

Connection

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Men's Golf Team Heads to Nationals

For the first time in its eight-year history, the College's Men's Golf Team has a shot at winning the NJCAA Division I Men's National Championship.

The Men's Golf team won the Region 10 championship by 16 shots and finished fourth place in the District championship, played at Rockledge Country Club in Rockledge, Florida. This finish qualified the team for the national tournament finals. Nationals are slated for May 14-18 in Newton, Kansas.

Tri-County's golf team is sanctioned by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) and competes within Region 10 at the Division I level.

"This is historical for Tri-County," said Men's Golf Coach Clint Wright, who was named Region 10 Coach of the Year last weekend. Also, team members Dalton Ward, Laurent Oudenne, and Andrew Harvey won all-region team honors.

"This is the first time we have qualified for a national championship, and it's the first regional championship win for us. It's important to reach this level, and it takes the support of the College and the golf community to get there, including All About Golf (AAG), who supports us in permitting us to play and practice," he said.

To qualify for the nationals, a team must finish in the top half of the field for the district tournament. Tri-County competes against District 4 junior colleges in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia.

"We are playing in the most competitive district in the country. Last year five of the top-10 teams in the country came from this district," said Clint, "so coming out of the tournament with a fourth-place finish should put us in the top level of teams with a chance to do well at nationals."

Looking back, he noted, "Three years ago, we placed last in the tournament. Last year we were eighth, and this year we are ranked fourth. This recent win is keeping this program moving forward," said Clint. "I am so proud of all of the players over the last three years who have helped us along in this move to be a respected and competitive team and a program that other players will want to be a part of."

Tri-County is ranked 15th in the country by the National Junior College Poll.

Our athletics programs include varsity-level women's basketball, women's and men's soccer, and men's golf.



Men's Golf Team



Coach Clint Wright

UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Graduation May 7
Summer Term Begins..... May 7
5K Road Race..... May 19

Check the College Activities Calendar in
eTC for additional activities and events.

Connection

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Mailing Address (All Campuses)

P. O. Box 587, Pendleton, SC 29670

Pendleton Campus

7900 Highway 76, Pendleton, SC

Anderson Campus

511 Michelin Blvd., Anderson, SC

Easley Campus

1774 Powdersville Rd., Easley, SC

Oconee Campus

Hamilton Career Center
100 Vocational Dr., Seneca, SC

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discriminate in admission or employment
on the basis of race, color, religion, sex,
qualifying disability, veteran's status, or
national origin.

Connecting



Ronnie L. Booth
President

On April 25 we held the first meeting of the newly-
formed President's Advisory Council, a committee
comprised of thirty key positions identified from
across all major units of the College.

The need to formalize this type of committee became apparent when I reflected on the number of times I have pulled together large groups to discuss critical priorities and initiatives at the macro level. Some of the topics we have addressed in recent years include the budget crisis that took place in 2008 after the sharp economic downturn; the beginning phases of what ultimately resulted in the creation of a multi-campus strategy; and, more recently, the development of our strategic plan. This group has included different people at different times, but for the most part has been comprised of leadership positions that have a major impact on the day-to-day operations of the College.

This new Council is advisory in nature and will not be a decision-making body that will usurp the responsibilities of any individual position. However, my vision is for this group to "own" this College in a way that they have never owned it before by engaging in strategic planning; monitoring our progress in achieving our goals and ten-year vision; brainstorming new ideas and determining next steps; shaping our institutional culture, improving communication across all levels of the institution; and addressing challenging cross-divisional issues as they arise.

At our first meeting we spent time reviewing data and metrics that will help us track our progress toward achieving our strategic goals. We also discussed the budget challenges we face in the coming academic year. Finally, we completed an exercise to help us prioritize the issues we need to address that will positively impact student success.

Several things became clear to me during our first meeting. First, establishing this Council gives us a much needed mechanism for breaking down the "silo effect" and working cross-functionally in a creative, positive, and proactive manner. Secondly, I strongly feel that, as an institution, we have finally turned a corner and are truly shifting our focus from student *access* to student *success* - defining it, improving it, and understanding the relationship between student success and our sustainability as a College. Finally, we were able to validate the need to focus on our matriculation and advising processes as first steps in improving student success. These are not small tasks. As with any process improvement, a tremendous amount of work impacting many areas lies ahead.

One of the biggest challenges faced by every organization is clear, timely, consistent communication across all levels. An important role for this Council will be to initiate and nurture communication and promote transparency. I have challenged them to pursue this role with vigor and to go back to their areas of responsibility and talk about the work we are doing and the role everyone plays in our success as an institution.

By its very existence, this Council offers us a tremendous opportunity to create stronger connections and new levels of dialog across the College. I believe it will be a positive step forward in our continuing quest to become a role model among community colleges.

Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D.
President



Spotlight on High School Orientations

Ashley Black is planning on taking all of her general education classes at our Anderson Campus this fall.

