“Lackawanna College has a long history of providing innovative workplace development, community policing, and Allied Health programs and now has expanded to provide students a quality foundation to pursue jobs in energy fields.”

U.S. Rep. Matt Cartwright

Hawley, Pa., resident Andrew Figueroa earned his associate degree in Accounting in May 2014 and continued his education at Drexel University in Fall 2014.

“I feel that not only did Lackawanna help me get into Drexel, but the courses here prepared me for success at Drexel... I’m ready for the next step.”
In September, just prior to making a presentation at a conference in Pittsburgh, I was approached by a senior executive of a major U.S. company. Having sought me out, he handed me his business card and stated, “We’ve done a very deep dive look at your petroleum and natural gas program offerings and they are the gold standard for the industry... world class!” Not only did he make that statement to me, but he later made it to the assembled audience of industry representatives and went on to state their intent to partner with Lackawanna’s School of Petroleum and Natural Gas in the creation of new programs.

Having been at Lackawanna for just over 10 years, two as president, it gives me great joy to see the seeds that were planted years ago come to maturity. This annual report is a small sample of some of the wonderful achievements made by the College and our students, 80% of whom are your sons, daughters, aunts, uncles, grandchildren, neighbors, or perhaps even your parents.

As university and college costs continue to increase, Lackawanna is justly proud of our modest tuition and classroom excellence. With almost 100% of our students receiving State and Federal aid and the majority of them qualifying for full funding, we recognize that the cost of an education is of paramount concern to our students. As a result, we are focused on providing a world class education at an affordable cost. Students today have many choices. I believe no matter how they intend to define their future, directly into industry or on to a four-year school, most students can take advantage of spending two years at Lackawanna College, receiving an outstanding education and saving tens of thousands of dollars.

I am so proud of all we have accomplished and even more excited about our plans for the future.

MARK VOLK, PRESIDENT
The College’s strong strategic planning process had long identified the lack of space for growing programs as a critical challenge. For several years, the academic and administrative requirements of the College had been in fierce competition for very limited space in Angeli Hall. At the same time, The Wright Center for Graduate Medical Education, a community health partner with the College, was also looking for more space in downtown Scranton.

Sitting practically empty, just half a block away, was the former Scranton Center: a 107,000 square foot office and retail complex. The almost vacant center had become a scar in the middle of the city and was floundering through a succession of out-of-town owners.

Known for its brilliant adaptive re-use of existing structures, the College saw the acquisition of this mid-century modern complex as an answer to its space needs and an opportunity to have Angeli Hall once again become an academic hub for the community. The new facility will also provide an opportunity for the Wright Center to expand its medical and behavioral health clinics.

Although still in the planning stages, the newly named Cornerstone Commons will have several major facilities:

- The Cornerstone Pavilion: the 99,725 square feet of space spread across six stories will become the administrative home to the College as well as the base for several important programs.

- The Culinary Complex: a two-story independent building will house the College’s new dining hall and its growing culinary programs.

- The Alumni Courtyard: an exterior courtyard joining the two spaces will quickly become a beautiful urban retreat in the heart of the city.
Lackawanna College unveiled the new Learning Studio in August as its newest initiative in helping students reach their educational goals. Designed with input from the College’s own Center for Teaching and Learning, the Studio transformed a once traditional classroom into a setting that incorporates cutting-edge design. The new environment is organized to permit learning in a space focused on constructive teaching rather than a lecture-based format. The unconventional setting encourages peer discussions and has flexible seating arrangements, storage space, and advanced technology to meet the needs of today’s students. Additionally, Lackawanna College opened The Writing Center in September to assist students in writing across the curriculum.

Did You Know Lackawanna College Offers Online Classes in Convenient Shortened Formats During the Semester, as Well as Summer & Winter Sessions?

