FROM THE DEAN

Sustainability is a journey, and with the support of the Board of Trustees, administration, students, faculty, and staff we continue to make progress at Kankakee Community College. Our Mission is “enhancing quality of life through learning,” and as Rabindranath Tagore, the Nobel Prize winning Bengali poet, said, “the highest education is that which does not merely give us information, but makes our life in harmony with all existence.”

An institution of higher education that integrates the social, ecological, and economic aspects of life in the 21st Century by incorporating sustainability in the curriculum, on the campus, and in the community it serves, KC C provides that “highest education.” “Insuring a more sustainable future will require future leaders to accumulate a broad diversity of knowledge, and every bit of practical insight current generations have discerned (Peter Nicholson, Foresight Design Initiative).

With over two million freshman students entering colleges every single year in the United States, higher education is a great leverage point for addressing sustainable approaches to the complex issues that affect us all. The two-year college experience can provide a supportive learning environment that allows our students to see the impacts of their actions, understand the complexity of systems, appreciate multiple perspectives, and practice their leadership skills. Spending two years in a place that builds the local green-collar workforce, recycles, uses alternative energy, gives back to the community it serves, and pursues goals like becoming carbon-neutral by 2041 has an impact. Even a single class or professor can make a difference. “The core message is that higher education has a special and unique opportunity and role in meeting the challenges of the [globe], offering sustainable solutions, and developing educational approaches that prepare a new generation of students, faculty, and staff”. (The 2014 ACUPCC Climate Leadership Summit: “Why It Matters,” Mitchell Thomashow, PhD).

We have come a long way in the six years since we have embraced sustainability as a way to prepare students to successfully negotiate inevitable challenges and to live happy and constructive lives. And I want to thank the many faculty, staff, and students for the invaluable work they are doing and for helping to create a culture of sustainability. I am confident that 2015 will bring new opportunities for our campus and the communities we serve.

“Creation is not a property, which we can rule over at will; or, even less, is the property of only a few: Creation is a gift, it is a wonderful gift that God has given us, so that we care for it and we use it for the benefit of all, always with great respect and gratitude,” (Pope Francis)

Sustainably,

Bert Jacobson, Ph.D., Dean for Environmental and Institutional Sustainability

Cover: Photo of KCC’s proposed LEED Gold Advanced Technology Education Center (see page 7)
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Sustainability is a priority of Kankakee Community College. Our Sustainability Vision is to be “a model of sustainability for District 520, for Illinois higher education, and for Community Colleges nationwide. KCC will also be a leader in sustainability education, preparing students to successfully negotiate inevitable challenges and to live happy and constructive lives that serve the betterment of humanity and future generations”.
To support this Vision, KCC will achieve four goals:

1. Achieve carbon neutrality for the KCC campus by involving faculty, staff, and students in creating and maintaining a campus culture that embodies the ideals of sustainability.
2. Expand KCC’s curriculum to support sustainability and the growing renewable energy industry.
3. Create models that illustrate sustainability and share these models and expanded curriculum with the local community as well as with educational institutions across Illinois.
4. Create partnerships between KCC and other community organizations to promote and nurture sustainability beyond the confines of the KCC campus.

This Sustainability Annual Report addresses progress made in achieving these goals in five areas: Campus, Community, Regional, State-Wide and National Initiatives.
CAMPUS INITIATIVES

- **Campus Sustainability Interested Faculty (CSI-F)**
  With the new strategic goals for 2014-2018, guided by the AACC’s “Reclaiming the American Dream: Community Colleges and the Nation’s Future,” the committee structure has been realigned to support the new goals: Create a culture of completion, Promote an environment of excellence and innovation, Develop career pathways in target industries, Take a convening leadership role to strengthen and sustain community partnerships, and Redesign college foundational coursework. Consequently, the Campus Sustainability Advisory Committee was transformed from a committee to a team: the Campus Sustainability Interested Faculty team (CSI-F). The purpose of CSI-F remains the same as the Advisory Committee: to advance sustainability on the Kankakee Community College campus and to provide input on initiatives to accomplish our sustainability goals.