James Fousek plans to take university transfer classes at Tri-County before transferring to Lander to study software development.

These Crescent High seniors were among a group of area high school seniors who have been accepted to Tri-County this fall and had the opportunity to attend a freshman orientation session during their spring break to learn about the college and get their academic schedules in hand.

Students didn't mind spending the morning of Good Friday finalizing plans for college.

"When I leave today, I will be ahead of the game," said Ashley.

"All of my friends are coming to Tri-County. It's affordable and the right choice for me," said Ashley, who plans to enter the associate degree Nursing program.

"It's affordable, close to home, and I can work and go to school," said James. "I didn't want to wait until the last minute. It's a good feeling to know that the registration process is finished."

Tri-County's enrollment deadlines have changed this year, with July 30 being the last day to be accepted to the College. Students must submit an application fee and proof of a high school credential before being admitted. The financial aid process must be completed by July 30, also.

Fifteen Crescent and 20 Belton-Honea Path high school seniors accepted to Tri-County met April 6 at Tri-County's Anderson Campus for orientation sessions. Other high school students are meeting at the Pendleton and Easley campuses this month.

"After attending an overview of the College's services and resources, they met with their academic advisors and then returned to the computer lab to register for classes," said Renae Frazier, director of recruitment and admissions at Tri-County.

"There is a real advantage of registering earlier because it increases your chances of getting the classes you want," said Renae. "By attending orientation, these students can have the best selection of classes and can leave that morning with a class schedule in hand. These students were pleased with the class offerings and because the Anderson Campus is close to



Crescent High senior **James Fousek** plans to take university transfer classes at Tri-County before transferring to Lander to study software development. Pictured with him is Social Sciences instructor **Cathy Saidat**.

their homes. Most chose the Anderson Campus as their primary campus to take their general education classes," she added.

High school orientation sessions are scheduled on days that students are out of school on spring break or holidays, she added.

With earlier deadlines in mind, the Office of Recruitment and Admissions has been conducting enrollment workshops at the 15 service area high schools this year to assist those interested in attending Tri-County. Enrollment counselors meet with high school students who have applied to the College and work with them on enrollment steps and discuss programs of study. When these steps are completed, the seniors can attend a Tri-County orientation session.

Tri-County's fall semester in Pendleton and at its three community campuses in Anderson, Easley, and Seneca begins August 20.

Enrollment counselors will be in high schools in April and May to talk to students about opportunities and being proactive in the enrollment process. Memorial Day is another orientation day reserved for high school students.

"With our new admissions deadline of July 30, we are approaching processes faster than in the past. We continue to communicate this at high school workshops and encourage students to meet all enrollment deadlines," Renae added.

SPOTLIGHT is a regular feature of CONNECTION that highlights College instructional programs, activities, and support services. Surveys show that our own faculty and staff play a significant role in influencing potential students to apply to the College. We're all ambassadors – so stay informed and keep doing a great job spreading the word that Tri-County is a great place to learn and grow!



Kevin Bell, adjunct instructor and academic advisor for Comprehensive Studies, sent two e-mails

commending faculty and staff for their support:

"I just wanted to 'brag' on **Glenn Hellenga, Alison Reynolds, and Lynn Smith** in the Career Services office, who have always been very helpful and supportive to instructors. Lynn came to my College Skills classes and did a presentation on what the Career Center has available and discussed resumes. She did a great presentation and was very helpful to my students in discussing with them what to expect in interviews and in the job market today. Lynn, who has been with us at Tri-County since November, is a former TCTC employee from the 80's in Admissions. She came back to us after a career in industry. She does a great job and is very helpful to students. She gave her business card out to students and invited them to visit her office for any additional help they needed. So a big Great Job to Lynn and all the folks in Career Services!"

He also commended the work of **Jennifer Beattie**, our new department head in Comprehensive Studies.

"Jennifer was tasked with a mountain of a job this semester in getting our department updated and new initiatives implemented. She has been working very hard and is very supportive of the faculty in the department. We were truly blessed when she took over as Department Head because she is a strong leader with an awesome vision for the future of our department."

Rita Duncan and her husband, of Greenwood, attended **Bluegrass under the Stars** and had a rave review for the event.

"My husband and I are retired and have attended this concert for three years and it only gets better and better. Everything is so well coordinated, the music is wonderful, (continued on page 5)

If you wish to thank someone publicly, share personal news, brag about a recent accomplishment in your unit, or any other highlight, send it in for our "Brag & Share" column. E-mail your submission (65 words or less) with "Brag & Share" in the subject line to Lisa Garrett at lgarrett@tctc.edu.

Our College Family

excellence through service

Rick Cothran and Jackie Blakley received their Certificate of Graduate Studies in the Educational Leadership program.

The Certificate of Graduate Studies in Educational Leadership is a two-year, for-credit program designed for South Carolina technical college personnel who are seeking to advance knowledge and competencies in technical and community college leadership. The program is primarily a distance education opportunity that consists of graduate-level courses focused on core competencies required for technical and community college professionals.



