

ADVANCE

The Magazine for Friends and Alumni of Frederick Community College Fall/Winter 2013



A PLACE TO CALL THEIR OWN

A new Veterans Center gives student vets
a campus home base

LIVING HER DREAM

How scholarship support taught one
student to believe in herself

REACH FOR THE STARS

Two alumni coaches shape the next
generation of Cougar athletes

President's Message

We're thrilled to launch the premier issue of Advance, our new alumni magazine, which we hope will inspire and inform our alumni and friends. Our magazine's name derives from the maxim that surrounds FCC's original seal: "*Avec Progres Marchon en Avant*." In English that means, "Let us move forward with progress."

Fifty-six years after our founding, we have remained true to that motto as we work to advance opportunities for Frederick County residents through open access to higher education. If printing and postage costs were not a factor, this magazine could easily surpass 100 pages, filled with stories of how we change people's lives.

Through this magazine we want to honor the many positive ways Frederick Community College and the FCC Foundation have benefitted our campus and community. Enjoy our first issue.



Doug Browning
President



I hope you enjoy our new publication Advance. If you are receiving this, it is because of your important connections to Frederick Community College.

We are all aware of the power of education to transform lives. Yet many of our students lack the financial resources to fund their education.

It has only been through the generosity of our community that the FCC Foundation's scholarship fund has grown to its current level of supporting more than 500 students each year. In 2012-2013 alone, over \$390,000 was awarded in scholarships!

You have impacted countless lives by helping students achieve the goal of a college education.

This year the college's advertising theme is "Do great things." The student stories included in this issue of Advance reflect the paths they have taken, often faced with significant barriers and challenges, to achieve great things with their education. Thank you for being a part of their remarkable journey!

Sincerely,



Rich Haney,
Executive Director, FCC Foundation Inc.

Frederick Community College Foundation Inc.

ADVANCE Fall/Winter, Issue 1

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On the cover: Veterans Club President Meisha Krutar proudly served in the U.S. Navy. At FCC, she's studying psychology and leading veterans in campus and community service.

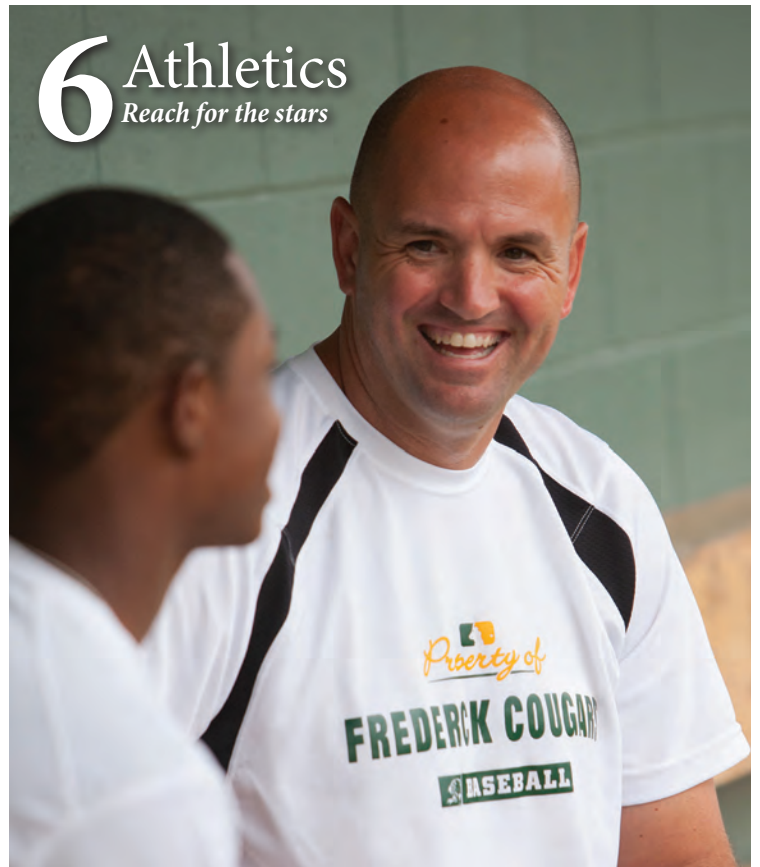
Advance is produced collaboratively by the Frederick Community College Foundation and Frederick Community College.



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A Place to Call Their Own

FCC's new Veterans Center gives student veterans a home base on campus.

By the time he was 29, Dallas Bragg had served three tours in Iraq and moved halfway across the country to Maryland from his native Midwest to attend Frederick Community College, where he walked the hallways with a yellow Labrador named Freda.

As he joined the ranks of college students, Bragg couldn't help but feel set apart. He'd chosen FCC because his wife's family lived in Frederick, yet he was a decade older than many of his classmates. Many of them were curious about Freda. But Bragg deflected questions about his service dog, who calmed him when anxiety flared. And he kept quiet when the post 9-11 wars worked their way into course discussion.

"I wanted to voice my opinion but didn't know how," Bragg said.

But he wanted to help himself and others who shared his military experiences amplify their voices on campus, and an idea began to percolate. As he walked the campus with Freda, Bragg noticed more student veterans pass by him. While most never told him about their military service, Bragg could tell they'd served by the clues inscribed on the clothing they wore. There were other signs, too: keychains and

T-shirts, ID tags and tattoos.

These small, but powerful symbols signified a prior

As coordinator of Veterans Services, Rachel Nachlas oversees the Veterans Center and supports the hundreds of students who seek its resources each year.



Our new Veterans Center provides comfortable spaces for students to study and relax.

life spent shouldering responsibility alien to many college students — scanning roadsides for IEDs, leading a squadron through combat or taking commands without question from a superior.

“I decided to approach the Center for Student Engagement with an idea to start a Veterans Club,” Bragg said. “It seemed like something the college definitely needed.”

