



# ESCC NEWS LETTER



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ESCC Foundation  
[www.es.vccs.edu/about/escc-foundation](http://www.es.vccs.edu/about/escc-foundation)  
Patty Kellam, Executive Director  
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*The mission of ESCC Foundation is to make a positive difference in the lives of all Eastern Shore citizens by helping to provide the best possible learning and teaching environment.*

## Update from ESCC President Dr. Jim Shaeffer



*President Jim Shaeffer, Re-Entry Program Guest Speaker Travis May, and VP Dr. Patrick Tompkins*

I am happy to report that Your Eastern Shore Community College is having another great year. While enrollment in our transfer program is down slightly, enrollment in our workforce programs has increased by over 40% compared to 2021. Congratulations to our staff for implementing new classes, training, and certifications in high need areas. Our workforce programs complement our transfer programs allowing us to say, “*YES! we can help*” by offering a range of programs from hair braiding to various levels of nursing, to ESL to GED, to serving the regional jail with our Reentry Program.

ESCC’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Homecoming was an outstanding event last Fall. We welcomed over 200 alumni and friends to campus and signed an MOU with NASA Goddard and NASA Wallops solidifying our relationship in enhancing the pipeline of ESCC graduates to great jobs with NASA. Many thanks to our lead sponsor, Taylor Bank, and other generous sponsors that supported Homecoming and our Oyster Roast fundraiser in January.



*MOU with NASA Center Director Dennis Andrucyk*

We celebrated our culminating 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event with commencement on May 11 when we welcomed over 600 friends to campus. Staying true to our YES! culture of inclusivity, all those who completed programs, from high school equivalency diploma to associate degrees, were part of commencement. It was a true Eastern Shore community celebration.

We are off to a great start for our 2022 summer session with a variety of offerings and strong enrollment. We again launched our *Take Two* program inviting Eastern Shore graduating high seniors to take two courses this summer for free.



*Welcoming visiting high school students from Chincoteague*

The highlight of my three years as president of Your Eastern Shore Community College has been the opportunity to work with such great faculty and staff. It is their dedication to our YES! culture of hospitality, accountability, inclusion, and transparency that creates a premier learning environment for our students and the Eastern Shore community.

We stand poised to serve for another 50 years.

# FastForward Programs: A Closer Look by Dr. Patrick Tompkins

## Overview of ESCC's Workforce Unit

Your Eastern Shore Community College's workforce unit includes four main programs: (1) FastForward industry recognized credential programs, (2) continuing education, (3) adult education, and (4) Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act programs (WIOA).



VP Dr. Patrick Tompkins

## A Closer Look: FastForward (FF) Programs

FastForward educational programs are in high demand fields as defined by the Virginia Board for Workforce Development. These programs can be completed quickly, are partially funded by the state, and lead to industry recognized credentials. The state grant for FastForward provides support for 2/3 the cost of tuition. The student pays 1/3 of the tuition. In recent years, some funding, such as the state-funded G3 program, has become available to support students who cannot afford their 1/3 portion of the tuition. Also, in 2022 the ESCC Foundation has allocated \$40,000 in scholarship support for FastForward programs.



## ESCC FastForward Programs

FastForward are programs in high demand fields. Currently, ESCC offers a total 12 programs in the areas of customer service, healthcare, information technology, construction, commercial truck driving, and drones.

Table 1. FastForward Performance Report

	FF Enrollments	FF Completions	FF Credentials
FY2021 Quarter 4	82	50	17
FY2022 Quarter 3	117	71	34

Source: VCCS FF & FF General Summary 5/23/22 & 6/29/21

## Analysis

In FY 2022, as of May 23, with still another five weeks to go in the fiscal year, ESCC's workforce programs are outperforming the entire previous year in enrollments, completions, and industry recognized credentials. Both completions and credentials lag enrollment due to students still in a class or not yet having taken the test for the credential.

## Definitions

*FF Enrollments:* Point-in-time headcount of learners enrolled in FastForward programs.

