

NETC Insider

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Mulvaney Tours NETC



Congressman Mick Mulvaney and Dr. Ron Bartley, NETC President

Congressman Mick Mulvaney visited the Cheraw Campus of Northeastern Technical College on August 29. College President Dr. Ron Bartley, along with other NETC employees, gave Mulvaney and his delegation a tour of the campus with stops in the nursing, machine tool technology, general education and Continuing Education areas. This visit was the Congressman's first time on the NETC Campus.

Congressman Mulvaney represents South Carolina's 5th District in the U.S. House of Representatives. He received a degree in International Economics, Commerce, and Finance from Georgetown University, where he graduated as an Honor Scholar. He received his degree in law from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and graduated with a focus on anti-trust law. He worked for a firm in Charlotte before starting his own practice.

Congressman Mulvaney has been named to the House Budget Committee and the Joint House/Senate Economic Committee in the 112th Congress. He also serves as chairman of the Small Business Committee's

subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce. The House Republican Conference Policy Committee has chosen him to chair its Financial Services Task Force.

Mulvaney was accompanied by his deputy chief of staff, Eric Bedingfield, and one of his legislative aides, Graham Haile. Tammy Haile, CATE director for Chesterfield County School District, also joined the group on the tour.

Congressman Mulvaney was impressed with the programs offered to NETC students to help them get jobs. "I'm glad that you have a good placement rate for students who complete your programs. I'm especially pleased that many of them are completing high demand programs that lead to good jobs," Mulvaney said.

Dr. Ron Bartley, NETC President, helped lead the campus tour. He was happy to provide the opportunity for a first-time tour of the NETC facilities for Mulvaney and his delegation. "We have many good things going on at NETC, and we hope that they now have a good feel for the many opportunities that NETC graduates have on their pathway to a future in the job market," Bartley said.

President's Message



Dr. Ron Bartley, President

Another year has begun at NETC and, upon review, we had a good 2010-2011 year. To begin with, NETC led all the technical colleges in growth rate for enrollment for the year. Annual NETC headcount increased by 7.7% with the next largest increase in the system at 7.4% by Florence-Darlington Technical College. NETC also led the system in Full-Time-Equivalent (FTE) enrollment growth rate. Annual FTE increase for the year at NETC was 10.8% with the next largest increase at 7.1% for Trident Technical College.

Senator Gerald Malloy delivered a rousing commencement address to 161 graduates in May. Graduates, family, friends, and guests packed the Cheraw High School Gymnasium for the event.

NETC is in the process of building an Alumni Association for all NETC and Chesterfield-Marlboro Technical College (CMTC) graduates. We encourage all graduates to register as an alumnus by contacting the Institutional Advancement Office at NETC or by visiting the NETC website.

NETC Graduates 161



A Northeastern Technical College graduate accepts her diploma from Dr. Ron Bartley, College President. Herbert Watts, NETC Area Commission Chairman, waits to shake hands with the College graduate.

State Senator Gerald Malloy challenged graduates of Northeastern Technical College to "be great" by taking risks and not fearing failure as they received degrees, diplomas and certificates.

"Think about how many times Abraham Lincoln failed before he became president. Think about how many thousands of times Thomas Edison failed before he invented the light bulb," Malloy said. "Right now, you all have a great opportunity for success, but do not be afraid to fail."

Malloy was the keynote speaker for the college's commencement ceremony held May 21 in Cheraw and attended by nearly 900 people. One hundred sixty-one students graduated from a college program at the close of the spring semester 2011.

Malloy, along with faculty, staff and members of NETC's Area Commission, joined graduates and their families in marking this monumental milestone in the lives of so many.

"We are here today because each one of you graduates stood tall and said,

'Yes I can' and went forward," Malloy said. "Some of you did it many years after you got out of high school. You have decided it's not where you come from, but where you are going."

Malloy emphasized the importance of education in today's global economy, stating in the next several years 80 percent of the workforce will be required to have a two-year degree.

While not a graduate of NETC, Malloy has personal ties to the college. His grandfather, Nathaniel Mumford, helped build the college and served in the Maintenance Department from 1969 to 1979.

Malloy offered some final words before the students made the ceremonial walk across stage to become official college graduates.

"If you take only one thing from here today, remember always that there is more to learn. Learning is a lifelong adventure," he said. "Do not become complacent and ambivalent in your growth and maturity as a human being."

NETC Alumnus: Nursing Program Prepared Him to Work Hard for Career Goals

Tommy Pegues remembers the day his grandmother came to the hospital where he was performing clinical rounds for Northeastern Technical College's nursing program.

"Getting in the Associate Degree of Nursing program was tough," Pegues said. "Staying in the program was even tougher. I had a lot of people doubting me, but not my grandmother. She came to the hospital that day just to tell me, 'You will make it.'"

Pegues, of Bennettsville, was among the 25 graduates who walked across the stage May 14, 2010, to receive his nursing pin and lamp — valuable tokens after 21 months of intensive studying and clinical rotations.

"With this nursing degree from Northeastern Technical College, I can branch out and go anywhere," Pegues said.

