

Where Are They Now?

Getting a Head Start on Her Dream Job

Setting yourself apart from the rest of the pack is essential nowadays in finding a job. Alison Parker learned this lesson when she was able to land her dream job, thanks to the jump start provided by Patrick Henry Community College's Dual Enrollment program.

Parker, a television news reporter for WCTI News Channel 12 in Jacksonville, N.C., attended Martinsville High School, enrolling in dual enrollment classes in both her junior and senior years.

The Dual Enrollment program offers college-level courses to local high school juniors and seniors, at no cost to the student. It allows them to fulfill their high school requirements while simultaneously receiving college credit. Letting students get a head start on their college education reduces education expenses for families and the time required to earn a college degree, and helps students get acquainted to the rigor of college-level courses prior to their entering a four-year institution.

Ultimately for Parker, the Dual Enrollment program gave her the ability to focus her college education on the courses that were appropriate for her desired career – broadcast journalism.

"Patrick Henry was a great way to get the classes I needed in college out of the way," she explained. While still in high school, Parker took classes such as pre-calculus and chemistry, which are typically completed as a college freshman. So when she started at James Madison University in 2009, she was already ahead of the game entering as a junior.





"I didn't have to take any of the general education classes that weren't appropriate," she said. "I could jump right into my major and even dabble in different areas of media. PH allowed me to better focus my education to what I wanted to do."

Not only did the Dual Enrollment program allow Parker to focus her education, but she was able to take fewer classes, freeing her up for internships throughout the year, including a stint at WDBJ7 in Roanoke, Va., alongside co-anchor Jean Jadhon and meteorologist Robin Reed.

While she could have technically graduated from JMU at 19, she stayed for 3 ½ years, graduating in December with a job already lined up. "There was a lot less competition from graduates," she explained of not graduating with the majority of her classmates.

As a reporter for WCTI News Channel 12, Parker has had some stories go national and has even filled in as an anchor. "It's the perfect

job," Parker asserted, "and I felt very prepared for it."

Patriots Society

The Patriots Society honors those who have designated Patrick Henry Community College as the recipient of a named gift. The Patriots Society now includes 25 named giving benefactors with gifts totaling \$10.1 million since the inception of the program more than 24 years ago.

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Foundation Highlights

- The Foundation accounted for 9% of the college's operating budget. A total of \$1,739,549 was provided. Major areas funded by the Foundation include faculty and staff positions, technology advancement and equipment.
- \$540,510 was awarded in scholarships.
- \$1,630,373 was raised through 622 gifts: \$1,569,127 in cash \$51,504 in pledges \$9,741 in in-kind contributions
- \$26.9 million has been raised by the Foundation since its first organized fundraising activities in 1983 to the end of the 2013 fiscal year.
- The value of Foundation net assets totaled \$13.9 million as of June 30, 2013.
- The value of endowed scholarships was \$3.3 million.
- The Patriots Society now includes 25 named giving benefactors with gifts totaling \$10.1 million.
- The Patrick Henry Society for planned-giving donors now numbers 33 with the value of deferred gifts at \$5.6 million.
- Major competitive grants awarded to the Foundation:
 - \$705,000 from the Virginia Tobacco Commission for scholarships and Biology Lab upgrades
 - \$215,000 from the Achieving the Dream Catalyst fund

Foundation News

Paving the Road to Success

An old '93 Buick Regal may not be much to look at, but for Michael McAdams it will make a world of difference.

The car was donated by Barry Nelson, Vice President of the Nelson Automotive family, to the Great Expectations program at Patrick Henry Community College.

Great Expectations serves foster youth ages 17-24, assisting with goal setting, education and training, career assessment, life skills, preparation for employment, tutoring and mentoring, and job placement.

For many foster youth, like 18-year-old McAdams, the transition into higher education or a career once they reach adulthood can be made even more difficult by the lack of transportation.

