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FALL 2005

In Touch
Alexandria
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

A PREMIER TECHNICAL COLLEGE

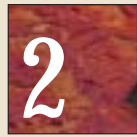


ATC Training—
It's Good for America

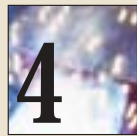
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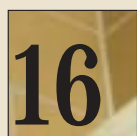
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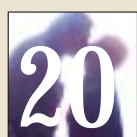
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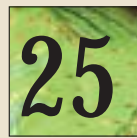
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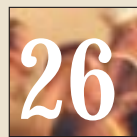
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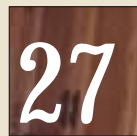
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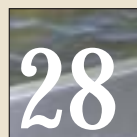
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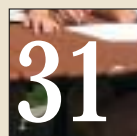
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- Supervisory Management
- Truck Driving
- Web Development & Management
- Welding Technology
- Wireless Communications & Networking Specialist

*Associate in Applied Science (AAS) and Associate in Science (AS) degree

**The College has submitted application for this program with the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Chancellor's Office

***Associate in Science (AS) degree

+ Online and classroom delivery

We want to hear from you!
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For information about Alexandria Technical College programs, visit www.alextech.edu

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This information will be made available in alternative format, such as larger print or cassette tape, upon request.

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Welcome to Alexandria Technical College!

“If you do not think about the future, you cannot have one.” The words of English novelist John Galsworthy have never held more promise or opportunity than they do today. The landscape of learning continues to change in ways and at a pace that can be difficult for even those most comfortable with innovation, creativity, and forward thinking.

At Alexandria Technical College, we do more than “think” about the future of the college, our community, our students, our faculty, and our staff. We are committed to ensuring an institutional and individual readiness for what is to come by staying connected to the customers and market sectors we serve, by investing in innovative and creative initiatives brought forward by our faculty and staff, and by understanding that this rural college in this rural Minnesota community has been and must continue to be the nerve center of economic vitality both today and in the years ahead.

Challenges to our vision will be formidable. State funding continues to tighten. Regional demographic changes are resulting in smaller graduating classes from rural high schools, which have historically been a major source of students for ATC. The growth of technology and the impact of the globalization of society continue to stretch and redefine the boundaries of our classrooms and laboratories.

Please know that we are energized and prepared for what is ahead and we will continue to position ATC as a premier technical college in this country. We thank you for the support you have given Alexandria Technical College in the past and encourage you to continue to partner with us as we set the standard for high quality, high value learning opportunities.

We hope that you enjoy this edition of *In Touch* magazine. We are pleased to share the stories, successes, and initiatives of the college with you!

Kevin Kopischke
ATC President

Designing a Model Program

By Ann C. Hermes

The Interior Design Program (IDES) completed their first full year in their new home during the 2004–2005 school year. Instructors Galen Jergenson, Candy Johnson, and Betty Ravnik are ecstatic. They now have all their students under one roof.

The students and parents are ecstatic, too. Feedback from them ranges from the building feeling like a private college to the atmosphere being professional and friendly, as if the students are going to work as opposed to school. The students themselves have shown how committed they are to the space.

But the IDES story is so much more than a building. Let's start with the professionalism of the instructors.

All three have passed what would amount to the law's bar exam for interior designers. They sat for and passed the National Council for Interior Design Qualifications (NCIDQ) test. No, this is not required to teach, in fact it is so uncommon for instructors to seek this out that ATC is now one of very few colleges where all faculty have passed the NCIDQ.



Betty Ravnik



Galen Jergenson



Candy Johnson

Beyond that, Ravnik, Jergenson, and Johnson are all professional members of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID), and all have sat for and passed the Certification for Kitchens and the Certification for Baths. The instructors all expressed their gratitude that ATC encourages and supports the IDES program and faculty in innovation and personal growth.

The students are also active beyond the classroom. Each year, the students are given opportunities to volunteer their talents in the community for what the instructors



call civic development. This past year they decorated for the Elder Network's Valentine's Day fundraiser dance; they acted as hosts and hostesses for an Elder Network's tour of kitchens as well as doing the same for Habitat for Humanity's tour of lake homes; students helped Bethany Home make memory boards with the residents, providing all the supplies and some assistance. And a final volunteer project took on many dimensions both for the college and a local grocery store. Both first and second year students were assigned to design a playhouse. These designs were entered into a competition for best design. Finalists were chosen by the local Listening Ear Crisis Center personnel and put in a display at Pete's County Market called "Future of Education." Future of Education is a competition put on by the Campbell Company. Store patrons and area residents voted for their favorite design by using product labels that are marked Labels for Education. Pete's County Market won a regional and national award for the creativity of this display. The winning design was then built by the carpentry department with IDES students doing the finishing work. The IDES students

also sold chances for winning the playhouse. They happily donated \$3,000 to the Listening Ear Crisis Center from the net proceeds of the chances sold.

The students also participate in their own program fundraiser. It is a day that features national and regional speakers with this educational portion open to the public; there are table tops (an industry term) where vendors pay a fee to tell their story and display products; and the day culminates in a silent auction of items donated by IDES alumni, students, and some IDES business partners.

There are also many stories of how well ATC IDES students do in regional and national competitions. Broan Nutone, a Long Island, NY manufacturer of ventilation systems has twice sponsored a national competition for interior design students awarding \$10,000 to the winner. ATC IDES students were the winners both times. Mannington Floor sponsored a competition that was won by an ATC IDES student. In a window treatment contest, a first-year student won the international competition and



Concentration and steady hands at work.

received money and an all-expenses paid trip to Florida. Students have competed in and won competitions offered by the National Kitchen and Bath Association. The local ASID student chapter was the first in Minnesota to be chosen to decorate a room for the Minnesota Chapter of ASID Showcase House, a charity fundraiser tour featuring idea rooms.

The winning doesn't stop after graduation. Numerous alumni yearly reach the magic \$1,000,000 mark in sales. A California alumna has her own design firm working just with luxury homes. Another alumna is the owner of a kitchen design firm in Minneapolis, MN. In yet another instance, an alumna was selected as Emerging Talent (young design talent) from the Minnesota State Chapter of ASID, a recognition award for seasoned designers. The success stories are endless.

And how is it that these stories are known? The instructors care for their students well beyond graduation. They like to stay in touch with their alumni, reveling in their successes. With such caring, the new building is not the only part of the program that has the feel of a private college.



Left to Right. Student Jamie Miller, instructor Betty Ravnik, and students Stacy Reddick and Joy Olson at the 2004 NKBA Student Design Competition.

ATC Training— *It's Good for America*



Manufacturing is vital to enable us to improve our standard of living.

By Paul Schoenack

It may appear to be an exaggeration to say that the Alexandria Technical College (ATC) is helping to combat global attacks on the U.S. economy until you examine the state of the manufacturing industry. The manufacturing industry is important to the American economy and, in spite of recent news about job layoffs, there is a critical shortage of trained, skilled workers. American manufacturers need those workers if they are to remain competitive in the global marketplace of the future. That means high-paying job opportunities in manufacturing with ATC committed to preparing manufacturing students for that exciting new environment.

The manufacturing industry is one of the major supports for the US economy

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) says that for decades the manufacturing sector has been the center of strength for the American economy and its prospects for future growth. They call it “the engine that drives our economy.”

Sam Wagner, Director of Advanced Manufacturing for Donnelly Custom Manufacturing, agrees, “Manufacturing is vital to enable us to improve our standard of living.”

In fact, manufacturing contributes more than one-quarter of the nation’s total economic output. Every million dollars in manufacturing sales supports eight jobs in manufacturing and six in other, allied sectors. But that part of the American economy has been under attack by global competition. Coping with the new global competition has forced American manufacturing to change the way it does business.

The result has been some discouraging news. During the 1990’s, a time of great economic expansion, manufacturing employment declined by 9.0% nationally. Many of us are familiar with news reports about factory closings, the transfer of manufacturing jobs to other countries, and the resulting layoffs and job loss. In April 2005, one analyst reported that the outlook for factory employment, where most of the recent job losses have occurred, remains

muted. Manufacturers have restored only a small fraction of the jobs they shed from 2001 through 2003, and manufacturing employment edged down by 8,000 jobs in March.

In spite of that seemingly discouraging news, young people shouldn’t let that discourage them from considering a career in manufacturing.

The nature of manufacturing jobs in the U.S. is changing

The reality is that the loss of some manufacturing jobs doesn’t mean that the manufacturing industry is disappearing, but rather that it is changing. Most analysts agree that the manufacturing jobs that are being outsourced to overseas companies are lower-skilled, lower-paying jobs. In order to compete with countries where wages are very low, U.S. companies have turned to technology to increase efficiency and profits. They have learned to respond better to customers’ needs and to “do more with less.” Increased efficiency through technological advances is leading to more profits for U.S. manufacturers and those businesses are hiring U.S.-based workers to expand and improve their businesses.

The new manufacturing jobs that are available are different from those of years past. Today’s manufacturing jobs are technology jobs and employees at all levels must have a wide range of skills in this complex environment. “The workforce is changing,” says Chad Coquette, Dean of Customized Training for ATC. “In addition to being skilled machinists, workers of the future must be able to manage, think critically, problem solve, and be adaptable.”

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Sam Wagner,
Director of Advanced Manufacturing
Donnelly Custom Manufacturing



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Lack of qualified workers

In a White Paper, published in 2003, the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) says that American manufacturers face a looming shortage of skilled manufacturing employees. A NAM study revealed that (nationally) 80% of surveyed manufacturers reported a “moderate to serious” shortage of qualified job applicants. In other words, there is a lack of highly qualified employees with specific educational backgrounds and skills. Beth Solomon, spokesperson

for NAM, calls the looming worker shortage a “crisis.”

There are at least two reasons for this worker shortage: The seasoned workforce is passing from the scene and, across the country, few students plan to pursue manufacturing careers. Loss of existing seasoned workers stems largely from the fact that, within the next 20 years, the Baby Boom generation of skilled workers will be retiring. NAM says that the result is a projected need for 10 million new skilled workers by 2020. Unfortunately, not enough young people are stepping

Chad Coauette showing (L. to R.) Sam Wagner, Brad Andrist, Dave Wells, and Lynette Kluver cutting-edge automation equipment used to train high school and college students as well as incumbent workers.

forward to fill that need—due, at least in part, to the negative public perception of manufacturing jobs.

For many young people, manufacturing has a bad image tied to the old “assembly line” stereotype. Many see a job in manufacturing as dirty and tedious, with low pay and poor opportunities for advancement. But the reality is that current manufacturing jobs are different from those of earlier generations. Today’s manufacturing company is a major source of high-tech innovation, wealth creation, and exciting varied careers.

Getting the word out

In an attempt to develop and nurture a “pipeline” of manufacturing students in order to assist regional manufacturers to remain competitive in the global business environment, Alexandria Technical College has joined with local manufacturers and the Alexandria Jefferson High School (JHS) to form an “Industry Focus Group.” Its purpose is to find ways to expose high school students to opportunities in manufacturing.

Young people often overlook opportunities for training for careers in manufacturing, partly because of the pressures to attend four-year programs at colleges and universities. “But, that’s not the ticket for success for everyone,” says Joe Hill, Focus Group member and principal of JHS. “One of the trends that we’re seeing is that upwards of 25% of those who attend a four-year college leave before graduation to attend a two-year program in a [technical] or community college. I don’t think that means that

the rigors of college are any more than the rigors of a two-year institution, but I think many students realize that the two-year institution will prepare them better for their particular area of interest.”

Manufacturing in Minnesota is healthy

For those who prepare themselves to take on the new manufacturing environment, the future is encouraging—especially here in Minnesota. During the 1990’s, Minnesota’s manufacturing employment continued to be relatively strong. While U.S. manufacturing declined 9% during that time, jobs in Minnesota manufacturing actually rose by 4%. Manufacturing led the way in the state’s job rebound for the first half of 2004, with more new jobs added in manufacturing than in any other Minnesota industry. Furthermore, a report for the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development predicts that the state is actually expected to outperform national manufacturers in the coming decade. And, as recently as April 2005, the Institute for Supply Management reported that manufacturing production is holding steady and orders are actually increasing—good news for manufacturing nationally.

