

Diana Williams Wins 2010 GOAL Competition



Bainbridge College Technical Studies Division student Diana Williams receives congratulations from President Tom Wilkerson (inset). Below, she is speaking after receiving the award, inspiring others with her impromptu motivational talk.



Bainbridge College Technical Studies Division student Diana Williams of Bainbridge emerged the winner from a field of 17 nominees for the honor of representing the college in the 2010 Georgia Occupational Award of Leadership (GOAL), which is designed to promote awareness of the value of technical education.

Ms. Williams, a student in the Business Office Technology Program who was nominated by Shelia McClendon, went on to compete at regional GOAL competition, and attended the final state round in Atlanta. That winner will compete for the state title and the opportunity it brings to be the spokesperson for technical education in the state.

Local, regional, and state competitions include judging students on their leadership, academic excellence and oral communication skills. Instructors in the Technical Studies Division on the Bainbridge campus and BC Early County Center selected their top students for the competition.

“It is an honor for a student to be nominated,” said David Maxwell, Tech Studies communications instructor who chaired the competition. “Being nominated means these students have shown that they have the leadership, academic excellence and communication skills necessary to serve as the state’s Tech Studies representative.”

In addition to the winner, the students received certificates at the formal presentation Feb. 23, 2010, in the Charles H. Kirbo Regional Center on the Bainbridge campus. **Tawania Crapp**, of Bainbridge, **Tara George** of Blakely were selected in Business Office Technology; **Irena Justice** of Attapulgus, **Linda Reynolds**, **Adrienne Epps**, both of Blakely, and **Yolanda George** of Colquitt, Early Childhood Education; **Anna Brown**, **Melody Martin**, both of Bainbridge, **Veronica Turner** of Blakely, **Tammy Coleman** of Bluffton, **Markesha Freeman**, **Ruth Ann Hicks**, both of Colquitt, and **Jesse Smith** of Donalsonville, Licensed Practical Nursing; **Octavia Johnson** of Blakely, **Yulonda Harvey** of Cairo, and **Jean Brogdon** of Colquitt, Medical Assisting.

President Tom Wilkerson, who presented the certificates to each student, welcomed the standing-room only crowd of family members and friends to the event and commented on the value of the Technical Studies Division. Barbara Stephens, Tech Studies interim chair, spoke briefly about the GOAL program’s history and introduced Maxwell, who presented the nominees to President Wilkerson and announced the winner.