

Connection

In this Issue ...



Our College Family4-5



Bluegrass Under the Stars is April 6 6



Foundation News8-9



Open House12

College Dedicates Industrial Technology Center

In his 23 years of teaching Industrial Electronics classes at the College, Acting Dean of the Engineering and Industrial Technology Division Doug Allen says he's never seen as many requests for technically-skilled employees as he has in recent months. Speaking at the March 8 ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony for the College's new Industrial Technology Center (ITC), he said the modern facility will help meet the growing needs of local industry.

The 43,000-square-foot ITC houses the Welding and Heating, Ventilation, and Air

Conditioning (HVAC) programs and was specifically designed to mimic a real-world industrial setting. It's also being billed a showplace by economic development prospects and local companies.

"This is a milestone for us," said Dr. Booth, as he compared the Pendleton facilities to the ITC located just five miles from the campus. "Students are learning to function in an industrial environment," said Dr. Booth, adding that equipment that students train on in the ITC matches industries' expectations of what graduates will use on the job. "Students are proud of this facility."

The new facility that opened the first day of spring semester (January 14) is a far cry from the Welding and HVAC facility located on the Pendleton Campus since 1963. "There is a vast difference in the two facilities," said third-semester Welding student Jessica Gray-Brewer, 21, who compares the two buildings as "going from a cave to the Taj Mahal. It just knocks you out. There's so much energy in the room," she said.

"It's like a new program now with very up-to-date equipment. We are learning on the latest and greatest. It makes me eager to learn," she added.

"Our vision was to make the ITC as close to a manufacturing facility as we could, with safety as the utmost concern in the lab areas," said Doug. "The facility is OSHA compliant, complete with all of the necessary signage in areas where Personal Protective Equipment is required." The floors are striped for floor and forklift traffic, and the welding area has a state-of-the-art smoke extraction system.

This semester there are 105 Welding students and 50 HVAC students. "The welding booths

(continued on page 7)



Dr. Booth, front row, sixth from left, was joined by Commissioners, Foundation Board members, County Council members, legislators, faculty, and community partners as they gathered March 8 to cut the ribbon for the College's new Industrial Technology Center. The 43,000-square-foot ITC houses the Welding and Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning programs and was specifically designed to mimic a real-world industrial setting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bluegrass under the Stars.....April 6
Truck Driving Job Fair,
Anderson Campus.....April 9
American Heart Association
Walk April 12
Student Awards Ceremony April 24
Spring Open Golf Tournament.. April 26
Spring Convocation May 8
Spring Commencement.....May 10
5K Road Race.....May 18

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

Connection

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

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

Main Number: (864) 646-8361

Toll-free (864 area code): 1-866-269-5677

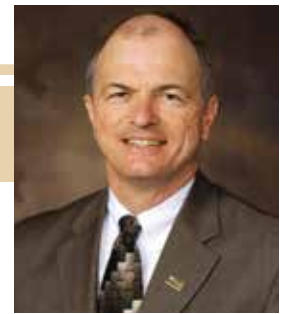
TDD/Voice: 1-800-735-2905

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.

Connecting



Dr. Ronnie L. Booth
President

I recently had a conversation with a friend from the midlands of South Carolina about his daughter. I asked how she was progressing at Clemson after completing the *Bridge to Clemson* program with us. My friend surprised me by saying that his daughter had already graduated from Clemson and was now enrolled in law school and plans to go to work with him in running the family business after graduation. Times move too fast for me these days; it seemed like this student just enrolled with us last year. The good news, though, is that she is an example of the success of one of our students.

In mid-March I walked through a job fair on campus and was greeted by another former student. He attended one of our local career centers while in high school and then enrolled at Tri-County to complete his associate degree. I was surprised to see him serving as part of a recruiting team from a local industry so soon after graduation. He has impressed his new employer so much that he is now out helping them find more talent for the company — quite a success for such a young man, in my opinion.

A couple of months back I was having some medical tests and discovered that I was surrounded by Tri-County graduates performing these tests. One of the licensed medical staff mentioned that her son is now enrolled at Tri-County and plans to follow his father in a law enforcement career — two more examples of the success of our students.