Around this time, Bragg met Larry Huff, an assistant math professor who had served as a U.S. Army Airborne medic. Huff, a two-time community college graduate, returned to school after he completed his service. Like Bragg, he was the father of young children and knew how to juggle family responsibilities with educational ones.

“Larry really got it,” Bragg said. “It seemed like a perfect fit for him to be our advisor.”

But Bragg learned quickly that FCC’s student veterans needed more than a club. They needed a space to call their own — what would, in essence, be a one-stop shop devoted to each aspect of student veteran life. Bragg began to lobby college administrators for a Veterans Center, where students could receive help navigating everything from complex tuition

assistance benefits to advising, counseling and tutoring. In short, they needed a home base.

The seed of what Bragg envisioned in his early days at FCC would grow to become the college’s Veterans Center, which opened its doors in A-Building to great fanfare last June. State veterans affairs officers, local and state government representatives, and members of FCC’s Veterans Club were among the crowd that attended a ribbon cutting ceremony, during which FCC leaders committed to strengthening veteran support.

“Our appreciation is heartfelt and genuine,” President Doug Browning told the crowd. “Each veteran deserves the best we have to offer, not just as a nation but as a community college — and we want to do more.”

Veterans Club President Meisha Krutar smiled when she described the new center as a “home” for students like herself, those who had served, and some who were still engaged in mental and physical battles after they’d returned home. The Veterans Center would be a place where all of them could fulfill their duties to be “good students” at FCC, Krutar said.

Continue on next page



Leading the Way

Since it increased services for student veteran support, FCC has earned the admiration of state government officials, including Jerry Boden, chief of staff for the Maryland State Department of Veterans Affairs, who characterizes FCC's efforts as impressive. Indeed, with the Veterans Center's opening, FCC became one of six public colleges and universities in Maryland to have not only a space dedicated to serving veterans, but also a full-time staff member.

Rachel Nachlas, who formerly directed the college's counseling center, now oversees the Veterans Center. Her office looks out into a vibrant lounge, complete with a red leather couch donated by Daryl Routzahn, a former Frederick Community College Foundation board member. Artwork by Frederick artist and veteran Buck Musser that depicts famous icons of American military history — such as the famed Navajo code talkers of World War II — adorns the walls.

On a recent afternoon after fall classes began, students gathered on the couch to chat while others browsed websites at adjacent computers. The smell of coffee wafted through the air, since Nachlas keeps a pot on brew all day.

"Already, we're packed," she said, gesturing to students relaxing on the couch. "This place has transformed everything."

Beyond offering support services, the Veterans Center has become a "safe space," in the words of Nachlas, where students can "chat among themselves" about everything from classes to the medications they take to treat war-related injuries. They can also gain stronger access to learning support services for less visible injuries such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), that may impede learning.

And Nachlas expects more students to seek the center's services this year. The college has seen sharp increases in its veteran population since a new generation of service members returned home from Iraq and Afghanistan. In Fall 2012, the college certified 178 student veterans eligible for tuition assistance benefits through the G.I. Bill. By Fall 2013, that number grew to 234 — a near 34 percent increase, and one that Nachlas calls "huge."

Where Veteran and Student Life Meet

Through workshops and programming events, Nachlas helps student veterans see how their military experience may afford them greater success in college. Student vets may carry a confidence and sense of purpose into the classroom that is sometimes missed because of stigmas attached to war-inflicted injuries.

"They are not damaged. But they have endured a lot," she explained.

For student Sebastian Anderson, what he endured serving a year in Afghanistan's Kunar and Nangarhar provinces is far less interesting than how he transformed through military service. That year of deployment, which followed Anderson's graduation from Tuscarora High School, taught him what it meant to be an adult. In uniform, he learned to place high value on "responsibility and selflessness." Without having joined the military, Anderson isn't certain he would have found his way to college.

When he arrived at FCC in Fall 2012, Anderson struggled, as Bragg once had, to find a place to call his own on campus. In the mornings when he arrived for class, he noticed campus spots that other students had claimed.

"The game room had the video gamers, the Cougar Grille had the latté drinkers," Anderson said. "I didn't know where to go between classes, so I'd wind up smoking cigarettes outside."

Anderson now spends most of his hours between classes supporting Nachlas as a student assistant. From a desk outside her office, he answers phones, schedules appointments, and greets each person who walks through the center's doors.

Each day, his path crosses with students like his former self: those finding their way back to civilian life after service through small, but certain steps. Anderson makes sure to inquire about deployments, and to assure those new to FCC that they're in the right place. He then settles back into his chair — confident that he, too, has found that once elusive place to belong.

To help FCC increase services and support for student veterans, call the Frederick Community College Foundation at 301.846.2438 or e-mail foundation@frederick.edu.



Dallas Bragg (left) transferred to Eastern Illinois University in Fall 2013 and plans to study social work in order to help veterans with PTSD.

Community Partners Breakfast

January 17, 2014, 8:00 a.m., Classroom & Student Center

A breakfast event to thank area businesses, nonprofits and individuals who partner with FCC to ensure student success. Awards presented to "Business Partner of the Year," "Government/Non-Profit Partner of the Year," and "Advisory Board Member of the Year."

Contact aglenn@frederick.edu or 301.624.2851 for information. Advance tickets required.



Frederick Reads

April 2014, 11:00 a.m.

JBK Theater

Countywide celebration of reading featuring free author visits and lectures. FCC is a proud partner and will host a lecture by the 2014 speaker (tbd). Previous speakers include Elizabeth Gilbert, Cokie Roberts, Frank Deford and James Swanson

Visit www.frederickreads.org for information.

Co-Curricular Day

April 23, 2014, all day, JBK Theater

Bi-annual opportunity to hear co-curricular lectures sponsored by the Center for Student Engagement. The lectures bring noted speakers to campus to challenge faculty, students and community participants to examine national and global issues across academic disciplines.

Visit www.frederick.edu for information or call 301.846.2489.