Carlie Nicastro | Director & Chair of School of Distance Education | lackawanna.edu/online

Financial Snapshot

Education That’s Affordable and Accessible:

Flat Fee (12-18 credits): $6,490/semester | Low per-credit costs and financial aid available for full & part-time students.

lackawanna.edu/financialaid
On September 17, nearly 160 people patiently awaited the next incoming text message that would reveal the final clue regarding the event’s location; in just three short hours, the inaugural “Out of the Blue” dinner would begin.

By 6 p.m., alumni, staff, and friends of Lackawanna College, dressed in various shades of blue, were excitedly transforming the top of the Adams Plaza Parking Garage into a casually elegant “pop up” party. Table Captains and their guests enthusiastically dressed their tables with beautiful blue accents, unique centerpieces, and delicious food. In addition to their food and wine, friends shared in conversation and laughter, saw new and familiar faces, and even snapped a selfie or two. As the sun set, everyone instinctively knew what to do when the music switched from the classical sounds of Penn Strings to dance favorites from DJ Kryptonite. The enthusiastic crowd danced the night away with City Hall and Cornerstone Commons (bathed in blue light for the occasion) as dramatic backdrops for the evening.

At 9 p.m., the crowd enjoyed one final dance, then, as quickly as it was assembled, the night came to an end. By 10 p.m., the space that had once been a sea of blue had returned to its former self; nothing was left, except the memories of a spectacular evening under the stars!

Above, Bette Saxton and her guests from Maternal Family and Health Services won the award for best tablescape of 2014.

The Lackawanna College Fund

Lackawanna College is committed to achieving academic excellence while maintaining the lowest tuition of any local private school. Supporting the Lackawanna College Fund helps ensure that students can afford to attend, while still allowing for other necessities such as new program development, technology upgrades, and facility improvements.

You can help in this effort by making a gift today that will directly impact our students!

Michelle Williams | Director of the Lackawanna College Fund | 570-961-7833 | williamsm@lackawanna.edu

lackawanna.edu/giving
As recognition of Lackawanna College’s industry-driven, results-focused programming expands throughout the oil and gas profession, this spring the College announced a gift of $2.5 million from Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation that directly funds the School in New Milford, Pa. The gift marked the largest single private donation in the history of Lackawanna College.

The School of Petroleum & Natural Gas was established in 2009 at the beginning of Marcellus Shale industry operations in the area and has developed its curriculum to meet the specific needs of the growing industry. The current job placement rate for graduating students exceeds 90%.

“Our partnership with Cabot enhances tremendously the ability of the School of Petroleum & Natural Gas to provide a world class education designed to prepare a ready workforce that fits the needs of the multiple companies across the industry. Beyond just an investment in Lackawanna College, through this collaborative effort Cabot is making an investment in our students and our community,” explained Mark Volk, President of Lackawanna College.

The gift will continue to assist the School of Petroleum & Natural Gas in its goal to become a nationally-recognized, first in class program in the field of petroleum and natural gas technology. Funds will be directed toward creating a $1 million endowment that will provide continuing support for student scholarships and help meet the long term needs of the school. An additional $1.5 million will be used for state-of-the-art equipment, training, staff and faculty development, and student interactive experiences and internships to supplement the engineering-based degrees.

Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation is a leading independent natural gas producer, with its entire resource base located in the continental United States.
A Lifetime of Determination:
From soldier to student; alumus finds his future.

When Jim Kille walked across the stage at graduation in May 2014, he didn’t just receive a diploma; he defied the diagnosis presented to him years ago by Army doctors who told him he’d never walk again and that he’d never earn a college degree. But it certainly wasn’t the first time that retired Sgt. 1st Class Kille proved the odds against him wrong. Jim had survived four different explosions during his deployment in Iraq, near the end of what would be a 22-year career in the military.

Two Very Different Tours

His service began in 1987 almost immediately after graduating from Western Wayne High School in Lake Ariel, Pa. He began his first tour in Iraq in February 2004.