"For many of our Great Expectations students, lack of transportation prohibits them from pursuing higher education, employment opportunities and access to



Pictured (from left to right) are Ed Anthony, Michael McAdams, Barry Nelson, Christy Yaple, Samantha Griffith and Christopher Parker.

community resources," explained Christy Yaple, the PHCC Director for Great Expectations.

Among the many barriers to success that foster youth face, lack of transportation ranks high – usually second to finding a place to live, Yaple said. The Skills to Wheels initiative was created as a part of Great Expectations to try to match students in need with the transportation they need.

Of his decision to donate a car, Nelson said that he "wanted to give these students an opportunity to succeed, an opportunity they probably wouldn't have without a car. It's like in baseball," he explained, "if you can't get on the field, you won't even have a chance to succeed in the game."

Nelson plans on donating two to three cars in the upcoming year.

McAdams, a first-year welding student, was very gracious to be given such an opportunity in life. "I'm very thankful," he said. "This will be so helpful."

His foster-care worker, Samantha Griffith of Martinsville Social Services, said "I wished more of my 18-year-old boys were as responsible as Michael is. I'm very proud of him and his progress. He deserves this."

"If we can break down any barriers, like transportation, that children have to receiving an education and succeeding in life, then we can open so many doors.

Ultimately, this program will benefit more than just the car's recipient. For Ed Anthony, Automotive Instructor at PHCC, the donation has given his students hands-on experience working on a car. Students were able to work on some lighting problems, motor assembly and, a first for his students, replaced a window regulator. In the future, he said, he hopes the donated cars will give his students even more opportunities for this "key learning experience."

Christopher Parker, Executive Director of the Foundation who helped facilitate this donation, has great hopes for the program. "If we can break down any barriers, like transportation, that children have to receiving an education and succeeding in life, then we can open so many doors."

Patrick HenrySociety

The Patrick Henry Society honors those who have named Patrick Henry Community College as a beneficiary of a deferred gift. Patrick Henry Society donors now number 33 with the valued of deferred gifts at \$5.6 million.

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*Deceased











COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Patrick Henry Community College has started a community outreach program for the nonprofit organizations of Martinsville and Henry County. The goal is to help these groups reach potential volunteers and supporters throughout the community, and to educate the public about what these organizations offer.

You are invited to attend the sessions to hear from the leaders of these groups, and to ask any questions you may have. All sessions will be held from 12:15 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Frith Exhibit Hall.

- January 16 United Way
- February 20 Habitat for Humanity
- March 20 Piedmont Arts
- April 17 Virginia Museum of Natural History
- May 15 Boys & Girls Club

Foundation Events

Students Show Off Their Skills in the 2013 Student Art Show

The 19th Annual Student Art Show, sponsored in part by the PHCC Foundation, was a huge success last year. Twentythree students participated in the show, culminating in a reception and awards presentation in April 2013.

Led by Gerry Bannan, Professor of Art, the students presented 45 drawings or paintings ranging from self-portraits to still lifes.

"This is a great opportunity for the students to demonstrate their talent, and to showcase what we do as a school for the arts," Bannan said, adding that as their teacher, it's especially "gratifying to see the individual progress that doesn't always win an award, but shows development in the classroom."

Christopher Parker, Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the Foundation, presented the awards to the students.

"I've been here [at PHCC] seven years and the art gets better every year," Parker said to the attendees, adding that he even has a piece of art from a previous show hanging in his home.

Honorable Mentions, with a cash prize of \$25 each, were awarded to Jessica Hubbard of Bassett, Casey Newman of Bassett, Myron Smith of Martinsville and Linda Spear of Martinsville. Awards of Excellence, with a cash prize of \$50 each, were awarded to Cole Bullock of Collinsville, Wenn Harold of Bassett and Beth Marshall of Bassett.

The Best-In-Show award, with a prize of \$100, was awarded to Nick LaPrade of Danville for "Self-Portrait."

