

Going the Distance



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NEW RIVER COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Annual Report

2009 - 2010



Going the Distance





Table of Contents

Board of Governors.....	4
Message from the President.....	5
Going the Distance for New River's Students	6
News & Notes	12
Milestones	17
Center for Workforce Education	19
New River Foundation.....	20
Financials.....	21

About **NEW RIVER**

- New River Community and Technical College was founded July 1, 2003, by enactment of the West Virginia Legislature as a multi-campus entity headquartered in Raleigh County, West Virginia.
- The college was independently accredited February 8, 2005, by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.
- New River serves a nine-county area including Fayette, Greenbrier, Mercer, Monroe, Nicholas, Pocahontas, Raleigh, Summers and Webster Counties.
- New River offers a full range of programs and services at the following campuses: Beckley / Raleigh County, Greenbrier Valley (Lewisburg), Mercer County (Princeton) and Nicholas County (Summersville).
- New River offers 11 Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree programs, 6 Associate of Science (A.S.) degree programs, one Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree, and one Associate of Fine Arts (A.F.A.) degree, Collegiate Certificates, and Collegiate Skill Set Certificates. A number of the associate degree programs transfer to four-year baccalaureate programs at other institutions. Courses are offered online and through an interactive video network to increase access for students across the large geographic area served by the College and beyond.
- New River's Center for Workforce Education offers a variety of customized training and workforce development programs to address the training needs of employers within the College's designated service district and beyond.



Vision

New River improves students' lives and enriches communities.

Mission

New River provides comprehensive, affordable, high-quality post-secondary education, workforce training programs and services that are geographically or electronically accessible and that meet individual, business and community needs of the diverse population in the College's region of responsibility.

Strategic Goals

1. Implement the first phase of the Ten-Year Facilities Master Plan by constructing a new Raleigh County Campus, renovating the Student Activities Building on the Greenbrier Valley Campus and seeking funds to renovate and expand the main building on the Nicholas County Campus
2. Attain organizational self sufficiency by bringing in-house all financial and administrative functions heretofore performed under contractual agreements, and by implementing comprehensive data, voice, audio and interactive video networks to serve all campuses.
3. Strengthen Workforce Education to meet the demands of employers in West Virginia by expanding allied health training programs and by securing instructional facilities in Mercer County to implement a Mechatronics program to meet the need for skilled workers in manufacturing and fabrication industries.

Accreditation

In view of its commitment to excellence in education, New River Community and Technical College has maintained institutional accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools since 2005. For more information about the Association, call 800-621-7440, or visit www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org.

New River Community and Technical College is an Equal Educational Opportunity Institution



Front Row (L-R) Rondah Lowe, Deborah Hill, Leslie Baker, Donna Feijo; Back Row (L-R) E. T. Smith, David Nalker, Al Martine, Robert Farley, Dr. John Mark Walkup; Not Pictured: Edward D. Knight, III, Marilyn Leftwich

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The New River Board of Governors is composed of citizens from New River's service region appointed by the Governor and representatives elected by New River's faculty, classified staff and student body.

Chair, Leslie Baker

Raleigh County
Museum Coordinator, Youth
Museum of Southern West Virginia

Vice-Chair, Edward D. Knight, III

Greenbrier County
Attorney

Secretary, David Nalker

Greenbrier County
Commercial Vehicle Dealer (retired)

Immediate Past Chair, Robert Farley

Mercer County
Executive Director, Princeton-Mercer
County Chamber of Commerce

Deborah Hill

Nicholas County
Chief Executive Officer,
Summersville Regional Medical
Center

Marilyn Leftwich

Greenbrier County
Guidance Counselor, White
Sulphur Springs Elementary School

Albert Martine

Raleigh County
Principal, Meadow Bridge High
School

E. T. Smith

Mercer County
Owner, Smith Services

Classified Staff Representative, Donna Feijo

Financial Aid Counselor,
Beckley Campus

Faculty Representative, Dr. John Mark Walkup,

Professor of Music,
Nicholas County Campus

Student Representative,

Rondah Lowe, Beckley Campus

ADMINISTRATION

President

Ted D. Spring, Ph.D.

Executive Vice President/ Chief Academic Officer

Harry R. Faulk, D.A.

Vice President of Finance and Administration

Stephen Benson, B.M.E.

Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Workforce Education

William J. Loope, M.S.

Chief Information Officer

David J. Ayersman, Ed.D.

Director of College Relations

Elizabeth M. Belcher, B.S.

Director of Human Resources

Leah A. Taylor, M.S.

Campus Dean—Beckley, Raleigh County

Carolyn Sizemore, Ed.S.

Campus Dean—Mercer County

James E. "Bo" Hylton, M.S.

Campus Dean—Nicholas County

Fred B. Culler, M.A.

Campus Dean—Greenbrier Valley

Roger Griffith, M.S.

Message FROM THE PRESIDENT

Growth and change. Both can be challenging, but they can also be powerful agents to propel an institution forward. At New River Community and Technical College, we confronted and embraced both of these forces during the 2009-10 fiscal year.

Growth came in many forms, starting with another double-digit enrollment increase in the fall semester. We were fortunate to add 14 new faculty and staff positions during the year so we were able to provide services to students. Although we still do not have adequate staff to provide all of the support services we would like, significant progress has been made, and our employees are working tirelessly to do more with less.

We also saw growth and change in our facilities. We opened a new Allied Health Education Center in Summersville to house our rapidly expanding practical nursing and medical assisting programs. We equipped a new Allied Health Lab on the Beckley Campus and installed state-of-the-art training equipment in our Mechatronics Lab on the Mercer County Campus. New classrooms were added and new equipment was installed in the Welding Lab on the Greenbrier Valley Campus. The additional space is of real value to our programs, but the added cost of leasing facilities has intensified the challenge of absorbing our phenomenal growth with no corresponding increase in our state appropriations.

