what does success mean to you?

Calhoun students and alumni on being successful:

“Success for me is being dedicated and working hard for whatever gives you that spark and challenges you to want more.....and it will manifest itself when you learn that “I CAN” is your first step to becoming successful.”

“Success for me is being able to be involved in student organizations and having a job on campus that works around my classes while pursuing my career.”

“For me, success is being able to be involved in student organizations and having a job on campus that works around my classes while pursuing my career.”

“It means a jump start on my career to have been able to complete high school and college at the same time because of the classes I took through Dual Enrollment.”

“It’s a group effort. Going through the Nursing program, you rely on friends and classmates to help you out. You know that you aren’t in it alone.”

“I see success as completing my program of study; one class at a time, one test at a time.”

“The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand.”

- Vince Lombardi

Anna-Margaret Sparks

Marcus Kennedy

Ryan Nichols
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The Alabama State Board of Education
The Honorable Robert Bentley
Governor of the State of Alabama / President of the Board

Al Thompson
District I

Betty Peters
District II

Stephanie Bell
District III

Dr. Yvette Richardson
District IV

Ella B. Bell
President Pro Tem / District V

Dr. Charles Elliott
Vice President / District VI

Jeff Newman
District VII

Mary Scott Hunter
District VIII

Dr. Mark Heinrich
Chancellor
The Alabama Community College System

Mission
Calhoun Community College is an institution of excellence providing quality, innovative instruction through a responsive environment while promoting cultural enrichment and community development.

Values
Integrity / Accountability / Diversity / Teamwork / Creativity

Vision Statement
Success for every student.

Calhoun Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award Associate’s degrees and certificates. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia, 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Calhoun Community College.

Specific questions regarding Calhoun’s educational programs, admissions, and other matters related specifically to the College should be forwarded directly to the College.

Calhoun is a member of the American Association of Community Colleges and the Alabama Community College System.
As the fourth president and first woman president of Calhoun, Beck came to the institution in January 2003. During her tenure at Calhoun, the state’s largest two-year college, enrollment skyrocketed to an all-time high of more than 12,000 students in 2010, the physical landscape of the College’s Decatur campus was vastly transformed, and the College has become financially stable. Upgrades were also made to the Huntsville campus, which is now set for a $34M construction and renovation project.
Through this publication, we take a look back at many of the successful programs, activities and events as well as the very extensive list of accomplishments of our students, faculty, and staff which helped to make 2014 yet another memorable year for Calhoun Community College.

Many of the programs in which we were involved throughout 2014 were focused on our vision of “Success for every student”. Our membership in the Achieving the Dream (ATD) National Network is an example of one of our newest initiatives directly supporting student success. Earlier this year Calhoun was among the 12 newest two-year colleges welcomed as members of ATD. As a member institution with Achieving the Dream, we now have access to additional resources to support the realization of our vision and to assist our students in being successful as they reach and exceed their educational goals.

This year also saw us make great strides in our goal of providing quality, state-of-the-art facilities which support our educational programs and stimulate learning among our students. In July, we broke ground on the second phase of the Alabama Center for the Arts, followed shortly by the official closing on the purchase of additional property on Wynn Drive, paving the way for the start of our construction/renovation project for our Huntsville campus. These are just a few examples of the work we have carried out this year; you will find many others throughout the pages of this report.

As I have told many of you, I feel confident that I leave Calhoun in very capable hands and look forward to following the College as it continues the great work that it has done in this community, region and state.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve such a wonderful college and community.

Marilyn Beck
the president’s message
As a result of Calhoun’s $44 million construction and renovation project, the Decatur campus now features beautiful brick paved walkways, stately lampposts and new signage.

Ablaze with Color
Calhoun’s Beck Retires as College’s President after 12 Years at the Helm

In August, Calhoun President Dr. Marilyn Clark Beck announced her plans to retire from the College, effective December 31, 2014. The announcement was made to faculty and staff during a college-wide meeting.

As the fourth president and first woman president of Calhoun, Beck came to the institution in January 2003. During her tenure at Calhoun, the state’s largest two-year college, enrollment skyrocketed to an all-time high of more than 12,000 students in 2010, the physical landscape of the College’s Decatur campus was greatly transformed, and the College has become financially stable.

The completion of a $44 million construction and renovation project at the Decatur campus resulted in two new state-of-the-art facilities (the Health Sciences Center and the Math/Science/Administration building) as well as major enhancements to landscaping, parking, and signage. Upgrades were also made to the Huntsville campus, which is now set for a $34M construction/renovation project.

As a direct result of Dr. Beck’s leadership, Calhoun has successfully positioned itself to support the area’s workforce development efforts and is now recognized as one of this region’s most successful economic engines.

Calhoun Selected as One of 12 New Colleges to Join the Achieving the Dream National Reform Network

During DREAM 2014, the national conference for the Achieving the Dream Network, Calhoun was among 12 community and technical colleges from eight states welcomed into the Achieving the Dream National Reform Network. This cohort, serving nearly 75,000 students, immediately began the challenging work of identifying and implementing evidence-based strategies for closing achievement gaps and increasing student retention, persistence, and completion rates.

