

The Martin Messenger

A monthly newsletter for Martin Community College

January and February 2018

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MCC Trustees Select Dr. Paul Hutchins

Dr. Paul Hutchins, the current President at Sampson Community College, was recommended by the Presidential Search Committee and approved by the Board of Trustees, on Monday, February 5, to be the next president of Martin Community College. If approved by the NC Community College Board of Directors on February 16, Dr. Hutchins will start on March 1 and become the eighth president to lead MCC since 1968.

Although the selection of MCC's new president will not be final until the NCCCS State Board meets on February 15 and 16, an article in the Sampson Independent Newspaper on February 1 announced that Dr. Paul Hutchins had accepted MCC's initial offer.

Once the news release made its way across the state via social media and news feeds, MCC's Interim President, Dr. Kenneth A. Boham released the following statement to the faculty and staff on February 2, "Since the proverbial 'cat is out of the bag,' it seemed prudent to bring everyone up to speed and not allow rumors to guide the process. Although we are disappointed that MCC didn't make the initial announcement from this end of the state, we are very happy to have such a strong candidate to put before the NCCCS Board. The faculty, staff and students of MCC, as well as the community it serves, can rest assured that Dr. Hutchins was thoroughly evaluated by the Trustees and found to be a good fit for the future of our college."

Notable achievements during Hutchins' tenure at Sampson CC



Dr. Paul Hutchins

include:

- Enrollment growth the last three semesters. Indications are that enrollment will increase again this summer and in the fall which will mark five semesters in a row of enrollment growth for the college.
- Reaffirmation of accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS COC)
- Both RN and LPN Nursing programs have become nationally accredited and partnered with UNCW to implement a bachelor's degree option for Associate Degree in Nursing students.
- A partnership with the Sampson County School System and the Clinton City Schools was formed for a

More about Hutchins on page 3...

MCC's 2016-17 Audit is Clean!

During MCC's January 16 Board of Trustees meeting, Interim President Dr. Kenneth Boham, shared a letter from the state auditor's office. The letter, issued on January 12, was addressed to The Honorable Roy Cooper, Governor, The General Assembly of North Carolina and the Board of Trustees for Martin Community College.

The letter stated, "We have completed a financial statement audit of Martin Community College for the year ended June 30, 2017, and our audit results are included in this report. You will note from the independent auditor's report that we determined that the financial statements are presented fairly in all material respects."

It went on to say, "The results of our tests disclosed no deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses in relation to our audit scope or any instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards."

Such audits are sometimes referred to as "clean audits." This is an unqualified audit and a "clean audit" relates to three aspects; the financial statements are free from material misstatements, there are no material findings on the annual performance report and lastly, there are no material findings on non-compliance with key legislation.

Dr. Boham recognized MCC's Director of Finance Services, Tammy Bailey, for being a key



Dr. Kenneth A. Boham, MCC's Interim President, reads a letter at the January Board of Trustees' meeting, from State Auditor Beth Wood stating, "The results of our tests disclosed no deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses in relation to our audit scope or any instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards."

contributor in earning the good report. Bailey who returned to MCC in May of 2017, had originally worked at MCC from 2007 through 2014 until she accepted a job as an accountant for Pitt County. MCC's last audit had cited a lack of proper controls of financial reporting that resulted in several accounting errors in the 2015 audit. Bailey worked diligently to fix these problems and get MCC back on firm financial ground.

The Board responded to the letter with resounding applause!

Hutchins cont. from pg.1...

summer STEM camp for rising 9th graders designed to excite and motivate students to explore careers in science, engineering and mathematics.

- Funds were secured through the county commissioners to put new roofs on the Activities Center and the Technology Building which suffered major water damage.

- Implementation of a Crisis Management Team for the college prepares for disasters and crisis situations that can happen on college campuses for the safety of students, faculty and staff.

- A Duke Energy grant secured \$250,000 for new equipment for the Industrial Systems Technology program.

- While the Ammonia Refrigeration Program was struggling with low student enrollment, a partnership was formed with Lanier Technical College in Georgia which led to increased enrollment with next class scheduled this month completely full.

- Implemented the college's Quality Enhancement Plan and WebAdvisor.

- Created a Career and College Promise position at the college.

