Message from the President


This has become a topic for discussion for several reasons including 1) the recent increases in tuition at colleges, 2) the amount of debt college students are taking on to pay that tuition, 3) the recession that has made it more difficult for even college graduates to find high-paying jobs and 4) a new emphasis by the public on measuring the value of a college education purely in economic terms.

My answer to this question is a resounding “yes.” Graduating from college is more important and more valuable today than ever before. The data is very clear that graduating from college yields economic benefits but also intrinsic and lifestyle benefits. College graduates on average live longer, healthier and happier lives than non-college graduates. They are more likely to vote and to be involved in their community. The unemployment rate for college graduates even during the worst years of the recession was less than half that of non-college graduates. And college grads on average, in 2013, earned 98 percent more per hour than non-college graduates, up from 89 percent more in 2008; 85 percent more in 2004; and 64 percent more in the 1980’s. Even when college loan debt is considered, college graduates’ earnings more than make up for the need to repay the debt.

But there are two important caveats I need to offer. Notice that I have referred to the value of college to college graduates. If a student attends college, takes on debt through loans, but does not graduate, he/she will be worse off economically than one who does not attend college. And second, the economic value differs based on one’s major. Right now, students graduating in science, technology, engineering, math and health care command significantly higher salaries than those majoring in the humanities and social sciences. In fact, community college associate degree grads in science, technology, engineering, math and health care on average earn more than bachelor degree grads in the humanities and social sciences. So from a strictly short-term economic value standpoint, a student’s major is as important, or more important, than which college she or he attends.

So as you read this PVCC Annual Report I draw your attention to a few pertinent facts about the College:

> PVCC tuition is only 37 percent of the average tuition of four-year public colleges in Virginia.

> Students attending PVCC for two years before transferring to complete a bachelor’s degree save a minimum of $10,000 in tuition and $20,000 in room and board charges and in some cases as much as $75,000.

> Due to the relatively low PVCC tuition, only 10 percent of PVCC students take out a loan to pay for their education, and the typical total amount of debt when they leave PVCC is between $5,000-10,000 as opposed to an average of $30,000 at four-year colleges.

> PVCC has developed extensive student and academic support services to help our students succeed. These include our Math Center, Writing Center, tutoring services and Structured Learning Assistance program. When students enter PVCC, we commit to doing all that we can to help them succeed and graduate because the finish line is not enrolling in college, it is graduating from college.

> PVCC continues to expand our programs in science, technology and health care. New programs in Pharmacy Technician and Central Sterile Processing Technician will launch next year. Programs in cybersecurity and engineering technology are under development. We prepare hundreds of local people for high-demand and high-wage local jobs every year.

> And when it comes to quality and excellence, six PVCC students in the past 14 years have been the top community college student in Virginia based upon academic performance, leadership and service. Ninety-three percent of our surveyed graduates from the class of 2013 said that PVCC helped them further their academic and/or professional goals, and 90 percent of our degree-seeking graduates reported transferring to their first-choice college.

Is PVCC worth it? I believe that PVCC offers great value for your higher education dollars. But you be the judge as you read this PVCC Annual Report.

Frank Friedman, PVCC President
ffriedman@pvcc.edu
PVCC’s Far-Reaching Impact on the Community

Providing a Skilled Workforce for Local Employers

This year an analysis of PVCC data and a Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) report revealed that 65 percent of all employers in the region have current or former PVCC students on their payroll. Moreover, nearly 20 percent of the employed population of the region has received some type of educational services from the College within the past five years.

As evidenced by these facts, PVCC is fulfilling its mission to educate Central Virginians so that local employers have a skilled, knowledgeable workforce upon which to draw. Area industries that employ PVCC students and alumni include health care, hospitality and culinary services, retail business, and professional, scientific and technical services.

The VEC report included PVCC students who were enrolled in credit classes at the College within the last five years and who were employed for the first two quarters of 2013 (Jan.-June) in the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene and Nelson Counties.

Preparing Students for Baccalaureate Study

Another component of PVCC’s mission is to prepare students for bachelor’s degree studies at a four-year institution of higher education. The College conducted an analysis of National Student Clearinghouse enrollment data and found that 1,563 students who were taking credit classes at PVCC during the 2011-2012 academic year – the most recent figures available – were attending a four-year college or university within one year.

Data showed that 433 of the students enrolled at PVCC in 2011-2012 were taking PVCC dual enrollment classes in their high school and then attended a four-year school immediately after high school graduation. Dual enrollment classes enable local high school students to earn secondary and college credit simultaneously, hence the moniker dual enrollment, and are an increasingly popular pathway to a bachelor’s degree. By taking PVCC classes while in high school, these students increase their competitive position at selective universities and save a significant amount of money on tuition.

Another 525 of the students who were enrolled at PVCC in 2011-2012 are categorized as “swirling.” They attended more than one college, including PVCC, before enrolling in a four-year college in 2012-13. These students may have simply needed a few credits at PVCC before continuing at a four-year school. In some instances, such students had already earned a degree and were preparing to earn another degree.

An additional 605 PVCC students enrolled in 2011-2012 formally transferred from PVCC to a four-year college or university in 2012-13. These students began their higher education at PVCC, taking advantage of affordable tuition, convenient classes, high-quality teaching and guaranteed admission agreements to transfer to a baccalaureate-degree-granting college or university.

Two-thirds of PVCC transfer students opt for in-state institutions, such as James Madison University, Virginia Tech and Virginia Commonwealth University, but not surprisingly, many of these students attend PVCC’s partner across town – the University of Virginia. Of PVCC enrollees during the 2011-2012 academic year, 251 attended U.Va. within a year of PVCC enrollment. This includes 25 dual enrolled high school students and 122 formal transfers.

One-third of PVCC transfer students select out-of-state colleges or universities to attend, and these are located in at least half the states in the U.S. Transfer institutions include such outstanding colleges as Boston College, University of North Carolina, University of Maryland, Yale, Harvard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Georgia, University of South Carolina, Penn State and New York University.