“We are delight ed to welcome the 2014 Cohort of colleges into the Achieving the Dream National Reform Network as we celebrate our 10th year of working to improve student success and completion rates across the country,” said Achieving the Dream President and CEO William E. Trueheart. “These 12 colleges represent a diverse group of students whose success means much more than just a personal goal secured. It means improved skills, better employability, and economic growth for their community and our nation as a whole.”

“Calhoun Community College is not unique in our challenges as we work toward our goal of Success for every student,” commented Calhoun President Dr. Marilyn C. Beck. “However, with this wonderful opportunity to now work with Achieving the Dream, these challenges will become our strengths and the success of our students will continue to increase,” Beck added.

Calhoun Closes on Purchase of Wynn Drive Property

Purchase Marks Important Next Step toward Campus Renovation/Construction Project

In August, President Marilyn Beck announced that the College and the Alabama State Board of Education had closed on the purchase of 9.91 acres of land, located on the west side of Wynn Drive directly across from Calhoun’s Huntsville/Cummings Research Park campus. The purchase marked the next step in the College’s renovation/construction project for the Huntsville campus.

According to Beck, the property was purchased for $937,410. An adjacent 2.7 acres of land being purchased by the City of Huntsville will allow for the relocation and straightening of the portion of Wynn Drive in front of Calhoun’s existing campus building. Once the street relocation project is complete, Calhoun will proceed with the building of a new Science, Math and Computer Science building and a major renovation of the existing Huntsville campus facility.

“To say that we are excited to see this day is truly an understatement,” commented Beck. “This has been a long time coming, and we owe our thanks to many who have given innumerable hours in support of this project. We owe a special debt of gratitude to Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle and his team for their efforts in helping to make this project a reality for our students and for this community,” Beck added.

A groundbreaking for the Huntsville campus construction project was held December 5, 2014. Huntsville architectural firm Chapman and Sisson was selected for the project and is currently working on design plans. Bids to select a contractor for the project will go out once design plans are complete.

continue to page 8
Groundbreaking Held for Phase III of Alabama Robotics Technology Park

Alabama Secretary of Commerce Greg Canfield and Senator Arthur Orr were among the officials on hand for groundbreaking activities for the Integration, Entrepreneurial and Paint Dispense Training Center, Phase III, of the Alabama Robotics Technology Park (RTP) held October 31.

The RTP’s third phase will be a 50,000-55,000-square-foot, $8,000,000 building which will allow companies to build and adapt automation for new and existing manufacturing processes. The facility will allow companies to train in manual paint spraying techniques and robotic dispense training. Following the bid process, Consolidated Construction Company of Huntsville was selected as the contractor for the project. Construction for Phase III is expected to take 10 months.

The construction of Phase III of the RTP completes the vision to create a three-phase educational, training, R&D, and entrepreneurial robotics park that would serve as a catalyst to enhance and support the state’s economic and workforce development initiatives. Once complete, the three facilities will have a total investment of over $73 million.

“With this event, we are seeing the fruition of a dream which began over six years ago to create a robotics education and training facility which would serve to enhance our region and our state’s economic development initiatives,” commented Calhoun President Dr. Marilyn Beck. “Through the combined efforts of many, we have worked together to make the RTP one of the nation’s premier training facilities, where we are now equipped to provide training to a growing list of top companies from around the country,” Beck added.

“With Governor Bentley’s leadership, Senator Orr’s leadership and the commitment by the north Alabama Legislative Delegation, we have funding for Phase III and break ground on our final phase. For those manufacturers that call Alabama home and for those manufacturers that will locate in Alabama going forward, the Robotics Technology Park is a benefit that will assist them with their current employees’ technical development and for developing future employees who are students in Alabama schools and colleges today,” said Ed Castile, executive director of AIDT.

Calhoun Receives $172,000 Grant for Cybersecurity Program

The Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education awarded a $172,000 grant to Calhoun for the College’s new “Meeting the Needs of Cybersecurity Technicians” program.

According to the grant proposal, the award will be used for developing a laboratory environment with the latest equipment and software conducive to hands-on-training and research opportunities, enabling students to become Cybersecurity Professionals. With the addition of a state-of-the-art training facility, Calhoun will increase interest and retention in the CIS program while preparing students for professional careers in the field of cybersecurity. At least 80 students, 40 each semester, are to be trained using the new equipment. CIS faculty members Nisheeth Agrawal, Charline Nixon, and Nainika Patnayakuni worked with the Grants Office to develop the proposal.

“Calhoun will be the first community college in the state to have a cybersecurity lab of this magnitude,” commented Agrawal, Chair of the Huntsville CIS Department. “Our students will be able to receive certification as Certified Ethical Hackers, Certified Mobile Examiners, and Computer Hacking Forensic Investigators.”

Fall 2013 enrollment in CIS courses at the Huntsville campus was 335, a 35% increase from fall of 2012. Calhoun projects that these numbers will continue to increase at an exceeding rate in direct correlation with job demand in the field of cybersecurity and competitive programs offered at the College.

Alabama Center for the Arts Breaks Ground for Phase II

A groundbreaking ceremony for Phase II of the Alabama Center for the Arts (ACA) was held July 10. The new addition will house the theater and music departments of the collaborative academic effort between Calhoun Community College and Athens State University and is enhanced by support from the City of Decatur and the Morgan County Commission.

