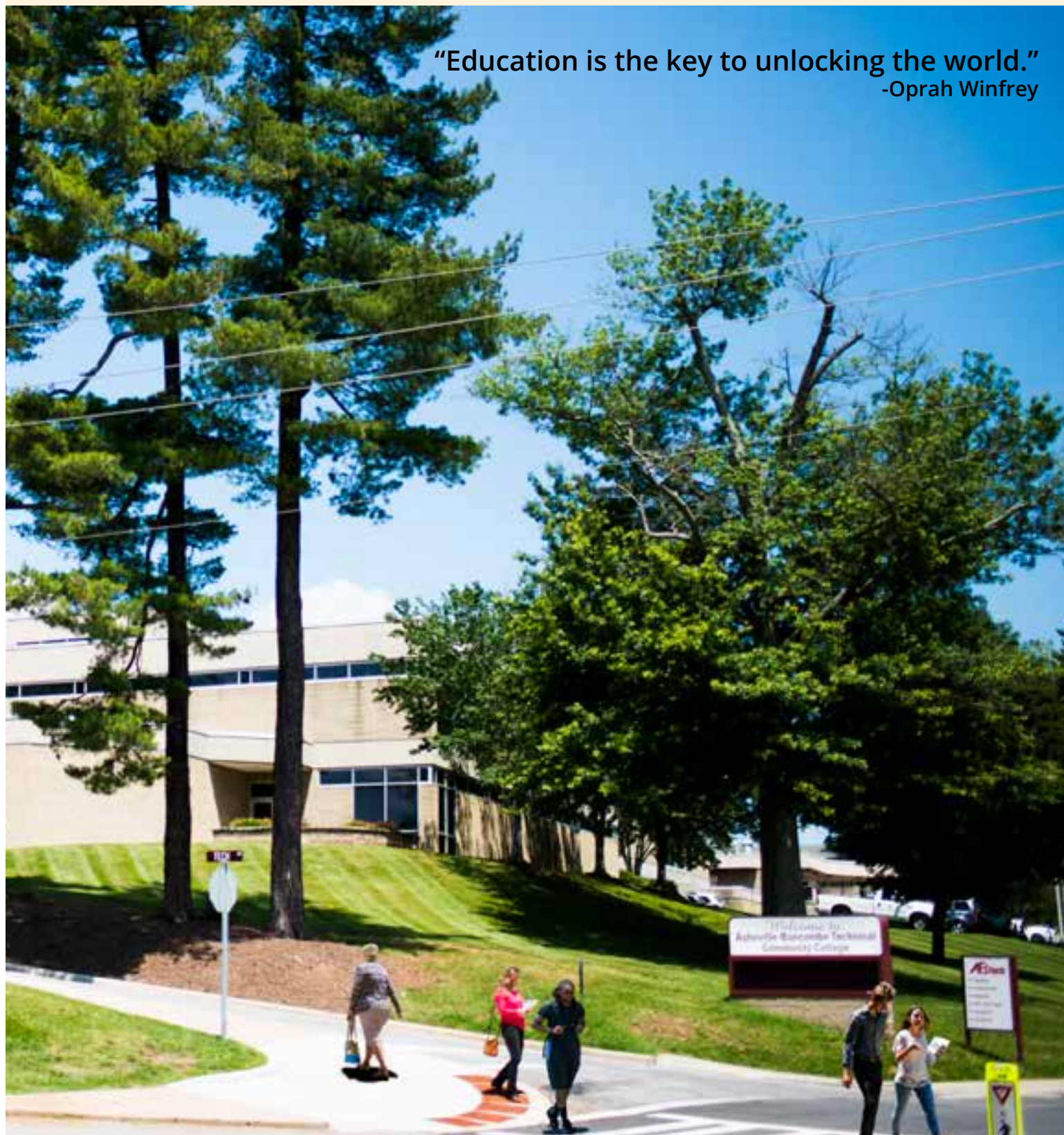


"Education is the key to unlocking the world."
-Oprah Winfrey





PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The 2016-17 academic year saw A-B Tech students, alumni and employees excel on many fronts, proving that a good education can indeed take you anywhere. Oprah Winfrey once said, "Education is the key to unlocking the world," and our A-B Tech family certainly proved her point.

Perhaps the greatest example was from history instructor David Dry, who became one of the first community college instructors ever to be awarded a Fulbright Scholarship. David spent his Fulbright year teaching in Kyrgyzstan.

You can read more about his fascinating experience on page 10.

While it might be considered "old news" at this point, A-B Tech's student culinary team made another trip to the American Culinary Federation's National Finals as the winner of the Southeast competition. It was A-B Tech's 10th appearance in the national competition and stands as the best record of any culinary school in the country. Our Culinary Arts and Baking Arts departments demonstrate excellence year after year, with our graduates going on to work throughout Western North Carolina, across the nation, and even in other countries.

In October of 2016, A-B Tech also renamed our campus library in honor of Dr. Don Locke, a long-time Board of Trustees member and its vice chair at the time of his death the previous summer. Our Board voted unanimously to rename Holly Library in honor of Dr. Locke, in recognition of his lifetime of service to higher education and equality.

Our Foundation also enjoyed an excellent year, setting a record for funds raised by the annual K. Ray Bailey Golf Tournament, attracting new corporate sponsors to the annual Autumn in Asheville event, and honoring more than 400 students at the annual Scholarship Luncheon. We are beyond grateful to the Foundation Board of Directors and our many donors for their continued support of A-B Tech and our students.

A-B Tech is Western North Carolina's largest college, providing degrees, diplomas, certificates, continuing education and workforce training to approximately 23,000 people a year at five locations in Buncombe and Madison counties. We welcome your interest and encourage your involvement as we strive to meet the growing needs of our community.

Sincerely,


Dennis King, President



David Dry
Fulbright Scholar, p.10



Student Culinary Team
Makes Nationals, p.2



Library Renamed for
Don C. Locke, p.16



GENE BELL



BRUCE BRIGGS



WAYNE BRIGMAN



JOE BRUMIT



RON EDGERTON



MIKE FRYAR



JACQUELYN HALLUM



MATT KERN



KEYNON LAKE



ROGER METCALF



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DARINDA NOAH
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Student Culinary Team Makes National Competition



A-B Tech Community College's Student Culinary Team competed in the American Culinary Federation national competition in Orlando, Fla., after winning its 10th regional title. A-B Tech teams have appeared in more national finals than any other culinary school in the nation.

Team members were Emma Wieber, Jessica Olin, Habiba Smallen, Nina Patterson and Emily Welch. Max Theofrastous served as team alternate. Chefs Chris Bugher and Bronwen McCormick are the team coaches.

"Being a part of The Hot Food Team has taken me beyond the limits I ever expected for myself. Competing with the team has taught me how important preparation is before any competition. I felt driven to be more organized and think more quickly in the moment," said Smallen.

"They worked countless hours outside of their already busy schedule to make sure they were prepared," said Chef Bugher.



Stewart Named Vice President of Instructional Services

Dr. Beth Stewart was appointed Vice President of Instructional Services at A-B Tech, in 2017.



A native of Hot Springs National Park, Ark., Stewart joined A-B Tech in 2011 as Dean of Arts and Sciences. She has a bachelor's degree from Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Ark., a master's degree from Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas, and a doctorate in education from Vanderbilt University. She was selected as Staff Member of the Year for the college by her peers in 2016.