Rick Cothran

Jackie Blakley

In addition Jackie also graduated from the AnMed Health Foundation's Ambassadors Program. The 10-month program is a structured education series that provides participants with insight into the services available at AnMed Health. The 12 participants met monthly to gain knowledge about programs and initiatives.

Denise Day was awarded a bachelor's degree in Graphic Design/Marketing from Union Institute and University this month.

June Osborne, an instructor for the Corporate and Community Education Division's Transportation Department, attended the 2012 Annual Convention of the National Association of Publically Funded Truck Driving Schools (NAPFTDS), Parking the Challenges...Driving Towards Success, from March 26 - 28 in Memphis, Tennessee.

Congratulations to **Jennifer Beattie**, department head for Comprehensive Studies, who was elected president of the South Carolina Association of Departments of English. Her term of service is May 2012 through May 2013.

The Business and Public Services Division recently announced that **Tom Lawrence** has been named the new department head for Public Services, and **Chris McFarlin** is now the program coordinator for Criminal Justice.

The following have departed the College. We wish them well in their new endeavors:

Roger Burgess
Sandy Robertson



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Brag & Share *(continued from page 4)*

and those fireworks after are such a beautiful touch. I could never have imagined such a show – and free to the public? I don't know how you do it, but I'm already looking forward to next year. Thank you for providing such an enjoyable, clean, and safety-conscious recreational opportunity. Keep up the good work."

Ken Kopera, director of our physical plant, wrote:

"I would like to thank **Mandy Orzechowski, Tony Young**, and **Matt Whitten** (faculty in the Engineering and Technology Division) for participating on the section committee for Indefinite Delivery Contracts. This involved reviewing more than 40 company portfolios and then interviewing 12 potential candidates for Architectural and Engineering Services. The overall effort took close to a week's investment of time and effort in an area outside of their normal job duties. Their work will help enable the College to implement construction projects more efficiently, and their selfless attitude throughout the process was greatly appreciated."

Rachel Campbell, enrollment counselor in Admissions, expressed her appreciation to a group of faculty, staff, and students (**Stephanie Evans, Polly Kay, Glenn Hellinga, Mark Franks, Paul Phelps, Shayla Hatter, Lynn Lollis, Dave Walker, Mandy Orzechowski, Stan Compton, John Norris, Dorian McIntire, Shan Smith, Jason Poole, Ross Wagenseil, James Lassiter**, and **Donald White**), who volunteer their time to speak and give demonstrations to our tour groups.

"They all did a fantastic job this morning with the 6th graders from La France Elementary. They made a tremendous, positive impression on these students, who are just beginning to consider their future careers. Seeing demonstrations from experts in Engineering & Industrial Technology, Health Education, and Career Services was interesting and informative

A couple of our TCTC students also shared their expertise. Shayla Hatter, who will graduate with her MLT degree in May, and James Lassiter, one of our EGT students, both gave excellent presentations. It makes a tremendous impact on the students to hear experts in their areas share their knowledge. There were numerous positive comments made by the students and one of the teachers made a point of commenting, 'I just have to tell you this was a wonderful experience - one of my quietest students came up to me and said he never realized that college and learning could be so exciting!'"

Michael Lanford, captain of physical security for BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC, in Greer, wrote,

"One of your staff members stands out when it comes to service. **Jennifer Dent** has helped me on many occasions when I have had questions about SLED Security Training. Each time I have requested information, she has always promptly responded. She takes the extra time to make sure she provides the correct information. It is always a pleasure to deal with competent and service-oriented professionals."

English instructor Mary Geren, who serves as the faculty advisor for the **Student Democrats**, writes:

"Our Student Democrats visited New Foundations and conducted a workshop April 13 for 41 children ages 10 – 19. Topics and discussions included bullying, racism, and sexting. They did it all by themselves. We got such a positive reaction, and I'm so proud of them. They inspire me when they are so passionate."

Sarah Shumpert, director of instructional support, wrote:

Katy Goforth submitted three original assignments that will be included in the seventh edition of the textbook, On Course, and the second edition of On Course Study Skills Plus, which is the textbook used in Tri-County's COL 105 Freshman Seminar course. Both textbooks will be published by Cengage in January 2013.

The assignments are *Can We be Trained to Lose?*, *Paula Deen is Coming to Dinner!*, and *Choices and Ripples*. The first one helps students develop self-acceptance and adopt a creator role. The purpose is to teach students that failures teach us about ourselves and prepare us for the successes in life. The second one helps students discover self-motivation and also helps them with note-taking techniques. The purpose is to teach students different ways of taking notes and different ways of dealing with distractions during lecture. The third one helps students develop responsibility for their choices and to make wise decisions. The purpose is to teach students that choices they make now will have rippling effects in the near and distant future."

