

Advancing FCC

For Friends and Alumni of Frederick Community College



**Celebrating the Advanced Workforce
Training Center Opening 2**

Studying in London 5

FMH Employees Give Back 14

Carol's Corner



Change is a good thing . . .

No doubt you've noticed that Advancing FCC has a new look. The publication is expanding in pages and evolving in design for better coverage of news, people, and events at FCC. We hope you like the changes.

Page two announces our new satellite campus for Advanced Workforce Training. This hands-on facility and the space it provides represent a dream realized. It would not have been possible without the hard work of our Customized Training division, the many FCC staff members who worked on the Department of Labor grant that provided almost \$2 million to assist with the project, and the support of the Frederick County Commissioners. After months of interior renovations, this building also has a new look, one that reflects its new purpose.

On campus, construction on the Classroom/Student Center building changes daily. The walls are intact, and the inside is progressing as the classrooms, lab spaces, meeting rooms, bookstore, and dining facility take shape. What a difference now that it has a roof and windows! We can't wait to see the finished product, still on schedule for the fall, and not a moment too soon. Spring enrollments were up 9.4 percent, after an increase last fall of nearly 12 percent. FCC needs this new space for the increasing numbers of students flocking to FCC to pursue their dreams.

These are exciting and challenging times everywhere we look. Read on to see how FCC is evolving to meet the needs of our students and community.

Carol W. Eaton
FCC President

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Pictured, from left, County Commissioner Kai Hagan, Delegate Sue Hecht, Brunswick Mayor Carroll Jones (behind), FCC Trustee Doris White, FCC Trustee Peter Michael, County Commissioner Jan Gardner, Frederick City Alderman Marcia Hall, FCC President Carol Eaton, Frederick City Alderman Alan Imhoff, Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown, FCC's David Croghan, Delegate Paul Stull, Frederick City Mayor Jeff Holtzinger, and FCC Trustee Tim Wesolek.

A New Home for Construction and Vocational Classes

FCC supporters gathered on Monday, October 20, 2008, to celebrate the opening of the College's new Advanced Workforce Training Center. More than 150 guests attended the ribbon cutting ceremony, including trustees, faculty, staff, and area dignitaries.

The 55,000 square foot facility, located at 200 Monroe Avenue in Frederick, now houses FCC's Construction Management and Building Trades Institute and other vocational courses. The newly renovated space offers state-of-the-art labs and classrooms in the largest construction trades training facility in Maryland.

President Eaton said during the ceremony, "This Advanced Workforce Training Center demonstrates our commitment to our students and to the Frederick community. We are excited about the opportunities this initiative will provide – educational opportunities that will

lead to employment for students, and a trained workforce for businesses and employers."

Trustee Chair Timothy Wesolek thanked the County Commissioners and other supporters for their efforts to help FCC serve as the area's leader in providing post-secondary education and workforce training.

Funding for the project was provided in part by a \$1.9 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor and by the Frederick County Commissioners. "With the grant funding ending in 2009, new scholarships are needed for students interested in the building trades," said Warren Haynes, director of the Advanced Workforce Training Center. "While job openings in construction fluctuate from year to year, opportunities in commercial building in the Frederick/Washington, D.C. region remain available."



AN EVENING OF FINE WINE

Supports Student Scholarships

The festive ambiance of the elegantly decorated Field House set the mood for An Evening of Fine Wines on November 8, 2008. More than 200 guests attended the scholarship fund-raiser hosted by FCC President Dr. Carol Eaton and the FCC Foundation, Inc. This inaugural event offered samplings of local, national, and international wines, along with music from FM Sounds and hors d'oeuvres by Cozy Caterers.

Twenty-four different wines and five unique beers were provided by Riverside Liquors and Reliable Churchill distributors. The highlight of the evening was the silent auction of 50 donated items that sold for more than \$7,200, all of which will support student scholarships.

Save the Date-for the 2009 gala, Saturday, Nov. 14.
For sponsorship information call 301.846.2438. To be added to the invitation list, email foundation@frederick.edu.

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From left: Susan Burch, Rhonda Fulton, Katharine Swilley, Professor Richard Fulton, Rachel Holmes, Chelsea Boice



Peg Mauzy

Across the Pond

FCC Students in London

Carly Psioda spent 15 weeks in London last spring, thanks to FCC’s London Work/Study Abroad (LWSA) international learning program. She and seven other FCC students lived in a flat in the South Kensington neighborhood, studying and working with students from all over the world.

