

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

THE FUTURE IS NOW

It has been deeply gratifying to see the investments from the *Building for the Future* campaign bear fruit. The transformational changes that the Foundation board envisioned in 2013 have been achieved. Over 1,200 donors have provided gifts and pledges that total almost \$9.5 million, allowing the campaign to conclude at the end of December.

The new investments are already making an impact. In spring 2016, the college began renovating space in Robb Hall for a new health care simulation laboratory. By the end of the summer, the renovation was complete and the laboratory was prepared for students this fall.

The Foundation sought to help more students with scholarships. By the close of the campaign, an additional \$2 million for scholarships had been raised.

The college's outreach to students was also improved this year. The campaign provided funding to continue the Great Expectations Program, benefitting students who have formerly been in foster care. The College was also able to hire full-time Career Coaches to serve high school students with career and post-secondary education planning.

Thank you for all that you have done to make the *Building for* the *Future* campaign a success. Your investment will continue to improve educational opportunities at MECC.

Because of you, our top priorities have been addressed. Because of you, the region is more prepared to address its economic challenges. Because of you, when I retire from Mountain Empire Community College in June 2017, I can leave with confidence that MECC and this region will continue to have a very promising future.



Dr. Scott Hamilton
President, Mountain Empire Community College



Dr. Scott Hamilton, President, Mountain Empire Community College

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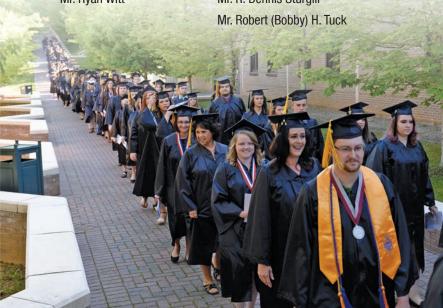
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MECC KEY FACTS



3,671



WORKFORCE TRAINING PARTICIPANTS





Dual Credit Enrollment

1,121

21%

40%

40%

CAMPAIGN CLOSE-OUT EVENTS







Speakers at the conclusion of the *Building* for the Future Campaign, (from left to right): Dale Clark, Wellmont Health System's President, Mountain View Regional Medical Center and Lonesome Pine Hospital; Olivia Barton, who spoke about the benefits of the Career Coach Program; and Zachary Hall, who spoke about the benefits of the Great Expectations Program.

Building for the Future Campaign Closing Celebration

On November 16, 2016, the MECC Foundation announced the conclusion of its *Building for the Future* Major Gifts Campaign and dedicated a health care simulation laboratory. The laboratory had been renovated during the 2015–2016 academic year and equipped with grants raised during the campaign.

A total of \$9,468,014 in gifts, pledges, grants, and planned giving commitments were received by the date of the announcement. The campaign focused on three main strategic priorities: increasing scholarships, expanding support for student success and outreach programs, and increasing investment in academic programs that have the potential for diversifying and strengthening the local economy.

The MECC Foundation Board of Directors selected Bob Isaac as Campaign Chair and Leton H. Harding, Jr. as Vice-Chair. Nancey Smith, one of the trustees of the C. Bascom Slemp Foundation, was named the campaign's Honorary Chair.

A bequest of \$4 million was received from the estate of the late Carol Buchanan, creating a new unrestricted endowment. The C. Bascom Slemp Foundation provided a lead gift of \$2 million to create a new unrestricted endowment, leverage other gifts, and help launch the campaign. From January 2013 through the end of October, the campaign received gifts and pledges from 1,234 unduplicated donors.

Almost \$6.7 million in gifts or pledges were made for unrestricted purposes. An additional \$2 million was given or pledged for scholarships. The campaign raised over \$87,000 for manufacturing instruction, over \$50,000 for a student success endowment, \$25,000 for student emergency assistance, and \$21,000 for cultural programming.

