

# Danville Area Community College

## ALUMNI & FRIENDS

Spring 2009  
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### Middle College at DACC

We all know kids who are struggling in school, not because they aren't capable but because they have met barriers to success. If their learning style, home situation, or life choices created those barriers, it is in the community's best interest to help overcome them. Failure to complete high school has been called the "Million Dollar Mistake." It costs the individual \$600,000 in lost lifetime earnings, but it costs the community \$400,000 in increased social service and healthcare costs.

The goal of Middle College at DACC is to support the development of strong, successful students who are actively engaged in their studies. The program was developed by the Regional Superintendent, Vermilion County Superintendents, Vermilion Vocational Education Delivery System (VVEDS), Vermilion Advantage, and DACC. With funding assistance from the Vermilion Healthcare Foundation, Middle College at DACC offers a unique and flexible enrichment program to encourage high school graduation for Vermilion County students in need of individualized attention and support.

Middle College at DACC is designed for high school juniors and seniors,

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## DACC FOUNDATION HONORS DAY CELEBRATES DONORS AND RECIPIENTS

Scholarship recipients and donors were recognized in September, 2008, at the Danville Area Community College Foundation Honors program. This annual event celebrates the achievements of scholarship recipients at DACC and the generosity of the donors who support them. Without the support of scholarship dollars, many students' potential might remain untapped.

For the 2008-2009 academic year, more than 220 scholarships were awarded totaling over \$250,000. Scholarship dollars often make the difference between students achieving their dreams or putting them on hold indefinitely. These valuable scholarships assist students in reaching their education goals. Awards are given to traditional and non-traditional students in both transfer and career-oriented programs.



## TIMYRA CARTER -- GIVING PATIENTS A LITTLE TLC

Timyra Carter enjoys telling patients that her initials are TLC. As Patient Care Coordinator, or Charge Nurse, for the third floor medical/surgical unit at Provena USMC, this DACC alumnus has many opportunities to practice her specialty.

A mother at 15 years old, the road to her nursing career was long and hard. After supporting her daughter as a waitress for several years, Timyra entered the CNA program at DACC in 1997. The seven-week, entry-level health care program opened the door to higher wages and her true vocation – nursing.

Newly married, in 2003 Timyra returned to DACC in the Nursing program. Despite having a baby via Caesarian Section at the beginning of the second semester, she completed her LPN training on time, and then continued on to complete her RN training and her Associate degree in Nursing at DACC. In December 2008, Timyra completed her Bachelor's degree in Nursing from Indiana Wesleyan University.



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Timyra feels she got a great nursing education at DACC, and the supportive atmosphere helped her get through the program despite some major obstacles. “Your fellow students form your family. You study together, pray together, and support one another,” she remembered. “The faculty provides the information necessary to be successful, but they also offer support and become part of the family.”

Support was essential. Going to school, working at the hospital, and raising a family was difficult, but worth it. “I don’t remember sleeping much,” Timyra recalled of her time in school, “but when you’re motivated, you do whatever you have to.”

And she had lots of motivation. Timyra is the mother of five children and step-mother to four additional children. The blended family ranges in age from 2 years to 20 years old. She says that education hadn’t been a high priority in her extended family, and she wanted to break the cycle and show her children the possibilities of education. “I want to show my kids they can do it,” she said. “They can go beyond high school and get a college degree. More education gives you more to offer yourself, your family, and your employer.”

It’s a lesson the children have taken to heart. The oldest is in college now, and her 11-year old son has an interest in nursing. Would she recommend DACC to him? “Absolutely!” Timyra went on to explain, “The program is designed to nurture critical thinking, organization, and the ability to prioritize duties and goals. DACC taught me assessment skills that are very important, especially on a surgical unit.”

Timyra now plans a short break before continuing toward a Master’s degree in Nursing. Her husband and children continue to be very supportive of her goals. “They never let me quit,” she said. “They always give me the extra push I need to continue.” Her long-term goal is to become a nursing instructor, possibly at DACC.

“It’s a valuable program for the community,” she stated. “It’s affordable, convenient, rigorous, and it provides an opportunity to learn and work in the community. I’m proud to be a DACC graduate!”



DACC Alums, Sara Beasley and Timyra Carter confer during work at Provena USMC.