Registrar Scott Harvey and Rebecca Eidson, director of public relations and communications, wrote this note:

"Many thanks to **Jan Kempinski**, the College's webmaster, for spending a tremendous amount of time revamping the academic program pages on the public website. For years, those pages have included "stripped out" information from the College Catalog. Now that our Catalog is hosted in Acalog, all of the pages had to be revamped to remove old catalog information, add new marketing text, reorganize other content on the pages for consistency, and add the links to Acalog. She did a great job and had the entire project completed in time for the "go live" date of the new Catalog on the website. If this project had to be distributed among all the content owners/managers, it would have been impossible to experience the quality, consistent, timely outcome we needed and were only able to achieve because Jan took this on as a project."



Each month throughout 2012, CONNECTION will devote two pages to celebrating the College's golden anniversary. Through photos and articles, we will highlight the events which have shaped the College into the role model for community college education that it is today.

David Crenshaw

Former Anderson County Sheriff David Crenshaw, who passed away earlier this year, was a 1975 graduate of the Criminal Justice (CRJ) program. This photo appeared in the 1979 – 80 Annual Report where Crenshaw was featured as an outstanding graduate. After years of working as a patrolman for the Pendleton Police Department and later the Anderson County Sheriff's Office, he enrolled in the first CRJ program offered at the College. He was quoted as saying, "When you start dealing with the legal aspects of law enforcement, a good police officer needs the background that TEC offers."



David Crenshaw

Crenshaw, a member of the Pendleton Fire Department, died of an apparent heart attack in January 2012 after collapsing as he responded to a car accident in town.

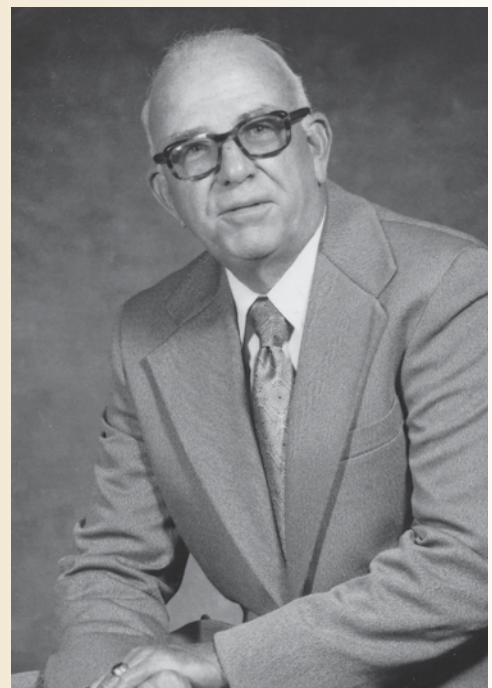
James Byrnes Ouzts

Mr. James Byrnes (J. B.) Ouzts, who served as chairman of the Area Commission for 18 years (1971 – 89), was one of those rare educators who shaped the lives of the students he taught and the hundreds of educators who served under his leadership in Anderson School District 4 and Tri-County Technical College.

He was named superintendent of Anderson County School District Four in 1943 and remained there until his retirement in 1973. He joined Tri-County Technical College's board in 1971 just two years before ending his 30-year career as superintendent of Anderson County School District Four.

He was a major designer of Tri-County Technical College and of our entire System in South Carolina. He led the College through some of its most formative years and helped to shape a college and a system that are known nationally for innovation and excellence. He was founding vice chairman of the S.C. Association of Technical College Commissioners in 1980 - 81 and became chairman of the State organization in 1982.

Mr. Ouzts passed away April 12, 2001, at the age of 90.



James Byrnes Ouzts

Virginia Holland, Class of 1977

Virginia Holland-Davis, accompanied by her father, Warren Holland, of Seneca, recently visited the campus where 35 years ago she was named the editor of the student newspaper, The Prism, and was crowned the first black Miss TEC.

A 1977 graduate of the Radio and Television Broadcasting department, she's had a career in radio and television broadcasting that has spanned three decades and included meeting and interviewing such giants as Minister Farrakhan, Dizzy Gillespie, Bill Cosby, Roy Ayers, Miss Universe, the Rev. Jesse Jackson, Shirley Caesar, Smokey Robinson, and dozens more.

Over the years, she's been a DJ, news anchor, writer, program director, music director, promotions director, and talk show host at some of the largest Southeastern radio and television stations.

"All of these opportunities stemmed from my roots in Tri-County Technical College's Radio and TV Broadcasting (RTV) program," she said. "Once that seed was sewn back in the 70s while at Tri-County, I saw endless possibilities," she said.

"Tri-County's RTV department really prepared me for everything. I've done a lot of different work but the jobs all relate like pieces to one big puzzle. The puzzle has been completed and now I want to return one day to Tri-County as an instructor to show others that with passion and planning and opportunity and perseverance, there's nothing you can't do," says Virginia, who has worked and lived in Atlanta for the last 27 years.

