Congratulations Gateway Graduates!

Beginning with the Phi Theta Kappa's Induction Ceremony and culminating with the 17th Annual Commencement ceremony at Woolsey Hall, May was a month where over 600 of our students celebrated their achievements, while looking forward to a new chapter in their lives.

Edward (Ted) Kennedy Jr., attorney and tireless advocate for the disabled gave the keynote address at Commencement. “I consider myself fortunate to have worked with Gateway and its talented student body on a number of environmental and health-related issues,” said Kennedy. “My experience as a cancer survivor and amputee has provided me with a unique perspective on life, and I look forward to sharing my story of how a terrible situation led me to become a disability rights attorney and public health advocate. In many ways, my story is similar to the many challenges that Gateway students have also successfully confronted.”

Dr. Fred McKinney was honored with a Board of Trustees Merit Award from the Connecticut Community College System. The award recognizes extraordinary service or lifetime commitment to GCC and the state’s community-technical college system.

The Best All Around Student Award went to Dorota Urban for major contributions made to the college by demonstrating exemplary leadership, mentoring and community service qualities.

Other notable graduates include Forrest Gross and Kevin Kearney, both of who found new career options after age 40. Gross, 48 and a grandfather of three received an associate degree in Nursing and Kearney, 42, an associate degree in Human Services, his 3.97 g.p.a earning him the additional award of outstanding student in his program.

During the Awards Convocation over 60 awards and scholarships were given to student recipients and Professor John Scippa and Kathy Delaney received the Faculty and Staff of the Year awards respectively.

The Allied Health and Nursing departments held their Pinning Ceremonies. 47 Allied Health and 62 Nursing graduates received a pin to mark the transition from student to professional.

Congratulations again to all of our graduates and special thanks to our Gateway Community College faculty and staff whose commitment to the needs and goals of our students is truly invaluable.

Girls Go Green at Gateway!
Gateway Community College, the Connecticut Women's Educational and Legal Fund (CWEALF) and the Women and Girls Fund of Southeastern Connecticut hosted the first annual Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Expo on the North Haven Campus.

Attended by over 100 girls from middle schools throughout New Haven County, the expo featured a series of one-day workshops taught by women in STEM careers. “The hope being to engage young girls in these traditionally male-dominated fields,” said David Cooper, Dean of Corporate and Continuing Education at Gateway Community College and head of its Center for Sustainable Future program. “And with more and more of these tech jobs going green, the idea that we can not only promote awareness, but nurture a true commitment to the future of our environment is fantastic.”

With a trash art exhibit beginning the day and hands-on workshops titled Veggie Voltage and eeSmarts—a renewable energy learning initiative—being offered throughout, the expo’s focus was definitely green. Even breakfast and lunch were Waste Free, using recyclable packaging and compostable plates, napkins and utensils. “With the environment being so topical, it was important that we find a way to incorporate it into the expo. It demonstrates that being environmentally conscious is not only a smart and easy way to live, but a viable way to make a living as well,” said Lucy Brakoniecki, Research and Policy Analyst for CWEALF.

2009 Nursing Class Donates Scholarship
The 2009 Nursing Class donates scholarship for the Smarter Connector program.

City Transfers Gateway Site
Governor M. Jodi Rell and New Haven Mayor John DeStefano, Jr. met at Gateway Community College’s Long Wharf Campus this morning to finalize the transfer of the property that will soon house the new Gateway Community College campus.

The meeting, which took place at 11 a.m. on May 1 in the Library, was also attended by top officials from the state Department of Public Works, Connecticut Community Colleges and the City of New Haven. Both Governor Rell and Mayor DeStefano talked about the importance and value of Gateway Community College to the regional economy as the Governor presented the Mayor with a check for $1.00 while he handed her a deed to the two blocks on Church street that once housed the Macy’s and Malley’s department stores.

The groundbreaking is scheduled for late August or early September, with completion of the 360,000 square-foot, four-story building scheduled for spring of 2012 and classes beginning.

GCC's Sustainable Building Advisor Certificate Program Graduates its 1st Class
Gateway Community College’s Sustainable Building Advisor (SBA) Certificate Program has graduated its first class, giving more than 10 architects, engineers, educators and other professionals the educational foundation they need to earn industry certification.

Last year, through the new Center for a Sustainable Future, GCC became the first institution in Connecticut to offer an SBA certificate program. GCC Dean David Cooper said helping individuals to take advantage of the growing green industry is exactly why the college launched the SBA program. “In today’s economy, there aren’t many sectors that are growing, but due in part to the Obama Administration’s emphasis on green initiatives, the green industry is actually expanding” Cooper said.