“I enrolled in one of PVCC’s transfer degree programs knowing that I could take advantage of guaranteed admissions to U.Va. PVCC helped me get where I am today.”

Joshua Mlcoch, Software Engineer
PVCC 2010, Associate Transfer Degrees in Computer Science & Liberal Arts
U.Va. 2012, Bachelor’s Degree in Computer Science

On the cover: Cristi Coles Terrell graduated magna cum laude (with high honors) in May with an Associate of Science degree in Science. While attending PVCC, she was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), the international honor society for two-year colleges. She plans to enroll at the University of Buffalo to pursue a degree in geology.
Commencement 2014

PVCC graduated 617 students at its 41st annual commencement on Thursday, May 15, at the John Paul Jones arena. A significant number of graduates worked, parented and/or met other responsibilities while attending PVCC, as evidenced by the number of graduates who stood to applaud when PVCC President Frank Friedman asked which of them fulfilled such demographics.

Keynote speaker was Glenn DuBois, chancellor of the Virginia Community College System, himself a community college graduate. Drawing upon his early experiences of teaching inmates at a tough New York correctional facility, he offered four key life lessons to the graduates: “Make the most of your freedom. Respect others. Never stop learning. Value your education.” DuBois closed his speech by quoting *Oh, The Places You’ll Go!* by Dr. Seuss: “Congratulations! Today is your day. You’re off to Great Places! You’re off and away!”

Student speaker Grant Clem said that receiving a scholarship from the PVCC Educational Foundation was a turning point for him. “Financially it was helpful,” he acknowledged, “but knowing that someone believed in my education is what changed my life. And now, because of that scholarship, I’m the first in my family to graduate from college.” He encouraged his fellow graduates to never forget the community college that had served them.

PVCC 2014 Graduates by Location

![Graph showing percentage of graduates by location]

Awarded Degrees in 2013-2014*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>AWARD</th>
<th>SUMMER 2013</th>
<th>FALL 2013</th>
<th>SPRING 2014</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>PERCENT</th>
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<td>115</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>738</td>
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</table>

*615 students earned at least one degree, certificate, or career studies certificate from PVCC this academic year. Some students earned more than one.
“Never stop learning, value your education and encourage the people around you to do the same,” was the message from Dr. Glenn DuBois, chancellor of the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) and featured speaker. DuBois has led the 23-college system since 2001.
Enrollment Plateaus

The number of students enrolled in credit classes at Piedmont Virginia Community College during the 2013-2014 academic year dipped one percent compared to the previous year.

A total of 7,800 students took credit classes during the summer 2013, fall 2013 and spring 2014 semesters, which is 76 fewer than the equivalent academic year in 2012-2013. PVCC’s enrollment declined by 1.1 percent in the fall semester but grew slightly in the summer (by less than 1 percent) and the spring (by 1.3 percent). Only three other colleges in the 23-member Virginia Community College System grew during at least two semesters over the previous academic year.

Annual enrollment at PVCC dropped less than one percent between 2011-2012 and 2012-2013. The flat growth in the past two years reflects a normalizing trend in enrollment at community colleges in Virginia and nationwide following recession-driven surges in enrollment from 2007 through 2012. In that five-year period, PVCC had an unprecedented 20 percent spike in enrollment as many individuals sought additional education to enhance their skills and become more marketable.

Enrollment always grows when the economy is in a slump,” noted PVCC President Frank Friedman, “and it levels out during recovery. We knew that fewer students would be enrolling and that the result would be a corresponding decline in revenues from tuition and fees. The College administration has planned for this and budgeted accordingly.”

The number of students taking advantage of distance-learning credit classes ticked up 2.9 percent with more than 3,500 students taking distance-learning credit classes during the academic year. These classes are offered either online, in a hybrid format (online + classroom lecture) or via web-streamed video.

The number of high school students taking PVCC dual enrollment credit classes in their high schools continued to rise, with 8.8 percent more students enrolled. Students who successfully complete these college-level classes earn credits toward high school graduation and a college degree or certificate. Students get a jump-start on their college education and save money in the process since these PVCC classes are offered at no cost to high school students.

More Students Taking Classes in Greene County

PVCC completed its second year of holding classes in Greene County at the PVCC Eugene Giuseppe Center in Stanardsville. This academic year, more than 300 students took classes there, a 118 percent gain compared to the first year of operation. The College also increased the number of classes for the summer, fall and spring semesters. English, history, sociology, information literacy, math, Spanish, health and psychology continue to be popular class choices.

In the spring, PVCC formally surveyed its students who live in Greene County to solicit feedback and suggestions. Located on the second floor of the county library building, the Center also has a large community room that PVCC rents to agencies, organizations and the general public on a space-available basis. Many civic, business and education groups have taken advantage of this convenient and affordable gathering place by scheduling a variety of events such as workshops, blood drives, business meetings, luncheons, an open mic night for teens and holiday parties.

First Year at PVCC Jefferson School Center

With conclusion of the spring 2014 semester, the College wrapped up four semesters at the PVCC Jefferson School Center in downtown Charlottesville. This location is home to the Culinary Arts associate degree program, and classes are held in the commercial-grade teaching kitchen and classroom.

This academic year, 303 PVCC students took advantage of taking credit classes at the downtown venue. In addition to culinary classes at this off-campus site, PVCC offered English, health, psychology, child development, information technology, business, math and other credit classes. Another advantage of PVCC’s Jefferson School Center is its partnership with the YMCA’s Intergenerational Learning Center, also located at the Jefferson School. PVCC and the YMCA partner to offer discounted child-care services on site for PVCC students enrolled at any of the College’s locations.

PVCC’s Workforce Services Division also schedules a number of noncredit culinary classes there for individuals seeking personal enrichment.
New Culinary Arts and Nursing Assistant Programs Prove Popular

Many local residents availed themselves of career opportunities in health care and hospitality by enrolling in either the Culinary Arts Associate of Applied Science degree or the Nursing Assistant Career Studies Certificate, both of which were offered for the first time last fall.