Before relocating to Atlanta in 1985, she and Industrial Electronics instructor Ron Talley had a graphic arts and publishing business named Holland-Davis, Talley. "We published some early generation black greeting cards that were very successful and we partnered on a local magazine, News and Views (I was editor-in-chief and he was photographer) out of Greenville. We did some milestone stories including an exclusive with Homer Jordan, then a star quarterback with University of Georgia and astronaut Charles Bolden, the first black astronaut who was a featured guest at Tri-County during a special event," she remembered.

Today she still works in communications and currently owns V. Holland-Davis Company, LLC, Urban Global Missionary, Inc., a social enterprise with ministerial focus, and 7Twelve Marketing, a division of V. Holland-Davis Company.

Virginia earned a double bachelor's in Urban Global Economic Development and Bible Education with certification as a Christian Education teacher and graduated magna cum laude from Beulah Heights University. She also has an MBA and a Master of Science in Psychology from the University of Phoenix. She is currently working towards a Psy. D. at the University of the Rockies in Colorado Springs, CO, and is working on a doctorate in divinity.



Here, Virginia Holland holds the yearbook she helped to create. The 1976 yearbook was a memorable one – the staff received permission from the magazine, People Weekly, to use its format for the publication. More than 2,500 copies were distributed on Annual Day, May 7, 1976. Pictured on the front of the yearbook are, from left, (top row) **Sherrie Johnston** and **Isaac Scott**; (middle row) **Virginia Holland** and **Susan Georgion**, and (front row) **Jim Parales** and **James Groman**.



Virginia Holland reads The Prism

Steve Edwards Challenges Students To Take Control of Their Lives



Motivational speaker and author **Steve Edwards**, middle, showed students in the Business and Public Services Division how to transform their lives from average to amazing in a recent seminar on campus.

Edwards challenged them to take control of their lives and to take the steps necessary to bring success into their lives. His new book, *Who's In Charge of You? Answer That And Change Everything*, serves as a roadmap to help his audiences move forward.

Participating in an exercise on stage with Edwards are **Jordan Davis**, of Clemson, and **Ana Carter** of Iva.

An accomplished businessman, Edwards co-owns Edwards Group, a diverse company with commercial real estate holdings and media outlets across the nation.

Senator Lindsey Graham To Address Graduates

Senator Lindsey Graham will deliver Tri-County Technical College's spring commencement address Monday, May 7, at 6 p.m. at the Anderson Civic Center.

Approximately 659 students will be awarded degrees, diplomas, and/or certificates during the College's 50th anniversary commencement. In addition to families and guests of the graduates, alumni and other friends of the College are invited to attend the ceremony.

Senator Graham was elected to the Senate in 2002 and reelected in 2008, garnering more than one million votes and becoming the top vote-getter in South Carolina history. In the Senate, he serves on the chamber's most important committees: Appropriations, which oversees the expenditure of every dollar from the Federal Treasury; Armed Services, which is responsible for all areas of our national defense; Budget, which establishes the blueprint for total government revenues and spending; and Judiciary, which has a broad mandate covering multiple issues ranging from the Constitution to criminal justice to intellectual property law.

He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1994 as the first Republican from the Third Congressional District of South Carolina since 1877. Prior to his service in the House, Senator Graham compiled a distinguished record in the United States Air Force as he logged six-and-a-half years of service on active duty as an Air Force lawyer. From 1984-1988, he was assigned overseas and served at Rhein-Main Air Force Base in Germany.

Upon leaving active duty Air Force in 1989, Senator Graham joined the South Carolina Air National Guard where he served until 1995. During the first Gulf War in the early 90's, he was called to active duty and served state-side at McEntire Air National Guard Base as Staff Judge Advocate where he prepared members for deployment to the Gulf region.

Senator Graham continues to serve his country in the U.S. Air Force Reserves and is one of only three U.S. Senators currently serving in the Guard or Reserves. He is a colonel and is assigned as a senior instructor at the Air Force JAG School.

A native South Carolinian, he grew up in Central, graduated from D.W. Daniel High School, and earned his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of South Carolina. He lives in Seneca and is a member of Corinth Baptist Church.



Senator Lindsey Graham

County Councils Pass Resolutions to Honor College's 50 Years

Our three county councils passed resolutions honoring Tri-County for 50 years of service to the community. Presentations were made at county council meetings.



Pictured (left to right) are Anderson County Council members **Francis Crowder**, **Eddie Moore**, and **Cindy Wilson**; **John Lummus**, vice president for economic and institutional advancement at Tri-County; **Al Young**, a member of Tri-County's Commission representing Anderson County; Council Chairman **Tom Allen**; and Council members **Gracie Floyd**, **Tommy Dunn**, and **Ken Waters**.



Pictured (left to right) are **Milton Ponder** and **Thomas Strange**, both members of the Tri-County Technical College Commission representing Pickens County; **Dr. Booth**; Pickens County Council Chair **Jennifer Willis**; and **George Acker**, a member of the College's Commission representing Pickens County.