There was a time in his life, however, when Pegues felt like he wasn't going to go anywhere. He grew up in a neighborhood where drug raids are not uncommon and getting shot is a real fear for young black males like himself. His peers were not encouraging him to leave

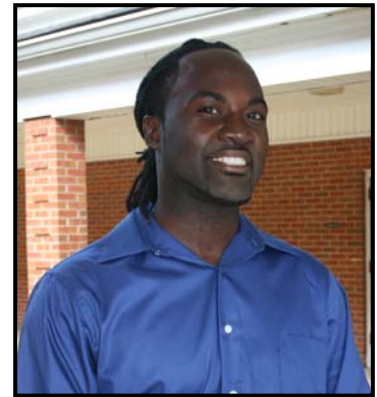
the hood and go to college, but Pegues knew he wanted more than a rap sheet, or worse—a toe tag.

After graduating from Marlboro County High School, Pegues joined the military and became a Marine. He did tours in Kuwait and Iraq, but he knew a military career was not for him. After four years of service, he was honorably discharged and back home in Bennettsville looking for that stepping stone to a better life.

Pegues learned about Northeastern Technical College the way most people do, by word of mouth. He began talking to friends who were attending NETC and earning a college degree while still maintaining a job and family life.

"I saw how they were able to go to NETC and then transfer to another college if they wanted to get a four-year degree," Pegues said. "For me, Northeastern Technical College was close to home and my job, and it was affordable. It was my starting place."

Pegues is in his final year at Francis Marion University, where he is pursuing a bachelor's degree in nursing. He is also working as a registered nurse at Sandhills



Tommy Pegues

Regional Medical Center in Hamlet, N.C., but once he has his four-year degree, Pegues said he would like to become a traveling nurse.

Pegues was recently asked to speak to a group of NETC students on campus during a career planning event. During his presentation, Pegues used himself as an example of someone who grew up with the odds stacked against him, but he did not let that discourage him from reaching for his goals.

"Look at me, a young black man who is a nurse," Pegues said. "If I can make it, you can too."

Retirement and New Face at NETC



Jackie Gaskins

After more than 19 years with the college and a total of 33 years in education, Jackie Gaskins recently retired from NETC. She was an instructor for the Department of Mathematics.

Joining NETC on May 12, 2011, Ming Chan is the new faculty member for the Department of Mathematics. Ming holds a Master's Degree in Teaching Mathematics from University of Idaho and lives, along with his wife and two sons, in Florence.



Ming Chan

Kirby Donates \$5,000 to NETC

On August 23, Dr. John Kirby donated \$5,000 to the NETC Foundation. Dr. Kirby is Superintendent of the Dillon County School District 3. He has donated \$35,000 over the years.

Kirby, who holds a doctorate in Education Administration from Nova Southeastern University, stated that, "Someone helped me as I was pursuing my education so I am doing what I can to help someone else." He was a teacher, coach, and administrator in the Mullins School District and a principal of Latta High School before becoming Superintendent of the Dillon County School District 3.

Kirby serves as an Area Commissioner on the NETC Board and has provided funds for the Dr. John Kirby Scholarship at NETC. The Scholarship is awarded to a Latta High School graduate or an adult student from the Latta Community to pay tuition or to help defray the cost of attending college.

Dr. Ron Bartley, NETC President, said, "Dr. Kirby's gift is a testimony of his dedication to our students and our college. We are honored to have him on our Governing Board and we look forward to the positive impact his commitment will continue to have on the students selected for this award."



Dr. Ron Bartley (left) and Dr. John Kirby (right)

Enrollment and Dual Credit

New data released by the South Carolina Technical College System revealed that Northeastern Technical College had the largest growth rate in headcount and FTE of the sixteen technical colleges in the South Carolina Technical College System between the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 academic years.

With a 7.7% increase in headcount and a 10.8% rise in FTE, NETC far exceeded the System-wide average of a 0.2% increase in headcount and a 0.3% increase in FTE between the two academic years. Not only did NETC see a rise in actual number of students, but the College also witnessed individual students taking more courses.

Last year in the fall 2010 semester, NETC broke an enrollment record with 1,221 students. After mini-mester

courses begin this September 19, the College is poised to break the record again for the fall 2011 semester.

Increased demands for training in high demand, high paying jobs have spurred increased enrollments in technology and industrial programs, nursing programs, and transfer programs designed to transition students to a four-year college.

Supporting the trend of increased enrollment has been the development of seventy-five online courses that have provided students in the Chesterfield, Marlboro, and Dillon service areas with more options for scheduling classes beyond the traditional classroom setting.

Dual enrollment in local high schools continues to grow with

college courses being offered this fall at local high schools.

Among the courses offered at Cheraw High School are Mechatronics 2 (Basic Electricity, Introduction to Industrial Maintenance, and Industrial Safety) and Mechatronics 3 (Hydraulics, Introduction to Machine Tool, and Automated Manufacturing Overview).

Students at Marlboro County High School are taking English Composition I at the NETC Bennettsville campus. College algebra and general psychology are also offered at Marlboro County High School.

Students will receive both high school and college credit for successful completion of the course work, which will count toward any future two-year or four-year degree.