

## Enroll Now for Summer and Fall!

Priority registration is now  
open for Summer and Fall  
2021.

### Dates to Remember

- Summer classes begin May 19. Registration ongoing now through May 16.
- Fall classes begin August 16. Registration ongoing now through August 13.
- Aug 10—Payment deadline for Early Fall Registration.

Visit [alamancecc.edu/admissions](http://alamancecc.edu/admissions) for the application process.

Call 336-506-4270 for virtual and phone advising appointments.

**REGISTER NOW—  
CLASSES ARE FILLING FAST!**

## ACC to Use Funding for Tech Equipment Purchases

Alamance Community College has been awarded \$195,000 by the Golden LEAF Foundation to purchase three bio-processing machines to train students for openings in the biotech, lab and pharmaceutical industry and help meet the demand for more than 200 positions.

The equipment will be installed in the college's new Biotechnology Center of Excellence facility, slated to begin construction this summer and open to students and industry partners in fall 2022.

Golden LEAF's Open Grants Program bolsters economic development projects in the areas of job creation and economic investment; workforce preparedness; agriculture; and community competitiveness, capacity and vitality.



An architectural rendering of the Biotechnology Center of Excellence, a three-story, 30,000 square foot structure with a mix of labs/classroom space serving ACC's Biotechnology, Medical Laboratory Technology, Histotechnology and Agricultural-Biotechnology programs.

## Groundbreaking is May 7 for Biotechnology Center of Excellence

**WHAT:** Groundbreaking ceremony for the \$17.6 million Biotechnology Center of Excellence

**WHERE:** ACC campus parking lot adjacent to I-85/40 Exit 150

**WHEN:** Friday, May 7 at 11:00 a.m.

### CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE

- Late June 2021: Pre-structural site work upon awarding of construction bids
- September 2021: Building begins to rise off the site with structural steel construction
- Early 2022: Interior begins to take shape with installation of lab equipment, furniture and various technology
- June/July 2022: Project completed
- Late August 2022: Center of Excellence opens for fall 2022 semester

*"We are thrilled that we have remained on schedule to open for fall classes in 2022. Thanks to the tremendous efforts of our internal and external partners, the pandemic has not delayed our plans."*

—Yonnie Butler, Executive Director of the Biotechnology Center of Excellence

**Due to COVID restrictions, LIVESTREAM this event:**

<https://youtu.be/BS8Y86p2YJQ>

# ACC, Elon, and ABSS Partner on Teacher Pipeline Program

Alamance Community College, Elon University, and the Alamance Burlington School System (ABSS) have agreed to partner on developing a new initiative to address the shortage of teachers in the local schools and to enhance the racial and ethnic diversity of educators in area classrooms.

The Alamance Scholars Program provides a pathway for students with financial need from across a variety of backgrounds to pursue careers in teaching. It guides and supports them from high school to ACC, through their graduation from Elon, and into their first classrooms as teachers.

“This agreement opens doors even wider for many of our high-achieving, lower-income and racially diverse students, providing them far more choices and opportunities to become part of the legacy of great educators so badly needed as we move further into the 21<sup>st</sup> century,” said ACC President Dr. Algie Gatewood. “I am excited about the opportunity for students from Alamance County to start here, learn here and teach here.”

High school students will begin as members of a new ABSS Teacher Cadet Program this fall, where they will spend time in classrooms observing and learning about teaching from current



Signing an agreement in January to cement the Alamance Scholars partnership were (from left) ABSS Superintendent Dr. Bruce Benson, Elon University President Dr. Connie Book, and ACC President Dr. Algie Gatewood.

## Literacy and Career Education Win Kudos

The College's Academic and Career Readiness (ACR) division recently enjoyed success on three different fronts.

### United Way Funds ACR Program at ACC

The ACR division received a \$22,000 grant from United Way of Alamance County to assist adult students returning to school to complete their high school education through test scholarships; provides support for English learners or obtaining citizenship; will help students with learning differences to improve their academics, self-advocacy, and transition.

“This grant will help all students transition to college or a career, and offer support during their journey,” said Jennifer Mock, Director of ACC's Academic and Career Readiness division. “This is the fifth year ACC has been awarded this grant.”