Once the state board has officially approved Dr. Hutchins' appointment as the president of MCC and he has a chance to get settled in his office, an official "meet and greet" event will be planned.

Helen Davis, the President of MCC's Board of Trustees stated, "We are so thankful for Carroll Jones and the entire Presidential Search Committee for seeing us through this very important process. They did a great job!"

MCC Student Wins \$50 Bookstore Gift Card



During the Fall semester, MCC student Jennifer Lee (pictured above left), entered the book store's "You Talk, We Listen, You Win" contest. The only thing she had to do to enter the contest was complete a survey. According to the Bookstore's manager, Debra Hardison (pictured above right), "The survey is a tool to gauge students' attitudes towards course materials and technology devices. Once the survey is completed, the student is automatically entered for a chance to win up to \$1,000 cash in the national survey and a \$50 gift card at Martin Community College. The contest is already underway for this semester. Students have until February 28 to participate. To enter the contest, go to www.studentwatch.org

Save ^{the} Date!

MILLENNIALS ENTREPRENEURSHIP



SUMMIT

"Next Generation Leadership"

AGES 16 – 30

Saturday, May 05, 2018

Martin Community College

For More Information or To Register as a Corporate Sponsor
of the 2018 Millennials Entrepreneurship Summit

Email: sbc@martinecc.edu

Call: 252.789.0202

Martin Community College - Small Business Center

Job Fair and Expo is set for March 28 at Ag Center



On January 23, the planning for this year's Job Fair and Expo got underway. Pictured from left to right are Rene Wiggins with Martin County Enterprises, Krista Wood with NC Works, Brenda Moore with MCC and Sherrie Bazemore with WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act). Also on the committee but not pictured are Sonona Jefferson, Sierra Cooper and Judy Jennette. Twenty vendors have already signed up for the event!

MCC Trustees Met and Socialized on December 19

The MCC Board of Trustees conducted their monthly meeting and enjoyed holiday fellowship on December 19 at Deadwood Restaurant in Bear Grass.

The business meeting was short but significant in that the Trustees went into closed session to discuss the presidential search committee's recommendations for MCC's new president. Upon coming out of closed session, the board voted unanimously to submit two names to the NC Community College System's Board of Directors. The names were not released in open session because the primary candidates had not yet been notified nor vetted by the system office.

Among the other topics of discussion were:

- ◆ Interim MCC President, Dr. Kenneth A. Boham, presented the Trustees with an updated MCC policy handbook. It is the culmination of six months work by the President's Council in reviewing and updating the manual in preparation for the upcoming SACS COC reaffirmation process. Dr. Boham noted that the Board's approval of the manual was needed at this meeting in order to stay on track with the SACS COC deadlines. Trustee Dr. Derrick Wilkins expressed concern that the board had not yet had a chance to thoroughly read the entire document. Dr. Boham explained that this type of document is a continuous work in progress and although it has been vetted by the committee, the Trustees are welcome to recommend changes. The



Pictured above are the MCC Trustees during their December Board meeting at Deadwood in Bear Grass.

- Board voted to accept the manual as presented.
- ◆ Dr. Boham and MCC's Dean of Continuing Education, Nathan Mizell, asked the Trustees to adjust the pay scale for the department's instructors. The current rates make it difficult to recruit or keep qualified instructors, especially at BCI (Bertie Correctional Institution) and MCC's Healthcare programs. The Board voted unanimously to approve this request.
- ◆ SGA President, Amanda Vick, reported that her organization's activities were winding down for the Christmas break but would resume during Spring Semester. She also noted that SGA candy bar sales are still underway and make great presents.
- ◆ MCC's \$125,000 grant from the Cannon Foundation arrived and was deposited on 12/18. These funds will be used to make much needed improvements to the College's Information Technology infrastructure.
- ◆ The revised 2018-19 Academic Calendar was unanimously approved. One reading day was removed in order to make it compliant with state requirements.
- ◆ The nursing home property owned by MCC in Hamilton is on schedule to be sold in January.
- ◆ Trustees were reminded to complete I-9 forms in compliance with state law.

