

Alpena Community College 2022-23 Annual Report



In this Report

- Message from the President 1
- Message from the Board Chair 2
- Mission, Vision, Values, and Goals 3
- ACC Demonstrates Commitment to Mission and Goals in Many Ways 4
- ACC and SVSU Collaborate on New BSN Program in Alpena 6
- Manufacturing and Welding Lab Renovations Near Completion 8
- ACC Enrollment Grows with Help from Dual Enrollment and Early College Programs 10
- ACC Foundation Facilitates Generous Donor Support to the College 12
- Nursing Support Fund Helps New Graduates Afford Licensure Test 13
- Workforce Development Provides Training, Debuts Innovative Utility Arborist Program 14
- SIP Grant Continues Support of Nursing, Student Services, and Alumni Relations Activities 16
- Oscoda Campus Develops Local Business Partnerships 18
- New Team and New Conference Among the Many Changes in ACC Athletics 20
- Commencement Ceremony Moves Back to Park Arena 22
- Tim and Sue Fitzpatrick Named Fellows of the College 23
- Laura Hickman Honored as 2023 Distinguished Graduate 24
- TRiO Talent Search Helps Kids Succeed 25
- ACC Quick Facts 26
- Fiscal Year 2023 Financials 28

On the Cover:

Officials from Alpena Community College and Saginaw Valley State University gathered in Alpena on January 26, 2023, to sign a memorandum of understanding for the first associate degree in nursing (ADN) to bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) program as authorized by Michigan Public Act 103 of 2023.

“For many years Michigan community colleges serving rural areas, such as ACC, attempted unsuccessfully to win legislative authorization to offer a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree to support easier and more affordable access for local nurses to obtain their BSN,” said ACC President Dr. Don MacMaster. “The historic bi-partisan compromise included in the Fiscal Year 2023 budget goes further to address this challenge than ever before. We’re delighted to partner with Saginaw Valley State University to bring a BSN credential to the Alpena campus. We thank Governor Whitmer, Senator Stamas, and all those who supported this solution to a critical Northeast Michigan health care workforce issue. We expect our first cohort of BSN students to begin in Fall 2023.”

“We enter this new partnership with Alpena Community College with great enthusiasm,” said Marcia Ditmyer, dean of SVSU’s Crystal M. Lange College of Health and Human Services. “ACC offers an excellent associate degree nursing education and plays a vital role in preparing nurses to serve healthcare providers in Northeast Michigan. Through this partnership, we can continue to improve safe, high-quality health care services for future generations.”

Message from the President

By Dr. Donald C. MacMaster, ACC President

The ACC annual report offers a wonderful opportunity to reflect on highlights from the past year. On January 25, for example, we were delighted to receive a callout from Governor Gretchen Whitmer during her State of the State Address, praising Alpena Community College's Nursing program. Other accomplishments, such as finishing first in graduation rate among Michigan's 28 community and three tribal colleges, reflected broad institutional commitment. My message to staff is we are blessed to work at ACC and to be engaged on a daily basis in cultivating student success in service to the community. Stewards of an organic process, ultimately we reap what we sow. Below are some notable highlights from the past year.

- First among Michigan's 28 community colleges in enrollment growth in Spring Semester 2023.
- First in graduation rate among community and tribal colleges in FY23 based on most recent IPEDS (Integrated Post-Secondary Data System) report.
- Completed the \$1.65 million Fitzpatrick Lecture Hall.
- Neared completion of the \$3.5 million Besser Company Center for Manufacturing Excellence and Holcim Industrial Education and Welding Center upgrades of manufacturing and welding labs.
- Hired a new vice president, a new human resources director, a new executive director of information technology, a new Higher Learning Commission accreditation coordinator, a new library director, a new athletic director, four new Nursing faculty, two new science faculty, and two new English/humanities faculty during FY23. Another new VP starts in January 2024.
- Implemented the new Ellucian Colleague software package across campus, pushing ACC data to the cloud as a primary cybersecurity enhancement.
- Led implementation of community college ADN-to-BSN legislation statewide establishing a partnership with Saginaw Valley State University to bring a BSN to Alpena Campus.
- Celebrated 10 years of Alpena Early College partnership with Alpena Public Schools.
- Registered more than 1,050 direct credit Career and Technical Education students in FY23, resulting in more than \$1 million in additional 61B state dollars flowing to partner K-12s.
- Hosted Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist, State Budget Director Christopher Harkins, State Treasurer Rachel Eubanks, Michigan Public Service Commission Chair Dan Scripps, MPSC Commissioner Katherine Peretick, State Senator John Damoose, and State Representative Cam Cavitt on campus in FY23.
- Walked the Mackinac Bridge with Governor Gretchen Whitmer on Labor Day.
- Received a supportive callout by the Governor during her State of the State Address in January.



*Dr. Donald C. MacMaster,
ACC President*

- Served on a community college funding formula task force resulting in preservation of the existing funding formula.
- Continued staff-wide campus beautification efforts.
- Exceeded \$29 million in external fundraising toward the Trustees' \$15 million five-year goal established in at a February 2020 visioning session.
- Exceeded the Board of Trustees' 15% percent General Fund balance directive.

Thanks to all for your continued support of Alpena Community College. We had a good year. Looking ahead to FY24, we plan to continue working together on behalf of the citizens of Northeast Lower Michigan.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Don MacMaster". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dr. Don MacMaster
ACC President

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Message from the Board Chair

By John Briggs, Chair, ACC Board of Trustees

During its 70+ years, Alpena Community College has been able to provide the facilities and other resources necessary to meet the needs of our students and our communities. As programs, technology, business/industry, and even our communities change, we have to keep pace. Being good stewards of the resources provided, we have adopted the new 3 R's (Repurpose, Renovate & Revitalize).

Right now, we are in process of completing two projects that demonstrate our embrace of the 3 R's. The Holcim Industrial Education and Welding Center doubled the lab space by expanding into space formerly occupied by the manufacturing program. The Besser Company Center for Manufacturing

Excellence moved into the former Auto Body lab space, doubling its size. In both cases we were able to repurpose, renovate and revitalize to meet growing program needs with the latest in technology and equipment.

In 2021 we completed our most extensive 3 R's project to date with the total makeover of Van Lare Hall, our first campus building constructed in 1957. With two additions and expansion of public spaces we now have state-of-the-art labs for our relocated Nursing program that has doubled in enrollment in two years. This renovation also updated the building's critical infrastructure for greater comfort and safety while revitalizing the exterior.

Throughout our history ACC has focused on the 3 R's even if we didn't label it as such. When Wurtsmith Air Force Base was shuttered, we acquired the base headquarters building, secured funding for an elevator, and the Oscoda Campus for ACC came to be. We continue to renovate as we expand Nursing and other tech programs at Oscoda.

When the fisheries program ceased to exist, the lab became the Briggs University Center serving as a hub for university partners and is currently home for the Association of Lifelong Learners (ALL@ACC).

Whenever we build a new facility, we make appropriate use of the vacated space. For example, the addition of the World Center for Concrete Technology enabled us to move

the Concrete Tech program out of Besser Technical Center and then repurpose that space to add classrooms and faculty office space and create the Fitzpatrick Family Computer Commons. When the Electrical Power Technology Center needed high ceiling space, they tapped into under-utilized space from the adjacent World Center.

Looking to the future, the next big building renovation project will be the Charles R. Donnelly Natural Resources Center. Now that the Nursing program has moved to Van Lare Hall, the NRC has space available which could be used to house a variety of new academic programs or student activities. We look forward to embarking on that exciting project.

Thank you for supporting ACC!



John Briggs, Chair
ACC Board of Trustees



Board of Trustees Chair John Briggs (far right) acknowledged recent emeritus recipients Rob Roose (left), Diane O'Connor (second from left) and Bob Besaw (second from right) at the September 15, 2022, ACC Board of Trustees meeting.

The Mission of Alpena Community College

The Mission of Alpena Community College is to create a culture of educational excellence and service to the community.

The Vision of Alpena Community College

To be recognized in our local and global communities as the premier resource and first choice for exceptional, affordable, and innovative education.

Alpena Community College Values

We demonstrate **accountability** to all our stakeholders, students, staff, business partners, industry alliances, and taxpayers.

We act with **integrity**, placing fairness and honesty at the center of all our actions.

We aspire to **excellence** in all our endeavors.

We show **respect** for diversity, individual contributions, and educational partnerships.

College Goals

Alpena Community College's goals are to:

#1 – Campus/Culture

Offer a welcoming, safe and adaptable culture that inspires diversity.

