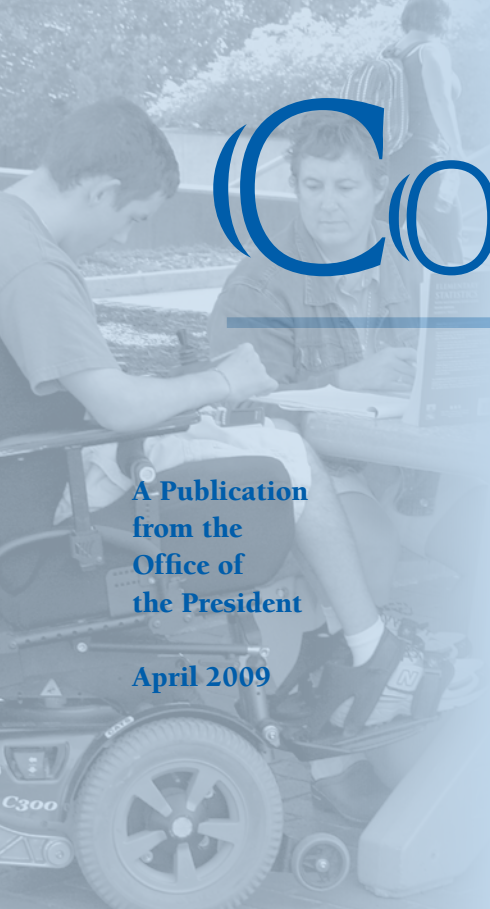


CONNECTION



A Publication
from the
Office of
the President

April 2009

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Converse A. Chellis, III, State Treasurer, To Address Spring Graduates

Approximately 425 graduates will be recognized at the annual spring commencement scheduled for May 12 at 6 p.m. at the Anderson Civic Center. In addition to families and guests of the graduates, alumni, and friends of the College are invited to attend the ceremony.

Mr. Chellis was elected State Treasurer August 3, 2007, by the South Carolina General Assembly. He brings to the State Treasurer's Office a strong financial background and a comprehensive knowledge of the State's budgetary process and financial structure of state government, as well as a commitment to protecting our state's financial assets while maximizing its investments.

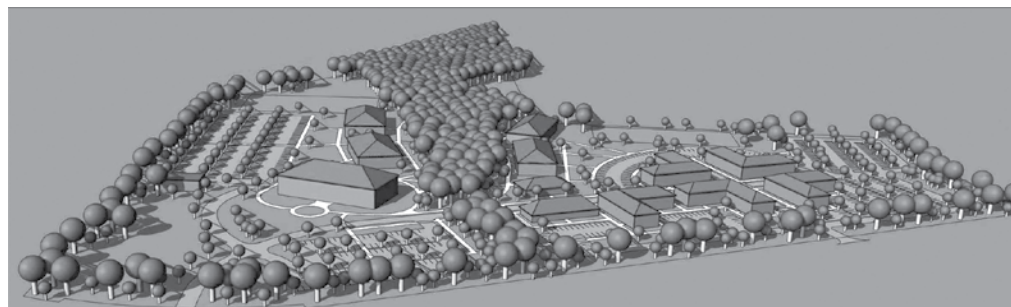
He was first elected to the General Assembly in 1996 and served as a Representative from District 94 for eleven years. District 94 is comprised of portions of Charleston and Dorchester Counties. During his tenure in the legislature, Mr. Chellis was a member of the Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee, where he served as Chairman of the Banking and Consumer Affairs Sub-Committee and as Chairman of the Business and Commerce Sub-Committee. He also served as Chairman of the House Rules Committee.



Converse A. Chellis, III

(continued on page 12)

Easley Campus Groundbreaking is May 29



Easley Campus Proposed Master Plan

The College will break ground May 29 on a 37-acre piece of property in Easley that will become the site of the College's third campus.

The future Easley Campus will be located on Powdersville Road and will give the College a presence in each of the three counties.

