Celebrating our Past. Impacting our Future. A-B TECH FOUNDATION 20TH ANNIVERSARY



2014-15 ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT



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The A-B Tech Foundation is proud to be celebrating 20 years of working to provide students in our region with access to quality education through scholarships. These scholarships are more than mere dollars, they are an economic difference-maker for our most in-need students and their families. Two decades ago, we established a simple goal: to ensure that members of

THE MISSION OF THE FOUNDATION is to support Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College in all of its programs and activities to ensure that quality educational opportunities are available to students, faculty and staff.

our community, regardless of personal background or financial constraints, have access to the opportunities afforded by higher education. This is an investment in Western North Carolina. The strength of our impact is achieved only through your support.

As we look back over these 20 years, we celebrate our past with pride and plan for a bright future.



Celebrating

THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE A-B TECH FOUNDATION

As President of A-B Tech, K. Ray Bailey was often referred to as "Fundraiser-in-Chief". It was Bailey who dubbed A-B Tech "America's Community College" as a catchphrase to use when he was raising money for scholarships and construction during a period of extensive growth.

As Bailey cultivated relationships with potential donors, there was a growing need to establish a foundation to manage the money and award scholarships. The A-B Tech Foundation was incorporated on May 31, 1996, after two years of development by Bailey, Development **Director Sara** Morris, and Walt Curry, the college's attorney.



potential board members.

The original Foundation Board included Rick Fain, who served as its first chair, then-Asheville Mayor Russ Martin, Jim Coman, son of long-time trustee Herb Coman, Jerry Dave, president of Dave Steel Co., Alton Day, Jack Ferguson, Dick Jennings of Sunburst Trout Farms, Dodie King, Karl Koon, Bill Murdock of Eblen Charities, Talmage

Penland, and several A-B Tech employees.

At its first meeting in November of that year, the board established four goals to guide the Foundation:

- Scholarships
- · Improved technology

MAY 31, 1996 A-B Tech Foundation incorporated



NOVEMBER 7, 1996 First annual meeting

After Morris died in 1995, Bailey appointed Buffy Bagwell as vice president of a newly organized

College Relations Division charged with further

and improve the image of the college. Bailey and Bagwell also began putting together a wish list of

developing the foundation and continuing to market

of the A-B Tech Foundation Board with initial membership of 21 1997

OCTOBER 1997 Universal Campaign launched





SEPTEMBER 1998

First Santa Spree fundraiser held to raise funds for faculty/staff mini-grants

NOVEMBER 1998

The Jessie Copp Kramer Endowed Scholarship established by the Hominy Valley Community

1999

FEBRUARY 1999

Foundation awards \$50,000 in mini-grants to faculty and staff from Santa Spree



- Professional development for faculty and staff
- Renovation and expansion of college facilities

The cornerstone of the Foundation was, and remains, the awarding of scholarships. Bailey felt strongly that every person who wanted to attend A-B Tech should be able to find the means and he took on the role of "fundraiser-in-chief" with gusto.

"I talked about four things everywhere I went: scholarships, cutting-edge technology, mini-grants for

faculty and staff, and the renovation of Magnolia," Bailey said.

The first renovation project funded through the Foundation was the restoration of Fernihurst Mansion, which was called the Magnolia Building at that time. The project later was expanded to include

construction of a new Magnolia building and the entire complex was dubbed the Brumit Center.

One of the Foundation's first major fundraisers was

the Santa Spree, begun in 1998 to help fund faculty and staff mini-grants. Santa Spree initially was a raffle for a \$5,000 shopping spree at a local mall, and the location varied by year. By 2000, the grand prize was a new truck and the fundraiser hit the \$55,000 mark.

Anita Metcalf was hired in early 2001 as the new Vice President of

College Relations. While she did not have a lot of fundraising experience at the time, "I did have relationships within the community that were significant and Ray (Bailey) knew everyone," she said.

Together, they founded the annual Scholarship Luncheon to honor the scholarship recipients for



2000

APRIL 1999

Foundation awards first Haith-Miller Scholarship

Foundation receives \$200,000 grant from Janirve Foundation to equip Sycamore Building

JUNE 1999

Jack and Carolyn Ferguson pledge \$1 million to support the Foundation through three charitable remainder trusts

a salassassas

MARCH 2000

A-B Tech Foundation raffles a Caribbean Cruise to support scholarships for African-American students, raising \$23,517 to surpass its \$10,000 goal

DECEMBER 2000

The Santa Spree grand prize is a brand-new GMC Sonoma. The fundraiser exceeds goal by raising \$55,000

2001

FEBRUARY 2001

Foundation received \$10,000 endowed scholarship from UnitedHealthcare



APRIL 2001

Anita Metcalf hired as Foundation Executive Director and Vice President of College Relations



2001-02 – all six of them. Today, the event recognizes the recipients and donors of more than 400 scholarships valued at nearly half a million

dollars that are awarded annually by the Foundation.

After a year on the job, Metcalf was invited to lunch with Bailey and community members Jack and Carolyn Ferguson, who had already pledged \$1 million to support the Foundation through charitable remainder trusts in 1999.

"Jack and Carolyn called and wanted to have lunch at

Southside Café, a favorite of the Fergusons," Metcalf said. That lunch in August 2002 turned into a wonderful gain for the Foundation.

"I didn't know the Fergusons initially, but learned they were interested in giving because their daughters went through the Nursing program," Bailey said. "We went to many lunches and I really had no idea what they intended to do, then one day, Jack handed me a check for \$2 million."

Bailey says the Foundation continues to fulfill his vision.

