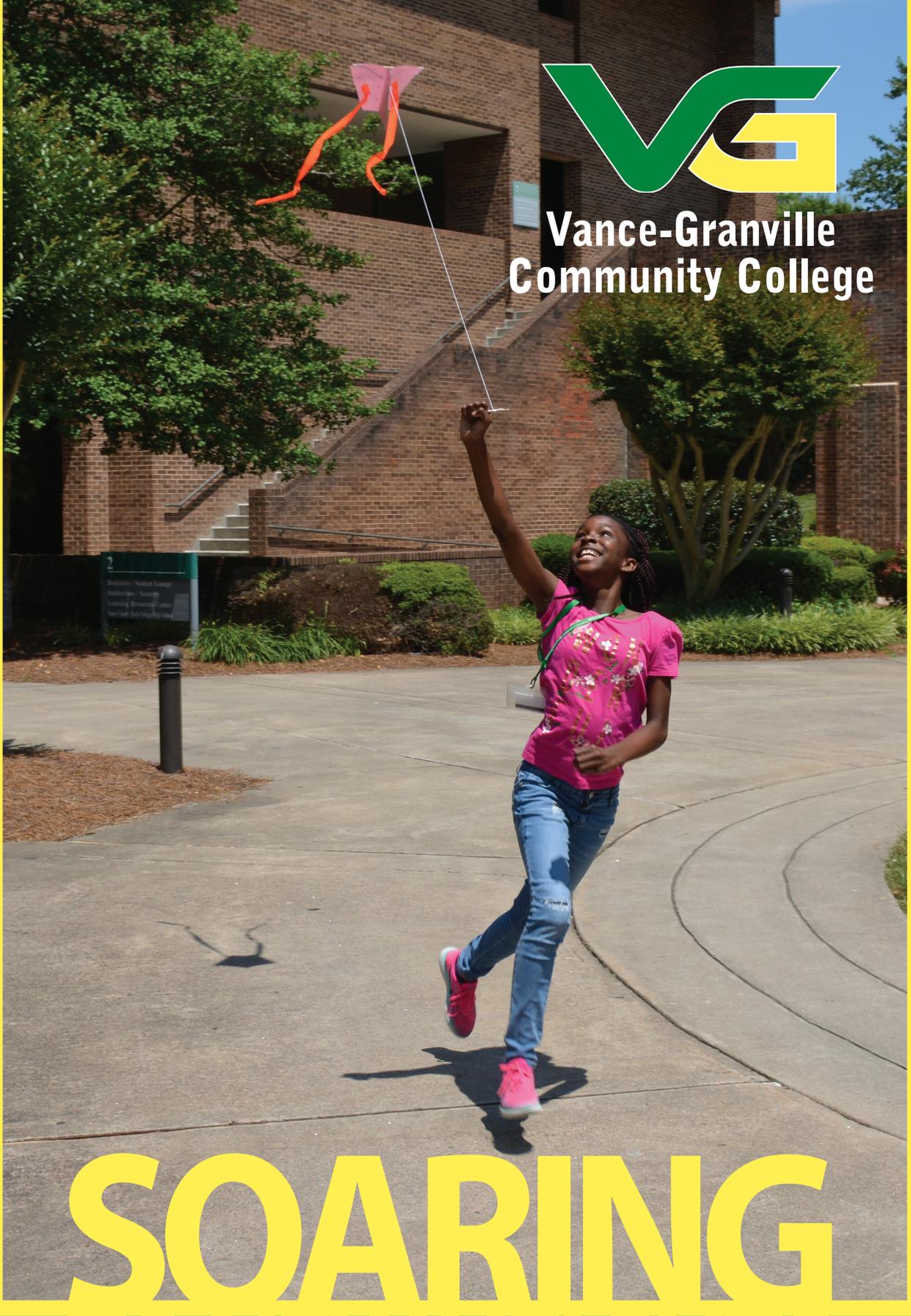




Vance-Granville
Community College



SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2016
2017

A Message from the President

For nearly five decades, Vance-Granville Community College has been educating, inspiring and supporting a diverse community of learners to achieve professional and personal success. All those years of service are made up of individual moments of excellence — defining moments when the college again soared to new heights. The 2016-2017 year was full of such moments.

There was the highest-valued single donation in the history of our college, the launch of the TechHire program through a nearly \$1 million grant, the opening of a new building at our Main Campus, another record-breaking Endowment Fund Golf Tournament and the implementation of our unique VanGuarantee scholarship program.

There were satisfying moments when our academic programs were nationally recognized for excellence, thanks to our dedicated faculty and staff. There were touching moments when our students and employees reached out in service to our community.

There were thrilling moments when our students crossed the finish line at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and defeated the UNC JV men’s basketball team at the Dean Dome. Most importantly of all, there was Commencement, when we awarded a record number of associate’s degrees, continuing a recent trend of celebrating some of the largest graduating classes in VGCC history.

Even with all that to celebrate, there are exciting moments yet to come. Not only with our Siemens partnership but also with the expansion of our partnership with North Carolina Central University providing baccalaureate degrees on our campus, we have set the stage for a bright future.

I hope you will enjoy reflecting on the moments of 2016-2017 in this report, and I thank you for your support of our mission to promote success for all our Vanguard.



DR. STELFANIE WILLIAMS
President
Vance-Granville Community College



A Message from the Board Chair

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to congratulate the students, faculty, staff, administration and partners of Vance-Granville Community College on a successful year. This was my first year as Chair of the Board of Trustees, and I could not have been more delighted with the college’s many accomplishments. I continue to be impressed with the leadership that VGCC provides for our region, as well as with our students, who represent our future leaders. After all, that’s what “Vanguards” do — they lead. Our alumni are already leaders in our region and beyond.

Vance, Granville, Franklin and Warren counties are truly fortunate to have such an excellent institution of higher learning in their own communities, supporting economic development and progress. At the same time, the college is fortunate to have citizens and businesses in this area who understand the value of higher education and training. For their support and partnership, we are grateful. Together, we will build upon the achievements of the past year and strive for an even better tomorrow.

DANNY WRIGHT, VGCC Board of Trustees Chair



On the Cover

Science Camp participant Amarii Blair of Henderson sends a kite soaring in the courtyard on VGCC’s Main Campus during a session in which campers created and tested their own kites in learning about aerodynamics. For more photos and details on the popular camp for middle schoolers, see Pages 26-27.

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RECORD SETTING GRANT FOR VGCC

Siemens PLM Software provides boost for students seeking advanced tech jobs

In June 2017, Vance-Granville made the announcement of an in-kind software grant from Siemens PLM Software, with a commercial value of \$31 million, the largest such grant in the history of the college.

The in-kind grant gives students access to the same technology that companies around the world depend on every day to develop innovative products in a wide variety of industries including automotive, aerospace, machinery, shipbuilding, high-tech electronics, among many more.

Graduates with this type of software training are highly-recruited candidates for advanced technology jobs.

The grant was provided by Siemens PLM Software's academic program that delivers product lifecycle management (PLM) software for schools at every academic level.

VGCC's grant includes Siemens PLM Software's Tecnomatix® portfolio, the industry-leading digital manufacturing software. This is in addition to a previous

in-kind grant that included the company's Solid Edge® software. Both software packages will be used by students in the Mechatronics Engineering Technology degree program, based at Vance-Granville's South Campus in Granville County.

Mechatronics combines parts of many different fields — electronics engineering, mechanical engineering, design and industrial maintenance.

"By using the same technology in the classroom that is used by companies all over the world to develop a wide variety of products, our students gain important real-world experience during their studies that will serve them well after graduation," said VGCC President Dr. Stelfanie Williams.

"Despite an immediate, critical need for qualified technology-trained professionals in manufacturing, our customers have difficulty finding qualified candidates," said Dora Smith, global director, Academic Partner Program, Siemens PLM Software. "Working with Vance-Granville Community College, Siemens PLM Software is helping prepare students with the knowledge and experience to fill this skills gap and become highly qualified employees."



VGCC President Dr. Stelfanie Williams announces a new strategic partnership with Siemens PLM Software at the college's South Campus.

GRANTS PASS \$6M MARK

Vance-Granville Community College's Grants Office surpassed \$6 million in funding to support students during the 2016-2017 fiscal year. In its brief four-year history, the Grants Office has secured 37 grants totaling \$6,053,883, not including the in-kind grants from Siemens PLM Software.

Among the largest grants, \$1,757,299 from the U.S. Department of Labor's Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCT) Grant Program is the single largest competitive grant award received in the history of the college. TAACCT supports the development of innovative training programs for advanced manufacturing careers. The college started the Mechatronics program and

expanded the Welding program through the grant.

The Advanced Manufacturing Skills Training Alliance (AMSTA) with the four public school systems in the college's coverage area was created with a \$1.2 million grant from the N.C. Education and Workforce Innovation Fund. In addition, \$460,000 was awarded to the Training Alliance by the Golden LEAF Foundation, along with grants of \$245,923 and \$237,757 from the Duke Energy Foundation to purchase state-of-the-art equipment.