The first building to go up on the property will be a QuickJobs Development Center funded by the State Department of Commerce. Both Pickens and Oconee counties each received \$986,364 to build centers to assist in workforce training and skills development.

(continued on page 12)

CONNECTING

N

ot long after arriving at Tri-County Technical College in 2003, I began talking about the “learning college” concept. I was keenly aware of related conversations going on in higher education all across the country, and I knew this was the direction I wanted for us at Tri-County Technical College.

What is a learning college? The inset shares the guiding principles, but to elaborate further, it is an institution-wide commitment to student learning and recognition that all of us are learners and we all contribute to learning. It puts learning at the center of everything we do, and enables us to say, “I am not simply a president (or director, counselor, accountant, instructor, etc.) – I am a learner and it is my job to assist others as learners.” It requires that we break down silos between faculty and staff and between departments and divisions and work together to promote learning for everyone. Being a learning college means we transform lives, not just share knowledge.

For those of you who are new to the College or haven’t been directly involved in our efforts, we embarked on our journey to become a learning college in 2005 while preparing for our SACS reaffirmation. As part of that process, we began developing

the Learning Excellence Initiative (LEI), a program for first-time college students that focuses on improving learning and the transition to college. In addition, we included priorities and initiatives in the College Strategic Plan to establish the essential elements of the learning college.

The LEI was implemented with great success during Fall Semester, 2007, along with several other “pockets of activity” that promoted the learning college culture. Some examples include the creation of the Faculty Choice Award scholarship to recognize learning excellence, academic discussion groups that focused on learning college concepts, and the creation of Faculty and Professional Learning Communities (FPLC). In addition, we created the Faculty Fellows program, hosted “chat sessions” on learning communities, and sent a team of faculty and staff to the National Summer Institute on Learning Communities.

(continued on page 9)



Ronnie L. Booth
President

Connecting...
colleagues ideas goals
services accomplishments
programs events
successes opportunities

2009 College Events

- Spring Faculty and Staff Convocation.....May 6**
- Pinning Ceremonies for Veterinary Technology and Associate Degree Nursing.....May 11**
- Spring Commencement.....May 12**
- Groundbreaking Ceremony for Easley CampusMay 29**

Check the College Activities Calendar in eTC for updated postings on upcoming events.

CONNECTION

is published ten times each year by the Office of the President and the Public Relations and Marketing Department.

Mailing Address

P. O. Box 587, Pendleton, SC 29670

Pendleton Campus

7900 Highway 76, Pendleton, SC

Anderson Campus

511 Michelin Blvd., Anderson, SC

Oconee Campus

Hamilton Career Center
100 Vocational Dr., Seneca, SC

Phone Number: (864) 646-8361
Toll-free (864 area code): 1-866-269-5677
TDD/Voice: 1-800-735-2905
Website: www.tctc.edu

Tri-County Technical College does not discriminate in admission or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, qualifying disability, veteran's status, or national origin. The College is a member of South Carolina's nationally acclaimed system of sixteen technical colleges.



Alumni Association and Athletics Department Host Spring Open



Dr. Booth, third from left, and his team: his father, **Dewey Booth**, **Billy Rhodes**, and **Lee Luff**.

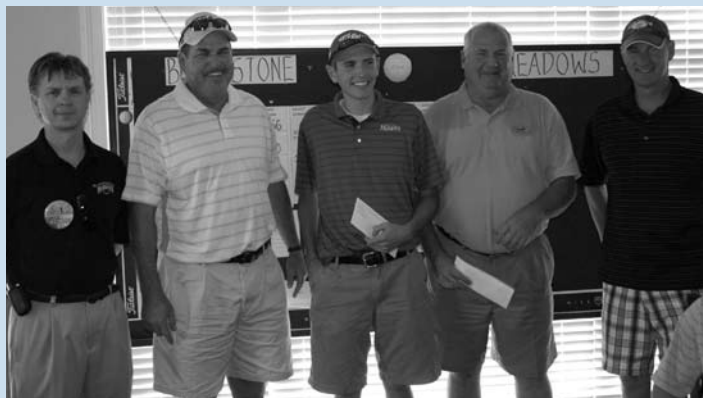


Tri-County team members **Glenn Hellenga**, **Jim Roser**, **Bobby Brothers**, and **Luke Black**.



