



November 27, 2012

News Release

Contact:
Sue Bernard
Development and
College Relations Office
33 Edgemont Drive
Presque Isle, ME 04769
Phone: (207) 768-2808
Fax: (207) 760-1101
sbernard@nmcc.edu

Students inducted into honor group

Aroostook County - Twenty students at Northern Maine Community College were recently inducted into the campus' chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for students at two-year colleges. These are students from a wide variety of academic programs that have proven their academic excellence on campus.

To be invited to join PTK, a student must achieve a 3.5 or greater cumulative grade point average while being enrolled in one of the College's 29 academic programs. To maintain enrollment, the student's cumulative grade point average cannot fall below a 3.25. Members gain leadership skills through campus and community projects in addition to recognition throughout the year and at graduation.

County students welcomed to the chapter during the November 14 ceremony were: Chelsey Fletcher, Austin Hole, Joseph Mortland, Jeffrey Nault, Christopher Perry and Jon-Sebastian Weatherbee, all of Presque Isle; Sharon Ellis, Wanda Osgood and Clinton Perry, all of Caribou; Troy Coty and Jenny McPherson of Mapleton; Michael Hastings of Wade; Mark Madore of St. David; Melissa McCrum of Mars Hill; and Tina Pierce of Monticello.

Also inducted were Kyle Doody of Westbrook; Myasia Williams of Danbury, Connecticut; Sarah Brennan of Perth-Andover, New Brunswick; and Jeff Kiser of Plaster Rock, New Brunswick.

Kevin White of Washburn was inducted as an honorary member of PTK.

In a technological twist, the College was able to use distance technology to "broadcast" the ceremony to Doody's family in Westbrook and Williams' family in Connecticut, allowing them to celebrate in their student's accomplishment without having to make the trip to northern Maine.

Kris Doody, CEO of Cary Medical Center and chair of the Maine Community College System Board of Trustees, was the keynote speaker for the event. She spoke to those gathered about the PTK cornerstones of success, leadership development, continued learning and civic engagement.

“Success means being a part of progress, being happy, taking risks and making a difference,” said Doody. “You took a risk when you entered this educational endeavor and enrolled in NMCC. Your education is your ticket to success, and your education is yours to keep forever. We must all define success individually and strive to achieve it.”

She went on to encourage the inductees to use the resources available to them as Phi Theta Kappa members to build leadership skills, while challenging them to give back to their community and to the College.

“Civic engagement is not only our responsibility, but I can tell you from experience it is rewarding and fun,” she told them.

The members of NMCC’s honor group embrace the concept of community service, doing a number of projects over the year that either call for volunteering their time or for raising dollars to donate in support of worthy causes. Students have the opportunity to gain personal fulfillment through this service, while also building skills that will follow them into the workforce.

“PTK encourages and promotes the development of students’ leadership skills,” said Lori Googins, NMCC faculty advisor for the group. “Being in PTK can foster relationships with business leaders in the community, and thereby may be beneficial as the student transitions from the academic world to the real world, by providing them with prior contact with future employers. Many employers seek out PTK members because of their academic excellence and proven leadership skills. In addition, many of the activities our chapter participates in are fun and rewarding, because we are giving back to the community in which we live.”

Last year, NMCC’s chapter earned the distinction of being named one of the top 100 chapters of PTK globally. The NMCC chapter and several of its members, as well as Googins as their advisor and NMCC Dean of Students Bill Egeler, received numerous honors and awards at both the regional and international conventions.

#####



Kris Doody, CEO of Cary Medical Center and chair of the Maine Community College System Board of Trustees, served as keynote speaker for PTK Induction Ceremony at NMCC. She urged students to embrace the PTK cornerstones of success, leadership development, continued learning and civic engagement.



Northern Maine Community College students inducted into the campus' chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honor society during a November 14 ceremony were, seated from left: Wanda Osgood, Michael Hastings, Sarah Brennan, Myasia Williams, Tina Pierce, Sharon Ellis. Middle row, from left: Jon-Sebastian Weatherbee, Jeff Kiser, Melissa McCrum, Jenny McPherson, Joseph Mortland, Troy Coty, and honorary inductee Kevin White. Back, from left: Mark Madore, Kyle Dody, Jeffrey Nault, Austin Hole, Clinton Perry, and Christopher Perry. Absent from photo: Chelsey Fletcher.