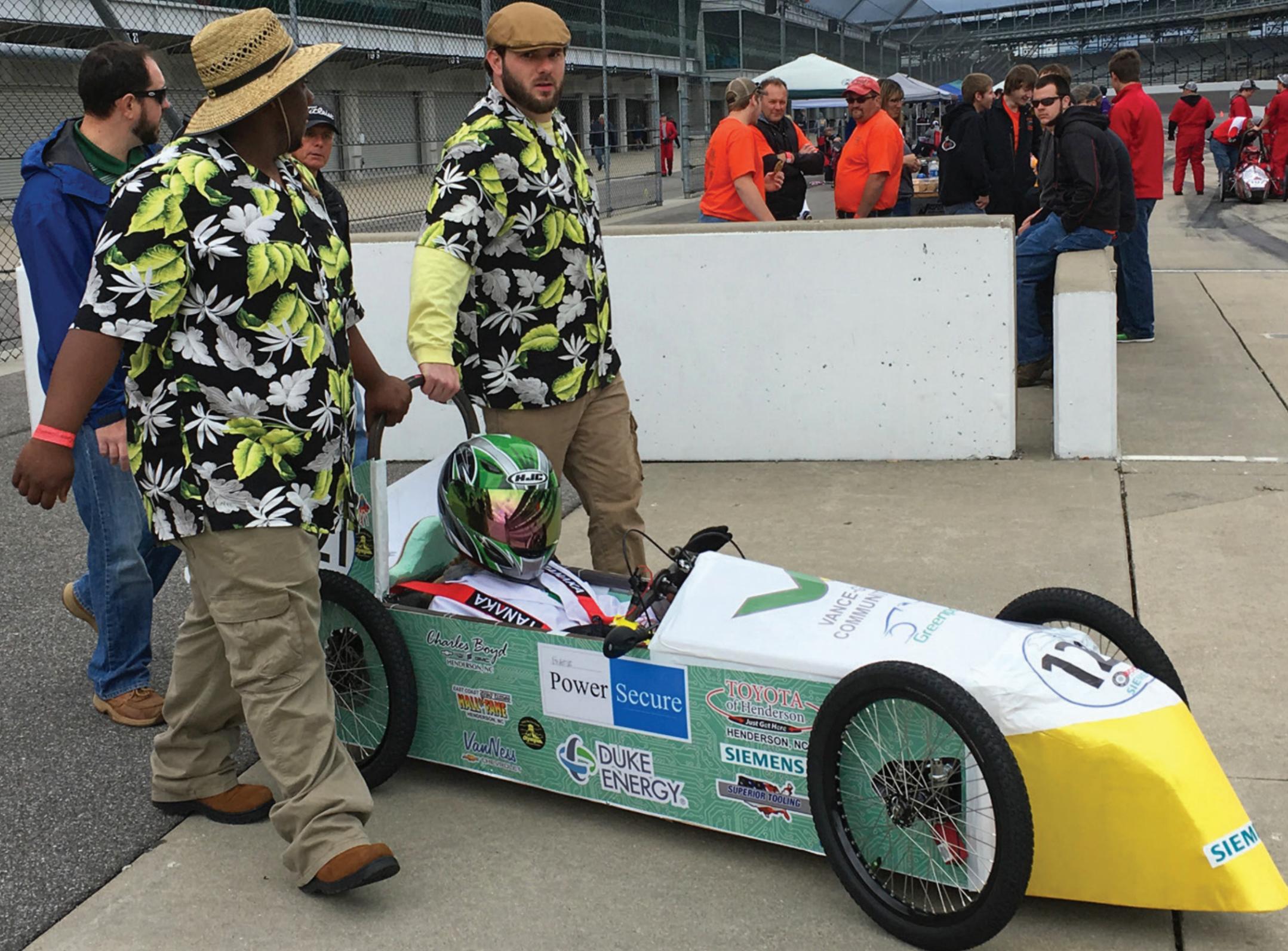
Most recently, VGCC was awarded nearly \$1 million from the U.S. Department of Labor to launch the North Carolina TechHire Program to train students in information technology and

advanced manufacturing programs.

In addition to the TechHire grant, the most recent grant awards include:

- Male Mentoring Success Initiative, totaling \$34,000;
- Wake Electric, \$3,000;
- NC Works Career Coach grant in partnership with Granville and Warren counties schools, \$17,000;
- Perkins, \$181,000;
- Library Services and Technology Act, \$23,000;
- Cannon Foundation, \$150,000;
- National Summer Transportation Institute grant from the Federal Highway Administration, \$37,000; and
- Taste of Industry grant, \$10,000, from the North Carolina Community College System.

VGCC *at* INDY



Teamwork is what got a group from Vance-Granville Community College onto the track at the famed Indianapolis Motor Speedway on May 1, 2017 — not only the teamwork demonstrated by students and faculty from curriculum programs at the college, but also by a team of sponsors from the community who supported them.

For the first time, VGCC sent a team to compete in an event as part of the GreenpowerUSA racing series supported by Siemens and the Sports Car Club of America. GreenpowerUSA is a national organization that promotes education in sustainable engineering and technology by offering challenges for schools based around designing and building a single-seat, electric-powered racecar.

The Greenpower Grand Prix race followed a 10-week period of intense work by VGCC students to design, procure parts, manufacture parts and construct the car. After Mechatronics Engineering Technology students designed the basic layout, Welding Technology student Joshua Pfohl of Wilton, with assistance from classmate Jared Q. Siemers of Wake Forest, fabricated the frame of the car.

CONTINUED on next page



The Indy race followed a 10-week period of intense, collaborative work by VGCC students to design, procure parts, manufacture parts and construct the car. At left, VGCC Welding Technology students fabricate the frame of the car, based on a basic layout designed by Mechatronics Engineering Technology students. At right, Mechatronics Engineering Technology students work to complete the construction on the electric car.

VGCC at INDY

CONTINUED from previous page

From there, the Welding team worked with the Mechatronics students, including Jerry Pierce, Jr., of Stem, Thomas Boyd of Henderson, Kyle Painter of Berea and Charles Nordcliff of Creedmoor, to complete construction and start testing.

The drivers for the team were recruited from among the VGCC student body. Driving the car and setting the driving strategy in the final race of the weekend were Jessica Baker of Wake Forest (a pre-Nursing/general education student), Alexa Clayton of Rougemont (Cosmetology) and Olivia Williamson of Oxford (Radiography). None of the students had raced before.

Faculty members leading the effort included Applied Technologies Department Chair Keith Shearon, Welding Program Head Rusty Pace and Engineering Technologies Program Head Wesley Williams.

A number of local business sponsors joined to support the effort, including PowerSecure of Wake Forest, Charles Boyd Chevrolet Cadillac Buick

'The GreenpowerUSA program is a very good STEM catalyst. These projects promote science, technology, engineering and math to students through a hands-on experience as team members.'

— KEITH SHEARON, VGCC Applied Tech Chair

GMC of Henderson, Vance County Tourism/East Coast Drag Times Hall of Fame, VanNess Chevrolet of Creedmoor, Duke Energy, Toyota of Henderson and Superior Tooling of Wake Forest. In addition, Action Graphics & Signs of Bullock affixed graphics representing the sponsors onto the sides of the car and provided some parts and expertise.

Vance-Granville's Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and

Career Training (TAACCCT) grant funded many of the components and raw materials for the collaborative project.

The Greenpower Grand Prix at IMS featured 27 teams from the United States and Britain coming together to race. The Indy event included two 90-minute races over the 2.6-mile MotoGP layout, during which pit stops were conducted for two driver changes.

GreenpowerUSA racecars are built to a specification that includes a single-sourced 24V DC electric motor and two specific 12V DC batteries that are meant to provide similar performance capability between teams, according to Shearon.

Teams focus on the engineering problems of reducing friction, total driver/vehicle weight, increasing reliability, and improving aerodynamics. The largest technical challenges are chassis and bodywork design.

The effort was "groundbreaking for VGCC, in the sense that we're going way outside of our community and getting some recognition for our engineering and welding programs," Shearon said.

Vance-Granville expanding apprenticeships

Seeking to provide additional educational opportunities for students, Vance-Granville expanded its registered apprenticeship efforts over the past year.

Adopting a model that includes a paid-work component and an educational or instructional component, the college sees the registered apprenticeships as high-quality work-based learning and post-secondary earn-and-learn models. The apprenticeships meet national standards for registration with the U.S. Department of Labor, or federally recognized apprenticeship agencies in North Carolina.

By 2017, three area industries were already on board for the program — Dill Air Controls, Revlon and Glen Raven — with plans for Frig-Temp to join the effort, too.

The college became a part of the North Carolina Triangle Apprenticeship Program (NCTAP). Typically starting in the 11th grade of high school, NCTAP is a four-year program that leads to a student obtaining an associate degree at the community college and paid, on-the-job training at the participating employer. Eligible students' VGCC tuition is being covered by a waiver from the State of North Carolina. After they graduate from high school, students in the program will be employed full-time by the company.

VGCC also joined the Registered Apprenticeship College Consortium (RACC). The RACC is composed of employers, labor-management groups and associations that have Registered Apprenticeship programs (known as sponsors), along with two-year and four-year colleges. The consortium, launched in 2014, is a joint effort of the U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Department of Education. The primary purpose of the RACC is to help graduates of registered apprenticeship programs receive college credit for their apprenticeship training through strong partnerships between businesses and educational institutions.

"Membership in the RACC will help VGCC better provide resources and assistance to our service area partners in developing high-quality locally-grown talent," said Ken Wilson, project manager for the TechHire grant at the college and a driving force behind the VGCC "Vanguard Apprenticeship Collaborative."



As the end of the spring semester approached, the staff of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grant program at VGCC held the first-ever "College-to-Career Mixer" for students to meet with potential employers. Not only were 15 new graduates of the Welding Technology and Mechatronics Engineering Technology programs in attendance, but also five students who were not yet ready to graduate but were looking for potential Work-Based Learning (WBL) opportunities. From left, Ronnie Goswick, the director of business and economic development for Carolina Sunrock, talks with new VGCC Welding Technology degree program graduates Ethan Bailey of Oxford and Nicholas Keeton of Bullock.

NC TechHire grant helping students overcome barriers

Vance-Granville Community College and three partnering community colleges formally kicked off a new initiative on Aug. 30, 2016, made possible by a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Labor that totals almost \$4 million.

VGCC has joined with James Sprunt, Alamance and Halifax community colleges to provide educational opportunities that will help North Carolina residents overcome barriers to employment.

Information technology training courses are being offered at Vance-Granville, and grant funding from the new NC TechHire program is helping eligible area residents pay for them. These courses are offered in a "hybrid" format, with some coursework online and some on VGCC's Main Campus. These courses, which are being offered multiple times, are approved for funding through the NC TechHire grant that VGCC recently received as part of the consortium. Area residents between the ages of 17-29 who are not currently in school may qualify for grant funding, which can pay for registration fees, course fees, and certification fees.

Each college will use its share of the grant funding for workforce development initiatives that meet the unique needs of the area it serves. The four colleges plan to train 400 people through the grant, between now and June 30, 2020.

The North Carolina TechHire Program was one of 39 innovative partnerships across the country that received a total of \$150 million in the Department of Labor's competitive TechHire grant program.

'TRANSFORMED FOR LEARNING'

VGCC dedicates new building on expanded campus for training public safety professionals, others

Vance-Granville Community College officially dedicated "Building 10" at a ceremony on Aug. 3, 2016, expanding the college's Main Campus in Vance County to the west side of Poplar Creek Road while providing new space to train public safety professionals and other students.

The building provides a new home for VGCC's Emergency Medical Services, Fire/Rescue and Law Enforcement Training programs.

