

Northeast campus will continue to grow with new facilities

The Norfolk campus will again be changing to meet the demands of several program areas and to provide much needed space for the college's maintenance and shipping/warehousing departments. Before Dr. Bill Path's departure last month, he announced that Northeast will construct two new buildings on the north side of the Norfolk campus.

The new Construction Technology Building will house four related program areas: building construction; electrical construction and control; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning; and electromechanical technology. New instructional space will enhance the learning environment for students in these programs, will accommodate current and future technologies, and will provide an opportunity for growth.

Another facility will house the College's maintenance department, as well as shipping/warehousing and the motor pool.

The new facilities will allow some truck traffic to be redirected to the perimeter of campus, as well, providing safer pedestrian areas through the center of campus.

Much of the space that is being vacated will be used for other programming needs. Due to the generosity of donors for other recent building projects, the College will be able to fund the construction of these buildings from the capital levy fund. The new buildings should be completed in the fall of 2014.



Students in building construction; electrical construction and control; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning; and electromechanical technology will be learning in a new facility starting in the fall of 2014. Shown above are electrical students in their current facility, the Arlo Wirth Building.

The impact of your generosity . . .

This year, 167 students were awarded 189 Foundation Scholarships totaling \$119,188.

“Being a single parent, it is often very difficult to make ends meet. I work part-time so my paycheck, needless to say, is stretched as tight as it can possibly be. The scholarship has helped lift the financial burden of college expenses. I sincerely thank you for this scholarship!”

Mary Hart, Secondary Education Major



Path bids farewell while the search for a new president begins

Dr. Bill Path has left Northeast Community College to begin his new position as president of Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology.

“I was not looking for a new job when this opportunity came up,” Dr. Path said. “The decision to apply was not made lightly by my wife, Deb, and me. We have enjoyed every minute of our lives in Norfolk,” he said. “But, the bottom line is, we are going home. We will be no more than two hours away from our parents.”

To find Northeast’s next president, a national search is being conducted with the assistance of the Association of Community College Trustees. Input from community members is also being used to determine the attributes considered most critical for the next College president.

Until a new president is named, the Board of Governors named Mary Honke, vice president of Institutional Advancement, and Steve Schram, former vice president of Administrative Services, as co-interim presidents.

“I want the constituents in our 20-county service area to know that the work and mission of the College will continue with Mary Honke and Steve Schram sharing the duties of the president,” said Van Phillips, chair of the Board of Governors. “Our students and the communities we serve will not be affected in any way during this transition period. We will continue to offer an exemplary education to our students and service to the communities in the 20-counties of northeast Nebraska.”



Dr. Bill Path



Mary Honke



Steve Schram

“In our current economy, paying for higher education out-of-pocket or getting private student loans has become increasingly difficult, which makes me even more grateful for this scholarship. It is my belief that it takes more than just class attendance to become a professional in anything – it takes dedication, learning and reinforcement outside of the classroom. This scholarship will help me secure the materials and equipment needed to ensure my success in the classroom.”

Joseph Pender, Information Technology/Computer Programming Major

Career academies offered in area high schools

Choosing a career path while still in high school can be quite difficult for students. By participating in Career Academies through Northeast Community College, students get a good taste of a career field while earning college credit.

The Northeast Career Academies are structured around career themes that reflect regional workforce needs. The three academies currently offered include Health Sciences, Agriculture, and Skilled and Technical Sciences with a drafting focus.

Each academy is comprised of three classes, two of which give students the opportunity to earn college credit or articulated credit that is applied when the student enrolls at Northeast. In the introductory classes, students are given the opportunity for in-depth exploration of the career field, which may include guest speakers, job shadowing, interviewing professionals, and presenting research reports on career specific topics.

Last year, a total of 435 students in 22 schools participated in the Northeast Nebraska Career Academies Partnership.

The Career Academy project also provides professional development opportunities for secondary instructors. In order for high schools to participate, teachers are required to attend training during the summer prior to teaching academy classes. The trainings are essential to the success of the project and are a great way to build relationships among teachers in the district, further strengthening the project.

Northeast students attend graphic design boot camp

Northeast Graphic Design students had the experience of a lifetime this fall.

Northeast, in partnership with the Nebraska chapter of AIGA, the American Institute of Graphic Arts, was able to host a two-day “boot camp” with an internationally renowned graphic designer.

Robynne Raye, co-founder and lead designer of Modern Dog Design Co. in Seattle, Wash., was on campus for two full days of graphic design instruction and mentoring. The boot camp was open to Northeast students and area design professionals.

Made possible through generous sponsorships by Nebraska AIGA, Marathon Press, Affiliated Foods Midwest, and the Norfolk Area Shopper, the camp gave attendees an opportunity to hone their skills and build their portfolio of work while working on multi-part, mixed media design challenges for a real client.

According to Phil Schimonitz, Northeast graphic design instructor, this boot camp “was a one-of-a-kind experience, giving our Northeast students real world experience and, regional design professionals exposure to the quality of our students.”

“Together the design teams created well-conceived, cost effective workable solutions to a regional issue. Thank you to all involved,” he continued.

Schimonitz added that he hopes the boot camp will become an annual event for Northeast.

Northeast alum honored

Jeff Braithwait of Norfolk was recently honored by the Nebraska Community College Association (NCCA) with a Distinguished Alumni Award.