The predictions for the Minnesota manufacturing industry are even better. Here, manufacturing is expected to grow faster than in the rest of the nation. Over 5,000 jobs are expected to be added between 2002 and 2012, with the bulk expected in machinery manufacturing. Demand for new machinery is expected to increase as firms invest in growing their businesses. Other sectors that are expected to benefit are in Wood Product Manufacturing and in Plastics Products Manufacturing.

This is good news for the Alexandria area with its concentration of manufacturers of machinery and plastic products, but it means that those looking for new manufacturing jobs need training. Brian Baustian, General Manager of Manufactured Products for ITW Heartland, agrees with NAM predictions, “Future employees will need to be higher and higher skilled, with more automation training. They will have to be able to manage systems, solve problems, and work directly with the customer.”

There are jobs for trained workers

As mentioned earlier, there is actually a shortage of trained workers for manufacturing jobs. Coquette reports that local manufacturers are constantly telling them that there is a critical shortage of trained, skilled workers. John Seim, ATC instructor in the Center for Automation and Motion Control program, reports that during the past year a manufacturer came to ATC with

a need for 54 people trained in automation and motion control. Unfortunately, ATC could only supply four people for employment at that time.

NAM points to other examples nationally. They warn that this trend is a real and growing threat to the ability of the United States to compete in the world marketplace. Lack of skilled employees for manufacturing jobs could actually decrease American productive capacity and accelerate the transfer of well-paid manufacturing jobs overseas.

The Industry Focus Group is working to develop a feeder program that will prepare local students to opt for a two-year technical college program. Hill says that many JHS students want to remain in the local area and that means that some will need to be trained for positions in the manufacturing industry. “That’s where we see [one of] our roles at the high school.

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Local and regional manufacturers, with high school and college personnel, make up the Machine Tool Technology program's Advisory Board. They address continuing improvements for the program, college recruiting efforts, and high school partnerships.

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Trends from the past five years indicate that 25% of our students go on to ATC for future training." ATC understands this and is pledged to help JHS prepare young people to receive technical training.

Many of the courses offered at JHS are done in partnership with ATC. "For example," says Hill, "some classes taught at JHS fulfill ATC requirements. In fact, if a JHS student passes the class that satisfies ATC Marketing 1 Class objectives, the JHS grad will not have to take that class at ATC."

ATC's support for JHS programs even involves making ATC facilities available to JHS and its students. "We're breaking new ground this year (2005/2006)," says Hill, "We're taking some of our "machine" kids over to use ATC facilities. The courses, particularly machine-related courses, will be taught by a JHS instructor, but will use ATC's more advanced equipment and larger floor space."

All of this could make JHS a center for manufacturing career exposure thereby preparing those students who decide to pursue manufacturing careers at ATC.

ATC prepares students for jobs in the changing manufacturing environment

One look at the ATC brochure outlining Careers in Manufacturing shows their extensive training program. Whether a student's interest lies in Carpentry, Fluid Power Technology, Machine Assembly, Manufacturing Engineering, Concrete Masonry, Industrial Technology, Mechanical Drafting, Design, and Engineering Technology, or Welding Technology, ATC has a program to provide the necessary training. Local manufacturers testify that ATC programs are successful.

Alexandria Extrusion Company's Organizational Development Manager, Lynette Kliver, says that the quality of ATC grads is outstanding. "There are some [other] technical colleges from which we no longer recruit because their graduates come to us lacking in some basic skills. But grads from ATC can come in [to our company], go out on the production floor, and become productive very quickly. With some other technical colleges, students might take as many as six months to reach that same level of skill."

ATC achieves this level of success through hard work, commitment, and innovation. ATC has a record of implementing innovative programs to train students in advanced technologies and offering advancement and career development opportunities. ATC grads are enthusiastic about the training that they have received. Local manufacturers trust ATC and their faith in ATC is such that they are willing to support the college with money and donations of technology and new equipment. In fact, industry partners donated close to \$1-million in equipment to the ATC Center for Automation and Motion Control in

What Focus Members Have to Say:

Brian Baustian
General Manager
of Manufactured
Products, ITW
Heartland



"ATC students have usually learned how to present themselves to the customer—they have good people skills. Our customers often ask, 'Where do you get these people?' They're so good."

Lynette Kliver
Manager of
Organizational
Development,
Alexandria
Extrusion Co.



"Manufacturing has a bright future. It's a fascinating career on which you can raise a family. It's exciting, it's fast-paced; there's something new every day."

Chad Coauette
Dean of Customized
Training, Alexandria
Technical College



"The machinist of the future is a high-skilled, high-wage, educated individual with a lot of responsibility."

John Seim
Instructor, Center
for Automation and
Motion Control,
Alexandria Technical
College



"Our industry partners donate the latest equipment to ATC to ensure that our students are trained on the latest technology."

Joe Hill
Principal
Jefferson High
School, Alexandria,
Minnesota



"Kids who take the 'technical college' route don't need any less intelligence than those who choose a four-year program."

Sam Wagner
Director of Advanced
Manufacturing,
Donnelly Custom
Manufacturing



"We've had a Job Skills Partnership Training Program in conjunction with ATC that has been really helpful to Donnelly, for all employees."

2004 to ensure that students are trained on the “latest and greatest” technology.

ATC is committed to providing well trained individuals for the evolving industry. “Change continues to drive us,” says Kevin Kopischke, President of ATC. “Our goal is to be the best option for two-year technology training.”

This combination of commitment, superior facilities, and success has earned ATC an international reputation. One international company recruits from only two technical colleges in the U.S. for automation and motion control employees—one of them being Alexandria Technical College.

The future for ATC grads is bright

The available information says that rather than dying, American manufacturing is changing and those who are well-prepared to enter the new environment have a bright future. NAM studies show that manufacturing jobs pay better than other jobs with the same educational requirements. Nationally, average weekly wages for manufacturing jobs are now 21% higher than they were in 2002. In Minnesota the future for skilled, well-trained workers is even better.

The key is good training in complex manufacturing technology.

ATC graduates and local manufacturers agree that ATC is an excellent choice for training in manufacturing technology. “ATC grads have a good foundation and are able to adapt to new equipment very quickly,” says Klüber. “They ‘get it.’”

And, that’s good for the community, the state, and the country.



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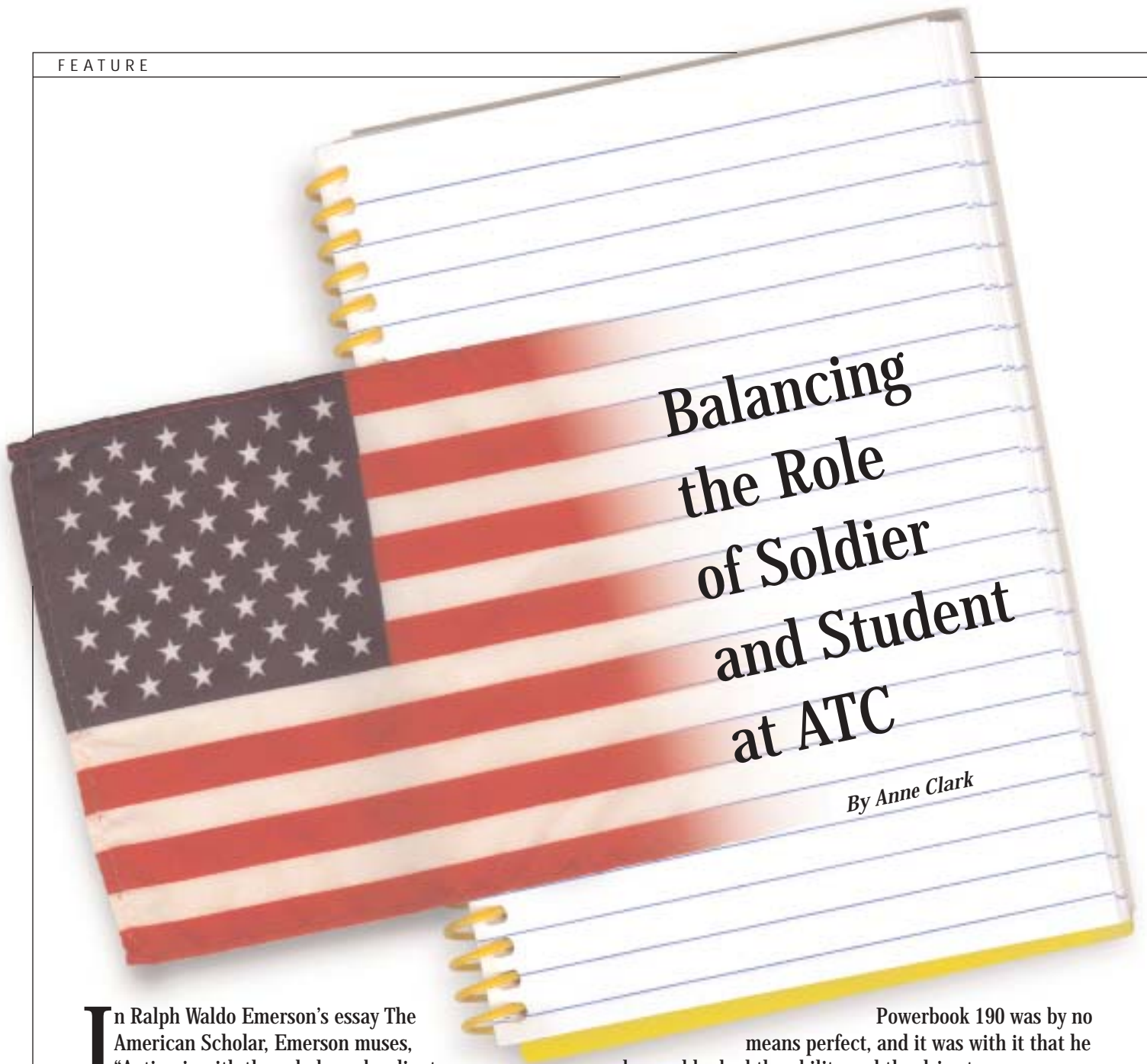
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Balancing the Role of Soldier and Student at ATC

By Anne Clark

In Ralph Waldo Emerson's essay *The American Scholar*, Emerson muses, "Action is with the scholar subordinate, but it is essential. Without it he is not yet man. Without it thought can never ripen into truth. Whilst the world hangs before the eye as a cloud of beauty, we cannot even see its beauty. Inaction is cowardice, but there can be no scholar without the heroic mind." While Emerson calls on students to participate in the world around them, there is one particular student who participates in ways far grander than Emerson could have imagined. This student is the one who—during times of war—balances the roles of both soldier and student at Alexandria Technical College.

Jacob Veldhouse bought his first computer—a sixteen shade, grayscale, Apple Powerbook 190—when he was only thirteen. Although it was a step up from the Apple 2Es that were plentiful in the Wheaton, MN schools, Jacob's

Powerbook 190 was by no means perfect, and it was with it that he learned he had the ability and the drive to pursue a future in computers. He'll admit that most of his earliest computer knowledge came from breaking and then fixing his Powerbook 190, but these experiences were enough to grant him a place on a "dream team" of high school students who loved computers: a team of Wheaton High School students working together to take over the internet service from Traverse Electric and become the Internet Service Provider (ISP) now known as TraverseNet.

TraverseNet was started with a grant from the state of Minnesota, run by students, and supervised by the students' Accounting instructor. The experience with TraverseNet propelled Jacob into taking computer classes in high school and eventually he found himself at Alexandria Technical College (ATC), where he and two friends attended the college's College for a Day Program.

According to Jacob, the program was a hit. "We were sold. We all applied as soon as we could during our senior year [in high school]. I enrolled in the Computer Technical Support Specialist program and the fall after I graduated from high school, I set foot in the classroom."

