



ARKANSAS STATE
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Community Report 2018 - 2019

**MORE THAN THE
CLASSROOM!**

Community

INDUSTRY



TRAINING

THIS ISSUE



On The Cover: Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson, Arkansas Congressman French Hill, State Senator Jonathan Dismang, Searcy Mayor Kyle Osborne, and State Representative Les Eaves discuss CNC machine projects with ASU-Beebe student Matthew Dunn during a visit to the ASUB Searcy campus.

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As I reflect on my first year as Chancellor of Arkansas State University-Beebe, I feel exceptionally privileged to work each day with the remarkable faculty, staff, and students who make ASU-Beebe such a unique institution. One of the perks of being the chancellor is that I often get the chance to observe our faculty and staff as they work with students, guiding them through their educational experiences. As a way of introducing the 2019 *Community Report*, I would like to share some of my observations.



In the 2018-19 academic year, I have come to know much more about the kind of education a student receives at our ASU-Beebe campuses. The ASU-Beebe experience doesn't just prepare students to make a better living; the ASUB experience also prepares students to have and live a better life. Our faculty and staff work with students both inside and outside the classroom, and they model a life of service and dedication to others. ASU-Beebe employees don't just say we are *transforming lives through quality learning experiences* because it is our mission statement. They intentionally create and nurture quality learning experiences designed specifically for our students. Faculty don't simply teach the content of their disciplines, though they do that exceptionally well. They also model civic involvement, respect for cultural diversity, teamwork, life-long learning, continuous improvement, tolerance, and civility. ASU-Beebe faculty and staff – on every campus, in every classroom, and in every office – are devoted to each student's growth and development as a whole person, not just within his or her area of study. Somewhere over the course of the year, I came to see one thing clearly: at ASU-Beebe, students get *more than the classroom*.

In the pages of this *Community Report*, we wanted to provide our readers with a glimpse of the quality learning experiences our students enjoy both inside and outside the classroom. Whether a student is building a set for a theatrical production, practicing skills on a state-of-the-art diesel engine simulator, engaging in service learning, enjoying Sugar Loaf Mountain as their classroom, or traveling to El Salvador on a faculty-led field trip, our students are immersed in transformational learning experiences every day thanks to the focus and determination of our talented faculty and staff.

A number of factors make it possible for our employees to create such rich learning environments for our students, and the continued support of our donors, alumni, advisors, and community members is one of those essential factors. The time, expertise, and financial support shared with ASU-Beebe create opportunity and promote success for ASU-Beebe students on each of our campuses. If you are reading this report, you are, no doubt, one of those remarkable supporters. Your patronage makes our work possible. Please accept my thanks for the many ways you help ASU-Beebe faculty and staff provide *more than the classroom* for our students and the communities we serve.

With gratitude,


Jennifer Methvin, Chancellor

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When we talk about community colleges and the connections they have to their surrounding communities, career education and workforce training are vital elements.

ASU-Beebe expanded its community reach during the 2018-2019 school year through partnerships with area industry that hire from the current group of graduates. Each technical program has an Industry Advisory Committee that meets several times per year to provide input on technology and training needs in their respective industries to help ASU-Beebe keep pace with industry standards for skilled, certified technicians in the local workforce.

Leonard Mesa, Director of Workforce & Community Development at ASU-Beebe, said, "We started with just a few area industries, but in the last year our list of industry partners has grown as more see the value in our ability to provide skill development and specific training." He added that as more industry become aware of and join partnerships with ASU-Beebe, more are investing in training for their employees.

"These partnerships help us hone the curriculum to provide specialized short-term and long-term training solutions to meet the skilled labor needs of industry," Mesa said.

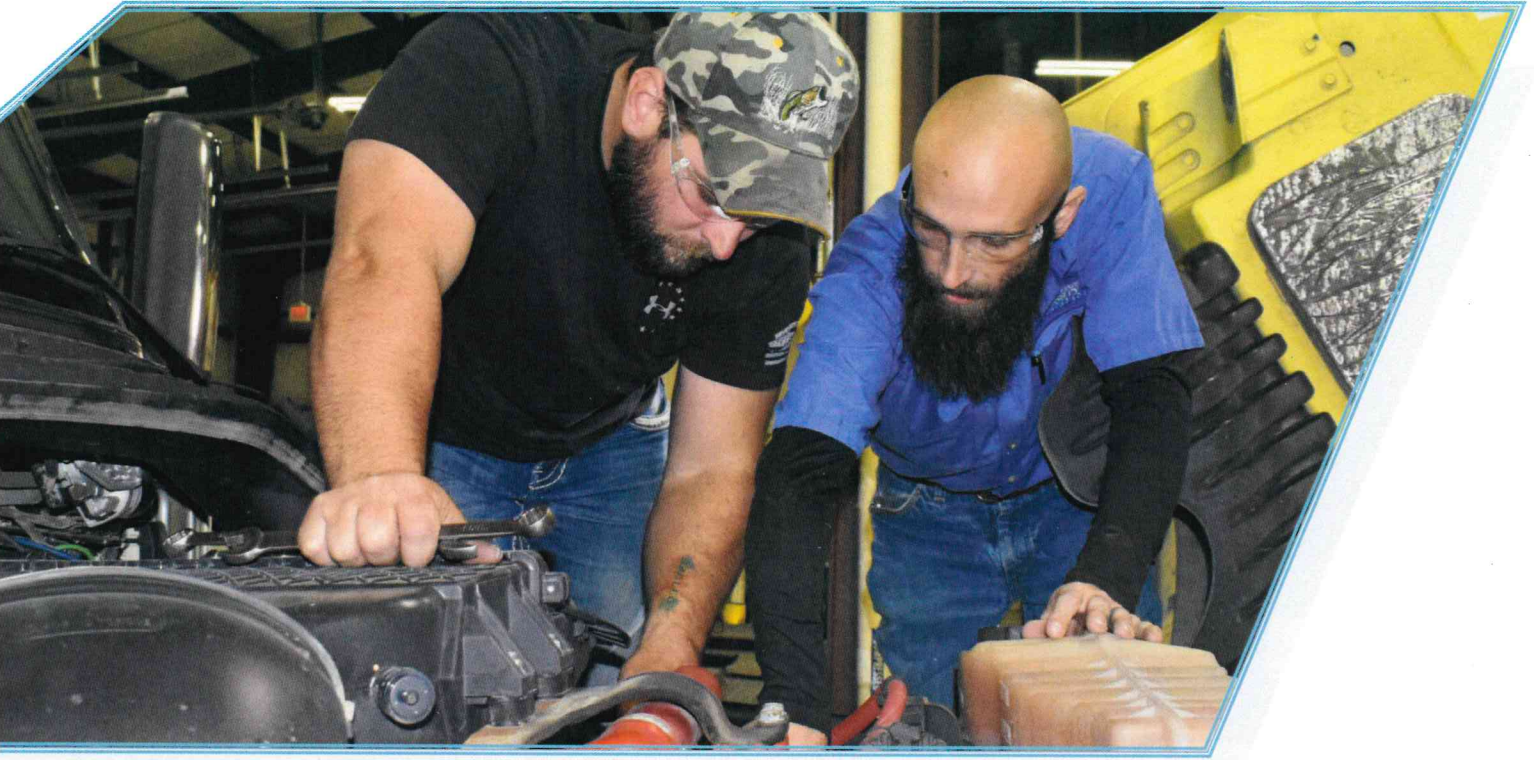
He noted that industry advisory groups have made improvements to what the Arkansas Department of

Career Education refers to as "program level outcomes" to match industry needs within numerous programs, which include the following: Computer Systems Network Technology, Diesel Medium/Heavy Duty Truck Technology, CNC-Machining, and Industrial Technology. These industry partner program reviews analyze equipment, technology, tools, and training to ensure students are certified and ready to work upon graduation.