Clutch the Future

April 5, 2014, 7:00 p.m., FCC Field House

5th annual purse auction and Frederick's premier fun and fabulous girls' night out to benefit student scholarships and the Woman to Woman Mentoring Program. The evening will feature a silent and live auction of hundreds of fabulous purses, including everything from new and gently used designer bags to the whimsical, fun and funky.

Visit www.clutchthefuture.com for information. Advance ticket purchase required.



Donor-Scholar Reception

April 25, 2014, 7:00 p.m., FCC Field House

The evening provides donors and the recipients of their scholarships with the chance to meet one another and hear how scholarships have made a difference in students' lives. Call 301.846.2438 for information. Advance tickets required.



56th Commencement

May 22, 2014, FCC Field House

Hundreds of students will march across the stage to receive their diplomas and certificates. Tickets are required to attend this event.

19th Annual Golf Tournament

FCC Golf Tournament

Presented by the William E. Cross Foundation

May 2014

19th annual tournament to raise funds for student scholarships and athletics programs.

Visit www.frederick.edu/foundation for information or call 301.846.2438

Student Juried Art Show

May 5 - June 4, 2014, The Mary Condon Hodgson Art Gallery

Visual arts students at Frederick Community College will conclude the spring semester by displaying the best of the semester's artwork in a juried show with monetary prizes and a gallery exhibit. The opening reception and announcement of award winners is scheduled for Monday, May 5 at 11:30 a.m. in the gallery. Visit www.frederick.edu for information or call 301.846.2513.



Reach for *How Two Alumni*

For two current FCC coaches, walking into the Field House is like coming home again. As former FCC athletes, Rodney Bennett and Emonte Hill spent time wearing Cougar athletics uniforms before returning to campus years later as coaches.

Bennett, who was recently named FCC's interim director of athletics and has served since 2003 as the men's baseball coach, and Hill, who returned to campus this fall as the head men's basketball coach, know first-hand the value in playing at the community college level before transferring to a four-year school. Today both take pride in sharing those benefits with a new generation of Cougars.



the Stars

Shape the Next Generation of Cougars

"I love what we do with the kids," says Bennett. "To have a passion, to have desire for something is pretty powerful – now I pour my passion for playing into coaching."

Hill agrees, laughingly calling his time as an FCC student "the good old days." Hill played for FCC in 1997 and 1998, under then-coach Dave Miller, who led the men's basketball team for 18 years until his retirement in 2013.

"For me, the most memorable experiences at FCC were the friendships I made," said Hill, who grew up watching his father, Randy, coach basketball for middle school leagues before ultimately landing a job at Frederick High. "I'm still in touch with many of those guys."

Continue on next page



Rodney Bennett, center, has entered his eleventh year leading FCC's men's baseball team.

In his early days at FCC, Hill found himself nurtured by supportive professors and mentored by Miller, who taught him that everything “comes down to the classroom,” a point he now emphasizes to his players.

Bennett's passion for baseball began during his childhood near Chambersburg, Pa., where baseball played a part in his life from the beginning. In the spring of 1994, FCC Coach Phil Caruso recruited him to play third baseman, and Bennett completed the season as a Cougar.

That year, the team lost eight games in a row but made it to the regional playoffs at Dundalk Community College, only to lose by one point to Potomac State.

“That year put FCC on the map in terms of its ability to attract quality players,” Bennett recalls. “Caruso was a pioneer who laid the foundation we have today.”

Bennett eventually transferred to Davis & Elkins College in Elkins, W.Va., where he studied physical education and, of course, continued to play his sport.

During Bennett's tenure as coach, the Cougars have ranked in the top 20 nationally since 2002. And in 2011, FCC's men's baseball ranked No. 1 in the nation. While the accolades are nice, Bennett says he's most proud of watching the vast majority of his players transfer to four-year colleges or universities.

“They mature as students while they are here,” he explained. “The same was true for me. All I ever wanted was to play baseball, and the learning tool of an education allowed me to

do that. FCC taught me that balance between education and athletics.”

Hill agrees, adding that the time he spent at FCC as a player showed him “the responsibility it takes to be a student-athlete and paved the way for my future.”

Hill was born and raised in Frederick and, after playing at FCC, went to the University of South Carolina in Spartanburg with a basketball scholarship.

Both Bennett and Hill coached at four-year schools and see the distinction and benefits of community college athletics. For example, players hit the field right away at FCC, rather than spend a year or more on the bench at a four-year school. They also benefit from the support systems of a learning college.

“One of the fundamental values of a learning college environment is that our students learn accountability and respect,” Bennett explains. “Our athletes mature socially while they are here. They become responsible adults.”

Adds Hill: “The kids, if you make that connection, and you make sure they know you're here for the right reasons, they're going to work hard.”

That potential for growth demonstrated by each student athlete inspires both coaches as they work to help players succeed in the classroom and on the field or court: “At this level your future's not determined yet,” Bennett says. “FCC is a tremendous springboard for all of our athletes.”



Frederick Community College
Foundation Inc.

FY 2013 Donor Report

Dear Donors, Alumni and Friends,

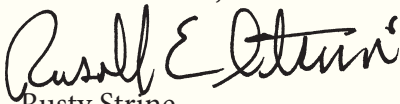
We are pleased to share the Frederick Community College Foundation Inc.'s annual donor report and year-end financial statements. The many individuals, businesses, foundations and organizations listed here made gifts to the Foundation from July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013, and we are so appreciative of their support.

While the past year has been a time of transition for Frederick Community College, the support that the FCC Foundation offers our students and institution remains solid. FCC students, including the more than 800 who received scholarships and grants through the Foundation last year, continue to learn from our impressive faculty. In May, more than 1,050 students graduated from FCC—our largest graduating class ever.

Gifts to the Foundation are transformational. They allow us to fund scholarships, state-of-the-art facilities and equipment, new and ongoing programs, and professional development for faculty and staff.