While Jacob became interested in computers in high school, (this interest eventually determined his course of study), it was also in high school that he joined the military. In October 1999, he enlisted in the Army National Guard to Charlie Battery 1st Battalion, 151st Field Artillery in Ortonville, MN. He chose the occupation of Field Artillery Fire Direction Support Specialist because that was the only job where he would have computer time and experience. He was a junior in high school. After Jacob graduated from high school in 2001, he went through military training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. That same year, he began fall semester at ATC and two weeks after school began, Jacob watched as the terrorist attacks on New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania stunned the nation. He knew at that moment, because of his job in the Army National Guard, his life was going to change. He just didn't know exactly when that change would take place. As he waited to be called up by the Army, life at home and school carried on. He changed his program at ATC to Computer and Voice Networking (CVN), and also took some time off from college to stay at home with his grandfather who was dying of leukemia. In fall 2003, Jacob returned to ATC and worked to complete his degree. In addition, he was elected Vice President of Business Partners of America (BPA) and attended the national BPA convention where he competed in the Network Design Team event. All was going well, but then three weeks before graduation his grandfather died. Jacob continued on with graduation, however,

two days later he was notified that deployment to Southwest Asia, in support of the global war on terrorism, was imminent.

In 2002, before his deployment notification, Jacob was retrained for the Army as an Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS) technician, a position that gave him additional computer training in a computer system used by the military. He enjoyed working with the military's system because, as he explains, "it was really cool to learn new protocol stacks that the military use[s] that [are] different from the traditional protocols but essentially do the same things." Jacob stayed in this position until he was called up for Iraq.



Jacob and the head of Saddam that was pulled down in Baghdad during the seige.

After his deployment notification, he was retrained again for his mission in Iraq. This new training placed Jacob as a gunner in the hatch of an "up armored" Humvee, which is where he currently serves as part of a Military Police (MP) company involved in security missions in Iraq. He has been in Iraq since December 2004, and is expected to be there until this December. His plans to acquire an internship or job after graduating from the CVN program are temporarily on hold, but Jacob is learning valuable life lessons that reach beyond any

classroom or work environment. He's learning about life in its most raw form; its good and its bad. He's learning how life can be built up from almost nothing and yet is fragile enough to be torn down in an instant. He also sees more of what is really happening in Iraq. More than what we, the average American TV viewers, see.

Despite television's depiction of instability in Iraq, Jacob has watched as the once frequent, heavy attacks on coalition forces have declined. He sees the Iraqi people standing up to insurgency and placing greater trust in their own security forces, which have been transformed from mediocre to "a force to be reckoned with," according to Jacob. He also notes, "We have seen traffic go from being scattered and unorganized and lawless to having controlled intersections with police officers and traffic lights." In addition, the streets are looking cleaner and a sanitation effort is in place that includes centralized landfills. "Strides are being made and every day is a step in the right direction for the Iraqi people." This feeling of accomplishment was palpable for Jacob on Iraq's Election Day. "Being

here on Election Day was something I will never forget; knowing that I am doing something that will have an impact on the lives of people I will never know is really a rewarding opportunity, and I am proud to say I am here."

While Jacob feels proud that he is able to help, he knows that helping isn't without an enormous cost. This lesson was made brutally clear on February 21st, when he witnessed the deaths of three fellow soldiers and friends. One of those soldiers, SSG Dave Day, was also a fellow student in the ATC Law Enforcement program. Jacob knew

Soldier continued on page 12

Soldier continued from page 11

Dave from school, but also from their time in the National Guard. He describes Dave's death and the death of the other soldiers as, "a very tough loss."

"Dave, Jesse Ihotka, and I were all helping [a] wounded soldier from [a] Humvee that rolled over," explains Jacob. "I was one of the last people to talk to Dave before he died. After [the deaths of the soldiers] I struggled with why I [didn't die too] when the Improvised Explosive Device (IED) exploded." Witnessing the deaths of his friends and coming to terms with why he didn't die, Jacob was inspired to create a quote that could offer at least one explanation for events that will largely be left unexplainable: "Without struggle there will never be progress; peace can only be where there once was chaos." It is a life lesson that Jacob has seen materialize

since February and one he will most likely carry with him for the rest of his life.

When Jacob returns to the U.S. this December, he will participate in a mandatory "decompressing" period, where he will learn how to transition from a soldier's active duty life back to that of a civilian. He's looking forward to spending his time doing the simple, day-to-day activities those of us who haven't served take for granted: the peace of fishing on a Minnesota lake, the exhilaration of breathing country air, and the luxury of quiet time alone or the comfort of time with family. In these times to come, Jacob will have more opportunities to reflect on his experiences in Iraq. Iraq will be behind him, and as he is already noticing, "I will be better from this experience."

Another soldier, Allison Garrett, shares many of Jacob's experiences as a soldier

in Iraq, but she has already returned from one tour in Iraq, and is waiting to deploy for her second. Allison joined the Army National Guard at seventeen, while she was still in high school. In the summer of 2000, right after graduation, she headed off to Fort Jackson, South Carolina, for Basic Training. She then completed her Advanced Individualized Training at Fort Gordon, Georgia. Based on the entrance exam she took to enter the Army, Allison was trained as a Switching Systems Network Operator and Maintainer. In this position, Allison provides communication support for units and command support for hospitals, as well as aviation. She works in her own small extension node—basically a communication command center—comprised of three people when her unit is stateside, but seven when in Iraq. Allison explains that her job provides impressive perks, such as access to communication


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capabilities so that she can stay in contact with family and friends, but her job can also be quite dangerous, as the enemy generally seeks to destroy communication capabilities.

After completing her training, Allison returned to Minnesota to work and to fulfill her duties with a Reserve Unit in Inver Grove Heights. On March 8, 2003, she received orders to deploy to Iraq, and after training in Fort Riley, Kansas, she arrived in Kuwait at 3 A.M. on the day before Father's Day. The temperature on the ground was 105°.

Allison's unit stayed in Kuwait for two weeks as they became acclimated to the weather before heading across Iraq in a convoy to Tikrit. Once in Tikrit, Allison helped provide communications for two hospitals: 28 CSH (Combat Support Hospital), and 67 CSH. These are the hospitals where Saddam Hussein's sons were sent, and Allison was there when they arrived.

The accommodations in Iraq were primitive and dangerous. Allison spent the early days of her tour living out of a tent, but at one point was placed in a temporary housing unit. This housing unit—one of a series—resembled a metal sea crate used to ship cargo. The housing units provided more comfort than the tents, but were soon an easy target for mortar attacks, so the soldiers returned to their tents and camouflage. Despite the attacks, Allison had the sense that the Iraqi people were happy the Americans were there. Through interpreters, she met many nice people in Iraq. She also became particularly fond of the cooking that was done by Iraqi citizens for her unit. She was still, however, excited to come home.

When she arrived back in Minnesota, like Jacob, she enrolled in the Computer and Voice Network Program at Alexandria Technical College. She

was happy to be in school, but found that she had a difficult time concentrating. Paying attention to detailed material was especially challenging, but Allison was able to find support. "The faculty at Alex Tech were all so supportive. They were nice to me and they were understanding," she remembers. For Allison, this was important. She had lost contact with many of her old friends while she was in Iraq, but it was also difficult for her to just forget her experiences in Iraq in exchange for the life of a student. She even



Allison (center) celebrated her birthday with fellow soldiers SPC Josie Sterk (left) and SPC Jina Hinzman (right).

found herself sleeping in a sleeping bag on her hard floor because her soft bed was too large of an adjustment. Depression and anger were other new obstacles to be dealt with after her tour, but Allison was able to cope by talking about her experiences and going to school. She keeps this in mind when she considers her next deployment, scheduled for September. She is already receiving words of encouragement from her instructors and that eases any anxiety.

Allison will register for fall classes, but knows that she is scheduled to deploy again to Iraq. She will be able to put her classes on hold if she has to, and although she is comfortable with what

she needs to do, she knows it won't be easy. "I'll probably need to take my classes over, but I'm prepared for that," she notes. The war is behind Allison, as well as ahead of her.

The balancing act between being a soldier and student during times of war isn't easy. Additionally, the balance isn't limited strictly to the soldier. During times of war, students who have loved ones serving in the military must also learn to cope. This was true for Cassie Blair, a graduate of the Practical Nursing program, and a

continuing student in the nursing program at Alexandria Technical College. Cassie's husband, Adam Blair, enlisted in the United States Marine Corps when he was just seventeen. Cassie and Adam began dating just weeks after Adam's enlistment four years ago, and they have been together ever since. While they were dating, Adam was away at sniper school and then was sent, in February 2003, to Iraq. During that time, Adam missed Cassie's entire

senior year in high school, including prom and graduation. He served his one tour and when he returned in August 2003, Cassie started the nursing program at Alexandria Technical College. Cassie and Adam were engaged the following December, but when Adam received his orders to return to Iraq the following summer, the couple decided to speed up their plans and get married. Cassie was aware that Adam was being sent to a very rough area of Iraq, with an extremely high casualty rate. "I would rather be his widow than just simply single again," Cassie recalls. "If I had to go to his funeral, I wanted to be presented with his flag." Adam and Cassie were married in a small ceremony two days after she

Soldier continued on page 14

Soldier continued from page 13

graduated from the Practical Nursing program. After they were married, Cassie decided to continue with her education. As it turned out, Adam left for Iraq on the same day that Cassie started her fall classes. "I never second guessed my decision to go to school with Adam [in Iraq]," explains Cassie. "Going to school kept me occupied."

Although school kept her busy, Cassie found that it was difficult to balance letter writing with homework. She also found creative ways to help her cope with the separation.

"I made a five foot long calendar (September through March—the length of Adam's deployment). The first day of the month was my yellow ribbon day. I would set out a new yellow ribbon somewhere in my apartment that day. The last day of the month was my pop and popcorn day. I had exactly seven cans of pop in my fridge and seven packs of microwave popcorn. At the end of the month, I had a little celebration. I also wore a little, yellow ribbon over my heart every day, especially to school. My heart did ache with missing him, and this was my little display that part of me was in Iraq."

The night after the national election, Cassie received a dreaded phone call. Adam called that night to tell her that he had been injured. Cassie took it hard, but still managed to make it to school the next day. Then, that next day, Adam called again to tell her the rest of the story. While he was injured, two of the soldiers in Adam's section had been killed. "Adam's Staff Sergeant tried to save one of them, but he was bleeding internally. Adam's sniper partner was wounded worse [than Adam], and Adam had already had two surgeries," recalls Cassie. As it turned out, Adam had received shrapnel in

seven to ten places on the backside of his body. The hardest aspect of all of this for Adam was that the Marines who had been killed were following his patrol when someone set off an IED. The men who died were all best friends. They had known each other since high school, had enlisted together, and had attended sniper school together. Adam felt very guilty; he felt that it was his fault.

Cassie flew to California to be with Adam when he returned to the U.S. "I took a week off of school. My instructors were great. They were so understanding, leaving me with no worries about school, telling me to take as much time as I needed," recalls Cassie.

In retrospect, Cassie feels that she made school her life when Adam was away. The hardest part about being a student and the wife of a soldier for Cassie, was wanting to be with him.

"School was easy to go to, almost a reprieve, because it was my place. We had never really been there together, so I had no memories of him there. Our apartment was the worst [place to be], and I usually looked for excuses to go to school. I made school my life."

For these students, Jacob, Allison, and Cassie, the Iraq War was not written into their formal, school curriculum, but it could possibly serve as their largest classroom. The experiences, both positive and negative, will impact these students for the rest of their lives. With that in mind, listen again to Emerson's words: "Whilst the world hangs before the eye as a cloud of beauty, we cannot even see its beauty. Inaction is cowardice, but there can be no scholar without the heroic mind." Is there no greater heroic mind than one who meets the challenge of balancing the roles of student and soldier?



Ask Verl Charboneau of Runestone Electric Association in Alexandria about his experience as a soldier and student and he's likely to note that if it hadn't been for the Vietnam War and the Alexandria Technical College, he wouldn't be where he is today.

When he graduated from Morris High School in 1965, Charboneau didn't plan on attending college. The Vietnam War was taking place and he felt that he would probably be drafted, so he got a job in town and just took his chances. As it turned out, a year after high school graduation, Charboneau was drafted into the United States Marine Corps. He was trained as a Field Wireman where he learned communication wiring and radio skills, and was sent to Vietnam in September of 1966. He spent the majority of the next thirteen months just north of Danang where there were three artillery batteries. One of the batteries, a 105mm Howitzer battery, is where Charboneau worked to provide communication. He was in Vietnam until October 1967, when he returned to Camp LeJuene, North Carolina, and fulfilled the last six months of his contract.

