

GATEWAY *on the Move*

A PUBLICATION FOR THE ALUMNI, FRIENDS AND PARTNERS OF GATEWAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SPRING 2010

GateWay Receives Strong Endorsement for Reaccreditation

After an exhaustive three-day campus visit with students, faculty and staff, a seven-member team of community college administrators from across the country says it will recommend the maximum ten-year renewal of accreditation for GateWay Community College (GWCC). The news was announced at an exit meeting with college personnel in late February. In the meeting, review team chair Dr. Rebecca Nickoli, Vice President of Workforce and Economic Development at Ivy Tech Community College in Indiana, talked of how the team saw firsthand the college's "engagement with the community and in the lives of students."

Dr. Nickoli read from the team report, summarizing their findings on each of five accreditation criteria set by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). GateWay met each of the five criteria with no need for additional follow-up or review by the HLC.

A few college areas singled out for special praise included:

- commitment to teaching and learning;
- strong career and technical programs;
- advisory councils;
- critical reading requirement for students;



DR. AWAD, BIOLOGY INSTRUCTOR, TEACHING STUDENTS IN THE CLASSROOM

- Maricopa Skill Center, which "serves students who might otherwise go unserved;"
- strong community input and partnerships;
- Early College High School and Dual Enrollment program outreach to younger students, and;
- extensive student support services.

"GateWay students love their college" and faculty and staff demonstrate a "passion for their work."
-comment from review team report

Dr. Nickoli observed that "GateWay students love their college" and faculty and staff demonstrate a "passion for their work." In announcing the team's recommendation that GateWay receive

the maximum ten-year accreditation renewal, she assured the assembly that "that doesn't happen very often!"

Next, the college will receive a first draft of the team's full report, at which time factual corrections can be made. Then, GWCC President Giovannini and Maricopa Community College District Chancellor Glasper will receive the final report, at which time they can express any issues with the report's findings. The team recommended that GateWay's next accreditation review take place during the 2019 - 2020 academic year.

To learn more about the accreditation process, visit www.ncahlc.org.

in this issue:

CANALSCAPE EXHIBIT COMES TO GATEWAY PAGE 3

YOUR DONATION DOLLARS AT WORK PAGE 3

WE'RE GROWING WITH YOU PAGE 4

SUCCESS STARTS EARLY FOR TEN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS PAGE 8

Message from the President



DR. EUGENE GIOVANNINI,
GWCC PRESIDENT

As the academic year comes to a close, I reflect upon our commitment to the success of our students and the continued contributions the college has made to the surrounding community. At the same time, I look ahead to what the coming year will bring.

I am pleased to announce that GateWay has been recommended to receive the maximum ten-year accreditation renewal by the Higher Learning

Commission visiting team. Our faculty and staff worked very hard to assess and document our progress over the past ten years. We are thankful for the supportive comments submitted by the community that aided us in this process.

We concluded our second *Learn More/Live Better* Annual Fund Campaign and I am excited to share with you on page 3 how the generosity of our donors is contributing to the success of our students, faculty, staff and college as a whole. I hope you will continue to pledge your support when our next campaign rolls around in the fall.

As we transition from the spring graduating class of students to the fall entering class, please join us May 14 for the

commencement exercises celebrating the achievements of the class of 2010. Among them are ten outstanding GateWay Early College High School students graduating from college just two weeks before their high school graduation. Commencement will again be held at North Phoenix Baptist Church.

Looking forward, the coming year will surely bring academic success, honors and accolades to our students, employees and the college. A foreseeable change coming to campus starts with the construction of the Business Incubator, scheduled to begin in October 2010, with completion by December 2011. The Incubator will provide space for early-stage start-up companies to refine their business models before fully entering the business community. The planning and design of the Integrated Education Building will continue to develop throughout the year with construction to start in March 2011 and be completed in July 2012.

I invite you to stop by campus and watch us grow with the community. You'll like what you see.

Eugene Giovannini, Ed.D.
President, GateWay Community College



GATEWAY *on the Move* is published by Institutional Advancement. Please send story ideas to Anne Patterson-James at patterson-james@gatewaycc.edu • phone: (602) 286-8232 • fax: (602) 286-8223 • If there is a change in address, personnel, etc. or you wish to be removed from our distribution list, please let us know via email.



Your Generosity is Showing!

Through the generosity of our donors - GateWay employees, business partners and community supporters - our *Learn More/Live Better* Annual Fund Campaign is aiding students and providing resources for success. Contributing to the College is rewarding and it supports individual philanthropic ideals. With just two annual fund campaigns behind us, our donors are investing in GateWay students, academic programs and educational support services like never before.