Thank you for joining us in our commitment to our students and community.

With Gratitude,



Rusty Strine

Chair, FCC Foundation Board of Directors



Rich Haney, Ed.D.
Executive Director, FCC Foundation

If we made a mistake in the way you are identified or if your name was omitted from the gift list, we apologize. Please help us correct our records by contacting the FCC Foundation at 301.846.2438 or email foundation@frederick.edu.

301.846.2438 • www.frederick.edu/foundation

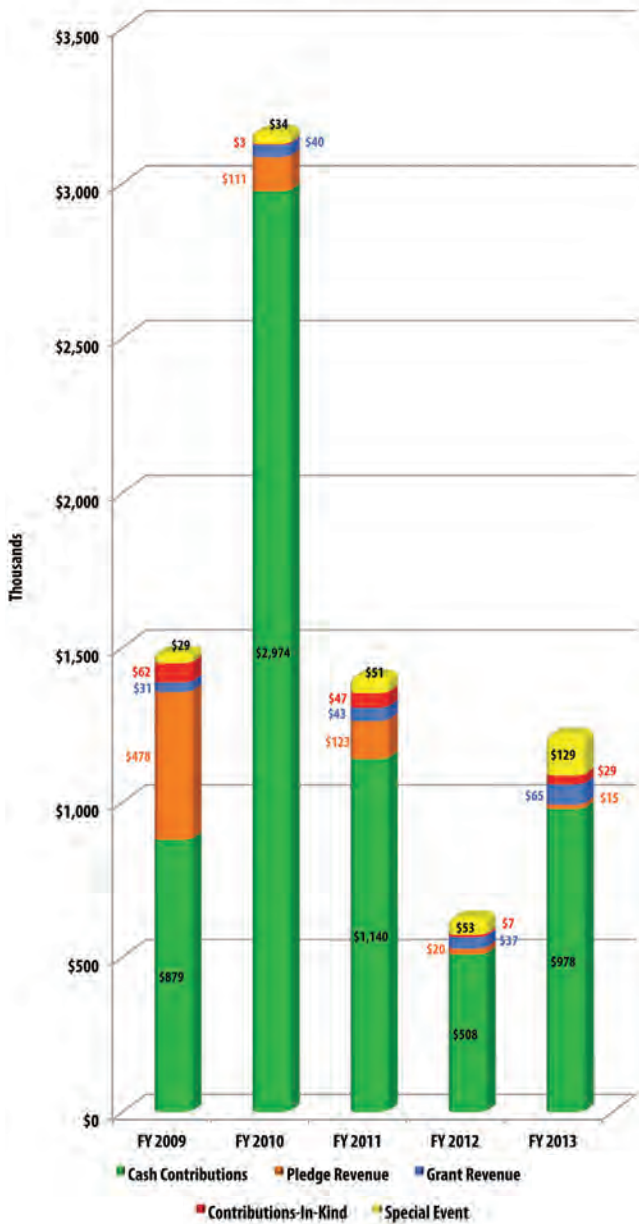
**Frederick Community College Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate
Statements of Financial Position as of June 30, 2013 and 2012**

	2013	2012
Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$591,287	\$527,390
Investments	10,644,141	9,546,180
Pledges & Grants Receivable, net	84,387	215,054
Beneficial Interest in Charitable Remainder Trusts	<u>365,730</u>	<u>334,539</u>
Total Assets	<u>11,685,545</u>	<u>10,623,163</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities		
Accrued Expenses	<u>12,608</u>	<u>3,893</u>
Total Liabilities	12,608	3,893
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	975,617	854,698
Temporarily restricted	6,644,137	5,709,924
Permanently restricted	<u>4,053,183</u>	<u>4,054,648</u>
Total Net Assets	11,672,937	10,619,270
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$11,685,545</u>	<u>\$10,623,163</u>

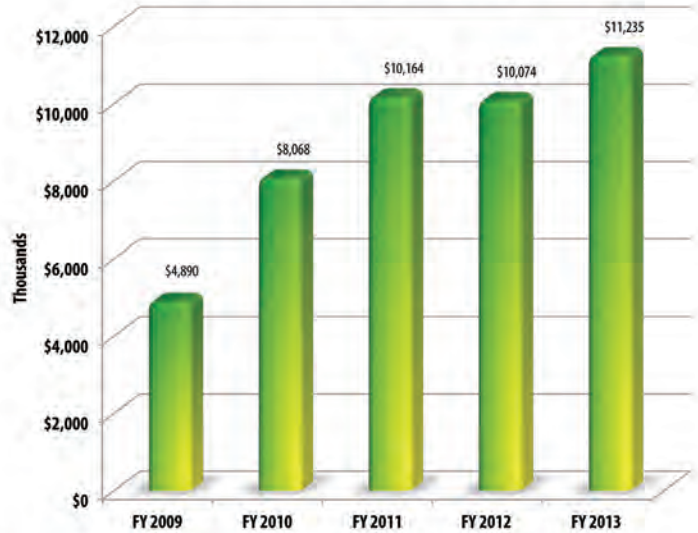
**Frederick Community College Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate
Statements of Activities for the Year Ending June 30, 2013 and 2012**

	2013	2012
Revenues, Gains, and Other Support		
Contributions	\$978,073	\$507,664
In-kind contributions to college programs	29,466	6,979
In-kind contributions from FCC to Foundation	445,331	386,308
Revenue - special events	129,101	52,970
Other Income	54,661	52,121
Grant Revenue	65,150	37,000
Pledge Revenue, net	15,174	19,621
Investment Income	34,457	(4,530)
Net unrealized and realized gain (loss) on investments	579,896	27,016
Change in the Value of Charitable Remainder Trust	<u>55,480</u>	<u>(17,450)</u>
Total Revenues, Gains and Other Support	2,386,789	1,067,699
Expenses		
Program Services		
Scholarships	528,105	466,448
Other Program Support	<u>199,042</u>	<u>310,717</u>
Total Program Services	727,147	777,165
Supporting Services		
In-kind support to FCC programs	29,466	6,979
Admin expenses provided by FCC	445,331	386,308
Other supporting services	<u>131,178</u>	<u>92,731</u>
Total Supporting Services	<u>605,975</u>	<u>486,018</u>
Total Expenses	1,333,122	1,263,183
Change in Net Assets	1,053,667	(195,484)
Net Assets Beginning of Year	10,619,270	10,814,754
Net Assets End of Year	<u>\$11,672,937</u>	<u>\$10,619,270</u>

