5K FREEDLANDER 9/19
@ HCC
Are you ready?
2014 FALL SEMESTER HIGHLIGHTS  Dr. Laura Leatherwood

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outlines four key points for student progression

10 FALL GRADUATES  A full list of all
2014 fall graduates is available online

14 STUDENT SUCCESS  Andrew Brewer
transitions from Marine gunner to future educator
As we look forward to our fiftieth year, I find myself reflecting upon the previous semesters and our successes as well as areas where opportunities for improvement exist. Student success is central to my reflection, as I believe the success of our students translates to our success.

As I ponder this topic, I am constantly reminded of the complexity of such. Personal circumstances and institutional factors impact students’ success and create challenges at different points in their educational careers. With regard to institutional factors, Terry O’Banion frames the college experience in terms of multiple complex components including admission, assessment, placement, orientation, financial aid counseling, academic advising and registration.

Over the past year or so, multiple HCC faculty and staff have been a part of a task force focused on student success and the manner in which we support our students through each of the complex components of the college experience. Through HCC’s involvement in Completion By Design (CBD), this taskforce has identified four critical points for our students as they progress through their community college careers including:

Entry
Entry/Enrollment
Enrollment/Progress
Progress/Completion

Inquiry to program entry
Program entry to registration
Registration to census
Semester to semester completion

Within each of these critical phases, strategies have been designed to support students and increase the likelihood that they will continue on toward completion. One of the key themes undergirding these efforts is the importance of a culture of shared responsibility across the college for student success.

As we move forward, I challenge each of us to be intentional with regard to understanding our students’ individual circumstances and needs as they move through the critical points in their careers here at HCC. It’s clear that no one person can meet the multiple needs of our students, but together, we can certainly come close.

Dr. Barbara Parker, President
HCC Professional Crafts Wood instructor Brian Wurst and students recently finished a project for the US Forest Service to build and install a reception desk for the visitor’s center at their headquarters on the National Mall in Washington, DC. The design includes features requested by the Forest Service, as well as wood from the college campus.
Forestry Instructor Doug Staiger conducts a class in surveying.
Dr. Laura Leatherwood
Vice President of Student Services

STUDENT GOVERNMENT  8
Begins Fight Hunger campaign to support students in need

SMALL BUSINESS CENTER  9
Waynesville Soda Jerks win national award for excellence

NATURAL RESOURCES  9
Achieve nationwide ranking

HIGH lights
HCC opened the semester with a grand “week of welcome” for our new and returning students to celebrate the beginning of a new academic semester.

Student Government Association in partnership with HCC Foundation developed a Fight Hunger program on campus to support students in need.

SGA led a community outreach project by collecting canned goods to be donated to local food pantries. Over 10 cases of food were collected.

HCC Timbersports Team finished first place at the 19th Annual John G. Palmer Woodsmen’s Meet at the Cradle of Forestry. The team competed against Dabney S. Lancaster Community College, Montgomery Community College, North Carolina State University, Penn State University Mont Alto, and Warren Wilson College.

Students in Fish and Wildlife participated in the Big Sweep Stream Cleanup.

HCC Computer-Integrated Machining student George Shipman was the first student at HCC to receive National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS) certification. NIMS sets skills standards for the industry, certifies individual skills against the standards and accredits training programs that meet NIMS quality requirements. These standards were formed to develop and maintain a globally competitive American workforce.
A Foundation for the Future

Dr. Laura Leatherwood

As the new semester begins and the holidays are behind us, now is a great time to reflect and celebrate the fall semester of 2014 and the successes of our students, staff and faculty. Life for our students on campus involves much more than classroom work. It includes field trips, competitions, club functions and fundraisers, work-based learning experiences, practical hands on activities and lots of interaction with the HCC family and community.

Below are only a few examples of student and college successes over the last semester that provide a solid foundation from which to continue building our futures, both as a college, as well as individuals. At any rate, we are extremely proud of our students for their hard work and commitment to excellence, and we recognize that many of them must overcome challenges in their personal and professional lives in order to be academically successful.

In addition to supporting students in the classroom and on campus, student success coaching services are now available to help students identify and overcome barriers to their success. The Student Success Management Program is a collaborative effort between the Student Services team, Developmental Education Department, Learning Support Services, and instructors across campus.

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**HCC Cosmetology student Whitney Connor** was the overall student winner of a regional cosmetology competition hosted by the college. HCC students competed against A-B Technical Community College and Tri-County Community College.

**HCC’s Criminal Justice Lambda Eta Chi** students, faculty, and HCC Criminal Justice alum Brian Forrest won 15 awards at the American Criminal Justice Association Region 5 Conference.

**HCC students Chris Allen and Megan Brown**, owners of Waynesville Soda Jerks, traveled to Phoenix, Arizona to receive the Student Entrepreneur of the Year Award from the National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship.

**HCC was recognized** by Victory Media as a Military Friendly College.

**According to the August 18, 2014 issue of Community College Week**, HCC ranks #5 in the Nation as the top associate degree producer for Natural Resources & Conservation.

**For the first time ever**, HCC students have access to a school nurse on campus. This is a new partnership with Haywood County Health Department and Haywood County Schools.

**HCC Kicked off our 50th Anniversary Celebration** at the Canton and Waynesville Christmas Parades. More than 40 students participated representing SGA, SAMA (Student Association of Medical Assisting), Medical Office Assisting Club, Automotive Club and the Wildlife Club.
2014 FALL GRADUATES
194 Awards

Click the to see the full list
Marine to Matriculate
Andrew Brewer spent nine years in the Marines and visited several countries as a Stinger Gunner for anti-air warfare. But for him, the experience that resonated most through his service were the two years he spent in recruiting. “I helped the new recruits be prepared,” Brewer explains. “I enjoyed it so much that it didn’t feel like work.”

Now Brewer’s goal is to become a university professor in Criminal Justice. “I want to get students to have a deeper understanding,” he says. “I want to help others develop, help them see what they can accomplish.”

Brewer is well on his way to achieving his goal. In December 2014, he finished Haywood Community College with a certificate and associate degree in Criminal Justice, a certificate in Emergency Management, and a certificate in Investigations. He is currently enrolled in college transfer courses and plans to transfer to WCU to receive a Bachelor’s degree.

The instructors at HCC definitely made an impact on Brewer. “It was such a friendly environment. It was nice to talk to the teachers, get insight from them and get real feedback.”

While still a student in the Criminal Justice program, Brewer got a job as a detention officer with the Buncombe County Detention Center. As a detention officer, Brewer’s main job is to provide safety and security for the facility. He monitors inmates and works on releases and bookings. The facility houses both males and females who are there for a wide range of crimes from failure to pay child support to murder.

Brewer says the only way he was able to work full-time, juggle a family, and go to school full-time was to take classes online. “The online classes offered the flexibility I had to have,” he says. “But it requires you to use time management skills and stay focused. You have to plan and not procrastinate.”
Education changes everything.