- **Greening Your Curriculum:** The College is supporting faculty as they continue to incorporate sustainability-related content into their curricula. Currently 67 of KCC’s 631 credit courses (or 10.1%) have sustainability-related material, a 26.4 % increase over last year. Faculty are finding more ways to introduce sustainability topics into their curricula and are finding that it increases student engagement. Our goal continues to be is 100% of curricula involving to some degree sustainability and we are our percentage each year.

- **Waste Reduction Plan:** The College is continuing its commitment to waste reduction by increasing diversion of materials from the waste stream by recycling and reuse. We continue to divert materials at or above 2013 volumes: paper (23,934 lbs.), cardboard, (19,816 lbs.), plastics (11,656 lbs.), pallets (4,410 lbs.), books (418 lbs. recycled, 2600 lbs. repurposed through Better World Books), aluminum cans (385 lbs., revenue = $183.49), scrap metal (7,198 lbs., revenue = $665.80), batteries (204.5 lbs.), fluorescent bulbs (333 four footers and 10 eight footers), lamp ballasts (51), cell phones (37 collected and turned over to Harbor House), electronic waste (9,645 lbs.), and glass. As social justice is one of the tenets of Sustainability, KCC has translated the electronic waste recycling into one of social benefit by donating 7,378 lbs. (76% of the e-waste total) to World Computer Exchange for repurposing.

**World Computer Exchange** is a global education and environment organization founded to connect more youth in developing countries to opportunities, skills, and understanding the Internet—while keeping working computers out of landfills. KCC is one of twenty-eight organizations named on the World Computer Exchange Honor Roll of Donors. The largest non-profit provider of reused computers in the US, its volunteers provide online support to 530 partner organizations in 68 countries with support in planning, fund raising, technology, educational content and appropriate disposal of e-waste. KCC computers have found their way to Piedras Negras, Mexico, Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic, Senegal, and Nigeria.
Sustainability Week is held every year during Earth Week. The highlights of this year’s 8th Annual Sustainability Week (April 24-28, 2014) were the presentations by students and faculty and film showings, all with a focus on Sustainability issues.

Student presentations included: “The Water Straw Project,” presented by Phi Theta Kappa members Keirston Creek, Jenna Capriotti and Chloe Bilderback, who explained what a water straw is and their project is helping people get clean drinking water in third world countries; “Genetically Modified Foods: The Pros and Cons,” a discussion presented by Students for Eco-Quality and the Miner Memorial Library, with the assistance of Karen Becker and Kristen Larson (the club’s advisors);


And of course film showings of: When Heaven Meets Earth: A Faithful Few Changed Everything, a film about the faith-based stewardship work on Tangier Island and in a Pennsylvania farm community by noted anthropologist Dr. Susan Emmerich, Director, Creation Care Program, The Center for Law and Culture, Olivet Nazarene University, and Emmerich Environmental Consulting. Dr. Emmerich presented the film and was available for questions; The Story of Stuff; The Story of Bottled Water; The Everglades of the North, a documentary that reveals the diverse ecology, illustrates the astonishing history, and explores the controversial saga of the Grand Kankakee Marsh by examining how people have used and perceived this wetland for more than 10,000 years; The Last Mountain, which told the story of the fight for Coal River Mountain in West Virginia, where community members and environmental activists are pitted against a coal company in the struggle to save one of the last large mountain ranges in the area from mountaintop removal; and “Gasland Part II,” which argued that the gas industry’s portrayal of natural gas as a clean and safe alternative to oil is a myth.

The Students for Eco-Quality held a Reusable Cup Sale to help fund Phi Theta Kappa’s Water Straw Project. Reusable cups are a way for us to pay less for fountain drinks in the Cafeteria and to help us reduce the amount of Styrofoam cups used.