#2 – Learning/Education

Motivate continuous exploration of diverse opportunities and knowledge acquisition through a flexible learning environment.

#3 – Community

Stimulate community collaboration, which fosters comprehensive economic, cultural, and community development.

#4 – Value

Exercise sustainable value that supports career pathways and fiscal responsibility.

ACC Demonstrates Commitment to Mission and Goals in Many Ways

By Dr. Paige Gordier, Vice President of Instruction

My four months of experience with Alpena Community College has shown me the commitment that the institution has to the College mission and vision. Many institutions set lofty and admirable goals, but ACC has internalized its mission and values which makes it a truly exceptional institution.

The Mission of Alpena Community College is to create a culture of educational excellence and service to the community.

Educational excellence involves the hiring and retention of outstanding faculty, a strong focus on program and course outcomes, and campus-wide dedication to student success. ACC faculty bring expertise in their fields to the classroom and labs. The faculty have advanced degrees in their disciplines and teaching is emphasized at ACC. The hands-on experience the students receive is second to none. Our instructors are working directly with the students, who are fixing vehicles, welding, climbing poles, treating patients, and testing concrete. The faculty are committed to the students and want the students to achieve their academic and career goals.



Above: Dr. Paige Gordier, Vice President of Instruction, joined ACC in July 2023.

The relationship between the Alpena community and the College is very strong and multifaceted. Advisory boards include community members who represent the needs of the local employers and industry. These boards help refine programs to best prepare students for their careers and also meet the needs of local employers. The College provides training for local businesses and this can take place on campus or at the business. I have never seen a Board of Trustees with such involvement and dedication to a college.

I found it interesting to see so many high school students at ACC, but this demonstrates a major commitment to the community and providing opportunities. Approximately

half of the students at ACC are high school students. These students are in dual enrollment classes or an early college program. High schoolers benefit as they do not have to pay for their college classes and they can get a head start on their higher education. If enrolled in the early college program, the students can earn an associate degree prior to graduating high school.

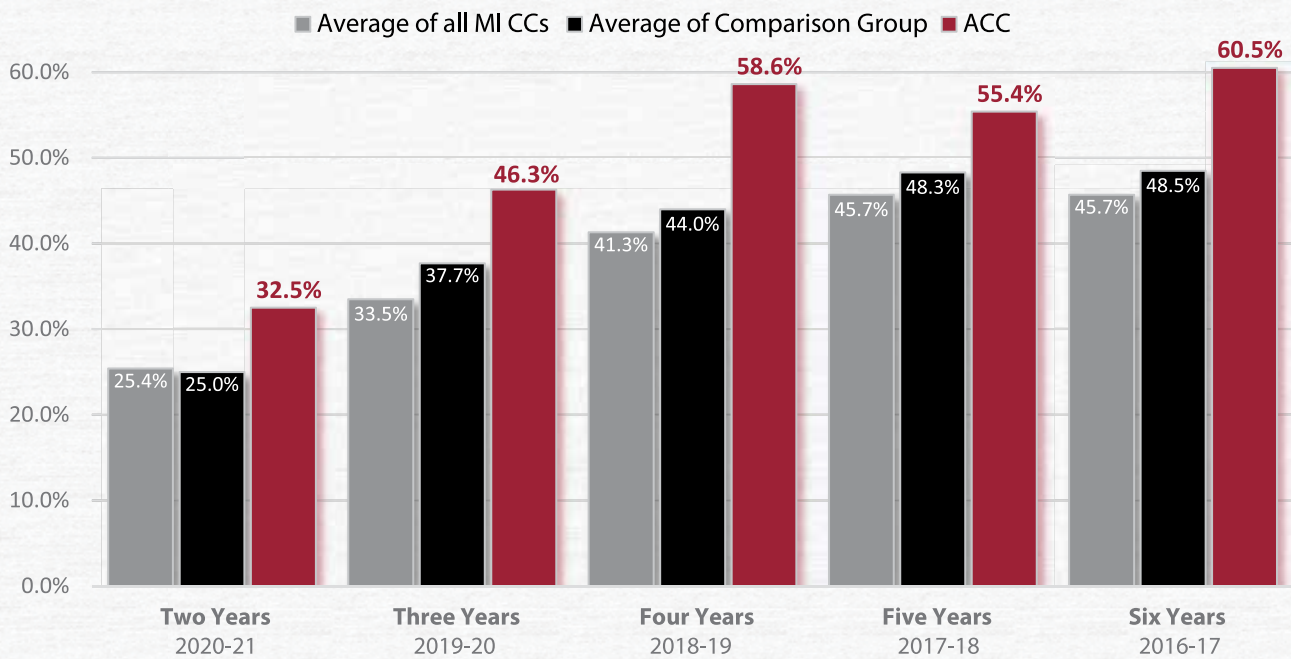
ACC's community enrichment programs offer a variety of courses and programs to meet community needs. Classes are offered in art, fitness, and general interest. Recent classes have included fire safety and prevention for the home, first aid, chainsaw safety, ceramics, drawing, and painting. The Association of Lifelong Learners is a very active group which plans education and enrichment experiences for their members.

The values of Alpena Community College are strongly embraced by all of its employees. We are accountable to all of our stakeholders, students, staff, business partners, industry alliances, and taxpayers.

Integrity is highly valued, placing fairness and honesty at the center of all our actions. Our priority are the students and their success. ACC aspires to excellence in the classrooms,

MI Community College Cumulative Success Rates

Comparing ACC to Other MI CCs Two to Six Years After Enrollment



Source: Center for Educational Performance & Information (CEPI)

ACC is **first or second in cumulative success rate in three of the last five student cohort years** as compared to the other Michigan community colleges. Source: Center for Educational Performance & Information (CEPI).

training, service to the community and industry. Our industry partners have been exceptional in their support of new equipment and providing employment for our graduates.

At ACC we value respect for diversity, individual contributions, and educational partnerships. Our campuses provide a very positive learning environment for all students. As well as providing academic programs, we also teach critical thinking skills. This allows the students the ability to express their thoughts and recognize their contributions to the College and the community.

ACC is an amazing educational institution that is an integral part of Northeast Michigan. I am very proud to have joined the ACC community and to be a part of the culture of educational excellence and service to the community.

A note from the editor:

Dr. Paige Gordier joined Alpena Community College as Vice President of Instruction starting July 3, 2023.

Dr. Gordier has a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice Law Enforcement, a Master's Degree in Criminology and Corrections, and a Ph.D. in

Criminal Justice with an emphasis on research and statistics. She has worked in higher education for more than 30 years, with 29 of those years at Lake Superior State University. Paige has been a professor, chair, department head, and dean, and has been involved in projects including recruiting, writing transfer guides, developing curriculum, and chairing the Scholastic Standards Committee, in addition to serving as the police academy director for 10 years.

Welcome, Paige! You've already made great contributions to ACC's success!

ACC and Saginaw Valley State University Collaborate on New BSN Program in Alpena

By Jay Walterreit, Director of Public Information & Marketing

On January 26, 2023, Alpena Community College and Saginaw Valley State University signed a collaboration agreement to expand nursing education opportunities and grow the talent pool of nurses in Northern Michigan. Funding for the collaborative program was provide through a State of Michigan grant.

ACC selected SVSU as its partner university after a thorough request for proposals (RFP) process. Under the agreement, ACC students who complete an Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) can earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) from SVSU's fully accredited program.

Funding for the program was provided through a \$2 million grant from the State of Michigan contained in Public Act 103 of 2023.

Since the agreement was formalized, both schools worked to create a comprehensive academic program and recruit the first class of students.

“For many years Michigan community colleges serving rural areas, such as ACC, attempted unsuccessfully to win legislative authorization to offer a Bachelor of Science



in Nursing degree to support easier and more affordable access for local nurses to obtain their BSN,” said ACC president Dr. Don MacMaster. “The historic bi-partisan compromise included in the fiscal year 2023 budget goes further to address this challenge than ever before. We’re delighted to partner with Saginaw Valley State University to bring a BSN credential to the Alpena campus. We thank Governor Whitmer, Senator Stamas, and all those who supported this solution to

a critical Northeast Michigan health care workforce issue. We expect our first cohort of BSN students to begin in Fall 2023.”

By empowering students in ACC’s associate degree program to work concurrently toward a bachelor’s degree from SVSU, the partnership will streamline the pathway to a bachelor’s degree in nursing. “The ACC/SVSU partnership allows our well-prepared Associate Degree Nursing students the ability to seamlessly transition into a



Saginaw Valley State University President Dr. George Grant Jr. (above right) addresses the attendees at the January 26, 2023, collaborative agreement ceremony in Alpena.