Ceremony for Healthcare Program Completers held on 12/13/17



Semiko Bennett, Stacey Bennett, Kennita Bond, Qunisha G. Brown and Joyce Wesson (L to R) Phlebotomy Class in Williamston



Kaleshia Beamon, TaShantie Biggs, Zakiya Harvey, Monica Hopkins and Davorah Randolph (L to R) Nurse Aide II Class in Williamston



Tara Atkins, Renee Harrell, Jackie Lassiter, Dawn White and Jacqueline Williams (L to R) Activity Director Class in Williamston



Joyce Cotton, RNayla McCoy, Ambra Smallwood and Wanda Williams-Winston (L to R) Nurse Aide I Class in Windsor



**Tonia Higgs
Nurse Aide II Class
in Williamston**

On December 13, MCC's Division of Continuing Education held its semiannual Recognition Celebration in the MCC auditorium for all successful completers of fall 2017 healthcare programs. Those recognized came from Nurse Aide I (NAI), Nurse Aide II (NAII), Activity Director and Phlebotomy classes. The near capacity audience of friends and family members showed their support of the students' achievements.

The inspirational speaker for the event was Kimberly Leary. Leary is an employee at Roanoke Landing Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Plymouth, NC. She is also the evening Activity Director Certification Instructor for MCC's Healthcare Programs as

well as for other colleges in the surrounding area. Certified Activity Directors are required to organize and direct structured activities and entertainment for all Nursing Homes, Adult Care Homes, and Group Homes in North Carolina. Leary encouraged the completers to keep going in their educational and career pursuits.

Many of the students are taking their class as a stepping stone toward advancing their education and career. RNayla McCoy, Ta Shantie Biggs, Kaleshia Beamon and Ambra Smallwood all noted that they plan to become Registered Nurses.

Continued on page 6...

SGA Election Deadline is set for 2/28

Martin Community College's (MCC) Student Government Association (SGA) is an organization that speaks for every student on the MCC campus.

The SGA President, currently Amanda Vick, represents the student body as a member of MCC's Board of Trustees and brings student issues to the attention of MCC's leadership. The SGA also plans student activities, like Spring Fling and Fall Fest. (pictured right)

An active SGA can address issues like: better food choices in the campus vending machines, student activities on campus or the availability of things like TV, coffee or game systems in the student lounges.

Being a part of the SGA teaches you how to work with others and effect change in a positive way!

The positions that are open for election are; President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer and Publicity Officer.

If you are interested in running for an SGA office, please complete an application by February 28. Applications are available in the Campus Café (on a table near the SGA office), the SGA Advisor's office (Kanon Nixon in 1-22) or online.

Eligible candidates must be enrolled in an MCC curriculum program, maintain a minimum cumulative 2.5 GPA during service as an officer, maintain a minimum 6 credit hour schedule while in office, have been enrolled at MCC for at least one semester, committed to fulfilling the responsibilities

of the office, willing to hold office for at least one academic year or two semesters and submit an appropriate headshot with the application. Currently, High School College students are not eligible to run for office. They may however, serve as a Senator on the SGA Board of Directors.

Once the applications have been vetted for eligibility compliance, the candidates will be allowed to campaign for office on the MCC campus on March 15 and 16. The elections will be conducted March 19-23.



Healthcare Completers continued from page 3...

Zakiya Harvey of Williamston, who is also working as an Office Assistant in MCC's Continuing Education Division, plans to work toward becoming a Neonatal or Pediatric Nurse Practitioner.

Monica Hopkins, a resident of Robersonville, hopes to move on from working as a fast food cashier to becoming an LPN (Licensed Practical Nurse). Hopkins went on to say, "This class meant a lot to me because I met the coolest instructors and my fellow classmates were fun to be around."

Kaleshia Beamon and Ta'Shantie Biggs, both from Williamston, felt that the successful completion of their NAI class set a good example for their kids. Beamon stated, "Finishing this class meant everything to me because it showed my kids that Mom is doing what's best for them, and if I can do it they can do it too."

RNayla McCoy of Plymouth, who currently works in home health care, stated, "Being here at MCC has made me love working with the elderly even more. My teachers and my classmates motivated and believed in me. I am very thankful to them!"

Twenty-two of the thirty-nine completers also earned a nationally recognized CRC credential, making them more employable. MCC offers on going health care classes in both Williamston and Windsor. For more information, contact Sue Gurley at 252-789-0261 or via email at sue.gurley@martincc.edu.