The challenges facing us are positive in that they are making us re-think how we deliver educational programs in our service area. We are constantly exploring whether there are ways we can provide

educational opportunities that are more economically viable both for the college and for our students. The economy, the geography of our region and recent revolutionary changes in classroom technology are all converging to transform the way we approach our mission as a community and technical college. On an almost daily basis we are reinventing the way we deliver courses and services to our students. In this report, we will share not only some of the highlights of the past year, but also some of the innovative ways in which we are combining technology and human ingenuity to overcome barriers to higher education in southeastern West Virginia.

Ted. D. Spring, Ph.D.
President, New River

Spotlight on STUDENTS



Beckley Campus SGA President John Wood and Vice President Jamie Dalton set out food for families and the media at the Marsh Fork Elementary School cafeteria.

Beckley/Raleigh County Campus

When word of the explosion at the Upper Big Branch Mine in Raleigh County reached the Beckley Campus, the Student Government Association acted quickly. They purchased sodas, bread, lunch meat, chips, cookies and a vegetable tray to deliver to Marsh Fork Elementary School, where families and media from all over the country assembled to wait for word of the miners' fate. Writing about his gratitude for the outpouring of generosity from the students and other West Virginians, AP reporter Peter Prengaman commented, "I asked interim principal Shelly Prince how folks could be so giving at a time like this. She said that many felt it was soothing to help others. This situation made them feel helpless, and helping others was doing something. She also said it gave people a chance to show the world what West Virginians are really like."

The campus received a Global Youth Service Day mini-grant to fund a marketing campaign to promote its year-long Let's Move initiative through which New River students serve as team captains and mentors to youth volunteers as they work together to promote healthy eating and fitness habits.

During Black History Month in February, the campus hosted a presentation by Anthony Kinzer, founder and executive director of the West Virginia Center for African American Art & Culture in Charleston.

Going the Distance FOR NEW RIVER'S STUDENTS

Sometimes the best way to move forward is to take stock and regroup. That's essentially what New River decided to do with its distance education efforts in 2007.

Distance education technology makes it possible for students to either complete classes online or take classes via a two-way video connection on the Interactive Video Network (IVN). For example, a student who needs to take a class offered only on the Beckley Campus may be able to attend the class in an IVN classroom on any other campus and see and converse with the instructor and students in real time.

Online and IVN classes are an obvious fit for New River, which has a service area that covers 5,700 square miles in nine predominantly rural counties. For some students the closest campus is 60 miles away. Some must travel to campuses even farther away depending on their major. Because of economic conditions, work and family responsibilities and the expense of commuting to campus, time- and place-bound students may find it difficult to access post-secondary education in our region.

In 2005, the decision was made to greatly increase distance education offerings. Between 2005 and 2007 sections of Web courses went from 86 to 378, and enrollment in those

courses jumped 500 percent. The number of IVN classes increased from 94 to 118.

It was a well intentioned effort, but limited resources, outdated technology and lack of faculty training hurt the quality of the offerings. By 2008, faculty and students alike felt that the time had come to really invest in a quality distance education program.

Neither the content nor the quality of distance learning courses met student needs, and most instructors did not feel they had the adequate skills and confidence to teach IVN or Web-based courses.

In order to have the resources to offer effective distance education courses, the college applied for and received a \$2 million federal Title III grant for a project called *Developing a Distance Learning System for Rural Appalachia*. It is a testament to the critical needs addressed in the proposal that the college was awarded a grant on the first attempt in this highly competitive national process. The proposal earned a 100 percent score from the evaluators.

The second Title III cohort at a training session: Front Row (L-R) Jo-Anna Perry, nursing instructor, Nicholas County Campus; Joyce Egnor, director of the New River School of Practical Nursing; Karen Tully, medical assisting instructor, Nicholas County Campus; Vanessa Bailey, allied health instructor, Greenbrier Valley Campus; Tim Hofmann, biology instructor, Greenbrier Valley Campus; (back row) Dr. David Ayersman, chief information officer; Ralph Payne, director of the Center for Teaching Excellence; Carolyn Sizemore, Beckley/Raleigh County Campus dean and Title III project director; Mary Walkup, nursing instructor, Pocahontas County Cohort and Chris Fink, business instructor, Greenbrier Valley Campus.



Having computers in every traditional classroom is a testament to the commitment the college has made to “redefining the classroom.” It has enhanced my lectures by allowing me to add media components, PowerPoints and other features.

Karen Carter-Harvey
Instructor of Psychology

Two years into the five-year grant, New River is already emerging as an innovator and pioneer in distance education in West Virginia. With support from this grant, the college is truly reinventing the way education is delivered to our students. This report gives some insight into how and why that transformation is taking place.

Redefining **THE CLASSROOM**

Forget chalkboards and overhead projectors. Advances in technology are changing the whole concept of what a classroom is or can be. Through the Title III Grant, New River has embraced cutting edge technologies that are revolutionizing the way instruction is delivered to students.

“New River has made a major investment in the quality and capacity of its technology, to the extent that New River is now a state leader in distance education,” says Dr. Harry Faulk, executive vice president and chief academic officer.

The first step was to purchase an updated network infrastructure and IVN system, ending the dependence on another institution for access to distance learning classrooms and providing faculty much improved technical support. New River now has 15 IVN classrooms in seven locations, and the college is also working with high schools throughout the service region to deliver classes through their IVN equipment.

Traditional classrooms have been converted to “smart classrooms” with computers, projectors, document cameras, screens and internet access.

New River also invested in sophisticated software packages like the Wimba Collaboration Suite and the Angel Course Management System that are giving instructors new options for sharing course content and communicating with students. From “virtual office hours” to online study groups, these new tools are reshaping perceptions of where, when and how students learn.