Among the guests attending the dedication were county commissioners from Vance and Granville counties, who provided some of the funding for the renovation project, as well as public safety officials from all four counties served by VGCC.

VGCC President Dr. Stelfanie Williams described the building as a renovated space that has been "significantly transformed from its original commercial state to be able to serve as a location for teaching and learning." She said that the process was "a metaphor for

what education does — it transforms lives. 'Renovation' is literally making something 'new.' We know that education and training — learning new skills — can renew lives, help us to see things in new ways, and breathe new energy into a community."

Dr. Williams also expressed her appreciation to the local law enforcement, fire and emergency services agencies who partner with the college. "We are proud to work with and train all the professionals who save lives every day, often at great risk to themselves," the president said.

Abdul Sm Rasheed, a member of the VGCC Board of Trustees and chair of the board's Building Committee, formally presented the building to the college. "Building 10 is the first new building to be added to our Main Campus since 2003, and is being dedicated almost exactly 40 years since Main Campus first opened, in the summer of

1976," Trustee Rasheed said. "The facility we dedicate today is a 16,000-square-foot building, of which 12,800 square feet have been renovated at this time, with the remainder to be adapted for use in the future."



Above, VGCC Trustee Abdul Rasheed formally presents the new building to guests at the dedication ceremony. Below left, guests tour the new classrooms and labs with VGCC staff, while, below right, guests enjoy food prepared by VGCC's Culinary Arts students. On the page at far left, VGCC President Dr. Stelfanie Williams, right, and Trustees Board Chair Danny W. Wright pose for a photo in front of the plaque dedicating Building 10.





VGCC Pharmacy Technology program head Dr. Erica Fleming, center, and student Kristen Honaker of Henderson, right, talk with John and Barbara Thorpe of Oxford, left, about health and medication issues at ACIM in Oxford.

HELPING OUR FELLOW MAN

Vance-Granville's students showed again this year that they, too, take seriously the word "Community" in the college's name.

Bottled water drives to help the victims of Hurricane Matthew, Valentines and gifts for patients and staff at an area health-care facility, and blood pressure checks and diabetes risk assessments were among services provided across the four-county area served by the college by students from a variety of programs.

Among the dozens of activities throughout the year, students in the Pharmacy Tech program participated in a unique "community pharmacy practice" clinical rotation at a Granville County nonprofit organization. Students completed part of their clinical rotation



Students and volunteers collect bottled water for the North Carolinians impacted by Hurricane Matthew.

at Area Congregations in Ministry (ACIM) in Oxford on Fridays during the spring semester. The students provided health services for ACIM clients such as blood pressure checks, diabetes risk assessments and medication

therapy services, while also providing information on vital health issues, stroke awareness and chronic disease state management.

Through the college chapter of SkillsUSA, Criminal Justice students conducted the water drive in partnership with the Henderson Police Department to help North Carolinians who suffered shortages of water from the hurricane.

The Valentine's Day-themed community service project was staged at RHA Health Services in Creedmoor. Radiography and Human Services Tech students handed out Valentines and gifts to the patients, staff and administrators at RHA, which provides a network of support services for people with intellectual, physical and developmental disabilities and those with mental health needs or substance use challenges.

From left, Tanisha Silver, Brittany Champion, Erin Woodlief and Courtney Humphries.



VANGUARANTEE

AN EDUCATION GUARANTEED!

When six students walked across the stage to receive their degrees at Vance-Granville's May 2017 commencement exercises, they quietly made history. They were among the first graduates of the college to receive the "VanGuarantee" scholarship to help eliminate any financial barriers standing between them and their academic goals.

The innovative scholarship program was first announced in 2016 by Dr. Stelfanie Williams, the college president, with the first scholarships being awarded in the fall 2016 semester. The VanGuarantee was made possible by a \$1.6 million bequest to VGCC from the estate of Wilbert A. Edwards, a native of Vance County who was a resident of Oxford at the time of his death.

Three of the VanGuarantee recipients participating in Commencement were graduates of the Associate Degree Nursing program: Brittany Champion of Creedmoor, Courtney

Humphries of eastern Granville County and Erin Woodlief of Franklinton. Alicia Toler of Raleigh, a former Granville County resident, graduated with an Associate in Arts degree. Kristen Honaker of Henderson completed a degree in Pharmacy Technology. Tanisha Silver of Warrenton graduated from the Medical Office Administration degree program.

All agreed the scholarship had a key role in helping them get their education: "Receiving the VanGuarantee meant a lot to me.... It has helped me out a lot, because it has made it possible for me to finish school," Silver said. "Had it not

been for the VGCC Financial Aid Office staff, particularly Ms. Tonya Strum, telling me about the VanGuarantee scholarship, I don't think I would have been able to stay in school," Toler said. "I am very thankful that I was able to receive the VanGuarantee this year," Humphries said. "It has helped

me finish my last two semesters of RN school. I am truly blessed beyond words!"

The VanGuarantee is designed to cover tuition, student fees and/or textbooks for eligible students whose financial needs are unmet by federal financial aid and other support.

The VanGuarantee has continued to draw attention nationally, including mentions in the online edition of Forbes magazine at Forbes.com; Community College Daily, published by the American Association of Community Colleges; and publications of the College Promise Campaign.

ACADEMIC PATHWAYS TO NEXT LEVEL

VGCC, NCCU launch four-year degree program for Early Childhood Teachers and Specialists

The North Carolina Central University Department of Human Sciences and Vance-Granville Community College entered an agreement to offer two education-related bachelor's degree programs on the community college's campus.



NCCU will provide the second two years of study at VGCC for students with Associate in Applied Science degrees, as well as provide support services and access to NCCU's resources, such as the Shepard Library on campus. VGCC will recruit qualified students for the two programs and provide classrooms, labs and other resources as needed on campus.

The new Eagle Voyage offerings include a bachelor's in Early Childhood Education, which typically leads to a teaching certificate for working in preschool and kindergarten programs in North Carolina. The bachelor's degree in Family and Consumer Sciences with a concentration in Child Development and Family Relations focuses on child development and prepares graduates to work in a variety of settings, including individual and family counseling programs, youth centers, social services, child care agencies and others. NCCU and VGCC have had an existing Eagle Voyage partnership for criminal justice majors since early 2016.

"We are excited about this opportunity to form an additional partnership with Vance-Granville Community College," said NCCU Chancellor Dr. Johnson O. Akinleye. "Preparing students to educate the youngest and most vulnerable among us is important work. We look forward to seeing these students soar to graduation, so they can begin to educate and inspire the newest generation of North Carolina citizens."

"We are proud to be expanding our successful partnership with North Carolina Central University to provide new opportunities for our graduates to continue their training as educators and earn a bachelor's degree here in our community," said VGCC President Dr. Stelfanie Williams.

'Providing clear academic pathways from the community college to the university level is one important way in which we support our Vanguard's so that they can achieve professional success.'
— DR. STELFANIE WILLIAMS, VGCC President

VGCC nursing student first inducted in RIBN

Jonathan Carlock of Henderson made history on Aug. 8, 2016, as he became the first Vance-Granville student inducted into the "Regionally Increasing Baccalaureate Nurses" program.

Carlock, shown below being pinned by Erica Jastrow, VGCC's director of nursing, joined one student each from Davidson County College and Guilford Technical Community College in starting their journeys as



members of the first cohort in the new RIBN partnership between the community colleges and North Carolina A&T State University.

At the induction ceremony, held in Proctor Hall on the university's campus in Greensboro, the A&T School of Nursing embraced the three students, who will be simultaneously enrolled at their community college and the university. They will earn associate's degrees in nursing over three years (while also taking A&T courses online) and then continue for one year of additional courses at A&T required for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree.



VGCC student Sarah Benton of Oxford works on a painting in a class taught by Isaac Talley, right.

Fine Arts, Supply Chain among new Vance-Granville programs

Fine Arts and Supply Chain Management joined the list of new curriculum programs being offered at Vance-Granville, while Bioprocess Technology was relocated to another campus to accommodate a new program added earlier.

VGCC approved the offering of the Associate in Fine Arts degree in Visual Arts beginning with Fall Semester 2017. The Fine Arts degree is being added to Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees already being offered.

A minimum of 60 semester hours of College Transfer courses will be required in English; communications, humanities and fine arts; social and behavioral sciences; mathematics; and natural sciences, in addition to classes in art history, two-dimensional and three-dimensional design, and drawing. Graduates may transfer to four-year universities to complete bachelor's degrees in art.

A new curriculum program, Supply Chain Management, was approved to replace Global Logistics & Distribution Management Technology. The new curriculum prepares students for a variety of careers in distribution, transportation, warehousing, trucking operations, supply chain and manufacturing organizations. Graduates will earn an Associate in Applied Science degree.

Adults interested in obtaining the first two years of a four-year degree completely online were being given a new option for the Fall. The "Vanguard Online Learning through Technology" (VOLT) initiative at VGCC was adding the Associate in Science degree program to its offerings in August.

VOLT courses are for adult learners who need an online-only educational experience. VGCC already offers another College Transfer degree, the Associate in Arts, through VOLT, along with degrees in Business Administration, Criminal Justice, Medical Office Administration - Coding Specialist, and Supply Chain.

VGCC's Bioprocess Technology degree program made the move to the college's Franklin County Campus in January 2017. The program had been located at the college's Main Campus in Vance County since its inception in January 2006. The biotechnology lab on Main Campus will now be used primarily by the new Histotechnology degree program.



Peter Caroline, at left, with his twin brother Paul

Caroline twins prepare to move from VGCC to two of nation's top universities

Vance-Granville Community College's nominee for the state 2017 Academic Excellence Award, Paul Caroline, and his twin brother, Peter, are going places. In fact, they'll be coast to coast this fall.

The Carolines, who live in Louisburg, began their higher education at VGCC as participants in the early college high school program. They have attended VGCC for the last five years through the Franklin County Early College High School (FCECHS) program, allowing them to simultaneously complete high school diplomas and college degrees, tuition-free. Each graduated on May 12, 2017, with both an Associate in Arts degree and an Associate in Science degree from Vance-Granville. Later that same month, they graduated from FCECHS.

They are continuing that education at two of the nation's top universities. Both received full QuestBridge scholarships, Paul to the University of Pennsylvania and Peter to Stanford University in California. According to *U.S. News & World Report*, Stanford is the country's most selective university, accepting only five percent of applicants, while Penn has the 14th lowest acceptance rate.

