



NEWSLETTER FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT SNELICK

Greetings! We hope you enjoy our Spring 2024 President's Newsletter. We are thrilled about what lies ahead for the rest of the year at NPRC, as we have had a fantastic start to 2024.

There is almost too much exciting news to report about the College. However, there are a few key members of our NPRC community that I want to acknowledge for their dedication. I want to express my sincere appreciation to Kate Brock, who completed her commitment as the NPRC Board Chair in January. Kate gave so much of her valuable time to building this great institution and we will forever be grateful for her leadership. Duane Vicini assumed this role as Chair in the transition and is already doing an amazing job in his new position on the board.

All of us here at NPRC also feel bittersweet about former Coordinator of Special Projects Eileen Goodling's retirement. Eileen spearheaded many necessary projects and initiatives during her time with the College. While we miss her service, we are excited about her next chapter of life and know she will always be a champion for NPRC.

I would also be remised if I didn't mention the hard work of our incredible staff. Both our Workforce Development and Academic divisions continue to add more opportunities for our students with even more on the horizon. We are continuing to implement more advanced, user-friendly technological systems to create an improved employee and student experience. Each one of our divisions has been involved in this work and they deserve much praise for continuing to make our college better going forward. Be sure to read more about their accomplishments throughout the newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support and investment in NPRC!

