



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Northwest Florida State College is finishing out the year strong with several recent announcements focused on transfer education, workforce development and student achievement.

In November, NWFSC renewed its partnership with the Crestview Technology Air Park to launch our Airframe and Powerplant (A&P) Program in support of the growing aerospace industry. Located at the Bob Sikes Airport in Crestview, the project also includes an agreement with the Hsu Educational Foundation to utilize the A&P programming and learning labs to bring STEM education to our area's K-12 grade students.

Recently, the college received notification of its acceptance into the State of Florida's Apprenticeship System to provide on-the-job and in the classroom training opportunities to emerging carpenters, plumbers, machinists and other construction trades in our area. NWFSC has received several grant awards to enhance this programming, including a \$100,000 expansion grant from the State, in partnership with CareerSource Okaloosa/Walton, and three Pathways to Career Opportunities grants totaling \$275,000 from the Florida Department of Education.

Additionally, in November, the College signed a new MOU agreement with Troy University to assist NWFSC students transferring to the University. This 2+2 agreement offers a seamless transfer pathway for our students with enhanced benefits, like fee waivers and tuition discounts. Notably, our team has moved the institution from two transfer agreements in 2017 to now holding nine university transfer agreements across eight institutions, thus demonstrating our priority to student achievement!

(continued on next page)

HSU EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION & CRESTVIEW TECHNOLOGY AIR PARK PARTNERSHIP



Dr. Paul Hsu (seated, left) and Northwest Florida State College President Dr. Devin Stephenson (seated, right), along with trustees and friends of the college agreed to a long-term lease between NWFSC and the Crestview Technology Air Park (CTAP) at Bob Sikes Airport and a Memorandum of Agreement with the Hsu Educational Foundation to house its new Airframe and Powerplant Program.

On November 6, the College's Board of Trustees approved a long-term lease with the Crestview Technology Air Park (CTAP) at Bob Sikes Airport and a Memorandum of Agreement with the Hsu Educational Foundation to house its new Airframe and Powerplant Program.

Northwest Florida State College's collaboration with the Hsu Educational Foundation creates a unique learning environment where students in grades K-12 have the opportunity to utilize the state-of-the-art facilities for STEM education around the College's A&P programming with the ultimate goal of introducing them to advanced technology in high-growth industry sectors.

"It is a historic moment for Northwest Florida State College to enter into this agreement, and I am humbled to be surrounded by such great visionaries for our College and this region," said Dr. Devin Stephenson, President, Northwest Florida State College. "I am sincerely appreciative of the enthusiastic support we received from members of our Board of Trustees to advance our mission of educational opportunity, economic development and improvement of the quality of place for the citizens of Okaloosa and Walton Counties."

STRATEGIC PLAN: Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6



(continued from page 1)

As we highlight these accolades, I hope you are seeing a recurring theme—Northwest Florida State College is committed to strengthening our community and supporting our students through deliberate partnerships with business, education and the community. These partnerships bolster career and transfer education, in support of local Northwest Florida industry, bringing new opportunities to our region.

As we prepare to ring in the New Year, we not only look back on 2019 proud of our many achievements, but we eagerly anticipate many more collaborations to come. To our partners far and wide, thank you for your commitment to NWFSC and to the community we collectively support. May the coming year be filled with great success and memorable moments! Happy New Year!

Dr. Devin Stephenson, President
#TheBestisOurStandard

ATHLETICS

STRATEGIC PLAN:
Goals 2 and 6



RAIDER BASKETBALL BEGINS!

The fourth-ranked Northwest Florida women's basketball team is off to an 9-0 start to the season, including wins over three ranked teams. Sophomore forward Rayven Peebles earned FCSAA Player of the Week honors after averaging 16.0 points, 2.0 steals, and 3.5 blocks in wins over Georgia Highlands and Walters State.

The men's team is 8-3 with an impressive win over No. 3 Indian Hills under its belt. Seth Millner leads the team averaging 14.7 points and 1.5 steals per game. Millner is shooting 41.4 percent from the field on the year and his 6.3 rebounds and 1.7 assists per game rank second on the team.

Both teams kick off Panhandle Conference play on January 4 in Raider Arena with home games running through February 15.



Seth Millner



Rayven Peebles

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

TROY 2+2

On November 15, 2019, Northwest Florida State College hosted a ceremonial memorandum of understanding signing with Troy University to celebrate a new agreement for students transferring to Troy University. The agreement went into effect July 12, 2019 and allows for NWFSC students and employees to receive a 10% tuition scholarship and waived application fees when transferring to Troy University on top of the preexisting articulation agreement that ensures student success.