(Above) Dr. Don MacMaster, ACC President, spoke of the many challenges of trying to bring a BSN program to Northeastern Michigan.

highly recognized BSN program for degree advancement,” said ACC Director of Nursing Kelli Leask. “This collaborative partnership supports the national nursing shortage initiatives and recognizes our commitment to excellence in nursing practice and education.”

“We enter this new partnership with Alpena Community College with great enthusiasm,” said Marcia Ditmyer, dean of SVSU’s Crystal M. Lange College of Health and Human Services. “ACC offers an excellent associate degree nursing education and plays a vital role in preparing nurses to serve healthcare providers in northeast Michigan.

“Through this partnership, we can continue to improve safe, high-quality health care services for future generations.”

SVSU and ACC are among many Michigan institutions participating in the program to expand nursing education opportunities throughout the state. Under the \$56 million initiative, which is included in the fiscal year 2023 state budget, community colleges can receive funding to partner with a four-year college or university. This collaboration includes input from local employers and workforce development agencies. The Michigan Department of Labor

and Economic Opportunity will administer the grant.



Representatives from ACC attending the ceremony included ACC Nursing Program Director Kelli Leask (bottom row) along with many interested faculty, staff, and students. SVSU representatives included (second row, far left) John Kaczynski, executive director of governmental and community affairs; (second from left) Stacey Klump, former ADN-BSN coordinator; (middle) Deborah Huntley, provost and vice president for academic affairs; and (second from right) Marcia Ditmyer, dean of the Crystal M. Lange College of Health and Human Services.

Manufacturing and Welding Lab Renovations Near Completion

By Jay Walterreit, Director of Public Information & Marketing

In January 2020, Alpena Community College applied for a Public Works grant from the United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Agency (EDA) Public Works program to fund the Center for Manufacturing Excellence renovation project on the Alpena Campus. The project was designed to upgrade the welding and manufacturing training labs, including moving the manufacturing program into the former Autobody lab space.

The Center for Manufacturing Excellence project consisted of two main components:

- Repurposing the unoccupied Autobody lab space to create an expanded and modernized advanced manufacturing skills center; the resulting lab will be called the **Besser Company Center for Manufacturing Excellence**.
- Repurposing lab space currently occupied by ACC's Manufacturing program to accommodate an expanded welding skills center; the resulting lab will be called the **Holcim Industrial Education and Welding Center**.



Above: The former Autobody lab was cleared before renovation began.



Below: Manufacturing lab machinery was moved to the new location while work continued in both spaces.



Below left: The wall between the welding and former manufacturing labs was removed, doubling the space available for the welding lab.

Below right: Welding lab renovation nears completion with the addition of the centralized welding bays and instructor teaching station.



ACC received official notification in March 2021 that a grant in the amount of \$2.4 million had been awarded to ACC. The College's share of the \$3 million project was to be 20 percent, or \$600,000. Subsequent modifications to the plan increased the overall budget to \$3.5 million, with ACC covering the additional costs.

In addition to renovating the two lab spaces, the project also paid for new equipment including TIG welders, MIG welders, a CNC vertical machining center with a robot, and a plasma cutting table.

Through the generous support of local business partners and individuals, the ACC Foundation raised approximately 33% of the total project cost from the following donors:

- The Estate of Edward Grezlak
- Besser Company
- Holcim
- Besser Foundation
- Star Cutter Company

ACC was created in 1952 with support from Alpena area businessman and philanthropist Jesse Besser and has provided excellence in career and technical education ever since. ACC's technical programs have produced thousands of qualified workers in a variety of industries including welding, manufacturing, concrete technology, and utility technology.



Above: New welding lab booths feature the latest Lincoln welders and air handling equipment. Below: Manufacturing Tech Instructor Andrew Paad (middle) works with students on one of the robotic arm trainers.



ACC Enrollment Grows with Help from Dual Enrollment and Early College Programs

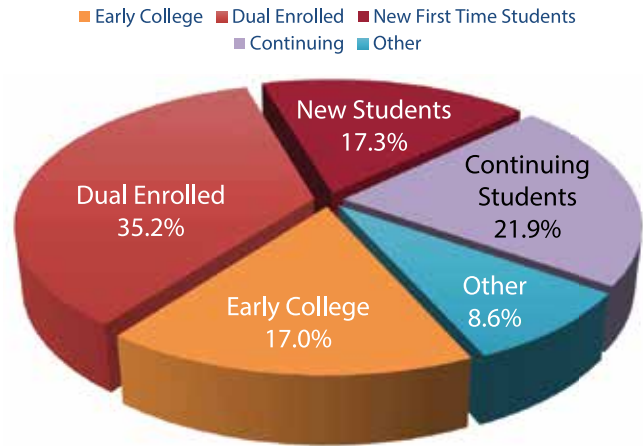
By Jay Walterreit, Director of Public Information & Marketing

ACC experienced significant enrollment increases in Fiscal Year 2023. These increases are partly attributable to the end of COVID concerns, along with continued expansion of virtual class offerings and an emphasis on providing quality dual enrollment, early college, and direct credit opportunities to students.

Students Return to Classes As COVID-19 Fears Fade

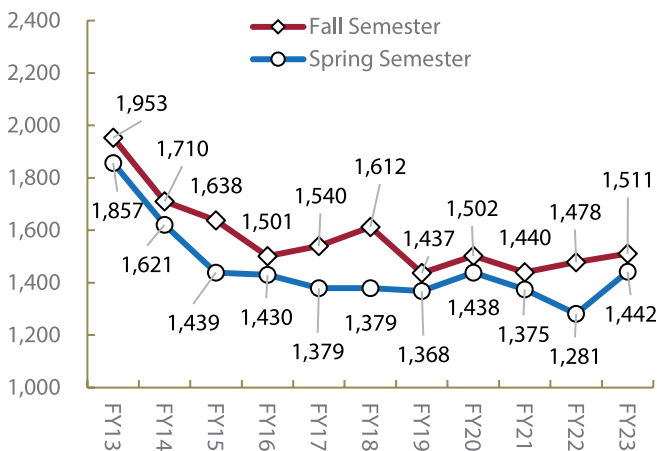
COVID-19 restrictions across the U.S. began in March 2020; the ensuing two years saw a number of colleges experience a reduction in enrollment as some students opted to stop attending classes or just not enroll in college. ACC's quick transition to virtual classes helped the College avoid major

Fall 2022 Enrollment by Category



Above: Dual enrolled and early college students comprised 52.2% of ACC's Fall 2022 headcount. This percentage has steadily increased since Fall Semester 2013 — the year before the start of the early college program.

Headcount Enrollment FY2013-23



ACC's 10-year enrollment history (above) shows near-record headcount in the years following the 2008 national economic recession, then gradual decline through fiscal year 2016. Fall Semester 2020 was the first full semester under COVID-19 protocols; due to ACC's quick adoption of virtual courses, Fall Semester 2020 saw headcount growth. Spring Semester 2021 and 2022 trended downward but had rebounded by Spring Semester 2023.

enrollment disruptions while keeping students and employees safe.

In March 2022 ACC ended its COVID restrictions and went back to a blend of in-person, virtual, and online courses. With the pandemic considered finished by August 2022, many students were interested in starting or restarting the academic careers they had put on hold.

ACC's open campuses, diligent safety measures, and choices for in-person and remote course delivery provided a desirable alternative for students who otherwise would have paid more and gotten less in return at four-year schools.

Dual Enrollment and Early College Programs Continue to Grow

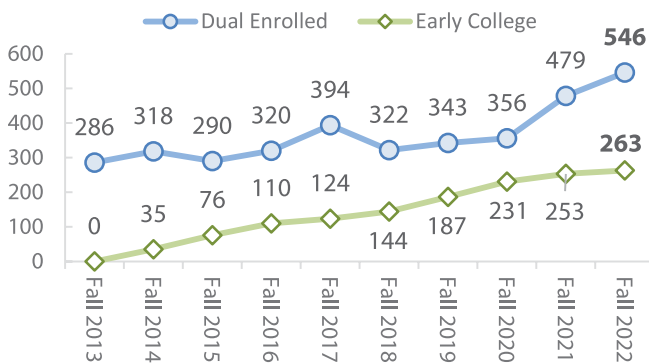
ACC's dual enrollment and early college programs continued to experience significant growth as school districts across the region enrolled more of their high school students in ACC courses. One factor contributing to this growth was ACC's flexible curriculum and course delivery methods,

which allowed high school students to tailor their courses to their school schedule and their academic/career goals.