Alumnus **Jimmy Edmonds**, a longtime supporter of the tournament, is pictured with retiring Development Director **Haley Sitton**, left, and **Dr. Lisa McWherter**, vice president for Institutional Advancement.

Hawks Golf Team member **George Frederick** drives off the tee to raise funds for the Golf Team. On select holes, tournament players could make a donation to the Golf Team in exchange for having a team member hit their drive for them.



Dean of Student Development and Athletic Director **Vinson Burdette**, left, with first-place winners (with a score of 54), from left, **Robert Massingill**, **Brett Wyman**, **Dave Wyman**, and **Mike Sawyer**.



John Lummus, left, with team members **Craig Thornton**, **Rep. Brian White**, who was a bronze-level sponsor of the tournament, and **Rep. Mike Gambrell**.

our college family

excellence through service



Beth Schultz

Associate Degree Nursing Instructor **Beth Schultz** has written a chapter on Urinary Care for a new Fundamentals of Nursing textbook that will be published in 2010 through F. A. Davis. Beth says, "Being a part of TCTC made it very

easy for me to do my research through the online resources we have in the library. This was my first opportunity to write for a textbook, and this was a great experience for me and professionally rewarding."

"The idea of this book is to help the student 'make the connection' between the classroom and other settings. There are key features in each chapter that will facilitate this," said Beth. For example, there will be an Anatomy and Physiology Connection whereby students can relate the information in the chapter to a specific body system; and a People & Places Connection highlighting special considerations in environments other than acute care (the home setting, long-term care, or the pediatric patient).

Jennifer Beattie, English instructor, pictured next column, left, and **Katy Goforth**, coordinator of Instructional Activities for Comprehensive Studies, led a learner-centered workshop entitled "The Secret Lives of Students" at the 2009 National OnCourse Conference held in Raleigh, NC, earlier this month. In this interactive workshop, participants were introduced to the "Secrets Project" and explored how this project can be used to help students,



Jennifer Beattie and Katy Goforth

faculty, and staff. The Secrets Project is an assignment in which students are asked to create a visual representation of a secret and share it anonymously with the class. Both Jennifer and Katy teach classes in the Learning Excellence Initiative (LEI) program.



Robin McFall

which English department heads from both two- and four-year colleges and universities can discuss issues which impact their departments and their institutions. After a term as Vice President, Robin will serve as President for SCADE.

Congratulations to **Phil Gilmour**, Science instructor and this year's Faculty Fellow, whose CHM 100 web course was selected as one of six exemplary science and technology courses by Merlot.org, a well-known repository of online higher education materials. Phil's entry was chosen from more than ninety entries. The other five institutions recognized in

this listing include Cambridge, Yale, MIT, and Utah State University, along with an online course developed in conjunction with the Natural History Museum in London, England. Phil spent more than 600 hours creating the course, which included not only content development, but also teaching himself how to use website development software. Tri-County and Phil should be proud to be recognized alongside such prestigious institutions.



Phil Gilmour

"It took considerable time to develop an engaging course, but it was a joy to develop animations, create movie clips, and discover links to fascinating sites that support the content," said Phil. "The online course was my first website, and I learned most of my web design skills by creating the course. While I received many positive comments from students concerning the course, it surprised me that MERLOT featured it on its website," he added.

in transition

Sue Bladzick, who served as the Training Coordinator for the Corporate and Community Education Division for the past seven-plus years, has moved into another position and now is working full-time in Operations for the Anderson Campus.

Ericka Peeler is now working with Sandra Strickland as the new Training Coordinator. Ericka is located at the Pendleton Campus (Industrial Business & Development Center, Room 105).

Haley Sitton Retires After Thirty Years at College

Often times when a longtime employee announces a retirement, the last few weeks are spent on the downswing, tying up loose ends, cleaning out files, and saying goodbyes.