Southwest Virginia Regional Cybersecurity Consortium Benefits MECC

Mountain Empire Community College will receive \$505,317 in grant funds from the recently announced \$1.4 million ARC POWER grant awarded to Southwest Virginia Community College (SWCC.) The project being

led by SWCC will bring together the three colleges in Southwest Virginia — SWCC, Mountain Empire Community College, and University of Virginia's College at Wise — to position seven counties in southwest Virginia as a regional hub for the cybersecurity

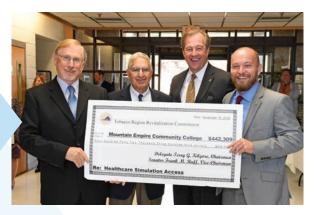
industry. The ARC POWER funds will be used at MECC to hire a faculty member, support faculty professional development, purchase supplies, and market the program. MECC will use \$91,335 from the Tobacco

Region Revitalization Commission to



Region Revitalization Commission to purchase equipment and underwrite the costs of certification testing for students in the cybersecurity program. MECC plans to pursue becoming a National Security Agency cybersecurity Center of Excellence as part of this initiative.

Dedication of Health Care Simulation Laboratory



Above: (from left to right): Dr. Scott Hamilton, President; Bob Isaac, Campaign Chair; Leton Harding, Jr., Vice-Chair of the Campaign; Chris Piper, Deputy Director of the Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission. **Below:** Dr. Hamilton in the simulation laboratory control room with Nancey Smith, the Honorary Campaign Chair.



Simulation-based learning has become a critical part of health care training. Simulation allows hands-on experiences to be scheduled and critical thinking skills to be developed without putting patients at risk. The medical issues which can be simulated are often difficult for learners to observe in clinical settings, especially in small, rural hospitals.

Prior to the creation of this new health care simulation laboratory at MECC, students in the Virginia Appalachian Tri-College Nursing Program traveled to Virginia Highlands Community College (VHCC) for simulation experiences. Scheduling time in the VHCC simulation lab was a significant burden for faculty members. For students seeking to become RNs, travel to VHCC added to the difficulties of balancing school and family responsibilities.

The new laboratory will enable simulation experiences to be integrated in a variety of health care programs at MECC and will allow health care majors (RN, EMT, LPN, RT and others) to work in interdisciplinary teams to address the needs of patients. The new training opportunities and interdisciplinary interaction will better prepare MECC healthcare program graduates for situations they will encounter on-the-job. MECC students will develop strong clinical, communication, and teamwork skills through the experience of simulation training.



MECC Participating in NSF GeoTEd-UAS Project

MECC has received a National Science Foundation (NSF) subgrant award of \$118,612 to develop and implement courses and a career pathway to prepare drone technicians. The Geospatial Technician Education-Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project, or GeoTEd-UAS, is led by the Virginia Space Grant Consortium and will continue for three years.

GeoTEd-UAS will support the professional development of faculty

teaching UAS courses, support curriculum development, fund UAS-themed activities for precollege students, and provide scholarships for students taking courses in the UAS pathway. MECC's GeoTEd-UAS subgrant will provide additional support in the deployment of Unmanned Aircraft Systems courses, introduced at MECC more than a year ago.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



MECC Delivers Pre-Employment Training to Candidates Seeking Employment with Frontier Secure

On June 29, 2016, Frontier Secure announced that it would be creating 500 new jobs at its new customer care center in the Lonesome Pine Technology Park near Wise. The company's plan included hiring 50 new employees in August 2016, with additional employees being hired in the months following until the target of 500 new employees was met.

The large number of new jobs being created, and Frontier Secure's aggressive schedule for creating its workforce, encouraged MECC to collaborate with the company to deliver pre-employment training. Since Frontier Secure made its announcement this summer, MECC has delivered four courses to prepare three cohorts of job candidates for potential employment with Frontier Secure. Every student who has successfully completed the courses has had the opportunity to be interviewed by the company.

MECC will continue to train prospective Frontier
Secure job candidates in the months to come.
The college gained experience in delivering IT
training in a cohort format when CGI and Northrop
Grumman announced the creation of a large
number of jobs in Lebanon over a decade ago. MECC
is very committed to helping the region continue to
attract new information technology jobs that will
diversify the local economy.