“The experience was much more than I expected,” Carly said. “I had thought it would be like a vacation, that I would be a tourist. But the classes gave us a larger structure and purpose. Our British teacher made us look at all aspects of London, including crime, racism, politics, and their school system. Our online class on electronic media with Dr. Richard Fulton taught us to compare how the news is reported in the U.S. and the U.K. We learned that the same story is often reported differently because of cultural perspectives.”

The current cost of the LWSIA program is \$10,500 plus tuition for four classes (\$1,258.50), less than the cost of a States-side semester at most four-year universities.

During the semester in London, students earn 12 credits taking three online courses with FCC professors and one on-site class with a British professor. They work or volunteer 15-20 hours a week at jobs they find on their own, a challenge that ensures immersion in British culture. Students usually find jobs in retail, food, and service industries. Some have worked at Gap and Harrods, others for an intelligence agency,



Carly Psioda at Leeds Castle, Kent



law firms, caterers, and a deli that delivers orders by bicycle.

According to Peg Mauzy, International Education Coordinator, London is an international city of millions of people where 350 languages are spoken. As students land a job and work with people from around the world, they learn to cope in both a foreign culture and in the working world. Since the program's inception a decade ago, 160 students have participated.

"I have a greater appreciation now for how many rights we have as Americans," Carly said. "We do have more freedom of speech and freedom in the press. In London, there are cameras everywhere. No one is allowed to own a gun, and the media seems to censor their reporting. Everyone wanted to talk politics with us. They really wanted to understand our voting choices."

FCC's LWSA program began in 1999 when Mauzy and Kathie Helfrich, social sciences professor, volunteered to work with a representative from the Foundation for International Education (www.fie.org.uk) to develop a work/study abroad opportunity. The

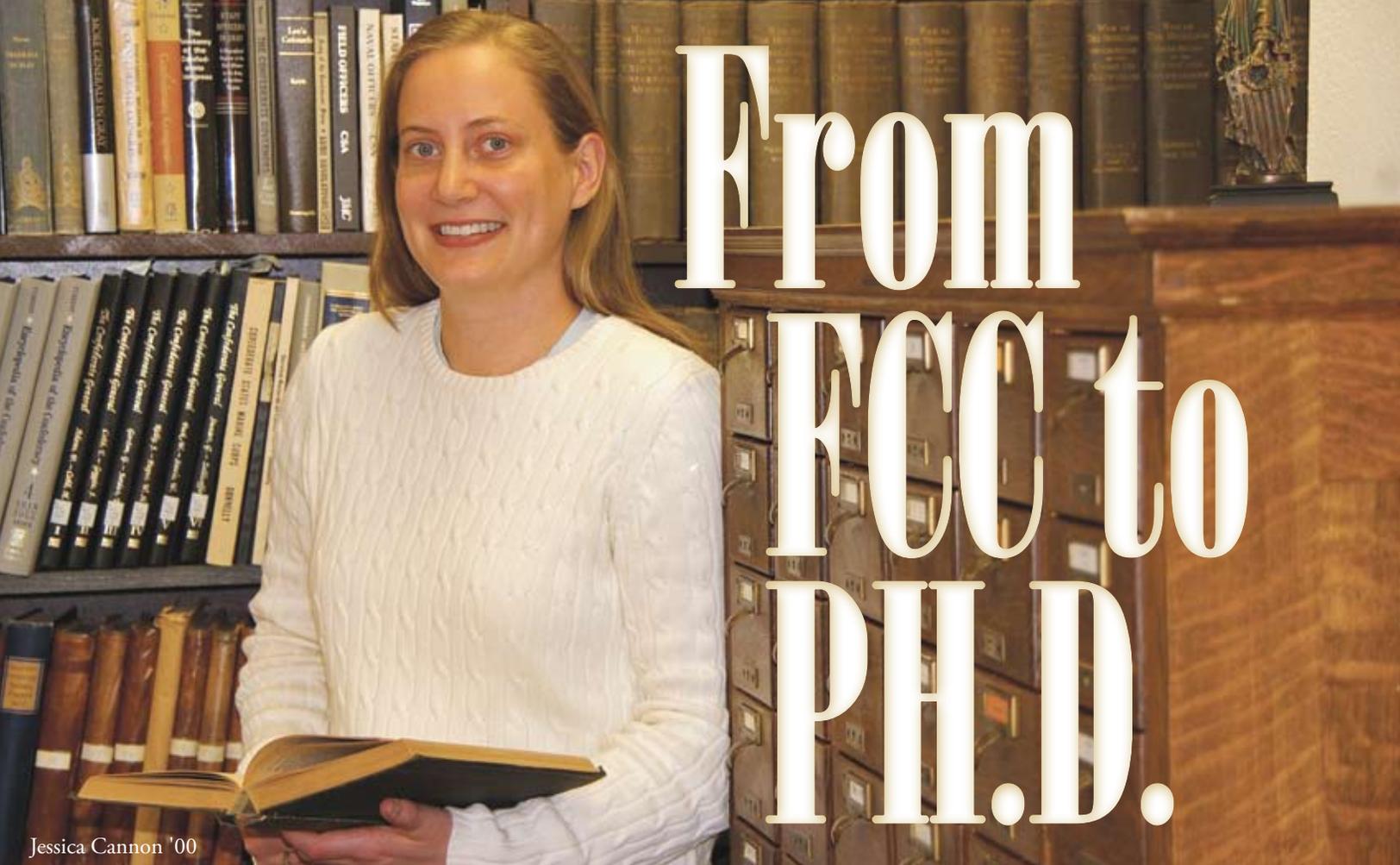
non-profit organization provides housing, hires the professor for the British culture class, meets FCC students at the airport, orients them to the neighborhood, plans trips, and provides a free London Metro pass for the entire semester.