But Development Director Haley Sitton will be working up until the very last minute, wrapping up projects and proposals and planning the annual Spring Open golf tournament held four days before she actually retired. She announced her retirement effective March 31 but agreed to work on a contractual basis during April to oversee the annual golf tournament, which raises money for scholarships for students and Athletics Department equipment.

"Haley gives 110 percent to any project, so that didn't surprise me at all when I heard that she was working until the end," said Haley's former supervisor and Continuing Education Dean Dr. Neil Lark. "When she was a Continuing Education Director (1976 – 1999), I appreciated all that she did for the entire Division. She's a real team player."

Haley is beginning a new act in her life after three decades at Tri-County. She began in 1976 as a Program Coordinator for the Corporate & Community Education Division. During that time, she served a one-year term in 1998 as president of the South Carolina Association for Higher Corporate & Community Education (SCAHCE).



Haley in 1988



Haley in 2009

Health Care. She established a relationship with NHC who named a room in memory of its head nurse Pat Leppard, and U.S. Engine Valve has made generous donations in support of equipment for the World Class Training Center's Primedia training program for industrial maintenance technicians," he said.

"She has built relationships that have lasted a long time and have paid off for everybody. And Haley doesn't worry about who gets credit for the work as long as the College benefits," added Neil.

That service and dedication were honored in 1990 with the Presidential Award for Staff Excellence, the highest award given for staff at Tri-County.

"When I think of Haley, I think of her professionalism and the joy of working with her," said Mike Cannon, one of

the College's Foundation Board members, who worked with her in coordinating the last four Fall Classic golf tournaments. "She crosses every 't' and dots every 'i.' It's the easiest project I ever have been assigned to because Haley did all of the work. She is the

"Reflectively speaking, we are most appreciative of Haley's years of service to the College; however, it is only fitting that we celebrate with her... by wishing her many treasured experiences in this new phase of her life. She and her family have been blessed, and I'm sure they will make the most of their time together."

— Dr. Lisa McWherter, Vice President for Institutional Advancement

She joined the Development Office in 1999 as its Director of Development where she has been responsible for planning, organizing, and implementing programs to raise funds to accomplish the priorities of the College and to secure business, industry, and community support. She also spent hours writing proposals and identifying and contacting prospective donors.

"It has been a privilege to work for Tri-County for the past 30 years," said Haley. "What I will miss most is the day-to-day contact with colleagues, Foundation Board members, donors, and friends in the community who believe in the mission of the College and have worked to provide educational opportunities for so many students. This has been my greatest satisfaction."

"We hated to lose her when she went to work for the Foundation," said Neil. "But she always kept Continuing Education in mind during fundraising efforts and she worked hard to get support for our division and for programs that had never received donations of any kind, such as the World Class Training Center and

reason the tournaments have been so successful. And my bonus was getting to ride in the golf cart with her," he added, laughing.

"Through our work, we have become true friends, and I have so much respect for her. Even though she won't be at Tri-County, Brenda and I will still maintain a close friendship with her and John. They are like family to us, and we wish her nothing but the best," he added.

Haley acknowledged that entering a new phase of life is exciting. "As many people know, my family dynamics have changed. (Her daughter, Amy, and husband have newborn twins, along with a son and daughter, and live in Charlotte, and son, Joe, and his wife have a daughter and live in Columbia.) I look forward to spending time with my grandchildren, staying involved in the community, and traveling with my husband, John. And, yes, a little more time for myself."

She emphasizes that she is not retiring. After spending some quality time with family, she will pursue part-time work in the community. "I don't know what that might be, but I want to stay involved."

BLUEGRASS

under the Stars



Honi Deaton pictured here, and her band Dream, returned this year for an encore performance, this time as headliners of the concert.



New Dixie Storm joined the entertainment line-up this year.



