

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



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TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News

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Businesses, higher ed partner for jobs

By Tom Flanigan

TALLAHASSEE, FL (WFSU) - The Capital Region likely to see tougher times because of proposed state government cutbacks. Tom Flanigan reports that's sparked a new joint effort by local business leaders and Tallahassee's institutions of higher learning.

Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce President Sue Dick said Thursday's event was a combination of house warming and announcement.

"I guess this is the first official event at our new headquarters, so welcome to everyone and what a great opportunity to really launch with our partners - because that's what it's all about - new services to affect our economy and our workforce."

One partner is [Tallahassee Community College](#). Its President Jim Murdaugh says the school is providing employee training through its professional development program to local businesses, associations and non-profits.

"For us this represents an opportunity to partner with the Chamber of Commerce here, to help make sure that this community remains economically strong as we go through some of the tough times that we're involved in."

Also part of the team is Florida A&M University's Small Business Development Center under the direction of FAMU School of Business and Industry Dean Shawnta Friday-Stroud.

"The Chamber and the Small Business Development Center began discussing the need that we both identify within our business community and that is that we recognize these new businesses need additional resources to not only start, but to grow."

Under the program, the Center will set up a satellite operation at the Chamber's new Calhoun Street building. That will make things more convenient for the businesses seeking its services. The new initiative will expand upon the business help already available through the Tallahassee/Leon County Economic Development Council directed by Beth Kirkland.

"We have enjoyed since 2005 when we kicked off this initiative long-standing partnerships with [Tallahassee Community College](#), Florida A&M University, Florida State University through various programs like the Jim Moran Institute and the Small Business Development Center and obviously the Workforce Center at TCC."

Tallahassee Democrat - April 22, 2011

Chamber, partners add business services

BY DAVE HODGES

DEMOCRAT BUSINESS EDITOR

Two more business partners joined forces Thursday with the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce to provide support and tools for local companies, including startup firms.

[Tallahassee Community College](#) and the Small Business Development Center at Florida A&M University announced their plans to work with the chamber and its members to offer more resources for local firms.

"The chamber will partner with [Tallahassee Community College](#) on a professional development series. It will help create an employee base in line with our needs," said chamber Chairman Todd Sperry.

TCC President Jim Murdaugh said the college will use its Center for Workforce Development to create the new training opportunities for both businesses and nonprofits in the community. TCC will provide a series of seminars called "Employee Training Solutions" that members can use for their workers. Online training is planned as well.

"For us this represents an opportunity to partner with the Chamber of Commerce here to help make sure that this community remains economically strong as we go through some of the tough times we're involved in," Murdaugh said.

For small business and startup enterprises. FAMU's Small Business Development Center will be teaching the basics of getting a company off the ground, said Shawnta Friday-Stroud, dean of FAMU's School of Business and Industry.

Entrepreneurs will have access to free counseling and workshops at the chamber's downtown office at 115 N. Calhoun St., which will be an SBDC satellite location.

"The counseling will cover topics in business planning, financial analysis, marketing, social media tips, accounting, cash flow projections and new business feasibility," she said. There will be additional offerings for established companies.

TCC Chosen to Compete For Community College Excellence Prize

Reporter: Florida Department of Education Release

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA - April 26, 2011 –

Florida College System Chancellor Dr. Will Holcombe today announced that 14 Florida colleges have been deemed eligible for The Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. The Sunshine State leads the nation in the number of colleges qualified to compete for part of \$1 million to reward excellence at two-year institutions that have outstanding academic and work-force outcomes.

“Colleges in our system are selected for national recognition and grants on a regular basis. We are thrilled that half of our colleges, the most of any state, have been chosen for this prestigious honor,” said Dr. Holcombe. “This competition will bring further recognition of the vital role our colleges play in Florida’s economy and people’s lives.”

The Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence seeks to recognize community colleges with outstanding academic and workforce outcomes in both absolute performance and improvements over time. The selected colleges must demonstrate that students in their schools gained knowledge and skills, completed degree or certificate programs, and obtained jobs with competitive wages.

The Florida colleges eligible to compete for The Aspen Prize are:

- Brevard Community College
- Broward College
- Central Florida Community College

- Chipola College
- Daytona State College
- Lake City Community College
- Lake-Sumter Community College
- Miami-Dade College
- Northwest Florida State College
- Santa Fe College
- St. Johns River Community College
- South Florida Community College
- Tallahassee Community College
- Valencia Community College

Eight to 10 finalists will be named in September 2011, with the final prize winner and up to three runners-up announced in December. The winner will receive approximately \$700,000, with the runners-up sharing the remaining money.