Braithwait is a 1981 graduate of the Northeast Technical Community College (now Northeast Community College) automotive technology program. He and his wife, Kristy, have owned and operated Eastern Auto Service, an automotive repair business in Norfolk, for the last 21 years.

Braithwait volunteers many hours of his time to the automotive technology program. He serves on the Advisory Committee, currently as chair; assists with recruiting efforts; and hires graduates from the program. Jeff and his wife also established a scholarship in memory of his late father-in-law, Gerry Suhr, that is awarded to an automotive technology student each year.

He is a member and past president of the Norfolk Lion’s Club and currently serves as vice president; he also mentors for the Norfolk TeamMates Program. He is an ASE Certified Master Technician and is a strong supporter of life-long learning.



Jeff Braithwait

New technology connects classrooms

There’s a new look in Northeast Community College’s interactive television (ITV) classrooms thanks to funding by Title III, a U.S. Department of Education Strengthening Institutions grant. The ITV classrooms allow students in remote sites to see, hear, and interact with an instructor and other students at four different sites through video cameras and televisions.



Beth Welke, math instructor, teaches students at four different locations at once, including the one pictured here in the Maclay Building on the Northeast campus, with the assistance of interactive television technology.

ITV classrooms have been upgraded in South Sioux City, O’Neill, and Norfolk. New ITV classrooms have been installed in O’Neill and West Point.

Classrooms now have high definition-capable, flat-screen monitors in smaller Education Center classrooms and an LCD projector and screen on the Norfolk campus. Microphones are suspended from the ceiling, making classrooms more flexible and classes more interactive. These new changes are part of Northeast’s plan to implement a new campus standard for technology.

Thank you for your gifts to the Northeast Community College Foundation!

Because of your generosity, lives are changed.

Because of your generosity, our workforce has accessible training opportunities.

Because of your generosity, students learn using current technology.

Because of your generosity, people in rural Nebraska have the opportunity to learn close to home.

Because of your generosity, Northeast Community College is one of the top community colleges in the nation.

Your generosity makes a difference!

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“Without gracious and thoughtful people like you, a lot of students wouldn’t be able to go to college. Because of the scholarship I received, I haven’t had to work this semester and have had more time to study and devote to my animal care patients. I also think donors help to make Northeast a better school because of the new technology that is purchased from donations that helps make learning faster and easier.”

Shyla Kemp, Veterinary Technician Major

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We are proud to recognize all contributions directly received by the Northeast Community College Foundation in memory of a loved one or in honor of a friend or family member. Cash gifts forwarded to the Foundation by friends and family members may not be recognized here but are equally appreciated.

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If you would like to discuss the possibility of contributing a gift or establishing an endowment with the Northeast Community College Foundation, please contact Courtney Klein-Faust at (402) 844-7056 or foundation@northeast.edu.

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Join us Feb. 14th for Generosity Day

A new movement has been started to reinvent Valentine's Day into Generosity Day. The idea is that this can be a day to share love with everyone and to be generous to everyone. Sasha Dichter, director of business development at Acumen Fund, states, "people are hungering for something more in their lives—more connection and more meaning."

Suggestions for acting out Generosity Day: Give to people who are in need. Tip outrageously. Help a stranger. Write a note telling someone how much you appreciate him or her. Smile. Donate (more) to a cause that means a lot to you. Take clothes to a charitable organization. Share your toys (grown-ups and kids). Be patient with yourself and with others. All generous acts count!

Being generous not only makes the recipient feel good, but it makes you feel great about giving without expecting something in return. Let's make the day about love, action, and human connection.



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Northeast Community College recognizes those who contribute services or equipment. Because of these generous donations, the College is able to provide valuable learning opportunities to our students. Some in-kind donations given directly to departments may not be mentioned here, but are equally appreciated.

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Mark your calendar to *Celebrate Giving!*

The Northeast Community College Foundation is a proud member of the Philanthropy Council of Northeast Nebraska, an organization which promotes and celebrates charitable giving in our communities. Mark your calendar to join us on February 18, 2012, for an event unlike any other: *Celebrate Giving!* This event will bring our communities together to highlight the power of giving and leaving a legacy. We will celebrate and honor those who have impacted our communities, through the sharing of their time, talents and treasures.

Visit the Philanthropy Council's website, philanthropycouncilne.org, for more details about the organization and the *Celebrate Giving!* gala.



Ask me why...

Why do you support the Northeast Community College Foundation?

My wife, Connie, and I reflected on why we support Northeast Community College not only financially but with our time and talents. Northeast is a community asset that affects local and regional students, industries, and businesses in many ways.

It gives area students an opportunity to start their college education close to home in a first class venue at a lower cost. They can then continue their education at a college of their choice. It also allows nontraditional students to continue their education without having to travel long distances and be far away from family.

The College also develops and implements specialized classes for the local business and industries. They can fulfill their training needs without having to send their employees long distances. Having a community college is also important when Norfolk is trying to recruit new business and industry. It ranks high on the list of local amenities that they look for.

We are lucky to have Northeast, which performs ahead of the curve and has innovative practices. This is why they are ranked nationally in the top 10 percent of community colleges.

We will continue to support Northeast in any way that we can.



Ron & Connie Stauffer, Norfolk

Share your story!

Tell us why you support Northeast Community College.

Email foundation@northeast.edu or write to the

Northeast Community College Foundation

801 E. Benjamin Ave., PO Box 469, Norfolk, NE 68702-0469

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