The SBA program runs from October to June in a one-weekend-per-month format. It combines expert lectures, team-based projects and field trips to model sites related to green building design, siting, energy efficiency, lighting, materials selection, indoor environmental quality and health, water conservation and other issues.

GCC is a leader in green initiatives among state institutions of higher education. Its new campus in New Haven, which is slated to break ground this summer and open in 2012, will be the state’s first public building that will be gold-certified in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

Iron Chef-Elm City
Gateway Community College and the Greater New Haven Convention & Visitors Bureau held the second annual “Iron Chef - Elm City” on Sunday, April 26, 2009. The format was based on the hugely popular Food Network Iron Chef program and featured local chefs as participants and prominent culinary experts as the judges. The chefs were provided with a list of 5 possible “secret” ingredients prior to the event then required to create an appetizer, entrée and dessert at the event.
The Early Learning Center’s 2009 Preschool Graduating Class

• Ela McNamee (left)
• Allison Johnson
• Emily Seifert
• Michael Curley
• Matthew Porter
• Amanda Lopez
• Nick Williams
• Keira McNamee

Gateway Community College Foundation & ELI

Thanks to a very generous grant from the GCC Foundation, GCC now has an institutional membership to the Educause Learning Initiative (ELI). ELI is a community of institutions, organizations and corporations committed to advancing learning through information technology innovation. Some of the benefits of membership include:

• ELI Web Seminars
• Archived seminars for 6 months
• Discovery Tools for 6 months after initial publication
• ELI “7 Things You Should Know About...” briefs
• ELI white paper series
• ELI web resources

Gateway SIFE Team Wins Regional Competition

Gateway Community College’s SIFE Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team competed in the Regional Competition in Tarrytown, New York on April 3rd with 36 other colleges and universities and won the Regional Championship. Lead by Stan Kapinos and Rose Lugio, Gateway was the only two-year college to compete in league 3 they competed directly with Hilbert College, Hamburg, NY; SUNY at Binghamton, NY; William Patterson University of New Jersey, Wayne, NJ; Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, FL; Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA. Some of the colleges in the other leagues included Princeton and Penn State.

ELC co-hosts Children’s Anger Conference

The Early Learning Center co-hosted a conference with CT, PBN (Parent Education Network) on Children’s Anger with Dr. Kyle Pruett at GCC on Wednesday, May 27, 2009. Linda Alston, Head Child Development Teacher, participated in the panel discussion with Dr. Pruett. Linda’s articulate remarks reflected her expertise and experience, and she represented the excellent quality of the Gateway Community College staff.

ELC’s Week of the Young Child

“The Early Learning Center’s ‘Week of the Young Child’ featured a special evening of multicultural storytelling by Valerie Turson. A renouned storyteller, Ms. Turson’s repertoire includes stories and songs she learned in her travels to South Africa, her experiences in West Africa and stories from African American history. In addition, she has a reputation for her exciting retelling of age-old Bible stories.

ELC’s 2009 Preschool Graduating Class

Gateway recognizes its Retirees

With gratitude for their dedicated years of service, we bid farewell to the following retirees:

John Argento, 26 Years of Service
Margaret Bauer, 31 Years of Service
Gerald A. Ciaburri, 14 Years of Service
Arthur W. Corda, 33 Years of Service
Kathleen Delaney, 15 Years of Service
Richard Fiore, 27 Years of Service
Frank J. Gallagher, 24 Years of Service
John Argento, 26 Years of Service
Gerald A. Ciaburri, 14 Years of Service
Lucille Flores
Dede Mahoney

Beata Gebuzka Congratulations to the Nuclear Medicine faculty and staff! Program Director for Nuclear Medicine, Beata Gebuzka, was notified that the mid-cycle report she recently submitted substantially addressed the Essentials and Guidelines for and Accredited Educational Program for the Nuclear Medicine Technologist. This ensures that the program’s JRC-NMT accreditation award will be maintained for the remainder of the 7-year period.

Walk Against Hunger

On Sunday May 3, 2009 Gateway Community College’s walk team participated in this year’s Walk Against Hunger to benefit Connecticut Food Bank. The “Walk Team” was able to raise $2182.80. Special thanks to all of the team captains, the walkers and those who donated to the team.

Nutrition Fair

On April 13, 2009, Professor Doran’s senior Nutrition students presented a Nutrition Fair at Long Wharf’s cafeteria. The variety of topics offered on better health and nutrition were greatly appreciated by the faculty and staff.