The Aspen Prize is financially supported by the Joyce Foundation, the Lumina Foundation for Education, the Bank of America Charitable Foundation, and the JPMorgan Chase Foundation.

More information on the Aspen Institute and a full list of the 120 community colleges eligible to apply is available at <http://www.aspeninstitute.org/policy-work/aspen-prize>.

Local Briefs

Wetherell to speak at TCC graduation

Former Florida State University and Tallahassee Community College President T.K. Wetherell will be the keynote speaker when TCC holds its 45th Commencement Ceremony at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at the Civic Center. It will mark the first graduation ceremony as president for TCC President Jim Murdaugh. Wetherell, TCC's fourth president, held the presidency at TCC from 1995 to 2001. TCC will graduate 3,221 students earning an A.A., A.S. or A.A.S. degree from the Summer 2010, Fall 2010 and Spring 2011. Close to 500 graduates will participate in Saturday's commencement ceremony.

The Village Square hosts Ambassador to Portugal Katz: The Village Square will host Allan Katz, ambassador to the Republic of Portugal and former Tallahassee city commissioner, on May 9 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Museum of Florida History. Katz will discuss his year in Lisbon. Former State Rep. Lorraine Ausley, City Commissioner Andrew Gillum, Tallahassee Democrat Editorial Page Editor Mary Ann Lindley and Mark Schlakman, senior program director at Florida State University's Center for the Advancement of Human Rights, will join the conversation. Admission is free, but donations are accepted. To reserve a seat, go online to www.tothevillagesquare.org. For more information, call 264-8785.

Dollars for Diabetes car wash Saturday: Area motorists can get their cars or trucks washed and help raise money for diabetes research at the Dollars for Diabetes Car Wash, which is Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The fundraiser takes place at the Farmers & Merchants Bank at the intersection of Thomasville Road and Metropolitan

Boulevard. All of the donations received will be forwarded to the American Diabetes Association for research to help cure all forms of diabetes. The volunteers will also have hot dogs, drinks and cupcakes for sale, courtesy of The Cake Shop, and live music is planned from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

FSU dean accepts chancellor post in Pa.: Florida State University College of Nursing Dean Lisa A. Plowfield has been named the new chancellor at Penn State York, effective Aug. 1. Plowfield, who came to FSU in July 2007, will conclude her tenure as dean of the 61-year-old nursing school on June 1. A national search for nursing's next dean will begin in the coming months, according to Interim Provost Bob Bradley. Associate Dean Dianne Speake has been named the college's interim dean, effective June 1.

Local man finalist in \$100K grant competition: Tallahassee resident Joshua Kuch is one of five finalists for a \$100,000 prize in an online voting competition called "Wear the Pants Project," sponsored by Dockers. Kuch said he wants to create a microbrewery in Tallahassee with his winnings. The voting, which takes place on Dockers' Facebook page, started Monday and ends Sunday. The winner of the \$100,000 grant will be announced Monday.

Crawfordville man sentenced to 72 months in child pornography case: Corey David White, 34, of Crawfordville was sentenced Tuesday to 72 months in federal prison followed by 10 years of supervised release for receipt of child pornography, said a United States Department of Justice news release. White was found in possession of nearly 17,500 images of child pornography on his computer in March 2010.

TCC SGA Honors Outgoing and Incoming Leadership

Reporter: Press Release

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (April 28, 2011) - Tallahassee Community College's Student Government held its inauguration ceremony on April 21. During the event, the College installed its 2011-12 SGA officers.

TCC's 2011-12 SGA officers are:

Executive Branch

- President - Franzlyne Jean-Louis
- Vice-President - Siera Ponder
- Treasurer - Danzelle Hope
- Secretary - Chelsea Mack.

Legislative Branch

- Senator of History and Social Sciences - Ryan Terrell
- Senator of Health Care Professions - Shaquita Brown
- Senator of Academic Support - Khiry Orange
- Student Organization Council Chair - Michael J. Edwards.

SGA also honored the 2010-11 leadership at the first annual Student Government Eagle Awards Banquet on Friday, April 23. The honorees were selected by their peers for demonstrating outstanding leadership and service to the student body throughout the past

academic year.

Newly-elected Student Organization Council Chair Michael J. Edwards organized and hosted this event. Among the attendees were TCC President Jim Murdaugh and Vice-President for Student Affairs Sharon Jefferson.

