The Importance of Accreditation

On May 12 - 14, 2008, COTC hosted six reviewers from The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association (NCA) of Colleges and Schools. During the visit, the HLC team interviewed faculty, staff, students and community members while looking for evidence that COTC meets the commission's criteria for reaccreditation.

What is HLC accreditation? Why is it important?

Accreditation is a voluntary, peer review process. While many academic agencies accredit particular programs of study (education, nursing, etc.) the HLC is responsible for assuring that colleges and universities meet certain standards in terms of their missions, operations, and activities in teaching, student learning, discovery and promotion of knowledge, and service.

HLC Accreditation is an assurance to the public that COTC is mission driven, plans for future needs, provides a quality education to students, encourages the pursuit of knowledge, and provides excellent services to our constituents.

On a more practical level, it assures prospective students considering COTC for their education that their degree will be recognized by employers and other institutions of higher learning. Also, the federal government requires that the financial aid it provides to students only be used at accredited institutions.

Continuous Improvement

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

With the campus community working together, COTC will meet the challenges and achieve the potential and the promise of the institution.

Summer Quarter 2008 begins
Monday, June 16
Go to www.cotc.edu for course schedule information

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A Letter from the President

Best selling author and well-known leader in the field of management, James Champy, said it best, “Big results require big ambitions.” This sentiment could well have been the motto for Central Ohio Technical College in the fall as we embarked on academic year 2007/08 with monumental ambitions, not only in terms of quantity but in the breadth and depth of projects critical to the forward movement of the institution. What a pleasure it is as we set our sights on the end of the year, to report that indeed we achieved big results.

This month will mark the culmination of a project that was a major focus for the college throughout the year and one that has been under way for the past three years, the institution’s reaccreditation from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association. An intensive self-evaluation process involving more than 90 college faculty and staff was completed this year and resulted in a formal Self-Study report that was submitted to the HLC. The report will be used as the basis for a Site Visit by the HLC in mid-May and will also serve as the foundation for the institution’s next five-year strategic plan. An incredible amount of time, talent and energy was dedicated to this project and resulted in critical data collection and analysis, a focused vision for the future and a renewed sense of unity throughout the institution.

Also a primary focus this year was improved customer service with specific attention to a new student-centered approach. The tangible results can be seen in the heart of the campus known as The Gateway. Located in Hopewell Hall, The Gateway is a one-stop shop offering students seamless service and a centralized location home to the offices of Admissions, Advising, Records and Registration and located next to Fees and Deposits and Financial Aid. The Gateway is unique not only in its structure but in its staffing philosophy; staff members have been extensively cross-trained to ensure students can accomplish a multitude of tasks at one location, in one visit. Open since June 2007, the response has been overwhelmingly positive as efficiencies are realized by both students and staff. Today, The Gateway serves as a focal point for the campus and student body as well as a single point of access for student services with staff promoting and delivering excellent customer service.

Supporting the same customer service philosophy as The Gateway, only behind the scenes, is Datatel, a new administrative software package that has been phased in over two years but culminated this spring with the implementation of the Student Module. This aggressive initiative is revolutionizing the way the college does business on behalf of the students, offering them more independence in directing their college plan and allowing staff to provide more personal attention to the students who need it the most.

The aggressive implementation of these initiatives had undoubtedly made this a landmark year in the life of the college by impacting our students today and charting the course as we work toward our goal to be the number one technical college in the state of Ohio.

Bonnie L. Coe, Ph.D., President

COTC Then and Now

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>10 Years Ago</th>
<th>Today</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Enrollment</td>
<td>1,716</td>
<td>3,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minority Student Population Percentage</td>
<td>6.53%</td>
<td>9.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-Time Faculty</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Courses</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Space (square feet)</td>
<td>14,143</td>
<td>35,621</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.cotc.edu
CollegeASPIRE

This exciting summer workshop series offered by Central Ohio Technical College will give high school and middle school students a taste of college while engaging in fun hands-on activities. Workshops offered:

- Architectural Drafting and Design
- Photoshop Basics and Beyond
- Digital Photography
- Digital Photography Advanced
- Computer Game Development
- Forensic Science
- Explore Technologies (explore a different COTC technology each day)

Workshop dates are Monday through Friday, June 9 - 13 (Newark Campus).
A separate session of Digital Photography will be held Monday through Friday, June 16 - 20, at the Coshocton Campus.
For additional information contact Tara Houdeshell, CollegeASPIRE Coordinator, at thoudesh@cotc.edu or 740.364.9632