In the spring of 1968, Charboneau returned to Minnesota and began working at a cement plant in the Minneapolis area. A friend from the cement plant was planning on attending Alexandria Technical College in the fall and Charboneau decided to join him. At that time, if a student had gone into the military before the age of twenty-one, there was no fee for tuition. Because Verl received \$130 a month from the G.I. Bill, and didn't have to pay tuition, he was able to use that money for his rent and living expenses.

After completing an eleven-month program that taught him how to work with IBM computers and data processing machines, Charboneau was hired at Runestone Electric Association (REA). He has been with REA ever since he graduated in 1969, and credits both his experience in Vietnam and attending the Alexandria Technical College with his success in his career.

ATC by the Numbers

BAS, BS, and Transfer Degrees Available

For students wishing for a two-year transfer degree to springboard them to a 4-yr university, ATC offers 5 Associate In Science (AS) degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, Computer Information Systems, Industrial Technology, and Marketing with several more pending.

Get your Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree in Business Management at ATC through the partnership with Southwest Minnesota State. It is the intent of Southwest Minnesota State to also offer a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Child Development at ATC.

94.2%

Ninety-four percent of 2004 ATC graduates that looked for a job in their field found one. The college's placement rate is consistently one of the best rates of all the Minnesota State Colleges.

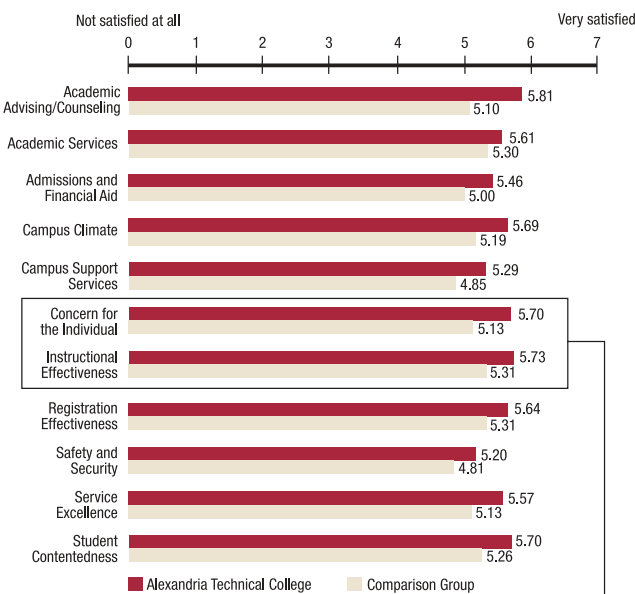
\$8,500,000

Tuition aid is available at ATC

ATC students receive approximately \$8.5 million in financial aid. Annually there is an estimated \$100,000 given out in scholarship support.

Clean Slate for Campus Security

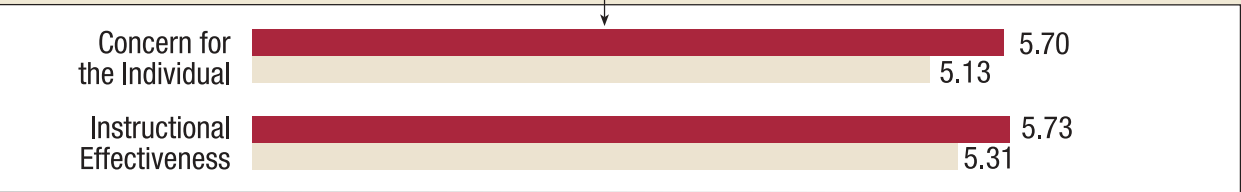
The following statistics are for calendar years 2002–2004. There were **zero reports** of criminal activity to the Alexandria Police Department or the Douglas County Sheriff's Office in all of their crime categories: aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, murder, forcible sex offenses, non-forcible sex offenses, and robbery. There were zero arrests those same years for alcohol violations, drug violations, or weapons violations.



Student Satisfaction Inventory

How does Alexandria Technical College (ATC) compare to other colleges in Minnesota and nationally? The following chart shows how students rated ATC in 2004 compared to how other technical, junior and community college students around the nation rated their institutions. Interestingly, ATC students rated the college significantly above average in all eleven key areas.

ATC is particularly proud of the two areas highlighted below. They reinforce the mission to which everyone at ATC strives—"The College that Cares."



Lyle Holscher and Diane Peterson receive ATC awards



“Some people believe that teaching is a job, that what is required of a teacher is to do their best with their students and send them on their way.

I believe that this instructor is a step above [that].” Thus was the quote of a student describing **Lyle Holscher** in the *Educator of the Year* awards ceremony, May 2005.

In the ceremony, Holscher was denoted as approaching teaching as a lifestyle. His approach is to combine the book lessons with life lessons in every class.

Past students gave Holscher glowing reports for being a motivator, supporter, and strong mentor whose door was open to them always.

During his 28 years as instructor at ATC, Holscher has been the DECA advisor for 28 years, as well as being instrumental in the successful operation of the DECA Store.



Diane Peterson has been with Alexandria Technical College for over 25 years. In winning the *Support Staff of the Year* award she was

described in the following ways:

Treats everyone with respect and is always pleasant and positive; she carries out a variety of duties with ease and effectiveness and remains cool, calm, and collected even in hectic situations; she is conscientious to a fault while consistently providing outstanding support to the admissions process; she takes her vacation and days off at times that are least likely to disrupt the admissions process; and her professionalism and loyalty are obvious to all those who know her.

ATC Participates in Relay for Life

For the past decade, ATC has participated in the American Cancer Society fundraiser Relay For Life. This year 12 people made up the ATC relay team. They walked for cancer on July 8, 2005.



The team donated nearly \$1200 to the American Cancer Society this year. The money was raised through a silent auction and a contribution from the

ATC Employee Association. The college also was a corporate supporter of the event.

ATC Celebrates its 44th Commencement

The 44th annual commencement program for graduates of the Alexandria Technical College was held on Wednesday, May 18, 2005. Commencement was held in the Jefferson Senior High School Gymnasium in Alexandria, Minnesota.

Graduate Alison Triebenbach, a 2005 honor graduate from the Marine and Small Engine Mechanic program, gave the commencement address. The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System was represented by the Honorable Christopher Schultz, Member of the Board of

Trustees and Mr. Ken Niemi, Vice Chancellor for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer at the Office of the Chancellor.

Over 800 students graduated from Alexandria Technical College this year. The Alexandria Technical College Foundation annually acknowledges one student from each program during graduation with an “Outstanding Student” award of merit. Ms. Margaret Schroeder, ATC Foundation Board member, presented the award.



Honor graduate Alison Triebenbach delivered the commencement address.



Nathan Chan of Alexandria was the recipient of the Computer and Voice Networking Outstanding Student Award

Defibrillators Donated

Three automated external defibrillators were donated to ATC from the Douglas County Hospital Auxiliary in 2005.

“These units use a single electric shock to jump-start the heart during cardiac arrest,” said Sheryl Hocum, ATC campus nurse. “Their use in any situation is to sustain lifesaving measures until other advanced life support (ambulance, fire-rescue, physician, nurse or other medical personnel) arrive at the emergency scene.”

Hocum explained that the ATC defibrillators automatically analyze heart rhythms and advise whether a victim’s heart rhythm is “shockable.”

The American Heart Association reports that more than 1,000 people

suffer heart attacks every day, making them one of America’s leading killers. Unless a heart attack victim is reached within 5 to 7 minutes by an emergency response team, 95% of heart attacks are fatal. Having a defibrillator greatly increases survival chances.

Organizations receiving defibrillators must undergo orientation and training for proper use of the equipment. A licensed medical doctor must also authorize defibrillator use within an organization. A team of 13 ATC employees



One of the three defibrillators located on the ATC campus.

received the training to use the defibrillators.

Hospital auxiliary members say that the placing of defibrillators throughout the community follows their mission statement “to contribute to the excellence of the Douglas County Hospital, as well as the health issues

and needs of the community at large.”

As Hocum said, “We are grateful for these gifts that make ATC a safer place for students, staff, and anyone visiting the college.”

Faculty and Staff Updates:

Dr. Kevin Kopischke, President, has been awarded the 2005 Minnesota Epsilon Chi Honorary Life Membership Award. Epsilon Chi (DEX) is an international organization of students enrolled in marketing programs at two-year colleges.

Robert Friederichs, Finance and Credit Management instructor, has been honored as the Minnesota Delta Epsilon Chi (DEX) Advisor of the Year.

Ann Craigmile, General Education Instructor, is currently serving as president of the Douglas County Hospital Auxiliary Board of Directors.

Alexandria Technical College received a “Recognition of Excellence” certificate from the US Department of Labor for Outstanding Performance in the “Bridging the Distances Healthcare” grant. The college has been involved with the program since the planning stages in 2002.

Sally Smith, General Education Instructor, completed her Master’s

degree in Special Studies at St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN. Her concentration was titled “Mathematics and English for Teaching.”

Dave Steussy, Diesel Mechanics Instructor, received a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Technology from Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN.

Marilyn Lehmkuhl, Health Division Chair and General Education Instructor, completed the “Certificate in Adult Weight Management” course from the American Dietetic Association.

Betty Ravnik, Interior Design Instructor, is now a contributing columnist for Lake and Home magazine covering topics of interior design and decorating. Also, one of her Ravnik Interior Design bathroom projects was featured in a recently published National Kitchen and Bath industry manual on design elements.

Jessica Lourey, General Education Instructor, has signed a book deal to publish a mystery novel in March

2006. She also co-wrote and published, with Dr. Holly Hassel of the University of Wisconsin, an article for a recent issue of *College Teaching*. The two presented the paper, “The Dea[r]th of Student Responsibility” at the National Council of Teacher’s of English Conference spring 2005. Lourey also is working on her Master’s degree in Social Responsibility which she expects to be completed late fall 2005.

Lynne Figg, E-Commerce Web Developer Instructor, attended the Macromedia National Conference in 2005 where she learned about how telephones and PDA interfaces will look more like web pages in the future.

Judi Anderson, Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, will receive her Master’s degree from the Special Studies Department at St. Cloud State University. She chose a self-designed approach with a concentration in Higher Education Administration.

Happenings continued on page 18

Happenings continued from page 17

Maynard Bakken and Dennis Gronholz were “Prime Time Award” finalists by Experience Works—Senior Workforce Solutions. The “Prime Time Award” is given to outstanding workers 55 and older.

Sheree Cochran is the winner of the 2005 John G. Berling award for outstanding Center for Information Media Master’s Portfolio. This award recognizes exceptional work done by Information Media graduate students.

Kathy Pfeffer Nohre was recognized as the “Fundraiser of the Year” at the Donor 2 Client Fundraising Group national conference in July. She received the Rumpelstiltskin Award which recognizes that all fundraising efforts have the potential to turn opportunities into resources...or straw into gold.

New to the ATC Family:

Martijn Giesselbach, a native of The Netherlands, joined the Customized Training Center team as an Automation Specialist. He will be working to expand products and services to local, national, and international automation and motion control customers.

Julie Stevens has joined the Customized Training team as a Customized Training Representative/Organizational Development Specialist. She has 20 years experience working with Cargill, Inc. in a variety of areas.

Richard Bellefeuille is the new Food Services Supervisor. He was a Food Service Officer in the U.S. Coast Guard for over 20 years. He handled food service operations, catering, special events, and inventory cost control.

Shannon Snell is a Manufacturing Specialist in the Customized Training Center. He will work with local and regional manufacturers as this important customer base is expanded. He brings 12 years of industry

experience in Automation, Lean Manufacturing, CNC Machining, and Engineering.

Tony Dropik joins ATC as a welding instructor. He brings a strong background in welding as a profession along with his previous instructional experience at ATC.

Hilda Betterman, after a brief brush with retirement, has agreed to return to ATC for one more year as the Interim Associate Dean of Academic Affairs.

