Wallace Community College Selma held its 2016-17 commencement exercises on Friday, May 12, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the gymnasium, located on the college's campus. According to the WCCS Student Services Office, approximately 458 students completed requirements for graduation during the 2016-17 academic year. Of that number, around 210 participated in the graduation ceremony.

The commencement speaker was Mr. Warren William Young, Assistant Attorney General and Assistant Counsel for the Alabama Department of Revenue.

Teresa Sears, a Wallace graduate in applied science and business administration gave the greetings to graduates during the ceremony. “To my fellow graduates, you have come this far by faith,” Sears said. Sears went on to talk about the struggles that many students go through in completing their education, but she was proud of herself and her fellow classmates for pushing through and getting their degrees.

Also during the graduation ceremony, Lakendra Sims received the Academic Excellence Awards for graduating with a 4.0 GPA. Taylor McNeil was also awarded the James M. Mitchell Award. This award is presented to a graduating sophomore who exemplifies scholastic achievement, service to the community, and leadership qualities.

“Like many of you, I have had many struggles getting to this point. Our struggles are real, but look at us now.” ~ Teresa Sears
WCCS students chosen for 2017 All-Alabama Academic Team

Samuel Cartee and Tia McNeil were selected to the 2017 All-Alabama Academic Team for Wallace Community College Selma and honored on Friday, April 4, 2017, at the All-Alabama Academic Team Recognition Luncheon at Ross Bridge Hotel and Spa in Birmingham, Alabama.

The faculty and staff of WCCS nominate students from the College. The criteria for voting for a student is to choose students who “excel academically; demonstrate intellectual rigor in their course of study; show academic growth and potential; and use their two-year college education to better themselves, their schools and their communities.”

All nominees are presented to the national Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society for final selection. Each community college in Alabama has two representatives.

The Alabama College System’s All-Alabama Academic Team Recognition Program was established in 1995 as an enhancement to the All-USA National Academic Team Recognition Program, which is sponsored by the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, the American Association of Community Colleges and USA Today.

WCCS Students Honored at 2017 Academic Awards Ceremony

Wallace Community College Selma held its annual Honors Ceremony on Thursday, April 13, 2017, at 7:00 pm in the Earl Goodwin Theatre. This ceremony recognizes the academic achievements of students in a number of organizations. The following awards were presented: Academic Achievement, Academic Excellence, All-Alabama Academic Team Members, Most Outstanding Academic Athletes, Phi Theta Kappa; Alpha Eta Tau Chapter, and Who’s Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. "The students being honored tonight represent what is right with education in America. I applaud them for their academic achievement and encourage them to give back to their community," said Dr. James Mitchell, WCCS president.

To achieve Academic Excellence, a student must have taken at least twelve hours per semester and earned a 4.00 grade point average for two of the last three semesters or, a student must have been a part-time student, accumulated at least twenty-four hours, and maintained a 4.00 grade point average. To achieve Academic Achievement, a student must have maintained a 3.50 - 3.99 grade point average for two of the last three semesters. They have taken twelve hours each semester to qualify for the Dean’s List or have been a part-time student, accumulated a minimum of twenty-four hours, and attended at least two semesters since the Spring of 2015-2016 through Fall of 2016-2017.
STUDENT LEADERS ATTEND HOPE GLOBAL FORUM

On April 10-12, 2017 nine Ambassadors from Wallace Community College Selma (Myaira Coleman, Brianna Craig, Kha’Doey Crosby, KaNeisha Harris, Shakira McBride, Isiah Parker, Paige Richardson, Dominique Rudolph, and Chadwick Shears) majoring in Business Administration/Computer Science along with their advisors Ms. Shuntelra Logan & Ms. Ebony Rose were awarded the opportunity to accompany our esteemed State Board Representative Mrs. Ella Bell (District 5) to the Hope Global Forum in Atlanta, GA.

The three day seminar offered workshops, colloquiums, and training on methodologies and individual responses to differences in international relations, education, workforce, politics, nationality, ethnicity, cultural, gender, socio-economic, generational, and religion. The forum strived to better prepare attendees to teach others how to enhance their effectiveness in the workplace and other settings. In addition, it helped with the ability to teach others to use cultural differences to create and maintain exceptional experiences for co-workers, clients, students and any external parties as we move into a technological economy ensuring sustainable growth.

“Attending the Hope Global Forum was one of the best decisions I made. I had the chance to meet so many great people. One speaker that stood out to me was Chris Gardner. Listening to his story and how he made it to the top was so inspirational. He also inspired me to keep pushing even when times get tough.” ~ Shavondra Richardson

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DAY

Coordinated by the Office of Student Services, the College participated in a wonderful celebration in honor of “Alabama Community College System Day” on Thursday, April 6, 2017, on the lawn of the Alabama State Archives and History Building in Montgomery, AL. The ACCS invited all 25 community or technical colleges to celebrate in Montgomery for the third consecutive year in recognition of April being designated as Community College Month across the state. Each college promoted their institution in various ways and engaged with students and employees from the sister colleges.
Alanna Salter named Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar

WCCS student Alanna Salter has been named a Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar for her scholastic achievement, community service, and leadership potential.

Salter, of Valley Grande, was among the 200 Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society students selected from more than 1,100 applicants worldwide.

The Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholarship Program provides new Phi Theta Kappa members with financial resources to help defray educational expenses while enrolled in associate degree programs.