Sincerely,

Susie

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

April 8 — Registration Deadline*

CDL Class A — Erie, PA

April 13 — Safe Churches Seminar*

Wellsboro, PA

April 22 — Registration Deadline*

CDL Class A — St. Marys, PA

April 30 — Registration Deadline*

CDL Class A — Mansfield, PA

May 6 — Registration Deadline*

CDL Class A — Erie, PA

May 18 — Commencement

May 21 — Registration Deadline*

CDL Class A — St. Marys, PA

May 27 — Registration Deadline*

CDL Class A — Mansfield, PA

May 29 — Summer A&B Registration Closes

June 3 — Summer A&B Term Start

June 3 — Registration Deadline*

CDL Class A — Erie, PA

June 17 — Registration Deadline*

CDL Class A — St. Marys, PA

June 18 — Summer Information Session

June 24 — Registration Deadline*

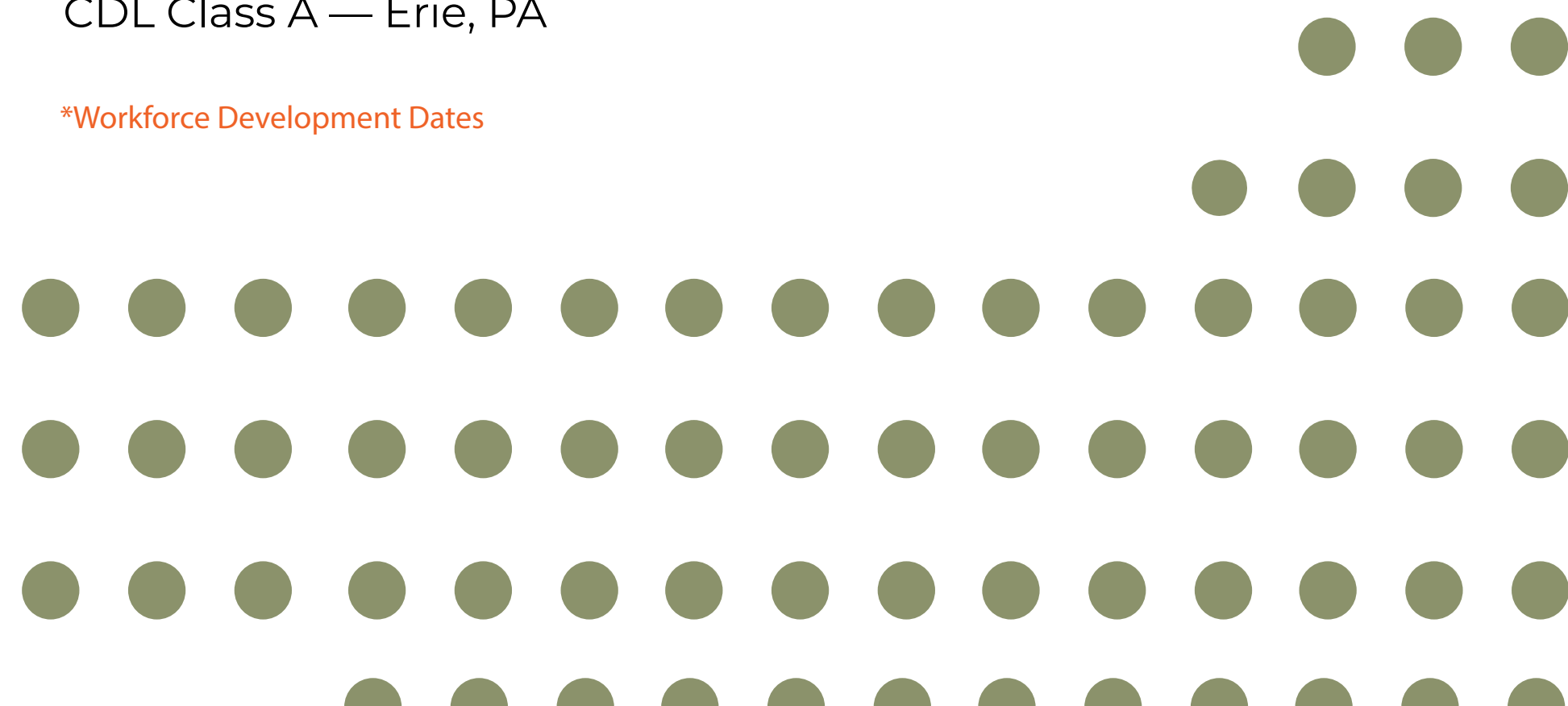
CDL Class A — Mansfield, PA

June 26 — Summer C Registration Closes

July 1 — Registration Deadline*

CDL Class A — Erie, PA

*Workforce Development Dates



NPRC NOTEWORTHY NEWS

PELLEGRINO NAMED 2024 COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Northern Pennsylvania Regional College is pleased to announce that Warren native Beth Pellegrino has been selected as the institution's 2024 Commencement Speaker. Pellegrino serves as a Partner and Senior Consultant at J. L. Nick & Associates. Her career may take her around the country, but Warren County will always be home.

"I'm truly humbled and honored to have the opportunity to speak to this amazing group of graduates," Pellegrino expressed. "Having grown up in this region and lived in this region for all my life, I don't think there is a better place to be. I love that the college continues to showcase the towns and opportunities that exist in our area. Hopefully, I can help these graduates realize they are in the driver's seat, and they can be whatever they want to be in this next chapter. If I can be part of their motivation or someone who inspires them to go out and do great things, that would be special."

Read more about Beth [here](#).



PRESIDENT SNELICK JOINS RCCA BOARD

Northern Pennsylvania Regional College President, Susie Snelick, was appointed to her position on the Board of Directors for the Rural Community College Alliance (RCCA). Snelick is now one of just 13 higher education professionals from across the country who currently serve on RCCA's board of directors.

According to their official website, the RCCA helps individuals and institutions from across the United States serve the nearly 90 million people who live in rural America. The alliance seeks to promote a more economically, culturally, and civically vibrant rural America through advocacy, convening, leveraging resources, and serving as a clearinghouse for innovative practice, policy, and research. "It's a great way for me to continue learning and continue my journey through education and experiences. From a professional sense, it is a great way to help bring recognition and best practices to NPRC. My hope is ultimately this experience will provide opportunities of continuous improvement to NPRC to always better serve our students."

Read more about this great news involving President Snelick [here](#).



NPRC OFFERS MICRO-CREDENTIAL PROGRAMS

Northern Pennsylvania Regional College's Workforce Development Division is adding two new micro-credential programs in fundamentals of quality and industrial maintenance. These programs are available to manufacturing organizations by working with our customized training team.