Pictured (left to right) are **Ham Hudson**, chair of the Tri-County Technical College Commission, and **Joel Thrift**, chair of the Oconee County Council.

CHE Honors ECD Service Learning



Dr. Harriette Dudley, ECD instructor, middle, accepted the CHE honor in Columbia.

The Early Childhood Development program's Summer Service and Learn project was selected to receive one of three Service Learning Awards by the S.C. Commission on Higher Education (CHE).

The award is presented each year to one two-year college, one four-year public college, and one four-year private college. Tri-County was the recipient of the two-year college award, and Dr. Harriette Dudley, early childhood development instructor, accepted the honor at the Commission on Higher Education's meeting April 5 in Columbia.

The CHE Service Learning Awards honor programs that extend the reach of the college/university into the wider community. Criteria included community impact, number of students who participated, and integration into academics.

Last year, Harriette and 12 Early Childhood Development students spent each Thursday from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. working at the Tamasee DAR Child Care Center, with children ages six weeks - 12 years of age. "Our students planned and implemented lessons and worked on parent involvement and recruitment projects for the community. It was also a way for students to do their summer student teaching, which we hadn't been able to do before," she said.

"Dr. Booth asked us to find a way to meet the needs of DAR and our students, and it was a win-win for everyone involved," added Harriette.

Students Network at Career Fair



Lisa Neighbors, of Anderson, a student in the College's Industrial Electronics Technology program, left, stopped by the Bosch booth at the College's Annual Career Fair. She is talking with **Ken Crompton**, lead technician at the company. The event was sponsored by the Career Services department.



Dale Shaw, of Pendleton, who will graduate with a degree in Mechatronics in May, standing, talks with **Robert Kesler**, president of McGee Heating and Air, left, and **Mary Moore**, a representative from Trane Heating and Air, about career opportunities.



Sandvik Production Manager **Cliff Leach**, left, talks with students **James Garza**, **Roger Burrell** and **Charmaine Stagers** about job opportunities at the College's Annual Career Fair. Garza, of Salem, and Burrell, of Walhalla, are Industrial Electronics Technology majors, and Stagers, of Anderson, is a General Engineering Technology major.

Seven Inducted as Student Ambassadors



Seven students were inducted April 13 as Tri-County Technical College Student Ambassadors. This program fosters the personal and professional development of students interested in acquiring leadership skills by serving the College. Ambassadors completed the training sessions, which focused on business etiquette and networking, making oral presentations, and guided tours to learn about the College's varied academic programs. Students will represent Tri-County at internal and external events, such as the college and career fairs, graduations, annual report luncheons, tour guide services, community events, and College promotional initiatives.

Pictured from left are (front row) **Megan Ashley**, of Honea Path, a Computer Technology major; **Jennifer Standridge**, of Anderson, an Administrative Office Technology major; and **Melina Guerra-Rodelo**, of Seneca, an Accounting major; and (back row) **Jeremy Bryant**, of Seneca, a Computer Technology major; **Stephanie Johnson**, of Anderson, a Radio and TV Broadcasting major; and **Jennifer Smith**, of Norris, an Accounting major. Not pictured is Dario Diaz, of Anderson, an Industrial Supervision major.

Julia Murray To Carry on Family Tradition Of Attending Tri-County

Julia Murray, left, and her mother, **Lorrie Murray**, of Richburg, participated in a campus tour for prospective students who have been invited to participate in the Bridge to Clemson program. Tours are held on selected Mondays and Fridays on the Pendleton Campus.



Julia is the niece of Jan Murray Moore, who was the 1972 Miss TEC and was featured in last month's [Connection](#).

Bridge information sessions also include a brief presentation and overview of the program; question and answer session; and a Highpointe open house (Bridge residential community).

CRJ Fair Connects Students, Law Enforcement



Criminal Justice (CRJ) students had a chance to talk to law enforcement agencies about potential jobs and hiring practices at the College's Annual Criminal Justice Career Fair. Representatives from all levels of law enforcement agencies, probation and parole agencies, private investigation and security were on hand to answer questions and to talk about job opportunities. Here, **Sgt T.L. Porter** of the Anderson Sheriff's Department talks with CRJ majors, from left, **Bradleigh Dennis**, of Anderson, who will graduate in May, **Rosa Montoya**, of Belton, and **Jima Schuch**, who will graduate in August.

Campuses Hold Multicultural Festivals



The College held its multicultural festivals at its three campuses and featured food, music, and cultural highlights from other countries.

Above, Business Office Cashier **Linda Brown** welcomes students at the Anderson Campus, and at right, **Croslena Johnson**, director of Student Life and Counseling, serves international cuisine.

Students Honored at Awards Ceremony



Yelena Yasilyevna Panko, of Anderson, middle, was honored as the College's Outstanding Pre-Pharmacy Student at the College's annual awards ceremony recently. Presenting the award are **Suzanne Ellenberger**, science department head, left, and **Dr. Booth**.



