Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) began offering three new associate degree program options during the autumn quarter 2008: Digital Media Design - Web Design option, Forensic Science – Forensic Accounting option, and Advanced Manufacturing Technology – Machining option. COTC created these new specialty areas to meet the fast-rising market demand for trained graduates in these growing fields.

COTC’s Web Design option will offer a broad based and intensive exploration of the process and business of web site design. Students will study principles of design, typography, programming, and courses in specific digital software tools. The program will focus on developing a student’s technical skills and creative vision, with an emphasis on building a portfolio to prepare the student to enter the workforce or continue their education.

The Forensic Accounting option will combine the study of accounting, business, auditing, and investigative skills to prepare students to identify, analyze, and interpret business and financial evidence and to participate in related litigation. The program will provide students with the tools they will need to become skilled specialists in this field, combining aspects of accounting, fraud detection, police detective work, and crime scene investigation into one career.

The Machining option focuses on developing a strong foundation in conventional machining as well as computer applications, team building, communication, production, and business practices related to the manufacturing industry. Students will develop skills in shop mathematics, blueprint reading, machining processes, precision layout and measurement, and operating CNC machines. This competency-based program allows students to enter at their own level and progress at their own pace.
As nature begins its process to gradually end the growing season and the leaves start to show a hint of red and orange, a sense of closure to summer arrives and with it comes the anticipation of another new academic year. There is a heightened sense of excitement in particular this year as the campus prepares to open one of the premier higher education facilities in the country, the John L. and Christine Warner Library and Student Center. This state-of-the-art facility will feature a much needed library with an array of research tools both print and digital in its 25,000 square feet of library space. Also housed in the building will be the new student center with a modern food court, student affairs offices, student organizational space, a learning commons, various lounge and activity areas and a new bookstore.

Credited for the unique concept of combining the library and student center into one 81,000 square foot facility are the primary building donors John L. and Christine Warner, whose vision will become a reality as we begin utilizing the Warner Center this autumn quarter. The building will be open for tours following a dedication ceremony on Friday, October 3 at 1 p.m. The public is invited to attend and celebrate this milestone in the life of the campus.

The Warner Center is a wonderful representation of the community's support of the campus as more than 90 percent of its $20 million construction costs were private and local funds. In the last 10 years, of the $50 million in capital building projects on the campus, 60 percent or $30 million has been raised from private donations. Our campus is truly blessed with a community where generosity is contagious and education is a strong thread woven into the fabric of its identity. It is so by design; the founding fathers whose vision led the direction of the community and the campus, ensured a strong partnership and fostered a reciprocal relationship. The importance of that linkage is even more critical now as education is tied so closely to economic development, workforce readiness and today's global marketplace.

To continue this tradition of interdependence between the community and the campus, with tangible results like the Warner Library and Student Center, is a wonderful tribute to Mr. Howard LeFevre, one of the founding fathers of the college and long-time community leader. His legacy lives on as together we work to better our community.

Bonnie L. Coe, Ph.D., President

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A six-member evaluation team from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association (NCA) of Colleges and Schools visited Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) May 12 – 14, 2008, to conduct a comprehensive reaccreditation evaluation of the college. After conducting an extensive documentary review, visits to all four COTC campuses, and interviews with COTC’s constituency groups, including faculty, staff, students, board, and community members, the team recommended to the HLC that COTC receive 10 years of continued accreditation, the highest recommendation that a college can receive.

In addition, the evaluation team recommended that COTC’s Knox and Pataskala Campuses be recognized as full-service campuses, providing a range of instruction as well as administrative and support services.

In its report, the HLC visiting team wrote, “The college was honest in its appraisal of both its strengths and challenges. ... The college has all of the essential elements of mission, finances, curriculum quality and integrity in place ....”

The 10-year reaccreditation process undertaken by COTC was the culmination of the college’s Self-Study. This intensive, two-year process resulted in a report that identified strengths, challenges, and opportunities for the future.

