



**NORTHERN
PENNSYLVANIA
REGIONAL COLLEGE**

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE **OFFICE** OF THE **PRESIDENT**



GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT SNEICK

Greetings! Welcome to our Spring 2023 Newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading about the exciting events and news at Northern Pennsylvania Regional College.

To begin, I am proud to share the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) has granted NPRC the status of Candidate for Accreditation. This milestone is one our team is very proud of and exemplifies our readiness to move into the next phase of self-study. We also recently celebrated another memorable event as Dr. Richard (Dick) McDowell was granted board member emeritus status to recognize his work toward the development of our institution.

We have expanded our geographic reach to Tioga County and appreciate the warm welcome we have received from that community. Our team has already connected with various organizations and school districts, including the Wellsboro Chamber of Commerce; Tioga County CareerLink®; Bradford County Action, Inc; Northern Tioga School District; and Southern Tioga School District.

Additionally, our Workforce Development department is now offering classes in a broader collection of trades and professions, including courses in automotive, construction, healthcare, and HVAC. They are also working to build apprenticeship programs to help assist regional employers in finding quality, trained professionals to join their teams and keep our talent local.

The public will have the chance to learn more about our growth in the coming weeks as we welcome community members and future students to our Open House being held virtually and in person at five locations.

Thank you for your continued support of our institution and we look forward to continuing to serve your communities!

