April 1, 2011

College Update

spring is like a perhaps Hand in a window
(carefully to
and fro moving New and Old things, while
people stare carefully moving a perhaps
fraction of flower here placing an inch of air there) and
without breaking anything

(“Spring is like a perhaps Hand,” e. e. cummings)

With Spring semester past the halfway point and student/faculty spring break completed, I don’t need to say anything about people being busy, as now is the crucial period leading to the home stretch of the term and exams and assignments are adding up for everyone. At the same time, I thank those of you who are planning for summer and fall terms, as we know that these sessions will be here before we know it. The NC General Assembly is working away on addressing the projected gap between anticipated revenues and expenses in the 2011-12 budget and the leadership has communicated that details may be communicated sooner than in the past, but there is still a ways to go, so we must make our plans with only a broad idea of resources available. We will do our best to meet the expectations of students and our region, and I will provide more information later. For now, it certainly appears that students who plan early and participate in orientations and early registrations for fall term will have a much better chance of meeting their goals. Thanks to all of you who are assisting others when we are unsure how much we will be allocated to sustain the rate of growth we have experienced over the past several years.

Although the celebration of Pitt Community College’s 50th anniversary will continue throughout 2011, I want to thank all of you for making March 2011 a great success. “That was the month that was,” to paraphrase an old TV show, and you made many alumni and community members proud of the strong contribution which PCC/Pitt Tech has made over the 50 years in so many ways. If you have not visited the Pitt Community College website to see photos and videos of our various celebrations, please do so. Do not miss the excellent video which we unveiled at the 50th Anniversary Celebration Gala on March 12! It is a true collector’s item with its archival footage and contemporary images and plans for the future. I particularly appreciate the hard work and expertise of the Institutional Advancement Office under VP Susan Nobles for coordinating many of the events, and to all the faculty, staff, and students who participated in
one or more of the activities, from burying of the time capsule and the dancing at the Gala to the unveiling of the new outdoor sculpture by artist Hanna Jubran on the west side of the Craig Goess Student Center.

**Accomplishments and Recognitions**

- The 50 Academic Excellence students at the ceremony on March 25 and the faculty and staff who nominated them.

- **Morgan Kern** (Sonography) has been selected as one of 50 Gold Scholars nationally on Coca-Cola’s 2011 Community College Academic Team. This is a first for Pitt Community College. The entire team will be featured in USA TODAY on April 11.

- **Phil Baggett and Altrice Gales** (Criminal Justice) were praised for their support of a partnership with Fayetteville State University at a recent program by senior administrators, including President James Anderson.

- **Lois Gray** (AGE) completed the Meyers-Briggs Certification Program – the ACA 122 course now incorporate Type Indicator testing for students.

- **Amy Stephenson, Van Madray, and Industrial Technology instructors** were recognized for their support of ASMO Greenville with a contribution of $5000 for student scholarships by President Yoshi Oyobe.

- **Students in the Health Division, including Nursing and Massage Therapy**, were thanked for great volunteer work at the 3rd Annual Heart Expo sponsored by University Health Systems.

- **Kelly Moore, Tom Marsh, Derek Hunter, Teresa Thompson** and many others assisted Gail Nichols and the Small Business Center in hosting the 2nd Annual Eastern NC Women in Business Center at the Goess Student Center.

- **Judith Kuykendall**, former Instructor and Dean of Health Sciences, will deliver the PCC Commencement Ceremony Address on May 13. It is particularly appropriate that one of our own is speaker during this 50th Anniversary year.

I certainly hope that all of you will be attending the PCC Employee Appreciation Night on Friday, April 15. Deadline for reservations is April 4, so don’t delay. Among other recognitions, we will be honoring our retirees, including Wayne Coates, Brenda Ernst, Debra McGowan, among others. You will enjoy yourselves, for sure!

G. Dennis Massey, President