### ACC's 'High School Equivalency in the Community' Used Statewide

ACC's High School Equivalency (HSE) in the Community program, a mail-in initiative designed to prepare students for the GED and HiSet tests, was offered statewide for the first time this school year.

ACC developed the HSE in the Community program, which provides access for students via mail-in prep tests. This year, the State of North Carolina adopted ACC's format for its first proxy study in adult education. ACC's Academic and Career Readiness program conducted state webinars to assist colleagues at other campuses.

### ESOL Program Awarded \$25,000 to Implement Digital Literacy Skills

ACC was one of nine North Carolina campuses awarded a digital literacy grant to support students enrolled in the English Speakers of Other Languages program.

educators. Next they will continue their studies and earn an associate's degree at Alamance Community College. Transferring to Elon, those students will pursue a bachelor's degree in middle grades or elementary education with possible specialization in special education, pre-kindergarten or teaching English as a second language. Upon graduation from Elon, Alamance Scholars will be guaranteed employment within the ABSS.

This program will allow ACC, Elon and ABSS to provide mutually reinforcing support to the candidates as they progress through the program toward their bachelor's degree.

## ACC to Create Pathway for Young Women in Engineering Careers

ACC will use a \$99,600 National Science Foundation (NSF) grant to create a partnership and pipeline to steer young girls toward the engineering career field.

Women in a Network of Discovery (WIND) is the future educational pathway aimed at increasing the number of women, especially minority and low-income females, earning associate and bachelor's engineering degrees.

Because community colleges provide an affordable entry into college, ACC's leadership role in the WIND partnership will create a plan for engineering educational pathways from third grade to college degree. The plan is ambitious, bringing together a coalition of the Alamance-Burlington School System (ABSS), NC State University, and Elon University.

The WIND initiative will be characterized by experiential learning, makerspace involvement, summer camps, mentoring, family education, year-round activities on Saturdays, peer networks, paid internships, and other support activities.

In addition to the partnership among educational institutions, a planning team headed by ACC Executive Vice President Connie Wolfe will create an advising committee to include representatives of engineering companies, local government, and engineering societies, most notably the Society of Women Engineers and Women in Engineering.

The goal is to ensure the next-generation technical workforce is diverse and has the needed skills and talent for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

# ACC Students Nominated for State Community College Awards

Two high-achieving students are the College's nominees for state awards sponsored by the North Carolina Community College System.

## 2021 Academic Excellence Award Nominee



**Anna Peterson**, 44, of Mebane is a self-employed photographer who is earning an Associate in Applied Science degree in Early Childhood Education this spring. A non-traditional student, Anna enrolled at ACC to pursue this new career because she wants to make a difference for children

with needs as a teacher assistant or preschool teacher. During her time at ACC, Anna says she has learned how to better a child's learning through positive and imaginative hands-on learning. "Seeing how the children in ACC's childcare center respond to how I talked, interacted, and played with them has been rewarding," she says. Anna volunteered her photography skills to document the Early Childhood Education department during an all-day ACC Open House College to Career Festival last year.

## 2021 Dallas Herring Achievement Award & Governor Robert W. Scott Student Leadership Award Nominee

**Kimera Naidoo**, 21, of Gibsonville is ACC's nominee for both these awards. She is working toward an Associate in Arts with a secondary major in an Associate in Fine Arts - Visual Arts. Next year, Kimera hopes to transfer to Appalachian State University to study communication sciences and disorders. A native of South Africa, she came to North Carolina in 2018 where she immersed herself in education to study speech language pathology. She credits her ACC experience and the leadership roles she has been provided (including ACC student ambassador) with gaining self-confidence and understanding for others. Kimera solidified her leadership skills as SGA president by facilitating presentations, attending Zoom meetings, and helping plan and implement virtual and drive-through events for ACC students. Kimera also is the student representative to the ACC Board of Trustees.



# ACC Welcomes New Vice President of Instruction



Dr. Lisa Johnson

The College welcomed Dr. Lisa Johnson as its new Vice President of Instruction and Chief Academic Officer in March.

Dr. Johnson fills the position left vacant by Dr. Connie Wolfe, who was named ACC's Executive Vice President last year.

