



Read about  
scholarship recipient  
Drue Morris  
**Page 36**

The 2017 MATC and  
MATC Foundation  
Annual Report  
is a print edition of

Inside **MATC**  
*Transformations*

### **MISSION**

As a public, two-year comprehensive technical college, MATC offers exceptional educational and training opportunities and services to our diverse metropolitan area by engaging with partners to advance the quality of life for our students and community.

### **VISION**

MATC is the premier comprehensive technical college that provides excellence in education to enrich, empower and transform lives.

### **VALUES**

Student Success  
Accountability  
Collaboration  
Customer Focus  
Diversity  
Excellence  
Innovation  
Integrity





## Contents


4. 2017-18 MATC District Board
5. Message From President Martin and District Board Chairperson Dull
6. MATC Fast Facts
8. MATC 2017 Financials
9. MATC Celebrates
11. Transformative Community Events
14. Return to School Allows Engineer to Build New ABS Career
16. MATC Helps Bau Ya Navigate U.S. Culture
18. Tevin Richie Beat the Odds
20. Career Shift: Brittney Linden's Route to Success
22. Venezuelan Student Plugs Into MATC
24. MATC Degree Paves Way for Tamara Johnson's Leadership Roles
29. 2018-19 MATC Foundation Board of Directors
30. Message From the Foundation Board President and Executive Director
31. Scholarships and Emergency Dollars
32. Grant to MATC Foundation Accelerates Programs for Automotive Careers
34. MATC and United Health Foundation Address Nursing Shortage
36. Force of Nature – Scholarship Helps Cultivate Career Preparation
38. MATC Foundation Financial Statements
39. Thank You to Our Donors

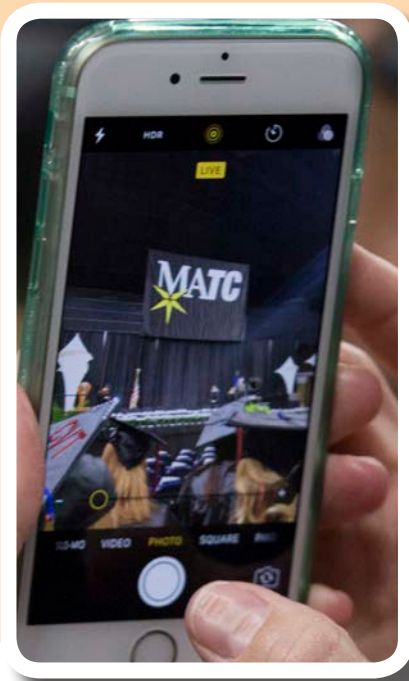
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## 2017-18 MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD

### **David A. Dull, Chairperson**

*Employer (15+ employees)*

*Dull is president/CEO of Allis Roller in Franklin and has more than 25 years of experience managing manufacturing companies. Under his leadership, Allis Roller has expanded support of technical education programs for high school and college students, and is committed to workforce development. Dull was first appointed to the District Board in 2012 and has previously served as vice chairperson and treasurer.*

### **Graciela Maizonet, Vice Chairperson**

*Employer/Manufacturer (100+ employees)*

*Machine Builder and Repairer, Master Lock Company*

### **Ann Wilson, Secretary**

*Additional Member*

*Manager, Hillside Family Resource Center*

### **Mark Foley, Treasurer**

*Employer (100+ employees)*

*Shareholder/Attorney, von Briesen & Roper, s.c.*

### **Abdulhamid Ali**

*Employer (15+ employees)*

*Chairman/CEO, DAAR Engineering Inc.*

### **Ashanti Hamilton**

*Elected Official*

*President, Milwaukee Common Council*

### **Mary Isbister**

*Additional Member*

*President, GenMet*

### **Lisa Olson**

*School District Administrator*

*Superintendent, Whitnall School District*

### **Mary Scheibel**

*Employer (15+ employees)*

*Principal/Owner, Trefoil Group Inc.*



## Message From President Martin and District Board Chairperson Dull

We are pleased to share with you the 2017 Milwaukee Area Technical College Annual Report. The stories of students, alumni and partners throughout this report demonstrate how the college is transforming lives, industry and community.

As leaders of this institution, we take very seriously the responsibility of being an excellent steward of the investments that are made in the college. A comprehensive overview of the college's financial standing for the 2016-17 fiscal year is presented in this publication.

The accomplishments of the Milwaukee Area Technical College Foundation Inc. also are shared in this report. The Foundation establishes significant fundraising goals to support our current and future students. It engages individuals, corporations and foundations to fund scholarships that prepare the next generation of career professionals in established and emerging sectors essential to our region's economic vitality.

An integral community resource for more than a century, MATC is educating the students who will help close our region's skills gap. We are preparing today's students for the careers of tomorrow, and redefining the future of higher education by creating affordable and accessible paths to family-sustaining employment. Our academic programs are rigorous, relevant and emphasize career readiness. We prepare area residents for work in careers and industries that matter to our local, state and national economies. This commitment is reflected in the success of our graduates, more than 90 percent of whom are employed within six months.

Vicki J. Martin, Ph.D.  
MATC President

David A. Dull  
MATC District Board of Directors Chairperson

# MATC FAST FACTS

Data from 2016-17 academic year (unless noted)

Milwaukee Area Technical College serves more than 1.04 million residents in Milwaukee County, the southern portion of Ozaukee County and small sections of Washington and Waukesha counties. For more than 100 years MATC has provided hands-on, practical education that prepares students for rewarding careers in business, industry, health, and service occupations. Every academic program is served by volunteer Advisory Committee members who help forecast emerging industry trends to ensure that the college is providing well-educated and career-ready graduates. Our Workforce Solutions partners with local businesses in a wide variety of sectors to provide incumbent worker training.

## Reasons for Attending MATC

- 33% - Prepare for a job
- 25% - Career change
- 23% - Improve existing skills
- 11% - Prepare for further education
- 7% - Personal interest
- 2% - Other

*(Based on December 2015 and May 2016 graduates' responses to Wisconsin Technical College System survey)*

## Academic Programs Offered

### (Fall 2017)

#### 82 Associate Degree programs

Two years of full-time study

#### 83 Technical Diploma programs

One year of full-time study

#### 44 Certificate programs

One semester of full-time study

#### 22 Apprenticeship programs

that have the related classroom instruction delivered by MATC

#### MATC program offerings included:

##### 25 Online programs

Nine associate degrees, 11 technical diplomas and five certificates offered entirely online, and hundreds of online courses available in many programs

##### 7 Accelerated programs

Seven associate degree programs structured for minimal commitment of in-class/on-campus time, giving students the flexibility for jobs, families and other responsibilities

##### 7 Bilingual programs

One associate degree, three technical diplomas, one certificate, two apprenticeship programs

**For a complete list of programs, visit [matc.edu/academic\\_programs/masterlist.cfm](http://matc.edu/academic_programs/masterlist.cfm)**

*(The length of study applies to majority of programs in the category.)*

## Student Enrollment

# 35,473

Enrollment

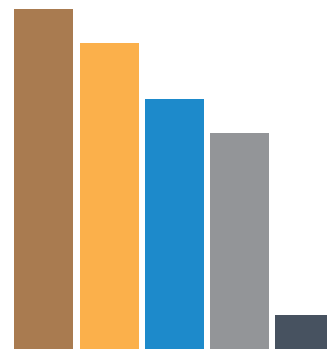
# 10,198

Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)

90% - Students enrolled on a part-time basis (enrolled in less than 24 credits/year)

## Enrollment by Academic School

Associate degree/technical diploma program student



- Business 30%
- Health Sciences 27%
- Liberal Arts and Sciences 22%
- Technology and Applied Sciences 19%
- Media and Creative Arts 3%

MATC also enrolled more than 13,500 students in the School of Pre-College Education, which includes Basic Skills, GED/HSED, Adult High School and English as a Second Language (ESL).