Fifty-one students selected the culinary arts program and are taking classes taught in the commercial-grade teaching kitchen and culinary classrooms at PVCC’s Jefferson School Center in downtown Charlottesville. Graduates with this degree will be prepared for entry-level jobs as chefs, sous chefs, pastry chefs, personal chefs and line cooks at casual and fast-food restaurants as well as in hotels, resorts, country clubs and other foodservice settings.

Thirty-three students enrolled in the Nursing Assistant program, which can be completed in two semesters of full-time study. Those who successfully finish the program are prepared to take the Virginia nurse aid exam to become a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA).

Both of these programs are designed to meet the workforce needs of Central Virginia’s hospitality and health-care employers.

The College’s Workforce Services Division introduced new certification programs in welding and small engine repair this year. PVCC partners with the Virginia School of Metal in Troy to offer the welding program, which prepares students for the American Welding Society Certification in Welding. Three students successfully completed the program and earned the certification.

The Small Engine Repair program consists of introductory and advanced classes in repair of two-stroke and four-stroke engines used in agriculture, landscaping and other industries. Twenty-six of the 130 students who enrolled in the program this year earned the Equipment and Engine Training Council certification.

Plans Solidified for Two New Health-Care Programs of Study

PVCC, the Martha Jefferson Hospital and the University of Virginia Health System expanded their long-standing partnership this year by signing an agreement to offer two new fast-track certificates – one for Pharmacy Technician and the other for Central Sterile Processing Technician – beginning next academic year. The programs are being developed because there is a shortage of people trained in these fields.

Under the agreement, Martha Jefferson and U.Va. Health System will provide clinical experiences for PVCC students and pay the salaries and benefits for two new credentialed PVCC faculty to teach the programs. PVCC will employ the faculty, develop the program curriculum in collaboration with both hospitals and provide program oversight.

Processing techs sterilize, package and prepare instruments used in surgical procedures. Pharmacy techs are supervised by a pharmacist to assemble and supply medicines in hospital or retail pharmacies. High school graduates and GED completers have the needed background to enter the programs, which can be completed in one or two semesters of study. Financial aid for qualifying students will be available. Both hospitals plan to hire qualified graduates of the programs.
Opening Higher-Education Doors for GED Grads

PVCC collaborated this year with businesses, local government and organizations on several new initiatives that opened higher-education doors for GED graduates.

With a generous $10,000 gift from Wells Fargo, PVCC introduced the Emerging Scholars program for 15 GED graduates interested in continuing their education at the College. The emerging scholars were awarded a scholarship for two classes held at the PVCC Jefferson School Center and received academic coaching, financial aid counseling and other academic support services to help them transition into college, gain confidence and achieve academic success. The majority of scholars earned top grades, and several have subsequently enrolled in PVCC summer and fall 2014 classes. “I didn’t think I belonged in college,” remarked one participant, “but this program showed me that I can [go].”

PVCC also partnered with Thomas Jefferson Adult Career + Education to secure a grant from Plugged In Virginia (PIVA) and the City of Charlottesville. The PIVA program required recent GED graduates to enroll in a career program at the College to earn college credits plus an industry credential. Because of the high demand for workers, the program focused on the retail and hospitality industry, with the students earning a total of nine credits plus the National Retail Federation Certificate in Customer Service. In addition, the students were awarded a Career Readiness Certificate.

CustomInk, a Virginia-based online retail company and local employer, offered on-site training to give the students workplace experience. Tuition assistance was provided by the Workforce Investment Act. Through the efforts of the partnerships, eight students attended and all completed the program. Upon graduation, three students had job offers from local businesses and five students intended to continue their education at PVCC.

Grant Helps Low-Income Students Shoulder Child-Care Expenses

Often the cost of child care is a barrier for low-income individuals who want to enroll at PVCC. This academic year, PVCC was awarded a $210,344 CCAMPIS grant (Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools) by the U.S. Department of Education to help subsidize the cost of child care for low-income parents, particularly veterans and full-time students, who qualify for need-based Pell grants.

First offered during the spring 2014 semester, the subsidies were awarded to seven students who qualified. They received a sliding fee scale for child-care services and participated in academic, financial aid and career counseling to maximize their prospects for success in completing their studies. Some participants indicated that the subsidy allowed them to take a more ambitious course load.

A partner with PVCC on the grant’s implementation is the Piedmont Family YMCA's Intergenerational Learning Center, which also provides discounted preschool- and after-hours child care for PVCC students. These services are available at the Jefferson School City Center in downtown Charlottesville where PVCC and the YMCA are tenants.

PVCC was the only college among 23 in the Virginia Community College System and one of 58 higher education institutions in the nation to receive a CCAMPIS grant.

Weekend Financial Aid Events Help Increase Access to Higher Ed

PVCC hosted two Saturday events on campus this year to help aspiring students in the community to find financial aid to attend college.

In February, PVCC once again was host site for the annual Super FAFSA event in Central Virginia. More than 100 individuals who wanted to attend college received assistance completing the online federal financial aid form (FAFSA) – a necessity for determining if one qualifies for aid. Representatives from the University of Virginia and other four-year institutions were on site to answer questions about financial aid and enrollment at their institutions. PVCC offered a presentation about scholarships. Super FAFSA is held annually throughout host sites in Virginia and is sponsored by the Virginia Association of Financial Aid Administrators.

Four months later in June, the College held a Financial Aid Saturday Workshop for the community to get ready for the fall semester at PVCC. Attendees received help filling out the online FAFSA.

The College is committed to increasing access to higher education by making sure that students eligible for financial aid receive the assistance they need to apply for it. More than 40 percent of PVCC students receive financial aid, mostly in the form of Pell grants which do not require repayment.
Academies Prepare Kids for Careers and College

PVCC’s Workforce Services Division continued to offer its increasingly popular menu of learning academies for children and youth. These hands-on project-based learning programs help cultivate interest in various careers and provide exposure to college life on PVCC’s campus.

