

Joseph Andrea

Long-time Kenosha area state senator Joseph Andrea died Dec. 5. Senator Andrea was active for more than 30 years in local and state government, serving on the Kenosha County Board, the Wisconsin State Assembly and the State Senate before retiring in 1996. Andrea was an excellent example of a

citizen-legislator and was a good friend of UW-Parkside.

Eugene Norwood

Eugene Norwood, an emeritus professor who taught German and served in a number of administrative roles at UW-Parkside, died this past fall. In addition to his teaching duties, Norwood served

as dean of the College of Science and Society from 1971 to 1976 and as the acting vice chancellor during the 1974-75 academic year. At the time of his retirement in 1991, Norwood had completed two years as dean of Liberal Arts. Following his retirement, Norwood lived in Meridian, Idaho.

The Precollege Program: Paving Pathways to Success

by Trina Neal

Patricia Pearson has an interesting career with a leading company in southeastern Wisconsin. On top of that, she's preparing for graduate school. Not bad for someone who, at times, found elementary and secondary education to be an uphill struggle.

"Nationally, when referring to education, one often hears the phrases, 'children first and leave no child behind,'" Pearson said. "I was one of the children who was seldom first and often left behind."

The Precollege program at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, under the direction of Mary Day and coordinated through the university's Center for Community Partnerships, provides programs to area minority students that focus on their academic, social, personal, and career development to ensure that a post-secondary education is accessible.

"For many students and their parents, Precollege programs create a smooth transition from high school to college," Day said. "And Precollege programs help minority students obtain the necessary skills to succeed in life."

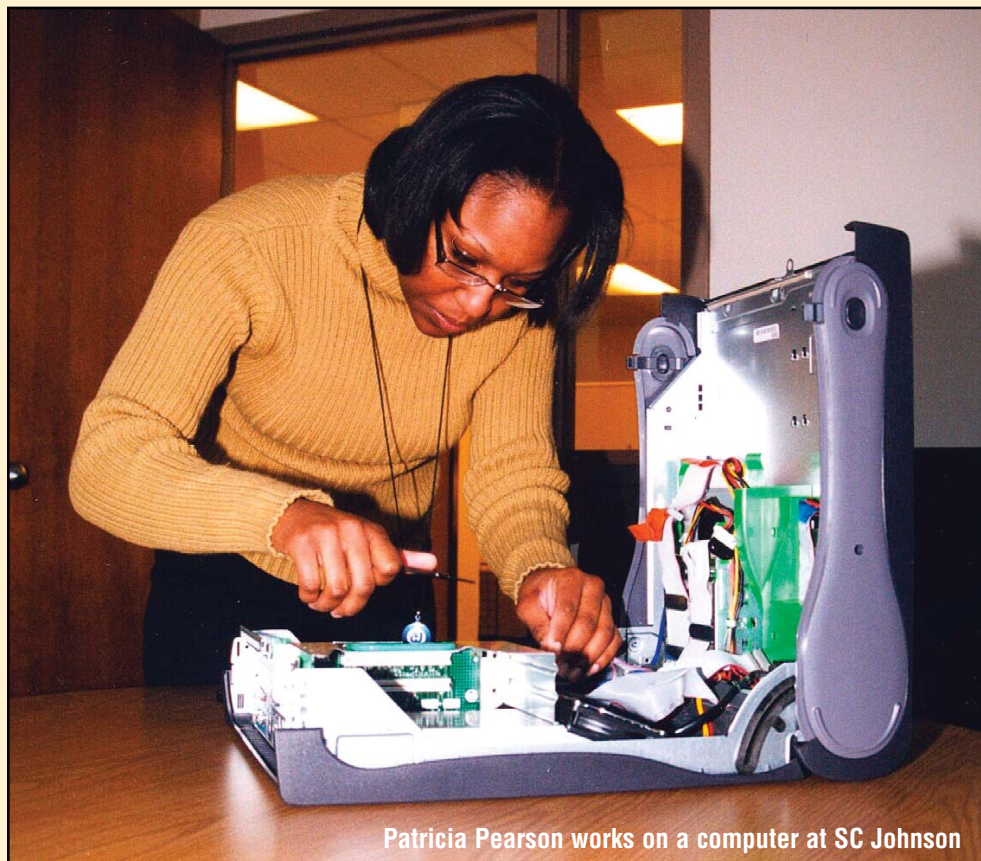
Pearson was lucky enough to stumble across UW-Parkside's Precollege program before she was left behind. "I was overlooked by many teachers when I raised my hand to answer questions; rarely invited by community leaders to participate in community projects; and never informed about precollege programs until my last year of high school, which was almost too late," Pearson said. "I was not from an affluent family, but from an economically disadvantaged background, so to speak."

Now, Pearson has a career as an information systems analyst at SC Johnson in Racine, Wis. She graduated from UW-

Parkside in June 2002 with a double major in management information systems and Spanish. "I give credit and express my sincere gratitude to the University of Wisconsin-Parkside Precollege program," Pearson said. "During my senior year (in high school), UW-Parkside's Precollege staff played a major role in encouraging me to attend college, guided me through the college selection and admission process, and assisted me in securing an SC Johnson scholarship and other sources of financial aid. Additionally, UW-Parkside Precollege gave me the opportunity to work part time with Racine and Kenosha middle and high school students as an

adviser, mentor, and coordinator of precollege activities that effectively prepared youth for college. I can proudly state that through the good times and emotional times, the ups and downs, UW-Parkside's Precollege staff was there to support me."

Pearson said she had the will to be successful even without the UW-Parkside Precollege program. However, had it not been for the direction and guidance provided by Precollege, she would have faced many more obstacles and difficulties during her educational experience. UW-Parkside's Precollege program guided Pearson toward success.



Patricia Pearson works on a computer at SC Johnson