ACC videoconferencing (VCS) equipment located in the high schools continued to play an important role in allowing high school students to take ACC classes without having to be physically present on an ACC campus. Every school district participating in dual enrollment and early college with ACC was furnished with a VCS unit.

During Fall Semester 2022, students from 24 school districts participated in dual enrollment at ACC; 11 of those school districts were outside of ACC's five-county service area. Students from 10 schools districts participated in ACC early college programs; three of those school districts were outside of ACC's service area.

Dual Enrolled and Early College Students Fall 2013 to Fall 2022

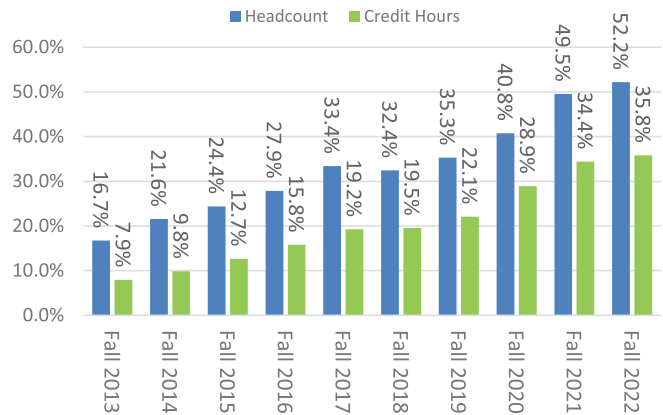


Above: ACC's success in attracting dual enrollment and early college students has significantly affected the College's overall enrollment. Since Fall Semester 2013 the number of dual enrollment students has increased 90.9% and the number of early college students has gone from zero to 267. Combined dual enrollment and early college headcount rose 283.9% over that time frame.

Fall Semester Increases Helped by Direct Credit Courses

For Fall Semester 2022, ACC increased headcount (including direct credit students) enrollment by 3.5% as compared to the previous year. Part of that increase was attributable to increases in early

Percentage of Dual Enrolled and Early College Students by Fall Semester



Above: Over half (52.2%) of ACC's Fall Semester 2022 student body was composed of dual enrollment or early college students. The percentage has increased each year since ACC added its early college program in Fall Semester 2014.

college students (3.5%) and dual enrolled students (14.2%). Dual enrolled and early college students comprised 52.2% of ACC's Fall 2022 headcount.

Fall direct credit headcount enrollment also increased; direct credit accounted for 40 students and 40 credit hours.

Spring Semester Brings Gains in Early College, Dual Enrollment, Direct Credit

Spring 2023 headcount enrollment increased significantly (12.6%) while credit hours increased at a slightly lower but still impressive rate (8.0%). Once again, early college and dual enrolled student headcount were up (7.0% and 36.0% respectively).

New first time student numbers grew as well, up 29 students (64.4%) as compared to the previous spring semester. The number of remote, hybrid, and online courses offered that semester grew by 13.4%. Readmitted students also grew 47.8%.

Direct credit enrollments continued to grow for Spring 2023, totaling 1,010 students (up 33.8%). Schools participating in ACC's direct credit courses are able to access additional state money to help cover expenses like dual enrollment.

ACC Foundation Facilitates Generous Donor Support to the College

By Brenda Herman, Executive Director, ACC Foundation



Fundraising Success

The ACC Foundation received a total of \$3,155,025 in generous contributions during the 2022-23 academic year. This donor support enabled us to award a record-breaking \$306,666 in the form of scholarships, as well as an additional \$1,656,983 in program support to the college.

Donors may designate gifts to support a specific program or area of the College. This year donors supported athletic programs, building renovations, student emergency funding, scholarships, academic departments, and the general endowment fund. In addition, many donors choose to give an unrestricted gift so that it can be used where it's needed the most.

ALPENA COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

The ACC Foundation currently has 312 named funds that support everything from scholarships to staff development, student emergency assistance, and theatre programming. Between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023, the funds listed below were established for the benefit of students and College programs. The ACC Foundation is honored to have such loyal and supportive donors and friends.

- Nursing Student Certification Support Fund
- Athletics - Men's Baseball Support Fund
- Rivertown Scholarship for Vocational Programs
- Hans W. Hatopp - Owen C. Lamb Scholarship
- Daniel Gouin Education Scholarship
- Charon K. Fletcher Scholarship
- Joy Anne Skiba Art Educator Scholarship
- Edward Grezlak Concrete Technology Scholarship
- Edward Grezlak Electrical Engineering Scholarship
- Edward Grezlak Mechanical Engineering Scholarship

2022-23 ACC Foundation Board of Trustees

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"The mission of the ACC Foundation is to obtain financial support to enhance the ability of Alpena Community College to meet the lifelong educational needs of the growing and changing communities it serves."

Nursing Support Fund Helps New Graduates Afford Licensure Test

Each semester, ACC Nursing graduates have the knowledge, hands-on experience, and passion for their profession needed to become good nurses. But before they can begin to put all that knowledge into practice, they must pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).

Unfortunately, the exam isn't available locally. Students from Northeast Michigan are forced to travel hundreds of miles to take the NCLEX, having to book a hotel to be ready for early-morning examinations. The testing fee, combined with the cost of food, lodging, and fuel, could range between \$400 and \$600. ACC nursing



students traditionally conduct multiple fundraisers each semester to help offset these costs.

At the 2023 ACC nursing pinning ceremony, ACC Foundation Executive Director Brenda Herman addressed the graduates and recognized the hardship they

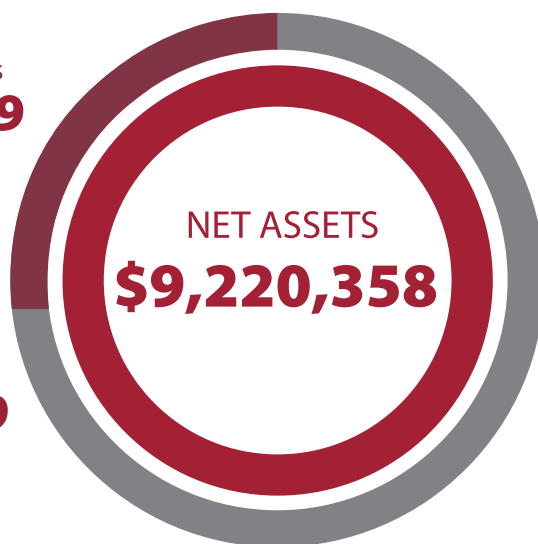
faced in affording the cost of testing. She announced the creation of the Nursing Student Certification Support Fund in Memory of Maxine Moran, R.N., a beloved Alpena nurse who passed away in 2022. Created from generous gifts from two unrelated donors, the fund reimburses recent ACC nursing graduates with the costs associated with taking the NCLEX when they successfully pass the exam.

Because each semester more than 35 nurses graduate from ACC, there will be a near-constant need to replenish funds. Donations to this fund can be sent to the ACC Foundation.

Foundation at a Glance - FY23

Unrestricted funds
\$2,309,449

Restricted funds
\$6,910,909



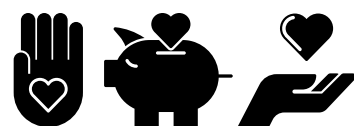
199
Students received scholarships

370 scholarships awarded

Total Scholarship Dollars Awarded
\$306,666



572 donors



\$1,656,983

Program support provided to the College



Workforce Development Provides Training, Debuts Innovative Utility Arborist Program

By Dawn Stone, Dean of Workforce Development

Semi Trucks and Pole Climbers Featured in 4th of July Parade

ACC was represented at the 2023 City of Alpena 4th of July parade. College staff used one of the College's commercial drivers license training semi-trucks decked out with utility poles, power lines, and a tree to represent the impact of vegetation on our power systems.

Utility Arborist Program Graduates First Cohort of Students

Congratulations to the graduates of Spring semester's Utility Arborist program. All three graduates obtained full-time employment and are excited as they begin their careers. We loved hearing the impact this program had on them.

"My life has truly changed after this class." — Randy

"You gave me a future." — Terissa

Graduates had the opportunity to present their stories to the Mid-America Regulatory Conference, where representatives from 11 state utility regulatory bodies (like Michigan Public Service Commission) and legislators heard about the value of training workers for the utility arborist industry, and how vegetation management is critical to the health of the electric grid. The students' testimony at the conference was very moving for all of the attendees.