Paul had the honor of being chosen as VGCC's recipient of the North Carolina Community College System's Academic Excellence Award. One student from each of the 58 colleges in the state system is honored with the award each year. He was presented with a medallion from the NCCCS president, Dr. James C. "Jimmie" Williamson, who was principal speaker for the commencement exercises. Citing the example of the twin brothers in the graduating class, Dr. Williamson said, "They will both make the N.C. Community College System, VGCC and their community proud as they embark on stellar academic pursuits," Williamson said. "Paul and Peter, we are honored to have been a part of your future."

In an essay that he wrote for the award nomination, Paul Caroline put his academic experience into its historical context. "For my family, education has always been a privilege," he wrote. "In the early twentieth century, laws prohibited my great-grandmother and many other African American students from advancing to the twelfth grade and earning a high school diploma. Since then, each new generation has attested to a strong commitment to the pursuit of educational opportunity."

Paul added that "education opens doors to a better life, and one of the greatest thresholds I have crossed on my journey thus far is the iconic archway of Vance-Granville Community College."



AWARDING EXCELLENCE

VGCC President Dr. Stefanie Williams looks on as N.C. Community College System President Dr. Jimmie Williamson places a medallion around the neck of Vance-Granville's Academic Excellence Award recipient Paul Caroline.

RECORD DEGREES

SGA leader says VGCC has taught Class of 2017 about hard work

The graduating Class of 2017 continued a trend as the number of associate's degrees for the class was the most awarded in the history of Vance-Granville Community College.

Completion has been a major focus of the academic efforts of VGCC President Dr. Stelfanie Williams, and the college produced the largest

curriculum class of graduates and the largest number of credentials awarded in its history in 2015. Completions and credentials have been near those record levels for each of the past two years.

North Carolina Community College

System President Dr. James C. "Jimmie" Williamson addressed graduates as the principal speaker at VGCC's 48th commencement exercises on May 12. Graduates were joined by loved ones at the outdoor ceremony in front of the gazebo on the college's Main Campus.

Colton Hayes of Epsom, shown at left, who graduated with an Associate in Arts degree, spoke on behalf of his classmates. A Franklin County Early College High School student, Hayes is the first student from an early college program to serve as president of the VGCC Student Government Association and student member of the college's Board of Trustees. He is set to continue

his education at North Carolina State University in the fall.

Hayes said that his time as a VGCC student had taught him about hard work and persistence. "No matter what it is you do, it's going to be far different from anything you've done up until this point.... But we're going to deal with this the way we've dealt with everything else in our lives. We're going to push forward. We're going to get stronger. We're going to get better. And we're going to jump over every hurdle that life throws at us."



A rainy graduation didn't dampen the spirits of the Class of 2017 as VGCC President Dr. Stelfanie Williams applauded the graduates for their achievements. "The class of 2017 is a fine group of scholars," she said, with 70 inductees into the Phi Theta Kappa honor society and one third of the class recognized as honor graduates.



Graduate Spencer Bojan Boyd, above, was the student speaker for the Basic Skills graduation exercises.

'YES, I CAN. YES, I HAVE!'

Basic Skills graduate overcomes challenges

A native of Serbia, Spencer Bojan Boyd was adopted at the age of six by a family in Johnston County, who later moved to Granville County.

Bojan, as he is known, was born without a right leg and with a distorted left leg, which was later amputated. Despite the challenges of his youth, Bojan stood tall as he spoke on behalf of fellow graduates, shown in the photo at bottom left, at VGCC's commencement ceremony for Adult Basic Skills programs on May 4, 2017. He was among the honored students who have completed either the Adult High School Diploma program or the High School Equivalency program in the past year.

"Throughout my journey, my friends and family, particularly my mother, have stuck by my side, supporting me, saying 'yes, you can,'" Bojan said.

Bojan, who completed the Adult High School Diploma program online, said his mother's insistence pushed him forward, so that now, "I am an adult high school graduate — yes, I am."

"To be clear, I didn't become a graduate solely on my mother's belief that I could. I'm an adult high school graduate because Vance-Granville also believes in 'Yes, you can.'"

He said the online program allowed him flexibility and time to focus.

"Through its resources, VGCC has helped me graduate high school and is in the process of helping me into college," he said. "By extending my education beyond high school, I will be able to discover new doors and opportunities."





Francis Scotland, Jr.

'Hesitant' student becomes leader, nominated by VGCC for Scott award

Francis Scotland, Jr., of Oxford, a student in VGCC's College Transfer program, was the college's nominee for the North Carolina Community College System's Governor Robert W. Scott Student Leadership Award for 2017.

Scotland, who graduated in May 2017, was recognized for his leadership as a student ambassador and as an officer in the VGCC Student Government Association (SGA). He recalled being "hesitant" the first time he was offered a position of leadership at the college. "I was offered the position during my first year at VGCC by my former Chemistry teacher, Steve McGrady," Scotland said. "He pulled me aside after class one day and told me how good my grades were and asked if I wanted to be a counselor for the VGCC summer Science Camp. I was both nervous and humbled that I was offered such a position. I feared that I wouldn't be able to handle such a position, that I couldn't live up to the expectation he had set for me. I not only took the position, but I have helped with the Science Camp for the past two years." That experience led him to take advantage of other opportunities to serve at VGCC. After serving as a senator in the SGA in 2015-2016, Scotland had to run what he described as "a friendly political campaign" to be elected by the student body to the office of parliamentarian in the spring of 2016. "Through campaigning, I met a lot of my peers who I've never had the opportunity to meet before the campaign," he recalled.

The award was established in honor of Scott, who served as governor of North Carolina from 1969-1973, and as president of the N.C. Community College System from 1983-1995. Each year, the N.C. Association of Community College Presidents bestows the honor on one community college student in recognition of his or her academic and leadership achievements.

VGCC nominee for Herring award overcomes challenges to earn degree

Jordan Williamson of Henderson, a student in the College Transfer program at Vance-Granville Community College, was nominated by the college for the North Carolina Community College System's Dallas Herring Achievement Award.

Williamson said that VGCC had helped him to overcome learning challenges and earn a college degree. "As a child, I was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, which is characterized by social awkwardness and difficulty communicating feelings," he wrote in an essay for the award nomination. "My grade school education was normal, by all accounts, but I struggled to interact comfortably with other people. As I advanced through school and eventually entered the Vance County Early College High School, I withdrew socially. I was allowed certain accommodations in order to compensate for some of my challenges in class, but at times these seemed to separate me from my peers even more. My instructors offered their support and understanding, which allowed me to continue my education without the need for remedial or special classes."

As a VGCC student, Williamson wrote, "the opportunities that I have been afforded have allowed me to excel in my education.... I was allowed to record notes during class, instead of having to write them down. I was allowed additional time during exams to help alleviate my anxiety during timed exams. I was allowed a separate, quiet area to take my tests in order to reduce distractions and allow me to focus more clearly. I have been allowed the opportunity to succeed or fail based on my own merits." Williamson graduated in May 2017.

The award was established to honor the late Dr. Dallas Herring, longtime State Board of Education chair and an early advocate of community colleges. The award recognizes a community college student who best embodies Herring's philosophy of "taking people where they are and carrying them as far as they can go."



Jordan Williamson

'SUPER-SENIOR' STEPPING UP

Early College High graduate helps others while earning two degrees and diploma

One would definitely say it was a good academic year at Vance-Granville Community College for Chris Blue.

When a student was needed to address a press conference for community colleges across a 15-county region, this "Super-Senior" was ready. When volunteers were needed in VGCC's Male Mentoring Success Initiative (MMSI), he was ready. When the Boys & Girls Clubs in the area needed volunteers, Blue stepped up.

A graduate with two degrees from Vance-Granville as well as his high school diploma from Vance County Early College High School, Blue is now on his way to further his education and launch a career as a prosthodontist.

He was quite familiar with how Vance-Granville can have a positive impact on a life because his mother, Tamara Neal, is a graduate of the VGCC Associate Degree Nursing program.

Speaking to the North Central Prosperity Zone press conference in Wilson in March 2017, Blue recalled learning about Early College in the eighth grade and seizing the opportunity in front of him. "My mom became a registered nurse by going to Vance-Granville Community College, so I knew that it would be an ideal place for me, as well," Blue said. "Now being a Super-Senior (fifth-year student) at Early College, I can honestly say Vance-Granville did not disappoint me in the least. I did not know back in eighth grade about all the opportunities I would have here."

"VGCC has given me so much over the years, and I truly appreciate it," he said. "At Vance-Granville, I've grown as a person and as a student."

VGCC, he noted, is more than just a school. "It gives you an opportunity to be part of a family," Blue said. "I've built tremendous relationships with so many people here at Vance-Granville. I also love how VGCC gives the students leadership opportunities." Blue joined the college's MMSI as a high school junior, eventually becoming its recorder/treasurer and receiving the program's PRIDE Award for Engagement in 2016 for his involvement in the program.

Meanwhile, he also focused on passing on the knowledge he has gained to youth by serving as a mentor to children at the Vance County unit of the Boys and Girls Club of North Central North Carolina. "I always tell the kids to take



Christopher Blue, left, represents VGCC and all of the community colleges across a 15-county region at a press conference for the North Central Prosperity Zone. Shown on stage behind him, listening, are, from left, Wilson Community College President Tim Wright and Johnston Community College Board of Trustees chair Lyn Austin.

advantage of every opportunity you have," Blue said.

He was honored as "Youth of the Year" by the Boys & Girls Clubs of North Central North Carolina in 2016. In that capacity, he has had opportunities to speak to the Henderson Rotary Club and to represent area Boys & Girls Clubs at their statewide convention. Blue said that through the local Boys & Girls Club, he has developed communication and leadership skills. Boys & Girls Clubs Vance County Unit Director Evelyn Taylor was quoted in *The Daily Dispatch* as saying, "Chris is working to make his community better by providing a positive example for the younger children of our club. He assists them with their homework and is a great example to them of what a responsible teen looks like and acts like."

In the fall, Blue was continuing his education by pursuing a bachelor's degree in public health. As a type of dentist who specializes in dental implants, he said he, in essence, wants to "create smiles."

Yes, the year was certainly good, but Chris Blue's future looks even better.