The community partnerships have grown out of a series of events that ASU-Beebe has hosted to draw prospective students, community members, local businesses, and area industry onto the campus to discover what our community college can do for them.

"The Manufacturing Day event was designed as an open house for students to visit the campus and meet program instructors and more than 10 area industry representatives. This way, they could

Career and industry partnerships build on *more than the classroom* experience for career ed programs.



learn about available training and see what the job market looked like with area industry," Mesa said. "It was a success in that both students and industry were exposed to our programs, shops, and what we could provide, as well as open discussions for future opportunities for the labor market."

Advisory Committees Help Find Funding

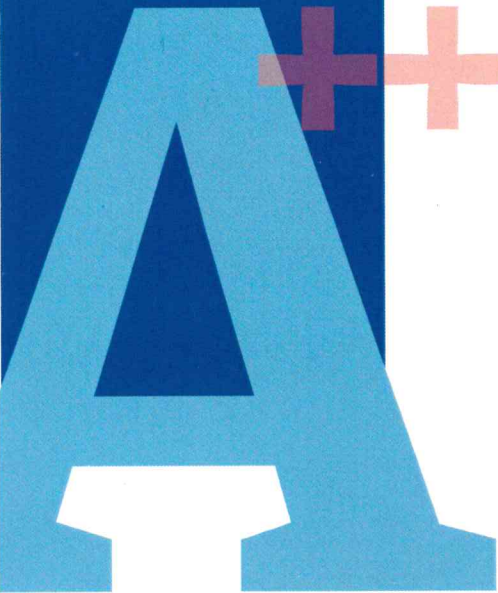
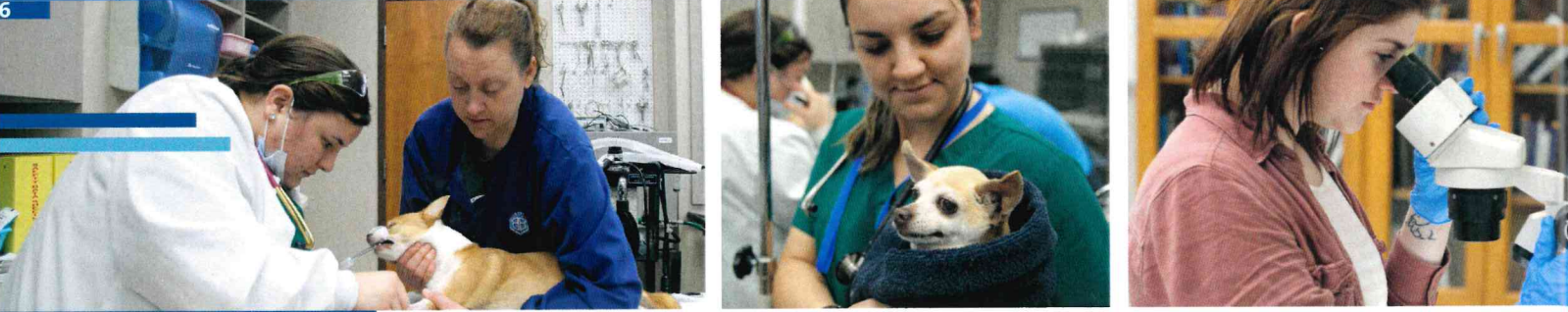
Guidance to additional funding sources for career education programs at ASU-Beebe has increased significantly with the involvement from community and industry partners. Additional funding has allowed these programs to modernize equipment, technology, and tools. ASU-Beebe has sought and received grants awarded by the Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission for several years. Grants totaling \$35,565 have played a key role in advancing the Automotive Repair Technology (\$13,750), Diesel Medium/Heavy Duty Truck Technology (\$12,989), and Power Sports Technology programs (\$8,826) at the ASU-Beebe Searcy campus.

Additionally, the industry advisory committee facilitated support through the Office of Skills

Development of the Arkansas Department of Career Education to get two state-of-the-art truck simulators for the Diesel truck program. Jake Selvidge, Diesel Technology instructor, said, "We are very appreciative of this grant funding. The simulators enable us to train students on the latest technology for over-the-road trucks, modern tool kits, and specialty and calibrating tools to maintain the new high-tech truck systems."

Ron Snyder, Power Sports Technology Instructor, said, "We added a mount and balance system for motorcycle and ATV wheels." He stated that the new machines will ensure our students are trained, technically proficient, and ready to work when they graduate.

Mesa identifies the next step as developing a series of internships, apprenticeships, and work/study positions to build a mutually beneficial pipeline so that industry can access skilled and trained workers. This relationship creates a confident track for students to transition from training to employment.



ASU-Beebe Programs Rank High Nationally and In Arkansas

ASU-Beebe understands that we, like others, are analyzed against competitors or some standard for performance. ASU-Beebe currently offers quality education in more than 60 degree and certificate programs. Our instructors work tirelessly to ensure that we are delivering the best possible education to students. This year, independent organizations, both in Arkansas and across the nation, have recognized our efforts.

Dr. Jennifer Methvin, Chancellor of ASU-Beebe said, "We are very proud of all of our programs, but it is especially rewarding when our programs receive independent recognition for the continuing effort that students, faculty, and staff invest in maintaining high standards."



The first, and arguably the most significant, recognition is that **ASU-Beebe was voted the #1 College or University in Arkansas** in the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette's* 2018 Best of the Best reader's poll. Readers of the newspaper nominated ASU-Beebe for this honor. Readers then followed through with voting to surpass other finalists, including the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and the University of Central Arkansas.

Our Vanguard community, students, faculty, staff, parents, and alumni took an active role in voting. That active voting makes a clear statement on their relationship with ASU-Beebe.

Our ASU-Beebe John Deere Agriculture Technology program was again ranked nationally as the **#1 community college-based program in the nation**. The program earned John Deere Corporation's 2018 "College of Tomorrow" award with the highest ranking of Platinum for the fourth year in a row. This program's *More than the Classroom* experience involves students analyzing and repairing some of the most technologically advanced farm equipment. It also provides students with opportunities for getting to know their community and customers as the Agriculture Technology students work Fridays, weekends, and summers at their sponsoring John Deere dealership performing hands-on service and consulting with farmers.

This year, *PracticalNursing.org* rated the ASU-Beebe nursing program as **#7 in Arkansas from among 26 nursing programs**.

"We pride ourselves on being the leading LPN advancement and ranking agency," said Carly Jacobs of *PracticalNursing.org*.





Joseph Scott, Associate Professor of Biology and Director of Allied Health said, "This achievement is directly attributable to our hardworking, experienced, and student-centered nursing faculty." He also credited our community partners for helping ASU-Beebe students rotate through local clinical sites for training, work as volunteers at local health fairs, and participate in other community events.

conferred in that program area). Rankings can be viewed at AccreditedSchoolsOnline.org and at PharmacyTechnicianGuide.com. All programs on the ranked list are American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Accredited.



ASU-Beebe was ranked #9 on the list of the Top 10 Best Community Colleges in Arkansas for 2018-2019 by *Schools.com*. ASU-Beebe garnered praise for its robust catalogue of technical degrees, associate degrees, and



TheBestColleges.org ranks ASU-Beebe's Veterinary Technology program **#47 among 230 programs in the U.S.** on its 2018 and 2019 lists of the Top 50 Veterinary Technology programs. ASU-Beebe has the only Vet Tech

certificate programs, as well as the college's ability to prepare students for the workforce.

program in Arkansas and offers an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Veterinary Technology. Our hands-on, veterinary technology program is accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA).