Health Information Management Degree and Workforce Training Initiatives

Mountain Empire Community College received a federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Rural Health Information Technology Workforce Program grant in 2013 to develop and offer an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Health Information Management (HIM). The degree prepares graduates to become Registered Health Information Management Technicians (RHITs).

Individuals who have earned the RHIT credential hold positions as medical records technicians, coders, and health information specialists. They work in hospitals, nursing homes, insurance companies, consulting firms, and many other health related facilities. Since MECC's program began, 64 students have enrolled in the HIM Program and 27 students will have graduated by spring 2017. The program expects to be accredited in summer 2017. The HRSA grant funded faculty costs, curriculum development, and scholarships for students for a three year period.

The creation of the new degree, and the college's workforce training efforts in coding and clinical documentation, have helped the region hire and train personnel to meet the federal requirements for MIPS by January 2015.

ALUMNI ACTIVITIES





MECC Confers First Alumni of the Year Recognition

Dr. Patricia Vanhook was recognized as MECC's first Alumni of the Year at the MECC Foundation's annual Scholars Recognition Night in April 2016. Dr. Vanhook has had a distinguished career in nursing, beginning as a staff nurse at Lonesome Pine Hospital in Big Stone Gap. She continued her education and continued to be promoted while holding a variety of direct patient care and supervisory roles at Indian Path Medical Center, Kingsport Internal Medicine, Lee County Community Hospital, Physician Access, and Mountain States Health Alliance. In 2006, she began serving as a Magnet Appraiser for Magnet accreditation and joined the staff of East Tennessee State University as an Interim Clinical Director for the Johnson City Downtown Clinic. She has remained at ETSU since 2006, earning tenure and performing many graduate teaching, research, administration, and outreach roles that have brought professional recognition to Dr. Vanhook and to ETSU's College of Nursing.

Dr. Vanhook's grantsmanship skills have enabled ETSU to secure millions of dollars to support outreach clinics that provide clinical experiences to nurses and quality primary care to patients. She has authored many journal articles and book chapters and frequently speaks at professional conferences in the US and abroad on health topics, including stroke

survival, cancer screening, and behavioral health.

Dr. Vanhook's nursing career began at the Wise County Vocational Technical School, where she studied practical nursing. She enrolled as a student in the Virginia Appalachian TriCollege Nursing Program at MECC in 1980, served as President of the Rho Nu Nursing Club, and graduated with an Associate Degree in 1982. Dr. Vanhook continued her nursing education at East Tennessee State University, completing a Bachelor's Degree in 1991, a Master's Degree in 1994, and Ph.D. in 2007. She became a certified Family Nurse Practitioner in 1994 and obtained a Certificate in Aging Studies from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2000.

Patricia M. Vanhook, Ph.D. currently serves as a Visiting Professor at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas, where she provides practice administration and consultation to the Dean, faculty, and practice staff of nurse-led clinics. Since 2007, Dr. Vanhook has been the Associate Dean of Practice and Community Partnerships in the College of Nursing at East Tennessee State University. She holds two additional administrative roles on an interim basis, including Interim Director of Student/University Health and Interim Director of the Mountain City Extended Hours Health Center.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION





MECC Receives Technology Award for Development of UAS Coursework

Mountain Empire Community College was named the recipient of the 2016 Southwest Virginia Technology Council President's Award for the development of coursework in unmanned aerial systems.

The award honors an educational institution in the region that has demonstrated outstanding technology advancements toward the enrichment of students and the community at large.

MECC has successfully developed the only creditbased Unmanned Aerial Systems coursework within the Virginia Community College System. An introductory level UAS class was launched in the summer of 2015, with pilot ground school and ground control also available to students. MECC's goal is to offer a certificate in Unmanned Aerial Systems, more commonly known as drones.

SWVTC President Sam Wolford noted that MECC's efforts have been actively supported by international UAS firm Flirtey. The UAS curriculum project was funded in-part by the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Virginia Space Grant Consortium.

"Mountain Empire Community College is already

playing a leading role in the recruitment, training, and job placement as unmanned systems avionics, pilot-operators, remote sensing operators, and electronics manufacturing and installation takes root locally and throughout the Central Appalachian service area of the technology council," said Wolford.