“This phase of the total project has been in the planning stages since we initially broke ground in 2010,” remarked Athens State President Bob Glenn. “We are pleased with the community’s reception of Phase I and we look forward to working with Calhoun to further enhance the study of theater and music in the area.”

“We are extremely excited that we are seeing this next phase of the ACA now becoming a reality” commented Dr. Marilyn Beck, Calhoun president. “This partnership with our sister institution Athens State is allowing us to continue to work together in meeting the needs of our community,” Beck added.

LIVE Design Group from Birmingham was selected as the architect for the project. The $13.5M Phase II building will be adjacent to but separate from the Phase I portion of the ACA and will encompass approximately 44,000 square feet.
College Names Baseball-Softball Complex in Honor of Former Coach Fred Frickie

On April 12, members of the Calhoun family, former players and local community supporters gathered to officially dedicate the baseball-softball complex the Fred Frickie Field, in honor of the College’s former head baseball coach. Frickie coached Calhoun teams for over 27 years, leaving behind an enviable record of successful seasons.

Frickie’s influence on the lives of young people on and off the field was significant and his contributions to Calhoun and the local community noteworthy. Frickie worked with Calhoun’s baseball program from 1967 until his retirement in 1995. His accomplishments during his tenure include:

- Winning 669 games, 25th on the all-time national junior college list at the time of his retirement;
- Being named Region 22 Coach of the Year six times;
- Winning the Alabama/Junior/Community College State Tournament six times in 20 trips;
- Induction as a member of the NJCAA Baseball Hall of Fame, the Alabama Junior College Athletic Hall of Fame, the Alabama Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame, and the Morgan County Sports Hall of Fame.

Additionally, Frickie was responsible for the building of two ball fields on Calhoun’s Decatur campus with minimum resources and the assistance of the National Guard. During his career at Calhoun, he coached a number of players who went on to the national ranks, including retired players Jorge Posada and Gary Redus.

“It was only fitting that Calhoun’s baseball and softball park be named after someone whose name is synonymous with Calhoun Community College athletics and the College’s mission,” Beck added.

EMS and Nursing Students Conduct Mass Casualty Training Drill

Students from the College’s Emergency Medical Services and Nursing programs conducted a mock mass casualty training drill on the morning of April 24 in the area of the Aerospace Training Center and the Health Sciences Center on the Decatur campus.

Each year, the Health Sciences Division stages a mock disaster to simulate a scenario involving a threat to persons/property which has just occurred on campus. This year’s disaster drill simulated the aftermath of an industrial chemical explosion. Past mock drill scenarios have included a bus crash, bomb threat, and an active shooter incident. So that students, staff and visitors to the campus would not confuse the drill with a real situation, notices went out across the college and signs indicating a training drill was currently underway were posted in the area of the activity.

In addition to Calhoun health students and faculty, the College’s Police and Security personnel and area fire, EMS agencies, area police departments and air medical flight services from MedFlight participated with the students.

Calhoun, Drake State announce new scholarship opportunities for dual enrollment students

Calhoun and Drake State Community and Technical College, in conjunction with the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education, conducted a joint press conference on May 20 to announce the specifics of new dual enrollment scholarships for area high school students and a new career technical dual enrollment tax credit which will allow more students to enroll in programs preparing them for high-demand, high-wage jobs.

“It means a jump start on my career to have been able to complete high school and college at the same time because of the classes I took through Dual Enrollment,” commented recent Calhoun grad Colby Gooch.

New legislation passed last year now allows businesses and individuals to donate funds for career technical dual enrollment scholarships and to receive tax credits for up to 50 percent of the donation not to exceed $500,000, or an amount up to 50 percent of the taxpayer’s Alabama income tax liability. Donors can direct up to 80 percent of contributions for specific career technical programs at a particular institution.
November 2002
Dr. Marilyn C. Beck named 4th president of Calhoun; Beck’s appointment makes her the College’s first permanent woman president

January 27, 2003
Dr. Beck begins her first official day at the helm of Calhoun

May 12, 2003
Announcement made that Calhoun’s television station, 4CTV, would expand service into the Athens/Limestone County area

May 27, 2005
Dr. Beck holds press event to announce reinstatement of athletics; decision to bring back baseball and fast-pitch softball

June 24, 2005
U.S. Department of Labor awards $3.5 M grant to state; Calhoun leads development of Center for Manufacturing Innovation

October 4, 2005
In an effort to address student concerns resulting from rising gas prices, Calhoun becomes one of the country’s first colleges to announce an alternative class schedule

October 21, 2004
Groundbreaking ceremony held for College’s new 64,000 square foot Health Sciences Center

January 2006
As Dr. Beck celebrates her third anniversary at the College, among her accomplishments was a record $13 million in public and private grants awarded to Calhoun in 2005

January 18, 2007
$5 million U.S. Department of Labor grant awarded to regional workforce development effort led by Calhoun for 2nd Generation Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) initiative

December 18, 2006
College announces that as a result of the recent end of Alabama’s desegregation case, it will offer day classes at its Huntsville/Cummings Research park campus beginning with the spring semester, the first time since moving to the Research Park location that the College would be allowed to offer day classes