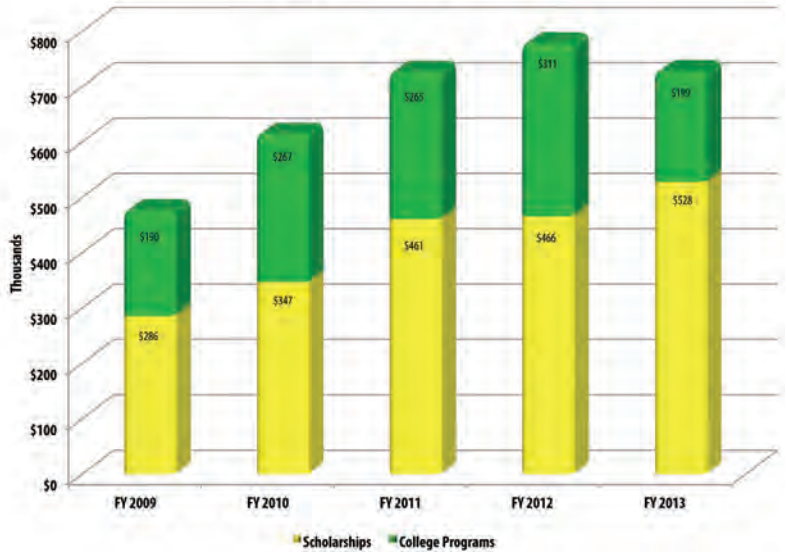
Contributions Summary



Market Value of Cash/Investments



Support Provided to FCC



In 2012 - 2013 The FCC Foundation Inc.

- Raised nearly \$1,217,000
- Had 780 donors
- Welcomed 268 first-time donors
- Provided \$528,105 in scholarships/financial aid
- Awarded \$199,042 in program support

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The Bechtel Foundation Matching Gifts Program
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G. Ronald Weisgerber
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Alumni Highlights



The FCC Foundation held the 18th annual golf tournament on May 20 at Holly Hills Country Club. Alumni Dan Fox (1994), Becky Linton (1983), Jim Gangawere (1969), Jason McDonald (2006) and Daryl Routzahn (1972) helped plan the tournament with former men's basketball coach Dave Miller. The tournament raised more than \$45,000 to support student scholarships.

2013 Commencement Speaker Obed Molina received the Transfer Academic Excellence Scholarship from the University of Maryland at College Park. The scholarship will cover Molina's tuition and fees.

David Hoffman (1980), Executive Vice President at BlueRidge Bank, and Daryl Routzahn (1972) recently finished their third terms on the FCC Foundation Board. Hoffman and Routzahn served on the board from 2001 until June 2013.

Rachel Kamasse (2013) received her associate degree and her bachelor's degree (UMBC 2013) on the same day.



Charles Tobery, Jr. joined FCC as the Chief of Security, Risk Management and Public Services. Chuck and his daughter Amanda graduated together in 2007.



David Schmidt, former Student Government Association President and FCC

student from 2004-2006, completed a successful primary campaign for Frederick City Alderman.

Two FCC alumni were named finalists in the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce's Generation Connect Young Professional of the Year Award. Tracey Capone (1998) and Cheryl Cioffi (1997) were among five finalists for the inaugural award.



Kimberly Passarelli (2012) was presented a Daisy Award for her work as a nurse at Winchester Medical Center. The Daisy Award was created by the Daisy Foundation to recognize the

"super-human work nurses do for patients and families every day."

In Summer 2013, Rebecca Cool (2012) won a design challenge from the Frederick Keys, whose jerseys featured her original design during a recent game to benefit "Art in the Park." At the game, Cool threw out one of the first pitches. She also designed the 32-page brochure for ArtomaticFrederick.

Do you have a personal or professional achievement you'd like to share? Email us at alumni@frederick.edu.

Tell us what you've been up to!

The Frederick Community College Alumni Association would love to stay in touch and hear what you've been up to since you left the FCC campus. Complete the form below and mail back OR go to www.frederick.edu/alumni to update your information online. All alumni who return the form by mail or email will receive an FCC Alumni window cling.

Name _____		
Maiden Name/Name attended _____		
Address _____		
City, State, Zip _____		
Home Phone _____	Cell Phone _____	Work Phone _____
e-mail _____		
Years attended (eg 1991-1997) _____	Degree/Certificate Earned _____	
Current employer _____	Job Title _____	

I would like to get involved with:

- Student Mentoring
- Special Events (*Golf, Clutch the Future*)
- Business Networking Luncheons

Please send me information for:

- Clutch the Future
- Annual Golf Tournament
- Ways to give to FCC
- Other

Please return to: FCC Foundation
7932 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick, MD 21702

LIVING HER DREAM

How Teleola Sofola beat the odds to
earn her associate degree in nursing



When she first stepped foot on Frederick Community College's campus, Teleola Sofola walked with sadness. Her marriage had recently ended in divorce, and she missed the family she'd left behind in Nigeria five years earlier.

"I was very depressed," Sofola, 31, recalls. "Without FCC, I don't know what would have happened."

Fortunately, Sofola could see a more hopeful future. In it, she wore a nurse's uniform and cared for elderly men and women – they'd remind her of the grandmother who'd raised her in a small village. As she settled into her new classes at FCC, Sofola moved closer toward that vision.

