CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS
The Circle of Excellence is an annual awards program at Education Affiliates that recognizes employees at the campus level who have demonstrated professional excellence and exceptional dedication to our colleges, institutions and, most important, to our students.

More than forty awards have been bestowed throughout the company ranging from Admissions, Education, Career Services, Nursing, Financial Aid, Business Office Manager, Registrar, and Campus President.

Four members of Columbus campus received the award: Peter Martinello (Campus President), Josh White (Director of Admission), Eva Reda (Registrar, pictured below), and Jackie Crandell, (Restart Champion, pictured below). Please join us in congratulating these colleagues for their outstanding professional achievements.

GRADUATION COMMENCEMENT
Fortis College proudly held the Spring Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, April 15, 2017, at the historic Ohio Theatre in downtown Columbus. Over one thousand guests, including friends, families, staff, faculty and students, were gathered together for this event. There were 308 students who graduated from the programs of Nursing, Allied Health, Radiology Technology, Surgical Technology, and Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration. The guest speaker was State of Ohio Auditor, Dave Yost (pictured below). He congratulated students’ academic achievements and encouraged the graduates to work hard toward to their future professional success.
After many weeks of practicing, the radiology students competed in the OSRT (Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists) state-wide competition on April 7th. They competed against seventeen other teams and finished in the “Elite 8.” The team finished their round tied and went into overtime. This consisted of five additional questions. At the end of the first four questions, the teams were still tied. It came down to the last question, and the other team won.

Our Fortis students did not give up without a fight! This was the first competition ever for Fortis, and the team did a GREAT job representing the school.

The team consisted of Kevin Fiedler, Tracie Hudson, and Blaine Koch. Alternates were Kelli Gongwer with Tiffany Collins and Jill Gehrke with Lindsay Windham.

The graduating class had a full schedule in April. The Rad Tech graduates had their pinning ceremony the night before the graduation and then finals the following week. The very next week, they completed the national registry exam to obtain the RT license.

Way to go Graduates!
**HVAC&R PROGRAM**  
-- Clayton Humphrey, Director of HVAC&R  
HVAC-R Program is new and is growing steadily. There were nine students graduated at end of the April module! The number of students in the day program is 37 with 35 in the evening program.

**FINANCIAL AID/BUSINESS OFFICE**  
-- Deidre Vance, Director of Finance

**2017-18 FAFSA Processing has begun!!**  
We have begun processing 2017-18 FAFSA awards. If you have not completed your 2017-18 FAFSA, you will no longer be eligible for Federal Financial Aid. You may be converted to cash payment. FAFSA forms are completed using 2015 Tax information. See your Financial Aid Representative if you have any questions.

**Credit Card Authorization Recurring Payment Form Available**  
Do you forget to stop by the business office to make a payment each month? Are you having trouble accessing your portal to make an online payment? We have the solution for you. Stop by the business office to complete a credit card authorization form to set up recurring payments. Let the business office work for you. Eliminate the past due notices and the reminder phone calls. Come and fill out a form today!

**Need Books for the new term?**  
Please have your schedule available when picking up books for the new term.

**CAREER SERVICES**  
-- Marlene Teed, Director of Career Services

**Portfolio**  
Purpose of a Portfolio:  
- Marketable  
- Ownership of your job search

A Portfolio Can Help You:  
- It helps in the interview process  
- It helps impress the employer  
- It shows the employer you are prepared for them

What is in a portfolio?  
1. Mission Statement  
2. Cover Letter  
3. Resume  
4. References  
5. Transcript  
6. Certificates  
7. Credentials  
8. Community Service  
9. Letters of Recommendation

Why have a Portfolio?
LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER
– Laura Cheng, LRC Manager

The LRC received donations of books, DVDs and furniture from Fortis College in Largo, Florida. The materials have been included in our collections. We also weeded out outdated materials from our collections. Some will be sent back to the book vendor and some are free for students to pick up.

NEW FACULTY /STAFF

Jenny Long, MABXO lead instructor
Ms. Long graduated from OSU’s Radiologic Technology program in 2012 and has worked at an Urgent Care company for the last five years. She enjoys watching sports, kayaking, and spending time with family and friends. A lot of her free time right now is spent with her one year old goddaughter. She has three cats and one dog. She is excited to be able to share her knowledge and experience with students at Fortis College and help prepare them for a career in the health care field!

Kyle Tussing, HVAC-R Lab Technician
Mr. Tussing has been in the HVAC industry for three years. He received his HVAC education from Retail Ready Career Center in Garland, Texas. From there, he went to North Carolina where he ended up becoming the lead tech for his company’s new construction team. He served five years in the Marine Corps as an infantry squad leader. He has three young children who he tries to spend all his free time with them. He is originally from central Ohio and just moved back early February.
Amy Parry, RT Instructor
Amy is the new Radiology instructor. She has been a radiologic technologist for over fourteen years. She also has a master’s of science degree. Amy works full-time for Nationwide Children’s Hospital and teaches part-time in other radiology schools, as well as here at Fortis. Amy has been an assistant clinical coordinator, and she assists the students in understanding and passing the national registry examination. She was awarded Ohio State University clinical educator of the year in 2006 and the Outstanding Women in Leadership Award in 2014. Amy is married with three small children.

Jennifer Firmalan, Nursing Instructor
Jennifer Firmalan is a registered nurse with eight years of experience. Ms. Firmalan initially began her nursing journey by completing an ADN program in the Columbus area. She is very passionate about nursing and nursing education. So much so, she is a proud graduate of Ohio University with a Master’s degree in Nursing Education. Ms. Firmalan is excited to be part of the Fortis team and pleased to be part of promoting the foundations of nursing excellence in future graduates at Fortis College. With first-hand experience, Ms. Firmalan can honestly say that nursing can take a person anywhere, and it is a profession that she is privileged to call her own.

DON’T FORGET TO LAUGH!!