"I'm proud of the fact that the four goals we set gave people a chance to better themselves, whether through scholarships or the grants for faculty and staff.

That was the whole purpose."

Bailey and the Board of Trustees renamed Laurel Auditorium for the Fergusons and placed their photo in the lobby. That gesture also inspired the Giving Wall, where the Foundation placed plaques to honor people who donated to the college. "We put them in Ferguson because it was the building

that had the most public traffic," Bailey said.

"Ray really made the Foundation," Metcalf said. Bailey went on to recruit Daryl Hart and Joe Brumit for the Foundation Board, both of whom became valuable members of the board.

2002



OCTOBER 2001 First Scholarship Luncheon honors six scholarship recipients

AUGUST 2002

Jack and Carolyn Ferguson donate an additional \$2 million to A-B Tech



NOVEMBER 2002

Jack and Carolyn Ferguson are named the 2002 Outstanding Philanthropists by the WNC Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals





APRIL 2003
College Foundation receives \$730,000 to create the Grace loan Love Schneider

Endowed Scholarship

DECEMBER 2003

Ken and Verna Murphy pledge \$1 million gift to the A-B Tech Foundation

2004

JUNE 2004

The A-B Tech Foundation holds its first Invitational Golf Classic at Mt. Mitchell, raising nearly \$20,000 for scholarships



Brumit, currently chair of the college's Board of Trustees, and his wife Janice were major contributors to the Fernihurst restoration project. The refurbished

home and the current Magnolia **Building were** dedicated as the **Brumit Center for Culinary Arts** and Hospitality in 2007.

Hart established an endowed scholarship in memory of his father, Osborne M. Hart.

It is awarded to African-American students enrolled as full-time students. Osborne Hart was a native of Asheville, President of Hart **Funeral Services**

and a devoted community leader. A retired Lt. Colonel, he was also a U.S. Army veteran of WWII, Korea and Vietnam.

During Metcalf's tenure, the Foundation began a new annual fundraiser in 2004 – a golf tournament held the first Friday in June at Mount Mitchell Golf Club. The

tournament raised nearly \$20,000 for scholarships that first year and continues to grow, with funds now exceeding \$60,000. Since renamed the K. Ray Bailey/

> A-B Tech Foundation Invitational Golf Classic in honor of Bailey, it is the Foundation's largest fundraiser.

After Bailey retired in 2007 and Metcalf followed a few vears after. the Foundation underwent change, but continued to grow.

In Spring 2011, the Foundation held its first April in Asheville, a fundraising gala

with proceeds benefitting the Foundation's scholarship program and the Culinary Arts and Hospitality Department. At the 2013 April in Asheville, the Foundation announced the receipt of a \$5 million gift from Jack and Carolyn Ferguson to assist with construction of a new Allied Health facility. In 2014, the



JANUARY 2005

William P. Warren Health Education Fund established through a \$50,000 grant from the Kate B. Reynolds **Charitable Trust**

FEBRUARY 2005

A \$130,630 grant from the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust expands nursing assistant program





JUNE 2005

Gene Bell, Don Locke and Robby Russell, members of the Osborn M. Hart Endowed Scholarship committee, announce \$53,600 raised for the scholarship as first recipient is selected

2006

JUNE 2006 Jim Oliver gifts the Foundation with **AvL Technologies**

\$50,000 to create the **Endowed Scholarship** 2007

MARCH 2007 AvL Technologies donates \$100,000 for scholarships, student business incubator and GIS program





JULY 2007 Retirement gala for retiring A-B Tech President K. Ray Bailey raises \$100,000 for an endowment to

the Foundation

annual gala was switched to Autumn in Asheville to celebrate the fall colors of our region.

Longtime A-B Tech faculty member Sue Olesiuk was

tapped as interim **Executive Director** of the Foundation in 2012 and accepted the permanent position in 2013. "It was an honor to be selected to be director after teaching at the college for so many years," she said. "That was a time of transition. It was during that time we were able to receive the transformative gift from Jack and Carolyn Ferguson. It's not every day a community college or

"The Foundation over its 20 years has really benefited from a very strong, committed board of directors," former Executive Director of Advancement Sue Olesiuk said. "They are wise and diverse and have offered leadership, gifts and enthusiasm. They become ambassadors to the college."

Management. "There are new folks and longtime members of the community who offer generous support to the college," she noted.

> A campus volunteer and intern program launched in 2012 also was moved under the Foundation to help meet needs on campus. The program recruits dedicated volunteers to mentor and tutor students. volunteer in the Veterans' Café, provide administrative support in departments across campus and assist in special events. The program also

oversees an animal therapy program, where volunteers with certified dogs provide emotional support to students and staff.

university receives a gift of that magnitude."

During her tenure, Olesiuk helped secure significant contributions from, among others, the Conrad Family of AB Emblem, Tommy Rice of Anders Rice Funeral Home, and John McKibbon, chair of McKibbon Hotel

> **DECEMBER 2009 APRIL 2011**





FEBRUARY 2008

Foundation receives a \$250,000 grant from the Community Foundation of WNC to create the Lavender Fund, which includes a scholarship fund for single parents attending college

2009

A \$10,000 Ribbon of Hope Grant from the Bank of America went to the Minority Leadership Academy



A-B Tech's Foundation holds first April in Asheville gala to benefit scholarships and the Culinary Arts and Hospitality Department



2012

AUGUST 2012 The Campus Volunteer and Intern program is launched

APRIL 2013

2013

The Foundation receives \$5 million gift from Jack and Carolyn Ferguson

Thanks to our donors, the A-B Tech Foundation is able to award more than 400 scholarships totaling nearly \$500,000. Following are profiles of selected donors and scholarship recipients that demonstrate how your generosity enables our students to pursue education and training that leads to a brighter future.