On a regular basis I run into former Tri-County students in the community we serve. Typically, my experience is like the three I mentioned above. However, I too often meet individuals who are former students who were not able to accomplish their intended goals from when they first enrolled at Tri-County. My conversation with these individuals then amounts to a fact-finding or problem-solving exercise as I try to assist in finding a way for these individuals to get back on the right track.

I like to celebrate with our former students when I find that they were successful in accomplishing what they intended when they first enrolled with us. I grieve when I discover that so many students leave us without success in achieving their goals.

It is conversations with these graduates and former students that remind me of why it is important for us to have a laser-like focus on student success. We want to be intentional in our efforts to help students meet their goals, but we can't be intentional if we don't engage in careful planning. Our new three-year Strategic Plan, which will be published in early April, is the result of work by Executive Staff and the President's Advisory Council that spanned several months. I am proud to say that it was well worth the effort.

The new plan sets forth an ambitious program of work that strengthens our focus on student success and embraces our ten-year vision to "transform lives and shape the community." It includes a variety of exciting new initiatives impacting our instruction, services, employees, and students. It is, however, far more than a series of activities that need be accomplished; it represents a comprehensive institutional focus on student success, and it will take all of us working together to achieve the outcomes we desire.

I have no doubt we will succeed, and I look forward to meeting more and more of our successful graduates in the community and hearing fewer stories from those who did not achieve their dreams.

Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D.
President



Spotlight on Comprehensive Studies Department

New Express Track Teaching Model Will Help Students Move Through Developmental Coursework as Quickly as Possible

In an effort to improve retention and to promote student success, the Comprehensive Studies Department is rethinking the way it delivers instruction. Comprehensive Studies Department Head Jennifer Hulehan and her math, English, and reading faculty have spent months researching and studying the nationally-known Emporium teaching model and have created a modified design to help students move through their developmental coursework as quickly as possible.

Using this model, an Express Track option for English and math classes will be piloted this fall.

"It's based on the idea of taking the instructors off the stage and putting them in the classroom to offer individualized, on-demand instruction based on individual student needs," said Jennifer.

"We're redesigning our pre-curricular courses to give students a smoother and shorter academic journey so they can move more quickly into their program of study. It's a proven new way to deliver the materials in a way that students can be academically successful," she added.

In the Express Track, students learn what they need to know to be academically successful. "We are changing how we give them the information by breaking down the curriculum of our Developmental Math and English classes into modules and aligning those modules to the diagnostic test," said Jennifer. All four of the developmental math classes are redesigned into a new shell class called Math 150. English 031, 032, and 100 have been combined into English 150.

The department still will offer three tracks of developmental coursework. In addition to the Express Track, there is the traditional track with 14-week courses. The second is a fast track, with seven-week courses held back to back.

Traditionally, a student takes the COMPASS test, and those scores determine which courses he or she places into. Often, students needing Comprehensive Studies classes must take up to four semesters or two years of remedial work, Jennifer said. "You can be looking at two to three semesters of courses before you start your college-level curriculum," she said.

"For Express Track, we begin by administering diagnostic testing to drill down to see how much a student knows. The diagnostic test pinpoints a student's specific weaknesses," she added.

After the results of the diagnostic test are determined, the student will be set up on an individual learning path. In many

instances, he or she needs just specifics of the course work but not the entire course. "A student may be proficient in performing operations with fractions, need just a refresher in mixed numbers, but have no clue how to handle decimals. Such a student would traditionally place into MAT 031, but likely would become bored and frustrated spending multiple class periods reviewing material he's already mastered. By the time the class finally hits decimals, he may have already tuned out to the point of non-attendance," Jennifer said.

"In Express Track, on the other hand, each student will only be practicing, learning, and mastering what he/she individually needs to know rather than spending days or even weeks reviewing material they've already mastered," she said. "The student who just needs that mixed numbers refresher could knock it out in a few hours and move on to decimals, spending more time there, since the information is completely foreign to him. It's motivating for students to get credit for what they know. Most will move through class in one semester instead of two or three and will be ready to enter their curriculum program."

