



Newsletter from the Office of the President July 2021

Greetings:

To those of you I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting, my name is Susan Snelick, and I am thrilled to have been appointed as the college’s second president, effective April 12, 2021. As you can imagine, I have been quite busy immersing myself into all things NPRC and am enjoying every moment! I continue to learn the inner workings of the college and have started to branch out to meet with our stakeholders throughout our region.

Communication is steadfast in the approach of my presidency, and although you may recall receiving a “stakeholder update” from our founding president, I hope to bring a broader information sharing tool to the bi-monthly college update in the form of this newsletter. I welcome you to browse the information shared below from the departments within the college and offer any feedback or comments as well as concerns, and of course, questions!

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if there are opportunities for our regional college to assist you in your career, with your constituents, in partnerships, etc. – we are here for you!

Thank you for your continued support and for reading the following excerpts of information from across departments at the NPRC.

President’s Summer Town Hall Tour

 <p>NORTHERN PENNSYLVANIA REGIONAL COLLEGE</p> <p>Join NPRC at one of our upcoming Town Hall Meetings. Hear updates and meet our new president, Susan Snelick. Community members and stakeholders will also be able to provide valuable input on the college’s community engagement.</p> <p>For more information, contact Jennifer Rossey at jrossey@rrcnpa.org</p>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">TOWN HALL MEETINGS</h2> <table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="544 1375 852 1480"> <p>August 11 at Noon NPRC Edu. & Training Center 5739 W. Ridge Road, Suite 2, Erie</p> </td> <td data-bbox="852 1375 1177 1480"> <p>August 18 at Noon Gunzburger Building 1 North Main Street, Coudersport</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1177 1375 1531 1480"> <p>August 26 at Noon Keystone CEC 206 Seneca Street, Suite 30, Oil City</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="544 1480 852 1585"> <p>August 12 at 9:00am Makers Warehouse 315 Bruxelles Street, St. Marys</p> </td> <td data-bbox="852 1480 1177 1585"> <p>August 19 at Noon Pitt Bradford (Frame-Westerberg CMNS) 300 Campus Dr., Bradford</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1177 1480 1531 1585"> <p>September 1 at 11:30am Forest Area School District 22318 Route 62, Tionesta</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="544 1585 852 1682"> <p>August 18 at 8:30am Emporium Fire Hall 419 N Broad Street, Emporium</p> </td> <td data-bbox="852 1585 1177 1682"> <p>August 25 at 9:00am Crawford County CTC 860 Thurston Road, Meadville</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1177 1585 1531 1682"> <p>September 1 at 4:00pm NPRC Admin. Offices 300 2nd Avenue, Suite 500, Warren</p> </td> </tr> </table>			<p>August 11 at Noon NPRC Edu. & Training Center 5739 W. Ridge Road, Suite 2, Erie</p>	<p>August 18 at Noon Gunzburger Building 1 North Main Street, Coudersport</p>	<p>August 26 at Noon Keystone CEC 206 Seneca Street, Suite 30, Oil City</p>	<p>August 12 at 9:00am Makers Warehouse 315 Bruxelles Street, St. Marys</p>	<p>August 19 at Noon Pitt Bradford (Frame-Westerberg CMNS) 300 Campus Dr., Bradford</p>	<p>September 1 at 11:30am Forest Area School District 22318 Route 62, Tionesta</p>	<p>August 18 at 8:30am Emporium Fire Hall 419 N Broad Street, Emporium</p>	<p>August 25 at 9:00am Crawford County CTC 860 Thurston Road, Meadville</p>	<p>September 1 at 4:00pm NPRC Admin. Offices 300 2nd Avenue, Suite 500, Warren</p>
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Northern Pennsylvania Regional College’s Mission is to provide affordable and accessible post-secondary education to the residents of northern Pennsylvania.

NPRC proudly serves students in Cameron, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, McKean, Potter, Warren, and Venango Counties.

From the Division of Academic and Student Affairs:

Accreditation Update

NPRC continues to collaborate with accreditation officials as our application for candidacy progresses through the approval process. After receiving positive feedback from our assigned peer team, the commission's recommendation released at the end of this month will guide our timeline and next steps, focusing on assessment of college policies, procedures, and operations in pursuit of continual improvement. The College team will spend the upcoming months updating September 2020's Accreditation Readiness Report and conducting accreditation training sessions for our Board of Trustees and employees.

Summer and Fall Classes

Summer classes are well underway. During this term, students may choose to progress toward their certificates or associate degrees by enrolling in four-week courses during June or July or eight-week courses spanning the full summer term from June 7 through August 5. Courses offered include general education courses such as Introduction to Sociology and Foundations of Math as well as major courses such as Instructional and Classroom Design for Early Childhood Curricula and Industrial Safety.

Fall term, with ongoing registration open to all current and future students as of April 26, commences on August 18 with a return to in-person learning. NPRC is excited to share the news of our transition from remote delivery back to real-time, site-based instruction. For the fall term, students may enjoy face-to-face instruction at twelve instructional sites throughout our nine-county service region.

NPRC-University of Pittsburgh-Titusville Hub Partnership

NPRC's first cohort of students will begin pursuing their Associate of Science in Nursing during the fall term. These students completed their Certificate in General Studies during the spring or early summer and achieved eligibility for direct entry into the Hub's Nursing program through the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville. For more information on opportunities provided by this partnership, please contact one of our Student Success Specialists.

Commencement

Our first commencement ceremony as an independent institution, held on May 22, recognized the first cohort of graduates. Seventeen students celebrated achieving their certificate or associate degree in a virtual ceremony.