The Community for Accredited Online Schools ranked ASU-Beebe as **#4 for Best Online Two-Year Colleges in Arkansas**. Evaluation of ASU-Beebe's program flexibility, student support, and

Many Vet Tech students volunteer to help with special needs children and assist with the animals during the community's annual Sunshine Rodeo. Vet Tech students also work with area animal shelters and assist veterinarians and technicians at the Little Rock Zoo to learn and care for the exotic animals housed there.

graduation success helped our school achieve this ranking.



The organization also ranked ASU-Beebe's Pharmacy Technician Program as **#28 on a list of the Best Pharmacy Technician Programs** in the U.S.

Meanwhile, *PharmacyTechnicianGuide.com* ranked ASU-Beebe's Pharmacy Technician Program **#37 in a matchup against 496 schools across the country**. Rankings were based on program quality (acceptance and graduation rates), affordability (tuition and grants), flexibility (part-time enrollment offerings), and program (degrees



ASU-Beebe Advancement Growing Support and Community Interaction

ASU-Beebe is committed to educating tomorrow's leaders, and continued support ensures a brighter future for our Vanguard on their journey.

We have a lot to be proud of at ASU-Beebe, and the impact of private support is visible across each of our campuses and throughout the

She has coordinated a series of events and activities to bring more attention to the needs of the college and how the community and alumni can help support ASU-Beebe.

"My focus has been to grow the endowments, increase scholarships, and reconnect with alumni, retirees, and previous donors so we can better serve our students and the community as an education institution," said Cole.

This year, Advancement held

and ASU-Beebe Development Council, made the initial donation of \$3,000 to kick-start the fund drive. Many individuals and organizations in the community joined in to help meet our goal ahead of schedule. Special thanks to Cathy Eoff, Stallion Transportation Group, Simmons Bank, Centennial Bank, John and Robin Hayes, David and Ann Hayes, Susan Collie, Dr. Lance and Penny McGraw, Riverwind Bank of Cabot, Tyler Bittle, Dr. Hazel Dickey, Garth Martin, Roger Moore,



ASU-BEEBE ADVANCEMENT Focuses on Community Support

communities that we serve. With the support of our alumni, friends, and donors, ASU-Beebe continues enhancing quality of life, encouraging success, and empowering the next generation of leaders and their families.

Helping Students Helps the Entire Community

Investing in students helps create a pipeline of young talent that Central Arkansas relies on for future success.

Andrea Cole, an ASU-Beebe and A-State alumna, joined the Office of Institutional Advancement as the Development Officer/Major Gifts in 2018.

numerous events that increased community involvement and student interaction. The year began with the first ever casino night, followed by the annual scholarship reception at Beebe, and then Blue Hats and Bunco in Heber Springs, to raise awareness and money for scholarships at each campus.

Mid-year, we recognized that we needed a golf cart. A focused fund drive this spring helped us purchase a 6-seat golf cart, which arrived on the ASU-Beebe campus in May and is already in use.

Cathy Eoff, owner of Eoff & Associates Realty, Inc., member of the ASU-Beebe Board of Visitors,

Roger and Jennifer Methvin, and Delta Ag for their support and donations.

Jesse Boyce, owner of B-Fit 24/7, recognized the importance of the need for a golf cart and donated an additional 4-seat golf cart for the cause. "ASU-Beebe has been the heart of this town throughout my life," said Boyce. "I'm honored to help them. The more ASU-Beebe shines to prospective students, the more our community of Beebe shines."

"We are so blessed, and this fund drive and donation is a testament to the support ASU-Beebe has within our communities," Cole said. "If we identify a valid need, our supporters are there to help make it possible."

The generosity of the Vanguard community did not stop there. ASU-Beebe was honored to award more than \$70,000 in private scholarships to students for the 2018 – 2019 academic year, and this spring we announced two newly established scholarships. One is from Dr. Hazel Dickey as she established an endowed scholarship in her name for a student majoring in business.

New Scholarships Dedicated

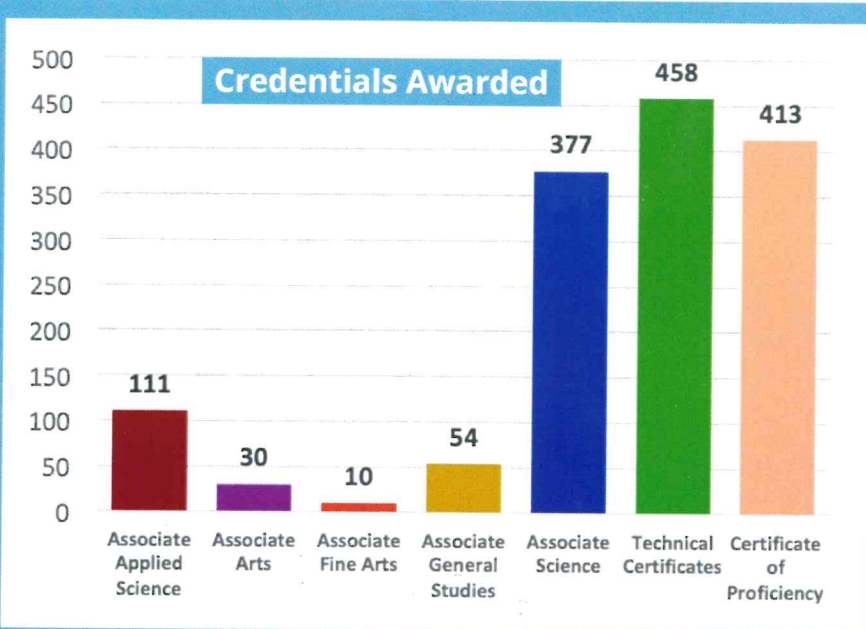
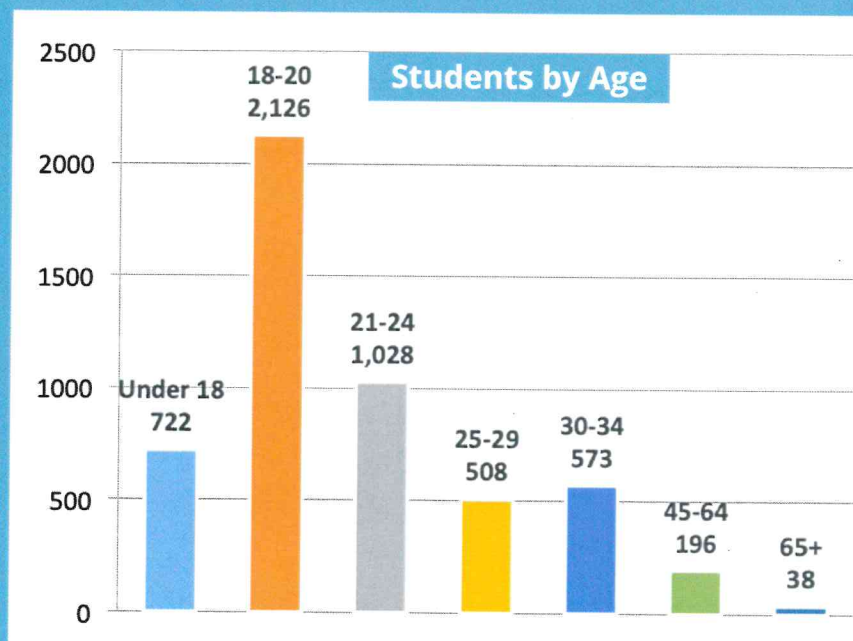
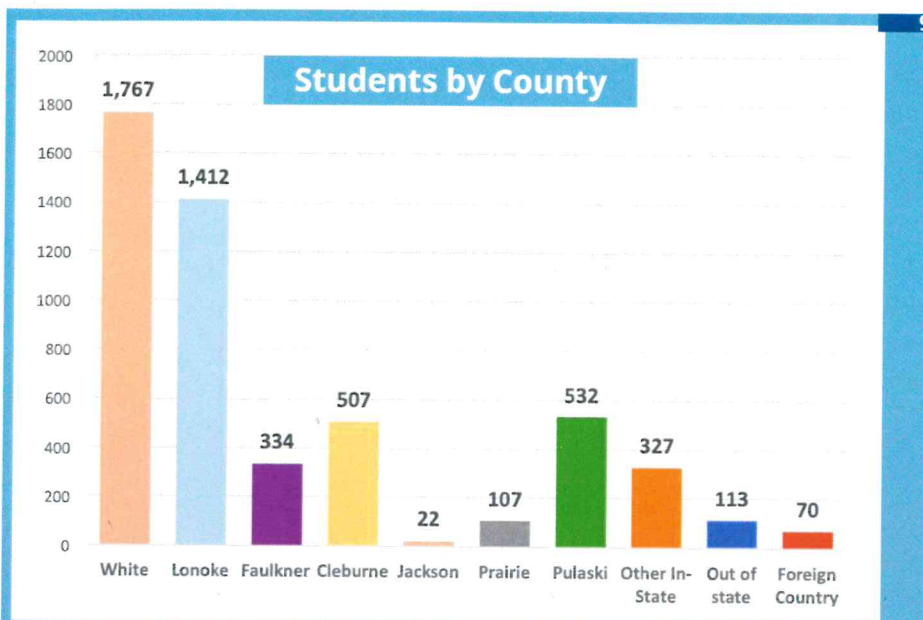
Dr. Dickey is a long time ASU-Beebe supporter and member of the ASU-Beebe Board of Visitors, ASU-Beebe Development Council, and the ASU System Foundation Board of Directors. Dr. Dickey taught business at ASU-Beebe for 32 years before retiring in 2000. She made this commitment to the future for ASU-Beebe and its students, saying, "Throughout my career I saw many, many students pursue their degrees that I am sure would not have been possible without financial assistance in the form of various scholarships. And I wanted to be a part of continuing to make that financial support possible."

