

WITC Impact

Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College

VOLUME 15

NEW!

CAREER PROGRAMS

- ▶ Nonprofit Leadership
- ▶ Diesel and Heavy Equipment Technician
- ▶ Veterinary Technician
- ▶ Hospitality Specialist

TRUCK
DRIVING

PHARMACY
TECHNICIAN

UTILITY CONSTRUCTION
TECHNICIAN

UTILITY CONSTRUCTION
INSTALLER



WISCONSIN
INDIANHEAD
TECHNICAL
COLLEGE

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FOR DETAILS

Experience. Success.

Ashland New Richmond Rice Lake Superior Balsam Lake Hayward Ladysmith



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Choose how you want to attend class on a week-by-week basis.

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WITC Impact

WITC Impact is published for the community, alumni and friends of Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College.

Direct correspondence to: Jena Vogtman, WITC, 600 North 21st Street, Superior, WI 54880.

WITC is part of the Wisconsin Technical College System, with four campus locations (Ashland, New Richmond, Rice Lake and Superior), three outreach centers (Balsam Lake, Hayward and Ladysmith), and an administrative office in Shell Lake.

Visit our website at witc.edu.

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MISSION STATEMENT

Learning is our passion. As Northwest Wisconsin's leader in technical education, WITC creates dynamic opportunities for career preparation and personal effectiveness. We are committed to making each and every experience with us meaningful and professional.

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WITC is an Equal Opportunity/Access/Affirmative Action/Veterans/Disability Employer and Educator.

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Like Us. Follow Us.
Watch Us.



Do you have news or information about an alumni, program or event at WITC? Contact Sara Franc at sara.franc@witc.edu

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Enter the coupon code: **WITCIMPACT**

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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

WITC ALUMNI SHARE WHAT THEY HAVE
BEEN UP TO SINCE GRADUATING.



Rena Flaherty | WITC-Superior

Cosmetology

Class of 2005

Where is she now?

Owner, Trends Day Spa and Salon; Superior, Wis.

"It was a very positive experience at WITC. I loved the hands-on learning, and I loved being able to work with customers as a student to improve my communication skills. The program really set me up for success for the cosmetology world."



Lynn Bender | WITC-Rice Lake

Broadband Internet Technician

Class of 2003

Where is he now?

Regional Vice President of Operations,
PUSH, Incorporated; Rice Lake, Wis.

"WITC's hands-on courses allowed me to develop skills in every facet of the broadband industry."



Jeff A. Engelbretson WITC-New Richmond

Supervisory Management
Class of 2011

Where is he now?

Equipment Manager, Verizon; Minneapolis, Minn.

"I would never be where I am today had it not been for the education that I received from WITC."



Jerry Totten | WITC-Ashland

Marine Repair Technician
Class of 2018

Where is he now?

Marine Technician, Mac Sport & Marine;
Superior, Wis.

"My experience at WITC has been a life changing event. After being out of work for 13 years due to a terrible auto accident, I had lost my network of friends and work acquaintances. I was starting over. At WITC, I soon found that I wasn't just a number; I was part of a family. I was able to further develop my skills as a leader and as a marine repair technician student. I was able to build a new network of friends and family that I can count on in my future both in work and in life. I want to thank WITC for their kindness and for giving me a chance to grow as a proud alumni and leader."

Where are **YOU** now? We want to hear your story!
Go to witc.edu/alumniupdate and tell us what's new.



MEET

Tony Rohde

**UTILITY CONSTRUCTION
TECHNICIAN**

With diplomas from both the Automotive Technician and Dairy Herd Management programs at WITC, Utility Construction Technician will be the 3rd program that Tony has decided to tackle at WITC. Tony has spent time working in both the automotive and dairy herd management fields since graduating; he also works as a firefighter for the City of Rice Lake. After discovering the new Utility Construction Technician program at WITC, Tony decided this would be an exciting adventure for him to pursue.

Tony chose the Utility Construction Technician program because he enjoys being outside and working with his hands. He feels that he has what it takes to succeed in this program and is looking forward to this new challenge.

NEW!

UTILITY CONSTRUCTION TECHNICIAN AND UTILITY CONSTRUCTION INSTALLER*

WITC-RICE LAKE

**ONE AND
TWO YEAR
PROGRAMS**



“ We at PUSH, Inc. are in need of skilled workers, and applicants who receive this training will be at an advantage and will be capable to advance faster than those with little experience or training.”

– Chase Lapcinski, Senior Vice President
at PUSH, Inc.

EARN AS YOU LEARN

Complete the one year Utility Construction Installer and advance your skills to obtain the two year Utility Construction Technician program.