"They're my connection in London, and the students' resource for any problems that arise. FIE makes it all possible," Mauzy said.

She prepares LWSA students before they leave the States through extensive orientation sessions about safety issues, passport and customs rules, academic expectations, cultural etiquette, and the frustrations Americans often experience in unfamiliar territory. Students share a presentation on their LWSA experience with the campus community upon return.

For more information on FCC's London Work/Study Abroad program, contact Peg Mauzy at 301.846.2616 or pmauzy@frederick.edu.

To create study abroad opportunities for FCC students, contribute to the LWSA Scholarship Fund; call 301.846.2438.



Jessica Cannon '00

From FCC to PH.D.

When Jessica Cannon of Brunswick, Md. started at FCC, she had in mind a career as a high school social studies teacher. Like many college students, she changed her mind and her plans. The more she learned, the more she wanted to learn. With the encouragement of her FCC mentors, Jessica decided to continue her education beyond her original plan.

“Dr. Bruce Thompson and Dr. Michael Powell encouraged me to apply to colleges out of state and to consider graduate school. Their encouragement showed me there were more possibilities than I had considered for history majors.”

Jessica was a Phi Theta Kappa Academic All-American nonimnee in 2000, graduating from FCC with an Associate of Arts degree in history. She transferred to Wake Forest University for her bachelor’s degree and continued with her master’s and doctoral studies at Rice University. She will receive her Ph.D. in history this May.

At FCC Jessica took honors classes in history and was active in the Honors Student Association. She interned at the Catoclin Center for Regional Studies as an editorial assistant.

In 2000 she presented a paper at a Catoclin Center conference written for her honors-linked courses in American History and English. The paper, “Thoreau and His American Hero: In Support of John Brown’s Raid,” was published in a 2005 collection of essays selected from the conference titled *Mid-Maryland: A Crossroads of History*.

“My FCC training really helped when I served as a graduate assistant and editorial intern at the *Journal of Southern History* at Rice. Last summer I was an intern for the History Office at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, and it all started at FCC,” Jessica said.

“The broad course of study that FCC requires for the associate’s degree was very helpful when I transferred. The Honors program, specifically, was great training for the academic rigors of a four-year school. I would argue that the quality of education available at FCC, especially in the Honors program, is comparable to some of the best four-year institutions in the area.”

Dr. Thompson, current honors coordinator and professor of history, said, “There’s no quit in Jessica Cannon. From the moment I met Jessica, I could see her strong drive to excel.”



Alumni Association President Bonnie Dudrow



Donor/Scholar reception



Mark your Calendar!

