



# ANNUAL REPORT

---

FAYETTEVILLE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

---

2018 — 2019



*Some of the words shared by our 2019 Commencement Ceremonies keynote speaker, Dr. Eric Mansfield, still resonate within the college community and our graduates today. Mansfield is an Army veteran and a local otolaryngologist in the community who opened Holly Springs Ear, Nose, Throat & Allergy in March 2018. Mansfield is a graduate of two prominent HBCUs (historically black colleges and universities), Howard University in Washington, D.C. and Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia.*

*Part of his speech focused on the lessons he learned and the outlook gained after a near-death experience in 2018. He had finished working out at a gym when his heart went into ventricular fibrillation described as an arrhythmia that stopped it from beating. At the time, he was driving. His car slammed into a tree at 50 mph. A rescue squad restarted his heart before he was placed into a 48-hour coma that would begin his recovery. He shared four pieces of advice with the College's Class of 2019 graduates:*

*You have to bounce back.  
Embrace your scars.  
Complete your course.  
Don't lose your swag.*

*He also added, "God has you where you are for a reason. One of the things God said to me is, 'Never let man put a period where I put a comma.' This degree does not make you great, it confirms you are already great. Don't lose what's inside of you."*





# CONTENTS

5	<b>LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT</b> <i>President Dr. J. Larry Keen shares his thoughts from the past year</i>
6	<b>LETTER FROM THE BOARD</b> <i>Board Chair Ronald C. Crosby, Jr., shares his view of the future for FTCC</i>
8	<b>MEETING STUDENTS WHERE THEY ARE</b> <i>FTCC welcomes new Senior VP for Academic &amp; Student Services, Dr. Mark Sorrells</i>
10	<b>TOP 16</b> <i>See the top moments from 2018-2019</i>
14	<b>ONE STORY AT A TIME</b> <i>Students from programs across FTCC celebrate graduation</i>
18	<b>GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT</b> <i>Jacob Fields: from nature lover to park ranger</i>
22	<b>A YEAR IN NUMBERS</b> <i>An overview of 2018-2019</i>

## COMMUNITY

24	<b>HUMANITY FIRST</b> <i>Habitat for Humanity partnership finds FTCC construction students on the job</i>
30	<b>TIME FOR TRAINING</b> <i>Learn more about how 2018-2019 brought world travel and local partnerships to FTCC</i>
32	<b>CELEBRATING CONNECTIONS</b> <i>Four-year institutions partner to strengthen scholastic goals for students</i>
34	<b>SUMMER GAMES</b> <i>Student Jonathan Thomas participates in Booz Allen Hamilton competition</i>
36	<b>THE WAY WE COOK</b> <i>It was a year filled with food for many at FTCC</i>
38	<b>HONOR AND REMEMBER</b> <i>FTCC remembers the military who serve, study, and protect in our community</i>
42	<b>MILITARY INFOGRAPHIC</b> <i>Highlighting the success of military members and programs at FTCC</i>



STUDENT LIFE

- 46     **WE ARE FTCC**  
*Find out more about what our students have been up to this year*
- 52     **DOUBLE EXPOSURES**  
*The Advertising & Graphic Design program shines at FTCC*

SPORTS

- 56     **TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME**  
*FTCC given J.P. Riddle Stadium for America's favorite pastime*
- 58     **I WAS A LEADER**  
*Wounded warrior and former paratrooper finds solace in baseball*
- 62     **NEVER STOP REACHING**  
*Season highlights see the introduction of new sports at FTCC, including volleyball and softball*

OUR PEOPLE

- 72     **IN THEIR OWN WORDS**  
*Faculty share their dreams, aspirations for their programs*
- 80     **DISTINGUISHED**  
*Staff and faculty awards from the last year*
- 82     **THE MELINDA PASH PROJECT**  
*Historian, instructor shares her passion for forgotten stories of Korean War veterans*

PHILANTHROPY

- 91     **THANK YOU**  
*Interim Director of the FTCC Foundation Lauren Arp shares her thanks with donors*
- 92     **OUT AND ABOUT**  
*See what the FTCC Foundation has been up to*
- 94     **TURNING TRAGEDY TO TRIUMPH**  
*Alumni spotlight on Nicole Stumbling Bear, Native American, and survivor*
- 98     **BY THE NUMBERS**  
*A look into the giving and donations that support the FTCC Foundation*
- 100    **NOTE FROM THE FOUNDATION CHAIR || DONOR CIRCLES**  
*Thoughts from Ned Johnson, a tribute to our donors*
- 105    **THE FINAL NOTE**  
*Thoughts from our 2019 Commencement keynote speaker, Dr. Eric Mansfield*





*Loved ones smile and take pictures as they look upon one of the many graduates who participated in the 57th Annual Commencement Exercises for FTCC. Thousands of family members and friends of graduates filled the Crown Coliseum to applaud and cheer for students who compose the graduating Class of 2019.*











## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friend:

Fayetteville Technical Community College serves as an important junction for many individuals; we meet students where they are in life and provide the resources and support to help them fulfill their careers and educational aspirations. As you read this annual report, you will see many examples of how the faculty and staff at FTCC are committed to continuously assessing how we serve our students and identifying ways to serve better. We know that employers count on us to build and strengthen talents among our students and reward excellence among our students, faculty, and staff.

The careful cultivation of relationships with our community partners has led to rewarding experiences for our students and success for businesses within our community as well as across the globe. Our College continues to strengthen and grow as we explore and discover new realms of opportunities involving new technology and practices emerging in various professions.

We are excited about the new regional training center for firefighters and emergency response personnel. The state-of-the-art training center will be constructed on 30 acres of land at the Cumberland County Industrial Park. In addition to classrooms, the Center will provide live fire buildings, apparatus bays, technical rescue areas, and other specialized training grounds for students. The Center will attract individuals in our community/region interested in pursuing a professional career in firefighting and emergency response training, as well as others from across the state and neighboring states.

As we assembled the stories and highlights for this report, we reflected on the positive contributions that have occurred through our educational programs and community partnerships. We celebrate the opportunity to help position Cumberland County as a reliable source for talent through the mission of our college: *to serve our community as a learning-centered institution to build a globally competitive workforce supporting economic development.*

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dr. J. Larry Keen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Dr. J. Larry Keen, President



## EXTENDING A POSITIVE REACH

Dear Friend:

It has been a privilege to serve as a member of the Board of Trustees for the past eight years and as Board Chair for the past two years. My experiences consistently remind me of the tremendous opportunities that are readily available through a place of education with open doors to all who desire to learn.

In addition to positively serving the needs of students, Fayetteville Tech significantly affects the quality of our community and workplace environment by helping students earn a high school equivalency, pursue a personal interest or hobby, or earn an associate degree, certificate, or diploma from the many program choices available through curriculum and continuing education. Fayetteville Tech is also a wonderful place to work.

Beyond the obvious educational benefits available, Fayetteville Tech extends its positive reach far, providing unique resources and a climate that promote student well-being and success. FTCC counselors, teachers, staff, and administrators stand by their commitment that student success is the top priority. FTCC's Student Learning Center and Paul H. Thompson Library offer engaging academic resources and professional guidance to help students beyond the classroom. FTCC's Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship offers a program to help individuals pursue their goal of becoming an entrepreneur. The Small Business Center offers customized training and extension education for businesses in our area.

Recognizing the importance of our military and veterans, FTCC is committed to understanding the unique needs of our soldiers by offering specialized programs of study that build on a soldier's military occupational specialty and providing the All American Veterans Center — a tremendous resource establishment where veterans assist other veterans. The FTCC Foundation helps students by providing scholarships and financial assistance. FTCC's expanded athletics program adds an exciting dimension to the entire educational experience.

It is an honor to serve and be a part of Fayetteville Technical Community College. Thank you for your support of this outstanding college.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald C. Crosby, Jr.", with a stylized, cursive script.

Ronald C. Crosby, Jr., Chairman, Board of Trustees



# OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

---



RONALD C. CROSBY, JR., BOARD CHAIR



DALLAS FREEMAN



DANA HAITHCOCK



WILLIAM HEDGEPETH



DELORES INGRAM



CHARLES HARRELL



CHARLES KOONCE



LINWOOD POWELL



CHANDAN SHANKAR



SUZANNAH TUCKER



BILLY WELLONS



DAVID WILLIFORD



# MEETING STUDENTS WHERE THEY ARE

In December 2018, Dr. Mark Sorrells joined the ranks at FTCC as the Senior Vice President for Academic & Student Services. Sorrells came to FTCC with a rich history in education. He took a moment to chat with us about his background, goals, and work with students, and how he foresees his vision directly impacting the culture at FTCC.



*Dr. Mark Sorrells – Senior Vice President for Academic & Student Services*



**How do you feel your background (in education or personally) led you to become a Senior VP at FTCC?**

My journey started more than 30 years ago and has taken me down a number of life-changing paths. I spent a number of years teaching business and entrepreneurship at a community college in North Carolina. From there, I began training teachers to use experiential teaching methodologies to help adults and youth explore and pursue entrepreneurship as a career path.

This work allowed me to travel across North Carolina and the country, where I gained experience in working with communities to improve the social and economic mobility of people and places that were often left behind. For the next 18 years, my career was focused on assisting rural, economically challenged, and tobacco-dependent communities in North Carolina transition to new economic opportunities. My time at the Golden LEAF Foundation (GLF) afforded me the opportunity to focus my interests and talents on workforce and economic development initiatives that held promise for economic transformation. I was able to travel extensively and work with leaders from community colleges, local education agencies, universities, local government, and nonprofits to improve the economic conditions of distressed areas. GLF worked with local leaders to design and implement strategies to improve North Carolina's economic landscape and create opportunities for individuals to improve their economic conditions. These experiences allowed me to identify and experience key challenges faced by disadvantaged communities and assist in creating solutions to improve economic opportunity through education and workforce training. It was our goal to support training initiatives that aligned with regional and local market needs of employers, help youth and adults make informed career choices, and increase educational attainment to improve the economic and social mobility for rural people and places.

**What are your goals for 2019 as the Senior VP for Academic and Student Services?**

It is my goal to create a more student-centered culture that is tightly focused on meeting each student where they are while providing the support needed by them to help them reach their goals and dreams. I want to help

all students meet their goals — whatever they might be — and become lifelong learners. I am also interested in FTCC becoming a “student-ready college” by strengthening our collective efforts through a holistic advising process, creating structured pathways that are aligned with regional and global labor market needs, building the talent and capacity of our faculty and staff, rewarding and recognizing excellence, and developing strong partnerships within the community. The end game is to make Cumberland County a destination of choice for talent.

**Are you focusing on any projects or departments in particular this year?**

FTCC is going through Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) reaccreditation process. This requires the college to develop a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) to drive improvement. Our plan involves revamping our on-boarding and advising process for students, increasing support throughout their educational experiences at FTCC, and investing in the talent needed to meet our mission. This also involves aligning resources to meet the economic needs of local and regional businesses. The team at FTCC is analyzing economic data and employment projections for the region so we are better prepared to assist students in gaining the skills and experiences they need to obtain living-wage jobs. We want to increase opportunities for students to gain work experience through work-based learning and enhance the educational process through applied learning.

**How do you feel your role directly impacts students?**

As the Chief Academic Officer for the College, I have to oversee and support the academic and student support leadership team in implementing strategies that focus on high-quality educational programs that lead to good-paying careers and fuel student success. The job involves working with the Executive Council to develop and implement the strategic plan adopted by the Board of Trustees. This includes nurturing an inclusive culture and growth mindset, making sure adequate resources are available to facilitate success, and supporting faculty and staff in delivering exceptional educational experiences. The individual players

form a team. It is my job to make sure the team can perform at the highest level. My effectiveness is only as good as the work of my colleagues. We are all connected as one unit in assisting our students and helping the community prosper.

**Are you launching any new initiatives this year?**

Yes, a number of connected initiatives are being initiated, but it will take several years to realize the return on investment. In addition to the QEP, the academic and student support team has worked with faculty to design a new talent development framework to help grow talent and enhance the educational experience at FTCC. This involves investing in part- and full-time faculty to enhance teaching and learning. In addition, FTCC is partnering with Fort Bragg and Womack Army Medical Center to assist in training surgical teams to respond to combat injuries and increase Womack's capabilities as a residency program. This partnership is also providing students in the Funeral Service Education Program with opportunities to enhance their skills through a new embalming technology and exposure to surgical training. It is our hope to transfer the concept of applied learning to other programs by allowing students in health science and other programs hands-on-training.

**What do you feel is one of the most important aspects of higher education?**

Education is key to improving economic mobility. According to the 2018 Employer Needs Survey by the NC Department of Commerce, 68% of all jobs created by 2030 will require an associate's degree, bachelor degree, or a meaningful credential. Currently, Cumberland County's educational attainment is only 37% (Lumina Foundation, A Stronger Nation - NC's Report 2017).

We have a gap to close, and it depends on our educational partners and business community working together to meet the employment needs of businesses to fuel economic growth. Community colleges hold the key to improving the social and economic mobility of our citizens and economic prosperity available in Cumberland County. These are central to our efforts as a nation to retool and reshape the economic landscape of the future.



# TOP 16

COUNTING UP FTCC'S TOP MOMENTS OF 2018-2019



## ABOVE THE BAR

*FTCC students recognized at the distinguished NTHS Induction*

**2** Forty-six students at FTCC made the cut. In May 2019, the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) held its annual Induction Ceremony, recognizing 46 students for becoming a part of the coveted organization. The society's mission centers on honoring student achievement and leadership in career and technical education while promoting educational excellence, awarding scholarships, and enhancing career opportunities for its members. A special moment from the ceremony focused on an honored guest, Mr. C. Allen Powell, the co-founder of the society, who had recently announced his retirement after serving the society for 35 years. FTCC recognizes the hard work of Mr. Powell throughout the years and also the dedication of the student body in earning these inductions.



*Cosmetology Department Chair Veronica Guions speaks at the annual induction ceremony for FTCC's chapter of the National Technical Honor Society. The national organization began in 1984, and NTHS serves more than 100,000 active members annually. Dr. Keen also sits on the national organization's board of directors.*

## DIAMOND DAYS

*FTCC takes ownership of J.P. Riddle Stadium*

**1** The Cumberland County Board of Commissioners voted in December to give J.P. Riddle Stadium to Fayetteville Technical Community College. The College began using the stadium in the spring of 2019 in conjunction with the FTCC Trojans' inaugural season of men's baseball. The men's baseball teams of Fayetteville Technical Community College and Freedom Christian Academy joined the Fayetteville SwampDogs in using the field and stadium. "We thank the Cumberland County Commissioners for this opportunity to be associated with the J.P. Riddle Stadium and to continue the Riddle family's intent to share this asset with the citizens of Cumberland County," said Dr. J. Larry Keen, FTCC president.

## CONGRATULATIONS

*Employees named for Excellence Awards*

**3** This year, seven of our faculty members were recognized as recipients of the John E. and Suanne D. Roueche Excellence Award by The League for Innovation in the Community College. The honor recognizes and commends their efforts for exceptional teaching and leadership: Dr. Dina Adams, Department Chair, Pharmacy Technology; Anthony Cameron, Department Chair, IT/Computer Programming and Development; Keith Carter, Department Chair, Building Construction Technology and Carpentry; Marie Cash, Instructor, Mathematics; Daniel Pappas, Instructor, Fine Arts; Jeffrey Zack, Department Chair, Criminal Justice Technology; Cheryl Campbell, Instructor, Business Administration/Human Resources Management. We're also very proud of Ms. Campbell for representing the campus at the Innovations Conference in New York City in February 2019.





## LET'S EDUCATE

**4** *FTCC hosts Women TechEducators*  
In March 2019, FTCC hosted “Women TechEducators Training,” a two-day event. Its purpose is rooted in helping institutions and school systems increase the number of female students in non-traditional STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and Career & Technical Education programs. Attendees in our Tony Rand Student Center included 29 FTCC faculty members and 7 high school teachers – including educators from Cumberland County Schools.



## HONORED

**5** *Adams named honorary trustee*  
In April 2019, Dr. J. Larry Keen and the Board of Trustees unveiled the eighth person named an Honorary Trustee at FTCC: current Cumberland County Commissioner and former chairman Glenn Adams. Commissioner Adams’ dedication to FTCC’s students, mission, and vision is deeply appreciated at the College. Adams’ name joins fellow Cumberland County Commissioner and Chairwoman Dr. Jeannette Council, who was named Honorary Trustee in 2018.



## LEADERSHIP DAYS

**6** *FTCC hosts Leadership Summit*  
FTCC presented the Cumberland Leadership Summit on September 21, 2018. The leadership summit was customized for human resources managers, shift supervisors, department managers, and anyone wanting to improve their leadership and supervisory skills. The 90-minute training presentations included topics such as how to deal with difficult people, effective communications, great management, time management tips, and employee coaching and engagement.

## RADIOGRAPHY

*Students win Quiz Bowl*  
**7** A round of applause is in order for FTCC’s Radiography students. In May 2019, they won the Student Technical Quiz Bowl while competing against 13 other colleges at the annual North Carolina Society of Radiologic Technologists Conference. They earned the coveted Rita K. Harlowe Memorial Award, an honor that will remain on campus for the next year. Students on the team were Sherri Broglin, Rebekah Maples, Jeffrey Treaster, and Jennifer Shank. Shank had the highest mock registry score out of 275 students on the exam. Her name will be placed on the Winslow Cup, which will be on display at FTCC.



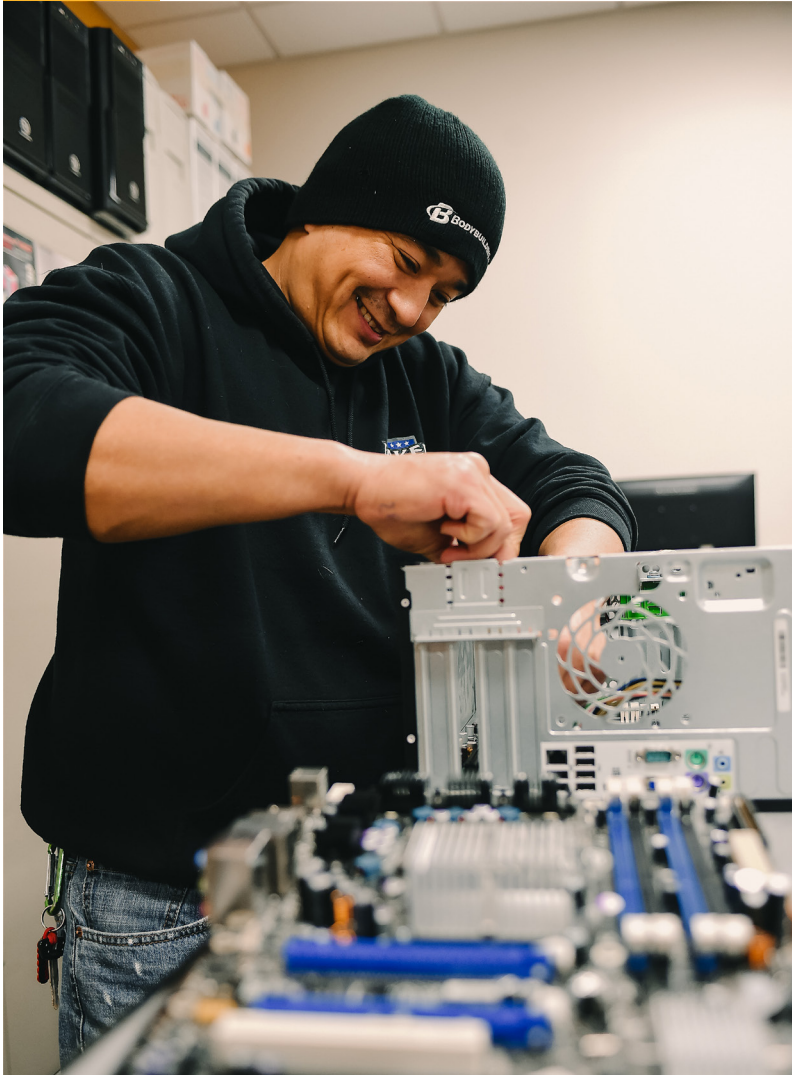
## MILLENNIALS

*Mayor reaches millennials*  
**8** FTCC’s SkillsUSA Chapter hosted the “Millennial Movement” discussion with Fayetteville City Mayor Mitch Colvin in October 2018. The event drew more than 50 people who spoke with Colvin about a range of topics concerning the future of Fayetteville. Some of the conversation included considerations on Hay Street becoming pedestrian-only, affordable housing for military service members, entertainment options for the millennial generation, and the difficulties of being a new business in the area. The workshop highlighted FTCC’s focus on reaching the future generations and connecting with the millennial demographic on current topics.



# TOP 16

COUNTING UP FTCC'S TOP MOMENTS OF 2018-2019



## CYBERSECURITY LEADER

*FTCC recognized as cybersecurity leader*

9 In September 2018, FTCC became a Champion of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month (NCSAM). FTCC is part of a growing global effort by businesses, government agencies, colleges and universities, associations, nonprofit organizations, and individuals to promote the awareness of online safety and privacy. A multi-layered and far-reaching campaign held annually, the NCSAM was created as a collaborative effort between government and industry to ensure all digital citizens have the resources needed to become safer and more secure online while also protecting their personal information. As an official Champion, FTCC recognizes its commitment to cybersecurity, online safety, and privacy.

## WELCOME DUE

*Board welcomes new members*

10

The FTCC Foundation welcomed five new members to its board of directors at a recent meeting. Serving three-year terms are Jamie Ammons, Account Manager, Systel Business Equipment; Richard Craven, Senior Account Manager, Systel Business Equipment; Meghan Engle, Assistant Counsel, Cape Fear Valley Health System; Andrew Pennink, Branch Manager, NC HomeFront Mortgage; and Tim Price, Owner, LaFayette Ford Lincoln. The FTCC Foundation Board also elected Ned Johnson as Board Chair, Greg Whitley as Vice Chair, Rebecca Britton as Secretary, Jason Poole as Treasurer, and Kevin Bunn as Assistant Treasurer.



*Ned Johnson, chair of the FTCC Foundation's Board of Directors, speaks at the annual Bluegrass & BBQ Silent Auction hosted annually on the College's campus. The fundraiser supports student scholarships.*

## WINNERS THREE

11

*Phi Beta Lambda wins three awards*

Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda Chapter on FTCC's campus are award-winning. In April, student representatives attended the North Carolina Phi Beta Lambda State Leadership Conference in Charlotte, earning three awards. The first- and third-place winners secured spots to compete in the national competition in San Antonio in June. They competed against others from two- and four-year institutions. The awards and winners: 1st place – Desktop Publishing – Dylan Hooker and Anthony Clark 3rd place – Entrepreneurial Concepts – Joseph Avery 8th place – Hospitality Management – Ronald Grayson Advisers Brittany Milligan, Ross Brown, and Cindy Burns led them to victory. As Milligan said, “Our students represented Fayetteville Technical Community College well ... we are so proud of their accomplishments!”





## RECOGNIZED

**12** *Excellence in Equity Fellowship*  
FTCC's Dr. Antonio Jackson, Dean of Arts and Humanities, and Dr. DeSandra Washington, Associate Vice President for Academic Support, were selected as Engaging Excellence in Equity Fellows by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in 2019. Both will receive a \$3,000 stipend to aid them in providing culturally responsive support on FTCC's campus. FTCC is very proud of their hard work, dedication, and contributions to making our campus a better place.

## FLYING HIGH

**13** *Drone Workshop through DOT*  
In October 2018, the College's Corporate & Continuing Education Department partnered with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and its Division of Aviation Unmanned Aircraft Systems to host a drone workshop for commercial and government operators. More than 170 attendees visited the College's Fayetteville campus. The event provided sessions on the benefits of drones, networking opportunities, and live flight demonstrations.

## PASS AT 100%

**14** *Surgical Services excels at pass rate*  
Our Surgical Services students earned a 100% pass rate for the 2017-2018 term from the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting. Graduates obtaining national certification as a certified surgical technologist understand it is required for employment within many local, state, and national health care organizations. Division Chair Terry Herring supervises the Surgical Services program, which is also a part of FTCC's Health Programs.