COTC Alumni Council Elects Officers

Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) held an election of officers for its newly created Alumni Council. At the group’s first official meeting, held at the Reese Center at COTC’s Newark Campus in January, Carol Albright was elected president and Michael Coronado was voted president-elect. Council members include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alumni Council Member</th>
<th>Place of Employment</th>
<th>Community of Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carol Albright</td>
<td>SouthGate Corporation, Newark</td>
<td>Newark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cindy Andrews</td>
<td>Milestones Learning Center, Pataskala</td>
<td>Newark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phil Annarino</td>
<td>Licking Memorial Health Systems, Newark</td>
<td>Newark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Barber</td>
<td>Knox County Sheriff, Mount Vernon</td>
<td>Mount Vernon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tammy Bowers</td>
<td>Student</td>
<td>Coshocton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Coronado</td>
<td>Volvercreative, Heath</td>
<td>Heath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Crabill</td>
<td>Fairfield Mortgage Company, Heath</td>
<td>Heath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Engard</td>
<td>Pathways of Licking County, Newark</td>
<td>Newark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jenifer Eubanks</td>
<td>Autumn Health Care of Coshocton</td>
<td>Coshocton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Graham</td>
<td>Arvin Meritor, Newark</td>
<td>Newark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luci Hardesty</td>
<td>Central Ohio Technical College and The Ohio State University at Newark, Newark</td>
<td>Newark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristy OLeary</td>
<td>Ohio Oil &amp; Gas Association, Granville</td>
<td>St. Louisville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erin Porter</td>
<td>Central Ohio Technical College, Coshocton</td>
<td>Coshocton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valerie Price</td>
<td>Coyne Graphic Finishing, Mount Vernon</td>
<td>Howard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pat Robinson</td>
<td>Licking County Department of Aging, Newark</td>
<td>Newark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Schworm</td>
<td>Owens-Corning Science &amp; Technology Center, Granville</td>
<td>Granville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry Scott</td>
<td>Mount Vernon City Hall, Mount Vernon</td>
<td>Mount Vernon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tina Six</td>
<td>Hopewell Federal Credit Union, Heath</td>
<td>Newark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charline Smith</td>
<td>Newark Nazarene Church, Newark</td>
<td>Heath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Stephenson</td>
<td>Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Newark</td>
<td>Heath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randy Thorp</td>
<td>Licking County Sheriff, Newark</td>
<td>Newark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darlene Turner</td>
<td>Interim Healthcare, Newark</td>
<td>Newark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Walters</td>
<td>Beazer Homes, Pataskala</td>
<td>Hebron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diana Warner</td>
<td>Blue Moon Design Concepts, LLC, Utica</td>
<td>Utica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rita Weekley</td>
<td>We Build Children, Inc., Heath</td>
<td>Newark</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To learn more about the Alumni Program, or to update your contact information with the college, please call Director of Development Jennifer Roberts at 740.364.9644, email to jroberts@cotc.edu, or visit the Alumni web site at www.cotc.edu/alumni/default.asp.
Knox Campus

Weekend College comes to Knox Campus!
Central Ohio Technical College is expanding its offerings at the Knox Campus for the convenience of working adults. Weekend College is a series of courses focused on general education, offered on Fridays and Saturdays this summer at COTC’s Knox Campus, Ariel Hall, 236 South Main Street in Mount Vernon. These classes are needed for nearly any associate degree, and they transfer easily. Classes include: Sociology, Cultural Diversity, Principles of Business, Principles of Management, Public Speaking, Basic College Success Skills, Micro Economics, and more. Weekend College is a great way to jump start your college education or just get your feet wet. Call 740.392.2526 to find out more.

The COTC Knox Campus Capital Campaign is in full swing and accepting support for the future renovation of Ariel Hall. Please join us for any of the following upcoming events:

• **Thursday, May 22** – Gifts of the Gardens fundraising gala at Schnormeier Gardens in Gambier; RSVP to 740.367.1332; for information about the gardens visit www.schnormeiergardens.org
• **July 20 – 26** Visit the COTC booth at the Knox County Fair
• **August 13** – Bike Night at Flappers Bar & Grill, including motorcycle contests and auctions

To make a donation or learn more about the campaign, call Diane Henwood at the Knox Campus Campaign Office, 740.397.1975.

The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium’s Zoomobile made a special appearance at the YMCA Healthy Kids Day 2008 thanks to Central Ohio Technical College’s (COTC) Pataskala Campus, which sponsored the visit. The Zoomobile outreach program uses five to seven zoo animals in fun and educational interactive sessions appropriate for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. Healthy Kids Day 2008 was held at the YMCA Western Branch on Saturday, April 12.

“Central Ohio Technical College is proud to partner with the YMCA,” said Julie Maurer, COTC Pataskala Campus administrator. “This is a wonderful opportunity for COTC to give back to the community we serve, and we look forward to exploring additional partnership and outreach opportunities in the future.”