*FF Completions:* Point-in-time headcount of learners who complete FastForward programs.

*FF Credentials:* Point-in-time headcount of FastForward completers who report passing the exam for the industry recognized credential.



## ESCC to NASA Talent Pipeline: Tim Parks



*Tim Parks tracks satellites at ASRF*

By the time Tim Parks graduated from ESCC in 1986, he had already started working at NASA Wallops. Internships continue to impact the success of ESCC students and were a motivating factor for Tim, who after graduating high school started pursuing his associates degree in electronics.

With support from then electronics instructor Jack Haines and direction from guidance counselor Gene Trent, Tim was speeding towards a successful career. Over two summer breaks he worked alongside telemetry techs measuring solar rays and plotting data. With this opportunity morphing into full-time employment, Tim finished his degree at ESCC with night classes. Tim's early years at NASA were centered around building the satellite tracking station which involved three years of intensive cable work. From 1985–2003

he worked tracking NASA satellites and on space shuttle launches.

As a current site lead at the Atmospheric Sciences Research Facility at Wallops, Tim uses his ESCC electronics degree to support CubeSats for universities, colleges, schools, and NASA. Past clients include NSF, MIT, Blue Canyon, and Utah State. His success is a blueprint for the pipeline of student talent from ESCC to NASA-Wallops and a great example of the pathways that ESCC builds to help launch students into successful careers on the Eastern Shore.

## Wallops Contractors Association Funds Scholarships

ESCC Foundation is proud to have the support of the Wallops Contractors Association (WCA) with a donation of \$15,000 to fund scholarships and support for students in STEM activities. Under the leadership of WCA president Jim Mason-Foley, program manager at ASRC Federal, the Wallops Contractors Association works as an advocacy group for Wallops Flight Facility within the Space Industry and the local community to support STEM activities and help students develop the skills needed to support Wallops as a premier launch facility.

“WCA members ASRC Federal, KBR, Peraton, SAIC, Jacobs, and Axient are thrilled to provide this outreach to assist ESCC students in their education goals and to support the next generation of space leaders,” says Jim Mason-Foley, (second from left) “We also hope this helps build bridges for local students to work at Wallops.”



## ESCC Inspires Two Generations of Student Success

Shannon Baines was a single mother of two young children when she enrolled in classes at ESCC and received her Certified Nursing Assistant certification. She worked in that field for nearly 20 years. When her family grew, she decided to take a Dental Assisting class at ESCC in 2021 and received her Dental Assisting certification.

When Covid-19 slowed her efforts to secure a job, she enrolled in Medical Terminology and Medical Scribe courses at ESCC. With Medical Scribe certification added to her resume, in February 2022, Shannon became a full-time Dental Assistant for Franktown Community Health Center's Dental Services, part of Eastern Shore Rural Health System. Shannon continues to grow in her field, and is thankful to ESCC and the Foundation for helping her reach her goals, as well as showing her son Quantez the path to higher education.

In partnership with Eastern Shore Rural Health, ESCC Foundation is pleased to offer the Nancy J. Stern Health Care Scholarship for ESCC students in any facet of medical, dental, or behavioral health care.



*Shannon Baines with sons Quantez and Jaidyn. Quantez graduated from ESCC in 2016 with an Associates in Business. He completed his BA at Virginia Wesleyan and is now employed at ESCC as a Workforce Assistant.*

## Robin Rich-Coates (1954-2022)



ESCC mourns the loss of former faculty member, friend and colleague, Robin Rich-Coates.

Throughout her thirty-four years of dedicated service as a teacher, mentor, friend and colleague, Robin made a tremendous impact at Eastern Shore Community College. A retired Professor of Biology and Chemistry at ESCC, member and faculty sponsor of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, and Chairman of Eastern Shore Soil and Water Conservation District, Robin summed up her love for teaching by using the word "opportunity." She was voted Teacher of the Year three times and received the Virginia Community College System

Chancellor's Award for Excellence. Her dedication to her students, the college, and the community was visible every day.

