

Get Involved

Viking Deadline

April 27th
The Viking needs student content! Please send any articles, art, poems, stories, journalistic writings, etc. to the editor, Katherine Petri, at prkpetri@vikings.grayson.edu

Phi Theta Kappa
Wednesday, 12:30 pm
Viking Room

Student Veterans of America (SVA)
2nd Tuesday of every month
1:30 pm - 2:00 pm
Veterans Hub
2nd Floor Bridge

Summit
Thursdays
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Baptist Student Ministry building

BSM
Navigate
12:00 pm - 12:45 pm
Baptist Student Ministry building

Center for Workplace Learning awarded \$349,999 equipment grant



Industrial Maintenance Technician students using grant-funded equipment

By Marlene Phillips, Director of Outreach

Denison, Texas - The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has awarded Grayson College’s Center for Workplace Learning (CWL) a \$349,999 Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) grant.

The JET grant will fund the purchase of instructional equipment for the Industrial Maintenance Technician (IMT) and Programmable Logic Controller Technician (PLC) programs. The addition of this new equipment will increase the instructional capacity of the programs and enhance the learning environment in these

skills-oriented, hands-on programs.

Student enrollment capacity in the IMT program will grow from 14 to 24 and in PLC from 12 to 20 thanks to the addition of equipment.

Twenty-six pieces of equipment in total will be purchased with the grant funds including basic and intermediate hydraulic learning systems, hydraulics troubleshooting trainers, pneumatics trainers, advanced programmable logic controllers and scopemeters.

“I am thrilled that the Texas Workforce Commission has awarded Grayson College another

JET grant,” said Dr. Djuana Forrester, CWL Executive Director. “TWC’s JET grant enables meaningful, positive impacts on education and in turn the workforce.

With this funding, the CWL can increase enrollment in IMT and PLC without increasing tuition rates, providing greater value to our community as a whole.”

“Grayson College relentlessly focuses on student success, and having the equipment needed to provide top-notch training is a key element of student success,” said Dr. Jeremy McMillen, Grayson College Presi-

dent. “Once again, TWC has shown itself to be a true partner in the economic growth of our region and the success of our students.

The JET grant has a direct and visible positive effect on the classroom and our vital Texoma industries. We are grateful for this award and TWC’s confidence in Grayson College as stewards of these funds.”

A nine-month program, Industrial Maintenance Technician (IMT) began in 2009 in effort to meet the growing demand for mechanics skilled in the repair, installation

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Communication etiquette

By Marlene Phillips, Director of Outreach

Mastering effective, professional and affirming communication is a lifelong quest. Yet the sooner you start the sooner you’ll be creating good communication habits that will only get better as time goes on.

First things first, if you believe you’re not a great communicator then you’re right.

Reframe your mindset around communication to view yourself as a great communicator, adept at handling the most difficult conversations and situations, a master of communication tools and a whiz at concise, clear messaging.

As the saying goes, you have to believe to achieve!

Now that you believe you are a great communicator, next you need to create the foundations for continuing communication success by implementing a few guidelines in each and every interaction.

1. *What you say and how you say it is a reflection of you and are key pieces*

of your personal brand and reputation. Remember you are in control of your reputation, and you can make it a positive one.

2. *Be responsive not reactive.* Even if the person communicating with you is seeking only an emotional reaction, control yourself and your message to respond without overreacting or being too emotional. Consider what would move the situation to a successful conclusion and direct your communication towards that end.

3. *See each interaction as an opportunity to build and create a strong relationship with the other person/party.* Communicate honestly, respectfully, openly and in a way that affirms the other person’s dignity and value.

4. Be more formal than usual until

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“Behind the Scenes” with Nan Hebert, Title IV and Grant Accountant

By Viking Staff

Money makes the world go ‘round but it also makes Grayson College go ‘round.

We’re fortunate to have talented folks on staff who ensure students receive Pell grants they’re owed and that grant managers and funding agencies receive timely financial reports.

Wearing two different job hats

Nan Hebert is one of those essential team members. Having worked at Grayson for almost 17 years, primarily in the Business office, Nan currently holds the

position of Title IV and Grant Accountant.

In this position, as in her previous positions as Grant Specialist for the Center for Workplace Learning and Accounts Receivable Specialist, she assures funding agencies that provide students tuition and textbooks and provide various Grayson programs additional funding that the recipients are meeting the requirements of the grants.

Her work helps ensure that the funds keep flowing!