The week ended with the 3rd Annual SMHEC Student Sustainability Summit, a free summit for students, by students with, this year, a focus on food through the lens of equity, economy, and the environment. The keynote speaker was Dr. Eban Goodstein from the Bard Center for Environmental Policy.
• **Student Sustainability Literacy** An annual 36 question survey is sent to all students during Sustainability Week. The purpose of the survey is to measure the sustainability learning that occurs at KCC from year to year. The base-line was established in April 2013 at 57.2% and in April 2014 we have increased slightly to 57.7%. With more and more classes incorporating sustainability-related content, we expect that percentage to increase in 2015. The goal is to work toward a general learning outcome for all graduates at KCC, and graduating students with an adequate sustainability literacy to be successful in our “greening” world.

• **The Students for Eco-Quality** club was initiated by students in the fall of 2012 and they have been active in many sustainability initiatives including selling re-usable mugs, participating in community clean-up activities (seen here), and attending conferences.

• **The Horticulture and Agriculture Club** is going strong with their Farmers Market for faculty, staff and students. The proceeds from the Farmers Market help fund Horticulture and Agriculture student activities. Students in the Horticulture and Agriculture programs work in the Greenhouse, raise crops hydroponically, and, recently began aquaponically raising tilapia.
The kW Endurance Wind Turbine is functioning well and has produced 207,928 kW to date (as of December 2014), saving the college about $15,948 in electricity costs. The wind turbine was originally installed to provide renewable energy for the ATEC building and, in 2015, will finally complete that plan.

The Advanced Technology Education Center (ATEC) Gov. Pat Quinn came to campus in July to announce a $5 million grant from the state for future jobs training citing thousands of "green technology" jobs across the country starting at above-average salaries. The Board of Trustees gave approval in September to proceed with KCC's new 20,650 square-foot, ATEC building, with a possible ground-breaking event in March or April, 2015.

“Hydration Stations” or water bottle filling stations have been very popular with students, faculty, and staff. There are currently five stations positioned around the Riverfront and West campuses and one at the North Extension Center Since the installation of its first bottle filling station in July 2012, KCC has saved more than 34,784 disposable plastic bottles from going to the landfill, and saving the staff and students $55,306.56 in water purchases (@ $ 1.59 per bottle of water in the cafeteria), for 9,183 gallons (1L = 0.264 gal)). Additional stations are planned.
• **Macro and Micro-Scorecards** continue to measure the impact of sustainability efforts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Annual Energy Use</td>
<td>51,842 MBTU</td>
<td>42,600 MBTU</td>
<td>42,576 MBTU</td>
<td>49,981 MBTU</td>
<td>+17.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Annual Energy Cost</td>
<td>$868,169</td>
<td>$636,499</td>
<td>$513,696</td>
<td>$629,747</td>
<td>+22.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Understanding of Sustainability Principles</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>57.2%</td>
<td>57.7%</td>
<td>+0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curricula incorporating Sustainability Principles</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>+26.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The measures are targeted to Operations (the alignment of KCC operations with the goal of sustainability), Education and Research (the enhancement of a culture of sustainability through education and research), and Planning, Administration & Engagement (providing administrative and financial support for sustainability initiatives). In 2013 we measured the annual reduction in energy consumption (there was a 0.6% decrease in consumption and a 19.3% decrease in cost, a savings of $122,802.92). *In 2014 we added two new buildings (NEC, 18,294 sq.ft. and MITC, 52,614 sq.ft.), so 2014 will be a new baseline for energy reductions, as it will be the first full year with the new buildings. Even with the addition of new buildings, we have maintained 0.12 MBTU/square Foot and only increased our total energy cost by three cents per square foot (from $1.49 to $1.53).
- **An Energy Scorecard** continues to help track Energy Consumption trends month by month to measure reductions in consumption. All energy saving initiatives were supported in part by grants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY Year</th>
<th>Natural Gas Therms</th>
<th>Electricity KWh</th>
<th>Total MBTU</th>
<th>Total CO2e</th>
<th>Change MBTU</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Change In Cost</th>
<th>Total Square ft Operated as of 12/31/14</th>
<th>MBTU per square ft</th>
<th>Total Cost per square ft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>268,595.00</td>
<td>5,911,397</td>
<td>47,035.10</td>
<td>5,588</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>$843,794.00</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>343,697</td>
<td>0.14</td>
<td>$2.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>320,899.00</td>
<td>5,787,367</td>
<td>51,842.18</td>
<td>7,312</td>
<td>12.70%</td>
<td>$868,168.96</td>
<td>4.70%</td>
<td>343,697</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>$2.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>319,290.85</td>
<td>5,531,244</td>
<td>50,807.23</td>
<td>5,568</td>
<td>-2.00%</td>
<td>$840,325.91</td>
<td>-3.21%</td>
<td>343,697</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>$2.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>263,149.54</td>
<td>5,246,324</td>
<td>44,220.65</td>
<td>5,083</td>
<td>12.96%</td>
<td>$669,160.74</td>
<td>20.37%</td>
<td>343,697</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>$1.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>249,795.31</td>
<td>5,162,807</td>
<td>42,600.19</td>
<td>4,956</td>
<td>-3.66%</td>
<td>$636,499.13</td>
<td>-4.90%</td>
<td>343,697</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>$1.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>257,194.24</td>
<td>4,942,315</td>
<td>42,587.54</td>
<td>4,835</td>
<td>-0.03%</td>
<td>$513,696.21</td>
<td>19.29%</td>
<td>343,697</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>$1.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>308,005.05</td>
<td>5,619,788</td>
<td>49,980.84</td>
<td>5,576</td>
<td>17.36%</td>
<td>$629,747.34</td>
<td>22.59%</td>
<td>414,605</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>$1.52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**STARS.** KCC is a Charter member of STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System), a program of AASHE (Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education), of which we are also a member.