The honorees were as follows:

- Committee of the Year: Student Issues Committee chaired by Senator Brandon Davis
- Chairperson of the Year: Senator Michael J. Edwards
- SGA Senator of the Year: Senator Brandon Ardoin
- Executive Board Member of the Year: Franzlyne Jean-Louis
- Robert Rules of Order Award: Franzlyne Jean-Louis
- Effective Member Award: Senator Siera Ponder
- Leadership Award: Franzlyne Jean-Louis
- Integrity Award: Senator Michael J. Edwards
- President's Award: Franzlyne Jean-Louis
- SGA Honors: Advisor Doug Waddell, Advisor Lindsey Smitherman-Brown, and Co-Advisor Jose Dasilva.

TCC Students Work Together to Support Troops Overseas

Reporter: Press Release

Tallahassee, FL - [Tallahassee Community College](#) students are coming together in a big way to help the U.S. military address poverty in Iraq and Afghanistan. Students are collecting a variety of items for Victory Boxes—a non-profit organization that collects assembles care packages for U.S. soldiers to distribute overseas.

Victory Boxes collects school supplies, hygiene products, clothes, toys and snacks for U.S. soldiers to give to Iraqis and Afghanis. These gifts help soldiers earn the trust and support of the communities they are deployed in—“one child at a time.”

Victory Boxes was started by Mary Margaret Halleck. She began sending her stepson and his unit in Iraq goodie boxes. After receiving positive feedback from the soldiers

and hearing how their gifts to local Iraqi children had helped build trust in the community, Halleck enlisted the help of her friends and began to send more and more boxes to soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. In 2007, Victory Boxes became a non-profit organization 501(c) 3.

At TCC, the effort to collect items for Victory Boxes is being coordinated by Dr. Melissa Soldani-Lemon. On Monday, May 2, she will be meeting with students to pack all of the collected items in packages for Victory Boxes to send overseas and distribute. She anticipates more than 75 boxes will be completed by TCC students.

To learn more about the Victory Boxes visit <http://www.victoryboxes.com/>.

T.K. Wetherell to Speak at TCC Commencement

Reporter: TCC Release

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (April 29, 2011) –

Tallahassee Community College will hold its 45th Commencement Ceremony at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, April 30 at the Donald L. Tucker Center.

Saturday will mark the first commencement ceremony as president for TCC President Jim Murdaugh.

Former Florida State University and Tallahassee Community College president Dr. T.K. Wetherell will serve as guest speaker.

Dr. Wetherell, TCC's fourth president, held the presidency at TCC from 1995-2001. Dr. Wetherell, who later became president at Florida State University, is credited with overseeing TCC's growth and evolution into one of Florida's premier community colleges.

Ms. Jelina Ramirez will be the student speaker.

TCC will graduate 3,221 students earning an A.A., A.S. or A.A.S. degree(s) from the Summer 2010, Fall 2010 and Spring 2011. Close to 500 graduates will participate in Saturday's commencement ceremony.

In addition to Saturday's commencement, students from the College's Division of Health Care Professions are holding their traditional ceremonies this week.

Graduates of TCC's Nursing Program will hold a pinning ceremony at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, April 28 in Turner Auditorium. Those graduating from the College's Dental Hygiene Program will be recognized during a ceremony at 4 p.m., Friday, April 29 in the College's Student Union Ballroom.

Tallahassee Democrat - April 30, 2011

Our Opinion: Hooray for the grads

A lot is expected of the approximately 7,500 young people who are graduating from Florida State and Florida A&M universities this week.

Perhaps this is the generation that will find a way past the partisan battles that are crippling our political systems. Perhaps some will help make technological breakthroughs that will solve worldwide problems ranging from clean energy to clean water. Others will comfort their fellow citizens as health professionals, become teachers or help in one of many other ways.

But for today, we'll lay all those high expectations aside and just say, "Congratulations."

The celebrations started Friday night, with the first of three FSU ceremonies at the Civic Center. Fox News Channel reporter and anchor Shannon Bream was the keynote speaker. Today at the Civic Center, there will be a 9 a.m. FSU ceremony featuring Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and another at 2 p.m., with former Florida Supreme Court Justice Raoul Cantero delivering the commencement address. FSU was expecting about 4,100 of its 6,100 graduates to take part in the ceremonies.

Our Opinion: Hooray for the grads....

continued

At FAMU, there will be 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. ceremonies at the Lawson Center. Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed will be speaker for the early ceremony, and Lisa P. Jackson, the first African-American administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, will speak in the afternoon. Florida A&M has 1,408 candidates for graduation.

And at [Tallahassee Community College](#), 500 graduates will hear the former president of both TCC and FSU, T.K. Wetherell, give the keynote at tonight's 7:30 p.m. ceremony.