The college continues to expand its degree and course offerings at the extended campus locations. Beginning in fall quarter 2008, COTC’s Pataskala Campus will begin offering courses toward the Associate of Applied Science degree in Law Enforcement Technology. For additional ease and accessibility, evening courses will also be available in this major. In December 2007, the college announced that the Higher Learning Commission had voted to extend COTC’s accreditation to include the Associate of Applied Business degree in Business Management and the Associate of Applied Science degree in Human Services at both the Pataskala and Knox Campuses. Degree programs in both of these majors were already offered at COTC’s Newark and Coshocton Campuses.
Coshocton Residents Donate Artwork to COTC

Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) is the recipient of a generous donation of original artwork by long-time Coshocton residents Edward and Ann Ryan. The couple’s gift to the college consists of 25 framed color photographs and eight matted color photographs.

The work is displayed in the newly renovated Montgomery Hall at COTC’s Coshocton Campus, 200 North Whitewoman Street. The collection, which includes scenes photographed by both Ed and Ann, consists of many Coshocton and Amish landscapes, as well as national settings.

“We are extremely grateful to the Ryans for their thoughtful and gracious gift,” said Coshocton Campus Administrator Dorothy Skowrunski. “These photographs not only add aesthetic charm, but also bring a distinctive and very personal element to Montgomery Hall.”

In January, the college formally dedicated Montgomery Hall, formerly the Roscoe Village Inn, which has been completely updated as a state-of-the-art educational facility, including 15 new classrooms, laboratory space, a lecture hall, nursing laboratory, and distance learning classrooms. A total of 148 corporate and community partners contributed to the Coshocton Campus Capital Campaign, making the renovation possible.

“The Ryans have set a wonderful example of philanthropy which benefits not only COTC, but the entire Coshocton community,” said COTC President Bonnie L. Coe, Ph.D.

Edward Ryan retired as manager of marketing and communications from Ansell Edmont in 1992. He is also a former national advertising manager for the B.F. Goodrich Tire Company.

The Ryans, mostly self-taught serious photographers, have been active in the Pomerane Center for the Arts, as well as the Coshocton Art Guild, Zanesville Art Center, and the Ohio Art League.

COTC’s Coshocton Campus offered 94 classes during the winter 2008 quarter, an increase of 276 percent over winter quarter 2003, when the campus first opened at its Kenwood Drive location. Through the years more than 2,300 students have furthered their education at the Coshocton Campus, which currently serves students from 24 Ohio counties.

New at Coshocton!

Get a degree in Accounting Technology. Complete your entire Associate of Applied Business in Accounting Technology at COTC’s Coshocton Campus, beginning autumn quarter 2008.

At All Four Campus Locations

Complete your associate degree in Business Management Technology and Human Services at all four of the college’s locations.
When Director of Nursing Sheila Nixon began working at Newark’s Arlington Care Center in 1986, surprisingly, it wasn’t as a member of the nursing staff. In fact, Nixon’s first job with Arlington was at the institution’s snack bar.

Like many young people, Nixon admits that she just wasn’t ready for college immediately after high school. However, after working for several years, Nixon realized that she truly enjoyed the environment of caring at Arlington.

After earning her nursing degree at Central Ohio Technical College (COTC), she was able to turn the fulfillment she found in helping others into a very successful career.

Nixon, a Newark resident, was 25 and working full-time as a nursing assistant when she enrolled in COTC’s associate degree nursing program. While a student, she also gave birth to her daughter, but remained focused on her goal of completing her Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Technology.

Upon finishing her degree, Nixon worked for a short time as a staff nurse, and then moved into the position of unit manager, a role she held at Arlington for 11 years. During this time she managed the staff and care for a unit of 50 residents.

She became director of nursing about a year and a half ago and is responsible for staffing and compliance needs for the diverse populations the institution serves, including rehabilitation, long-term care, and hospice patients.

Nixon notes that many of her RN’s are COTC graduates, and that she appreciates COTC’s rigorous curriculum. In fact, she recommends it and encourages her staff to enroll.

“Being a nurse is hard work,” said Nixon. “You have to be committed to caring. You give a lot – but you get a lot back every day.”

Beginning winter quarter 2008, COTC implemented an innovative, new nursing curriculum. Redesigned to promote active learning and greater student involvement, the program also offers flexibility to meet constantly changing demands and students needs. In addition, students will now be admitted every quarter, enabling prospective students to enter the program at their convenience. COTC’s nursing program is approved by the Ohio Board of Nursing and accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission.

Students Named National Finalists

Three Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) Digital Media Design student design teams were named as finalists in the “Keep it in Your Pants” Web-based video contest. The COTC students were selected from among 60 teams across the United States. Contestants created public service announcements around the growing problem of “Debt Disease” among young Americans.

