

A silhouette of a graduate wearing a cap and gown, holding the tassel of the cap. The graduate is positioned on the left side of the frame, facing right. The background is a soft, golden sunset or sunrise sky with blurred trees in the distance.

Moving forward

2018-19 ANNUAL REPORT

“ YOU SEE, THE PEOPLE WHO BUILT THIS COUNTRY AND MADE IT GREAT, THOSE THAT HAVE STRIVED AND REALLY DONE SOMETHING REMARKABLE, SUCH AS THE NAMESAKE OF THIS INSTITUTION, ARE PEOPLE WHO TOOK GREAT RISKS. YOU HAVE TO EMBRACE RISK BEFORE YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH SOMETHING REMARKABLE.”

Frank LaRose, Secretary of State of Ohio | 2019 Commencement Speaker

A photograph of a brick building with the name "RHODES STATE COLLEGE" mounted on the wall in large, gold-colored, three-dimensional letters. The building is set against a clear blue sky.

RHODES STATE COLLEGE

VISION

RHODES STATE ... THE #1 CHOICE

MISSION

Rhodes State College changes lives, builds futures and improves communities through life-long learning.

CORE VALUES

INTEGRITY: Value trust and honesty

CARING: Committed to meet the needs of others

RESPONSIBILITY: Do competently what is supposed to be done, when it is supposed to be done

RESPECT: Treat people with dignity and fairness

QUALITY: Take pride in excellence

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Rhodes State College at a Glance

OVER
1,592

STUDENTS FROM 32 AREA HIGH SCHOOLS
ATTENDED OUR ANNUAL
CAREER DAY

Career Day

The annual Career Day event, hosted by Rhodes State's Office of Career Development, took place on Friday, December 14. Over 1,592 students from 32 area high schools were on campus. Career Day offers 11th grade students in Northwest Ohio an opportunity to explore college and career-related sessions of personal interest.

"Career Day is a unique opportunity for high school students to not only explore careers of interest, presented by academic and industry professionals, but to navigate a college campus, many for the first time, and learn more about what Rhodes State has to offer," said Krista Richardson, Director of Career Development.

100%

OF THE 2018 MEDICAL ASSISTING GRADUATES
PASSED THE CERTIFIED MEDICAL ASSISTANT (CMA)
CERTIFICATION EXAM

Medical Assisting Passage Rate

100% of the 2018 Medical Assisting graduates passed the Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) certification exam. The CMA credential is received upon passing the examination created by the American Association of Medical Assistants and administered by the National Board of Medical Examiners.

"This is the sixth straight year that our program has maintained a 100% pass rate for this exam," said Cheryl Kuck, MS, CMA (AAMA), Chair of the Rhodes State Medical Assisting program. "This, along with satisfied employers, continues to demonstrate the quality of the Rhodes State Medical Assisting program, the students' hard work, and the great team of dedicated faculty."

2

YEARS IN A ROW TO RECEIVE DISTINGUISHED
REGISTERED RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS
CREDENTIALING SUCCESS AWARD

Respiratory Care Program Recognized

The Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) awarded the Distinguished Registered Respiratory Therapists (RRT) Credentialing Success Award to the Rhodes State Respiratory Care Program. The recognition is presented as part of the CoARC's continued efforts to value the RRT credential as a standard of professional achievement.

"From a program effectiveness perspective, the CoARC views the RRT credential as a measure of a program's success in inspiring its graduates to achieve their highest educational and professional aspirations," said Pam Halfhill, Assistant Professor and Chair, Diagnostic & Therapeutic Health Sciences. "Rhodes State College Respiratory Program is proud of receiving this award for the second year in a row."

THE
10TH

OF APRIL, 2019 WAS THE DATE
CYNTHIA E. SPIERS, PH.D. WAS SELECTED
AS THE INTERIM PRESIDENT

Presidential Transition

On April 10, 2019, the Board of Trustees announced that Dr. Cynthia E. Spiers had been selected as Interim President. Interim President Spiers earned both her Bachelor's Degree in Education and her Master's Degree in Education from Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio. She received her Ph.D., in Higher Education Administration and Leadership from Ohio University, Athens, Ohio.

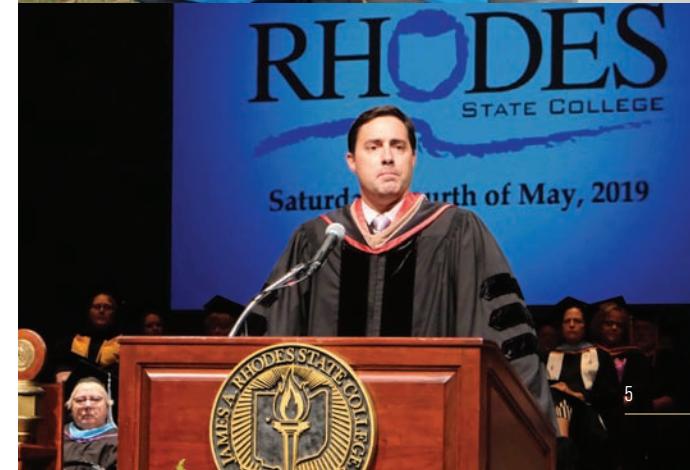
509

DEGREES
AND CERTIFICATES
AWARDED TO GRADUATES

Graduation

The 2019 graduating class of Rhodes State College were awarded their diplomas during ceremonies Saturday, May 4 at the Veterans Memorial Civic Center. A total of 509 degrees and certificates were conferred to the class of 2019, marking the College's 49th commencement celebration.