Fourth Annual Bluegrass Concert

Appreciation is extended to the many people who helped to make this year's Bluegrass Under the Stars concert a success, particularly the volunteers from nearly every division at the College who greeted guests, handed out programs, manned display tables, and assisted the bands. A special thank you is extended to Administrative Services, Maintenance, and Campus Safety staff members, as well as the Institutional Advancement Division and John Woodson, who emceed the concert for the fourth year.

Tri-County Technical College's fourth annual bluegrass concert was held April 4 and featured family fun, bands, fireworks, and department displays. An estimated 1,000 people attended the event.

Formerly from North Georgia, Texas-based Honi Deaton & Dream headlined the show with additional performances by Tugalo Holler, New Dixie Storm, and Legacy Drive. The concert ended with a fireworks extravaganza.

Sandvik/Valenite was the event's Champion sponsor. Other community sponsors included Clemson Area Transit, Dr. Art Bruce Family Dentistry, the Town of Pendleton, the Tri-County Technical College Alumni Association, Ben Childress, Sandy Springs Water Company, Mike and Lisa Poore, and The Palmetto Bank.

In-kind sponsors include Bi-Lo of Pendleton, S. K. Busby Nursery and Landscaping, Mike and Lisa Poore, and Subway of Pendleton.



Bluegrass fans **Ben and Lucille Childress**, of Easley, were community sponsors of the event. Mr. Childress is a member of our Commission.



Dr. Booth, left, and Pendleton Mayor **Carol Burdette** join emcee **John Woodson** on stage to welcome the crowd.



The Veterinary Technology students manned a booth to publicize the upcoming Pet Adoption Day. Many of the animals were on hand to meet guests. Here **Susannah Ballinger**, a freshman from Clemson, shows off Fred, a dachshund.



Jeanne Otey, our technical/user support manager in the Information Technology department, brought her grandchildren, **Jacob 2**, and **Nathan, 5**, to the festivities.



The Criminal Justice Technology program set up a booth to offer free child fingerprinting services to parents. Here, **Chad Davenport**, of Easley, a second-year CRJ student, and **Sandy Robertson**, CRJ instructor, fingerprint **Brandi**, daughter of **Gayle** (our Marketing Director) and **Chris Arries**.



ADN, LPN Grads Top State and National Scores on Licensing Exam

For the second consecutive year, our associate degree Nursing (R.N.) and Practical Nursing (L.P.N.) graduates topped State and national scores on the National Council Licensing Exam (NCLEX).

The 88 graduates of the Associate Degree Nursing (A.D.N.) class of 2008 report a 90.91 percent pass rate. South Carolina colleges' average passing rate is 87.34 percent, and the national average is 86.73 percent. Tri-County reported the highest scores among Upstate technical colleges.

Tri-County's 29 Practical Nursing grads report a 96.55 percent pass rate while the State reports a 95.7 percent rate and national figures are at 85.62 percent.

The State Board of Nursing released these statistics about graduates from January through December 2008.

Graduates of associate or baccalaureate nursing programs must pass the NCLEX-RN exam to become a registered nurse in the state. The NCLEX exams for both Practical Nursing and Associate Degree Nursing programs are computerized exams that test a graduate's basic nursing knowledge and decision-making ability on commonly encountered health-care situations.

"I am so pleased with both sets of scores," said Janet Fuller, Nursing department head. "I attribute these success rates to the commitment of our students and our faculty's commitment to our students' education," said Janet.

"Our nursing faculty prepares students for this rigorous exam by working with their classes, spending extra time on test-taking skills, and applying the classroom skills in the clinical setting. It's not unusual for me to call a faculty member and find them still in clinical long after the class has ended."

Fuller says faculties from both departments have a wealth of experience in all areas of nursing.

"It's impressive that the 14 full-time ADN faculty members have 300 cumulative years of experience in all areas of nursing," she said.