“We were so pleased to receive this recommendation for 10 years of continued accreditation along with the recommendations that the Knox and Pataskala locations be recognized as full-service campuses,” said COTC President Dr. Bonnie L. Coe. “This is truly an accomplishment shared by all.”
Outstanding Alumni Award Presented

Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) awarded its 2008 Outstanding Alumni Award to Newark resident Shannon (Myers) Waters, a 1990 graduate of the college.

Waters, a human resources representative with the Newspaper Network of Central Ohio (NNCO), was nominated by her manager, Linda S. Miller, NNCO vice president for human resources. The award was presented to Waters by COTC President Bonnie L. Coe, Ph.D., at the college’s June commencement ceremony held at the COTC Newark Campus.

Miller wrote in her nomination of Waters, “Shannon consistently performs her job duties at a highly commendable to superior level. … is an active member of the Advocate’s diversity committee. … participates in job fairs held at the campus. … [and] is an example of how attending COTC can change a life.”

In addition to an associate degree from COTC, Waters earned a bachelor’s degree from Mount Vernon Nazarene University in 2002.

The Outstanding Alumni Award, which was presented annually from 1982 until 2002, was reinstated this year as the college seeks to recognize alumni who are excelling in their careers, giving back to the community, and helping to advance the college. COTC created an Alumni Program last year to serve as the principal link between the college and its network of alumni. All COTC alumni are invited to participate.

To learn more about the COTC Alumni Program, or to update your contact information with the college, please contact Jennifer W. Roberts, director of development, at 740.364.9644, email to jroberts@cotc.edu, or click on the alumni link at www.cotc.edu.

COTC Gateway Receives National Innovation Award

Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) is pleased to announce that The Gateway, a campus one-stop center for customer service, admissions, and academic advising, received a 2008 Innovation of the Year Award by the National League for Innovation in the Community College.

The Gateway is the physical result of COTC’s strong commitment to students.

In a letter to the college, the League for Innovation in the Community College states: “The Innovation of the Year Award was established 26 years ago, and was designed to recognize significant innovations developed and implemented by League member colleges. These innovations represent capstone achievements and the continuing renewal of the spirit of innovation and experimentation upon which the League was founded.”

For more information about the League or this award, please visit www.league.org.

Ohio is the First State to offer In-State Tuition to all GI Bill Participants

The University System of Ohio initiative expands services to help raise Ohio to the top state in the nation for educating veterans and their families. For more information, go to www.universitysystem.ohio.gov/veterans/index.htm.

Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) is proud to be a Service Member Opportunity College. COTC now offers multiple campus locations to serve the region: Newark, Coshocton, Knox and Pataskala. Go to www.cotc.edu.
Knox Campus Capital Campaign Continues

Central Ohio Technical College’s (COTC) Knox Campus Capital Campaign progresses toward its $6.5 million goal. Campaign funds will support the renovation of Ariel Hall, the college’s facility located at 236 S. Main St. in downtown Mount Vernon.

Parkside Restaurant to Host Fundraising Events

The college’s next campaign event will be a spaghetti dinner fundraiser on Monday, September 29, 5-8 p.m., at the Parkside Restaurant & Tavern at 108 Mount Vernon Ave. The event is open to all members of the community and 100 percent of all donations received will benefit the Knox Campus Capital Campaign.

In addition, Parkside Restaurant owner Jeff Boucher has generously offered to donate 10 percent of restaurant sales from September 15 - October 15 to the Capital Campaign.

Flapper’s Bike Night a Success

Recent past campaign events include Bike Night, held on August 13 and hosted by Flappers Bar & Grille. The popular Mount Vernon establishment is owned by COTC graduate Andrea Franz. The fun-filled event featured live music by The Zen Blues Band throughout the evening, a bike show and contest, live auction, and barbeque. Participants enjoyed judging a variety of bikes in the People’s Choice awards, including Sport/Sport Touring, Metric Cruiser, Domestic Cruiser, Touring, Antique, and Most Patriotic.

Schnormeier Gifts of the Gardens

Capital Campaign supporters Ann and Ted Schnormeier hosted a gala on May 22 at their privately owned gardens located at 8701 Laymon Road in Gambier, Ohio. Guests experienced the unique opportunity of enjoying the Schnormeier’s exquisite gardens which include a variety of discrete garden areas, sculptures and waterfalls, 50 acres of manicured lawns, 10 lakes, a Japanese Teahouse, Garden House, and Chinese Pavilion.