The STARS measurement system helps us to document KCC’s sustainability initiatives and benchmark them on a national level. KCC is currently recognized at the Gold Level, a level showing improvement from last year’s Silver rating, see link at: https://stars.aashe.org/institutions/kankakee-community-college-il/report/2015-02-03/.

• **ACUPCC.** KCC signed The American College and University President’s Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) in 2007. The Commitment recognizes the unique responsibility that institutions of higher education have as role models for their communities and in training the people who will develop the social, economic and technological solutions to reverse global warming. Presidents signing the Commitment pledged to eliminate their campuses’ greenhouse gas emissions over time. This involves: Completing an emissions inventory, within two years, setting a target date and interim milestones for becoming climate neutral, taking immediate steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by choosing from a list of short-term actions, integrating sustainability into the curriculum and making it part of the educational experience, and making the action plan, inventory and progress reports publicly available. The reports are publicly available on our KCC website: http://www.kcc.edu/Community/sustainability/Pages/goals.aspx and on the ACUPCC website: http://rs.acupcc.org/search/?abs=&q=Kankakee%20Community%20College

“The ACUPCC has fundamentally shifted higher education's attention on sustainability from a series of excellent but distinct programs to a strategic imperative of presidents, academic officers, business officers and trustees - becoming a key lens for measuring success. It represents a cultural shift to focus on all aspects of social, economic and ecological sustainability” (ACUPCC Report, 216-12).
GRANT SUPPORT

In 2014 KCC used 8 sustainability related grants totaling $1,434,613 to support HVAC improvements, renewable energy curriculum development, and the construction of a LEED Gold North Extension Center. There are pending grants for the Advanced Technology Education Center (pictured on the Cover of this Annual Report). There are funds available for these energy conservation measures that we will continue to capture. The improvements are saving the college in energy costs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Organization</th>
<th>Grant Purpose</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity</td>
<td>New Construction North Extension Center</td>
<td>$17,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation</td>
<td>Green Building North Extension Center</td>
<td>$252,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity</td>
<td>HVAC Improvements</td>
<td>$106,307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Through IGEN</td>
<td>Renewable Energy</td>
<td>$87,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Through IGEN</td>
<td>HVAC Equipment Loaner Program</td>
<td>$11,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Science Foundation</td>
<td>C4: Community Colleges Confronting the Conundrum Renewable Energy Market Development</td>
<td>$900,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois Emergency Management Agency</td>
<td>School and Campus Grant for classroom security</td>
<td>$58,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$1,434,613</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