"Dr. Stewart has earned the respect and admiration of her colleagues and employees through her supportive leadership abilities and innovative thinking," said A-B Tech President Dennis King. "She has long been an advocate of data-driven decision making to lead to continuous improvement. I have witnessed Beth dedicate herself to serving as an intentional, thoughtful change leader that leaves a positive, lasting impact on the entire college."

"One of my top duties will be to serve my colleagues and our students," Stewart said. "Whether it is removing barriers to student success, securing additional resources for faculty, or helping deans deal with difficulties in their jobs, my most satisfying days are those in which I can make someone's life easier. Enabling the success of our students is my greatest reward."

Student Achievements



A-B Tech students from Madison County receiving Golden LEAF scholarships are from left, Becky Gattis, Shelly Proffitt, Jennifer Hyatt, Jeremy Proffitt, Amber Paris and Amy Whitaker. Not pictured are, Bryanna Sams, Rebecca Treadway and Jordyn Zetterholm.

A-B Tech students receive Golden LEAF Scholarships

Nine students from A-B Tech received scholarships through the Golden LEAF Scholarship program for the North Carolina Community College System in 2016-17. The Golden LEAF Scholarship program, designed to help North Carolinians attend the state's community colleges, is funded through a \$750,000 grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation.

The scholarship may be used for tuition, books, fees, supplies, transportation and childcare related to attending classes during the 2016-17 academic year, and industry-recognized credential testing expenses that address skill gaps upon course completion. Eligible students must demonstrate financial need and reside in rural counties that are tobacco-dependent and/or economically distressed. Scholarships for both occupational and curriculum students are available during the fall, spring and summer semesters.

Students from Madison County who were awarded scholarships in their programs of study are Becky Gattis, Criminal Justice; Jennifer Hyatt, Nursing; Amber Paris, Criminal Justice; Jeremy Proffitt, Associate of Fine Arts; Shelly Proffitt, Business Administration; Bryanna Sams, Business Administration; Rebecca Treadway, Medical Assisting; Amy Whitaker, Early Childhood Education and Jordyn Zetterholm, Associate in Arts.

Students must be residents of the following western regional counties to be eligible: Burke, Caldwell, Cherokee, Clay, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania, or Yancey.

Student Achievements

Phi Beta Lambda News

A-B Tech's chapter of Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) attended the NC PBL Fall Leadership Development Conference in Greensboro in 2016, with Jean Finley and Veronica Dooley attending as advisors. PBL is a business society on campus.

Students attending were Ted Collier, Toby Bollinger, Nathaniel Landau, Darinda Noah and Angela Lore. They participated in the Non-Trivia Contest, Pin Design Contest, and Recruitment Display competition, and the chapter received the Gold Star award for starting the year well.

Phi Beta Lambda also won several awards at the State Leadership Conference in Charlotte. The following students attended the conference and earned awards: Wendy Alexander, Carmel French, Angela Lore, Robert McCary, Katie Roberts, and Catlin Youngblood. All six received the Leadership Development Program Certificate.

McCary won first in Computer Applications and third in Computer Concepts. French won first in Personal Finance and fifth in Management Concepts. Lore won first in Retail Management, fifth in Macroeconomics and earned third place in the Community Service Project with Alexander, who also placed sixth in Administrative Technologies. Roberts won second place in Computer Concepts and Networking Concepts. Youngblood placed seventh in Accounting Principles. Lore was also named to Who's Who in NCPBL.

Advisor awards included Kathie Doole who was recognized for 20 years and admitted to the Advisor Wall of Fame at National PBL headquarters. Veronica Dooley and Marlene Frisbee were each honored for five years and Jean Finley for one year.

Chapter awards included:

- NCPBL Gold Star Chapter
- The Legacy Leadership Award
- First Place – Western Region – Largest Increase in Chapter Membership
- First Place – Western Region – Largest Percentage Increase in Chapter Membership
- Third Place – Western Region – Largest Professional Division Foundation Membership
- Third Place – Western Region – Largest Chapter Membership
- Recognition for Maintaining or Increasing Chapter Membership
- Recognition for Contribution to The NCPBL Professional Division-Foundation, Inc. General Operating Fund
- Recognition for Contribution to The NCPBL Professional Division-Foundation, Inc. Scholarship Fund
- Recognition for Contribution to the March of Dimes

A-B Tech's nominee for the NCPBL Business Person of the Year, Reba Brinkman of Western NC Fly Fishing Expo, also was announced as the winner at the conference. Brinkman is an outdoor industry business professional who built the Western North Carolina Fly Fishing Expo from the ground up and has turned it into the largest fly fishing expo in the Southeast region. Brinkman previously was employed by Hunter Banks, a Fly Fishing Retailer in Asheville, that employs an A-B Tech student as a result of PBL's participation with the expo.

According to Frisbee, through the WNC Fly Fishing Expo, Brinkman has provided financial assistance through sponsorship activities and donations totaling approximately \$7,000 to the A-B Tech Chapter.



Student Achievements

Four A-B Tech Students Selected to Visit NASA

Four A-B Tech students were selected to participate in the NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars project (NCAS) in 2016-17. Elizabeth O'Nan, Colter Burress and Rose Easterday traveled to NASA's Langley Research Center, and Nicholas Long attended the Glenn Research Center in Cleveland.

They were selected among 348 community college students from across the United States to be part of NCAS. O'Nan and Easterday are the first women chosen from A-B Tech.

"I'm looking forward to meeting the NASA engineers, the on-site event and seeing all of the testing facilities and new engineering concepts," said O'Nan, an Associate in Science student.

The five-week scholars program culminated with a four-day on-site event at Langley or Glenn Research Centers and offered students the opportunity to interact with NASA engineers and others as they learned about careers in science and engineering. While at NASA, students formed teams and established fictional companies interested in Mars exploration. Each team is responsible for developing and testing a prototype rover, forming a company infrastructure, managing a budget, and developing communications and outreach.

The on-site experience at NASA included a tour of facilities and briefings by NASA subject matter experts. "I've always been amazed by what NASA is working on and has accomplished. I applied so I could learn more about this organization and get a glimpse of what day to day life is like for employees of this organization," said Long.

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. "I've been interested in cosmology and the physics of the world since I was in elementary school, and NASA is the big dream," Easterday said.

With this project, NASA continues the agency's tradition of investing in the nation's educational programs. It is directly tied to the agency's major education goal of attracting and retaining students in STEM disciplines critical to NASA's future missions which include missions to Mars and beyond.



Student Achievements



Donovan Lance Selected for NC State Goodnight Scholars Program

A-B Tech graduate Donovan Lance was selected as one of 10 recipients of the Goodnight Scholars Program at NC State University. The cohort represents seven North Carolina community colleges and six NC State majors. Recipients were selected from a pool of 20 finalists who participated in an extensive application and interview process that included evaluation from NC State faculty, staff, and Goodnight Scholars Program alumni.

Lance earned an associate of science degree and was selected to be a graduation marshal in 2016. He also received the award for exemplary academic achievement in mathematics and was an active member of the Robotics Society, National Society of Leadership and Success, and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. In 2015, he served as a Linux Kernel contributor and Fedora Project QA team member. Lance planned to major in computer engineering at NC State.

The Goodnight Scholars Program benefits North Carolina residents from low- and middle-income families who aspire to study in a science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM) or STEM education discipline at NC State. The value of the scholarship is \$19,500 and is renewable for up to four years for first-year students and two years for transfer students.