More than 72 percent of A-B Tech students need some form of financial assistance to attend college. Your donations transform

Our Donors are difference-makers

not only their lives, but the lives of their families and our community. A-B Tech is training the workforce for Western North Carolina: you encounter A-B Tech alumni in our hospitals, business and medical offices, hotels, restaurants, manufacturing plants, engineering firms, retail stores, childcare centers, and in four-year colleges and universities. On behalf of our students, faculty and staff, we thank you for your support.

DONOR PROFILE ~ GRACE JOAN LOVE SCHNEIDER ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Grace Joan Love Schneider (1920-1999) was a local ceramist and philanthropist and a native of Jacksonville, Fla.

In 1943, her financially successful parents bought a 24-room historic mansion on four acres as a summer home known as "Stratford Towers," one of the largest homes in the Lakeview neighborhood of North Asheville. With the death of her parents, she inherited the home and lived in it until her death in 1999.

Schneider and her god-daughter,

Sharon E. Giezentanner (nee Harper), were students in an A-B Tech Accounting class taught by an instructor (identified only as Mr. Freeman) who so inspired Schneider that she created an endowed scholarship in her will.

"Her creation of this endowment had so much to do with this instructor's professionalism, teaching ability and concern for his students. This is so important to me, because I do not believe teachers get the accolades they so richly deserve," observed Giezentanner in a 2003 email to the College's Office of Advancement.



The Grace Joan Love Schneider Endowed Scholarship provides financial assistance to deserving Buncombe or Madison County students enrolled in curriculum programs at A-B Tech who are full-time, desire to complete a curriculum program, maintain a GPA of 2.0 or greater (with preference given to students with GPA's of 3.0 or greater), and

participation in instruction and community activities.

The College originally awarded three scholarships from the endowment, which will support 20 scholarships this year. Since 1999, hundreds of A-B Tech students have benefitted from the largesse of Grace Joan Love Schneider and her family.

DONOR PROFILE ~ DON AND MARJORIE LOCKE ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

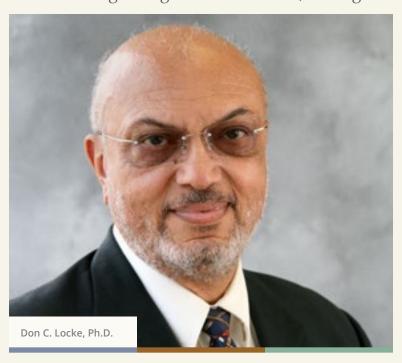
The late Don C. Locke and his wife, Marjorie, have been active in the Asheville community for many years. Don served in many capacities, including Mission Hospital's Ethics Board, the United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County board, the Buncombe County Health and Human Services board, and the Pisgah Legal Services board, among others.

In 2015, he won the Community Service award from the Martin Luther King, Jr. Association of Asheville and in 2016 was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine. Marjorie is an active supporter of the YWCA of Asheville and has served on its board.

A native of Mississippi, Don began his career as a high school teacher and earned a Ph.D.

from Ball State University. After serving as a professor and head of the department of Counselor Education at North Carolina State University for many years, he then joined UNC-Asheville, where he served as Director of Diversity and Multi-Culturalism, Director of the Asheville Graduate Center, and Director of the North Carolina State University doctoral program in Adult and Community College Education at the Asheville Graduate Center, retiring in 2007 as Distinguished Professor Emeritus of NCSU.

Don was a noted author of over 120 publications and a lifelong advocate for higher education and diversity. In April 1999, he also was a big winner on the TV game show "Wheel of Fortune," and subsequently, he and Marjorie decided to use his winnings to establish two scholarships targeted at enriching campus diversity for deserving UNC-A students.



Don became a generous donor to the A-B Tech Foundation beginning in the 1990s with support of the "100 Club" scholarship for African-American students, the Haith-Miller Scholarship, and through his assistance in establishing the Osborne Hart scholarship in support of African-American students.

The Don and Marjorie Locke

scholarship at A-B Tech was established in 2010 and became a fully endowed scholarship in 2013. The scholarship is open to full-time Buncombe and Madison County students holding a 2.0 GPA or greater and is open to students in all majors at A-B Tech.

In 2010, Don also joined the A-B Tech Board of Trustees and was its vice chair at the time of his death in June 2016. Immediately prior to his passing, he delivered an inspirational keynote speech at the 2016 A-B Tech commencement ceremony. In his honor, A-B Tech recently renamed its library as the Don C. Locke Library.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT ~ STELLA GALYEAN DALLAS HERRING AWARD

Stella Galyean was named the 2015 statewide winner of the Dallas Herring Achievement Award from the North Carolina Community College System for her accomplishments at A-B Tech Community College.

The award was to honor the late Dr. Dallas Herring, whose philosophy of "taking people where they are and carrying them as far as they can go" is the guiding award is given annually to a current or former student from one of 58 community colleges who best embodies Dr. Herring's philosophy.



she is pursuing a bachelor's degree at King University and expects to graduate this year. She will then pursue a master's degree and hopes to continue working for A-B Tech.

"Stella has risen above the challenges of her past to excel as a student and as a leader on our campus," said A-B Tech President Dennis King.

"One of her greatest strengths is her ability to lead others with a quiet grace that both inspires and provides the means for others to grow their own leadership skills."

Galyean also was president of the college's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of two-year colleges, vice president of the Phi Theta Kappa Carolinas Region, and an international officer candidate.