The economic potential of unmanned systems has been a Commonwealth of Virginia focus. In 2015, the first ever successful use of a drone as a delivery agent occurred in Wise County during the Remote Area Medical event.

Dr. Scott Hamilton, President of MECC stated, "This award recognizes Mountain Empire Community College's commitment to innovation and utilizing the latest technology in all of our programs where appropriate. Our faculty, staff and administrators are committed to offering high-quality, state-of-the-art programs that prepare out students for success and enhance the economic development of our region."

For more information on MECC's Unmanned Aerial System courses or the SWVTC award, contact the MECC Office of Community Relations at 276.523.7480.



MECC Receives VCCS Excellence in Education Award for Development of Mobile Solar Energy Unit

Mountain Empire Community College was selected as the Virginia Community College System's 2016 Recipient of the Excellence In Education Award for innovative use of technology in face-to-face and online classroom. The award recognized the college's development of the first mobile solar-powered energy system in Southwest Virginia.

MECC's SPARC-E (Solar-Powered Alternative Renewable Clean Energy) was designed and created by students and staff in the college's industrial electronics, solar energy, and welding degree programs. The unit includes 12 solar modules that are capable of producing approximately 5,000 watts of power for use as a direct power-source or as a back-up generator for any power grid.

SPARC-E can serve as an energy provider to community events and potential emergency response assistance. The unit powered two major events at MECC in 2015 — the Home Craft Days Festival and the Haunted Forest attraction.

The VCCS Excellence in Education (EIE) Award: Innovative Use of Technology in the Face-to-Face and Online Classroom provides individuals or teams an opportunity to showcase their use of a technologybased idea, tool, or process created for direct use in the classroom or online. MECC's SPARC-E project was selected as one of four finalists, competing with three other Virginia community colleges in the innovative use of technology category. MECC representatives were presented with the award during the annual VCCS New Horizons Conference in Roanoke, April 12.

"We are thrilled that our students and staff were recognized for their efforts," said MECC President Scott Hamilton. "This innovative project not only provided a hands-on learning opportunity for students in industrial technology programs, it will also be used as a recruitment and educational tool for our electromechanical, energy, and advanced manufacturing programs."



MECC Student Reaches for the Stars in NASA Scholars Program

Emily Hjulstrom's favorite inspirational quote, "shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land

among the stars," is entirely appropriate, as her hard work and persistence have earned her a spot in one of the top aerospace science programs in the country.

Hjulstrom was one of 200 students nationwide selected to participate in the NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars Program, a five-week online learning experience, which culminated with top scholars attending a three-day workshop at one of NASA's facilities.

Hjulstrom, who has a 4.0 GPA and serves as a supplemental instruction leader and tutor at MECC, was nominated to participate in the program by MECC Science Instructors Carol Burkart and Tony Russo.

"After observing how much Emily put into her work study duties, class work and spending time in the lab to study, I had no doubt that she would succeed," said MECC Biology Instructor Tony Russo.

(continued, pq. 10)

Hjulstrom, continued from page 9

Born in Blacksburg, Virginia, Hjulstrom's path to college is atypical. Describing her high school grades as "terrible," she decided not to attend college after graduation and went straight into the job market. She lived in Long Island for a year and worked as a nanny and in other education-related positions before deciding to go back to college. Hjulstrom met her future husband, who is originally from Pound, Va., and moved to Southwest Virginia last summer. She enrolled at Mountain Empire Community College in the fall of 2015.

"I came here interested in astronomy and ended up really liking biology," said Hjulstrom. "I was able to get a work study position with Dr. Burkart and I also tutor students in biology in the Learning Center and teach supplemental instruction. So, I'm a full-time student, and I work two jobs. It can be stressful and I've had a few breakdowns along the way. But I'm so happy to be here."

As if she wasn't busy enough, Hjulstrom had to enroll in a four credit web-based course at Oklahoma State University this spring to qualify for the NASA Scholars program. The course involved approximately 20 hours of work online, webinars with NASA engineers and scientists, and a group project planning a mission to Mars.