To complete either of these programs, it's required for students to complete all six of the respective courses that last from a few hours to a few weeks. However, individual course certifications are an option as a part of this program. Each class can include up to 15 learners. These programs can even be brought to a company's workplaces to ensure the training is provided in their working environment and on their own time. These customized training programs are a worthwhile opportunity for businesses to help their team members grow in their careers, to reward their hardworking and motivated employees, and to hire talented workers in areas of need.

For more specifics about our quality management and industrial maintenance customized training, check out this [piece](#).



BUSINESS WORK-READY SKILL SETS COMING AUG 2024

Northern Pennsylvania Regional College (NPRC) announced the addition of Business Work-Ready Skill Sets in February. These skill sets will be offered starting in August 2024 with the 2024-25 academic year. These skill sets can be achieved in two semesters and require three academic courses.

There are four different skill sets that can be earned in accounting/bookkeeping, human resources, marketing, and small business entrepreneurship. These skill sets are non-degree, short-term options for students, but the credits can also be applied toward the business administration associate degree at NPRC. If students choose to pursue a business administration degree, they can request up to two business skill sets within their program curriculum. After completing their nine-credit skill set, students will be awarded documentation of completion.

These Business Work-Ready Skill Sets were added by NPRC to help students earn the skills necessary in specific areas of business to begin an entry-level career or advance their careers. For more information, check out this [piece](#).



SCHROLL GRANTED LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP

NPRC early childhood education student Christine Schroll was recently awarded a scholarship from the Rotary Club of Warren to aid in her educational journey. The organization recently began awarding academic scholarships to Warren County students who are pursuing college or trade programs at Northern Pennsylvania Regional College. The selection criteria for recipients are based on financial need and demonstrated passion for service. Applicants were chosen based on their submission of short biographies about their lives and service to Warren County.

Schroll is a working mom balancing part-time work in the food service industry, operating a small crafting business, raising her family, and attending courses at NPRC to eventually earn a degree in early childhood education.

"My college education is very important to me," she said. "I've had many struggles, but I continue to strive and keep my head up the best I can. This scholarship has meant so much to me as someone who has had struggles in her educational journey. It's given me the financial opportunity to continue taking classes throughout 2024 and help me reach my goal of one day becoming a preschool teacher."

Read more about Schroll [here](#).



NPRC WINS EDUCATIONAL ADVERTISING AWARD

Northern Pennsylvania Regional College was awarded a gold award for their impressive [2022-23 Annual Report](#) design as a part of the 39th Annual Educational Advertising Awards. The Educational Advertising Awards is the largest educational advertising awards competition in the country and featured over 2,000 entries in this latest edition.

NPRC was one of just 480 institutions from the United States and abroad awarded a Gold Award this year. Judges for the Educational Advertising Awards consisted of a national panel of higher education marketers, advertising creative directors, marketing and advertising professionals.

This latest Annual Report for the College focused heavily on the people in the NPRC community that help to make this institution great and one that strives to continue growing and better serving our communities. The certificate for this award will be received by the Marketing and Public Relations Department this spring.



NPRC STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

BRITTANY GRAJEK

NPRC means much more than an opportunity for a better life for Meadville native Brittany Grajek. It's become the place where she's found clarity in her career, a way to help lead her family to a better life, and the place where she's met a best friend in fellow early childhood education student, Savannah Nichols.

Grajek started at NPRC in the spring of 2020 as a student in the Childhood Development Associate (CDA) course. The opportunity was life changing and inspired her to pursue a career in early childhood education. The way to get there and advance was to become a student in the Associate of Applied Science in Early Childhood Education program. Grajek has been enrolled since the fall 2020 term and currently holds a 4.0 grade point average.