A Student Emergency Fund has been established to provide financial assistance for students when experiencing an emergency that may otherwise prevent them from continuing their educational goals.

"There are times when a student may have to decide whether to pay an electric bill or pay for a book," Dr. Gene Giovannini, GateWay Community College president explained. "We want

to be able to loan them the funds so they don't have to make that choice and are able to continue their educational journey with minimal interruptions."

With budgets shrinking, smaller yet essential items are sometimes the first to go. Contributions to the campaign allowed the library to continue over 107 periodical subscriptions used to complement classroom instruction and supported additional tutoring hours for students through GateWay's Learning Center.

Library Resource Center Department Chair, Kathy Lynch noted that it was "nice to receive these funds in order to retain the (subscriptions) we currently had without having to drop any core titles." Periodicals such as *Water Environment and Technology* and *American Nurse* give students greater access to their industry and provide supplemental support for their courses as well as additional research options.

Tutoring may be the only way a student can successfully complete a class or understand a concept. The *Learn More/Live Better* Annual Fund Campaign provided the necessary resources to hire three student tutors serving dozens of GateWay students in a variety of subjects including math, biology, psychology, computers and more.

Your gift to GateWay directly impacts the lives of students and supports the college's mission of providing an affordable, accessible and high-quality educational experience for all Arizonans. We greatly appreciate those who have made an investment in GateWay. We are excited to grow this initiative with you for the benefit of our students, our workforce and our community.

For more information or to participate in the campaign, contact Kristin Gubser, Assistant Director of Development at (602) 286-8039 or visit www.gatewaycc.edu/About.

Canalscape Exhibit on Campus April 26 - May 14

An initiative envisioning a bold transformation of city canals makes a tour stop at GateWay. The Canalscape Exhibit demonstrates the potential use of the vast network of canals in Metro Phoenix as vital hubs of urban activity where canals meet major streets; and as places that offer comfortable recreational corridors, non-motorized transportation options and alternative energy generation.

Just as the early inhabitants applied their ingenuity to convert an arid land into a fertile valley.

The Canalscape initiative brings human ingenuity to the next evolution of living in the southwestern US desert. Canalscape uniquely intersperses urban vitality into this majestic landscape, offering an alternative to sprawl, quality places to gather, beautiful and comfortable recreational corridors, alternative transportation routes throughout the region and homegrown non-polluting energy for local use.



The northeast corner of GateWay's campus where 40th Street and Van Buren meet the Grand Canal presents an ideal opportunity for Canalscape including, perhaps, student and faculty housing, shops and cafes, offices, hotels and additional classrooms, all opening onto the canal.

Students from Arizona State University (ASU) and the University of Colorado - Denver worked with Project Director, Dr. Nan Ellin, Planning Program Director in ASU's School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning, on developing the Canalscape vision and producing the exhibit. The exhibit is made possible by the generous support of SRP, the

Arizona Humanities Council, ASU's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and EDAW-AECOM architectural firm.

The exhibit will be on display Monday - Friday 8am - 7pm, from April 26 - May 14 in the Center for Health Careers Education.

For more information visit <http://canalscape.asu.edu>.

Campus Expansion Update

BUSINESS INCUBATOR

With just six months until construction begins on the Business Incubator; the planning and design phases are in full swing. The Incubator will feature rentable research space to house early-stage start-up companies and provide the resources to produce successful entry into the business community, creating jobs and strengthening the local economy.

The space will accommodate both wet and dry research labs to attract businesses focusing on emerging technologies, including bioscience. Additionally, businesses that align with the career-training programs offered at the College have the opportunity for potential partnerships with faculty and academic programs, providing a place for students to experience hands-on learning through internships.

In addition to providing space to house companies, a full array of small business start-up services will be available to tenants including business and technical support, guidance and mentoring and exposure to a connected network of outside business resources and professionals. Basic administrative tools will also be available to tenants.

Final plans for the Incubator are scheduled for completion in September with a ground-breaking ceremony in October. Construction of the Incubator is expected to be complete by December 2011.

INTEGRATED EDUCATIONAL BUILDING

With the goal of providing students the best educational experience possible, the designing and planning phases of the Integrated Educational Building (IEB) have begun. The IEB is a three story educational facility that will house approximately 115,000 square feet of science labs, classrooms, faculty and staff offices, a library, learning center, art studio, computer area, multipurpose room and Counseling, Disability Support, Career Center and Enrollment Services.