In the UA program, students experienced the study of practical theory and hands-on training using actual equipment and materials in the classroom and field settings, including industrial chippers and chainsaws. UA is a unique and exciting non-credit program which trains students to prune, trim, repair, maintain, or remove trees and brush that are near energized power lines, gas lines, and other utility lines. ACC has a dedicated site on campus where students clear trees and experience real-world scenarios of removing trees from utility lines. Students learn how to operate a bucket



Graduates of ACC's first Utility Arborist program are Tucker Bean (left), Randy Peterman, (middle), and Terissa Bird (right).

truck and manually climb trees. These scenarios will provide valuable hands-on training and experience.

Fire Academy Trains Regional Students

Our 2023 Fire Academy ran October 2022 through May 2023. With virtual and in-person lessons, the 15 students learned the skills needed to control and manage many types of fires, spending nearly 300 hours on topics like hose lines, forcible entry, vehicle extrication, and search and rescue. Upon completion of the academy candidates passed a written and practical skills exam to become certified firefighters. The grads now work for the Alpena City Fire Department, Alpena Township Fire Department, Hillman Fire Department, East Grand Lake Fire Department, Wilson Township Fire Department, and Rogers City Fire Department.

MIOSHA Safety Training

ACC was awarded a MIOSHA Consultation Education and Training (CET) grant for the development and implementation of safety and health training and services, specifically to help support small and medium-sized businesses. This funding targets safety and health training in high-hazard industries such as healthcare and manufacturing, training for



ACC's most recent fire academy finished in May 2023; 15 students participated in the program.

implementing silica exposure control methods in the construction industry, and safety and health training for community rehabilitation organizations and workers with disabilities or other barriers to community inclusion, among others.

This grant was used to Make Multiple Projects Work Together for the Greater Good.

Firefighters don't just fight fires, they respond to medical emergencies and technical rescues such as injured hikers and high angle rescue. Utilizing MIOSHA CET funding, instructors from Michigan Urban Search and Rescue (MUSAR) spent two days with area firefighters and utility arborists presenting an overview of rope and arborist rescue. They were provided with the initial skills needed to respond to emergency scene technical rescues. Emergencies can happen without warning, and these individuals need to be well trained and prepared for anything.

"We may only use this training once, but it's that one time that counts."

— Lee Babcock, Alpena City Fire Department

Corrections Academy 2023

On June 28, 2023, ACC graduated its 16th Local Corrections Officer Academy. The Academy consisted of 12 corrections officers from eight counties. Counties represented in this outstanding class included Alpena, Cheboygan, Delta, Iosco, Marquette, Menominee, Presque Isle, and Schoolcraft.

Final exam scores were impressive, with an average score of 96%, a testament to our strong instructors and student dedication. The academy concluded with

a graduation ceremony to honor the graduates, with guest speakers including Genesee County Captain Dave Kennamer and Alpena County Jail Administrator Christina Bednarski, as well as reflections from students. Thank you to all of the instructors and coordinators who were involved in making this Academy such a success.



In June 2023 ACC graduated its 16th Local Corrections Officer Academy, consisting of 12 corrections officers from eight counties.

Blockmakers Classes Bring Students from Across the Country

In Fiscal Year 2023 126 block industry professionals (duplicated) attended Blockmakers Courses at the World Center for Concrete Technology. An unprecedented eight of those attendees achieved the milestone of Master Blockmaker, having accomplished at least five specialty classes. The eight men were from a variety of block production companies across the country including Ohio, New Jersey, California, Illinois, North Carolina, and Tennessee.



Above: Participants in the March 2023 Blockmakers electronic controls class. In fiscal year 2023, 126 block industry professionals (duplicated) attended Blockmakers Courses at the WCCT.

SIP Grant Continues Support of Nursing, Student Services, and Alumni Relations Activities

By Kristen Wisniewski, SIP Grant Director

Over the course of its fourth year, the Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP) grant continued to support ACC's nursing, student services, and alumni relations departments. Year 4 highlights include:

- Completed Certified Simulation Healthcare Educator training
- Increased student access to counseling services
- Modernized student service areas
- Held alumni events

Nursing Training

Nursing instructor Terry McKenzie attended and completed training to become a Certified Simulation Healthcare Educator in January 2023. As a Certified Simulation Healthcare Educator, McKenzie will ensure that training for the ACC Nursing students will enhance patient safety and the quality of healthcare delivery as they enter the workforce as well as ensuring that ACC's modernized nursing training continues to be top notch.

Another training program, 2 The Rescue, was provided with support from the SIP Grant to ACC Nursing students, community nurses and emergency service personnel



ACC Nursing students Matthew Roskey (at podium), Makayla Kamyszek (middle), and Jenna Kamyszek (right) participated in the Nursing Pinning Ceremony May 10, 2023, in Park Arena. Roskey was awarded the Gouin Scholarship & Holistic Nurse Award; Jenna Kamyszek was awarded the Malandrinos Scholarship.

in March 2023. This training gave high-stress environment workers the educational experiences and tools to manage unique situations and stressors. Participants learned to recognize warning signs of chronic and post-traumatic stress and potential suicidal behaviors while building the confidence to respond with simple and successful methods to help rescue our community rescuers.

Student Services

The SIP grant has continued to enhance non-academic student services. On-demand mental health counseling with Carey Schiller, LMSW, has grown in

the grant's fourth year with 19 students participating in individual solution-focused brief therapy sessions during Fall 2022 and Spring 2023. Since the inception of free mental health counseling for ACC students, Schiller has worked with 60 different students during 150 therapy sessions.

Additional free services have been installed for Alpena Campus students to improve mental health through access to sun therapy lamps and Himalayan salt lamps in the Student Services Center and Stephen H. Fletcher Library. Sun therapy lamps can be instrumental in the reduction



The Alumni Relations Office spearheaded a 70th Anniversary campus-wide open house on September 17, 2022. One of the day's events was a presidential forum led by Director of Alumni Relations Mary Eagan (far right) and featuring former ACC presidents Dr. Donald Newport (left) and Dr. Olin Joynton (second from left) along with current ACC President Dr. Donald MacMaster (second from right).

of seasonal affective disorder (SAD), depression and other mood disorder symptoms. Himalayan salt lamps have cleansing properties and can help improve focus and concentration. Students at the Oscoda Campus will also be able to benefit from a sun therapy lamp at the Student Success Center in Fall 2023.

To support students through reduction of barriers, SIP and Student Services staff worked together to develop Lumberjack Support Network fliers promoting Alpena and Oscoda area resources. These informational fliers provide students with contact information for various campus and community-based resources such as Career Coach, food pantries and free meal programs, housing assistance

programs, domestic violence supports, financial aid, and scholarship information.

The SIP Grant also helped update aesthetics of the Student Services Center and Stephen H. Fletcher Library during 2023, modernizing both spaces and making them more user friendly and inviting for students.

Alumni Relations

Alumni engagement efforts have continued through SIP Year 4 with multiple events held on campus. Mary Eagan, Director of Alumni Relations, made connections with alumni from the 1959-1963 graduating classes of ACC with 10 attending the class reunion in person. All attendees were very engaged and enjoyed sharing stories of their time as students at ACC.

ACC had two milestone celebrations this past year: the College's 70th anniversary and the 50th Nursing Pinning ceremony. Both events welcomed many ACC alumni back to campus to take part in the celebrations.

New SIP Director

Leadership of the SIP grant recently changed when the College hired Kristen Wisniewski to replace Amanda Sumerix, the first SIP grant administrator. Sumerix was hired in September 2019 and served for four years; she left the College in July 2023.

Wisniewski will ensure that programs developed with support of SIP funding will continue through the remaining grant cycle and work toward being sustained into the future to continue benefiting ACC's student body.



Kristen Wisniewski (above) took over the role of SIP grant director in September 2023.

Oscoda Campus Develops Local Business Partnerships

By Dr. Marv Pichla, Director of the Oscoda Campus

Progressing with the Times! These words best describe the attitude and purpose of the action ongoing at the Alpena Community College Oscoda Campus.

These actions include developing a localized, inclusive, step-ladder approach to a healthcare/nursing career. We are also offering exploration-style Creative Welding and Computer Maximization short courses and showcasing special presentations via the ACC TALKS! format. The ACC Oscoda Campus offers a diverse, community-based, educational service approach to position itself to effectively meet the needs of all customer groups.

2022-23 Oscoda Campus Highlights

It is always important to first take a quick look and review the initiatives that occurred during the Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 semesters.