Her unblemished grade point average is even more impressive when factoring in her balance of a full-time job, being a wife, raising two young boys, and battling cancer in recent years. "I wanted to make sure I graduated with my peers," said Grajek about why she's continued school through her cancer battle. "Attending NPRC on top of these other aspects in life has been the most rewarding, yet challenging experience of my life. I'm thankful for everyone supporting me and especially my husband and two boys."

Once her time at NPRC concludes later this year, Grajek hopes to advance her career to become an assistant teacher or paraprofessional in a Pre-K classroom. "I attribute much of my success in my education to Leigh Anne Kramer-Naser. She is the reason I want to be a teacher," she said.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPOTLIGHT

GREG MAHON

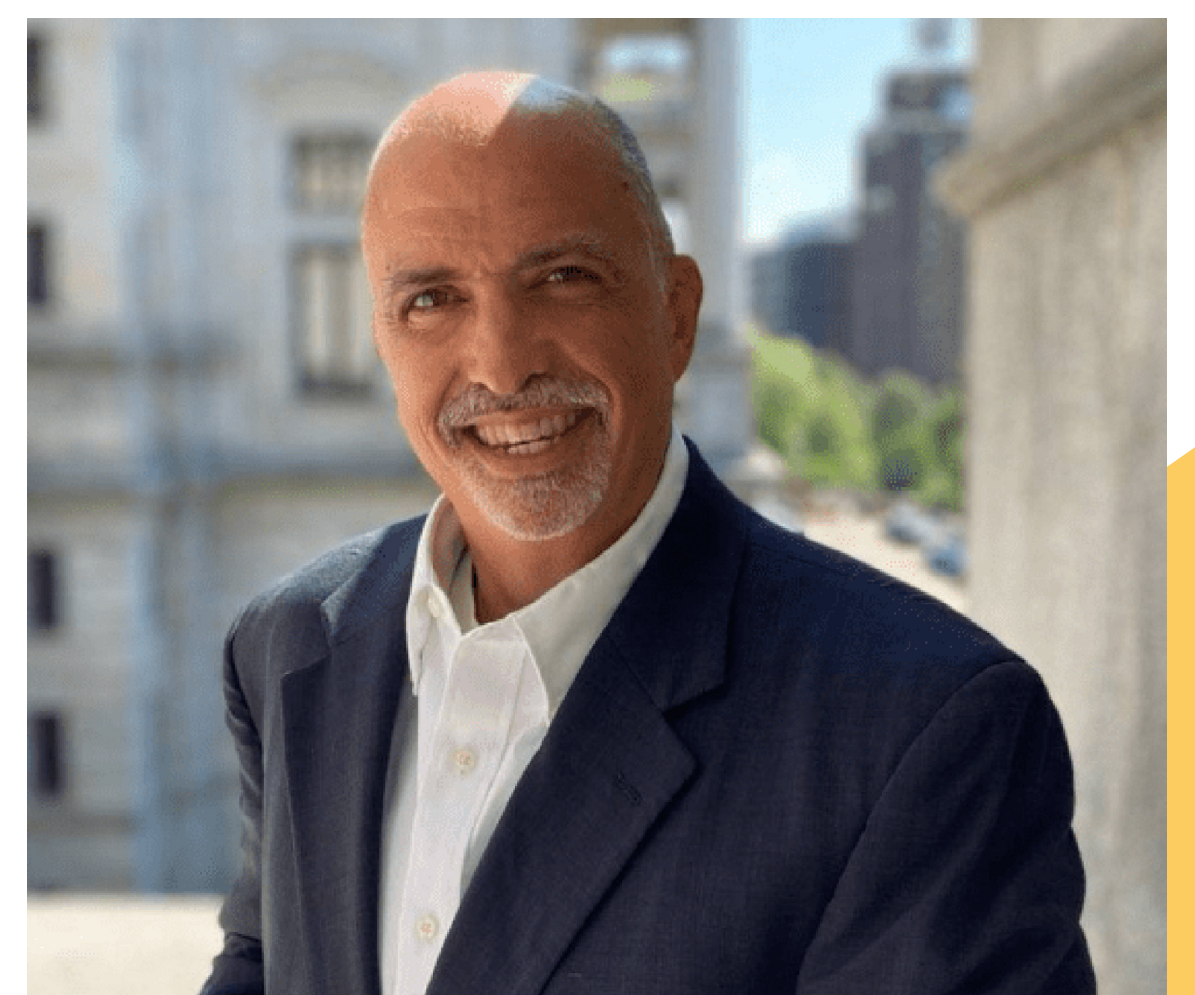
Greg Mahon is one of the original board members for NPRC and has played a vital role for more than a decade to help give regional residents affordable and accessible opportunities in higher education.