Hjulstrom was among a select group of the top students in the online class chosen to visit NASA's Stennis Space Center April 11–14, where she worked on a team project mentored by NASA engineers, attended briefings by engineers and scientists, toured NASA facilities, competed in a rover competition and much more.

Hjulstrom's career goal is to become an astrobiologist, studying the potential of past and future life in space. Setting a goal and focusing all of her energy toward completing that goal has served as her primary motivator. She encourages other college students to do the same.

"A lot of people have told me I'm smart. But I don't think that I am. I just work really hard and that is why I'm successful. I'm no different than anyone else. You just have to know what you want and be willing to work to get there."

FEATURED SCHOLARS



Jordan White

Jordan White, of Pound, graduated from Central High School in 2012. Immediately after high school, he briefly attended a trade school

outside of the region, but decided that MECC was a better fit for his career goals, both academically and financially. He was a 2015–2016 recipient of the Elna Jackson & Gray Robinson Scholarship, and completed his Associate's Degree in General Studies in May 2016. He has transferred to UVa-Wise and plans to complete a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology.



Sabrina Fox

Sabrina Fox, of Wise, VA, graduated magna cum laude with an Associate's Degree in Health Information Management in May

2016. She was a 2015–2016 recipient of the Glenn Hurst and Beth Siphers Wendell Scholarship, and served as president of the American Association of Professional Coders Big Stone Gap Chapter. Fox transferred to the University of Virginia, where she plans to earn her Bachelor of Professional Studies in Health Science Management Degree and obtain her RHIT/RHIA certification.

FINANCIAL REPORT



Dillon Dotson

Dillon Dotson is a 2015 graduate of Lee High School and a resident of Pennington Gap, Virginia. While in high school, Dillon ran track,

wrestled, and was a member of FBLA. He was a 2015–2016 recipient of the Ford C. Quillen, Lucy W. McNeil, Norton Community Hospital Auxiliary, and the William Campbell and Mary Virginia Edmonds Scholarships. He plans to complete his Associate Degree in Nursing in May 2017, and obtain a position as an Intensive Care or Emergency Room nurse.

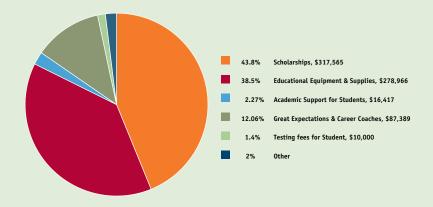


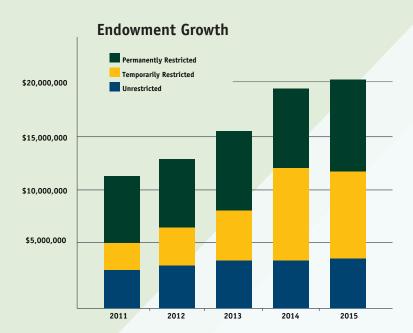
Alyssa Lasley

Alyssa Lasley, of Clintwood, is a home school student who was unable to complete requirements for her high school diploma due

to family and personal health challenges. She persevered to obtain her General Equivalency Diploma (GED) in 2012, and began taking art classes at MECC soon after. The availability of financial aid and bus transportation to and from campus were determining factors in her choice to attend MECC. Consultation with one of the college's Success Coaches helped Lasley to focus on her career goals and major in Business Management. She was a 2015–2016 recipient of the Jo Pierson Horne and Rufus Horne Memorial Scholarship. She hopes to earn her Associate's Degree in May 2017, and eventually open her own cyber café and bakery.