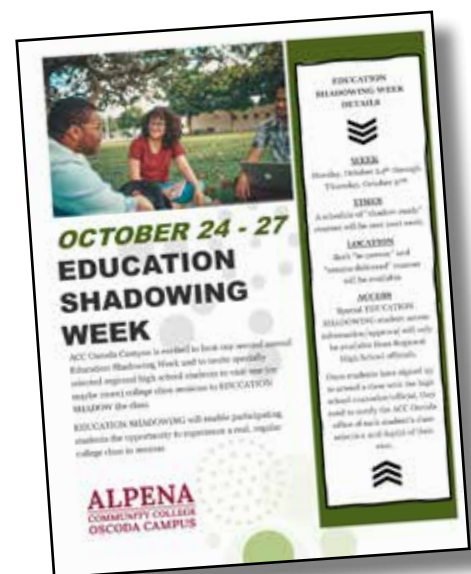
- ❖ Businesses of the Month featured at the ACC Oscoda Campus included:
 - Tawas Plating Company
 - City of Tawas
 - Carroll Broadcasting
 - Ausable Hardware



Above: Dr. Marv Pichla, Director of the Oscoda Campus.

- ❖ The ACC Oscoda Campus was approved for and held its first Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) training classes. Approval was also granted to the ACC Oscoda Campus to serve as a Michigan Nurse Training Assistant Testing site.
- ❖ A state-of-the-art Anatomage Table, a virtual human body dissection technological system, was procured to support developing training in the healthcare field.
- ❖ The new customized Creative Welding short-course was a sell-out for the entire spring semester.
- ❖ More two-way virtual/remote class offerings were shared between the Alpena Campus and the Oscoda Campus.

- ❖ Education Shadowing Week was again offered during the Fall 2022 semester. Similar to historic job shadowing, area high school students were invited to attend any ACC Oscoda class as they consider enrolling as a dual/early middle college student and “education shadow” a live class session.
- ❖ JUST JOBS WEEK was conducted May 15-17 with more than twelve (12) companies/organizations on-site at the ACC Oscoda Campus to interview job candidates.
- ❖ The addition of a Michigan College Access Network-College Completion Coach was introduced during the Spring 2023 semester. This action will serve as a supplemental student support tool for ensuring



personal help is available as needed.

- ❖ The last important highlight is the continuation of the ACC Oscoda Campus ACC TALKS! professional development speaker series. Featured presenters included:

- Sheriff Chris Swanson: Law Enforcement-Innovation Matters (9/27/22)
- Randy Jorgensen: Woods-N-Water Magazine- Meet the Makers (12/1/22)
- Tom Moran: Moran Iron Works, Brandon Charbonneau: Sand Lake Brewery-Entrepreneurship (3/30/23).

What's Next at the ACC Oscoda Campus

Planned Progressing with the Times actions for the Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 semesters include:

- ❖ A full enrollment of students in multiple nursing course levels (CNA/LPN/ADN).
- ❖ The re-convening of the monthly IDEAS UNLIMITED (Entrepreneurship) CLUB in partnership with Central Michigan University and regional business builders.
- ❖ The expansion of the Strengthening Your Workforce Series of short-courses including:

- Creative Welding
- Medical Ethics Matter
- Computer Maximization

These low-cost, skill expansion short-courses will help in multiple workforce development areas.

- ❖ Anatomage Table (virtual human body dissection) demonstrations-displays will be offered to the public and especially high school students monthly during each semester.
- ❖ A preview of upcoming ACC TALKS! begins with:
 - Artificial Intelligence: Guest panel of John Gustinic, Greg Winter, and Jackie Krawczak. (9/27/23)
 - Natural Resources & National Forests (12/6/2023)

Oscoda Campus Nursing Program Drives Lab Updates and New Course Offerings

In the fall of 2023, the Alpena and Oscoda campuses split their nursing programs. For the first time the Oscoda Campus offered face-to-face instruction for both certificate licensed practical nursing (PN) and associate in applied science nursing (ADN) programs. During Fall Semester 2023 the Oscoda Campus had 10 ADN candidates, and 6 PN candidates.

Renovations have been completed on two second-floor classrooms to become high fidelity simulation labs. Room 201 has become our new birthing simulator room with a Gaumard Noelle high fidelity simulator in place and a Gaumard Super Torey high fidelity neonatal simulator approved for purchase this fall.

Room 205 is now home to a Gaumard HAL 3201 high fidelity simulator. HAL is a state-of-the-art simulator which features breathing sounds, programmable vitals, palpable pulses, and numerous other responses. We invite anyone to come and see the newly renovated labs.

Both Room 201 and 205 have been set for video and audio recording using KBPort equipment. Any simulation can be recorded and reviewed in the debriefing room (located in Room 208). This allows students to learn from simulations in a stress-free, non-judgmental environment.

Both the simulators and the KBPort equipment was funded through the \$1.1 million FIPSE grant for the Oscoda Campus.

New Nursing Instructors

Welcome to our two new instructors Melanie Rowden MSN, RN, full-time faculty, and Lisa Awrey MSN, RN, adjunct faculty. Both instructors have differing nursing practices and experiences, but they both love to work with students.

New Team and New Conference Among the Many Changes in ACC Athletics

By **Allen Telgenhof**, ACC Athletic Director

It was an exciting year for athletics at ACC — both on and off the field/court/course.

The school year started with the addition of a sixth sport — baseball — which added 23 new student-athletes from all over Michigan and one from Ohio.

It also began with a new conference alignment as the Michigan Community College Athletic Association (MCCAA) for the first time created a Northern Conference (as well as Eastern and Western) where ACC competes with Bay College, Delta College, Grand Rapids Community College, Kirtland CC, Montcalm CC, Muskegon CC and North Central Michigan College.

The baseball team started practice in the fall, as did softball and our two in-season sports, volleyball and cross-country. The volleyball team made its first-ever postseason appearance by qualifying for the NJCAA playoffs.

Cross country finished 10th of 12 schools in the regional meet, and again excelled in the classroom posting a 3.20 overall team GPA, making them an MCCAA All-Academic Team.

In the winter, women's basketball excelled on the court and in the classroom. The team's 3.62 GPA was one of the top 10 team GPAs for women's basketball in the entire NJCAA. The team

finished in a tie for 5th (out of eight teams) in the MCCAA North qualifying for the NJCAA playoffs. However, due to injury and academic schedules, the Lumberjacks were unable to participate.

Jade Schultz was the conference co-player of the year and became the all-time leading scorer in ACC women's basketball history.



Above: Allen Telgenhof was hired as ACC athletic director in January 2023.

Below: ACC's new athletics logo debuted in FY23 as part of a committee-led rebranding effort.

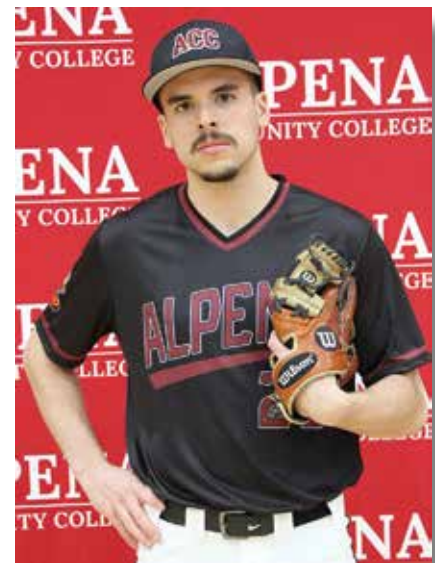


The men's team had an original won-loss record of 3-11 conference, 4-17 overall, however, Kirtland and Delta each forfeited two wins to the Lumberjacks so it is in the record book as a 7-7, 8-13 season.

In the spring, the women again took the prize as the softball team was conference champion for the first time in school history. They made it a perfect 3-for-3 in ACC women's teams qualifying for the NJCAA tournament. Just as impressively, the team posted a 3.39 team GPA qualifying as an All-MCCAA Academic Team.

The baseball team had the youngest team in the league, with 19 freshmen out of the 23 players but took the season series against Bay, three games to two, to finish in a 5th-place tie with the Norse (out of six teams).

At the end of the school year, 35 ACC student-athletes were named to the MCCAA All-Academic All-Conference Team: 12 from baseball, 10 from softball, eight from women's basketball,



A number of ACC athletes earned athletic and academic honors in 2022-23. Above left: Jade Schultz was named the conference co-player of the year and became ACC women's basketball all-time leading scorer. Women's basketball player Jordan Kobielus (above middle) and baseball player Nathan Valdivia (above right) and were named first team All-Academic All-Americans as they earned perfect 4.0 GPAs.

six from cross country, four from volleyball, and three from men's basketball. Some were dual-sport athletes.

Nathan Valdivia (baseball) and Jordan Kobielus (women's basketball) were named first team All-Academic All-Americans as they earned perfect 4.0 GPAs while playing athletics.