Understanding ANGEL

Using the Angel course management software, faculty can:

- lead moderated online discussions
- use online drop-boxes for collecting assignments
- create self-assessing quizzes and tests
- track attendance and student progress
- maintain a grade book and a course calendar
- post course content
- import course materials from competing course management systems (like the Blackboard or WebCT modules that sometimes accompany texts)

Angel's benefits for students include:

- a degree of document portability between labs, home, and computer classrooms via the network storage in a private drop box that the system provides to users
- using Angel to maintain personal calendars to create online 'bookmark' repositories

The hands-on training has been especially helpful. It has made me more confident with technology so now I have more time for the students.

Libby Rogers
Professor of Business

Rethinking HOW WE TEACH

All the classroom technology in the world is powerless if instructors don't embrace it and learn to use it effectively. That is why New River's Title III project is devoting significant resources to faculty training.

The grant funding allowed New River to hire instructional designer Ralph Payne to establish a Center for Teaching Excellence that provides faculty training and technical support. During the first year of the grant, a cohort of faculty was identified who were enthusiastic about improving their skills in teaching distance education classes. They were trained in use of the equipment and software and over the course of the year developed 10 new general education classes for online delivery. During the 2009-10 academic year, a second cohort developed online courses for allied health programs.

The training isn't just about how to turn on computers and use software. It is about how to teach effectively.

"Each cohort starts with educational psychology. We completely start over, but with a state-of-the-art infrastructure. It's a chance for faculty to update their skills." Payne says.

Carolyn Sizemore adds that everyone can benefit from the Title III workshops.

"Many of our faculty didn't go through an education program, so they weren't formally taught how to teach," she says.

The resources of the CTE are available to all faculty, not just cohort members. Payne has created a studio where faculty members can work on course design and production of media-rich course materials using a variety of new hardware and software tools. Multimedia acquisition tools

such as HD camcorders, digital still cameras, webcams, digital voice recorders and more are available for loan.

In addition, graphics and multimedia computer workstations on both the Windows and Mac platforms that boast cutting-edge e-learning and course creation software are available for faculty use. Expert advice, training and assistance in course design and multimedia production are also provided. In addition to the formal training provided through the CTE, cohort members are now passing their enthusiasm and knowledge along to others.

"For every one trained, four or five more benefit because they go back and share with their colleagues," Payne comments.

Psychology instructor Karen Carter-Harvey was a member of the first cohort and has found many ways to use the new tools to enhance both her online and traditional classes.

"I digitize videos that I show in class and we can have an interactive discussion about them through Angel.

She is very enthusiastic about Angel, which she has found both broadens her options of presenting material and helps students stay on track by having the syllabus, resource materials and class assignments all in one location. Students can even submit assignments through an online drop box, thus rendering obsolete the age-old excuse of "my dog ate my homework."

Psychology instructor Karen Carter-Harvey (left) and assistant professor of biology Joycie Wawiyi practice with a video camera on loan from the Center for Teaching Excellence.



Meet the Title III Team

Students at the receiving end of IVN courses are required to have more self-discipline, and the different educational backgrounds and learning styles of our students require a more fluid approach to the delivery of material. You cannot teach a subject over IVN the same way that you would in a traditional classroom. Instructors have to be more vocal, and more familiar with technology. The traditional chalkboard/whiteboard lecture delivery is insufficient for IVN instruction.

Chris Fink

Instructor of Business



The Title III Team: (Clockwise from front) Jason Garris, Carolyn Sizemore, Dr. David Ayersman, Amanda Kincaid. Not pictured: Dara Fann and Ralph Payne.

It is especially important when teaching online courses to spend time at the beginning of the class introducing the instructor to the students and vice versa, Carter-Harvey says. She posts a photo and biographical sketch about herself at the beginning of the class, but in the future she plans to record a video introduction using a webcam. She also spends time at the beginning of each course helping the students become comfortable with navigating their way through Angel and Wimba.

Allied Health Division Chair Joyce Egnor quickly realized how the new system can also alleviate some burdensome course management tasks. "Angel is going to solve problems. Because so many of the clinical instructors in the nursing program are adjuncts, it has been hard to track attendance, tardies and clinical evaluations. With Angel, we will be able to monitor and track student progress from instructor to instructor and identify students who are having problems. It gives us more consistency," she says.

Business instructor Chris Fink is also an Angel fan, commenting that it has brought New River's virtual classrooms into the 21st Century.

"The possibilities are endless with publisher provided content, or instructor designed content, for differing learning and teaching styles," Fink says.

Student and teacher satisfaction with interactive video network (IVN) classes has improved significantly with the installation of

CAROLYN SIZEMORE, dean of the Beckley/Raleigh County Campus, authored the grant proposal and is the director of the Title III project.

DR. DAVID J. AYERSMAN, chief technology officer, oversees technical aspects of the project and conducts faculty training.

RALPH PAYNE, an instructional designer, has established a Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) to offer training and technical assistance to faculty.

AMANDA KINCAID is the Title III administrative assistant and also facilitates faculty training sessions.

DARA FANN is a systems programmer who is developing online student services.

JASON GARRIS is a database technician who provides technical assistance to faculty using the IVN system.

Before, I thought of myself as an instructor imparting academic knowledge. After the Title III training, I have more or less changed my mindset. I am much more focused on student learning. Before, it was more about how to give students the content. Now, it's about lifelong learning and discovering how students learn best.

Joycie Wawiye
Assistant Professor of Biology

updated equipment and the availability of technical support by college IT staff. Video quality has greatly improved, with some classes broadcast in high definition. The equipment is now brought online automatically without a technician having to physically set up the classroom in advance, and the equipment is easier to manipulate. The amount of down time has dramatically decreased so that faculty are spending less precious classroom time dealing with technology issues.

"From what I overhear from faculty and students, satisfaction with the IVN classes is up 200-300 percent," notes Payne.

The upgraded and expanded IVN network has benefitted students in all disciplines, and it has been particularly valuable for the practical nursing program, which is the first in the state to offer non-clinical nursing courses via IVN. The network makes it possible for students in the Clay County cohort to take classes originating from the Nicholas County Campus, and for Pocahontas County cohort students to attend classes on the Greenbrier Valley Campus in Lewisburg.