REWARDING LEADERSHIP



RUSTY PACE — PRESIDENT'S LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT

Rusty Pace, program head for Welding Technology at Vance-Granville, was honored with the President's Leadership Award from Dr. Stelfanie Williams. Pace's honor is one of three Glen Raven Excellence in Teaching and Leadership Awards presented to VGCC employees during each academic year. Dr. Williams praised Pace as an innovative faculty leader. "Under Rusty's leadership, the Welding program, which was already well-known for excellence, has increased its retention rate while also expanding from a one-year diploma to an associate degree program," the president said. "He has worked hand-in-hand with our Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grant department staff to grow his program, meeting the needs of both our students and our local employers." Dr. Williams also noted his commitment to professional development. A Franklin County native and resident, Pace enrolled at VGCC fresh out of high school. He graduated from VGCC with a diploma in Welding in 1978 and quickly became certified, working as a welder for many years and opening his own business. He later completed an associate degree in Welding and returned to teach Welding at VGCC on a part-time basis in 1998 and became a full-time instructor in 2004 and program head in 2007.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STAFF — VANGUARD CUP RECIPIENTS

President Dr. Stelfanie Williams recognized a group of faculty members for excellence by awarding the "Vanguard Cup" to the English faculty. The department became just the second recipient of the cup, an honor created by Dr. Williams to recognize "exceptional team performance toward the college mission, vision and strategic plan." In this case, the English department was particularly noted for developing a strategy to improve students' writing skills, which would in turn help them be more successful in all of their college courses. "The English faculty developed a new course with dedicated labs in an attempt to improve student success," Dr. Williams said. "In the first semester of implementation, the students improved, and by the spring semester, the English 111A course held a 100% course success rate. This means that students are better prepared for their fields and for university transfer. The faculty in the English department are to be commended for their innovative efforts to help VGCC students." David Wyche, chair of the department, said, "I'm grateful for this recognition of the creativity and hard work that these English instructors contribute in countless ways every day."



Members of the VGCC English faculty pose with the "Vanguard Cup." They include, seated from left, instructor Betty Clarke, department chair David Wyche and instructor Margaret Morgan; and standing, from left, instructors Brandon Stafford, Maureen Walters, Nicola Thame, Frankie Frink and Jason Bryan.



ANDREA FERGUSON — FACULTY MEMBER OF THE YEAR KATHY WOLFORD — STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR

VGCC President Dr. Stelfanie Williams presented the college's annual awards to a pair of outstanding VGCC employees in August 2016. Law Enforcement Training coordinator/instructor Andrea H. Ferguson of Manson was chosen as the Faculty Member of the Year for 2016-17, while Kathy J. Wolford of Oxford, the college's distance education assistant, was named Staff Member of the Year.

The honors are two of VGCC's three Glen Raven Excellence in Teaching and Leadership Awards. Glen Raven, Inc., the manufacturer with a site in Norlina, is a longtime VGCC supporter and partner. In addition to sponsoring the annual stipends to recognize excellence among VGCC instructors and staff members, Glen Raven has endowed several scholarships for students.

Ferguson and Wolford were eligible to be considered for the N.C. Community College System's statewide R.J. Reynolds Excellence in Teaching and BB&T Staff Person of the Year awards, respectively.

"Andrea and Kathy represent the high caliber of Vance-Granville's faculty and staff, who consistently strive for excellence in helping students succeed while promoting innovation and accessibility," President Williams said. "As alumni of VGCC, they also embody the power of education to change lives, through preparing adults for new careers or training the public safety professionals who serve our communities."

Andrea Ferguson first joined the VGCC faculty in 1998, teaching Criminal Justice Technology courses. She served as head of the Criminal Justice program for three years. In 2013-2014, Ferguson developed and implemented a Criminal Justice "cohort" program that resulted in 18 law enforcement officers graduating with an associate degree. In 2015, she became the college's coordinator/instructor of law enforcement training, including the Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) program. Ferguson also oversees in-service training for law enforcement, corrections and detention officers from throughout the region served by VGCC. A 1997 graduate of the BLET program that she leads today, Ferguson is a former Vance County deputy sheriff and former part-time officer with the Littleton Police Department.

Kathy Wolford joined the VGCC Distance Education staff in 2008, when she was still a student at the college. In her position, Wolford trained numerous VGCC faculty members on various online and classroom technologies to help them improve their courses. She also collaborated with instructors to design online courses and course materials and to research new techniques and best practices in distance education. Wolford helped to design and maintain the Vanguard Online Learning through Technology (VOLT) website, volt.vgcc.edu. VOLT allows adults to complete certain degrees completely online. VGCC was recognized in 2016 as the number-one community college in North Carolina for online programs.

11,263

TOTAL STUDENTS
Unduplicated Headcount*

CONTINUING EDUCATION/LITERACY

7,661

Students

64% Male 36% Female

37

Average Age

6,389 1,272

Students in Occupational & Industry Training, Small Business Center, Personal Enrichment Students in Adult Basic Skills, English as a Second Language, High School Equivalency

GRADUATES LITERACY

126 95

High School Equivalency Adult High School Diplomas

CUSTOMIZED INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

19 994

Companies /Industries Served Trainees

SMALL BUSINESS CENTER SERVICES

42 617

Seminars Attendees

57

Clients

CURRICULUM PROGRAMS

4,120

Students

34% Male 66% Female

26

Average Age

13 13:1

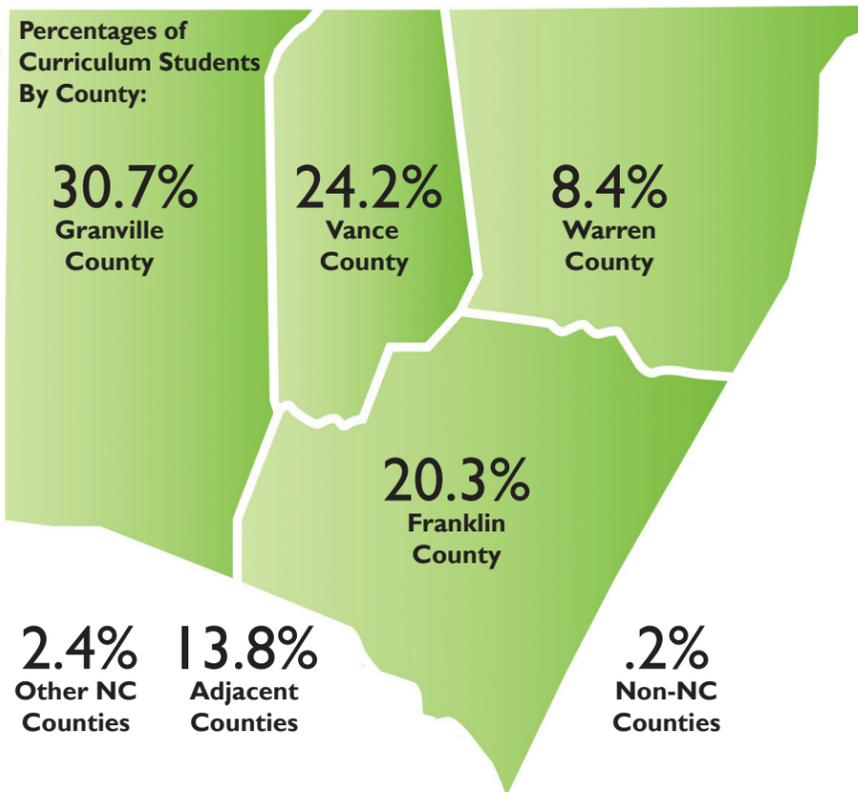
Students Per Class Student/Faculty Ratio

GRADUATES CURRICULUM

510 64 149

Associate Degrees Diplomas Certificates

Percentages of Curriculum Students By County:

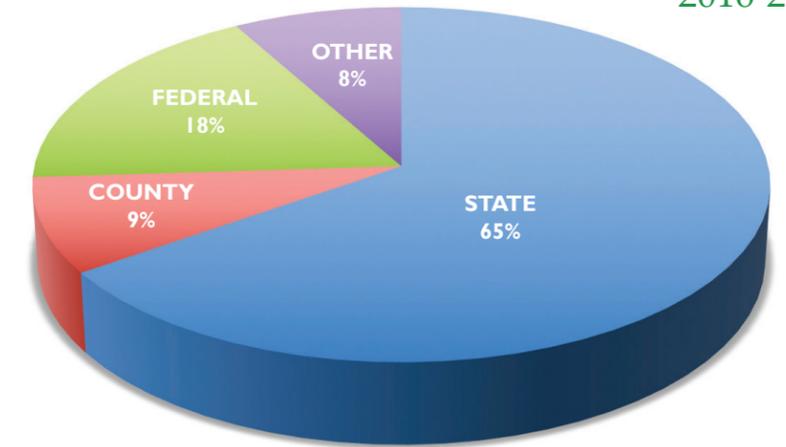


An Association of Community College Trustees study shows only 17% of community college students take out federal loans, compared to 48% at public four-year institutions and 60% at non-profit colleges. At Vance-Granville, loans represent only 2 percent of the funds utilized by students, according to the college's Financial Aid Office. The data demonstrates that it is very advantageous for students to attend VGCC for diploma and degree programs and to complete two years at the community college before transferring to a university.



FUNDING

STATE	\$19,691,210
COUNTY	\$2,619,419
FEDERAL	\$5,362,126
OTHER	\$2,468,630
TOTAL FUNDING	\$30,141,385



TUITION

Tuition Rates: 2016-2017*

	In-State	Out-of-State
Per Credit Hour (full-time)	\$76.00	\$268.00
Per Semester (full-time, 16 hours or more)	\$1,216.00	\$4,288.00

*Tuition is set by the North Carolina General Assembly and is subject to change.