Administratively, we had a new athletic director start in January, entered into a partnership with Nike in February, hired a new women's basketball coach in April, approved a new athletic logo in July, purchased new banners for ACC and our conference for Park Arena, and hired a new softball coach in August — and then we're back at it for 2023-24.



Above: Assistant Coach Danny Sage, Head Coach Rob Enslen, and Assistant Coach Allen Telgenhof manage their players during the baseball team's first home game on April 28, 2023, at the rejuvenated Veterans Field complex in Ossineke. Field improvements included removing trees and bushes from around (and some inside) the left field fence area, installing a new irrigation system, adding new red clay dirt for the basepaths, repairing and repainting the press box, and adding a new electronic scoreboard in center field. ACC maintenance staff along with community volunteers handled the majority of the work to get the field ready for college-level ball. The Veterans Field complex also includes a softball field which received the same renovations to provide a new home for the ACC softball team.

Commencement Ceremony Moves Back to Park Arena

Alpena Community College conducted its 69th Commencement on May 11, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in Park Arena on the Alpena Campus. The 2023 ceremony returned to Park Arena after three years of COVID-related concerns interrupted the normal graduation ceremony.

For Fiscal Year 2023 ACC had 307 candidates for graduation (compared to 300 in May 2022). Approximately 170 candidates elected to march in the Commencement ceremony.

One of the highlights of Commencement is the presentation of the Besser Awards. The Besser Awards are the highest recognition of academic achievement given at Alpena Community College, and 2023 was the 51st year they were presented. Other highlights include the presentation of the Fellow of the College and Distinguished Graduate awards.

Prior to Commencement the College held the 2023 Honors Breakfast, an annual celebration of ACC students' academic achievement. This ceremony recognizes students who maintain a grade point average of 3.5 or better. Honors earned from Phi Theta Kappa, the community college honor society, and Sigma Zeta, the math honor society, are also presented during the ceremony. One hundred and sixteen graduates were eligible to receive honors at the event.

The John M. Grant Front Runner Award is presented at the Honors Breakfast. The Front Runner Award is given annually to a graduating male and female non-traditional student who have demonstrated unusual dedication in the pursuit of higher education.



Above: Jeff Blumenthal, Director of Administrative Information Systems, delivered the 2023 commencement address.



Above: The 2023 Besser Award recipients were Andrew Benton (left) and Jordan Kobielus (right). The awards were presented by Candie Dombroski, chief operating officer of Besser Company (middle).



Above: The 2023 Front Runner Awards recipients were (left) Runi Demirkol and (right) Tori Bensman. The Front Runner Award is given annually to a graduating male and female non-traditional student.

Tim and Sue Fitzpatrick Named Fellows of the College

Two Alpena Community College alumni who began their life together modestly, worked diligently, and built a business empire, alongside a loving family, were honored as the 2023 Fellows of the College during ACC's Commencement ceremony on May 11, 2023.

Lifelong residents of Alpena, Tim and Sue ('92) Fitzpatrick have forged a lasting legacy by investing in the health and education of Northeast Michigan. Tim is the founder and President of WMCR Corporation, a subsidiary of the KFC Corporation. He started out in the restaurant industry at the age of 13, working after school at KFC for his stepfather, Ray Jakubiak. When Sue came into the picture, she shared Tim's dedication and joined him in working for her future father-in-law. Tim had an aggressive goal to acquire and operate 50 KFC restaurants. After several tough starts, his business finally took off. Over the years, the business grew steadily and the Fitzpatricks eventually surpassed Tim's goal of owning 50 restaurants through a merger with a larger operation. The result was WMCR Corporation, which continued to grow through markets in Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin.

In more recent years, Tim has explored additional entrepreneurial ventures as a director and executive officer of Bank of Alpena and owner and operator of River's Edge Golf Club. Tim and Sue have achieved remarkable success in the business world and have leveraged that success to benefit the community in numerous philanthropic endeavors.

The Fitzpatricks have been ardent supporters of ACC and the students it serves. Sue has been a longtime member of the Alpena Community



Above: Tim (left) and Sue (right) Fitzpatrick were named ACC's 2023 Fellows of the College at ACC's 2023 Commencement May 11, 2023. The Fitzpatricks have been ardent supporters of ACC and the students it serves.

College Foundation Board of Trustees, serving as its president for the past 10 years. Since she became involved in 2002, the ACC Foundation has raised more than \$14 million to support the college and provide scholarships for thousands of students.

The Fitzpatrick name can be easily spotted throughout campus, as they have been enthusiastic supporters of every college capital campaign for the past 30 years. Most recently, the Fitzpatricks were the guests of honor at the ribbon-cutting of the Ruth C. Julian Hall of Health Sciences, a state-of-the-art healthcare education wing of ACC's Van Lare Hall. The renovated wing was named for Sue's mother, a longtime nurse in Alpena,

and stands as a testament to the couple's commitment to ensuring Northeast Michigan has high-quality healthcare providers for generations to come. That project was followed by the construction of the Fitzpatrick Lecture Hall, a 50-seat multimedia theater-style classroom that was integral in enabling the partnership between ACC and Saginaw Valley State University to offer Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees on ACC's Alpena Campus.

Alpena Community College created the Fellow of the College award in 1972 to honor those who make outstanding educational, cultural, or economic contributions to Northeast Michigan.

Laura Hickman Honored as 2023 Distinguished Grad

By Mary Eagan, Director of Alumni Relations

Alpena Community College honored Laura Hickman ('00) as its 2023 Distinguished Graduate during ACC's commencement ceremony May 11, 2023, at Park Arena on the Alpena Campus.

From ACC to NYC

Mrs. Hickman is the senior vice president of marketing and development for ADAPT Community Network, a nonprofit organization that provides services and support to over 20,000 people and families each year living with developmental disabilities.

Mrs. Hickman graduated from Alpena Community College in 2000 with an associate degree in liberal arts. She then attended Kennesaw State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in human services.

Mrs. Hickman moved to New York City and began working at ADAPT Community Network coordinating services on an administrative level for people with developmental disabilities. She went on to earn a Master of Public Administration from Metropolitan College of New York.

Following her graduation, Mrs. Hickman was the vice president of marketing for ADAPT Community Network for almost eight years before transitioning to advancement and moving to Ohio to become the assistant director of development at the



Above: Laura Hickman ('00) (right) was honored as ACC's 2023 Distinguished Graduate during ACC's Commencement Ceremony May 11, 2023. Joining Laura for the presentation were her husband Kevin Hickman (left) and mother Ruth Sutton (middle).

Cleveland Clinic. Mrs. Hickman returned to ADAPT Community Network in 2017, when she assumed the role of vice president of development before being named the senior vice president of marketing and development in 2020.

Mrs. Hickman looks back fondly on the education she got at ACC and is convinced that the foundation for her education that she laid at the college helped her build her career.

“While ACC is located in a small town, the curriculum isn't small-town thinking, and I think that's really key to understanding what's offered at that school. The thinking in the classroom and the thinking of the faculty isn't small. It's global thinking. It's those core understandings, the foundational

pillars that are needed to take you where you want to go.”

About the Distinguished Graduate Honor

Mrs. Hickman is the thirty-first recipient of the Distinguished Graduate award, which is bestowed upon an ACC alumnus/ae who has impacted the world in their area of expertise. Established in 1998 by the ACC Foundation, this award honors ACC alumni who have demonstrated extraordinary achievement in their chosen professions or who have made a remarkable positive impact on others through philanthropy or service. Its recipients are examples of how a solid educational foundation from ACC can launch a lifetime of achievements.

TRiO Talent Search Helps Kids Succeed

By Sarah Prevo, TRiO Grant Director

TRiO Talent Search programs at Alpena Community College provide students in grades 6-12 with the keys to succeed in postsecondary education. Through outreach programming in academic, financial, career, and STEM opportunities, TRiO Talent Search provides services to build the skills necessary for students to achieve the college dream. TRiO Talent Search advisors help students in a variety of ways, including:

- Applying for financial aid assistance.
- Completing college applications.
- Completing scholarship applications.
- Preparing for the ACT/SAT.
- Visiting university campuses.
- Job shadowing opportunities.
- Communication and leadership skills.
- Career skills (resumes, interviews, applications)
- Soft skills (teamwork, communication, problem solving, conflict management, critical thinking)

In 2022-23 advisors provided services to nine schools districts: Alcona, Fairview, Hale, Mio, Oscoda, Tawas, West Branch-Rose City, Iosco Alternative Education Academies in Tawas, Oscoda and Alpena, and Whittemore. Approximately 400

students participated in TRiO programming and benefited from the services provided.