"It just thrills me to watch the students walk across the stage at any age," said Interim President, Dr. Cynthia Spiers. "And, today, I'm exceptionally thrilled because I get to stand up and address the students and the families."



Rhodes State College Statement of Financial Position

2018-2019 Expenses

Academic Support.....	5.5%
Institutional Support	23.7%
Instruction	30.9%
Operational & Maintenance	10.3%
Public Service	6.4%
Student Aid.....	4.7%
Student Services.....	8.5%
Other.....	10%

Total Expenses **\$18,918,732**

2018-2019 Revenues

Federal, State & Local Grants	20.2%
State Appropriations.....	47.9%
Student Tuition & Fees	30.7%
Other.....	1.2%

Total Revenues **\$22,690,788**



Grants Awarded 7.1.2018 to 6.30.2019

Grant Title	Funding Source	Amount
Expanding Community College Apprenticeships	American Association Community Colleges	\$420,000
Small Business Development Center	Ohio Development Services	\$158,500
Perkins Grant	Ohio Department of Higher Education.....	\$134,443
Ohio Manufacturing Extension Partnership	CIFT, Ohio Development Services Agency	\$110,000
Choose Ohio First Scholarship Grant	Ohio Department of Higher Education.....	\$97,500
Tech Prep	Ohio Department of Higher Education.....	\$32,700
Short-Term Certificate Supplemental - Foster Care Focus	Ohio Department of Higher Education.....	\$20,263
Ohio Strong Start to Finish (SSTF) CLASS Grant	Ohio Department of Higher Education.....	\$19,000
Gene Haas Scholarship Grant	Haas Foundation.....	\$10,000
Apprenticeship Support Program	Keystone Development	\$8,000
Cybersecurity Supplement	Ohio Development Services.....	\$8,000
Lima Basic Manufacturing Pathway	Lima Community Development Block Grant	\$7,000
Ohio Open Ed Collaborative Mini-Grant	Ohio Department of Higher Education.....	\$6,000
Collaborative Program Development (Suicide Prevention)	Northeast Ohio Medical University	\$5,000

Total Grants Awarded **\$1,036,406**

Rhodes State College Foundation

Founded in 1978, the Rhodes State College Foundation assists the College by developing partnerships and relationships with individuals, businesses and community organizations. The Foundation generates financial support to increase the College's viability, enhance opportunities for students, and help provide more accessible and affordable education to current and future students.

In the last five years, the amount of scholarship dollars has increased 80%, an increase of almost \$65,000. During this same period, the number of scholarship awards has increased 43%, and the average scholarship award is

\$1,000, an increase of 26%. These increases are due to the establishment of 25 new scholarships and donations to established scholarship funds. Generous donors, who believe in Rhodes State students, make all of these increases possible. Thank you.

Rhodes State College Foundation Board of Directors

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Ms. Jane P. Krites*
Chair | Ms. Carrie Jones Lewis |
| Mr. Matthew T. Jennings
Vice Chair | Dr. Francis O. Oruma |
| Ms. Mary Elmquist-Lane | Dr. Jan L. Osborn |
| Ms. Teri Hirschfeld | Dr. Ann Pohl* |
| Ms. Alberta Lee | Mr. Michael Rex |
| | Bishop Darnell K. Williams, Sr. |

*Alumni



Rhodes State College Foundation Statement of Financial Position

2018-2019 Assets

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$834,292
Investments.....	\$3,018,261
Loans Receivable – Net	\$18,615
Noncurrent Assets.....	\$125,700
Pledges Receivable	\$73,454

Total Assets \$4,070,322

2018-1019 Liabilities & Net Assets

Total Liabilities	\$623,620
Donor Restricted.....	\$3,379,698
Unrestricted	\$67,004

Total Liabilities & Net Assets \$4,070,322

Statement of Activities, Year Ending June 30, 2019

Total Revenues, Gains, and Other Support	\$528,650
Total Expenditures.....	\$347,639

Net Increase \$181,011

80%

INCREASE IN SCHOLARSHIP DOLLARS OVER PAST 5 YEARS

It Takes a Community

In 2018-2019, Rhodes State College and the Rhodes State College Foundation awarded over \$161,000 in scholarships to students in every Division. Funded through the generosity of community members, friends of the College, every variety of business and industry as well as the Tee Off for Scholarships annual golf outing. The scholarships honor donor intent and make a quality education more accessible and affordable for students.

On April 10, 2019, students, donors, faculty, staff and family members gathered at the College at 6:00 p.m. to celebrate the achievements of the scholarship recipients. Speakers for the event included Sonya Eaton, 2017 graduate and scholarship recipient, and Judy Gilbert, donor representative of the Gilbert Scholarship.

“ THIS PROGRAM ALONG WITH THE SCHOLARSHIP HAVE HELPED ME FIND A CAREER FIELD WITH ABUNDANT OPPORTUNITY, AND I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO MY FUTURE IN THE CONCRETE INDUSTRY.”

Drew Best, Roger P. Jones Concrete Technology Scholarship Recipient

\$ **2.1** M

IN TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS

2,000
NEARLY

TOTAL AWARDS

\$476,457

TO DATE HAS BEEN RAISED
BY THE TEE OFF FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

“ I AM THE FIRST IN MY FAMILY TO GO TO COLLEGE AND THIS SCHOLARSHIP ALLOWS ME TO CONTINUE TO PURSUE MY DREAM OF NURSING. I CANNOT RELAY IN WORDS HOW GRATEFUL I AM FOR YOU ALLOWING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEND TIME WITH MY FAMILY BECAUSE OF FINANCIAL RELIEF.”