## AWARDS

**15** *NISOD Awards for FTCC*  
We're pleased to announce FTCC's winners for the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development Award for 2019. The annual award recognizes employees who demonstrate exceptional commitment to FTCC: Cathy Baxley, Director of Emergency & Health Programs; Dr. Vincent Castano, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness; Veronica Guions, Division Chair, Cosmetology; Rhiannon Holley, Administrative Secretary, Information Technology; Denise Kinnison, Facility Services Assistant; Lindsay Lee, Mathematics Instructor; Marlina Pineiro, Assessment Retention Support Coordinator; Amy Samperton, Director of Procurement & Equipment; and Sharon Seaford, Department Chair, Business Administration/Marketing.



## TRANSFORMATION

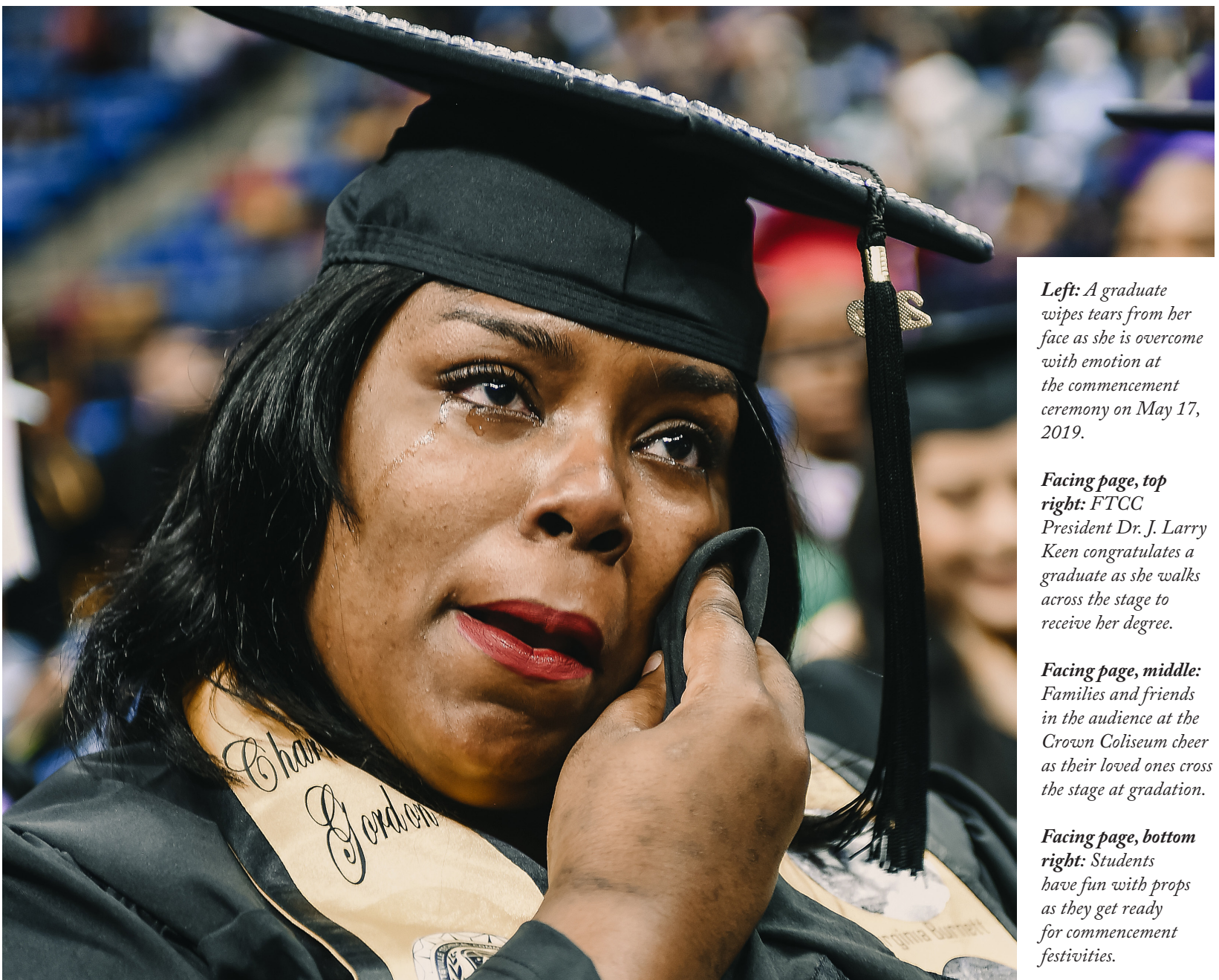
**16** *Morgan Hrabovsky wins top honor*  
Morgan Hrabovsky was nervous to begin the Physical Therapist Assistant program in August 2017. As a military spouse and stay-at-home mom, she wanted a career that would allow flexibility so she could be there for her children. From the first day at orientation, she said she knew the program was going to be unlike anything she had experienced before. In October 2018, Hrabovsky received the North Carolina Physical Therapy Association's PTA Student of the Year award. This award is given to only one student in all the PTA programs in North Carolina. Hrabovsky said, "As I reflect on this award, I am most proud of the personal transformation I've made with the help of my instructors and classmates at FTCC. I have always liked staying inside my comfort zone and blending into the crowd, but the PTA program pushed me to want more ... Getting involved at FTCC and in my community sparked a fire within me for both personal and professional growth in the field of Physical Therapy."



## COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES LVII

# ONE STORY AT A TIME

**M**ay 17, 2019, brought the 57th Annual Commencement Exercises to the Crown Coliseum. Due to a higher number of graduates, FTCC decided in 2018 to split the graduation into two ceremonies and host them both during the day. The morning commencement began at 10 a.m. and recognized graduates from computer information technology, business, engineering and applied technology programs. The afternoon commencement began at 2 p.m. and recognized graduates from the arts and humanities, health, math and science, public service and continuing education programs. The commencement speaker was former North Carolina Sen. Dr. Eric L. Mansfield. Pastor Jacob Warren from Veritas Church in Fayetteville delivered the invocation.



***Left:** A graduate wipes tears from her face as she is overcome with emotion at the commencement ceremony on May 17, 2019.*

***Facing page, top right:** FTCC President Dr. J. Larry Keen congratulates a graduate as she walks across the stage to receive her degree.*

***Facing page, middle:** Families and friends in the audience at the Crown Coliseum cheer as their loved ones cross the stage at graduation.*

***Facing page, bottom right:** Students have fun with props as they get ready for commencement festivities.*



# 2,333

The number of  
graduates in all  
diploma, certificate,  
and degree programs  
in May 2019



# 164

The number of  
High School  
Equivalency Program  
graduates in the  
2018-2019 school year

# 41

The number of  
Adult High School  
Program graduates in  
the 2018-2019 school  
year







The commencement ceremony celebration continued with the graduation of 10 women who became the first graduates of Cosmetology Spanish under the Corporate & Continuing Education Department. The graduates endured rigorous, part-time training in the language, spanning roughly a year and a half. The program requires 1,500 hours of training with travels to hair shows and prepares graduates to work skillfully as entry-level cosmetologists upon employment. Most of the graduates already successfully took the State Board licensing exam. Instructors Rosa D. Del Toro and Tabitha Coleman taught the students during this program's inaugural year. The coursework and lectures were all in Spanish.



FTCC is tipping the hat to its Line worker/Groundsman course partnership with Fayetteville PWC. The first cohort of 2019 graduated and accepted lineman, substation, and transmission positions at local businesses. The partnership saw its first graduating class in fall 2018. The course, offered through FTCC's Corporate & Continuing Education Department, teaches the basics of building and maintaining electrical power circuits and equipment for overhead and underground construction with the opportunity to earn training certificates within 350 hours.



On December 18, 2018, our Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) Class graduated after months of hard work and training. Our congratulations extend to all the cadets at graduation. We are always thankful for cadets who make the choice to serve the community.



### CDL graduate wins top honors

She almost quit. She started the program with no experience in the transportation industry. That was an idea for Néssha Thomas who enrolled in FTCC's Commercial Driver's License program, which prepares students for a successful career in the transportation industry. However, she didn't give up. Instead, Thomas excelled. She scored 98.9 percent on the Pre-Trip Inspection, completed the Basic Control Skills Test – error-free – that challenges drivers to do a straight line back, a lane offset to the right, and a 90-degree alley dock. She earned 96.63 for her overall GPA, earning the Top Gun Award, given to the student with the highest GPA in the graduating class. Instructor Eric Smith said Thomas' skills are what employers look for in new graduates. She finished the program through our Corporate & Continuing Education Department. Tidewater Transit Co. also named Thomas its "Truck Driver Training Honor Graduate" of Class 4.





*A Practical Nursing graduate holds her daughter as she realizes she's reached her goal. More than 50 women and men graduated from FTCC's Practical Nursing program in summer 2019, surrounded by family, friends, and Fayetteville Technical Community College's faculty and staff. Guest speaker and practical nursing instructor Kristen Kaiafas shared some words: "Nursing should not be a competitive profession. We are thousands short in our practice. Forget the traditional nursing motivational speech of 'Look left, look right, half of you won't make it.' Instead, remember my advice, 'Look left, look right, grab each other by the hand and pull each other through the mud. When your fellow colleague is drowning, throw them a life vest...' I am honored to call each and every one of you my colleague from this day forward."*





# FROM OUTDOORS ENTHUSIAST TO PARK RANGER

Graduating from FTCC's Basic Law Enforcement Training Program meant a career in nature for alumnus Jacob Fields



*Fields rakes ground by a pier that burned in a fire at Carvers Creek State Park. Part of Fields' job includes making the park a family-friendly and safe environment for all visitors.*

The cold tucked itself away for another day. The warm sun had nothing to hide behind on a Wednesday morning in April. The day was ideal for Ranger Jacob Fields who works at Carvers Creek State Park north of Spring Lake. He carried a shaved Crepe Myrtle as he crossed a small stream through the park. As he walked toward the millpond – damaged and dried out by Hurricane Matthew and a massive flood in 2016 – something on the ground caught his eye.

“It’s sunbathing,” Fields said with a smile. He gently picked up the corn snake. Its brownish body, decorated with dark, orange circles of different shapes, quickly began to coil around Fields’ wrists and lower arm. Its thin tongue shot in and out of its mouth. It reminded Fields of a time he and a family walking one of the many trails at the park came across a hognose snake, less docile than a corn snake and an expert at playing “possum.”

“They got to see the snake bluffing – making hissing noises and then playing dead,” he recalled. “When it plays dead, it will roll itself back over if you try to flip it. I’m pretty sure they’ll remember that.”

And it’s those teachable moments Fields looks forward to sharing as, he too, learned himself. His love and enthusiasm for nature didn’t begin overnight. It started simply, in childhood, when he played outside and muddied himself in puddles. As a teenager, he spent two weeks at Camp Celo, a Quaker-based summer camp for ages 7-12 in the western part of North Carolina. He learned to milk a cow, went on multiple hikes each day, camped overnight, and even swam in nearby rivers.

“You learn about how to be outside,” he said. “I just loved being outside, without any walls. There’s always something that I learn when I go outside. For instance, it rained pretty hard [recently] and all of these spotted salamanders were by my house in Carthage, and I had no idea they were there before.”

As a high school student, Fields joined the Junior Curators program under the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. The opportunity allowed him to work with researchers and curators, teaching him how to care for wildlife (even in the museum’s live animal collection) while participating in educational programs and events. The Raleigh native participated in the program every year before he graduated. He proudly calls himself a “nerd” as he still remembers the ABC’s he learned: every letter in the alphabet corresponded with the Latin name of wildlife species such as the letter “A” for C. (Cryptobranchus) alleganiensis, the





*North Carolina Park Ranger Jacob Fields holds a corn snake that was sunbathing on a trail at Carvers Creek State Park.*



species name for the hellbender salamander.

Back on the trail at Carvers Creek, Fields let the corn snake uncoil itself from his wrist and arms. It slithered against the bumpy trail back into the shaded shrubbery. He took a sip from his blue hydration pack on his back. He began walking. The North Carolina State University graduate earned a degree in fisheries and wildlife in 2010. Then, Fields worked as an interpretive ranger on the attraction part of Grandfather Mountain before becoming a ranger at the North Carolina Zoo in Asheboro. There, he earned his basic certification as an EMT (emergency medical technician).

He applied for a position with Carvers Creek in 2015 and six months later, he earned the job. He's been working at Carvers Creek for the last four years. Part of becoming a park ranger was earning the Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) certificate within his first year of employment. He enrolled in Fayetteville Technical Community College's BLET program, which is overseen by Program Coordinator Yovana Vest. Nature came easy to Fields. BLET came with challenges. The physical training, tests, and classroom work were intense as the program includes 700 hours of training over 16 weeks. Choosing FTCC

to obtain a BLET certificate wasn't a hard choice for Fields. It was close to his family's home and two of his colleagues – a park ranger and a superintendent – both graduated from FTCC's program. He mentioned the support from fellow cadets and instructors during his time in BLET.

"That camaraderie helped some of us," he said. "You have people pushing you and cheering you on. Not one time did I feel like there was an inability for teachers to teach. I'd say if I can do it, you can do it. It takes perseverance and a positive attitude."

North Carolina State Parks officially swore in the now 31-year-old law enforcement officer in 2016. As a park ranger, some of Fields' duties include leading educational programs, monitoring the park's plants and animals, ensuring visitor safety, and prohibiting hunting. He also finds time to visit FTCC's Spring Lake Campus to visit Vest and his former BLET instructors. For Fields, FTCC isn't just "a community college."

"That's not the case," he said. "The resources you have available to you, it's what you start with in the beginning and you move from there. It's a wealth of knowledge. It's a great educational, inspiring, and even scholarly resource."

"I'd say if I can do it, you can do it."

—*Jacob Fields*





**Top photo:** A corn snake slithers across one of the many walkable paths at Carvers Creek State Park in Cumberland County during a spring afternoon. A few minutes prior, North Carolina Park Ranger Jacob Fields held the snake and let it coil around his wrist and hand. Back on the ground, the snake moved quickly to a small bush near the trail.

**Bottom photo:** Park Ranger Jacob Fields works alongside a fellow state park employee in April 2019 as they clear debris and charred earth at Carvers Creek State Park on Long Valley Farm. The fire also burned down a pier that stretched into the lake where the state park is located, on Long Valley Farm.



And as a former student, he finds himself becoming the teacher. In 2018, the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Secretary Michael Regan recognized Fields for completing the Environmental Education Certification Program.

He completed a project to earn the certification, restoring the wiregrass in a visible area to the public near the main Carvers Creek park office. He worked with Boy Scouts, volunteers, and staff members on the effort; it improved his teaching techniques where he now includes an outline and list of objectives while addressing the bigger picture of why he teaches.

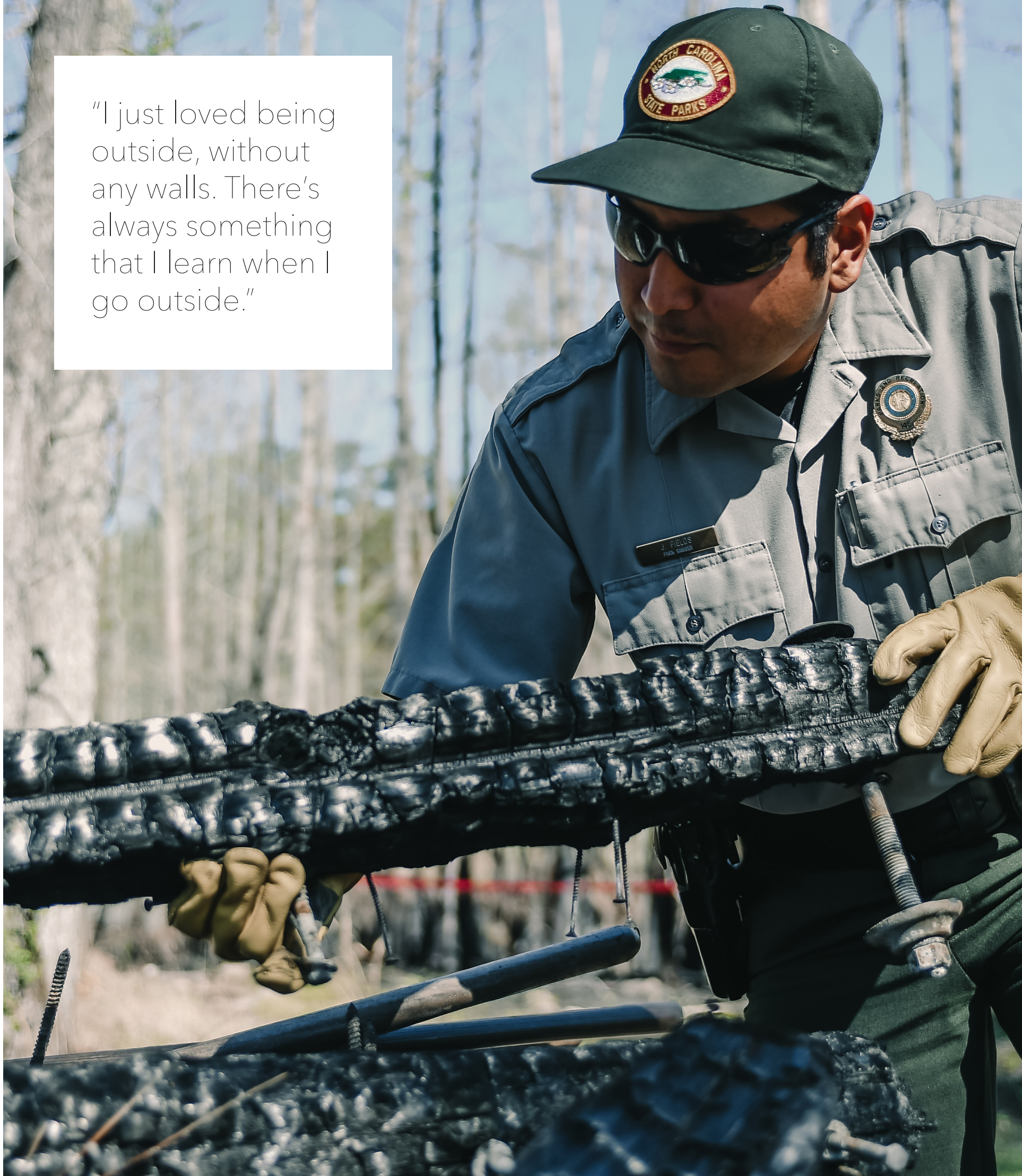
He had a similar experience earlier this year when he received a call from an Appalachian State University student. He was interested in becoming a park ranger after being a part of parks and recreation activity at school. Fields and the student chatted. The student called back to say he had applied for a position at Kerr Lake State Recreation Area, which spans 50,000 acres in North Carolina and Virginia, according to the North Carolina State Parks website.

“He said he looked forward to seeing me in training,” Fields said with a brief laugh. “It’s those small things that don’t happen much. I like for people to reach out if they have questions. We are very different from other law enforcement agencies — we’re also educators. We’re very helpful.”

Moments like those remind Fields, even on the long days, why the career he’s in suits him best.



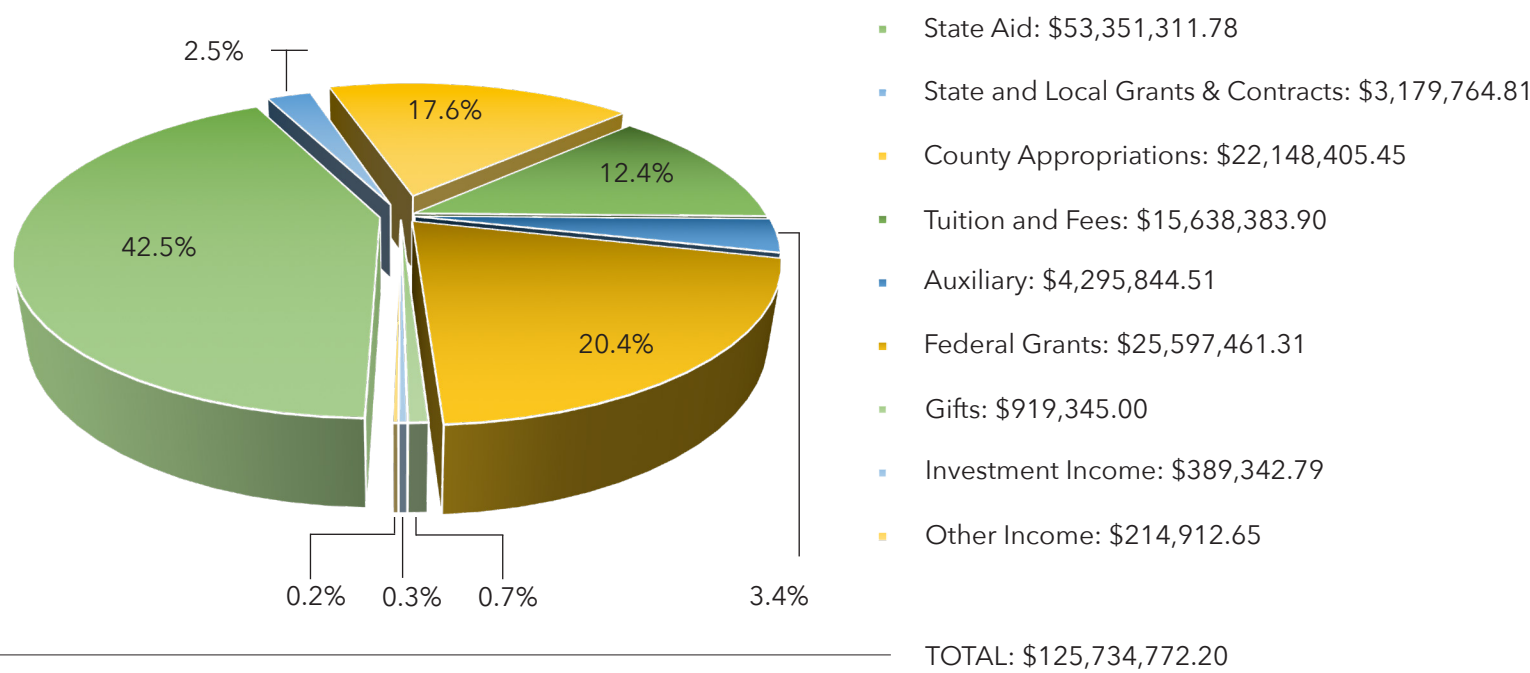
"I just loved being outside, without any walls. There's always something that I learn when I go outside."



