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# News Release

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## NMCC faculty and staff honored for milestones of service during recognition luncheon

**Aroostook County** - A collective 240 years of service to higher education in Aroostook County was recognized recently as Northern Maine Community College honored 15 employees who have reached milestones of service to the campus.

More than 100 employees and college retirees gathered for a luncheon to recognize faculty and staff members. President Timothy Crowley led the recognition event which featured touching and humorous tributes to the honorees.

“The devotion and dedication of our employees is extraordinary and important for us to celebrate. As this year’s employee recognition ceremony demonstrates, people who come to work here tend to stay,” said NMCC President Timothy Crowley. “Recognizing the members of the NMCC family who have reached important milestones of service to the College is very important because it is the faculty and staff here at NMCC who impact in the lives of our students each and every day.”

Two NMCC employees had the distinction of reaching 35 years of service at the college. Richard Duplessis of Presque Isle, a mathematics instructor, and John Johnston of Fort Fairfield, a member of the college’s maintenance staff, were both recognized for achieving this milestone. Only one other NMCC employee has previously been recognized at this level. Dave Guerrette of Washburn, now retired, was honored in 2010 as the first employee to reach 35 years of service.

Another two employees were honored for 30 years of service to the campus. Miriam Gregg of Mapleton, a mathematics and English instructor, and Diane Peters of Presque Isle, administrative assistant to the president, were presented with a special plaque featuring a hand-turned wooden apple and inscription that indicated an apple tree had been planted in their honor on the college grounds.

Marking a quarter century of service to NMCC in 2012 and honored at the recognition luncheon Kim Ferguson of Presque Isle, who works in the college’s library.

Robert Rice of Presque Isle, diesel hydraulics instructor, was recognized for 15 years of service.

Ten year honors were presented to Dean Duplessis of Van Buren, precision metals manufacturing instructor; Karl Jackson of Fort Fairfield, computer instructor; Johna Lovely of Mapleton, counselor/student development specialist; Carol McCleary of Presque Isle, accountant I in the business office; and David Wyman of Presque Isle, programmer analyst in the information technology office.

Four employees were recognized for five years of service: Jennifer Graham of Fort Kent, English instructor; Lori Keith of Presque Isle, custodian II; Shawn Lahey of Presque Isle, information systems specialist II; and Paul Lajoie of Presque Isle, automotive technology instructor.

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*Honored for service during the annual Northern Maine Community College recognition luncheon were (sitting, from left) Kim Ferguson, 25 years; Miriam Gregg and Diane Peters, 30 years; Richard Duplessis and John Johnston, 35 years. Also honored were (standing from left): Jennifer Graham, Lori Keith, Shawn Lahey and Paul Lajoie, five years; Dean Duplessis, Karl Jackson, and Dave Wyman, 10 years. Absent from photo: Johna Lovely and Carol McCleary, 10 years; and Robert Rice, 15 years.*