His experience in government and the legislature is extensive as a veteran of 30-plus years in this industry. He currently serves as the Deputy Chief of Staff to Senator Kim Ward, President Pro Tempore of the Senate of Pennsylvania and worked for former Senator Joe Scarnati, a vital advocate in helping develop the College. Mahon is a graduate of Penn State Berks where he earned his Associate of Science degree in Business Administration. He then transferred to Penn State Harrisburg to complete a Bachelor of Science in Public Policy.

The progress that NPRC has made in recent years is something Mahon takes pride in. He shared, "I'm super mindful of the unique challenges and inequities that exist in rural Pennsylvania. I take great pride in bringing something unique to this region. I've also enjoyed seeing the College add a team of professionals with similar levels of passion and enthusiasm for NPRC's mission as the founding members."

Outside of his professional career, Mahon is currently the Chairman of the Lower Allen Township Recreation and Parks Board. He had a long career coaching youth softball and soccer and for five years was the President of the Cedar Cliff Youth Softball Association. Mahon also previously served as an instructor for Junior Achievement. He's a proud girl dad of two and enjoys spending time cheering for Philadelphia professional sports teams, playing golf, touring breweries, catching live music, and hiking.

For more information about Mahon and our Board of Trustees, check them out [online!](#)



PART-TIME FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

LYNN CLASSON, INSTRUCTOR

The arts have always been a passion for NPRC instructor Lynn Classon. Whether it be designing a beautiful display in her first career in retail; painting pictures for loved ones; or being an educator in composition, English, literature, and writing, the arts bring incredible meaning to her life. In her career, sharing her passion for the art of language is special to her.

Once a non-traditional college student herself, she's seen the impact that education can have on people's lives. She has worked in education for over two decades and enjoyed 11 years at the high school level before feeling called to teach at the college level. Classon teaches a full course load with Jamestown Community College and additional courses with NPRC. She's been with the College for around two years and enjoys the impact she has made on students from various backgrounds. Her own college experience saw her begin at Jamestown Community College, where she completed her Associate of Arts in Humanities. She then moved to Buffalo to complete a Bachelor of Science in English-Secondary Education from SUNY Buffalo State. Since, she has finished a Master of Science in English Education at SUNY Fredonia.

Classon enjoys serving students who have mostly grown up in small, rural communities like her hometown of Kennedy, New York; home of around 400 people. She shares, "I feel like I can understand what many of my students are going through because I have been in similar situations and am from this region. It is so impactful to me to be that first impression of college for some and that reassuring person for others who are back in school."



NPRC STAFF SPOTLIGHT

JENN NICKERSON, ADMIN ASSISTANT TO VPAA/ALO

Hey, everyone! I'm Jenn Nickerson and I am the new Administrative Assistant to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Accreditation Liaison. I began my time at NPRC in December 2023 and have a background in education of more than 15 years.

I reside in Corry and spend much of my free time volunteering and hanging out with family and friends. I volunteer as treasurer of the Corry High School Wrestling Boosters Club and am a Warren County 4-H Volunteer leader with the Milkyways Dairy Club. I am also a sports fan, especially enjoying attending my sons' football games and wrestling matches.

In my time at NPRC, I have been pleasantly surprised by how everyone I have encountered has truly gone out of their way to help me feel welcomed here. I am excited about the possibilities as I continue my time at the College!

