



Andalusia Campus



MacArthur Campus



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Luverne Center

## Presidents gather to celebrate 50 years

A 'GOLDEN GALA' BROUGHT OUT SEVERAL FORMER AND INTERIM LBW PRESIDENTS TO CELEBRATE LURLEEN B. WALLACE COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR.

Held in April 2015 by the LBWCC Foundation, the College's founding president, Dr. William H. McWhorter, was warmly welcomed back to Andalusia for the occasion.

Also in attendance were former president Seth Hammett, interim presidents Dr. Jim Krudop and Wayne Bennett, and current president Dr. Herb Riedel.

Thanks to overwhelming community support, the event was the



Pictured are, from left, Interim President Wayne Bennett; Sallee Sasser-Williams, LBWCC Foundation president; Former President Seth Hammett; Founding President Dr. William H. McWhorter; Interim President Dr. Jim Krudop; and Dr. Herb Riedel, current LBWCC president.

largest fundraising event on record for the Foundation, exceeding the goal of \$50K.

Former students and other attendees enjoyed viewing photographs from the five decades at the "Alumni Corner" reception area where they were entertained by

musical selections performed by LBWCC faculty members Johnny Brewer on trumpet and Kathy Dowdy on keyboard, and student Malcolm Perry on drums.

Following dinner, the dance floor was the place to be as the Hotwire band performed Motown hits.

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P.O. Drawer 1418  
Andalusia, AL 36420



Martha and Solon Dixon Center for the Performing Arts

## Expanded credits now offered in Luverne

LBW Community College can now offer more for students at its Luverne location, according to notification from the Southern Association of College and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC).

"We submitted a prospectus in August requesting to offer additional credits and recently received noti-

fication of approval," said LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel. "The approval is effective now and we are lining up additional classes."

LBWCC in Luverne became an active instructional site in 2006, and is now expanding course offerings for students to complete half or more of the Associate in Arts and the Associate in Science degree programs, and the Certificate program in Welding. Some courses in Luverne are part of LBW's dual enrollment program for high school students.

"This expansion of course offerings is prompted by demand from students, growth in the programs offered at the site, particularly welding, as well as support from faculty and staff, community support, and grant monies to fund the start-up of the welding

program at the site," said LBWCC Dean of Instruction Peggy Linton.

In addition to welding, dual enrollment courses are also offered in Culinary Arts, she said.

"We have received notification of additional grant funds to complete the culinary kitchen on site in Luverne and anticipate increased dual enrollment in those credits."

College transfer courses now offered in Luverne include Art, English, Criminal Justice, History, Music, Psychology, and Mathematics.

"We know this increased opportunity to earn a degree or certificate will make a difference in the lives of students attending LBWCC in Luverne," said Riedel.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The most significant event for the Alabama Community College System this year is the creation of a new Board of Trustees for the System. Once the Senate confirmed a quorum of the new Board on May 12, Act 2015-125 became law and our colleges were no longer under the governance of the State Board of Education.

I have been asked multiple times: "Is this a good change?" My answer is that we will ensure that it is a good change for LBW and the communities that we serve.

Certainly the Governor believes that this is going to prove very positive for our colleges and our state. At the swearing-in ceremony for the new Trustees, he stated that creating this new Board may prove to be the most significant accomplishment of his entire eight-year

tenure as governor. He also praised the leadership of our Chancellor, Dr. Mark Heinrich, and said that he has been the best Chancellor that our System ever had.

At LBW, we are continuing to focus on enrollment growth so that our business and industry has the trained workforce it needs and to encourage as many people as possible to achieve their potential for rewarding careers and higher education. For the current summer term, we have seen an impressive enrollment increase of 6.6 percent, due in part to strong enrollment in our career/technical programs on the MacArthur Campus and our



**Dr. Herbert H.J. Riedel**  
LBWCC President

efforts to recruit 2015 high school graduates.

While most students who graduate from high school in May plan to start college in August, there is a strong financial incentive to take classes during the summer if they qualify for federal Pell Grant student aid, as do over 70 percent of our students. We have strongly urged students to take advantage of this one-time chance for Pell Grant funding during the summer.

Research has also shown that students are more likely to succeed, the quicker they progress through their program of study. We encourage them through our advising process to select a major early and take only those classes that they need for the major.

Due to demand for surgical technologists in our area, we are reactivating our surgical technology program this fall. This is a one-year short certificate program in the rapidly expanding medical field and has traditionally shown strong demand from students.



Congratulations to all LBWCC 2015 graduates! At the end of spring semester, students earned 14 Associate in Arts Degrees, 62 Associate in Science Degrees, 82 Associate in Applied Science Degrees, 57 Certificates, and 56 Short Certificates.

