

theory and practice in education, the university adopted a revolutionary new undergraduate program known as the WPI Plan. The new approach replaced the traditional, rigidly prescribed engineering curriculum with a flexible and academically challenging program aimed at helping students learn by synthesizing classroom experience in projects that involve real world problems.

In 1974, WPI launched a global component to its project-based curriculum and now sends approximately 70 percent of its students to more than 45 project centers around the world. At these centers, students work in teams to focus on issues such as energy, food, health, and urban sustainability. The Global Projects Program offers students the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in tackling real problems, develop an understanding of other cultures, and see how their lives and work can make a meaningful impact.

During my time in Congress, I've had the opportunity to meet with WPI students, faculty, and staff, and continue to be impressed by the incredible research being done at this world-class university based in my hometown of Worcester, Massachusetts. Each year I have the privilege of learning from WPI students who attend the Washington, D.C. project center, and I am confident that they enter the workforce well-prepared to help solve some of our nation's biggest challenges and influence the development of policy to move our country forward.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating WPI and its outstanding faculty members. To be recognized by the National Academy of Engineering and Bernard Gordon is a tremendous honor, and the WPI community should be so proud of this incredible achievement.

IN HONOR OF NEW JERSEY STATE  
TROOPER SEAN CULLEN

**HON. DONALD NORCROSS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 23, 2016*

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of fallen New Jersey State Trooper Sean Cullen of Cinnaminson, New Jersey, for his extraordinary sacrifice and exemplary service to the citizens of New Jersey and the United States.

Trooper Cullen was born in Dublin, Ireland, and immigrated to the United States with his family when he was a child. Trooper Cullen and his family resided in Cinnaminson, New Jersey, and he graduated from Cinnaminson High School in 2003.

Trooper Cullen subsequently became a police officer, serving in the Sea Isle City, Mount Holly, and Westampton Township Police Departments. In 2014, he became a trooper with the New Jersey State Police as a graduate of the 154th Class of the New Jersey State Police Academy and was assigned to the Bellmawr Station, Camden County Barracks.

On March 8, 2016, Trooper Cullen tragically passed away following a motor vehicle accident that occurred while he was on duty and responding to an incident. Trooper Cullen was a loving and devoted father, son, and brother, whose memory will live on in the hearts of his fiancée, family, friends, and colleagues. He

made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of the citizens of New Jersey and served with courage, professionalism, and a commitment to the finest ideals and traditions of the New Jersey State Police.

Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that we mourn the loss of Trooper Sean Cullen, whose life reminds us that the men and women who serve and protect our communities put their lives on the line every day to protect us. I join with my community and all of New Jersey in honoring the achievements and selfless service of this truly exceptional young man.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF WASHTENAW  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 23, 2016*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of Washtenaw Community College in Ann Arbor Michigan.

Washtenaw Community College is a pillar of higher education in Michigan's 12th Congressional District and has helped make an affordable education possible for countless individuals and their families for half a century. Each year, more than 18,000 students register for classes to say nothing of the thousands who take advantage of their Economic and Community Development classes—non-credit courses designed to provide professional development and personal enrichment for citizens throughout Washtenaw County and beyond.

Since 1966, this institution has stood as a symbol of hope in our community. It has provided its students, many of whom are immigrants, with the opportunity to quite literally achieve the "American Dream" through the education and skills needed to not only enrich themselves, but also to become vital members of our workforce. Diversity is celebrated here with students from over 100 foreign countries comprising its student body.

As many of us already know, the effects of globalization have made our local workforce far more competitive. Since its formation, Washtenaw Community College has provided the instruction needed for students to enroll in programs that are important to Michigan's future. In the 1970's, Washtenaw Community College developed programs in manufacturing, automotive service, culinary arts, and business. Today, the school has adapted to the ever-changing demands of the job market by adding computer science, pharmacy tech, robotic and national trade programs.

