



Submitted photo

Mike Shiels, dean of the School of Applied Technologies, left, stands with incoming Associate Dean of Manufacturing Technologies Carol Fontanez, center, and retiring Associate Dean of Manufacturing Technologies Bob Novak.

New associate dean of manufacturing technologies named at WCTC

PEWAUKEE — Waukesha County Technical College's current associate dean of manufacturing technologies, Robert Novak, is retiring in August and staff member Carol Fontanez has been promoted to the position starting this month.

Fontanez joined WCTC in 2011 as an instructional development specialist, working coach and mentor on curriculum design and support of WCTC's online tracking tool. In 2013, she moved into the role of project coordinator for a Trade Adjustment Assistance grant in manufacturing. Additionally, Fontanez worked to develop "Blended

Options" programs, which are a form of accelerated in-class and online learning. In 2014, she was named coordinator of the School of Applied Technologies, continuing to work with the TAA grant, along with other college-wide learning initiatives.

With 18 years of experience in the manufacturing industry, Fontanez says she has a strong interest and appreciation for the industry.

"My dad was a journeyman machinist and tool and die maker, so I grew up in a household where manufacturing and apprenticeship were very important," said

Fontanez. "I remain passionate about manufacturing both because of the wonderful career potential and because I firmly believe that America wins when America manufactures."

Beyond the manufacturing sector, Fontanez has experience working as a certified personal coach, college instructor and consultant in the areas of career transition and employee development, learning strategies and talent acquisition. She earned her bachelor's degree from Central Missouri State University and master's degree from Alverno College.

— Freeman Staff