Student Government Association officers were honored at the College's annual awards ceremony recently. **Dr. Booth**, right, presented plaques to, from left, **Wendy Sutton**, of Belton, SGA president; **Paul Watson**, of Anderson, SGA vice president; and **Jennifer Mickle**, of Anderson, SGA secretary. Not pictured is Rosa Montoya, treasurer.



Music instructor and Chorus Conductor **Jeff Christmas** entertained the crowd with an original, as-yet untitled song.

Longest-Serving Employees Recognized



Glenn Hellenga



Ron Talley



Debbie Nelms

The College's longest-serving employees — **Glenn Hellenga**, **Ron Talley**, and **Debbie Nelms** — were recognized at the spring faculty/staff meeting and received a copy of the 50th anniversary book, *Tri-County Technical College: Five Decades of Distinction*. Glenn, who is director of Career Services, has worked at Tri-County 38 years. Ron, an instructor in the Industrial Electronics program, for 35 years, and Debbie, fiscal analyst in the Foundation office, for 34 years.

RTV Holds First-Ever Media Mash-Up



RTV Program Coordinator **John Woodson**, third from left, presents the Best Direction award to RTV students from left, **Tiffany Hatcher**, **Rick Griebno**, and **Daniel Webster**.



RTV Program Coordinator **John Woodson**, left, presents RTV Student **James Litzie** with the Grand Prize Playstation 3 Game system.

The Radio and Television Broadcasting program celebrated its first-ever RTV Media Mash-Up March 29. This media festival and exhibition of student excellence was hosted by Program Coordinator John Woodson in honor of the 50th anniversary of the College. Students entered almost 300 projects including Audio, Video Editing, Animation, and Photography.

Tiffany Hatcher, Rick Griebno, and Daniel Webster received Best Direction award. Student entries were judged by RTV advisory committee members and community leaders. Charter Media donated the grand prize of a Playstation 3 game system. James Litzie, one of the finalists in the seven categories, was the winner.

Event Coordinator Amy Roberts said, "The evening was a great success! I am proud of all the work that the students have done. We are already planning next year's event!"

"We were gratified by the students' professionalism and artistry. Amy Roberts deserves the credit for a job well done in bringing this event together," said John.

Faculty Display Anniversary T-Shirts

Arts and Sciences faculty display the 50th anniversary t-shirts they received at the spring faculty/staff meeting.

Pictured from left are **Alberta Reed**, math instructor; **Robin McFall**, English department head; **Joan Kalley**, English instructor; and **Angela Ward**, math instructor. Graphic Artist Denise Day designed the t-shirt.



BASF Makes Donation to Major Gifts Campaign



BASF in Seneca made a \$5,000 donation to the Foundation in support of economic and community development, one of the four initiatives of the College Foundation's Major Gifts Campaign. The money will be used to support the Institute for Manufacturing Competitiveness. The company has been contributing to the College since 1992.

Here, **Frank Lamson-Scribner**, plant manager, third from left, presents the check to **Dr. Booth**, second from left. Pictured with them are, from left, **Elisabeth Gadd**, director of development; **Andy Tunstall**, human resource manager at BASF; and **John Lummus**, vice president for economic and institutional advancement.

Mrs. Carol Garrison Visits Campus, History Display in Library



Carol Garrison, widow of President Don C. Garrison, who served the College from 1971 until his retirement in 2003, visited the campus with her close friends, **Mike Cannon**, left, and **Bruce Cannon**, third from left, who are brothers. Bruce was the public relations director at the College from 1968 until his retirement in 1999, and Mike is a member of our Foundation Board. One of their stops was the historical display (at the Pendleton Campus Library) that honors the College's 50th anniversary. Items for the display were loaned by various academic departments and friends of the College, including Mike, who loaned the College several pop culture items from the 1960s to use in the display.

Here, **John Lummus**, vice president for economic and institutional advancement, presents each of them with a copy of *Tri-County Technical College: Five Decades of Distinction*, a 100-page book written to commemorate the College's five decades of service to the citizens of Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties.

Faculty/Staff to Attend Learning Communities Summer Institute



This group of faculty and staff was chosen by Evergreen College to attend a Learning Communities Summer Institute this summer. The conference will be held July 9 – 12 in Olympia, Washington. They will be showcasing our Learning Communities and the process the College follows in a poster session. Group work will focus on assessment and the learning communities. Pictured from left are (standing) **Sarah Shumpert**, **Sheryl Donovan**, **Katy Goforth**, and **Dr. Chris Marino**; and (seated) **Lou Ann Martin**, **Penny Edwards**, and **Deborah Brock**.

Annual Health Fair Offers Services, Information



The Annual Health Fair, held March 29, featured vendors offering many services, such as blood pressure checks, hearing tests, and vision tests. Also, vendors were on hand to present information on chiropractic care, elder care, sleep disorders, Alzheimer's care, diabetes, and much more. Here, **Laura Thompson**, administrative specialist for Nursing and Veterinary Technology, talks with one of the vendors.