After receiving a disbursement

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Nan Hebert, Title IV and Grant Accountant

Sneak Peek

- Check out Culinary Arts students Caitlin Miorin and Maggie Bristow’s medals, pg. 2.
- Be amazed by the skills challenges of Pastry Chef of the Year Lauren Aleman, pg. 2.
- Ponder ESL and TSI Prep Instructor Christopher Foster’s poem “A Day in the Life,” pg. 2.
- Apply for Honors College and Scholarships, pg. 3.
- Get green at the 15th Annual Texoma Earth Day Festival, pg. 4.
- Glimpse the Coal Hill Trombone Quartet if you missed their performance in March, pg. 4.

Those Inspiring Students!

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Communication etiquette

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you’ve built a stronger more personal relationship with the other person/party. Avoid using too many abbreviations or emojis. Make sure you’re using full sentences and in written communication double-check your spelling and grammar before clicking send.

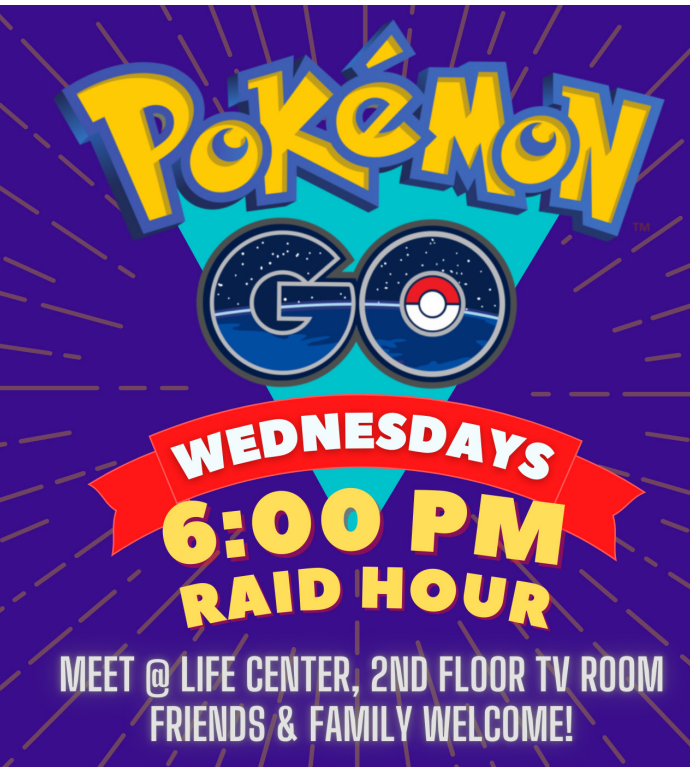
5. *Respond promptly even if all you have time for is a quick acknowledgement of the message, voice mail, chat or meeting request.* Be honest about when you can provide a response and then be sure to respond as you said you would.

Likely the biggest reason for communication failures and missteps is the lack of time we all have to think first and respond second.

It’s okay to write a response or plan a response and then let it sit for a few minutes or even a day before sending/delivering it.

Better communication isn’t the fastest communication; it’s the communication that is clear, concise, friendly, empathetic and respectful.

If you need practice or more guidance with professional communication skills, Career and Pathway Coach Corey Leird can help. Visit him in the Career Center located in the Student Affairs building or give him a call at 903.415.2593.



A Day in the Life

By Christopher Foster, ESL and TSI Prep Instructor

I saw him this morning
The maker of buggy whips
Mustachioed, clad in a smart leather apron and standing
Proudly by a workbench in his shop
Looking nothing if not industrious.
He’s an artifact of history now,
Safely tucked between the pages of
“Bygone Days: An Illustrated Compendium.”
I gaze out the window, watching the
Demise of the whip-maker’s livelihood:
The horseless carriages roaring past,
spewing
Fumes of decayed fossil life.
One day soon these conveyances, too,
Will be transformed, powered by something new:
Electricity, compressed air, maybe even
Hydrogen or the straw-yellow sunlight.
After awhile I close the blinds,
Sit at my computer,
And get to work,
Hanging words
Across the page
Like doomed but lovely
Buggy whips.

Culinary Arts students excel at grueling competition at a National Qualifier last month

By Joanna Bryant, Executive Chef, Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management

Students and professionals competed at a National Qualifier. Competitors earned medals based upon their score.

The top four in each category move on to the National Competition which will be in New Orleans in July. They will face off against the winner out of all the branches of the military.