The mother of five children and a cancer survivor, Galyean also received the Wachovia/Wells-Fargo New Futures Scholarship and the K. Ray Bailey Golf Classic Scholarship from A-B Tech's Foundation. She was selected as a Coca-Cola Silver Scholar and placed on the All-USA Community College Academic Team. She also volunteers at numerous events and fundraisers.

Galyean was the first person in her family to earn more than a sixth-grade education. She grew up in a home with a mother who had a drug abuse problem and was married into an abusive relationship at 13. When she first earned a GED at A-B Tech, she herself was a sixth-grade dropout.

"If someone had told me five years ago that I would be a college student and would soon be starting on a bachelor's degree, I would have thought they were out of their mind," said Galyean. "After years of hearing that I was stupid and that I would never amount to anything, it was time for a change.

A-B Tech has given me the tools I need to be a successful student."

Galyean has earned a certificate in Substance Abuse Studies, an Associate in General Occupational Technology, and an Associate in Arts with honors. Now an employee in A-B Tech's Financial Aid Office,

DONOR PROFILE ~ JACK AND CAROLYN FERGUSON

The A-B Tech Foundation's largest donors, Jack and Carolyn Ferguson, began their charitable giving to the college when the Foundation was in its infancy. They surprised former President K. Ray Bailey with a check for \$2 million to provide scholarships for A-B Tech students.

The Fergusons were inspired by the education provided to their two daughters, both graduates of A-B Tech's nursing program.

Almost 20 years later, the Fergusons gave \$5 million, the largest donation in A-B Tech's history, to assist with construction of a new allied health building. At the time, Jack Ferguson said, "What we do for our young people

is our hope for tomorrow."

In 2015, A-B Tech dedicated the Ferguson Center for Allied Health and Workforce Development. The Fergusons, their family and friends were on hand for the ceremony as A-B Tech and community leaders praised the Fergusons for their generosity and dedication to education.

The Fergusons' long history of involvement with A-B Tech actually dates back to 1959, when the college was established. As a salesman at Lowe's, Jack Ferguson worked closely with the builders who constructed and remodeled campus buildings. In addition to their daughters, both sons also attended A-B Tech.

"It is heartwarming to see the love and support Jack and Carolyn Ferguson have for our A-B Tech students," said former Foundation Executive Director



Sue Olesiuk. "They know students come to A-B Tech to earn credentials that will lead to a brighter future for themselves and their families. They are making a difference for our students, our college and our communities. We are truly grateful for their love and support."

Beginning with the creation of Charitable Remainder Trusts, the Fergusons'

support of A-B Tech grew to include endowed scholarships and general support. Their generous contributions have supported not only the College's students, but the larger community, as well.

During his time on the Foundation's board, Jack Ferguson's guiding voice helped direct A-B Tech through a sustained period of growth. When he and his wife awarded the \$5 million gift in unrestricted funds, they also presented an additional gift of \$100,000 for four additional endowed scholarships.

"Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson's generosity will allow me to owe less money due to student loans when I graduate from nursing school. This will allow me to pay their kindness forward and donate money for a scholarship much sooner," said Logan Simmons, a Ferguson Scholarship recipient.

DONOR PROFILE ~ LACY T. HAITH AND JAMES V. MILLER ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Haith-Miller Scholarship Program reflects the proud leadership of the African-American community of Asheville in supporting students in need.

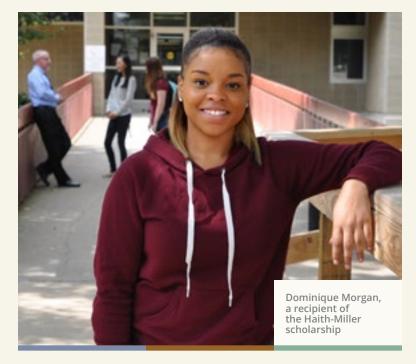
The program was established to "provide financial support to African-American students in advancing their quality of life and resulting in economic enhancement for this area."

Lacy T. Haith (1909-1994) was born in Elon College, NC, and earned a degree from the University of Michigan. Unable to attend graduate school in the South due to

segregation laws, he returned to the University of Michigan to earn an M.A. degree in 1943 through funds given to North Carolina black residents for out-of-state study.

Haith taught Industrial Arts at Stephens-Lee High School in Asheville, retiring in 1972 after a 35-year career. He was recognized for having taught "values," as well as his classes in carpentry and other vocational fields. Haith was active in the YMI and served as chairman of the board of the local YMCA. His widow, Harriett Haith, a retired Stephens-Lee and Asheville High School teacher and former school board member, continues to live in Asheville. She was instrumental in providing an oral history of the changes impacting the African-American community.

James Vester Miller (1858-1940) was born a slave in Rutherfordton, NC, and held little formal education. His humble beginnings were overshadowed by his



strong motivation and work ethic as a Master Mason. He worked for top Asheville contractors before establishing his own business, Miller and Sons Construction. His firm constructed many of Asheville's graceful churches, public buildings and homes. He built the Asheville Fire Department and Police Department buildings, as

well St. Matthias Episcopal Church. He was active in Asheville civic and political affairs during his lifetime.

The legacies of these two highly successful African-Americans, Lacy T. Haith and James V. Miller, live on in the Special Collections department of the D. H. Ramsey Library at UNC-Asheville. The Haith-Miller Scholarship Fund's initial success was achieved through the sale of raffle tickets for Caribbean cruises, with the proceeds of the raffle going to the scholarship fund. The fund continues to support area African-American students attending A-B Tech.

