

THE ADVISOR

News from the Hagerstown Community College Advancement Office

Fall 2023

PRESIDENT'S REFLECTION



President Dr. Klauber (right) with HCC Alumni Association Board Member Mike South (left)

Fall is upon us once again! Our fall semester has roared in like a lion, and shows no sign of letting up. This was the first semester of full implementation of the new law providing dual-credit opportunities for high school students without cost to the parents. Enrollments

for fall term have skyrocketed in response. We were already ending a strong summer term, but fall set new records across the College. Our enrollment reached record levels for fall, and it is wonderful to provide this sort of opportunity to the community and our students!

None of our recent success would be possible without the support of our community partners. Diligent work and collaboration with WCPS paves the way for our students to succeed. After all, that is what it is all about...helping our community be successful.

In this issue, we will highlight one of our long-term stalwart Foundation Board Members, Julie Donat. Julie has been a true asset to our Board and the

community for many years. Our Alumni spotlight focuses on Tony Williams. A career educator, Tony does a marvelous job running BEACON House, Inc. to provide training to children of Washington County. Plus, you will get to read about all sorts of activities from old to new. E-sports is making its presence known on campus, and our Alumni Golf Tournament set new records this year!

As with any time of year, it is great to be a Hagerstown Hawk! I hope that you all have a wonderful holiday season.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Klauber".

Dr. Jim Klauber



"HCC is a gem in our community, and I'm very proud to be associated with this amazing organization."

– Julie Donat, HCC Foundation Board Member

IN THIS ISSUE:

College Advancement event recaps, HCC's new E-Sports program overview, HCC alum Tony Williams spotlight, New HCC Foundation endowed scholarships, and more!

Would you like to make a difference in our community? Donate towards your preferred scholarship fund today at hagerstowncc.edu/giving.

What do you want to see in our newsletters? Email us at collegeadvancement@hagerstowncc.edu to let us know!

HCC Alumni who give back to the community – Tony Williams

HCC alum, Tony Williams, is bettering the community through his organization, BEACON House, Inc., which works to eliminate barriers to develop every child they serve to meet their full potential.



“I realized I had to BE the change”
– Tony Williams

Why did you choose to attend Hagerstown Community College?

I started at HCC as a high school student. I took classes towards my degree, since I only needed a few courses my senior year at Smithsburg High School. I chose HCC because it was close, had a great reputation, and was very affordable.

What is your best memory as a student?

My science classes were the best! But hands down it was Dr. Piesen, who truly was the best instructor ever! I also really enjoyed my psychology and counseling courses with Dr. Crowl and Dr. Beecroft. They taught me how to understand the mind and how to communicate with people. What they taught me helped guide my work in and out of education for the past 20 plus years!

What made you want to establish BEACON House, Inc?

After years in education, and my life quote being “you must be the change you want to see in the world” [Mahatma Ghandi], I realized that I had to BE the change. It was a call to action to take the ideas in my head, go forward, and create change through an organization that best suited my abilities and my interest in “hands on work.” Working at Anacostia High School in D.C. was when I truly understood the systemic inequities in our country.

We had a free public school system that allowed kids to enter high school at a second or third grade math/English level. It was appalling to me that we, as a nation, allowed this to go on generation after generation, especially in communities with individuals of specific racial backgrounds, disabilities, or other disparities. We allow inequities to continue when we do not stand up and make a change, and I was done allowing these inequities to persist. I had to be the change, so I started BEACON House, Inc. in 2017 to address the educational inequities. We offer affordable childcare and educational programming and 70% of our students receive scholarships from the State of Maryland.

Now, in 2023, I have also started another nonprofit with a former colleague from my days at Anacostia High School called Equitable Education Experience to start public charter schools, private schools, and educational consulting. We hope to keep being a voice to change the inequities in education.

What would you like to see for the future of Washington County?

I hope that one day in the future, we have a county that allows every person to achieve their true potential; that one day we are able to work together to find ways to meet the needs of our community and eliminate barriers to success for all individuals in Washington County so that they can reach their potential and thrive!

Is there anything else that you would like the HCC community to know about you?

