

# FOUNDATIONS

*Quarterly Newsletter of the NC Community Colleges Foundation, Inc.*

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

*JIM BRYAN, CHAIR*

Congratulations to Jim for being promoted as the chief credit officer of First Citizen's Bank. He has been with First Citizens since 1990 and knows the company and credit cultures exceedingly well. He served in several key leadership roles before becoming commercial credit executive in 2016. Those included roles as regional executive and regional business executive for the East Region in North Carolina, and area executive for the New Hanover Area, which won the President's Award under his leadership.

Jim has served on the Foundation Board since 2011.



*SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 3, 2019 LEGISLATIVE DAY. More information forthcoming.*

## APCO WORLDWIDE MARKETING UPDATES

- Finalizing Media Landscape Analysis
- 16 Focus Groups scheduled across the state among prospective students, including high school students, young adults (18-24), adults (25+) and parents
- Individual internal stakeholder interviews under way with key leaders around the state
- Rural community colleges identified to discover insight and gain feedback from underserved populations

### 2019 MEETING DATES

**TBD: APRIL/MAY  
JULY 23, 10 AM  
OCTOBER 16, 8:30 AM  
(LOCATION TBA)**

# SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT

**JA'LASIA AYTCH**

By Mallory Kennedy



Lenoir Community College student Ja'Lasia Aytch of Kinston was excited to receive a [Wells Fargo Technical] scholarship through the North Carolina Community College Foundation as she knew she was coming to LCC and she knew just what she wanted to study.

Before graduating from Kinston High School in 2017, Aytch took Core and Sustainable Construction 1 and 2 as well as Masonry. "I like the idea of being able to work with my hands and learning skills I can use outside the classroom on my own projects."

When deciding on her program of study her freshman year, she felt going into Welding Technology would be the best next step for her to continue to gain the knowledge and skills that would best suit her interest. After two semesters in Welding, Aytch received certificates in Stick and Mig Welding as well as a diploma. After that, she then decided she would like to earn an associate degree in Computer Engineering.

"I know it is not usual for a girl to take welding or computer engineering, but it's something I was interested in and wanted to learn more about," she said. "Now that I have the skills in welding and I am learning about computer engineering, I plan to work on some at home projects and maybe even start my own business one day."

Aytch says receiving the Wells Fargo Technical Scholarship through the NC Community College Foundation has helped fund her education while she explored her different interests and broadened her skills in those fields. "I'm excited about starting a new career."

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