"Nursing is what I want to do, so having this opportunity and then exceed would be the best choice I have made for myself. I love knowing that my help means a lot to someone and giving them the motivation to never give up and live every day," said Dominique Morgan, a recipient of the Haith-Miller Scholarship.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ~ TOM MONE AND WES DAVIS NASA COMMUNITY COLLEGE AEROSPACE SCHOLARS PROJECT

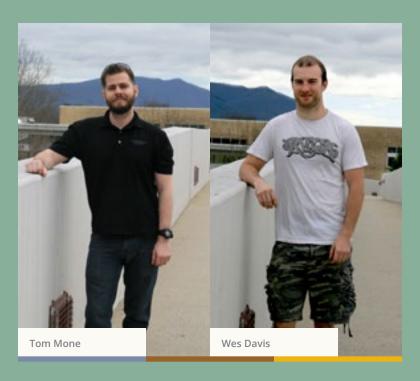
A-B Tech students Tom Mone and Wes Davis were selected to visit NASA's Stennis Space Center as NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars (NCAS). They were two of 216 U.S. community college students chosen to be part of NCAS. They are also the sixth and seventh A-B Tech students selected for the prestigious honor.

Davis planned to attend a four-year college to complete his degree in mechanical engineering. "I have been working in construction for eight years since I left high school and want a change. I don't want to just earn a paycheck; I want to make a difference," he said.

Mone had wanted to work with NASA since he was 7, but

changed gears when he struggled with math. After earning a bachelor's degree in communications and working in the film industry, including a three-year stint on a cruise ship, he found himself in Western North Carolina and was interested in earning an engineering degree. "Over time, life pulls you in so many directions that sometimes you just have to revert back to your childhood dream; the one you had before everyone and everything was telling you 'no' all the time... I make it a habit of finding the 'Yes' in a world full of 'no'".

Mone was one of the first students to receive an i3 Stem Scholarship from A-B Tech, funded by the National Science Foundation. Dr. Jon Wiener, Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences at A-B Tech, is the principal investigator of the NSF grant and



was the one who encouraged Mone to pursue the NASA opportunity.

The five-week scholars program culminated with a four-day on-site event at Stennis Space Center and offered students the opportunity to interact with NASA engineers and others as they learned more about careers in science and engineering. While at NASA,

students formed teams and established fictional companies interested in Mars exploration. Each team was responsible for developing and testing a prototype rover, forming a company infrastructure, managing a budget, and developing communications and outreach.

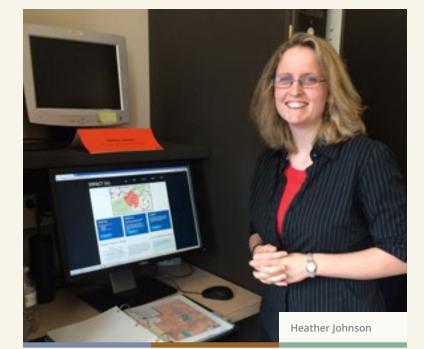
NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars is a project funded in part by the Minority University Research and Education Program, or MUREP, which is committed to the recruitment of underrepresented and underserved students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to sustain a diverse workforce.

DONOR PROFILE ~ CONRAD FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Conrad Industries has been a part of our community nearly as long as A-B Tech. In Germany in 1892, the current leader's great-grandfather founded his embroidery business. Six generations later, the family is still in the same business.

Erich Henry
Conrad came to
the United States
in 1929. In 1940,
he opened his
first factory in
New Jersey and
by 1963 was
established in
Western North
Carolina as A-B
Emblem.

There has been an informal partnership between the college and A-B Emblem almost since the beginning. A-B Emblem employees took classes at A-B



The Conrad Family Scholarship was established in 2014 and is awarded to students in an Engineering and Applied Technology program. It is set up as an endowed scholarship with the option to award up to three scholarships annually.

The first recipient of the scholarship was Heather Johnson,

Tech and students from the college were able to find employment at the facility in Weaverville.

Today, Bernhard Conrad, Henry's son, is the president of A-B Emblem, Conrad Industries, Inc., which is now the leading international designer and manufacturer of embroidered patches for clubs, organizations, industry and the military. The company also has been the sole contractor for NASA since Apollo 11. At 76, Bernhard counts on the day-to-day leadership of his son, Paul, and son-in-law, Andrew Nagle, representing the fifth generation. And, more recently, the three of his seven grandchildren have become apprentices.

Before Henry passed away in 1992, he made a commitment to give back to his community by putting money in a foundation, with the intention of using it for education. The funds were never used, but set aside and grew over a few decades. In determining what would please his father, Bernhard ultimately decided to create a scholarship at A-B Tech.

a Computer Information Technology student. "Heather is the type of student instructors love to have. She is hard working and committed to learning. She often has worked multiple jobs but always ensures her student work is outstanding," said Pamela Silvers, the former chair of Computer Technologies.

Heather also already happened to be an intern at A-B Emblem as part of the company's perpetual internship program, which gives year-long positions to A-B Tech students. "We were ecstatic that Heather won," Nagle said. "We only set the criteria and stayed out of the selection process completely. The folks who work with her were pleased she was the first recipient." A-B Tech Foundation Scholarship applications are reviewed by a scholarship selection committee.

Today, Heather oversees and maintains Conrad Industries' ISO certification as well as writing software for the company's new patent pending embroidery machine monitoring system.

DONOR PROFILE ~ OSBORNE M. HART ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

The Osborne M. Hart Endowed Scholarship was established in 2004 to provide scholarships to African-American students who have been accepted into a curriculum program as full-time or part-time students, who have graduated from Buncombe or Madison County schools or completed the GED program, who hold a GPA of 2.0 or greater, and who demonstrate financial need.

