



Martin Community College
1161 Kehukee Park Road
Williamston, NC 27892-8307
Phone 252-792-1521
Fax 252-792-0826

www.martincc.edu

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 12, 2008

CONTACT: Lucretia King, Mrktg/PR Director
252-792-1521(Ext 252); lking@martincc.edu

MCC Curriculum Graduation Showcases Student Achievement



WILLIAMSTON, NC – On Friday, May 9, 2008 Martin Community College (MCC) celebrated the achievements of its 2008 curriculum graduates during the college’s annual commencement ceremony held at the Martin County Auditorium on the campus of Williamston High School.

Fred Williams, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS), served as the evening’s featured commencement speaker. Reporting directly to the NCCCS President, Williams is charged with all functions relating to the day-to-day operations of the System and serves as liaison to the 58 community college presidents, providing consultation and assistance in all aspects of operations to include educational and financial planning, research, and problem solving.

Williams gave an inspirational speech full of congratulatory words for the graduates and timely advice for all in attendance. A portion of his address outlined the five basic principles a person should live by. The first principle he gave was to “do what you love” – to have an understanding of your talents so you develop a better chance to succeed in life. Second, he told graduates to “be good listeners.” Williams

said the key to being a good leader is paying attention to what others have to say and never underestimating the wisdom of those around you. His third principle was to “learn how to learn,” saying this skill was the most enduring one a person can bring to the workplace and to life. Next, Williams warned graduates in the fourth principle “not to get carried away with the gadgets.”



Pictured left (from left to right) are: Fred Williams, NCCCS Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Ann Britt, MCC President, and Jackie Gillam, MCC Board of Trustees member.

Williams said, “Gadgets like computers, laptops, ipods, and MP3 players are all useful tools to have and enjoy but you can’t download passion, creativity, and zest from them. A person has to develop those qualities the old-fashioned way – through reading books, travel, and face-to-face human interaction.”

Finally, as the fifth principle a person should live by, Williams encouraged graduates to “stay close to those they love.” He reminded the students that it was those people closest to them who helped get them to this point in their lives.

Following the commencement address, MCC Board of Trustees member Jackie Gillam presented Marie Barnhill with the Robert Spivey Humanitarian Award. Next, MCC Admissions Counselor and SGA Advisor Jim Bussell announced the academic program student awards as well as the overall Distinguished Graduate award.

Pictured right: Bussell (left) presents Xavier (“J.J.”) Mosley (right), with the college’s Distinguished Graduate award. Earlier this spring, Mosley was selected as MCC’s 2008 Academic Excellence Award winner and one of three community college students chosen to speak at the awards luncheon held in Raleigh, NC.



The 2008 graduates are as follows (in order of academic program):

Teresa Ann Purnell, Associate in Arts; Peggy Jamison, Associate in Arts - Elementary Education; Luther J. Carr, Associate in Applied Science - Automotive Systems Technology [Program Award recipient]; James Lee Parsons, Certificate in Automotive Systems Technology (Engine, Brakes, and Electronics); Tina Denae Keyes, Associate in Applied Science - Business Administration; Eric Steven Carmon, Joshua R. Davis, Daniel Thomas Gardner, Robert Michael Marriner, Zavier Latez Mosley, Barry Dennon Padgett, and John J. Wynn [Program Award recipient] - Associate in Applied Science, Commercial Refrigeration Technology; Matthew Cullipher, Swindell J. Lawrence [Program Award recipient], and June Clemons Ledbetter - Associate in Applied Science, Computer Information Technology; Edith White Williford, Diploma in Computer Information Technology; Gantney Brown, Erica Gurganus, and Kenyatte Thompson - Certificates in Cosmetology, Manicuring/Nail Technology; Fatima Clark-Goss, Diploma in Cosmetology; Casey Bartley, Amy Sullivan Brumfield, Amber Nicole Copeland, Maria D. Cratt, Elizabeth M. Harrell, Jessica Hoggard, Brianna Jenkins, Sarah Lewis, Allison L. Perry, Marcy Simmons Raynor, and Amber Williams - Diploma in Dental Assisting; Jae Jin J. Bazemore, Ranisha Brown, Catherine L. Donaldson, Norma Jean McNair, Lacy Pittman, Sharon Cooper Rascoe, Darlene S. Roberson, Sarah Faye Snyder, Camecia Latee Spruill, Jolequin Annette Spruill [Program Award recipient], and Stacey Rogerson Stokes - Associate in Applied Science, Early Childhood Education; James R. Fowden and Blake C. Smith - Associate in Applied Science, Electrical/Electronics Technology; William L. Manning - Diploma in Electrical/Electronics Technology; Elizabeth Bradley, Jessica Morgan Bunch [Program Award recipient], Ava M. Edwards, Bethany Lee Lackey, Laura Elizabeth Musgrove, Anna Carolina Shumaker, Holly E. Wall, and Sarah Lillian Woody - Associate in Applied Science, Equine Technology; Niki Lee Pike, Morgan H. Thorley - Certificate in Equine Technology; James Charles Gant, Certificate in General Occupational Technology; Michele Lynette Bond, Magdaline M. Cratt [Program Award recipient], Marilyn C. Gross, Shirret Outlaw - Associate in Applied Science, Medical Assisting; Tanya Miller, Diploma in Medical Assisting; Tammy Dugan [Program Award recipient], Associate in Applied Science - Medical Office Administration; Steven Lynn Elliott, Alva Lee Tugman Jones, Kayla Leigh Nowarah, Jessica A. Rogerson, Deborah Silver, Summer P. Sparks [Program Award recipient], Allison Gray Stilley, Krissa L. Wharton, Walter C. Williams, Jr., and Jonathan Brian Winslow III.

###