Express Track will employ mastery-based learning, and instructors will use Just in Time teaching, in which a web-based learning system is combined with active participatory learning in the classroom to provide individualized, on-demand instruction. Instructors analyze out-of-class (or lab) work and make specific adjustments to the classroom lessons to meet the needs of the students in the class. This maximizes class time and makes it more effective.

"The focus is on participatory learning. Eighty percent of the time the students are in class they will be doing math and English work," Jennifer said.

"In short, Express Track is an individual program for students with individual instruction. It's not independent study or self-paced study. It's a new delivery method where the instructor is no longer the center of the class. The student is," said Jennifer. "Students spend more time doing the math and English they need than listening to a general lecture."

Jennifer is available to speak to faculty, staff, and/or advisors in your division or department about these new courses. Contact her at jbeattie@tctc.edu, send her an Outlook request, or call her at 646-1333.

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!

Bragging Rights On the Line

The TCTC 5K Race and One Mile Fun Run is coming up on Saturday, May 18, and we're looking for employee race teams. The reigning champions, The Science Geeks, are already training and looking forward to taking on all challengers. Will your department or area be the one that dethrones them? All employees receive a discounted rate, but each team must submit registration forms and payments together. Visit www.tctc.edu/race for details or call Tim Bowen at Ext. 6705 or Sue Bladzick at Ext. 6707. All runners and walkers are welcomed. A beautiful TCTC Team Trophy and year-long bragging rights are at stake. Will you take the challenge?

Merritt Serves on REWA Board



Butch Merritt, an enrollment counselor at our Anderson Campus and longtime representative to the REWA (Renewable Water Resources) Board, far right, is pictured with (from left) **Ray Orvin**, REWA executive director, State House of Representatives member **Joshua Putnam**, and **Senator Billy Odell** at a tour and information session at the new \$40 million wastewater treatment plant located in Piedmont. The plant serves as a tool for economic development for the upper part of Anderson County and is the most highly technical facility in South Carolina.

Our College Family

excellence through service

Congratulations to **Donna Shannon Palmer**, who was a finalist for the 2013 Governor's Professor of the Year from South Carolina colleges and universities. She was honored as a Distinguished Professor of the Year at a luncheon in Columbia March 7.



Donna Palmer

Four of our faculty were presenters at the League of Innovations for Community Colleges March 10 – 12 in Dallas Texas. **Deborah Brock, Alex Eaton, Dr. Chad Gregory, and Todd Crisp-Simons** served as presenters.

Congratulations to the Public Relations and Marketing team for winning two national awards from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) at its annual conference March 10-13 in Chicago.

The first-place Gold Paragon in the "Promotion Campaign for a Special Event" category was awarded in recognition of the College's 50th anniversary celebration. The campaign included all aspects of the year-long celebration, including the anniversary logo, special events, signage, displays, website, media coverage, and community recognitions, as well as the commemorative book titled Tri-County Technical College: Five Decades of Distinction, written by **Lisa Garrett**, Public Relations associate, and designed by **Denise Day**, graphic designer.

A culinary arts poster designed by **Denise Day** also garnered a third-place Bronze award in the "Poster" category.

NCMPR is the only organization of its kind that exclusively represents marketing and public relations professionals at community and technical colleges. As one of the fastest-growing affiliates of the American Association of Community Colleges, NCMPR has more than 1,550 members from more than 650 colleges across the United States, Canada, and other countries. More than 1,700 entries were submitted in this year's Paragon Awards competition by nearly 300 member colleges.

The following have left the College to pursue other opportunities. We wish them well in their new endeavors.

Scott Britten
Norman Hoyle
Carmen Lehmann
Brian McGuinness



Dr. Norman Hoyle

The Library staff bade a fond farewell Friday, March 29, to Dr. Norman Hoyle, who retired after 17 years as a reference and electronics librarian.

For Norman, who is 78 years young, this is his second retirement – he was a professor for 25 years in the School of Library and Information Science graduate program at the State University of New York at Albany, as well as working in the library of Washington State University and as a professor of English at Linfield College.