The program was established in 2008 by North Carolina natives and NC State alumni Dr. Jim Goodnight, co-founder of global business analytic software leader, SAS Institute, and Mrs. Ann Goodnight, director of community relations at SAS Institute and secretary for the NC State Board of Trustees.

Phi Theta Kappa Earns Awards at Carolinas Region

A-B Tech's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa earned several awards and had three former members elected to the Alpha Omega Carolinas Region Officer Team during the Carolinas Regional Hallmark Awards Convention. Ruth Ceesay was elected to Public Relations; Paulette Gardner as Secretary and Stella Galyean, Vice President of North Carolina. They served two-year terms.

The A-B Tech chapter received the Five Star Chapter Award, Distinguished College Project, Yearbook Award, Award of Excellence for the regional service project, Award of Excellence for the regional Honors in Action project and Carolina Superstars Award for participation in all regional hallmarks.

Student Michelle Irwin was given the Hall of Honor Award for Regional Service and Advisor Lisa York received the Horizon Award for Regional Service. Outgoing Carolinas Officer Team Vice President of North Carolina Iris Frost, gave a memorable farewell speech, highlighting the importance of perseverance, teamwork, friendship, and facing fears, according to York.

Frost also was selected as one of 12 Phi Theta Kappa's 2016 Distinguished Regional Officers. Distinguished Regional Officers are recognized for outstanding leadership, implementing regional goals that support overall Society goals, for motivating participation by chapters in Society programs, and effectively communicating the region's goals and projects to members and chapters. Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society for two-year colleges.



Iris Frost

Student Achievements

A-B Tech STEM Scholars Awarded NC Space Grant



Nick Long

A-B Tech students Nick Long and Phillip Whiting, were each awarded a \$2,500 scholarship from the North Carolina Space Grant, a member in a national network of university-based consortia.

Long and Whiting also were recipients of scholarships funded by the National Science Foundation through its Scholarships in STEM Program (S-STEM). The project – called Ignite Inspiration and Innovation, or I3 – provides opportunities to positively influence a next generation of STEM scholars by offering scholarships to students who show academic promise and have unmet financial needs.

The NC Space Grant is a consortium of academic institutions that have combined to promote, develop, and support aeronautics and space-related science, engineering, and technology education and training

in North Carolina. Partnering with NASA, industry, non-profit organizations, and state government agencies, NC Space Grant conducts programs that are designed to equip the current and future aerospace workforce in North Carolina.

Long, an Associate in Engineering student, planned to transfer to UNC Asheville after graduation to study mechatronics. "I heard about A-B Tech's new program and knew it was a good economic viable way to go about getting my degree. I would like to work in automation in commercial manufacturing," he said.

Whiting, a veteran of the U.S. Marines, was also a peer tutor in mathematics at A-B Tech and a work study student in the College's greenhouse. He planned to study biomedical engineering. He pursued an Associate in Engineering and in Science degrees with a 4.0 GPA. "When I got out of the Marine Corps, my wife and I were looking around for a place to settle down and we were drawn to the mountains. I am trying to improve my station in life," he said.



Phillip Whiting

A-B Tech Student Kahlani Jackson Crowned Miss Asheville

A-B Tech student Kahlani Jackson made history when she was crowned Miss Asheville in 2016. She was the first African-American contestant to win the competition in its 67-year history.

Jackson was enrolled as a Digital Media Technology student and has since graduated. She also was awarded the Grace Joan Love Schneider Endowed Scholarship.

"A-B Tech has been a blessing to me because my mother was diagnosed with breast cancer and I had to leave Queens University of Charlotte, where I was taking classes and regroup," Jackson said. "I wanted to continue to go to school because a lot of people know when you stop taking classes, you kind of get out of the groove and I did not want that to happen. A-B Tech was a very easy transition. The staff and the faculty have assisted me tremendously."

Jackson previously was an Asheville Parks & Recreation Program Planner in the Shiloh Community, where she grew up, and now has her own beauty business.

Jackson said one of the highlights during her reign as Miss Asheville was participating in the Asheville Holiday parade.

"It was probably one of the most remarkable days of my life because I saw so many people in the community," she said. "I even saw some old friends and family like Mrs. Waters, my middle school bus driver. I actually cried most of the time, though I tried not to. It was a very overwhelming feeling because I made history and at that moment, I felt the significance of being crowned Miss Asheville. I know I am opening doors in my community. Other girls will know they can do anything they can put their minds to."



Kahlani Jackson (right) with Scholarship Coordinator Leronica Casey.



City tour in Cuenca, Spain

Global Education Students Experience Spain and Ireland

A-B Tech students were able to travel to Spain and Ireland in 2017 through the college's Global Education Program. Through Study Spanish abroad in Cuenca, Spain, students attended classes and participated in various cultural activities, including Spanish cooking classes, dance classes, "tapas" nights, and weekend-day excursions, while living with a Spanish family observing and learning about the cultural customs of Spain for a month.

International Business and Culture in County Donegal, Ireland was a two-week trip that focused on Irish culture or national and international marketing, business and economics. The trip included informal cultural breakfast presentations, field trips to places of historical interest, and visits to business sites, from small craft businesses to multi-national companies.

Students gained a deeper understanding of the historical, economic, and political issues of Ireland and this region that gave context to Irish business and entrepreneurship. Participants also had opportunities to view art, participate in outdoor activities, and learn about civil rights issues of Northern Ireland.



Touring Ireland



Touring Ireland



Kayaking in Spain



The Burana Tower is the most impressive structure that remains from an 11th century Silk Road city located near the modern city of Tokmok, Kyrgyzstan.

History Instructor David Dry Named Fulbright Scholar



A-B Tech history instructor David Dry became one of the first community college instructors in the nation to receive

a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program grant from the U.S. Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board in 2016. Dry spent his Fulbright year teaching American History in Kyrgyzstan as part of his project titled, "Forging Connections: American History, International Class Partnerships, and English Language Education."

Dry was one of more than 1,200 U.S. citizens who taught, conducted research, and provided expertise abroad for the 2016-2017 academic year through the Fulbright program. Recipients of Fulbright awards are selected on the basis of academic and professional achievement, as well as record of service and demonstrated leadership in their respective fields.

"I currently do international

collaborations with Germany, Taiwan and Russia in my classes," Dry. "I am always interested in international education and Fulbright was a great opportunity to establish another connection."

In addition to collaborating with other countries, Dry regularly shared pictures, video, posted regularly on social media, and conducted two-way classroom sessions between his class in Kyrgyzstan and A-B Tech classes, providing our students with first-hand knowledge of the unusual Kyrgyz culture. Prior to Russian imperial expansion into Central Asia in the 19th century, most Kyrgyz people lived as nomadic pastoralists, raising sheep and horses. Although few Kyrgyz people maintain a nomadic lifestyle today, Kyrgyz culture is heavily influenced by nomadic traditions.

Among the more interesting elements Dry covered were nomadic sports such as Kok-Boru, a form of polo played with a goat carcass, nomadic cuisine, the portable dwellings known as yurts, and regional historical sites.

The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational

exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to build relations between the people of the United States and the people of other countries with the goal of solving global challenges. The program is funded through an annual appropriation from the U.S. Congress to the U.S. Department of State. Participating governments and host institutions, corporations, and foundations around the world also provide direct and indirect support to the program, which operates in over 160 countries worldwide.

