Wells Fargo Makes $12,200 Gift to ACC Foundation

Wells Fargo Foundation has presented a gift of $12,200 to the Alamance Community College Foundation. Carolyn Rhode, Vice President of Institutional Advancement at ACC, accepted the check on behalf of the Foundation from Dale Page, Vice President and Regional Business Banker for Wells Fargo.

In 2012-2013, Wells Fargo assisted 40 students to attend ACC. This new gift goes to the Wells Fargo named scholarship fund. Wells Fargo scholarships fund ACC students in high need areas such as healthcare, food service, scientific and technical services, educational services and industrial technologies.

“Our foundation has designated education as one of our primary focus areas. We realize that education is one of the most important investments we can make in our country’s future. “We have a long tradition of serving the Triad and western North Carolina, and we are proud to continue to do what we can to make a difference in our local communities. Wells Fargo is committed to using our financial resources to help create long-term economic growth in the communities we serve.”

ACC Instructors, Student Illustrator Contribute to Book for African School Children

Q: What does an ACC instructor’s visit to Africa, a coloring book, and the talents of a student illustrator have in common?
A: They all played an integral part in helping young children learn to read in the nation of Malawi.

How?
In the summer of 2012, NC A&T State University PhD student Justin Snyder, ACC’s Horticulture Department Head, traveled to Malawi as part of a service learning project. The group, comprised of A&T students and advisors, worked hand-in-hand with teachers from Domasi Demonstration Primary School. As part of this process, Snyder met Alinane.

See MALAWI on page 2
Grants Help ACC’s Biotech Reach Local Students, Teachers

ACC’s Biotechnology program has received grants from the National Science Foundation to continue one popular program for high school students, and to initiate another for college instructors.

**Stem Cell Classes to Continue for Area HS Students at ACC**

The Stem Cell Pipeline grant, inaugurated in fall 2011 to expose Alamance County high school students to career opportunities in stem cell research, has been renewed at the College for another year.

Since fall 2011, the $121,056 grant allowed 12 Alamance County high school students each semester to participate in the nine-week evening class, consisting of one hour of lecture and three hours of lab per week. Students, selected from all the local high schools, learned about sterile environments, managing cultures, fluorescent labeling, and basic biotechnology equipment such as centrifuges and fluorescent microscopes.

Stem cells used in this class are pre-existing animal cultures, not human embryonic stem cells.

Said Woodruff: “The idea for this program was to expose students at an earlier age to the career possibilities through exciting, new, cutting-edge frontiers in science and health.”

ACC is one of only three educational institutions in the U.S. that received the grant monies to develop this curriculum two years ago. ACC was chosen due to its role as a national leader in tissue and cell culture study. Woodruff has been a consultant to many other colleges and universities as they developed their own programs.

Because the grant funds were not fully used, the curriculum length was extended for another year, until August 31, 2014. The next session is expected to begin this fall. Interested junior and senior ABSS high school students may contact Bill Woodruff at 506-4224.

**ACC to Train Science Teachers via NSF Grant**

Beginning in summer 2014, the Bioscience Industry Fellowship Project (BIFP) provides funding for ACC to train community college and high school science instructors the basics of biomanufacturing so they can extend that knowledge to their own students in an effort to increase employment in the industry.

Says Bill Woodruff, Department Head: “We are planning on 24 teachers in each cohort over the next two years, with the primary target being community college instructors. High school teachers will fill vacant slots. These are instructors who teach biotechnology but have never been in an industry setting.”

After Woodruff trains the instructors in a three-day workshop at ACC, the teachers join teams at an industrial site and participate in biopharmaceutical endeavors. After three

See **GRANT** on page 3

---

**MALAWI from page 1**

Misomali, a teacher at the school who has been a participant in the Literacy in Mother Tongue (LMT) project since its inception.

LMT, which teaches children to read in a language that they speak naturally, came about as a result of primary school children learning in the ChiChewa language, even if it was not their native tongue. English was taught as a second language and used in all instruction, textbooks and tests beginning in grade five. For many young children, learning to read and write was nearly impossible if they did not grow up speaking ChiChewa.

Four years ago, teachers in Malawi worked with NC A&T to plan for the LMT class that would help teachers with strategies for teaching beginning reading in several local languages at once. Rotary Clubs in the Piedmont provided funds for the needed materials, and the class began in 2010. As a result, the pass rate for the eighth grade test that provides access to secondary school has gone from 3 out of 65, to 40 out of 65, and 67 out of 67 in 2012.

At the same time this project was taking place, ACC’s Snyder had worked with Denise Archuleta, graphic design instructor, on a Lady Bug coloring book as part of a marketing campaign to promote the sustainability projects on the ACC campus. This partnership between the two departments led Snyder to think that Alinane’s story could be put into a coloring book to be taken back to the school in Malawi to allow teachers to use a local story as part of the LMT training. Alinane wrote the story in his own language, had it translated, and Snyder took it from there.

In spring 2013, Brittany Gaither, a second-year graphic design student at ACC, agreed to bring the story to life with her illustrations. She read the story to decide what to illustrate, made sketches and concept art for the characters and scenes, then brought them into Adobe Illustrator to draw the final lines. The book was produced, with the help of Rebecca Paskins, ACC print services supervisor, and sent to the students at Domasi Demonstration Primary School, as part of the ACC FLORA Club’s community service project.

“I think it’s pretty cool that my art can benefit the children in Malawi and help them to learn how to read,” says Gaither, who graduates this summer with a degree in Advertising and Graphic Design and hopes to work for a design firm. “It’s a small thing that I’ve done to help in a big way.”