In 1974, Osborne M. Hart purchased the Wilkins Mortuary, which was the successor to a long history of funeral service companies serving African-American residents of Asheville and the surrounding area dating to 1900. Osborne was the founder and President of Hart Funeral Services, Inc.

His son, Darryl, founded the scholarship in

2004 in his father's honor and memory. Darryl, Vice President/General Manager of Hart Funeral Service remembers his father as a "gentle, yet strong man with compassion for those less fortunate."

Darryl Hart is a lifelong resident of Asheville, a graduate of Asheville Country Day School, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Gupton-Jones College of Funeral Service. He is a strong community and national leader, assuming leadership roles in many organizations. He is active in local, state and national funeral directors' associations. His service has included the board of directors of The Bank of Asheville, Mission Hospitals, Eagle Market Streets



Development Corporation, Asheville Housing Authority, A-B Tech Foundation, United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County, and The Better Business Bureau. In 2005, he was a recipient of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award for his service to the community at the 25th Annual MLK, Jr. Prayer Breakfast at the Grove Park Inn.

Hart also is a contributor to the K. Ray Bailey Annual Golf Scholarship Fund and has served as a member and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the A-B Tech Foundation.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT ~ RUTH SOLIS AMERICAN CULINARY FEDERATION'S SOUTHEAST STUDENT CHEF OF THE YEAR

As a member of the Student Hot Food Team, Culinary Arts graduate Ruth Solis learned about hard work and long hours. Her extensive practice and experience with A-B Tech has since helped her win the title of the American Culinary Federation's Southeast Student Chef of the Year.

"People should know what they're getting themselves into before going into the culinary program. Make sure that you love cooking and you understand that it's not going to be easy," Ruth a lot of people drop, because it's hard. It's not just going in there and cooking or baking a cake. You have to do the paper work. You cannot slack. You have to meet



Her father, was not as impressed. "We are a traditional He wanted me to be like my cousins and become a doctor, lawyer or study my dad found out where I wanted to go, he had a fit," she said. After witnessing her successes, however, Ruth's dad has now joined her

the standards of what the chefs expect out of you."

Ruth's love for the kitchen started around the time most children head for kindergarten. "I always enjoyed being with my mom and grandmother in the kitchen. That was the gathering room in my family. I would always want to help them," she said. By the age of 7, she was cooking solo.

Ruth knew she wanted to be a chef, but there wasn't a culinary college in her hometown of Sparta. She took culinary classes in high school, where the teacher would mention A-B Tech and its Hot Food Team. She subsequently visited the college, met with instructors, and was impressed with what she saw

mother in becoming one of her biggest supporters.

"I met people from other schools during my (A-B Tech) internship in Atlanta at the Cherokee Town and Country Club, and they weren't up to our standards," Solis said. "The chefs expect so much out of us. Once we get out there in the real world, it's what sets you apart."

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT DENNIS KING



Dennis King

As we mark the 20th anniversary of the A-B Tech Foundation and report on a successful 2014-15 academic year, I am more proud than ever to be part of this College and its community.

Thanks to the vision of President Emeritus K. Ray Bailey, A-B Tech has the good fortune to be supported by a strong Foundation and 32 dedicated members of the greater Asheville community who serve on its board. The efforts of these individuals and our donors over the last two decades have enabled thousands of students to attend college, provided professional development to our faculty and staff, and greatly enhanced our facilities.

Most significantly, I take great pleasure in recognizing the largest donors in the College's history, Jack and Carolyn Ferguson. Jack was a member of our original Foundation Board of Directors and has given more than \$7 million to A-B Tech, including a single donation of \$5 million to assist with a new building that was dedicated in December 2015 as the Ferguson Center for Allied Health and Workforce Development.

A-B Tech is blessed with many other donors who are recognized in these pages, but I also want to recognize the late Don C. Locke, Ph.D., who was a donor and Vice Chair of the A-B Tech Board of Trustees. After Dr. Locke's unexpected passing in April, our board voted to rename our library as the Don C. Locke Library in recognition



of his service to the College and dedication to higher education and inclusion. We are grateful to Dr. Locke for his devotion to the College and our students.

On behalf of A-B Tech, I extend our gratitude to the many individual donors, their families and companies for investing in public higher education through the A-B Tech Foundation over the last 20 years. Through your generosity and your belief in our students and their aspirations, you are changing lives and making a tremendous difference in our community.

Dennis King
President, A-B Tech

LETTER FROM FOUNDATION BOARD CHAIRMAN CHRIS YOUNG



Chris Young

Twenty years ago, a dedicated group of local residents joined together as the first Board of Directors of the newly formed A-B Tech Community College Foundation. The Foundation's initial objective was "to aid, support, and promote teaching, research, and service in the various educational, scholarly, professional, artistic, and creative endeavors" of the College.

During the first meeting on November 7, 1996, then-A-B Tech President K. Ray Bailey reviewed the four primary goals of the Foundation: to provide scholarship funds, to provide cutting-edge technology

for programs and staff, to provide employee mini-grants, and to renovate the Magnolia Building (now known as Fernihurst). With the exception of the building renovation, which was successfully completed in 2009, little has changed in our focus over these past 20 years. This says a lot for the vision and forethought of the original Foundation Board.

There has been much to be proud of over these past 20 years – for the College, for our donors and for those of us privileged to have served as Foundation Board members. The College itself continues to grow at astounding speed, both programmatically and physically. It continues to provide a high-quality education, training our friends, neighbors, families and even ourselves. The Foundation has grown from awarding six scholarships in 1996 to 408 scholarships totaling more than \$408,000.