Nearly 600 rising 3rd-9th grade students attended the Summer Career Academies. In their third year of operations, these academies cover such topics as CSI: Charlottesville, Building a Computer from Parts, Computer Animation and LEGO YOUUniverse. The focus on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) is a deliberate strategy to help address the ongoing nationwide shortage in qualified STEM workers.

Because of the enormous success of the Summer Career Academies, PVCC expanded the initiative this year by partnering with City of Promise and Computers4Kids to offer After School Academies at the Westhaven Community Center and the Ix Building. Twenty-one students enrolled.

Summer Career Academies will be offered during the summer of 2014 through Computers4Kids and at Friendship Court, and there are plans to expand the program to the Southwood community.

In the spring, eight high school students completed the Health Sciences Academy, which included health career workshops and visits to PVCC health-program labs and classrooms, HemoShear and the University of Virginia’s School of Medicine Simulation Center. While attending this academy, seven students also completed a Career Readiness Certificate. All participants indicated that they plan to attend college and that the academy was effective in increasing their interest and knowledge about health-care careers.

Aiming to Make Students Better Writers

According to many national studies and reports, employers want and need their workers to have better writing competencies. Also, four-year colleges and universities to which many PVCC students transfer expect their incoming students to write well.

To address these needs, in fall 2009 PVCC began a five-year initiative to improve the writing skills of PVCC students and create a “Culture of Writing” at the College. The collective efforts continue to bear fruit. For example, over the five-year period, the quality of writing by students enrolled in required writing intensive courses improved significantly based upon the following writing measures: purpose and audience, idea development and support, organization, grammar and conventions, and presentation and documentation.

The College began with revision of first-year college composition courses to include expanded writing requirements, specific instruction in grammar and punctuation and engagement in writing process activities. A new PVCC Writing Rubric or set of instructions was developed for faculty to provide a common language and format for assessment of student writing and constructive feedback to students.

PVCC also integrated writing activities into required information technology and computer science courses and ramped up writing tutoring and other services in the College’s Writing Center to help students succeed. The College also established the additional graduation requirement of successful completion of a Writing Intensive course for all students enrolled in an associate degree program.

PVCC students indicated in a survey last fall that they expect to become better writers as a result of their writing experiences at the College. They also indicated increased use of writing to organize thoughts and ideas and are using various techniques to improve assigned papers and reports.
President Friedman Honored with National PTK Award of Distinction

PVCC President Frank Friedman received a 2014 Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction this spring by Phi Theta Kappa, the leading international honor society for two-year colleges.

Friedman and the 13 other award recipients were recognized at Phi Theta Kappa’s 96th Annual Convention in Orlando. Recipients of the award were selected for their outstanding efforts to promote the goals of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK). Throughout his 15-year tenure as PVCC’s president, he has actively encouraged and promoted scholarship, leadership and service among PVCC students – the core goals of PTK.

As noted on its Web site, PTK is the largest honor society in higher education with 1,285 chapters on college campuses in all 50 of the United States – which includes PVCC’s chapter named Alpha Epsilon Tau – plus chapters in Canada, Germany and other countries. Since PTK’s founding in 1918, nearly 3 million students have been inducted with approximately 131,000 students inducted annually.

PVCC Earns Military Friendly School Designation

Victory Media honored PVCC this year by naming it to the Military Friendly Schools® list for 2014. The list honors the top 20 percent of U.S. colleges, universities and trade schools that are doing the most to embrace America’s military service members, veterans and dependents and to ensure their academic success.

PVCC’s population of students who are active-duty military, veterans and dependents has nearly doubled in the last five years. Currently, more than 600 are enrolled. PVCC has a dedicated military and veterans affairs advisor who helps them navigate veterans’ education benefits, acclimate to college life and be successful in meeting their education and career goals.

Moreover, the College has a Veterans Center and an active chapter of the Student Veterans of America Club. Special observances of Veterans Day and Memorial Day are held on campus. More information is available through www.pvcc.edu/veterans.

Victory Media is an entity for military personnel transitioning into civilian life. Now in its fifth year, the 2014 list of Military Friendly Schools® was compiled through extensive research and a data-driven survey of more than 10,000 schools nationwide approved for Veterans Affairs tuition funding.

PVCC was ranked among the top-10 mid-sized community colleges across the U.S. that offer exceptional technology support to students and educators. The College received the national honor in the ninth annual Digital Community Colleges Survey, conducted by e.Republic’s Center for Digital Education. Colleges from 26 states participated in the survey. This is the fourth year that PVCC has placed among the top 10 and the second year the College competed in the mid-sized category against much larger institutions and improved its ranking from previous years.

In addition to PVCC’s electronic classrooms and campus-wide wireless Internet access, the College continues to consolidate its network servers through virtualization, resulting in significant increases in computing efficiency and the network’s overall versatility. Classrooms at PVCC and its Eugene Giuseppe Center in Greene County are equipped with compressed video systems, which allow students to view live video of lectures at either location and at other remote locations.

Classrooms and instructors’ computers are equipped with Panopto recorders enabling faculty to record lectures and presentations. In the past year, students have viewed more than 18,000 hours of faculty-created videos, and students’ feedback about this method of delivering instructional content has been favorable.

PVCC Named Among Best Online Colleges in U.S.

PVCC was ranked among the best online universities and community colleges in the U.S. by AccreditedOnlineColleges.org, a premier resource on accredited colleges. The College was recognized for offering up-to-date and easy-to-use resources online and for its high-quality online classes and programs.

More than 40 percent of PVCC students take at least one online credit class during their course of study at the College. Hundreds of area residents also enroll in a variety of noncredit online classes offered through PVCC’s Workforce Services Division.