"We are finding the IVN to be very beneficial in teaching the non-clinical courses in the nursing program. It is very difficult for one instructor to be an expert in everything. Using the IVN system, a faculty member who has a particular interest or expertise in a subject such as pharmacology or nutrition can teach that subject to all of the nursing students without having to travel," comments Egnor. "Using this technology, we can eventually make better use of full-time faculty to teach

across all allied health programs. In the long run it will improve quality and cut down on some of the instructor needs."

Reinforcing **THE STUDENT'S ROLE IN LEARNING**

Distance learning makes educational opportunities more accessible for time- and place-bound students, but it often requires discipline and motivation above and beyond that required for traditional classes.

"Early on, the students thought online meant easier, but it is probably more work," Sizemore says.

Online classes place tremendous responsibility on the students to stay on top of assignments and communicate with instructors and fellow classmates. Through Angel, the students are able to form online study groups and share ideas through a "water cooler" function, and instructors are finding that students are meeting the challenge by taking more control over their own learning and helping each other out.

"Some think technology makes things harder, but that is not necessarily so. It gives students ownership of their learning. Different leaders pop up among the students. It is not just me as the leader. I used to try to organize students into study groups, but now they are doing it themselves on Angel," says Joycie Wawiye, assistant professor of biology.

Instructors are also finding that the new online tools are helping students get assistance when they need it at a time that is convenient for them.

The flip side is that with access to so many resources and assistance—and the ability to submit assignments online—students are held more accountable for their own performance.

The Title III program has raised the bar for both students and faculty. Sizemore has noticed that students are becoming more proactive in their expectations.

"The students are saying to faculty, why don't you post it on Angel? And they are using Wimba as a verb," she says.

The Road **AHEAD**

As New River enters the third year of the five-year Title III project, impressive progress has been made, but much work remains to be completed. The next phase of the project includes making student services available online. Sizemore notes that students can now apply online, but the process needs to be improved. The next step is online registration, which will require checks and controls that are now being developed.

"We have also started some online tutoring and will be fine tuning that," she says.

Sizemore would also like to implement a process whereby online courses would be formally evaluated before they are put in the schedule. Although classes developed by the Title III cohorts are piloted before they are offered college-wide, there is no system currently in place for evaluating all online courses.

"There should be a cadre of faculty who review a course before it is scheduled," Sizemore believes. One of the biggest obstacles facing New River in offering online and web-enhanced classes has nothing to do with the college's capabilities.

"Our greatest challenge is mediating the difference between technology levels at our campuses with the technology level of students' homes. The lack of high speed internet connections in the more rural counties of our service region requires our instructors to tone down content so that it is easily accessible," comments Fink.

The \$2 million grant has given New River's distance learning efforts a tremendous boost, but when this project ends, the cost of salaries and equipment to keep the project going will have to come out of the institutional budget. The Title III team is keenly aware of how quickly technology changes and how expensive upgrading equipment and software will be. The ability to offer high quality online courses is of critical importance to New River if it is to continue to absorb double-digit enrollment increases every year. Without online classes, Sizemore says the college would not have the facilities to accommodate the number of students currently enrolled. Web-enhanced content has also greatly enhanced the opportunity for Saturday classes to be effective.

"Our ability to deliver a quality distance education product will be critical to our success as an institution. The possibilities of student recruitment outside of our service region allows for unlimited growth potential," Fink comments.

This technology provides the opportunity to increase student access, provide flexible scheduling to meet student demands, provide the highest quality instruction and increase interaction among students and faculty throughout the New River service region. Twenty-six percent of our student body (10,000 plus seats) now make use of our online systems. The percent of utilization will increase as we continue to improve and perfect our delivery. Continued advancement of this delivery method will continue to place New River at the forefront of higher education in the state.

Dr. Ted D. Spring

President

WHAT'S A WIMBA?

Wimba allows instructors and students to connect in real-time by integrating technologies such as audio, video, application-sharing, text chat, and online break-out groups. Some features of Wimba include:

- content sharing (PowerPoint slides, Flash movies)
- text chat room
- closed captioning
- ability to restrict audio or chat participation
- interactive polls, quizzes and surveys
- screen sharing between instructor and user

New River is State's Third Largest Community and Technical College

New River has experienced phenomenal growth in recent years and is now the third largest community and technical college in West Virginia, according to a report issued by the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education on April 15, 2010.

Enrollment at the college has increased more than 60 percent in the last three years. According to the report, New River's full time equivalent (FTE) enrollment in the fall of 2009 was 1,707, placing it third behind WVU at Parkersburg and just slightly behind Pierpont Community and Technical College in Fairmont.

President Ted D. Spring said, "New River is clearly filling a critical need for affordable post-secondary education in our nine-county service area. Our enrollment this spring was also at an all-time high, so it is very possible that figures reported at the close of the year will indicate that New River has become the second largest community and technical college in the state."



Senator Robert Plymale

Senator Plymale Challenges Class of 2010 to Aim High

Ninety-six of the almost 200 graduates this year received degrees and certificates at New River's Seventh Commencement Ceremony on Sunday, May 16, 2010, at the Beckley-Raleigh County Convention Center.

The commencement address was delivered by Senator Robert Plymale (D-Wayne), chairman of the Senate Education Committee. He inspired the graduates to aim high with a story about Michelangelo, who was ridiculed for the four years he spent painting the Sistine Chapel. Undaunted, the artist stated that "the greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it." President Ted D. Spring welcomed the graduates, their families, and guests of the college and introduced the platform guests who included Leslie Baker of Beckley, chair of the New River Board of Governors; Dr. John Mullens, president of the Faculty Senate; and Rondah Lowe of Hinton, student representative on the Board of Governors.

Dr. Harry R. Faulk, executive vice president and chief academic officer, presented the candidates for graduation. President Spring and Registrar Donna Lewis conferred the degrees and presented the certificates, including the first Associates of Fine Arts degrees awarded by the college.

