



ANOTHER STEP TOWARD ACCREDITATION

On April 27, Frontier Community College received notification from the National Accrediting Agency of Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) that Frontier’s Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) program has achieved “Serious Applicant for Accreditation Status.”

Beginning in 2020, Jennifer England, MLT Program Director, and later, Ruth Wilkinson, incoming MLT Program Director, have worked on gathering data, developing program materials, providing supporting documents, and addressing cited criteria as part of an in-depth self-study process as required by NAACLS. The completed self-study was submitted to NAACLS for consideration the 1st of April.



Program faculty Julie Dehart inoculating cultures

“The completion of Frontier’s self-study was a true team effort requiring input from MLT program instructors, data supplied by Instructional Services, and hundreds of hours devoted by both Jennifer and Ruth in developing materials and compiling the self-study in accordance with NAACLS guidelines,” stated Carol Dreith, Title III Project Director. “The notification of achieving ‘Serious Applicant for Accreditation Status’ by NAACLS is a landmark achievement for FCC’s MLT program,” she further stated.

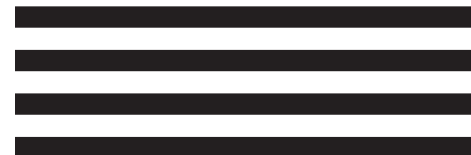
Upcoming Events

May

- 12 Last Day of Final Exams
- 13 Last Day of Semester/Graduation
- 30 College Closed/Memorial Day

June

- 06 First Day of summer classes
- 20 College Closed/Juneteenth
- 30 Midterm



ANOTHER STEP TOWARD ACCREDITATION CONT.

“The current ‘Serious Applicant for Accreditation Status’ awarded by NAACLS means the MLT program meets established education standards in the medical laboratory field, and the graduates of FCC’s MLT program will be eligible to take the ASCP Board of Certification exam for certification as Medical Laboratory Technicians,” according to Jennifer England. “Becoming certified affirms that the MLT graduate has the knowledge and skills to enter the workforce as a competent laboratory professional,” England said.

Frontier will now begin preparation for a site visit by a NAACLS team in the Fall of 2022. Three national medical laboratory industry professionals will gather at FCC for a two day lab inspection and evaluation of program documents and practices.



Program Director Ruth Wilkinson working with an MLT Student

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER OPEN HOUSE

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) office held an open house on April 21 with many local businesses, banks, regional economic development agencies, and community members in attendance. The Assistant State Director of Illinois SBDC was also present. The open house showcased SBDC services, which include:

- Free Business Consulting Services
- No Cost & Low Cost Training
- Accessing Capital
- Technology Development
- Business Planning
- Regulatory Compliance
- International Trade
- Marketing



SBDC open house attendees

Guests enjoyed networking and light refreshments and received handouts with SBDC information. Additionally, several existing and emerging businesses made appointments to return for services. The open house was hosted in Elizabeth C. Cox Hall, where the SBDC office is located.

IECC NURSING REPRESENTED IN SPRINGFIELD

On April 4, IECC nursing students Tiarra Sharp, Becky Owens, and Maria Farmer, with instructor Beth Wilson, traveled to Springfield, Illinois to take part in Illinois Student Nurse Association Political Action Day. They started the day by meeting with Senator Darren Bailey before the conference. The conference had a keynote motivational speaker who was uplifting and informative on surviving in the nursing culture. Two nurse lobbyists presented bills which are being reviewed and gave insight on the legislative process. At the end of the day, all students marched to rally at the Capitol.



Beth Wilson, Tiarra Sharp, Sen. Darren Bailey, Cindy Bailey, Becky Owens, and Maria Farmer

FIRST ANNUAL GRAD FEST AT FCC



HNETKOVSKY TO REPRESENT STUDENTS

At its monthly meeting on April 19, 2022, the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges Board of Trustees seated Raechel Hnetkovsky to serve as the student trustee for the 2022-2023 academic year. She replaces outgoing student trustee Maggee Bleyer of Mt. Carmel.

Hnetkovsky was elected by her peers and serves as the liaison between the Board of Trustees and the student body of District 529, representing student opinions, viewpoints, and interests at the Board level.

Hnetkovsky is a native of Albion, Illinois, and will receive her practical nursing certificate this spring. She will continue her studies this fall at Frontier Community College in the Associate Degree in Nursing Program. Hnetkovsky is a member of Phi Theta Kappa—the international honor society for the two-year college. She is the daughter of IECC faculty Steve and Nixie Hnetkovsky.



Nixie Hnetkovsky, Raechel, Steve Hnetkovsky, and Gary Carter, IECC Board Chair

Business & Industry Training

B&I is partnering with LWIA 23, DCEO, the Flora Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Flora to hold a Business Roundtable discussion and small business gathering on May 19 in Flora.

Adult Education

The Adult Education (AE) program held an Area Planning Council (APC) meeting in March on the campus of Lincoln Trail College. The APC meetings bring service partners together to discuss new services, opportunities, and challenges. AE is expanding English as a Second Language (ESL) services by adding an in-person class in Grayville and a fully online class this summer.