Beginning in the autumn quarter 2007, COTC was able to schedule all of its Knox Campus courses in Ariel Hall, and is poised to offer comprehensive degree and certificate programs along with support services at the location. A variety of day, evening and weekend classes are offered toward any of COTC’s 40 associate degrees and certificate programs.

New degree programs offered autumn quarter 2008 at the Knox Campus include Digital Media Design-Web Design option and Criminal Justice Technology.

When the renovations to Ariel Hall are completed, the former movie theatre will be transformed into a state-of-the-art educational facility with additional classrooms, laboratories, a student center, and faculty and administrative offices, offering area residents a permanent COTC campus in Mount Vernon.
Chancellor Fingerhut visits Coshocton Campus

Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) had the pleasure of hosting Ohio Board of Regents Chancellor Eric D. Fingerhut on July 25 when he visited the Coshocton Campus. During the visit, Ohio State Senator Joy Padgett (R-20th District), along with COTC board member Lee Wyse and former board member Robbie Robinson shared insights about the campus with the chancellor. Coshocton Campus Administrator Dorothy Skowrunski led the group in a tour of Montgomery Hall, COTC’s recently renovated Coshocton Campus building.

Chancellor Fingerhut, while speaking of Ohio’s goal to improve access and affordability of higher education, noted that COTC’s expansion in Coshocton is an excellent model for collaboration as well as fund-raising initiatives.

“Education needs to have community support,” said Fingerhut. “COTC’s aggressiveness [to fund raising] and the community’s response serves as a state model.”

Pataskala Campus to hold Open House

Central Ohio Technical College’s (COTC) Pataskala Campus will host an Open House on Saturday, October 25, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the campus’s administrative offices, 621 W. Broad St. Prospective students will have the opportunity to meet with admissions and advising representatives and to learn about the degree programs and certificates offered by COTC. “Of special interest are the degree programs new to our campus -- Criminal Justice Technology, Digital Media Design - Web Design Option, Accounting, and Law Enforcement Technology,” said Julie Maurer, Pataskala campus administrator. For additional information about the Open House or with general questions pertaining to the Pataskala Campus, please call 740.964.7090.

Community members have seen COTC Pataskala staff members keeping very busy this summer participating in several community events, including the American Cancer Society Relay for Life on July 18 and 19 at Watkins Memorial High School, the Pataskala Area Chamber of Commerce Farmer’s Market, as well as the annual Pataskala Street Fair.

In addition, Maurer attended the Tribal Training Contract Signing Ceremony for the Tribal Training Initiative on July 19 in Washington, D.C. The event was hosted by the American Indian Tribal Colleges and Universities and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and celebrated the Grants Management Partnership the groups have formed. Maurer attended as vice chair of the National Partnership for Environmental Education (NPETE) Executive Board.
Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) recently welcomed two new members to the college’s administrative team: Nicholas J. Parisi, dean for engineering, industrial and business technologies; and Raymond D. Irwin, director of new program development. Both men bring significant educational and administrative expertise to their new positions at COTC.

Parisi joins COTC from Victor Valley College, in Victorville, California, where he was dean of career and technical education. At Victor Valley he oversaw 17 programs in health science, public safety, business and industrial technologies and was directly involved with developing new programs in collaboration with the Workforce Investment Board. He holds a master’s in education from Heritage College, in Washington, and a bachelor’s in English from California Baptist University.

“I’m very excited to be at COTC,” said Parisi. “One of my main goals will be to explore ways the college can better prepare the workforce for expansion or other opportunities.”

A native of Michigan, Parisi is enjoying his return to the Midwest. He currently resides in Newark.

Irwin is a past program director at the Japan-United States Teaching Institute, where he was involved in all levels of educational administration. Working with local industry and cultural institutions, he established a program in translation studies, the only one of its kind in the Midwest.

The Worthington resident earned a B.A. and Ph.D. in history from The Ohio State University. He also holds a master’s in library and information science from Kent State University, and a law degree from the University of London.