“I was totally shocked! This scholarship was definitely needed and it was such a blessing to receive.” ~ Alanna Salter

WCCS student Whitley Mott receives the Demius K. Jackson “Choose Life” Scholarship

The Demius K. Jackson “Choose Life” Scholarship fund was established to honor the life and legacy of Demius K. Jackson a former welding student at Wallace Community College Selma. Ms. Sharon Jackson presents a $1,000 award to contribute towards one student’s education at Wallace Community College Selma. By doing so she is continuing to help build her community and honor her son’s memory in the process. She believes that through her loss others will gain and that brings her joy.
WCCS students shine at SkillsUSA competition

Several students representing Wallace Community College Selma earned top honors recently during the Alabama SkillsUSA conference in Birmingham.

The students earned a total of five medals, which included one first-place, two second-place, and four third-place medals. First-place winners will compete June 19-23 at the 53rd annual SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.

The WCCS winners were: First place (gold) Masonry: Jake Freeman. Second place (silver) Cosmetology Men’s Design Competition: Kila Walker; Masonry: Quenterrious Hall. Third place (bronze) Industrial Motor Control Competition: Alex Waites; and Masonry: Earlwin Gray.

SkillsUSA, formerly known as VICA, is a national nonprofit organization devoted to preparing students for careers in technical, skilled and service occupations. It serves more than 300,000 high school, college and professional members.

College’s pinning ceremony celebrates nursing students

In a ceremony dating to 1860, Wallace Community College Selma presented 18 practical nursing students with pins as symbols of their preparedness to serve as compassionate caregivers.

The annual “pinning” was celebrated May 14. The ceremony recognizes the students' completion of the practical nursing program. At commencement the evening before, the students were awarded the certificate of Practical Nursing. Upon completion of a licensing examination, the graduates will have earned the credential of Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). The WCCS students are Aboubakar Boudige, Chundreka Brown, Michelle Bruno, Amber Craig, Christina Craig, Jennifer Epperson, Yazminn Garcia, Brittany Green, Keyanna Guthridge, Lachanda Knight, Deitra Lee, Kelli Pollard, Adrianna Quinney, Ta’Ronce Roland, Edna Smiley, Keoshia Smith, Sydney Swindal, and Tameka Wilson.
Wallace Community College Selma Awards Scholarships to High School Seniors

25 High School seniors were awarded scholarships on April 7, 2017, at WCCS’s Annual Senior Day. The students each received scholarships for tuition and fees for four semesters to Wallace Community College Selma valued at over $8,000. Dr. Donitha Griffin, dean of students presented the scholarships to the students. "I am quite honored to offer scholarships to students from our service area and look forward to them having a very positive and successful matriculation at WCCS," said WCCS President Dr. James M. Mitchell.

WCCS ACE Competition Serves as Incentive for Local Students

Wallace Community College Selma hosted its annual Academic Challenge for Excellence (ACE) on Friday, March 10, 2017. The purpose of ACE is to encourage academic excellence, provide an academic challenge to students, and to recognize students, teachers, and schools that surpass the ordinary in academic and technical performance. WCCS honors ACE competitors with trophies, plaques, medallions and ACE T-shirts. First place technical competition winners are eligible for scholarships. This year WCCS hosted more than 551 high school students from 26 area high schools across Alabama.
WCCS Holds PTK Induction Ceremony

Wallace Community College Selma held its Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society Induction Ceremony for its Alpha Eta Tau Chapter on Thursday, Feb. 23, at 6:30 p.m. in the Hank Sanders Technology Center on the WCCS campus. James Thomas; Executive Director, Dallas County Family Resource Center provided the keynote address to the honorees. Mrs. Becky Davis and Mrs. Kerry Henderson both coordinated the event and are the advisors for Alpha Eta Tau.

WCCS Phi Theta Kappa attends international convention

Eight WCCS students from the Alpha Eta Tau chapter of Phi Theta Kappa attended the international convention in Nashville, Tennessee, April 6-9. Students participated daily in educational forums on a variety of topics from leadership development, organizing successful college projects, scholarships, to professional etiquette. Students also heard keynote speakers Dr. Jennifer Arnold, Platon, and Jamie Hyneman. Neonatologist Dr. Jennifer Arnold of TLC’s The Little Couple spoke on thinking big and overcoming obstacles. Platon told poignant and mesmerizing stories about his amazing photos of world leaders, celebrities, military men and women, and civil and human rights activists. Jamie Hyneman of the Discovery Channel’s Mythbusters shared some of his experiences from the 14-year series and challenged students to always have a passion for exploration and a hunger for knowledge. In addition, Phi Theta Kappa members were able to attend a transfer college fair with representatives from four year colleges from all over the world. At the convention, Advisors Kerry Henderson and Becky Davis were recognized as 1 of 15 International Distinguished Advisor Teams.
Ambassadors

Paint the Campus Pink!
Wallace trio signs to play at four-year schools

Three WCCS basketball players signed letters of intent with four-year colleges. Gene Davis, Kent James, and LaByron Harris were honored at a ceremony at the school. Davis will move on to Alabama State University, James will play at Miles College and Harris is moving on to Blue Mountain College in Mississippi.

Four Patriots Inducted into Honors Society

The Wallace Community College chapter of Phi Theta Kappa inducted 29 new members on Thursday, February 23, 2017. To be eligible for membership, students must maintain a 3.5 grade point average after completing 12 semester hours of academic coursework. WCCS Patriot baseball players participating in the ceremony were: Christian Smith, Micah Henderson, Brady Milligan, and Matthew Jacobs.
GRADUATION 2017