New River Co-Hosts Community Forum on Jobs and Economic Growth

In January 2010 New River took a leadership role in convening community leaders from across southern West Virginia to participate in a national conversation about the economy. The college co-hosted a Community Forum on Jobs and Economic Growth at the Beckley / Raleigh County Convention Center. The event attracted more than 100 participants. A wide array of representatives from community-based businesses and organizations converged for about four hours in an effort to localize and accelerate job growth in rural America. All of the ideas generated at the event were compiled after the discussion, forwarded to the secretary of the Department of Agriculture and delivered to President Obama. This was one of a number of similar forums being conducted around the country at the request of the administration. USDA Rural Development and USDA Farm Services Agency partnered with New River to host the event.



Pictured at the Community Forum on Jobs and Economic Growth are (L-R) Bill Loope, vice president of institutional advancement and workforce education; Bobby Lewis, director of the state office of USDA Rural Development; Rep. Nick Joe Rahall (D-WV); President Ted D. Spring; Doug Cyphers, interim director of the USDA Farm Service Agency and Steve Pilato, regional representative for Governor Manchin.

Welding Lab Upgraded with New Classrooms and Equipment

The Greenbrier Valley Campus Welding Lab has been upgraded with new equipment and new classrooms to accommodate the rapidly growing welding program and the addition of courses in pipefitting, welding blueprint reading and math for industrial trades.

Instructor Donovan Rhodes demonstrates pipe welding in the lab on the Greenbrier Valley Campus.



Spotlight on STUDENTS



Participants in the Bluefield MS Walk included (L-R) Adrian Looney; instructor Margie Vines; Rita Holcomb, administrative associate to the campus dean; Amber Davidson and Joy Radnoczi.

Mercer County Campus

Now that the Mercer County Campus is well established at the Mercer County Technical Education Center, students are organizing and getting involved in the community. A group of Medical Assisting students participated in the MS Walk held on April 24, 2010 at the Bluefield City Youth Center to raise essential funds for MS research and programs and services for people living with MS, their friends and families. Several of the students also worked shifts at the Mercer County Better Living Show in April. Supervised by faculty, they performed blood pressure screenings and helped publicize the Medical Assisting Program.

A Student Government Association was established on the campus in the spring, with Misty Kitts as the first president and Brian Testerman as the faculty advisor. Their first activity was a pizza party before final exams.



Rondah Lowe

Rondah Lowe Named New Century Scholar

Rondah Lowe, a student on the Beckley Campus, was named a 2010 New Century Scholar, an honor she earned by scoring highest in the state in the All-USA Academic Team competition for community colleges. The program is sponsored by the American Association of Community Colleges, Phi Theta Kappa, The Coca-Cola Foundation and the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation.

Donna Hawver and Ella Dorsey, students on the Greenbrier Valley Campus, were named along with Lowe to the All-West Virginia Academic Team for 2010. Hawver was also named a finalist in the Coca-Cola Scholars competition.

Lowe is a U.S. Army veteran, mother of four sons and grandmother of six. She served as the student representative on New River's Board of Governors for 2009-10 and graduated from New River in May 2010.

"Being selected is a great honor for any student, but it has really been motivational for me because I am 49 years old," Lowe commented.

Acknowledging the tremendous support she has received from New River's faculty, staff and administration, she added, "I would like to say congratulations to everyone at New River Community and Technical College, for this is an institutional honor."



Participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new Allied Health Education Center in Summersville are (L-R) Mike Steadham, nursing instructor Rebecca Legg; President Ted D. Spring, Campus Dean Fred Culler; Allied Health Division Chair Joyce Egnor, Senator Randy White and medical assisting instructor Karen Tully.

New Facilities Accommodate Expanding Allied Health Programs

A new Allied Health Education Center opened at Northside Plaza Shopping Center in Summersville on Dec. 10, 2009. The center houses the rapidly growing practical nursing and medical assisting programs on the Nicholas County Campus. In addition to two classrooms and faculty offices, the facility has a fully equipped clinical skills lab with medical equipment and mannequins that are used for practicing medical procedures.

In the spring, a new clinical skills lab opened on the Beckley Campus to meet the training needs of medical assisting and phlebotomy students there.

New River offers medical assisting and phlebotomy on all campuses. The practical nursing program is offered on the Nicholas County Campus with cohorts in Pocahontas/Greenbrier and Clay Counties. The college has also signed agreements with the boards of education in McDowell, Summers and Greenbrier Counties to award college credit to students in practical nursing programs at their technical education centers.

Allied health instructor Anita Stapleton and student Misty Reckeweg treat one of the "patients" in the new clinical skills lab on the Beckley Campus.



Mechatronics Lab Offers Hands-On Training in Industrial Systems

In the spring of 2010, state-of-the-art training equipment was installed in the Mechatronics lab on the Mercer County Campus. Program Coordinator Shawn Garretson explains that Mechatronics covers industrial safety, technical mathematics, technical writing, AC/DC circuits, motors, AC/DC drives and motor control, hydraulics, pneumatics and mechanical power applications (pumps and gearboxes). Students are also trained in interpreting industrial drawings and blueprints, utilizing industrial tools to repair components and understanding electronic testing equipment. The Mechatronics Program prepares students for careers in a wide range of industries, including mining, energy and power production, communications, security and pharmaceuticals. Classes are held in the evenings to accommodate students who work during the day. Customized training can also be arranged for companies that have employees who need to upgrade their skills.



Instructor Shawn Garretson (left) and student James Wood try out equipment in the new Mechatronics Lab on the Mercer County Campus.

New River Leases Historic Library Building in Lewisburg

New River has signed a lease with the City of Lewisburg to use the former Greenbrier County Public Library building on Courtney Drive as a center for historical studies and cultural activities. The distinctive pink brick structure was built in 1834 as the library for the Supreme Court of Virginia and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It has been vacant since the library moved out in 2007 and is in need of repairs. In early 2010, it was placed on the Endangered Properties List by the West Virginia Preservation Alliance.