Troy Rupp joins ATC as a part-time carpentry instructor. He taught this past year as a temporary faculty member and brings a vast range of carpentry experience to the program.

Brad Barth is the new Small Business Center Director. He is responsible to provide businesses and individuals with access to small business management services, workshops and seminars, and small business assistance services in an effort to ensure the economic vitality of communities throughout west-central Minnesota.

Dave Bjelland has been hired as Chief Financial Officer. He will be responsible to provide leadership and to administer financial, budget, accounting, reporting, payroll, financial aid, facilities, and food service activities of the college. Bjelland was formerly the Finance Director of the St. Cloud Housing and Redevelopment Authority.

Chad Coquette is the new Dean of Customized Training. He is responsible for providing leadership and management for the Customized Training Center as well as providing oversight for the Marketing Education division of the college. He was formerly the Director of Workforce Development at Northland Community and Technical College.

Kristin Daby is a Fashion Management Instructor. She teaches courses in fashion and retail management, and marketing education along with advis-

ing students. She has extensive retail merchandising, marketing, and sales experience with various companies and major department stores.

Julie Haar is an Administrative Assistant Instructor. She teaches courses in administrative support, develops curriculum, collaborates in the management of the program, and advises, recruits, and interviews students. She was formerly employed with Aakers Business College in Fargo, ND as the Business Education Department Co-Chair and as an instructor with Moorhead Community Education.

Catherine Scholer joins ATC as a part-time Spanish Instructor. She previously was employed as a Spanish Instructor for Jefferson High School, Alexandria, MN and also has taught on an adjunct basis for ATC.

Becky Swanson is a part-time Law Enforcement Instructor. She has served as a Police Officer with the Woodbury Department of Public Safety, as a Correctional Officer for the Dakota County Sheriff’s Office, and as a Dakota County Park Ranger.

Mark Meuwissen is a full-time, temporary Accounting Instructor. He has experience in accounting, financial, and strategic planning for various companies and agencies.

Tamzin (Tam) Bukowski is the Safety and Security Officer for ATC. She manages, plans, organizes, and directs campus safety and security programs. She also conducts training sessions for employees and students. Her experience includes safety program and policy development, workers compensation management, state and federal OSHA reporting, OSHA/MSHA compliance safety training, incident investigation and monitoring, and safety site inspections and audits.

Anne Clune, a sign language interpreter, has been hired as a consultant to work with hearing impaired students.

LeAnn Aldrich joins ATC as a full-time temporary Customized Training Secretary, replacing Vicki Sward who is on a child care leave. LeAnn graduated from the ATC Administrative Assistant program in May 2004 and the Office Management program in May 2005.

Jennifer Kuznia is hired as a part-time, seasonal DECA Store Assistant. She had been working for ATC on a temporary basis in the same capacity.

Nathan Moyer is a temporary lab assistant for the CAMC program.

Kathy Hoffman is a part-time lab assistant for the Legal program.

Victor Sundquist is working intermittently as a Grounds Keeper for the maintenance department

Bryan Withers is an intermittent General Maintenance Worker.

ATC welcomes the following as adjunct/part-time temporary faculty:

Jola Amundsen, Anne Clark, Sue Empting, Bill Figg, Natalie Heckert, Kelly Hughes, Kristi Hughes-Hawkes, Terri Jansen, Mark Johnson, Pat Koch, Greg Lanners, Barb Lehman, Cindy Norling, Holly Pohlig, Merodie Seykora, Julie Sterk, Jeremiah Swor, Chelsie Tatge, and Tammy Welle.

Shannon Jarvie and Matthew Carpenter are temporary college lab assistants and Holly Schmidt is a temporary, intermittent General Maintenance Worker.

Our Goodbyes:

Those who have left us include Rick Podratz, Admissions Representative; Craig Smith, Related Electronics Instructor; Sandy Majerus-Lieser, Food Service Supervisor; Kelly Jorgens, Medical Coding Instructor; Page Karno, Customized Training; John (Jack) LaShomb, Maintenance; Grant Maasjo, temporary CAMC Maintenance Technician; and Bruce Smith, Associate Dean of Marketing and Enrollment Services.

At One's Fingertips

By Ann C. Hermes

How many of you reading this article remember researching a topic to write a paper for high school or college? The process usually involved going to a library, having a long-term relationship with the Dewey Decimal System, and reading for hours on end in a cubicle, getting annoyed with hearing sssshhh.

Technology has changed much of that process.

Sheree Cochran, ATC Learning Resources Coordinator, explains that today's college library is not so much about having access to huge print collections of books, periodicals, etc. but more about providing services.

"The library is used less and less as an actual physical place to study or check out books as it is becoming more and more of a place to come for services," Cochran states. "There was a fear that the electronic information technology expansion would wipe out libraries but it has increased the reliance and use of the library as a service component."

Every semester the library provides orientation opportunities to learn just what valuable library services are available.

ATC students and employees can access the entire Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) library system.

There are over 10,000 electronic books alone available on-line. People set up an account and electronically check out a book which then is accessible for a set period of time.



Any print book in the MnSCU system can be checked out the old fashioned way.

Along with the on-line book access, the ATC library has a major collection of electronic databases. Literally hundreds of thousands of articles, images, journals, magazines and trade journals are accessible.

The following is a partial list of those databases at ATC: MnSource, which is a portion of the James J. Hill Library; Hoover's, a national business resource complete with market analyses; Newsstand Complete, a U.S. and world news database; Britannica Online; Faulkners, an IT and security management resource; Westlaw Campus, a legal research tool for law-related issues; Art Museum Image Gallery, a digital resource of art images and related multimedia; Biography Reference Bank; World History; Access Science; Applied Science and Technology, a digital resource of science and technology information. This is just a partial list of the ever expanding resources which evolve with the academic needs at ATC. Add to these databases the eight data bases that the State of Minnesota provides the campus and you have a nearly endless supply of resource materials.

And to think, it's all available at one's fingertips.

Holding ATC Dear in Their Hearts

By Ann C. Hermes



“Uh, uh, uh! There will be no holding hands in this school!” That was what Greg and Sarah (Mundstock) Hayes were told when they were chewed out for standing together by the north entryway to the Alexandria Technical College (then called Alexandria Vocational Technical Institute or AVTI) in 1967.

Sarah was enrolled in the first Interior Design class to be taught on campus. Greg was enrolled in the Law Enforcement program that year. Greg claims he “picked up” Sarah in a parking lot. Sarah remembers it differently.

Conversation blossomed between them when Greg heard Sarah mention her hometown of Barnesville, MN. It just so happened that Greg’s basketball coach in Clarissa, MN came from Barnesville and Greg asked Sarah if she knew the coach.

Fate could have played a different hand for these two alumni. Greg was originally rejected from the Law Enforcement program because, at age 18, he was too young. Determined to get enrolled, Greg drove to Alexandria to talk with then president Vern Maack and Law Enforcement instructor Russ Brooberg about reconsidering his admission to the class. The two capitulated to Greg’s request.

Greg was hired by the Todd County Sheriff’s Office when he graduated. The county regulations had to be changed to allow the full-time deputy into bars for altercations as he was less than 21 years of age. During this time Sarah worked for Alexandria Glass and Paint.

Greg and Sarah were married on December 7, 1968. In 1970 Greg and Sarah moved to Virginia, MN where Greg was employed as a radio communications officer for the then “Minnesota Highway Patrol.” In 1974 he graduated

from the State Patrol Academy and was first assigned to Owatonna, MN in the Minnesota State Patrol. The 1974 graduates were the first to graduate with the status of “Troopers.” Formerly those with the Highway Patrol were called “Officers.” Greg was the first ATC alumni from the AVTI Law Enforcement program to become a Trooper. Thanks in part to the business and math classes Sarah took when attending AVTI, she was qualified to lead the financial office of the new HyVee Foods in Owatonna.

In 1977 they moved to the Moorhead area. Greg was a supervisor in the commercial vehicle section of the State Patrol. Sarah served on the Dilworth City Council and worked as an administrative assistant for the Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton School Districts.

After 31 years in law enforcement, Greg retired. He is currently teaching at Northland College’s Center for Outreach and Innovation. He is also on the ATC Law Enforcement Advisory Board. Both Greg and Sarah have recently worked with Sandy Larson (Customized Training) and Bill Fath (Transportation) to coordinate and instruct two classes for area commercial vehicle clientele regarding laws for commercial vehicle weight regulations. Greg and Sarah also travel around the state coordinating and teaching the commercial class for Northland Technical and Community College of Thief River Falls in conjunction with the Center for Transportation Studies at the University of Minnesota.

Greg and Sarah now live on a lake north of Pelican Rapids, MN. They are active in their church and community. Their daughter Valerie lives and works in the Minneapolis, MN area and son John lives and works in Fargo, ND.

In December 2005 Greg and Sarah will celebrate their 37th wedding anniversary. They’re still holding hands.

Heads Up Alumni!

New ATC Alumni website:

<http://web.alextech.edu/web/Default2.aspx?pid=150> is up and running. Let us know what could be added to make it more useful to you and other alumni. Please post your comments there for our review. Thanks!

E-Newsletter:

ATC is pleased to announce the launching of a free Alumni e-newsletter. The first issue was blasted out to over 700 alumni for whom we have an email address. The e-newsletter is a monthly occurrence and has in it items of interest about the college and news pertinent to alumni. If you are not receiving the e-newsletter and would like to, please contact Linda Dolan at lindad@alextech.edu or by telephone at 320-762-4439.

Job Postings:

Be sure to visit the ATC website to view job postings.

Scholarships:

There are 15 new scholarships available just for the children and grandchildren of ATC alumni. Each scholarship is for a \$300 award. Please alert your relatives to this extra perk! Go to: www.alextech.edu/scholarships to access information on these and many other scholarships.

Updates:

We always like to hear from you! Please let us know what you're doing now or whether you'd like to send a special hello to any instructor or staff person. See the inside flap of the envelope in the middle of this magazine to fill out and send us your information. (Note: If you give us your e-mail address, we will automatically put you on the list to receive our e-newsletter.)

Class Notes



Ann Dennemeyer, LPN 1969, has been with Lakewood Health System for 29 years. She lives on a farm north of Staples, Minnesota, with her husband and enjoys traveling, biking, gardening and cross country skiing.

Judy Dupree, Certified Lab Assistant 1968, retired from the medical field in 1993. In 1994, she became the office assistant to the principal at the Catholic school in Thief River Falls, Minnesota. She and her husband, Dave, have a son, a daughter, and one granddaughter.

Donna Fiske (Sellden), Accounting 1966, has worked in a number of positions over the course of her career, including Concordia College, as an independent Mary Kay beauty consultant, and at Big Lake Nursing Home.

Gerald Koetter, Welding 1968, is a machinist at Nezarik Corp. in Sartell,

Minnesota (where he has worked for 35 years). He and his wife Rita have three children.

Catherine Rudolph, Clerical/Key Punch 1969, has been doing home-based daycare for more than 26 years.



Brenda Arnold, CLA 1978, is married and has five sons living in Kandiyohi, Minnesota. She works as a phlebotomy technician.

Audrey Eibensteiner, Interior Design 1979, and her husband own Choice One Cabinets, a Blaine, Minnesota, commercial and residential cabinet design and manufacturing firm.

Robert Finnegan, Truck Driving 1979, has been a full-time bus driver for the City of Mankato, Minnesota, since 1980.

Lynette Greiner, General Secretarial 1970, works for Brooks Motors Inc. in Sisseton, South Dakota, as a title clerk.

Carrie Hanson, Office Assistant 1979, and her husband, **John**, Carpentry 1979, live in Evansville, Minnesota, and have three children. Carrie works as a career resource specialist through RAED and ATC. John is a self-employed carpenter who works in the commercial and residential fields.

Mike Hirman, Law Enforcement 1970, started his law enforcement career as a patrolman for the Springfield (Minnesota) Police Department. He then worked as a deputy for the Meeker County Sheriff's Office for one year and as a patrolman for 16 years for the City of Litchfield. He has spent the last 18 years as sheriff of Meeker County.