What is NC Promise? A great opportunity!



The North Carolina Promise Tuition Plan is a program of the State of North Carolina established with the intent of increasing access to a quality university education through the University of North Carolina system.

Beginning Fall 2018, NC Promise will dramatically reduce student costs at three UNC system campuses: Elizabeth City State University, Western Carolina University, and The University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

Undergraduate students enrolling Fall 2018 at any of those three institutions will pay only \$500 for in-state and \$2,500 for out-of-state tuition per semester. The remaining cost of education will be covered through NC Promise.

The state is doing this to honor the state's constitutional commitment to make higher education available to all citizens "as free as is reasonably possible." It also supports economic development in the state by helping NC meet demands for a well-educated workforce, increasing recruitment of high-performing out-of-state students, and decreasing college indebtedness.

All undergraduate students attending one of the designated universities will pay the reduced student tuition costs beginning in

Fall 2018. This includes both new and returning full-time students, part-time students, transfer students, students in online programs and international students. No application is needed, and there are no eligibility requirements to take advantage of NC Promise. *Please note these changes do not apply to graduate programs.

The NC Promise Tuition Plan will not affect accreditations, academic offerings, student support or campus experience. In fact, the reduced cost is likely to allow the institutions to attract the highest quality students, resulting in an enhanced learning environment. This program is designed to create a win/win scenario for NC's citizens and universities.

MCC's SGA President, Amanda Vick, who will be graduating in May, has her ECSU application filled out and is planning to take advantage of the NC Promise program this fall. She will be enrolling in the Accounting Degree program.

MCC's VP Dr. Brian Busch states, "This is a marvelous opportunity for MCC students! With our proximity to ECSU and our great working relationship with the University, an affordable four-year degree is now within reach."

Campus Food Pantry Work Continues



MCC's Vice President, Dr. Brian Busch, recently stated, "I'm delighted to announce that Rhonda Breed (pictured above) has agreed to serve as the "advisor" for our student-led Food Pantry/Clothing Closet. As such, she will be our point-of-contact for this exciting project. Moreover, permission is given for those involved to begin taking concrete steps toward making this a reality for our students. This includes providing instructions/training for faculty and staff that will be involved, coordination of student workers, plans for a room layout, and (finally) a nice "roll-out" that will announce to everyone how - those that donate and those that receive - can be involved. More information will be forthcoming. Thanks to everyone for persisting to see this project be a success."

Management guidelines are currently being developed. Once these have been reviewed and approved by the President's Council, the pantry should quickly become reality!

Con Ed Christmas Luncheon was great again this year!



In keeping with their Department's annual tradition, the good folks in Continuing Education hosted a Christmas Luncheon for the MCC staff on December 18 in the Learning Center in Building 2. Great food and fellowship are the signatures for this gathering, and this year did not disappoint those in attendance. There are certainly some excellent cooks in the Con Ed Department! Pictured above is Brenda Moore, one of the event organizers. Thanks to everyone who brought food and worked hard to make this luncheon so special! Events like this demonstrate that MCC is a great place to work!



REAL Crisis Intervention

REAL Crisis Intervention, Inc. is a non-profit agency offering free 24/7 counseling and an extensive referral service. REAL provides: Counseling, Information & Referral, Sexual Assault Services, Advocacy, Suicide Intervention/Prevention, Pitt Resource Connection, Dial-A-Teen, Community Resource Connection and Outreach/Education. They are located at 1011 Anderson Street, in Greenville NC. You may contact REAL in the following ways; by phone at 252-758-4357, by email at realcrisis@embarqmail.com or on the web at www.realcrisis.org



Need help?

Center for Family
Violence Prevention

24 Hour Crisis Line
(252)752-3811

TOLL FREE (800)537-2238

Greenville, NC

Have you herd? MCC has a new horse!



According to MCC's Barn Manager, Mary Dalcourt, "MCC's Equine program received a new donation in December. He is a registered Quarter Horse gelding that goes by the name of Curtis. His registered name, however, is Hez So Natural. Curtis is 4 years old and comes to MCC from Florida! He is trained as a hunter under saddle horse and is working out great in the program so far. Welcome to MCC, Curtis!"