The Preservation Alliance, the City of Lewisburg and the college are working together to identify the most critically needed repairs and to pursue grants for restoring the building.



Spotlight on STUDENTS



Students, faculty and staff celebrated the end of the school year with an 80's party.

Nicholas County Campus

The Nicholas County Campus Student Government Association donated 80 items of winter clothing to the local Salvation Army from their holiday-season coat drive. The SGA also sponsored a Halloween party, a Valentine's Dance and an 80's party to end the school year.

The Student Practical Nurse Organization, Nicholas County Cohort, sponsored their sixth annual Blood Drive for the American Red Cross in the spring. A total of 69 students presented for donation, according to Joyce Egnor, director of the nursing program. The goal for the drive was 40 units, and 48 units were successfully obtained.

Medical Assisting (MAST) students from the Nicholas County Campus attended the State Health Education Council in South Charleston, WV. The organization promotes health and wellness in West Virginia.

Stennett and McClanahan Receive NISOD Award for Teaching Excellence

Judith Stennett, associate professor of English on the Greenbrier Valley Campus, and Scott McClanahan, English instructor on the Beckley Campus, received the 2010 Excellence Award from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD), an organization that promotes teaching and leadership excellence in the nation's community colleges. They were nominated for the honor by the faculty.

"New River is so pleased that two of our outstanding faculty have been selected by their peers to receive the NISOD Award for Excellence," commented Dr. Harry R. Faulk, executive vice president and chief academic officer at New River. "Both Ms. Stennett and Mr. McClanahan care about their students and go the extra mile to ensure their success."



Judith Stennett and Scott McClanahan with Dr. Harry Faulk (right), executive vice president and chief academic officer, at the NISOD Conference in Austin, Texas.

Raleigh County, Beckley Campuses Consolidated at Harper Industrial Park



During the late spring and early summer of 2010, New River moved all classes, faculty and staff from the Public Higher Education Center in Beaver to the Beckley Campus in the Harper Industrial Park. New River is now leasing all of the 167 Dye Drive building and has made significant improvements to make the campus more attractive. The consolidation of the two campuses means that all students will attend classes in one location and will not lose time traveling back and forth. They also will have more convenient access to student services.

Architects Selected for Raleigh County and Greenbrier Valley Campus Projects

E. T. Boggess Architects of Princeton, WV and MBAJ Architecture of Charlotte, NC, have been selected to design the new administration and classroom building for the Raleigh County Campus. The selection was announced by President Spring at the March 2, 2010 Board of Governors meeting. The firms were selected through a competitive bidding process in which 22 firms submitted proposals for 11 community college projects around the state. The firms also were selected through a later bidding process to design the renovation of the former student activities building on the Greenbrier Valley Campus to house the fine arts program and other college activities.

Milestones



Larry Barnhill (right), is congratulated by Dr. Harry R. Faulk, executive vice president and chief academic officer, upon being recognized as New River's Outstanding Contributor for 2009.

Larry Barnhill, vice president of finance and administration, retired in November, 2009 but continues to work for New River on a consulting basis. Barnhill was instrumental in overseeing the transition from Bluefield State College that concluded at the end of FY 2009. Under his leadership the college developed its own administrative infrastructure, including a business office, financial aid office, registrar's office and office of enrollment services. In recognition of his extraordinary efforts, Barnhill was named New River's Outstanding Contributor for 2009.

Dr. David Perkins, the first president of New River Community and Technical College, has been proclaimed "President Emeritus" by the Board of Governors. In recognition of the honor, Dr. Spring presented him with a medallion of the New River Seal during commencement exercises on May 16.



New River President Emeritus David Perkins receives a framed medallion of the New River seal from President Ted D. Spring.



Kelli White, president of the Student Nurses Association, presents retiring instructor Rebecca Legg with a memento of her career.

Rebecca (Becky) Legg, instructor of practical nursing on the Nicholas County Campus, retired at the end of spring semester. Legg had a long career as a nurse before joining the New River faculty six years ago. Legg was honored at the pinning ceremony for the School of Practical Nursing Class of 2010 and at a retirement reception at the Campus.

Spotlight on STUDENTS



Record Number Inducted into Phi Theta Kappa

A record 63 students from across all New River campuses were inducted into the Beta Zeta Delta Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa honorary society in ceremonies held on Sunday, May 2, 2010. To be eligible for Phi Theta Kappa, a student must be enrolled in a regionally accredited institution offering an associate degree program; must have completed at least 12 hours of coursework that may be applied to an associate degree (part-time students are eligible at New River); and have a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

The new inductees are Jason Acord, Samantha Lorraine Artrip, Jennifer L. Barrett, Destiny Basil, Michelle J. Bennett, Dodie Bishof, Kayla LeAnne Bland, Amanda Bowden, Ilona P. Brown, Amanda Marie Bryant, Michele Charnow, Rosemary W. Church, Rachael L. Clemons, Robin A. Clower, Kelley D. Clutter, Melissa A. Costello, Margaret Sue Davis, Ivy J. Dawson, Peggy Sue Deskins, Amanda M. Dilley, Virginia Sue Dolin, Ella Dorsey, Heather Dowdy, Fred Farley, Jr., Robin J. Frost, Genet Gebrewahid, Julia M. Gordon, Paula S. Hamrick, Melissa Dawn Hanna, Courtney Hardy, Kathryn Harold, Geneva Highlander, Sandra Lynn Hodges, Christopher M. Jolliffe, Katrina King, Esther Kuhn, Kriscinda R. Lannen, Pamela S. Lockhart, Vonda Layne Lockhart, Leah V. Lewis, Rondah Lowe, Jessica Nelson, Iryna Petrishcheva-Campbell, Judy K. Patterson, Anita Jo Rakes, Matthew D. Ramsey, Melissa Dawn Redden, Deborah Rogers, Misty Dawn Schoolcraft, Kathryn L. Scott, Kenneth H. Scott II, Cynthia Smith, Robin Soukup, Sharon Soucy, Felicia Lynn Spencer, Christopher Thompson, Heather Elyssa Thompson, Stephanie Thompson, Scott W. Treadway, Tracie Trivolette-Mullins, Robert L. West, Lindsay Williams, Joyce Ann Wright.