Hanna Mengerick, Rhodes State Scholarship Recipient



Rhodes State College Accreditation

Rhodes in Motion was the theme for the accreditation journey on which Rhodes State College embarked during academic year 2018-2019. It encapsulated the participation, persistent movement and ongoing engagement of the College community and affirmed a commitment to change and progress.

Improvement is Priority One.

As a part of participation in the Higher Learning Commission's (HLC) Open Pathway for accreditation, Rhodes was required to identify a Quality Initiative (QI), which demonstrated the College's commitment to continuous improvement. The Comprehensive Early Alert Program (CEAP), a comprehensive, faculty-initiated communication system developed to increase student retention and success by connecting students with immediate interventions, was selected as the College's QI. The QI Summary Report was submitted to the HLC August 2018 and was accepted October 2018. Significant to note was the Commission's response that the QI

was a "genuine effort on the part of the institution regarding CEAP," and that "the institution demonstrated: its seriousness of the undertaking; the initiative had scope and impact; a commitment to and engagement in the initiative; and adequate resource provision."

The HLC Comprehensive Evaluation was scheduled for March 25-26, 2019. A cross section of over 70 faculty, staff and administrators served on various teams, collected upwards of 700 pieces of evidence, and collaborated to support development of the Assurance Argument, which was to be submitted prior to HLC's Peer Review Team visit. The Rhodes State teams included the HLC Steering Committee, Criterion Teams (representing each of five HLC Criteria for Accreditation), Federal Compliance Team, Communications and Events Team, and the Quality Initiative Team.

In its Final Report, the HLC Peer Review Team stated,



“Based on the evidence provided in its Assurance Argument and interactions with constituents on the James A. Rhodes State College (RSC) campus, the Team asserts that RSC meets the criteria for continued accreditation.”

In all its document review, conversations with administrators, staff, faculty, and the Board of Trustees, the HLC Team recognized Rhodes employees' "commitment to their students, their colleagues, and the Lima community." The HLC Team also reflected, "During the open faculty and staff sessions with HLC Team members, Rhodes employees touted their mission with

pride as they continuously provided examples of how RSC changes lives."

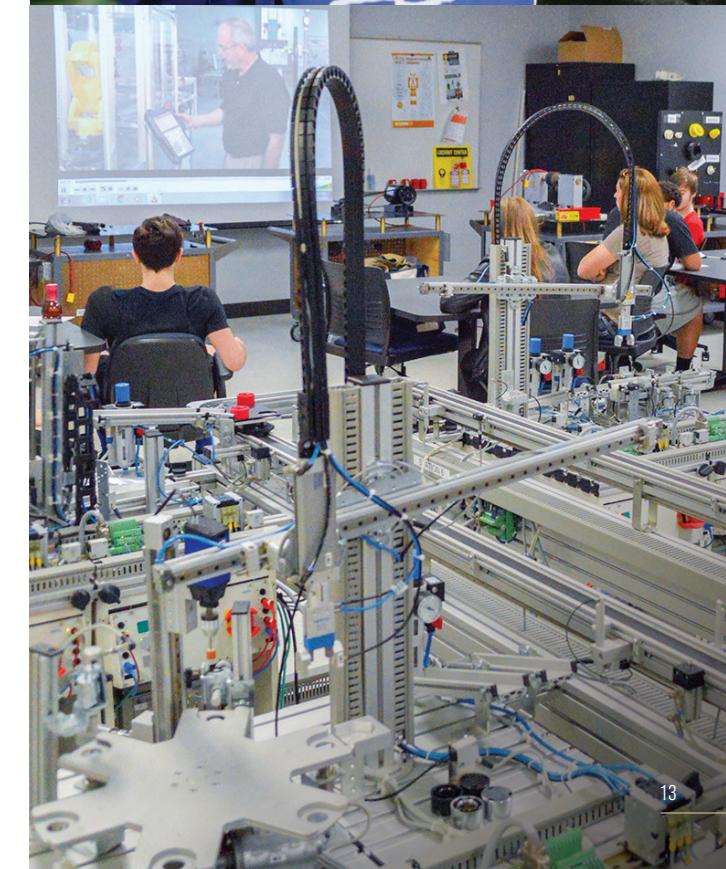
The Report goes on to say, "True to both its vision and mission, RSC contributes to an educated citizenry via quality academic programs, a well-trained workforce, and numerous enrichment events, all of which improve the local financial and intellectual economy. Serving constituents from age six weeks to sixty and beyond, Rhodes State is a mission-driven institution that educates and enriches the lives of residents in its 10-county service area in West Central Ohio."

The Team also cited two board members, as they proclaimed, "Rhodes State is necessary for this community, because we have to provide the ways and means into higher education," and, "I am here to make a difference!"

On June 3, 2019, Rhodes State College received official word that it was granted "continued accreditation" by the Higher Learning Commission with its next Reaffirmation of Accreditation scheduled for academic year 2028-2029. Once Rhodes received an official letter of affirmation from HLC, Dr. Spiers, remarked,

“This is a big deal for an institution, and I’m honored to work with such an outstanding team of faculty, staff, and administrators who, on a day-to-day basis, provide excellence in teaching and learning, student support, and operational management. We work with a Board of Trustees who continues to demonstrate their integrity as they maintain due diligence and oversight of the College’s strategic and fiduciary responsibilities.”