\$724,509 Invested in Educational Services in 2015–2016 Academic Year





FOUNDATION KEY FACTS

UNDUPLICATED STUDENTS
RECEIVING SCHOLARSHIPS

446

TOTAL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS AWARDED

\$311,299

UNDUPLICATED STUDENTS RECEIVING EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

44

UNDUPLICATED STUDENTS
PARTICIPATING IN FREE
TUTORING FUNDED BY THE MECC
FOUNDATION

126

UNDUPLICATED STUDENTS
PARTICIPATING IN FREE
SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION
FUNDED BY MECC FOUNDATION

141

STUDENTS RECEIVING GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL TUITION ASSISTANCE

32

MECC FOUNDATION DONORS

The Foundation gratefully acknowledges the following people, organizations, and businesses who contributed from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

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MECC HONORS THE LIFE OF

Sue Ella Boatright Wells

Sue Ella Boatright Wells was formerly the Dean of Workforce Development & Continuing Education at MECC. For over 35 years she had been responsible for MECC's Home Craft Days. Her passion for traditional

music led to the establishment of the Mountain Music School which over the past twelve years has attracted students from ages 8 to 88 and from across the United States, Canada, and Scotland. Every summer, students study the fiddle, banjo, guitar, mandolin, shape note singing and song writing. She was also the driving force behind the creation of the Scott County, VA and Wise County, VA Junior Appalachian Musicians (JAMS) programs. She passed away on August 1, 2016. Her co-workers and friends created the Sue Ella Boatright Wells Mountain Music School Scholarship in her memory.

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Ms. Dana DeFoor

Mr. & Mrs. J.B. Dent Jr.

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Food City, Weber City

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Kilgore Law Office Kimbermark, LLC

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Mr. & Mrs. Preston Layne

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Dale Lee, Jr Mr. Kevin Lee

Mr. & Mrs. Phil Lee

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2015-2016 Report to the Community

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Mr. John Schoolcraft

Ms. Billie Jean Scott

Shear Obsession

Mr. Glen A. Skinner &

Ms. Jan Zentmever

Mr. & Mrs. Adam Smith

The Honorable and Mrs. Birg Sergent

Shawnee Service Center, Inc.

Mr. & Mrs. James N. Shelton

Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Shoemaker

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Mr. & Mrs. C. Christopher Ward

Don Wax Estate, Toby Wax, Exec.

MECC HONORS THE LIFE OF Martha Rhoton

Martha Rhoton retired from working in the Wampler Library after 23 years. She was known for her kindness and generous spirit. She established the MECC Foundation's Dr. Victor Ficker Scholarship and E.J. and

Nell B. Rhoton Scholarship, as well as helped establish the E. J. and Nell B. Rhoton Opportunity Fund. Martha Rhoton was honored with the VCCS Chancellor's Award for Leadership in Philanthropy in 2014. She passed away on October 27, 2016.

> Mr. Danny Williams Ms. Donna Williams Mr. & Mrs. Mark Williams Ms. Penny Jewell Willis Mrs. Joanne M. Wisor Mr. & Mrs. Ryan Witt Mr. William C. "Buzzy" Witt, Jr. and Dr. Kathleen DePonte Mr. & Mrs. Joseph E. Wolfe Ms. Lisa K. Woliver Mr. & Mrs. Jim Wood Ms. Deborah Wright Mr. Paxton Wright Y & Y Services, Inc.

In-Kind Gifts

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Mr. Joseph L. Young

Allen's Carpet **Barter Theater** Belk, Wise Cattails at Meadowview Clear Creek Golf Club Country Club of Bristol Dr. Theresa A. Dunton, DC Food City - Big Stone Gap Friends of the Southwest Virginia Museum Historical State Park Frito-Lay Gibson Collision Center, Inc. **Grand Home Furnishings** Kwik Kafe of Tri-Cities Lakeshore Marina & Resort Lonesome Pine Country Club Lowe's MECC Bookstore Mountainrose Vineyards, Inc. Performance Engineering, LLC Rhonda's Hallmark Tempur-Sealy International The Dog S'Paw LLC The First Lady Day Spa The Inn at Wise Tracy's Salon on Main

Warriors Path Golf Course

Buccaneer Scholarship Donors

The MECC Foundation is providing special recognition to generous Big Stone Gap High School alumni and community friends for cumulative support of the Buccaneer Scholarship. The mascot of the former Big Stone Gap High School was the Buccaneer. A group of alumni created the Buccaneer Scholarship in 2003 to honor the legacy of their alma mater, which closed in 1959, and to benefit graduates of Powell Valley High School. Since then, 43 graduates of either the former Powell Valley or Union High Schools have received renewable scholarships to attend MECC. As of June 30, 2016, a total of \$88,675 in scholarships had been awarded to students, including \$11,800 for 2016-2017 awards. In addition to those funds, the Buccaneer Scholarship Committee had raised an additional \$11,323 in unrestricted scholarship funds and had received gifts for nine endowed scholarships, valued at \$376,948 by June 30, 2016.