National Library Week

On April 23, 2009, GCC’s library celebrated National Library Week. First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance that celebrate the contributions of our nation’s libraries and librarians and promotes library use and support. Gateway’s library sponsored a poetry writing contest and a library quiz.

Gateways the Creative Voice

The Creative Voice conducted a presentation of classical music with Gateway’s own Professor Daniel Coor on guitar and renowned classical artists. Dr. Andrew Smith on violin (Musical Director of the Suzuki Music School of Westport) and his wife Andrea Mills on cello (faculty member and performer also at the Suzuki Music School). Nothingrhymes the Tricorod, they not only entertained but also talked about the significance of the music, why they chose it and how it moved them.

Phi Theta Kappa

Phy Theta Kappa held a book drive in May to help fund high-impact literacy projects in the United States and around the world. Books were donated to Better World Books who offered free carbon-neutral shipping throughout the US.

Step Forward Director Jaime French was featured on CPTV’s Art programing hosted by Tony Fappiano on May 25, 2009. The focus of the program was to discuss what opportunities are available to developmental young adults. Within the traditional transitional support systems found in high schools are no longer available.

Admissions held an ESL breakfast for guidance counselors at its end of the year breakfast on June 5. Faculty and staff from Gateway’s ESL, Admissions and Counseling departments led discussions about English language learners and children of immigrants and how to best assist them in their transition to college and ultimately to employment. The event also included presentations about what Gateway is doing to work with these students and how the college can work collaboratively with guidance counselors to ensure a smooth transition to college and later employment.

GCC Nuclear Medicine Technology students Barbara Yost (left) and Karen Barriga (right) participated with poster presentations in the student program at the 4th annual Spring Symposium of the Society of Nuclear Medicine, New England Chapter, Technologist Section, which was held April 17 in Rocky Hill. Yost, a Guilford resident, presented “An Overview of Skeletal Imaging Protocols for Oncology Patients.” Barriga, a Meriden resident, presented “Identifying, Preventing and Monitoring Alzheimer’s Disease with a New Molecular Imaging Agent.”

Gateway Future Business Leaders

On Monday, March 30, 2009, the following full-time and adjunct faculty of Gateway’s Business Department served as judges at the CT Future Business Leaders of America State Leadership Conference at the Holiday Inn in Waterbury:

• Rose Bednarz-Luglio
• Julie Brander
• Lucille Flores
• Dede Mahoney

• Marsha Janik
• Stan Kapinos
• Lorraine Li

The Conference was an all-day event where hundreds of Connecticut high school students participate in numerous competitive events.

Gateway Collects for the Homeless

This semester’s Gateway student of Professor Demars’ Green Team collected men and women’s clothing, health and hygiene products and blankets to help those in need.

Susan Chenard recently returned from Washington, DC where she took part in a five-day seminar at the United States Institute of Peace (USIP). Geared towards community college applicants from around the nation, the seminar examined the characteristics of international peace and security and focused on ways faculty can integrate teaching conflict resolution into their curricula. Professor Chenard will also attend Yale University’s PIER two-week institute on “Health and Conflict in the Middle East” in July and will work with Theresa Jeffries, Social Sciences and Carol Brunza, ESL on Gateway’s Peace Education Program initiative.

Victoria Morse and Renée Gaines presented “Krik! Krik! Narrating Tales in the Past in Selected Works by Haitian American Author Edwidge Danticat” at the Yale University Professional Workshop for Educators on Hispaniola. Presenters at the all-day program included Gateway’s own Professor Daniel Coor.

Gateway Community College Foundation

Raised $6000 during its annual Golf Classic. Held in Woodbridge, CT on June 16th, the tournament was host to 52 golfers and featured sponsorships from AT&T and New Alliance Investments. Net proceeds of the Classic went to the Michael Murphy Scholarship which provides assistance to students enrolled in Gateway’s Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation Program, on Counselor (DARC) program and The Todd Dogollo Scholarship which provides assistance to students who are interested in Science and Mathematics.

Do you have news to share? Send your submissions to egard@gwcc.connet.edu submissions are due on October 22

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Richard Fiore, 27 Years of Service
Frank J. Gallagher, 24 Years of Service
G. J. Gerad, 27 Years of Service
Marsha B. Janik, 19 Years of Service
Donald N. Mei, 37 Years of Service
Robert A. Miles, 32.5 Years of Service
Cheryl A. Pegues, 23 Years of Service
Linda A. Pelham, 29 Years of Service
Albert Pescetti, 28 Years of Service
Teotodimo Reyes, 10 Years of Service

Their commitment to the growth and longevity of the Gateway Community College community will be greatly missed.

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