Since 2008, Dr. Johnson served as Dean of Health Sciences and Human Services at Central Carolina Community College. She previously served as Department Chair for Allied Health before moving into the dean's position. She is also a retired First Sergeant

in the United States Air Force.

Johnson has experience in program development and implementation, has established partnerships with universities and community organizations, and has participated in regional and special program accreditation. Her commitment to student success aligns with ACC's mission and goals.

## ACC Named Military Friendly for 12th Consecutive Year

Alamance Community College was named a 2021-2022 Military Friendly® School for the 12th consecutive year. In addition, the College was named a Military Spouse Friendly School for the second time.

VIQ TORY, a service-disabled, veteran-owned small business surveyed over 1,200 schools and 747 earned the "Military Friendly" designation.

The Military Spouse Friendly Schools designation helps military spouses select schools that will support them in their education journey by meeting their needs as a part of a military family. Schools that are selected for the list are at the forefront of supporting the goals of military spouses.

Among ACC's benefits to military veterans are:

- ACC designates priority class registration for veterans.
- ACC offers designated Military Veteran parking spaces that are painted red, white, and blue.
- A licensed Veterans Center counselor is available once a month for confidential counseling.
- The Mobile Veteran Center comes to ACC main campus once a month for counseling and general questions.
- The College provides Green Zone training (professional development) for faculty and staff who wish to learn more about the military-affiliated student experience.
- The Veterans Association Club provides a network of support to military veterans, their families and civilian supporters. The club recently become a chapter member of Student Veterans of America.
- Feleta Morton, VA Coordinator at Alamance Community College, currently serves as President of the NC Association of Coordinators of Veterans Affairs, of which ACC is a member.

# ACC, Elon Collaborate on Service Learning Initiative

ACC is among several organizations named to partner with Elon University in an initiative that organizes service learning opportunities.

The Leaders in Collaborative Services Coordinator (LINCS) program is a two-year effort coordinated through the Kernodle Center for Civic Life at Elon University.

The LINCS program will provide ACC's Academic and Career Readiness department with a ten-hour per week coordinator to organize service learning for between 10-25 Elon University student volunteers. The Elon students will perform active work on the ACC campus that supports student success in the classroom.

This is the second time in about four years that ACC has collaborated with Elon University on this initiative.

"This is just another great partnership among many between Alamance Community College and Elon University," said Jennifer Mock, Director of Academic and Career Readiness at ACC.



P.O. Box 8000  
Graham, NC 27253-8000



**Community ACCess** is an official college publication coordinated by the Public Information and Marketing Office of Alamance Community College.

**COMMENTS OR ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUEST:** Contact [edward.williams@alamancecc.edu](mailto:edward.williams@alamancecc.edu)

**VISIT ACC'S WEB SITE:** [www.alamancecc.edu](http://www.alamancecc.edu)



The Smithsonian's Water/Ways Exhibit on display at Alamance Community College.

## ACC's Virtual Smithsonian Exhibit, Activities Benefits ABSS Students

ACC recently brought a nationally recognized Smithsonian Institution exhibit to campus—virtually. "Water/Ways" was a means to educate middle schoolers about the natural resource of water, locally focusing on the Haw River.

COVID-19 restrictions prevented the intended audience of Alamance-Burlington Schools students from visiting ACC to participate. Instead, the exhibit and accompanying activities became virtual for ABSS eighth grade students and teachers throughout February.

Exhibit coordinator and ACC instructor Sherri Singer enlisted help to create a detailed and inclusive activity booklet for the middle school students to do at home while also learning online with the virtual exhibits and activities.

"Our primary business partner was Carolina Biological in Burlington," said Singer. "They loved the idea of promoting science to students," said Singer.

A separate Smithsonian grant funded "Stories Yes," a video storytelling initiative that resulted in 138 ABSS students submitting Haw River-related videos that will become permanent fixtures on the Smithsonian website.

Supported financially by the NC Humanities Council, the Smithsonian exhibit was valued at \$350,000. Area sponsors included the NC Humanities Council, Carolina Biological, Alamance Battleground, NC Historic Sites, ACC Foundation, The Scott Family Collection, Alamance County Public Library, Haw River Museum, and Meals On Wheels.