Members of the Buccaneer Scholarship Committee include Roger Daugherty, Committee Chairman; Nancy Hagy Chiles; W. "H" and Callie Anne Coughlin Clark; Jack Howard; Josh Kiser; George Litton; Bill Locke; Roy Laster; and Nancey Edmonds Smith. Big Stone Gap alumni and Buccaneer Scholarship Committee were recognized in 2012 as the recipients of the VCCS Chancellor's Award for Leadership in Philanthropy.

The Foundation gratefully acknowledges the following people, organizations, and businesses who have contributed to the Buccaneer Scholarship family of funds since inception. Those who have given from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 are noted in bold.

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Mr. & Mrs. Robert M. Chiles Mr. & Mrs. W. H. & Callie Anne Clark

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Ms. Sherry A. Wolfe Ms. Frances W. Woodward Mr. & Mrs. Charles L. Wright

Ms. Janet R. Yates Ms. Barbara Young

Mr. & Mrs. Haskell Swiney Mr. William Reach

Legacy Society

The following individuals have notified the MECC Foundation of arrangements to provide for the MECC Foundation in their estate plans, name the college as a beneficiary of life insurance, or provide a gift of paid-up life insurance.

Ben and Dotty Allen Dr. Jane Sowers Armistead*

Jettie Baker*

Jim Bates
Carol Buchanan*
Anonymous

Anonymous
W.H. and Callie Anne Coughlin Clark

Elizabeth Couch* Georgia Jo Couch* Leona Crockett* Anonymous

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Edna Billette (Perry) McFadden* Willie Joe and Laura Lyon Peters*

Nell Phillips*
Reida Rankin*
Anonymous
Annie I. Riggs*
Sue Rosenbalm*

Anonymous

Frank and Ginger Rutherford*

Ben and Nancy Sergent

R.C. "Snook"* and Marti Shelton Dale and Donna Stanley

Helen Jackson Sutherland* French Taylor*

Anonymous*
Beth Wendell*

*deceased



Mountain Empire Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award the associate degree. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404.679.4500 for questions about the accreditation of Mountain Empire Community College. Normal inquiries about the institution, such as admission requirements, financial aid, educational programs, etc., should be addressed directly to the institution and not to the Commission's office. Degree programs are approved by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, and are also approved for listing in the U.S. Office of Education directories for participation in various federally-sponsored programs of student aid and educational assistance. The College is authorized by the Veterans Administration to certify students to receive veterans' benefits and is approved by the Department of Health and Human Services for students who receive Social Security and Vocational Rehabilitation benefits. The Respiratory Therapy program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care. The Nursing program is approved by the Virginia State Board of Nursing and accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326). The Practical Nursing and Nursing Assistant programs are approved by the Virginia State Board of Nursing. The Emergency Medical Services Technology program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs. The Phlebotomy program is approved by the National Phlebotomy Association.

It is the policy of the Virginia Community College System and Mountain Empire Community College to provide equal employment and educational opportunities for all persons without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, political affiliation, veteran status, gender, age, or sexual orientation and for all otherwise qualified persons with disabilities. This policy permits appropriate employment preference for veterans. This institution promotes and maintains educational opportunities without regard to race, color, sex, ethnicity, religion, gender, age (except when age is a bona fide occupational qualification), disability, national origin, or other non-merit factors. This institution prohibits sexual harassment including sexual violence. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies: Ron Vicars, Vice President of Financial and Administrative Services. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding student misconduct or equity issues based on gender: Brandon Dotson, Dean of Student Services. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding employee misconduct or equity issues: Pam Giles, Human Resource Manager. For more information, contact 276.523.2400, 3441 Mountain Empire Rd., Big Stone Gap, VA, 24219. Virginia relay users dial 711.



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