“Norman is very focused on projects until they are done. He is detail oriented,” said Library Director and good friend Marla Roberson, who referenced the large scale literature database, numerous research guides, and the design of the library website as his major accomplishments since he became full time in 2007.

He created and maintained a database that provides online access to thousands of scholarly analyses and interpretations of individual literary works. “This is a unique resource – no one has anything like this. It’s a Norman invention,” said Marla. All of our literature courses rely heavily on the database. His second accomplishment was designing the library subject portal pages. He also created coding for MegaSearch, which simultaneously searches all of the TCTC Library’s catalogs and databases. Additionally, he created Journal*Browse, which provides faculty and staff an easy means to keep up with the literature of their field by browsing online the tables of contents of selected professional journals and printing out articles of interest.

“He created remarkable products that will last a long time,” added Marla. “Student surveys always refer to him and applaud his service. In terms of student success, if we didn’t have the literature database and the subject portal pages he created himself, we’d be back to the 1980s.”

“I’ll miss working with the people here,” said Norman. “I take pride in the projects I have been responsible for, what they have done for students, and how these readily accessible resources have contributed to their success.”

“There’s not another Norman,” said Marla.

Berry McMurray, discovery service engineer, EBSCO Publishing, agrees. “I still remember the first day we met way back when I first started in sales at EBSCO. I have met many librarians over the years, and it was quite clear even that first day that you were truly committed to your profession and diligently worked to make resources easily available to your patrons/customers/students. It was a pleasure to have had the opportunity to work with you, and I wish you the best of times in your retirement.”

Editor’s Note: At press time we learned of the untimely death of Jill English, a member of our College family and Speech instructor. We will pay tribute to Jill in the next issue of Connection.

College Goal SC Draws Largest Crowd to Date



The College Goal SC event held February 23 drew the largest crowd to date, with 44 students and their families filling out and filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA. The event was held in Pickens Hall. The FAFSA is the first step to receiving Federal aid, and it is a requirement for most college students who plan to pay for college. April 1 was the College’s priority date for applying for the best financial aid package for the fall 2013 semester.

USC Pharmacy Rep Visits Campus



Jyothi Malyala, a Pre-Pharmacy major, right, talks with **Alfred D. Moore, III**, director of student services at the USC School of Pharmacy, at an information session held recently. A native of India, Malyala moved to Seneca two years ago with her husband, a design engineer at Itron. She earned a master’s in pharmacy in India in 2007, and has completed the classes for the associate degree in Pharmacy here. She will take the Pharmacy College Admission Test in July.

Crescent Students To Take Dual-Credit Courses This Fall

For the first time this fall, students in Crescent High School's Electricity program can take dual-credit courses through the College.

Students will be able to take an electricity course offered by Crescent for Technical Advanced Placement credit. Beginning in fall of 2013 (their senior year), they can take two Tri-County courses – AC/DC Circuits II and Digital Electronics – at our Anderson Campus. The following spring they can take Instrumentation and Solid State Devices, also at the Anderson Campus.

“Crescent really wants the opportunity to expand its technical offerings, and its proximity to our Anderson Campus makes it feasible for them,” said General Engineering Technology instructor Mandy Orzechowski, who also serves as the liaison in this initiative.

“This is a step toward a major expansion of our technical programs at the Anderson Campus,” added Mandy.

By the time they graduate in 2014, these students can have 20 college credits, along with a certificate in Basic Electronics. These classes can go toward earning a degree in Industrial Electronics Technology or Mechatronics, she said.

The dual-credit program allows students to take college courses while in high school. Students who pass the class earn college-level credits along with credit toward their high school graduation. Entering Tri-County with college credits saves them time and money.

“We envision Westside joining Crescent, along with District 5 Career Campus and the Oconee and Pickens County School Districts in the future. We want to expand our technical offerings to our entire service area,” said Doug Allen, acting dean of the Engineering and Industrial Technology Division.

Eighth Annual Bluegrass Concert is Saturday, April 6

The College's Eighth Annual Bluegrass under the Stars concert is Saturday, April 6, at the Pendleton Campus.