Sandra Johnson, Computer Programming 1970, worked as a computer programmer for Northwestern Bell/US West/Qwest for 30 years in Omaha, Nebraska, and retired in 2000. She and her husband, Howard, now spend their winters in southern Texas.

Tammy Johnson (Kleinschmidt), Clerical Secretary 1978, runs her own business, Tammy's Toddler Time Daycare. She and her husband, Conrad, have three children.

Kevin Kallinen, Law Enforcement 1978, is a police sergeant with the Grand Forks (North Dakota) Police Department. He has been with the department since March 1980.

Susan Kaneski, Accounting 1972, has worked for Banta Publications in Long Prairie, Minnesota, since August 1975. In that time, she's held positions in the billing and estimating Departments. She is now the company's pricing administration coordinator. She and her husband, Dennis, have four children and five grandchildren.

After graduation, **Tom Klyve**, Carpentry 1976, became a paramedic. He later earned a business degree from Moorhead State University, and eventually owned three ambulance services. He now works as a loan officer for Midwest Minnesota Community Development, and is a licensed auctioneer. He and his wife of 23 years also have remodeled many houses—he reports that they are living in their 10th home.

Roxane Koster, CLA 1974, has worked at Worthington (Minnesota) Regional Hospital as a med lab tech for more than 25 years. She and her husband, Steve, have been married for 29 years, and have two children and a grandson.

Jan Laudenbach, PN 1975, works at Park Nicollet Clinic and teaches a class at Hennepin Technical College in Minneapolis.

Rona Matheson, Nursing 1976, has worked for WIC programs in two Montana counties for 17 years. She was named the state's WIC employee of the year in 2004.

Candice Ohnstad, Clerical 1972, lives in Wyoming. She and her husband, Johan Ohnstad, have one daughter.

After graduation, **Karen O'Leary**, PN 1975, continued her nursing education at North Dakota State University, and graduated in 1983. She's now an RN,

and is employed at Innovis Health in Fargo, North Dakota. She and her husband, Gayle, have two daughters.

Helen Oslund, Fashion Merchandising 1978, works at Clark Consulting in Minneapolis. She and her husband, **Mike Oslund**, 1979 Accounting, have two children: Gretchen and Derek. Mike works for Hennepin County in its benefits administration department.

Marcy Peterson, General Secretary 1972, is an account manager at Eden Incentives and Promotions in Eden Prairie, Minnesota. She previously worked at ADC Telecommunications for 20 years as its international trade show manager.

Randall Rinkenberger, Diesel Mechanics 1974, has been teaching diesel truck technology at Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo, Iowa, for more than 20 years.

Patricia Seidl, Commercial Art 1973, retired last year after working for four years in production art at West Publishing, for 12 years at 3M, and for 12 years at Taymark.

After graduating, **Teresa Vanselow**, Medical Secretary 1972, moved to Rochester, Minnesota, where she worked for the Mayo Clinic until 1976. She is now a school secretary for Rochester Catholic Schools.

1980s

Rory Bochniak, Law Enforcement, 1982, is a SGT/FTO coordinator with the Burnsville (Minnesota) Police Department. He's married with three children.

After graduation, **Carrie Haugen**, Clerical/Word Processing 1986, worked at Cargill Inc. before returning to school at the University of Minnesota. She graduated from the U in 1991 with

a B.A. in English, and completed a Master's in education in 2003. She and her husband and six-year-old daughter live in Perham, Minnesota, where Carrie has taught high school English for 12 years and served as department chair for five.

Dennis Holtz, Refrigeration/AC Program 1980, started his own business, Three Rivers Refrigeration Inc., in 1981. The firm does commercial and residential heating, A/C, sheet metal, and refrigeration work.

Laurie Lahman (Caauwe), Clerical/Office Assistant 1980, is a secretary in the guidance office at Jefferson High School in Alexandria.

Brian Luchtenburg, Diesel 1981, and his wife have two daughters. The family lives on a farm east of Edgerton, where Brian crop farms. He's also a bus mechanic for Edgerton School District 581.

Jennifer Neuberger, Marketing and Sales Management 1982, Clerical 1984, has worked as a graphic designer with American Express in Minneapolis since 1993. She is active in a variety of charities, including Meals on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity, and Metro Paint-A-Thon, and in her church.

Gretchen S. O'Fallon, Interior Design 1980, has her own interior design firm. She's also married and has three children.

Kevin O'Leary, Farm Equipment Mechanic 1980, works in the service department—primarily on tractors—at Larson's Inc. in Wheaton, Minnesota.

Dale T. Olson, Carpentry 1985, and his wife, Suzi, have three children. He started a homebuilding project in 1988, constructing houses in Tijuana and Ensenada, Mexico. He reports that the Homes of Hope program has built more than 1,700 houses for families in the years since.

Chuck Pinkney, Law Enforcement 1985, has worked for the Sarasota County Sheriff's office in Sarasota, Florida, since 1988. He's now an instructor for all high-liability areas, and has previously worked in the department's patrol, parks division, community policing, training division, and currently special operations/K-9 units.

Valerie Quist, Hotel Restaurant Management 1989, left the hospitality business after 15 years of managing a Comfort Inn and an AmericInn. She's now working as a bookkeeper in a luxury condo on the beach.

Dan Winkels, Law Enforcement 1984, is a detective with the Stearns County (Minnesota) Sheriff's Department.

1990s

Todd Banaszynski, Aquaculture 1995, graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Veterinary School and is employed as a mixed animal veterinarian DVM at Harretown Veterinary Clinic in Oronto Falls, Wisconsin.

Jason Bauer, Machine/Tool Die 1998, recently got married and is working full time at Desman Engineering in Alexandria.

Angie Blair, Administrative Secretary 1998, is married and has a child, Clay Mitchell. She also recently opened a children's store, Kid Zone Clothing, in Alexandria.

Nicole Blazeovich, Interior Design 1995, is a designer at Starmark/Norcraft Cabinetry in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Her husband is a carpenter and custom furniture maker for a builder in Sioux Falls.

Tammy Ellering, Child Care & Education 1997, recently opened her own Montessori school in Melrose, Minnesota.

Jennifer Graphenteen, Office Information Processing Specialist 1991, and her husband are the busy parents of one-year-old, boy and girl twins, and a two-year-old son.

Debbie Gulbranson, Legal Secretary 1993, works with the Crow Wing (Minnesota) County Attorney as a legal assistant responsible for drug and forfeiture cases and computer support.

Robert Haberer, Dietary Manager 1991, is the food service director at Loveland Good Samaritan Village, a 450-bed multi-level care facility/retirement village. He oversees a 30-person staff that produces 600 meals each day.

Joleen Hartmann, Law Enforcement 1998, is a deputy sheriff in the Wright County (Minnesota) Sheriff's Office.

Tim Hockett, Fluid Power 1995, Manufacturing Engineering Technician 1997, works for B.T.D. Manufacturing in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, as a machine maintenance lead. He and his wife, Tanya, live in rural Frazee, Minnesota, and have a son, Trevor.

LeAnn Jeffcoat, Interior Design 1996, works at the Hearth Room as a kitchen designer in Brainerd, Minnesota.

Nichole Kavaloski, Interior Design 1994, is currently at home raising her three children. She reports that she still has an interest in design and plans to work in the field again once all her children are in school. She also volunteers as the president of the White Bear Lake (Minnesota) Chapter of MOMS Club and in the local school district.

Steve Malecka, Law Enforcement 1990, is the coordinator of the Safe and Sober Program for the Elko/New Market (Minnesota) Police Department.

Chad Mills, Law Enforcement 1998, is a state trooper with the Minnesota State Highway Patrol. He's stationed out of Mankato, where he handles a drug canine.

Dave Murphy, Law Enforcement 1991, graduated from the Wisconsin State Patrol Academy in 1992, and recently accepted a motor carrier assignment at a weigh station in Grant County, Wisconsin.

Chad Nelson, Law Enforcement 1996, is a police officer for the City of Willmar, Minnesota.

Benjamin Odden, Interior Design 1999, is a sales associate with Gabberts Furniture and Design Studio.

Paul J. Peters, Law Enforcement 1998, is the McIntosh County (North Dakota) sheriff.

Becky Stock, Communication Art and Design 1998, works at Range Printing in Brainerd, Minnesota, as a graphic artist. She lives in Brainerd with her son, Jaden.

Kris Sufka, Interior Design 1998, is a kitchen and bath designer with the Tacoma Design Market.

Kathleen Terwey, Law Enforcement 1995, is a certified surgical technologist at the St. Cloud Surgical Center. She and her husband, Scott, have two children: Nick, 11, and Travis, 8.

Darrin Vigesaa, Law Enforcement 1995, is in the patrol division with the Chandler (Arizona) Police Department.

Heather Visser, MLT 1991, has worked at Central Lakes Medical Clinic for the past 12 years.


 A graphic with the word "2000s" in a stylized, light blue font on a darker blue rectangular background.

Kyle Alcott, Communication Art and Design 2000, is a graphic artist at the Fargo Forum in Fargo, North Dakota.

Andrew Barnaal, Law Enforcement 2002, works for a hazardous waste recycling company as a supervisor of its warehouse and drivers.

Sarah Bauer, Child Care and Education 2002, is working full time at Tonya's Toyland, a family-based child care in Alexandria.

After working in the Twin Cities as a preschool teacher for a year, **Sara Berg** Child Care 2003, is working as an assistant preschool teacher at Community Nursery School in Alexandria. She also works for Prairie Community Services as a consumer counselor.

Tony Charles DeMars, Diesel 2000, is a diesel mechanic at Bauerly Bros. Construction in St. Cloud.

After working for the Arizona Department of Corrections for four years, **Sara Ellingson**, Law Enforcement 2000, recently accepted a position with Minnesota Department of Corrections.

Chris Evens, Fluid Power 2001, works in the technical support department at Park Industries in Waite Park, Minnesota. As part of his job, he does some field service work and assists customers in troubleshooting electrical/CNC and hydraulic problems.

Ryan Gehrke, Law Enforcement 2002, has been working for LeSueur County Sheriff's Department as a jailer/dispatcher since June 2004. He also has worked for the Nicollet County Sheriff's Department as a jailer/dispatcher, and for the LeCenter Police Department as an officer.

Matt Haubrich, Communication Art & Design 2001, works at Creative Memories in St. Cloud, Minnesota, as an illustrator.

Kathy Hoffman, Legal Administrative Assistant 2004, began working on her Paralegal B.S. degree at Moorhead State University in August 2004.

Amy Hoheisel, Finance and Credit 2001, works at State Farm Insurance's Alexandria field office.

Jaime Kirtz, Hotel Restaurant Management 2002, is the front desk supervisor at the Holiday Inn in New Ulm, Minnesota.

JoDee Klosowski, Administrative Assistant 2002, works as a legal assistant in Alexandria.

Ryan Krogh, Communication Art and Design 2002, is working for Marketing Creatives Inc., in Richfield, Minnesota.

Kristie Ludovissie, Communication Art & Design 2001, is a designer for Unique Screen Media in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

David Menke, Diesel Technician 2003, works on cranes, booms, forklifts, and skidsteers at Ziegler in Shakopee, Minnesota.

Marie Meyer, Administrative Assistant 2004, is working at Maurice's in Alexandria. She is currently enrolled in ATC's Sales and Marketing & Sales program.

Travis John Rueckert, Law Enforcement 2002, is a deputy for the Carver County (Minnesota) Sheriff's Department.

Justin Sabo, Law Enforcement 2003, is a deputy sheriff with the Anoka County (Minnesota) Sheriff's Office. He currently is serving in the U.S. Army in Iraq, and is expected to return in December 2005.

Guy Schermerhorn, Law Enforcement Transition 2002, works for the Bagley Police Department and substituting in the local school district.

Kim Jo Speidel, COAR/Advanced Multimedia 2002, owns and operates Minnow's Design, a graphic and Web design firm in Sauk Centre, Minnesota.

Nathan Verch, Marine and Small Engine 2001, works as a mason for OakRidge Construction in New London, Minnesota.



"Captain" Kathy Pfeffer Nohre at the annual luncheon...the theme was Get on Board!

