

Halifacts

September 2004

A publication of current events at Halifax Community College

Top HCC Students Receive State Academic Awards

Hilda Arp and Renee Habit, two Halifax Community College honor students received recognition along with 116 others from across the state at the annual North Carolina Community College System Academic Excellence Awards banquet.

The two were selected by a faculty committee following reviews based upon their current grade point averages to vie for the top state honors at the 7th annual NCCCS Awards Ceremony held at the North Raleigh Hilton on May 7th.

The purpose of the awards program is to showcase community college students and their academic achievements as well as to highlight the work that the colleges do each day in preparing the workforce.



Attending the ceremony was l to r: Mr. Kenneth Brantley, Chairman, HCC Board of Trustees, Dr. Laura Buffaloe, VP of Instructional Services, Hilda Arp, Renee Habit, and Dr. Ted H. Gasper, HCC President.

Hilda Arp is currently enrolled in the Associate in Arts program. Hilda resides in Roanoke Rapids with her two children. She has maintained a 3.921 grade point average. She is president of the AEYC (Association of Education for Young Children), substitute teacher for the HCC Child Care Center, member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and work-study student for students services.

Renee Habit also represented HCC at the ceremony. Renee resides in Rocky Mount with her husband and two children. Renee graduated in May of 2004 with her Associate in Applied Science degree in Interior Design.

She has maintained a 4.0 grade point average in her studies. She is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Renee has recently opened her own business in Rocky Mount, "Renee Habit Designs".

Both students were presented awards from the NC Community College System President, Martin Lancaster and James J. Woody, Chairman of the State Board of Community Colleges.

Message from the President



***Dr. Ted H. Gasper, Jr.
HCC President***

Halifax Community College has recently completed the student registration period for fall semester 2004. Currently, the number of students enrolled is 1,704. We are nearing the enrollment numbers reached last Fall, and are continuing to serve a record number of students.

Aside from the numbers, the effects of the enrollment are visible to anyone visiting the campus. The parking lots and classrooms are full. Students and faculty can be seen hurrying to class. Buses from surrounding schools are bringing their students to our campus to take college classes.

The College now offers over 50 programs on the associate, diploma and/or certificate level. One of the programs that we are excited about is our Dental Hygiene Program. The program has started its second year and between first year and second year students, there are now 24 students enrolled. The Dental Hygiene Clinic is now open to the public seeing adults and children 2 years and older.

Today, Halifax Community College is providing access to quality education for people who would otherwise have been completely overlooked. Through financial assistance programs, scholarships, grants, and workstudy opportunities, our students are able to take advantage of an opportunity that never dreamed of. We will continue to provide quality service, just as we have in the past. Our school has an excellent reputation for providing quality training and retraining opportunities for our students as they strive to improve themselves.

At Halifax Community College student success is the ultimate goal. We are focused on meeting their needs. I commend our employees for their efforts. Our faculty and staff continue to place the needs of our students above all other concerns, and I commend them for their hard work and assure you that all of our efforts will pay off for your community.

SOLOMON REAPPOINTED VICE CHAIRMAN TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Faye Pepper (right) administers the oath for reappointment on the Board of Trustees.

A swearing-in ceremony of a confirmed Halifax Community College Board of Trustee recently took place in the boardroom of the college. Faye Pepper, Administrative Assistant to the President (right), administered the oath.

Lillie J. Solomon (left) was sworn in as vice chairman to the HCC Board of Trustees. Her present term will expire in 2008. She has served as vice chairman since 2002.

Faculty/Staff Highlights

HCC Nursing Instructor Named Teacher of the Year



Joyce Smith

Halifax Community College welcomed a number of new faces to the campus for the Fall Semester 2004 school session. An orientation for current and new faculty/staff was held to provide updated information.

Dr. Ted H. Gasper, President of HCC welcomed the group. Dr. Laura Buffaloe introduced all new faculty and staff to the group. Others presented or updated information about their departments were Ralph Reynolds, VP of Administrative Services, Barbara Hasty, Dean of Student Services, Joy Cooley, Dean of Curriculum, Dr. Pocahontas Jones, Dean of Evening and Weekend College, Vera Palmer, Associate Dean of Continuing Education, Lyndal Williams, Dean of Continuing Education, and Bonita Terry-Malone, Director of Institutional Advancement.

Halifax Community College Welcomes New Faculty and Staff



New faculty gathered after an orientation session on campus last week. Those pictured are: Row 1: Catherine Sykes, Dental Hygiene instructor; Lamine J. Conteh, Accounting instructor; Kelly Harvey, Nursing instructor. Row 2: Jason Shotwell, Welding instructor; Mike Swain, Information Systems instructor; Chuckie Hairston, Mathematics instructor; Veronica Sutton, Nursing instructor. Row 3: George Millard, Psychology instructor; Bryan Carter, English/Spanish instructor; and Dr. Julie Galvin, Biology instructor.

Lunch was provided and served under the pavilion by the HCC hospitality committee

Dr. Bindu Dhasmana Named Vice Chairperson for TAPPI



Bindu Dhasmana

Halifax Community College Pulp and Paper Department Head, Dr. Bindu Dhasmana has been designated for the Vice Chairperson of the Virginia Carolina Section of the TAPPI (Technical Association of Pulp and Paper) for the 2004-2005 year.