The diesel and heavy equipment mechanics program and the welding program at MacArthur are currently our fastest growing programs. We are seeing new interest in automotive technology through a partnership with Enterprise High School, where students will be able to enroll in dual-credit college automotive classes taken at the high school. In Luverne, newly offered culinary arts classes are proving to be popular dual enrollment options at Brantley and Luverne High Schools.

LBW strives to continually improve our programs and services and strive for performance excellence. This is possible only through a culture of innovation. Our mathematics department is currently working under a \$40,000 innovation grant from our System office to create materials that will result in saving students \$380,000 annually by utilizing open educational resources in certain mathematics courses.

It was heartwarming to see many of you at the recent 50th Anniversary Gala, which also raised a record amount of financial support for our students. Your support as Alumni and Friends is invaluable to the continued success of LBW in pursuing our mission: Teaching. Learning. Growing. Enriching.

## Butler is LBWCC's 2015 'Outstanding Alumnus'

LBW Community College's 2015 Outstanding Alumnus is Dr. Rex Butler of Andalusia.

"We are more than thrilled to recognize Dr. Butler for his many accomplishments and his commitment to LBW and the community," said LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel.

Butler's journey toward a medical degree began at LBW with an Associate in Science Degree in 1973. While a student in the College's earliest years, Butler was active on campus and was recognized for his academic achievements.

He received a Medical Degree in

1979 from the University of Alabama's School of Medicine in Birmingham.

After returning to Andalusia, he established the South Central Medical Center where he has served the community as a physician for more than 30 years.

He believes in giving back to his community, and has served with many medical-related organizations and as a director and president of the LBWCC Foundation.

Dr. Butler was recognized during the annual commencement program in May.



LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel, left, congratulates Dr. Rex Butler as the College's 2015 Outstanding Alumnus.

# Math innovation to save students \$380K a year

LBWCC was awarded a \$40K innovations grant that will save transitional mathematics students the cost of textbooks and student codes.

“Our mathematics faculty is creating an innovative change in the delivery of three transitional math courses and will ultimately save students cumulatively \$380,000 a year,” said LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel.

Three math courses constituting LBWCC’s transitional math curriculum are taught as a part

of an Emporium model based on National Center for Academic Transformation (NCAT) course redesign. The students use a software that requires the purchase of a textbook and a code, and the cost increases each year, he said.

The grant makes it possible for three math faculty to work

on the project to develop math courses using open source materials, saving students anywhere from \$213 to \$276 depending on the particular math course they need.

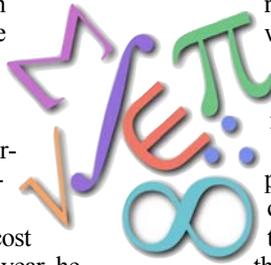
“For a student to complete the series of three courses, the total cost for textbooks and the code for the student is \$347. This does not include tuition,” said Riedel.

“The objective is to design

these math courses using only open source materials and the present Learning Management Software and lecture capture systems. This will enable our instructors to have more control over the class presentation, but more importantly, be relatively free for students.”

The only cost in addition to tuition is if the student chooses to purchase printed handouts that will also be available free online.

Faculty is anticipating completion by Spring 2016.



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Please cut on the dotted line above and send this form with your gift to: LBWCC Foundation Specialist, P.O. Drawer 1418, Andalusia, AL 36420



## Saints end season as division champions

Steve Helms, LBWCC athletic director and baseball coach, led the Saints Baseball Team to victory as they clinched the 2015 Alabama Community College Conference Southern Division championship, winning 12 of the 13 conference games and ending the season with a 38-17 record.

"I'm excited for the kids," he said. "Being conference champions is something nobody can ever take away from them. We've got a lot of kids that weren't recruited by anybody else, but they can say they are winners. They are conference champions."



Steve Helms

Earlier in the year, Helms received significant recognition for his accomplishments as a coach through the years.

In January, he was inducted in the Alabama Baseball Coaches Association (AlaBCA) Hall of Fame Class of 2015.

During his 24 years at LBW, Helms led the Saints baseball teams to a compiled overall 864-442 record.

In 2004 and 2009, he took teams to the NJCAA Division II World Series as regional champions.

More than 200 of his players have transferred to play baseball at four-year colleges and 28 played professional baseball.

## 2015 All-Alabama Academic Team



Ty Hammitt of Andalusia, left, and Chloe Langston of Greenville were recognized by the Alabama Community College System and Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society as members of the 2015 All-Alabama Academic Team.

## SkillsUSA Alabama medalists



LBWCC students brought home medals from the state level SkillsUSA competition. Pictured from left are Billy Dunnuck of Flomaton, bronze medal in diesel; Andrew Driver of Dozier, gold in diesel; Matthew Vaughn of Opp, bronze in HVAC; Lori Stone of Fairhope and Katelyn Calhoun of Elba, both winning silver in esthetics.