The second scholarship honors Ms. Jeannie Lindsey, a retired faculty member and basketball coach, who served at ASU-Beebe for 37 years. The Lindsey Family established the scholarship to benefit those who might otherwise not be eligible for financial aid. During her many years of service at ASU-Beebe, Lindsey created and expanded the curriculum for both men's and women's physical education programs, as well as re-established the AAU Women's basketball team at ASU-Beebe. The team reigned as state champions for two years before she helped create the women's two-year athletic conference in Arkansas.

Rose Mary Jackson, Associate Vice Chancellor of Institutional Advancement, says several community events are in the works for creating more community involvement with supporters, alumni, and donors at ASU-Beebe.

For more information, contact:

ASU-Beebe Office of Institutional Advancement at 501-882-8855, or visit the website at www.ASUB.edu



*Information source: ADHE Annual Summary Report for 2017 - 2018

Patience Anderson's ASU-Beebe *more than the classroom* education has led her both to a profession she loves and an employer who supports her. "I started out going into Health Science. But, my sister is a pharmacy technician, and she told me to consider it, so I did. I love it. I knew that I always wanted to work in the medical field," Patience said. As a result of her perseverance, this spring Patience is working at the Walgreens Pharmacy in Sherwood.

"I do plan to stay at Walgreens after graduation. They've already offered me more money when I graduate, so that's great. They've been so good to me, working with school and working around my class hours."

Patience chose ASU-Beebe because of the close proximity to where she helps youth cope with personal issues, the struggles of life, and how to be the best person they can be.

Patience Anderson
Jacksonville
Pharmacy Technician



Jeremy Backus Searcy Social Work

"Addiction," according to Jeremy, "is an on-going battle many fight alone. The odds are stacked against you. In and out of rehab. Once. Twice. Three times. Often more. Relapse is nearly impossible to break, but it is possible. Breaking through, breaking free is a process."

Jeremy, who grew up in Little Rock, is from a typical family. Both his mother and father worked in health care.

Now, 32, Jeremy noted that at 18 or 19, life was about fun, and it stayed that way for a long, long time. He rocked on having fun for years until one

day, he was strung out. Lost his home. Then, his second home. His car. His fiancé. It was all gone!

Jeremy was homeless for 15 months and had gotten arrested for possession and drug paraphernalia. He was malnourished, sick, and still battling addiction to heroine and meth.

"After four days in jail, I was out (on the streets again). You hear stories about homeless people committing crimes, so they can go to jail . . . for food and a place to sleep. That's about where I was. At least I knew I was safe in jail. I wasn't going to freeze or burn up," Jeremy said.

This moment was his turning point.

For the last two years, Jeremy has been at the Life Recovery Center in Searcy. He transports others every morning to and from work through the Bridge Ministry. "I've volunteered nearly 600 hours in the last six months," says Jeremy. "I get phone calls in the middle of the night. I pack up, and I leave to go. I go to Conway, Little Rock, or where ever. I pick up people and get them a hotel room. I make sure they've eaten," he says. "I try to do everything that I wanted done to help me."

Getting his degree in social work is Jeremy's next step. "I started in the summer of 2018 at ASU-Beebe, and I got two A's that I actually earned! Then, the next session, I got two B's. Then, the fall semester came, and I got two A's and two B's. This semester, I have all A's," he said.

Jeremy has taken advantage of a number of *more than the classroom* opportunities at ASU-Beebe. He joined 13 other students on a faculty-led cultural exchange trip to El Salvador this spring where the students worked with UNICAES a Catholic University, Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos an orphanage in San Salvador, and visited several cultural sites. Jeremy also recently returned from a similar trip to Taiwan this month.

How is it going now for Jeremy?

"I'm like, I'm there. Success, that is."

David Lawson, a graduate of the Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) Program, is headed to the job waiting for him at Sarasota Memorial Hospital.

Why Florida? David's entire family moved there last year, but David chose to stay in Searcy to complete his practical nursing degree at ASU-Beebe. "I plan to pursue my RN degree in Florida," David says.

David, a native of Elkins in Northwest Arkansas, previously attended another university nearby, studying for the ministry. "I decided that I wanted to do something else," he said.

Through his *more than the classroom* LPN curriculum, David spent many hours practicing nursing care skills in clinical rotations at Unity Health. He also runs presentations and sound at Fellowship Bible Church in Searcy.



David Lawson
Elkins
Practical Nursing

#MoreThanTheClassroom

Josh Rainbolt

Tumbling Shoals
EMS/Paramedic

Josh Rainbolt recently moved back to the fire department after serving as a police officer for 15 years. "They [fire department] talked me into EMT school. I loved it! Then, Justin Allen [EMS Program Manager at ASU-Beebe] talked me into paramedic school," he says. Last December, Josh started with NorthStar EMS. He serves in White and Cleburne counties.

"For a paramedic, every day is different. I'm not good with sitting in an office, behind a desk. I enjoy it. Every part of it," Josh added.

By having paramedic skills, he is always prepared for emergency situations while working with the youth group at his church in Heber Springs, and while coaching a youth football league for grades 3 through 6.



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Jason McCoy

Beebe
Theater Arts

For Theater majors like Jason McCoy, every skill learned in the classroom is practiced and honed through a production. A self-professed drama dad/soccer dad, Jason McCoy came to college when his daughter graduated high school. Deciding it was his time to go back to school, Jason retired early from Cintas and cashed in his 401K. Jason worked with widely respected theater director Mr. Chudomelka at Beebe High School for six years and on the construction of nearly 30 sets over the years. Jason found it natural to pursue an Associate Degree in Fine Arts with an emphasis in Theater.