- **Council for Community Sustainability** (CCS) was formed to advance sustainability into our community with a structured approach. The goals of the Council are to:
  1. Coordinate sustainability sectors, across a broad spectrum, affecting community development and quality of life. The Council has addressed housing, sustainable agriculture and local foods, sustainable education, facilities managers from the largest employers in Kankakee County, community and business groups, and green job development.
  2. Be a driving force for sustainability in the Kankakee area, the quad-counties, and the South Chicago Region.
  3. Share resources and knowledge in order to accelerate change.
  4. Provide opportunities for and assistance with obtaining additional resources, such as grants and funding.

- **Green Drinks.** KCC’s Council for Community Sustainability Green Drinks, Kankakee (http://www.greendrinks.org/IL/Kankakee) is an opportunity for “green-minded” people to meet informally in a relaxed setting to exchange ideas and network. Green Drinks is happening in more than 84 countries and 806 cities, including all 50 states. Topics presented in 2014 were:
Organic (Julia McDonald), CSAs (Eric and Sam Sexton), What is a Restoration Facility (Gail Wallace), Our Food Future (Harry Carr), Illinois Native Plants (Janine Catchpole), History of Camp Shaw at Camp Shaw (Greg LaPlante), repurposed MATERIALS (Damon Carson), and Willowhaven Nature Center- The Recycled Barn (Nicole Jenkins). Attendance at Green Drinks averaged between 23 and 40. Currently there are over 150 interested parties on our mailing list for Green Drinks.

REGIONAL INITIATIVES

• **SMHEC Sustainability Task Force.** KCC continues to be an active member with the South Metropolitan Higher Education Consortium (SMHEC) and the Sustainability Task Force. SMHEC consisting of 12 colleges and universities in the Chicago South suburbs (6 community colleges, 3 private and 3 public universities). Members of SMHEC are KCC, Governors State University, Prairie State College, South Suburban College, Moraine Valley Community College, Illinois Institute of Technology, Joliet Junior College, Northwestern College, St. Xavier College, DeVry University, University of St. Francis, and Lewis University.

  o **5th Annual SMHEC Sustainability Planning Workshop** held on September 26th again brought together administrative teams from the 12 colleges and universities and their community leaders to share progress in sustainability initiatives and to explore next steps. The theme of the conference was “Strengthening Sustainable Bridges between Colleges & Communities”, and Dr. Bryan Albrecht, the President of Gateway Technical College and Chair of the American Association of Community Colleges’ SEED Sustainability Task Force, was our keynote speaker.

  o **3rd Annual SMHEC Student Sustainability Summit** was held on April 25. The Summit was created by students, for students, with all students as presenters. The keynote was a panel discussion on “looking a food through the lens of equity, economy, and the environment with: Emmanuel Pratt, the Director of Aquaponics Lab at Chicago State University and Professor of Urban Planning; Orrin Williams, the Ex-Director and Co-Founder of the Center for Urban Transformation; and William Hogan an Instructor of Communications at Moraine Valley Community College.

STATE-WIDE AND NATIONAL INITIATIVES

• **Illinois Green Economy Network (IGEN).** KCC is the founder and participating member of the sustainability network of all 48 Illinois community colleges. IGEN is the only state-wide
community college sustainability network in the country, and provides opportunities for grants and sharing among all members.

**IGEN’s major initiatives for 2014**

were:

- **The “EV Road Trip”** a relay of electric vehicles will cross more than 450 miles of Illinois, starting in Carterville on June 23 and made 12 promotional stops along its way to Grayslake on June 25. Eleven community colleges, plus the Governor’s Mansion in Springfield, were on the route, stopping at KCC’s North Extension Center for a charge and refreshments along the way. Brad Hove generously donated a Nissan Leaf for KCC’s leg of the relay.