“That’s when I guarded Saddam Hussein. That was my cushy job,” he recalled with a laugh. During that time, he served with the 89th Military Police Brigade. “I ran one of the 12-hour shifts. I fed him two meals a day for a year, and I watched him at his recreation.”

During his second tour, from September 2005 to June 2006, Jim survived a series of nearly deadly explosions. The first blast occurred in December 2005 when his Bradley Fighting Vehicle was hit with a car bomb. Three of Jim’s vertebrae were permanently damaged, and six of his front teeth were broken when the nearly 60,000-pound Bradley was hit.

An Explosive Ordnance Disposal team said the Chevy Tahoe was packed with 16 mortar rounds measuring four feet long and eight inches in diameter. “Other than God, I don’t know how we survived this car bomb,” Jim recalled.

He returned to patrol the next day and remained safe until February 2006, when a rocket grazed the front of another Bradley he was
traveling in. Weeks later, another of his vehicles was hit with an armor-piercing rocket-propelled grenade. Jim escaped injuries in both blasts.

But in May 2006, while Jim was training new units in situational awareness exercises, the group was hit by one of the very roadside bombs he was teaching them about. The temperature inside the vehicle had nearly reached 140 degrees. The hatch above his head had been opened prior to the blast to alleviate the heat.

“We’re coming up to this ‘T’ intersection, and this driver’s coming up too fast and I saw the bomb sitting up there at this intersection. Before I could say, ‘Stop,’ the bomb detonated,” he said. “I looked up and I saw all of these fragments of concrete coming down. Then I saw a huge chunk of concrete coming at me, and there was nothing I could do.”

The 30-pound rock hit Jim in the left side of the head and frontal lobe, causing traumatic brain injuries and damaging his equilibrium.

“Again, stubborn and not wanting to leave my guys, I told the medics – and I kind of lied a little bit – and I said, ‘I’m fine’. I went to take a shower, and I passed out,” he said. “When I passed out, I fell out of the shower and landed on my left cheek bone. I didn’t go to the medics after that because I knew that they’d take me out of the country. I just kept going.”

Jim was later sent to a warrior transition unit in August 2007 at Fort Dix, N.J., where he taught unarmed self-defense classes and received medical treatment. His teeth were rebuilt and a crystal lens was implanted into his left eye, but he continued to fall down nearly 30 times a day due to the damage to his equilibrium.

It was then that doctors told him that he would never walk again or complete a college degree. “I was getting tired of being told what I could and couldn’t do. I was told many things growing up that I can’t do this, I can’t do that. I was told that I’d never survive through foster care, and I did.”

**Road to Recovery**

Jim received physical therapy treatment at the Hunter Holmes McGuire Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center in Richmond, Va. In February 2008, after more than seven months of treatment, he defied the odds for the first time. Jim walked out of the facility.

But returning home wasn’t easy. Severe post-traumatic stress disorder kept Jim inside his Honesdale home for an entire year. He credits his wife of 26 years, Shirley, “the gem,” for getting him back into the world through late night shopping trips at Walmart.

Jim eventually enrolled in classes at Lackawanna’s Lake Region Center in Hawley, Pa. He said he felt called to the Criminal Justice – Counseling program after being raised in foster homes from age 3.

“I thought that, by getting a degree in Criminal Justice – Counseling, if I could help one child, one youth get out of trouble and save them from a career of criminal activity, for me that would be worth it and I would feel useful.”

Outside of his family, which includes his daughters Megan, 26, and Diane, 15, and sons Alex, 18, and Samuel, 16, Jim said two individuals positively impacted his college career.

Jo-Ann Orcutt, the College’s current Veterans Advisor and Assistant Director of Student Life, “was the first person on main campus that I met at all,” Jim said. “She was also the first person on main campus that cared about me as a student and as a veteran.”