The significant effort, determination, collaboration and expertise brought together by the College community to ensure HLC re-accreditation created a precipice from which students, staff, faculty and administration can stand and look out over the accomplishments of the past, a community-wide embrace of the present, and a solidifying vision of the future. As Rhodes State moves forward, it remains committed to remembering this moment of celebration and looks forward to many more positive years to come!



We're Proud of our Students

2018-2019 Outstanding Student - A. Chester Burns Award



Nathan Michael Giesman
Electronic Engineering Technology

2018-2019 All Ohio Academic Team



Jenna Winner
Physical Therapy Assistant



Gracie Prine
Associate of Science



Darby Olson
Physical Therapy Assistant



Alton McPheron
Associate of Science

2018-2019 Outstanding Student Awards

Division of Arts & Sciences

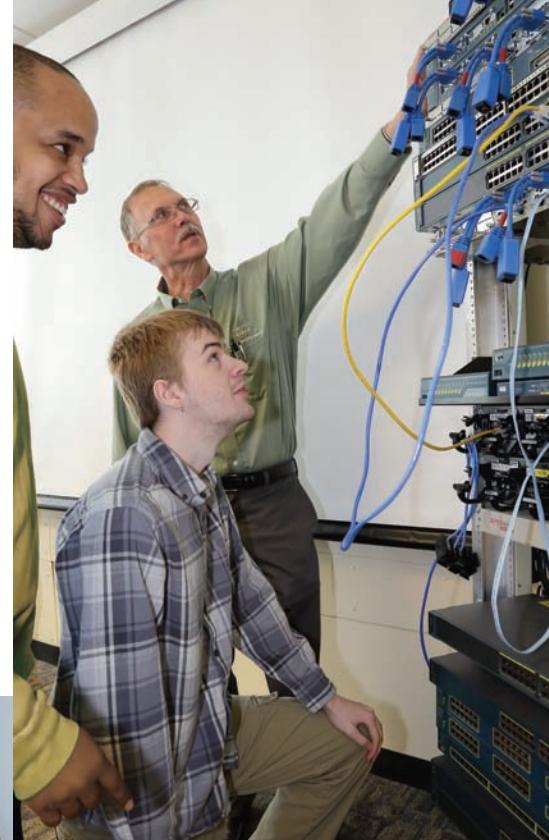
Allison McClurg, Associate of Arts
Ashlin Ciara Toland, Associate of Science

Division of Business, Technology & Public Service

Lindsey Kelly, Business Administration
Elizabeth Marie Iszory, Accounting
Isaac S. Hatfield, Mechanical Engineering Technology
Meagan Hand, Early Childhood Education
Brad W. Dietrich, Jr., Human Service
Audrey Defibaugh, Law Enforcement
Brock E. Sharp, Digital Media Technology
Christopher Mason, Business Administration
Toshia VanBuskirk, Accounting
Briggs Thatcher, Network Security
Carl Cornett, Human Resources
Luke K. Best, Electronic Engineering Technology
Tyler Alan Wilder, Manufacturing Engineering Technology
Breanna Vanderpool, Concrete Technology
Nicolas Young, Web Programming/Computer Programming
Logan Gunner Williams, Advanced Manufacturing

Division of Health Sciences

Autumn Darnell, Physical Therapist Assistant
Stefnay Dick, Medical Assisting
Karissa Dorn, Occupational Therapy Assistant
Harold Kuhbander, Nursing
Marlea Myles, Respiratory Care
Holly Rindler, Dental Hygiene
Sara Wagner, Nursing
Caleb A. Westerfield, Radiographic Imaging



Our Students by the Numbers

4,002 STUDENTS ENROLLED

14:1 STUDENTS-TO-FACULTY RATIO

440 GRADUATES

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE

Allen	30.31%
Hancock	16.29%
Putnam.....	13.67%
Auglaize	7.27%
Mercer	6.12%
Hardin.....	6.05%
Shelby	3.80%
Van Wert.....	3.75%
Other	12.74%

509 DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

64% FEMALE	36% MALE
19% FULL-TIME	81% PART-TIME

Passion for Rhodes State Students

Arts & Sciences Division

Laurin Wolf moved in to her office at 205P Galvin Hall in the fall of 2018. She unpacked her diplomas from Kent State and the University of Pittsburgh and put her poetry chapbooks on her shelf. At Rhodes State, she would be part of a faculty community that consistently achieves a high standard, earns accolades, serves academically and philanthropically, and cares deeply about the success of the community college student.

Wolf's first assignments as an instructor in the Humanities Department were to teach English Composition, College Reading, and Introduction to Literature.

"I have a passion for the first year writing student and love teaching composition courses," she said. "I feel like Humanities is the foundation for student learning and critical thinking, and the composition course prepares students for future college writing and is one of the most important courses a student takes in college. I feel honored to usher students into college through my courses."

Moving from Pittsburgh, Wolf has experienced Rhodes State students with a new perspective.

"The students at Rhodes have been both challenging and rewarding. The diversity of the classroom with College Credit Plus, traditional, and non-traditional students challenges me. I have to adapt my message quickly for different audiences and learning styles; I have to be prepared for any manner of question or point of view, and



I must modify my lessons to appeal to range of ages and understandings. This is simultaneously rewarding."

According to Wolf, her vision for her courses is to develop methods through which students engage and build community online.

She wants to build collaborative, student-centered learning spaces where students feel comfortable sharing points of view.

She envisions and strives for classes where students learn from each other as they learn from her, the instructor.

