

Donor Spotlight

Bucks County Foundation

The Bucks County Foundation was started as a community trust in 1979, by a few civic minded individuals, who wanted to promote permanent philanthropy to benefit life in Bucks County. The Foundation now offers scholarships, makes grants to non-profit agencies serving the area, and manages education funds, agency endowments, and donor advised funds. It operates under a volunteer board of directors, who represent all areas of Bucks County. Bucks County Community College (BCCC) is represented by Trustee Dr. Frederick Breitenfeld.

The Foundation has grown to over \$10 million in assets and 26 funds. Gladys Happ established the very first fund, supporting students who reside in the Central Bucks School District and who choose to attend BCCC or Delaware Valley College. The first Happ-Grover Scholarships were awarded in 1983; since then the Foundation has given nearly \$900,000 to each of the two schools and provided scholarships to over 1,400 students.

In recognition of this generous support, BCCC recently named a lecture hall in honor of the Foundation. Grace M. Deon, President of the Foundation Board, praised the wonderful education offered at BCCC, saying “Education is the future; our Foundation has always believed that education is a top priority for philanthropy.” The Foundation’s Executive Director Linda Goodwin added, “We are so pleased to partner with BCCC. Bucks is affordable, and a great opportunity for youth and adults living here. This school is able to provide a lot of education with the funds we provide.”

In addition to supporting scholarships for almost every school district, the Foundation gives grants to support a long list of local non-profit agencies. “We have a commitment to all fields that benefit the county,” said Goodwin. More than 40 organizations have received grants in the past, and more are added annually. For more information about BCCC’s important community partner, visit www.buckscountyfoundation.org.

Written by Ammarie Ely, a Bucks journalism student. Ammarie took journalism and graphic design classes at Bucks and worked for the College’s student newspaper, The Centurion. She finished taking classes at Bucks in the fall 2010 semester.



BCCC President Dr. James J. Linksz (right) and BCCC Foundation Executive Director Tobias Bruhn (left) presented the dedication plaque to Lawrence Grim, Esq., Founder of the Bucks County Foundation, President of the Foundation’s Distribution Committee Grace Deon, Esq., and its Executive Director, Linda Goodwin (from right to left).