## Student Diversity

*(Based on student self-reporting/self-identification)*

- White 42%
- African-American 29%
- Hispanic 19%
- Asian-American 7%
- Multiracial 2%
- American Indian 1%

MATC is Wisconsin's largest majority-minority college/university.

## Student Demographics

# 30

 AVERAGE AGE

# 53%

 FEMALE

# 47%

 MALE

## Where Our Students Live

- 81% - Milwaukee County
- 12% - Ozaukee, Racine, Washington, Waukesha Counties
- 7% - Other

# 90%

of MATC graduates are employed within six months of graduation.

# 87%

of MATC graduates work in the Greater Milwaukee area.

*(Based on December 2015 and May 2016 graduates' responses to Wisconsin Technical College System survey)*

## Financial Aid - 10,834 students

received financial aid, totaling \$59.9 million (includes grants, loans, scholarships and work-study employment); 61% of program students receive financial aid.

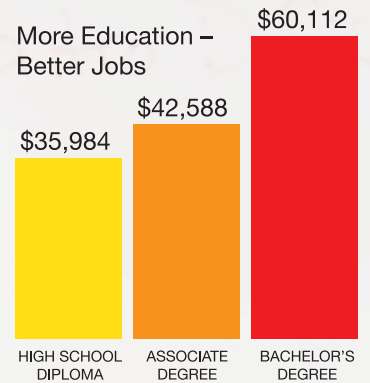
## Annual Contributions to the Local Economy

\$1.7 billion (2012-13) – This is the added annual income due to the activities of MATC alumni and former students in the workforce, the college's activities/contributions and student spending.

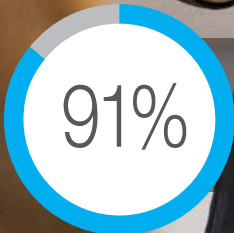
*(Source: Economic Modeling Specialists, Inc., 2014)*

The Cost You Found Challenging  
La C... ue en...

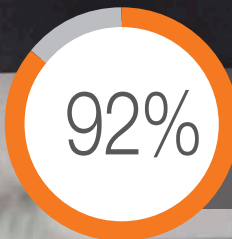
### EDUCATION EQUALS OPPORTUNITY



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey "Career Outlook: More Education: Lower Unemployment, Higher Earnings," April 2017.  
<https://www.aacc.nche.edu/2017/05/24/datapoints-education-better-jobs/>



OF TECHNICAL DIPLOMA GRADUATES ARE EMPLOYED WITHIN SIX MONTHS



OF ASSOCIATE DEGREE GRADUATES ARE EMPLOYED WITHIN SIX MONTHS

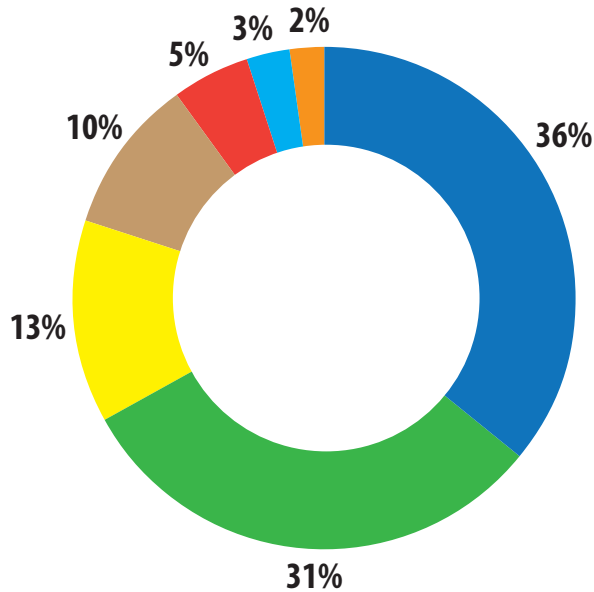
\$32,530

Average technical diploma graduate starting salary

\$40,710

Average associate degree graduate starting salary

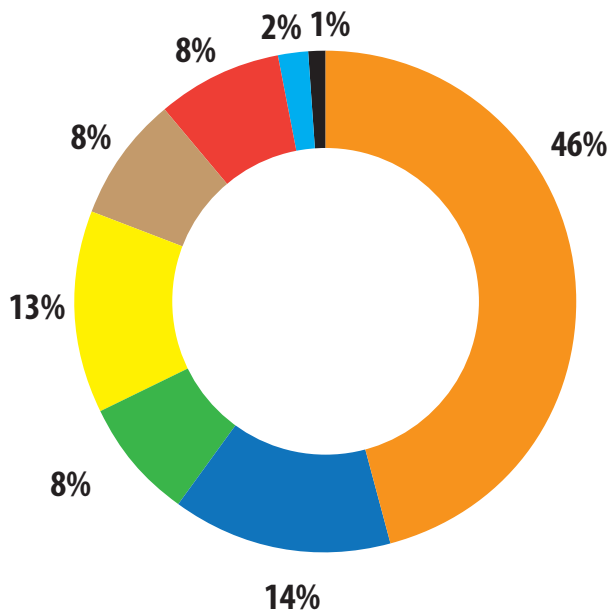
# MATC 2017 Financials



## TOTAL REVENUE \$251.7 MILLION

|                          |        |      |
|--------------------------|--------|------|
| Property Taxes           | \$90.1 | 36 % |
| State Aid                | \$76.8 | 31 % |
| Federal Aid              | \$33.2 | 13 % |
| Student Tuition and Fees | \$25.9 | 10 % |
| Grants                   | \$11.7 | 5 %  |
| Auxiliary/Enterprise     | \$8.2  | 3 %  |
| Institutional            | \$5.8  | 2 %  |

(in millions)



## TOTAL EXPENSE \$244 MILLION

|                         |         |      |
|-------------------------|---------|------|
| Instruction             | \$113.3 | 46 % |
| Student Services        | \$33.1  | 14 % |
| Auxiliary/Enterprise    | \$18.8  | 8 %  |
| Depreciation            | \$32.7  | 13 % |
| General Institutional   | \$19.0  | 8 %  |
| Physical Plant          | \$20.7  | 8 %  |
| Instructional Resources | \$5.1   | 2 %  |
| Debt Services           | \$1.3   | 1 %  |

(in millions)

Milwaukee Area Technical College is fiscally responsible, balancing the needs of students and taxpayers. The college retained a strong, high-grade Aa1 bond rating from Moody's Investors Service in the 2016-17 fiscal year. The tax levy increased from 1.257 (2016) to 1.259 (2017) for every \$1,000 of equalized value. The owner of a \$100,000 home in the MATC service district paid \$125.98 in 2017, compared to \$125.73 in 2016, an increase of \$0.25.



# MATC Celebrates

## First MATC Promise Graduates and Prominent Commencement Speaker Dr. Jill Biden

When KJ Lor applied for the MATC Promise program in late 2015, he couldn't have foreseen that he would have a chance to meet former U.S. second lady, Promise program champion and MATC Commencement speaker Dr. Jill Biden an hour before his Milwaukee Area Technical College graduation. Lor was a member of the first MATC Promise class, which began attending courses at the college in August 2016.

MATC launched Wisconsin's first Promise program on Sept. 9, 2015. The program is designed for students from the MATC district who attend MATC full-time directly from high school. If students meet all the eligibility criteria, including grade point average, attendance, test scores and financial need, private contributions cover the costs of tuition and fees for students, after federal and state financial aid is applied.

Lor graduated with a Machine Tool Operations: CNC Machine Setup and Operation technical diploma, which can be completed in two semesters of full-time study. Most members of the first MATC Promise class enrolled in associate degree programs, which generally require two years of full-time study, so they anticipate graduating in May 2018.