September 2007
College kicks off year-long 60th anniversary celebration

October 5, 2007
$5 million U.S. Department of Labor grant awarded to regional workforce development effort led by Calhoun for 2nd Generation Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) initiative

July 12, 2007
Dr. Beck and Jim Hudson, president of the Hudson-Alpha Institute for Biotechnology, announce a joint project between the College, the Institute and the Partnership for Biotechnology Research for the development of a new degree program in Biotechnology at Calhoun, the first associate degree program in Biotechnology in the state of Alabama

October 28, 2007
Calhoun Foundation announces $1.8M bequest left to Calhoun by the late Josephine Powell of Decatur, AL, the largest monetary gift to the College at that time

February 2008
An Economic impact report released for the Alabama College System by then Chancellor Bradley Byrne stated that Calhoun’s local economic impact was $183,056,247 and statewide economic impact was $221,219,099. Statewide return on $1 investment (ROI): $11.56 (the highest among all of the state’s two-year colleges)

April 19, 2008
College hosts 60th Anniversary Gala and Official Opening of the Math, Science and Administration Building on its Decatur Campus
May 2008  
College conducts first ever outdoor graduation with over 400 students participating.

December 10, 2008  
College conducts groundbreaking for Phase I of the Alabama Robotics Technology Park (RTP).

February 17, 2010  
U.S. Department of Labor awards $3,470,830 grant to train students through the new ACECET, to be located at the college’s Decatur campus.

June 9, 2008  
Governor Bob Riley announces that a state-of-the-art robotics training and education center will be housed at Calhoun. In making the announcement, Governor Riley noted that “because the Huntsville area is considered to be among the leaders in robotics, North Alabama is the logical place for a robotics center.” Developed as a partnership among the state of Alabama, Calhoun, AIDT and robotics industry leaders, original plans call for a three-phase robotics park.

June 22, 2010  
Groundbreaking held for Advanced Technology Research and Development Center, second phase of the RTP.

September 2010  
Calhoun enrollment tops 12,000 students.

August 24, 2011  
Grand opening/ribbon cutting held for Phase II of the RTP.

July 2012  
College receives official notification of reaccreditation from Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

January 2013  
Calhoun is among the list of the nation’s community colleges selected as finalists for a 2013 Bellwether Award. The Dual Enrollment program has been named a finalist in the Workforce Development category. Calhoun is the only Alabama college selected as a finalist for the coveted award.

October 2, 2014  
Calhoun and Toyota Motor Manufacturing Alabama, in conjunction with local industry partners, conduct ribbon cutting for Alabama Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education (AL FAME) AMT program.

October 31, 2014  
Groundbreaking activities for the new Integration, Entrepreneurial and Paint Dispense Training Center, Phase III, of the Alabama Robotics Technology Park (RTP) held.

August 27, 2014  
After almost 12 years at the College’s helm, Dr. Beck announces her retirement, effective December 31, 2014.

July 10, 2014  
Groundbreaking ceremony for Phase II of the Alabama Center for the Arts (ACA) held.

June 28, 2013  
The national publication Community College Week lists Calhoun among the nation’s Top 50 Associate Degree producers for Registered, Administration, Research and Clinical Nursing.

September 19, 2012  
Grand opening held for Alabama Center for Excellence in Clean Energy Technology (ACECET).

May 2012  
Conversion to new administrative software (Banner) provides easier registration process; supports greater student success.

December 10, 2014  
The Huntsville campus breaks ground on a state-of-the-art facility for Math, Science and Computer Science.

December 5, 2014  
The College’s new state-of-the-art facility for Math, Science and Computer Science breaks ground.

October 19, 2012  
In partnership with Athens State University, the College held a fundraising gala to mark the official public opening for Phase I of the new Alabama Center for the Arts (ACA) in downtown Decatur.

June 2012  
Huntsville philanthropist Bill Propst, Sr. and his wife, Eloise donated $1 million, the largest one-time cash donation in the College’s history.

October 19, 2012  
After almost 12 years at the College’s helm, Dr. Beck announces her retirement, effective December 31, 2014.

July 20, 2014  
Groundbreaking ceremony for Phase II of the Alabama Center for the Arts (ACA) held.

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December 5, 2014  
The College’s new state-of-the-art facility for Math, Science and Computer Science breaks ground.
Success for me is getting a scholarship for doing something I love, singing. This gives me the opportunity to get my basics done while I figure out what I want to do after I graduate.

Anna Reeves
Calhoun students, Faculty Member, and President Receive National Recognition

Calhoun students Savannah McCullough, Tiffany Merryman, and Andrew Jordan represented the state of Alabama as 2014 Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Scholars. McCullough was selected as a 2014 Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Gold Scholar, receiving a $1500 scholarship and special gold medallion. Merryman and Jordan were both selected as Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Bronze Scholars, with each receiving a $1000 scholarship and bronze medallion.

A Mathematics major from Madison, Alabama, McCullough graduated in May 2014 with a 4.0 GPA. She served as a Calhoun Warhawk student ambassador and was active in the Phi Theta Kappa and Sigma Kappa Delta honor societies. Savannah was also one of four Calhoun nominees for the 2014 All-USA Academic Team.