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Employer Approved – Power and Communication Contractors Association Supported
High demand for a skilled workforce
Obtain a CDL Class A permit and an OSHA 10 permit
Late start classes to accommodate contractor's work schedule
Internship is part of the curriculum for on-the-job experience

Types of careers available to graduates:

- Construction Foreman
- Safety Specialist
- Construction Technician
- Heavy Equipment Operator
- Tractor Backhoe Operator
- Directional Drill Operator
- Light Equipment Technician
- Construction Inspector
- Lineman Technician
- Heavy Equipment Truck Driver
- Utility Locator
- Copper and Fiber Optic Splicer

Learn more at witc.edu/utility-construction-technician

**Pending WTCS Title Change Approval*

WITC Welcomes New Veteran Student Advocate at New Richmond & Rice Lake campuses

Stephanie Smith,
Chaplain Assistant

724th Engineer Battalion
Chippewa Falls, Wis.



How do you hope to help veteran students?

My goal for this position is to support military-affiliated students from college inquiry to graduation. This support can include finding the right program fit, navigating the application and enrollment process, providing academic and non-academic support, and assisting in accessing benefits or obtaining credit for prior training and experience in the military.

Students who are veterans and current or prior service members deserve a different kind of support than other students. They have more hoops to jump through to access education benefits they might be entitled to, they have more life experiences that might make it harder to relate to their fellow students, and they might still be dealing with the physical or psychological effects of deployments.

For students in the National Guard or Reserves, I can be the liaison to support the student in conversations they have with their instructors or their unit.

How will your experience help veteran students?

As a Chaplain Assistant with the Wisconsin National Guard, my job is to support soldiers and other service members by encouraging them during difficult times, directing them to available resources such as the chaplain or other mental health professionals and helping them figure out supportive or emergency resources available in the community. As the Veteran Student Advocate, I am fortunate to be able to utilize this experience for veterans who are pursuing an education at WITC.

My experience isn't limited to my own service. My dad is a retired Army veteran, so I grew up immersed in military culture. Children of veterans have vastly different experiences than their peers. We've lived in many different places, often overseas, and have gone to multiple schools growing up. These students may benefit from the connection and guidance of someone who understands the itch of being in one place too long or that it might be difficult to relate to students who have not lived in multiple places.

Why should veterans choose WITC?

WITC offers a high-quality education that provides you with the skills and experience to succeed. Programs at WITC are hands-on and career-focused, so you can take comfort in the fact that your skills will be applicable to real jobs that are available. The welcoming community of students and staff care about your individual success and will provide you with lifelong connections and a network of support to help steer you in the direction of your goals.



To learn more about the support available to veterans at WITC, visit witc.edu/veterans.

WITC is a 2018-2019 Military Friendly® School

WITC

IN THE COMMUNITY

Twice a year, WITC graduates hundreds of students who are eager to employ their newly acquired skills and make an impact in our communities. You probably encounter these graduates every day without realizing it. In fact, 1 out of 16 people in the WITC district have taken a class at WITC. They are your nurses, bankers, truck drivers, police officers, teachers, cosmetologists and so much more. However, before these students even graduate, they are out there making their mark on your communities.

Throughout the school year, WITC students and their instructors partner with members of the community to implement a project. These projects vary in scope, but they always improve the community and provide students with hands-on work to practice what they learn in the classroom. Check out a few of the community projects WITC students were a part of this year.





TO GRANDMA'S MARATHON WE GO

WITC NURSING
STUDENTS
VOLUNTEER



The 42nd Annual Grandma's Marathon stretches from Two Harbors to Canal Park in Duluth, Minn. It brings in thousands of runners from all over the world to race along the scenic stretch of the North Shore of Lake Superior.

Running 26.2 miles is no easy task and runners often need medical attention along the way. A group of Nursing program students from WITC-Superior volunteered in the medical tents this year to experience the medical side of the marathon.

Rephrase: The students were able to use what they learned in the classroom to help runners get back on their feet and back on track to the finish the race. They worked alongside registered nurses, doctors as well as physical therapists. This opportunity provided the students with hands-on experience by taking vitals, helping regulate body temperature and supplying fluids and food.



Pictured from left to right: Grace Walsh, Michael Klun, Deanna Lietha, Sarah Shold, Heather Hokans, Anna Anderson, Charlie Jesberg, Sarah Anderson, Mel Torkelson.

“ I think it was important for me to experience this event because helping people is what I love to do. I wanted to get the chance to experience a triage type setting as it has always been an interest of mine. I've always loved helping out at Grandma's Marathon, but this time I wanted to see the medical side of it all.”

–Anna Anderson, Nursing student



History in the Making

WITC-Ashland Welding Club students handcrafted large interactive letters for the Ashland Oredock. The project was a partnership between WITC and the City of Ashland. The large metal letters were installed this past summer and were designed to welcome people to the Oredock for that picture perfect moment.

There is more to come with the Ashland Oredock redevelopment project. According to April Kroner, City of Ashland planning and development director, the City hopes to work with WITC students on future projects for the Oredock and potentially other projects within the community.



