



**NORTHERN
PENNSYLVANIA
REGIONAL COLLEGE**

Office of the President
814-230-9010
814-313-7320 (fax)
regionalcollegepa.org

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT

Fall 2022

Northern Pennsylvania Regional College is a publicly funded higher education institution offering associate degrees, certificates, and workforce development training at affordable costs. We are incorporated as a 501(c)(3) public, non-profit created under legislative authority with substantial funding from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. NPRC proudly serves students in Cameron, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, McKean, Potter, Warren, and Venango Counties.

October Open House Recap

NPRC hosted the final Open House of 2022 on Tuesday, October 25 at five locations, with a remote attendance option available. The event welcomed in-person guests at the NPRC Education and Training Center in Erie, Parkside Commons in Meadville, the Galena Building in Franklin, Kane Area High School in Kane, and Cameron County High School in Emporium. This event allowed students to experience the College's delivery model, hear about the institution's history, learn about the mission of NPRC, receive information and resources regarding tuition rates and paying for courses, and hear specific details about our offerings. In 2023, NPRC will host three Open House opportunities for students, with the dates scheduled for Tuesday, April 18; Tuesday, July 18; and Tuesday, October 24 all with starting times of 5:00 p.m. These events are currently opened for registration.

NPRC Annual Report 2022

NPRC is excited to share our 2021-22 Annual Report! This year's theme focused on growth and outreach. Our team's capacity has increased tremendously over the last year and a large portion of our team members spent time making connections in communities, local schools, and fostering relationships with advocates throughout our nine counties. All these efforts were to strengthen the support systems and opportunities our students have in their hometowns. We welcome you to check out this year's highlights. If you'd like a physical copy, please email Jill Lasecki at jlasecki@rrcnpa.org. To view online, visit our [Annual Report](#) web page.

Greetings from President Snelick

Greetings! Welcome to our Fall 2022 Newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading the updates and happenings at NPRC!

NPRC held another successful round of Community Conversations throughout our region. These events, previously known as town halls, allow area residents to meet with representatives from the College to share ideas on how NPRC can be improved and what we should continue doing. We appreciate the community response and gathered valuable feedback on workforce development and academic programming. We will continue to look for additional opportunities to hear from our stakeholders across the region throughout the coming year.

The fall was also a perfect time for team building amongst staff and the Board of Trustees. Both groups held their annual retreats that provided time for networking and relationship building that we do not always take the time for throughout the year.

We continue to build an amazing team at NPRC and are excited to watch the growth of our newest staff members. By continuing to add to an already impressive team, it allows us to continue to serve those that matter most; our students. Our students are at the core of each decision we make, and we look forward to the opportunity to increase enrollment and display why brighter futures for area residents begin at NPRC. Enjoy the upcoming holiday season and thank you for being a friend to NPRC!

President Snelick

Community Conversations Valuable for NPRC's Future

This fall, NPRC welcomed community members throughout the nine-county service area to events called Community Conversations. These events were centered around briefly sharing more about the College and what we have to offer, but more-so themed around hearing from members from the community about the advice, concerns, feedback, and questions they had about NPRC. Host locations included:

- Maker's Warehouse (St. Marys)
- Cameron County Fire Hall (Emporium)
- NPRC Administrative Office (Warren)
- The Pennhills Club (Bradford)
- NPRC Education and Training Center (Erie)
- Parkside Commons (Meadville)
- Gunzburger Building (Coudersport)
- East Forest High School (Marienville)
- The Galena Building (Franklin)
- Virtual Conversation



NPRC welcomed guests to nine locations across the region and held a virtual opportunity for those unable to attend at the closest in-person location.

Over September and October, these events were attended by business owners and spokespeople, current and future NPRC students, and even government officials from the local and state levels. The feedback provided and the questions asked will help the institution move to help better serve our incoming students and the communities throughout our footprint.

Staff and Board Members Enjoy Respective Retreats



NPRC's staff members gathered at the Hazeltine Boutique Hotel in Warren for a day of fun, while the Board of Trustees enjoyed their tour of Superior Tire & Rubber Corporation before dinner at the Hazeltine Boutique Hotel and presentations to end the day.



NPRC's staff and Board of Trustees each began the fall with their annual retreats. These get-togethers help bring employees from different areas of the College and board members from different industries together for time dedicated to fun and leisure. NPRC's staff congregated at the Hazeltine Boutique Hotel in Warren on Friday, September 30. The 2022 edition of this celebration included a social hour for breakfast, a murder mystery game, lunch catered by CJ Bar-B-Que and Catering, and time for activities like decorating for Halloween, billiards, and cornhole.

The annual Board of Trustees' retreat was held in conjunction with the monthly board meeting at the NPRC Administrative Center in Warren. The retreat included a special tour of Superior Tire & Rubber Corporation from company chief executive officer and president and Board of Trustees' secretary, Hank LeMeur, Jr. Dinner for the attendees was catered by Kondak's Market in Clarendon and served at the Hazeltine Boutique Hotel. Board members welcomed presenters from the Center for Rural Pennsylvania and EAB (previously known as Education Advisory Board). Thank you to all those from NPRC and beyond who worked to make these events such a great experience for all who attended.

Introducing NPRC's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Over the last year, Northern Pennsylvania Regional College's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee began coordinating efforts to ensure that all members of the NPRC family are afforded a welcoming community and opportunities to expand personal knowledge and experiences with respect to DEI initiatives.