The list of best online universities and community colleges was composed taking into consideration a range of aspects including school size, location and tuition costs. AccreditedOnlineColleges.org gathered input from a variety of sources including current and former students, faculty and experts in the field.
Alex Hollis
A Palate-Pleasing Path toward a Culinary Career

It's not unusual to find a person who really likes chocolate, but PVCC culinary arts student Alex Hollis takes her passion for it to a whole new level. "I’ve always loved chocolate – the smell, the taste, the way it melts. Chocolate makes people smile, and sometimes I’ll give it to my friends just to make their day."

At The Covenant School, she found even further inspiration. "I had a teacher who taught us about fair trade products, like coffee and bananas – things that come mostly from South America and the Ivory Coast of Africa. I did a project on fair trade cocoa and learned the importance of our food sources and the ethics behind them." Alex said she had found her calling. "I knew I wanted to go to a culinary school out of high school, but they can be really expensive. My mom and I were hoping that PVCC would offer a program so I could start there. I graduated from high school in May 2013, and PVCC launched their culinary program later that fall. It worked out perfectly!"

Alex said that she truly enjoys her classes, especially the professional chef, Professor Eric Breckoff, who teaches them. "He is an excellent instructor, and shows us exactly what's expected of us in class as well as what we’ll need to know in the future." She said that one of the highlights has been a visit to her class from a former White House chef. In addition to her culinary classes, which are held at PVCC’s Jefferson School Center in downtown Charlottesville, Alex takes regular classes on the main campus such as English, math and humanities as part of her program of study.

After she graduates from PVCC with her associate degree, Alex said she would like to enroll in a four-year culinary school, or transfer to the University of Virginia to pursue a business degree while working for a local chocolate company. "I’d like to be a chocolatier in my own shop someday, probably in a bigger city," she said. "I’d also like to work for a fair trade company and do some work in the countries that source these foods." Alex offered some advice to students who might be considering going into the culinary arts field. "Just take some cooking classes with PVCC, even if they’re not for a degree, to see how you like it. And get a good pair of shoes. It’s a lot of hard work and a lot of time on your feet." And for Alex, it’s exactly where she wants to be standing.

www.pvcc.edu/culinary

Shaun Jones
Engineering Research is This Veteran’s Career Goal.

Growing up in rural North Carolina, Shaun Jones said that he always had a curious and inventive mind and the determination to use it to its fullest potential. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy after graduating from high school, but decided near the end of his five-year term that there was more he wanted to do outside the service. "I had planned to start at a university, but I’d been out of school for such a long time I realized that wasn’t the best option for me."

Shaun said that while living in Norfolk, he was looking into Virginia community colleges when a friend told him about PVCC, so the two traveled to Charlottesville in April 2012 for a weekend visit. "It was springtime, and I saw the school and thought the area was just beautiful. When I found out the College offered the engineering program I was looking for, I was sold."

Later that year, Shaun moved to the area and enrolled at PVCC, where he is pursuing an Associate of Science degree in engineering. He said that his professors have not only enhanced his interest in his program of study, but also have opened his eyes to new ways of conversation and thinking – including fostering a love of reading. Shaun also likes the fact that the College offers his required courses at times which allow him to work a part-time job.

After PVCC graduation in May 2015, Shaun hopes to transfer to either U.Va. or Virginia Tech to complete a Bachelor’s Degree in chemical engineering. He envisions continuing his education into graduate school – possibly seeking a PhD in his field. "I’m interested in conducting research, and I’d like to own my own business. I could also see myself writing a book someday."

Shaun said that no matter what he ends up doing, he will continue to live by his own motto: “Never stop improving.”

www.pvcc.edu/engineering
The following students were recognized at PVCC’s 10th Annual Academic and Leadership Awards convocation held in April 2014. They were selected by members of the PVCC faculty in recognition of their grade point average, class involvement, service to PVCC and/or peers, recognition by peers, leadership and motivation.

**Division of Business, Mathematics and Technologies**

Accounting ................................................................. Baxter C. Kennedy  
Administration of Justice ................................................. Matthew T. Rose  
Administrative Support Technology .............................. Patricia Covarrubias  
Clea and Peggy Parker Award for Business Administration . . . Daniel F. Krimowski  
Business Management .................................................... Jonathan L. Dean  
Margaret M. Murphy Award for Computer Science ............ Matthew Krehbiel  
Virginia Ross Award for Culinary Arts .............................. Alexandra L. Hollis  
Economics ........................................................................ Konstantinos M. Vassalos  
Larry Brown Award for Electronics & Computer Technology ... Peter Arthur  
Sarah Rogers Award for Engineering ................................. Dustin J. Widmann  
Euler Prize for Excellence in Mathematics ........................... John P. Donlon  
Frances Rees and Barbara Heyl Award for Chemistry .......... Andrew C. Lam  
Dolores Brandolo Award for Anatomy and Physiology ........ Luis A. Morales  
Biotechnology ................................................................... Taylor L. Wright  
Frances Rees and Barbara Heyl Award for Chemistry . . . . . Andrew C. Lam  
Kirby Award for Diagnostic Medical Sonography ......... Sara Aboud  
Elizabeth Morning Hamm Award for Emergency Medical Services Brandi Joyner  
Geology ............................................................................. Angela E. Nebel  
Health Information Management ....................................... Margaret Duncan  
Campbell Ross Award for Horticulture .............................. Andrew M. Harriman  
Microbiology ........................................................................ Todd M. Lange  
Patient Admissions Coordinator ....................................... Lori A. Smith  
Mary Lamb Wyant Award for Practical Nursing .............. Samantha L. LeBrun  
Mildred Montag Award for Nursing ................................ Keila M. Rader  
Wyant-Dowell Family Award for Physical Education ....... Thomas S. Carpenter IV  
Elizabeth Nalley Award for Radiography .......................... Edward G. Songer  
Surgical Technology ........................................................... Ryan Roman  