---

The first stem cell pipeline class was taught in fall 2011 by ACC Biotechnology Dept. Head Bill Woodruff, seen here with two Southern Alamance High students.
ACC INSTRUCTOR WINS POETRY PRIZE

Marjorie MacNamara, an ESL instructor who previously taught in the English department at ACC, recently won the $500 first prize for a poem in a contest sponsored by Indy Week, a free newspaper circulated in the Raleigh, Durham, and Chapel Hill area.

MacNamara’s winning poem, “Marble Cake,” depicts a mother and daughter sharing a ritual they’ve performed many times, but ends with the line: “…you pulled chocolate/through vanilla/delighted to see/that all turned/to chocolate—like this boy/you now tell me/you mean to marry.”

MacNamara says her poem was informed by her daughter’s study abroad in Togo a few years ago, where she fell in love.

MacNamara has many connections to ACC. She began as a student studying Spanish before moving on to NC State University, where she earned her master’s degree in 2004. At ACC, she enrolled in the Translator/Interpreter program, and won the College’s student poetry competition. From 2006-2009, she taught a few semesters of Advanced Grammar at ACC, and later taught a semester of English 111.

“But I found my place in teaching ESL [English as a Second Language],” she says. “In the last four years, I have become a steady sub for ESL at the Dillingham Center and really enjoy it… ESL draws on my grammar, my facility with words, my knowledge of Spanish, and my on-stage personality.”

MacNamara has also become involved with ACC’s Creative Writing Club after seeing a flyer about meetings last fall. English instructor Olivia Stogner is the club’s faculty advisor.

“I enjoy being one of the students,” says MacNamara. “Not in charge, but listening to what they write about, connecting with their worlds. Their writing and commentary are good and energize me. And with these students, the generations between us slip into nothingness.”

STUDENT SNAPSHOT

AMBER AKERS

Q. Your curriculum and why you chose it?
A. University transfer, because I want to study psychology at UNC.

Q. What you wish people knew about you— but probably don’t?
A. I’m smarter than people realize.

Q. Your 15 minutes of fame (a time when you received recognition/won a contest/ performed, etc.)?
A. I won an achievement award for PE fitness in elementary school.

Q. Something you always wanted to do—but haven’t yet?
A. Rock climb.

Q. Something you can’t live without?
A. MP3 player.

Q. If you could visit any place in the world for free, where?
A. Canada.

Q. TV program you never miss?
A. Supernatural.

Q. What person (living or dead) would you most like to have dinner with, and what would you ask him/her?
A. John Lennon. I’d ask if I can join the band.

GRANT from page 2

days at the site, the instructors return to ACC for a final assessment.

Says Woodruff: “The goal here is to get the instructors to where they can teach better and more realistically in their classrooms, all in an effort to encourage students to enter the field of biomanufacturing.”

ACC is one of three North Carolina community colleges participating in this NSF grant; Forsyth Tech and Rowan-Cabarrus are the others. The total grant is worth $490,568, with ACC’s part for its two 3-day workshops $14,400.

Woodruff says North Carolina is third in the nation, after California and Massachusetts, in the biomanufacturing industry. ACC initiated the state’s first biotechnology program at a two-year school in 1985. Today, biotechnology is taught at 38 of the state’s 58 community colleges.

FINANCIAL AID/ SCHOLARSHIPS NEWS

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

■ Campus Discovery $2,500 “Advice to Your High School Self” Scholarship—Apply online by July 31 at: www.campusdiscovery.com/start

■ Did you grow up in a single parent home? If yes, you may be eligible for the Al and Candace Rey Scholarship for the fall semester. Applicants must write an essay.

■ Are you a Business Administration student with an interest in the field of real estate? If you have a GPA of at least 2.5, you may be eligible for the Everett G. Mogle Memorial Scholarship for the fall semester.

For both these scholarships, contact Carolyn Rhode for more information at 336-506-4128 or carolyn.rhode@alamancecc.edu.

EMPLOYEE NEWS

SERVICE AWARDS

One employee received a service pin at the June faculty/staff meeting for his years of service to the College.

Justin Snyder—10 years
Department Head, Horticulture Technology
HELPING AUTOMOTIVE STUDENTS LEARN. A 2004 Nissan Armada was donated to the Automotive Systems Technology program at Alamance Community College for the purpose of providing hands-on experience for automotive students. “It will be a great learning experience,” said Marc Hunter, Department Head. “Because we’ve pulled all the wiring out inside, our students can learn first-hand about wiring diagrams, electronics, and chasing electrical shorts.” Coordinating the donation was Chris Dubs, Service Manager at Carolina Nissan in Burlington, and Gary Torgerson, Nissan North America. Robert Whitfield of Whitfield Towing volunteered to bring the vehicle from Charlotte to ACC. Seen above with the vehicle are (l-r) MARC HUNTER, CHRIS DUBS, and TIM AUBE, Fixed Operations Manager, Nissan North America.

102 JAMZ RADIO SCHEDULED A “TICKET STOP” EVENT at ACC in late June as part of the College’s fall registration on-air advertising. The popular radio station aired a live broadcast to give tickets away to a concert.

FOUNDATION DONATIONS. (ABOVE) ADAM JORDAN, Banking Center Manager for Bank of America in Graham, recently presented a $2,500 check to the ACC Foundation on behalf of the Bank of America Work Study Fund. CAROLYN RHODE, ACC Vice President for Institutional Advancement accepted the donation on behalf of the Foundation. (RIGHT) CAROLYN RHODE accepts a $5,000 donation from SHINJI OKETANI, President of Honda Power Equipment Mfg., Inc., of Swepsonville. ACC’s Business and Industry Training division has assisted the company in recent years in hiring and training processes.