He was also inspired by fellow veteran Tom Stanley. The pair lived in the same barracks at Fort Dix, where Jim saw Tom pursue his third master’s degree through online courses. When Tom attended Jim’s graduation in May, he also delivered a non-commissioned officer’s saber and scabbard to him. According to Jim, the award is not afforded to soldiers who, like him, are medically retired from service.

**Grit and Determination**

After completing degree requirements in December 2013, Jim was hired at Lackawanna College as a Public Safety Liaison in March 2014. “I wasn’t even looking for a job. All I wanted to do was prove the Army wrong,” he said.

In his current role, Jim works with students who experience a variety of issues while they complete their studies at Lackawanna. His service dog, Quarterback, also helps break down traditional communication barriers with the College’s diverse student population. The dog has had a near-celebrity status on campus ever since Jim began taking courses in Scranton, Pa.

Jim said he’s glad to have joined the College at a time of incredible growth and potential for the institution. Part of Lackawanna’s ongoing success is due to its “students first” mentality, one that Jim knows all too well.

“I’m really enjoying working here at Lackawanna College. It’s the old saying: If you enjoy what you do, you’ll never work a day in your life again,” he said. “With the purchase of 401 and 409 Adams Avenue, this school is growing at an astounding rate, and it’s because they’re doing great things.”

Jim’s path to a degree and employment in higher education is an exceptional one, indicative of his own determination and the opportunities afforded to students at Lackawanna. More than anything, Jim serves as an example to students that success comes with a healthy dose of grit and determination, especially in the face of detractors.

“Never let anybody tell you that you can’t do something,” Jim said. “You control your destiny. By your actions and your determination, you can do or become anything you want.”

- Christopher J. Hughes
Lackawanna students won national business awards at the Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda National Leadership Conference in June. The event was attended by more than 1,800 of America’s best and brightest college students. Lackawanna students who received national recognition included Jason Alan McLain ’14, of Scranton, first place in Information Management and 10th place in Marketing Concepts; and Ervin Harris-Allen, of Scranton, and David Tuohig, of West Abington Township, second place in Mobile Application Development.

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

Lackawanna College received the annual merit award from the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA) for achieving a 100% pass rate on the Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) examination for the cycle of August 1, 2013 through July 31, 2014. The CST is widely recognized in the health care community as the foremost credential for surgical technologists in the nation, and it is required for employment within many local, state, and national health care organizations. The CST exam is the only fully accredited examination by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) for surgical technologists in the nation.

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

The Lackawanna College Community Opportunity Scholarships were established in 2013 as part of the larger effort to better serve local commuter students from Northeast Pennsylvania. Scholarship recipients and advisors include, from left, front, Amanda Ogozaly, Jessica Bobersky, Bethany Mickavicz, and Danielle Kersavage. Back, Director of Admissions Jeff Gregory, Danielle Priblo, Elisabeth Padula, Jennifer Wagner, Matthew Mondak, and Academic Advisor Nick Costanzo.
The Lackawanna College Environmental Education Center was awarded a LEED Gold certification by the United States Green Building Council in early 2014, making it one of only three buildings in Lackawanna County to earn the distinction as of December 2014.

**LCEEC BECOMES LEED GOLD CERTIFIED**

The Lackawanna College Environmental Education Center was awarded a LEED Gold certification by the United States Green Building Council in early 2014, making it one of only three buildings in Lackawanna County to earn the distinction as of December 2014.

**THE TRAINING INSTITUTE**

Continuing Education’s Training Institute has provided quality job training for dislocated workers and certification credentials in both the computer and medical fields. The department has continued to work closely with different funding agencies throughout the area to provide the right training in high priority occupations and has provided training to hundreds of dislocated workers with a job placement rate above 78%. Throughout 2014, the Continuing Education department helped train former employees of Cinram, Gentex, and Harper Collins.

