NOVA’s 41st Commencement on May 15 featured music by the Hinkle Brass Quintet, organist John Wulff and the Loudoun Small Vocal Ensemble. Soloist Helen Hui (LO) sang the national anthem to begin the ceremony for graduates, their families and friends, and the faculty and staff who shared this special evening.

After greetings from College Board Chair John Ryan, NVCC Alumni Federation First Vice President Bridget Wilson and NVCC Educational Foundation President Philip L. Sparks, student Jesse Woods took a few minutes to address his fellow graduates before introducing keynote speaker Governor Timothy M. Kaine. “We are here tonight to celebrate a great decision to attend a community college. We are celebrating a huge milestone in our lives,” said Woods, who will continue his education at the College of William and Mary.

Governor Kaine began his remarks by remembering a special graduation ceremony for one high school senior, a young lady who was dying of cancer. “Because we hand out so many diplomas every year, we often forget what one diploma means to each person. Every diploma we award represents achievement and overcoming adversity. Let me congratulate you on behalf of the Commonwealth for all you’ve overcome to succeed.”

Governor Kaine noted that the recent visit by Queen Elizabeth II to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement had him reflecting on changes in the state since the last time the Queen visited, 50 years ago. Governor Kaine credited the Virginia Community College System, which didn’t exist 50 years ago, with elevating the state from last place in education. “Investing in community colleges was the single most important investment ever made in Virginia. If we keep investing in education, we will stay in front of the pack,” Kaine said.

Kaine also told graduates that 400 years after the establishment of Jamestown “there are still new worlds to discover and with the training and knowledge you got at Northern Virginia Community College there’s no one better to do it than you.”

Continued on page 2
Graduation 2007

During the evening, Virginia Senator Charles J. Colgan (29th district) was awarded the College Medalion, the highest and most prestigious award conferred by the College to an individual for extraordinary service and support to NOVA. In his 31 years of serving in the General Assembly, Senator Colgan has proven to be a strong advocate for education and enthusiastic friend to NOVA. Senator Colgan said he was honored by the award but told graduates “what you’re receiving tonight is even more important.” Another surprise gift to the Senator was a fruit basket, which was presented to him on behalf of the Manassas Campus.

Congratulations to our 3000-plus graduates!

Manassas Campus Honors Hokies Through Fundraiser

The Manassas Campus came together recently to pay homage to their fellow collegians at Virginia Tech. The VA 21 Manassas chapter held a fundraiser for the Virginia Tech Hokie Memorial Fund. The group created orange and maroon ribbons with words of hope and strength that were then sold for $1 each.

With the support of staff, faculty, students and friends of the College, VA 21 was able to raise $500 to donate to the fund. Along with the monetary donation, the group created a “Memorial Wall” consisting of signatures from people from throughout the Campus who sent their well wishes and 32 ribbons to their friends at Virginia Tech, in remembrance of the lives lost there last month.

NOVA’s New Video Server Up and Running

After several months of design and testing, NOVA’s new video server is now online. As of May 21, a new VOD (video on demand) portal will be established and made accessible through Blackboard and the TV Center Web site. Student and faculty videos will be password protected, while public videos will be available with no barriers.

What does this mean to you? If you know of any faculty or staff videos that are presently linked to the old server from your Web pages, you must contact the TV Center so they can provide you with the new URL for those pages. If these changes aren’t made, students will not be able to access the videos due to an upgrade in Windows Media Player that is incompatible with the new server.

To inform the TV Center about any video links on the old server, e-mail Richard Attix at rattix@nvcc.edu. With your help, all old links will be switched to the new system over the next few weeks, giving the old server a much needed vacation.
NOVA Faculty and Staff Race for the Cure

The Komen National Race for the Cure is dedicated to curing breast cancer at every stage and raises money to fund education, screening and treatment programs. On June 2, rain or shine, the “Sauntering Scholars of NVCC” (pictured at left) will once again don their yellow team t-shirts and run, walk or “saunter” for a good cause.