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## 1ST LT. MATTHEW FROST -- HITS THE GROUND RUNNING

Matt Frost received his AAS degree from DACC in 2005, and then transferred to Illinois State University with a full ROTC scholarship. While at DACC, Matt served as the Vice-President of Scholarship for the successful Pi Omega Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, and worked as a student worker for Campus Services.

After graduation from ISU in May 2007, Matt accepted his Army commission. He graduated from the Field Artillery Officers Basic Course and was assigned to the 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, stationed in Vilseck Germany.

Within two months of his posting to Germany, Matt was deployed to Iraq. He served there for nearly eight months before his company returned to Germany in February 2009.

Matt said, "I felt embraced and nurtured at DACC. My two years there armed me with many of the tools that were responsible for my success in my career."

## MILESTONES

### New Faces...

Danville Area Community College welcomed a number of new faces during recent semesters.

William Willis joined the Tractor Trailer Driver Program as a Training Specialist.

LaToya Young joined the Student Success Center as a Program Specialist.

Bobby Brooks joined the Building Services department as a Building Services Attendant.

Julie McClintock joined the Cashier's Office in the Business Office as an Office Specialist.

Candace McNeal joined the Financial Aid Office as an Office Specialist.

Matthew Sawyer joined the Administrative Data Systems department as a Computer Support Programmer.

Leslie Sconce joined the Corporate and Community Education office at the Village Mall as an Office Specialist.

Jessica M. Weathers joined the Corporate and Community Education office at the Bremer Center as an Office Specialist.

Wendy Wright joined the Bookstore as a Bookstore Assistant.

Phillip Langley joined the Developmental Education division as an Instructor.

### Familiar Faces in New Places...

Due to internal reorganization, several old friends can now be found in new offices.

Chris Martin is now the Administrative Assistant to the Vice President of Instruction located in Vermilion Hall.

Maggie Hoover is now the Instructional Designer/Academic Web Technologist located in Prairie Hall.

Nancy Boesdorfer is now the Director of Institutional Effectiveness located in Cannon Hall.

Carla Boyd is now the Director of Career & Employment Services and the Coordinator of Student Support Services TRIO for Career Placement. She is located in the Career & Employment Services Center in Lincoln Hall.

Brenda Shanks is now the Office Assistant in the Career & Employment Services Center located in Lincoln Hall.

Karen Flessner is now an Office Assistant for both the Partnership for College and Career Success and Corporate and Community Education.

Phillip, Candace, Matthew, Jessica, Chris and Maggie are DACC Alumni.

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with a history of academic success, who may have encountered barriers to high school completion. Students participate in a common core course each semester, along with two additional courses that meet their individual needs. Middle College courses carry dual credit, meaning students receive both high school and college credit for the classes they choose.

The common core courses will be project, team-based classes utilizing technology that focus on career development, computer skills, personal responsibility and ethics, and consumer economics. The remaining general education or elective courses will come from college offerings. Paid internships may be available to qualified participants. Courses may be taken on campus or online, but students are required to be involved in a minimum of five hours of learning activities each school day. Applicants must provide their own reliable transportation to and from campus and any applicable intern sites.

Additional information about the program may be requested from the DACC Office of Instruction at 217-443-8770.

## FOUNDERS' DAY 2008 CELEBRATES HONORED GUESTS

In October, 2008, Danville Area Community College celebrated four people who contributed to its longevity and success. Founders' Day 2008 honored former Vice President Wilbur Dickson; former Foundation Board President Leonard Jaffe; former Registrar Annabelle Neel; and former Liberal Arts Division Chair Alice Lee Morrison-Guin.

Tributes to the honorees included stories about Mr. Dickson's dedication to student service and recruitment, Mrs. Neel's commitment to inter-

national students and this College, Mr. Jaffe's perseverance in the mission to support a Community College, and Mrs. Morrison-Guin's enthusiasm for her art and her students. Those in attendance were reminded that the honorees, along with their colleagues, shaped the community college mission and laid the foundation for its continuing success.



Wilbur Dickson was honored by Dave Kietzmann



Annabelle Neel was honored by Marilyn Satterwhite



Leonard Jaffe was honored by Sybil Mervis



Alice Lee Morrison-Guin was honored by Martha Kay and Dow Cooksey



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## IN MEMORIUM

*Milestones Continued from Pg. 4*

Danville Area Community College was saddened by the loss of two long-time, well-loved members of our extended family this winter.