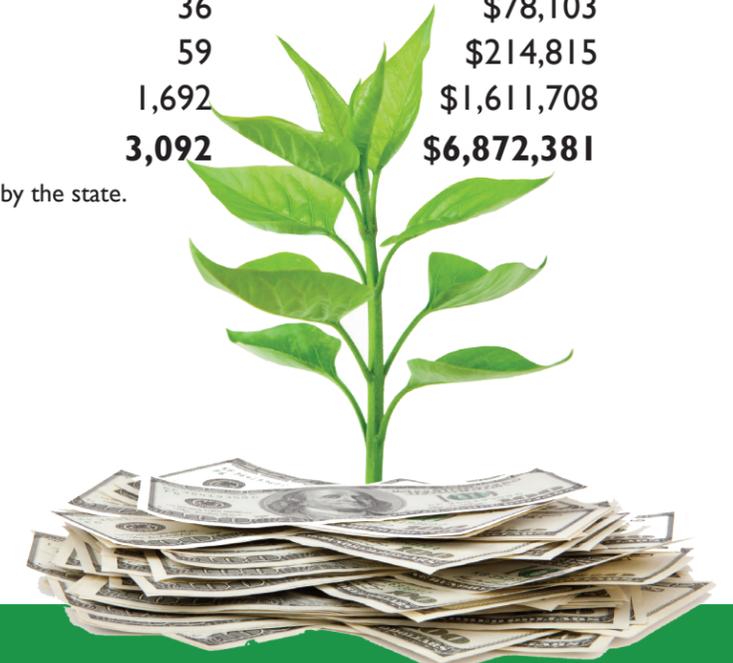
FINANCIAL AID For Students**

	Number of Recipients	Dollars Awarded
Pell Grants	1,405	\$4,305,223
VGCC Scholarships	296	\$185,857
VanGuarantee Scholarships	47	\$50,514
N.C. Community College Grants	329	\$202,375
N.C. Education Lottery Scholarships	160	\$139,438
Institutional Grants	207	\$84,348
Federal Work-Study Program	36	\$78,103
Veterans Educational Assistance	59	\$214,815
Other Financial Aid	1,692	\$1,611,708
TOTAL (Unduplicated)	3,092	\$6,872,381

**These numbers are subject to final review by the state.

OUR STAFF

Full-Time Instructors	141
Full-Time Staff	163
Part-Time Instructors	304
Part-Time Staff	100



* Unduplicated is not the sum of the two totals because some students took both Curriculum courses and Continuing Education/Literacy courses.



Popular Science Camp gains 'STEAM' in 2017

Area middle school students had opportunities to practice their skills as both budding artists and scientists at the sixth annual Science Camp hosted by VGCC.

The theme of the 2017 camp, held in June on the college's Main Campus in Vance County, was not just "STEM," but "STEAM," according to VGCC Science department chair Steve McGrady. "Adding an 'A' for 'Arts' to the common acronym STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) is a way to emphasize that innovation, creative thinking, and design are central aspects of science-related endeavors," McGrady said.

"The camp was a great success. The campers clearly enjoyed our activities, which included building bird feeders, hunting for fossils, creating musical instruments, working with electronics, flying kites and dissecting sharks."

A total of 36 students, including rising sixth, seventh and eighth graders from Vance, Granville, Franklin and Warren counties, completed the day camp.

Sessions were taught by VGCC instructors from various departments.



Science Camp participants, shown below, perform a pH experiment in a laboratory on VGCC's Main Campus, while, on the page at left, students paint a depiction of a protozoan on a parking lot, sort medications with Pharmacy Tech instructors, enjoy a fun activity with slime, and pose for a group shot in front of the college's gazebo.

SUCCESS with SCIENCE!



TAKING FLIGHT

Two Vikings shine in national spotlight

The 2016-17 season saw the emergence of two Vikings — NiQuan Cousins and TyQuon Reid — as national leaders.

Cousins, a freshman, was the top rebounder in the nation for Division II, ranking first in both offensive rebounds per game and defensive rebounds per game, while sophomore Reid ended the season ranked third in the nation for free-throw shooting and fifth in steals.

Cousins recorded 432 total rebounds and 14.9 rebounds per game. He is VGCC's all-time leader in rebounds during a single season and in a single game (28).

Reid, meanwhile, was 195-256 at the free-throw line and recorded 95 steals. He was also VGCC's team leader in points per game (23.3), assists per game (6.1) and steals per game (3.3) for the season.

Before the opening of the conference tournament, Reid was named to the All-Region X Second Team, becoming just the third Viking to receive that honor in program history. He is also the first junior in VGCC history to score 1,000 points.

Reflecting on the season, Coach DeMarcus Oliver said that among the many highlights, the Vikings defeated the UNC Tar Heels JV team for the first time, and at one point had three players ranked on the NJCAA national leader boards at the same time: Cousins, Reid and Kenneth Finley, Jr. He added that Chris Pernell became the first player in Vikings history to make more than 100 career three-pointers, with nine of those coming in a single game.



The Vikings pose at center court in the "Dean Dome," with UNC varsity team jerseys in the rafters behind them. From left, the group included Coach DeMarcus Oliver, student-athletes Chris Pernell, Kenneth Finley, Jr., Calvin Malik Manley, L. Michael Henderson, TyQuon Reid, Mitch Beck, Jaylen Jones, NiQuan Cousins, Isaiah McCaffity, Antonio Adams, Darius Buford and team manager Mycal Elam.

THE DAILY DISPATCH SECTION B FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 2017

SPORTS

Pro Football
Four quarterbacks left have unique talents, flaws, Page B3

Vanguards pull off epic upset

Vance-Granville Community College earns second victory of season, 106-100

BY RYAN LEGGIE
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The Vance-Granville Community College men's basketball team earned its second victory of the season Wednesday evening, defeating the University of North Carolina's junior varsity squad 106-100 at the Dean E. Smith Center in Chapel Hill.

NiQuan Cousins (11 pts, 6 reb, 3 ast), M TyQuon Reid (22 pts) and Chris Pernell (16 pts) both shot the lights out from beyond the three-point arc. Reid (4 reb, 7 ast, 3 stl) knocked down two of his four three-point attempts from long range, on six of his eight jumpers from long range. The Vanguards (2-14) headed into the locker room at halftime with the score tied at 51-51, but knew they had a shot at the victory if they continued to play their brand of basketball. VGCC did just that after the break, shooting almost 60 percent from the field as a team and over 50 percent from beyond the arc.

The Vanguards also took very good care of the basketball Wednesday, turning it over just nine times, while racking up 18 assists.

Jaylen Jones (11 pts, 6 reb, 3 ast), M TyQuon Reid (22 pts, 7 reb, 2 blk), Kenneth Manley (10 pts, 3 reb, 3 ast) and Lynn Herndon (10 pts, 3 reb, 2 blk) also showed up big way for the Vanguards, all putting an excellent effort under the bright lights of the Dean E. Smith Center on Wednesday.

The Vanguards will return to the court tomorrow when they host Guilford Community College at the Aycock Center in Henderson.

Thursday, January 19, 2017

Tar Heels outworked in JV loss to Vance Granville

BY ETHAN BELTBE
EBELTBE@DAILYDISPATCH.COM

The North Carolina junior varsity basketball team was outworked in its loss to Vance Granville Community College Wednesday night.

The Heels (9-1) lost for the first time this season, falling to Vance Granville, 106-100, at the Smith Center on Wednesday.

"It was definitely a rough loss," sophomore guard Caleb Ellis said. "Probably the biggest disappointment is, as a team, we feel like we got outplayed as far as effort goes."

"They just wanted it more, honestly."

The Vanguards just their speed and athleticism to good use against the Tar Heels, as they outworked the opening tip of Wednesday night's contest.

Vance Granville's guards kept the ball moving on offense and crashed the offensive boards with intensity. The Tar Heels' defense would do little to strip the Vanguards from scoring.

"Congratulations to Vance Community College," Head Coach Eshon Davis said. "They earned it."

"I just felt like the entire game they were the tougher team. They were the team that worked the hardest, that wanted it more."

Despite not being able to strip Vance Granville from the game close — as the two 51-51 heading into halftime.

The second half was just as much of a back-and-forth affair as the first, and the Tar Heels found themselves at three minutes left in the game.

But a late turnover by North Carolina and four straight-made free throws by Vance Granville sealed the game for the visiting Vanguards.

Despite hitting 21 points on 7-of-12 shooting from the free-throw line, the Tar Heels' defense would do little to strip the Vanguards from scoring.

"I did not anticipate them playing harder than us, tougher than us," Head Coach Eshon Davis said.

UNC junior varsity basketball coach Eshon Davis said.

"It's really hard to see you score more than the other team at the end of the day," he said.

Davis wants his team to peak the ball on offense and score as quickly as possible. "The other teams are ignoring the other fronts of the game, the UNC coach knows things can only end poorly."

"One of the things that we talk about is that we want to win four battles: the turnover, the rebound, the free throw and the effort battle," he said.

"It's gonna be tough to win a game if you do that."

Despite the loss, Davis remains optimistic. The Tar Heels' head coach.



The headlines told the story. The VGCC Vikings men's basketball team achieved one of the most stunning upsets in program history on Jan. 18, 2017, defeating the University of North Carolina junior varsity team by a score of 106-100 at the Dean E. Smith Center in Chapel Hill. This was VGCC's second trip to Chapel Hill and the team's first win over the JV Tar Heels. Henderson-based radio station WIZS 1450 AM provided live coverage of the game, just as in the first meeting of the two programs in 2016. "In what was going to be an incredible experience in and of itself for the VGCC Vikings, they came out more ready to play than the Tar Heels," reflected Kevin Bullock, who called the game for WIZS. The Vikings got off to a strong start, trading leads with the Tar Heels and settling on a 51-51 tie at the half. The back-and-forth continued through the second half toward a nail-biter of a conclusion. After taking a five-point lead and then falling behind by as many as five in the second half, the Vikings fought back to tie the Heels with two minutes to go. With 20 seconds left on the clock, the Vikings pulled away from a 100-100 tie and never looked back, making four straight free throws to seal the victory.



MAKING HISTORY

For the Vance-Granville Vikings, the 2016 women's volleyball season will long be remembered as historic. VGCC compiled a winning record (14-8) in the regular season, reached .500 in conference play (6-6), and won a match in the postseason — all for the first time in the history of the program.