Summer registration begins – Tuesday, April 14

Phi Theta Kappa Induction Ceremony – Sunday, April 19

Fall registration begins – Tuesday, April 21

Student Recognition and Awards Ceremony – Sunday, May 17

Commencement – Thursday, May 21

Alumni Association/Athletics Golf Tournament – Friday, June 12

Alumni Association meetings are always 5-7 p.m. in room A201 of the Administration Building. Meetings are scheduled for:

March 12	July 9
May 14	Sept. 10
June 4	Nov. 12



“We started as a group of 21 individuals struggling together through medical terminology. After several weeks of intense study and skills training, we had three weeks in clinical settings to apply our knowledge.”

– Norman Ross '08

Career Changer Discovers CNA Program

Norman Ross completed FCC's Certified Nursing Assistant program last summer and represented his classmates as the student speaker at their graduation ceremony. Earning his CNA credential led him to a new career and strengthened his family ties.

"My great grandfather, grandfather, and father were doctors, and my wife is a nurse. I had always been interested in medicine and the art of caring for people in need, but I had taken a different professional path in my early life," he said.

Recently retired as a director of camps and conferences for the Episcopal Church, Ross earned his undergraduate degree in public relations and marketing, prior to advanced studies in hospitality at the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration. He wanted to pursue a different direction after retirement and followed his wife's suggestion to look into FCC's 12-week CNA program.

"It seemed like a good way to find out if I really wanted to go into a health care career," he said. "I thoroughly enjoyed being in a collegiate setting again, but it was a challenge to prioritize, to know what to do first. I learned that listening to someone for a few minutes may be the most important thing I accomplish in a day."

Ross now works at Frederick Memorial Hospital and loves his new job. "I'm in patient transportation, which means helping with admissions and moving patients to procedures, so I answer a lot of questions. I like working with people and helping patients who are experiencing anxiety over being in the hospital. I'm constantly learning from my co-workers, but it's nice not to have to be the boss."

Ross was raised in a family that also valued community colleges. His mother was chair of the board at Montgomery College for several years. "Four-year programs are not for everyone," he said. "Community colleges can prepare people to go to work faster, and that's what I wanted, education that would lead to employability. And I don't believe that if you don't go to college right out of high school,

you'll never go back. Sometimes it's good to get some experience, and then decide what to study."

As Ross has also learned, it's never too late to start a new career, and FCC can often help with the transition.

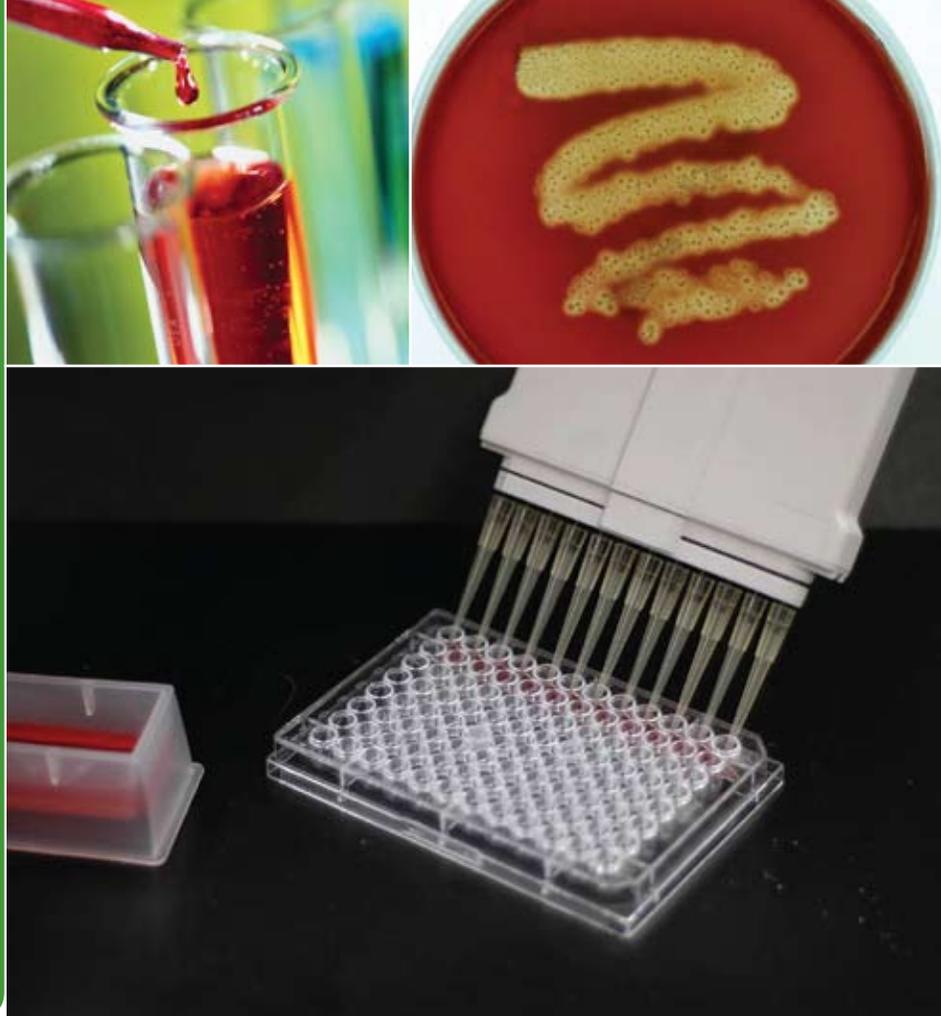
Recapping the Journey: Excerpts from Norman's graduation remarks, August 2008

