

## Meet the DACC Foundation's New Executive Director: Tonya Hill

*On Sept. 10, Tonya Hill became the Executive Director for the DACC Foundation.*

*Mrs. Hill's prior position was as the market president and commercial-relationship manager for Old National Bank. Before applying for this position at DACC, she had served for three years on the DACC Board of Trustees. She is a DACC alumna, having graduated in 1993.*

*As DACC's new executive director, Mrs. Hill will work with the Foundation Board which consists of 23 volunteer citizens and donors. The DACC Foundation oversees a \$15 million endowment and last year disbursed \$600,000 in scholarships to nearly 560 students. Her primary focus in managing this 501 c3 charity will be to raise funds to support student scholarships and key educational programs.*

*Mrs. Hill is a life-long member of the Vermilion County community and a Catlin resident. After her graduation from DACC, she transferred to Eastern Illinois University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in career and educational studies.*

**Q: So why would someone leave a successful career in high finance to become a fundraiser for a community college?**

A: This isn't just any community college. DACC is like a home to me, and I'm really happy to be here. DACC made a deep impression from the very first

time I set foot on the Campus as a student. The instructors I had were instrumental in guiding me on the right path in my education and in my life.

**Q: What's your plan for the first few weeks on the job?**

A: I need to go out and meet as many people as I can—community members, donors, and businesses. Even though my job at the bank afforded me an opportunity to interact a great deal with community members, my doing that was in a different context from what I'm doing now on behalf of the College Foundation. Not everyone knows all of the good things that go on at DACC. One of my first priorities will be to help people understand what a great asset the College is to the community and how DACC supports student success.

**Q: Would you say that the DACC Foundation supports student success?**

A: Absolutely. The mission of the DACC Foundation has three core goals, which are to promote student access, College affordability, and institutional excellence.

**Q: OK, so let's go one at a time. What do you mean by student access?**

A: I'm referring to the open-door policy at DACC. The College welcomes anybody who is looking to seek a better life through education. One of my chief roles will be to deliver this message on open access whenever and wherever possible to raise the community's awareness about what the DACC slogan says, 'Endless Possibilities.'



Executive Director,  
Tonya Hill

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# Wanted: A Home of Their Own for DACC Softball

DACC has an amazing Women's Softball Team.

Last season, the Lady Jaguars were among the league's elite, compiling an impressive 35-13 record. They were also superstars in the classroom. In fact, their collective Grade Point Average of 3.21 ranks them near the top of all college teams in Illinois.

The players can hit a ton, scoop up grounders like a combine, and pitch the daylights out of a ball. In fact, the only thing that they lack...is a field of their own.

DACC home games are on the other side of town, at Winter Park, a playground for squirrels and swinging preschoolers. While the team appreciates the City's gesture in allowing them to play in a municipal park, what would really raise the spirits of the plucky DACC players would be a field on the DACC campus. Players would be able to go right from class to a game or a practice rather than having to plan for all that extra time to ride a van out to Winter Park.

Another benefit would be the fan interest the field would generate. Softball will definitely receive a lot more support and recognition from people at the College if the games were on the campus.

The College has designed a new softball field for the

front of the campus, near East Main Street.

The backstop and home plate would be due north of the Child Development Center. Home run balls would travel out toward the tall maples guarding East Main Street. The field would be aesthetically pleasing as softball fields go, a real showcase when people first enter the campus.

The first phase of construction would provide a "serviceable" field with such essentials as a dirt infield and manicured-grass outfield, fencing, dugouts, and bleacher stands. An electronic scoreboard, bullpen, practice cage, and lavatories would follow during the second phase.

The total cost for completing both phases of this project is just under half a million dollars. Without any State or local municipal subsidies available, the College is hopeful that an angel swoops in to help fund the field.

"If you'd like to help DACC's amazing women find the sort of home they need and deserve, please let me know," President Nacco says. "The new softball field needs a name, and it could be named after you, your loved ones, your company, or whatever you want."

But until a donor steps forward and this Field of Dreams stops being a dream, people around DACC will probably just call it "YOUR NAME HERE" Field.

A rendering of the proposed women's softball field, which would be situated on the northern lawn of the Danville Campus.



# Why We Give...Dr. Robert & Mrs. Sue Ewbank

Dr. Robert Ewbank and his wife Sue have enjoyed a 58-year love affair with Danville...and a 64-year love affair with one another.

They're also terribly fond of Danville Area Community College.

Over the past 20 years, the couple has built the Dr. Robert and Sue Ewbank Fund into a sizeable endowment. Their DACC Foundation fund generates at least two scholarships annually—in perpetuity—to help defray the costs of tuition and books for full-time health-science students with financial need.