Prior to her time at Rhodes State, Wolf wrote and published two poetry chapbooks entitled *about staying in* (2019 Finishing Line Press) and *come back mother* (Dancing Girl Press 2020). She was also a featured speaker in the Lakeland Community College's International Speaker Series where she spoke about a manuscript she had written about her studies in India, Nepal, and Tibet, a formative experience for her both personally and creatively.

"I was honored to participate in a student event that fostered diversity and learning," she said of her experience. "It was also the first time I got to sign and sell my chapbook, *about staying in*, and that was exciting for me professionally. I hope to participate in more events like these in the future, and I hope to bring experiences like these to the students at Rhodes."

The unpacking in Galvin 205 is mostly finished by now, and it is clear that the future is bright in the Humanities Department of Rhodes State College.



Walking Through Open Doors

Business, Technology & Public Service Division

In 2018-2019, the Business, Technology and Public Service Division at Rhodes State continued to innovate and push open new doors for its students. One particular highlight includes the New Baccalaureate Transfer Agreements that were developed between Rhodes State and Bluffton University for Accounting, Business Administration and Marketing students. These new agreements allow students to complete three years of their bachelor's degree at Rhodes State and finish their degree online or on campus at Bluffton University.

The 3+1 transfer agreement works.

Chair and Assistant Professor of the Business, Marketing & Accounting program, Ms. Cara Rex, was integral in the manifestation of this 3+1 transfer agreement. Working together with the enrollment counselors at Bluffton, Ms. Rex figured out the details that would allow for Rhodes State associate degree graduates to continue with a third year of the excellent, affordable training they had come to know at Rhodes State and then, seamlessly transition all of their earned credits into the program at Bluffton University.

Upon approval by Rhode State and Bluffton University, the agreement was completed for the 2019-2020 academic year.

In total, depending on the program, students involved in the transfer agreement would need to earn approximately 30 more credit hours in their final year at Bluffton University, totaling around 120-125 hours for their complete degree.

“When I began working together with Bluffton on this opportunity, the biggest selling point for our program and these students was the proximity of Bluffton to Rhodes State,” said Ms. Rex. “This really provides a substantially valuable transfer option for students who want a traditional classroom experience.”

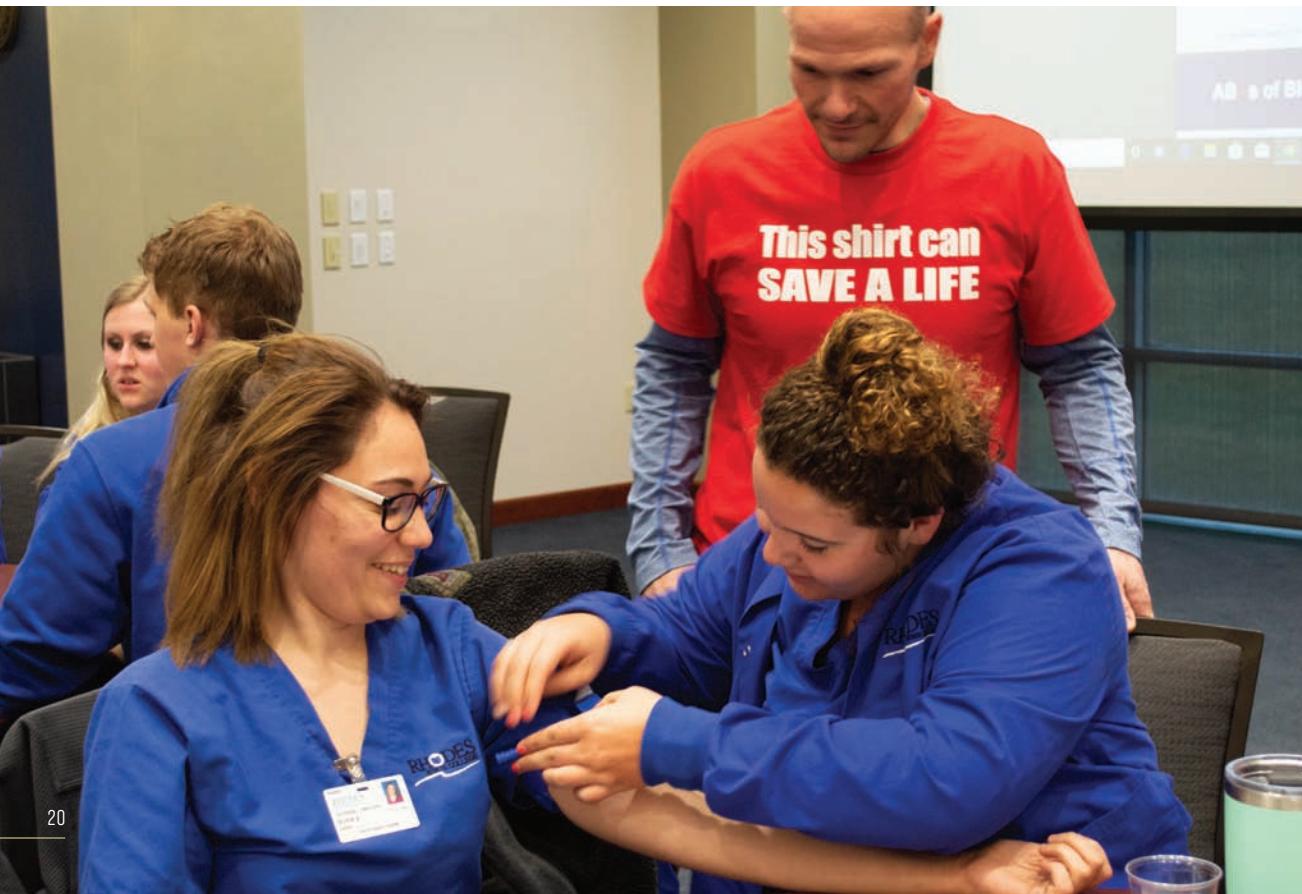
According to Ms. Rex, Bluffton University also offers substantial transfer scholarships. This was important in working out the new agreements, because these will keep students, who appreciate the affordability of Rhodes State, on track with their financial savings.