Fulbright Scholars address critical global challenges – from sustainable energy and climate change to public health and food security – in all areas, while building relationships, knowledge, and leadership in support of the long-term interests of the United States and the world. Fulbright alumni have achieved distinction in many fields, including 54 who have been awarded the Nobel Prize, 82 who have received Pulitzer Prizes, and 33 who have served as a head of state or government.

Dry has since left A-B Tech to pursue a doctorate at UNC-Chapel Hill and get married.



Kok-Boru starts with the two teams rushing to pick up the carcass of a goat (on the ground in the picture). This is repeated after each scored point.

The Monument of Victory commemorates those who died in WWII and features a woman standing over an eternal flame. The overall design resembles the frame of yurt, a symbol of home and family.



In Kyrgyzstan, falconry is done with eagles, and they are used to hunt foxes.



Sheep served at a rather ornate dinner. The guest of honor carves meat from the head for the people around the table



Petroglyphs depicting animals and humans can be found at various sites in Kyrgyzstan. These are said to date from the 8th century BCE to the 5th century CE and are located near the modern town of Cholpon-Ata.



A-B Tech harvests its first jar of honey.

Campus Bee Hives Produce First Honey

A-B Tech harvested its first jar of honey after an apiary, or a bee yard, was established on campus in Spring 2016 by English Instructor Erik Moellering, Biology Instructor Russ Palmeri and former Sustainability Technologies Instructor Josh Littlejohn. Moellering and Palmeri presented the official first jar to President Dennis King.

The hives were built on campus for the educational opportunities they provide to biology courses and STEM Friday presentations. The hives are protected by an electric fence on campus.

The honey bee colony, best classified as a “superorganism”, is a biological marvel. “The level of coordination and communication and the biological means the bees use to achieve this is truly magnificent,” Moellering said.

Moellering also received a mini-grant from the Honeybee Conservancy/Anthophilous for the bee yard and a beekeeping beginner kit, which included: two bee hive bodies, hive frames, telescoping metal cover, bottom board, inner cover, entrance feeder, bee smoker and fuel, bee brush, and hive tool. The College also received one queen bee, and her court, and a three-pound package of bees.

Visit abtech.edu/bees



Alumni Profile



Welding Technology Graduate Advances to Civil Engineering Career

Evins Snipes credits A-B Tech for guiding him to a career, rather than a job. After graduating from the Welding Technology program, he was able to land a position in the fabricating shop on the USS Yorktown CV-10 at Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum in Charleston, S.C.

"I actually got a lot, not just welding experience, but life experience," Snipes said. "My instructors taught me so much, including responsibility. They gave me a career, not just a job to go to, but something I am proud to be doing."

Snipes came to A-B Tech in 2005 at a time when he said he was lost. "I had dropped out of Appalachian State at 21. I worked different jobs, but I didn't see a future in it." He graduated from A-B Tech in August 2007 with an associate degree.

After a few years in Charleston, he decided to go back to college to earn a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, graduating, cum laude from The Citadel. He was hired by a large firm and now travels all over the country working on projects.



Evins Snipes

Grants



STEM student at A-B Tech works with a robotics program.

I3 STEM Scholarship Program Enters Second Phase

Nine students were selected in 2016 for the next round of scholarships for the Ignite Inspiration and Innovation, or I3 project at A-B Tech. The College was awarded a \$612,232 grant from the National Science Foundation through its Scholarships in STEM Program (S-STEM) in 2015 to better serve and support targeted STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) students.

"The project provides outstanding opportunities to positively influence a next generation of STEM scholars, by offering scholarships to students who show academic promise and have an unmet financial need," said Dr. Jon R. Wiener, the original principal investigator of the grant.

Students Michelle Stephens, Kimberly Hacker, Michael Knupp, Phillip Whiting, Taahirah Hassan, Carl Hughes, Beth Scott, Chance Burnette and Daniel Passmore were each given \$2,000 for the semester to pay for tuition, books and other expenses. The funds are renewable for a maximum of four terms, as long as the students remain eligible under the conditions of the Program.

"One of the best parts about this is it's an interactive

scholarship program," Wiener said. "We've had a really good first semester in terms of some of the enrichment activities. We've had seminars, including an excellent one on nanotechnology. Students were taken on field trips to four-year colleges, some as far as Research Triangle Park. We've had a shadowing experience where a student went to NOAA for the day. Another was with a U.S. Forest Ranger and was monitoring elk populations." The activities are funded by the grant.

One of the criteria to stay in the program is a GPA of at least 2.8. Students in the first rounds are posting grades of 3.5 to 4.0. "I'm really amazed at the quality. They are really outstanding students," Wiener said. Students must also remain full-time in their program of study, attend at least 50 percent of the enrichment activities and meet at least once a month with a program adviser.

"The idea here is that we want ensure their success," Wiener said, "We want them to meet with us so they stay on track. We want to provide opportunities to them in their chosen field and give them the information needed so they can make a wise choice."

Grants



Marshay Proctor-Bates and mentee

College Receives Grant Funds to Improve Minority Male Success

A-B Tech received a 2016-17 Minority Male Success Initiative Grant designed to help attract and retain minority male students. Awarded by the State Board of Community Colleges, the \$17,234 grant helps move assistance provided to minority male students to an institutional action plan. During the first year, the College focused on assessing and improving the academic achievement of first-year minority male students who had not previously attended college.

The Minority Male Success Initiative was designed by the NC Community College System to more closely align with student success initiatives throughout the system.

The new model is designed to strengthen minority male student outcomes by encouraging greater participation and collaboration with the College.

"We want to eliminate any system barriers that might prohibit students from completing their educational goals," said Michele Hathcock, Title IX Compliance and Student Life Development Director. "Working with the Progress and Completion Committee on campus, the project aims to see what can be done to increase student success semester to semester."

Marshay Proctor-Bates is an academic advisor who also serves as a success coach to grant recipients. The grant

funded an expansion of her role, helping her to connect more minority students with college resources.

"My goal is to create supportive relationships where students feel confident in accessing the college resources and services available on campus, as well as promote student success through leadership, personal validation, purpose, self-efficacy, engagement, social integration, self-awareness, and reflection," said Proctor-Bates.

As part of the program, A-B Tech also concentrates on the assessment and identification of policies and procedures that may impede or boost student completion. Funding also is used to support the College's Academic Learning Center, which provides free tutoring services to A-B Tech students. The Academic Learning Center and Writing Center were able to hire additional staff and remain open during evening hours.

"As the College looks to support all student groups, it is vital to provide the services needed to underpin success," Dean of Academic Success Ron Layne said. "The earlier students begin garnering support while building a network for success, the better their academic progress and overall performance."

Locke Library



A-B Tech Library Dedicated to Don C. Locke

A-B Tech renamed its campus library in October 2016 in honor of Don C. Locke, a former trustee for the College. Locke, who passed away earlier that year from complications due to lung cancer, had served on the A-B Tech board since 2010, most recently as vice chairman. The Board of Trustees voted unanimously to rename Holly Library in his honor. The library also purchased numerous books Locke authored with a gift from then-Board Chair Joe Brumit.

"Don embodied much of what we value as universally good. He was an intellectual who valued education," said Dennis King, President of A-B Tech. Other speakers at the dedication program were Locke's close friend Gene Bell, mentee Brandon Priester, graduate student Deborah Harmon and UNC Asheville Chancellor Mary Grant, who was representing UNC General Administration.