Because he was one of the first MATC Promise applicants to graduate, Lor was invited to a special reception held on campus for Dr. Biden before the May 12, 2017, Commencement ceremony. Lor, who is the first member of his family to graduate from college, said, "It was very exciting and I felt honored to meet Dr. Biden. At first I thought I would feel awkward because she is famous. But she made me feel comfortable."

Along with former President Barack Obama, Dr. Biden led a campaign to ensure greater access to higher education by advocating for two years of free community college for students across the country. She continues to promote College Promise programs nationally.

At the reception, Dr. Biden also met about a dozen students, Promise donors, community supporters, and faculty and staff who have been involved in the development and implementation of MATC's Promise program. She was accompanied by Dr. Martha Kanter, who served as undersecretary of education in President Obama's administration and currently serves as executive director of the national College Promise Campaign.

Drs. Biden and Kanter also visited the Milwaukee Public Schools' Lynde and Harry Bradley Technology and Trade School that day to speak with students and staff about the MATC Promise program.

An English professor at Northern Virginia Community College, Dr. Biden is an ardent supporter of community and technical college education. She told the crowd at Commencement, "We must do more to ensure that everyone who wants to learn can, no matter their income, background or family name."



## Abele Announces Personal \$500,000 Gift

MATC's Spring 2017 Commencement held another exciting moment when Milwaukee County executive and community philanthropist, Chris Abele (above right), announced his personal pledge to give MATC \$500,000 to expand the MATC Promise program. Abele said he wanted to especially target this gift for student scholarships and technical training for people living and working within the 53206 ZIP code.

This gift helped launch a pilot program and expanded planning for Wisconsin's first adult Promise program available to eligible applicants who are not direct-from-high school students.



Learn more about the MATC Promise program:  
[matc.edu/promise](http://matc.edu/promise), [matcpromise@matc.edu](mailto:matcpromise@matc.edu)



*"We must do more to ensure that everyone who wants to learn can, no matter their income, background or family name."*

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JILL BIDEN, ED.D., FORMER U.S. SECOND LADY

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*Dr. Jill Biden and Dr. Vicki J. Martin enter the UW-Milwaukee Panther Arena, the location of the Spring 2017 Commencement ceremony.*



*Dr. Jill Biden greets KJ Lor before the Commencement ceremony.*

# Transformative Community Events

MATC provides hope for many in our community who aspire to build a strong future for themselves and their families. The events showcased here are a few examples of how the college and the community are woven together, supporting the dreams of individuals and the talent development needs of the region as a whole.



## Big Step, Big Celebration

Commencement is the highlight of each semester that invigorates the entire MATC community. With 1,400 graduates in the Spring 2017 class and the address given by former U.S. second lady Dr. Jill Biden, May 12 was a memorable night. (See related story on page 9.)

MATC also hosted the General Educational Development (GED)/High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) graduation ceremony in Cooley Auditorium on June 7, 2017. More than 225 students were honored who graduated from programs offered at MATC and at 35 community-based educational partners.



## Nursing 1+2+1 = BSN

On June 6, 2017, MATC and Mount Mary University announced their unique “Nursing 1-2-1” program, which addresses the regional need for more registered nurses prepared through Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree programs. Students take prerequisite and general studies courses at Mount Mary their first year. Through the next two years of study at MATC, the students complete an associate degree in nursing and licensure as a registered nurse. The final year takes place at Mount Mary to complete the BSN degree. The program is open to high school graduates (women only) and began in August 2017.

The program was possible thanks in part to a \$2.3 million grant from the United Health Foundation, MATC’s partner in building the healthcare workforce of the future.



## Feast for Foodies

Hundreds of guests sampled food and desserts prepared by MATC students and faculty at the Five Star Food and Wine Evening on April 27, 2017, at the Downtown Milwaukee Campus. The annual event spotlights students’ skills and is a fundraiser for the MATC Foundation. The funds provide scholarships and continuing education opportunities for students and faculty in the culinary, baking and hospitality programs.



## Applauding our Apprentices

MATC and its business partners recognized more than 100 apprenticeship program graduates during the April 26, 2017, banquet held at the Italian Community Center in Milwaukee. The graduates were from 23 manufacturing and service apprenticeship programs. Mark Kessenich (shown with Dr. Martin), president and CEO of WRTP/BIG STEP, was honored with the 2017 Distinguished Service Award. Nicholas Triscari, MATC’s former apprenticeship coordinator, received a Lifetime Achievement Award.

## Rising Stars

MATC students from the School of Media and Creative Arts and the School of Business showcased their project work and career-ready skills at Portfolio Night held May 11, 2017, on the Downtown Milwaukee Campus. The annual event draws employers to campus to meet graduating students and review their work.



## Compelling Conversation Starter

MATC launched a free, monthly forum in November 2016 called "Diversity Dialogues." The Saturday morning workshops brought together people from throughout the Milwaukee community to learn and share ideas about cultural diversity. Led by MATC instructors, the two-hour forums ran through May 2017 and were held at Washington High School of Information Technology.



## STAY CURRENT WITH MATC NEWS

To keep you informed about college activities, MATC posts its media releases and links to media coverage on [matc.edu/matc\\_news](http://matc.edu/matc_news). The information is updated frequently and is a great resource for reading more about events on campus. The Marketing and Communications department also invites you to see the online gallery of photos at [tinyurl.com/MATCphotos](http://tinyurl.com/MATCphotos).

The Automated Building Systems (ABS) industry encompasses a broad range of emerging and current technologies.

## POSSIBLE CAREERS

- Application Engineer
- Building Automation Systems Specialist, Integrator or Technician
- Control Systems Designer
- Control Systems Installer
- Controls Technician (Field Based)
- Energy Management Technician
- HVAC Controls Technician
- Systems Technician
- Systems Specialist

## RELATED MATC PROGRAMS

- Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology
- Power Engineering and Boiler Operator
- Refrigeration, Air Conditioning and Heating Service Technician
- Apprenticeships including Refrigeration and Air Conditioning, Environmental Service Technician, Industrial Manufacturing Technician

**Learn more about MATC's Automated Building Systems technical diploma program:**  
[tinyurl.com/MATCabsdiploma](http://tinyurl.com/MATCabsdiploma)

# Return to School Allows Engineer to Build New ABS Career

Few occasions in life can inspire simultaneous terror and exhilaration. Skydiving, roller coasters, public speaking – certainly these fit. Unexpected job loss also ranks high on the list.

Stephen Ferns had worked his entire career as an engineer. A few years ago, this 63-year-old was laid off. Instead of feeling sidelined, he viewed it as a springboard to a whole new career.

With a bachelor's degree in resource development and a master's in agricultural engineering, Ferns knew he was employable. Why not head in a new, and possibly more challenging, direction? Additional training would be in order. Ferns checked out Milwaukee Area Technical College. He was drawn to the Automated Building Systems (ABS) technical diploma program.

"I was attracted to energy conservation and renewables, and working with complex controls for water treatment," Ferns said. "MATC's program allowed me to pull together some of my heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) experience and building systems background, and get some good training in the area of controls, how to work with them, set them up, program them and make them work."

## MATC PREPARES PROFESSIONALS TO BUILD THE FUTURE

The push to create more energy-efficient buildings is in full swing, in the U.S. and in other countries. Businesses and other organizations are looking at how they build, while actively seeking ways to:

- Save energy
- Decrease production costs

Due to these objectives, structures outfitted with automated systems are gaining popularity. They are becoming even more necessary as "green," energy-saving regulations increase. As a result, substantial employment possibilities exist.