From the Department of Advancement and Community Engagement:



NPRC focuses on keeping courses affordable, though many students still find it difficult to participate in post-secondary education. This year, we will again be participating in Erie Gives on August 10 and Crawford Gives on August 30-31. Funds raised through our participation in these community fundraising events may be used in multiple ways to support our mission of affordability and accessibility for our students. We seek to provide students with opportunity through full or partial scholarships to enroll in our college, technology purchases for accessibility like laptops and hotspot rentals, and expansion of our locations and lab spaces. **Please consider supporting NPRC on these days!**



From the Department of Workforce Development:

We are pleased to announce NPRC is now approved as an education training agency for the Pennsylvania State Fire Academy. We anticipate to be in a position to offer our first firefighting class in the Fall of 2021.

For a comprehensive list of workforce classes, please visit our website at <https://regionalcollegepa.org/workforce-catalog/>.

From the Division of Finance and Administration:

Erie Facility Open and Operating

NPRC's Erie Education and Training Facility is now open and operating. NPRC occupies multiple administrative offices at this location as well as classroom and lab space for credit and non-credit courses and a Commercial Driver's License training range. NPRC continues to improve on the facility and will be installing equipment and completing additional lab space over the next several months.

NPRC Partners with Potter County Education Council for Equipment

NPRC partnered with the Potter County Education Council (PCEC) to obtain access to twenty-four StarLeaf systems at eight locations in Potter County and surrounding areas. NPRC provides students with synchronous live video delivery of education via StarLeaf systems. PCEC obtained a grant from the USDA to fund the equipment acquisition, installation, and related equipment training. NPRC and PCEC have reached agreement for NPRC to have access to that equipment and the eight locations for five years. PCEC expects to receive and install the equipment within the next several months.

COVID-19 Plans for Education Delivery

NPRC continues to monitor guidance and requirements from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the CDC and is developing plans to ensure that delivery of in-person classes remains fully compliant with those guidelines. NPRC expects to issue updated plans in early August regarding the Fall 2021 term.

Board of Trustee Highlight – Senator Mary Jo White



Above: Chairperson of the BOT, Kate Brock with Senator Mary Jo White

The Honorable Mary Jo White was granted Emeritus status of the Board of Trustees at our July 9, 2021 Board Meeting. As a founding member and dedicated, valuable board chair, she offered her support through a myriad of challenges and changes and has faithfully advocated on our behalf in numerous venues. Mary Jo has been very instrumental in the evolution of the college.

She served as a public defender for Venango County from 1974 to 1976. From 1996 to 2007 she was the Corporate Secretary and Vice-President for Environmental/Government Affairs for Quaker State Corporation.

She was elected to the Pennsylvania Senate for the 21st district and served from 1997 to 2013. She chaired the Senate Environmental Committee for 12 years and was the first woman elected to the Republican Leadership in 2011. She was considered an expert on issues involving the environment and land use.

She has been married to her husband, Judge H. William White for 55 years. They are blessed with three children and 7 grandchildren. They share their home with two rescue Great Danes and a Basset Hound which she says is “good for one good laugh a day.”

Employee Spotlight – Leigh Anne Kraemer-Naser

This month’s employee spotlight is Early Childhood Education Instructor, Leigh Anne Kraemer-Naser. Leigh Anne has been with NPRC since September 2019 and leads the Associate of Applied Science in Early Childhood Education program. Leigh Anne strives to give her students a strong voice in their own education and assessment through a process called Topic Mastery Opportunity. She guides her students through this process to help them identify and create personalized assessment tools and techniques that align course objectives with various state standards for curriculum, instruction, and assessment, while incorporating their own passions and curiosities. This fall, Leigh Anne will be presenting this innovative, practical, and personalized assessment strategy with colleagues across the state at the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Teachers Teacher Education Assembly in Harrisburg.



When Leigh Anne is not in the classroom, she spends time with her family hiking and kayaking on Presque Isle. She is an active member of the Erie community, involved in a variety of initiatives and projects including her most recent participation in Ales for Sails benefiting the Bayfront Maritime Center. As Leigh Ann balances her active professional and personal life, she also delights in spending time with her daughters as they follow their passions pursuing musical performance, world-level competitive Irish dance, and pre-engineering projects.

Student Spotlight – Sherrie Falck



This month’s Student Spotlight is Sherrie Falck who is pursuing an Associate of Arts Degree in Social Sciences. Sherrie is on track to complete her degree in Spring of 2022. Here is her story:

“I am a survivor of a domestic abusive marriage and it has been five years since I left that life. Two years ago, I decided to go back to school because I wanted to help other women who are in abusive relationships. When I started taking classes, NPRC was still partnered with Gannon at the CEC in St. Marys. As a student at NPRC, the instructors have supported me and have given me the confidence to continue with college. By having instructors and student advisors believing in me and having the student advisors guiding and supporting me, it helped me believe in myself. I’m already using my social science degree before I’ve even finished with school. At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, I was hired at Citizens Against Physical, Sexual, and Emotional Abuse (CAPSEA),

which is a women’s shelter for sexual and domestic abuse victims. I’m currently receiving training through CAPSEA for art therapy for trauma and Trauma Incident Reduction (TIR) therapy. With being a survivor and wondering why something like this had happened to me, I have an inspirational verse that I would like to share- *‘For every wound there is a scar. Every scar carries a story. A story says you survived. Don’t be ashamed of your story... it will inspire others.’* (muses from a mystic).”