King said Locke was an excellent educator, but his main passion was devoted to the issues of equality and brotherhood. "It is not an exaggeration to say he dedicated his life to the noble aspirations for the good of society as a whole," he said.

A-B Tech Trustee Bell said, "Don was a wonderful husband, a friend and a tremendous leader. Don was also an advocate for equity in education and racial diversity in the workplace. I ask each of you to honor Don's legacy by addressing both of those critical issues."

Locke retired in 2007 from UNC Asheville as director of Diversity and Multiculturalism. He also served as director of the Asheville Graduate Center and director of the N.C. State University doctoral program in Adult and Community College Education at the Asheville Graduate Center.





Students in Heath Moody's Construction I class worked on the A-B Trek trail kiosk and food planter.

Employee Wellness Initiatives Get Campus Moving

A-B Tech enhanced its wellness programs in 2016-17 by improving a walking trail, adding an annual walk/run, and conducting employee activity challenges each semester.

The walking trail, named A-B Trek, is a three-mile walking trail on the Asheville campus that travels through woods and along sidewalks and wood-chipped paths. The Staff Association, along with instructors and students, is responsible for its creation and maintenance.

Several A-B Tech classes also were involved in the development of the trail. The Geographic Information Systems GIS-215 class worked on mapping the trail with GPS coordinates. Students in Construction Management CST-111 and 112 built a kiosk for the trail. Students in Civil Engineering CEG-235 worked on the trail in their Project Management and Estimating class.

The trail also is used by several different classes and departments, including Biology, photography, fitness, yoga, surveying, GIS/mapping, construction, and sustainability. The

kiosk is a way to make more people aware of the trail and to demonstrate some of the features, a trail map, and some educational information about things such as native and invasive species of plants.

The Health Sciences and Mathematics Departments also created an annual Pi-K Walk/Run that is held on March 14 each year and is 3.14 kilometers long. The event is free and open to all students and employees.

The A-B Tech Wellness Committee teamed up with Health Sciences to create three activity challenges each semester. For example, they challenged all employees to accumulate 100 miles or 50 hours of physical activity in eight weeks. The goal was accomplished by participating in variety of activities to accrue time or mileage.

During the summer semester, a step challenge also allowed divisions to compete with each other by tracking the number of steps taken over an 8-week period. Vicki Thompson of Student Services was the top performer with 875,195 steps.

A-B Tech Named to Victory Media's 2017 Military Friendly® Schools List for Fifth Year

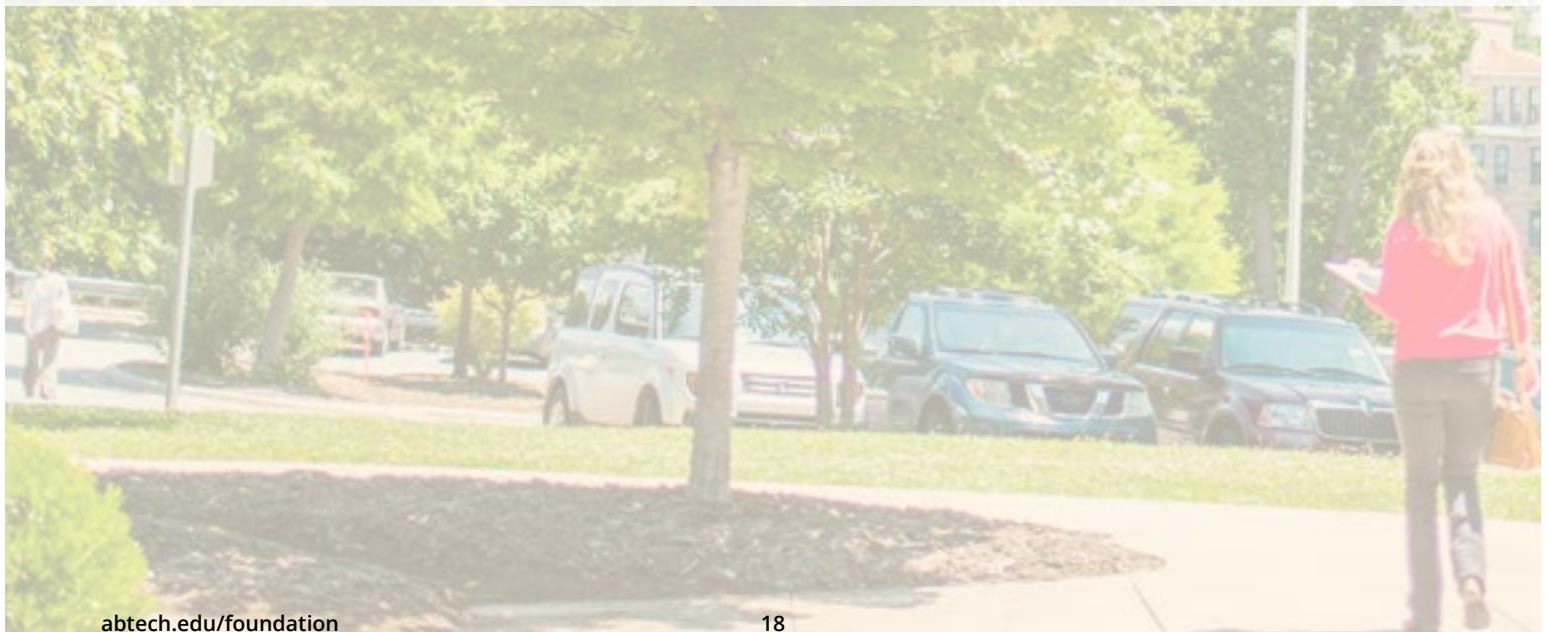
A-B Tech earned the 2017 Military Friendly® School designation by Victory Media, publisher of G.I. Jobs®, STEM Jobs SM, and Military Spouse for the fifth year in a row.

"This is a distinction not given lightly and to be selected for five years in a row is almost unprecedented," said A-B Tech President Dennis King.

"The excellent work of our Veterans' Coordinator contributes greatly to our success. The efforts in boosting the Veterans Café have built it into a safe and comfortable environment for our military service veterans to relax, network and connect with resources."

First published in 2009, Military Friendly® Schools is the most comprehensive, powerful resource for veterans. Each year, the list of Military Friendly® Schools is provided to service members and their families, helping them select the best college, university, or trade school to receive the education and training needed to pursue a civilian career.

abtech.edu/veteran-services





Jane Blount and a client

A-B Tech Begins Occupational Therapy Assistant Program

The new Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program at A-B Tech accepted its initial cohort of 20 students in Fall 2016 and were led by Jane Blount, Chair of the program.

Blount, who has been in OT for 20 years, received a bachelor's degree from UNC-Chapel Hill and a master's in occupational therapy from Springfield College in Massachusetts. She started her career at a rehabilitation hospital that is now part of CarePartners. "Within my first four years I worked in inpatient, outpatient, long-term care and home health, which is unusual and I was thankful for the experience. I tell students to learn as much as you can from as many people as you can while on the job," she said.

Occupational therapy assistants work under the supervision of occupational therapists providing treatment for people of all ages who have had trauma or disease that inhibits their ability to function normally. Occupational therapy helps them adapt and regain functional ability to perform daily tasks.

