TRANSFER STUDENT
BRIAN KAVANAUGH '14
REBUILDS HIS CAREER,
WHILE REBUILDING A
"FAMILY" HOME
DESTROYED BY
HURRICANE SANDY

ALSO INSIDE
Driving The Future | A Music "Maker" | Class of 2014 | K'Nex 'N Kids
This is what we all work for, commencement day. A milestone that we hope is the foundation of building a satisfying career for our students. Many of our graduates already had jobs by the time they walked across the stage at the Scranton Cultural Center, on May 12, 2014. We handed out degrees to 187 students, as well as Welding Certifications to another 17. A record 204 students in one school year. Three programs, Architectural Drafting & Design Technology, Logistics and Supply Chain Management Technology and Precision Machining Technology, all had 100% of their seniors placed in field on graduation day! Our goal is always 100% for all of our students. That’s why our career services department is there with resources for our students from the day they are accepted.

President’s Message

Dr. Ann L. Pipinski
President & CEO of Johnson College shakes the hand of Chad Grabousky ‘14, Electrical Construction & Maintenance Technology

Edward Dobeck (right) a graduate of the Radiologic Technology program, with Program Director Joan Bonczek (left), earned the Johnson College Award for Academic Excellence in the Associate in Science programs and gave the student address.

Robert Dobeck (right) a graduate of the Radiologic Technology program, with Program Director Joan Bonczek (left), earned the Johnson College Award for Academic Excellence in the Associate in Science programs and gave the student address.

SEE MORE PICTURES FROM COMMENCEMENT
http://www.johnson.edu/CLASSOF2014/

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Robert F. Durkin, President of the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce delivered the commencement address.

CAREER SERVICES IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO HELP STUDENTS, ALUMNI, & EMPLOYERS Contact Roseann Martinetti rmartinetti@johnson.edu or 570-702-8919 or see job listings on our LinkedIn Page
Johnson College is proud to announce the creation of the new Office of Innovation & Industry. This is the first phase of a series of changes that will help prepare the College for long-term, sustainable growth.

This office will be the incubator for new ideas that will enhance the experience that students and industry partners have with the College. Through this office the College will introduce a new education delivery model, new programs, and a new way of delivering Continuing Education.

Johnson College recently announced the success of its first ever capital campaign. Comprehensively, over five years the College raised $5.1 million dollars for its largest building project to date, the Health Science Technology Center. This was the College’s largest campaign to date. During this time, the College also looked at what’s next, undertaking a comprehensive planning process to develop systemic changes to the way in which it delivers its unique brand of technology-driven, industry-focused education.

“Johnson College is bucking the trend in higher education which tends to change slowly,” shares Katie Leonard, Senior VP of College Advancement. “We are creating change to be positioned to respond to the ever growing needs of industry and the student of the future.”

To accommodate for these systemic changes, the College has redeployed some of its most innovative and creative thinkers to focus on what the College has deemed its top priorities. “We did not undertake the process lightly,” shares Katie. “This has been a college-wide effort and the proposed changes have been well thought out and in response to trends.”

Rick Fornes ’94 was the first to be promoted under the Office of Innovation & Industry as the College’s new Director of Innovation. Rick has accepted this responsibility in addition to being a Division Chair and Department Chair. Rick will work on new program development and innovation as it relates to Johnson College.

Mike Novak has been promoted to Director of Industry. Mike has accepted this responsibility in addition to being a Division Chair and Department Chair. Mike will work on enhancing the College’s connections and incubating continuing education programs based on recommendations from the College Planning Committee’s Continuing Education Task Force.

Jeff Roughgarden has been promoted to Continuing Education Manager. Jeff has accepted this responsibility in addition to his role as Welding Instructor. Jeff will manage the day to day operations of the Continuing Education Office and will be responsible for working with Mike to develop new Continuing Education programs and a new delivery model.

As the Senior Vice President, Katie Leonard has been given the responsibility by the President & CEO, Dr. Ann L. Pipinski, to oversee the Department of College Advancement which will now consist of the Office of Advancement and the new Office of Innovation & Industry.

“These changes build on what Johnson College already does best – we provide a great experience for our students in terms of the kind of technology education they receive which in turn makes industry more effective and efficient,” shares Dr. Pipinski. “And because of her proven track record of success here at the College, I know Katie is the right person to lead this innovative, change-focused effort.”