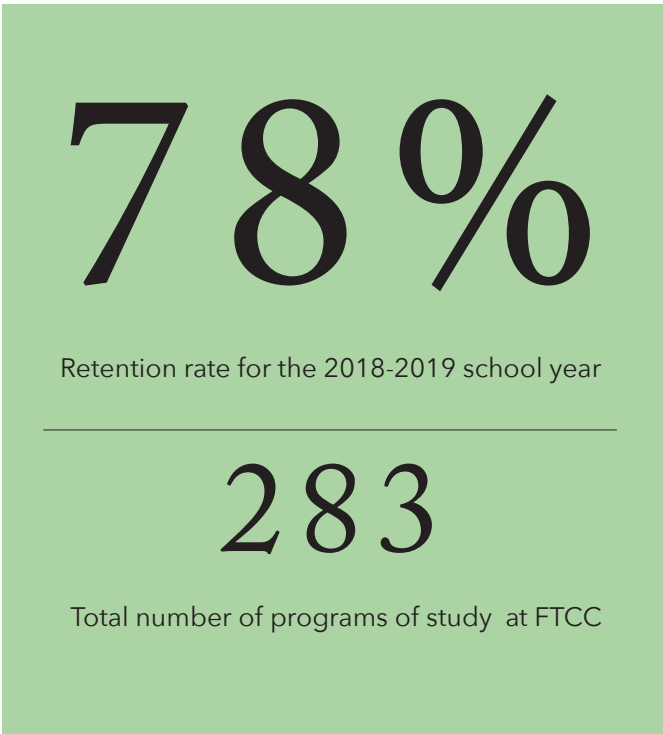
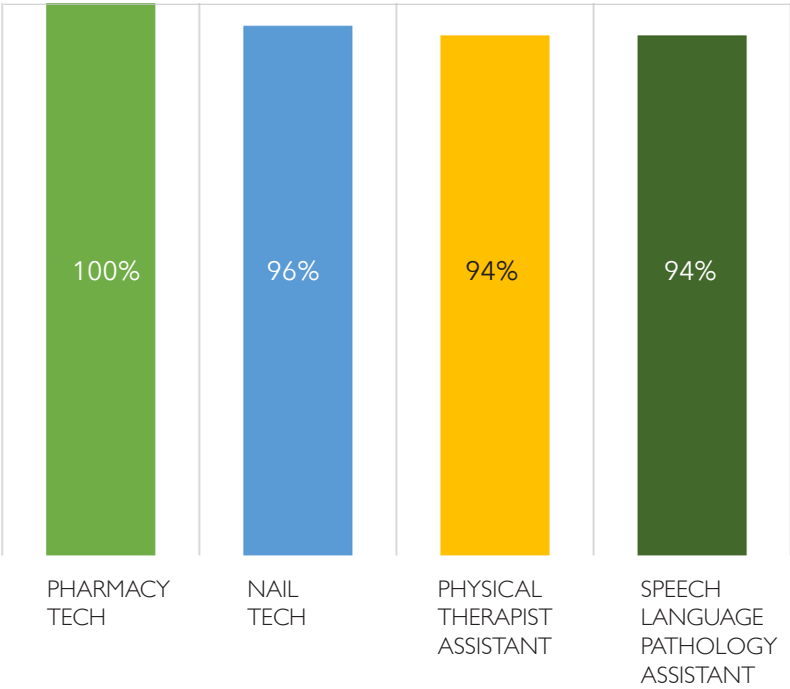


# A YEAR IN

## COLLEGE REVENUE



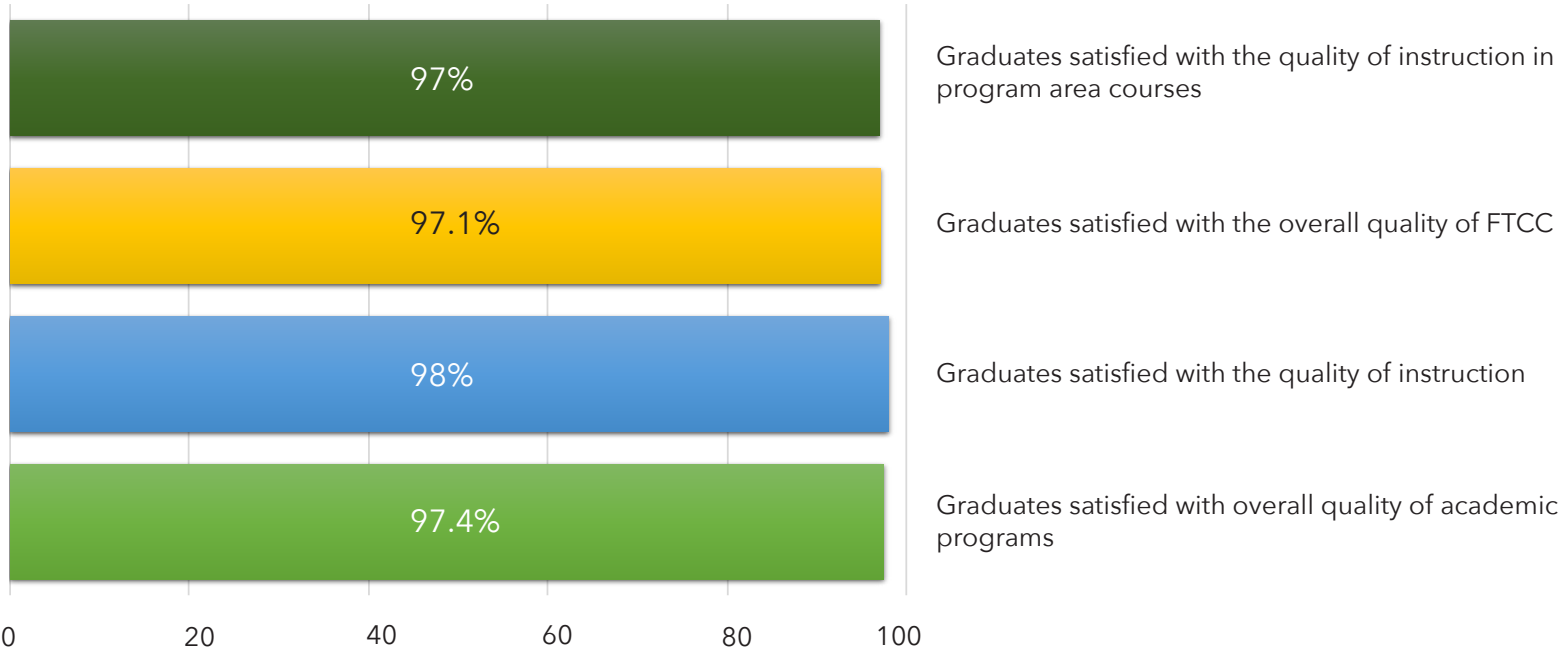
## TOP LICENSURE PASSING RATES



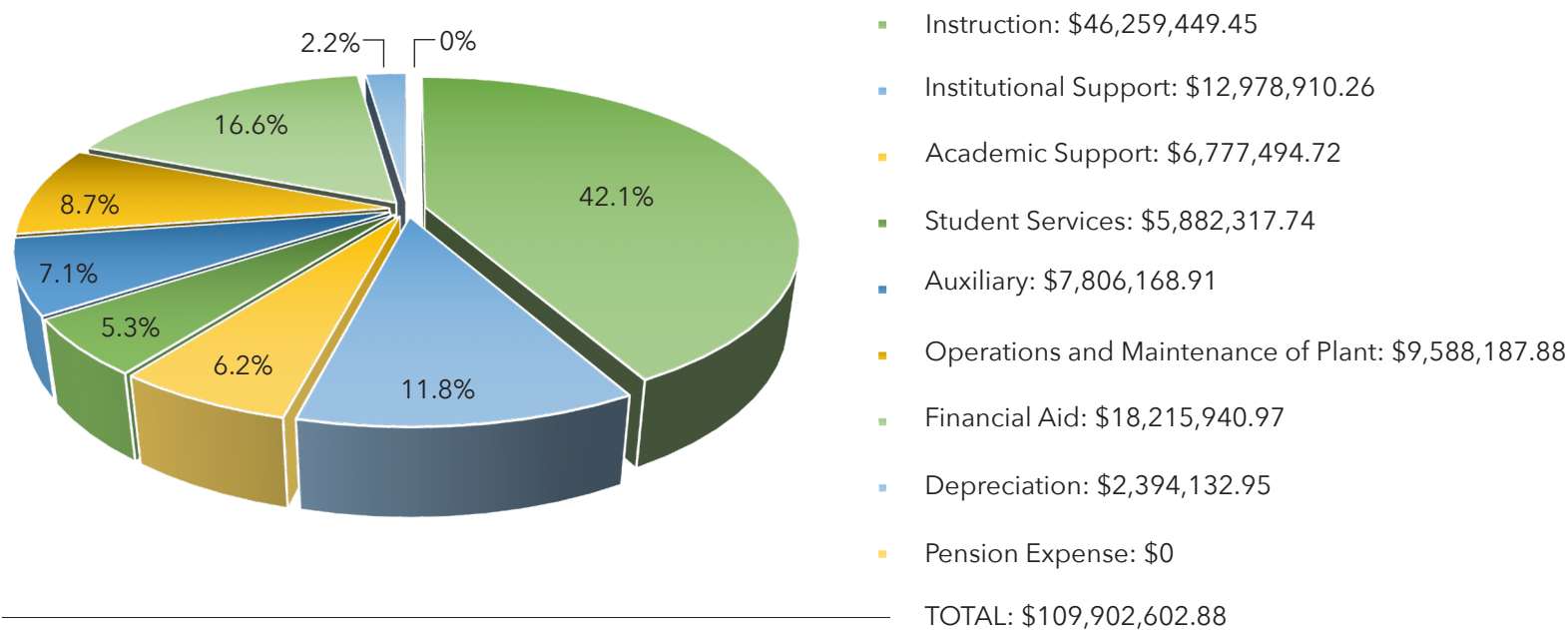


# NUMBERS

## TOP FOUR GRADUATE SURVEY RATES



## COLLEGE EXPENSES











*Students work together to build the inner frame of a Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity home on Link Street in downtown Fayetteville. For years, students from the College's Building Construction Technology and Carpentry programs have assisted in building homes for the nonprofit organization, serving a two-fold purpose: hands-on learning and training while helping a family in need of housing.*



# Partners rooted in building

*A look at the decades-long relationship between FTCC and Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity*

"FIRE IN THE HOLE!"

A student wearing a hard hat yelled the phrase as a warning to classmates surrounding him on an early morning in September. The sound of air echoed as a nail shot out of its namesake gun tool, piercing wood. A group of students, wearing heavy tool belts slouched on their waists and hard hats, moved quickly to place the wood as part of the future home's frame on Link Street near downtown Fayetteville. The future one-story home was one of a handful of students who attend Fayetteville Technical Community College have worked on through the years.



*A student focuses on hitting a nail correctly into a piece of wood, a small piece in the future home on Link Street in downtown Fayetteville. Students from FTCC's Building Construction Technology and Carpentry programs have assisted in building homes for families in need, teaching them hands-on skills for their future careers while helping the non-profit organization keep construction costs down, allowing donated monies to fund other critical projects in the area.*

FTCC and Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity have been partners in the community for decades. Students from the College's Building Construction Technology and Carpentry programs assist the organization by building homes for residents in need nearly every semester. Both programs are under the Engineering & Applied Technology Department. The Fayetteville chapter is part of the global nonprofit organization's efforts to help those in need of decent and affordable housing through service projects and its homeownership program. Habitat works in local communities across all 50 states and in roughly 70 countries, according to its website.

Construction students spend up to 18 hours a week building a home during the school year. They began work on the future one-story home at 604 Link Street in late summer 2019. Instructor Keith Carter, department chair for both building construction technology and carpentry, said the partnership between the College and Habitat began before he started teaching at FTCC.

"I've been with the college for 21 years," he said. "The students do the frame, siding, interior trim and sometimes, we install the cabinetry. We also get the house ready for shingles as well. The plumbing classes do some work too along with electrical. It's a good thing."

Back on Link Street, the students broke into smaller groups as they worked across the home's foundation. Some measured wood. Others carefully placed pieces of wood next to each other, building the home's inside frame. One student, wearing a white hard hat, sat on the edge of a truck. He bit into a sandwich and sipped water before 10 am. Carter watched the students near a sign in the home's front yard. It read, "A project of FTCC Building Trades." Carter has seen how building homes is more than just work for the students. He also looks at it from the perspective of being a pastor at Piney

Green Missionary Baptist Church for more than 15 years in Salemburg in Sampson County.

"I've seen them become more eager to help those that need help," he noted. "Some of my students have volunteered with Habitat after they graduate. Some have worked for Habitat. It opens their eyes to the need that's out there that we can help with. It teaches them life lessons, too."

The partnership benefits the College and Habitat in other ways, too. The projects allow for hands-on learning. Habitat is able to save thousands of dollars on a single project when students provide the labor. Tracy Coffin, project manager for Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity, said money saved can be used for other needs and projects the organization can provide to the surrounding community. The organization plans to build 47 more homes in the future, bringing the total count to 200 within Fayetteville.

## CHANGING THE COMMUNITY

FTCC students have been and will be a part of the eight homes planned for Link Street.

"That outdoor experience in the classroom is going to enhance their ability to perform those tasks when they get out of school, making them more proficient in their craft," she said. "Oftentimes, we find families in homes do better in school and later on in life. It's a partnership we have to continue not just for Habitat, but for students to have the best experience possible as they transition to work outside the classroom. It's a ripple effect in the community."

Coffin, an Army veteran who served for 25 years, has something in common with construction students at FTCC: she, too, volunteered with fellow soldiers on building a Habitat home. She described the transition as going from service to her country to service to her community. Service





*FTCC Students work together on the framing of a future home in downtown Fayetteville, which they helped build for Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity. Work on the home began in late summer 2019. “It’s a partnership we have to continue not just for Habitat, but for students to have the best experience possible as they transition to work outside the classroom. It’s a ripple effect in the community,” said Tracy Coffin, project manager for Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity.*





*Keith Carter, department chair for both building construction technology and carpentry at FTCC, points as he gives instructions to his students who are building a future home for a family in need through the College's partnership with the Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity. Carter has worked at FTCC for more than 20 years. In that time, he's seen how the partnership has changed his students – some develop an appreciation for service work, others began to volunteer their time to service organizations, and some have worked for the local nonprofit organization which continues to build homes in and around Fayetteville.*

is an aspect FTCC student Joshua Carter can relate to. The 19-year-old is in his second year in the building construction technology program and working toward earning a diploma in plumbing. He has worked on construction projects with his grandfather and father from a young age; his mother did prohibit him from doing any work that involved cutting until he was older. He's often asked why he does construction projects for free.

Joshua Carter is Keith Carter's son.

"It makes you feel good when you're doing it for someone who needs it more than you do," Joshua Carter said. "It's great to help the community out. I get a sense of enjoyment completing a job, seeing a happy customer with everything you've done."

And aiding those in need is a lesson the Carters were reminded of during the summer of 2018. A stove fire ripped through the family home. Joshua Carter and the family dog, Sweetpea, were the only ones home. Joshua suffered the only injury: singe burns on his hands. For several weeks, former students helped the family tear down damaged material inside the home. They even came to help on weekends. Students called to check on the family. Fayetteville Area Habitat allowed the Carters to purchase items they needed for their rebuilt home in its store. Joshua Carter said it was a

blessing to receive the help from volunteers who worked in temperatures teetering at 100 degrees. Being on the receiving end of kindness wasn't familiar territory for Carter. Giving is ingrained in his work as a pastor.

"It made us feel good that people care, and we could see their hearts were like our hearts," Carter said. "We're back in the house, and the whole family is doing great. We really appreciated that. Blessings coming from all directions."

The sun began to peek through the clouds on Link Street. Students continued working on the home's skeletal frame with hopes of completing the project by the end of the next school year. Joshua Carter helped hold a piece of wood as it was measured. He hopes to obtain his contractor's license after he graduates and work as a project manager or supervisor for a construction company. For now, Keith Carter's hopes are different, tied to thoughts about the College and Fayetteville Area Habitat.

"I hope whoever takes the reins after me, I hope they have the same mindset and initiatives, working with Habitat," Keith Carter said. "That they'll work to keep the relationship strong as it's been for years and years now. I'm glad the College, from Dr. Keen on down, has always been supportive of us in our efforts. It's a benefit for Habitat and Fayetteville Tech, too."





*A student uses a circular power saw to cut wood as he and fellow classmates from the Building Construction Technology program build a home as part of a partnership with Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity. Program department chair Keith Carter said that through the years, people from the community have appreciated the work done by his students. “They know the work is done first-class. We’re not just driving nails but paying attention to detail and careful about the quality put out there. That’s one reason why we’re out here so much. We take time to make things right.”*



# Time for Training

## The Cumberland County Commissioners and FTCC partner to develop a new regional center for firefighters

The Cumberland County Commissioners and the Fayetteville Technical Community College Board of Trustees agreed to partner on developing a new regional center for firefighter and other emergency responder education and training.

The proposed FTCC-Cumberland County Regional Fire and Rescue Training Center will be built on 30 acres of County property in the Cumberland County Industrial Park, adjacent to the Sheriff's Training Center and Animal Control Shelter, off Tom Starling Road on Corporation Drive.

The facility will support FTCC's Public Service curriculum, which includes courses in emergency management, fire technology, and fire training. A new facility would enable the college to add

classes not currently offered, including fire investigation/arson certification, thermal image school, vehicle extrication school, high-angle rescue technician, and other types of fire and rescue special training.

The facility would include classrooms, live fire buildings, apparatus bays, technical rescue areas, and other specialized training grounds. In addition, the training center would partner with the Sheriff's Office in using its driving track and possibly space for an outdoor shooting range.

Cumberland County is responsible for funding capital projects at the community college, and the center will provide additional training facilities for member departments of the Fire Chiefs' Association and other emergency responders. The facilities will also potentially

draw emergency responders from across the state and out of state with the unique training courses that will be offered.

"It is our responsibility to make sure we have the best trained, most qualified firefighters," said Commissioner Jimmy Keefe.

"This project is a demonstration of collaboration by everyone involved for the purposes of serving and protecting the people of Cumberland County," said Dr. J. Larry Keen, FTCC president.

The facility is projected to cost \$18 million. FTCC plans to use \$8 million the college was allocated from the Connect NC Bond. Cumberland County has included \$10 million for the project in its Capital Investment Fund and will pursue funding to support the project.



*A rendering depicts what the proposed FTCC-Cumberland County Regional Fire and Rescue Training Center could look like. The facility would be built on 30 acres of County property in the Cumberland County Industrial Park and provide firefighter and other emergency responder education and training.*





*The Eiffel Tower was a notable stop that students toured on a foggy day in May while in Paris.*

# Travel Abroad

## Students from the Psychology Club get the opportunity to see London, Paris

Traveling abroad isn't something many people feel is synonymous with the community college experience, but it is at FTCC. From May 14-21, 2019, the FTCC Psychology Club visited London and Paris, giving students the opportunity for foreign immersion, cultural experience, and hands-on education.

One of the reasons that FTCC hosts trips abroad is to provide the opportunity to get students out of their comfort zone. Travel allows students to see new places, learn different cultures and religions, and interact with people from around the world. It also encourages students to become more competent individuals, embracing the discomfort of leaving home and connecting with people from different

environments. Travel also builds confidence: while in Europe, students had to learn how to use public transit and navigate the language barrier. They bridged the cultural gap and went grocery shopping, experienced new cultural norms, and connected with locals and tourists along the way.

While in London, students visited Trafalgar Square, St. Paul's Cathedral, the Tower of London, Tower Bridge, the Freud Museum, and the Wellcome Collection. They also did a Jack the Ripper walking tour, perused the Charles Darwin house & garden, and got a look inside Bethlem Royal Hospital and Museum. They also took advantage of every opportunity to eat at local establishments, walking from location

to location or experiencing the Tube, London's oldest subway. Traveling to the Freud Museum brought to life the theorists and psychologists who are studied in Sociology and Psychology. While in Paris, they visited the Notre Dame Cathedral and the Louvre, walked the Avenue des Champs-Élysées, and saw the Arc de Triomphe and the Eiffel Tower. They also toured the Museum of the History of Medicine and the Sacré-Cœur basilica in the village of Montmartre.

After the trip, students said that even though they read about different cultures in textbooks, it was eye-opening to observe them firsthand. The Humanities Department is planning future trips and is currently working on a 2020 adventure to Costa Rica.



10K

# Celebrating connections

This year brings multiple partnerships with colleges across North Carolina to help students grow in their educational goals. Each partnership and program strengthens FTCC's student body and gives students multiple options to continue their education after FTCC at a four-year institution.

**Partnerships, Articulation & Making Education Happen:** FTCC partners with **GARDNER-WEBB** to

further ease the transfer process; **UNIVERSITY OF MOUNT**





*Dr. J. Larry Keen and Dr. David Poole, President of the University of Mount Olive, shake hands before signing an agreement that will allow for seamless college transfer between the two institutions.*

Dr. David Poole, President of the University of Mount Olive, and Dr. J. Larry Keen, President of FTCC, signed a partnership agreement that will enhance and expand options for community college students. The two educational institutions originally partnered in 2010 to allow associate degree graduates from FTCC to transfer seamlessly into the full range of bachelor degree programs at any of UMO's locations. This update of the original 2010 agreement now accommodates the agricultural production systems bachelor's of science degree and FTCC's horticulture technologies program. The agreement honors the transfer of associate of applied science graduates' programs of study. It also allows FTCC students to be eligible to apply for all state and federal financial aid. Following the signing, representatives from FTCC toured the UMO campus and the Kornegay Student Farm.

**OLIVE** agrees to expand options to FTCC; **FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY** promises to provide



*Dr. J. Larry Keen and Dr. Ben Leslie, Provost and Executive Vice President at Gardner-Webb University, sign a partnership agreement that further eases the process for FTCC students to transfer into programs at GWU.*

Gardner-Webb University and FTCC joined a partnership in July 2018 that will further ease the transfer process for students. Representatives for both schools signed agreements to create continuous degree tracks for students who complete any associate's degree program at FTCC and finish a baccalaureate program at Gardner-Webb. The Transfer Admission Promise agreement provides a seamless pathway into any of GWU's undergraduate programs. FTCC President Dr. J. Larry Keen believes the partnership will ultimately benefit students. "We look forward to working with Gardner-Webb University," Keen said. "We expect great opportunities for our students." Students will save time and money, thanks to the partnership, which aligns degree courses at FTCC and GWU to reduce instances of course repetition and loss.



*Fayetteville State University Chancellor Dr. James A. Anderson and Dr. J. Larry Keen shake on the pathway plan that allows FTCC graduates to complete a bachelor's degree for under \$10,000.*

In August 2018, Fayetteville State University and Fayetteville Technical Community College signed an agreement that will allow FTCC graduates to complete an online bachelor's degree at FSU at a total cost of no more than \$10,000 in out-of-pocket expenses. The \$10K Degree Pathway Partnership will provide access to affordable bachelor's degrees in accounting, birth to kindergarten (teaching and non-teaching), criminal justice, fire and emergency services administration, business administration (general), intelligence studies, nursing, professional studies, psychology, and sociology. While these degree programs are fully online, FSU will provide regular face-to-face contact with program participants when needed.

pathways to current students at under \$10,000



# SUMMER



*Jonathan Thomas, above left, helps tutor a student in a classroom on FTCC's campus. He graduated from the College in 2019 and spent that summer as an intern with infotech consulting firm Booz Allen Hamilton, which has an office in Fayetteville. Thomas participated in the firm's coveted "Summer Games" for students at two-year colleges and four-year institutions.*



# G A M E S

## *More than an internship*

A summer with an international firm opens door for Information Technology grad Jonathan Thomas

Jonathan Thomas spent his summer differently than his fellow graduates from the Class of 2019. He was in Fayetteville, but as a team member of the coveted “Summer Games.”

Thomas earned a spot in the annual internship program offered by infotech consulting firm Booz Allen Hamilton, which has international offices working in consulting, analytics, digital solutions, engineering, and cyber in a range of industries – from defense, to health, to energy, according to its website. The firm receives thousands of applications annually, but only a few hundred spots are filled. Thomas worked in the firm's Fayetteville office. He served as his team's cloud engineer, creating their project's network infrastructure, as they were tasked with “gamifying” training that would help soldiers more quickly detect IEDs (improvised explosive devices).

Thomas was 19 at the time of participating in the 10-week program where teams develop solutions for Booz Allen's clients. He graduated from FTCC with an associate's degree in Information Technology/Systems Security & Analysis.

“I got a lot of hands-on experience with the different industry-level tools and worked closely with those who have worked in the field for some years,” Thomas said. “I was one of the only ones [on my team] that had knowledge of software and techniques for doing things.”

Thomas' interest and understanding of computers began before he became a student on campus. The Fayetteville native grew up around computers and developed more of an interest in the field, thanks to his father. The pair played computer games together. Over time, Thomas' passion for technology began to take form.

“I like the flexibility of the IT world, and I'm able to pivot on my current interests,” he said. “I started with cybersecurity at FTCC but now, I'm

doing cloud and networking.”

While at FTCC, Thomas learned about the Linux operating system from Instructor Chris Herring, the department chair for Systems Security & Analysis. The internship provided Thomas the chance to “really impress” his team's mentors. Thomas did the team's cloud work on Amazon Web Services, learned PHP (hypertext preprocessor) and MySQL (a database management system). He also did extra studying at home to stay on top of his workload.

“While at FTCC, a lot of the tools [that were] taught to me in class, I was able to use in the internship,” he said, even about Linux. “If I hadn't done those classes, I would've been in the weeds a lot. I was one of the only team members that had knowledge of software and techniques for doing things.”