Spotlight on STUDENTS



Pictured with Greenbrier Valley Campus Women's History Month speaker Adrienne Biesemeyer (center, with glasses) are audience members (L-R) seated, Joan Montgomery, Jennie Serreno; (middle row) Mary Lindquist, Angela Jackson and Vicki Dove; (back row) Morgan Tobergte, Kerry Workman, Joanna Swartz, Sadie Callahan and Gerald King.

Greenbrier Valley Campus

The Greenbrier Valley Campus SGA sponsored a wide range of activities during the year, including selling stuffed pitas at Lewisburg's popular Taste of our Towns (TOOT) festival in October, a community Halloween party, a holiday food drive and a chili cook-off. The Future Business Leaders of America Phi Beta Lambda chapter collected used ink cartridges to be recycled to raise money for scholarships.

For the third year students in the Fine Arts program displayed their work in an exhibit at Carnegie Hall, the regional arts center located next door to the campus. In May, the first three students graduated from the Fine Arts program.

During Women's History Month, the campus hosted a community presentation on "Eleven Wild, Wonderful West Virginia Women." The speaker was long-time Greenbrier County resident Adrienne Biesemeyer, the daughter of singer Harry Belafonte.

New Faces



Stephen M. Benson joined New River in January, 2010, as vice president for finance and administration, filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Larry Barnhill. He had previously been chief financial officer at William R. Sharpe Jr. Hospital in Weston. He is a cum laude graduate of West Virginia Wesleyan College and is currently pursuing a master's degree in Strategic Leadership at Mountain State University.

Dr. Michael S. Curry was named assistant dean of the Beckley Campus in January after serving in an interim capacity for several months. Prior to coming to New River, he was a special assistant to the chancellor for the WV Higher Education Policy Commission. He was vice president for admissions and financial aid at Concord University from 1999 until 2008. Curry is a magna cum laude graduate of West Virginia Wesleyan. He earned his divinity degree from Harvard University Divinity School and his doctorate in theology with an emphasis in axiological psychology from Suffield University.



Patricia R. Harmon joined New River in February, 2010 as the college's first director of financial aid. She had been director of financial aid at Concord University since 1988 and had previously been director of financial aid at Bluefield State College. She began her career in financial aid as Financial Aid Department secretary at Concord. She became Concord's assistant director of financial aid in 1984, remaining in that position until she became director at Bluefield State. A resident of Princeton, Harmon received a regents bachelor's of arts degree from Concord in 1984.

Twana L. Jackson joined New River in May 2010 as the college's first director of purchasing. She is headquartered in the business office in Beckley. She previously was a purchasing assistant at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. She attended Bluefield State College, where she earned an associate's degree in general education and a Board of Regents bachelor's degree in business with a management emphasis. She earned her master's degree in Strategic Leadership from Mountain State University in 2008.



CENTER FOR *Workforce Education*

New River's Center for Workforce Education provides a variety of customized workforce development programs and solutions to address the training and human resource needs of employers within the College's designated service area.

Workforce Education partners with businesses and agencies throughout the region to deliver programs ranging from sector-driven skills training to community education courses in subjects ranging from bookkeeping to web design. Both credit and non-credit programs are provided. Over 6,6000 people were served through New River's Workforce Education programs during the 2009–10 fiscal year.

2009–10 HIGHLIGHTS

- New River is taking a leadership role in a massive effort by the U.S. Department of Energy to weatherize older homes to reduce energy consumption. In late 2009, the College unveiled an advanced energy performance and green-technology program to train an emerging workforce in West Virginia in advanced energy conservation and building science techniques. The program was launched with a "train the trainer" workshop in Beckley for housing experts from across the state to learn advanced energy conservation techniques that employ green
- New River has teamed up with the West Virginia Lottery Commission to offer a series of classes for people interested in a career as a dealer in one of the many new casinos opening in luxury resorts across the state. The College has opened a table games training facility in White Sulphur Springs, and a number of graduates of the training program are now employed by the new Casino Club at The Greenbrier.
- In the spring of 2010, the New River leased a 93,000 square-foot facility in Ghent, WV to serve as headquarters for its Workforce Education activities. The building and surrounding property will be used for CDL, heavy equipment operator, line service mechanic, welding, advanced energy and green technology and other technical training programs.
- Community and continuing education programs were expanded and drew over 2,500 students to the classes throughout our nine-county service area. New River's popular Road Scholar (formerly Elderhostel) program attracted 277 participants from across the country in six programs during the year. While in the area, the attendees visited locations in Greenbrier, Raleigh, Nicholas, Monroe and Pocahontas Counties.

Graduates of New River's first table games training class included (L-R) Sheena Ratliff, Laura Allman, Marion Henriquez, Zettie Jennings, Tammy Petty and Karen Sparks.



New River's Center for Workforce Education has established strategic partnerships across the service area to ensure the availability of a highly skilled workforce. These partnerships develop effective employee-focused training and educational programs that provide workers with flexible and transferable skills. Our partners include:

Alliance Corporation
Appalachian Regional Healthcare
Beckley Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma
Theta Sorority, Inc.
Beckley-Raleigh County Chamber of
Commerce
Bluefield Rescue Squad
Bluefield Regional Medical Center
Community Action of Southeast West Virginia
EXCEL Institute
Federal Bureau of Prisons
Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity
Greenbrier Valley Chamber of Commerce

Greenbrier County Board of Education
Health Occupations Students of America
Kanawha Valley Community and
Technical College
Mission West Virginia
McDowell County Board of Education
Mercer County Board of Education
Monroe County Board of Education
Nicholas County Community Action
Pocahontas County Board of Education
Princeton Rescue Squad
Raleigh County Commission on Aging
Region 1 Healthcare Consortium

Region 1 Workforce Investment Board
RESA-1
Robert C. Byrd Institute
Southern WV Community
& Technical College
State Health Education Council
of West Virginia
Summers County Board of Education
U.S. Department of Energy
Women's Business Center
WVU at Parkersburg
WV Center for Nursing
WV Department of Education

NEW RIVER COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE FOUNDATION



(Seated) Joe Brouse, Beckley Campus Advisory Board, (standing, L-R) Ann and Kyle Fort, Greenbrier Valley Campus Advisory Board, George and Charlotte Neilan, Nicholas County Campus Advisory Board.