To join the team or make a donation, go to http://www.nationalraceforthecure.org/. For those who wish to participate but aren’t early birds, there is an option to join the team as a “Sleep-in” member. Use the code SCH when registering or donating.

For more information or questions, contact either of the co-captains, Maureen Madden, learning lab (AL) or Kathy Wax, humanities and social sciences (AL).

Auckerman Gears Up for MS Ride

Would you wear spandex for a good cause? Rick “Moose” Auckerman, Manassas information technology specialist, will participate in the 2007 MS Bike Ride to raise money for the 400,000 Americans living with multiple sclerosis. Not for the faint of heart or leg muscles, the ride will cover 150 miles through the back roads of Virginia’s Eastern Shore on June 2 and 3. To sponsor Auckerman for this worthy cause, go to http://www.nationalmssociety.org/ and click on “special events,” “MS Bike Ride” then “ePledge/Sponsor” or contact Auckerman at 703-257-6652 for more information.

Right: Rick Auckerman gets ready to ride for MS.

AIS Testing Continues; Training for All Users Begins Soon

The implementation of the Administrative Information System (AIS) is on schedule. For an overview of the scope of the AIS implementation, see the VCCS AIS project newsletter attached to this edition of Intercom. College staff are currently involved in user acceptance testing. Testing will continue until the new system “goes live,” which is scheduled to happen in early July.

Intensive training sessions have already begun for financial and administrative services and information services staff. Those who are to attend these sessions have been notified. According to the VCCS AIS project manager, training for those who only use the financial system to monitor their accounts will begin in July and will be conducted via desktop computer. This will occur after a few weeks of live data is in the system so they can see real data and practice on the system they will actually use. The AIS project timeline and training details are available on the NOVA AIS Web site: http://www.nvcc.edu/depts/ais/.
NOVA Well Represented at Mathematics Conference

More than 100 mathematics and computer science faculty from community colleges across Virginia, including more than a dozen from NOVA, recently attended a conference of the Virginia Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (VMATYC) at Thomas Nelson Community College. The conference is also recognized by VCCS as the peer group meeting for math and computer science faculty.

The event included two days of presentations and workshops, as well as a banquet and guest speaker. One of the highlights was the formal recognition and certificate presentation to the recipient of the Glenn Fox VMATYC Mathematical and Computer Science Scholarship. Alexandria Campus mathematics education major Assane Ndiaye received $800 toward his college expenses. Ndiaye was sponsored for the scholarship by Jon Wilkin, assistant professor of mathematics (AL). A plaque, which was presented to Wilkin and Assane at the regional VMATYC meeting in November, has been on display this year at the Alexandria Campus.

Manassas Campus Recognizes Peer Tutors at Annual Luncheon

The Manassas Campus annual Tutor Appreciation Luncheon was held May 9 in the counseling conference room. Twenty-one peer tutors from the writing center, math lab and student services were recognized as well as eight faculty and staff volunteers. Christine Rainey, peer tutor in the writing center, was honored with the Outstanding Writing Center Tutor Award. Rainey, a part-time employee in the learning lab, was cited for her hard work and dedication to the Center, especially in helping ESL students. She is currently a liberal arts major at the Manassas Campus and plans to eventually earn a bachelor’s degree in English. All tutors received congratulations and gift certificates.

Dr. Jean Goodine, acting dean of communications, technologies and social sciences, presents Christine Rainey with the Writing Center Outstanding Tutor Award.

Commencement Video Available Online

For anyone who missed Graduation 2007 at the Patriot Center, or who attended but can’t seem to get enough of a good thing, the proceedings are available online as a video stream, courtesy of the TV Center, at mms://vod01.nvcc.edu/vod/Public/Graduation/GRAD_2007.wmv.