Sincerely,

Susie

IMPORTANT SPRING DATES

April 5 — Registration Deadline*

Medical Billing and Coding / CDL Class A

April 13 — Business After Hours Mixer

Location — Franklin, PA

April 17 — Registration Deadline*

Automotive Service Technician / CDA — New American

April 18 — Spring Open House

April 23 — Registration Deadline*

CDA

April 24 — Registration Deadline*

Diesel Technician / Electrical Technician

April 26-27 — Priority Registration

Summer and Fall priority registration begins

May 1 — Open Registration

Open Summer and Fall registration begins

May 1 — Registration Deadline*

Electrical Technician

May 18 — Registration Deadline*

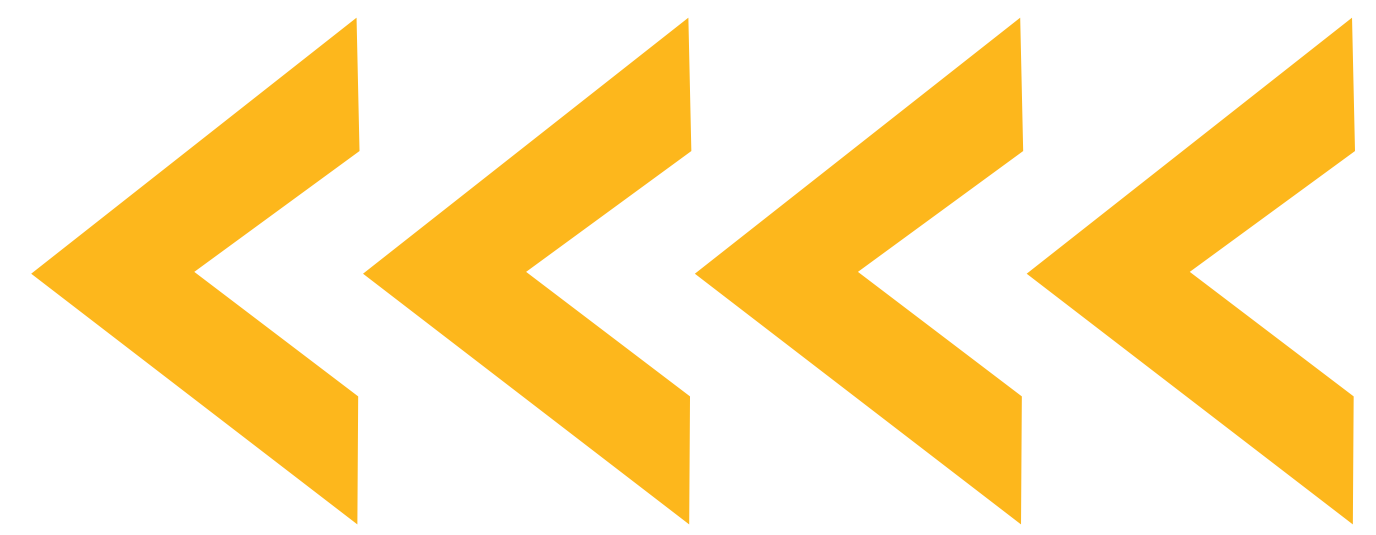
Supervisory Fundamentals

May 20 — NPRC Commencement

Location — The Titusville Mill

*Workforce Development Dates

NPRC NOTEWORTHY NEWS



ACCREDITATION ANNOUNCEMENT

On March 9, 2023, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) granted Northern Pennsylvania Regional College the status of Candidate for Accreditation. This occurred after our Accreditation Readiness Report was acknowledged and accepted at the March 2023 Commission Meeting following site visits completed in November 2022 by MSCHE representatives. With this announcement, NPRC is invited to begin the self-study process based on continuous improvement of the College's compliance; assessment; and integration of the Commission's Standards for Accreditation, Requirements of Affiliation, MSCHE policies and procedures, and all applicable federal regulatory requirements.

President Snelick noted, "This is a significant milestone and one of the most important days in the young history of Northern Pennsylvania Regional College. I am proud of the entire NPRC team, legislative advocates, students, and our community and location partners. We look forward to continuing to work closely alongside the Middle States Commission on Higher Education as we strive to meet NPRC's mission and service the region's residents and employers."

While pursuing accreditation, Candidate institutions are eligible to complete the application process to award Title IV Financial Aid. This aid includes programs associated with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®). Upon successful Title IV application completion, the College will be eligible to award aid such as Pell grants and Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) funding in addition to the institutional aid the institution currently awards our enrollees.

We will continue to provide updates on our status as we receive them. In the meantime, check out [What Candidacy Means](#) for more information on why becoming Candidates for Accreditation is important for our students.

"This is a milestone and one of the most important days in the young history of Northern Pennsylvania Regional College."

-President Snelick

NPRC PARTNERS WITH ERTCA

NPRC is thrilled to announce a partnership in the public safety space with the Emergency Response Training and Certification Association (ERTCA), a law enforcement training partner offering virtual reality simulations.

Working alongside ERTCA is important as the College can now provide training courses within three different disciplines of public safety – emergency medical services, fire safety, and law enforcement. With NPRC having an established Emergency Medical Services program and an emerging fire safety program, this partnership will give students access to enhanced experiences in law enforcement. Overall, this will help NPRC provide well-rounded training to meet the needs of the region.

To meet the demands of the changing landscape within this line of work, ERTCA is innovating their industry with new, standardized public safety training, education, and credentialing. Those in law enforcement will be able to work through virtual reality simulation training in a real-time, safe environment right where they are, reducing the barrier of traveling to a training facility. The simulations help participants feel as if they are in a real-life scenario with the ability to review their actions for enhanced decision-making capabilities. Another unique feature of this is that ERTCA delivers these courses at no cost.

[Read more](#) about this partnership.



Photo courtesy: ERTCA

DR. MCDOWELL HONORED AS BOARD MEMBER EMERITUS

Dr. Richard McDowell, a native of McKean County, is one of the true pioneers of higher education in northern Pennsylvania. To honor one of Northern Pennsylvania Regional College's founding members, the Board of Trustees passed a resolution at the regularly scheduled meeting on January 13 that granted him designation as board member emeritus.

On Friday, February 10, Dr. McDowell attended the NPRC Board of Trustees meeting held at the Beacon Light Recovery Center in Warren to be presented with the resolution granting him this privilege. Dr. McDowell is the third trustee to have earned the emeritus distinction, joining fellow inaugural board members, Hon. Mary Jo White of Oil City and Ed Pitchford of Boalsburg.

NPRC president, Susie Snelick, served with Dr. McDowell on the ECUA Board of Trustees and the NPRC Board of Trustees and shared, "Being able to serve with Dr. McDowell and now to support the execution of his vision has been a privilege and honor. We've made progress over the years and are dedicated to continuing the work Dr. McDowell started to provide accessible education and become an economic driver for our region."

[Read more](#) about Dr. McDowell.



APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM IN THE WORKS

Northern Pennsylvania Regional College's Workforce Development department has spent much of 2023 developing new programs and opportunities for future students. The next stage for the College to support positive outcomes is to kickstart apprenticeship programs. These programs will help support students as they enter a new chapter in their professional careers to provide skill development and lead to increased local employment opportunities.

Over the last few months, the College has worked closely with the Keystone Community Education Council of Oil City to develop apprenticeship programs in relation to careers that are in demand. Currently being planned are a plastics molding technician and a maintenance repairer apprenticeship program.

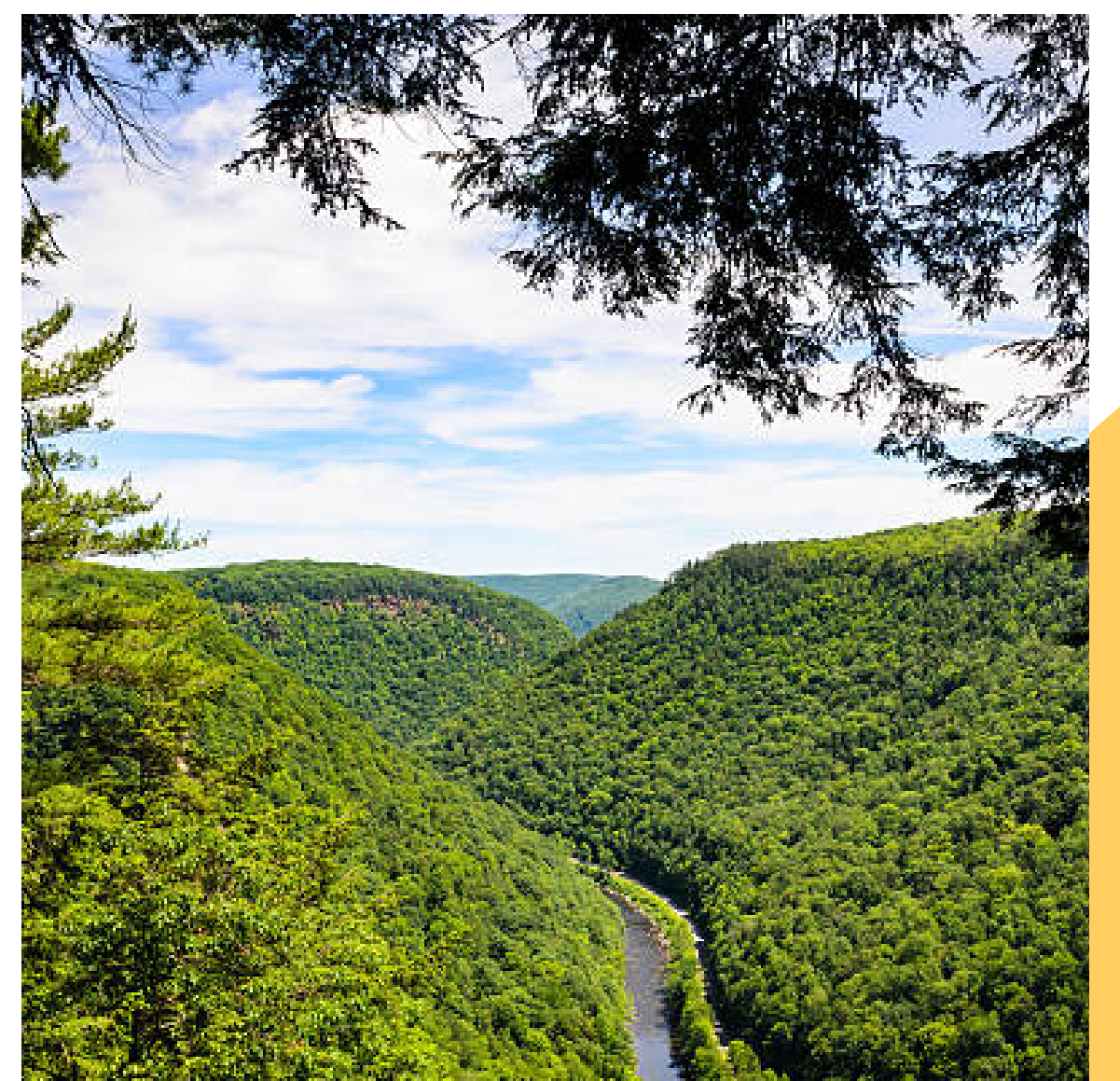
More information on apprenticeships through NPRC's Workforce Development department will be announced as information becomes available.