Thomas knew he performed well during the Summer Games. Booz Allen Hamilton agreed. The firm offered him a full-time position in the latter half of 2019 as a Junior Cloud Software Engineer at its Fayetteville office. Thomas said the hands-on class work, thanks to Herring's teaching approach, is similar to what he does at Booz Allen. It's another reason why Thomas would recommend FTCC to someone who asked about the college.

“They start you off with a foundation and build you up, teaching from the ground up,” he said. “It's really helpful and easy to process and digest.”

Thomas sent an email to Herring detailing the summer internship and the job offer. He told Herring he wouldn't have been able to make as much progress in a short time without help from instructors and more at FTCC. He closed the email with four words:

“Thank you for everything.”



## FTCC HOSTS THE OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET

---



*The Global Education Committee and SGA hosted the Oxfam Hunger Banquet, an interactive experience that teaches guests about food distribution and hunger in the world. After a decade of decline, global hunger has unfortunately begun rising again. At the event, guests picked random tickets designating them to a high-, middle-, or low-class tier, based on statistics of people living in poverty. The tickets determined a guest's meal: hearty for rich, rice and potatoes for middle, and rice and water for low. The event allowed guests to share their experiences and stories as a way to educate and help. About 75 people attended the event including FTCC and High School Connections students, faculty, and staff. Oxfam has been providing this experience for more than 70 years and, in that time, helped more than 875,000 people view poverty differently, with the event hosted up to 600 times a year across the world.*







*Pictured is one of the many upscale dishes created by our Culinary Arts students during their classroom instruction or as part of the Meal Service dining experience events on campus that the public can attend. Dishes served on past menus include Shrimp and Scallop Satay and Vegetable Tamale, Steamed Coconut Cake, Ghormeh Sabzi, Knafeh, Prime Rib, and Profiteroles.*



*A student patiently waits for guests at her food station as The Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County celebrated its 45th birthday. The College's Culinary Arts Department's students and instructors created and prepared the menu. Through the years, Culinary Arts has created the menu for events on the College's campus.*

# THE WAY WE COOK

## Culinary Arts shines in Birthday Celebration

The sweet and savory talents of our Culinary Arts students continue to expand beyond the typical classroom. In November 2018, The Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County tapped the College's culinary department to create a colorful, delectable spread for its 45th birthday celebration. The spread included cold canapes, a cheese display, and a variety of stations including a Build-Your-Own Crostini (an Italian appetizer of grilled bread with toppings), fresh fruit, and pasta paired with red and white sauces. Students in Culinary 240 (Advanced Culinary Skills) and 275 (Catering Cuisine) created the dishes, to much fanfare, under the direction of Chef Instructors Carl Miller and Daniel Tippet.

Through the years, an event that continues to draw dozens from the community to our Culinary Dining Room in the Horace Sisk Building is the department's Meal Services every semester. Diners are treated to a sophisticated five-course meal created by the students, inspired by a variety of international cultures and flavors, many served in upscale American restaurants. Students also serve as the waiters during the events. The services are also a graded assignment for students who earn marks for cooking skills, customer service, presentation, and more. The affordable meal, usually costing \$12.96, has included tasty dishes such as Lamb Ouzi, Osso Buco, Crawfish Etouffee, Beignets, Baklava, and Linzer Torte.



# WE REMEMBER







*Lt. Col. Jason R. Wayne, commander of the 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, served as the guest speaker on Sept. 11, 2018, during the 9/11 Observance Ceremony on FTCC's Fayetteville Campus. FTCC annually conducts the ceremony to remember and honor the victims who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Centers in New York City and at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and aboard United Airlines Flight 93, which crashed in a field in Stonycreek Township, Pennsylvania.*



FTCC honors the men and women of our armed forces who commit every day to protect and serve. We recognize the hard work and dedication of our veterans to their studies.

In 2019, Army Public Affairs profiled one of our graduates for doing more than just serving his country since 1999. Sgt. 1st Class Esteban Sepulveda decided to make a career change after years-long pain from corrective back surgery in 2016, stemming from an injury sustained while serving during Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

The choice was a hard one for the soldier. He's had family members serve in the military since World War II, including his father and stepfather.

"I was upset, angry with myself and confused because I didn't know what to expect next. I felt for the first time in my career it was in someone else's hands and I had no control. The reality was my Army career was coming to an end," Sepulveda said. "I started to look at the successful things my family had accomplished through our time in the military, and it reminded me that things could be worse. The military provides you with the opportunity to grow and be successful and have a sense of belonging."

He enrolled in the College's Transition Tech Program, which trains and helps transition current military service members into a rewarding career in the civilian workforce. When Sepulveda and his family moved to Fort Bragg, he focused on information technology. He chose Transition Tech's CompTIA, Network & Security track at FTCC, learning



*Brig. Gen. Donald G. Fryc, 32nd AAMDC Commander, presents Sgt. 1st Class Esteban Sepulveda with the Army Accommodation Award, February 2015. (Photo Courtesy of Sgt. 1st Class Esteban Sepulveda)*

about hardware, operating systems, networking, security and troubleshooting. Attending a job fair and networking with attendees led to Sepulveda receiving two job opportunities.

"I live my life according to a quote from motivational speaker Les Brown: "Accept responsibility for your life. Know that it is you who will get you where you want to go, no one else."

*\*The above are excerpts and a paraphrased summary of the original article "Sgt. 1st Class Esteban Sepulveda: Charting his own path to success," written by Annette P. Gomes, Warrior Care and Transition, for [www.army.mil](http://www.army.mil) released on Feb. 8, 2019.*

Student Jesse Watts represented FTCC at the United States Information Technology Collegiate Conference in Microsoft Office in Galveston, Texas, this school year. He earned his ICCP ISA certification, Institute for Certification of Computing Professionals Information Systems Analyst. The certification exam is comprised of questions from seven areas: information systems, data and information management, IT infrastructure, IS project management, systems analysis and design and IS strategy, and management and acquisition. Kenneth Kleiner, a mobile & web programming instructor at FTCC, said the certification serves as a great resume builder and proves



*Student Jesse Watts represented FTCC at the United States Information Technology Collegiate Conference.*

a level of knowledge has been achieved in a specific skill set. Watts is an Army veteran and serves as the Sergeant at Arms for FTCC's Student Government Association.





In March 2019, some FTCC instructors visited Monroe's Crossroads on Fort Bragg, the site of one of the final battles of the Civil War. The location is one of the places Union General William Tecumseh Sherman led his troops to during his famous march through the Carolinas. Confederate cavalry troops made a surprise attack on the Union encampment, but they lost the fight. The visit by the FTCC contingent was made on the 154th anniversary of the occupation of Fayetteville by Union troops. Dr. Daniel P. Stewart, one of our history and humanities instructors, was instrumental in leading the tour, which was also part of a Professional Development Opportunity for faculty. The tour was based on research by Stewart, which won the California State University Dominguez Hills All-Campus Thesis of the Year in 2004.



*Clockwise from top left: Flags fly for the 9/11 Observance ceremony that FTCC conducted in September, 2018; Lt. Col. Jason R. Wayne, commander of the 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, serves as the guest speaker at the ceremony; bagpipes have become a traditional part of FTCC's 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony; a monument at Monroe's Crossroads on Fort Bragg; Long Street Presbyterian Church, near Monroe's Crossroads.*



# NUMBER 1

FTCC awarded the #1 in Top 10 Gold Category Colleges in US

Military Friendly National Program Manager and Army veteran Brian Hucik presented FTCC President Dr. J. Larry Keen with a plaque for our campus being ranked #1 in the Top 10 Gold Category College Award (large community colleges) by the organization and VIQTORY. The list is created each year based on extensive research using public data sources for more than 8,800 schools nationwide, which includes input from student veterans. Hucik shared a few words: "Today, we celebrate the efforts of Fayetteville Technical Community College for not only being awarded the Military Friendly designation, but for setting a new standard by being named the number-one college in their category. Congratulations ... once again on your hard-earned achievement by supporting the veteran community and truly providing better outcomes for our country's veterans."

# NUMBER 5

FTCC ranked as a top college in 2019 Military Times rankings

In October 2018, Military Times listed FTCC #5 nationally in its "Military Times Best for Vets: Career and Technical Colleges" rankings. In their ninth year, the rankings are based on the results of Military Times' annual survey – the most comprehensive school-by-school assessment of veteran and military student services and rates of academic achievement – as well as a detailed review of public data collected by federal agencies. As is true for all Military Times rankings, Best for Vets: Colleges is an editorially independent, objective, and rigorous news project. This feature evaluates the many factors that help make colleges and universities a good fit for service members, military veterans, and their families. About 500 colleges took part in this year's survey.

# YEARS 100

FTCC celebrates the 100th Anniversary of Armistice Day

FTCC is proud to honor our military service members of today, their sacrifices overseas, in the field, and at home. And as we're proud of those service members here with us today, we hold the same sentiment for those who served and gave the ultimate sacrifice to protect our nation. As we remember them, we reflect on the history. Every year on November 11, FTCC remembers Armistice Day. It marks the armistice signed between the Allies and Germany in 1918, ending World War I. Instructors across various programs collaborated to host a series of events about the war on topics outside of conflict such as technological legacy, music, photography, and literature. The College's events in 2018, reflecting on "the war to end all wars," was a time of not just remembering, but of learning about our nation's history and its impact on today.



The North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs selected Courtney Smedick as the recipient of the year's Military Spouse Recognition/Leadership Award at its ceremony in Raleigh in May. Smedick was one of eight from across the state to receive the honor. The award was presented by North Carolina First Lady Kristin Cooper and North Carolina Department of Military & Veterans Affairs Secretary Larry D. Hall. Smedick's work focuses on the areas of Statewide Integrated Marketing, Events Coordinator for major events, and Government Relations for the North Carolina Military Business Center. Smedick has been married for 13 years to Major Brian Smedick, currently assigned to 3rd Special Forces Group. She's also the mother of two daughters.



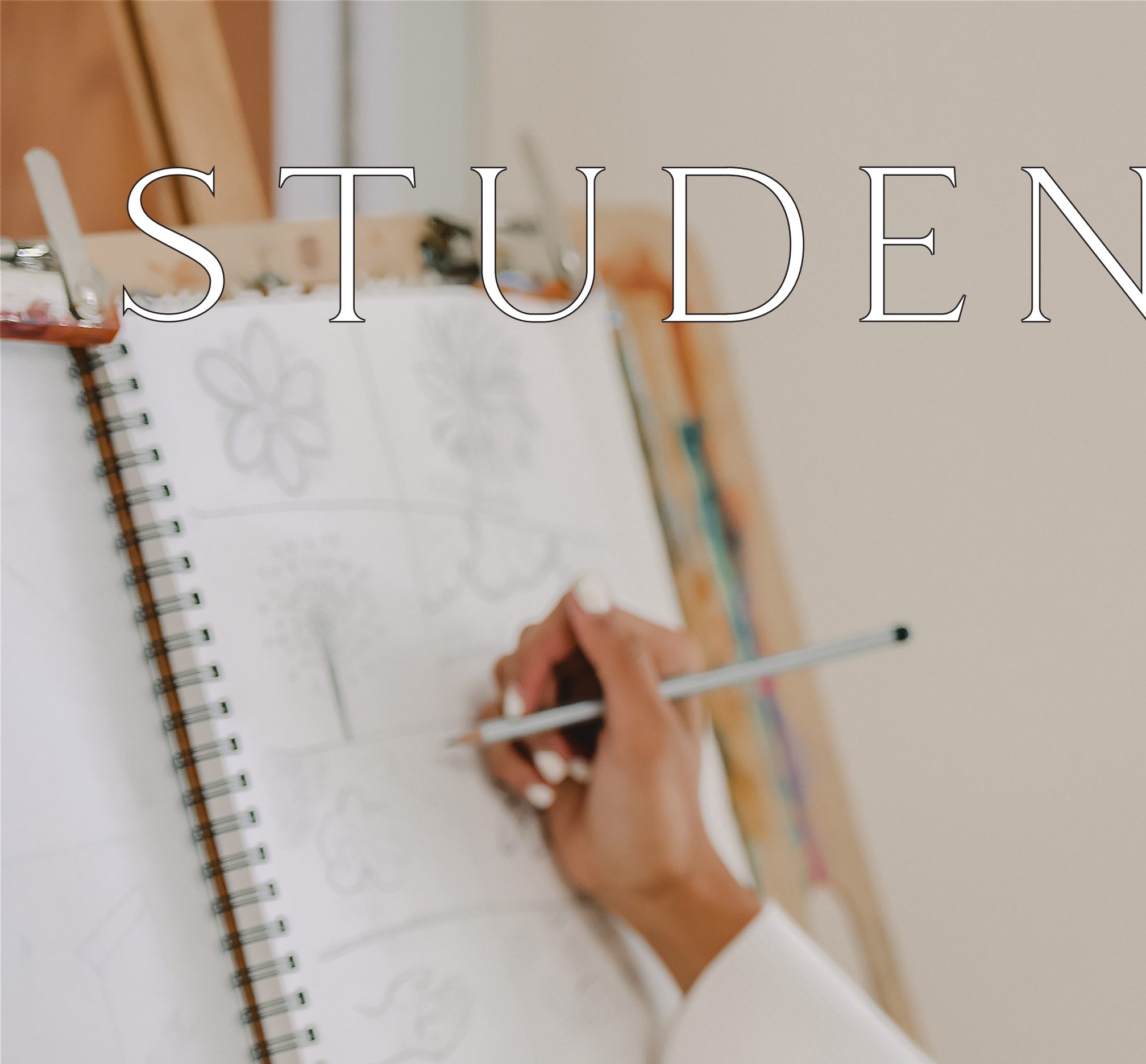
In June 2019, FTCC earned the 2019-2020 Top Military Spouse Friendly® School designation. The Military Spouse Friendly® Schools list is a reliable resource for military spouses and sets a standard for higher education institutions to provide the best post-secondary education experiences for spouses of service members. "The Military Spouse Friendly Schools designation helps military spouses select schools that will support them in their education journey by meeting their unique needs as a part of a military family," said Brian Hucik, National Program Manager, Military Friendly. "Schools that are selected for the list are at the forefront of supporting the goals of military spouses."



FTCC hosted the 18th Annual North Carolina Defense & Economic Development Trade Show & Fort Bragg Business Outreach Event on its Fayetteville campus, spanning the Tony Rand Student Center to the Horace Sisk Gymnasium. The one-day event provides networking opportunities and government procurement workshops for current and prospective federal contractors. The trade show was hosted by United States Senators Richard Burr and Thom Tillis, FTCC, and the North Carolina Military Business Center. The event was also a partnership with the Fort Bragg Garrison and the Mission and Installation Contracting Command at Fort Bragg. The event included more than 100 exhibitors. It typically draws a crowd of more than 600.









# N T LIFE

*Anya Mangroo, 18, found a spot in the Horace Sisk Building to practice her sketching. She drew flowers and worked on her art assignment for the day: creating a 1-point perspective. She chose a hallway, leading to the main breezeway. Mangroo is majoring in culinary arts on campus. The Fayetteville native graduated from Terry Sanford High School.*



we are



**From funeral services to the science lab, students with extraordinary talent show how FTCC changed their lives forever.**

## Student recipient of top scholarship from funeral service provider

Service Corporation International (SCI) named Sarah Bammel, a first-year student at Fayetteville Technical Community College, one of three recipients in 2019 of its namesake Mortuary Science scholarship. It's valued at \$5,000. She's the first student from FTCC to receive the top scholarship award.

Bammel is studying funeral service education. FTCC is the only accredited mortuary school in North Carolina; it's also one of 57 across the nation. Bammel learned of her achievement via phone call. Her first reaction? She screamed. The caller on the other end of the phone wasn't prepared.

"That poor woman... She laughed so hard, but her eardrums are fine," Bammel said with a laugh during a phone interview. "And then I broke down in tears, tears of joy. I couldn't believe it."


A panel selected 50 finalists from more than 100 candidates to receive scholarship awards. Of the finalists, 35 were awarded \$1,000; 12 received \$3,000 and three, \$5,000. SCI calls itself the largest provider of funeral, cremation, and cemetery services in North America,



according to its website. Scholarship applicants must be enrolled in a college or university program with accreditation from the American Board of Funeral Service Education. Applicants must also write an essay and submit a video about helping others and funeral service, according to SCI's website.

Bammel's honor culminated with a trip to Houston, Texas, where she was awarded her scholarship. In Houston, she met other recipients along with funeral industry leaders in a networking opportunity. Bammel also met a funeral director based in New Bern and, later, toured his establishment.



A full-page photograph of a young woman with long brown hair and glasses, wearing a black blazer and skirt. She is standing in a stone archway, with her hands resting on the sides of the arch. The archway is part of a larger building with many similar arches. The ground is paved with red bricks. In the background, a large tree is visible through the archway. The lighting is bright, suggesting it is daytime.

*Sarah Bammel, right and left, a dual student at FTCC and East Carolina University, poses under ECU's cupola on the Mall of the campus. This structure is a replica of the original which sat on top of the Old Austin Building which was demolished in 1968. Students don't walk under the cupola on the busiest days of the semester. There's a widely held superstition within the ECU community that any student who walks under the cupola before they graduate won't graduate in four years.*



“It was one of the best experiences,” she said. “I keep in touch with the people I met in Texas and have built relationships with them. They are all passionate people.”

The scholarship reception also served as the first time Bammel met other students studying in her field as a dual student. She studies online at FTCC. She’s also enrolled at East Carolina University, studying interpersonal relations and business studies. Her major is through the institution’s “university studies” program, allowing her to create her own degree. Bammel graduated from ECU in December 2019. She plans to graduate from FTCC in 2021.

A future in the funeral industry wasn’t always the plan for Bammel. She initially wanted to pursue culinary arts. Her interest changed, shifting to helping people. Then, her family moved from New Jersey to North Carolina, settling in Huntersville. Graduating from William Amos Hough High School required completing a two-year senior project. She chose the Serenity House, a hospice home.

The project required only 15 volunteer hours. Bammel accrued more than 100 before she graduated.

## A NEW OUTLOOK

Bammel was only 16 when she volunteered at Serenity House and she was deeply affected by her experiences there. One patient’s final moments were with Bammel. She and another volunteer made sure the elderly woman was comfortable. Bammel isn’t sure if the woman knew she was there. But Bammel stood by the bed, placing her hand nearby. The patient’s family couldn’t make it in time.

“It was one of the most peaceful things I ever saw,” Bammel recalled. She admitted at first, she didn’t know what to do when the patient died. “We wanted to make sure everyone passed away in a respectable and dignified manner. I realized this was a population I want to work with.”

She added, “My main focus was the patients. Being able to care for others and learn about how we need to take better care of our seniors, it was absolutely amazing. I learned so much about the whole process of healthcare to passing away. It’s a beautiful thing to be there for people as they’re going through the process.”



*Sarah Bammel walks toward Joyner Library in the heart of East Carolina University’s campus. At ECU, Bammel is pursuing university studies with a minor in French and also studying to earn her associate’s degree in funeral service education at FTCC. Bammel’s interest in the field stems from the time she volunteered at a hospice house in western North Carolina. She said, “I learned so much about the whole process of healthcare to passing away. It’s a beautiful thing to be there for people as they’re going through the process.”*





*Sarah Bammel, above, takes a study break inside Joyner Library on East Carolina University's campus. One thing Bammel has learned about the funeral service industry is that it focuses on the needs of the patient and the family. Bammel has known since she was a teenager that she wanted to work in a field helping others. At first, she thought she wanted to become a nurse. Her parents expressed some hesitancy about her choosing the funeral industry as a career but "they're fully on board and fully supportive now that they've seen how passionate I am," Bammel said.*

Bammel also interviewed a local funeral director for her senior project. He became a mentor to her. Others have paused when Bammel tells them the funeral industry is her career choice, given her outward appearance – a petite, young woman, she said. Bammel's passion and the funeral industry's purpose intertwine.

"The entire industry is not about what you want or need, it's about what the client, the patient, and the family needs," she said. "You have to put them above yourself. That was something that resonated with me, and I love it. I knew I belonged in an industry that's really care-oriented, being an advocate for the deceased, the family."

Bammel enrolled into FTCC's program after her freshman year at ECU. FTCC's Department Chair of Funeral Service Education, Ronald Montgomery Jr., encouraged her to apply for the SCI scholarship. Receiving the scholarship was a "godsend" for Bammel because now she won't have to take out a loan. The award will go toward tuition.

Montgomery was the first person Bammel told about the scholarship win.

"I am very proud of her accomplishments, and I look forward to working with her as she progresses through the program," Montgomery wrote in an email. "She has a bright future ahead of her in the profession of funeral service."

## ON THE RIGHT PATH

During summer 2019, Bammel studied abroad in Europe, visiting Strasbourg, France; Germany; castles and even cemeteries. A highlight from the trip was seeing a variety of funeral homes in France and learning the differences between their funeral

industry and America's. She walked down streets and saw multiple funeral homes with flowers and statues in the windows. The trip reinforced why she cares about learning other cultures.

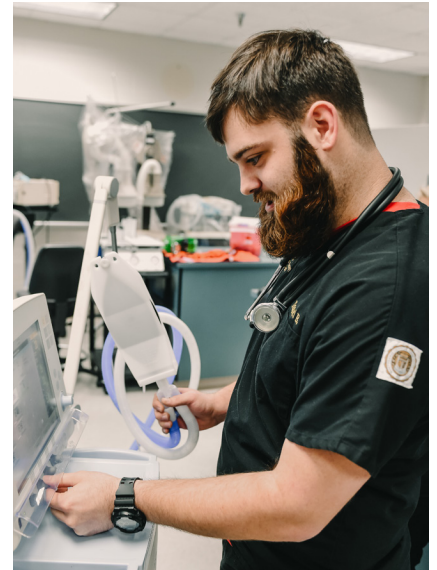
"It's really important to understand the people in your community," she said. "Everyone is so different, and that directly correlates to other peoples' needs. I never thought I would be bilingual, and now that I'm getting good with French, I'm thinking of taking up Spanish."

Looking ahead, Bammel aspires to work as a licensed funeral director and embalmer. She also wants to teach funeral classes as a professor – even internationally. While in school, she's doing work that's not required. She's researching with an ECU professor about how funeral directors use nonverbal communication in the industry. She admitted her research has been met with some criticism from those in the field, suggesting she's wasting her time, even calling it pointless.

There's one thing the SCI scholarship told Bammel: in her own words, she's on the right path. The judges selecting her as a scholarship recipient made Bammel feel heard. And some of the work she's doing, from the research paper to pursuing a bachelor's degree, isn't necessarily required to be successful. She does it because she "wants" to. Receiving the scholarship from the panel and working with mentors reminded Bammel, "They understood all these things I'm doing is for a purpose," she said.

"I don't have to do any of this, but I do it because I'm passionate. Thinking of where I was five years ago, this has become my new life passion, and how much I've changed since then. It will pay off in the end. And without FTCC, this wouldn't be possible. Really."





# THIS IS WHO WE ARE







*What comes to mind when you hear “Fayetteville Technical Community College”? The trades. Arts. Health programs. The Rose Garden. Veterans. Younger students. A community partner. We are all of these things and more. FTCC can be what our students, faculty, staff, community and more need it to be. A place to start. A place to start over. A place to continue what has already been started. There’s a path for the budding graphic designer with aspirations of designing video games. A track for the high school student who is still deciding on a career but wants to double major in arts and science. A route for the blue-collar worker who spent more than 20 years in an office and now wants to pursue construction. The military veteran who served his country and repaired armored vehicles and now wants to do the same at a local dealership. Or the student who wants to save on debt and studies at FTCC for two years before transferring to an elite college or university. As a College offering more than 280 occupational, technical, general education, college transfer and continuing education programs, there’s something for everyone. From the subjects that will become a student’s favorite or hobby, to the friendships developed by walking to class in Cumberland Hall or sitting on a bench waiting for a bus, from the instructors and students who develop a bond with each other that will last after graduation day, this is what has shaped our college since 1961. Our name has changed with the times through the years, but the mission of who we are, and how that goal is met has remained constant and it will last beyond today: to “serve our community as a learning-centered institution to build a globally competitive workforce supporting economic development.” This is what we do. This is who we are. This is what we accomplish together for those now, and the ones who will come after.*

*This is who we are.*







*Double exposure photography by FTCC student Jeannie Dang-Vu, Advertising & Graphic Design Department, 2019.*





One of the department's students also received special recognition in June. Keyon Sakil-Slack won a \$1,000 competition held by Blacksmith Publishing, a local book company serving the needs of America's warriors, owned by Mike Blackburn. Keyon's design was chosen in the company's effort to find a new header for its updated website. Keyon came to FTCC through the High School Connections program and is a 2019 graduate of Pine Forest High School.