At each Student Art Show, the Foundation chooses one piece to purchase for \$150 to add to its collection located in Lester Library. This year's winner was Casey Newman for her still-life painting "Capitibus, Conchis, et Ures." (Latin for "Skull, Shell, and Bottle.")

"I didn't want to just name it "Skull, Shell, and Bottle," Newman said with a laugh. "I thought I would do Latin instead!"

Newman, an advanced painting student, explained that she started painting a year ago, and soon realized that she could paint



"Capitibus, Conchis, et Ures" (Latin for "Skull, Shell, and Bottle")



Pictured, back row, left to right, are Art Professor Gerry Bannan, Linda Spear, Beth Marshall, Wenn Harold, Nick LaPrade and Myron Smith. Front row, left to right, are Jessica Hubbard and Casey Newman.

skulls very well and was influenced by Bannan's recommendation that she paint skulls for her submission.

"I was so excited! I was in complete shock," Newman said of being given this honor by the Foundation. "I thought an Honorable Mention was great. I didn't know I would get this, too."

Newman graduated last spring with her associate's degree in general studies and hopes to "pursue something in the art field, possibly in design."

Of this year's art show, Bannan said "I'm always impressed by the work, but this year we have really outstanding talent!"

Foundation News

Patriots From Around the World

Patrick Henry Community College's reach extends far beyond our state. For four student-athletes this year, that reach has crossed national borders.

Lucas Donovan, of Ajax, Ontario, and Eric Scott, of Peterborough, Ontario, are both freshmen recruited to play on the PHCC Baseball Team. Alessandro Brachetti of Pollenza, Italy, plays on the Men's Soccer Team, and Caitlan Tuala, of Auckland, New Zealand, play's Women's Basketball.

While students are typically from Martinsville, Henry County, Patrick County and Franklin County, student-athletes are recruited from all over the state, surrounding states and even other countries, said Kathleen Brown, Athletic Director and Coordinator for International Students.



"The international students that we are able to bring here give their teammates and the other students on campus a different cultural viewpoint and make all of our students more well-rounded," Brown said.

PHCC was the first in the Virginia Community College System to launch an international athletic program, and many others have followed this lead.

It was the reputation of PHCC's athletic program that attracted both Donovan and Scott.

"I knew Coach Jones was a good coach, and after visiting other schools, I liked PH the best," Scott said. "It was one of the nicest I've seen and it had a good reputation."

Donovan explained how he had attended a baseball camp at James Madison University, and it was there that he learned more about PHCC and decided to use it as a stepping stone for his athletic career and higher education.

"My hopes for the athletic department," Brown said, "is that we end up being a nationally recognized program that students from our service region and state strive to be a part of."



GIVING BACK

Our athletic teams are heavily involved in giving back to their community. They committed nearly **700 hours** of service this past year helping with organizations such as United Way, Charity League, Kiwanis and Grace Network. They also conducted various camps for local students and participated in community events like Oktoberfest and National Night Out.

WAY TO GO, PATRIOTS!

Foundation News

Gary Collins Named Alumnus of the Year

For his dedication and support of Patrick Henry Community College, Gary Collins, Chair of the PHCC Foundation, was named Alumnus of the Year by the Council for Resource Development (CRD).

He received this prestigious designation during the CRD's 47th Annual Conference in November in Washington, D.C. He said after doing some research on the organization, he was "astonished" at how much it does nationally for higher education and was honored for this special recognition.

He said the entire weekend was something he will never forget. "It was just an unbelievable experience," he said. "It's definitely something I'll always treasure."

Collins delivered the keynote address at the banquet, detailing his experiences at PHCC and the importance of passion.

Although he wanted to start his college career at Virginia

Tech after high school, Collins described a journey that turned out far better for his future.



Gary Collins (far left) with PHCC President Angeline Godwin and PHCC Foundation Executive Director Christopher Parker

"I enrolled at Patrick Henry with the intention of staying there for one year and then transferring, but I ended up staying and earning two degrees," he said. "The closeness and the small classes provided a solid foundation for my future. I got involved in student government, many clubs and I had some wonderful professors. But most importantly, I met my wife there."