The New River Community and Technical College Foundation is dedicated to advancing educational opportunities for students. The Foundation seeks voluntary private support from alumni, parents, friends, corporations, foundations and others for the benefit of New River.

The Foundation awarded over \$53,000 in scholarships to New River students during the 2009-10 academic year. Among them were the first scholarships awarded by the Marlinton Rotary Club to seniors from Pocahontas County High School.

Much time and energy was devoted this year to developing advisory boards on each campus to provide guidance and assistance to the Foundation as the college prepares to launch its first-ever major gifts campaign. Advisory boards are now in place for the Beckley, Greenbrier Valley and Nicholas County Campuses, and members are being recruited for a Mercer County Campus board.

Officers of the Raleigh County Campus board are Joe Brouse, chair; Carol Calvert, vice chair and Jeanie Richmond, secretary. Other members are Ron Bailey, Matt Bickey, Kip Buchanan, Tom Cochran, Bill Dickey,

Kathie Dickey, Jennifer Douglas, Larry Ford, Pam Ford, Mark Gunter, Scott Hill, Dr. Charlotte Hutchens, Jeff Miller, Jim Monroe, Wayne Rebich, Glenn Smith, Pamela Smith, Kellie Vaught and Dean Carolyn Sizemore, ex-officio.

The Greenbrier Valley Campus officers are Dr. Kyle Fort, chair; Dr. Olen Jones, vice chair; Philip McLaughlin, secretary and Edward Knight III, treasurer. Rounding out the board are Dr. John Curry, Robb Followell, Ann Fort, Vicki Hinerman, Dr. Mark Kilcollin, Jeff Kmiec, C. C. Lester, Dr. Mary Montgomery Lindquist, Sharon Rowe, Dr. Kevin Siers, Dean Roger Griffith, ex-officio and Michael Campbell and Bettie Woodward, emeritus.

The Nicholas County Campus board is under leadership of George Neilan, chair; Robert Shafer, vice chair and Laura Kiliany, secretary. Other members are Connie Argento, Gary Austin, Ann Bleigh, Carol Cole, Damon Hanshaw, Debbie Hill, Robert Johnson, Beverly Kingery, Charlotte Neilan, Gus Penix, A.J. Rogers, Betty Sigler, Bruce Sigler, Mike Steadham, Maxey Tully and Dean Fred Culler, ex-officio.

We are indebted to these generous individuals for donating their time and sharing their expertise to help us create a world-class community and technical college to serve the citizens of southeastern West Virginia.

Financials

	ACTUAL FY 2010	BUDGETED FY 2011
REVENUE		
State Appropriations	\$5,297,821	\$5,248,676
Tuition & Fees	\$5,307,413	\$4,451,400
Grants and Contracts	\$2,560,609	\$2,526,653
Investment Earnings	\$22,595	\$34,300
Sales and Services	\$254,033	\$260,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$30,378	\$101,500
TOTAL REVENUES	\$13,472,849	\$12,622,529
EXPENDITURES		
Salaries and Wages	\$6,742,627	\$6,548,582
Benefits	\$1,396,615	\$1,256,301
Supplies and other services	\$3,155,297	\$2,878,780
Utilities	\$188,298	\$225,000
Grants, awards, scholarships	\$576,391	\$1,388,907
Assets	\$1,525,230	\$324,959
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$13,584,458	\$12,622,529

Active Grants

U.S. Department of Education Title III: Strengthening Institutions:	*\$2,000,000
WVCTCS: Allied Health Initiative	*1,600,000
WVCTCS WV Advance: Mechatronics	570,500
Governor's Office Economic Authority	355,000
WVCTCS Technical Program Development: Welding Technology	220,000
WVCTCS Technical Program Development: Mechatronics	210,000
Perkins Vocational/Technical Funding	178,039
WVCTCS Technical Program Development Supplemental Welding Technology	119,500
Scholarship Funds from Private Donors	73,300
WVCTCS Workforce Development Initiative Program: Practical Nursing Program—Pocahontas County	72,800
WVCTCS: College Transition "Bridge to College"	33,350
WVCTCS Entrepreneurship Grant	22,550
US Department of Energy	5,460
Workforce Development True North Enterprises LLC	2,400
WV Campus Compact: Global Youth Services Day Mini-Grant	250

*Indicates total amount of a multi-year grant.

Spotlight on STUDENTS



Business Plan Competition winner Danielle Hoke is congratulated by President Ted D. Spring at the Small Business Administration Awards Luncheon.

A Plan with Perks

Danielle Hoke of Maxwellton, a student on the Greenbrier Valley Campus, was selected the winner of New River's first-ever New River Business Plan Competition. Her plan for opening a coffee shop earned her a Dell laptop computer and printer and recognition at the West Virginia Small Business Administration Awards Luncheon at Tamarack in Beckley on Thursday, May 13, 2010.

The Business Plan Competition was sponsored by New River's Center for Workforce Education. The contest was open to all full- and part-time students on New River's five campuses. Students could enter as individuals or in teams of five or less. The plans were judged on a number of defined criteria and the winning plan was selected on the basis of professionalism, compelling nature of the market opportunity, clear definition of the target market and their accessibility, realistic manufacturing or service operation plans and an accurate understanding of the potential start-up costs and revenues. The competition was judged by the Women's Business Center.