Today, while our lives have become more and more complicated, higher education has become a basic necessity for success. Aside from its affordability and high-quality course offerings, Washtenaw Community College places great emphasis on convenience by offering more than 100 programs and approximately 1500 classes each year—seven days a week, at night and online. In addition to their academic programming, Washtenaw Community College was one of the first colleges to recognize the changing dynamics of our economy by offering daycare services, making education a possibility for many working moms and families.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Washtenaw Community College for its fifty years of leadership in helping shape and prepare the next generation of workers, business people and civic leaders in my district. We thank you for your willingness to think outside the box, for your flexibility and for your vision, and we look forward to another 50 years when we can celebrate your Centennial.

RECOGNIZING THE ALABAMA  
STATE UNIVERSITY LADY HOR-  
NETS FOR WINNING CONSECU-  
TIVE SWAC BASKETBALL TITLES

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 23, 2016*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Alabama State University Lady Hornets for their outstanding basketball record over the past two seasons.

On March 12, the Alabama State University Lady Hornets won their second straight Southwestern Athletic Conference tournament with a 55 to 51 victory over the Southern University Jaguars.

This victory made Head Coach Freda Freeman-Jackson the first SWAC coach to lead a team to consecutive tournament titles.

The Alabama State University Lady Hornets advanced to the NCAA tournament where they competed against the Texas Lady Longhorns this past Saturday. This was their third all-time NCAA appearance.

During the 2015–2016 season, the Alabama State University Lady Hornets won 19 games and for a second straight year, the team was a 15 seed.

I would like to particularly congratulate the two Lady Hornets who are from the 7th Congressional District of Alabama, Miss Jasmine Peeples from Selma and Miss Tatyana Calhoun from Montgomery. Tatyana is a junior and was named second team All-State and an MVP in 2013. Jasmine is an all SWAC second-team performer and is a senior. She, along with her teammates, Britney Wright and Daniele Ewert, was voted to the all-SWAC Tournament team this year.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, it is important to recognize the female athletes who have made significant contributions to athletic programs across our country. Although it has been almost forty-five years since Title IX was passed here in Congress, female athletes are still not afforded the same respect, resources and attention afforded to male athletes.

The success achieved by the Alabama State University Lady Hornets over the past two seasons will be a tremendous recruiting tool for Alabama State University Coach Freeman-Jackson and have undeniably made Alabama State University a stronger institution.

I am incredibly proud of the successes the Alabama State University Lady Hornets and their coaches have made over the past two seasons. I look forward to watching this team grow and continue to win titles under the leadership of Coach Freeman-Jackson and Assistant coaches Clayton Harris, Yvette McDaniel, and Michael Floyd.

Go Hornets.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL SCIENTISTS—ERIC MUTHONDU

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 23, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Eric Muthondu from Richmond, TX for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists to represent the state of Texas at the Congress of Future Medical Leaders.

Eric attends Randolph Foster High School and is one of eight high school honor students selected from the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas. These students were selected as Texas delegates at the Congress of Future Medical Leaders, a program for high school students to be recognized for their hard work in school and supported to continually strive toward their aspirations of working in the medical field. The National Academy was founded by Richard Rossi and Dr. Robert Darling; Mr. Rossi currently serves as president. The Congress is being held at the Tsongas Center at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell from June 25th through the 27th. Eric was selected by a group of educators to be a delegate for the Congress because of his dedication to his academic success and goals of pursuing a medical science. We are proud of Eric and all of his hard work, and know he will make Richmond proud.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Eric for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists. Keep up the great work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DIANE BLACK**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 23, 2016*

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Number 138 (H. Res. 658), which took place Wednesday March 23, 2016; I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained at the United States Supreme Court. Had I been present, I would have voted AYE. I firmly stand with my colleagues in the House in condemning in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks in Brussels on March 22, 2016, which murdered more than 30 innocent people, and severely wounded many more.

I would like to reflect my deepest sympathies and condolences to those killed and injured in the attacks and their friends and families. I also reflect my pledge to support the Belgium government in its efforts to bring to justice those responsible for the attacks.