Phillip Martin donated the horse to the program. Nearly all of MCC's horse herd is comprised of horses donated to the program. According to Tami Thurston, the Director of MCC's Equine program, "Occasionally, horse owners need to thin their stock and many consider donating their horses to programs like ours. It's a win-win for everyone. The horse owner gets a tax deduction, the college gets a new horse, and the horse gets a great new home!"

Checking on Cash

MCC's Barn Manager, Mary Dalcourt has returned from maternity leave and submitted the following report on Cash.

"All Cash has to worry about at the moment is growing big and strong; at which he is excelling! He was the first horse to try out the equine department's brand new livestock scale and weighed in at 716 pounds! (36 more pounds from December's weigh in). The new scale provides a much more accurate weight than the weight tape formula we have been using to estimate his weight gain."

"Cash has been out in the big pasture with the other horses for some time now and has made some new friends, most notably, with one of MCC's most beloved school horses, Bart. Bart stood up for Cash when he was getting to know the other horses and the two became fast friends."

"Cash toughed out all the winter weather we've had with no trouble at all, in no small part due to his VERY thick coat, which has kept him nice and warm in these cold temperatures. He definitely gets that thick winter coat from the draft horse side of his pedigree."

Bart is one of the oldest horses in MCC's herd. He is a quarter horse. Cash is half quarter horse and half draft horse.



Cash and his NBF (new best friend) Bart.

Scenes from the Merry Martin Christmas Party on 12/13



Academics Department



Equine Faculty



Print Shop



Administrative Services Department



Chef Kevin Washington



President's Office



Division of Continuing Education

More Martin Merrymakers

The Christmas Party Committee with Santa!



From L to R - Judy Jennette, Santa (aka Jeff Lewis), Marsha Rogers, Randy Stokes and Alice Cotten

Cosmetology Faculty



Small Business Center



MCC Equine Students' Christmas Party



Drawing blind won this student a gift card to Starbucks!



Unwrapping gifts while wearing oven mitts proved to be challenging!



MCC Barn Manager, Mary Dalcourt, and her new baby Summer joined the party!

Nixon is MCC's new Counselor



Kanon Nixon

Kanon Nixon, who first joined the MCC staff as a Transition Advisor in August of last year, has recently been hired as a counselor.

Nixon comes to MCC from ECU's Career Services Department. While there, he assisted students with admissions, choosing academic programs and course election. He also recruited, taught students on academic probation, presented career related workshops and assisted with career fairs.

Having grown up in Chowan County, Nixon graduated from John A. Holmes High School. He then continued his academic career at ECU where he earned BA's in Business Administration and Psychology. In December, he earned his Masters Degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling.

Nixon states, "I really want to focus on career counseling and connecting our students to the resources they need to succeed."

MCC Alum is now a New Dental Assisting Instructor



Desiree Perry

A Class of 2017 graduate of MCC's Dental Assisting Program (pictured below), Desiree Perry, has been hired as an instructor. She began teaching this semester and is a welcome addition to this popular program.

Perry, a resident of Audlander, graduated from Bertie High School in 2005. She then attended Eliza-

beth City State University (ECSU) where she completed her post graduate work in biology in 2009. Perry then moved on to Chowan University where, in 2014, she earned a BS degree with a major in Interdisciplinary Studies and a minor in Natural Science. In 2015, she added a BS in Biology to her credentials.

While in the Dental Assisting Program at MCC, Perry was encouraged by the program director, Shelby Brothers to consider teaching. Brothers, like Perry, had multiple credentials in biology and eventually made her way to MCC's Dental Assisting program. Upon completing the program and several hours of clinical assisting, Brothers knew that teaching others how to do this work was her calling.

Today, MCC's Dental Assisting graduates enjoy a great reputation among dental practices throughout the region. Many dentist offices seek out MCC graduates when they have openings. The program itself draws students from several counties outside of the MCC service area. Many of the graduates use their MCC experience as a stepping stone to higher levels in the dentistry profession.



Campus improvements continue at fast pace!



The work to reorganize the Student Services Department is now complete. Dr. Busch and Teri Leggett (pictured right) have been relocated to their new offices. The new horse barn stalls have arrived (pictured above left) and concrete is about to be poured. The tile the bathrooms (pictured above right) has been replaced and the new cosmetology furniture has arrived as in the process of being installed (pictured below left and right). The College entrance signs (pictured left) are being demolished and will be replaced with electronic versions by May.