"In three months, we learned how to protect and respect patients' rights while caring for them with skill, compassion, dignity, and integrity. As a class, we became a team and learned the importance of working together to provide the best care possible for our patients.

We learned about body systems, structures, and care from A-Z, but we also developed the interpersonal skills that enable us to relate with and make positive differences in the lives of our patients. We have learned to listen and to respond in supportive ways.

We now know the difference between a thrombus and an embolus, between a soft diet and a salt free one, between the humerus and the clavicle, and between simply getting someone out of bed and providing comfort and security while assisting a patient to practice ambulation.

We have been taught to gather measurable data and to combine that information with the knowledge we have learned through empirical science. We apply what we know with common sense to provide safe, timely, effective, and beneficial nursing care to our patients...."



“When I took the job as president of SAIC-Frederick, the president of the National Cancer Institute asked me if Frederick was too remote, if it would be hard to recruit scientists to come to Frederick. The answer has been an emphatic ‘no!’ Once people come to Frederick, they stay. This is a great place to live, and the educational opportunities here are a big part of the appeal.” — Larry Arthur, Ph.D. and chief executive officer at SAIC-Frederick.

Hometown *SAIC-Frederick and FCC,*

SAIC-Frederick, a subsidiary of Science Applications International Corporation, is the private contractor that operates the National Cancer Institute (NCI) at Frederick. Located at Ft. Detrick, NCI and SAIC-F adjoin FCC’s southern property boundary. CEO Dr. Larry Arthur and Chief Administrative Officer David Butfer believe in education, and they are strong supporters of FCC – as representatives of their company and the scientific community, as well as on a personal level.

SAIC-F operates NCI-Frederick under the largest contract awarded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to conduct research and develop and deliver new technologies and treatments for patients with AIDS and cancer. SAIC-F is one of the area’s largest employers with nearly 1,800 scientific, technical, and support professionals.

The company’s leaders appreciate FCC as a source for affordable and accessible higher education and as the starting place for many

Frederick County citizens who continue their educations at transfer schools. SAIC-F created a \$10,000 endowment at FCC in memory of an employee, Michael K. Grimes, in 2003. This year the endowment funded four scholarships for both fall and spring semesters.

SAIC-F also supports the College in raising funds for scholarships and programs through special events such as the Latino Festival, the Alumni/Athletics Golf Tournament, and last November’s Evening of Fine Wines.

“We believe that investing in FCC is a great investment in the community,” said Mr. Butfer. “Our company’s name is SAIC *at Frederick*. The *at Frederick* part of the title is an important part of SAIC’s long term success. The local educational institutions have helped to provide the workforce we have to have and the workers of our suppliers. We’re all connected.”

Dr. Arthur said SAIC-F’s involvement with FCC started in the late 1980s. The company needed lots of hands for general lab work,



Dr. Larry Arthur, left, with David Bufter

Connection

Making a Positive Impact

so FCC provided a lab tech program to train workers. Over the years, many FCC students and alumni have also worked in SAIC/NCI labs as interns.