"I've always enjoyed working with young people, and I really enjoy the kids in theater. Eventually, I want to get into a high school theater program so I can work with kids," he said. "I chose ASU-Beebe because it's affordable and close to home. I love that it's a small college that really embraces non-traditional students. That's important. I look around and I'm not the only 40-something year-old student. ASU-Beebe does a really good job at focusing on encouraging non-traditionals," Jason admits.

Jason enjoys sharing his knowledge with younger Theater Arts students when preparing for productions each semester. "We only have the kids in this department for two years. They're going to get an opportunity to build a set, run the sound board, run the lights, direct, or be a stage manager," Jason says. "This is something I'm very passionate about. The organization of putting a play together and building a stage set, it's a great thing!"

Robert Hayes

North Little Rock
Paramedic

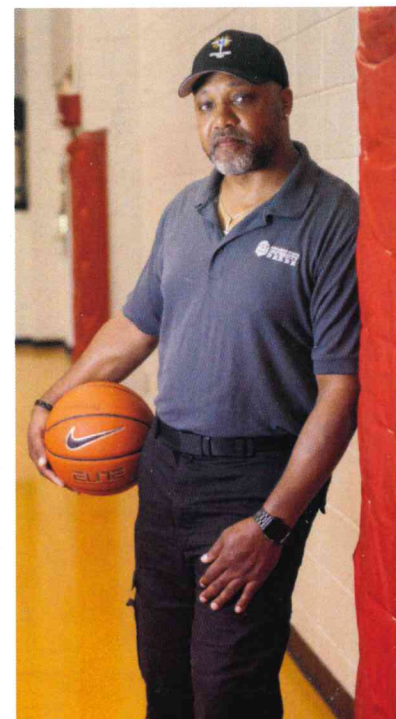
Robert Hayes was born in Mississippi and raised in Washington, D.C. Rob was stationed at Little Rock Air Force Base several years ago for a portion of the 21.5 years he served in the Air Force as a C-130 Flight Engineer.

"I loved the area. I still owned a house from when I lived here previously, and I had friends here, so when I retired in the Fall of 2017, I came back," he said.

"A buddy talked me into the EMT program, and I liked it so much, I'm now graduating from the paramedic program." Rob is using the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill for tuition assistance. He works at NorthStar EMS in Searcy and also part-time as a contractor on base with the 41st Airlift Squadron.

The paramedic program takes up a lot of time as classes are three days per week, with 14 -hours of clinicals. "I like helping people. As paramedics, we're the first ones to provide care." Rob's class will graduate from the paramedic program this summer.

Working two part-time jobs and carrying the requirements for the paramedic training does not leave much time. Robert does, however, play basketball with a team at Little Rock Air Force Base, and he coaches his 8- and 10-year-old sons' youth basketball teams.



Arkansas State University-Beebe students, faculty, staff, and alumni were honored at the Arkansas Community Colleges (ACC) fall conference, held at the State House Convention Center in Little Rock October 14-16, 2018. The state association annually pays tribute to each college's outstanding student, faculty member, staff member, and alumnus as selected by each college.

Ashton Warner

Ashton Warner was named ASU-Beebe's Academic All-Star. She is a sophomore, majoring in psychology. After she completes her associate's degree, Warner plans on pursuing a bachelor's and then a master's degree in mental health counseling. During her freshman year, Warner became a Leadership Scholar and was elected Secretary of the Student Government Association. Currently, she serves as the SGA President, acting as a conduit among students, faculty, and administration. Warner speaks for many students around campus, providing feedback to administration on important issues that might otherwise not receive the deserved attention. Warner is also a member of the Student Advisory Board, as well as the Psychology Club. When deciding which college to attend, Warner realized, "I had many options living in the Central Arkansas area. Although many of my friends chose to go to four-year universities, I knew ASU-Beebe was going to be the best experience for me."

Marvin Jones

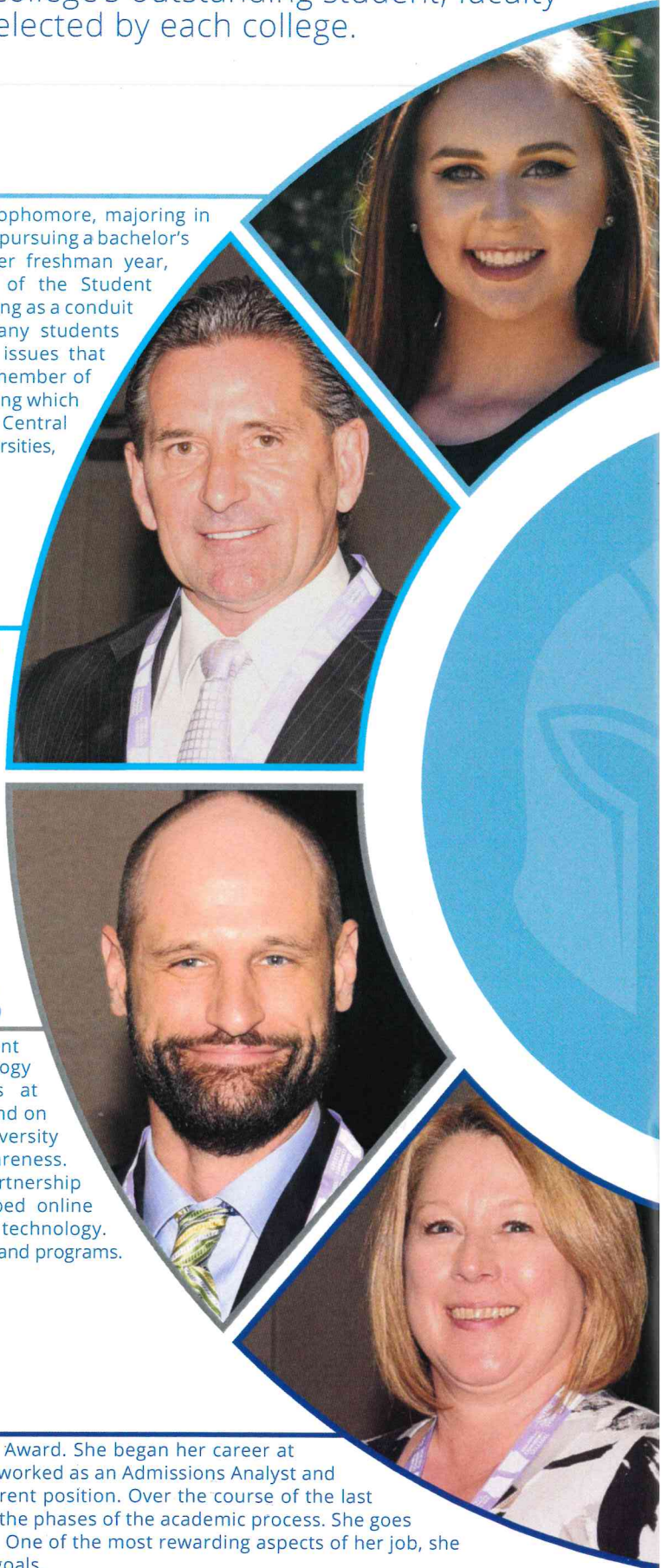
Marvin Jones was named the recipient of the Outstanding Alumni Award. He attended ASU-Beebe in 1978, later earning both bachelor's and master's degrees in Business Administration from Baker University Graduate School of Business. Jones served in the consumer package goods industry with the Nabisco Foods Group for over 17 years before launching his own consulting business in 1998. As President of MJW Enterprises, Jones provides consulting services to consumer package goods companies with a focus on cross-functional excellence. Jones currently serves as a member of ASU-Beebe Development Council, as executor of the Sharae Jones Memorial Scholarship, ASUB Adjunct Instructor of Economics, and Cabot Public School Board Member.