MCC Minimester starts March 5!

In an ongoing effort to accommodate the needs of our students, MCC is offering a Spring Minimester (a shorter, accelerated semester) starting on March 5. Financial aid is still available for students who qualify. All of the following classes will be taught online:

CJC-111-50 – Intro to Criminal Justice,
 CJC-112-50 - Criminology,
 EDU-262-50 – Early Childhood Admin II,
 ENG-112-50 – Writing/Research in the Discipline
 MAT-171-71 – Precalculus Algebra,
 MAT-271-70 – Calculus I,
 MAT-271-71 – Calculus I,

OST-289-70 – Office Admin Capstone,
 PSY-150-51 – General Psychology,
 SOC-210-51 – Introduction to Sociology
 MUS-110-53 – Music Appreciation
 ACA-122-53 – College Transfer Success
 PED-110-52 – Fit and Well For Life

This is a relatively new offering is a great way for students to earn credits in half the time of a traditional class. Help us spread the word by informing others about this opportunity. Visit the MCC website to apply and get started with the enrollment process.

MCC Equine Students in Williamston Christmas Parade

MCC's Equine students represented the College in fine style in Williamston's December 7 Christmas parade. Pictured below Sierra Johnston. Thanks to these awesome students for representing us so well!



Thursday, February 15, 2018 • 7:00 PM

MARTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Thirty-First Annual Black History Celebration

The Celebration's Address Delivered By

SKYLA I'LECE WOODARD

11-year-old Singer/Songwriter and Actress
Wake Forest, North Carolina

Also the evening will include...

- Smiling Faces Child Care Center
- 24 Karat Majorettes
- "I Still Have A Dream" Skit
- The NEXTGEN (WIOA Youth)
- MCC Cosmetology Program
(Culture through Styles through the Decades)
- Recognition of African American Achievers

MCC AUDITORIUM

Martin Community College – 1161 Kehukee Park Road - Williamston, NC



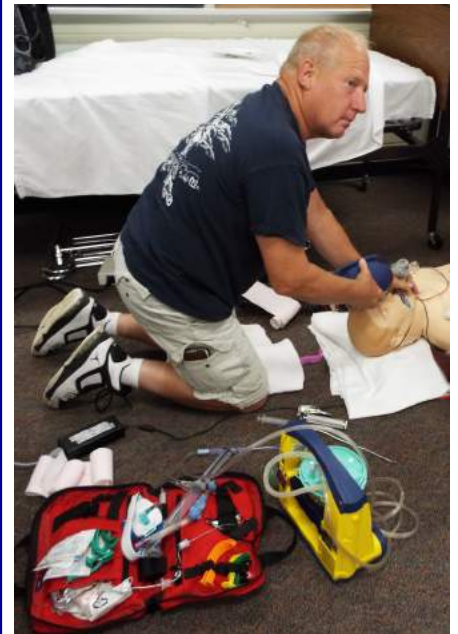
MCC Trustees Plan for the Future!

On Friday, January 19, MCC's Board of Trustees met on the Bertie campus in Windsor to conduct a new phase of a planning for the College. The Trustees saw presentations from all of MCC's Department Directors which gave them some benchmarks from which to plan for programs and services. Pictured left is Trustee and Property Committee Chairman Rick Cowan as he discusses the location of an electronic sign for the front of the Bertie campus with Interim President Kenneth Boham and Trustee Tommy Bowen. A capital improvements plan (CIP) for MCC was completed and approved in 2016.

MCC Library has powerful vibes!



On December 20, the last day before MCC's Christmas break, Katie Grace Lewis, a student at E.J. Hayes School in Williamston and daughter of MCC Maintenance Worker Jeff Lewis, was waiting for her Dad in the Library. When Library Director, Mary Ann Caudle, started working on a winter display, Katie Grace volunteered to help. The two set about the task of building a snowman in the library with a small sign that simply said "Think Snow" resting on its base. Little did Lewis or Caudle know that their lighthearted display would be the harbinger of a major snow event during the first week of January, resulting in three days of College closure! Pictured left from top to bottom is Lewis working on the display, with the final result pictured below.



