Edward Serio came to Johnson College as a transfer student after attending the University of Southern California for two years and working in the maintenance field. His job was going to lay him off for the winter and he knew it was time to think about a more stable career move. Serio’s interest in electrical work started through experiences he had building camper bunks and wiring. He credits the College’s great reputation and its location close to his home as the reasons he applied to the Electrical Construction and Maintenance Technology (ECMT) program at Johnson College.

Frank Mickavicz, ’90, ECMT Instructor received information from PPL Electric Utilities in 2013 about an upcoming internship opportunity being offered to two-year degree candidates. “We had placed students in lineman programs in the past, but this was the first time a systems operator opportunity was open to Johnson College students,” said Mickavicz. Serio was a freshman and wanted to get a “jump on the job hunt,” so he applied with hopes of turning PPL into a full time career.

After a rigorous interview process including an online application and phone interview, Serio was contacted by PPL and told he had received an offer for their 11-week systems operator internship. Only a handful of students throughout Pennsylvania are accepted into this internship. Serio worked out of the Windsor Building, in Fogelsville, a small suburb of Allentown. For the duration of the internship, Serio stayed at Muhlenberg College in Allentown with other interns who worked in the area.

He had exposure to many different aspects of electrical work during his time at PPL. “Every day was a little different, but there were a few constants,” he said. “My supervisor had me call into a daily conference call just to listen and learn, but when he went on vacation I actually had to fill in for him.” Serio learned AutoCAD and worked on various one-line diagrams, which map out the PPL distribution system. “I had the opportunity to shadow system operators to get a feel for the job and went on field visits to see work in progress as well,” he said. Serio learned aspects of electrical work that he did not experience in the classroom. “I learned a ton about PPL’s electrical distribution system and how it operates. There were devices that I learned about that were new to me because they are specifically used for electrical distribution,” said Serio.

Serio interviewed for a full-time Systems Operator position with PPL in December and earned a co-op opportunity as well as a post-graduation position. The company was so satisfied with his work that they offered another Johnson College student an internship for 2015.

Serio explained that Johnson College prepared him for the workforce most because he gained a technical perspective and he enjoyed contributing his ideas at PPL. “A lot of the employees come from an engineering background, and I came from a more technical background which allows me to give an equal but alternate viewpoint when working in the field,” he said.

Mickavicz described Serio as an “exceptional model student who excelled in his coursework.”
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Congratulations to the class of 2015! This year we awarded degrees to 153 students from 13 academic programs and Welding Certificates to 18 students. This past year, we retained 78% of the graduating seniors from their freshman year with 68 graduates being transfer students, a population that continues to grow at Johnson College. Three programs have 90% placement in field at time of graduation including Electrical Construction and Maintenance Technology, Automotive Technology and Carpentry and Cabinetmaking Technology. I take great pride in the successes of our students. I am proud to say we have 71% of our students heading into their respective fields of study immediately and we welcome all of our graduates into the Johnson College alumni family.

Ann L. Pipinski, Ed.D.
President & CEO

VET TECH CAMPUS CLEAN-UP

On April 13, the Vet Tech Club had a clean-up day to get the campus looking tidy after all of the snow had melted. Under the supervision of Ms. Allene Taylor, ‘98, the students collected over 10 lb. of trash and debris. This student initiative also sparked a campus wide clean-up the following week in recognition of Earth Day.

JOHNSON COLLEGE OPEN

On May 15, over 100 golfers attended the 23rd Annual Johnson College Open at Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club. The event raised over $40,000 for the Presidential Scholarship Fund which awards scholarships each academic year to four or more qualified and deserving, full-time students. This year’s tournament had the support of fifty organizations and corporate sponsors and the most money ever was raised for deserving students.
**K’NEX CHALLENGE**

Johnson College hosted the 2015 Northeast Educational Intermediate Unit (NEIU) 19 STEM Design Challenge featuring K’Nex on Monday, March 30, 2015. Over 100 fourth through eighth graders from over a dozen schools showcased the projects they had been working on in their schools to prepare for the competition. The competition is an opportunity for students to showcase their abilities and creativity using science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

**GOLDEN ALUMNI**

On April 18, the College welcomed graduates of 50 years or more to campus for the annual Golden Alumni Society Induction Ceremony & Reunion. More than 40 alums represented classes from 1943 to 1965.

**96TH COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY**

Johnson College awarded 153 degrees and 18 Welding Technology certificates at the 96th Commencement Ceremony on May 9, 2015 at the Scranton Cultural Center. PA Auditor General, Eugene A. DePasquale delivered the commencement address.
The College's Carpentry & Cabinetmaking students, under the supervision of Mr. Todd Campbell, '82 completed a building project for the Yeshiva Beth Moshe School in Scranton. The students built lecterns to be utilized by teachers and students at the school. This project was a service project by the program to contribute to the community.