AZB Chapter Receives Multiple Honors



Alpha Zeta Beta (AZB), the College's chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society, received multiple honors at a recent Carolinas Region Convention (for North and South Carolina technical college Phi Theta Kappa representatives) held in Rock Hill. Chapter President **April Chandler**, left, pictured with co-advisor **Trisha Henry** and member **Dennis Thurmond**, are seen here with the following awards: Honorable Mention for the chapter website (www.alphazetabeta.org), Most Improved Chapter, and Carolina Superstars. The chapter also received the Pinnacle Award, which recognizes Phi Theta Kappa chapters and regions for successfully enhancing their recruitment and orientation strategies, as measured by the number of new members reported to Headquarters in a given year. Tri-County had a ten percent increase in membership over last year.

Ninety-Six Inducted into AZB

Patricia Nicholson Parrish, of Anderson, right, was one of 96 students inducted recently into Alpha Zeta Beta (AZB), a chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society. Presenting her with a certificate is **Todd Crisp-Simons**, AZB advisor and English instructor.

Initiates into the Alpha Zeta Beta chapter must have completed at least 12 hours of college work leading toward an associate degree and have attained a grade point ratio of 3.5 or better. Initiates also must be judged of good moral character and possess demonstrated qualities of good citizenship and service.



Career Services Offers Job Search Seminar



The Career Services Office celebrated Spring and Summer 2009 graduates by hosting a day of information and networking which included guest speakers from local business and industry, informative roundtable discussions, resume critiquing, interview skills, and networking tips.

Carla Whitlock, business development/recruitment consultant for Meridian Corporate Solutions and Marketplace Staffing, left, gave a presentation on job search skills in today's economic environment and urged students to gain work experience through internships and apprenticeships. Here, she talks one on-one with **Nwamaka (Maria) Ibekwe**, of Anderson, who will receive a degree in Administrative Office Technology, as well as two certificates and a diploma in Office Support at the College's Commencement ceremony May 12.

Cherrydale Elementary Tours Campus



Third- and fourth-graders from Cherrydale Elementary School in Greenville visited the campus and toured several departments recently. Here, they watch GET Program Coordinator **Dorian McIntire** demonstrate how a robot works in the lab.

CONNECTING

(continued from page 2)

In 2008-09, we set aside resources to fund research and travel to connect with colleagues, share experiences, discuss issues, and explore learning college concepts in practice. During this time, additional learning college activities began to surface. The Title III Design team convened and began focusing on strengthening the learning college culture within the institution. In addition, a team of faculty, staff, and administrators attended the 2008 Learning College Summit. Upon their return, they developed recommendations to advance learning college principles by increasing awareness and understanding, fostering collaboration, and promoting innovation. Another team will attend the 2009 Learning College Summit early this summer.

We have made good progress on our journey to become a learning college. Now it is time to begin what we will call Phase II, which will be about broadening the scope of our dialogue and building a solid foundation upon which we can grow and institutionalize learning college principles.

As a learning college, we will always be on a journey because, as lifelong learners, we'll never "arrive" at our destination. If we did, we'd be experts rather than learners. Yet, along the way, we have the opportunity to transform lives, inspire excellence, and build community. That's what makes our journey worthwhile.

Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D.
President

EGT Students Design, Produce Traditional Mace For Graduation



Thomas Nunn, of Anderson, a second-year Engineering Graphics Technology major, is seen in the CNC lab shaping a piece of the mace.

It is customary at colleges' and universities' academic processions for the chief faculty marshal to carry a mace as a symbol of the power and authority of education.

Tri-County is instituting this as part of our tradition at our May 12 commencement when Faculty Senate President Lou Ann Martin will carry a ceremonial mace, or scepter, designed and produced by our second-year Engineering Graphics Technology students.

The practice of carrying a mace dates back to the Middle Ages when the mace was designed to be used as a weapon. It was carried by a respected senior member of the community, who was chosen to protect and guide the leaders as their group traveled. Maces also were carried by kings as ceremonial symbols of royal authority at events.

"EGT students were given a photo of a design, and they began drawing it using Pro E software and used Mastercam to write a program to simulate the manufacturing processes," said John Norris, program coordinator for Engineering Design and Machining Technology. They also used the CNC machines to make the parts, along with the College seal.