“In recent years, it has been satisfying to see other schools become serious about transfer students from Rhodes State,” continued Ms. Rex. “They have seen that our students bring quality to their institutions, and they desire to bring them on. These agreements are a win for both institutions.”



Preparing, Today, for Tomorrow's Emergencies

Health Sciences Division



The Rhodes State College Division of Health Sciences offers a “Stop the Bleed” simulation event that transforms students into front-line caregivers and emergency responders for a day. In 2018-2019, the event was coordinated by Beth White, Coordinator of Distance Education and Assistant Professor of Respiratory Care and Robert Rowland, Interim Coordinator and Instructor for Emergency Medical Services.

“Stop the Bleed” training is an interdisciplinary program designed to simulate an active shooter or intentional mass casualty event during which students become first-responders to simulated victims of uncontrolled bleeding. Second-year Health Science students participate in the hands-on learning experience as a part of their yearly Cultural Competency Retreat in order to gain the many different skills and insights that are vital for them to succeed in their future career paths in healthcare as well as their every-day lives as responsible citizens.

“In its inception, the retreat created multidisciplinary teams to treat patients to a desired end goal of teamwork within the professions,” said White.

“We then added a cultural competency aspect where the students had to look at the person’s culture and modify their treatment, so that cultural diversity was factored into the treatment plans. “Stop the Bleed” was added to the day’s agenda to provide the students with training that they can not only use in their career but in everyday life.”

During the retreat, students are divided into groups consisting of members from each of the nine programs within the Division of Health Sciences. The first component of the day is “Stop the Bleed,” for which all successful participants receive a certificate of completion.

According to BleedingControl.org, the Stop the Bleed Program® was born in the aftermath of the active shooter disaster on December 14, 2012, at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT. In April 2013, a group known as the Joint Committee to Create a National Policy to Enhance Survivability from Active Shooter Events and Intentional Mass Casualty was convened by the American College of Surgeons in collaboration with others in the medical community and representatives from the federal government, the National Security Council, the U.S. military, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and governmental

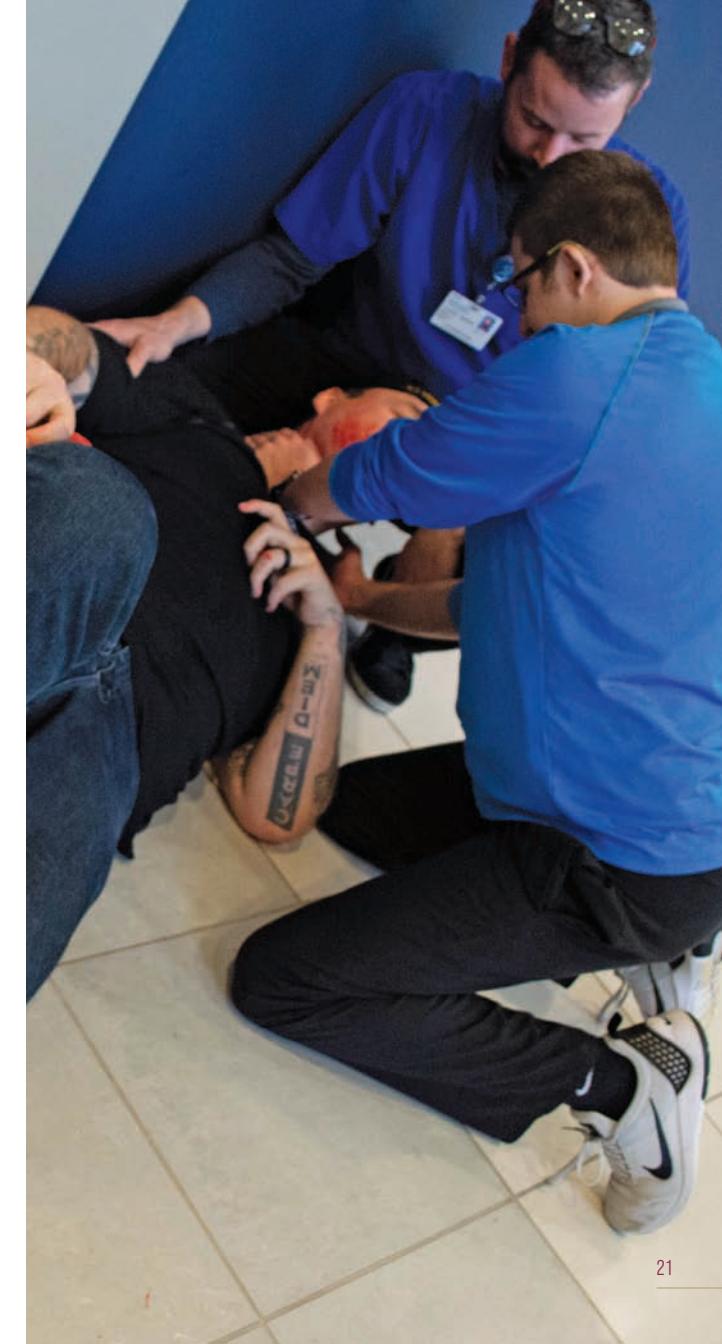
and nongovernmental emergency medical response organizations, among others. Together, they created a protocol for national policy to enhance survivability from active shooter and intentional mass casualty events.