For many grads, the first job will be, well, finding a job. Things are looking up. CareerBuilder's annual college job forecast reports that 46 percent of employers plan to hire recent college graduates in 2011, up from 44 percent in 2010 and 43 percent in 2009. They also plan to offer higher salaries.

So go forth, grads, and get those jobs. Start to build happy and successful lives. But always strive for more. Remember, we expect nothing less than greatness.

Tallahassee Democrat - May1, 2011

FAMU, FSU, TCC award degrees to graduates

BY ELIZABETH M. MACK
DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

Lyndsi Caldwell knows her father would be proud of her accomplishment — the Detroit native received her bachelor's degree in political science Saturday morning from Florida A&M University.

"This is a really special moment for me," she said. "My father passed six months ago, and I know he would've loved to see this moment."

About 1,400 students participated in FAMU's two commencement ceremonies Saturday at the Al Lawson Center, said Pamela Tolson, FAMU director of media relations.

"This is a moment to relish and cherish, and your day is worthy of all the pomp and circumstance," said Marjorie Turnbull, a member of the FAMU Board of Trustees.

Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed was the commencement speaker at the morning FAMU ceremony, and Lisa Jackson, Environmental Protection Agency administrator, was the speaker during the afternoon ceremony.

"Don't miss the time in your life to do extraordinary things," Reed said. "This is your time now."

Between 4,100 and 6,100 Florida State University students participated in three ceremonies that started Friday and continued Saturday at the Civic Center.

"I'm very excited," said Mark Gleim, who received his doctorate in marketing from FSU. "And it's especially exciting because my wife is also graduating with her master's degree today."

Admiral Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, spoke during FSU's morning ceremony. Raoul Cantero, former Florida Supreme Court justice, delivered the keynote speech in the afternoon.

"Success means that you can look at yourselves in the mirror and be proud of the contributions that you've made," Cantero said.

Cantero shared his five-point plan for success — establishing goals, working hard, following the rules, doing unto others as you would have them do unto you and helping your community, not just yourself.

"If you follow these rules, you'll be able to look at yourself in the morning and call yourself a success," he added.

FAMU, FSU, TCC award degrees to graduates...

continued

Tallahassee Community College held its ceremony Saturday night at the Civic Center, where former FSU president T.K. Wetherell gave the keynote address.

About 500 TCC students participated in graduation ceremonies. Some 3,221 students earned degrees from the spring 2011 semester and the fall and summer 2010 semesters.

WCTV - May2, 2011

TCC Students Send Victory Packages to Soldiers

Reporter: Jill Chandler

EMAIL ADDRESS: JILL.CHANDLER@WCTV.TV

Tallahassee, Florida --

Students at Tallahassee Community College are putting together boxes of treats for U.S. soldiers, and it just happens to be on an extra special day.

The students put together "Victory Boxes" full of clothes, toys, and snacks for the soldiers to give to Iraqis and Afghans. It's a way to help soldiers become friends with those in the community and build their trust. The students also put together boxes for the soldiers, a little way to say thank you for all they do.

Melissa Soldani is a history professor at TCC. She helps organize the "Victory Boxes." Soldani said, "We have not gotten to have a celebration like this since.. I don't know... V.J. day... This is a fantastic day for America and a fantastic day for Tallahassee that we have students that care."

This is the 5th year students are putting together the "Victory Boxes." They're mailing out the goodies Monday with more than 75 boxes going overseas.

[UPDATE] Fight Erupts at Tallahassee Community College Graduation

A fight breaks out at a local graduation ceremony and it's all captured on video. The video was taken by a viewer and given to WCTV.

Reporter: Eyewitness News, Deneige Broom

EMAIL ADDRESS: NEWS@WCTV.TV; DENEIGE.BROOM@WCTV.TV

Tallahassee, Florida - May 3, 2011 - 11:30 p.m.

FSU, FAMU, and TCC students all took part in graduation ceremonies this past weekend. For many, it was a time to celebrate and look ahead to the real world.

But at TCC, a not so proud moment is caught on video, when a fight breaks out right before the ceremony was about to begin.

The fight surfaced on YouTube when graduate Nick Breeze posted the video his girlfriend shot, just moments before the ceremony began.

Nick Breeze said, "Coming out of the military, I wasn't used to school and I had to catch up and try real hard, and it really took away from that experience because obviously other people weren't taking it as seriously."

We haven't been able to identify the people in the video but Breeze's girlfriend says the scuffle broke out just before the graduates were seated at the Civic Center.

The incident lasts about one minute before spectators break it up.

The veteran says while he doesn't appreciate people fighting on his big day, he has a bigger issue with the behavior of some during the Star Spangled Banner.