The art studio will provide a comprehensive indoor/outdoor space presenting the opportunity to increase course offerings in the arts including pottery, welding, wood making, etc.

A multipurpose room has been added to provide indoor space for a variety of arts performances, classes and other events. The library will continue to be open to the public.

Planning and designing will continue throughout rest of the year, with an anticipated ground-breaking in March 2011 and projected completion date of July 2012.



RENDERING OF THE INTEGRATED EDUCATIONAL BUILDING

GREEN INITIATIVE

The planning and design of both the Incubator and the IEB will include eco-friendly elements with the intent to qualifying for a minimum of silver level Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification.

For additional information, visit www.gatewaycc.edu/About/MasterPlan.

NEW PROGRAMS AT GATEWAY

POLYSOMNOGRAPHY TECHNOLOGY

Beginning in May 2010, GateWay will offer an eight-month Certificate of Completion in Polysomnography Technology, the only such program in Arizona. The program will train students to monitor and analyze patients with sleep disorders such as sleep apnea, insomnia, narcolepsy and various parasomnias. Upon completion, students will be encouraged to apply for the registration exams provided by the Board of Registered Polysomnographic Technologists and/or the National Board for Respiratory Care. The program is only open to graduates of an accredited Respiratory Care Program, such as the one offered by GateWay and those who hold Certified Respiratory Therapist or Registered Respiratory Therapist credentials.

For more information visit www.gatewaycc.edu/Programs/Polysomnography.

SYSTEMS ANALYSIS FOR PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

The Systems Analysis for Practice Management Program is designed for adults with experience in medical offices or in the information technology fields. The program acquaints students with the process of assisting a small medical office to convert to an Electronic Health Record system and then working with the practice to achieve optimal use. A one-semester Certificate of Completion and a four-semester Associate in Applied Science Degree are available.

For more information visit www.gatewaycc.edu/Programs/SystemsAnalysis.

Donation Revs Up Automotive Technology Program

The Automotive Technology Program at GateWay just got faster and cleaner with the recent donation of two cars from the Honda PACT – Professional Automotive Career Training - program. As a certified Honda PACT program, periodically, GateWay will receive the latest and greatest in automotive advances. The most recent donation included a high performance driving vehicle and a hybrid.

LIFE IN THE FAST LANE

Coming from a school in the Midwest similar to the school of high performance driving in Phoenix, GateWay received a fast and flashy Acura TSX A-spec to promote GateWay's Automotive Training program and for students to receive hands-on-training during lab instruction.

“The Acura is the car everyone loves to hate,” Steve Folks, GateWay Automotive Instructor and Honda PACT

coordinator said. It's fast and with a full Corsa exhaust system it makes the loud revving noise “car enthusiasts love and general motorists would rather do without.”

Although it grabs your attention, it is more importantly used for training. Operating on a less than common six speed manual transmission, it will provide essential training for GateWay's automotive students. Even though there is a decline in the production and purchase of manual transmission vehicles, they are still available and still need maintenance.

Several students in the program are excited for the opportunity to work on the new Acura. “The manual

transmission is an interesting aspect to the car,” Automotive Technology student, Guillermo Marin said. “I can't wait to get my hands on it to see how it works.”

PREPARING FOR A SMARTER, CLEANER FUTURE

Leading the way in automotive technology instruction, GateWay added a Hybrid Vehicle Overview course last summer to the Automotive Technology Program curriculum. With this addition, students receive the most up-to-date instruction in automotive technology advances. And a recent donation of a 2010 Honda Insight Hybrid from Honda PACT further fueled GateWay's efficient training.

This particular Hybrid is equipped with a smaller than average gas engine and a large electric battery. Never having to be plugged in, the Hybrid sustains itself charging the battery while running and makes decisions on its own whether to operate with the gas engine or electric battery. For

example, when idling at a stop light, the car senses the need for less energy and turns off the engine and runs on the battery.

Functioning on battery operation creates a more eco-friendly vehicle through the reduction of greenhouse and carbon gases. Additionally, the car features an economy mode which tracks how you use your energy sources. “It processes all components of the car and will send you a message to ‘check this or check that,’” Marin stated. “Eventually you should develop better driving habits.” This technology provides valuable insight on using the car for maximum performance and environmental awareness.