**Many Thanks to our
Bluegrass Concert
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Seventh Annual Bluegrass Under the Stars Concert Spotlights Fiftieth Anniversary

Tri-County Technical College's seventh annual Bluegrass Under the Stars concert was held April 7 and featured family fun, bands, fireworks, and department displays. An estimated 1,500 people attended the event.

Pendleton Mayor Frank Crenshaw presented Dr. Booth with a proclamation declaring April 7 as Tri-County Technical College Day in the Town of Pendleton in recognition of the College's fiftieth anniversary.

Appreciation is extended to the many people who helped to make this year's concert a success, particularly the volunteers who manned departmental display tables, handed out programs, and assisted the bands. A special thank you is extended to Administrative Services, Campus Safety, Maintenance, Student Ambassadors, and RTV students, as well as the Economic and Institutional Advancement Division and concert emcee John Woodson, program coordinator for the Radio and Television Broadcasting program.

We also thank Lou Ann Martin, academic support network coordinator, and her husband William, for making and selling boiled peanuts that raised \$225 for the Faculty Choice Scholarship fund.



A pre-concert performance by the Young Appalachian Musicians (YAM) *Sweet Potato Pie Kids* kicked off the concert.



Nitrograss consists of four talented musicians, **Charles Wood** on banjo, **Micah Hanks** on guitar, **Caleb Hanks** on mandolin, and **Dakota "Smokey" Waddell** on bass.



Back by popular demand, *Last Road* is a South Carolina-based group that plays a wide selection of traditional, contemporary, and gospel bluegrass music.



Commissioner **John Powell** and his granddaughter, **Marlow**, enjoyed the event.



Pendleton Mayor **Frank Crenshaw**, left, presented **Dr. Booth** with a proclamation declaring April 7 as Tri-County Technical College Day in the Town of Pendleton in recognition of the College's fiftieth anniversary.



Network Support Specialist **Brett Looper** and his wife, **Tonya**, were among the attendees.



The Engineering and Industrial Technology Division set up booths with demonstrations. Here, **Franklin Smith**, program coordinator for building construction and heating, ventilation and air conditioning technology, right, is pictured with **Jake Young**.



Early Childhood Education Program Coordinator **Debra Nodine**, left, set up and supervised activities for the children during the concert.



Little Roy (seen here) and **Lizzy**, recent inductees into America's Old Time Country Music and Fiddler's Halls of Fame, headlined the concert.



Volume Five is a new band and consists of **Glen Harrell** on fiddle and vocals, **Patton Wages** on banjo and vocals, **Chris Williamson** on bass and vocals, and **Jesse Daniel** on mandolin and vocals.

Executive Staff Updates

- **Diversity Training:** The newly-formed President's Advisory council will go through diversity training as a next step in our efforts to create a College-wide diversity program that sets direction and establishes goals for our diversity efforts.
- **Faculty Credentialing of Distance Learning Instructors:** Brenda Mattison and Sarah Shumpert presented a proposal to establish a credentialing process for distance learning instructors. The proposal was approved and implementation will proceed.
- **Other:** Progress on updated mission and vision; revisions and updates to policies and procedures; first meeting of President's Advisory Council to discuss priorities for the coming academic year.

Five Sign Letters Of Intent to Play Men's Soccer

Soccer Coach Kevin Mahlan has been busy signing soon-to-be high school graduates to the Tri-County men's team for this fall.

Devin Wansley, a senior at Westside High School, (seated, center) signed a national letter of intent to play men's soccer this fall.

Pictured with him are (standing) Coach **Kevin Mahlan**, Westside Principal **Henry Adair**, and Assistant Coach **Kyle Mahlan**, and (seated) **Calvin Wansley**, Devin's father; and Westside Soccer Coach **Paul Hilderbrand**.



Coach Mahlan recently visited Bamberg High School when four students signed national letters of intent. Pictured from left (seated) are **Lane Walling**, **Brent Cook**, and **Chris and Scott Brummel**. Standing are **Coach Mahlan**, the Bamberg High School Soccer Coach; and Tri-County Assistant Coach **Kyle Mahlan**.

Our athletics programs include varsity-level women's basketball, women's and men's soccer and men's golf.

Teams are sanctioned by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) and compete within Region 10 at the Division I level.

Chorus Holds Spring Concert



Works by Schubert, Mozart, Schuman, and Bernstein are just a few of the pieces performed during the Spring Choral Concert held before a near-capacity crowd in Marshall Parker Auditorium on the Pendleton Campus April 20. The Tri-County Chorus, consisting of 30 members of the student body, performed under the direction of **Jeff Christmas**, our music instructor and chorus conductor, center, facing the chorus. After the concert, Jeff announced that he is seeking support to establish a Music Scholarship Fund at the College. For information on how you can support this effort, contact him at Ext. 1436 or jchristm@tctc.edu.