

# MEET OUR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY GRADUATES





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## MATTHEW DEHART

**CLASS OF 2017** 

- Earned 10 certifications at MCC (including A+)
- Was SGA Senator for IT curriculum for 2016-2017
- Served as Federal Work Study student in IT Dept. and CATS Lab
- Inducted into Phi Theta Kappa in April of 2016
- Was always on Dean's or President's List

Matthew began his education at MCC after graduating from Faith Christian Homeschool. He was undecided about his educational plans and returned to MCC for the IT degree after a brief stint with auto mechanics at RCC. He discovered a passion for IT support and services. Throughout his two years of study, Matthew was active at his church and employed at two part time jobs.

Some of Matthew's accomplishments included obtaining 10 certifications (many of which required extra studying outside of the regular IT curriculum), being inducted into Phi Theta Kappa in April of 2016, serving as a Federal Work Study student in the CATS Lab and IT Department, and serving as SGA IT Senator for the 2016-2017 academic year. He was always on the Dean's List or President's List due to excellent grades. At the time of this writing, he is the only IT graduate to have earned CompTIA A+ Certification before graduating.

After graduating in May of 2017, Matthew began his IT career as a Technology Technician with Montgomery County Schools. He worked at East Middle and East Montgomery High. Starting pay for him was over \$32,000 annually and included a full benefits package including several insurances, retirement, and 401(k).

In October of 2018, Matthew advanced into a Configuration and Deployment Technician position with Noregon Systems in Greensboro. He images and configures Dell and Panasonic rugged laptops for Ryder and other large companies. He earned Dell certification in May of 2019. He serves on the MCC IT Advisory Board.



#### DAVID DENNIS

**CLASS OF 2017** 

- Earned 13 certifications at MCC
- Was SGA Senator for IT curriculum for 2015-2016
- Served as Federal Work Study student for 2 semesters
- Awarded Golden Leaf Scholarship in June of 2016
- Was always on Dean's or President's List

David returned to MCC to prepare for a new career and discovered that he was most passionate about the security and virtualization areas of IT. He is a veteran of the Air Force, having served six years. He also has eight years of law enforcement experience. He is a single dad, volunteers at his daughter's school, and worked at a few part time jobs throughout his two years of study at MCC.

Some of David's MCC accomplishments included obtaining 13 certifications (many of which required extra studying outside of the regular IT curriculum), serving as SGA Senator during the 2015-2016 academic year, and serving as a Federal Work Study student in the Financial Aid Department for two semesters. David was awarded the Golden Leaf Scholarship in June of 2016 and was always on the Dean's List or President's List because of his excellent grades.

After graduating in July of 2017, David began working in IT Support at the Belk Corporate Office in Charlotte. His position featured a starting salary of approximately \$50,000 annually (an increase of \$22,000 annually over his former job). He had a full benefits package including stock option matching, several insurances, 401(k), and quarterly bonus opportunities. At the time of this writing, he is in the process of advancing into an IT position at another company with a higher salary. He serves on the MCC IT Advisory Board.



### TAYLOR SARKS

**CLASS OF 2017** 

- Earned 10 certifications at MCC
- Worked part time as MCC's Webmaster
- Awarded MCC
   Foundation Scholarship
   for 2015-2016
- Was always on Dean's or President's List
- Selected for NCCCS
   Academic Excellence

   Award in 2017

Taylor began his education at MCC after graduating from Southwest Randolph High School. Between high school and starting college, Taylor worked full time in metal fabrication. While working he spent his free time working in web development, coding, and learning what IT related things he could online. Looking to make his passion a reality, he enrolled in the IT degree program at MCC.

Some of Taylor's accomplishments included obtaining 10 certifications (many of which required extra studying outside of the regular IT curriculum), being recommended for the Webmaster position in the MCC Public Information Office, designing the Blackboard Login, implementing and maintaining the MCC website in 2016, and customizing messages on the new digital sign with graphics. He received an MCC Foundation scholarship for the 2015-2016 academic year, was always on the Dean's List or President's List due to excellent grades, and was selected for the NCCCS Academic Excellence Award at MCC in 2017. Only one student per community college is selected each year for this prestigious award.

After graduating in July of 2017, Taylor continued working part-time for MCC as Webmaster and IT Help Desk Technician. He was hired full time as Digital Content Manager/Multimedia Specialist in July 2018. He now runs social media for the college including Twitter, YouTube, and the new Instagram account which was one of the fastest-growing accounts in the NC Community College system. In addition, he creates content for online learning and social media. He also serves on the MCC IT Advisory Board.



#### KELLI WILLIAMS

**CLASS OF 2019** 

- Earned 9 certifications at MCC
- Was always on Dean's or President's List

Kelli came to MCC to prepare for a new career. She loves animals and had worked in boarding kennels and veterinary offices and did some dog grooming over the years. She also enjoys working with technology and felt that the IT degree would be a great match for her new career goals.

Some of Kelli's MCC accomplishments included obtaining 9 certifications (many of which required extra studying outside of the regular IT curriculum) and always being on the Dean's List or President's List because of her excellent grades. She participated in campus events such as Spring Fling and Spooktacular. However, most of her time outside of studying was spent taking care of her family. Her daughters are active in sports and other extracurricular activities at their schools.

After graduating in May of 2019, Kelli began working as a Technology Assistant for Stanly County Schools. Her position had a competitive starting salary with a full benefits package including several insurances, retirement, and 401(k). She enjoys her new job immensely because of the new challenges each day. She works out of Stanly Academy Learning Center and the Central Office to keep their technology systems running smoothly.