Dr. Jake Marquess

Dr. Marquess, Associate Professor of Biology, was named recipient of the Outstanding Faculty Award. He earned a doctorate in Biology from the University of Mississippi and has taught life sciences at ASU-Beebe since 2012. He has served as the Faculty Senate president and on numerous committees, including Academic Leadership, Curriculum, University Awards, Lecture/Concert, Employee Development, and Global Awareness. He organized and hosted faculty and students in an exchange partnership with the Catholic University of El Salvador. Dr. Marquess co-developed online Biology courses and updated the life science labs with equipment and technology. He developed interactive natural science activities for local summer camps and programs. Dr. Marquess currently serves as an advisor for the Ecology Club.

Tonya Tucker

Tonya Tucker, Assistant Registrar, was presented the Outstanding Staff Award. She began her career at ASU-Beebe in 2002 as the Registrar's Administrative Assistant. She later worked as an Admissions Analyst and then Records Management Analyst before being promoted into her current position. Over the course of the last 15 years, Tucker has strived to help students as they maneuver through the phases of the academic process. She goes above and beyond to help the students, faculty, and staff at ASU-Beebe. One of the most rewarding aspects of her job, she says, is working with students and seeing them achieve their academic goals.

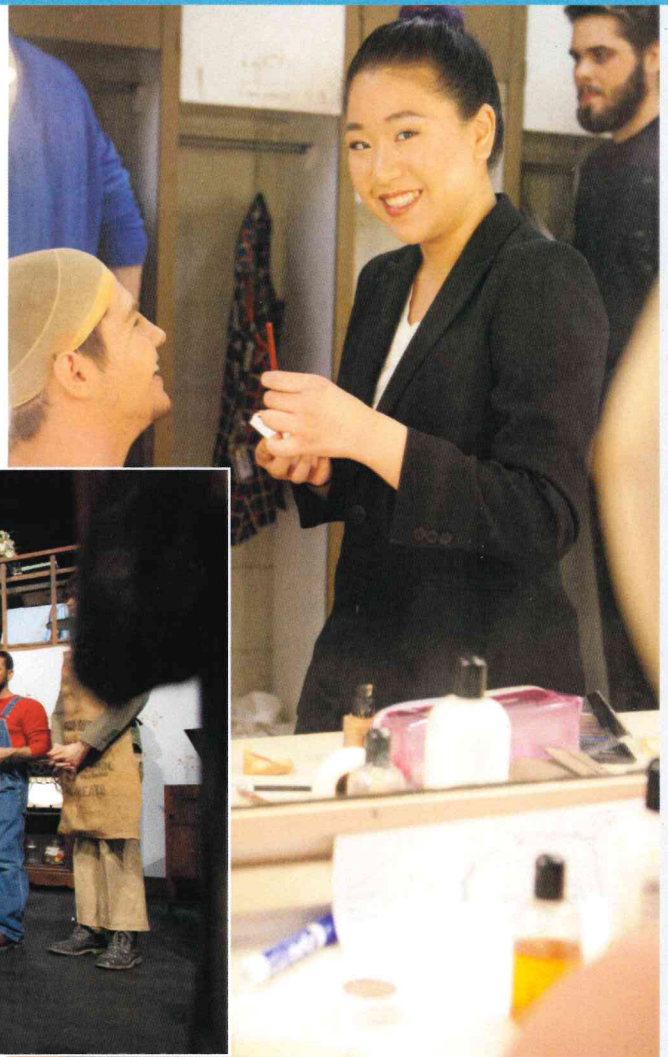




Growth & Opportunities Abound at ASUB in Fine Arts

Arkansas State University-Beebe holds the unique distinction of being the only community college in the state to offer an Associate of Fine Arts degree, which includes graphic design, music, choir, and theater. Each area incorporates experiences for students to display their talents, hone their crafts, and explore their bounds of expression.

Growth and opportunity abound within fine arts at ASU-Beebe. A number of factors contributed to this growth, but overall the shift is in students embracing the amazing opportunities, resources, and facilities that ASU-Beebe has to offer.



One area that has seen significant development is the Theater Arts department. Ryan Gibbons, Theater Director, said that when he arrived in the spring of 2018, the department had only three Theater Arts majors. Today, there are 21.

"The difference between a two-year program like us versus a four-year college program," said Gibbons, "is here students get involved in a program right after they clear the doorway. That's the key. Students want to be involved, and they wouldn't get that level of involvement for at least two years at a bigger institution."

Gibbons notes that he cannot fulfill all the necessary roles for making a theater production happen since he is the only faculty member in the theater department. "Students in this program get early hands-on experience because they participate. They get to learn, take responsibility for a function, and perform every facet of theater from show to show," Gibbons said.

Theater is not the only area that has grown. Music, art, choir and literary programs have all seen renewed interest.

Dr. Jason Goodner, Dean of the Division of Arts and Humanities, points to the community's overall renewed

interest and participation in the arts. "Local support plays a big part in attendance growth and community participation," Goodner said. "We have community members who perform in our concert band. Local and nearby artists exhibit works in the gallery at the England Center, and our Lecture/Concert series worked hard this year to bring in shows with wide audience appeal."

This school year, the theater department performed four productions, two each in the fall and the spring. The band and choir both performed numerous concerts during the fall and spring semesters. Additionally, our ASU-Beebe Lecture/Concert Series presented the renowned comedy troop *The Best of the Second City*, local resident and noted Las Vegas performer Tom Tiratto, and Flamenco guitarist and opera singer AnnaMaria Cardinalli. Each of these major performing artists took ASU-Beebe theater and music classes to the next level by conducting open seminars with students. The guest artists answered questions, provided performance tips, shared training methods to build skills, and even conducted interactive activities with the students.

"We've worked hard at marketing the type and quality of shows we bring to campus for our students and community, and the audience attendance reflects that," Goodner said.

He added that ASU-Beebe has made a significant investment in the sound system, technology, and facilities to support quality programs and provide our guests with quality experiences. As Goodner notes, community involvement and support is vital, but ASU-Beebe's purpose is to educate students, and these opportunities are what truly interest students and draw them to the programs.

"My approach to faculty in this division has been, reach out and recruit all that you can," Goodner said. Many have embraced that challenge by seeking interactions with their counterparts at various high school programs within the service region. Fine Arts faculty including Ryan Gibbons, Dr. Brent Bristow, Dr. Tim Bartlett, Thomas Fernandez, and Lisa Floryshak utilize ASU-Beebe students to share the student perspective, opportunities at ASUB, and demonstrate their skills to the high school students.