**NURSE AIDE ACHIEVES 100% PASS RATE**

The Lackawanna College Nurse Aide program has a long history of success. Since its launch at the Scranton campus in 2006, all 47 consecutive classes have earned a 100% pass rate on their written and practical Nurse Aide registry exam. In addition, since launching the program at the Lake Region Center in December 2007, all 13 consecutive classes have also earned a 100% pass rate on their registry exam. The 172-hour program normally lasts between six and eight weeks.

**POLICE ACADEMY LEADS IN SERVICE**

Throughout 2014, 89 graduates completed their training to become municipal police officers through the Lackawanna College Police Academy. Amid their rigorous training, cadets also took time to complete more than 2,400 service hours to reinforce the importance of community involvement in their future careers. Cadets often aided Run Around Scranton events and participated in fallen officer memorial events in Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania including events supporting the Pennsylvania State Police following recent tragedies, among many other projects.

**EMS ACHIEVES 100% PASS RATE**

Students who graduated from the Lackawanna College EMS Academy in the summer of 2014 achieved a 100% pass rate on their written and practical examinations for paramedics on their first attempt at the exam, according to the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians. Students are properly prepared for employment through clinical education opportunities at Geisinger Community Medical Center, Moses Taylor Hospital, Wayne Memorial Hospital, Commonwealth Health EMS, Pennsylvania Ambulance, and the Cottage Hose Company. As a result of their traditional and clinical education, the job placement rate for graduates is currently at 100%.

Nurse Aide students Margaret Caswell ’14 and Bryanna Carver ’14.

[Link: lackawanna.edu/continuingeducation]
More than One Location
Meet the Directors of our Satellite Centers

HAZLETON CENTER | JOE SCARCELLA
Joe Scarcella served as an adjunct professor and enrollment specialist before becoming Director in April 2014. “I really like helping to shape people’s vision of what they want to do with their life,” he said. “I look at this job as being a sculptor. We’re given a block of clay and use all of our tools to help shape and mold it.” Located in the historic Ford Building on East Broad Street, the Hazleton Center strives to meet the unique needs of its students by offering more afternoon and evening classes to fit their schedules. While Criminal Justice degrees have long been popular among Lackawanna’s Hazleton area students, Scarcella hopes to expand course offerings to benefit the medical community in Luzerne County and augment the Center’s successful phlebotomy program.

LAKE REGION CENTER | KELLYN NOLAN
Director Kellyn Nolan ’07 and her staff are building a complete college experience for students from Wayne and Pike counties. “We have health fairs, campus activities, and new clubs and organizations to give our students the entire college experience,” she said. The nearly 190 students enrolled at the Center understand the significance of having a college education available right in Hawley, Pa. “I hear it from all kinds of community members from the commissioners down to the general public, and they’re happy to see that there’s a post-secondary education option here.” The Center is home to the successful Physical Therapist Assistant program and nearly a dozen other majors. A new Sustainable Agriculture degree will launch in Fall 2015.

TOWANDA CENTER | KIM MAPES
“Education is the first step in everyone’s future,” Kim Mapes says. “The education that students receive at Lackawanna’s Towanda Center allows them to be competitive in many areas of the job market.” Mapes has been the Center Director since 2011, having previously been a full-time advisor and instructor. Towanda is home to the rapidly growing Surgical Technology program that has been recognized for excellence by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting and boasts a 90% job placement rate. Psychology and Education degree programs were added in 2014, and there are plans to introduce even more degree and certificate options in 2015.