Pictured from left to right: Cole Evensen, Kevin Wiggins, Collin Elliason, Lucas Vitek, Brady Mackey, Connor Kovach, Nick Dunn, Cory Barnes, Luke Hagstrom, Collin Marenzil, John Nuutinen (WITC-Ashland Welding Instructor)



“ The City is so fortunate to have WITC in the community as a partner. Seeing the letters be brought to life by the WITC students was amazing and they turned out to be cooler than we ever imagined they would be! People can sit on them, stand on them, lean on them – we even have entire families get their picture taken with the letters. I hope the students involved are proud of their skilled work. It will be great for them to know that they were part of creating a piece of this unique project recognizing and celebrating Ashland's historic Oredocks.”

– April Kroner, City of Ashland planning and development director

Give Kids a Smile

Every year, WITC-Rice Lake Dental Assistant students, instructors and area professionals volunteer for Give Kids a Smile Day. The annual event, organized by the American Dental Association, provides dental services to underserved children. Kids receive dental care including dental screenings, x-rays, fillings and education totaling what would have cost over \$12,500.

The next Give Kids a Smile Day will be on Friday, February 1, 2019.

“ Give Kids a Smile Day provides an opportunity for our students to collaborate with area professionals and provide extremely valuable dental services to our surrounding communities.”

—Jennifer Heutmaker-
Holden, WITC Dental
Assistant Instructor



Front Row (L-R): Joryn Hinze, Vanessa Koehler, Katie Pfaff, Dr. Tina Sopiwnik, and Katelyn Omtvedt Middle Row (L-R): Brooke Ovaska, Ruth Sullwold, Rhonda Davis, Larissa Rogers, Emily Wold, Hannah Nelson, Masha Todd, Krystal Zuniga, Samantha Gore, and Jennifer Holden Back Row(L-R): Brianna Grajewski, Danielle Knolin, Katie Robinson, Dr. Charles Crisler, Joe Granica and Megen Elliott. Not pictured: Melanie Nelson.



Students, Josh Sislo and Abby Page, adhering the mounting plates to the camera cases.

MISSION: BODY CAMERA

After years of looking at body camera options, the St. Croix County Sheriff's Department finally found an option that fit their needs. The next challenge for the department was figuring out how to attach the cameras to the body. A lieutenant from the department designed a mount that uses high-strength magnets in officer's shirt pockets which attaches to a thin steel plate and is glued to a standard cell phone case.

WITC's Welding students were enlisted by the department to help implement the design. The students' mission was to fabricate 50 plates for the body camera mounts. After the Welding students completed the mounts, WITC Criminal Justice Studies students, Abby Page and Josh Sislo, along with their instructor, Phil Draskowski, came to the sheriff's office to mount the plates to the cases that carry the cameras.

“ I was pleased and thankful for those who stepped forward to help us. Their assistance saved our agency time and money, and in the long run, it saved taxpayer dollars by their willingness to play a role in this project. We appreciate the continued partnership with community stakeholders, such as WITC. It was our pleasure to have the students assist in this event.”

– Scott Knudson, St. Croix County Sheriff





MEET

Jami Wallace

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN INSTRUCTOR


Jami is WITC's new Pharmacy Technician instructor. She comes to WITC with 17 years of experience working as a pharmacy technician. She has experience with community, hospital and long-term care pharmacies. Jami also has training in business management, leadership, inventory and purchasing, which provides her with a well-rounded scope of pharmaceutical skills.

NEW!

Pharmacy Technician

NEW RICHMOND, SUPERIOR

**ONE-YEAR
PROGRAM**



“More employers are seeking new technicians that have completed an education program, and trends are showing an education will be a prerequisite for advanced roles for technicians. The forecast is that in less than four years, an accredited education will be required to enter the field, and WITC’s students will have all of the skills to succeed and build their careers.”

–Jami Wallace, WITC’s Pharmacy Technician Instructor

Area employers are seeking highly-skilled graduates to fill their pharmacy technician positions.

In this one-year technical diploma program, you will perform a variety of duties including preparation of prescriptions, record keeping, inventory control, handling monetary transactions and filing third-party claims. You will also be responsible for preparing IV solutions and compounding medications.

Classes are taught two evenings per week on campus and one evening per week over WITC’s web conferencing system.

Get hands-on experience! As a student, you will complete eight weeks in both retail and hospital clinical sites

Utilize WITC’s state-of-the-art labs and equipment

Prepares you with the skills to pass the national Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) exam

Typical careers available to graduates include:

- Pharmacy Technician – Hospital
- Pharmacy Technician – Nursing Home
- Pharmacy Technician – Community
- Home IV Specialist



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Learn more at witc.edu/pharmacy-technician

Meet Linda Hand

Gerontology – Aging Services Professional

Expected graduation date: May 2019

Why did you choose WITC?