NPRC EXTENDS ITS OFFERINGS TO TIOGA COUNTY

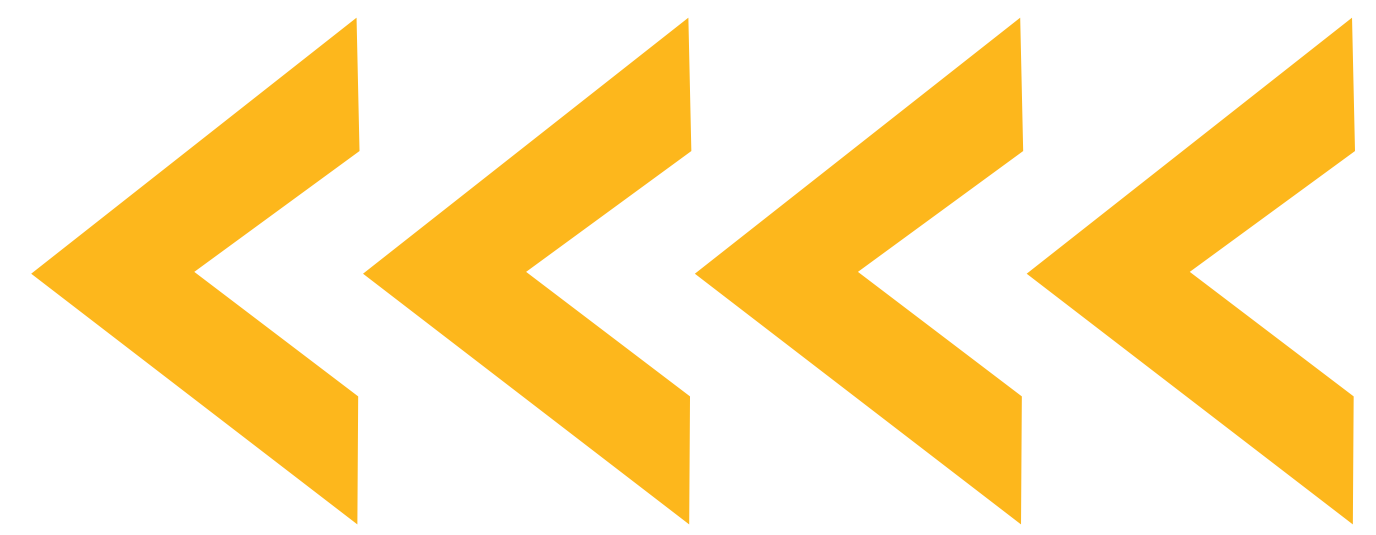
Northern Pennsylvania Regional College (NPRC) is excited to announce they will extend their educational offerings to Tioga County starting Spring 2023, hoping to add the County to their footprint soon. Classrooms in Tioga County will include Northern Tioga School District (110 Ellison Road, Elkland, PA) and Southern Tioga School District (310 Morris Street, Blossburg, PA).

Informational tool kits for interested students may be picked up from the Wellsboro CareerLink®, Wellsboro Chamber of Commerce, and Bradford County Action, Inc. Local high school students may also contact their guidance counselor for more information on early entry (dual enrollment) classes with NPRC.

[Read more](#) about this new venture!



NPRC ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



CONNOR GAUSMAN, CLASS OF '22

Connor Gausman, a St. Marys native, is one of our most recent alumni making his impact on the world. Since graduating from NPRC in May 2022, he's become a Sheriff's Deputy Intern at the Cameron County Sherrif's Office and is being sponsored for training to become a Sheriff's Deputy.

This career is one that he feels NPRC prepared him for. "My professors really helped me along the way. I learned a lot more from them because they were working or had worked in the field (of criminal justice). One professor worked in corrections, while another worked in law enforcement. When someone is in the field or is working in the area that they teach, I think it helps students a lot."