The free concert and fireworks event for the family is held annually in conjunction with the town of Pendleton's annual Spring Jubilee celebration. The event will be held from 6 - 9:30 p.m. in the amphitheater. It will be held rain or shine (rain location is College's Student Center).

One of the most recognizable voices in bluegrass music today – Lou Reid – will headline the show with his group, Lou Reid and Carolina.

Joining him (in order of appearance) will be Most Wanted Bluegrass; Kevin Richardson and Cuttin' Edge; and West End String Band.

A pre-concert performance by the Young Appalachian Musicians (YAM) Sweet Potato Pie Kids will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Several of Tri-County's academic departments will offer information and fun activities for concert-goers.

The concert will end with a fireworks extravaganza. Concessions will be sold during the event.

For more information, visit www.tctc.edu/bluegrass.



Lou Reid and Carolina



Most Wanted Bluegrass



Kevin Richardson and Cuttin' Edge



West End String Band

ITC Dedication *(continued from page 1)*

were at capacity from 8 a.m. – 10 p.m. on the Pendleton Campus. HVAC also was out of space,” Doug added. “There were 32 welding booths at Pendleton. We couldn’t meet industry’s demand for skilled welders. In the new facility, there are 48 booths, and we have the capacity for 72 students. A big change is the no-wait factor for using the welding booths,” he said.

The facility includes an 11,000-square-foot welding laboratory with 48 welding booths and a 4,000 square foot fabrication area, a 6,000-square-foot HVAC lab, three classrooms, an open computer laboratory, seven offices, and a faculty work area. In addition, there is approximately 8,000 square feet of space available for future program development.

Existing equipment was refurbished and moved to the center, and new equipment also was purchased, including a \$58,000 robot and a \$78,000 manufacturing cell for the welding program, as well as all-new gas packs for the heating and air conditioning units in the HVAC program.

Dr. Booth acknowledged community partners, Lollis Metals, Lakeside Steel and Machine and McGee Heating and Air Conditioning, who have named rooms at the facility.

“We take pride in being sure we are preparing our graduates technically for what they will see in today’s workplace. We also are concentrating on the soft skills by embedding communications and problem solving into our courses. Graduates will be ready for the professional side of the job, as well as the technical side of the job,” said Doug.

The ITC will allow the College to help industry with continuing education of their associates, said Dr. Booth. “There’s no space at the Pendleton Campus for classes so the Sandy Springs location will allow the College to keep the industry training programs centrally located in the service area, which is important to our students who enroll from all three counties and for the local industries served by the College.”



Foundation Board member **David Wakefield**, left, and community leader and former Dean of Students **Al Norris** tour the Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning area, which now incorporates our Building Construction program.



McGee Heating and Air Conditioning, located in Anderson and Georgia, owned and operated by **Walter McGee**, far right, pledged \$20,000 to name the Residential and Light Commercial Comfort Cooling Lab in the Industrial Technology Center. Pictured here with Mr. McGee are from left, **Stephanie Evans**, project manager for SC ACCELERATE; **Elisabeth Gadd**, director of development; and **Robert Kesler**, general manager for McGee Heating and Air Conditioning in Anderson.



Pickens County Councilman **Neil Smith** and College Commissioner **Helen Rosemond-Saunders**, middle, chat with **Elizabeth Crone**, executive director of the South Carolina Association of Technical College Commissioners, prior to the ceremony.



Industrial Electronics Technology instructor **Ron Talley**, middle, talks with **Andy Bonnett**, director of operations for Sargent Metal, left, and **Tim Hayden**, president of Sargent Metal.

Foundation News

Vet Tech Miracles Made Possible by Faculty/Staff Donations

When Dr. Peggy Champion first laid eyes on Heaven, a starving, two-year-old female Golden Retriever weighing a mere 21 pounds and barely able to stand on her own, she didn't think the dog would make it through the night.

Heaven was found alongside the road by an Oconee County Animal Control Officer who took her to veterinarian Dr. Kathy Jordan, who began administering a life-saving blood transfusion. Heaven was starving to death and anemic from hookworms. She should have weighed at least 60 pounds but she was just at 21 pounds. Heaven remained at the Oconee County Animal Shelter until our Veterinary Technology students picked up her and other animals as part of their clinical training this semester. Caring for shelter animals also provides a service learning outreach opportunity for Vet Tech students.