ACURA TSX A-SPEC DONATED TO GWCC BY HONDA

GateWay Alum Named Dean of UTEP Nursing School

FIRST HISPANIC MALE TO ACHIEVE THIS DISTINCTION



PHOTO BY JR HERNANDEZ,
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

Elias Provencio-Vasquez, GateWay Community College alum, was recently featured in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* after being named Dean of Nursing at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), becoming the first Hispanic male to hold such a position. The article further points out that he was also the first Hispanic male to earn a doctorate in nursing in the

United States, which he received from the University of Arizona in 1992. Provencio-Vasquez graduated in 1975 with an associate degree in Mental Health Technology, in 1977 with a certificate in Practical Nursing and in 1979 with an associate degree in Nursing from GateWay, then known as Maricopa Technical Community College.

Harahap and Desu Named as Academic All-Americans

For two GateWay Community College students, academic success and community involvement has its rewards. Habtom Desu and Indira Harahap have been named to the All-Arizona Academic Team, an honor for community college students across the state. Their commitment to educational excellence and dedication to community service earned them each a scholarship from GateWay and a full tuition waiver to the Arizona public university of their choice.

Desu is an accounting major from Eritrea, Africa and is active in student clubs on campus. Since starting at GateWay, Desu has been involved in the college's chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and currently serves as the Public Relations and Communications Chair.

He is also active with the Black Student Union and Go Green GateWay and offers tax return assistance for seniors. He also stays involved with the local Eritrea community. After graduating from GateWay, Desu plans on transferring to NAU to further his education.



HABTOM DESU



INDIRA HARAHAP

Harahap, a biology major, is also a student of GateWay Early College High School and will graduate from both High School and College this May. She is also involved in Phi Theta Kappa and is currently serving as the Vice President of Service and Fellowship.

In addition to PTK,

Harahap also participates in the IGNITE (Influence, Guide and Network for Intercollegiate Tobacco Education) Club, Hispanic Student Organization and World Explorer's Club on campus. She volunteers at the Arizona Science Center, Phoenix Children's Hospital and for the Susan G. Koman Race for the Cure. After graduating from GateWay, Harahap plans on continuing her education at ASU.

Ten Students to Graduate College Before High School

While it's not new for GateWay Early College High School (GWECHS) and GateWay Community College to graduate the same students from both institutions in the same year; this year it's a bit different.

Nearly 25% of the High School's graduating class is also graduating from the College as well. Ten of the 41 students will graduate with their Associate Degrees two weeks before they graduate from the High School. Many of them are barely 18.

"We are immensely proud of them," Lisa Smith, GWECHS principal said. "They went above and beyond, and took advantage of the opportunities available to them."

To achieve dual graduation, students not only attend high school during the day, they take college courses at night and on weekends. To take college courses, they must also maintain eligibility by keeping their grades up, having good attendance and good behavior. It doesn't end there, the majority of the students participated in the Achieving a College Education (ACE) program held during the summer and evenings on campus. Additionally, many of them took college summer courses, which they paid for themselves.

"One thing that sets this group of students apart is they are self-advocates," Joel Laurin, GWECHS Counselor said. "They seek support." Laurin knows each of the students' very well, having met with them often to discuss their goals and opportunities.

Laurin also notes that the students are "very resilient and faced a lot of challenges that could have easily derailed their success." They have always found a way to bounce back.

Student Jesus Corral learned early on that he wanted to attend the High School. "When I was in elementary school a staff member told me that if I went to (GWECHS) I could get my high school diploma and college degree at the same time. That stuck with me ever since."

Although his parents and teachers hoped that he would attend Brophy College Prep, he just knew he had to go to GateWay. "It just wasn't me," Corral said of Brophy. "I had to follow my heart and my heart brought me here."

Corral plans to attend Grand Canyon University in the fall as a Biology/ Pre-Med student. Nora Bujanda plans to attend Grand Canyon University to study Nursing. Stephan Choi plans to attend ASU
(continued on page 7)

to study Kinesiology with a minor in Bio-chemistry. Indira Harahap plans to attend ASU to study Bio-medicine. Najma Hassan plans to attend UofA to study Microbiology. Furdos Nurhussen who plans to attend UofA to study Biology with minors in English and Italian. Mayra Ontiveros plans to attend NAU to study Psychology

with a minor in Spanish. Moises Serrano plans to attend NAU's extended campus at Scottsdale Community College to study Hospitality. Virma Soto plans to attend Grand Canyon University to study Psychology and Graphic Design. Eddy Gomez plans to attend ASU and is undecided on a major.