Although most scientists at SAIC-F have doctoral degrees, FCC graduates are employed on the business side of the corporation in the general accounting, accounts payable, or acquisitions offices. Others are employed in SAIC-F facilities maintenance, animal science, or engineering departments.

The company provides tuition reimbursement and half of textbook expenses for employees in work-related and basic education classes who earn a C or better. Fifty-six SAIC-F employees have taken classes at FCC.

SAIC-F has also contracted with FCC for customized training classes for employees in project management, customer service, Spanish for supervisors, and ESL I (English as a Second Language).

According to Dr. Arthur, 89 percent of SAIC-F's employees live in Frederick. "This is our community, so we think it's very important to have a positive impact on the place so many of us call home. Making a positive impact is the reason that most of our employees went into a career in science in the first place."

David Bufter was the chair of the FCC Foundation Board from 2006-08. He has also taught classes at FCC as an adjunct professor.

"I especially appreciate FCC's leadership in the civic arena," he said. "I think FCC is stepping up and filling a void in our community. There's a real entrepreneurial focus at the College, an intention to meet the needs of the community. Many students at community colleges are first-time college graduates in their families. An associate's degree gives people the success and confidence they need to go forward and serves as a powerful example for future generations. It's a huge step that moves families to a whole new plane of achievement and opportunity."

FAIRCHILD CONTROLS & FCC



From left, Gary Bell '98, Jennifer Hildebrand (May '09), and Mike Stauffer '92

Partners in Providing Educational Opportunity

Fairchild Controls products can be found aboard helicopters, airplanes, fighter jets and armored vehicles around the world, but the company often turns to Frederick Community College for educational support for its employees.

Mike Blake, Fairchild Controls human resources director, said the company has 175 full-time business professionals, engineers, and technicians, many of whom have bachelor's degrees or higher. "We offer a tuition reimbursement program that allows employees to take professional development courses or earn a degree related to their current or future position within the company," he said. "Over the past 14 years, many of our employees have taken advantage of the close proximity and excellent variety of programs offered at FCC. As our employees pursue their professional goals at FCC, both they and our company benefit."

In addition to tuition reimbursement, the company has offered its employees several programs through FCC's Customized Training and Professional Preparation department

to address management, supervisory, and leadership skills.

Fairchild Controls supplies environmental control systems, pneumatic systems and control electronics to the aerospace and defense industry, including Boeing, Raytheon, General Dynamics, Northrop Grumman, and the U.S. Department of Defense, as well as foreign military and commercial airlines. Originally based in California, the company consolidated its operations to its Frederick location in 1994.

"We build lightweight and tightly packaged environmental control systems for hi-tech military and commercial vehicles," said Mike Stauffer, vice president for the Integrated Supply Chain. "Our products are often operated in harsh climates and must withstand rugged environments. We've developed a technologically advanced engineering, quality assurance, and manufacturing process to meet those rigorous performance requirements." Stauffer, '92, graduated from FCC with a degree in business and continued his education at Hood College.



FMH Laboratory Services employees, from left, Desiree de Liser, medical technologist; Ingrid Hower, phlebotomist; Gretchen Hambley, chemistry supervisor and chair for the National Laboratory Professionals Week committee; Paulie Khoury, medical technologist; Harvey Vandenburg, director, Lab Operations; Cecilia Arhia, FCC phlebotomy tech student; and Kristy Taylor, phlebotomist and FCC '08 alumna.

FMH LABORATORY EMPLOYEES FUND SCHOLARSHIPS

Desiree de Liser is a medical technologist in the microbiology lab at Frederick Memorial Hospital. Her job is to evaluate bacterial cultures for infectious diseases, but she's also an idea person. In April 2007 she suggested a raffle among her departmental colleagues to celebrate National Laboratory Professionals Week. The group raised \$500 from the project and decided to use the money to fund two \$250 scholarships in FCC's phlebotomy technician program.

"We wanted to create awareness of the opportunities and needs in the laboratory field," said Ms. Desiree de Liser. "There's a great shortage of laboratory personnel throughout the country. We knew that FCC had a phlebotomy program, and there is always a need for phlebotomists at FMH, so the connection was obvious."

To learn more about business partnerships with FCC, contact Stacey Lowman, 301.846.2439 or slowman@frederick.edu

Thank you to the Community Foundation of Frederick County for continuing to support the FCC music program with grants from the Dan Crozier Music Trust Fund.

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