

# ATE Student Success Stories:

## *Sharing Student Success with the Community*



**ATE Student Success Story Videos** highlight the struggles and triumphs of a diverse set of students in community college settings. With support and guidance from ATE centers and projects, their lives and careers have been changed for the better. Each video documents a unique success story, but all of them have a common theme: technician training has the power to change lives.

**Christina's Story** In Texas City, Texas, Christina Smith is going back to school to study **process technology** at College of the Mainland. Learn more about Christina's new career path, her success in providing for her young daughter, and the role of ATE in helping her move forward.

**Wesley's Story** Wesley Hipolito was introduced to **machining technology** through the College Connection Program at Asnuntuk Community College. Now, after more coursework, an ATE sponsored internship, and a seamless transition into the workforce he has established himself as an integral part of the future of Aerospace.

**Kristen's Story** Kristin Edwards thought she wanted to be an education major until a **computer science** class changed the course of her career. After more coursework, and an ATE-sponsored internship with a local business, she's discovered a new passion and a new path.

**Matthew's Story** Matthew Davis thought he knew what he wanted to do after high school, but decided to expand his career options after a year of working as a residential electrician. Discover his new educational focus, learn about **underwater autonomous vehicles**, and see how ATE helped Mathew secure a career more suited to his interests.

**Su's Story** Su Coy is studying **geographic information systems** through Palomar College's ATE project and loving it. She never thought much about education when younger, and had some struggles along the way, but now knows she is on a good path with GIS and is excited about her professional and personal victories.

**Daniel's Story** Daniel Burman had a successful career in real estate but was never happy. That all changed when he returned to school to study **solar photovoltaics**. He's now working in the alternative energy field with a local business and is not only making a good living, but also feeling excited about his job and career choice.

Visit the ATE Central website to find all of the current videos, with more to come! The videos may be streamed or downloaded in MP4, Ogg, or WebM formats, and are freely available for use under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike (BY-NC-SA) License.

Find these and other ATE Student Success Story videos at <http://atecentral.net/success>

# ATE Student Success Stories:

## *Six Quick Tips for Spreading the Word*



### **1. Use the Videos When You Speak on Campus**

Many college campuses offer opportunities for you to speak informally or formally through speaker series, brown bag lunches, or department conferences. You can take advantage of these opportunities to share what you've done with your ATE funding.

**Support your story** by showing the videos about the successes of other ATE projects and centers. Use the videos to draw parallels between what other initiatives are doing and what you've accomplished.

### **2. Customize the Success Stories PowerPoint**

ATE Central offers a **template PowerPoint** pre-loaded with clips from the Success Stories videos, some statistics about ATE, and slides for you to complete with information about your own grant. This template can be used freely for presentations or recruitment.

### **3. Use the Videos as Part of a Recruitment Package**

High school guidance counselors are chronically under-resourced. Contact both college-prep and technical **counselors** at your local schools and reach out to the State Association of the American School Counselor Association. Send the videos along with information about your program. Highlight a video, or a clip from a video, that reflects a part of your mission and focus on connecting that success to what you offer students.

### **4. Reach Out Through College Communications**

Contact your Office of College Communications and its Director with a link to the video and a brief descriptive paragraph. This office often publishes an **online newsletter** and is in need of compelling stories and visuals to promote the value of community college. You might also volunteer to be part of **external outreach** on behalf of the College, counseling students on their post-secondary plans and using the videos to inspire them to think about community college as an option.

### **5. Submit Video to Local Network Television**

Many of the major networks encourage "**citizen journalists**" to submit images and video directly through localized sites. Do a quick search on a station's website and look for either the Director of Programming or submission guidelines. A station is more likely to publish a 5-minute video through their website than air it on television, but that's still valuable exposure.

### **6. Submit Video to Public Media Stations**

As with network television, gaining **exposure on television** is more difficult than online, but still worth a try! Submissions on DVD should be sent to the Director of Programming along with a synopsis. All DVDs will be screened, but due to the number of submissions, it may take as long as 6 to 8 weeks for a response. Be sure to include an email address with your materials. Contact your local station for specific information.

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