Although their daughter Kim earned an associate degree from DACC, the Ewbanks' affection for the College is deeply rooted in their commitment to serving their community. "Most of what I've become in life, I owe to scouting and the value system that scouting has ingrained in me," says Dr. Ewbank, who has participated in the Boy Scouts for more than 75 years.

Both Ewbanks were born and raised in Indiana. Sue would earn a nursing degree in Danville at the St. Elizabeth School of Nursing, and took some classes at what was then known as Danville Junior College. "We moved to Danville in 1960 and have watched DACC grow by leaps and bounds over the years," she says. "The College started very small with no buildings, just some rooms at the high school. But over the years, (founding president) Mary Miller, and (17-year president) Alice Marie Jacobs

helped build DACC into the wonderful college you have today."

Among the beneficiaries of the Ewbanks' support are the Boy Scouts, St. James United Methodist Church, United Way, War Memorial Museum, Danville Library, Vermilion Museum, YMCA, Boys & Girls Club, Women's Shelter, Animal Rescue, Lakeview College of Nursing, Kiwanis Club, and Indiana University. The latter is Dr. Ewbank's alma mater, where he earned his doctorate in dental surgery as well as bachelor's and master's degrees. For three years he served at Indiana University as chief resident in oral surgery.

Along with Dr. Ewbank's 35-year private practice as an oral surgeon in Danville, the Ewbank family operated a successful business raising and showing Arabian horses. They held two national sales, one at the farm and one in the Danville Civic Center. Dr. Ewbank was a two-term president of the International Arabian Horse Association. He appraised Arabian horses in England, Canada, the U.S., Australia, and Morocco. He led a delegation of Arabian horse riders in President Reagan's Inauguration parade.

The Ewbank family takes DACC's mission to heart. Says Dr. Ewbank, "Back when I was young, people could get through life without a college education, but times have changed. DACC has something for everybody, people of any age or interest or background. When we give to DACC, we're doing our own small part to

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Dr. Robert and Sue Ewbank, with their daughter Kim, who recently visited Danville from South Carolina.



I plan on spending much of my time visiting with community groups and going to schools to talk with students and their parents about the educational opportunities that DACC offers.

**Q: And affordability?**

A: Even though DACC tuition is much more affordable than the tuition at private and four-year colleges, many of our students still struggle to pay their bills. When I was a student, I was part of a big group of working-class students—that is, just above the poverty level and not eligible for federal Pell assistance. People like me and many of our students today have to work two or three jobs just to make ends meet. Even DACC's low tuition can seem daunting to someone scraping together money just to pay for food and rent and transportation. That's why what we do at the Foundation to support student scholarships is critically important. I know, first-hand, that any little bit of financial support a student receives can go a long way toward helping students achieve their personal goals.

**Q: OK, so what about institutional excellence?**

A: The Foundation doesn't just support scholarships. We're also providing funds to advance key DACC initiatives and academic programs. In the last year, donors have helped fund CNC machines in the metalworking shop, the Sustainability Farm on North

Daisy Lane, and a number of academic programs through what's called the 'Faculty Endowed Chair' program. Within the next few months, we'll launch a campaign to support the Presidential Scholarship Program, which provides merit-based scholarships for the brightest high-school students in the County. We'll also enlist donor support for a new simulation lab for nursing, a fully renovated theater, and an on-Campus softball field.

**Q: So how do you expect to get all of this done?**

A: We have a great staff in our controller Sandra Dreher and office assistant Gina Davis. And I'm really impressed with the people on the Foundation Board. During my first meeting with the Board, it almost took my breath away seeing that such a distinguished group of citizens have chosen to serve on our Foundation. They will be wonderful partners in our work together on behalf of students and DACC.

**Q: And I suppose you'll be working closely with Board President Tom Chamberlain.**

A: Yes I will. I came to know Tom from banking, and have also come to see that he has a deep passion for service to the community and the College. He is thoroughly committed to the success of the DACC Foundation and students. I look forward to working with him and (outgoing president) Tuck (Meyer) and everyone else on the Foundation Board.



Tonya Hill (center), the new Executive Director of the DACC Foundation, with staff members Gina Davis and Sandy Dreher.

# Giving in Tribute

February—August 2018

With gratitude we recognize these 2017 honor and memorial contributions which provide a lasting tribute by enriching a DACC student's educational journey.