However, this success has not happened on its own. The Foundation, its staff, and Board of Directors are only as successful as the donors who support our work. So, what we are actually celebrating this year is not 20 years of the Foundation as an entity, but 20 years of the Foundation as a group of dedicated and loyal donors who give of their resources to help the residents of Buncombe and Madison counties make better lives for themselves and their families. All of us who donate to the A-B Tech Foundation at whatever level possible should feel proud of the work we have done these past 20 years ... of the individual students we have helped, of the faculty and staff we have supported, and of the capital projects we have funded. We truly have changed lives.

I look forward to seeing what all of us together will achieve over the next 20 years!

Sincerely,

Chris Young

in Houls

Chair, A-B Tech Foundation Board of Directors

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2014-15 FINANCIALS

OPERATING AND NONOPERATING REVENUES

State Aid	27,298,004	42.3%
Other Revenues	25,452	0.0%
Sales and Services, net	2,998,994	4.7%
Student Tuition and Fees	8,308,637	12.9%
Investment Income	13,816	0.0%
Noncapital Gifts	814,295	1.3%
Noncapital Grants	13,572,671	21.0%
County Appropriations	7,721,022	12.0%
State Capital Aid	2,629,209	4.1%
County Capital Aid	717,703	1.1%
Capital Grants	235,371	0.4%
Capital Gifts	151,770	0.2%
TOTAL	64,486,944	100.0%

OPERATING AND NONOPERATING EXPENSES

TOTAL	63,339,983	100.0%
Other Expense	753,143	1.2%
Depreciation	3,179,183	5.0%
Auxiliary Enterprises	4,382,015	6.9%
Student Financial Aid	6,203,353	9.8%
Operations & Maintenance of Plant	6,555,194	10.3%
Institutional Support	7,188,632	11.3%
Student Services	4,015,529	6.3%
Academic Support	4,416,606	7.0%
Instruction	26,646,328	42.1%

STUDENTS 2014-15



FACULTY 2014-15



STAFF 2014-15



STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

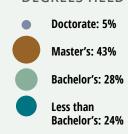
	Credit	Non-Credit
Male	44.0%	52.0%
Female	56.0%	48.0%
Non-White	16.2%	17.6%
In Service Area	79.1%	76.8%
Other NC		
Counties	18.3%	22.1%
Out-Of-State	1.8%	1.0%
International	0.7%	0.0%
Average Age	26.4	41.2

DEGREES, DIPLOMAS & CERTIFICATES BY SECTOR



Business/Marketing/ Entrepreneurship: 46

FACULTY DEGREES HELD



STAFF BY JOB TYPE

President/Senior
Administrators: 1.6%

Professional: 33.3%

Clerical: 29.6% Technical/

Paraprofessional: 19.7%

Skilled Crafts: 0.8%

Service/Maintenance: 14.7%

2014-15 FOUNDATION BUDGET

TOTAL EXPENSES	952.823	100%	TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	917.443	100%
Grant Expenditures	143,764	15%	Investment Income	50,538	6%
Operating Expenses	34,677	4%	Grant Reimbursements	107,214	12%
Distributions for Program Support	298,418	31%	Contributions	612,177	67%
Distributions for Scholarships	475,964	50%	Other Revenue	147,514	16%

NET ASSETS 6/30/2015

13,979,433

Composites Training Center of Excellence opens

A-B Tech's Composites Training Center of Excellence opened in November 2015 in the Maple Building on the Asheville campus. An outgrowth of GE Aviation's expansion in Buncombe County, the center trains current and prospective GE Aviation employees in a hands-on environment with state-of-the-art machinery.

Facilities include 5,000 square feet for training floor/ lab spaces that accommodate 20 participants and an adjacent classroom. Robert (Andy) McNeal was hired as A-B Tech's lead Aviation Composites Instructor to facilitate the training. Andy, an Air Force retiree with more than of 43 years of experience in the aviation industry, has extensive experience with composites, which are used extensively in the

aviation, automotive, auto racing, marine and satellite communications industries.

The college also offers composites training for the general public through its Continuing Education program. Aerospace and Structural Composites introduces students to the manufacturing processes and use of today's aerospace composites.

The center was funded by a \$1.3 million commitment from the N.C. Community College System and the State Legislature to fund training activities for the GE Aviation and NCWorks Customized Training Program project. The Golden LEAF Foundation awarded a \$200,000 grant to the college for the center, since renamed the Advanced Manufacturing Center.

Dan Gerlach, president of the Golden LEAF Foundation, said his organization has made considerable investments in Western North Carolina. "From the quality of the mountains to the quality of the workforce,

I think companies will continue to grow in advanced manufacturing in the region."

Betty Silver, Regional Customized Training Program Director for the N.C. Community College System, said investing in the program was part of the focus the state decided to put into aerospace and aviation six years ago.

"There are now 10,000 employees in the industry in North Carolina, which represents a 68 percent increase," she said.

A-B Tech assisted GE Aviation in pre-hire activities by offering computerized assessments at the Composites Training Center of Excellence. Those candidates who performed well were invited to complete a 40-hour preemployment training and received an

Golden LEAF

Control Date November 2014

Asheville-Buncombe
Technical Community College \$ 200,000

Two Hundred Thousand

Composite Materials

Four Training Center of Excellence

Foundation grant and dedicates the Composites Center of

received an interview at GE Aviation. Individuals who were hired returned to A-B Tech for another 80 hours of

Excellence with GE Aviation

post-hire training.

"A-B Tech is excited about having a state-of-the-art facility, one of a kind in Western North Carolina, to train people in aerospace and general composites structure and repair. This is a high-tech component of advanced manufacturing that will see tremendous growth in the future," said Kimrey.