Dear Friends and Alumni,

What an exciting year 2005 was for the Alexandria Technical College Foundation!

We saw increases in the numbers of people donating to the college and increases in the levels of giving. This was very significant for the college and the timing is good.

State budget cutbacks continue to challenge the Foundation to find new and innovative ways to increase support for the college and students.

We are so grateful for the donations we receive from individuals, business and industry, alumni, and other foundations. Our students receive annual scholarship support of \$100,000 each year. They learn their crafts on donated, in-kind gift, state-of-the-art equipment. Because of the excellent education that ATC students receive, they are sought after employees when they graduate.

The Foundation also supports the college directly by giving an additional \$100,000 for programming. While these figures are substantial we know that they need to grow as the pressures from cutbacks keep increasing.

But there are people who are getting on board with the college; people are volunteering their time to serve on committees and on the Board of Directors. These creative, energetic, and intelligent folks lend their substantial gifts to help steer the ATC ship. I would like to thank them along with our loyal alumni and friends who provide increased financial and volunteer support.

Together we work to enrich the lives of our students and help secure their futures. I invite all of our readers to Get On Board!

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathy Pfeffer Nohre".

Kathy Pfeffer Nohre
Executive Director
ATC Foundation

**Alexandria Technical College
Foundation Board of Directors—2005**

Mark Uhler, President
 Margaret Schroeder, Vice President
 Keith Anderson
 Jeanne Batesole
 Roger Blank
 Don Bluhm
 Lisa Bowen
 Fred Bursch
 Mari Johnson
 Margaret Kalina
 Mark Lundberg
 Orin Lundberg
 Steve McClintick
 Chad Orthaus
 Ed Rooney
 Al Sholts
 Ken Slipka

Ex-Officio Member:
 Chuck Pugh

ATC Foundation Staff:

Kathy Pfeffer Nohre
 Executive Director/Development
 Coordinator
 (320) 762-4591

Ann C. Hermes
 Fund Development Director
 (320) 762-4670

Linda Dolan
 Scholarship/Alumni Coordinator
 (320) 762-4439

Lynn Williamson
 Administrative Assistant
 (320) 762-4667

Mission Statement:

To promote and support the mission of the Alexandria Technical College by:

- Ensuring awareness of the strengths and needs of the institution within the communities it serves;
- Cultivating significant individual, corporate, and private foundation friends for the institution; and
- Securing funds for the future growth and development of the College



2005 Annual Luncheon

Get On Board was the refrain at the fourth annual luncheon of the ATC Foundation on April 29, 2005. A record number of people attended the luncheon which sported this nautical theme.

Gathering together were donors, special guests, college partners, friends of ATC, and student representatives. They heard a college update from President Kevin Kopischke, alumnus Adam Denny and alumna Gloria Stevenson spoke of their experiences with ATC, and Foundation Executive Director Kathy Pfeffer Nohre talked about what the Foundation does with donations.

This year's video continued the nautical theme of *Get On Board*. It featured people who are already

“on board” with the college through planned giving and special scholarships, those people who are “on board” as nontraditional students seeking a new endeavor, and some clients who work with the ATC Customized Training program.

As always, the Jefferson High School choir, under the direction of Steve Dietz, wowed the crowd with their fun and original interpretation of the song “Come Sail Away.”

This fun and festive event is the perfect opportunity for the ATC Foundation to give a special thank you to those who so generously contribute to the college. Because of the support of donors, the Foundation awards \$200,000 annually for scholarships and college programming.

ATC Foundation Dynamic Duo

By Ann C. Hermes

Duos can be found everywhere in history, literature, even cartoons. And the ATC Foundation Board of Directors has its own dynamic duo. Introducing father and son Orin Lundberg and Mark Lundberg.

Both have strong ties to ATC.

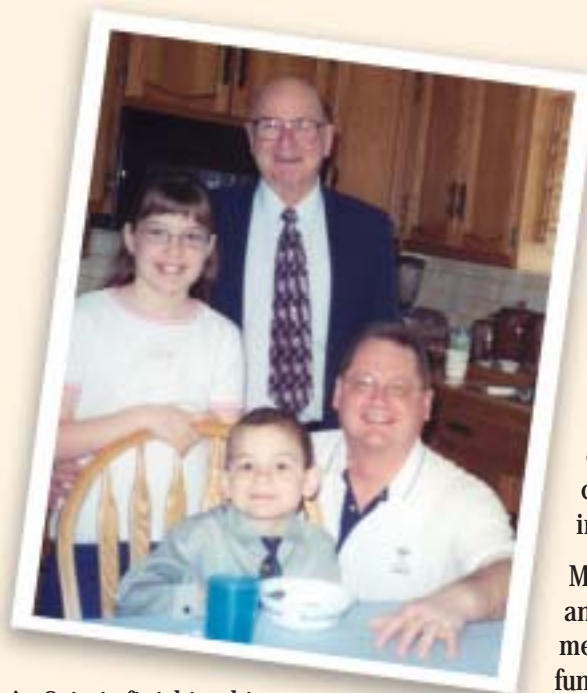
Orin came to ATC on June 11, 1968 with a background in counseling. He was strongly recruited by former ATC president Vern Maack who knew Orin from attending high school/college fairs.

Besides being a student counselor, Orin was also a vocational career counselor where he would be on the road helping to recruit students. His open door policy was highly successful as the students in the college or the high school candidates he recruited always knew he was there to help them.

He feels so good about his affiliation with the college, especially when he walks into area businesses and sees the graduates of ATC doing important and productive work. He has a deep satisfaction in his contributing to the success of these people.

Though his official retirement date was in 1992, Orin has never stopped helping out the college. He volunteers his time recruiting students and helping on Career Day. This is on top of his duties for the Board of Directors.

Both sons of Orin and Lois Lundberg, Mark and Scott, attended ATC. Orin smiles when he talks of their successes. He feels very proud that Mark also serves on the Foundation Board.



Orin and son Mark with Samantha and Chase... perhaps another generation with ATC ties?

As Orin is finishing his sixth year on the board, Mark is in his second year.

Going to ATC was the only option for Mark. With his dad working at the college, Mark knew that a 4-year school was out. Orin would remark that there existed a perfectly fine school right in Alexandria.

Mark took a Sales Associate class from Dennis Lyngen which got him hooked. One class project was to start a new business. Mark did his on starting a Hotel/Motel/Restaurant business. Shortly thereafter Larry Shellito and Kevin Kopschke initiated a new program, Hotel/Motel/Restaurant Management which Mark then took.

His first position after graduating in 1979 was as a Banquet Setup Supervisor for the Sheraton Inn in Bloomington. When he tired of working evenings and weekends, Mark opted for a job in construction. He soon realized that he was tired of working with just his body; he wanted to get paid for what he knew.

Counseled by his dad, Mark came back to ATC to attend the Fluid Power

program. The combination of his sales and fluid power backgrounds launched him into a successful sales career selling automation components to manufacturing industries until 2003.

Mark had an epiphany after an emotionally difficult summer wherein he attended the funerals of four close friends. He saw his own mortality and decided there were some different things he wanted to accomplish. During this time he says he also found Christ who is his guide.

Mark started his own company, Mentor Marketing, in 2004. He has since partnered with three other people to form a new company, DYB Marketing (DYB standing for Double Your Business).

This highly successful business sells vertical marketing systems via the internet. Systems have been set up for insurance, chiropractors, auto body shops, home-based travel businesses, and home-based nutrition businesses. And this is only a start. Mark is excited about the business growth.

He says it's been very satisfying hard work. He says that God has supplied the information and education, the wisdom of how to use them, and the opportunities to actually apply them.



Creativity Through In-Kind Gift Giving

From a boat to software to state-of-the-art equipment, the Alexandria Technical College has been the recipient of nearly \$1,000,000 worth of in-kind gifts from college partners in Fiscal Year 2005 alone. In-kind contributors are creative in their gifts to the college, figuring out how their assets can best be used to benefit the college programs and students.

The following is a list of our in-kind contributors with cumulative giving from Fiscal Year 2002 through Fiscal Year 2005.

DONOR	GIFT	VALUE	DONOR	GIFT	VALUE
Douglas Machine Corporation	Equipment, Supplies	\$510,000.00	Parker Hannifin Corporation	Equipment, Supplies	\$36,000.00
Briggs & Stratton Corporation	Equipment, Supplies	\$291,696.00	Remmele Engineering, Inc.	Equipment, Supplies	\$36,000.00
Ziegler, Inc.	Equipment, Supplies, Furnishings	\$251,105.00	The Hartfiel Company	Supplies	\$33,818.99
Indusoft	Supplies	\$206,985.00	Larson Gastron Boat Company	Equipment, Supplies	\$33,000.00
Alexandria Extrusion Company	Equipment, Supplies	\$171,789.35	Knotts Company	Equipment	\$29,790.00
ITW Heartland - Manufactured Products	Equipment, Supplies	\$137,153.63	SMC Corporation of America	Supplies	\$27,000.00
IBM Scholars	Supplies	\$123,000.00	The Toro Company	Equipment, Supplies	\$25,090.00
Northern Tool & Equipment Company	Equipment	\$105,000.00	Ollie's Service	Equipment	\$25,000.00
Caterpillar Inc.	Equipment, Supplies	\$83,045.00	Tim and Carolyn Aarsvold	Furnishings	\$23,000.00
Siemens Corporate Research, Inc.	Supplies	\$81,250.00	Rice Memorial Hospital	Equipment	\$15,000.00
Turck, Inc.	Equipment, Supplies	\$77,000.00	ELAU, Inc.	Supplies	\$14,407.43
Polaris Industries Inc.	Equipment, Supplies	\$71,510.00	Interior Design Silent Auction	Silent Auction Items	\$13,970.89
Brenton Engineering Company	Equipment, Supplies	\$60,129.67	Hilltop Lumber, Inc.	Equipment, Supplies	\$13,271.93
YASKAWA Electric America Inc.	Equipment	\$60,000.00	Alexandria Concrete Company	Supplies	\$12,953.50
Arctic Cat, Inc.	Equipment, Supplies	\$55,000.00	Cooper's Technology Group	Supplies, Furnishings	\$12,687.00
Harley Davidson	Equipment	\$52,000.00	Diemold Tool Inc	.Supplies	\$12,165.00
Polaris Victory	Equipment, Supplies	\$46,000.00	Snap-On Industrial	Equipment, Supplies	\$11,905.00
Sauer-Danfoss	Equipment	\$40,000.00	3M-Alexandria	Equipment, Supplies	\$11,750.00
			Yamaha Motor Corporation	Equipment	\$11,640.00
			Graphic Packaging International, Inc.	Supplies	\$10,600.00



DONOR	GIFT	VALUE
Corporate Interiors	Equipment	\$10,000.00
Fluid Power Distributors	Supplies	\$10,000.00
TT Technologies, Inc.	Equipment	\$10,000.00
Wallwork Truck Center	Equipment	\$10,000.00
Automation Intelligence	Equipment	\$9,728.00
Bankers Systems, Inc. of St. Cloud	Supplies	\$9,500.00
Sawhill Custom Kitchens & Design	Furnishings	\$9,500.00
Toro	Equipment	\$9,276.00
Industrial Automation Supply	Equipment	\$9,221.75
VANDORN DEMAG	Equipment	\$9,200.00
Prairie SurgiCenter	Supplies	\$9,075.00
Powers Machining, Inc.	Supplies	\$8,600.00
Ziegler Power Systems	Equipment	\$8,490.00
Allen Bradley	Equipment	\$8,243.00
Immucor, Inc.	Supplies	\$8,052.00
Cutler Hammer, Inc	Supplies	\$8,000.00
Dave Siems	Furnishings	\$7,500.00
Mercury Marine	Supplies	\$6,740.56
Great Northern Equipment	Equipment	\$6,096.00
Lila Wiering	Equipment	\$5,445.00
Festo Corporation	Supplies	\$5,400.00
OMNITOOL, Inc.	Supplies	\$5,200.00
Butler Machinery Company	Equipment, Supplies	\$5,000.00
Mark Kranz	Equipment, Supplies	\$5,000.00
Ferguson Brothers Excavating	Supplies	\$4,800
Cowing Robards, Inc.	Equipment, Supplies, Furnishings	\$4,619.95
Troy A. Beam	Equipment	\$4,510.00
Glen's Truck Center, Inc.	Equipment	\$4,200.00
Siematic Corporation	Furnishings	\$4,058.00
Magnum Tool & Machine, Inc.	Supplies	\$4,000.00