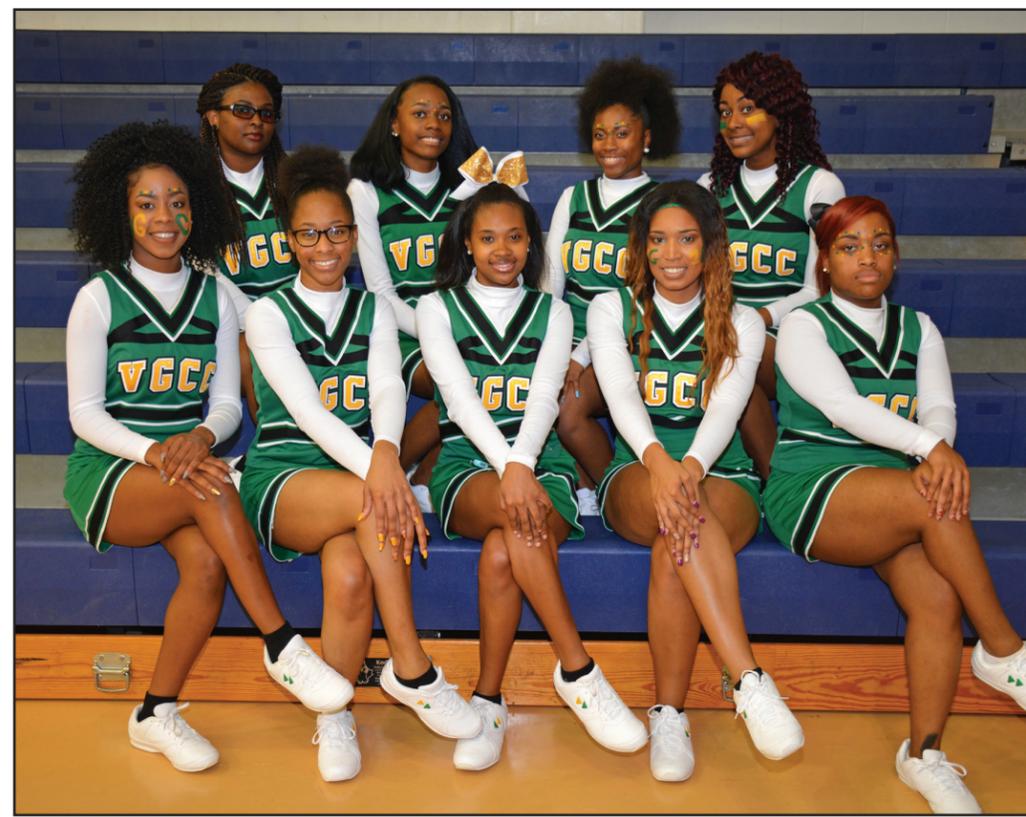
In addition, the team's two sophomores received All-Region X honors from coaches in the conference. Kiyanna Kearney of Henderson was named to the First Team, becoming just the second Vanguard ever to receive that honor, and was runner-up for Player of the Year. Jesse Edwards of Henderson, meanwhile, received an Honorable Mention for the All-Region team.

Edwards is a College Transfer student at VGCC, with plans to enter the Associate Degree Nursing program in 2017. Kearney, meanwhile, is studying Criminal Justice.

Kearney was the consistent team leader in digs, solo blocks and kills. Edwards led in blocks per set and block assists, and was second in assists to freshman Stormi Abernathy of Yanceyville. Kearney was also in the top five players in the conference for points per set (3.9), while Edwards had one of the top five hitting percentages (.360).



VGCC volleyball team sophomores Jesse Edwards, left, and Kiyanna Kearney celebrate All-Region X awards with Coach Christopher Young.



The cheerleaders include, seated in front, from left, Kaela Williams of Henderson, Stackia Burwell of Henderson, Latessa Wilkerson of Henderson, Seniqua Turner of Henderson and Sequoyah Jones of Oxford; and seated in back, from left, Chiatyra Turner of Ebony, Va., Latia Thomas of Henderson, Anaya Brown of Henderson, and Paris Parker of Oxford.

Vanguards have something new to cheer about

"Vanguards get hype, Vanguards get hype, hype, hype! Vanguards get hype — Hype! Hype! Hype! Hype!"

That's just one of the cheers being heard as VGCC's official new student Cheerleading squad energizes players and spectators.

The new "Vanguard Spirit" cheerleaders made their debut at the first VGCC Vikings men's basketball game of the 2016-17 season, on Nov. 7.

The group, an outgrowth of the "Vanguard Spirit" Pep Squad that performed at VGCC basketball games in 2015 and 2016, is coached by Tina Ragland, VGCC's testing administrator.

The VGCC Vikings women's volleyball team poses on the court at Aycock Recreation Center. They include, in front, from left: Kristen Senter, Nicole Bowman, Allyson Cash, Madison Waddle and Stormi Abernathy; in back, from left: Katelynn Ray, Ashley Parker, Kiyanna Kearney, Jesse Edwards, Hanna Williams and Hannah Arneith.



STUDENT ENGAGEMENT



PLENTY OF FUN ACTIVITIES ON TAP AT VANCE-GRANVILLE

From Fall Fest to Spring Fest, from the “VGCC’s Got Talent” Show and Lip Sync Battle to Pep Rallies, Vanguard Nights and Earth Day, Vance-Granville’s students enjoyed a variety of activities and events to make college life more exciting in 2016-2017. At top, students gather in the courtyard of Main Campus for a meal during Fall Fest in October, while, above right, a student becomes a human bowling ball during Spring Fest in April. Above left, Maya Hawkins, a third-year student at Vance County Early College High School, shares her talent with students, friends, VGCC staff and faculty, and the judges of a talent contest.



‘It was a fabulous decision to go to VGCC for my first two years and then transfer... I’m proud of the choice I made to come here first. I had supportive faculty here, who wrote letters of recommendation for me. I got scholarships here at Vance-Granville, and then there at East Tennessee State University, too.’

— NOAH WALL
The Barefoot Movement

FINE ARTS DAYS FEATURE NATIONALLY KNOWN ALUMNUS

The special guests and keynote presenters for VGCC’s Fine Arts Days celebration in October 2016 were singer-songwriter/fiddler Noah Wall, shown above, and mandolinist Tommy Norris. Both grew up in Granville County and are now members of The Barefoot Movement, an award-winning, Nashville-based bluegrass group. Wall is a Vance-Granville alumnus. Their performance at McGregor Hall in Henderson was one of several activities including an art exhibition, choral music, dance, photography, drama and music.

LEADING THE SGA



As president of the VGCC Student Government Association, Colton Hayes, shown second from left on the back row, was the first student from an Early College High School ever elected to serve in this leadership role at Vance-Granville. The SGA president is also the student trustee, representing the interests of his fellow students at all meetings of the VGCC Board of Trustees. Hayes attended Franklin County ECHS. The officers for 2016-2017 included, front, from left, Senator Jasmine Allen, Senator Autumn Richardson and Vice President Jeronee Blackwell; and back, from left, Public Information Officer Micah Roberts, Hayes, Parliamentarian Francis Scotland and Assistant Public Information Officer Xavier Perry.



A CLASSY 'GLASS'

For its fifth annual Dinner Theater production, VGCC presented the drama, *The Glass Menagerie*, by Tennessee Williams. The cast and crew are shown above celebrating a well-received show, while members of VGCC's Culinary Arts program are shown at right, ready to serve a Southern-style buffet befitting the show, complete with Hoppin' John and Cornbread.



COMING TO THE TABLE WITH THE CONGRESSMAN

U.S. Rep. G.K. Butterfield, who represents North Carolina's first congressional district, shown at left in the photo below, visited the VGCC Main Campus on April 17, 2017, during a tour of his district. The congressman met with Dr. Stelfanie Williams, VGCC's president, along with a group of students: Jesse Edwards, Camden Jones, Evan O'Geary and Latessa Wilkerson, all of Henderson; and Francis Scotland of Oxford. The congressman asked the students to talk about their respective career aspirations and discussed a wide range of issues, including the federal budget and the need for the two parties in Washington to work together. He urged students to educate themselves on the major public policy issues of the day and then to make their views known to their elected officials.



FANTASY HAIR AT FAIR

At the 2016 N.C. State Fair, Cosmetology students from VGCC took home several prizes in the third annual "Fantasy Hair and Makeup" contest using live models. Students Maria Ordonez of Warrenton, Kierra Richardson of Wise and Krysten Tant of Henderson placed third, fourth and fifth, respectively.



SKILLSUSA STUDENTS TAKE STATE HONORS

VGCC students earned several awards at the 52nd annual SkillsUSA North Carolina State Leadership and Skills Conference, which was held in Greensboro. From left, VGCC Culinary Arts Program Head/instructor Chef Teresa Davis is shown with SkillsUSA student medalists Hayya Wright (third place, culinary arts), Marcus Brown (third, commercial baking), Tyneshia Brackett (fifth, culinary arts) and Tonisha Chavis (fifth, nail care). Shirley Bennett won 2nd place in commercial baking. A record 2,600 participants competed in 110 contests at the conference, billed as the largest showcase of career and technical education in the state.

JUSTICE MORGAN

The honorable Michael R. Morgan, the newest associate justice of the N.C. Supreme Court, encouraged students to lift themselves higher as well as their communities as he reflected on the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., at VGCC's annual MLK celebration in January 2017.



CARDINAL AWARD

Longtime VGCC faculty member Jacquelin Heath, shown at right below, was honored with the Cardinal Award from N.C. Gov. Pat McCrory as she retired on Dec. 31, 2016, with a longer tenure than any retiree in the history of the college: 40 years and three months. The award was presented to her by VGCC President Dr. Stelfanie Williams.



VOLUNTEER OF YEAR

VGCC Academic & Career Coach Anthony Pope, at right below, a dedicated volunteer at the Vance County Early College High School, was named the Vance County Schools' Volunteer of the Year for 2016-2017. Presenting the award was Debbie Hite, VCECHS principal.



#DESTINATIONVGCC



LEADERSHIP GRAD

Dr. Kambiz Tahmaseb, a Biology and Chemistry instructor at VGCC, graduated from the North Carolina Community College Leadership Program. Shown with VGCC President Dr. Stelfanie Williams, he is one of approximately 35 community college faculty and staff members from across the state who completed the program this year.



SEEING A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE

VGCC Radiography students gather around their instructor, Lewis Daughtry, Jr., at the North Carolina Society of Radiologic Technologists conference after Daughtry received the NCSRT Imaging Professionals for Excellence Award. At each conference, this award recognizes one professional currently working in North Carolina who has made a significant difference to the imaging profession and in the lives of patients, peers, and the community. Daughtry, shown holding the plaque, was secretly nominated for the award by second-year Radiography students for his dedication to the program and its students.



Vance-Granville hosted nearly 300 high school students on Main Campus in April 2017 for the second edition of #DestinationVGCC. The prospective VGCC students got valuable information on VGCC services and curriculum programs, such as Cosmetology and Welding, shown above, as well as tours of the campus and lunch.



