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News Release

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NMCC students honored for academic achievement and campus involvement

Aroostook County - More than 50 Northern Maine Community College students had an opportunity to shine recently as they were recognized in front of family members and College faculty and administrators during the annual Student Honors and Achievement Awards Ceremony. Students were honored for academic excellence as well as for campus involvement.

“For many of our students, this is the first opportunity for them to receive recognition at this level,” said Bill Egeler, dean of students. “I believe it’s important that we recognize our students for their academic achievements and accomplishments, not only because it is so well deserved, but also because it sets a benchmark for other students. When excellence is noticed and celebrated by the institution, it motivates and raises aspirations for others. We know our students value their education and that they often times have to go through a lot of personal struggle to balance the demands of family, work and school, making their success all the more meaningful and impressive.”

Faculty from each of the College’s academic programs typically selects one senior to recognize with the Academic Achievement Award for their respective programs. The award is based on numerous criteria, including overall academic performance, degree of improvement, participation and behavior in the classroom, and more.

Receiving the awards from the arts and sciences department were: Lisa Plucker of Caribou for the early childhood education program and Jason Parmelee of Caribou for the liberal studies program.

Academic achievement award recipients from the business technology department were: Thaddeus Gorence of Caribou, accounting information systems; Vanninnia Small of Presque Isle, business administration; Sheri Anderson of Fort Fairfield, medical coding; Melanie Davenport of Fort Fairfield, medical office administration; and Kimberly Smith Wright of New Limerick, office assistant.

Recipients of the nursing and allied health department academic achievement awards were: Desiree Dow of Presque Isle and Lyse Dionne of Madawaska, nursing; Benjamin Everett of Presque Isle, emergency medical services; and Teresa LaReaux of Haynesville, medical assisting.

Being honored from the trade and technical occupations department were: Calvin Brewer of Monticello and Jesse Peterson of New Sweden, automotive collision repair; Phillip Chase of Houlton and John Parent of St. Anne, NB, automotive technology; Bradley Therrien of New Sweden, computer-aided drafting; Buddy LaCombe of Mapleton, computer electronics; Shawn Lagasse of St. David, diesel hydraulics technology; Timothy Voisine of Fort Kent, electrical construction and maintenance; Roland Wortman of Fort Fairfield, plumbing and heating; Jamie Lizotte of Madawaska, precision metals manufacturing; Kimberly Rotge of Presque Isle, residential construction; Shane Adkins of Monson and Leo Hackworth of Presque Isle, welding and metal fabrication; and Benjamin Dutil of Ashland, wind power technology.

Gabriel Cheney of Castle Hill and Tamara Packard of Presque Isle each received the Award of Excellence, a cash award established by a donor to recognize two seniors who have demonstrated a high standard of excellence, good judgment, ability to use critical thinking skills when implementing new ideas and the highest standards of honesty and integrity while being an inspiration to others.

The Falcon Spirit Award was presented to three students who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to help make the NMCC campus a better place for both students and employees. Recipients were Aaron Conroy of Presque Isle, Benjamin Dutil of Ashland and Teresa LaReaux of Haynesville.

Fifteen students were honored with the NMCC Community Service Award for their service to the college by volunteering and contributing their time, energy, and knowledge to help with a variety of activities. Award recipients were: Katrina Boyles, Mathew Dewitt, Mariah Lemieux-Lupien, Patrick Lupien, and Bruce Ricker, all of Presque Isle; Jessica Gal of Bridgewater; Thaddeus Gorence of Caribou; Julie Orcutt of Ashland; Anders Rinne of North Berwick; David Rugg of South Paris; Joshua Seigars of Wiscasset; Marcus Spencer of Haverhill, MA; Mathew Tarr of Sherman; Jodi Tash of Hodgdon; and Roland Wortman of Fort Fairfield.

Eight students who were named Sports Academic All-Stars for maintaining a 3.0 or greater grade point average while playing on one of the College's sports teams, and several student leaders were honored for serving as officers of the various student organizations on campus.

Lastly, based on a vote by students across campus, nursing instructor Paula Flora was selected as NMCC Instructor of the Year. Flora has served as an instructor for the nursing and allied health department at the campus for thirteen years. She was recognized by the Student Senate for her dedication to her profession and her students.

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Among the Northern Maine Community College students recognized during the annual NMCC Student Honors & Award Ceremony were (seated from left), all from Presque Isle: Jason M. Parmelee, liberal studies; Vanninnia K. Small, business administration; Benjamin T. Everett, emergency medical services; Leo Hackworth III, welding & metal fabrication; and Kimberly J. Rotge, residential construction. Also recognized were (standing from left): Sheri L. Anderson for medical coding, Melanie F. Davenport for medical office administration, and Roland W. Wortman for plumbing and heating, all of Fort Fairfield; Benjamin A. Dutil of Ashland, wind power technology; Shane T. Adkins of Monson, welding & metal fabrication; and Buddy L. LaCombe of Mapleton, computer electronics. Absent from photo: Desiree H. Dow of Presque Isle, nursing.



Among the Northern Maine Community College students from the central Aroostook area who received Academic Achievement Awards for their respective academic programs were (left to right): Lisa M. Plucker, early childhood education, and Thaddeus R. Gorence, accounting information systems, both of Caribou; Jesse M. Peterson, automotive collision repair, and Bradley G. Therrien, computer-aided drafting, both of New Sweden.



Pictured from left to right are the Northern Maine Community College Academic Achievement Award recipients from southern Aroostook: Kimberly Smith Wright of New Limerick, office assistant; Teresa L. LaReaux of Haynesville, medical assisting; and Philip L. Chase of Houlton, automotive technology. Absent from photo: Calvin J. Brewer of Monticello, automotive collision repair



Northern Maine Community College students from the St. John Valley receiving Academic Achievement Awards during the NMCC Student Honors & Awards Ceremony were (left to right): Lyse H. Dionne of Madawaska, nursing; Jamie J. Lizotte of Madawaska, precision metals manufacturing; Shawn Lagasse of St. David; Timothy L. Voisine of Fort Kent, electrical construction & maintenance; and John M. Parent from St. Anne, NB, automotive technology.



Receiving the Falcon Spirit Award for going above and beyond the call of duty to help make the Northern Maine Community College campus a better place for both students and employees was, from left, Aaron Conroy of Presque Isle, Teresa LaReaux of Haynesville, and Benjamin Dutil of Ashland.



Based on a vote by students across the Northern Maine Community College campus, nursing instructor Paula Flora (right) was selected as NMCC Instructor of the Year. Flora was presented the award by Aaron Conroy, president of the NMCC Student Senate.