(continued on page 11)

CRJ Students Learn About Jobs and Hiring Practices at Career Fair



Justin Hunt, of Williamston, a Criminal Justice major, talks with, from left, **Sgt. Danny Owens**, **Corp. Danny Hart** and **Corp. Patty White** from the Anderson Police Department at the College's 5th Annual Criminal Justice Career Fair. Representatives from all levels of law enforcement agencies (municipal through federal), probation and parole agencies, private investigation, and security were on hand to answer questions and to talk about job opportunities.

April Burke Among Those Who Register For Classes at Anderson Campus



April Burke, of Anderson, took advantage of being able to complete the registration process from start to finish at the College's Anderson Campus registration event held April 21. **Suzanne Konieczny**, Computer and Information Technology department head, left, helped Burke, who works third shift at Orian Rugs, to arrange a schedule compatible with her job. Burke's daughter, **Chasity Pruitt**, a seventh grader, is pictured at right.

MLT Student Honored with Keys to The Future Statewide Honor

Harmony Hicks is the third Tri-County Technical College student to receive a statewide honor that recognizes scholastic achievements, hard work, dedication and service to the South Carolina Society of Clinical Laboratory Science (SCSCLS).

Harmony, a senior Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) honor student and the SCSCLS student forum chair, received the Keys to the Future Award March 25 at an annual Carolina Clinical Connection meeting in Myrtle Beach. This honor is awarded annually to one MLT (two-year) or medical technologist (four-year) college student in the State. This is the third consecutive year that a Tri-County student has won.

“As the SCSCLS Student Forum Chair, Harmony Hicks has provided leadership, service and a willingness to meet every request or challenge presented to the Student Society,” said Janis Livingston, SCSCLS treasurer.

Livingston said Harmony served as a S.C. Student Delegate to the National Society Meeting (American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science) and participated in training sessions for leadership development and professional issues related to the clinical laboratory. She added that Harmony coordinated and participated in a fundraiser for the SCSCLS Student Society that raised \$300 from raffle ticket sales for gift baskets created by other students.

“Harmony also has been an excellent scholastic role model, winning second place in the SCSCLS Student Bowl at the 2009 meeting between the SC MLT/CLT Programs. She is both personable and dependable; her accomplishments at the student level and her destiny as a ‘Young Professional’ make her the right choice for Keys to the Future,” said Livingston.

“I’m very honored to be chosen from two- and four-year nominees across the state,” said Harmony. “I was very surprised to hear my name called. I never expected to win.”

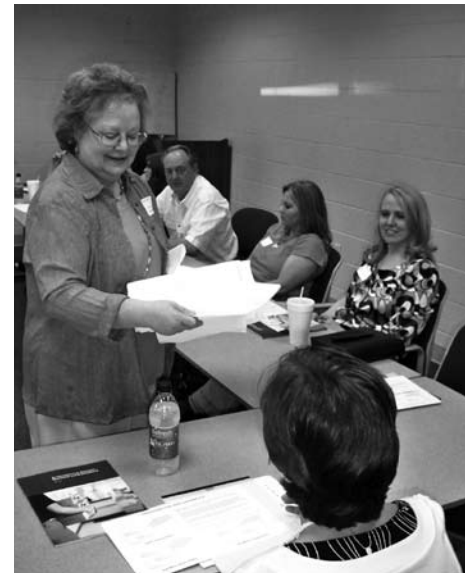
After graduating from Pendleton High School in 2001, Hicks headed to Erskine College where she received a biology degree. She says her degree has helped in her coursework at Tri-County. “It definitely contributed to my success. I’ve always wanted to work in a lab. I want to begin in a hospital setting and work my way up,” said Hicks, who will graduate May 12.

She is a member of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science, the SCSCLS and is the treasurer for Tri-County’s Future Laboratory Professionals Association. She lives in Townville.