TAPPI, founded in 1915 has grown into the world's largest professional association serv-

ing the pulp, paper and converting industry. TAPPI provides its members rapid access to the largest international group of technically experienced people in the industry.

The Halifax Community College Student Chapter is known as the Pulp and Paper Technology Association. The main purpose of the chapter is to provide support, encouragement, and a sense of being part of a great team.

Dr. Dhasmana believes it also provides students pursuing a degree in the Pulp and Paper Technology program the opportunity to utilize the knowledge acquired through a classroom, field trips to different mills and other universities and by attending TAPPI national and international seminar-workshops.

Donors Making A Difference

District 17 of NC Nurses Association Contributes To HCC Foundation



Accepting the donation from Margaret Nixon (middle) was Dr. Ted H. Gasper, HCC president and Bonita Terry-Malone, Executive Director of the HCC Foundation.

Long-time Halifax Community College supporter Margaret Nixon presents a check in the amount of \$500.00 on behalf of the District 17 North Carolina Nurses Association -a professional organization that represents all registered nurses.

The North Carolina Nurses Association is a member of the American Nurses Association, a professional organization that is responsible for setting the standards for all nurses.

Each year the organization sponsors the annual light-a-candle project in honor of in

memory of a nurse. Members of the District 17 accepts \$1.00 donations and the proceeds from the project are used to send delegates to the state convention and to sponsor a scholarship that is awarded through the Halifax Community College Foundation.

This year's gift was made possible from the proceeds from the District 17 Light-a-Candle project. The organization has an endowed nursing scholarship established at HCC and a second scholarship will be established with this donation.

HCC Foundation News

Annual Scholarship Ceremony

September 29th

9 AM - Breakfast Social

10 AM - Ceremony

HCC Scholarships Making A Difference

HCC Student Receives Scholarship



James Jarman

James Jarman, a student at Halifax Community College knows first-hand that scholarships do make a difference. He recently received notification that he would receive a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00 to help with his education.

James is a single, disabled father of one on a fixed income. He was a recent victim of identity theft, which left him practically broke and unable to recover any of his funds.

He enrolled at Halifax Community College last Spring in the Human Services Program and is currently enrolled in the Associate in Arts program. After finishing his studies at HCC, he plans to continue his education at East Carolina University to receive his BS then MS degrees and eventually find employment in Halifax County in the social work field.

"I believe transfer courses are taught better at HCC. I can receive more interaction with the professors here that I could anywhere else. HCC has helped me continue toward my educational goals. I can not thank HCC enough and will make HCC proud", said Jarman.

Jarman was awarded the North Carolina Community College System Trust Fund Scholarship. He will be recognized at the annual scholarship ceremony which is scheduled for September 29th on the college campus.

Student Highlights



Bernard Zdancewicz

Halifax Community College Student Named Phi Theta Kappa Leader Of Promise

Bernard Zdancewicz was recently named a Phi Theta Kappa Leader of Promise. He is one of thirty students to be selected for this honor and the first recipient of the award from Halifax Community College.

Leaders of Promise are awarded \$1,000 scholarships to facilitate completion of associate degrees. The scholarship is distributed in two payments of \$500.00 each prior to the fall of 2004 and again in the spring of 2005 academic terms at the college. High academic standards and participation in the Phi Theta Kappa chapter must be maintained to qualify for the scholarship disbursements.

Zdancewicz is currently enrolled in the Teacher Preparatory Program, which is in partnership with Elizabeth City State University. He has been an active member of the Phi Theta Kappa since the fall of 2003. While at Halifax Community College, he has been a tutor in math and English, a volunteer representative for evening students through the Student Government Association (SGA) and a Marshall at the HCC 2004 graduation. He has maintained a 4.0 GPA since his enrollment.

He plans to graduate from Halifax Community College in May of 2005 with an Associate degree, and then complete his studies for Elizabeth City State University on the HCC campus. In June of 2003, Zdancewicz won the Coca-Cola Scholarship from the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. Outside of college, he is active in his church, St. John the Baptist, where he is involved in the ministry to the sick and home bound. He belongs to a program through his church, "Amen" which is an African Ancestry Mission. He currently is a substitute teacher at Weldon Middle School. He resides in Weldon with his wife, Virgie and one stepdaughter, Antionette.

"As a Phi Theta Kappa member, Bernard has shown outstanding leadership in community activities. He truly deserves this scholarship", said Dr. Pocahontas Jones, Advisor for the Phi Theta Kappa Chapter at Halifax Community College.

HCC STUDENT WINS FRESHMAN CHEMIST OF THE YEAR AWARD



Darian Hybl, Chemistry instructor (left) presents "Chemist of the Year Award" to Duc Nguyen.

Duc Nguyen, was awarded the "Freshman Chemist of the Year Award" by Darian Hybl, HCC Chemistry instructor.

The award is sponsored by the CRC Press and consists of a certificate and a copy of the CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics. The CRC Press is a preeminent publisher in life science, medicine, pharmaceutical science, food science, environmental science, forensic science, engineering business, technology, mathematics, and statistics.

The CRC Press award recognizes the outstanding student in the freshman chemistry sequence based on course performance.

Darian Hybl, HCC Chemistry instructor who taught Duc Chemistry 151 and 152 made the selection.

Duc was enrolled at Halifax Community College in the Associate in Science Program and is now enrolled in the medical school program at NC State University.

He is originally from Vietnam, and resides in Roanoke Rapids.

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