**Division of Health and Life Sciences**

Health Information Management ........................................ Margaret Duncan  
Campbell Ross Award for Horticulture .............................. Andrew M. Harriman  
Microbiology ........................................................................ Todd M. Lange  
Patient Admissions Coordinator ....................................... Lori A. Smith  
Mary Lamb Wyant Award for Practical Nursing .............. Samantha L. LeBrun  
Mildred Montag Award for Nursing ................................ Keila M. Rader  
Wyant-Dowell Family Award for Physical Education ....... Thomas S. Carpenter IV  
Elizabeth Nalley Award for Radiography .......................... Edward G. Songer  
Surgical Technology ........................................................... Ryan Roman  

Division of Humanities, Fine Arts and Social Sciences

Composition ........................................................................... Esther Gritsko  
Denise McClanahan Award for Dance ................................. Jeannine O. Reyes  
Ada Sloan Award for English ................................................. Paloma Correal  
Fine Arts ............................................................................. Aubrey L. Tomlin  
Rebecca and Andrew Straley Award for German ............... John B. Butcher  
Roger C. Chappuis Award for French ................................. Bethany H. Popelish  
History ................................................................................. Tara L. Tschudi  
Carole Friedman and Gail Kopolow Award for Humanities . . . Fawn M. Krenisky  
Frances G. and Glenn M. Norcutt Award for Literature .... Patricia E. Smith  
Prudence Curtis Award for Music ....................................... Austin B. Pullen  
Philosophy ............................................................................. Nathan P. Ramsay  
Mary Ann Elwood Award for Political Science ..................... Scott M. Crouch  
Dr. Neil Friedman Award for Psychology ............................ Tristram G. Buck  
John Albert Broadus Award for Religion ............................ Nathan C. Moore  
Sociology ............................................................................... Amy R. Kennel  
Spanish .................................................................................... Fletcher J. Gore  
Speech .................................................................................... Kathleen Tomlin  
Theatre ................................................................................... Hannah M. Dorss  

**Distinguished Student Award**

Nathaniel G. Ricca  
*The highest award presented by the College to a student, it recognizes those who demonstrate exemplary service or leadership at the College and through activities in the College’s service region and beyond.

**PVCC All-USA Academic Team Nominees**

Nathaniel Ricca  
PTK All-Virginia Academic Team  
Mary Hedges  
PTK Top Ten All-Virginia Academic Team and New Century Scholar
Student Leadership Awards

Walt Kehoe Tutoring Award .................................................. Ryan Harris
Anime Club .......................................................... Leo M. Murphy
Art Club .......................................................... Meagan E. Canning
Basketball Club ......................................................... John M. Chandler
Book Club .......................................................... Lauren E. Cranidiotis
Christian Student Fellowship Club ......................... Kyle C. Hersey
Creative Writing Club .......................................................... Ryan Harris
Graphics Club .......................................................... Jimmy A. Galano
Horticulture and Environmental Club .................... Jonathan L. Dean
International Club .................................................. Parisa Haghtalab
Investment Club .......................................................... Granton Clem
Japanese Club .......................................................... Noah J. Watson
Life Is For Everyone Club ........................................ Mary W. Hedges
Masquers Club .......................................................... Gabrielle C. Cruz
Mu Alpha Theta .......................................................... Arman Mottaghi
Music Club .......................................................... Erin B. Neeley
Masquers Club .......................................................... Gabrielle C. Cruz
Phi Theta Kappa .................................................. Ashleigh P. Taylor
Pottery Club .......................................................... Ava G. Considine
Soccer Club .......................................................... Anthony C. Williams Jr.
Student Nurses Association of Piedmont ................. William M. Bannister
Student Government Association ....................... Nathaniel G. Ricca
Structured Learning Assistance Facilitator .......... Rachael H. Shepard
Student Leadership Awards

Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges

The following students were nominated by PVCC faculty for academic excellence and student leadership.

Reza Akhtar Mohammad
Dana Agiro
Charlotte Barstow
Kaitlyn Beisel
Tek Bhandari
Alena Billingsley
Timothy Bosford
Lauren Bragan
Ashley Carter
Erin Chapman
Jenna Clark
Granton Clem
Lauren Cranidiotis
Thomas Cudé
Eric Dixon
Graham Ferguson
Golara Haghtalab
Jiyuan Zhu
Madeleine Morales
Arman Mottaghi
Shelley O’Connor
Saul Roden
Charles Pluta
Lauren Robinson
Justin Romanof
Nicki Snyder
Talisa Sneed
Zoe Sorensen
Lauren Starkey
Catherine Talman
Skye Thruston
Konstantinos Vassalos
Rebekah A. Carvajal
Robert B. Cordon
Kristina M. Craig
Robert B. Cordon
Brianna S. Dolle
Kimberly A. Dillon
John P. Donlon
Stewart A. Dunn
Mckenzie J. Fitzgerlad
Michael A. Fraticelli
Marcus E. Fraticelli
Nathaniel L. Fraticelli
Mason S. Freed
Dreama N. Fretwell
Carly N. Fulcher
Jacobi R. Gerald
Micheal D. Gilmore
Fletcher J. Gore
Abby T. Guskind
Parisa Haghtalab
Allison K. Hammond
Ethan J. Harris
Luke J. Hertwig
Alexandra L. Hineman
Alexandra L. Hollis
Spencer J. Hugo
David J. Iby
Dylan L. Jacobs
Anthony W. Jewett
Jason A. Kaspick
Amy R. Kennedy
Jennifer A. Koehler
Angeline I. Kotljarenko
Andrew C. Lam
Hailey I. Lewandowski
Elizabeth Lucchetti
Joseph Maliakkal
Jessica L. Martin
Arman Mottaghi
Amanda M. Murphy
Aeren O. Nauman
Erik B. Neely
Julie C. Nolet
Shelley A. O’Connor
Tierney Z. Palmer-Klein
Dhruvan Patel
Karen E. Pfeiffer
Kyle O. Pillow
Charles P. Pluta
Nathaniel G. Ricca
Matthew T. Rose
Susan A. Rubin
Marina A. Sanusi
Michael R. Sheehan
Alicia M. Simmons
Leigh A. Skipper
Gabrielle C. Smith
Talisa D. Sneed
Edward G. Songer
Frances G. Stadlin
Ashleigh P. Taylor
Angela J. Uricek
Joel M. Van Ornum
Lauren A. Velardi
Jonathan M. Walker
Crystal C. Wever
Valerie C. Woods
Ruth A. Yoder
Anne Allison, associate professor of biology, was selected as the College’s nominee for the 2015 State Council for Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV) Outstanding Faculty Award in the Rising Star category. As a nominee, Allison also serves as an honoree for the Virginia Community College Association’s (VCCA) Faculty Showcase.