"One thing I am excited about is lots of changes in legislature which will acknowledge occupational therapy as mental health providers," Blount said. "There will be many more job opportunities over the next several years."

Occupational Therapy Assistant is one of the nation's fastest growing professions. The US Department of Labor estimates that the demand for OTAs will increase 40 percent by 2024, much faster than the average for all occupations. The nationwide median pay was \$52,300 per year.

OTAs work in a variety of locations, primarily in outpatient clinics, hospitals, schools, home health and nursing care facilities. "Many rural areas don't have full time OT staff and there is a significant need for traveling therapists," Blount said.

The A-B Tech OTA program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). After passing licensing exams, students become a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA).

For more information on applying for the program, visit abtech.edu/OTA.

Brothers Find Success at Business Incubator

Adam Masters, founder of Bellyak entered the business incubation program at A-B Tech's Small Business Center in 2016. He created an innovative paddle board that sprung from an idea from years of being a whitewater kayaker.

"I was handpaddling in 2004 and I had the idea to paddle prone. The sensation was great, but the ergonomics were not," Masters said. His Bellyaks allow users to lie on their stomachs within the craft, which is what he calls the best combination of swimming and boating.

Masters continued to work in real estate and as a fiddle player and then in 2010 he revisited the idea. "I started building prototypes and started the business in 2012. In late 2012, I grew out of the space I had and moved to Weaverville," Adam said. His manufacturer is located in Fletcher, so every aspect of the business is local.

"Our main thing is marketing and promoting the sport and product. The Bellyak not only shortens the learning curve for whitewater, it can be used by adaptive paddlers and summer camps, resorts, lakes and swimmers. We are able to get more people into water sports," Adam said.

Adam moved into the business incubator at A-B Tech, just as his brother, Nathan Masters was moving out after successfully getting his business running.

Nathan, founder and craftsman of Simple Shot Shooting Sports, was one of the first participants in A-B Tech's Embedded Entrepreneur program. Simple Shot Shooting Sports' goal is to bring to the marksman the finest gear and equipment that embody this principle of the "Simple Shot" through the use of simple shooting tools.

The Embedded Entrepreneur Program offers an innovative approach to assisting startup and growth-stage companies in reaching new levels of success. Adam is now a member of that program, too.

"Unlike many entrepreneur support programs that can only hit the high spots by providing guidance in short meetings and limited work sessions, the Embedded Entrepreneur Program (EE) intends to move participating companies forward by changing the typical support equation," said Steve Poland, Director of the Embedded Entrepreneur Program.

"Having the support and copy print services and conference space is amazing" Adam said. "It's a great resource to have for what you get. Our bigger goal is to license this out and to go huge with it. We've not only created a product but created our own sport."

abtech.edu/SBC
bellyak.com
simple-shot.com





2016-17 Demographics

STUDENTS 2016-17

CURRICULUM

STUDENTS: 9912

Male: 4275

Female: 5637

Buncombe/Madison

Residents: 7711

CONTINUING

EDUCATION: 13,340

Males: 6,653

Females: 6,687

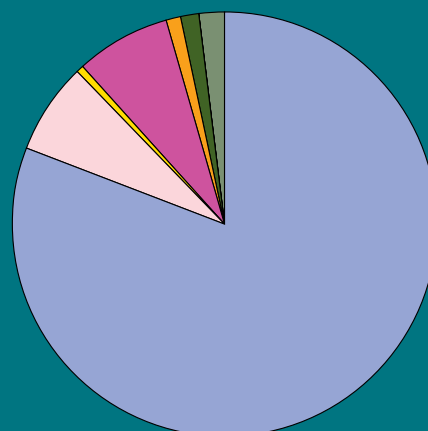
Buncombe/Madison

Residents: 10,038

RACE

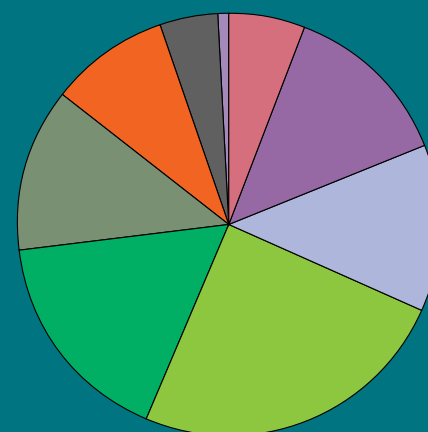
White	18385
Black	1527
American Indian	160
Hispanic	1644
Asian	245
Multiple	291
Pacific Islander	40
Unknown	388

TOTAL 22680



AGE

Under 18	1373
18 to 20	2938
21 to 24	2907
25 to 34	5617
35 to 44	3775
45 to 54	2852
55 to 64	2035
65 to 74	996
75 and Over	187



FULL-TIME FACULTY CREDENTIALS

9

Doctorate

102

Masters

35

Bachelors

32

Associate
or less

2016-17 FINANCIALS

OPERATING AND NONOPERATING REVENUES

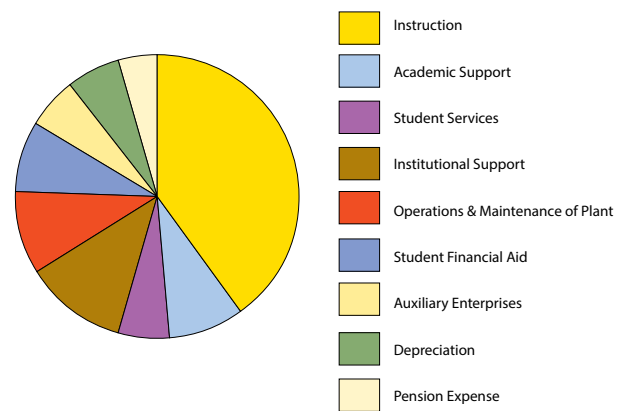
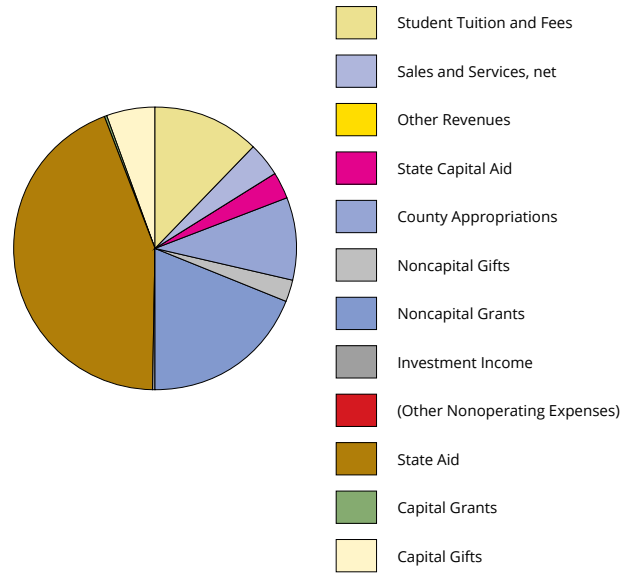
Student Tuition and Fees	8,103,007	12.8%
Sales and Services, net	2,544,296	4.0%
Other Revenues	11,244	0.0%
State Capital Aid	1,897,494	3.0%
County Appropriations	6,187,500	9.8%
Noncapital Gifts	1,582,835	2.5%
Noncapital Grants	12,516,205	19.7%
Investment Income	52,562	0.1%
Other Nonoperating Expenses	(1,922,752)	-3.0%
State Aid	28,753,532	45.3%
Capital Grants	167,340	0.3%
Capital Gifts	3,511,150	5.5%