“Stop the Bleed” makes an impact.

The second half of the Cultural Competency Retreat is devoted to an inter-professional activity in which all students, within their assigned groups, create a treatment/care plan for a patient that has a specific cultural identity.

“As our mission states, Rhodes State College changes lives, builds futures and improves communities through life-long learning. We feel that the addition of “Stop the Bleed” addresses this mission statement,” continued White. “I am very proud to be a leader of this event and see how it has evolved over the past 10 years to meet the changes and demands of students and our environment.”

Feedback from students, College participants and community members, each year, is overwhelmingly positive and constructive to the leadership of the event for continued excellence and innovation for the program.



National Recognition for Two of Our Own

Cheryl Kuck and Steve Stiles



Two Rhodes State College faculty were awarded national awards during the 2018-2019 academic year. In September 2018, Cheryl Kuck, MS, CMA, Medical Assisting Program Coordinator, was awarded the American Association of Medical Assistants (AAMA) “Golden Apple Award,” and in May 2019, Steve Stiles, Assistant Professor of Information and Technology, was recognized as the Cisco Networking Academy United States and Canada “Regional Spotlight Award” Winner.

“This is the excellence in talented faculty provided at Rhodes State,” said Interim President, Dr. Cynthia Spiers.

“We are very proud.”

Kuck received her recognition during the 62nd AAMA Annual National Conference held in Utah. The “Golden Apple Award” is presented to the educator from a Medical Assisting program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) who has been nominated by supervisors and

Cheryl Kuck, Medical Assisting Program Coordinator

peers because of the nominee’s outstanding dedication to and accomplishments in the field of medical assisting education. Kuck is the founding member of the local West Central Ohio Chapter of Medical Assistants affiliated with the American Association of Medical Assistants.

“I was so honored to have received the “Golden Apple Award” at the conference,” said Kuck. “I love changing students’ lives through education and helping them reach their potential.”

Stiles received the distinguished honor of the “Regional Spotlight Award” from the Cisco Networking Academy along with six counterparts representing Asia Pacific, Africa, Central & Eastern Europe, Greater China, Latin America and Northern/Southern Europe.

“We congratulate recent Regional Spotlight Award recipients, including Steve Stiles in the US,” said The Cisco Networking Academy in a letter to Rhodes State. “Their leadership and commitment to students, instructors, and academies are truly inspirational!”



Steve Stiles, Assistant Professor, Information & Technology

For the past 18 years, Stiles has shared his expertise in computer networking and network security with Rhodes State students and community members. He is a Certified Cisco Academy Instructor and a Qualified Cisco Academy Instructor/Trainer, both of which require extensive training and re-certification testing regularly.

A popular instructor, admired by his many past and present students, Stiles is known for his impressive mastery of the subject matter.

“My goal is to make certain that when our students enter the workforce, they have the necessary skills required by employers,” said Stiles. “Being in the technology field, we are constantly undergoing change. I really enjoy the challenge, and that is what drives me. It is an honor to be recognized.”

The Cisco Networking Academy Regional Spotlight Award recognizes instructors, academies, and partners for their leadership, commitment, and contributions that go-above-and-beyond expectations. The award is presented each quarter, celebrating the recipients’ impact

on the Networking Academy community. Candidates for this award are nominated and selected by members of Networking Academy regional teams. Recipients of the Award receive a letter of recognition and a certificate to commemorate their achievements. Cisco Networking Academy partners with over 22,000 instructors and institutions worldwide to develop and deliver a curriculum that gives students the digital, problem-solving and entrepreneurial skills they need to get a job, earn a promotion or start a business of their own.

Alumna Earns One More Accolade

Cathy L. Kohli “Outstanding Alumni Award Winner”

The Outstanding Alumni Award (OAA) is the highest honor bestowed on alumni of Rhodes State College or Lima Technical College (LTC). In April of 2019, Cathy L. Kohli was named the OAA winner by a committee of faculty, staff and administration and accepted the award on May 4, 2019 at the Rhodes State College Commencement ceremony.

Kohli has been an agent of growth and transformation for the College since 1991. That year, Kohli became the Academy Commander and Instructor in the Criminal Justice Program at LTC. She continued in this role and accepted leadership positions including Director of Financial Aid and the acting Director of Advising. In these roles, she instituted and upgraded the financial aid staff to include four new advisors. She served on the Criminal Justice Advisory Board, the Steering Committee for the Higher Learning Commission in 2008 and the Completion Plan.

Prior to serving the College in varying roles, Kohli was a student at LTC, and she earned an Associate of Science in Law Enforcement degree in 1987. She said that while

at LTC, she “acquired her dream” of completing her degree and becoming a police officer. Upon graduation, Kohli continued with the Fort Shawnee Police Department where she earned the rank of Sergeant and was awarded Staff Officer of the Year. She continued her education with a Bachelor of Science in Business Management from the University of Findlay in 1997 and a Master of Criminal Justice Administration from Tiffin University in 2004. Later, she successfully completed the Academy for Leadership and Development and the Allen Lima Leadership program.

In 2018, Kohli retired from her distinguished career at Rhodes State College and her honorable service in law enforcement.