# DOUBLE EXPOSURES

*The FTCC Advertising & Graphic Design Department shines with creativity*

The past year brought opportunities and recognition to students studying advertising and graphic design at FTCC. The department hosted the "2019 Portfolio Night" in the Virtual College Center atrium on the Fayetteville campus. The annual event highlighted works of the program's students before they graduated in spring 2019. Portfolio Night welcomed the public, businesses, organizations and others interested in offering employment and freelance opportunities.

The works of FTCC's Advertising & Graphic Design students aren't just seen in the classroom. Examples, using software such as Adobe, can be found around campus. A collage of some works, depicting animals, mythical creatures, and nature, hangs inside the Virtual College Center. Students designed holiday cards, created images centered on themes such as "fantasy," and designed promotional flyers and posters for businesses, organizations and events. Advertising & Graphic Design at the College falls under Computer and Information Technology Programs. At the commencement ceremonies in 2019, more than 15 students graduated from the program with an associate's degree.



*Above, guests look at works of Advertising & Graphic Design students during Portfolio Night. The annual event marks the end of students' time in the program as they prepare for graduation. The event has been held for more than 30 years. The event also allows students to market the brands under which they have created their works. Also displayed at Portfolio Night are examples of illustration and web design. The event usually draws more than 200 attendees.*





# TROJAN





*A Trojan Baseball player gets ready to swing during one of the first games of the inaugural season at J.P. Riddle Stadium. Baseball, as well as women's softball and volleyball, kicked off its first year in 2019.*



TAKE ME OUT TO THE

# BALL GAME







*The J.P. Riddle Stadium and its field became the home of Trojan Men's Baseball. The stadium was given to the College by the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners.*

# It's been a big year ...

In December 2018, the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners voted to gift J.P. Riddle Stadium to FTCC, passing ownership to the College. The men's baseball teams of Fayetteville Technical Community College and Freedom Christian Academy in Fayetteville joined in utilizing the field and stadium over the year.

FTCC acquiring J.P. Riddle Stadium timed perfectly with the inaugural season of Trojan Men's Baseball. The Cumberland County Board of Commissioners voted in December 2018 to give the stadium to the College, ahead of the team's spring 2019 season. At the time, the field was also used by Freedom Christian Academy and the Fayetteville SwampDogs. The baseball team's first game in the stadium was met with much fanfare, which included dozens of fans wearing "Trojan" apparel – even the "foam finger" seen at major sporting events. Also, FTCC's Trojan Mascot made an appearance running between bases and high-fiving excited spectators. FTCC President Dr. J. Larry Keen threw out the game's first pitch before the Trojans took on Virginia's Patrick Henry College to kick off the season.

However, the Trojan baseball team faced adversity before its inaugural season even began. An 11th-hour coaching change resulted in Billy Gaskins taking the reins just days before the Trojans took to the field at J.P. Riddle Stadium.

Despite the scramble, the Trojans got the program's first on-field win nine games into the season, triumphing 14-8 at home over Fulton-Montgomery Community College on March 20.

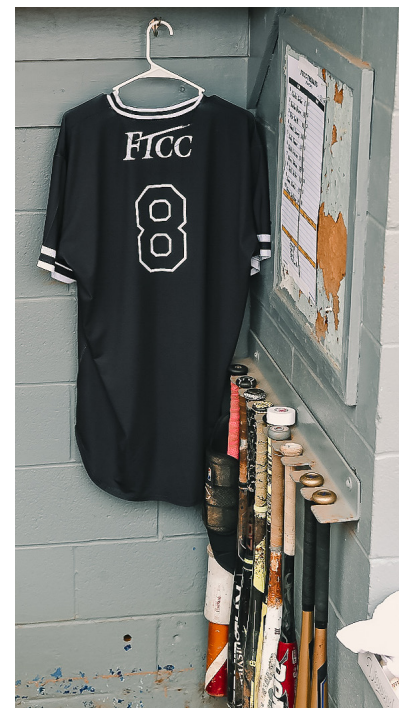
"The players were very responsive to being coached," Gaskins said. "They were eager to learn and eager to work."

The Trojans picked up a trio of wins by forfeit from previously played games and tacked on a late-March win when they split a doubleheader with NCAA Division II Barton College's junior varsity squad.

While the team encountered in-game speed bumps, the players excelled in the classroom, including four who earned NJCAA All-Academic honors.

Carmelo Crespo and Charles Jordan earned second team honors, each posting GPAs better than 3.80. Bruce Elmore and Tyler Glenn made third team with GPAs higher than 3.60.

"They learned to compete, to go out there each day and get better at the college level," Gaskins said. "And they learned how to carry themselves at this level, because we heard at a lot of places we went that we didn't carry ourselves like a first-year program."



*This season, the FTCC Baseball Team mourned the loss of one of its very own. Jersey No. 8 hangs in the Trojan dugout at J.P. Riddle Stadium in memory of Christopher Anthony Zavala, who passed away Tuesday, January 29, 2019. Zavala was a beloved student and talented athlete who played for the Trojan baseball team in its inaugural season.*



# I was a leader ...

Bruce Elmore thought he was done with baseball.

Well into his 20s and on the tail-end of a military career cut short by injury, Elmore figured he'd missed his chance to be a competitive college player — or more.

But almost a decade after he graduated high school, Elmore returned to the classroom and the field as part of Fayetteville Tech's inaugural baseball team.

"I love playing baseball, and it's the reason I'm going to college," he said. "If there wasn't baseball here, maybe I'd be doing something else and not enjoying my time." Elmore had grown up in Fort

Myers, Florida, a hotbed for baseball development. By the time he was a junior in high school, the right-hander was throwing in the low 90s and weighing his options for a college career that might propel him into the majors.

By his senior year, however, the sport was losing its luster.

A head injury suffered near the end of his freshman season sidelined Elmore through the next season, leaving him benched while his team, Riverdale High School, reached the state championship.

He returned to the field the next season but was shifted from the starting rotation to closer, a move

that didn't sit well with a young, eager Elmore.

"I didn't really understand what a closer was, and I had been a starter my whole life up until then," Elmore said. "I don't want to sit around and wait. I want to play."

The frustration was enough to make Elmore transfer to Lehigh, a Riverdale rival, in a move that turned out to be a game-changer.

It was there, just 15 minutes from his old school, that he discovered there was more to the world than just baseball.

"I enjoyed meeting new people and adapting to a new environment," Elmore said. "A couple of my buddies were already set on going to boot camp, and I decided maybe I might look into it."

Eschewing his baseball scholarships, Elmore drove to the recruiting office and signed up.

"I woke up one morning and decided this is what I want to do," he said. "I didn't really care what type of job I got. I just wanted to be in the military. I feel like God was pushing me in that direction."

Elmore reported to basic training in September 2010, and he calls the next eight years "a spiritual battle" of overcoming the challenges of his job as a field artillery specialist while serving at home and on deployment.

"The military molds you into a leader, whether you like it or not," Elmore said. "For me, I didn't like letting people down. Whatever came to task for me, I wanted to give it 110 percent.

That was one of the things I liked about being in the military. I really enjoy being pressured into doing something. Even if you fail, you still learn something, and you see how far you can be pushed."

While Elmore thrived during the high-pressure moments of his service, there were times he couldn't help but wonder if he should have stuck to baseball.

"All my life, I've been trying to figure out what I'm supposed to do, and I'm still like this," Elmore said. "At the time, I was always questioning and asking God, 'Was I supposed to play baseball? Was I supposed to go to college?' Just always second-guessing."

## CURVEBALL

It was just a matter of time before life threw him another curveball. On Oct. 6, 2016, Elmore's parachute failed to open during a training jump at Sicily Drop Zone on Fort Bragg.

"I jumped out, looked up, and I had a squid roll, which is where your parachute is pretty much wrapped up and not opening," Elmore said. "My reserve (parachute) opened up and caught air, but at the same time, I was twisting. My main got wrapped around my reserve, and I just fell."

From what Elmore can remember and gather from the fellow soldier who found him and cut the cords off his parachute, he fell between 500-600 feet.

"I heard what sounded like a giant bat getting cracked," Elmore said. "I don't know if that was my leg or my body. I don't know. But I do

## TEAM STAT LEADERS

### MEN'S BASEBALL

- 1 *Hitting:* Charles Jordan — .345 batting average
- 2 *Production:* Johnnie Lowery — .429 slugging percentage, 21 hits, 5 doubles, 13 RBIs
- 3 *Fielding:* Charles Jordan — .986 fielding percentage
- 4 *Fielding:* Johnnie Lowery — .976 fielding percentage
- 5 *Pitching:* Tamaris Palmer — 36.1 innings pitched, 34 strikeouts





*As a paratrooper, Bruce Elmore was a leader. He loved the purpose his life had while he was in the military. Then, after an unexpected accident, his life changed completely. He was looking for a way to get things back on track, and that track turned out to be FTCC. As part of the Trojan baseball team, Elmore said he found his new purpose in leadership. Wherever his path might lead, Elmore wants to use his experiences to help others, showing them that the stumbles along the way are part of the journey to success.*

know I was getting dragged and choked about 100 yards.”

He had a shattered lower left leg that required three surgeries, a plate and 20 screws, plenty of time to heal, and medication to manage the pain.

“I went through a lot of therapy with the Army, but I really wasn’t getting any better,” Elmore said. “Finally, one of the doctors said they were going to have to med-board me out of the Army.”

Between the pain from his injuries, stress of undergoing the medical retirement process, and an additional surgery to address an unrelated

respiratory issue, Elmore found himself with a growing dependence on prescription pain relievers.

“I didn’t understand that those pills were supposed to be a short-term solution,” Elmore said. “That went on for over a year, and I didn’t even realize it was a problem at first. And I was still in pain.”

Elmore, separated from the Army since June 7, 2018, sought a different course of treatment through the civilian health care system and credits the successful physical therapy and treatment he found there with helping him ditch his need for medication.

“I woke up one day and I said, ‘You know what? Things are going to change, and you’ve got to figure it out,’” Elmore said. “I spent some money to get good therapy. I started working out and getting stronger.”

Despite those improvements, Elmore missed the structure and the camaraderie of military life.

“There’s almost too much freedom once you’re out,” Elmore said. “Yes, you have the freedom to make certain choices when you’re in, but you have mentors and leadership to help you. And you have people who understand what you’re going through. You really only get that in the military or on sports teams.”

“I started getting back into pitching, working on my slider and my split. It all came back to me like it was something natural, and it felt really good.”

— *Bruce Elmore, FTCC Baseball Team*



## ABOARD

Elmore's first foray back into sports was with an on-post softball team. Then, he reached out to an amateur baseball league in the Raleigh area.

"I started getting back into pitching, working on my slider and my split," Elmore said. "It all came back to me like it was something natural, and it felt really good."

While Elmore was out shopping for cleats, he heard that FTCC was starting up a baseball program with the inaugural season planned for the 2018-19 school year.

"When I heard about that, instantly, I thought that I might be able to contribute," Elmore said.

Elmore played in a baseball game in Raleigh the following Saturday and showed up to tryouts for FTCC on Sunday, thinking back-to-back days of playing wouldn't be a problem for a then-26-year-old getting back into baseball shape.

"Absolutely not," Elmore said, laughing. "Once you get older, it's not the same. On top of that, I'd just got claimed with 19 different things. I've got arthritis in my wrist, my shoulders, my back, both of my ankles have been broken."

Elmore needed two more tryouts to make the Trojans' inaugural roster.

Elmore's return to school and sports was part of a major adjustment period for him, his wife of three years, Danielle, and the couple's daughter Kaia, who will turn 2 this winter.

"I had to adapt to the new environment of being a civilian again. It's still hard," Elmore said.

With almost a decade of age and experience on most of his teammates, Elmore expected to step into a leadership role smoothly. It didn't take.

"I was an NCO. I was a leader. I thought I could lead these guys," Elmore said. "It was hard to adapt to the younger students. Their thought process, the way they look at life, the way they manage their time, the things they complain about. It was hard for the NCO background not to come out."

Fayetteville Tech baseball coach Billy Gaskins could see the value of having someone with Elmore's experience on a new, young squad.



*Despite injury, Elmore made his way back to solid ground and recovery through sports. He wants his story and struggles to inspire others to get themselves out of a rut. As Elmore says, "You have to be able to bounce back from your failures and succeed. The only reason you can't is if you quit."*

"He's a great presence to have in the dugout or the locker room for our younger guys," Gaskins said. "He's a great human being with a great work ethic. Being retired military, he brings that background to our team."

Elmore decided to focus on improving his own game, pouring his time and energy into sharpening his skills as a pitcher.

"I saw him grow as the season went along," Gaskins said. "He saw himself as a starter, but I told him he was a long-relief guy or a closer. I told him to trust the process and work toward that."

Elmore eventually settled in as a closer, tying teammate Tyler Dove for most appearances on the mound with 10. He relished the chance to enter a game in a tense situation.

"Since my mental game is where it's at, I can go into stressful situations and be very calm," Elmore said. "And I love that. Bases loaded, one out, top

three batters from the other side coming up — I love that. I love to show people what I got."

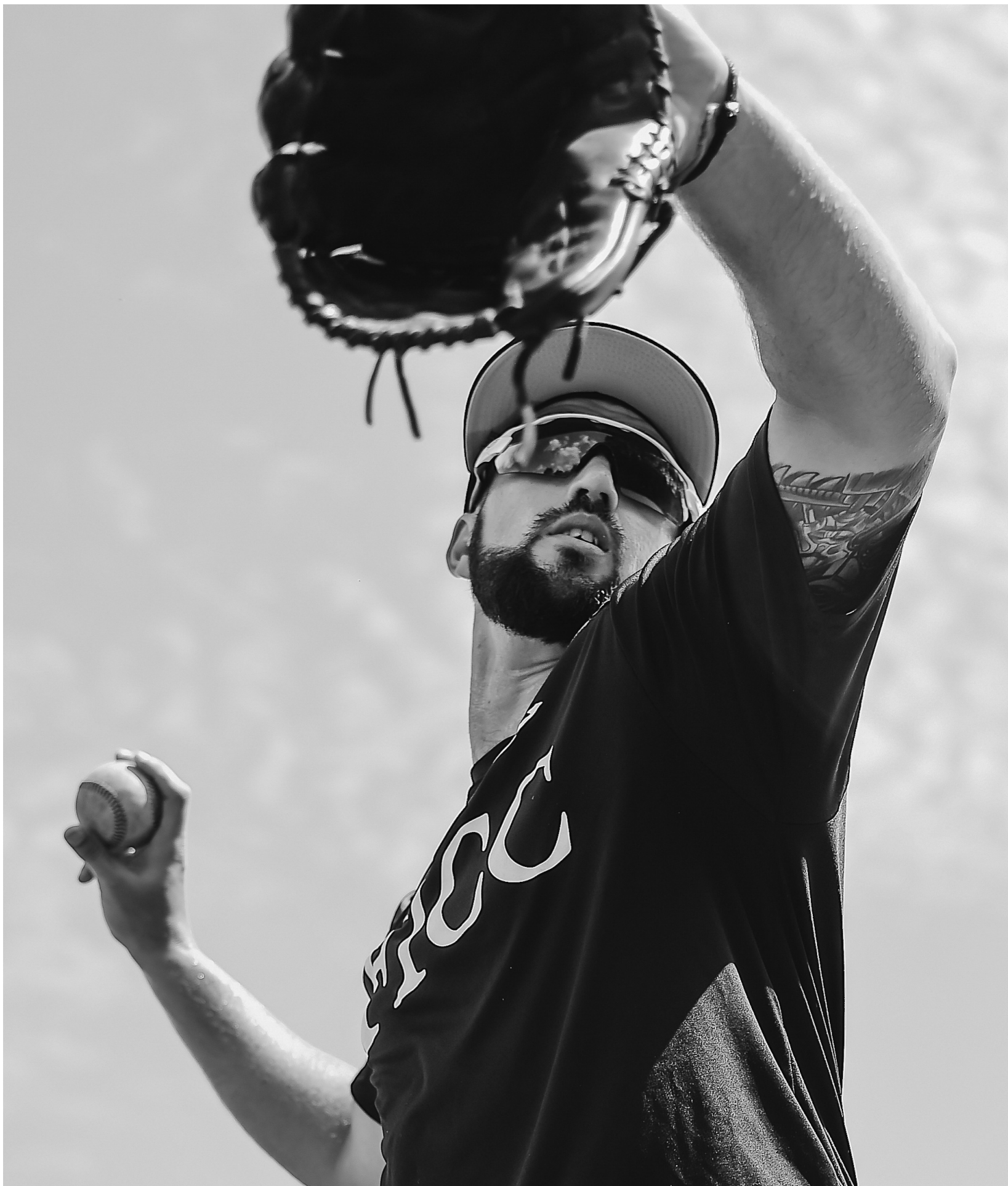
Back in a regimen of training and competing, Elmore has again to kick up the idea of chasing his dream of being a professional ballplayer.

"I really have to dig deep and decide what I want," Elmore said. "Doing this at my age with a wife and a kid and bills and everything that I have, it can be very stressful. It's a sacrifice. But if you want to make your dream and really do it, you have to sacrifice some things."

Wherever his path might lead, Elmore wants to use his experiences to show others that stumbles are part of the journey to success.

"I really want to use my story to help others get out of that rut. You have to be able to bounce back from your failures and succeed. The only reason you can't is if you quit. Then your whole life, you're going to wonder what would have happened if you didn't quit."







A background image showing a basketball game in progress. Several players' arms are raised high, reaching towards the basket. The scene is slightly blurred, emphasizing the action. The text "NEVER STOP" is overlaid in the center in a large, white, outlined font. A large black triangle is positioned in the bottom-left corner of the image.

# NEVER STOP





# REACHING

The season highlights from basketball, volleyball and softball show the growth of the sports department at FTCC

*Taylor Rowe from the Lady Trojans basketball team reaches to shoot the ball in the basket during a home game. The Trojans capped the season with their second straight Region 10 Division II tournament appearance.*



## This season brings challenges and triumphs to the Lady Trojans

FTCC's women's basketball team opened the 2018-2019 season full of promise, winning five of its first six contests.

That stretch included three wins over conference competitors USC Salkehatchie, Wake Tech, and Lenoir CC, and the Trojans looked buoyed after coming off the program's first postseason appearance in March 2017.

The Trojans entered the holiday break at 6-4.

But stretched thin by injuries just as they entered the toughest part of their conference schedule, the Trojans tacked on just three more wins to the season total in January and February.

Nonetheless, the Trojans capped the season with their second straight Region 10 Division II tournament appearance.

Freshman guard Kiana Gravely led the team in scoring, averaging 14.4 points per game. She shot better than 20 percent from behind the 3-point arc and averaged 3.1 steals per game.

Forward Rarshara Gilbert added 11.6 points on average and pulled down a team-high 10.1 rebounds per game.

The season would be the team's last under the direction of head coach Eric Tucker, who coached the team since its inception in 2016-2017. Tucker, who entered FTCC with decades of coaching experience under his belt, posted a 26-48 record in three seasons.







## Men's Basketball makes its second straight regional tournament appearance

Fresh off an appearance in the 2018 Region 10 tournament, the Trojans opened the 2018-2019 season on a hot streak. After a narrow loss in the season-opener, FTCC went on a seven-game tear and entered the winter break at 8-5.

“We were very long and athletic, and we had a bunch of sophomores, so we had some experience that helped us get wins early against some quality teams,” head coach Brian Hurd said.

The Trojans overcame some key injuries, including the loss of starting point guard Josh Haymer, who tore his ACL after two games.

Despite those losses, the Trojans made their second straight regional tournament appearance, claiming the No. 10 seed in the 12-team bracket.

The team pulled an unkind draw, facing off in the opening round against Davidson County, which was leading the NJCAA in points per game at the start of the tournament.

The result was a season-ending loss for the Trojans, although two Trojans earned individual recognition as members of the All-Region 10 Division II team.

Forward Johnny Hughes was a second-team honoree, while guard Zach Boggs made the third team.

Boggs led the team in scoring, averaging 15.4 points per game, and shot 41.3 percent from the field. Boggs was also an NJCAA All-Academic honoree.

Hughes averaged 15.1 points and pulled down 11 rebounds per game, second best in the conference.

“We had seven of our nine sophomores go on to four-year schools,” Hurd said.

“We may not have reached our potential in wins and losses, but our players really excelled at the junior college experience, which is to come in, develop, get your education, and prepare for the next level.”

### TEAM STAT LEADERS

#### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

1

*Scoring:* Kiana Gravely — 14.4 points per game, 30.4 3-point percentage

2

*Rebounding:* Rarshara Gilbert — 10.1 rebounds per game (5.3 offense, 4.8 defense)

3

*Assists:* Kiana Gravely — 2.9 points per game

4

*Steals:* Kiana Gravely — 3.1 steals per game

#### MEN'S BASKETBALL

1

*Scoring:* Zach Boggs — 15.4 points per game, 37.5 3-point percentage

2

*Rebounding:* Johnny Hughes — 11.0 rebounds per game (3.6 offense, 7.5 defense)

3

*Assists:* Stephon Lloyd — 3.6 assists per game

4

*Steals:* Joshua Haymer — 2.0 steals per game





# Trojan women's volleyball opens inaugural season

## TEAM STAT LEADERS

### WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

1

**Hitting:** Da’Nya McPhatter — 166 kills, 3.07 kills/set, .242 attack percentage

2

**Setting:** Krislyn Bullard — 255 assists, 4.32 assists/set

3

**Serving:** Jessica Ware — 42 aces

4

**Digs:** Jessica Ware — 242 digs, 4.03 digs per set

5

**Blocks:** Da’Nya McPhatter — 33 blocks, 0.61 blocks/set

In the program’s inaugural season, the Trojan volleyball team fielded an 11-player roster of mostly local talent, recruited by coach Moe Licardo, who had decades of coaching experience in the area before stepping in to build the FTCC program from scratch.

“We were looking for players that were coachable, and we found them, obviously, because we got better as we went along,” Licardo said. “We progressed every day, and our record showed that. We were a much better team at the end of the season than we were at the beginning.”

The team suffered through the typical growing pains of a novice program, opening the year 0-5. But the Trojans showed promise and a penchant for big play at the net, averaging 9.73 kills per set to opponents’ 7.73.

Quality setting by freshman Krislyn Bullard and sophomore Emily Bresee fed the attack. Bullard tallied

255 assists at a pace of 4.32 per set by season’s end. Bresee had 182, averaging 3.03.

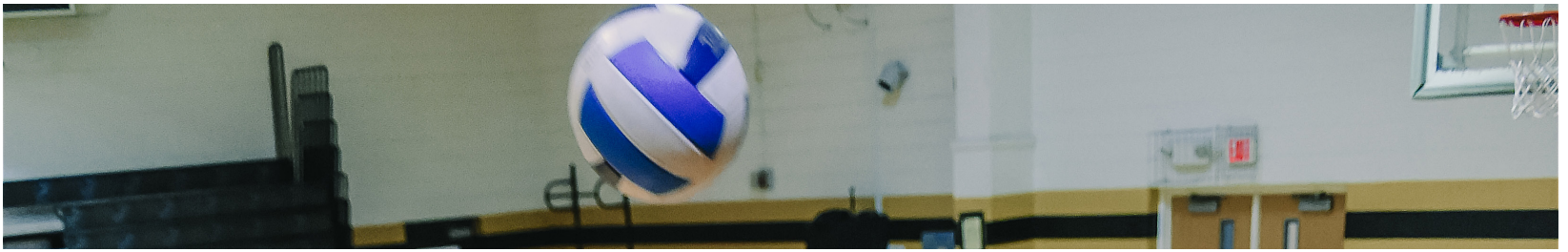
Six-footer Da’Nya McPhatter bolstered the Trojans up front. The middle blocker led the team in kills with 166, averaging 3.07 per set, and blocks, tallying 33 on the season.