To prepare workers with the needed skills, MATC's Automated Building Systems 25-credit technical diploma program can be completed in two semesters of full-time study. Courses are held in MATC's new ABS Lab at the Oak Creek Campus, in the Center for Energy Conservation and Advanced Manufacturing (ECAM). Ted Wilinski teaches in the ABS



*“My MATC instructors had so much experience in various aspects. They were able to show us several different sides of the industry, which was incredibly helpful.”*

**STEPHEN FERNS**, GRADUATE, AUTOMATED BUILDING SYSTEMS, 2017

program. He understands the long-term value these courses have in today’s changing world.

“The graying of America is placing incredible stress on employers looking for new employees,” Wilinski said. “It is estimated that over half the workforce is going to retire in the next five to 10 years. Nationally and locally, the demand for control technicians and associate positions far outstrips the pool of available people. With the announcement of Foxconn and all the supporting industry, demand for workers will be even higher, especially in the technical trades, such as building automation.”

Lighting, mechanical, fire protection, security systems – the shift is on from old technologies to newer, digital controls. Trained and skilled technicians are needed for design, installation, servicing and day-to-day operations.

“Obtaining this diploma provides a basis for being able to change jobs well into the future,” Wilinski said. “With current starting wages between \$40,000 and \$50,000 a year, before overtime, after just two semesters of schooling, ABS promises to be more than just an incredibly interesting career that combines hands-on with computers and the environment. There will be opportunities to move around to different positions and industries. Discussions with area technicians suggest that wages up to \$90,000 are not unreasonable.”

## IN DEMAND – AUTOMATED BUILDING SYSTEMS CREDENTIALS

Ferns recognized the myriad of possibilities. “The program met a lot of the things I was interested in,” he said. “And, I knew it would help me find a job in that field.”


While he attended full-time classes, Ferns worked part time. He admits it was a challenge, especially studying new technical terms and ideas. Having the right attitude was key.

“You have to be able to handle new things, new ways of doing things, if you want something different,” he said. He was especially impressed by his instructors.

“My MATC instructors had so much experience in various aspects,” Ferns said. “They were able to show us several different sides of the industry, which was incredibly helpful.”

Shortly before graduation in May 2017, Ferns started sending out résumés and talking to local employers about openings in the ABS field. It didn’t take long for him to find exactly the type of position he had imagined. He currently works as a building applications systems designer with CBRE.

“The day I got a job offer, I had a request to interview with another firm,” Ferns said. “There is a lot of opportunity out there.”



*"The teachers here are very nice. In Laos, students don't discuss their personal lives with their teachers. Here, the teachers are very helpful and I can really talk to them."*

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**BAU YA, ADULT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE, 2017**

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# MATC Helps Bau Ya Navigate U.S. Culture



Ten years ago, Bau Ya was living in Laos when she was swept off her feet by a young man from the U.S. who was visiting his family. After he returned home, they spoke daily on the phone for two to three hours, despite a significant language barrier.

The phone calls helped Ya learn more English and Vincent Hue perfect his Hmong language skills while strengthening their relationship. They became engaged in 2008. Ya joined her fiancé in the U.S. in April 2009. They married soon after her arrival. Finding herself in a strange, new culture and still trying to improve her English, Ya enrolled in English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at Milwaukee Area Technical College's Downtown Milwaukee Campus in fall 2009.

"America was very different from what I'd seen in the movies," Ya said. It also was very different from life in Laos. ESL classes helped her to learn more about U.S. culture, and to improve her English speaking and writing skills. She found written English especially trying. "Where I come from, there are no capital letters at the beginning of sentences and very little punctuation," she said. "I always had to remind myself to start sentences with capital letters. Commas, parentheses, exclamation points ... we never used those."

## A YEAR OF RAMEN NOODLES

Cultural differences also required adaptation, including getting used to American food. "My first year here, I lived on ramen noodles," she noted. "Not the kind you buy in packages at the store, but the kind they make at home by hand. It took me three or four years to eat cheese," she added with a laugh. "I'm still getting used to the food."

Ya speaks highly of her ESL classes. "I liked them a lot," she said. "There were many students from diverse backgrounds. I learned so much about different cultures and I made new friends."

After struggling to pass the GED test, Ya decided to take a different path to getting her high school credential. She enrolled in MATC's Adult High School in 2014, and took a variety of courses, including communications; mathematics; and vocational training in computer design, interior design and AutoCAD.

Ya excelled in Adult High School. She was selected as the Outstanding Adult High School student and was honored at MATC's Spring 2017 Commencement. Ya was given the opportunity to meet Commencement speaker Dr. Jill Biden, former U.S. second lady. "That was very exciting for me," she said.

## APPRECIATED INTERACTION WITH INSTRUCTORS

Ya said she particularly appreciates MATC instructors. "The teachers here are very nice," she said. "In Laos, students don't discuss their personal lives with their teachers. Here, the teachers are very helpful and I can really talk to them."

The mother of three young daughters, Ya concentrates her time on raising her children and on her studies. She is particularly grateful to her in-laws for their assistance. "They helped me all the way through. During my eight years in school, my father-in-law dropped me off and picked me up from school every day. They helped babysit my kids while I was in school. Without support from my husband and my in-laws, I think that I might not have been able to be successful."

Ya began college-level English and math courses at MATC in August 2017 and hopes to pursue an associate degree in accounting. After that, she would like to study international business at a four-year college or university. She dreams of someday serving in the U.S. embassy in Laos.

Ya became a U.S. citizen two years ago. She misses Laos, but believes that the U.S. has better opportunities for herself and her family. "I dropped out of school in seventh grade at home, as most young women do. If I'd stayed in my country, I'd have ended up being a housewife without a career," she said. "I have learned much more by being in this country."

**Learn more about the ESL program and the Adult High School in MATC's School of Pre-College Education:**  
[matc.edu/precollege](http://matc.edu/precollege)

# With His Drive to Help Others, Tevin Richie Beat the Odds

Four high schools in four years, run-ins with street gangs, a mother working three jobs, an absent father and an older brother living on the streets. For Tevin Richie, these experiences made the likelihood of graduating from high school and college against the odds.

“Because of the way I grew up, and with the kind of family I had, I could have come up with many excuses not to work toward an education,” said Richie. “But I overcame, pushed through and made it.”

His resolve to succeed kept him focused on his goal to become a nurse. Richie graduated with a Practical Nursing technical diploma from Milwaukee Area Technical College in May 2017 and began working at Luther Manor in Wauwatosa.

“I also am trying to become a mentor and go to basketball courts and interact with teens and young adults to show them that I know what they’re going through,” Richie said. “Hopefully, they can see where I am at now and draw inspiration.”

## A CHALLENGING CHILDHOOD

When Richie was 6 years old and living in Chicago Heights, Ill., his parents divorced. His father left, and his 13-year-old brother ran away from home.

“Mom worked three jobs to support us, and I did not see her much from the time I was 7 to the time I was 14,” Richie recalled.

They moved to Wisconsin, but his mother thought it was important to keep Richie in the same school system where he was gaining momentum. “Every morning, we would get up at 4 a.m. and drive back to Illinois so that I could go to school,” Richie said. He remained in the Chicago Heights school system and started high school there.

When Richie was 14, his brother returned home. “People in the neighborhood were afraid of him. But then they’d see me and start picking on me,” he said. “My brother told me, ‘I’m not going to be here all the time; you have to learn to stand up for yourself.’ So I kind of became a bully to bullies.”

Seeing a pattern developing, Richie’s relatives stepped in, decided this was not a place for a teenager with potential, and sent Richie to live with his aunt in Colorado Springs. A year later, he moved to Rockford, Ill., where his uncle lived, and stayed through his junior year of high school.

Richie said the school shut down several times due to student unrest. “I learned to stay under the radar, even with all the violence. I kept telling myself, I can’t control my physical environment, but I can control my mental environment.”