“I thoroughly enjoyed my time in law enforcement and as a D.A.R.E. Officer, interacting with students in the classroom,” Kohli said. “With my second career in higher education, I enjoyed working with parents and students and helping them navigate college and the financial aid process.”



Kohli has collected many accolades and recognition of service from the Ohio Attorney General, Lima/Allen County Chamber of Commerce, the Lima Police Department, the Allen County Sheriff’s Office, the National Child Safety Council, the Fraternal Order of Police, March of Dimes, Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District, Perry Local Schools (Outstanding Alumni) and the Allen County Democratic Party.

2018-2019 Alumni Circle of Excellence

Established in 2018, the Rhodes State College Alumni Circle of Excellence recognizes Associate Degree graduates of Rhodes State College and Lima Technical College who are doing exceptional work in their career field, community and for the College. The 2019 inductees were selected by a committee of faculty, staff and administration. They hail from around the United States and serve in diverse roles in their communities.



Jill M. Hay
AAS Dental Hygiene, 1992
Professor of Dental Hygiene and Dental Hygiene Clinic Coordinator, Rhodes State College



Russell L. Martin
AAS Law Enforcement, 1978
Sheriff of Delaware County, Ohio



R. Andrew Shappell
AAS Radiologic Technology, 1980
Coordinator and Associate Professor, Radiographic Imaging, Rhodes State College; Magnetic Resonance Technologist, Mercy Health – St. Rita’s Medical Center



Benjamin B. Stobbe
AAS Nursing, 1987
Assistant Vice Chancellor – Clinical Simulation, University of Nebraska Medical Center

Our Alumni by the Numbers

18,192

TOTAL ALUMNI

15 ALUMNI DONORS

ALUMNI BY DIVISION	
BTPS	9,543
Health Sciences	8,580
AA/AS	69

46

ALUMNI BUSINESS OWNERS AND CEO’S

104 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Rhodes State College Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees



Dr. Wilfred G. Ellis, **Chair**



Mr. Everett "Butch" Kirk III



Dr. Mona Willamowski



Mr. Sam Bassitt



Ms. Jane Krites*



Mr. Douglass S. Degen*

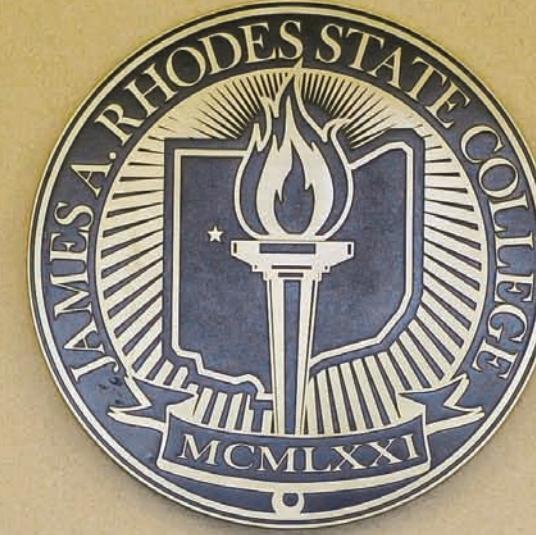


Mr. John Paradore

*Alumni



The Board of Trustees celebrated with the graduating class of 2019. Joining Interim President, Dr. Cynthia Spiers were Douglass Degen, Dr. Wilfred Ellis, Jane Krites, and Sam Bassitt.



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Dear Friends,

As I look back on the 2018-2019 year, I can say with pride and certainty that it has truly been transformative for Rhodes State College. I have been privileged to serve the College for many years and to, then, come alongside the Board of Trustees as the Interim President. Together, we have stood firmly on the mission of the College and look toward the future, determined to be an institution that changes lives, builds futures, and improves communities through lifelong learning.

The highlight of the year was the collaboration, diligence, and excellence that the staff, faculty and leadership of Rhodes State exhibited as we approached and successfully executed our 10-year Higher Learning Commission (HLC) re-accreditation. The process has affirmed the way in which our faculty, staff, administrators, and trustees genuinely understand and wholeheartedly support the College's mission. It has shown a light on the fact that our degree programs ensure student learning outcomes are consistent; appropriately credentialed faculty oversee the curriculum; and that qualified staff support students in achieving their academic and career goals.

It has been satisfying to see the re-accreditation through to completion and reaffirm our commitment to evaluating student success through mission-driven Key Performance Indicators, while being fiscally responsible with our human, physical and financial resources. The HLC noted our strategic approach to enhance academics, provide access, maximize collaboration, and expand institutional resources. We are continually grateful for the opportunity to display our passion for the region, our students, and our mission through the re-accreditation process.

It has been very important to Rhodes State that we look toward a future where our programs are intentionally interdisciplinary and have access to the most up-to-date technology. The Center for Health Science Education and Innovation, in downtown Lima, will serve as a tangible example of Rhodes State's commitment to this vision. It will serve the needs of our community, increase educational opportunities for Health Sciences students, and engage the region and healthcare industry around us. This year, progress was made toward finalizing the plans, breaking ground, and selecting the programs that will be housed in the new Center—Nursing, Respiratory Care, Emergency Medical Services, Physical Therapist Assistant and Occupational Therapy Assistant.

There are so many exciting things happening and in the planning stages at Rhodes State. The continual work of growth and change lies ahead. With a collaborative approach toward engagement and an innovative approach to transforming education, opportunities will increasingly widen toward a bright future for Rhodes State College and the broader expansion of who we have a commitment to serve.

Kindest Regards,

Cynthia E. Spiers, PhD
Interim President
Rhodes State College