By early October, the team had turned a corner, marching to six wins in two weeks before ending the season with a 6-11 mark.

Sophomores Jessica Ware and Christiana Murray earned All-Region 10 honors. Ware, who moved from libero to outside hitter to fill in for injured players, averaged 4.03 digs per set, while outside hitter Murray averaged 2.17 kills.

“Jess was a catalyst for us, and she gave the team someone to look at and model themselves after,” Licardo said. “Our players did whatever it took to succeed without worrying about their own comfort level.”





WE PROGRESSED EVERY DAY, AND OUR RECORD SHOWED THAT – COACH MOE LICARDO







*#13 Ashley Loftin practices her pitching before a game during the inaugural season of the Lady Trojans Softball team.*



## Women's softball opens inaugural season

The Trojans softball team is the first athletic program in FTCC history to reach the Region 10 Division II tournament in its inaugural season of play.

“We set a goal before the start of the season of making the tournament,” head coach Miguel Justiniano said. “And through hard work, and a lot of effort from our experienced assistant coach (Keith Edgerton), we kept everybody focused on that goal.”

After some early struggles in its nonconference slate, FTCC picked up a pair of wins over NCAA Division III Methodist University in mid-February. But it was in early March, Justiniano said, that the team really ignited, spurred on by a come-from-behind win over Patrick Henry College on the road.

“We fell behind there and came back and won,” the coach said. “That was a turning point for us, and we realized then that we could compete with anybody.”

The Trojans, made up of a roster of all freshmen, grabbed six wins in the month and slid into the No. 8 seed in the regional tournament.

The season ended in a one-run defeat, but three Trojans did earn individual honors for their regular-season performances.

First baseman Ashlee Naylor and second baseman Hayden Smith made first-team All-Region 10. Naylor led the team in home runs (7), RBIs (29) and slugging percentage (.626), finishing the year with a .343 batting average.

Smith hit .347 and drove in 23 runs, while drawing a team-high 23 walks. She had 12 extra-base hits, including a team-high eight doubles.

Center fielder Grayson Lewis earned second-team honors. She led the team in batting average, hitting .376 for the season.

## TEAM STAT LEADERS

### WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

1

*Hitting:* Grayson Lewis — .376 batting average, 38 hits, 3 triples

2

*Production:* Ashlee Naylor — .626 slugging percentage, 7 home runs, 29 RBIs

3

*Fielding:* Taylor Brown — .962 fielding percentage

4

*Pitching:* Ashley Loftin — 22 appearances, 96.1 innings pitched, 2.32 strikeouts per 7 innings





"We set a goal before the start of the season of making the tournament. And through hard work ... we kept everybody focused on that goal."

– Coach Miguel Justiniano

## Trojan players on the NJCAA All-Academic team

- Christiana Murray, volleyball, First Team NJCAA All-Academic
- Carmelo Crespo, baseball, Second Team NJCAA All-Academic
- Charles Jordan, baseball, Second Team NJCAA All-Academic
- Krislyn Bullard, volleyball, Second Team NJCAA All-Academic
- Cameron Motes, softball, Second Team NJCAA All-Academic
- Bruce Elmore, baseball, Third Team NJCAA All-Academic
- Tyler Glenn, baseball, Third Team NJCAA All-Academic
- Zach Boggs, men's basketball, Third Team NJCAA All-Academic
- Danielle Gray, volleyball, Third Team NJCAA All-Academic
- Jill Recod, volleyball, Third Team NJCAA All-Academic





# OUR PEOPLE





# PEOPLE

*In April 2019, FTCC's Arts Department showed the exhibit "Artist at Work." The art exhibit displayed works from FTCC's faculty members, which included ceramics, sculptures, paintings, drawings and more. The work in the above photo, called "Metamorph," is made from mid-range clay and paint. The piece was created by instructor Robin Teas. She shared this about her work: "I find that if I am asking relevant, challenging questions of my students, I also will challenge myself... it also compels me to ask questions in my studio work, thus deepening my practice."*



# IN THEIR OWN WORDS

*Faculty share experiences about the programs they love, students they've helped, and their plans for the future*



*Torie Quismundo first started teaching on Fort Bragg while she was still enlisted. After her time in service was complete, Torie went on to become a full-time instructor for FTCC, teaching computer basics classes and sharing her love for information technology by teaching professional development.*

## Torie Quismundo

### Computer Information Technology

***Torie, tell us: how long have you been with FTCC, and what are some things you love about your job?***

I was a soldier in Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 82D Signal Battalion, when I met Roseann Thomas, the Department Chair and Dean for Computer Technology at FTCC. I had just completed my master's degree. She offered a part-time teaching job with FTCC on Fort Bragg. I was a Specialist at the time, teaching a class of non-commissioned officers well above my rank. I would leave work every day, change into civilian clothes, and teach the night class on Fort Bragg.

After ending my time with the Army, I taught at South View High School while still teaching part time at FTCC. My new boss, Roseann, invited me to submit my resume for a full-time position on main campus. She explained that I would love FTCC's "teacher heaven" because it did not include bus duty, sporting event duty, or lunch duty. I applied and was hired at FTCC, where I have been teaching full-time for 16 years now. I am still grateful to Roseann for prompting me to apply for this "teacher heaven" because it has become more than just a job but a place I love. I teach the computer basics classes for the PC Support

& Services Department under the Computer Information Technology area. I was one of the first online instructors to vet Blackboard, and I still teach online to this day. I also proctor the Microsoft Office Specialist Certification testing, helping many students and faculty. I love the freedom of my job where I can learn new technology. Often, I can incorporate them into my courses or teach new technology in professional development. In the fall, I will start my construction degree with a blueprints class.

***What do you feel you do to help students in computer science?***

I am one of the first instructors students encounter at FTCC. When I teach at Fort Bragg, I've found that many soldiers are new to computers and education. My computer class does not have a prerequisite, and students can jump into it without testing. Often, students will use this class as a gateway to education. It's my job every day to embrace students and show them education is possible.

Many students come into the class thinking they know how to use computers, but after a five-minute overview, they realize they are not as educated as they assumed. My class teaches the students how to dig deep and learn how to use the



software properly, and students learn the basics of computer knowledge which will help them build their skills for other classes at FTCC.

***How do you think that computer science at FTCC impacts our community in Fayetteville?***

I teach at FTCC, but the education does not stop there. I have taught classes at the Fayetteville VA Medical Center, Cumberland County Schools, The City of Fayetteville, Boy Scouts of America and through Continuing Education Business Industry. From the second we wake up, we are in touch with technology. From cell phones, alarm clocks, the coffee pot and even my dog door, everything is based on technology. At FTCC, we take students and show them how to streamline their skills into a more educational mindset so they can prove employability. Our department showcases students' skills, and the City of Fayetteville has hired many of our computer students. The Management Information Systems Director of the city has opened constant communication and hired our students for work-based learning and internships.

***Are there any collaborations that are upcoming for your department? Who have you partnered with in the past?***

We have a lot of partnerships, and teaching in a computer department is just one category. We offer networking, security, gaming, animation, graphic arts, and much more. The instructors cross-train to become better prepared to assist the students in their educational plans. I have taken a gaming class and plan to learn video and animation as well. When we as teachers can understand other content, we all grow and support the department and students. We are also collaborating with FTCC employees. Our goal, in this department, is to educate everyone. We are currently offering a program to administrative assistants which will assist them with their daily computer skills, become more effective with their tasks, and push them to build their resumes. This program gives assistants the opportunity to use their free class option and take a computer class which offers Microsoft Office Certification.

***What are some future goals in computer science for this year?***

The PC Support & Services Department and Computer Information Technology plan to reach



“Some students will quickly tell you why they can not complete a task or assignment. The silent ones are the students who, when they share, share from the heart.”

younger students, especially recent high school graduates. FTCC has opportunities for students using the “2 and 2” format where students can attend FTCC for two years and enter a university as a junior with less debt for their education.

High school students can also take college classes for free by dual-enrolling in our program. Many high school students do not understand the benefit and ease of completing a two-year degree while still in high school, but it's our goal to showcase the opportunities we can offer to educate at a free or reasonable cost.

***Is there one student who has stood out to you during your time here? Would you mind sharing?***

Where would I start? Each student has a story, a desire, a roadblock, a dream. When I take the time to talk to students and learn their goals, the class becomes more personal. Some students will quickly tell you why they can not complete a task or assignment. The silent ones are the students who, when they share, share from the heart.

I accepted a work study student in the 2018 spring term who was a soon-to-be graduate in my department. His name was Peyton. He did not have a driver's license at the age of 23, and he planned to graduate from FTCC in a semester. He was still living at home with his parents and hoped for something bigger.

While a work study student, he earned his Microsoft Office Specialist certifications for free from our department. Peyton worked on some educational videos, where he learned audio and voice-overs for educational software, and graduated.

I received a message from Peyton a month after graduation. He was homeless and needed guidance, help, and someone to care. I asked him to give me 48 hours to see what I could do. I was not able to get him a computer job on short notice, but I did get him a job working construction with Bryan, a man who poured concrete for my driveway a few months earlier. Bryan gave Peyton a place to stay, helped him pass his driver's license test, gave him experience driving company vehicles, and paid him well.

I know what you are thinking, “He spent two years earning a degree that he didn't use.” Not true! Peyton worked concrete for five months. He grew physically, mentally, and emotionally.

After 5 months of hard work, he applied for a position with a technology firm who needed someone skilled in construction and computers. Peyton has stopped by to see me every semester, and I feel he has made more of an impact on me than I made on him.



# Lori Kiel – Mathematics

## *Tell us a little about yourself.*

I have been with FTCC since January 2001 and am currently the Division Chair of Mathematics. I love teaching and I love helping people – as Division Chair, my role is to assist both students and faculty.

## *What do you feel you do to help students as Division Chair and Instructor?*

As an instructor, I have a direct role in helping students to understand, apply, and gain confidence in their ability to use mathematics. As Division Chair, I advise students, help them to solve problems, and assist with conflict resolution between students or between a student and an instructor.

## *How do you feel mathematics impacts the greater Fayetteville Community?*

Almost every program at FTCC requires math at some level. That is a reflection of how important mathematics is not just in the workplace, but also to function in society. The basic math concepts and skills needed to be a productive member of the community fall under the category of what we call “quantitative literacy” and include an understanding of ratios, percent, basic geometry, personal finance, how to read and interpret charts and graphs, and measures of central tendency. Students who take higher-level math courses are equipped to pursue a variety of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) careers that are currently in high demand both locally and throughout the state.

## *Are there any exciting collaborations that are upcoming for your department?*

In the past, we have partnered with many program areas to provide customized math instruction. For the second consecutive summer, we are working with Horticulture to teach MAT 110 with applications relevant to that program and to teach the course out at the Wesley A. Meredith Horticulture Educational Center. I have also been approached by carpentry instructor Charles Vanheusen to design a MAT 110 class tailored to the Building Construction Technology program.



“It is equally satisfying to help a student overcome deeply entrenched math anxiety and make it through that one math class that stands between them ... and their associate’s degree.”

## *Are there any students whose stories stand out to you?*

There are many students who stand out for their talent, hard work, and potential. They go on to pursue goals of higher education and exciting careers. Several reach out to share milestones with us, such as completing their bachelor’s degree, going on to a graduate program, and landing the job that was their goal. As wonderful as these successes are, it is equally satisfying to help a student overcome deeply entrenched math anxiety and make it through that one math class that stands between them and completion of their associate’s degree.

Your question reminded me of a recent graduate. Here is one student’s story which was relayed to me by math instructor Michelle Robinson: “Like many students, she was terrified of math. She had taken the MAT 143 course previously without success because her fear of math and fear of failure got the best of her. This was the only class she needed to graduate, and she had all but given up on her goal of graduating. There were days when she would come to class in tears because she had such an overwhelming fear of not being able to understand the material. Almost every day before class started, I would give her a pep talk to calm her down so that she could allow herself to learn. I did everything in my power to help calm her fears and make her comfortable in class. On test days, she would cry the whole time while taking the test. On many occasions she wanted to give up, but I would not allow her that option. Though her test scores were not the best and she shed many tears, she did pass the course.

At graduation, she was in line to go up on stage to receive her degree, and we saw each other. She came up to me and gave me the biggest hug and said thank you. I was so proud of her for fighting through her fear and accomplishing her goal!”

## *What are some future goals in mathematics for this year?*

In the fall, we begin a pilot of the Reinforced Instruction for Student Excellence (RISE) program. In a nutshell, RISE replaces prerequisite developmental math courses with co-requisite “just in time” instruction and support. Many students who previously would have been required to complete a developmental math course before being eligible to take the “gateway” math course required in their program will now be able to go directly into their required math course and take a co-requisite course along with it. A couple expected benefits of the new program are increased retention of students and increased success in the gateway math course. We are working diligently to prepare for the new co-requisite model and are excited to have the opportunity to participate in the pilot and provide feedback to the state.





*Lori Kiel has been with FTCC for almost 20 years and serves as the Division Chair of Mathematics. She takes her job seriously, seeing math as a gateway to STEM careers that are in high demand throughout the United States. She says that though seeing students succeed after FTCC is rewarding, it is just as satisfying to see someone overcome math anxiety and pass coursework that some students find to be very challenging.*



# Dr. Rondell Bennett



*Dr. Rondell Bennett loves working face to face with students as the Department Chair of Early Childhood Education. She comes from a military family and married her high school sweetheart who served in the Army as they traveled the world together. Bennett and her family have lived in North Carolina for nearly 20 years.*

## Public Service Programs

***Thanks for taking some time out of your busy schedule to chat today. Can you tell me a little bit about what you do here at FTCC, and what you love about your job?***

I'm the Early Childhood Education Department Chair and an adjunct instructor at FTCC. I teach the intern students as well, and the program has had an influx of enrollment over the last three to four years. The response to our new coursework has been phenomenal.

I love working face to face with students in the classroom environment. Even though our online component continues to expand and grow, I still love getting to sit in the office and just chat with students.

***You seem to be a hands-on instructor. How do you feel that has impacted your students?***

I hope my job is a role model for students, whether in their jobs or future education. As a classroom teacher, I want to be a role model and show students that you can do anything you set your mind to. Many of our students are childcare center workers, and I want to encourage them to pursue their passion and find their niche.

***So I have to ask: how did you become interested in early childhood education? And what brought you to the Fayetteville area?***

I came from a military family. I married my high school sweetheart, who was in the Army. I moved around the world from Washington, Texas, Germany, and finally, North Carolina, where my husband retired. I've been here 18 years. During the years of transitions, I was always trying to find my niche in education: what I loved, what age groups I liked working with, and so forth. I always encourage students that where you start your educational journey is not always where you finish up. Your education and career are always evolving. Find what you are most passionate about, and pursue it.

***That's so inspiring. Do you feel that early childhood education really impacts the Fayetteville area?***

Because we live in a transient community due to the military, our program touches people around the world. The online component of our program benefits our military students, especially because whenever the military calls for a move, students can take their education with them and not miss a beat, as opposed to a traditional brick-and-mortar classroom setting.

We also offer a general degree that works with the UNC network schools and can transfer so that students start as a junior at a university.



***What are some partnerships that you feel make an impact within the Fayetteville area?***

We partner with the Dorothy Spainhour Child Development Center for children with special abilities to give our students a hands-on approach to special education. We also work with the Children's Center here at FTCC, and KinderCare is part of our advisory board. Other partnerships include the Cumberland County Schools, the Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, and the Child Development Centers on Fort Bragg. We actually have a memorandum with the Department of Defense where we accept teacher modules for course credits, so when instructors from Fort Bragg take courses, they can receive up to 15 credit hours for their previous work. We also have a partnership with the early childhood development program through Purdue Global.

***As an educator, are there any success stories you'd like to share about your students?***

There are so many students that stand out to me. We had our first student from the 1+1 partnership with Purdue graduate in May. Also, many of our students who transfer end up graduating from our partnership campuses like Mount Olive University, East Carolina University, and the other UNC system schools. It's always so exciting to see where they're going next.

***You've mentioned your NAEYC accreditation. What is that?***

We are currently accredited through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). As our accreditation comes up for renewal this year, we want to focus on how we are fulfilling educational goals and preparing our students for the next step in their careers. The report has covered the program in rigorous detail and assures that we're offering a quality childhood program. It also validates that we're giving students what they need and giving them an excellent transition in their education and career goals.

***Let's talk about your upcoming goals. What are those?***

I'd like to show off our transition program. All the credits from our degree program are currently accepted at the UNC system schools that we have an articulation agreement with.



“Your education and career are always evolving. Find what you are most passionate about, and pursue it.”

However, those classes aren't always put in the proper slots. We are currently meeting with schools that we have articulation agreements with to ensure that we are offering the proper classes that students need to graduate as quickly as possible once they transfer.

We are also making sure that we are adding classes to the curriculum if we need to.

***With these goals in mind, where do you see the Early Childhood Education Program in three years?***

I see us re-accredited and firming up our partnerships with the UNC system, including East Carolina University, Fayetteville State University, and Mount Olive University. That way, students who graduate from our program can transfer to any UNC system school that offers any birth to kindergarten degree. I also see us deepening our connection with the Childhood Development Centers on Fort Bragg. In fact, that's where I'm heading right now, to meet with them and discuss some upcoming modules and setting up proper coursework.



# Daniel Stewart — Humanities



*Daniel Stewart, humanities instructor at FTCC, is passionate about sharing the impact the humanities have on students and local culture. Always looking for a way to connect coursework with real life, Stewart loves to use examples from past to present to demonstrate the impact humanities have on history and humans alike.*

## ***Daniel, what's your story?***

I retired from the U.S. Army in July 2005 and began teaching as an adjunct instructor of both history and humanities in the fall 2005 semester. My master's degree is in humanities with a concentration in history. I transitioned from adjunct to full-time humanities instructor in the fall 2009 semester. I genuinely love to teach and spend time with students. I especially enjoy when students make connections between concepts covered in humanities classes with those in other disciplines.

## ***What do you feel you do to help students in humanities?***

There are so many ways that my job as a humanities instructor impacts students. Humanities provide students with inspiration. We often forget that many of the great inventors, scientists, and entrepreneurs were inspired to do what they do by the humanities. A couple of great examples include Robert H. Goddard, inventor of the liquid-chemical rocket and father of American rocket/space technology. Goddard was inspired by the science fiction stories popular in his youth, most notably those of H.G. Wells.

More recently, Elon Musk, a space entrepreneur, demonstrated his own inspiration from the humanities when he launched a Tesla Roadster into space in an homage to the science fiction film "Heavy Metal." While STEM courses teach us how to do things, the humanities provide us with the imagination to envision what we want to achieve. From Icarus in Greek mythology to the early science fiction of Jules Verne, the humanities have inspired first flight and then flight beyond our world. If I can remind students that it is important to imagine, then I am doing my job. The



student who dreams of great things now may become the future inventor.

***How do you feel your work in humanities impacts our community in Fayetteville?***

Fayetteville is deeply impacted by the humanities. It is a city with a fantastic history that students must be introduced to. By reflecting on the struggles of past generations in our community, we can learn how to better face the challenges of our own time. Humanities includes all fields that explore what it means to be human. This can include the visual and performing arts, literature and film, philosophy, history, and religion.

When I teach courses in the humanities, I always try to incorporate the effects of broader events on the local economy or culture. For example, wars are pivotal events that get a great deal of attention in history and literature. But what are the human costs at home?

By exploring the effects of war on family life, economics, health, and culture, we get a rich picture of the true costs of such conflicts. Fayetteville is a city that has been impacted in all these ways and more, from the Revolutionary War to the present. We need to remember the human costs and sacrifices of past generations right here in our own community to truly understand the present and prepare for the future.

***Are there any collaborations that are upcoming for your department? Who have you partnered with in the past?***

We are always open to collaboration in the Humanities Department. We have had collaborations between the instructors of religion and sociology courses, and communications and humanities courses. Most recently, Karis King and I have developed a collaborative learning community with the courses ENG 112, "Writing in the Disciplines," and HUM 110, "Technology and Society." This collaboration has been offered twice so far and is planned again for the upcoming semester.

We also partnered with the English Department in November 2018 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the armistice that ended WWI.

Vicky Derka of the English Department organized this event, and our department provided two of the speakers, myself and Jessie Kiker. My lecture focused on the technological legacy of WWI, while Jessie's focused on the political aftermath of the war.

We have also collaborated with Fort Bragg's Cultural Resource Management Program (CRMP). In March 2019, Jonathan Schleier, Geographical Information System and Database Manager, CRMP, hosted a group of FTCC faculty and staff at the site of the Battle of Monroe's Crossroads to commemorate the battle which took place in the same month in 1865.

Later in 2019, we again collaborated with the CRMP. Current program archaeologist and curator at Fort Bragg's CRMP Dr. Linda Carnes-McNaughton conducted tours for FTCC faculty of two historic churches on Fort Bragg. This collaboration allowed us to learn about the communities they served from the 18th to early 20th centuries.

***Is there one student who has stood out to you during your time here? Would you mind sharing the story?***

There have been many such students, but one that really stands out for me was a young lady who was leaving an abusive relationship and discovered a new direction in her studies because of the humanities. She ended up switching to the Fine Arts program, graduating, and transferring to UNC-Pembroke where she has continued to pursue her new passion for the visual arts.

***What are some future goals in humanities for this year?***

I am reviving our Medieval History course, which we have not offered in several years. We are also planning to invite archaeologists from CRMP to give a presentation on research at the Fort Bragg military reservation.

There will be a great deal of emphasis on Native Americans in the area. We want to make this lecture series available not only to faculty and staff but also to students. We also plan to continue the collaboration with CRMP historic site visits. We'd like to make the Monroe's Crossroads Battlefield visit annual and also make it available to students.



“We need to remember the human costs and sacrifices of past generations right here in our own community.”





**Denise Kinnison**  
*Facility Services Assistant, Administrative Staff*

Kinnison previously worked on the grounds staff for nearly 17 years before her current position. During that time, she enrolled in FTCC, earning her associate's degree in Office Systems Technology. She is a fellow 2019 NISOD Excellence Award recipient, recognizing her for exceptional commitment and meaningful contributions to students and fellow colleagues through the years.



**Eric Smith**  
*CDL Instructor, Corporate and Continuing Education Programs*

Some of Smith's responsibilities as a CDL instructor include overseeing six fellow instructors and managing the training schedule for students in the program. Smith has been teaching since November 2016. His students come from all backgrounds and include transitioning soldiers and members of the community, seeking to learn how to operate a tractor trailer or earn a commercial driver's license on site. Smith is also a Minister at Faith with Faith Ministries in Hope Mills.

## EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND PRESIDENT'S



**Lisa Williams**  
*Music Instructor, General Education and Associate Degree Programs*

Williams has taught music appreciation at FTCC for four years; she also serves as a music education teacher and school site event coordinator for the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) on Fort Bragg. One of her passions in the classroom is helping students identify their unique leadership qualities. Williams is a recipient of several distinct honors including being named 2016 DoDEA District Teacher of the Year and listed as one of Florida State University's Distinguished Alumni in K-12 Education. Williams is also an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and a life member of Tau Beta Sigma and Sigma Alpha Iota, music organizations.



**Chris Herring**  
*Department Chair of Systems Security & Analysis, Computer Information Technology*

Herring joined FTCC as an Information Systems Technology program instructor and now teaches Systems Security & Analysis; he became department chair of the latter in 2017. Since becoming chair, the Systems Security & Analysis Program was highlighted as a National Centers of Academic Excellence campus at the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education conference in 2018. Herring was also chosen as the mace bearer for the 2019 Annual Commencement Ceremonies. Outside of the classroom, he describes himself as an avid cyclist.





**Dr. Rondell Bennett**  
*Department Chair of Early Childhood Education, Health and Public Service Programs*

Bennett has worked at the College for nine years and also serves as an instructor with her current role as department chair. She’s a certified infant and toddler specialist. While teaching students, Bennett has enjoyed serving on the hospitality committee the most, noting her love for “working face to face with people and making them feel welcome.” Bennett currently serves on the Faculty Leadership Academy and was also selected as the College’s representative in the state competition.