Upon her retirement Robin established the *Robin Rich-Coates Opportunity Scholarship* at ESCC. Memorial gifts may be made to this fund at ESCC Foundation in her memory.



## Caramine Kellam (1941-2022)

ESCC Foundation lost a good friend with the passing of Caramine Kellam. Caramine served on the ESCC Foundation Board in its early years from 1998-2004, and as Board President from 2003-2004 where she was the first female in that leadership role.

With an interest in helping students from all walks, Caramine supported ESCC Foundation's capital campaigns, summer scholarships, special events, and annual fund. Her leadership and generosity helped change many lives on the Eastern Shore, and ESCC Foundation is grateful for Caramine's service and her passion for education.



## Share Your ESCC Story at [es.vccs.edu/50years/](https://es.vccs.edu/50years/)



### **Brittany Pettit**

I began taking classes for the summer semester just weeks before I graduated from Arcadia High School in 2009. I joined Phi Theta Kappa, served as the treasurer, and was also ESCC's student ambassador.

After graduating from ESCC with an Associate of Arts and Science in Business Administration and General Education Certificate, I graduated from Old Dominion University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. I majored in Accounting with a minor in Decision Sciences, and I am currently a Staff Accountant at Leatherbury Broache, P.C.

### **Keith Moody, Jr.**

I started attending ESCC in 2008, having no clue what I wanted to do. By the time I graduated I knew what I wanted to accomplish after ESCC.

I continued my education with ODU Teletechnet at ESCC and earned my Bachelors of Science in Human Services, then I became a day treatment counselor and mentor here on the Shore. I'm currently a Family Services Specialist with Department of Social Services.



### **Robin Sexauer**

ESCC provided the educational foundation for pursuing my career with the Virginia Division of Rehabilitative Services (DARS). I graduated in 1991 and transferred to the ODU Teletechnet Program. This program provided me with the opportunity to secure my Bachelor's Degree on the Eastern Shore.

I was in the first graduating class for that program which included classes at the Melfa and Wallops Island campuses. Eventually I completed my Master's Degree at VCU online and secured a Graduate Certificate at The George Washington University.



## ESCC Foundation Oyster Roast Supports Scholarships

ESCC Foundation is grateful to our generous sponsors of the 50th Anniversary Oyster Roast:

Taylor Bank  
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Maureen Lawrence  
Neville Family - in memory of Barry Neville  
Seybolt Family - in memory of Dr. John C. Fiege  
RRMM Architects  
Children's Harbor  
Dr. Jim and Peggy Shaeffer  
LJ Kellam Construction  
Rachel Kellam



*The threat of a blizzard could not stop friends from enjoying local seafood and live jazz in support of ESCC Scholarships on January 28.*

*Stay tuned for 2023!*

## Leave A Legacy For Future ESCC Students

The ESCC Legacy Society encourages all who support the College's mission to use their financial and estate planning to help us maintain the affordable access and educational excellence that help our students succeed. When you include ESCC Foundation in your long-term planning, you are making a difference for generations to come.



Foundation scholarships are critical in helping students reach their full potential and achieve fulfilling careers.

If you have included ESCC Foundation in your estate planning, or would like details on how to do so, please contact Patty Kellam at (757)789-1749 or [pkellam@es.vccs.edu](mailto:pkellam@es.vccs.edu).

Info is also posted online at:  
[es.vccs.edu/about/escc-foundation/](https://es.vccs.edu/about/escc-foundation/)

*Nursing instructor Felicia Blake with recent Nurse Aide graduate Angelina Garcia. ESCC can launch students into the Allied Health field and all the way to RN.*

**We invite you to show your support by giving online or in the attached envelope to help all students access the great programs we offer.**

ESCC FOUNDATION | 29316 LANKFORD HIGHWAY | MELFA, VIRGINIA 23410



## Eastern Shore Community College Makes Dreams Come True!

See inside how ESCC Foundation  
helps students succeed.