- **Finding New Funding Sources.** KCC is participating in five of these IGEN funded projects:
  - **Solar for Schools**
    The Illinois Solar for Schools program offers teacher professional development, curriculum resources, technical assistance and instructional equipment to middle school and high school teachers across the state of Illinois to help them incorporate solar energy topics into their classroom. The Illinois Solar for Schools project team is comprised of personnel from the Center for Renewable Energy at Illinois State University, in partnership with staff and support from the Illinois Green Economy Network and four partnering community colleges, including KCC.

  - **Power Pack**
    IGEN is partnering with the Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA) to offer the Illinois Power Pack program, a model community outreach and solar deployment program to advance photovoltaic (PV) installations in the state. The program is a logical extension of KCC’s National Science
Foundation C4 grant as it funds efforts to partner with solar manufacturers, PV installation contractors, electrical supply houses and credit unions to offer ‘Power Hour’ seminars – a one-stop shopping experience for consumers to learn about, select and finance a solar PV system.

❖ **Bulk Solar Installations**  
KCC is among 12 IGEN member colleges to receive 50% funding on a new solar installation project, managed directly with an IGEN contractor. It will be a 25.2 kW ballasted, roof-mounted solar array, located on the roof of the Health Careers Center for Excellence building. Construction is scheduled for Summer of 2015.

❖ **HVAC Equipment Loaner program**  
KCC was selected to participate in the Illinois Home Performance Equipment Loan Program (“IHPELP) to provide area-wide HVAC professionals with access to a comprehensive set of home energy diagnostic equipment at no charge. The equipment valued at over $10,000 will supplement home energy diagnostic curriculum at KCC as well.

❖ **TAACCCT** (Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training) grant. KCC joined 17 other IGEN colleges to utilize a Department of Energy TAA grant to fund on-line, open-source courses. The grant enabled KCC to develop a 6 credit-hour certificate program consisting of two 3-credit, online courses addressing Sustainable Resource Management.

• **2010-2015 Illinois Campus Sustainability Compact.** The Compact outlines objectives such as purchasing renewable energy, implementing green building practices, developing sustainable transportation options, improving water conservation, and incorporating sustainable dining practices. KCC has been recognized as achieving a Gold Level of achievement—the highest level. Only about a dozen colleges and universities have been recognized as achieving the Gold Level. The plaque, signed by Governor Quinn, can be seen in the Sustainability Center at KCC.

• **Illinois Recycling Association** (IRA). KCC is taking the lead with IRA to create a state-wide certification program in Sustainable Resource Management. The first students completed the certificate in Fall of 2014 and KCC is now collaborating with the IRA on a state-wide national certification exam. To date only two states have accredited national certification programs through the National Certification Board of the National Recycling Coalition. With this new program, Illinois will be one of the next two or three states to be accredited.

• **National Standards Certification Board of the National Recycling Coalition** (NRC). Bert Jacobson continues his work with the NRC Certification Board which has developed national program for Sustainable Resource Management Professionals and learning outcomes KCC is used for the Sustainable Resource Management certificate program.
EXTERNAL RECOGNITION

- Professor Tim Wilhelm (pictured with his wife, Susan, below) received the 2014 IREC Accredited Clean Energy Training Providers of the Year Award for KCC’s renewable energy program that integrates a market development component into its solar PV training program. This component includes training local electrical inspectors in PV, and partnering with U.S. equipment manufacturers, local installers, lenders and community organizations to support a local solar job market. An objective of KCC’s PV program is to positively impact local economies by helping overcome common barriers, and developing a pipeline for students from underrepresented and minority groups.

  “IREC is the gold standard in renewable energy program accreditation,” Wilhelm said. “This, to me, is one of the highest honors a training program in our field could possibly receive.”

Last year Tim was named Clean Energy Trainer of the Year by the Interstate Renewable Energy Council’s new 3i Award.

- Professor Deborah Renville achieved certification as a League Cycling Instructor with the League of American Bicyclists.