In the Student Chef of the Year competition, students had a skills day where they were required to properly butcher a chicken, tourne potatoes, paysanne cut potatoes, julienne potatoes, small dice an onion, and concasse two tomatoes.

They did this while being timed and watched by kitchen chef judges and then their work was inspected and scored by judges.

The next day the students had 75 minutes to butcher more chicken and cook four entrée plates using the chicken with the remaining components up to the student to decide.

In the Student Pastry Chef of the Year competition, they had a skills day where they had to zest, peel, and supreme a citrus fruit, make a dozen drop cookies, and decorate a cake with a top and bottom border, a three rose and leaf motif, and write “Happy Birthday”.

The next day they had to create four hot dessert plates. They were required to use chocolate and at least two tropical fruits. In the professional pastry chef of the year category, they had to create four cold dessert plates.

They were required to use a variety of apples, walnuts, and dried fruit.

Here were results from the American Culinary Federation National Qualifier in Kansas City in early March:
Results:

Maggie Bristow- Student Chef of the Year Bronze Medal

Caitlin Miorin- Student Pastry Chef of the Year Bronze medal

Lauren Aleman (Adjunct Instructor)- Pastry Chef of the Year top 4-moving on to Nationals in New Orleans



Pastry Chef of the Year Lauren Aleman



Bronze medal winners for Student Chef of the Year and Student Pastry Chef of the Year, Maggie Bristow and Caitlin Miorin.

Student Opportunities

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Behind the Scenes

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list from Financial Aid, Nan, along with her boss, Danny Hyatt, distributes Title IV funds to students who are owed refunds (Pell grants and federally funded student/parent loans). As a Grant Accountant, Nan acts like a “go-between,” filing financial reports with federal and state funding agencies, as well as with local and private funding groups and also reporting to the Grayson grant managers about the financial status of their grant funds.

Two of the federal agencies Nan reports to are the National Science Foundation and Environmental Protection Agency while state agencies include the Texas Workforce Commission and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Constant deadlines

Both the Title IV disbursements and the financial report requirements for grant contracts require Nan to meet constant deadlines. To

ensure she is able to meet her reporting deadlines to the funding agencies, Nan must communicate punctually with the Grayson grant managers so that they can review current information and resolve inconsistencies between their office records and general ledger. Such work requires that she be highly organized, be able to work with a variety of personnel inside and outside Grayson College, and manage various activities concurrently.

Great co-workers!

Nan has high praise for Danny Hyatt, Director of Fiscal Services.

“He is the best boss I’ve ever been privileged to work for in my working career. He is always patient and helpful to resolve any/all issues that may arise,” she proclaims. Nan characterizes her colleagues in the Business Office as “all qualified and capable to perform their job responsibilities competently

and also work together amicably.”

The Grayson administrators, faculty, and staff who are grant managers are “very collegial” and “able to focus on resolving any financial issues which may arise and yet meet the deadlines of the contract.”

Outside of her work life, one can find Nan reading mysteries, watching sporting events, sewing, and refinishing furniture and enjoying her friendships with team members at Grayson and Austin College and at her church.

Thank you, Nan, for your work *behind the scenes* for Grayson College administrators, faculty, staff, and students!

Grayson College equipment grant

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and maintenance of production and processing machinery. One hundred eighty students have enrolled in IMT over the past 13 years.

The Programmable Logic Controller Technician (PLC) program began in 2020 in response to employers’ needs for employees with specialized skills in operation, testing, maintenance and calibration of PLCs.

The second cohort of PLC students will complete this four-month program in December. Successful completers of either noncredit program can receive credit toward an Associate of Applied Science degree in Advanced Manufacturing Technology.

IMT completers earn a Level I Certificate and PLC completers earn an Occupational Skills Award.

Across the State of Texas, there are more than 5,000 annual openings for Industrial Machinery Mechanics and PLC Technicians.

In the Sherman-Denison metropolitan statistical area there are approximately 5,300 positions for Industrial Machinery Mechanics.

Employers and individuals interested in the Industrial Maintenance Technician and Programmable Logic Controller programs can find more information at *grayson.edu/cwl* or by contacting Grayson College’s Center for Workplace Learning at **903-463-8765**.

Please reach out to the Center for Workplace Learning Director of Outreach Marlene Phillips with any questions at **903.463.8752** or *phillipsm@grayson.edu*.



Industrial Maintenance Technician students and instructor Shawn Hendricks courtesy of Grayson College.