For years I looked for a gerontology-specific program, but nothing was available locally or even online until WITC's Gerontology – Aging Services Professional associate degree. This program offered the courses that I was looking for in a gerontology degree. It's wonderful for this to be offered in Northwest Wisconsin.

What interested you in the gerontology field?

Working in this field is my passion. I recently started working as the Washburn County aging director/ADRC supervisor. Before that, I worked in Sawyer County in a variety of positions starting with elder benefit specialist, nutrition director and then aging director.

What has been your experience at WITC so far?

Everyone has been so helpful. Jennifer Ellis is my advisor who has encouraged me all along the way. Everyone has been so helpful. The curriculum and instructors have been excellent. Our instructors are willing to work with us while we are juggling school and working full time.

What are your goals after graduation?

To go on to a four-year degree program and possibly further.

**Learn more about the program
at www.witc.edu/gero.**



YOUR *investment*, THEIR *future*.

Your gift may be the one thing that makes college a possibility.

DONATE TODAY!



Our students often have individual struggles. The WITC Foundation continues to provide important financial assistance to the students we serve. Each year the Foundation awards hundreds of scholarships and is the key resource for emergency student grants and loans. Scholarships and other available assistance play a critical role in the success of our students.

FY2018 Student & College Support Statistics

- 770 scholarship applications
- 612 scholarships awarded
- Nearly \$280,000 in total scholarship disbursements
- Average scholarship award = \$456
- 33 emergency loans provided totaling \$10,697
- Gas and grocery cards = \$11,342
- Testing Fees = \$3,523
- Nutritional Assistance Program = \$2,031
- College, Program & Club Support = \$37,137



**WISCONSIN INDIANHEAD
TECHNICAL COLLEGE
Foundation**

2018 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	Unaudited 2018	Audited 2017
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$61,471	\$205,310
Accounts receivable	\$3,068	\$4,137
Total Current Assets	\$64,539	\$209,447
Investments	\$4,766,065	\$4,454,251
TOTAL ASSETS	\$4,830,604	\$4,663,698
LIABILITIES AND ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$58,324	\$ 61,255
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	\$306,596	\$324,506
Temporarily Restricted	\$1,089,430	\$1,039,951
Permanently Restricted	\$3,376,254	\$3,237,986
Total Net Assets	\$4,772,280	\$4,602,443
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$4,830,604	\$4,663,698

► **To donate to the
WITC Foundation,
visit witc.edu/foundation**

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60 + CAREER AREAS

- ▶ *4 CAMPUSES*
- ▶ *COUNTLESS OPPORTUNITIES*

Discover how your passions and goals can be realized at WITC.

Accounting
Accounting Assistant
Administrative Professional
Advanced EMT
Agricultural Power & Equipment Technician
Architectural Commercial Design
Automated Packaging Systems Technician
Automation for Industrial Systems
Automotive Service Technician
Automotive Technician
Billing and Posting Clerk
Broadband Customer Service Specialist
Broadband Installer
Broadband Internet Technician
Broadband Networking Services
Business Management
Community-Based Residential Facility
Caregiver
Construction and Cabinetmaking
Construction Essentials
Cosmetology
Criminal Justice Studies
Dairy Herd Management

Dental Assistant
NEW! Diesel and Heavy Equipment Technician
Dietary Manager
E-CHILD
E-Connect – Child Care Services
Early Childhood Education
Emergency Medical Technician
Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic
Entry Level Machining
Farm Business and Production Management
Financial Services
Financial Services Customer Representative
Gerontology – Aging Services Professional
Health Information Technology
Health Office Professional
Healthcare Receptionist
Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration
NEW! Hospitality Foundations
NEW! Hospitality Specialist
Human Resource Management
Human Services Associate
Industrial Maintenance Technician
Industrial Systems Specialist
IT – Network Specialist
IT – Systems Administration Specialist
IT – Web and Software Developer
Leadership Development
Leadership Essentials
Machine Tool Operation

Machine Tool Operation – CNC
Machine Tool Technician
Machine Tooling Technics
Marine Repair Technician
Mechatronics Basics
Medical Administrative Professional
Medical Assistant
Medical Billing Specialist
Medical Coding Specialist
Microsoft Office
NEW! Nonprofit Leadership
Nursing – Associate Degree
Nursing Assistant
Occupational Therapy Assistant
Office Support Specialist
Office Technology Assistant
Paramedic Technician
Patient Services Specialist
NEW! Pharmacy Technician
Power Sports Technician
Substance Abuse Counselor Education
NEW! Truck Driving
University Transfer Degree – Associate of Arts
University Transfer Degree – Associate of Science
NEW! Utility Construction Installer
(pending WTCS approval)
NEW! Utility Construction Technician
NEW! Veterinary Technician
Welding



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