Merryman, a Pre-Med/Biology major from Huntsville, Alabama, also graduated last spring with a perfect 4.0 GPA. While at Calhoun, she was an active member of Phi Theta Kappa, serving as Vice President of Leadership. Tiffany was also one of four nominees from Calhoun for the 2014 All-USA Academic Team.

A General Education major from Valhermosa Springs, Alabama, Jordan also served as a member of the Phi Theta Kappa and Sigma Kappa Delta honor societies and was one of four Calhoun nominees for the 2014 All-USA Academic Team. His GPA at Calhoun was 3.961.

“Were we were so excited and extremely proud to have three of our very outstanding student leaders recognized as Coca-Cola Scholars this year,” commented Calhoun President Marilyn Beck. “This recognition of Tiffany, Savannah and Andrew adds to the growing list of Calhoun students who have been honored on the national level for their academic accomplishments,” Beck added.

Each year, the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation sponsors the Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team program by recognizing 50 Gold, 50 Silver and 50 Bronze Scholars nationally, and providing nearly $187,500 in annual scholarships. Students named Coca-Cola scholars were selected from the more than 1,700 applications submitted this year. Funding for the scholarships is provided by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation.

Necia Nicholas, Biology department chair and an advisor for the College’s Sigma Lambda Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, was among 30 PTK advisors internationally honored with the 2014 Distinguished Advisor Award. The Award recognizes advisors who have served at least four years and have made significant contributions to the growth of the individual chapter members, served as the chapter’s advocate on campus, and encouraged the chapter to be involved on the local, regional, and/or international level of the organization. Advisors were nominated by their chapters through the Hallmark Awards application process and were selected by a panel of judges from over 75 nominees worldwide.

Calhoun President Marilyn Beck was also honored with Phi Theta Kappa’s Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction, named in honor of PTK’s longest serving Board Chair and founder and longtime President of Highline Community College in Washington. College presidents and campus chief executive officers, nominated by their local Phi Theta Kappa chapter, are selected for this award, which is based on their outstanding support of Phi Theta Kappa.

Results of Health Program Licensure Exams Announced

Graduates from several of the College’s health programs performed well on their respective licensure exams, in all cases outscoring their counterparts nationally.

According to Bret McGill, Health Sciences dean, results were posted for the most recent graduates from the College’s Clinical Laboratory (CLT), Surgical Technology, Emergency Medical Technology and Paramedic, Physical Therapy Assistant, and Dental Assisting programs.

Graduates of the CLT program saw a 100% passage rate on their licensure test, far surpassing the national average. National passage rate for the CLT program was 78.7%.

According to Program Director Grant Wilson, 17 Surgical Technology students completed that program summer 2014. All 17 (100%) passed the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting Certified Surgical Technologist Exam (CST).

Graduates from the Emergency Medical Technology (EMT) and Paramedic programs also posted impressive passage rates. Calhoun’s EMT graduates had a passage rate of 85%, with the Advanced EMT (AEMT) graduates posting a 91% rate. Comparatively speaking, national rates for first-time testers on the EMT program were 79% and 70% for AEMT grads. Recent graduates of Calhoun’s Paramedic program also outpaced their counterparts nationally. Calhoun passage rates were 93%, compared to the national rate of 85%.

For the first time in the history of the program, graduates of the Dental Assisting program were required by the College to take the Certified Dental Assisting (CDA) licensure exam. “While the state of Alabama currently does not require dental assistants take the exam for employment, we decided to make this a requirement now for our students for several reasons,” said McGill. “We know that the certification, combined with the classroom instruction and training that these students receive at Calhoun, makes them better prepared and more marketable when they are seeking employment in the field,” added McGill. Calhoun students taking the CDA exam for the first time posted an overall passage rate of 89%, far outpacing the national average of 70%.
Calhoun Listed Among Nation’s Top 50 Associate Degree Registered Nursing Producers for 2014

In the August 18, 2014, issue of the national publication Community College Week, Calhoun was listed among the nation’s Top 50 Associate Degree producers for Registered, Administration, Research and Clinical Nursing graduates.

With a total of 256 graduates during the 2012-13 academic year (the period of time ranked in the article), Calhoun was listed 29th among the Top 50, up from its 44th ranking last year. The College posted an overall increase of 20% in registered nursing grads over the 2011-12 academic year.

“We feel that the College’s continued emphasis on graduation and completion was key to this increase in our nursing grads last year,” commented Calhoun President Marilyn Beck. “Our implementation of very targeted strategies geared toward increasing graduation rates continues to be a major objective in our Plan for Student Success. We stress the importance of completion and graduation from the very first day students enter our doors,” Beck added.

Student Essay Leads to Scholarship and Equipment for College

An essay written by Calhoun student Heath Parker led to a scholarship for him and a year’s use of a state-of-the-art laser alignment system for the College’s Industrial Maintenance program.

Earlier in the year, Parker submitted an essay to VibrAlign, a leading supplier of alignment equipment, on his experiences using an alignment system. Parker’s winning essay, which appeared in The Shaft Alignment Blog (www.thealignmentblog.com), earned him a $500 scholarship and use of the VibrAlign alignment equipment, valued at $15,000. A graduate of Priceville High School, Parker earned a degree in HVAC/Renewable Energy from Calhoun and is currently enrolled in the College’s Industrial Maintenance program and interning at Nucor Steel in Decatur.