Summer Camp

During the summer of 2023, TRiO Talent Search students delved into STEM careers during a three-day camp involving drone technology. TRiO partnered with Central Michigan University to provide students with hands-on experience piloting drones. Each student piloted their own drone through various challenges and obstacles to train for specific missions. STEM careers tied to drone technology were explored. These included military drone use, aerial photography, thermal imaging, drone powered light shows, and agricultural use.

Teamwork, communication, and leadership were taught through friendly games of kickball and whiffle ball. Additionally, students used technology and immersed themselves in virtual reality. Using Oculus virtual reality headsets, students were tasked with competing against one another in virtual games of paintball, defending the tower and surviving an escape room.

University Visits

TRiO provided the opportunity for participants to attend several campus tours throughout the 2022-23 school year. Students walked the campuses and explore the halls of Lake



TRiO's three-day summer camp explored STEM careers along with teamwork, communication, and leadership. Above: a camp participant uses virtual reality equipment to compete in virtual games of paintball and surviving a virtual escape room.

Superior State University, Grand Valley State University, Saginaw Valley State University, Central Michigan University, and Ferris State University. A couple of campuses were visited twice last year, due to the high interest from students. While on campus, students learned more about the career fields of education, manufacturing, nursing, athletic training/physical therapy, robotics, business, and engineering.

TRiO Talent Search provides students with hands-on activities through workshops and summer camps to prepare them for future careers. Talent Search is where the college dream begins.

ACC Quick Facts

Alpena Campus

The Alpena Campus is situated on approximately 690 acres located on both sides of Johnson Street, approximately one-half mile east of US-23 North along a portion of Thunder Bay River where the Ninth Avenue Dam forms Lake Besser. Much of the property remains undeveloped forest land.

Completion of an \$8.2 million project in August 1996 provided weather-protected access to virtually all instructional and administrative areas located on the north side of Johnson Street.

College Park Apartments opened in 1997, providing privately owned and operated on-campus housing. The College purchased the facility in 2017 and now manages the 16 4-person suites.

The newest facility is the \$5 million Ferris H. Werth Electrical Power Technology Center, which opened in January 2015 and serves as home to the Utility Technology and Electrical Systems Technology programs.

In 2017 ACC received state approval to begin renovating Van Lare Hall, the oldest building on the Alpena Campus. The \$8.7 million project updated the building and provided state-of-the-art labs for ACC's Nursing Program. Work on the project was completed in the fall of 2021. Fitzpatrick Hall, a 52-seat addition featuring high tech audio/visual and videoconferencing equipment, was added to Van Lare Hall in 2022.

Oscoda Campus

ACC has operated a full service extension center in Iosco County since 1969, including providing educational opportunities to the thousands of military members stationed at Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda. The air base closed in June 1993; as part of the closure, ACC acquired the base's former headquarters building. In June 1996 renovations to headquarters were completed and the Huron Shores Educational Center opened at 5800 Skeel Avenue, Oscoda. The Oscoda Campus serves area residents and school districts with

classes in the Oscoda area. It was renamed the Alpena Community College Oscoda Campus in 2018.

Oscoda Campus students have a full service program of advising, assessment, and instruction. Courses in Fall and Spring semesters are offered, as well as six-week or twelve-week summer courses.

Instructional facilities include 12 classrooms, a computer lab, science lab, two-way interactive room, and the Student Services Center. A new Industrial Technology lab space, including a number of state-of-the-art pieces of manufacturing equipment, was added during the summer of 2016.

Selected classes and customized training are offered at community sites in the county as enrollment allows.

A series of healthcare-related facilities and program improvements were added in Oscoda beginning in 2018 to bolster the College's healthcare offerings and meet the needs of the community and employers. The Oscoda Campus currently offers face-to-face instruction for its own Practical Nursing (PN) and Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) programs. Additionally, certified nursing assistant courses are also available.

Quality Academics

In 2016 the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program named Alpena Community College as one of the nation's top 150 community colleges. As such, ACC was eligible to compete for the 2017

Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence and \$1 million dollars in prize funds, as well as Siemens Technical Scholars Program student scholarships. The Prize,



awarded every two years, is the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance among America's community colleges and recognizes institutions for exceptional student outcomes.

Degrees Offered

ACC offers over 75 programs of study. Students at ACC can earn a 1-year Certificate of Achievement, a 2-year Associate of Arts, Associate of Applied Science, Associate of Science, and Associate of General Studies degree, and a 4-year Bachelor's of Science degree in Electrical Systems Technology.

Graduates

- 307 graduates in 2022-23, up from 300 in 2021-22.

ACC Student Profile

For Fall Semester 2022:

- 1,551 headcount (including direct credit)
- 67.8% part-time, 32.2% full-time
- 46.6% male, 53.2% female, 0.3% unknown
- Average age: 20.5
- 37.2% were residents of the ACC District, which is the same geographic boundaries as the Alpena Public Schools District;
- 44.1% were residents of the ACC service area, which includes Alcona, Alpena, Iosco, Montmorency, and Presque Isle counties;
- 18.7% were from outside ACC's service area

For Fiscal Year 2023:

- ACC students received \$2,461,630 in federal and state grant aid; \$470,110 in institutional scholarships; \$1,159,983 in student loans; and \$339,195 in other grants, scholarships, and tuition assistance.

Tuition Rate, Fiscal Year 2023

- \$145.00 per contact hour for In-District*
- \$231.00 per contact hour for Out-of-District (the rest of Michigan and out of state)
- \$325.00 per contact hour for 300- and 400-level bachelor's degree courses

**District rates are paid by residents of Alpena Community College District where a voter-approved property tax levy for the College is collected each year.*

Costs

\$4,980 average tuition and fees cost for in-district full-time students for the 2022-23 school year. \$12,030 total with books and living expenses included for a student living at home in-district.

General Fund Budget, Fiscal Year 2023

\$17,645,017

Revenues by Category, Fiscal Year 2023

State Appropriations: 46.9%
Tuition and Fees:..... 34.3%
Property Taxes: 16.8%
Other Sources:..... 2.0%

Staffing

Full-time and part-time staffing for Fiscal Year 2023 was as follows:

45	Full-Time Faculty
101	Part-Time Faculty
28	Full-Time Administration
2	Part-Time Administration
14	Full-Time ESP I
1	Part-Time ESP I
10	Full-Time ESP II
15	Part-Time ESP II
8	Full-Time Custodial/Maintenance
2	Part-Time Custodial/Maintenance

Athletics

- Intercollegiate — ACC belongs to the Northern Conference of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association (MCCAA). The Lumberjacks are members in good standing with the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) and NJCAA Region XII. ACC fields baseball, basketball, and cross country teams for men, and basketball, softball, and volleyball for women.
- Intramural — Team sports include flag football, volleyball, basketball, floor hockey, and softball.

Fiscal Year 2023 Financials

General Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Net Position	Amount
General Fund Revenues	\$17,645,017
General Fund Expenditures	(\$17,074,339)
General Fund Transfers to Other Funds	<u>(\$268,915)</u>
Net Increase in General Fund Assets	\$301,763
General Fund Beginning Balance FY23	\$2,253,555
General Fund Ending Balance FY23	\$2,555,318

Alpena Community College Balance Sheet	Amount
Current Assets	\$12,703,469
Investments, Property, and Equipment	<u>\$27,582,824</u>
Total Assets	\$40,286,293
Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$9,892,866</u>
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$50,179,159
Current Liabilities	\$5,111,866
Long-term Debt Obligations	<u>\$2,238,927</u>
Net Pension Liability	\$27,196,170
Net OPEB Liability	\$1,495,035
Accrued Compensated Balances	<u>\$409,323</u>
Total Liabilities	\$36,451,321
Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$7,009,312
Net Position	<u>\$6,718,526</u>
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position	<u>\$50,179,159</u>

About this Publication

The ACC Annual Report is assembled by the Office of Public Information & Marketing with the help of many College contributors. Questions about the report and requests for copies may be directed to:

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THE COLLEGE INSTITUTIONAL STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The College policies and practices for admission, employment and activities comply with requirements of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA), the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) of 1990 and the ADA Amendments Act of 2010; Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008. The College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sex, age or disability. The College practices and policies also comply with the Michigan Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act (PDCRA) and the Michigan Elliott-Larson Civil Rights Act (ELCRA) which prohibits discrimination in hiring based on age, height, weight and marital status and familial status in addition to race, color, religion, sex (which includes pregnancy) and national origin. For more information contact the Title IX, Section 504, the Age Discrimination Act and Title II coordinator:

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Title IX Coordinator/Director of Human Resources
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Alpena Community College

*Creating a culture of educational excellence
and service to the community...*

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