Kit Decker, professor of Spanish, received the 2014 PVCC Board Community Service Award. This award recognizes PVCC faculty, staff and students who have made significant contributions through volunteer service to the community served by the College or to communities throughout the nation and the world.

Rachel Hailey, financial aid counselor, earned two National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) professional credentials. Rachel successfully demonstrated knowledge of the subject areas and passed the respective exams.


Jessica Kingsley, professor of English, Connie Jorgensen, assistant professor of political science, and Kim Hoosier, professor of sociology, were nominated for an Excellence in Education award for the 2014 New Horizons conference of the Virginia Community College System. Their nomination in the Best Practices in Teaching Face-To-Face, Online and Student Success category, was for a team project named “A Course of Their Own: Developing and Teaching Humanities 295: Women in Public Life.”

Corinne Lauer, administrative assistant to the President’s Office, received the Certified Administrative Professional designation after successfully completing the internationally recognized Certified Administrative Professional® exam offered by the International Association of Administrative Professionals®.

For the second year in a row, Colum Leckey, associate professor of history, was selected by fellow PVCC faculty as the College’s nominee for the 2015 State Council for Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV) Outstanding Faculty Award, the Commonwealth’s highest honor for faculty at Virginia’s public and private colleges and universities. As the SCHEV award nominee, Leckey also serves as the nominee for the Virginia Community College System’s 2014 Chancellor’s Award for Teaching Excellence.

Marie Melton, business manager, was chosen by PVCC professional and support staff as the 2014 Virginia Community College Association Support Staff Showcase Award recipient for her commitment to the College and the community. She will be recognized at the VCCA’s annual conference this fall.

Hunter Moore, assistant professor of engineering and electronics, earned a Professional Engineering license by the State of Virginia. The license is the engineering profession’s highest standard of competence, a symbol of achievement and assurance of quality.

Jan Reed, first year programs counselor was honored with PVCC’s 2014 Distinguished Service Award for imaginative and distinguished leadership or service within PVCC or in professional or other activities outside the College. She also coordinates first-year student development classes and annual staff celebrations, volunteers her time with student clubs and represents the College at several community events.

Anita Showers, manager of Marketing and Media Relations, received three marketing awards – a Gold Medallion of Excellence for the Find Your Future marketing campaign, and a Silver Medallion of Excellence for the digital Fall 2013 Credit Class Schedule – both awarded by the Virginia Community College Association – and a Bronze Medallion award for a microwebsite dedicated to PVCC’s 40th anniversary from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations District Two, which consists
of 11 states, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands and the Bahamas.

Nicole Winkler, assistant professor of radiography, was published in Executive Insight (Advance Healthcare Network). The article title is ‘Grids in Radiology – The use of grids can improve image quality and diagnosis in chest X-rays.’

Marlena Yost, assistant professor of biology, had an article published in the Journal of Wildlife Diseases. The article was titled ‘Morphologic and Molecular Identifications of Digenetic Trematodes in Double-Crested Cormorants from the Mississippi Delta, USA.’

A B C D A W R D S

The following employees were recognized for helpful actions and services that were above and beyond the call of their normal duties: Caitlin Boninti, eLearning specialist; Claudette Borgersen, administrative assistant in the Business, Mathematics and Technologies Division; Renee Eves, instructor of mathematics; Amy Floyd, proctor; Rachel Hailey, financial aid counselor; Ebenee Parrish, proctor; Ginny Payne, receptionist; Meg Sewell, adjunct assistant professor of child development and psychology; and Joanne Smith, administrative assistant in Information Technology.

F A C U L T Y R E W A R D S & R E C O G N I T I O N

A new Reward and Recognition Program at PVCC honors full-time teaching faculty who have demonstrated talent and potential in the areas of teaching effectiveness, scholarly and creative engagement, institutional responsibility, and/or community impact. In addition, the program recognizes professional accomplishments, contributions and activities that contribute to a culture of excellence, support the mission of the College and promote a vigorous learning environment.

Rewards: Bruce Glassco and Jessica Kingsley, professors of English, received the Faculty Institutional Responsibility Award; Kris Swanson, assistant professor of French, and Irina Timchenko, assistant professor of mathematics, received the Faculty Teaching Effectiveness Award; Colum Leckey, associate professor of history, received the Faculty Scholarly and Creative Engagement Award; Steve McNerney, assistant professor of physical education, received the Faculty Community Impact Award; and David Moyer, professor of biology, and Ben Sloan, professor of English, received the Faculty Excellence Award.

Recognition: Matthew Cathcart, program director/assistant professor of emergency medical services; Bruce Glassco, professor of English; Barbara Heyl, professor of chemistry; Connie Jorgensen, assistant professor of political science; Jessica Kingsley, professor of English; Jenny Koster, associate professor of English; Nicole Oechslin, associate professor of English; Ben Sloan, professor of English; Nicole Winkler, assistant professor of radiography.

P R O M O T I O N S

The following faculty were promoted this year: Yanina Goddard to associate professor of physics; Nicole Oechslin to professor of English; Laura Skinner to assistant professor, reference/instructional librarian; and John Donnelly to professor, Vice President for Instruction and Student Services.