EMT-to-Paramedic Bridge Course, Part 1

**Classes start
3/6/18**

**Tuesdays, Thursdays &
Saturdays**

**6-10 pm, on the Williamston
Campus**

**Classes end on
8/14/18**

Class fee is \$180.

**Contact Steven
Anderson**

**steven.anderson@martincc.edu
252-789-0266**

**or visit
www.martincc.edu**

Three Cadets complete MCC BLET Course on 12/18/17



Pictured above are MCC's most recent BLET (Basic Law Enforcement Training) graduates. From left to right, are Lewiston Police Chief and guest speaker Herman Purvis, Brandon Martinez, Malcom Cherry, Jr., Priscilla Minton and Wayland Mitchell, MCC's BLET Coordinator. The ceremony was held in the MCC Auditorium on December 18, 2017. Martinez and Minton reside in Williamston and Cherry is from Lewiston. During the ceremony, Martinez was recognized for receiving a SECU (State Employees Credit Union) scholarship.

Brandon Martinez, Malcom Cherry, Jr. and Priscilla Minton were recognized on December 18 for successfully completing MCC's 620-hour BLET (Basic Law Enforcement Training). The BLET program is offered through MCC's Division of Continuing Education. The cadets have already taken the State Comprehensive Examination and passed. Upon their successful completion of this test, they are eligible for employment in all NC law enforcement agencies. Cherry is already working for the Bertie County Sheriff's Department. Martinez and Minton are considering offers.

MCC's BLET Program Director, Wayland Mitchell, welcomed the audience comprised of friends, families of the cadets and instructors. He praised the students for their

extreme hard work and determination over the past six months.

Herman Purvis, the Chief of Police in Lewiston, NC, provided inspirational comments during the ceremony. Chief Purvis encouraged the cadets to work hard and remain dedicated to their profession.

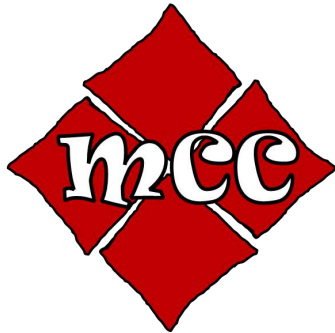
The NC BLET program covers 620 hours of study within 36 total blocks of instruction including; Physical Fitness, Firearms, Law Enforcement Driving Training, Laws of Arrest, Search and Seizure, Motor Vehicle Law, Techniques of Traffic Enforcement, Patrol Techniques, Sheriff's Responsibilities, Rapid Deployment, etc. The course contains the most current law enforcement information available and is filled with

practical exercises and an extensive ethics section that is woven throughout the training experience. It takes approximately 16 weeks to complete and concludes with a comprehensive written exam and skills testing. This course of study is mandated by the state for all certified law enforcement officers.

A new BLET class will be starting on January 30. Those interested in applying for admission to the BLET program must complete and submit a packet of information and forms by 1/29/18. The packets may be obtained in person from Wayland Mitchell or online at www.martincc.edu. To obtain a packet or for more information about the BLET program at MCC, contact Mitchell at wmitchell@martincc.edu or 252-789-0267.

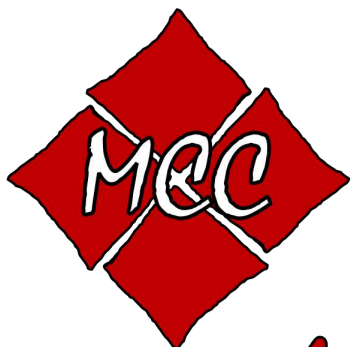
QEP Logo Choices

Part of the campus-wide project involved in the SACS COC reaffirmation process is the QEP which stands for Quality Enhancement Plan. This cycle's QEP is called MOXIE (Martin Online eXcellence In Education). It is going to be focused on improving retention and success in online classes. The committee will soon be sponsoring a campus-wide survey to select the best logo for MOXIE. The choices are seen below. Be on the lookout for the survey!



MOXIE

Martin Online eXcellence In Education



MOXIE

Martin Online eXcellence In Education

Let's Talk about SACS!

Submitted by Maureen Green

Every ten years Martin Community College undergoes a reaffirmation process in order to maintain its accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC.) SACSCOC is the accrediting body for colleges in many states in the southeast and a few colleges in other countries. Accreditation is very important for colleges because it means that they have undergone a rigorous examination and have been deemed worthy of being accredited by this independent body.

