Ashley Regans, pursuing an Associate in Arts degree, College Transfer TRiO-Student Support Services Student

Ashley Regans says that people are still surprised when they find out she chose CCC as her college of choice after graduating from high school where she was a 4.0 GPA student. Regans says that everyone just expected her to go to a major university or college, but says she’s found all she’s needed to get started on her higher education path right at CCC. “People are always surprised by my decision, but then I explain that I’m attending CCC on scholarship, its twenty minutes from home, and the quality of the staff and the instructors is awesome. All of a sudden they become interested in what CCC can do for them,” she says. “It has proven to be the very best decision for me.”

Regans received the Dr. Barbara Taylor and Fraley Family Scholarships and says they have been a great financial blessing to her. Another of the many blessings she has found at CCC is the TRiO-Student Support Services program. She says she heard about TRiO from another student who suggested she check into TRiO’s free tutoring services and once she did she realized she too qualified for the TRiO program and all it has to offer. “The tutoring services have been so beneficial. I enjoy going to tutoring, not necessarily because I am having trouble, but because I want to stay ahead of the game,” Regans explains. “TRiO Counselor, Betty Taylor, checks up on me from time to time just to see how I am doing. It’s nice to know someone is there who cares about my academic career as much as I do.”

Outside of the classroom Regans can be found competing in various scholarship pageants in North and South Carolina and currently holds the state titles of IJM-Miss South Carolina and Miss North Carolina- Natural Elite. Regans’ platform, “Pretty Is As Pretty Does” helps promote inner beauty. “Growing up, I heard my mom and nana say this time and time again and thought it was a perfect way to convey to all the young ladies I meet that it isn’t what’s on the outside that matters most, but inner beauty that makes you beautiful. Being a beauty queen is not just about riding on parade floats, emceeing and judging pageants; it’s about serving others through volunteer work and being an example of what "true" beauty looks like,” she adds.

Regans enjoys volunteering for Make a Wish Foundation, Relay for Life, Special Olympics, Ronald McDonald House and other community services organizations and says even though she is extremely busy off campus, she still has plenty of time to be involved in various clubs on campus. “Right now I am co-president of Gamma Beta Phi honor society, a member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society and Sigma Alpha Phi Leadership Society. It’s a lot, but as long as I can stay on the President’s List and maintain a 4.0 I want to stay as active as possible,” she adds. “CCC provides such a positive learning experience for its students. I have so many great instructors, but one of my favorites is Ms. Eaves. She makes learning fun!”

So, what does the future hold for Ashley Regans after CCC? “I plan on transferring to Gardner-Webb University and major in education. I hope to have the same positive influence on other students by serving as a teacher,” she says. Having a positive and inspiring educational experience makes all the difference.”