The first initiative under the new Office of Innovation & Industry is Alternative Fuels education, including Compressed Natural Gas (CNG). This customized education track will prepare students/industry to be able to perform fuel system conversions, inspections and certifications of the systems.

“We are the only institution in Northeast Pennsylvania certified by the National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium,” says Mike Novak, the new Director of Industry at Johnson College. “We can educate a student on CNG fuel systems and also on liquid natural gas (LNG), electric, hybrids, dual-fuel, bi-fuel, biofuels, and even fuel system conversions.”

Jeff Roughgarden, the College’s new Continuing Education Manager shares that the College is innovating the way in which these college programs are being taught. “We can customize this kind of education for each individual student and industry partner as demand evolves and needs change.”

Right now larger companies like UPS are converting fleets of trucks to CNG in order to save money on fueling, however, there are very few people certified to be able to inspect those fuel systems. Johnson College will change all of that. The CNG education program is designed for individual mechanics and businesses, including those that work at truck and automotive centers. This bold type of education will be the first of its kind for the region.

The College has invested more than $100,000 over the last three years in equipment related to the growing Transportation Division at the College and to prepare for this coursework. Over the next year the College plans to convert part of their Transportation Division’s space into a specialized CNG Training area. The first class of the new CNG Education Program will start at the end of July.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
Johnson College’s Continuing Education Department
570-702-8979

JOHNSONIAN SUMMER 2014
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The population of transfer students is growing at Johnson College. “We typically accept more than 60 transfer students each year, which is more than a quarter of our student population,” explains Melissa Ide, Johnson College’s Vice President of Enrollment Services. Melissa also adds that they are very motivated, “Transfer students are also more likely to complete their degree than a traditional student.”

Brian Kavanaugh is an example of a successful Johnson College transfer student.

He grew up on Staten Island. “It was a rundown part of town,” Brian adds, “It was tough for me growing up. My father passed away when I was young... my mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s and Dementia.” Brian says that left him feeling very alone. “A lot of things I had to do for myself, which kind of worked out for the best.” Brian did have some help from his aunt and uncle in New Jersey. “They’re not blood related, but we consider them aunt and uncle.” They took Brian in for a while. “They were there throughout the tough times I had growing up.”

Brian eventually followed his dream of becoming his own boss and was accepted to Penn State Worthington for business. Not long after enrolling, Brian started his own successful cleaning business. Yet he still felt that something was missing. Along the way, Brian had a son, Brydon. “He’s truly the love of my life, everything I do is for him.”

While cleaning floors at 3 a.m. to help provide for his family, Brian thought that there had to be something he could do that would leave him more fulfilled.

“I always loved working with my hands and making people happy with my work,” Brian recalls. In 2012, he took his transcripts and transferred his credits towards a Carpentry and Cabinetmaking Technology Degree at Johnson College.

“He had a lot going on at first,” admits his instructor Joe Musheno, Division Chair, Construction & Design at Johnson College. “I think he was driven by the need to support his son and did what it took to get the work done while still running his cleaning business at night.”

During Brian’s turbulent freshman year in the fall of 2012, Hurricane Sandy hit the east coast. His aunt and uncle’s home took a direct hit. Brian said the damage was extensive, “The house was unlivable. There was a gaping hole in the front entrance... a lot of water damage on the first floor.” Plus there was an issue of time. Brian says, “They were incurring the cost of living in a hotel.”

Brian raced to help his uncle rebuild the entire first floor from the frame up.

This took a toll on Brian, “It was pretty difficult actually maintaining my school, my family, my business and still finding time to get down there to help them.” However Brian says he wouldn’t have done anything different. “They were grateful for it and I imagine they always will be grateful.” Brian credits his success in the classroom to the eagerness of the staff and faculty at Johnson College.

“They would bend over backwards if you needed them to and there were times that I needed them to, Mr. Musheno especially. He’s gone above and beyond for me.” Math Department Chair, Rich Mishura was also an important part of Brian’s success. “He has done wonders to help me.”

“Brian was a good example for his classmates,” Mr. Mishura adds. “He always took advantage of office hours. He always asked questions in class. He also took additional classes to help better himself and encouraged other students to do the same, often helping them out with tutoring and encouraging them to do better. He did all of this on his own.”

