Camp was funded by a faculty/staff grant from the Alamance Community College Foundation.

"In a world where technology careers have high growth and earning potential, we are setting these young ladies on a positive career path while building confidence, technical fluency, and collaboration skills," said Lakeisha Vance, ACC Department Head for Information Technology, and coordinator of the Ladies in Technology program.



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Community ACCess is an official college publication coordinated by the Public Information and Marketing Office of Alamance Community College.

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NC First Lady Kristen Cooper talks with (left) ACC President Dr. Algie Gatewood and (at right) Justin Snyder, Dean of Industrial Technologies, inside the campus Advanced Applied Technology Center.

NC First Lady Tours College Tech Center

Kristen Cooper, the First Lady of North Carolina, visited Alamance Community College last winter and toured the Advanced Applied Technology Center (AATC) which opened last August.

During her one-hour appearance on the ACC campus, Mrs. Cooper learned about the five industrial technology programs that are housed in the AATC, and watched students in action as they operated equipment and machinery in Mechatronics Engineering Technology, Welding Technology, Computer-Integrated Machining, Automotive Systems Technology, and Air Conditioning/Heating/Refrigeration.

The Advanced Applied Technology Center represents ACC's role in addressing a skills gap that will enlarge, enhance and fill a pipeline of skilled workers desperately needed by local employers.

The First Lady came to Alamance County as part of her 100 County Tour. Mrs. Cooper's stops in Alamance County were organized based on her initiatives to improve the health and well-being of children in North Carolina.

"We built the itinerary based on the variety of educational innovations and success the county can boast about," said Ilina Ewen, Chief of Staff to the First Lady.