Jonathan Carlock of Henderson, left, spoke on behalf of scholars at the first-ever VGCC Endowment Fund Scholarship Awards Dinner in October 2016, while Malvin Hargrove, manufacturing manager for Glen Raven, Inc., in Norlina, right, represented donors in making remarks on behalf of his company, which has endowed numerous scholarships. Carlock thanked the donors for their generous support of VGCC's diverse student body. Hargrove noted the important role the college plays in preparing a skilled technical workforce for employers like Glen Raven.



CHANGING FUTURES

Vance-Granville honored 301 students receiving scholarships, as well as the donors and partnering organizations who established those scholarships, at a dinner on Oct. 13, 2016, in the Civic Center.

The dinner was the inaugural event of its kind at VGCC and allowed many students to meet and have dinner with community leaders and supporters of the college's Endowment Fund.

Noting that the Endowment Fund will soon celebrate its 40th anniversary,

VGCC President Dr. Stelfanie Williams thanked all the contributors and leaders who have helped to build the fund over those years. She also congratulated the scholarship recipients for demonstrating academic excellence. "We honor your achievements," Dr. Williams said. "The scholarship program demonstrates that a community of support surrounds you, and that is what makes our college such a special place."

Scholarships of various levels, including 45 Presidential Scholar Awards, 62 Presidential Merit Awards, 160 Academic Achievement scholarships and 34 non-endowed scholarships, were awarded to students this academic year, representing \$206,623. The scholarships presented

to students in 2016-2017 brought the total to more than 8,800 awarded by the college.

In other activities during the past year, VGCC introduced a new, convenient way to support the college by making a contribution to the college's Endowment Fund online. A secure webpage is now available to give to the VGCC Endowment Fund at www.vgcc.edu/endowment-online-gifts.

The Office of the Endowment Fund also sponsored a second series of lectures by Bill Barker, in character as President Thomas Jefferson, after the popularity of the first series in 2015-2016. Barker spoke as Jefferson on the topics of "Freedom for Religion" and "Mr. Jefferson on Food and Wine."



The co-chairs of the annual VGCC Endowment Fund Faculty and Staff Drive on VGCC's four campuses announced to the college's Board of Trustees that \$20,079 was raised in Fall 2016 from among employees to support the mission of the College and students through scholarships. Shown with Trustees Board Chair Danny Wright, at far left, and VGCC President Dr. Stelfanie Williams, far right, are the drive co-chairs, from left, Kristi Salmons-Ellenberg, department chair and instructor for Social Sciences; Willie Mae Foster-Hill, Main Campus receptionist; and Steven Sievert, instructor for Computer Education. The funds raised by the faculty and staff this year will help with future scholarships.

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6 IN A ROW

Vance-Granville Community College's 33rd annual Endowment Fund Golf Tournament has raised the bar for the sixth straight year, hitting a new record total by raising \$116,675 to help fund scholarships for deserving students and support the mission of the college.

With a new presenting sponsor, Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company, the tournament result surpassed the \$104,160 generated in 2016, in what was previously the highest-grossing golf tournament in VGCC history.

A total of 161 golfers formed 41 teams to play in either the morning or the afternoon round at Henderson Country Club on May 2, 2017.

"We are so appreciative of all the golfers and sponsors who demonstrated their commitment to education and economic development again this year," said VGCC President Dr. Stelfanie Williams.

"Such strong community support made this our most successful tournament ever and beat our previous fundraising record for the sixth consecutive year. Since 1985, VGCC golf tournaments have now raised more than \$862,000, making a significant impact on our students and our college."



Teams,
sponsors
contribute
\$116,675
for most
successful
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ever



ENDOWMENT FUND

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Frank Tedder
Edward Tarry Watkins
Sam Watkins, Jr.
Kathryn Watson
Robert "Buster" and Elizabeth Williford
Edward Williams
Keith and Stelfanie Williams

VGCC SCHOLARSHIP

Awards

New Scholarships

These new scholarships were endowed during the 2016-2017 academic year and were named in honor/memory of:

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR (\$25,000)

William David Barker, Sr., & Anabel Manderson Barker

Past & Present Volunteers/ Guild Gift Gallery at Maria Parham

Rehoboth United Methodist Church

Edward Tarry Watkins Memorial

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Priscilla Brooks Memorial

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Dr. Rives Williams & Patty Lewis Taylor Memorial

Triangle North Healthcare Foundation RIBN

Sam Watkins, Jr.

Jerry Marshall White, Sr., Memorial

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR

(A gift of \$25,000 will establish this award)

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George Wilson and Pattie Alston Macon/Katharine M. Horner

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John K. Nelms Mary Ruth Nelms

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Leon Turner Edward Tarry Watkins John Weaver

Emma Rose Church John T. Church, Sr.

Marion Lee Johnson Church Coca-Cola Bottlers' Foundation

Marshall Young Cooper, Sr. & Mishew C. Cooper Nursing

Thurman and Fannie Crumpler Scouting

Dr. Ben F. Currin The Farrington Foundation

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Granville County Cattlemen's Association

Granville Industrial & Business Club Betty S. Hicks/Granville Industrial & Business Club

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More than 300 scholarships were awarded to students at Vance-Granville Community College during the 2016-2017 academic year through the generosity of donors to the college.



Edward Tarry Watkins Memorial PSA

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The following donors have contributed \$500,000 or more to the VGCC Endowment Fund and Vance-Granville Community College:

Estate of Lelia C. Brigham

Estate of Robert & Anna Butler

Estate of Nannie Crowder

Estate of Wilbert A. Edwards

Legacy Donors

The following donors have contributed \$100,000 or more to the VGCC Endowment Fund:

Glen Raven, Inc.

GSK

Guild Gift Gallery at Maria Parham

Leggett Family

VGCC Faculty & Staff

VANGUARD VISION

THE COLLEGE'S
STRATEGIC PLAN
FOR 2014-2019

Since January 2014 and continuing through 2019, Vance-Granville Community College is “Living the Vision.”

The Vision is a strategic plan developed with input from Vance-Granville’s students, employees and the broader community served by the college.

Shortly after taking the reins as VGCC’s president in 2012, Dr. Stelfanie Williams pulled together a team of college faculty and staff to develop the framework for a strategic plan to carry the college through its 50th anniversary in 2019.

The results were the Mission Statement and Vision Statement that guide the college in its focus and activities as well as nine core Values and 20 specific Goals built around five overarching areas of focus.

The college’s Board of Trustees officially adopted the Vanguard Vision on June 15, 2013, and implementation of the strategic plan began in January 2014.

OUR MISSION

Vance-Granville Community College educates, inspires, and supports a diverse community of learners to achieve professional and personal success.

OUR VISION

In partnership with our community, Vance-Granville Community College will lead the economic development of our region, be nationally-recognized for educational excellence, and improve our world through stewardship and sustainability.

OUR VALUES

EXCELLENCE
We value working to our full potential and demonstrating quality at all levels by meeting or exceeding our goals and establishing high expectations for achievement by everyone through continuous improvement.

TEACHING
We value rigorous, quality instruction that maximizes student success through focused and purposeful student support and activities.

COMMUNICATION
We value decision making through broad-based, respectful team work and effective dialogue.

RESPECT
We value professional working relationships and exceptional service for our faculty, staff, students, and community.

ACCESS
We value keeping our services accessible to our communities through a welcoming and supportive environment for all.

DIVERSITY
We value the unique attributes and contributions of the members who enrich our college and its community.

INNOVATION
We value innovation and creativity through our leadership in learning, technology, and community partnerships.

COMMUNITY
We value positive and supportive relationships among the faculty, staff, students, and community of our service area.

SUSTAINABILITY
We value prudent stewardship of our resources and implementation of best practices in policies and operations that are ecologically, socially, and economically sustainable.

OUR GOALS

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FROM ACCESS TO SUCCESS

- 1.1 Increase student achievement through student-centered teaching.
- 1.2 Increase student completion through effective academic advising.
- 1.3 Facilitate college growth.
- 1.4 Cultivate a college-wide culture of support for a diverse community of learners.
- 1.5 Provide resources and experiences to empower students and prepare them for work or higher education.

AN ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE OF QUALITY, COOPERATION & ENGAGEMENT

- 2.1 Recruit and hire exceptional employees.
- 2.2 Retain qualified employees.
- 2.3 Foster participation in meaningful professional development opportunities.
- 2.4 Enhance open communication.
- 2.5 Develop a campus community valuing health, safety, and quality of life opportunities.

A LEARNING COMMUNITY OF CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

- 3.1 Develop a culture that prioritizes individualized service to students.
- 3.2 Develop a culture of continuous quality improvement and best practices.
- 3.3 Institute leadership development that supports and empowers all employees.

ONE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

- 4.1 Enhance support services.
- 4.2 Foster student and employee engagement in college life.
- 4.3 Partner with community organizations to support the college mission.
- 4.4 Improve, maintain, and utilize adequate technology.

INSTITUTIONAL STEWARDSHIP: SECURING AND SUSTAINING OUR RESOURCES

- 5.1 Secure new and innovative resources to support institutional goals.
- 5.2 Implement risk assessment and management at the college.
- 5.3 Advance environmentally-friendly practices at the college.

“Change, growth and improvement are essential as we realize this new Vanguard Vision. In charting this course for the next five years, we will continue to engage our college community and our broader four-county service area as we shape a brighter and more dynamic future for our beloved community college.”

— DR. STELFANIE WILLIAMS, VGCC PRESIDENT



VANCE-GRANVILLE

COMMUNITY COLLEGE



10th in NC
among two-year colleges



7th in NC
among community colleges



4th in US, 1st in NC
among Pharmacy Tech programs



9th in US
among associate degrees

Main Campus

200 Community College Road
P.O. Box 917
Henderson, NC 27536
(252) 492-2061

Franklin Campus

8100 NC 56 Highway
P.O. Box 777
Louisburg, NC 27549
(919) 496-1567

South Campus

1547 S. Campus Drive
P.O. Box 39
Creedmoor, NC 27522
(919) 528-4737

Warren Campus

210 West Ridgeway Street
P.O. Box 207
Warrenton, NC 27589
(252) 257-1900

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Vance-Granville Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Vance-Granville Community College. Vance-Granville Community College is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution. The college serves all students regardless of race, creed, color, age, sex, national or disabling conditions. Vance-Granville Community College is a Tobacco-Free College.