“I’m very much looking forward to working with area employers to find ways COTC can meet the needs of the community and serve our student population,” he said.

Duke Young: father, husband, former farm worker, and now, licensed practical nurse. Young pursued his dream, thanks to the convenience and affordability of the Coshocton Campus of Central Ohio Technical College (COTC).

“I got tired of doing odd jobs, especially after I broke my arm in six places during a farming accident,” said Young. “I really wanted to do something that was more rewarding.”

Although Young admits that working full time and managing a full course schedule was no easy task, he found instructional help and support in COTC’s small study groups. He was even able to complete all of his classes at the Coshocton Campus, a practical convenience that helped Young fit education into his busy schedule. “I don’t think I would have pursued this [practical nursing] if not for the convenient location,” said Duke. “I’m really glad we have quality education here in Coshocton.”

During the program, Young met caring instructors who were great motivators. He was also very impressed to learn that COTC practical nursing students enjoy frequent hands-on clinical experience as early as the program’s first quarter.

Young would like to advance his career by becoming a registered nurse, and plans to pursue an Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Technology at COTC. His wife, Valerie, is also planning to enroll in COTC’s practical nursing program in 2009.

For more information about COTC’s Practical Nursing program, go to www.cotc.edu and click on Programs of Study.
COTC Happenings

Schnormeier Gifts of the Gardens

The Schnormeier Gardens in Gambier provided a beautiful backdrop for COTC’s Knox Campus Capital Campaign Fundraiser on May 22. More than 150 guests toured the gardens of Ted and Ann Schnormeier, listened to a variety of musical entertainment, and enjoyed the wonderful location while showing their support for COTC.

CollegeASPIRE 2008

CollegeASPIRE is COTC’s highly successful summer workshop series that is specially designed for high school students (ages 15 to 18) or middle school students (ages 11 – 14) and taught by college faculty.

Students get a taste of college life through hands-on activities in workshops such as digital photography, computer aided drafting, crime scene investigation, computer game design, and forensic science.

CollegeASPIRE 2008, held June 9 - 13 and June 16 - 20, enrolled 120 students from the Newark area and Coshocton.
Campus Calendar of Events

COTC Knox Campus Campaign Fundraiser
Parkside Restaurant, Mount Vernon
September 15 – October 15
Certificate of Support vouchers available
COTC locations and local businesses, or call 740.397.1975.

Autumn Quarter 2008
Wednesday, September 24
Autumn classes begin – Central Ohio Technical College and Ohio State Newark
For more information, visit www.cotc.edu or www.newark.osu.edu

COTC Knox Campus Campaign Fundraiser
Spaghetti Dinner – Parkside Restaurant
Monday, September 29, 5 - 8 p.m.
Mount Vernon

Ribbon Cutting - John L. and Christine Warner Library and Student Center
Friday, October 3, 1 p.m.
Open to the public
For more information, please call 740.364.9514 or email Lwalsh@cotc.edu.

Literary Reading, "Fenimore Cooper's Literary Offenses," by Mark Twain
Friday, October 3, 7:30 p.m.
The John L. and Christine Warner Library and Student Center
Free and open to the public

Public Lecture: “Sculpture to Inspire”
Gary Lee Price
Thursday, October 23, 2 p.m.
Alford Performing Arts Hall
The John Gilbert Reese Center

Great Performers Series
Joel Harrison, jazz guitar
Wednesday, October 29, 7 p.m.
Alford Performing Arts Hall
The John Gilbert Reese Center

Faculty Lecture Series
Thursday, November 6, 7 p.m.
Location TBA

AutoCAD Free Hands-On Workshop
Friday, November 7, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
LeFevre Hall
Explore the world of architecture and civil engineering through the use of computer aided drafting. For more information, contact Heather Pursley at hpursley@cotc.edu. Register now. Free and open to the public.

Post Mortem, by A. R. Gurney
Th/F/S, November 12, 13, and 14, and Th/F/S, November 19, 20, and 21, 8 p.m.
Black Box Theatre
LeFevre Hall
$3 students, $4 general public