The next edition of Intercom will be published on June 8. The submission deadline is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 1.
AIS Project Newsletter

Volume 1, Number 1

In This Issue

• AIS Project announces its new website
• AIS Project Description
• Meet Our Implementation Partner
• AIS Project Scope
• Major Milestones
• PeopleSoft Terms

Contact Us

AISproject@vccs.edu

Administrative Information System Project Website

We are proud to announce the AIS Project’s new website at http://helpnet.vccs.edu/AIS/Default.htm. This site is loaded with information about the AIS Project including:

• A Dynamic Calendar of Events
• Frequently Asked Questions
• An Overview of the AIS project
• Meeting and Minutes
• Presentations
• Project Documents

Administrative Information System Project (AIS)

News and Events

- Project Management Team Meeting Nov. 9th from 5:00 - 7:00 PM
- Project Steering Committee Meeting Nov. 13th from 3:00 - 5:00 PM

Regional AIS Project Stakeholder Awareness Meetings
- System Design Features - Dec. 5, 2006 Virginia Western Community College
- Dec. 7, John Tyler Community College
- College Business Processes Re-design - Late Feb, 2007
- Post-Implementation Feedback - Mar. 2007

Project Schedule

- Next Major Project Milestones
  - AP Payables 12/5/06
  - G.S. Payables 1/1/07

We hope that you find the site useful and encourage you to use the Feedback List to let us know your comments and suggestions.

AIS Project Description

On June 8, 2006 the VCCS officially launched the Administrative Information System (AIS) implementation project to replace the current FRS with PeopleSoft Financials. The AIS will provide self-service access and business process support to students, faculty, and staff and improve workflow for major financial functions performed throughout the VCCS colleges and Central Office. Enhanced interoperability with other VCCS internal and external application systems will provide additional benefits from information sharing, elimination of redundant data entry, and business process improvement.
Meet Our Implementation Partners

BearingPoint will provide implementation services to replace mainframe-based financial and asset management systems with PeopleSoft Financials (Version 8.9). In addition to the replacement of legacy software, the implementation of AIS will include re-engineering of business processes (both automated and manual) and development and implementation of interfaces to VCCS and Commonwealth of Virginia systems.

BearingPoint provides strategic consulting, application services, technology solutions and managed services to Global 2000 companies and government organizations. They help customers achieve results by identifying mission critical issues and implementing innovative and customized solutions designed to generate revenue, reduce costs and access the right information at the right time.

AIS Project Scope

The Project Scope defines all of the products and a service provided by the project, and identifies the limits of the project. In other words, the Project Scope establishes the boundaries of a project.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Project Scope</th>
<th>Phase I</th>
<th>Phase II</th>
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<td><strong>Go Live Date</strong></td>
<td>7/1/07</td>
<td>12/1/07</td>
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| **Modules** | • General Ledger  
• Accounts Payable (Payments)  
• Purchasing (limited to Vendor and PO)  
• Portal for AIS  
• Finance Portal Pak | • Asset Management  
• Travel & Expense |
| **Additional Features & Functions** | • CARS interface/reconciliation  
• CIPPS interface  
• Budget Load  
• SIS interface  
• Local check production  
• Reporting  
• History conversions (balances forward plus one year of details where possible) | • Workflow JE approvals (one level)  
• Reporting  
• History conversions  
• Portal integration extended  
• Workflow T&E approval (one level) |
Major Project Milestones

- 6/8/2006 - AIS Project Approved
- 9/18/2006 - Project Strategy Completed
- 12/15/2006 - Plan & Design Completed
- 4/5/2007 - Build & Unit Test Completed
- 4/30/2007 - System & Integration Test Completed
- 6/28/2007 - User Acceptance Testing & Training Completed

PeopleSoft Terms

Chart of Accounts
A chart of accounts is used to record, track, and report financial activity in an accounting system. A chart of accounts has a designated structure and is composed of the values that are used on transactions. For example, values from the chart of accounts are used to record the accounting information on deposits, vouchers, and other financial transactions.

Chartfields
The individual components (fields) that combined make up the Chart of Accounts. For example, Department is one of the chartfields. English, Art, Grants Administration, and Chemistry Club are all Department values.

Business Units
A Business Unit is a high level part of an organization that is identified as a separate reporting entity. For the VCCS, there are twenty-five Business Units (the colleges, the system office, and a control agency).