While she could see herself as a nurse, she couldn't ignore the obstacles that blocked the path to that dream: tuition costs, language barriers, and the demands of college coursework. After a particularly challenging semester, Sofola found her way to the Office of Adult Services.

There her path crossed with Janice Brown, the office's director. Sofola didn't know it then, but Brown would become her champion, the closest thing to a mother and cheerleader she'd find on campus.

A long career serving students who had scaled hurdles similar to the ones Sofola faced gave Brown confidence the young woman could succeed. She imparted that confidence onto Sofola, and the pair charted out a map that would lead from FCC to nursing school.

"We planned through May 2013," Sofola said, smiling. "She kept telling me not to give up. That I could do this."

And she did.

In May 2013, Sofola walked across the Field House stage to receive her associate degree in nursing. A month prior, she shared her triumphant story with Frederick Community College donors, whose scholarship contributions had made her success — and those of countless other students — possible.

"The rigorous work of nursing school is difficult, but not impossible," Sofola told the crowd. "When I chose to dive into it, I didn't know how far I would go. But every semester, when I received my scholarship award letter, a message of belief and trust accompanied that letter in my mind."

Just as Brown had believed in her, so too had supporters of the FCC Foundation. Their gifts enabled Sofola to focus more

fully on her studies. For the first time in her life, she could be a student without the worry of financial hardship. Finally, she had more time to take care of herself and her son.

As the months passed, her grades improved. Her self-confidence escalated. Her old depression gave way to hope.

Brown had tears in her eyes as she watched Sofola receive her certified nursing assistant pin at a ceremony in 2009.

Earning certification proved to Sofola and Brown that longheld dreams were becoming achievements.

"Teleola faced many obstacles while completing her program of study, to the point where many of us would have thrown in the towel," Brown said. "The determination, hard work, and dedication I saw in her made me realize she was not going to let anything stand in the way of achieving her goal."

Walking Her Path

On a recent morning, as she stood in the doorway of a residential care facility where she now works as a medical assistant, Sofola reflected not only on how Foundation scholarships had changed the way she saw herself, but also on how donor support had inspired her success.

"They believed in me to do good," she explained. "And I'm going to prove them right."

These days she divides her time between caring for her son and caring for patients at Community Living, a residential care facility in Frederick County. Her routine mirrors the one she once dreamed about in her early days at FCC. One morning she sat in a patient's small bedroom, where butterfly decorations adorned the walls, and eased the anxiety of a stroke survivor.

"I never want her to be afraid," Sofola said, smoothing her patient's blanket. "I never want her to worry."

She credits her compassionate approach to healthcare to her grandmother's kindness and FCC faculty who taught her how to become "a more responsible person and a good listener."

Sofola will soon apply to a bachelor's degree program in nursing at Towson University. Each day, she steps closer to her long-held dream of working as a nurse — a dream Sofola will fully realize when she takes her nursing education to the "highest possible level," she said.

But where she once walked with doubt, she now moves with courage.

Major Support

How Shields Scholarships increase access to music education

He helped shape their lives, but recipients of the George L. Shields Scholarship never had the chance to meet their benefactor.

Yet, his legacy lives on, as Shields Scholars pursue careers and continue to share a love of music and the arts with their communities.

Before his death, he formed the George L. Shields Foundation to carry forward his desire for the Frederick community to benefit from wealth Shields developed in his lifetime. Since 2000, the Shields Foundation has supported FCC's music program, providing funding for scholarships, program development and faculty professional development.

Some of the children who receive Shields Scholarships have never had formal musical instruction, while others have already displayed talent ready to be cultivated by formal study. In 2012-2013 alone, 50 students received scholarships.

Following are the stories of three former Shields Scholarship recipients who reflect on how Shields Scholarships set their musical education in motion.

Kayla Lyles graduated from Gov. Thomas Johnson High School in 2008 and went on to study music at the University of Maryland, but her musical path started much earlier.

Singing had always played a crucial part in her life — whether at her church or home — and as a sixth grader, Lyles began taking private voice lessons at Frederick Community College under the direction of Paula Chipman. She continued private study through her senior year of high school, and credits her Shields Music Scholarship with providing her with a foundation for musical success.

Chipman and Lyles typically met once a week for an hour



Before his death, George L. Shields formed a foundation to support philanthropy.

over the course of seven years, and without a Shields Music Scholarship, Lyles wouldn't have been able to study voice privately. For her, FCC opened the door to “many good experiences” in Frederick and beyond.

With FCC as her starting point, Lyles became active in her middle school show choir and later entered into the advanced music studies group at Gov. Thomas Johnson High School.

From high school, she went on to earn a bachelor's degree in music, with a concentration in voice, from the University of Maryland in 2012. There, she sang with the University Chorale and performed at the Kennedy Center. Now she's turned her sights on graduate school. Lyles began her second year of graduate coursework in art therapy at Shenandoah University this fall.

A mode of psychotherapy, art therapy promotes connections between art-making, creativity, and mental

health, and often requires practitioners be well versed in a variety of artistic disciplines. It's an area of study that Lyles has come to love.

"I've always liked working with people and helping others," she said, "but I wasn't sure how I was going to incorporate music into that. When I heard of (art therapy), I thought, this is the perfect thing for me."

Rachel Niederberger credits FCC with preparing her academically, as well as personally, to pursue a career in arts management. When she enrolled at the college in Fall 2005, she began studying piano with John Wickelgren and voice with Lynn Staininger.

"I loved the small classes and close-knit feel of the campus" Niederberger said. "As trite as it may sound, it was apparent that the teachers really cared about the success of each student. The amount of one-on-one time that they were willing to spend with us made that clear."

On a practical level, the financial support allowed her to concentrate on her studies without having to juggle her school work with a demanding job. But perhaps more importantly, earning the scholarship boosted Niederberger's confidence "and inspired me to focus on my studies more diligently."