DONOR	GIFT	VALUE
Douglas County Hospital Auxiliary	Supplies	\$3,945.96
Dave and Loni Kjos	Equipment	\$3,800.00
The Braas Company	Equipment	\$3,750.00
Kurt Manufacturing Company	Supplies	\$3,597.00
Kohler Company	Equipment	\$3,500.00
Crick Tools	Supplies	\$3,273.00
Dimas North America	Equipment	\$3,200.00
Target Corporate Office	Equipment	\$3,200.00
Cummins NPower, LLC	Equipment, Supplies	\$3,175.00
IRD Switches	Supplies	\$3,161.89
Minnegasco	Supplies	\$3,000.00
Thiele Frontier Products	Equipment	\$3,000.00
Donnelly Custom Manufacturing Company	Equipment, Supplies	\$2,970.00
Dwight Radjil	Equipment	\$2,775.00
Fisher & Paykel Appliances, Inc.	Furnishings	\$2,597.00
Rural Cellular Corporation	Equipment	\$2,500.00
Stark Carpets	Silent Auction Item	\$2,500.00
Stevens Community Medical Center	Supplies	\$2,500.00
Viking Plaza Management Office	Supplies	\$2,500.00
Police Marksman Magazine	Supplies	\$2,463.50
Miller Marine & Sport Center	Supplies	\$2,425.00
Johnson/Nelson Masonry	Supplies	\$2,300.00
Advertising Marketing	Equipment, Supplies	\$2,200.00
Arrowwood-A Radisson Resort	Supplies	\$2,200.00
Central Specialties, Inc.	Supplies	\$2,200.00
Shaw Carpet	Furnishings, Silent Auction Item	\$2,084.00
Judd Duinick	Equipment	\$2,000.00
Link Recreation	Supplies	\$2,000.00
Unger Furniture	Equipment	\$2,000.00

DONOR	GIFT	VALUE	DONOR	GIFT	VALUE
Winona Pattern	Supplies	\$2,000.00	EDM Sales & Supplies, Inc.	Supplies	\$500.00
Hagen's Repair, Inc.	Equipment	\$1,800.00	General Casualty Company	Equipment	\$500.00
J.C. Penney Company, Inc.	Equipment	\$1,800.00	Imation Corporation	Supplies	\$500.00
Ann Good	Supplies	\$1,500.00	Jim and Barb Lehman	Supplies	\$500.00
Bosch Rexroth	Supplies	\$1,500.00	Rita Fuller	Equipment	\$500.00
Floor Gallery	Silent Auction Item	\$1,500.00	Alexandria Radio Control Flyers	Supplies	\$480.00
Kaye's Painting	Supplies	\$1,500.00	Tentelino Enterprises	Supplies	\$409.50
Tami Kotila	Equipment	\$1,500.00	Camozzi Pneumatics, Inc.	Supplies	\$400.00
WASP, Inc.	Supplies	\$1,325.00	Sandra Walker	Supplies	\$400.00
Standard Iron & Wire Works	Supplies	\$1,310.00	Stone Iron Forge Company	Supplies	\$400.00
Holcim Inc	Supplies	\$1,300.00	Helen D. Harris	Supplies	\$396.49
Scott Donlea	Supplies	\$1,300.00	Andes Tower Hills	Supplies	\$372.00
Voyager Supply & Fabrication	Supplies	\$1,300.00	Alex Carpet One	Supplies	\$350.00
Pierce Company	Supplies	\$1,200.00	Citi Lights	Supplies	\$350.00
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The Shari Parkhurst Scholarship

By Ann C. Hermes

The challenge for this writer was to sum up in a few paragraphs the impact that one person had on those who met, knew, and loved Shari (Sharon) Ann Green Parkhurst. In discussing Shari's life with her loving husband Ed, there unfolded a lifetime of energetic pursuits and great determination.

Shari graduated as the Russell, MN high school valedictorian in 1967. She also served as the Junior Class and Senior Class President, was a member of the National Honor Society, was a homecoming princess her senior year, and was a Lyon County Dairy Princess. And she knew what she wanted to do after high school.

That path took Shari to Alexandria Technical College (then called Alexandria Vocational Technical Institute) where she attended the Medical Laboratory Technician program. She graduated from AVTI with a 4.0 grade point average.

Her education, persistence, and bountiful energy combined to help her climb the ladder of success within her field, working as a Lab Technician, X-ray Technician, Chief Bio-chemistry Technologist, Special Chemistry Technologist, and Chief Nuclear Medicine Technologist. These positions were held in hospitals spanning Brookings, SD, Cleveland, OH, Milwaukee, WI, and West Bend, WI. Shari also was on a research team which developed a test to see if a person is the carrier of Tay-Sachs disease, an incurable and fatal genetic disorder in children.

She truly enjoyed her work and the patient contact that her work afforded. Helping the ill was a priority, but meeting patients was a pleasure. Returning patients often would ask for Shari, knowing her friendly countenance and efficiency would make a hospital visit more pleasant.

Shari enjoyed working with intelligent and well-educated medical personnel. In another era, Ed believes Shari would have become a physician.

Shari passed away in 1992, twenty-two years after she married Ed. Since then, Ed's generosity to ATC has helped many students who have received the Shari Parkhurst Scholarship and, at the same time, has helped to keep Shari's name alive in the college where she excelled.

As Ed remarked, "Shari's scholarship is a tangible extension of who Shari was, someone who enjoyed helping others."

2002–2005 Honor Roll

Alexandria Technical College Foundation Contributors

Corrections:

The recognition extended to those listed in this honor roll is one small way to thank our contributors. Every effort has been made to ensure that the list is accurate. If your name has been omitted, misspelled or misplaced, we apologize. Contact Lynn Williamson at 320-762-4667 or email her at lynnw@alextech.edu so records can be corrected and gifts properly acknowledged.

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Choose the Best Kind of Gift for You

There are many ways of contributing to the Alexandria Technical College Foundation which may benefit you. Please contact your attorney, financial planner, and accountant to see which category best suits your long-term planning goals.

Cash Gifts by Check:

Unrestricted revenue permits the college to develop new programs, strengthen existing ones and pursue opportunities that wouldn't otherwise be available.

Matching Gifts:

Many companies match their employees' gifts to charitable organizations. Your company may double, or even triple, your gift to the Foundation. Contact your human resources coordinator to see if your employer participates in a Matching Gift Program.

Bequests:

Through the bequest provision, you designate a specific amount of money or a percentage of your estate to be willed to the Foundation. Adding a codicil to an existing will is a simple process that begins with contacting your attorney. Donors can also make the Foundation the beneficiary to existing annuities, retirement accounts and life insurance.

Memorial and Tribute Gifts:

Establishing a gift in this category is a twofold gesture. You honor a loved one or yourself, and you show your interest in our good works through your charitable gift. Such contributions are often used to reflect the interests or talents of the person being memorialized. Any gift to the Foundation may be designated in memory of or in honor of a loved one.

Other Gift Options:

- **Life Insurance** – a gift of life insurance is another way to make a substantial contribution to the Foundation. You may have a paid-up policy that you purchased years ago that you no longer need. A donation of this policy results in an income tax deduction approximately equal to the cash surrender value of the policy. You may wish to purchase a new policy owned by the Foundation and receive tax deductions for the premiums.
- **Real Estate** – an outright gift can possibly produce tax savings and relieve you of the hassle of selling and the capital gains tax burden.
- **Marketable Securities** – whether it is closely held stock or other securities, a gift in this category could allow you to be generous at a low net personal cost and again manage capital gains tax on appreciated securities.
- **Bargain Sale** – arrange a sale of property to us at a price below its fair market value could secure a deduction for the gift portion and possibly reduce potential capital gains tax.
- **Tangible Personal Property** – a gift whose use is related to our exempt purpose is deductible at fair market value (in-kind gifts); if the use is not related to our exempt purpose, the donor can deduct its cost basis.
- **Planned or Deferred Gifts** – through a planned gift, donors often can make larger gifts than they thought possible. For some donors this is the only way to make a substantial gift to the college. Such planned giving can provide an income stream for life, or for a term of years to you or your loved ones.
- **IRA** – donors can give all or a portion of an IRA in cases where there's a possible estate tax due. This also reduces income tax for your beneficiaries and is a wonderful way to benefit the Foundation.

For more information on any of these ideas or if you have other ideas on ways to contribute to the Foundation, please contact Kathy Pfeffer Nohre at 320-762-4591 or email her at kathyn@alextech.edu.

2005–2006 Academic Calendar

Dates to Remember

August 29	Fall Semester begins
September 5	Labor Day (all personnel/students off)
October 20–21	Fall Break (faculty/students off)
October 30	Open House
November 10	Technology Career Day
November 24–25	Thanksgiving Break (all personnel/students off)
December 24–January 8	Holiday Break (faculty/students off)
January 10	Spring Semester begins
January 16	Martin Luther King Day (all personnel/students off)
February 20	President's Day (all personnel/students off)
March 13–17	Spring Semester break (faculty/students off)
March 14	Focus on Business
April 14–17	Break (students off)
April 24	College for a Day
May 17	Commencement
May 22	Summer Semester begins
May 29	Memorial Day (all personnel/students off)
July 4	Independence Day (all personnel/students off)



Students are able to learn about diverse populations through the “Theme of the Month.” Exposure may include a combination of the following: informational displays, speakers, plays, food, music, clothing, and biographies of famous persons.

September – *Hispanic Heritage*

October – *Disability Awareness*

November – *Native American Heritage*

December – *Major Cultural Celebrations*

January – *Fitness and Health*

February – *Black History*

March – *Women's History*

April – *Asian Pacific Peoples*

The Foundation announces the following new scholarships for the 2005–2006 academic year:

Johnson Scholarship

Set up by Roger Johnson, a resident of Alexandria, this scholarship will be awarded to a student in the Concrete Mason Program.

Kelsey Kjos Scholarship

This scholarship was established in memory of Kelsey Kjos by her family as a way of using their tremendous loss to try and educate and save others. The scholarship will be awarded to a student with financial need who is a graduate from Jefferson High School, Alexandria.

Pass It On Scholarship

This is a housing scholarship which was established by Janet Jacobson and Dennis Murphy of Alexandria. This scholarship is for second-year students who have a 3.0 GPA and demonstrate financial need.

Inez Larson Pulver Scholarship

Ms. Pulver requested that an endowed fund be set up in memory of her parents. The money is designated to allow a student from Dalarna, Sweden to study at ATC.

For the amounts of these scholarships and any additional qualifying criteria, please contact Linda Dolan at the ATC Development Office at 320-762-4439 or email her at lindad@alextech.edu.



Set Up Your Own Annually-Funded Scholarship

You can establish an annually-funded scholarship at Alexandria Technical College with just a minimum annual contribution of \$100. Scholarships may be named and the award criteria established by the donor. This is an excellent way to help students enjoy the academic and social opportunities at ATC. If you are interested in establishing an annually funded scholarship, contact Kathy Pfeffer Nohre at 320-762-4439 or email her at lindad@alextech.edu.

\$5,000 Can Establish an Endowed Scholarship

You can establish a named, endowed scholarship at Alexandria Technical College by making a gift of \$5,000 or more. A scholarship can be in your name or in honor of someone else. You may designate your endowment to academic scholarships, a specific college program, or to students in need of financial assistance. In some cases, donors prefer including a scholarship gift in their will. For more information, contact Kathy Pfeffer Nohre at 320-762-4591 or email her at kathyn@alextech.edu.

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"Help your brother's boat across, and your own will reach the shore." Hindu Proverb

"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give." Winston Churchill

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when you give
to the foundation
you **help**
launch
new
beginnings.

"...it's not just about being able to write a check. It's being able to touch somebody's life." Oprah Winfrey