“At VibrAlign, precision is our passion. Our goal is to realign America,” commented David Zdrojewski, VibrAlign chief executive officer. Zdrojewski personally delivered the equipment to Calhoun and provided training to faculty who will use the equipment in their classes this year.

“We are extremely proud of Heath for writing his winning essay, and very excited to have been provided use of this state-of-the-art equipment,” said Bethany Shockney, dean for business, technologies and workforce development at Calhoun. “The opportunity for our students to train on this equipment will be invaluable as they enter the workforce,” Shockney added. According to Shockney, a number of local companies including Carpenter, TVA and BP use the same equipment.

Calhoun Students Big Winners in 2014 Alabama SkillsUSA Competition

Several students representing Calhoun Community College attended the Alabama SkillsUSA Leadership conference in Birmingham, earning five 1st place, four 2nd place, and four 3rd place medals in competition. The Calhoun winners were:

First Place Winners:
Nick Cordier, Madison, AL - Computer Maintenance
Jacob Rippy, Madison, AL - Cosmetology
Lena Sledge, Madison, AL - TV/Video Production
(1st Year Calhoun has competed in this category)
Thomas Rutherford, Hatton, AL - Architectural Drafting
William Johnson, Athens, AL - Internetworking

Second Place Winners:
Justin Renshaw, Decatur, AL - Internetworking
Rebecca Jones, Huntsville, AL - Architectural Drafting
Thomas Steele, Hartselle, AL - Technical Drafting
Hunter Partridge, Madison, AL - Precision Machining

Third Place Winners:
Ronald Campbell, Sheffield, AL - Job Skill Demonstration
Nelson Sanchez, Decatur, AL - CNC Milling
Jared Bailey, Athens, AL - CNC Turning
Calista Blankenship, Sommerville, AL - Job Interview
Poet Laureate Billy Collins Featured Presenter for Writers’ Conference

In October, Calhoun had the honor of hosting two-time U.S. Poet Laureate, Billy Collins, for the 14th Annual Writers’ Conference in conjunction with the College’s QEP Big Read. Appearing over two evenings at Decatur’s Princess Theatre and the Jackson Center in Huntsville, Collins drew a record-breaking crowd of over 1,300 people. The audiences included not only Calhoun faculty, staff, and students but also those from area colleges, schools, and communities.

During his visit, Collins noted how well prepared Calhoun’s students were for his presentations. He was also pleased that the College and Cengage provided so many students with complimentary copies of his book Sailing Alone around the Room.

Calhoun Twins Capture National Collegiate Rowing Title

Calhoun students Audrie and Brooke Hamann set the collegiate rowing world abuzz when they won a national championship in women’s collegiate pairs at the American Collegiate Rowing Association Club competition last May in Gainesville, Georgia. In the May 25 final, the twins and Calhoun won in 7 minutes and 58.1 seconds. Both Business majors, they just completed their freshman year at the College with perfect 4.0 GPAs, earning them a place on the President’s List.

In November, Dr. Kemba Chambers, Calhoun’s Dean for Math, Natural Sciences and Pre-Engineering, was elected to the position of Second Vice President for the Alabama Community College Association. As Second Vice-President, she will serve one term and automatically move to the office of First Vice-President/President-Elect.

Chambers joined the Calhoun family in 2013 and has been in the Alabama Community College System for the past 14 years. She has over 18 years of extensive experience in education at both secondary and post-secondary levels, having held positions at Drake State Community and Technical College, Chattahoochee Valley Community College and the Phenix City Public School System.

College Faculty, Staff and Administrator Honored by NISOD

In October, NISOD (National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development) announced four members of the Calhoun family as recipients of its Excellence Award. Bret McGill, Dean, Division of Health Sciences; Scott Throneberry, Emergency Medical Services Instructor; Steven Threlkel, Biology Department Chair, Huntsville campus; and Gwen Baker, Coordinator of Dual Enrollment, will be recognized with the award during NISOD’s annual conference in May 2015.

NISOD’s Excellence Awards recognize men and women each year who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment and contribution to their students and colleagues. “Recognizing those individuals who have contributed to student success and their colleges’ mission is something we look forward to doing each year,” said Dr. Edward J. Leach, NISOD’s Executive Director.

“The extraordinary work of these men and women includes not only what they do for their students and colleagues, but what they do for the communities in which they live and work. We’re honored to be able to play a part in celebrating their achievements.”

“According to the requirements of NISOD, the individuals selected for these awards have demonstrated an outstanding commitment and contribution to their students and colleagues,” commented Calhoun President Marilyn Beck. “I can say unequivocally that each of our four honorees are well deserving of this recognition,” Beck added.

PR Department Recognized for Outstanding Work at State and National Levels

Calhoun’s Public Affairs, Community Relations and Special Events department was recognized this year at the state and national level for outstanding marketing efforts on behalf of the College.

During the annual conference of the Alabama Community College System Public Relations Association (ACCSPRA) held September 2-4, 2014, the College received ten awards.