TOTAL 63,404,413 100.0%

OPERATING AND NONOPERATING EXPENSES

Instruction	25,623,330	40.1%
Academic Support	5,562,152	8.7%
Student Services	3,642,074	5.7%
Institutional Support	7,450,380	11.7%
Operations & Maintenance of Plant	6,085,792	9.5%
Student Financial Aid	5,178,431	8.1%
Auxiliary Enterprises	3,669,099	5.7%
Depreciation	3,960,783	6.2%
Pension Expense	2,765,252	4.3%

TOTAL 63,937,293 100.0%



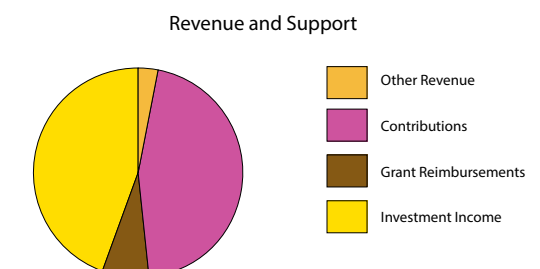
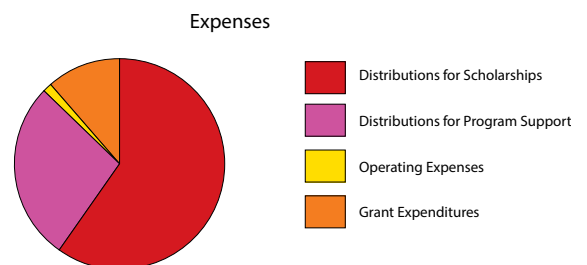
2016-17 FOUNDATION BUDGET

Distributions for Scholarships	490,981	60%
Distributions for Program Support	224,947	27%
Operating Expenses	10,008	1%
Grant Expenditures	92,702	11%

Total Expenses 818,638 100%

Other Revenue	43,359	3%
Contributions	642,191	46%
Grant Reimbursements	102,000	7%
Investment Income	623,686	44%

Total Revenue and Support 1,411,236 100%



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Lavender Fund



Lavender Fund Scholarships Assist Single Parents

Tosha Bradley was able to complete a Baking and Pastry Arts degree with help from a Lavender Fund scholarship. She is now a pastry chef at Gateaux Cakes and Pastries in Hendersonville.

"I always had a passion for cooking and baking," Bradley said. "When I saw the program, it really appealed to me and when I did a walk through (of the facilities), it was a big draw for me."

She started taking classes over summer and applied for a Lavender Fund Scholarship for the regular academic year. "Once I was at A-B Tech, I was amazed at the friendliness of everyone on campus. It was a fun experience, but a lot of hard work," Bradley said.

She worked an unpaid intern when Gateaux first opened because she was willing to make the sacrifice for the experience. Now, she gets to spend her days working full-time and getting paid for her passion.

The Lavender Fund Scholarship is a highly successful year-long scholarship and support program for single

parents attending A-B Tech. It serves more than 40 students each year.

In addition to scholarship dollars to help with school and living expenses, students chosen for a Lavender Fund Scholarship receive ongoing support throughout the year from Liz Atkinson, Lavender Fund Scholarship Support Advisor.

Atkinson provides tips, information, encouragement and assistance. She gives students one-on-one attention, advocacy and support for unexpected situations, while keeping them aware of resources available in the community and the college.

Most recently, Atkinson served 44 students, with 98 percent completing both fall and spring semesters. Of those 44 students, 18 were on track to complete a program and 100 percent graduated.



Autumn in Asheville

Autumn in Asheville 2016 highlighted the impressive skills of A-B Tech's award-winning Culinary Arts, Baking and Pastry Arts, Hospitality Management, and Craft Beverage Institute of the Southeast programs. These programs and the A-B Tech Foundation paid homage to Asheville's vibrant and diverse restaurant scene with a variety of interactive mini-restaurants located in and around Fernihurst and the Brumit Center on the Asheville campus.

Proceeds from the event support the success of the College's students through the Foundation scholarship programs, as well as the culinary, baking and hospitality programs.



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TD Bank

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Golf Tournament Raises Funds for Scholarships

The K. Ray Bailey Invitational Golf Classic was held June 2 at Mount Mitchell Golf Club to raise funds for scholarship programs at A-B Tech. This event's proceeds fund one of the largest student scholarships offered by the Office of College Advancement. There were 35 scholarships made to A-B Tech students, totaling \$45,000, in 2016-17.

2017 Golf Tournament Teams, Sponsors, In-Kind and Volunteers

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Annual Scholarship Luncheon

The 2017 Scholarship Luncheon, the 16th annual celebration of A-B Tech's Foundation student scholarship recipients, was held at the Crowne Plaza Expo Center. This inspirational event provides an opportunity for the scholarship students to meet the individuals responsible for their particular scholarship in person over lunch, and for members of the College community to hear from several students and alumni.

The event drew a crowd of almost 400 student scholarship recipients and other guests, including scholarship donors, A-B Tech Board of Trustees Members, Foundation Board Members, community members, elected officials, and A-B Tech staff and faculty.

Alumni Shareka Scott, Tiffany Ellis and Michelle Irwin spoke about their lives and careers since graduation from A-B Tech. To close out the event, 2011 graduate and A-B Tech employee Marshay Proctor-Bates gave an inspiring talk. While attending A-B Tech, Marshay was the recipient of the Shapiro-Green Endowed Scholarship. She received a Bachelor's degree from Western Carolina University and is currently working on a master's degree. In addition to school, Marshay is the mother of two sets of twins, an Academic Advisor in the Transfer Advisor Center, and an instructor in the Academic Success Division.

2017 Scholarship Luncheon Sponsors

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Barbara Sloss
Sharon Smith
Rev. Jane Smith
Sandy Smith , Jr.
Clinton Smoke
Southeastern Container, Inc.
Southern Appalachian Radio
Museum, Inc.
Ray Spells
St. Eugene Church
Jerry Starnes
State Employees' Credit Union
Foundation
Dina Steinmetz
Beth Stewart
M. Jean Stines
Daniel Stokoe

Mandy Stone
Ben F. Streets
Cathryn Strohm-Horton
James and Tammy Sullivan
Sunshine Chevrolet
Anna Syzmanski
Dr. Lori Tapp
Clarence Tate
TD Charitable Foundation
The Blossman Companies
The Boeing Company
The Budd Group
The Chaddick Foundation
The Gardner Family Foundation
The GEM Fund AAUW Asheville
The Gene Haas Foundation
The J.B. McKibbin Foundation
The John R. Hill Charitable
Endowment Fund
Shanna Thomas-Hough
Roderick Thompson
Three M Farms
Sheila Tillman
Capper Tramm
Sharon Trammel
Trinity Episcopal Church
Angie and John Tucker
Phyllis Utley
Kristen Vail
Mark Vannoy
Vannoy Construction
Heather Vaughn
Susan Rose Vincent
Ann Wait
David Walker
Kara Walker
Charles Wallin
Waste Pro
Shadrack B. Waters
Elizabeth Watkin
Valerie Watts
WCI, Inc.
Rebekah and Christopher Webb
Wells Fargo Foundation
Wayne Wheeler
Dr. Dave B. White
Dr. Shelley White
White Oak Financial Management,
Inc.
Jon Wiener
Mary Lou William
Joyce Williams
Vera Williams
Brian J. Willis
Dr. Dirk Wilmoth
Aixa Wilson
Ethan Wingfield
John and Cynthia Winkenwerder

