

GLENVILLE STATE COLLEGE
Pioneer Update
YOUR BIWEEKLY UPDATE ON GLENVILLE STATE COLLEGE
A COMMUNICATION TO ALUMNI AND FRIENDS ABOUT EVENTS AND PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Alumni Spotlight

Since retiring, Eric Makle '75 has been serving as a volunteer basketball coach for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Eric earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in physical education from Glenville State College in 1975, and went on to be a special education instructor for the Prince George County Public School System in Virginia.

After a stint in education, he attended Prince George Community College, in 1986, where he received a certification in Inspector Training from their



Glenville State College Preservice Teachers Participate in YMHFA Training

Preservice teachers within the Department of Education at Glenville State College recently participated in Youth Mental Health First Aid training. The day-long course is designed to teach parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, and health and human services workers how to help adolescents (ages 12-18) who are experiencing challenges with mental health or addiction.

Topics addressed within the training include an overview of common mental health challenges for youth, a review of typical adolescent development, and teaches a 5-step action plan for how to help young people in both crisis and non-crisis situations. Topics covered include anxiety, depression, substance abuse, disorders in which psychosis may occur, disruptive behavior disorders (including AD/HD), and eating disorders.

Department of Engineering. After obtaining his inspector certification, he served as a Civil Engineering Construction Inspector for the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC). Eric served in this role for 25 years before he retired in 2011.

While a student at Glenville State, Eric was involved with the Blacks United Together Student Organization and was a member of the Pioneer Basketball Team.

When asked about his time at GSC, he said, "I am thankful to have attended GSC. I enjoyed being on the basketball team, during my four years. It was the experience of a lifetime to have met and played with my teammates from other cities and states. I was the first of my family to be able to graduate from college. The experience and memories of GSC will be with me always. Being a part of the African American community at GSC will forever be a part of me. Now, I am one of those Pioneers of GSC."

Eric currently resides in Clinton, Maryland with his wife Brenda.

We are proud to feature Eric in this week's Alumni Spotlight and proud to call him an alumnus of Glenville State College.

[Click here](#) to read more.

Glenville State College SSS Program Continuing to Assist Students

Glenville State College is among six other higher education institutions in West Virginia that, combined, have received over \$2.3 million from the U.S. Department of Education to support TRIO's Support Services Program.

The funding is made available through the Department of Education's competitive Student Support Services (SSS) Program. U.S. Senators Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.) and Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.) announced the continued last month.

"This grant means that our SSS program at Glenville State College has five more years of service to low income, first generation, and/or handicapped individuals. It means a quiet refuge, full of fun, help, and understanding where our students say it feels like family and a real place to belong," said GSC SSS Project Director Jerry Burkhammer '88.

Student Support Services provides opportunities to assist students with basic college requirements, for academic development, and to motivate students toward the successful completion of their postsecondary education. The goal of SSS is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of its participants.

In their office, which is located in the Health and Physical Education Building on campus, Glenville State's Student Support Services program offers their members access to mentoring and tutoring, priority class registration, a state-of-the-art computer lab, virtual reality tools, a Glowforge Pro laser printer/engraver, textbook loans, free printing, FAFSA assistance, and more. SSS staff members also plan educational and cultural workshops for students.

[Click here](#) to read more.

Pioneer Athletics

Stay up-to-date with Glenville State Athletics by [clicking here](#).



Dr. Mari Clements with her race car | Photo courtesy of Perry Bennett

New AVP for Academic Affairs ‘Driven’ to Glenville State College

Dr. Mari Clements has joined the staff at Glenville State College as the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Clements comes to Glenville State after most recently serving as Provost at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California. Before her academic career, she was a girl from Bowmantown, Tennessee, a small town outside the TriCities. "I grew up in the foothills of the Appalachians, so I feel right at home here in Glenville," she said.

Trained as a Clinical Psychologist, Clements has also previously served as a faculty member, department chair, and academic dean. She holds a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Denver.

A problem-solver by nature, she says that skill is one of the things she hopes to bring to her new role at GSC. "That isn't focus on problems, but I know that all institutions have challenges and we want to see how to take on those challenges and create opportunities to advance Glenville State," Clements said.

As GSC's Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Clements will oversee online programs, Robert F. Kidd Library operations, international programs, the GSC Honors

Program, and other areas. "We have great people here," Clements said. "I'm very excited to be working with the faculty and staff in these areas and beyond."

Outside of academia, Clements and her husband Eric have been involved with the Sports Car Club of America for over 20 years. She holds many regional titles, and has also won three times at the annual national championship event.

[Click here](#) to learn more.



Pioneer Progress is Returning

GSC's magazine for alumni and friends - the Pioneer Progress - is returning this fall after a three year hiatus! Have you married recently? Been honored with an award or accolade? Received a promotion or taken on a new career path? Added a new bundle of joy to your family? Celebrated a milestone anniversary?

We want to know what is happening with our GSC alumni and their families. [Click here](#) to send us your updates for our upcoming edition of the Pioneer Progress.



THE GIVING CORNER

Click the gift icon to make a donation of your own and join the Giving Corner.

Walter Turner '69 – \$10,000 for the Walter Turner Scholarship Fund

Former President and Frist Lady Drs. Peter and Betsy Barr – \$2,000 Fine Arts Artist in Residence

David and Barbara (Clark) '59 Simmons – \$1,000 for the H.Y. Clark Scholarship

Dr. Freddie Persinger '07 – \$500 for PAC Football

Dennis '74 and Dianna Carpenter – \$300 for the Pioneer Athletic Club

K & M Quarter Horses – \$300 for PAC Acrobatics and Tumbling Scholarship

Leandis Hodges, Jr. '78 – for PAC Football

Debbie Winkler – \$200 for PAC Volleyball

Dr. Randy '75 and Shelley Hunt – \$150 for the Pioneer Athletic Club

Jesse Skiles '87 – \$131 for the Jesse Skiles Scholarship

Kevin '80 and Becky Grogg – \$100 for PAC Football

Claude "Steve" Keenan '84 – \$100 for the Jesse Skiles Scholarship

Raymond and Elizabeth Fanta – \$100 for PAC Women's Basketball

Elizabeth Connor – \$100 for PAC Acrobatics and Tumbling Scholarship

James McCormill – \$100 for PAC Acrobatics and Tumbling Scholarship

Catherine Maus – \$100 for PAC Acrobatics and Tumbling Scholarship

Joseph and Kristina Rowe – \$100 for PAC Softball

Rick '74 and Tara Trickett – \$100 for PAC Softball

The Children's Center of Ohio, Inc. – \$100 for PAC Softball

Mary (Plunkett Childers) Marshall '57 – \$100 for the Pioneer Fund

Sharon (Phares) Brannon '70 – \$50 for the Pioneer Fund

Sean Hunt – \$10 for the Pioneer Fund



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