R E T I R E M E N T S

Robert Antrobus, 5 years; manager of grants development and administration

Marcia Adams, 13 years; instructor of nursing

Martha McKenna, 30 years; assistant professor of nursing

S E R V I C E A W R D S

The following employees were recognized for their years of service:

5 Years: Karen Gauss, instructor of mathematics; Bruce Glassco, professor of English; Laura Skinner, reference/instructional librarian

10 Years: Wendy Diment, assistant professor of nursing; David Duvall-Early, instructor of computer science; Michael Ferero, instructor of information technology; Susan Hannifan, disability services counselor; Carol Larson, director of financial aid; Rob McHenry, testing specialist; Marcia Reinhold, administrative assistant, financial aid; Ben Sloan, professor of English

20 Years: Patricia Franklin, associate professor of biology; Mark Witt, WAN/LAN administrator

30 Years: Thomas Clarkson, professor of art

35 Years: Stephen McNerney, assistant professor of physical education
Thank you for your generous support of Piedmont Virginia Community College. Private donations from businesses, individuals, and foundations have helped make PVCC a highly-respected community college that helps make our region a great place to live and work. More than 65% of Central Virginia employers now have PVCC graduates as employees. I believe our business donors are better understanding the college’s direct impact on them as well as on our region’s economy and quality of life.

The Educational Foundation has enjoyed a successful year that will enable PVCC to meet the growing challenge to provide even better service to students, businesses, and our greater community. Your tremendous support resulted in a record-breaking $131,849 for the 2013 Annual Campaign. This is a 37% increase from last year and the largest total amount for a PVCC annual campaign in recent history. Area businesses’ donations increased 195% and Educational Foundation Board members’ donations increased 78%. We are pleased that 100% of the Board members gave and that they and their employers donated 31% of the total campaign amount. We truly have an interested and active Board.

Donations for PVCC scholarships dramatically increased. This year $281,805, an increase of nearly 30%, was awarded to 131 students. Newly established endowed scholarships, from which we use only the interest, this year included the Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, the Stehlik-Hassler Scholarship, and an additional 35+ Scholarship provided by Julie Heyward. New unendowed scholarships included the Mary Jane King Scholarship; the J. Walter Levering Scholarship; the Jeffrey Scott Duwe Scholarship; the W.I.S.E. Women, LLC Scholarship; and the Marge S. Howell Scholarship.

This year, five donors reached the $50,000 level in cumulative giving, earning each of them a place of honor on the PVCC Donor Wall. They include the Albemarle County Rotary Club; the Batten Fund overseen by Charlottesville Area Community Foundation; Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce; Dr. Dick and Mrs. Rhonda Crowsey; and Ms. Elena Prien. We deeply appreciate the consistent and generous support of these donors.

From among our many cherished donors, the Foundation Board each year chooses one for statewide recognition through the Virginia Community College System Chancellor’s Leadership in Philanthropy program. This year, PVCC nominated Julie Heyward, one of the most consistent and strongest advocates for community college education in our region. There are nine students at PVCC this year alone who are receiving scholarships that Ms. Heyward has so generously provided.

The impact of your support of PVCC is well characterized by Grant Clem, a scholarship recipient who is the first in his family to graduate with an associate’s degree. As the student speaker at our 2014 graduation ceremony, Grant stated: “The scholarship was the turning point in my life. I was just about to drop out of college when I received this award. Receiving it convinced me to persevere, and truly great things have happened since then. My entire life ahead of me is made possible by this scholarship and the donor who generously gave it. You’ve changed my life.”

Your donations are truly life changing and I thank you. We who serve on the PVCC Educational Foundation Board deeply appreciate your generosity. Because we know there are so many more Central Virginia residents who could have their lives changed by a PVCC education, as was Grant’s, we cannot rest on our recent successes. Your continuing support is vitally important to PVCC so that it can meet the increasing needs of our growing community.

Thanks, again, for your past support and your continuing support of “our community college.”

Bryan D. Wright, President
PVCC Educational Foundation
Education Foundation Board Member and Wells Fargo Regional President Dee O'Donnell presents PVCC President Friedman with a gift of $10,000. Wells Fargo's donation was one of the largest corporate contributions of the 2013 PVCC Annual Campaign. These funds were designated for scholarships for PVCC's Emerging Scholars program to help 15 students transition from GED classes to college.

Dr. James W. Ross joined PVCC last July as Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Development. Jim has 20 years of experience in community college and nonprofit advancement and development leadership roles. As a fundraising professional, he has planned and led three successful capital campaigns and specialized in securing major gifts. As Vice President at PVCC, Ross provides leadership to the offices of development, grants, marketing and media relations, alumni and adult outreach and recruiting. He serves as the Executive Director of the PVCC Educational Foundation where he provides leadership in donor cultivation, solicitation and stewardship.

Ross is the author of two books and has appeared on the NBC Today Show to discuss his writings. An idealist whose goal is to change the world for the better, he ran for Congress while in graduate school and then served as a U.S. Congress Staff Member. Ross earned Bachelor and Master of Education degrees from Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania and a Doctorate of Education degree from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale. His 2012 dissertation was on utilizing entrepreneurial leadership to secure external sources of funding through fundraising, grants and other methods to help community colleges prosper in times of lean budgets.
Thank You for Giving So Generously in 2013 to PVCC!

$100,000 +
University of Virginia Health Systems

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$25,000 - $49,999
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Thank you to all PVCC supporters. Annual Fund 2013 names are current as of December 31, 2013. Other gifts are current as of June 30, 2014.
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(AS OF MAY 2014)

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The Piedmont Virginia Community College Annual Report 2013-2014 was published by PVCC’s Office of Marketing and Media Relations and the Office of Institutional Advancement and Development. For questions or comments, call 434.961.6574 or email ashowers@pvcc.edu. To be placed on the mailing list for the newsletter of the PVCC Educational Foundation, email development@pvcc.edu. To receive information about PVCC's Fine Arts and Performance season, email artsmail@pvcc.edu.