"The passion that many of the teachers had for the material they were teaching was infectious," she said.

Niederberger transferred to the University of Maryland, College Park in 2007, where she earned a BA in arts administration through its Individual Studies program.

While there, she worked as a piano accompanist at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Frederick and at Maryland Youth Ballet in Silver Spring. Niederberger went on to attend the Master of Arts Management program at Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz College. After graduation, she landed a job in donor relations at the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

"I still sub as an accompanist at churches occasionally," she said, "but I would like to start taking lessons again and possibly accompany more regularly."

Nathaniel Waggoner played drums since he was a tween, ran production companies after dropping out of high school, and began learning piano for about a year before he decided to go back to school. He started at Frederick Community College, where he studied piano performance and voice as well as music theory. It was during his time early on at FCC that he discovered the Shields Music scholarship and

auditioned for it. For Waggoner, who received a Shields award, the rest is history.

"It was a very, very major support factor," he said of the financial award that allowed him not only to develop as a musician, but also to immerse himself in the campus music scene.

While enrolled at FCC, Waggoner helped start a Doo-Wop group, sang bass and tenor in the school choir and traveled to New Jersey to learn special piano technique — along with juggling his work study responsibilities for the music department. For instance, Waggoner worked as a stage hand during concerts and installed art exhibits.

He was connecting with the greater Frederick community and music scene, too, recording dozens of local concerts at Cafe 611 and Guido's and doing sound for area bands including Sea of Static, Old Mountain, Carousel Rogues and the Justin Kalk Orchestra.

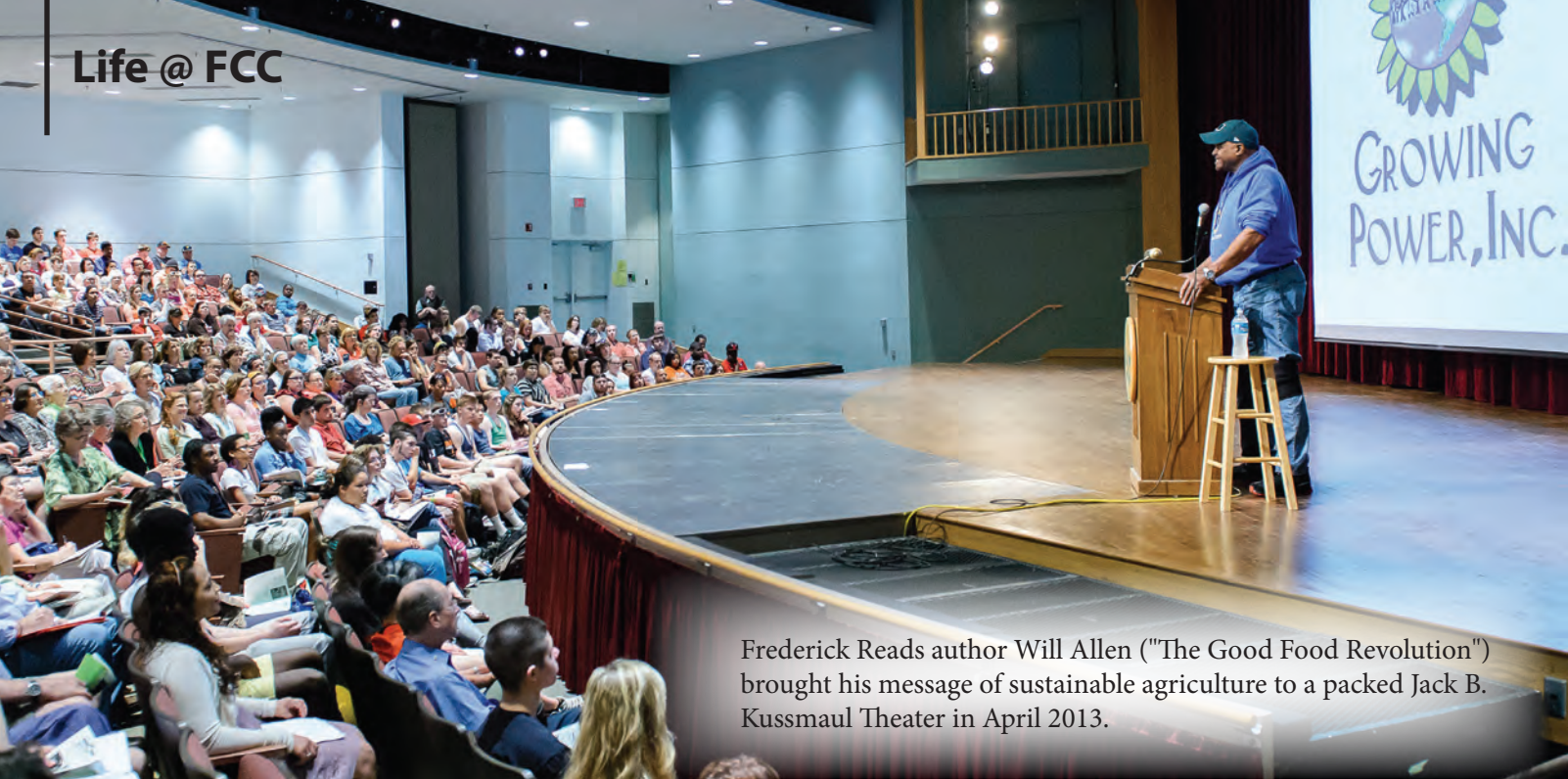
After earning his associate degree in 2010, he went on to study at American University in Washington, D.C., where he "got more and more into the digital side" of music, Waggoner said. That interest led him to pursue a bachelor's degree in computer science.

While studying audio engineering, Waggoner started another production company and recorded seven full-length albums. He also created a robotic system for percussion that allowed a person to control a robot through various movements. The robot would, in turn, create beats, which Waggoner terms "musical robotics."