Calhoun was presented two (2) first place Pyramid Awards, five (5) Awards of Achievement, and three (3) Awards of Merit in the Pyramid Awards competition. Specifically, Calhoun was presented awards in the following categories: Pyramids in the Class Schedule category for the 2013 Fall Class Schedule and in the College Promotional Video Category.

Awards of Achievement were earned in the following: Student Publications category for the 2013 edition of The Muse; Social Media category for Calhoun’s Facebook page; the College Catalog category for the 2013-14 Calhoun Catalog; the Single Sheet Flyer category; and in the Photography category for a photo of the bagpiper leading the graduation processional. Awards of Merit were presented in the Potpourri category for the College’s Go Here website and marketing campaign; in the Social Media category for the Calhoun YouTube channel; and in the Viewbook category.

The Department was also recognized for its outstanding efforts by the National Council on Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) during the District 2 conference held October 26-29 in Nashville, TN. Calhoun received seven awards in the annual Medallion Awards competition in the following categories: Annual Report - Bronze Medallion; Class Schedule – Gold Medallion; Radio Advertisement/PSA, Single – Silver Medallion; Video Advertisement/PSA, Single – Gold Medallion (2); Visual Arts, Original Photography (unaltered) – Gold Medallion; and Website – Silver Medallion. According to officials with NCMPR, the competition attracted more than 450 entries.
Being able to work and go to school at the same time is something that I believe is a privilege – I am able to take what I learn at school and apply it directly to my work. This program has completely changed my life.

Bryant England
The event, conducted at the Alabama Robotics Technology Park, Phase II facility, attracted dozens of local elected officials, business leaders and educators and included comments from U.S. Congressman Mo Brooks; Mary Scott Hunter, Alabama State Board of Education; Dr. Mark Heinrich, Chancellor, Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education; Dr. Marilyn Beck, Calhoun president; Jim Bolte, President, Toyota Alabama; Pascal Auburtin, Vice President, EFI Automotive; and Calhoun student Bryant England.

The initiative, referred to as the Advanced Manufacturing Technician (AMT) program, is designed as an innovative manufacturing degree that will span five semesters of classroom instruction while providing paid, hands-on experience at world-class manufacturing facilities. The goal of the AMT program is to close the gap of unfilled skilled technician jobs in Alabama and across the country. Currently, there are 12 students enrolled in the program who will earn enough pay (starting at $13.55 per hour) to cover their educational expenses and the opportunity to graduate debt free. Upon completion, graduates will hold an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Advanced Manufacturing.

"Being able to work and go to school at the same time is something that I believe is a privilege," said England. "I am able to take what I learn at school and apply it directly to my work. This program has completely changed my life," England added.

The effort also includes a collaborative known as the Alabama Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education (AL FAME), designed to partner with area manufacturing companies that are interested in participating in the workforce development initiative. In addition to Toyota, FAME partners introduced during the event were EFI, Custom Polymers PET, and Sonoco.

"The AMT program allows businesses and educators the opportunity to work collaboratively to prepare students with the knowledge and skills needed for a career in manufacturing," said Jim Bolte, president of Toyota Alabama. "Creating a pipeline of skilled maintenance technicians is a win-win for Alabama’s workforce needs."

"Calhoun is so very fortunate to have this opportunity to partner with Toyota, EFI, Custom Polymers PET, and Sonoco as we work together to educate, train and prepare our students for the very high skilled, high wage advanced manufacturing jobs now and into the future," commented Beck.

**Calhoun Hosts 2014 Workforce Expo**

On February 5, Calhoun’s Kelley Gymnasium on the Decatur campus served as the site for the 2014 Career and Workforce Expo.

Over 1,000 students, parents, and educators from communities and school systems across Calhoun’s service area attended. Each year, this free event targets high school and college students and brings together local businesses, industries and employers who provide the jobs in our area and the young people who will soon fill those jobs.

This year, the Expo focused on exposing students to the current lack of soft skills which exist in the workplace. “Those students attending the event had the opportunity to visit booths and displays which were much more interactive this year, with a number of hands-on activities included to catch their interest," commented Gwen Baker, coordinator of Calhoun’s Tech Prep program and the Workforce Expo.

The Career & Workforce Expo is an annual program sponsored by the Calhoun Community College Tech Prep Consortium in conjunction with the Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce and the Morgan County Economic Development Association. Additional support is provided each year by area businesses and industries. Gold sponsor for the event is Joe Wheeler EMC. Silver sponsors are 3M, Bunge, Redstone Federal Credit Union and Toray CFA. Special support is provided each year by Pepsi Cola Decatur, LLC.

The named endowment was established by BP’s Petrochemical Complex located in Decatur, Alabama. BP Decatur has been a strong contributor in the North Alabama community for over 40 years, valuing community, nature, and economic growth. BP contributes to the community with volunteer time and donations for the benefit of numerous non-profit organizations and believes in developing future workers and leaders and reaches out to local colleges and universities for its co-op and intern programs.

The BP Decatur Process Technology and Industrial Maintenance Endowed Scholarship will give first priority to Calhoun students pursuing a degree in Process Technology or Maintenance Technology.