## In Honor of

### **Dr. Keith Bates**

Becky Estill

### **Julius W. Hegeler II**

Dr. Alice Marie and Darrel Jacobs

### **Robert Kesler**

Dr. Alice Marie and Darrel Jacobs

### **William Kesler**

Dr. Alice Marie and Darrel Jacobs

### **Dr. John C. Mason, Jr.**

Dr. Alice Marie and Darrel Jacobs

### **Barbara McComb**

Dr. Alice Marie and Darrel Jacobs

### **Cindy Nacco**

The Honorable Rita Garman  
Scott and Tracy Wahlfeldt

### **Bob Randall**

The Honorable Rita Garman

### **Tracy Wahlfeldt**

Jim and Linda Gieseke

### **Sadie Walls**

Anonymous

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*Why We Give, cont'd from pg. 3*

help people find a better life through education. We know that DACC delivers on that promise. We appreciate the feedback they receive from their scholarship recipients. "We get such nice sweet notes from the students thanking us for their scholarships, and we hope we can continue to add more scholarships."



DACC Foundation Honors Program  
2014 — Dr. Robert and Sue Ewbank  
with scholarship recipient, Chelsea  
Thomas.

*In Honor of, cont'd from pg. 3*

**Rickey and Laura Williams**

Anonymous  
Bob and Nancy Boesdorfer  
Patricia Calloway  
Rand and Glenda Campbell  
Kerry and Jill Cranmore  
Stanley and Pamela Crosby  
Diezi and Alicia Delcambre  
Dwain and Jennifer Dixson  
Richard and Jayne Donahue  
Sandy Dreher  
Kenneth and Vickie Drollinger  
Eric Echols  
Dr. Alice Marie and Darrel Jacobs  
Randall and Lisa Kelsey  
Susie Landers  
Nathan and Lauren Lenstra  
Teresa Menkhaus

Gary and Brenda Miller  
Maurice Miller  
Clara Nelson  
Dora Nelson  
Faye Noble  
Kimberly Paden  
James and Sharon Poshard  
Dick and Jane Shockey  
Sylvia Sleva  
Dan and Kerri Thurman  
Crystal Truss  
Scott and Tracy Wahlfeldt  
Ashley Williams  
Eli Williams  
Claudean Withers  
Jeremy and Jessica Zerkle

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## In Memory of

**Ward and Violet Ames**

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ames

**Norma Jean Bailey**

Sandra Diveley Batmangelich  
Danville Area Community College  
Jerry Lambert

**John Barth**

Danville Area Community College

**Burton Brackney**

Danville Area Community College  
Bill and Marilyn Satterwhite

**Alice Busing**

Nan Payne

**Clarence "Pete" Clapp**

Danville Area Community College

**Robert Cowan**

Danville Area Community College

**Marie Daeke**

Bill and Marilyn Satterwhite

**Mary Alice Davis**

Keith and Nancy Dalenberg

**Paulette Eaton**

Danville Area Community College

**Tom Fletcher**

W. John and Sue Shane

**Peggy Gardner**

Danville Area Community College  
Bill and Marilyn Satterwhite  
Mark and Rebecca Schlecht  
Dan and Kerri Thurman  
Scott and Tracy Wahlfeldt

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**Marcia Gillis**

Danville Area Community College

**John Girton**

Janis Dunn

**Lance Girton**

Tom and Beth Chamberlain  
Bill and Dede Doney  
The Honorable Rita Garman  
Kesler, Nelson, Garman, Brougher  
& Townsley, P.C.  
Ron and Janice Lee  
Dale and Teresa Miller  
Ronald and Carol Naylor  
Thomas and Darla O'Shaugnessy  
Andrew and Deanne Potalivo  
Mary Powell  
Vicki Trask

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Derek Girton  
Lance Girton  
Louis and Nancy Gizoli  
Steve and Becky Stroul

**Robert Griggs**

Mary Griggs

**Curt Huffman**

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Thompson

**Cliff Kinate**

Tom and Barbara Crays

**Virgil McConnell**

Dr. Alice Marie and Darrel Jacobs  
Nan Payne

**Fred Payne**

Dr. Anneliese Payne

**Charlie Pohlman**

W. John and Sue Shane

**Wilma Ren**

Danville Area Community College

**Libby Shea**

W. John and Sue Shane

**Camille and Anna Spezia**

John and Nancy Spezia

**Barbara Todd**

Tim and Jackie Prunkard

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*Meet the Director, cont'd*

**Q: So what's the long-range view for you and the Foundation?**

A: I'm here for the long haul. DACC has been part of my life for a long time and I plan to retire from here—a long time from now. For my son and his friends—and one day for my grandchildren—I want all of them to be able to enjoy the same great education at DACC that I had. I want to do whatever I can to keep the College what it has been for more than seven decades, one of our community's greatest strengths.



Foundation Honors Program  
2016: Tonya Hill with  
scholarship recipient, Jessica  
Ballentine.

# Scenes from Commencement 2018



*Faculty Farewell*



*Receiving Diploma*



*The Assembly*

*Graduate Fun*



*Honorary degree presented to Julius W. Hegeler II by President Nacco and Trustee Tonya Hill.*



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