John Witherspoon
Womansong of Asheville
Richard Wood
Hubie and Pat Wood
Phyllis Woollen
Monique Worley
YAB Inc.
Chris and Nina Young
Laurel Young
Ms. Sarah Zetterholm

2016-17 A-B Tech scholarships

100 Men and Women Minority Scholarship
A.A.S. Over the Top Scholarship
A-B Tech Aviation Flight Scholarship
A-B Tech Dental Scholarship
A-B Tech Foundation Scholarship
A-B Tech Opportunity Fund Scholarship
Adelaide Key Endowed Scholarship
Advanced Superabrasives/John Batki Memorial Scholarship
Alice D. Hamling Foundation Scholarship
Altrusa International of Asheville Scholarship
ArvinMeritor, Electrical, Electronics, and Machining Scholarship
Asheville Area Tourism Association
Asheville Breakfast Rotary Scholarship
Asheville Independent Restaurant Chefs of Tomorrow Scholarship
Asheville Latin Americans for Advancement Society Merit Scholarship
AT & T Scholarship
Autumn in Asheville Gala Scholarship
AvL Technologies Endowed Scholarship
Back in the Saddle Scholarship
Banker Insurance- William (Chip) B. Williamson IV Scholarship
Bill and Alice Hart Scholarship
Biltmore Culinary Scholarship
Bolton Construction and Service Scholarship
Bowers Ellis and Watson
Brigadier General Carl L. Trippi
C.O.R.E. (Creating Opportunities for Regional Excellence) Scholarship
Candler Lions Club Endowed Scholarship
Capt. Jeff Bowen Memorial Scholarship
Children's Welfare League Endowed Scholarship
Conrad Family Scholarship
Cosmetology Scholarship
D. Bruce and Joyce Goforth Scholarship
Daniel Dragonetti Memorial Scholarship for Culinary Arts
David and Helen Edwards Scholarship
Debby Harmon Invitational Education Scholarship
Deltec Homes Endowed Scholarship
Don and Marjorie Locke Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Joseph Baxter Roberson, Sr. Scholarship
Dr. Karen Vaneman Endowed Scholarship
Eaton Corporation Endowed Scholarship
Edna and C. J. DeLoach Memorial Scholarship
Electrical/Electronics Scholarship
Engineering and Applied Science Scholarship
Fire Chief John E. Bishop and Rescue Chief Harry H. Hinman Scholarship
Fred Anderson Automotive Scholarship
GEM Fund American Association of University Women Asheville Branch Scholarship
Grace Joan Love Schneider Endowed Scholarship
Grimes-West Medical Laboratory Technology Endowed Scholarship
H. D. and Kay Crews Endowed Scholarship

Hattie Baldwin Memorial Scholarship
Hazel Fox Minority Student Entrepreneurship Scholarship
Heirloom Hospitality Group Culinary Scholarship
Honors Program Scholarship for Arts & Sciences
Hospitality Education Scholarship
Hulsing Hotels Scholarship
I Didn't Know I Qualify Scholarship
i3 STEM Scholarship
Irma and Edward Sadler Endowed Scholarship
Iva McGrady Wall Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Jack and Carolyn Ferguson Endowed Scholarship
James T. "J. T." Rice Sr. Memorial Scholarship
Jan and Lary Schulhof Endowed Scholarship
Jessie Copp Kramer/Hominy Valley Endowed Scholarship
Jetton Jason King Machining Scholarship
Joe and Janice Brumit Endowed Scholarship
John Bernhardt Endowed Scholarship
Johnathan Giardina Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Joseph Dave Engineering Endowed Scholarship
Josselyn Grace Giebler Scholarship Fund
JoVon Coli Allied Health Scholarship
K. Ray Bailey Endowment for Student Success Scholarship
K. Ray Bailey/AB Tech Foundation Golf Classic Scholarship
La Chaîne des Rotisseurs Scholarship
Lacy T. Haith & James V. Miller Endowed Scholarship
Lavender Fund Scholarship
Lead the Way Scholarship for African American Men
Lowe's Buchan Club Scholarship
Margaret Millspaugh Memorial Scholarship
Marie & Carl L. Cochrane Endowment
Marilyn Modell Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Mark Rosenstein, The Marketplace Scholarship
Mary Hay Gwynn Endowed Scholarship
Mary Louise Carpenter Scholarship
McKibbon CORE Scholarship
McKibbon Spirit to Serve HRM Scholarship
McKibbon Spirit to Serve Scholarship - Culinary Arts
Medical Assisting Scholarship
Michael Patrick Metcalf Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Morgan Virginia Kirtland Webster Endowed Scholarship
NC Association of Electrical Contractors Scholarship
Never Too Old for School Scholarship
Osborne M. Hart Endowed Scholarship
Otis A. Vaughn Scholarship Fund
Owen Tilson Endowed Memorial Scholarship

PFA Architects, P.A.
Pathways Scholarship
Pepsi-Cola of Asheville Scholarship Fund
Pete and Flo Palmeri Endowed Scholarship
Pisgah Investments LLC (for Habitat for Humanity Residents)
PLI Scholarship
Pride in Technical Education Scholarship
Richard & Mary Frisbee Memorial Chaddick Foundation Scholarship
Richard and Jean Benfield Scholarship
Robert F. Burgin Endowed Scholarship
Roberta Manley Memorial Endowed Scholarship
S. O. M. Scholarship
Sandra and Jones Byrd Scholarship
SEH Tabitha Foundation Scholarship
Sgro-Huston Memorial Scholarship
Sgt. Jeffrey Hewitt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Shapiro-Green Endowed Scholarship
Sherrill Grace Thompson Scholarship Fund
Shiloh Community Allied Health Scholarship
Shiloh Community STEM Scholarship
Shorty's Gang Journey Group Scholarship
State Employees' Credit Union Foundation Scholarship
State Employees' Credit Union Con-Ed Scholarship
Susan L. Holden Scholarship Fund
Telco Community Credit Union Social Media Scholarship
The Frances N. Johnson Endowed Scholarship
The Glenda Bailey Veterinary Technology Endowed Scholarship
The Grove Park Inn Endowed Culinary Technical Program Scholarship honoring Elaine D. Sammons
The Grove Park Inn Endowed Hospitality Scholarship in honor of Elaine D. Sammons
The Maher Family Scholarship
The Sam Palmeri Memorial Endowed Scholarship
The Womansong New Start Scholarship
Theresa Sabo Endowed Nursing Scholarship
Thomas W. Simpson Scholarship Endowment
Tracy Long Scholarship
Vadim Bora Visual Art Scholarship
Veterinary Medical Technology Program Scholarship
Wells Fargo Project New Futures Scholarship
William and Dorothy Glenn Tugman Scholarship
William P. Warren Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Wingfield Scholarship for Promising Leaders
Winkenwerder Family Scholarship
Women in STEM scholarship
Worth B. Gregory Jr. Scholarship
Wright-Oliver Scholarship



Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College, 340 Victoria Road Asheville, NC 28801
828-398-7900 abtech.edu

Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate degrees, diplomas 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 Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College.

Equal Opportunity Educational Institution