SCHOOL OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS | RICK MARQUARDT
The School continues to build its reputation for preparing graduates for employment in the oil and gas industry. Founding Dean Rick Marquardt, who has been with the School since 2010 as an instructor of petroleum engineering-based courses, attributes student success to their dedicated and experienced instructors. “As instructors for our technical courses, we’ve attracted engineers with multiple degrees and many years of real-world experience,” he said. More than 90% of graduates in good standing have found employment in the industry, according to Marquardt. In 2014, students enrolled in two new ongoing degree programs, Petroleum and Natural Gas Measurement and Petroleum and Natural Gas Business Administration, and plans for growth continue.
LACKAWANNA SUPPORTS LOCAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

The ROCKET Project (Registrar’s Office Connecting with Kids through Educational Tools) continued its annual donation of school supplies to third grade students in the Scranton School District. This year, it expanded to benefit 100 students attending Bancroft and John Adams elementary schools. Additional funds raised through the ROCKET Project helped facilitate a two month-long playground restoration project at Bancroft. From August to October, staff, faculty, Police Academy cadets, and the Falcons football and volleyball teams all pitched in to repaint the school’s fence and playground games.

RACE FOR THE CURE LEADERS

For the second consecutive year, members of the College family were recognized for their outstanding participation in the Race for the Cure in downtown Scranton. Lackawanna had the largest team of any local college or university in both 2013 and 2014 to aid in the fight against breast cancer.

HOLIDAY LUNCH DONATED TO CITY

Culinary Arts majors delivered a healthy dose of cheer with a free holiday luncheon for employees at Scranton City Hall. Students transformed the Governor’s Room into a banquet space and prepared each of the menu items. Scranton Mayor Bill Courtright said it had been several years since the city provided a holiday gathering.

V.O.L.C. HELPS ANIMALS IN NEED

Students involved in V.O.L.C. (the Volunteers of Lackawanna College) along with College faculty and staff members, offered their time and care to some of the pets at Griffin Pond Animal Shelter in South Abington Township at the start of the Fall 2014 semester. From grooming to some much needed playtime, it was difficult to tell who enjoyed the afternoon more – the animals or the volunteers!
Leading Lackawanna

The Board of Trustees
From left, front, Michael Narcavage, Joyce Van Schooneveld, Vincent R. Benedetto, Sally Bohlin, P. Thomas Padden ’66, Cheryl Maddox, Dr. Jack Truschel, Board Secretary Richard Beasley, and Board Chairman William P. Conaboy, Esq. Back, Davis R. Chant, Jody Cordaro, David Kaplan, Lackawanna College President Mark Volk, Catherine A. Bolton, Nicholas H. Niles, Timothy L. Holmes, and Thomas P. Tulaney ’80. Not pictured: Dominick DeNaples; Thomas P. Cummings, Jr., Esq.; Harry Lindsay; Michael M. Murphy; James H. Ott; and John P. Wiercinski.

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INFORM | INVOLVE | INVEST

Help us make a difference by volunteering with the Alumni Association. Contact us to stay up to date with all of our events and fundraising efforts.

Ashley Fetterman | Director of Alumni Relations | 570-961-7895 | fettermana@lackawanna.edu
Our Student Success Nationwide

Colleges and universities that accepted Lackawanna College credits in 2014 include:

WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY  BAYLOR UNIVERSITY  UNION COUNTY COLLEGE
BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY  WIDENER UNIVERSITY
WILKES UNIVERSITY  LEBANON VALLEY COLLEGE  GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY  CLARION UNIVERSITY
KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY  TEMPLE UNIVERSITY  MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY
DESALES UNIVERSITY  KEYSTONE COLLEGE  LINCOLN UNIVERSITY  TEXAS A&M
NEUMANN UNIVERSITY  UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH  LA SALLE UNIVERSITY
NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY  SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY  AMARILLIO COLLEGE
PENN STATE UNIVERSITY  CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
YORK COLLEGE  VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY  UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE
SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY  MARYWOOD UNIVERSITY
PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY PARK  ELMIRA COLLEGE  MORRISVILLE STATE COLLEGE
JOHNSON COLLEGE  PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  LE MOYNE COLLEGE  MANSFIELD UNIVERSITY
MANHATTAN COLLEGE  EAST STROUDSBURG UNIVERSITY  KING’S COLLEGE
LOCK HAVEN UNIVERSITY  UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON  CHESTNUT HILL COLLEGE
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