"Some people took the opportunity to shout and talk

over the Star Spangled Banner to shout out the name of their graduate," said Breeze.

TCC hopes this won't be a black eye on the school's reputation and released this statement to WCTV:

"TCC's commencement was a wonderful celebration of our graduates' hard work and accomplishments. The isolated incident before the ceremony had no impact on the graduation."

TPD says they're still investigating the fight and charges could be filed.

Breeze says he was inspired by TK Wetherell's address to the grads, he just wishes everyone appreciated it as much as he did.

Tallahassee, Florida - May 3, 2011 -

A fight breaks out at a local graduation ceremony and it's all captured on video. The fight took place in the audience at the 2011 [Tallahassee Community College](#) graduation at the Leon County Civic Center. A participant captured the fight on video.

Stay with WCTV for more on the story.

3 TCC Dental Health Students Awarded Scholarships

Recipients of the Smiles by Beck Scholarship are dental assisting students Ashley McCoy and Jasmin McClellan and dental hygiene student Rae Tyre.

REPORTER: TCC RELEASE

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (May 4, 2011) -

Three students in [Tallahassee Community College's](#) Dental Health Programs have been awarded scholarships, courtesy of Drs. Glenn and Marci Beck of Tallahassee. Recipients of the Smiles by Beck Scholarship are dental assisting students Ashley McCoy and Jasmin McClellan and dental hygiene student Rae Tyre.

The Becks, who have a practice in General Dentistry in Tallahassee, award scholarships to students in TCC's dental program on an annual basis. Each scholarship recipient was awarded \$300.

"Tallahassee is very fortunate to have both dental assisting and dental hygiene programs of such high caliber at [Tallahassee Community College](#)," said Dr. Marci Beck. "The faculty at TCC continues to provide students with an excellent education that includes such extraordinary clinical skills.

"We want to give back in some way because we are so appreciative of the great job they have done supplying the community with such competent dental professionals."

All dental health students were given the opportunity to apply for the scholarship by submitting an impromptu essay on the topic, "Discuss your motivation(s) for becoming a member of a dental team."

TCC faculty selected five essays from each class. Without revealing the names, the essays were forwarded to the Becks, who made the final decision.

Tallahassee Democrat - May 11, 2011

Workforce Plus to add night classes on Microsoft programs

BUSINESS MATTERS STAFF REPORT

Workforce Plus just announced that it is working with [Tallahassee Community College](#) to offer the popular Microsoft Office Specialist training at night.

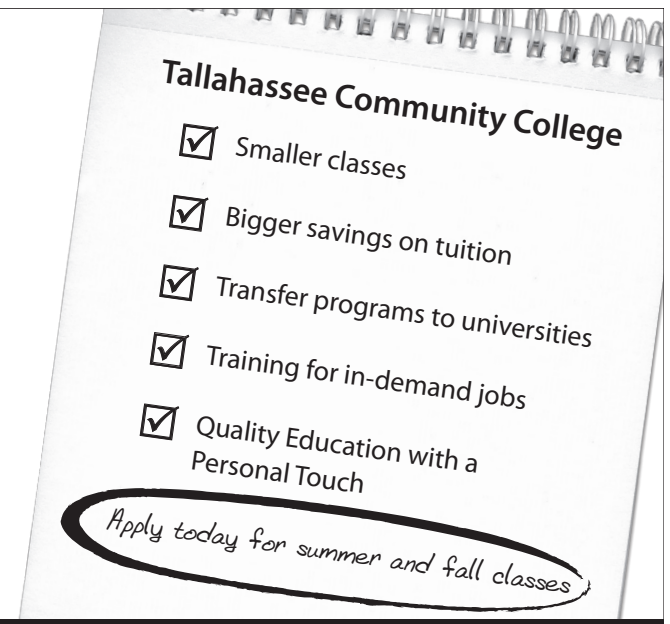
Classes will be Monday through Thursday from 6 to 9 p.m.

"The expanded partnership allows us to serve a multitude of people who need the training, but may not be able to take advantage during traditional school hours," said Kimberly A. Moore, Workforce Plus CEO.

The program teaches the skills required to master Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook. The training helps prepare participants for the Microsoft Office Specialist certification exams. Moore said the certification is valuable for demonstrating to prospective employers that an individual has mastered the latest desktop computing applications.

The program had previously been offered only during the day. For details and schedules, call 922-0023.

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Equity Officer | 444 Appleyard Drive | Tallahassee, FL 32304-2895 | (850) 201-8510 | tolsom@tcc.fl.edu