Martin is in the process of reaffirmation. We will be submitting narratives on March 1st detailing what is happening here on campus. Along with the narratives, there is a campus-wide project involved in the reaffirmation. The project is called a QEP which stands for Quality Enhancement Plan. This cycle's QEP is called MOXIE (Martin Online eXcellence In Education - *reference pictures on left*). It is going to be focused on improving retention and success in online classes. The QEP committee is hard at work planning the project so it will be beneficial to students enrolled in those classes.

In October of 2018, a SACSCOC committee will visit campus to ensure that Martin is complying with all of the SACSCOC standards and to hear our plan for the QEP.

Reaffirmation is going to be everyone's business so we wanted to give you a heads up about what is going on.

Jeff Lewis to teach new Horticulture class for Con Ed



MCC's Division of Continuing Education is offering a new horticulture program this spring. Jeff Lewis, who works in the maintenance department, and who has a horticulture degree from Pitt Community College will be teaching the class. After snow delays in January, the class is now scheduled to start on 2/20 and will conclude on May 10. Students will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 6 to 8:30 pm, on the Williamston campus. Lewis has designed the course to cover three seasonal components with the first being the identification and selection of plants during the Spring. Propagating, planting, growing as well as learning the common and proper names of some plants will be covered during this session. The summer session will cover planting schedules and pruning. The fall session covers landscaping features. This course will be both instructional and hands-on. The fee is \$180. Contact Leslie Bond to register for this class.

Golden Leaf Scholarship deadline is March 2!

Golden Leaf Foundation Scholarship applications for the 2018 Spring Semester are now available in the MCC Financial Aid Office (Building 1, Room 20).

Eligible curriculum and continuing education students may apply. Up to \$750 per semester, including summer term, is available for curriculum students and up to \$250 per semester is available for students enrolling in occupational programs. Awards may be applied toward tuition, books, supplies in the MCC bookstore, transportation, child care expenses related to attending classes, and mid-skills testing upon course completion.

Applicants must reside in an eligible county. A full-list of eligible counties is available in the Financial Aid Office. Martin and Bertie counties are among the 77 eligible counties. Selection criteria includes financial need, academic performance, campus activities, and community service.

Curriculum students must complete the 2017-2018 FAFSA Application. Continuing Education students MUST submit a copy of their 2016 Federal Tax Return along with their application. **Applications must be submitted to the MCC Financial Aid Office by Friday, March 2, 2018. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** For more information, contact Terri Leggett at 252-789-0204 or via email teresa.leggett@martincc.edu or Brandy Finney at 252-789-0321 or via email at brandy.finney@martincc.edu.

Amanda Wells is New HR Director



On February 5, Amanda Wells joined the MCC Staff as the new Human Resources (HR) Director. She comes to us from Pitt Community College (PCC) where she has worked as an HR Generalist since 2014. She also served as PCC's Interim HR Director from April 2016 through August 2016. Wells earned her BS in Management of Human Resources from Barton College and her MS in Human Resources Administration from Central Michigan University. She also has certifications as a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) and as a Certified Professional with the International Public Management Association (IMPA). Among her many duties at PCC - Wells managed recruitment, processed part time employees, organized employee recognition events, managed staff development and training, administered FLMA and Worker's Compensation claims, conducted retirement counseling and monitored employee evaluation processes. Welcome to MCC Amanda!

RUN FOR **STUDENT** **GOVERNMENT**

February 28 - Deadline to apply for candidacy

March 15-16 - Campaign for office

March 19-23 - SGA Elections

For more information, contact Kanon Nixon in office 1-22A.

Learn more about SGA on page 4!

Martin Memos

Feb. 15 - Black History Month Celebration at 7 pm in the MCC Auditorium

Feb 26 - Red Cross Blood Drive from 10 am to 2 pm, Room 14 in Building 1

Feb. 27 - ECU Hospitality Leadership recruiter in Building 4 from 9-11 am

Feb. 28 - Application deadline to run for SGA office

March 2 - Application Deadline for Goldenleaf Scholarships

March 5 - MCC Mini-mesters begin

March 15-16 - SGA Campaigning days

March 19-23 - SGA elections