Kevin Kimrey, A-B Tech's Director of Economic & Workforce Development, said a number of organizations supported creation of the Composites Center, including: GE Aviation, N.C. Community College System and NCWorks Customized Training, N.C. Department of Commerce and NCWorks Career Center, Asheville, Buncombe County government, Golden LEAF Foundation Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Coalition, City of Asheville and the Mountain Area Workforce Development Board.

Duke Energy Foundation awards \$195,000 to A-B Tech's Craft Beverage Institute

The Duke Energy Foundation awarded a \$195,000 grant to A-B Tech's Craft Beverage Institute of the Southeast in 2014. The funds were used to further develop the Institute's seven-barrel brewhouse, a distillation system, a wine-making system and a sensory lab.

"The college is dedicated to meeting the region's demand for workforce training and business development in the booming craft beverage industry," said Dennis King, A-B Tech's president. "The overall goal of the Craft Beverage Institute is to create workforce capacity, support existing industry, and help attract new business. "

Brewmaster John Lyda and Director Jeff Irvin of A-B Tech's Craft Beverage Institute of the

The grant was part of Duke Energy's \$6.7 million investment in

"Our partnership with A-B Tech Community College

will attract and retain craft beverage businesses in

Energy's state president - North Carolina.

develops a specialized, highly skilled workforce that

the region for years to come," said Paul Newton, Duke

in the Duke Energy Progress service area.

Individual community colleges can apply for funds through the NC Community Foundation. Applications will be reviewed by a committee of representatives from Duke Energy, NC Community College System and NC Department of Commerce.

Located at

A-B Tech in Enka, the institute provides entry- and enterprise-level training, business development, and quality control testing in the craft beverage industry sectors of brewing, distillation, viticulture and natural products, including degree and continuing education options. The Institute has admitted three cohorts of students pursuing degrees in Brewing, Distillation and Fermentation and provides instruction and certification to more than 500 students a year through its continuing education classes.

"We also expect there to be a craft beverage 'bloom' effect that spills into other related industries, including hospitality and ecotourism, value-added foods, agriculture, sustainability and other beveragerelated sectors," said Jeff Irvin, the Institute's Director and its first Brewmaster.

North Carolina Community Colleges' focus on technical education and support of business and industry. Since 2004, Duke Energy has awarded \$15 million in grants to 24 community colleges within the Duke Energy Carolinas service area. The \$6.7 million investment also included community

colleges located

A-B Tech Student Culinary Team for National Competition

McKibbon Hotel Management, Inc., and its Aloft Asheville Downtown hotel sponsored the A-B Tech Student Culinary Team's participation in the American Culinary Federation's (ACF) National Competition in Orlando. The sponsorship assisted with travel, lodging, conference fees and other

expenses for the team members and coaches.

For the first time in its history, A-B Tech's Student **Culinary Team** was comprised of all women. The 2015 competition also marked the college's third consecutive appearance in national competition and the ninth national appearance by an A-B Tech team - more than any other college in the history of ACF competition.

Members of the all-female culinary team celebrating a first place win in regional competition

"We are very proud to support the A-B Tech Student Culinary Team at the ACF National Competition," said John McKibbon. "A-B Tech is a valued partner of McKibbon Hotel Management and our Aloft Asheville Downtown that shares our ongoing commitment to the betterment of Asheville and its future leaders.

We look forward to seeing the A-B Tech team compete on the national level and wish them the very best throughout the competition."

Ranging in age from 18 to 54, the five members were captain Nina Esquire, Natalie Britton, Carolina Huerta, Sarah Keeney and Madelyn Stroud. Anne Gibson served as the alternate. The coaches were

A-B Tech culinary instructors John Hofland and Chris Bugher.

A-B Tech won the national title in 2007.

A-B Tech President Dennis King expressed his gratitude to McKibbon Hotel Management Chairman John McKibbon for sponsoring A-B Tech's participation this year.

"We are extremely grateful to Mr. McKibbon and Aloft Asheville Downtown for their support of A-B Tech over the years," King said. "Aloft Asheville Downtown has been a supporter of our Hospitality Education and Culinary programs and employs many of our graduates, students and interns. This sponsorship for our culinary team will cover our team's expenses for national competition and permit us to keep our much-needed funds for educational purposes."

Fundraising

The 11th annual K. Ray Bailey / A-B Tech Foundation Invitational Golf Classic, held on Friday June 5, 2015 at Mount Mitchell Golf Course, is in the books and what a wonderful day of golf it was! The proceeds from this annual tournament go directly to the K. Ray Bailey/A-B Tech Foundation Golf Classic Scholarship program, administered by the A-B Tech Foundation. Through this fund, we are able to distribute more than 30 scholarships annually, providing vital educational and professional opportunities that may have otherwise been out of reach for many of our students.

An enormous debt is also owed to the 25+ A-B Tech employees and local volunteers who helped during the event, as well as to A-B Tech student and Golf Scholarship recipient Stella Galyean, who gave a wonderful talk on the impact of this scholarship in her life.

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Mimosa Hills Golf Course

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Autumn in Asheville celebrated the Harvest Moon

More than 200 guests and members of the college community participated in A-B Tech's annual Foundation fundraising event on October 2. Autumn in Asheville, with its Harvest Moon theme, showcased the talents and expertise of the culinary and hospitality students and their faculty. The A-B Tech Foundation awarded more than 377 scholarships totaling more than \$479,800 for 2014-15. According to a scholarship recipient who volunteered at the event, "The people who give to these scholarships are, for many of us, the only people who have ever believed in us." Funds raised during Autumn in Asheville will support the work of the Foundation and the Culinary and Hospitality departments.



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