His senior year included another move — to Oklahoma. After graduation, he began at Rose State Community College in Midwest City, Okla.

He continued exploring his options for nursing school, however, including Wisconsin colleges. When he learned he could enter the nursing field within a year through MATC’s Practical Nursing program, he moved to Milwaukee.

## A PASSION FOR NURSING

“I was drawn to nursing because I am a people person,” explained Richie. “I believe that if something goes wrong with someone it is not just on the surface; there is a lot with the feelings underneath. I like being able to meet people on a spiritual level as well as the scientific level.”

With his passion for helping others, Richie was motivated.

“The program is hard with a heavy workload, but the instructors always reminded us, ‘Do not get discouraged; just take the tests one test at a time.’ That makes it doable.”

He appreciates the nursing program’s Career Pathway structure, which enables him to enter the field and work as a licensed practical nurse while continuing his education. He is interested in pursuing a Registered Nursing degree.

“I have always tried my best to do the things some thought couldn’t be done,” Richie said. Now in the career he dreamed of as a teenager, Richie is grateful that others believed in him. He knows that is what helped him beat the odds.

Learn more about nursing programs in MATC’s School of Health Sciences: [tinyurl.com/MATCnursing](http://tinyurl.com/MATCnursing)

*"The program is hard with a heavy workload, but the instructors always reminded us, 'Do not get discouraged; just take the tests one test at a time.' That makes it doable."*

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TEVIN RICHIE, MATC GRADUATE, PRACTICAL NURSING, 2017

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# Career Shift

## Brittney Linden's Route to Success Began With MATC Instructors

Tractor-trailer trucks weigh up to 80,000 pounds, are up to 70 feet long and have 18 complicated gears. Brittney Linden is 5 feet 4 inches tall, and has pursued her dream of driving the big rigs.

She completed Milwaukee Area Technical College's Truck Driving technical diploma program in 2014 and has been an over-the-road truck driver for FedEx.

"I always had an interest in truck driving," Linden said. "Every time I saw a truck go by, I thought it would be fun to drive one."

Her path to the Truck Driving program was not a direct route, however. She held a variety of jobs, including a zookeeper position at the Milwaukee County Zoo and construction work.

"I got to the point where I thought there had to be more to life than what I was currently doing," Linden explained. "I knew I wanted to get into truck driving but, for some reason, I put it off for a few years."

### ON THE ROAD TO HER DREAM

Encouraged by her father, a diesel mechanic, Linden called MATC's Oak Creek Campus and was connected with an instructor, Piotr Jelen. "He really enjoys what he does and it was infectious to me. He kept saying, 'You have to come because it'll be fun,' and that made my decision to get into the Truck Driving program even easier," Linden said.

That is not to say the program is simple, she added. "The program is a challenge. But, with the college's equipment and the instructors' knowledge, it was easy to learn what was needed."

There were a few potholes along the way. She remembers being frustrated while learning to back up a truck with a trailer. She spent one entire afternoon on the tarmac watching other students do it. "Eventually, after a few rough attempts, I did it perfectly and it all fell into place."

MATC Truck Driving instructor Dan Zdrojewski recalled that day too. "Learning how to shift a semi-truck and learning backing maneuvers are never easy tasks. Brittney stayed focused and passed all her final evaluations in one shot," he said.

Truck drivers are in demand throughout the region. MATC invites employers to the Oak Creek Campus to recruit students, and Linden was hired by Conway Trucking, where she worked for two years. In 2016, she began driving for FedEx, with routes to Kenosha and Racine, north to Port Washington, and also west to Hartford and Oconomowoc. "I cannot really explain it, but I have always been fascinated by the big trucks," Linden said. "I believe you have to go big or go home."

*"The program is a challenge. But, with the college's equipment and the instructors' knowledge, it was easy to learn what was needed."*

**BRITTNEY LINDEN**  
MATC GRADUATE,  
TRUCK DRIVING, 2014

Learn more about the Truck Driving program in MATC's School of Technology and Applied Sciences:  
[tinyurl.com/MATCdrive](http://tinyurl.com/MATCdrive)


# America's Real Superheroes Don't Wear Capes

A Real Superhero Is 80 feet In Front Of You



TRUCKING  
Moves America Forward



A young man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a blue and white plaid shirt, is smiling slightly. He is holding a black game controller in his hands and a book titled "The Art of Game Design" by Schell. The background is a blurred wall with a large, colorful graphic of a character's head and a red banner with the text "LET'S DO TH".

*"I began looking at colleges for my computer gaming design education. MATC offered the very specific programs in game design I sought."*

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SAYL GERMAN, MATC STUDENT, COMPUTER SIMULATION  
AND GAMING PROGRAM

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# Venezuelan Student Plugs Into MATC's Computer Gaming Program



Sayl German is serious about game playing. His interest in computer games led him 2,500 miles, from his home in Venezuela to Milwaukee, for the Computer Simulation and Gaming associate degree program at Milwaukee Area Technical College.

“A career in game design is not all that common in Venezuela,” said German. “It would have been easier to try and become a doctor or a lawyer and that is what was more expected of me. But I wanted to study game design because it is what I love.”

In 2014 German began a career in information technology in his home country. But as political turmoil and crime increased in Venezuela, German applied for a visa to live with his aunt in Milwaukee. The move gave German the opportunity to pursue his dream of working in the computer gaming industry.

“I began looking at colleges for my computer gaming design education,” German recalled. “MATC offered the very specific programs in game design I sought.”

## CONNECTING TO A NEW CULTURE

Moving to Milwaukee presented challenges for the 25-year-old whose native language is Spanish. German studied English for three years, and he credits his love of American TV shows and music with helping to learn pronunciation. But, as he discovered, learning the language and then applying it to everyday life are two different things.

“The English language is easy to learn, but hard to speak,” German pointed out. “Yet, one of the biggest surprises for me was how people were always willing to help me with my English.”

Emil Harmsen, an MATC Computer Simulation and Gaming

instructor, empathized. “Having been an exchange student in Japan, I know how hard a language barrier can be. To use computer language to create and design is hard enough,” Harmsen noted. “Working with Sayl, you could see his ability to learn things quickly, and it showed in his work.”

Harmsen added that German often helped other Spanish-speaking students overcome their challenges with English.

Language was not the only cultural difference German faced. He knew meters, but found it was all about inches here. In addition, the way material is presented at MATC is far more hands-on than he expected.

“You have to be able to do specific procedures to pass the class,” German said. “Understanding the programming and using specific software was a challenge for me. We were expected to design a huge collection of technical code for the games. I got help, and I made it.”

German plans to graduate from MATC in 2019. He believes MATC's transformative education, combined with his previous IT experience, will enable him to work at companies like Nintendo.

His life experiences gained by attending college thousands of miles from home also will enrich his career. “My dream is to write characters and plots for computer games,” he explained. “As a student from another country, I also am learning about other cultures and how other people see the world. It will all help me create the story.”

Learn more about the Computer Simulation and Gaming program in MATC's School of Media and Creative Arts:  
[tinyurl.com/MATCcsG](http://tinyurl.com/MATCcsG)

# MATC Degree Paves Way for Tamara Johnson's Leadership Roles

“Great by 8” is the phrase used at Malaika Early Learning Center on Milwaukee’s northeast side to describe its innovative approach to child care and education.

Eighty-one percent of the children are from low-income households; 95 percent of the students leave Malaika at or above grade level for their next stage of education. Led by MATC alumna Tamara Johnson, the center is dedicated to ensuring that children develop a strong academic, social and emotional foundation by age 8. As the executive director and principal since 2012, Johnson is guiding the center’s successful programs.