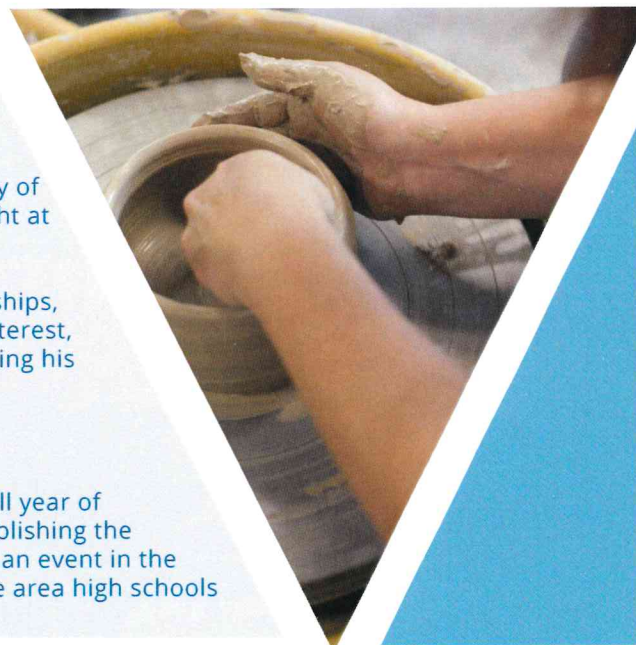
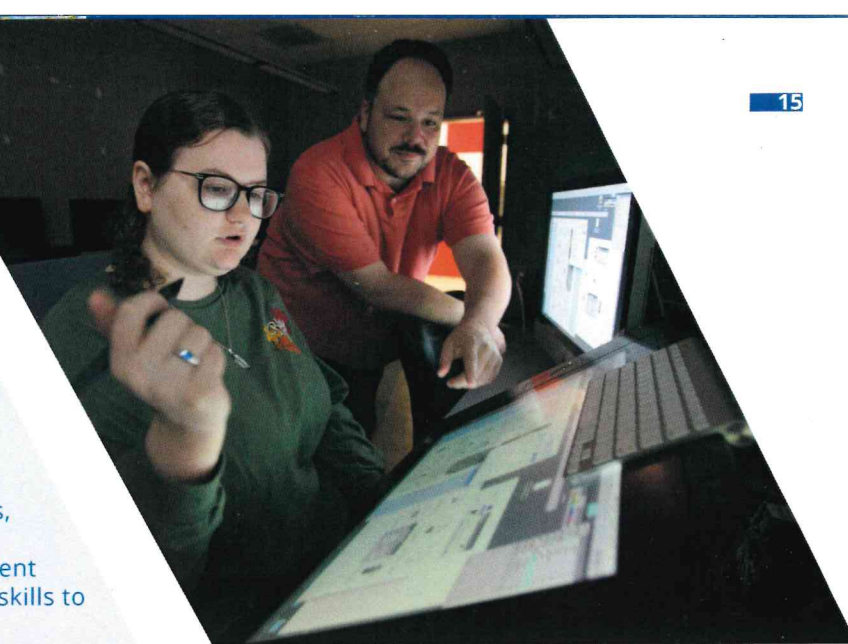
Such interaction also opened other doors for ASU-Beebe students. Gibbons, in Theater, says that he has received calls from colleagues who have asked ASU-Beebe students to come to Searcy and Heber Springs schools. Bald Knob's community theater and KidStage in Searcy also work with our program to help them lead classes and help them prepare for productions.

"Many of our students are from small schools in our area. The beauty of many of our programs at ASU-Beebe is that these students don't get lost like they might at a larger institution. Here they get to shine," Gibbons said.

Goodner attributes the renewed interest to strategic use of available scholarships, combined with community and faculty support. As a result of this renewed interest, Dr. Bristow had the largest band participation this spring that he has had during his tenure here at ASU-Beebe.

What's next?

Gibbons plans on moving forward by publishing a schedule that shows the full year of productions at the ASU-Beebe Owen Center Theater. Gibbons anticipates publishing the schedule prior to the start of the Fall 2019 semester. He also intends to host an event in the spring that will include multiple professional artists and will be open to all the area high schools and the public.





Vanguard Discovery Camp Offers Youth **Summer** Learning, Relaxation, Fun



ASU-Beebe's Vanguard Discovery Camp (VDC) is becoming incredibly popular for good reasons: it's hands-on, engaging, challenging, and empowering. This summer, ASU-Beebe offers a *bigger and better* experience with even more exploration and enjoyment with Vanguard Discovery Camp 2019!

The science, engineering, technology, and math (STEM) modules provide solid job opportunities for the future. The Vanguard Discovery Camps provide six-weeks of summer learning and fun. This year's summer camps begin at the ASU-Beebe Heber Springs campus on June 3, 2019.

Vanguard Discovery Camps offer an incredible series of fun, STEM-related courses designed for students entering the fourth through eighth grades. New this year on our Searcy campus is "Young Engineers," a dynamic program developed specifically for students entering ninth through eleventh grades.

Vanguard Discovery Camp debuted in 2018, with six, week-long sessions spanning June and July, and enrolling 218 students across three of our campuses. The camp featured 13 course offerings, 23 instructors and assistants, 12 open-house awards programs, more than 300 snacks, and 12 local sponsors.

Camp organizers extend a big "Vanguard thanks" to all of the many community businesses and industries that have made contributions to ensure that these camps are a success and that students have a great time of fun-filled learning.



HOT SUMMERS, COOL CAMPS!

The 2019 Vanguard Discovery Camp schedule presents diverse choices, including the following: Crime Lab, Bake Like a Boss (from a science perspective), Drone Tech (Beginner and Advanced), Lego® Robotics (Beginner and Advanced), and 3-D Printing-Makers Lab.

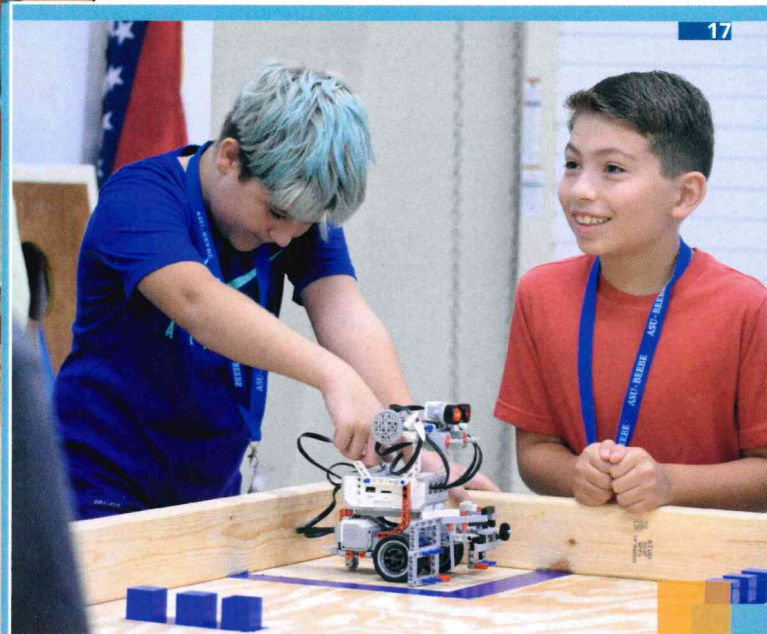
The camp also offers classes from Black Rocket including the following: Virtual Reality, Roblox® Makers, Sticks and Bricks Stop Animation, Battle Royal - Making Your Own Fortnite® Style Video Game, eSports Apprentice - YouTube® Streamers and Gamers, and others.

Vanguard Discovery Camp helps make learning STEM fields extraordinarily fun, while providing productive activities children can enjoy during the hot summer months.

This day-camp engages campers in a week-long experience filled with intrigue, creativity, and challenge. Students have the opportunity to build unique technology, learn through hands-on involvement, explore robotics and drone technology, and embark on positive experiences that set them on a trajectory toward a rewarding, future career.

Our Vanguard Discovery Camp, though structured, provides a no-pressure learning environment: Students participate in relaxed, affirming surroundings where they build lasting relationships. We want to ignite a desire for life-long learning. We understand that a camp should be fun.

Vanguard Discovery Camp runs for two weeks at each of our ASU-Beebe campus locations: **Beebe**, **Heber Springs**, and **Searcy**. Many of these sessions involve classroom time. Students will earn STEM-related competencies, making this a camp that they'll want to attend.



