Wireless network grant received

All campus buildings at Beaufort County Community College will soon have wireless Internet access thanks, in part, to a $9,000 grant from Advanced Network & Services.

“BCCC has long needed the tools to give students wireless access to the campus network and distance learning resources from their personal wireless devices whether they are in the classroom, the campus cafe’ or just sitting under an old birch tree on campus,” said Brown McFadden, BCCC network services administrator. “This generous funding will allow our students to take full advantage of wireless computer technology in their educational endeavors while providing the campus a means to preserve network security for our other systems.

“The college is grateful to ANS for their generosity and for giving us this opportunity to make a difference in the process of educating our students,” he said.

McFadden will be responsible for implementing the grant.

BCCC received a check for the project from Masood Tariq, retired president of Global Allicences for Nortel and a member of the ANS board of directors. Founded in 1990 and based in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., ANS is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to advancing education by accelerating the use of computer networking applications and technology.

The grant will fund about half of the project, with the remaining cost to be paid by the college.

According to college officials, more of BCCC’s students need to access the campus resources with wireless devices, but currently, wireless is only available in the library in Building 5 and in Building 2, which houses the college’s technology and business programs.

The Student Wireless Network will let students access the Internet for research and help with their course assignments. It will provide access to the campus student email system, as well as access to the student network storage where they can keep their work and reports.