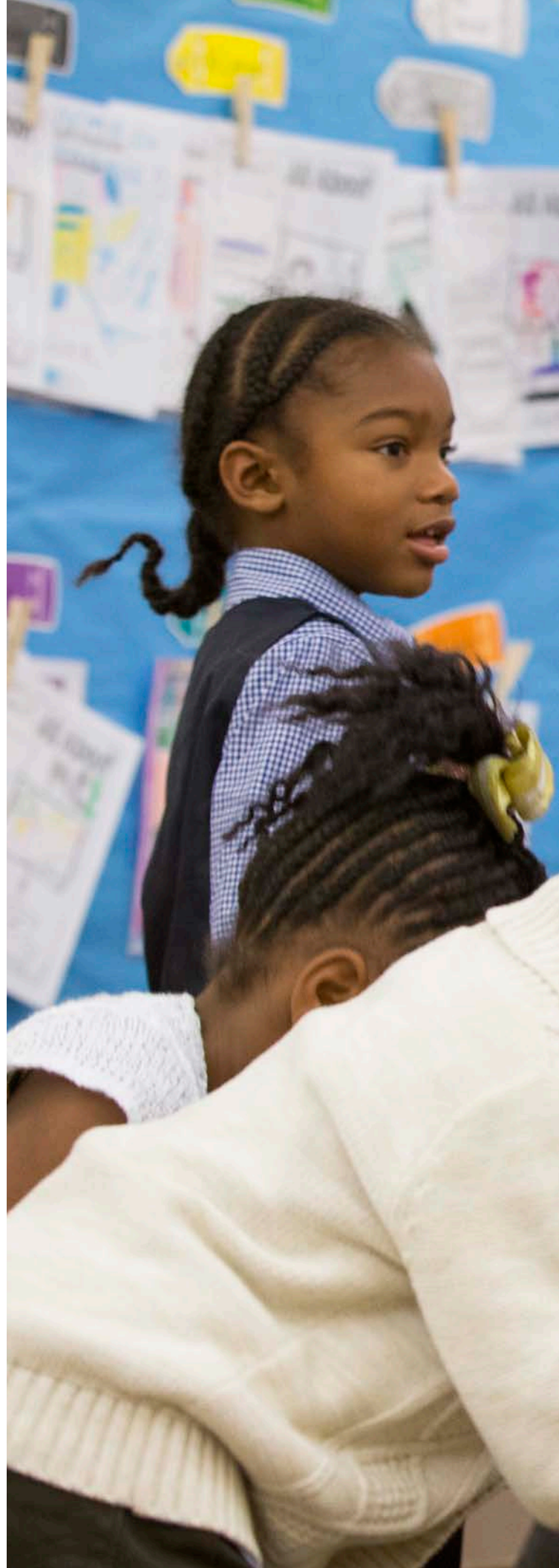
Johnson is involved with early childhood education on a national level as well. She serves on the governing board for the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The NAEYC promotes high-quality early learning for children, newborn through age 8.

She credits MATC for providing a crucial step in her career. Johnson earned a child care associate degree in 2003 and “it broadened my view about the impact early childhood education has on a community,” she said.

## MALAIKA’S MODEL

Entering the center at 125 West Auer Avenue is like walking into a beautifully illustrated book. A castle turret and a whimsical tree sculpture stir the imagination, and colorful wall murals depicting neighborhood scenes decorate the center’s hallways.

Malaika, which means little angel in Swahili, was founded in 2003 by Dennis and Kellie Mueller. The state-of-the-art facility in the Harambee neighborhood serves an average of 140 children each day, ages 6 weeks to 12 years old, and has a five-star rating, the highest recognition given through the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families’ YoungStar program.







*Tamara Johnson and students at Malaika Early Learning Center*

*“The degree from MATC provided the practical knowledge about early childhood education, plus it prepared me to take on new responsibilities.”*

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**TAMARA JOHNSON**, MATC GRADUATE, 2003  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/PRINCIPAL, MALAIKA EARLY LEARNING CENTER

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Johnson said that Malaika’s “Great by 8” model is based on research showing that a child’s development between ages 6 through 8 benefits from a transitional approach, one that gradually moves the child from a nurturing environment to an academic environment.

To meet this objective, a new wing for first-, second- and third-grade classrooms was built in 2016. Johnson led the \$1.2 million project, which included overseeing the fundraising, land acquisition, building design, technological upgrades and curriculum development.

### **MATC KEY TO JOHNSON’S SUCCESS**

Early childhood education is Johnson’s passion because “the community needs strong citizens. High-quality children’s care and early learning programs strengthen the community and society, now and for years to come,” she said.

Initially she entered the field because a child care job enabled her to be with her young son while at work. In 1998 she began working at the COA Youth and Family Center in Milwaukee and also enrolled in MATC’s Child Care and Development (now Early Childhood Education) associate degree program.

Two months after her MATC graduation, Johnson became the director for COA’s Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPI) program. She was responsible for the program’s daily operation and supervised a 13-person staff. “The degree from MATC provided the practical knowledge about early childhood education, plus it prepared me to take on new responsibilities,” she noted.

Earning the associate degree was the foundation for pursuing additional college degrees and credentials. She completed her bachelor’s degree in 2006 and in 2017 earned a Master of Education in Early Childhood Administration.



*“Tamara promotes the profession and is a strong leader in advocating for quality child care and education programs.”*

**DOUG UDELL, MATC INSTRUCTOR**

## LEADERSHIP ROLES IN THE COMMUNITY

Johnson currently serves as an Advisory Committee member for MATC’s Early Childhood Education program. “I know that MATC prepared me well. I always tell others that the content and the hands-on experiences of MATC’s programs are excellent,” she said.

Doug Udell, an MATC instructor, brings his students to Malaika so they can learn more about child care as a career. “Tamara promotes the profession and is a strong leader in advocating

for quality child care and education programs,” Udell said.

Johnson has held several leadership positions in the community, including serving on the Board of Directors of the Black Child Development Institute – Milwaukee Affiliate, Metropolitan Milwaukee Alliance of Black School Educators and Parents Plus Inc. But her most important leadership role is as Miss Johnson at Malaika, where the children gleefully greet her with hugs whenever she enters a classroom.

**Learn more about the Early Childhood Education program in MATC’s School of Liberal Arts and Sciences:**  
[tinyurl.com/MATCece](http://tinyurl.com/MATCece)



*Randy Casey, MATC Stormers athletic director, presents a shirt to Jakeira Isaac, a future MATC tennis program participant, at the June 1, 2017, event announcing MATC's addition of women's and men's tennis teams. Isaac's grandfather, Fred Ewing, also attended the event.*

**Our Purpose** The MATC Foundation is a nonprofit organization founded in 1979 to raise funds for student scholarships and emergency grants. The Foundation also engages donors in supporting MATC educational programs that address the workforce development needs of the community.

**Our mission** is to support student success and enhance learning by engaging those who are passionate about the college and the community it benefits.

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Vice President, College Advancement and External Communications

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# Message From the Foundation Board President and Executive Director

Last year, the MATC Foundation Inc. made tremendous strides with one of the most successful years in giving history. Our generous donors and friends know that Milwaukee Area Technical College is central to our region's economic future. MATC ranks among Wisconsin's largest higher educational institutions and is a leader in developing family-supporting careers, our regional workforce and a thriving economy.

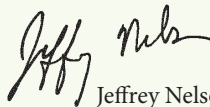
MATC Foundation Inc. is how people and organizations, through gifts of all sizes, can directly make a difference in transforming lives. The MATC Foundation provides students with scholarships and emergency grants, while making strategic investments that expand educational programs to address critical workforce development needs of our community. Thank you to all our partners for making a lasting impact in the lives of our students!

We hope you will enjoy highlights of our exciting work in this 2016-17 annual report featuring three gifts that put us on the path to our record year.