Harmony Hicks

College Hosts Mail Seminar



In an effort to stay abreast of changing regulations and as a service to other colleges and local churches in the community, Tri-County hosted a workshop highlighting changes in postal regulations at the Pendleton Campus on April 23. Speaking to the group was **Mary Gambrell**, standing, mail piece design analyst from the Greenville Business Mail Entry Unit of the U.S. Postal System. She updated participants on postage rate increases, intelligent mail barcode, move update system, and new mail piece design guidelines.

Participants included representatives from Tri-County, Clemson University, Southern Wesleyan University, New Prospect Baptist Church, and New Spring Community Church in Anderson.

Denise Hall, our director of Printing Services, and Kelli Harrison, postal services clerk, coordinated the workshop.

Mace *(continued from page 10)*

They are making two maces - one made of pecan wood donated by Multi-Axis of Anderson and another made of mahogany wood.

“During this experience, students learned about all of the manufacturing processes from the concept design to the finished product,” said John. “I’m proud of their work and they should be, too.”

Chellis

(continued from page 1)

He is a CPA and served as an officer with the firm Dixon Hughes PLLC. He was Chairman of the State Board of Accountancy from 1990-93 and was president of the South Carolina Association of CPAs in 1985. Mr. Chellis was also a recipient of the "Outstanding Service to the Profession" award given to a CPA by the Association for professional service.

He received a B.S. Degree from The Citadel in 1965. He served as a Captain in the United States Air Force and now lives in Summerville with his wife, Sharon. They are members of Bethany United Methodist Church and have two children, Tiffany and Converse IV, and one grandchild.

Easley Campus

(continued from page 1)

The facility in Seneca will be at the Hamilton Career Center. The Centers will open in late 2009 or early 2010.

The second building will be a multipurpose facility slated to open in fall 2010 or early 2011. Funding for this facility will be from State Capital Reserve funds.

"We're working on the master plan for the Easley property, which will give a vision of the long-term development of the site," said John Lummus, vice president for Economic Development and Government Relations. "We want to better serve the citizens of Pickens County by offering credit and continuing education courses to residents. In the future, our plan is for the Easley campus to house general education classes, possibly a Center for Entrepreneurship, and the first floor will be dedicated to Industrial Technology classes."

AOD Awareness Day Event



The Student Government Association, Campus Safety, and our Criminal Justice program co-sponsored the annual Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Awareness Day event April 1.

Leslie Reynolds, of Pendleton, an Industrial Electronics Technology major, was among those who got into the DUI (Driving Under the Influence) simulator that was available for students wanting to experience what it is like to drive under the influence and the hazards associated with this choice. The simulator was operated by **Erik Wilkin**, drunk driving facilitator for PEERS, Professionals Encouraging Educational Reform Statewide.

In addition to the DUI Simulator, there was an interactive program available for students to customize DUI scenarios and obtain possible outcomes. Also on hand were representatives to answer questions, printed resources (on the new SC DUI Law that went into effect Feb. 10, 2009), and free food.

Executive Staff Meetings Update

- **New Committee Structure:** Implementation of the new committee structure will begin this fall. The old standing committee structure was established to review or develop policies and procedures. The new structure will enhance institutional decision making by serving as a resource for Vice Presidents and the President and to provide a mechanism to address issues and concerns raised by faculty and staff. The roll-out was to have taken place earlier this year, but budget cuts and other priorities necessitated a delay.
- **Federal Stimulus Package:** There is still no final word on what stimulus funds may be available to the College. Currently, we expect to be able to access funds for Quick Jobs Training through WIA. Quick Jobs training is an initiative of the Corporate and Community Education Division.
- **Budget Status:** State funding for the next fiscal year is still uncertain. Operational units are building their FY10 budgets using their current budget, as amended, to reflect cuts taken during FY09.
- **Noel Levitz and Fall Student Surveys:** The Executive Staff reviewed a summary of the key results from the Noel-Levitz Survey and Tri-County Student Surveys. Dr. Booth directed all Vice Presidents to act on relevant findings.
- **Other Topics:** Policies and procedures were reviewed and updated.