Before NPRC, there were fewer higher education options, especially affordable ones, in Elk County. Due to the hard work of many, we helped Gausman receive an affordable degree right where he was.

"Leslie (Wagner) was very helpful when I first started at NPRC and taught most of my criminal justice courses. Dave Wilson came to NPRC during my last term, and he brought a lot of new aspects into the classroom that I was not expecting to learn. It has been helpful in my career."

Now an NPRC alumni, Gausman is one of the institutions champions and tells others about the wonderful experience he had as one of our students. "If someone is looking at going to school at NPRC, they have even more options now than when I was going to school there. People at NPRC care for you, want you to succeed, and want to help you get a job at a place that you want to work. Going to school at NPRC has turned out great and I am an example that it is achievable."



"Going to NPRC has turned out great. I am an example that it is achievable."

BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPOTLIGHT

JENNIFER GESING, BOARD MEMBER

Jennifer Gesing was introduced as the newest member of the Northern Pennsylvania Regional College Board of Trustees in January 2023.

Gesing currently serves as the Executive Director at Beacon Light Behavioral Health System. This tenure at Beacon Light is her second. She previously worked for the business from 1995 to 2016 in a collection of roles including mental health technician, therapeutic support staff, treatment coordinator, and residential manager. Now, her responsibilities have shifted to include full clinical responsibility for the company on a day-to-day basis.

Additionally, she sits on the administrative team for the health system and has input into all financial and operational decisions. Gesing's service to the region is already extensive with service time allocated currently or in the past to the Warren County CJAB, the Warren County Probation Association, the Warren County Chamber of Business and Industry – Chamber Operations Committee, the United Fund of Warren County, the Chautauqua Tapestry, and Leadership Warren County.

For more information about Gesing and the rest of our Board of Trustees, check out our [Board of Trustees online!](#)



NPRC TEAM SPOTLIGHT

SUSAN GLEASON, DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL AID

Hello! I'm Susan "Sue" Gleason, and I am approaching one year in my role as NPRC's Director of Financial Aid; officially beginning my tenure at the College in May 2022. I have over two decades of higher education experience that has included roles both in administration and as a faculty member. My experience working in financial aid has spanned over 13 years. Additionally, I have taught business courses in accounting, ethics, and management. Alongside teaching, I had the opportunity to work as an advisor to students, guiding them in their own educational endeavors. During this time in my career, I created a program that blended life coaching and career coaching to help determine these learners personal and career pathways.

While I have worked in education for much of my career, I am also passionate about cooking and own and operate a family restaurant. When not working at NPRC or serving up my favorite dishes at the restaurant, I enjoy traveling and experiencing the diverse cultures and places our world has to offer and spending time with friends and family.

During my times as a student, I earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Management and Accounting from the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, a Master of Education in Leadership Pre-K through 12 from Edinboro University, attended the University of Nebraska in the Master of Educational Administration – Higher Education concentration, and am a certified CliftonStrengths Coach.

So far in my time at NPRC, my favorite aspects have been working on the combined goal of supporting students in achieving a college degree or training and being able to work alongside passionate and supportive colleagues. There are many important things happening at Northern Pennsylvania Regional College, and I am thankful to be a part of this impressive team!



KIM BOYER, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL AID

Hi! My name is Kim Boyer, and I began my time at NPRC earlier this year as the College's first ever Assistant Director of Financial Aid. I have worked in higher education for over 17 years, with 13 of those being in a financial aid capacity. I earned a Bachelor of Arts in Human Relations from the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford.

It's exciting to be building the financial aid department from the ground up. Sue Gleason is leading the development of policy and procedures that will move us in the direction of obtaining federal funding for our students. This is an exciting time for our department and to be an employee at NPRC. What I enjoy most about working for this institution is working with such a nice group of professionals. Everyone I work with has been so welcoming while I continue to learn more about this organization.

Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my two boys, Ryan and Adam, who both now reside in Florida and work in professional baseball. I am also approaching 27 years married to my husband, Don. We enjoy watching all the Marvel Universe movies together and spoiling our dogs, Maddie and Beans. I am excited as to what is to come in my time at NPRC and what each of us will continue to build at the College.