Finally, I declare my belief that the Islamic State poses a fundamental threat to the universal value of freedom in all countries, and that the flow of foreign fighters to and from the Middle East and West and North Africa remains a grave concern.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE INSTALLATION OF DR. ROBIN GARY CUMMINGS AS CHANCELLOR OF UNC PEMBROKE

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 23, 2016*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Robin Cummings and congratulate him on his official installation as the sixth Chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

As Representative of North Carolina's Eighth District, I'm proud to represent Robeson County and UNC Pembroke in Congress. There is no doubt in my mind that Chancellor Cummings is a perfect fit for this university. His leadership and service to North Carolina in numerous capacities—in health care, in state government and in volunteer service—has positioned him well for this role. With his knowledge and broad experience, Dr. Cummings will promote and grow the university while meeting the unique challenges facing our community.

As Chancellor, Dr. Cummings has already made an incredible impact and helped foster an institution that offers students a pathway to a career, that empowers faculty and staff to be successful, and that provides our community an institution to be proud of.

In addition, Dr. Cummings' love for our community and the university is unmatched. As a Pembroke native and member of the Lumbee tribe, he has the community's best interest at heart. Under his guidance, UNC Pembroke will continue to lead the way in strengthening our economy, supporting job creation and improving the quality of life for people all across Southeastern North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Chancellor Robin Cummings for his prestigious accomplishment. We wish him, his wife Rebecca and his four children, Amy, Mark, David, and Adam well as Chancellor Cummings undertakes this role and continues to serve Robeson County and UNC Pembroke.

HONORING THE LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION DIVISION

**HON. NORMA J. TORRES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 23, 2016*

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Los Angeles Police Department Communication Division for its dedicated service to protecting our communities. Throughout the region, there are several public safety call centers staffed by civilians who dedicate their lives to helping others. These individuals are critical to Los Angeles' public safety and help serve the wide-ranging needs of everyday residents.

Though they rarely get the credit they deserve, it is difficult to understate the importance of these professionals in serving our communities. While public-safety communicators are usually the first individuals that the public comes in contact with during an emer-

gency, they also play a vital role in coordinating the first response to police, fire, and rescue incidents. They possess many admirable qualities, among which is the ability to maintain composure under extremely stressful circumstances. As a former 9-1-1 dispatcher within the department, I know the challenges they face on a daily basis, which is why I would like to honor their service to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to work for the Los Angeles Police Department Communication Division for over 17 years. Throughout that time, this division has helped coordinate responses to both routine occurrences and extraordinary situations, some of which have garnered national and international attention. They regularly dispatch first responders to thousands of incidents and have played a critical role in national emergencies. I applaud their continual efforts to serve our communities. On Sunday, April 10, they will be hosting an alumni gathering to mark the start of National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

Mr. Speaker, they are just one of many community organizations across the country that will recognize the second week of April as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. I would like to offer my support for this declaration and make note that I have introduced a Concurrent Resolution that would offer Congress' recognition of this designation. I believe that this will highlight the important contributions that public safety communication professionals provide our communities day in and day out and recognize the value of their work.

TRIBUTE TO CONNIE KUEHL

**HON. JOHN R. CARTER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 23, 2016*

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service of an esteemed and valued citizen of the Killeen, TX and Fort Hood area. Connie Kuehl has dedicated herself to Central Texas for nearly 30 years, diligently overseeing and directing countless organizations and community projects. Connie's immeasurable service and innovative vision for her community are qualities of an ideal citizen.

Graduating from the University of Texas in 1973, Connie earned her degree in Education and Science. Pursuing her passion for SCUBA diving, she obtained an instructor license in 1979 and taught lessons for ten years. This was only the beginning of Connie's lifetime of sharing her time and talents with others. In 1990, she became Temple's first Tourism Director and worked tirelessly to promote the community through her service on multiple boards and organizations. Connie's ability to showcase the very best that Central Texas has to offer attracted the Texas Early Day Tractor and Engine Association's State Headquarters as well as the Pioneer Village and festival to Temple in 1992, where it remains today. She has also served as President for Altrusa of Central Texas as well as the Texas Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus, where she earned the Texas Destination Marketing Certification.

No matter where or how Connie serves, she exceeds the highest of expectations. Her desire to constantly improve and challenge her