After he graduated from PHCC, Collins went on to graduate from Averett University with two bachelor's degrees and then took a position with Stifel Nicolaus Financial, where he currently serves as Senior Vice President for Investments.

Collins praises the entire college for its extensive number of programs, both traditional and unique. He said it's been a joy to watch the college grow, both in student body with the growth of dual enrollment, and its Foundation with an endowment in excess of \$14 million.

"We're able to provide much support for our students and college through scholarships and funding because of the staff we have now, and the leaders that made it what it is today," he said. "In the future, with the help of everyone in PHCC's service area, we'll see the college continue its growth."

Because of PHCC's track record, Collins said it's easy for people to support the college. "We're one of the few community colleges with buildings that have been completely donated and named," he said. "Patrick Henry is just like a family member to me," he said. "I'm so proud of the college and the growth it's had, and the growth we have to look forward to in the future – not only for us, but for the entire community."

Both Christopher Parker, Executive Director of the Foundation, and PHCC President Angeline Godwin nominated Collins for this award. Parker said there couldn't be anyone more deserving of this recognition.

"Gary has done so much for the college over his career," Parker said. "I greatly appreciate his dedication, hard work, leadership and especially his friendship. He truly deserved this award."

Godwin said, "Gary Collins represents the heart of our mission as a community college, where we serve students in their individual journeys from where they are to where they want to be. Given his passion, dedication and support of PH, we were honored to nominate Gary, a champion of student-centered fundraising, as the CRD Alumnus of the Year."

Collins has been involved with Patrick Henry Community College since 1985. He served on the PHCC Local Board for two four-year terms, where he also served as chair for two of those years. This is his second term as Chair of the Foundation Board. In addition, he's been on various committees and stayed involved with supporting the college for the past 28 years.

Foundation Events

11th Annual Scholarship Luncheon

Scholarship recipients and donors were given the chance to see the other side of the coin at the 11th Annual Scholarship Recognition Luncheon held October 24, 2013. All current students who had received a scholarship, along with those who created them, were invited to attend this event to honor the hard work and dedication of all those involved.

The event is a chance for scholarship recipients to thank the donors that made their education possible and for donors to meet the recipients of their generous gifts.

"It's a humbling experience for the students to meet their benefactors, and a wonderful opportunity for those donors to meet the students they're affecting and to learn just how much their gift is appreciated," said Christopher Parker, Executive Director of the Foundation.

Parker urged students to "pay it forward. These donors are putting their investment in you, investing in the next generation, and we hope that you will do all you can to help the generation following you."

Lucas Prillaman, a Patrick Henry Scholar and recipient of the Archie Vipperman Endowed Scholarship and the Patrick Henry Chapter DAR Scholarship, spoke at the luncheon and expressed the same sentiment as Parker.

As scholarship recipients, "we must prove that that investment isn't in vain" by becoming leaders and advocates, he said.

Other speakers included Frank Tatum, Assistant Professor of Information Systems Technology, and a 1996 and 2000 graduate of PHCC; and Phyllis Fleming, Assistant Professor of English and Speech. Pamela Allen, Secretary of the Foundation Board, gave the closing remarks.



Students and scholarship donors were able to meet at the annual Scholarship Luncheon.



Patrick Henry Scholar recipient Ellie Hampton and Ann Abercrombie

DONATE

Visit www.patrickhenry.edu/donate to make a donation now, or find out more at www.patrickhenryfoundation.com.

The Patrick Henry Community College Foundation is a not-for profit organization that is fiscally and organizationally separate from the college. Its goal is to enhance community awareness of Patrick Henry Community College; to secure contributions, bequests and donations; and to account for, manage and help appreciate monies or property submitted to the Foundation.

Our goal is to help students gain access to affordable, quality education. Help us make that dream a reality by contributing to the PHCC Foundation.

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