“I think that it’s critical to bring a real-world component to the classroom,” said Media Arts Department Chair William Sattelmeyer, who spent 15 years as a filmmaker and another 10 years working in Silicon Valley multimedia. “I want my students to be prepared to enter the workplace, and I can do that by providing relevant experiences in combination with their technical training.”

This year, for the final project for Video I the two sections worked in teams of two or three to produce PSAs (Public Service Announcements) for a contest on the subject of Credit Card Debt (otherwise known as Debt Disease). The sponsoring group was the Service Employees International Union in Washington D.C. Students from age 14 through graduate school were eligible.

Additionally, out of the twenty national semi-finalists, COTC had eight semi-finalist teams, more winners than any other college. First prize is a $5,000 scholarship, while second through fifth place winners will each receive $500 to go toward their education.

The winning videos can be viewed at www.keepitinyourpants.org.

Nursing Grad Committed to Caring

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Exciting things are happening within Central Ohio Technical College’s (COTC) Department of Business Management Technology, notes department chair Kim Goudy. This summer will mark the debut of Weekend College classes at COTC’s Knox Campus. This new program offers select general education and business courses on Friday evening or Saturday morning and afternoon, allowing working adults another option to attend college classes at a time most convenient for them.

In addition, COTC recently announced that the Higher Learning Commission had voted to extend COTC’s accreditation to include the Associate of Applied Business in Business Management Technology to both the Pataskala and Knox Campuses.

“We’ve been able to implement continuous improvement throughout the major,” said Goudy. Part of that continuous improvement also includes implementing a stronger writing component throughout COTC’s business curriculum, reaffirming the college’s strong commitment to hiring adjunct instructors with exceptional real-world business experience, and securing outstanding internship partners.

Goudy, who assumed the role of department chair last January, holds a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from Franklin University, an MBA from Ashland University, and is currently completing doctoral studies through Northcentral University. In addition, the Mount Vernon resident brings both teaching experience and real-world business know-how to her new role at COTC. Goudy previously worked for five years as a buyer for the Longaberger Company; she has taught at COTC for the past six.

“This is a very exciting time for the Department of Business Management Technology,” said Goudy. “Not only have we been working hard to implement new strategies that will enable COTC students to obtain a quality education, we also have tremendous faculty members who are truly committed to students,” adds Goudy. “It’s a great time to get a degree in business at COTC.”

Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) recently welcomed its new Dean of Arts, Sciences, and Integrative Studies, Jerry G. Holt, Ph.D. Dr. Holt comes to COTC with an extensive background in higher education administration and strategic planning. At COTC, he will provide leadership for the college’s newly created Arts, Sciences, and Integrative Studies Division, which includes Biological and Physical Sciences, Communications, Digital Media Design Technology, Forensic Science Technology, Mathematics, and Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Before coming to COTC, Dr. Holt served as the founding dean of the School of Liberal Studies at Antioch University, McGregor, where he was responsible for the Undergraduate Studies Program, as well as the Master’s Programs in Conflict Resolution, Individualized Liberal Arts, and Professional Studies. He is also a past dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Shawnee State University. In addition, Dr. Holt was previously the chair of the Division of Arts and Humanities at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma in Chickasha, Oklahoma.

Dr. Holt earned a Ph.D. and M.A. in English from the University of Oklahoma and holds a B.S. in English and Journalism from Oklahoma State University. He is the author of numerous scholarly and creative publications, including the novel The Killing of Strangers (2006).

His board and committee work is extensive, and includes past membership on the Executive Board of the Ohio Humanities Council as well as a continuing administrative role for the Ohio Board of Regents’ Early Assessment Grant.

“COTC has already taken steps to ensure excellence in the fields of arts, sciences, and integrative studies, and I’m very excited to become a part of that effort,” said Holt.
Campus Calendar of Events

*Baby with the Bathwater*
A play by Christopher Durang
May 22 - 24, 29 - 31
Black Box Theatre, LeFevre Hall, 8 p.m.
$3.00 students, $4.00 general public. No one under 17 admitted.

*COTC Spring Commencement*
Friday, June 6
www.cotc.edu

*Licking County Arts annual juried exhibition*
Mid-June - July
Exhibition of artwork by local artists
LeFevre Art Gallery - Dates TBA

*Summer Quarter 2008*
Monday, June 16
Summer classes begin – Ohio State Newark & Central Ohio Technical College
For more info, visit the web (www.newark.osu.edu or www.cotc.edu)

*Independence Day Concert & Fireworks*
Thursday, July 3
Featuring the Heisey Wind Ensemble, fireworks and concessions
Grounds of Ohio State Newark and Central Ohio Technical College, 6 pm – end of fireworks

Need a course schedule? Go to www.cotc.edu