“Those two men I don’t think I’ll ever forget,” says Brian. “They helped me to truly change my life.”

The hard work paid off. Brian graduated at the top of his class cum laude, with departmental honors, and was named to the Alpha Beta Kappa (ABK) honor society. Brian is now employed with R.N. DeMeck Roofing which is owned by Bobby DeMeck, a 2008 graduate of Johnson College’s Architectural Drafting and Design Program. Brian also does side work for Able Hands Construction.

Brian is now looking forward to owning a new business in the future. “In 10 years I’ll probably start my own construction company.” Brian’s family is also growing. His son Brydon is now 9. “I like to think I stand out as a good role model and a good example for him.” Brian now has a 4 year-old step-daughter, Jesika, looking up to him with his fiancée Jamayca. “We hope to move into a home that I build over the next couple of years.”

Brian is now 9. “I like to think I stand out as a good role model and a good example for him.”

Brian believes if he can handle all of this, any student can take on the challenge of learning a new career.

Our next “Transfer Day” will be August 6!

Register now @
www.Johnson.edu/TransferDay/
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Johnson College Golden Alumni Society Inducts the Class of 1964 at their Golden Alumni Reunion, April 5, 2014

Alumni

Johnson College alumni helped to judge the Architectural Drafting and Design Technology (ADT) Program’s 10th Annual Portfolio Competition.

Each year, senior ADT students prepare portfolios of hand-drafted, Computer Aided Design (CAD), and Revit work samples.

Congratulations to this year’s winners!

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Freshman class winners were 1st Katelyn Pierce, 2nd Julio Cooley, 3rd Robert Jones, and an Honorable mention for Anthony Tallarico.

Senior Class winners were 1st Patrick McCaffery, 2nd Ethan Davis, and 3rd Lisa Toole.

Judged by Design

2014 JUDGES, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:
John DeAngelis, Department Chair, Johnson College Architectural Drafting and Design Technology, Don Baron ’92, Architectural Designer at Willow Design in Scranton; Bill Jones, Registered Architect at The Palumbo Group in Scranton; Matt Rozelle ’98, Project Manager-Signature Building Systems in Moosic; Brian Causer ’08, Senior Design Tech at Picatinny in Arsenal, N.J.; Valerie Widaman ’06 from KBA Associates in Jermyn; and Frank Summa, Civil Designer for GPI Inc. in Moosic.
Connecting with our Community

K’Nex ‘n Kids  This past April, Johnson College hosted 125 students from 13 area school districts in grades 4-8 for the STEM Design Challenge supported by K’NEX. The program is organized by Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit (NEIU) #19. Teams of 4 had 1,500 K’NEX pieces and just two hours to build a vehicle that met 3 criteria. It had to move people, overcome an obstacle, and also be eco-friendly.

Adaptive Bio Med  Biomedical Equipment Technology students collected toys and modified them for children with disabilities. Students donated not only the toys, but their electronic repair skills to add brightly colored buttons to the sound boxes and controllers on dozens of toys to make them handicap accessible. The toys were then delivered to the Hazleton Area School District’s Special Education students.

Girls On Fire for Technology  An exciting & fun group from Scranton High School came for the College’s 1st “Girls On Fire for Technology” Career Discovery Day. The goal was to expose young women to non-traditional career options in science and technology.

Logistics Works  This past April, Logistic & Supply Chain Management Technology students used their unique planning and organizational skills to give back. Students teamed up with NeighborWorks Northeastern Pennsylvania, a non-profit that helps low-income families become and remain homeowners. Together, along with a team of student-lead volunteers and their instructors, they worked together to help clean-up one Dickson City park and helped paint one resident’s Main Street home.

Spay Day 2014  The Animal Care Center at Johnson College once again hosted Spay Day 2014, this past February. This is the 10th year that the College has celebrated Spay Day, sponsored by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, in order to help control pet overpopulation. The College served more than two dozen area low-income families by offering discounted spay and neutering services. Veterinarian Technology students and their instructors performed more than 24 procedures in just one day.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL FOR A JOB WELL DONE!
HOMECOMING 2014 - Halloween Weekend
Basketball / Food Trucks / Bonfire / Trunk n’ Treat
LEARN MORE: www.Johnson.edu/Homecoming/

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