**Sylvia Green**  
*Housekeeper, Support Staff*

Green began working at the College in August 2000. She was in the cafeteria until she transitioned to the Housekeeping Department by year’s end. The department’s staff is tasked with providing clean, safe, and well-maintained facilities and grounds for all on the College’s campus. Outside of work, Green spends her extra time with her children: Keyanna, 26; Brianna, 23; and Brandon, 18.

# DISTINGUISHED STAFF AWARD WINNERS, 2019



**Tracy Verrier**  
*Administrative Assistant II, Senior Vice President for Academic & Student Services, Operational Staff*

Out of this year’s award winners, Verrier has worked the longest at the College – 27 years. Her current duties include overseeing part-time contracts and being a part of the college’s Southern Association of Colleges and Schools team that helps oversee FTCC’s accreditation process. Verrier began her career as a faculty secretary before becoming an Administrative Secretary for the Dean of General Education and Public Service. Some of her interests include listening to bluegrass music and singing the genre with a group for several years. She’s been married for 26 years and has served as her church’s secretary for a decade. What she enjoys most about FTCC is “working with people and students.”



**Marlina Pineiro**  
*Assessment Retention Support Coordinator, Professional Staff*

Pineiro has worked at FTCC since 2011 and currently serves in Enrollment Management in Student Services. Some of her responsibilities include implementing many projects within Student Services for the department and overseeing the college’s Annual Commencement Ceremonies – a task she has excelled at for the last five academic school years. In addition to the President’s Award, Pineiro was also named a 2019 National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Award recipient. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Organizational Leadership and, outside of work, enjoys spending time with her husband – a U.S. Air Force veteran – and their children. Pineiro was also selected as the college’s representative at the state competition.





*Melinda Pash holds a copy of her book titled “In the Shadow of the Greatest Generation: The Americans Who Fought the Korean War,” which details the history and stories of men and women who fought during the conflict from 1950 to 1953. Over time, the war has been referred to as “The Forgotten War” because of its lack of public attention as it followed World War II and preceded the long Vietnam War, which spanned nearly 20 years. A chance meeting with Korean War veterans sparked Pash’s interest in telling their stories. She used the same material for her dissertation. Pash is a history instructor at Fayetteville Technical Community College.*



# *the Melinda Pash Project*

*From a family legacy in military service to sharing the forgotten stories of Korean War veterans, FTCC instructor and historian Melinda Pash is in the business of preserving memories. Pash believes it's these memories that serve as a road map to future generations, and it's her project to honor them.*

Melinda Pash grew up on the road. Her father, working for Phillips Petroleum Company, moved the family from Oklahoma City to Albuquerque, New Mexico; Casper, Wyoming; Littleton, Colorado; Shreveport, Louisiana; and Bartlesville, Oklahoma. She received her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts at the University of Tulsa and her Ph.D. from The University of Tennessee — Knoxville. Pash has worked at FTCC for 11 years, teaching Western Civilization I, World Civilization I, and World Civilization II every semester, as well as a variety of other coursework including Ancient History.

Pash's love of history started early. One of her first memories is of news footage of the Fall of Saigon when her father said, "Watch this, this is history being made." When she entered graduate school, Pash thought to choose a topic on the Vietnam War to research, but a chance encounter with a group of Korean War veterans made her take a closer look at "The Forgotten War" and the men and women who served in Korea.

"When I first began my research, I went to a Veterans' Prom in Tulsa, hoping to meet some Vietnam vets to interview," says Pash. "As the evening went on, I settled in with this group of old men talking about the war and their experiences. I was thinking how lucky I was, that these guys were going to write my dissertation for me, at least until I realized they were crazy. They were talking about events I knew hadn't happened and places I knew didn't exist in Vietnam."

"Just as I was about to beat a speedy retreat, I realized that they weren't Vietnam vets at all. They were Korean vets. I mean, I knew Korea had happened, but at that point, for me the Korean War was Corporal Klinger trying to get a Section 8 and Hawkeye and BJ brewing up liquor in a homemade still on 'M\*A\*S\*H', not a real shooting war."

Pash went home and started looking for information on Korean vets and found almost nothing. There were a few oral histories and a few books on the war itself but almost nothing on the veterans of the war. So, she switched topics and never went back. "In the Shadow of the Greatest Generation: The Americans Who Fought the Korean War" was first published in 2012.



## A FAMILY STORY

Pash's grandfather, a full-blood Cherokee, served in the Navy in the Pacific during WWII. Her dad tried to enlist for Korea but was denied for health reasons. Her uncle served in the Navy in Korea, but she didn't know that until she read his obituary.

"It was really funny — for years I pounded the pavement looking for Korean War veterans to interview and nobody bothered to tell me that my own uncle had served," says Pash.

"After I read the obituary, I asked my mom about it and she said she and my dad had picked him up at the train station when he rotated home, but everyone just forgot he had even served! But, that's really the story of the Korean War veterans, right? Lots of them talk about coming home and having people say, 'Hey, I haven't seen you in a while! Where have you been?' It didn't turn out like WWII. It was the war that splashed on the front pages for a month or two and then slid to the back of the newspaper and disappeared from people's minds."

Pash's husband's uncle also served in Korea. He was very helpful in letting her interview him early on when she was just learning the ropes of doing oral history.

While she was in graduate school, the idea of writing a book about the Korean war began to take flight.

The book began as her dissertation at UTK, but it took a really long time to write.

"Like many of our students at FTCC, I had a bit of a rocky road," says Pash. "In the course of my doctoral work, I got divorced, moved back to Oklahoma to teach high school for four years as a single mother, got remarried, moved to Fayetteville, had another baby, and my husband got sick with an illness called Guillain Barre Syndrome."



Her husband was paralyzed from the neck down for about six weeks and in rehab for a very long time, working from wheelchair to walker to cane to walking again. When he got well enough, Pash started working on her dissertation again and defended it in 2008.

The NYU Press almost immediately accepted it for publication, but that,

too, proved a challenge. In 2010-2011, Pash's husband, Sid, was a Fulbright fellow in Tokyo, Japan.

On March 11, 2011, Japan was hit with a massive earthquake and the Pashes became "refugees" in China for several weeks – just when pictures for the book were due.

At that same time, pro-democracy forces in China began an effort called the Jasmine Revolution, and Chinese authorities clamped down on the internet.

Pash was moving around China trying to get photos without being able to access a lot of sites. In the end, some of her photos came from veterans she had interviewed, in answer to her pleas for help, and many of the others came from government organizations or libraries. The book finally came out in 2012 and then went into paperback a couple years later.

## FORGOTTEN

It was a project that was inspired by preserving the stories of Korean veterans.

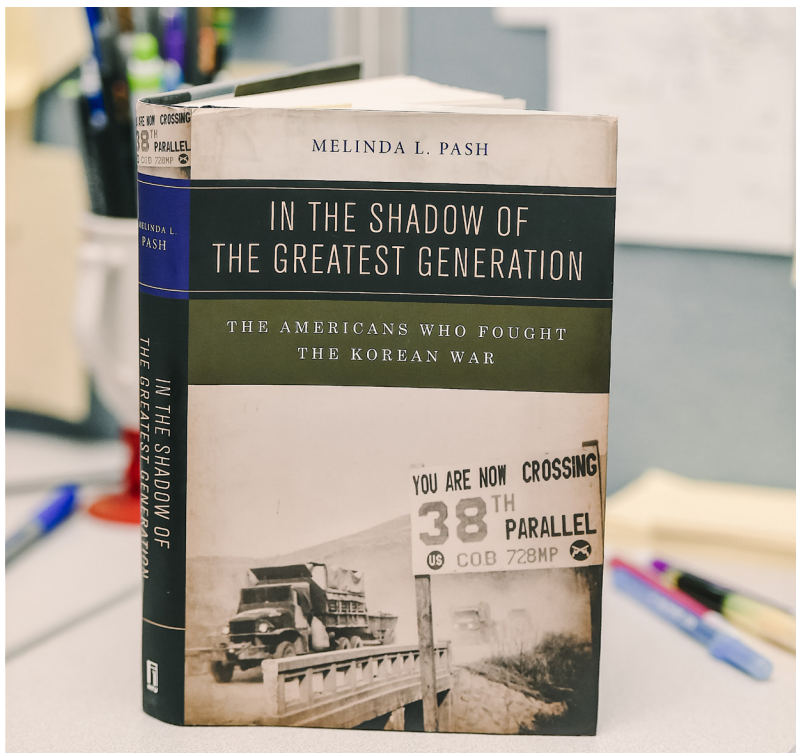
"There is no nicer, kinder group of people in the world than Korean War veterans," Pash says. "There is also no more humble group of people. As I talk about in the book, most of the men and women who served in theater in Korea did their job and then came back home without getting or expecting much by way of fanfare. Korea didn't turn out to be like World War II, an all-consuming war demanding the sacrifice of every American. And, it didn't turn out to be the kind of war that attracted even the interest of most Americans."

Pash found that when veterans came home, they came back quietly. Because of the point system and rotation, they also often came back alone. Most of them stayed quiet about where they had been and what they had done. A lot of the men Pash surveyed and interviewed had not even told their families about their service before talking to her.

"It isn't just that these veterans didn't talk about themselves. Nobody else talked about them, either. If you go to Barnes & Noble, you'll see a million books on World War II and nearly as many on Vietnam. But, where are the Korean War books? There might be one or two. Or movies, you can probably name a dozen each for



*"I will never be able to repay my debt to the men and women who helped me every step of the way"*



*A copy of FTCC Instructor Melinda Pash's book on the Korean War sits on a table. The book was published in 2012 by the New York University Press. Pash has spoken about her research on "The Forgotten War" at events and colleges since its publication. She was also featured in the well-received Netflix documentary "Medal of Honor" which was released in 2018. The series focused on service members from different wars who received the military's highest award for valor. Pash's expertise was featured in Episode 4, which focused on Korean War veteran Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura.*

WWII and Vietnam, but what about for Korea? That's why it was so easy for me, a graduate student in history, to go to a Veterans' Prom and not even realize I was talking to Korean War veterans.

"But, once I did, I realized, Korean War veterans are really the quintessential American veterans. Very few of our soldiers have come home to the fanfare and gratitude that greeted World War II veterans.

And very few have come back to have the kind of mythology that surrounds the Vietnam veterans."

"No, most American veterans are nameless, faceless, unrecognized—except on Veterans Day, of course, when they all get dragged out for parades and dog and pony shows."

That realization, along with the fact that nobody else had taken the time to write about Korean War veterans

made the project feel like a calling to Pash.

"Looking back, I think the project only gains in importance as we witness the return today of more 'limited war' veterans," Pash says. "The veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan have an eerily similar set of home front circumstances. They, too, are forgotten soldiers of forgotten wars. So, by looking at this earlier generation, we can really get a better handle on this one. Also, it's interesting to think of veterans as a sort of brotherhood, reaching all the way back to the Greek hoplites and the Roman legions. Veterans history will always matter because there will always be veterans among us."

Working with this particular set of veterans was both an honor and a pleasure for Pash.

"I will never be able to repay my debt to the men and women who helped me every step of the way with both the dissertation and book. I think of how many men and women told me their stories, read drafts, patiently answered questions when I had no idea what to ask or what I was going to do with the answers."

She particularly remembers Paul Edwards, a veteran who set up the Center for the Study of the Korean War in Independence, Missouri, who kept the center open late for her so she could get what she needed and didn't charge her anything for copies.

"As I wrote, I wanted to put together an academically sound work, but I also wanted to do justice to these veterans' story. I can only hope I did both."



*Melinda Pash stands in the center of the Korean War exhibit inside the US Army Airborne & Special Operations Museum (ASOM) in downtown Fayetteville. In the museum, Pash saw pictures and artifacts such as maps where important battles took place and clothing that comprised a soldier's uniform. Pash's expertise on the subject led to her writing a published book about the men and women who fought in "The Forgotten War," participating in speaking engagements and more.*



## DEAL FOR TV

Pash's project reached further than publication, however. Netflix released the series called 'Medal of Honor,' a documentary about American service members who have been awarded the Medal of Honor throughout the years. It featured Pash's work and an interview with her in an episode highlighting the Korean War hero and Medal of Honor recipient Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura.

"Medal of Honor" was an experience! I think the producers had seen some of the YouTube videos I did as publicity when the book came out and thought I'd be a break from the old man historian," says Pash. "At first I didn't want to do it because I was afraid of looking stupid."

Once she agreed to fly out, Pash asked what clothes to bring and how to fix her hair for the shoot.

"They (Netflix) said, 'We've seen the pictures. Don't worry about that. We are going to fix it.' And they did," remembers Pash.

The shoot wasn't without its surprises, however.

"On the morning of filming, I got a call while I was on the treadmill from [Netflix] saying they were outside with a book for me to read before the shoot. Yep. A whole book."

That book was Miyamura's autobiography. The producers needed Pash to give some background information on him on screen. But they didn't know what they planned to use yet.

"I read the whole book and memorized as much of it as I could in the four hours before my shoot," says Pash.

"It took about an hour and a half to just get made up for the shoot. The location was a huge warehouse. It looked like an office in the video, but the location was actually in the middle of a warehouse that shook every time a plane flew overhead — which was pretty often since it wasn't that far from LAX."

"So, I was sitting there in the middle of this huge warehouse with bright lights shining on me from all sides," recounts Pash. "There was a guy three feet from me holding a mirror to make sure the light hit just right, and someone offscreen would ask a question for me to answer."

"If a plane flew over, they would call 'Cut!' and then I had to pick up mid-sentence where I left off. It was totally surreal. But, my hair and makeup looked great! The funny thing is, after I got home, I came into the room when my kids were watching the episode. At first, I didn't recognize myself!"



*Outside of teaching history at FTCC, Melinda Pash has been the recipient of the College's Excellence in Teaching Award (2015) and participated in a NEH Fellowship in 2010. Other credits to her name include being a past president and current member of the North Carolina Association of Historians and serving as a review board member for Milestone Documents World History I. She also spent time as a visiting professor in 2010-11 at Japan Women's University in Tokyo.*

## ORAL HISTORIES

Pash has continued her work on the Korean War, albeit at a slower pace.

"I wish I had time to do more with veterans, but my work schedule and my teenager's schedule keep me so busy that I can't research or publish much these days," she says. "I'd still like to start an oral history center at FTCC to capture the stories of veterans and their dependents."

Pash believes that FTCC is so well-placed for such a project, one that has a lot of value both to the population the college serves and to academia.

"I do give talks on occasion," she said. "Last November, I was one of the featured speakers for one of UNC's Carolina Public Humanities seminars."





*Pictured, from top to bottom, are the M1 Garand and the PPS-43 – weapons used in the Korean War. The former was used by paratroopers for its accuracy, reliability and rate of fire. The latter, a Soviet-made sub-machine gun, was a common weapon used in the war by the Chinese and North Koreans. Both firearms are on display in the war’s namesake exhibit at the US Army Airborne & Special Operations Museum (ASOM) in downtown Fayetteville.*



*“Shoepacs” were part of soldiers’ uniforms while fighting during the war. They were designed for cold-wet weather conditions seen during Korean winters. Still, the shoes didn’t fully protect soldiers from experiencing infections, cold injury, frostbite and in worst cases, limb loss in extreme conditions.*



*The Eisenhower “Ike” Jacket on display at the ASOM in Fayetteville in the Korean War exhibit.*

## LEGACIES THAT CONTINUE NOW

Preserving the heritage of the Korean War is a project that transcends history for Pash: it is a legacy.

“Someone at the UNC seminar asked our panel — why should we study the Korean War?” says Pash. “You can make a solid historical argument for the significance of the Korean War, for the fact that American men held the line in Korea. Imagine what the world would look like today with no South Korea. Would a unified totalitarian/communist Korea have tried to spread its tentacles to further reaches? Could that Korea be the vibrant, dynamic state that we have today in South Korea? What would that world look like and what would the position of the US in the Pacific be?”

Seventy years ago, nobody could have predicted just how important to US security that tiny country a world away would become. But, South Korea, one of the United States’ most steadfast allies, is the legacy of those men and women who served in theater from 1950-1953.

“There is also another way to look at this, too,” continues Pash. “The Korean War and its veterans are reminders that actions have consequences. Allies and enemies are made by wars, and those factions don’t necessarily change just because a peace treaty or armistice is signed. The Korean War looms large today in US relations with China, North Korea, South Korea, and even Japan. And, on the softer side, war has consequences for those who fight it.”

When a country sends its sons and daughters to war, they come back different, many with crippling injuries, both mental and physical, and that weight must be carried by the entire nation. The victories and hardships that Korean War veterans faced are not unique.

“My students who have returned from Iraq and Afghanistan tell the same stories and wear the same scars,” says Pash. “Thus, by memorializing both the victories and hardships faced by Korean War veterans, we provide a road map to the future and a reminder to both ourselves and to the Americans who will come after that wars don’t end when the shooting stops. Before a nation puts “its young men in the mud,” as T.R. Fehrenbach put it in his ‘This Kind of War,’ it should consider not only what it hopes to gain, but what that victory might cost.”



*Melinda Pash listens to a student answer a question as she taught about the Persian War during a fall semester. Not seen is the long ruler Pash’s hands are clasped around. Sometimes, she walks around the classroom with the ruler as she teaches and points to significant areas in her teachings with the measuring tool.*

"My students who have returned from Iraq and Afghanistan tell the same stories and wear the same scars"









*The Foundation sponsored the Golf Tournament on May 2, 2019, at Gates Four Golf & Country Club. The tournament is usually the day after the Bluegrass & BBQ Silent Auction but was rescheduled to this date due to inclement weather in April. Dr. J. Larry Keen and Mrs. Lauren Arp thanked the players and guests for their continued support and sponsorship of FTCC students.*





*A golfer readies to tee off at Gates Four Golf & Country Club during the Annual Golf Tournament in May, hosted by the FTCC Foundation. The fundraiser brought out more than 20 teams who competed over 18 holes in order to win prizes while also raising money to support student scholarships. Annual fundraisers such as the tournament have helped the Foundation raise more than \$200,000 for student scholarships in recent years.*



# thank YOU



*FTCC Foundation, Inc. Interim Executive Director Lauren Arp shares her thoughts on 2019 and hopes for the future of the College's Foundation. This year has been full of opportunity for the Foundation.*

Hello,

I'm Lauren Arp, Interim Executive Director, FTCC Foundation. I have been a part of the FTCC Family since 2012 and have spent most of my time in the Foundation Office. One of my favorite things related to the Foundation is seeing our students succeed. I love to hear a student's name called at graduation and recognize it. Recognizing a name at graduation means that student received a scholarship, book fund, or emergency assistance. Because of our generous supporters, those students received help they needed and succeeded.

Thank you to our fellow Trojans, alumni, individuals, companies, community partners, and friends near and far. Because of your generosity, students and departments have benefited from the FTCC Foundation. During the 2018-2019 academic year, \$274,293 was made available to students via scholarships, book funds, emergency assistance, and through departmental and institutional support.

Thanks to our sponsors and participants, more than \$83,600 was raised during the annual Chair's Gala, Bluegrass & BBQ Silent Auction, and Golf Tournament. The Silent Auction and Golf Tournament proceeds were allocated to the Emergency Fund and to create the Barriers to Education Fund. Creating the Barriers to Education Fund will enable us to assist students in situations that could otherwise cause students to struggle and possibly drop out of school. Examples of barriers this fund will combat include housing, hunger, medical bills, and transportation to campus.

Your dedication to supporting education changes lives and truly makes an impact, not just on the student, but on their families as well. Thank you for all that you do. Please contact our office, should you ever wish to get connected with events taking place on campus. Our office would love to partner with you and connect your interests with what is taking place at Fayetteville Technical Community College. We look forward to another great year together!





*Pictured are the Tom McLean Ambassadors for the 2018-2019 academic year. From left to right, they are Bryan Cuevas-Figueroa, Kwadeja Quick, Angela Sabillon-Mosher, Kathriana Lawrence and Robert Usher. The scholarship program is comprised of an honor group of students who not only receive a \$1,000 scholarship for that academic year but also represent the College at various on- and off-campus events and in the community.*

## OUT AND ABOUT

*with the FTCC Foundation*

The Foundation hosted its 4th Annual Chair's Gala on October 4, 2018, celebrating two honorees for their commitments to the College and its students. The distinguished award recipients were Cumberland County Judge Jim Ammons, a former Foundation Board Member, and Dr. Dallas Freeman, a member of the Board of Trustees and former Board Chairman. Guests were entertained with music from the Dueling Pianos, who sang and played their pianos with a natural flair for all types of music. Many businesses and individuals supported the fundraising efforts through event sponsorship, furthering the Foundation's efforts to award scholarships to more deserving students in need of assistance.

On April 4, 2019, the Foundation hosted its annual Bluegrass & BBQ Silent Auction on the Fayetteville campus, inside the Tony Rand Student Center. Entertainment was provided by The Barefoot Movement and a family-style meal was catered by Mission BBQ. This year's event featured great auction items that heightened the level of participants seeking to outbid each other. Our own Jay Dowdy, a Foundation Board Member, was the Auctioneer.

The Donor Appreciation Luncheon celebrates donors for their support to FTCC and the Foundation, as well as honors student recipients of scholarships. The annual luncheon was on March 8, 2019, and featured the Tom McLean ambassadors who shared information about their journeys to achieve educational pursuits. A check presentation, on behalf of the Moses Benjamin Watson Memorial Scholarship, was presented by his family. This scholarship is awarded to students who show financial need, have completed high school, and have a minimum GPA of 2.5. Students must be enrolled in six or more credit hours.

## SPOTLIGHT

on  
**Bill  
Singleton**

The FTCC Foundation received a \$105,000 gift on behalf of the late Bill Singleton. In addition to this partial payment of the estate, he donated more than 40 boxes of books to our Paul H. Thompson Library. Singleton worked as a librarian at the college for 15 years. He was also a U.S. Army veteran.

To the late Mr. Singleton and his family, we thank you for supporting not only our campus but the students whose educational journeys are made more successful by your thoughtful gift.

The check was presented to Dr. J. Larry Keen by James McLean III, an attorney with Player McLean, LLP in Fayetteville.

Fayetteville Technical Community College was named a beneficiary in Singleton's Last Will and Testament. He passed away on Aug. 6, 2016.

It is only through the generosity of donors like Mr. Singleton that FTCC is able to give many students the ability to attend classes despite financial hardship.





*Foundation staff at the annual Donor Appreciation Luncheon smile for the camera. Pictured from left to right are Lakeisha Cribb, Melissa Frazee, Lorraine Williams, and Lauren Arp.*



*Cumberland County Judge Jim Ammons and his wife, Sandy, during the FTCC Foundation's Annual Chair's Gala.*



*Brenda Freeman speaks during the 4th Annual Chair's Gala hosted by the FTCC Foundation, Inc. Freeman accepted the Chair's Award on behalf of her husband, Dr. Dallas Freeman, who was one of two honorees that evening.*



*Earlier this year, the FTCC Foundation received a \$105,000 gift on behalf of the late Bill Singleton. Pictured from left to right are James McLean III of Player McLean, LLP, presenting the gift on Singleton's behalf to FTCC President Dr. J. Larry Keen.*



*FTCC alumnus and former state senator Wesley Meredith and Colleen and Billy Wellons pose before the Annual Chair's Gala.*



*Dr. Linwood Powell and guests mingle at the Annual Chair's Gala.*



*Guests place bids at the Bluegrass & BBQ Silent Auction.*





*Nicole Stumbling Bear sits in the Biotechnology Research and Training Center of the ComTech Building, located at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. Stumbling Bear, 42, is a current student at UNCP and pursuing a double-major in biology and secondary science with a concentration in biology, both bachelor's degrees. She graduated from FTCC in May 2015.*

# TURNING TRAGEDY

*Spotlight on Alumna Nicole Stumbling Bear, who finds a purpose in teaching by surviving personal loss*

Nicole Stumbling Bear adjusted her thin, framed glasses as she sat on a stool one October afternoon. She turned the knob back and forth on a microscope, adjusting the tool's focus as she looked at tissues inside a glass slide. Stumbling Bear does neuroscience research at The Biotechnology Research and Training Center on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

She broke her concentration for a few seconds to explain the bright pink patch on her lab coat – an insignia of The Skeleton Crew, followers of mad scientist Dr. Kinga Forrester on the popular show “Mystery Science Theater 3000.”