Pictured are DEI Committee representatives at a regional DEI conference focused on higher education.

From the inclusion of respect for diversity as a component of general education present in all degree programs to educating our Board of Trustees, internal teams, and communities about the various DEI-related topics, this committee is making an impact. This year, our committee attended a conference for global diversity in higher education and encouraged members of the faculty and staff to attend a poverty simulation hosted by local partners in Elk County. As the college continues to grow and develop, this committee looks forward to continuing growth and learning in the areas of DEI to better serve our community members.

In the meantime, the committee has implemented monthly initiatives in the form of blog articles on the College's website to share with the communities we serve. These articles are just the beginning of what is to come from NPRC's DEI Committee.

NPRC Supports Marines Toys for Tots Drives

NPRC participated in Toys for Tots drives across four counties this holiday season. The year 2022 marked 75 years of the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program. Since 1947, over 281 million children have been supported via this drive, with over 627 million toys collected and distributed over the 75 years.

Offices and instructional locations in Erie, Franklin, Meadville, and Warren sported donation boxes for donations from NPRC and the public. Thank you to all those locally who volunteered and donated toward the initiative this holiday season. We look forward to participating in the Toys for Tots drives across our region in the future.



Jen Rossey and Lori Swick show off some of the donations in Warren.



Student Spotlight

Michelle Bawden is one dedicated woman - a mother of two, a wife, a full-time worker, a basketball coach, and a college student. Since January 2019, Bawden has found herself working long days as she works towards completing her associate degree in business administration.

A current employee in the Forest Area School District business office, Bawden has attended classes in the evenings and is currently enrolled in her final course. "The convenience of having classes in my community made the possibility of attending college a reality," she noted.

Bawden has coached basketball at the elementary, junior-high, and varsity levels over the last four years, including school years in which she coached three teams at the same time. So much of her time has been sacrificed for the benefit of others, but her educational journey has been one way she is investing in herself for a better future.

"Four years ago, I never would have even considered taking a college course. NPRC provided me with a convenient and affordable way of completing their business administration degree program."

Being busy can sometimes be a good problem to have, especially when it is to give yourself and your family a better life. Michelle Bawden is an example of that, and she hopes to encourage more people to go after the things they want in life.

Michelle Bawden



"NPRC provided me with a convenient and affordable way of completing their business administration degree program."

Get to Know Our Board Members!

Holli Wolfe



Holli Wolfe joined NPRC's Board of Trustees in February to fill the board's final seat. A resident of Titusville, she has served as the Associate Vice President of Operations at the Titusville Area Hospital (TAH) since 2019 and has nearly 15 years' experience in healthcare in various clinical and managerial roles.

Currently, she oversees numerous departments including therapy services, pharmacy, outpatient clinics, marketing, business development, and the TAH foundation. She has been with the Titusville Area Hospital since 2017.

In addition to her duties at TAH and as a board member for NPRC, Wolfe serves as a board member for several other regional organizations including the Bridge Builders Forest County Community Foundation, the VNA Alliance, the Greater Titusville Development Foundation, and the Forest County Children and Youth Services Advisory Committee.

Outside of her professional career, she enjoys spending time with her family, golfing, camping, swimming, kayaking, and traveling to the Outer Banks for vacation each year. [Read more about Wolfe.](#)

Workforce Development Team Spotlight

Hello! I'm Carla Gore, I have been an Erie, Pennsylvania resident for all my life. I joined NPRC a little over two months ago as a Workforce Development Specialist. My prior experience in the workforce was with Pennsylvania CareerLink as Business Solutions Consultant. Since starting at NPRC, I have been determined to get my name and face out to the community employers, so they will recognize both me and the College as resources to help train their staff. My co-workers at NPRC are some of the nicest and most knowledge co-workers that I have ever experienced, and that makes me proud to be part of the team!

**Carla
Gore**



Hey! I'm Nicole Zaun and I am a native of Potter County. I graduated from the Coudersport Area School District and from there attended The Pennsylvania State University, where I earned my Bachelor of Science in Psychology. Upon graduating, I returned to the area where I have worked in various fields like mental health, public education, and non-profit. I am looking forward to meeting and working with everyone at NPRC and am excited about this amazing new opportunity as a Workforce Development Specialist!



**Nicole
Zaun**

Hi! I'm Andrea Kessler and I joined NPRC on November 1, 2022, as the College's first Assistant Director of Workforce Development - Program and Instruction. Prior to my time at the College, I spent over 20 years working in the healthcare space, more specifically, in rehabilitative sciences. My career has been in the clinical arenas and physical therapy education. One of my favorite things to do is to spend time cooking with my family. One of the household's favorites is burritos. I am excited for what my future holds here at NPRC!

**Andrea
Kessler**



Hey there! I'm Gregg Trisket and I have been engaged with NPRC since November 2018 as a part-time EMS Program Coordinator and continued part-time as Administrative Director, EMS Coordinator beginning in January 2019. I became full-time at the college in October 2022 as the Assistant Director of Workforce Development – Public Safety. I have had a lengthy career in Emergency Services/Public Safety. I worked in Emergency Medical Service (EMS) as a paramedic in four different states and have transported patients from the United States, Europe, and Canada to hospitals in Pittsburgh. I have also spent many years with volunteer and career fire departments as a firefighter and rescue technician. My latest adventure is that I am a certified water rescue technician. I look forward to developing new Public Safety programs within the EMS, fire, and police realm at NPRC!



**Gregg
Trisket**