BACK ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: STEPHEN CHOI, JESUS CORRAL, MOISES SERRANO, NORA BUJANDA FRONT ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: NAJMA HASSAN, VIRMA SOTO, MYRA ONTIVEROS, FURDOS NURHUSSEN, EDDY GOMEZ
NOT PICTURED: INDIRA HARAHAP

Helping Students Construct Their Futures

In July of 2009, Ian Mistretta joined his girlfriend and young daughter in Arizona from New York and enrolled in Moon Valley High School. Feeling bored, he dropped out and quickly felt like his life was going nowhere. Then a friend told him about the YouthBuild Phoenix program, which is funded by a grant awarded to the City of Phoenix by the US Department of Labor. He is now learning leadership and life skills, receiving occupational skill training from which he will earn a Certificate of Carpentry and has plans to further his education in the information technology field.

“At one point I was headed down the wrong road,” Mistretta said. YouthBuild *“really helped me open doors. I have opportunities now.”*

As one of six educational and business partners participating in the YouthBuild Phoenix grant program, GateWay Community College's Apprenticeship program helps connect participants with apprenticeships and through GWCC's



IAN MISTRETTA

Business and Industry Training program teaches a leadership development course. The course provides valuable life skills; “I've learned how to take charge of a situation, be more efficient and create a plan for my life,” Mistretta said.

During a three day workshop at GWCC, students earned college credit in Leadership for Citizenship. The workshop, presented in collaboration with the City of Phoenix under

the direction of Tim Valencia, Youth Program Coordinator and Harley Armstrong, YouthBuild Field Coordinator for

Arizona Call-A-Teen YouthBuild Resources, also included a campus tour, application for financial aid, interest assessment, resume writing, career planning and advisement.

YouthBuild aims to help young adults aged 18-24 “get a second chance at their education and an opportunity to get trained in a construction trade,” Armstrong explained. This year there are 16 participants in the program and each will receive assistance toward achieving their high school diplomas or GEDs and obtaining hands-on-training in the construction industry through the Carpentry Program at the Maricopa Skill Center (MSC).

After acceptance into the program in November, Mistretta earned his GED in just one and a half months and enrolled in the Carpentry Program. The MSC program teaches construction trade skills including sustainable ‘green’ construction, which prepares students to participate in a Habitat for Humanity housing project as part of the YouthBuild program.

“I look forward to being able to install electrical components one day when I get a house and not have to call anyone,” Mistretta beamed.

This year's grant is funding the first ‘green’ project for the YouthBuild Phoenix program. Building of the ‘green’ certified Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) home began in early March in the established Encanto neighborhood. Construction will continue for the next few months and upon completion will be given to a family selected by Habitat for Humanity.

Participants in YouthBuild are expected to complete the program within four to eight months of starting and are offered guidance to continue on their path to success. Mistretta plans to attend college and earn a degree in information technology with which he will use his skills to install and fix computers.

A Maricopa Community College

Winner of the 2010 Innovation of the Year Award Announced

The Children's Learning Center (CLC) won the 2010 campus Innovation of the Year Award with its revenue-generating, community-based program. The program not only provides affordable child care for GateWay students but to the surrounding community as well. The CLC will compete against recipients from the other Maricopa Community Colleges for the 2010 District Innovation of the Year Paul M. Pair Award, which includes \$2,000 for use in furthering their innovation.

Traditionally, the CLC served students and staff of the College and the other Maricopa Community Colleges. However, with diminishing budgets and closure of other campus' childcare centers the CLC proactively sought ways to generate revenue and prevent closure of a much needed service. For the past two years, the CLC has been restructured to serve families in the surrounding

neighborhood, creating revenue that funds additional staff, allowing the CLC to serve more students with children.

"With other campuses closing their centers and budget cuts due to the struggling economy, we knew we had to find a way to eliminate the possibility of closing the center," Mary Beth James, GateWay's CLC Supervisor said. A recent study conducted by the CLC found that 94% of the parents who took the survey would not be able to attend GateWay without affordable childcare.

The most critical change to the CLC program has been the implementation of a revenue-generating after-school program for older children in the Wilson and Balsz Elementary school districts and subsequent homework help programs. Other changes included an increase in hours of operation to accommodate

students that need childcare to study, work, or attend clinicals; and the introduction of a creative and educational curriculum for summer camps.

"We service an area where there is little history of college attendance and limited success with education," James said. "Getting these kids on campus can change their outlook. It allows them to see higher education in their futures."

According to the 2000 US Census, the median household income in GateWay's service area is \$21,168 compared to \$41,994 nationally. It includes the Wilson and Balsz Elementary school districts, which are working to raise student test scores.

For more information visit
www.gatewaycc.edu/Campus/Childcare.