HEBER SPRINGS WEEK ONE: June 3-7

Morning (8 a.m. - 12 p.m.) - Crime Lab
Morning (8 a.m. - 12 p.m.) - Bake Like a Boss
Afternoon (1 p.m. - 5 p.m.) - Black Rocket: Bricks & Sticks Stop Animation

HEBER SPRINGS WEEK TWO: June 10-14

Morning (8 a.m. - 12 p.m.) - Lego® Robotics
Afternoon (1 p.m. - 5 p.m.) - Black Rocket: eSports Apprentice YouTube Streamers & Gamers

SEARCY WEEK ONE: June 17-21

Morning (8 a.m. - 12 p.m.) - Drone Tech
Afternoon (1 p.m. - 5 p.m.) - Black Rocket: Roblox® Makers
Full Day (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.) - Young Engineers [9th - 11th grade]

SEARCY WEEK TWO: June 24-28

Morning (8 a.m. - 12 p.m.) - Lego® Robotics
Afternoon (1 p.m. - 5 p.m.) - Black Rocket: Virtual Reality

BEEBE WEEK ONE: July 8-12

Morning (8 a.m. - 12 p.m.) - 3D Printing: Makers Lab
Afternoon (1 p.m. - 5 p.m.) - Black Rocket: eSports Apprentice YouTube Streamers & Gamers

BEEBE WEEK TWO: July 15-19

Morning (8 a.m. - 12 p.m.) - Advanced Drone Tech
Morning (8 a.m. - 12 p.m.) - Lego® Advanced Robotics
Afternoon (1 p.m. - 5 p.m.) - Black Rocket: Battle Royale Make Your First Fortnite®-Style Video Game

For camp descriptions and to register, go to:
www.ASUBcommunity.ticketleap.com
If you would like to contact ASUB regarding camp opportunities, simply call 501-362-1205, or check out our Vanguard Discovery Camp page now on our ASU-Beebe website at:
www.ASUB.edu



World History Class Goes International



ASU-Beebe takes great pride in the quality of education we provide, as well as the many experiences students receive to provide a better understanding or application of classroom principles.

For several years now, Eddie Supratman, Assistant Professor of History and Comparative Religion at ASU-Beebe, has built relationships with entities in numerous countries, but his primary focus has been with the Catholic University in Santa Ana, El Salvador (UNICAES).

This year, 13 ASU-Beebe students participated in an eight-day faculty-led World History field trip to El Salvador and were hosted by UNICAES. This was the third year in row for the student field trip, and according to Supratman the goal of this international program is global experiences for ASU-Beebe students. "Integrating a global perspective into courses prepares students for the interconnected global awareness and economy, thus equipping them to become responsible citizens," he said.

The first El Salvador trip was in Spring of 2017. Each trip is limited to 15 participants due to limited accommodations at the host location in El Salvador. Balancing value of student experience with cost of the trip is a big consideration. So, to include more students and create a year-round experience, Supratman has employed several approaches to make curriculum more global including: the international and domestic field trips, global assignments, and for the last year several instructors at ASU-Beebe have

used Zoom technology (much like Skype) to conduct LIVE, real-time classes with schools in other nations.

Since 2017, Zoom Conferences between ASU-Beebe students and El Salvador have included the discussion and study with the indigenous tribe Nawat Pipil Village; engaged classes with World Civilization and English-II with English Education classes in El Salvador; U.S. Government and other classes interacting live with U.S. Embassy staff; and World History classes interacting with UNICAES classes on a study of "Central America: Post-Revolution & Industrialization."

Dr. Jodi Whitehurst has incorporated a unique cultural learning experience for 45 students in her Freshman English-II classes. These students e-mail with students in English education classes at UNICAES to learn about the El Salvador culture, holidays, foods, sports, education, family structures, and weather, while helping the UNICAES students practice English. The second part involves formal technical writing in the form of a business letter, proposal, or memo for both classes.

Students Give Back

Cultural experiences often involve giving back somehow. For three years, ASU-Beebe and UNICAES students have participated in a local service project while in-country on the field trip, which involved visiting a local orphanage, Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos. ASU-Beebe and English Access students led a host of fun games and activities for the children.



In addition to the wonderful memories created at the orphanage, some ASU-Beebe students agreed to sponsor at least 10 children for \$10 per month each.

This year, ASU-Beebe faculty and staff donated clothes, hygiene products, and school supplies to the orphanage. Delta Kappa Gamma (the Leading Women Educators Honor Society), generously contributed \$220. The project raised \$660 for the orphanage.

Every day of the trip is full of rich, culturally and historically important activities. Field trips like this give our students the opportunity to discover themselves while gaining an understanding of a different culture.

The gauge of success is often the individual feedback from students as to the impact of the new experiences.

Lorraina Housewright, a social work major at ASU-Beebe, remarked upon her own discoveries: "The day we left for El Salvador, I had no idea my world would be changed this much. From the economy to the way the people of the country live their daily lives, there was so much to experience and learn. This trip has expanded my world view and given me the capacity to be more compassionate towards my fellow man."

Jericho Scott, ASU-Beebe Health Science major, said, "This trip is my first international experience. I am so grateful for this opportunity of a lifetime. I have met many unforgettable people and made many

unforgettable memories that I cannot trade. This trip has been invaluable to me and has opened my eyes to the different cultures that are around the world."

What's the next step?

"ASU-Beebe is positioned to be the premier community college in the state for offering faculty-led field trips to various continents to promote globalization," Supratman said. He added that ASU-Beebe administration is exploring options for international students to take online classes with ASUB, pursue full online degrees, and to visit our campus on faculty-led field trips.

"I am very proud of our students. In every instance they have represented themselves, ASU-Beebe and our country well in this program," Supratman said.



WHEN WE HELP STUDENTS, WE HELP OUR ENTIRE COMMUNITY.

Our students have lots of

[GRIT]

Unfortunately, [GRIT] doesn't pay college tuition bills.

When we invest in students, we create a pipeline of young talent that our community relies on for success.



YOUR GIFT WILL:

Mean the world to our students. Your gift will allow them to focus on college, instead of a job (or two, or three). Your gift will take away a roadblock to earning their degrees and help them graduate quicker.

Let's make a difference in the communities we serve. A college student isn't always rich, but most are sharp go-getters — just the kind of workforce our communities need!

At ASU-Beebe, a majority of our student body is made up of hard-working, gutsy students who come from a multitude of backgrounds. While it's not easy for some to find ways to pay for their education, they are determined to persevere on sheer grit.



HOW DO I MAKE A GIFT? Fill out the form below and say "I will" transform lives!

I will help transform lives

by making a gift to ASU-Beebe in the amount of:

\$ _____ Enclosed Pledge

- Vanguard (\$5,000 - +up)
- Platinum (\$2,500 - \$4,900)
- Gold (\$1,000 - \$2,499)
- Silver (\$500 - \$999)
- Bronze (\$100 - \$499)
- Other (\$ _____)

Tell us in #ONEWORD what ASU-Beebe means to YOU! _____

GIFT INFORMATION: (Make checks payable to: ASU-Beebe Foundation)

Donor Name(s): _____

Graduation Year, If Applicable: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: (_____) - _____ - _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Card#: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Sec. Code: _____

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If you are interested in creating an endowed or annual scholarship, making an annual gift to the Vanguard Fund, or giving to a specific fund already established, contact the Office of Advancement at 501-882-8855 or visit us online at ASUB.edu.

Mail to: ASU-Beebe | P.O. BOX 1000 | Beebe, AR 72012-1000 | Give online at: ASUB.edu