**BP Decatur Creates Excellence in Process Technology and Industrial Maintenance Scholarship**

The BP Decatur Foundation received a donation of $25,000 from BP Decatur for the creation of the BP Decatur Excellence in Process Technology and Industrial Maintenance Endowed Scholarship.

The BP Decatur Process Technology and Industrial Maintenance Endowed Scholarship will give first priority to Calhoun students pursuing a degree in Process Technology or Maintenance Technology.

Calhoun was among the presenters and a corporate sponsor for the Decatur Chamber of Commerce’s Second Annual Endless Opportunities Career Expo, held Oct. 30 at Ingalls Harbor Pavilion in Decatur. More than 1,600 eighth graders from across Morgan County participated, getting the chance to take part in three career opportunity “worlds” connected to the 16 career clusters identified by the State of Alabama.

Calhoun presenters covered topics which included Health Sciences; Manufacturing; Welding; and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). After attending the Expo, students were better equipped to complete their four year plan, which is now part of each student’s high school requirements. Presenting sponsor for the Expo was 3M. In addition to Calhoun, other corporate sponsors were Ascend Performance Materials, Big Heart Pet Brands, Decatur Morgan Hospital, Nucor Steel, Tennessee Valley Training Center, Toray Carbon Fibers America, Inc., Turner Construction and United Launch Alliance.
The SDS Scholarship, funded by the US Department of Health and Human Services, provides support for nursing students at the College in helping them to be successful in their field.

Lighting the Path
## Grants Awarded
### January 1, 2014 - December 31, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROJECT</th>
<th>FUNDING AGENCY</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Education – EL Civics Federal</td>
<td>Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education</td>
<td>$75,630</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Education – EL Civics State</td>
<td>Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education</td>
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<td>Adult Education – Institutional State Funding</td>
<td>Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education</td>
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<td>Adult Education – Regular Federal</td>
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<td>Adult Education – State Funding</td>
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<td>Adult Education – WorkKeys</td>
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<td>Alabama Parenthood Initiative (Pathways)</td>
<td>Alabama Children’s Trust Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dual Enrollment</td>
<td>Alabama Governor’s Office of Workforce Development</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parenting Education &amp; Support</td>
<td>Alabama Children’s Trust Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Child Abuse &amp; Neglect Program)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Awareness &amp; Training Local</td>
<td>Alabama Children’s Trust Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Child Abuse &amp; Neglect Program)</td>
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<td>(Child Abuse &amp; Neglect Program)</td>
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<td>Career Coaches</td>
<td>Alabama Governor’s Office of Workforce Development</td>
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<td>Health Science Simulation Lab</td>
<td>Alabama Governor’s Office of Workforce Development</td>
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<td>Opening Doors College Access Challenge Grants</td>
<td>Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE)</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
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<td>CARCAM – AMP-IT-UP Grant</td>
<td>National Science Foundation (through Gadsden State)</td>
<td>$25,411</td>
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<td>Carl D. Perkins</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Education</td>
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<td>Scholarships for Disadvantaged Nursing Students</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services</td>
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<td>Dual Enrollment Scholarships</td>
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<td>Student Support Services (ongoing)</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Education</td>
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<td>Dual Enrollment Specialist</td>
<td>Alabama Governor’s Office of Workforce Development</td>
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**TOTAL:** $3,371,585  
(New and Continuation)  
*Does not include Student Financial Aid*
### Revenue

**2011-2012 – 2013-2014**

<table>
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<th>Source</th>
<th>2011-2012</th>
<th>2012-2013</th>
<th>2013-2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>State Appropriations</strong></td>
<td>$20,617,533</td>
<td>$21,027,062</td>
<td>$22,211,649</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuition and Fees</strong></td>
<td>$20,687,259</td>
<td>$23,611,509</td>
<td>$25,030,658</td>
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<td><strong>Federal/State/Local Grants and Contracts</strong></td>
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<td>$25,852,536</td>
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<td><strong>Auxiliary</strong></td>
<td>$804,276</td>
<td>$690,817</td>
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<td><strong>Sales and Service</strong></td>
<td>$212,118</td>
<td>$111,578</td>
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<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
<td>$384,121</td>
<td>$947,243</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$71,620,702</strong></td>
<td><strong>$72,240,745</strong></td>
<td><strong>$71,632,682</strong></td>
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### Expenditures

**2011-2012 – 2013-2014**

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<th>Source</th>
<th>2011-2012</th>
<th>2012-2013</th>
<th>2013-2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Instruction</strong></td>
<td>$22,631,835</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Public Service</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Academic Support</strong></td>
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<td>$3,671,550</td>
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<td><strong>Student Services</strong></td>
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<td>$4,497,625</td>
<td>$4,451,386</td>
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<td><strong>Institutional Support</strong></td>
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<td>$9,135,393</td>
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<td><strong>Operation &amp; Maintenance</strong></td>
<td>$4,747,671</td>
<td>$4,839,932</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Scholarships &amp; Fellowships</strong></td>
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<td>$11,301,167</td>
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<td><strong>Auxiliary</strong></td>
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<td>$53,880</td>
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<td><strong>Depreciation</strong></td>
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<td>$3,558,517</td>
<td>$3,737,975</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$57,897,758</strong></td>
<td><strong>$61,440,805</strong></td>
<td><strong>$60,336,987</strong></td>
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