I am a member of the NAACP of Washington County, in school for a master's degree in clinical counseling, and plan to run for elected school board for Washington County in the 2024 election. I am married to my husband, David Sierra, whom I met while teaching in Medellin, Colombia.



For more information about BEACON House, Inc. visit
thebeaconhouseinc.org.



HCC Employees are passionate about the community

From classmates to HCC co-workers – over 40 years of friendship!



From classmates to coworkers, Kellie Koons and Dawn Reed's friendship continues today. They became friends over 40 years ago in the sixth grade at Smithsburg Middle School. Continuing their education, they both studied office technology at Hagerstown Junior College and graduated in 1989. While attending college, they both worked as student workers. Kellie worked in job placement and the President's Office and Dawn worked in Continuing Education. To this day, they are both still employed by the college and have successful careers.

The Power of Community – The HCC Employee Giving Campaign

The 2023 Employee Giving Campaign included participation of 277 employees, for a total participation rate of 92%! HCC employees raised over \$46,000 during this campaign, which is more than the campaign has ever raised before. Way to go, HCC staff and faculty!



President Dr. Klauber wearing his HCC Hawaiian shirt

Employees who donated over a certain amount received this EXCLUSIVE HCC "Hawkeye" Hawaiian shirt!

Do you want this exclusive HCC Hawaiian shirt? If you donate a minimum of \$125 through the Annual Fund campaign by December 31, 2023, you can receive your own HCC Hawaiian shirt! Mail your donation into the HCC Foundation at 11400 Robinwood Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21742 or online at



The HCC Hawaiian shirt can be worn in a variety of ways – see how HCC College Advancement staff style their shirts!

hagerstowncc.edu/advancement/annual-giving.

Did you know that 23% of HCC staff and faculty are HJC/HCC alumni?

Empowering our community with HCC Foundation scholarships

The HCC Foundation has endowed several new scholarships within the last few months that will help strengthen our regional workforce:

WANTZ DISTRIBUTORS, INC.

This scholarship is open to students in the tristate area that have at least a 2.5 GPA, majoring in computer support specialist, web and multimedia technology, or commercial transportation administration, and are employed at Wantz Distributors, Inc.

MRS. GRACIE M. WILEY MEMORIAL AND SGM (RET) EDDIE H. WILEY

This scholarship is open to students that have at least a 2.5 GPA and have a financial need, and are residents of Washington County, MD; Franklin County, PA; Jefferson and Berkeley Counties, WV. Preference is given to minorities and military personnel, active retired, reserve, and other veterans.

BRETHREN MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is open to students that are full-time, have at least a 3.0 GPA, and are in any business or marketing related major.

WILLIAM R. & PATRICIA S. ABELES SR NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is open to students that are majoring in nursing and have at least a 2.5 GPA. Preference is given to students with financial need and Washington County residents.

YOUNGER TOYOTA SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is open to students that have at least a 2.0 GPA. Priority is given to employees or employee dependents of Younger Toyota.

R. HUGH BEALL ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

This scholarship is open to students majoring in mathematics or engineering, have at least a 2.5 GPA, and have a financial need.

ELLA'S NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is open to full-time students that are Washington County residents, have a financial need, are in their second year of the nursing program, and have at least a 3.0 GPA.

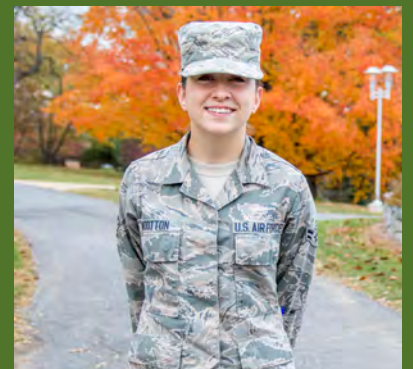


Did you know? With the endowment of a scholarship, the donor is able to choose the scholarship name, as well as their own scholarship eligibility criteria. If you are interested in learning more about endowing an HCC Foundation Scholarship, contact the College Advancement Office at collegeadvancement@hagerstowncc.edu or 240-500-2348

Happy Veteran's Day!

At HCC, we prioritize caring for our veterans and ensuring that they receive the support that they need to be successful. The HCC Foundation has several scholarships specifically to support veterans.