INTERESTED IN SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY?



PROGRAM DETAILS

The Associate Degree Surgical Technology program prepares a student to work as an integral part of the operating room team. The program is a full-time, 3 semester program, not including pre-requisites. Clinicals are required.

ADMISSIONS STEPS

- Complete application to Grayson College
- Attend mandatory Information Session
- Submit Surgical Tech Application Packet

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

- All documents required for GC admission
- Surgical Technology Program Application
- Eligible HESI Admission Test Scores
- Unofficial copies of all transcripts
- Typed 1-2 page essay

PRE-REQUISITES

- BIOL 2301 & 2101 - Anatomy & Physiology I
- BIOL 2302 & 2102 - Anatomy & Physiology II
- MATH 1314 - College Algebra or MATH 1342 - Statistics
- PSYC 2301 - General Psychology
- English 1301 - Composition I
- SPCH 1316 - Public Speaking
- Art Core

APPLICATION DEADLINE

- June 23, 2023
- Program starts each Fall Semester

CONTACT

surgtech@grayson.edu

Grayson Honors College

Are you creative, thoughtful, and looking for an opportunity to be recognized for your academic achievement? Consider the opportunity to take honors classes and to enroll in GC’s Honors College.

Honors classes challenge students to aim for the highest academic achievements by setting exemplary standards for themselves.

Prove you’re the best by accomplishing all that you are capable of achieving and by fulfilling your potential in higher education!

https://pngimg.com/uploads/gold_medal/gold_medal_PNG60.png

Students admitted to the Honors College are also eligible to apply for the Honors Scholarship.

For more information, please email Professor Sarah Garrett at (*garretts@grayson.edu*) or Professor Chad Tomaselli at (*tomasellic@grayon.edu*).

Spread the Love!

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Denison, Texas

<https://grayson.edu/the-viking/index.html>

April 5, 2023

Edition XVII, Volume III

Presenting the 15th Annual Texoma Earth Day Festival and Recycling Event!

April 22, 9am - 4pm



Know Before
You throw!!



Items accepted for Recycling:

electronic waste, appliances, batteries, cardboard, cell phones, paper, textiles, styrofoam, plastics 1, 2, and 5, plastic bags, ink cartridges

Sherman Police Unused Medicine Collection 9am-1pm

Featured Events

- Trashion Fashion VIII
- Children's Clothing Swap
- Vendors - Workshops - Music
- Friends of the Library Used Book Sale
- Demonstrations - Children's Activities - Plant Swap



For details log on to: earthdaytexoma.org



Where: Sherman Municipal
Ballroom and Lucy Kidd Key Park



www.earthdaytexoma.org



GRAYSON COLLEGE
BSM

Letter from editor

Hello again everyone! Easter season is here and I know I am excited to take my son Easter egg hunting. Are you doing anything fun for Easter this year?

Easter is always a fun time of year for my family from getting to make cinnamon rolls, eggs and bacon for breakfast to having lunch together.

There are loads of ways to celebrate the holiday. This year is the first time my son has been able to recognize what Easter eggs are.

Easter isn't the only thing in April. Be sure that you are keeping an eye on your weather apps or watching the news each day! The weather in Texas can be chaotic, but especially in April. From raging rain storms with hail to tornados, it's important to be mindful of the weather around this time of year.

Speaking of news I have some exciting news to share with everyone. My baby (that I am cur-

rently pregnant with) is 16 weeks and at 13.5 weeks we did the NIPT blood testing.

This test allows for the parents to see chromosomal defects in the baby as well as the sex chromosomes by examining the fetal DNA found in the mother's blood.

The baby tested negative for the chromosomal defects, and it has been determined that the baby's fetal DNA is female.

Of course, this test holds 97%- 99% accuracy so it isn't guaranteed; it could be incorrect. However with my next doctor's appointment approaching, the baby will be 17 weeks, which should be just old enough to confirm their gender.

Don't forget to send me any content for *the Viking* at prkpetri@vikings.grayson.edu

Happy Easter everyone!



Surprise! It's a girl.



The Coal Hill Trombone Quartet after performing in Cruce Stark Auditorium on March 23, 2023. Left to right: Tyrone Block (bass trombone), Shawn Smith (tenor), Michelle Flowers (tenor), and Amanda Kana (tenor).



Be a part of
Summit
Thursdays
7:00 pm - 8:00
pm
in the Baptist
Student Ministry
building