**Wilbur J. "Sonny" Dickson, Jr.**  
5/18/1938-2/20/2008

Wilbur "Sonny" Dickson came to Danville Junior College as an Evening Counselor in 1963. In 1966, he became the Acting Dean of Men at Danville Junior College, and in 1969 became the Dean of Students. Mr. Dickson was named Vice President of Instruction at Danville Area Community College in 1981, and then promoted to Vice President of Instruction and Student Services in 1988. He held this title until his retirement in 1997.

**Dr. James M. Tucker**  
10/21/1939-1/31/2009

Dr. James Tucker was appointed to the Danville Area Community College Board of Trustees in August 2004 to complete the unexpired term of the late Mrs. M. Jeannine Tucker. He was re-elected to the Board in April 2005. During his tenure, Dr. Tucker was an active member of the Board, participating in many special events at the College. He took his role seriously, and provided thoughtful and well-prepared commentary on issues affecting students and educational affordability.



### Retirements...

Danville Area Community College bid a fond farewell to several staff members during the summer and fall.

**Suzie Hobick** retired from the Office of Instruction in May 2008. She had been with the College since 1999.

**Jan Bennett** retired from Corporate and Community Education in July, 2008. She had been with the College since 1988.

**Marilyn Pettigrew** retired from the Bookstore in January 2009. She had been with the College since 1995.

Additionally, the College will say goodbye to several more valued members of the faculty and staff at the end of the Spring semester.

**Professor John Hoagland** is retiring from the Math and Science division in May. John has been a Science Instructor for more than 39 years.

**Professor Carolyn Jensen** is retiring from the Business & Technology division in May having served as an Office Systems Instructor since 1980.

**Pat Shedlock** is retiring in May from her current position as Coordinator of Continuous Quality Improvement/Partnership for College and Career Success. Pat has been with the College since 1980.

**Ernestine Darnell** is retiring in June from the Counseling and Advisement office. She has been at the College since 1985.

**Sarah Isaac** is retiring in June from the Assessment Center. Sarah has been with the College since 1984.

**Karen Jones-McKissack** is retiring in June from the Counseling and Advisement office. She has been at the College since 1986.

**Jim Pettigrew** is retiring in June from Campus Services. He has been with the College since 1987.

**Janet Graul** is retiring in July from the Child Development Center. She has been with the College since 1991.

## WIND TECHNOLOGY USHERS IN GREEN REVOLUTION AT DACC

DACC joined the “green revolution” in November, 2008, when the Board of Trustees approved the new Wind Energy Technology program for fall 2009. According to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, wind is a clean, inexhaustible, indigenous energy resource that can generate enough electricity to power millions of homes and businesses. The United States can currently generate more than 10,000 megawatts (MW) of electricity from the wind, which is enough to power 2.5 million average American homes. Industry experts predict that, with proper development, wind energy could provide 20 percent of this nation’s energy.

This cutting edge program will lead to lucrative careers in renewable resources fields. The industry-derived curriculum will focus on the electrical power generation industry, work-site safety, mechanical devices, and hydraulic and electrical systems. Program graduates will have the skills necessary to succeed in an entry-level technical position, maintaining and repairing giant wind turbines, with the opportunity to advance with additional training and work experience. The base pay for a Wind Energy Technician is estimated to be \$16-\$30 per hour, with an average work week of 40-45 hours.

For more information about the Wind Energy Technology program, contact the Technology division at 217-443-8787.



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## DACC ATHLETICS’ HALL OF FAME INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS



DACC’s Division of Athletics inducted four new members into it’s Hall of Fame in March, 2009. New inductees were Barb Todd, Women’s Volleyball Coach 1967-1978; Dawn Campbell, Track/Cross Country Athlete 1978-1980; 1991 Men’s Basketball Team, NJCAA Men’s Division II National Champions; and Jim McCarthy, Friend of the DACC Athletic Program.



Honorees  
Dawn Campbell  
and Barb Todd

Suzy McCarthy  
accepting the  
award for her late  
husband,  
Jim McCarthy



Members of the  
DACC 1991 NJCAA  
Men’s Division II  
National Basketball  
Championship  
team with Coach  
John Spezia



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## DACC MISSION STATEMENT

Danville Area Community College is committed to providing quality, innovative, and accessible learning experiences which meet the lifelong academic, cultural, and economic needs of our diverse communities and the world we share.

ACCREDITED -- THE HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION; MEMBER -- NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION  
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