“I grew up watching B-rated sci-fi films with my dad like Godzilla and watching Elvira [Movie Macabre],” she said. “I’m a nerd.” Stumbling Bear, 42, is a current student at

UNCP, pursuing double-major in biology and secondary science with a concentration in biology, both bachelor's degrees. Her work in the lab includes studying drugs that help the body become more efficient at clearing out pathological proteins. She studies the effects of drugs on diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's, both aggressive diseases affecting the brain with symptoms such as memory loss in the former and tremors in the latter.

Stumbling Bear's work also focuses on studying rat and mice brain tissues subjected to blasts normally conducted by the Department of Defense (DoD). She's been researching the correlation between traumatic brain injuries, such as blasts, and the increased chances of protein aggregate diseases later in life. Her research on the rodents' brain tissues is through a partnership with the DoD and Dr. Benjamin Bahr, a

William C. Friday Distinguished Professor of Molecular Biology & Biochemistry and professor at UNCP.

“The research I focus on is finding drugs that result in Lysosomal modulation [described as “positive,” and a unique strategy to treat age-related protein accumulation diseases, according to the National Center for Biotechnology Information's website], making them work more often, quicker, and more efficient,” Stumbling Bear described.

“I've worked on two drugs that UNCP is securing the patent for and have run a series of tests on them to see if they're safe and effective.”

Stumbling Bear's specific work seems as if it was always part of her plan. It wasn't. Neither was attending Fayetteville Technical Community College a few years ago.





# TO GREAT TRIUMPH

## TURNING TRAUMA AROUND

It started with her son, Robbie Carter. It was 2009. Robbie was five years old, the youngest of four siblings. He was visiting family when he went missing. He was found two hours later in a pond in a rural area. He had drowned.

“He had just turned five years old,” Stumbling Bear remembered. “It was before he was supposed to start kindergarten. So, I said I would go to school because he didn’t.”

The grief and stress Stumbling Bear endured from her son’s death caused her to have a minor stroke. Despite the setback, she took a placement test at FTCC. She chose to double-major in general education and arts. While at FTCC, Stumbling Bear also served as an officer for two honor societies on campus, Phi Theta Kappa and Sigma Kappa Delta, for two-year colleges. She was also chosen to be part of the Tom McLean Ambassador Program. Each year,



*The lab coat patch pays homage to the former television show, Mystery Science Theater 3000 which ran for 12 seasons. Nicole describes herself as a “nerd” and said she came to love the TV show because her father used to watch “B” horror movies and she joined him. She grew up watching Elvira, Mistress of the Dark, and B-rated sci-fi films.*

FTCC Foundation, Inc. chooses an honorary group of students to represent the college at on- and off-campus activities and throughout the community while earning a \$1,000 scholarship that academic year. Stumbling Bear found stability at FTCC, and it wove its way into her life as a mother.

“We would sit down and do homework together and compete with grades,” she said with a smile about her children. “My oldest daughter, Andrea, took courses at FTCC when she was in high school. She’s now a student at UNCP with me.”

Stumbling Bear initially wanted to pursue a career teaching history. That changed when she took a biology class at Fayetteville Tech and began tutoring a group of students originally from the African country of Ghana. She took more science classes. She learned more about her instructors. One researched movements of bumblebees by gluing tiny receivers to the insects. Another instructor can identify tree species even while driving.





*Above, Stumbling Bear wears safety glasses whenever she works in the lab. The glasses she's wearing are approved by OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration).*

"The connections I made with teachers," Stumbling Bear began to say. "Adding that research to a class makes a difference. That's passion."

Stumbling Bear wants to give the same interest to students now and in the future. Currently, she's teaching physical science at Scotland High School in Laurinburg, which also fulfills a requirement of her teaching degree. One of her goals as a teacher is to make laboratories more accessible to students with disabilities; she's taking classes to become certified as a special education teacher. Stumbling Bear's experience working with students who have special needs or disabilities began at FTCC. She worked as a notetaker for the Disability Support Services & Accessibility Office.

"I began training at the lab [at UNCP] based on what I want to pursue in my career," she said. "I knew I wanted to have lab research experience. To present ideas on how to make modifications in a lab for special needs students, you need to have good plans and experience to say how we can do this."

Stumbling Bear expanded her research on the topic after the North Carolina Space Grant announced her as one of 12 recipients of the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Pre-Service Teacher Education Scholarships in November 2018. The grant benefits undergraduates studying to become teachers, equipping them with STEM-fields understanding and NASA content before teaching in K-12 science classrooms, according to the North Carolina Space Grant's website. Stumbling Bear also earned NASA STEM Digital

Badges, participated in professional seminars, and presented her work on a lesson plan for students with autism to NASA staff and engineers at the Langley Research Center in Virginia. Stumbling Bear said the presentation was intimidating.

"But I realized I can present a basic high school physics lesson to engineers who came from MIT and in a way they never thought of. Presenting something to an 'expert,'" Stumbling Bear said. She paused. "Maybe I'm on the right path and having fun doing it."

Stumbling Bear's eyes widened as she sat near a long table inside a second laboratory in the research center. She squinted her eyes as she dropped liquid into a microwell tray. Surrounding her were liquids, beakers and cylinders inside cabinets. The space has become her new normal.



## FOR HER SON

Stumbling Bear not only carries the memory of Robbie with her. She's added the stories of others she hasn't met to that memory. It's become a tradition for Stumbling Bear to wear a red dress she purchased from DressBarn to an event where she is recognized for her academic work.

It's her way of raising awareness about the disproportionate number of indigenous people who are murdered and missing and who are victims of violence. Several advocacy and resource groups have formed through the years on the issue including Missing Flowers, which Stumbling Bear follows for updates and news. She's also a registered member of the Kiowa tribe, an indigenous Native American people of the Great Plains.

More than four in five American Indian and Alaska Native women have experienced violence in their lifetime, according to a report from the National Institute Of Justice, released in 2016.

The statistics include 56.1 percent of victims saying they have experienced sexual violence and 55.5 percent who experienced physical violence by an intimate partner. More than 1.5 million American Indian and Alaska Native women have experienced violence in their lifetime.

When Stumbling Bear wears her red dress, she pairs it with Hopi Silver jewelry – from its namesake Native American tribe located in northeastern Arizona – gifted by her late grandmother, Thelma Stumbling Bear. Her interest in bringing awareness to these victims is rooted in a very personal story — her own.

“As a survivor of rape, this is what I do,” she said. “It’s part of survival. If I have to survive this, I have to make something good from it.”

When Stumbling Bear graduates from UNCP, she knows the outfit she’ll wear under her graduation robe: the red dress she’s worn four times since attending UNCP. Around her neck will be the necklace once worn by her grandmother.



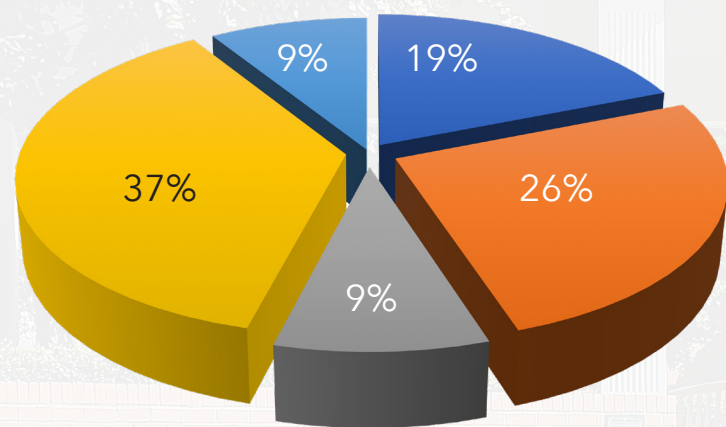
*Stumbling Bear's necklace is a family heirloom passed down to her before her grandmother passed away in the late 1990s. Her grandmother has eight grandchildren and gave them all pieces of her jewelry. The necklace is made by a Hopi artist, and the earrings she wears are called “peyote.” Her shawl, pictured above, was given to her when she was 12 years old and created by an artist named Little Eagle. The symbol on the shawl is a water bird, a favorite symbol of Stumbling Bear's. In her culture, birds carry prayers.*



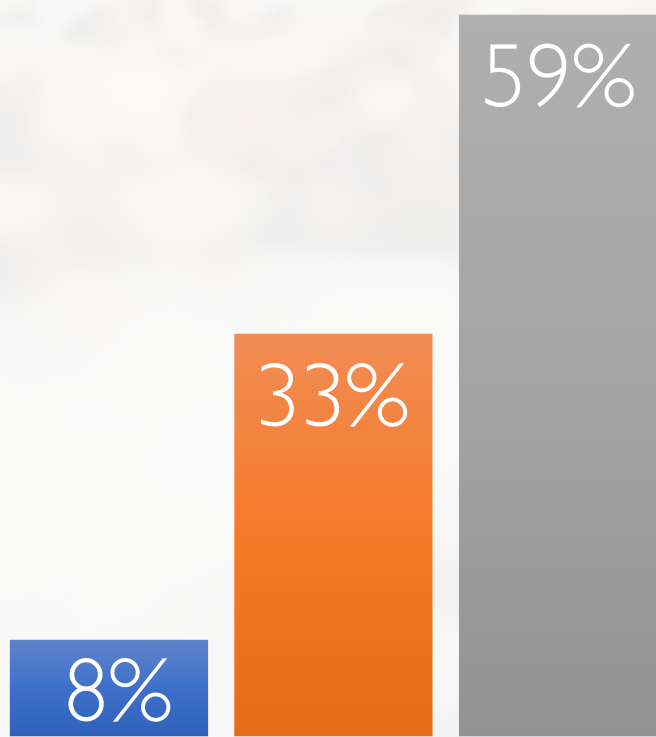
# BEHIND THE NUMBERS

## REVENUE

- UNRESTRICTED: Individual Gifts, Business Gifts, Events: \$96,164.57
- TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED: Scholarship Fund Contributions, Emergency Fund Contributions, Book Fund Contributions, Program & Campus Organization Funds Gifts-in-Kind: \$130,166.22
- PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED: Endowed Scholarship Contributions, Endowed Program Contributions: \$44,837.04
- INVESTMENT GROWTH: \$188,738.83
- GIFT-IN-KIND: \$46,745.71



Total: \$506,652.37



## ASSETS

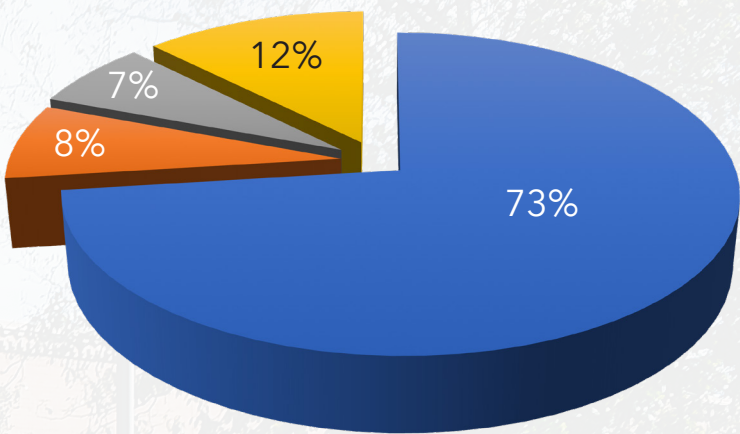
- UNRESTRICTED: Annual Fund, Fundraising Profits, Investments: \$358,801.93
- TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED: Scholarship Funds, Emergency & Book Funds, Program & Campus Organization Funds, Investment Interest: \$1,473,403.94
- PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED: Principal Investments, Endowed Scholarships, Endowed Program Funds: \$2,660,921.60

Total: \$4,493,127.47



# EXPENSES

- Scholarships / Departments / Institutional Funds: \$274,293.00
- Operating / Audit / Investment & Bank Fees: \$28,805.94
- Fundraising, Advertising, and Events: \$25,534.31
- Non-Cash Expenditures: \$46,835.61



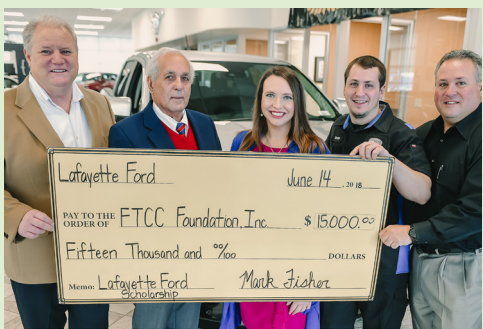
Total: \$375,468.86

## Want to give? Endowed scholarships change lives

Fayetteville Technical Community College’s mission and purpose have always had roots in areas such as progress, academics, and community throughout the decades. Another area is family.

Drew Price graduated from FTCC in spring 2019. He studied in the Automotive Systems Technology Program and Maintenance and Light Repair Ford Curriculum (MLR) and next plans to pursue an associate’s degree in business. The steps laid out in Price’s educational plan are his way of following in the footsteps of his father, uncle, and grandfather leading to Lafayette Ford, the family business.

The dealership is the only family-owned and operated Ford store in Fayetteville; it has been for more than 70 years. Price’s father, Tim Price, joined the dealership in 1997. He co-owns the business with his brother-in-law, Mark Fisher. Fisher’s daughters, Cayley and Addison, also work for the dealership.



Mark Fisher, Don Price, Lauren Arp, Drew Price and Tim Price at the check presentation for the endowed scholarship fund.

Tim Price also sits on the FTCC Foundation Board of Directors.

In the summer of 2018, the dealership finalized the “Lafayette Ford Scholarship” with the College’s foundation. The \$15,000 donation will be available for awarding to students during the 2019-2020 academic year. Eligible students must be enrolled in the

Automotive Systems Technology program for a minimum of six credit hours; recipients must also maintain a 2.5 GPA while in the program.

Tim Price and Fisher chose to establish the scholarship because of leadership from FTCC President Dr. J. Larry Keen. The automotive industry has struggled to find technicians with the proper skill set the workforce needs. Under Dr. Keen, the curriculum at FTCC in this area opened the door for the educational component to be satisfactory for industry partners.

Tim Price said the scholarship will help students fulfill their dreams, whether they work for Lafayette Ford or another company. Tim Price added giving back to the community is important not just for the dealership but to its employees individually. For more information on how to establish an endowed scholarship at FTCC, contact the Foundation Office at (910) 678-8441.



# Letter from the Board



**F**riends,

On behalf of the Fayetteville Technical Community College Foundation, thank you for your continued support of FTCC, its core mission, and purpose. Established in 1985, the Foundation is proud to provide decades of support in the advancement of FTCC and its students through scholarships, tuition assistance, provision for college program initiatives, capital improvements, and other funding. This support is even more important today in the wake of reduced state funding, limited financial aid for students, and the increasing burden of student loans. We could not do it without your help.

FTCC is one of our community's greatest resources and assets. We are able to educate, train, and provide continuing education to our community's current and next-generation workforce through a wide variety of strategic and advanced programs. Some of the programs that FTCC offers include the Collision Repair & Refinishing Technology Program, Global Logistics & Distribution Management Technology, Culinary Arts, and Business Administration. FTCC provides training for paralegals, nurses, dental hygienists, funeral service professionals, and many more. I would be remiss in not mentioning the valued relationship FTCC shares with our military community, especially Fort Bragg. We are truly grateful to be able to offer flexible programs of study for soldiers and Transition Tech, a program to provide transitioning soldiers the tools and specialized credentials to excel when entering the civilian workforce. FTCC is also home of the All American Veterans Center.

In mid-2016, FTCC returned to the intercollegiate sports world by joining the NJCAA Division II program and brought both men's and women's basketball and golf athletics programs to the campus. The spirit surrounding athletics has bolstered the excitement of FTCC's booming campus.

The Foundation's work and support of these programs would not be possible without the backing of our community, local businesses, faculty, students, alumni, and individual donors. If you are interested in investing in the future workforce of our community and FTCC student graduates, please consider joining the Foundation today in support of our mission. Thank you for helping to make this another banner year for FTCC.

Go Trojans!

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ned Johnson'.

Ned Johnson  
FTCC Foundation  
Board Chairman 2018-2019



# DONOR

## **Bronze Trojan Donors** **(\$20,000-\$24,999)**

Anonymous (Total)  
Educational Credit Management Corporation

## **Trojan Donors** **(\$10,000-\$19,999)**

Fayetteville Public Works Commission  
Greater Milwaukee Foundation, Inc.  
Manufacturing Skills Standards Council  
Wells Fargo Bank and Foundation

## **Guardian Donors** **(\$5,000-\$9,999)**

Cumberland Community Foundation, Inc.  
Fayetteville Area New Car & Truck Dealers Association  
HH Architecture, PA  
Home Builders Association of Fayetteville Inc.  
J.P. Riddle Charitable Foundation  
Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society  
Sharlene Riddle Williams Family Foundation, Inc.  
Larry Smith  
Diana W. Watson

## **Mentor Donors** **(\$2,500.00-\$4,999)**

Cape Fear Eye Associates  
Cumberland County Extension Master  
Gardener Volunteer Association  
Jim Ammons Campaign Account  
Peter Marozzi  
Mercedes-Benz Of Fayetteville  
Samanage  
Smith, Dickey & Dempster P.A.  
The Fayetteville Observer  
Tom J. Keith & Associates, Inc.

## **Champion Donors** **(\$1,000-\$2,499)**

Chief Joseph Bailer  
Beaver, Courie, Sternlicht, Hearp & Broadfoot, PA  
Ben Watson Memorial Golf  
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices All American Homes  
Brown girl, RDH  
Kevin and Jenny Bunn  
Cape Fear Aesthetics  
Cape Fear Valley Health  
Carolina Urgent & Family Care, P.A.  
Commemorative Brands, Inc.  
Crosby Legal  
Crown Complex

# CIRCLES





*Inside the Paul H. Thompson Library, students are able to access numerous campus and online library resources needed to complete assignments. Thanks to donors, FTCC is able to keep facilities like its Fayetteville campus library up to date and ready for students.*

Jay Dowdy  
Fayetteville Area Plumbing Contractors Association  
First Bank  
First Citizens Bank & Trust Company  
Highland Pediatric Dental  
Thomas Hobgood  
Carolyn Hopkins  
Hurley Insurance Group/Nationwide Insurance  
Dr. J. Larry and Vicki Keen  
Lafayette Ford, Inc.  
MacRae, Perry, MacRae & Whitley  
Dr. George and Carol Mozingo, III  
Nationwide Mutal Insurance Company  
Ron O'Brien  
Onsite Homes, LLC  
Photo Specialties, Inc.  
Professional Women of Fayetteville  
Rand & Gregory  
Linda Robotham  
Sandhills Endodontics  
South River Electric Membership Corporation  
Supreme Maintenance Organization  
Systel Business Equipment Co., Inc.  
The Law Firm of Williford, Hollers, Crenshaw, Boliek & Frangakis, LLP  
Unknown Angel of Fayetteville, NC  
Valley Auto World, Inc.  
Vann Fine Art Portraits  
Village Family Dental  
Dr. Grantham and Dr. Kari Warren  
Dr. Phillip Warren  
Robert Whalen  
Dr. Helen Winstead

**Principal Donors  
(\$750-\$999)**

Canteen Vending Services  
Cape Fear Chapter of the NC Society of Surveyors  
George and Virginia Franks  
Dr. Rosemary and John Kelly  
Charles and Connie Koonce  
National Organization for Women (NOW)  
Sandhills HappyFeet  
Bob and Janan Warren

**Advocate Donors  
(\$500-\$749)**

Ai Insurance  
Grover and Paulette Bahr, II  
Beasley Media Group, Inc.  
Karron Boyles  
Britton Law, P.A.  
John and Rebecca Britton  
Joseph Bullard  
Cardinal Landscaping Company  
Carter-Groves Photography  
Gary Collins  
Committee to Elect Billy West  
Cumberland County Schools Association of Teacher Assistants  
Fleming & Associates  
Dick and Ashton Fox  
FTCC Building Construction - High School Connections Program



FTCC Trustees, Faculty, Staff  
Pamela Gibson  
Guitar Center #738  
Steven and Kristen Hess  
Kenneth Kleiner  
Landry Homes, LLC  
Law Offices of Antonio Gerald  
Joseph and Martha Levister  
Brent and Connie Michaels  
Michael Neal  
OS Press LLC DBA International Minute Press  
Pierce Group Benefits, LLC  
Dr. Linwood Powell  
Tenette Prevatte  
Don K. Price  
Dr. Kristie and David Sullivan  
The Cotton Law Firm  
Michelle Walden  
Wesley Branch Bridge Club

**Steward Donors**  
**(\$250-\$499)**

Active Network, LLC  
African American Club  
Allied Universal Security Services  
Jim and Sandy Ammons  
ARC Club  
Ryan and Lauren Arp  
Michael C. Boose  
Builders FirstSource  
Charles Bullard  
Cengage Learning

Phillip Crawford  
Crossfit Metanoia  
Robin Deaver  
Scott and Jewel Dorney  
EACH Club  
Susan Ellis  
Tyran George  
Greater Fayetteville Dental Society  
Mark Grobosky  
Guiding Wellness  
Dr. Dana Haithcock  
Healy Wholesale Company, Inc.  
Kent Hill  
Holt Oil Company, Inc.  
Delores Ingram  
Mary Kaylor  
Bob and Mary Etta King  
Jessica Kouba  
John M. Lennon  
Midsouth Wrecker Service Inc.  
Sandra Monroe  
Kate O'Brien  
Andrew Pennink  
Dr. Patrick and Lorna Ricotta  
Michael and Amy Samperton  
Sybil Sasaki  
Seaglass Fine Art Photography  
Southeastern Automotive, Inc. / NAPA  
Touchstone Residential Services  
Alex Townsend  
Suzannah Tucker  
Sharlene Williams  
David and Barbara Wilson



*FTCC's campuses are bustling with students throughout the school year. They can usually be found strolling around the beautiful grounds or studying under the shade of the gazebo. FTCC is grateful for all the hard work of the groundskeeping staff to keep the campus beautiful.*





## **2018 — 2019 | Annual Report**

### **PRESIDENT**

Dr. J. Larry Keen

---

### **SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC & STUDENT SERVICES**

Dr. Mark Sorrells

### **SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF BUSINESS & FINANCE**

Ms. Robin Deaver

### **VICE PRESIDENT OF LEGAL SERVICES & RISK MANAGEMENT**

Mr. David Sullivan

### **VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

Mr. Joseph Levister

### **VICE PRESIDENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES & INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS**

Mr. Carl Mitchell

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS & MARKETING**

Ms. Catherine Pritchard

### **INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE FTCC FOUNDATION, INC.**

Ms. Lauren Arp

---

### **CONTENT & LAYOUT DESIGNER, GRAPHIC ARTIST & CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

Hope Myers

### **CONTENT DEVELOPER, CONTRIBUTING EDITOR & PRIMARY WRITER**

Alicia Banks

### **EDITOR & CONTENT DEVELOPER**

Wanda Dail

### **CONTENT CONTRIBUTORS**

Brad Losh

Natasha Brown

Janan Warran

Jaclyn Shambaugh

### **SPECIAL THANKS**

Melinda Pash

Margaret Silverest

Mr. Brent Michaels, former Executive Director of Public Relations & Marketing, who contributed to this report until his passing on July 15, 2019. “It’s all about the college,” he liked to say.





**Cover:** *A graduate smiles at FTCC President Dr. J. Larry Keen as she accepts her degree during the 57th Annual Commencement Exercises at the Crown Coliseum on May 17, 2019. Around her neck is a graduation cord – colored red, white, and blue – designating a student as active military or a veteran.*

**Pictured above:** *A graduate smiles as he waits to accept his degree. The medal around his neck denotes him as a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. The Alpha Tau Phi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa promotes scholarships, the development of leadership and service, and the cultivation of fellowship among qualified students.*





## OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

PO Box 35236, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28303 | [www.faytechcc.edu](http://www.faytechcc.edu)

750 copies of this public document were printed at an approximate rate of \$12.40 per copy.