- A \$2.3 million grant from United Health Foundation is helping MATC to double the size of its Registered Nursing degree program over the next three years. The partnership addresses the statewide nursing shortage, which has been described by Wisconsin's Public Policy Forum as "one of the greatest workforce challenges facing the healthcare industry" and is projected to increase as experienced nurses retire. The forum's report calls for a 24 percent increase in the state's workforce of registered nurses by 2020.
- A \$1 million gift from Tom Hurvis, chairman of Old World Industries LLC, is expanding the reach and impact of MATC's automotive program. The new MATC RevUp program engages middle school, high school and adult students in careers in the growing and increasingly high-tech transportation industry and will be housed at the future Al Hurvis/PEAK Transportation Center. With early success demonstrated, Mr. Hurvis is taking his generosity to the next level to get others engaged. Mr. Hurvis will match new gifts to this program, dollar for dollar.
- A \$500,000 personal gift from Chris Abele, Milwaukee County Executive and community philanthropist, has expanded the MATC Promise to serve more people with tuition-free college. His investment provides student scholarships for adult learners seeking to earn a degree with a special focus on supporting people living and working within the 53206 ZIP code.

Also featured is a story about MATC student Drue Morris who received a scholarship started by a gift from a teacher's estate. This legacy endowment will support students for years to come and can serve as an inspiration for others to consider legacy gifts that can impact students for generations.

In our economy today, education beyond high school is a must to attain quality jobs with career advancement potential and a bright future. We are grateful to our donors who have created opportunities for our students. We look forward to future partnerships to transform lives, industry and our community.



Jeffrey Nelson  
Board President  
MATC Foundation



Laura M. Bray  
Executive Director  
Vice President, College Advancement and External Communications



Jeffrey Nelson



Laura M. Bray

**FOR MORE INFORMATION: [matc.edu/support\\_matc](http://matc.edu/support_matc)**

# Scholarships & Emergency Dollars

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND EMERGENCY STUDENT ASSISTANCE AWARDED IN 2016-17



**\$548,906**

SCHOLARSHIPS



**\$77,263**

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE



**59%**

INCREASE IN SCHOLARSHIPS AND  
EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AWARDED IN  
2016-17 COMPARED TO 2015-16

## NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE GRANTS AWARDED IN 2016-17



**641**

SCHOLARSHIPS



**340**

EMERGENCY  
ASSISTANCE GRANTS



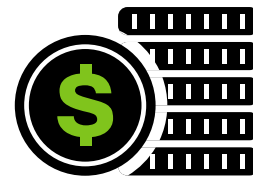
**880**

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED  
A SCHOLARSHIP AND/OR EMERGENCY GRANT



**125%  
INCREASE**

IN THE DOLLARS AWARDED FOR SCHOLARSHIPS  
AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE  
OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS



**107%  
INCREASE**

IN THE NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS  
AND EMERGENCY GRANTS AWARDED  
OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS



*Tom Hurvis announces the \$3 million challenge grant on March 28, 2017, in the space planned for the new transportation center at the Downtown Milwaukee Campus.*

## Grant to MATC Foundation Accelerates Programs for Automotive Careers

From Bluetooth connectivity to vehicles that stop on their own, advancements in the automotive industry are captivating consumers and dramatically changing the service landscape. But as experienced technicians retire and fewer young adults enter the field, a shortage of skilled auto technicians is projected to grow.

To help address this workforce need, Tom Hurvis, chairman of Old World Industries LLC, the parent company of the PEAK automotive brand; and a co-founder of the Al Hurvis/ADAMM Education Foundation; announced a \$3 million challenge grant in March 2017. The funds will expand MATC's automotive programs and create the Al Hurvis/PEAK Transportation Center on MATC's Downtown Milwaukee Campus.

The grant provides \$1 million in immediate funding, and one-to-one matching funds for every dollar the MATC Foundation raises for the project, up to an additional \$2 million, over the next three years. The challenge grant would be the largest private gift ever made to the MATC

Foundation. Funds will be used to cover costs of staffing new programs to train students in automotive service and for the purchase of equipment, all totaling about \$5 million over the next five years.

Hurvis issued this funding challenge to help students obtain the skills needed for a family-supporting career in the automotive field. "The vision for this partnership effort is to help Milwaukee youth and young adults access the education that will enable them to create a strong future," he said.

The Al Hurvis/PEAK Transportation Center will be a community-based learning hub to prepare students to begin careers in automotive and related fields. MATC will renovate an existing building to create the new center, which is named to honor Tom Hurvis' father. Al Hurvis was an automotive executive in the Milwaukee area. He helped grow Southeast Wisconsin's automotive industry and mentored more than 20 of his employees to open their own auto dealerships.



"This grant will enable the expansion of MATC's automotive repair programs, provide opportunities for students and strengthen our relationship with the automotive industry," said Dr. Vicki J. Martin, MATC president. "Together, we will create more opportunities for young people to fill the talent pipeline."

## Working Together to Fuel Next Generation

The grant is funding MATC's new RevUp program, which teaches youth and adult learners about automotive jobs. Programs and services include career exploration, hands-on learning activities, youth summer camps, clubs and after-school programs, and collaborations with area businesses and nonprofit organizations.

"This project is about increasing awareness and opportunities that lead to good-paying jobs," said Steve Herro, project manager for MATC's RevUp program. "Very few high schools have an automotive program anymore. We hope to generate more interest in the industry and focus on students who maybe didn't have exposure to the automotive industry. We need young people to get on board the tech train."

According to a 2014 report co-written by the U.S. departments of Education, Labor, Commerce, and Health and Human Services, early exposure to a range of career and higher-education opportunities is associated with better postsecondary outcomes. Belonging to a cohort – a tight-knit group of student peers with a common purpose – contributes to developing skills and persisting in courses and programs.

Developing cohorts of students pursuing automotive service careers is one objective of the RevUp program. Grant funds will result in other expanded activities in the future, including:

- Automotive clubs in which MATC students repair their own vehicles
- Mentoring and support services to help MATC automotive students succeed academically
- Service learning projects in which students provide auto diagnostic services to the public
- Internships and job placement activities linking MATC graduates to employment
- Summer camps and after-school programs for middle school and high school students
- Recruitment of students to MATC's automotive programs

"Tom Hurvis; Chas Mulcahy, chairman and CEO of the AI Hurvis/ADAMM Education Foundation; and ADAMM President Jim Tolkan are the visionaries behind this effort and we are grateful for their leadership and the commitment of the foundation," said Dr. Martin. "Their enthusiasm and determination will have a tremendous positive impact on the future of Milwaukee's workforce."



Steve Herro talks about automotive careers with participants of Summit Educational Association's summer camp on July 28, 2017.

"This project is about increasing awareness and opportunities that lead to good-paying jobs."

*Steve Herro, project manager for MATC's RevUp program*



*Dr. Vicki J. Martin and Tom Hurvis discuss the kick-off event for the challenge grant.*

# Vital Signs – MATC and United Health Foundation Address Nursing Shortage

Hospitals and other care providers across the country are struggling to meet the rising demand for care in the face of a serious nursing shortage. The Public Policy Forum has characterized the shortage of registered nurses in Wisconsin as “one of the greatest workforce challenges facing the healthcare industry – and employers as a whole.” The report, which was commissioned by the Wisconsin Center for Nursing, calls for a 24 percent increase in the number of registered nurses in the state by 2020.

Thanks to a \$2.3 million capacity-building grant from the United Health Foundation in early 2017, Milwaukee Area Technical College will continue to be an important part of the solution. Through 2019, the grant funding will enable MATC to expand recruitment activities and increase the size of its nursing faculty.