Emergency Preparedness

With relaxed restrictions, CPR classes are now back in session for students in all 16 district high schools. In collaboration with Kaskaskia College, a Paramedicine cohort is being established at Wabash General Hospital for this fall.

TITLE III UPDATES

The following updates are from Title III Project Director, Carol Dreith.

The Title III Team recently welcomed several Seniors from Fairfield Community High School as part of the “Skip to College” event. Students were welcomed into the FCC faculty recording studio for a “hands-on” learning experience using studio technology including the green screen, teleprompter, and lightboard. Students then recorded a short newscast or weather forecast.

Although the remodeling of Mason Hall Science Labs in Rooms 22 and 23 has concluded, the Title III Grant team continues to work with FCC Science Faculty to purchase additional equipment to support instruction. New spectrophotometers, hot plates, and Mini PCR DNA testing equipment will be delivered in the coming weeks and in place for Summer 2022 classes.

The Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) Advisory Council met on Wednesday, April 20, 2022, in the MLT lab in Mason Hall 21. The Council reviewed an inventory list, program expenditures, and discussed topics related to program development. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Council completed a survey with 100% of respondents indicating the MLT program curriculum meets industry standards.



Derek Dunn and an FCHS Senior on “Skip to College” Day

Availability of TutorMe, online tutoring services, will be expanded from Title III pilot classes to most Summer 2022 classes. The link to TutorMe will be found in the left-hand navigation bar in Canvas. Not only does TutorMe offer 24/7 available live tutors in hundreds of subjects, but students can also submit papers for review and recommendations with a maximum turnaround time of 24 hours. For more information regarding TutorMe, contact Debbie Bryant, Title III Distance Learning Specialist at 847-9173 or ext. 4501.

TRIO TRAVELS DURING SPRING BREAK



IECC students at the Business Etiquette Workshop

TRIO Student Support Services is a 100% federally-funded program that offers free services to underrepresented students in hopes of seeing them transfer to a 4-year university. Annie Lankford is FCC's TRIO Club Advisor. She has served in that capacity for nearly eight years.

FCC's TRIO Club has been very busy this semester. Some of their activities include:

- Business Etiquette Workshop at Olney Central College
Students wore professional attire and had mock interviews with Richland County community leaders. The students were given constructive criticism on their performance.
- Spring Cultural Trip
Advisors and students traveled to Southeast Missouri University (SEMO). The students went on a campus tour while IECC advisors met with SEMO TRIO advisors for a time of networking and collaboration. The groups had dinner together and attended a play at the Bedell Performance Hall on campus.
- Campus Visits
Annie took interested students to Eastern Illinois University and University of Southern Indiana for campus tours to prepare them for transfer.
- End of year celebration
Students are looking forward to a trip to Holiday World in June to cap off the year.

LINEMAN RODEO A HUGE SUCCESS

Frontier Community College (FCC) hosted the annual Lineman Rodeo on Saturday, April 23. The event was held just north of the Workforce Development Center where the program's outdoor lab is located. Students in the Electrical Distribution Systems (EDS) program demonstrated several skills they developed over the last two semesters. A total of 14 students participated, and at the event's conclusion, one grand champion was awarded.

The Rodeo began with the singing of the National Anthem by Kara Blanton, Academic Advisor at FCC. Lead Instructor Dustin Wiggins welcomed the crowd and provided an overview of the day's events. Wiggins recruited several volunteers to assist with judging from Wayne White Electric Cooperative in Fairfield, Illinois.

Judged events included the hurt man rescue, egg climb, fuse swap, speed climb, and a mystery event.

During the event, FCC served free porkburgers, popcorn, and water to the participants, judges, and spectators. Lineman Rodeo t-shirts were also available for purchase.

The EDS program is a one-year certificate that provides training in building, repairing, and maintaining overhead and underground electrical systems. Students learn safe procedures, pole climbing, hurt man rescue, equipment operation, and more. The Lineman Rodeo allows program students to showcase all they have learned in their stay at FCC.



Grand Champion Marshall Tarr with Dustin Wiggins



EDS student participants with instructor Dustin Wiggins

SOFTBALL PLAYERS SECURE SPOTS

Softball coach Marty Slover is proud to announce that three Bobcat sophomores will continue their softball careers when they transfer this fall. “These players are great teammates and will have tremendous success at the next level,” says Slover.

- Team leader **Shelbi Patterson** will transfer to Kentucky Wesleyan University. Shelbi has explosive speed and is fearless in the outfield.
- Catcher **Hannah Roberts** has signed with Indiana Tech. Hannah is a hard-working catcher who calls a great game. She is a solid run producer and could one day become a very good softball coach.
- Pitcher **Jailyn Carr** will go to Midway University in Kentucky. Jailyn throws a good fastball and change up. She is a high-level hitter.

FCC is proud of these Bobcats who have represented our college, and we applaud them as they move to next chapter of their journeys!



Shelbi Patterson

Hannah Roberts

Jailyn Carr