By day, he now works in software development and leaves his musical pursuits for evenings and weekends.

"I've been pretty successful," said Waggoner, who lives in Washington, D.C., "and I've always been grateful for FCC. The music program was phenomenal."





Frederick Reads author Will Allen ("The Good Food Revolution") brought his message of sustainable agriculture to a packed Jack B. Kussmaul Theater in April 2013.

From author visits to "Cupcake Wars," we've had an action-packed year. Here's a look at the experiences, programs and performances that made for a memorable 2013.



Clutch the Future raised more than \$50,000 to support student scholarships and the Woman to Woman Mentoring Program.



In summer 2013, Kids on Campus held its own version of "Cupcake Wars," inspired by the hit cable television show.



Nearly 500 high school graduates attended our 2013 Fall Convocation.



Our 2013 graduating class of more than 1,000 was among the largest in FCC history. A live-streamed broadcast is available at www.frederick.edu.

FCC's Wind Ensemble enjoyed stellar performances and entered its tenth year.





PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY

Students Earn National Recognition

Phi Theta Kappa members Obed Molina, Kirstie Howard, and Kellianne Dubbin traveled last spring with chapter co-advisor Professor Ramon Jones to San Jose, Calif., for the honor society's international convention. The students competed with 1,200 chapters of the two-year college honor society for the Distinguished Honors in Action Award – and won!

During the conference, FCC's Alpha Sigma Delta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa was also named as a Top 100 chapter and, for being in the top 10 percent of all chapters, received a Distinguished Chapter award. Alpha Sigma Delta also earned recognition as a five-star Chapter (the highest level) for activity and student participation.

The Distinguished Honors in Action Award recognized students' excellence in designing a project based on original research. The project, a student-produced video titled "Road Map to Success for Business Administration Majors," was meant to increase student success and completion in one of FCC's most popular majors. Earlier this year, Alpha Sigma Delta received the Honors in Action Hallmark Award for the project at the Middle States Regional Convention.

"The students earned their trip to the San Jose Convention because of their excellent project and their success and recognition at the regional level," said Dr. Ken Kerr, English department chair and a chapter advisor. "The college is very good about recognizing student excellence. Just as we send our winning sports teams to national tournaments, we send our best students to the academic competitions for which they have qualified."

Alberto Ramirez *Earns State Association's Best Online Course Award*

Alberto Ramirez, director of Learning Technologies, Center for Distributed Learning at Frederick Community College, received the Maryland Distance Learning Association's (MDLA) "Best Online Course of the Year 2013 Award" for his course titled, "PC 104: The Water Planet – Introduction to Oceanography."

The course applies an interdisciplinary approach to oceanography to emphasize connections to other scientific fields including astronomy, physics, chemistry, meteorology, geology, ecology, history, and economics. Students gain an understanding of the complexity of oceans as well as their importance in sustaining life on the planet.

"Frederick Community College has provided me with a supportive environment to develop and deliver effectively this science, general education course during the last eight years," Ramirez said. "A wide range of students have taken PC 104, from recent high school graduates to retired adults who took it just for pleasure."

The MDLA recognition follows Ramirez's presentation of PC 104 and its impact on student learning at the 2013 Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography Aquatic Sciences Meeting in New Orleans in February 2013. Ramirez's participation at the ASLO conference was funded by a National Science Foundation grant.

"Alberto continues to add to FCC's outstanding international reputation for quality distance and distributed education," said Dr. Christine Helfrich, associate vice president for teaching and learning. "We are very proud."



FCC Welcomes New Vice President for Learning Support

Dr. Wayne Barbour began his position as vice president for Learning Support on August 26, 2013 – the first day of the Fall 2013 semester. He most recently served as dean of student services at the Loudoun campus of Northern Virginia Community College.

“Dr. Barbour brings many dynamic skills and experiences to our college leadership,” said President Doug Browning. “We are excited to welcome him on board.”

Prior to his post at Northern Virginia Community College, Barbour was associate dean of student development at Montgomery College’s Germantown campus for six years.

During his tenure at Montgomery College, he served as



acting dean of student development during the summer of 2007 and was director of student employment services from 2000 to 2005. Additionally, he holds a doctorate in higher education community college leadership from Morgan State University.

Barbour, who lives in Olney, Md., said he is looking forward to contributing to the “existing environment at the college, where the focus is on the success of students and their goal attainment.”

Barbour comes to FCC after a search process involving numerous college constituencies. He visited FCC’s campus for formal interviews and open forums with faculty, staff and students earlier this summer.

New Members Join FCC and Foundation Board



The Frederick Community College Foundation, Inc. is guided by a 24-member Board of Directors. Board members are community leaders who are passionate about FCC and help guide the Foundation’s efforts to provide financial support to the college. Five new members were recently appointed to the Board. Pictured (l-r) are Cristina Lugo, Assistant Vice President, BB&T; Michele Mills, Principal, Draper & McGinley, PA; and Diane S. Kotkin, Principal, Offit Kurman. Not pictured are Kathleen M. Davis, Managing Partner, McLean Kohler Sparks & Hammond; and Edward Prenskey, Chief Financial Officer, The Plamondon Companies.



A seven-member Board of Trustees is the governing body of Frederick Community College. Board members are leaders in the community. In July 2013 three new board members were appointed by Governor Martin O’Malley. Pictured (l-r) Roger Wilson, Senior Industry Consultant, IBM; Myrna Whitworth, retired as Director of Programs for Voice of America in 2002; and Gary Fearnow, retired as partner from Alex Brown and Sons in 2011.

Residential Customer



In 1974 President Gerald Ford pardoned Richard Nixon, the Sears Tower became the tallest building in Chicago, and FCC students entertained themselves playing cards in the B-Building canteen. *Do you recognize the students in the photo? If so, e-mail us at alumni@frederick.edu.*