Maintaining the college’s high quality program is key, according to Nancy Vrabec, Ph.D., RN, dean of MATC’s School of Health Sciences. MATC currently boasts a 95 percent student pass rate for the NCLEX-RN licensure exam required to become a registered nurse. “Providing a skilled and diverse nursing workforce for the community is always our ultimate goal,” Vrabec said.

## Growing Knowledge With Professional Development

Emily Treuthardt graduated from MATC’s Registered Nursing associate degree program in December 2017.

As part of its partnership with MATC, United Health Foundation paid for her and classmates Stephanie Carrillo and Jennifer Seymour to attend OptumHealth Education’s 26th Annual National Conference in Chicago in October 2017. Healthcare professionals from around the country came to learn more about current issues such as diabetes, obesity and chronic kidney disease, the opioid abuse epidemic and more.

“It was a privilege to hear such amazing speakers share their knowledge and spark important conversations,” Treuthardt said.

Before coming to MATC, Treuthardt studied pre-veterinary sciences. To support herself, she earned a certified nursing certificate and worked as a nursing assistant.

“The CNA job inspired me to pursue a career as a registered nurse,” Treuthardt said. She began studies at a four-year university but soon transferred to MATC.

“I did some research and decided to switch,” she said. “Every clinical site I have been to expresses how much they enjoy having MATC students working on their floor – that we are always so prepared.” Treuthardt passes the credit along to MATC’s instructors. “Every instructor brings so much knowledge to the classroom,” she added.

Carrillo, also a December 2017 MATC nursing graduate, attended several presentations at the conference. “It was such a great experience,” she said. “The speakers provided interactive presentations that left an impression on me.”



*Jennifer Seymour (left), Stephanie Carrillo and Emily Treuthardt attended the OptumHealth Education’s 26th Annual National Conference in October 2017 when they were MATC nursing students.*

Carrillo works in a long-term care facility. "I have always been interested in the medical field," she said. "Along the way, I have found that I truly enjoy the opportunity to build relationships with patients and their families."

### Addressing the Community's Need for Nurses

The United Health Foundation grant will increase MATC's nursing program capacity. The goal is to graduate an additional 100 nurses every year starting in 2019. Another key objective is to increase the diversity of the state nursing workforce. MATC, the largest majority-minority college in the state, is uniquely suited to increase the number of nurses representing underserved populations and meet the United Health Foundation's goal to increase the number of primary care health providers ready to meet the needs of future populations.

"The grant from United Health Foundation affirms its commitment to our community and provides us with the resources needed to identify, recruit, develop and educate the next generation of nurses needed in the Milwaukee area and throughout Wisconsin," said Dr. Vicki J. Martin, MATC president.

The college offers the Registered Nursing associate degree program at the Downtown Milwaukee and Mequon campuses.



*MATC School of Health Sciences Dean Nancy Vrabec (left) presents Emily Treuthardt the pin she earned as a December 2017 graduate of the college's registered nursing program.*



*Stephanie Carrillo (right) receives her pin from MATC School of Health Sciences Dean Nancy Vrabec at the pinning ceremony held Dec. 12, 2017, at the college.*

**UNITED HEALTH FOUNDATION®**

# Force of Nature – Scholarship Helps Cultivate Career Preparation

Nature can be a fascinating teacher. For some, like Drue Morris, who enjoyed exploring her grandparents' land in northern Wisconsin while growing up, nature can inspire the future.

Today, the little girl who loved the outdoors is the greenhouse manager, in a work-study role, at MATC's Mequon Campus (shown below). She is working on an associate degree in Landscape Horticulture, along with certificates in Arboriculture, Plant Health Care, Native Plants and Greenhouse Plant Production.

Morris' diligence in pursuing these credentials helped her earn a \$1,000 Marian Drake Breskvar Scholarship from the MATC Foundation. Breskvar was a Milwaukee Public Schools teacher who left a significant portion of her estate to the MATC Foundation to endow a scholarship. Her generosity provides scholarships to more than 40 students each year.

The MATC Foundation helps hundreds of students every semester by reducing the financial obstacles they face while pursuing their education. More than \$626,160 in scholarships and emergency grants were awarded to 880 students in the 2016-17 academic year.

Receiving the scholarship's funds meant Morris could focus more on her studies and her volunteer work throughout the community. Morris volunteers at the Urban Ecology Center, the Wehr Nature Center and the Mitchell Park Conservatory (The Domes); she also is an officer in the MATC Horticulture Club.

"It felt great to be acknowledged," Morris said. "My instructors were very willing to write recommendations for the scholarship and I felt like I had people on my side, helping me succeed. I am working very hard to complete

my program in a timely manner and build my education." Hard work and success are high priorities for Morris, and so are the day-to-day interactions and camaraderie. "I usually take 18 credits a semester because I want to learn everything I can and get a well-rounded education. And, I try to always have fun with it, while still being professional," she said. "If I can get someone excited about plants, it's a good day."

## Second Time Took Root

Morris tried college once before, but did not complete a degree. Morris knows this time everything feels right. She's glad she gave it another shot.


"It was hard to motivate myself to try again and I was afraid of failing another time, but now that I am doing something I love, it's a lot easier," she said. "I went from barely getting by to feeling like I'm helping to lead the pack."

She exemplifies how the right climate can make all the difference when it comes to realizing your dreams.

"I chose MATC because of the class-time flexibility, the price tag and the horticulture program," Morris said. "The classes here are hands-on, which works better for me as a student. Most other colleges don't offer that."

Morris is proud of her school. "I recommend MATC to people all the time. I am always looking for more ways to promote our horticulture program because I truly think it is a hidden gem," she said. "The small class sizes allow me to build relationships with my instructors. I am very confident in my abilities as a result of this program and have made so many connections."





“It felt great to be acknowledged. My instructors were very willing to write recommendations for the scholarship and I felt like I had people on my side, helping me succeed.”

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**DRUE MORRIS,**  
MATC STUDENT AND SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

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# MATC Foundation

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 2016-17 REVENUE

| Revenue Type                 | Amount (in Thousands) |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Milwaukee PBS                | \$ 5,571              |
| Program                      | \$ 3,747              |
| Investment                   | \$ 1,413              |
| Scholarships                 | \$ 875                |
| In Kind                      | \$ 380                |
| Emergency Student Assistance | \$ 65                 |
| Special Events               | \$ 38                 |
| Other                        | \$ 34                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                 | <b>\$ 12,123</b>      |

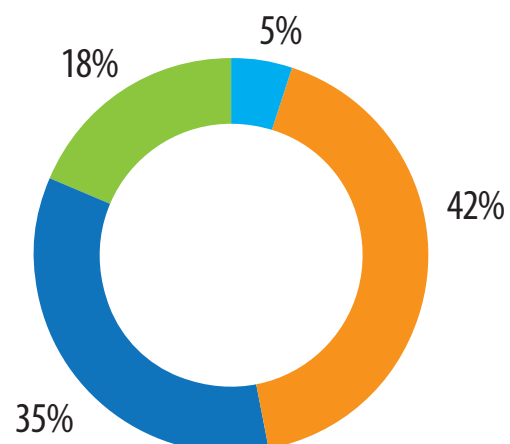
### 2016-17 EXPENSES

| Expense Type                 | Amount (in Thousands) |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Milwaukee PBS                | \$ 5,819              |
| Scholarships                 | \$ 549                |
| Management and General       | \$ 266                |
| College Programs             | \$ 229                |
| Fundraising                  | \$ 141                |
| Program Administration       | \$ 107                |
| Emergency Student Assistance | \$ 73                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                 | <b>\$ 7,184</b>       |

### NET ASSETS

**Net Assets** as of June 30, 2017  
**\$18,006,541**

- Unrestricted
- Temporarily Restricted
- Temporarily Restricted-Milwaukee PBS
- Permanently Restricted



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