Northwest Florida State College now has nine articulation agreements with eight colleges and universities. This is the second articulation agreement NWFSC has signed with Troy University.

STRATEGIC PLAN: Goals 3 and 4



(L to R, back row): Buddy Starling; Cole Allen; Dr. Nate Slaton; Julie Schrodt; and Dean Allen. (L to R, front row): Vickie Miles; Alicia Bookout; Dr. John Schmidt; Dr. Deborah Kish; Pauline Anderson; and Cristie Kedroski.
(L to R, seated): Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr. and Dr. Devin Stephenson.

NWFSC LAUNCHES APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

STRATEGIC PLAN: Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6



(L to R): NWFSC President Dr. Devin Stephenson, Florida Chancellor for Career and Adult Education Dr. Henry Mack, NWFSC Director of Workforce Development Bill Allison, NWFSC VP of Academic Affairs Dr. Deborah Kish, Anne Shaffield of CareerSource, Florida DOE representative Meghan Collins, David Satterly of Plumprite, Gabriela Leysath of CareerSource, NWFSC Adjunct Instructor Corey Fink, Michele Burns of CareerSource, Marcus Cook of Emerald Bay Plumbing, Jim LeBlanc of Southern Value Engineering and Kelly Jordan of CareerSource.

partnership with CareerSource Okaloosa/Walton.

Northwest Florida State College is proud to announce its approval to join the State of Florida's Apprenticeship System. This approval means that NWFSC will soon launch a new Apprenticeship Program to train skilled carpenters and plumbers, preparing them to join the labor workforce.

Funding for the NWFSC Apprenticeship Program was made possible through a \$1.75 million State of Florida Apprenticeship Expansion Grant. NWFSC was one of 14 approved sites to receive approval for the Apprenticeship Program and was awarded \$100,000 from the State in

NWFSC will roll out the Apprenticeship Program this spring as participating employers hire apprentices. Apprentices will work 2,000 hours a year in their field of plumbing or carpentry and receive 144 hours of instruction at NWFSC. As part of the program, apprentices will receive classes in financial literacy, safety training and industry-specific training as dictated by the employer to insure a smooth transition from training to real-world scenarios. In addition to the state funds, NWFSC was awarded more than \$275,000 by way of three Pathways to Career Opportunities grants by the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) that will focus on developing registered apprenticeships in the areas of carpentry, machining and plumbing.

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FOUNDATION

STRATEGIC PLAN:
Goals 3, 4 and 5



ENDOWMENT ESTABLISHED IN MEMORY OF KURT K. EICHORST

In memory of her late husband, Janice Eichorst has pledged \$15,000 to establish the Kurt K. Eichorst Scholarship Endowment at Northwest Florida State College (NWFSC). A man of faith, Kurt attended Crosspoint Methodist Church, where he met and married the love of his life, Janice. Together, they were avid supporters of the NWF Raider Athletics program and also volunteered at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center for many years. The Kurt K. Eichorst Scholarship Endowment will provide scholarship support to a student enrolled at NWFSC.

DENNIS AND CATHY STUTEVILLE ESTABLISH ENDOWMENT IN MEMORY OF DORIS JEAN STUTEVILLE

With a gift of \$15,000, Dennis and Cathy Stuteville have established a scholarship endowment at Northwest Florida State College (NWFSC) in memory of Dennis's sister, Doris Jean Stuteville. Doris, who joined the Army Reserves with the promise of getting her LPN degree, was proud to become a nurse and happy to be able to make a difference in, not only her own life, but also the lives of the many patients for whom she cared. Knowing the importance of an education and the impact that becoming a nurse had on Doris' life, Dennis and Cathy established the Doris Jean Stuteville Nursing Scholarship Endowment. This scholarship will provide support for a student who is enrolled in the NWFSC Nursing Program.



CBA AWARDED IMPACT 100 GRANT

This year Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance (CBA) was awarded a \$101,600 capacity-building grant from Impact 100 Northwest Florida. CBA will use this gift to purchase much-needed vehicles and equipment that will allow the organization to expand existing programs, as well as start new initiatives to maintain swimmable, fishable waterways. With the Impact 100 grant, CBA will purchase a heavy-duty truck, a specialized oyster shell recycling trailer, a van to transport the education and restoration teams and aquaculture tanks for growing seagrass. With these new purchases, CBA will transform and expand their oyster shell recycling program and launch a unique seagrass education and restoration initiative.