“As a disabled veteran, it has been rather difficult for me to get back on my feet and rebuild. Your grant/scholarship will be a great help for me to take care of the things that are holding me back and causing undue difficulties. So again, thank you so very much for your help.” – HCC Foundation Scholarship Recipient



New Program at HCC: E-Sports



To meet the requests of our students, HCC initiated an Esports Program this fall. HCC's Esports Program seeks to combine both casual experiences and competitive play at the collegiate level. With top-of-the-line computers available for general use during the day, students are able to play a variety of multiplayer titles between classes with friends on or off campus. The college is also enrolled in the National Esports Collegiate Conference, a collective of over 400 schools that compete annually. With several teams set to play this fall, HCC will be going head-to-head with other institutions weekly in a months-long tournament season!

To learn more about HCC's Esports Program, visit hagerstowncc.edu/hcc-esports

New Student Orientation



In August 2023, students were welcomed to the first-ever New Student Orientation to kick off the school year. There were over 500 students in attendance between the two orientation days!



Before orientation, students were asked “what is one goal that you’d like to accomplish during your first semester at HCC?” Here’s what they had to say:

- “Make the Dean’s list!”
- “Get the best and as much education as I can prior to transferring to a four-year school”
- “I’d like to prove to myself that I can do college and not give up”
- “Being open to new experiences”
- “Being able to maintain good grades while maintaining good mental health”

HCC Foundation Board Member Spotlight: Julie Donat



- 1. How did you become affiliated with HCC?** I grew up close to HCC and was always aware of its presence in our community. I often rode my bike across campus, learned how to drive stick shift in the campus parking lots, and attended numerous basketball camps at the gymnasium. In lieu of my senior year of high school, I made the decision to attend HCC full time. The decision to attend HCC gave me a great start before transferring to Shippensburg University to complete my bachelor's degree. Several years after graduating from Shippensburg, my career in banking and active role in supporting the community led me to being a board member for the HCC Foundation. The president of the bank I was working for, and former trustee of the college, Dick Phoebus, volunteered me for the role.
- 2. What do you like most about being an HCC Board member?** What I like most about being involved on the Foundation Board is seeing the Foundation's growth and helping students in ways that wouldn't be possible without the scholarship opportunities and the support that they provide. I also enjoy all of the people I've gotten to meet along the way. The donors, the staff and faculty, the STUDENTS, and the many board members

I've had the honor of working with are just a few of my favorite things.

- 3. What project or program at HCC are you most passionate about?** We have so many worthy projects and programs, it's hard to pick just one. I'm thrilled to see all of the growth and exposure for high school students to begin experiencing college courses and the assistance that they receive with transitioning to college. I am truly amazed by the number of high school students currently enrolled at HCC. It's important for the future of HCC to keep growing and safeguarding our endowment so as many people

as possible can experience the joy of attending HCC and all it has to offer.

- 4. What impact do you hope HCC will have on the future of the community?** It is my hope that HCC continues to grow and adapt to the ever-changing needs of the community and workforce. It's a very complicated equation to meet the demands of a constantly changing demographic and provide quality training and education to all that need assistance. HCC is a gem in our community, and I'm very proud to be associated with this amazing organization.



Check out the College Advancement Office's most recent events!



September 8: Alumni Association Golf Tournament



September 15: 1946 Society Annual Brunch with President Dr. Klauber



September 21: United Way – Day of Caring



October 7: Hawktoberfest 5k Run/Walk



October 7: Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, November 9

Donor Recognition @ 5:00 pm – Kepler Theater

November 17 & 18

Fall Theater Production: And Then They Came for Me @ 7:00 pm – Kepler Theater

Sunday, November 19

Fall Theater Production: And Then They Came for Me @ 2:00 pm – Kepler Theater

Thursday, December 7

Volunteer & Retirees Holiday Party @ 1:00 pm – CPB 211 & 213

Thursday, December 7

Student Art Show Opening Reception and Music Performance
@ 4:00 pm – Kepler Lobby

Friday, December 8

Donor Arts Reception @ 5:30 pm – Kepler Theater

Friday, December 8

Fall Dance Showcase @ 7:00 pm – Kepler Theater