"I knew she might not last a day and was dying for all intents and purposes," said Peggy, who leads our Veterinary Technology program. "This was one of the worst cases I've ever seen," she added.

Chances were very slim of saving her. Fast forward to today – Heaven is slowly gaining weight. She's now at 44 pounds and getting healthier every day through good quality food and consistent attention by the Veterinary Technology students. "They have really learned a lot about what a starving dog looks like and how to rehabilitate one," said Peggy.

"The students have done an incredible job. It has been a most rewarding experience for everyone," said Peggy, who says there is a list of persons who want to adopt Heaven. "She will find her new home in April after we make sure she is on her feet again," added Peggy.

Popeye is another miracle the students have witnessed this semester. The year-old brown tabby's eyes were sunk back in his head and his bottom and top eyelids rolled under, a condition known as entropion. This congenital condition, which is rare in cats, causes the eyelids to turn inward, rather than lying flush and round with the eyeball. It affects the ability of a cat to see normally.

"This isn't common in cats – in fact, I've never seen this in a cat," said Peggy, who has been a practicing veterinarian for three decades. At first Peggy thought it was a severe eye infection but discovered it was a congenital defect that needed surgical repair. "I had done the procedure successfully on dogs in the past but never a cat," she said. After much research, she, instructor Christee Williams, and students assisted in the operating room as she performed plastic surgery, which was like an eyelift. It was a very tedious surgery, and Peggy



Dr. Peggy Champion performed surgery on Popeye that restored his sight.



Second-year student **Jamie Tucker**, of Belton, with Blitzen



Second-year student **Robyn Smith**, of Anderson, with Heaven

The next Pet Adoption is April 24 from 2 – 6 p.m. in Halbert Hall.

wouldn't know if the cat could see until the swelling subsided. The turning point was when Dr. Lynn Lewis put her hand out to Popeye and he put his paw out to reciprocate her touch. "That meant that he could see. We got lucky," said Peggy. Popeye now has perfect eyesight and normal eyes.

"It was a good day in the office and a great day for the students," said Peggy.

"We take these cases, but all of these miracles are made possible by the kindness of faculty and staff who donate to the department to fund these surgeries and medicines," said Peggy. "Our faculty and staff give money to the Foundation in our department's name and that's how these treatments are funded. It's very expensive. These donations allow us to keep our standard of care. We couldn't buy these medications on our department budget."

Peggy recalls another memorable learning experience for students that occurred in the operating room this semester. Following a routine neutering, Blitzen, a year-old male cat from the Anderson Shelter, literally died after awakening from anesthesia. "He woke up from anesthesia but suddenly died. He quit breathing for two to five minutes. We were administering CPR and drugs to resuscitate him. We did chest compressions and were breathing for him. Lo and behold, he started breathing again," said Peggy. "We fully expected cortical blindness or deafness, but slowly all of his senses have come back."

If you are interested in supporting the Veterinary Technology department or any other program on campus through payroll deduction or a one-time gift, please contact Debbie Nelms. Debbie's telephone number is 646-1809, and her e-mail address is dnelms@tctc.edu.

Alumna Establishes Scholarship in Memory of Her Mother



Tri-County alumna **Dy Wakefield**, middle, has established a scholarship in honor of her late mother, Carolyn Elizabeth Oglesby Wakefield. The scholarship will be offered to a Business and Public Services student in the fall of 2013. Dy, who transferred to Clemson University where she earned a bachelor's degree in Accounting, says her mother, who took classes at Tri-County, was an entrepreneur who had business ventures in catering, crafts, and child care. "She always saw opportunities," said Dy, who is now founder, owner and president of Wealthy Woman Dy Investments, Inc., which is a management financial consulting business in Clemson. She is pictured with **Elisabeth Gadd**, director of development, left, and **John Lummus**, vice president for economic and institutional advancement.

Criminal Justice Hosts Career Fair



Students in our Criminal Justice program got the opportunity to talk one-on-one with representatives from local law enforcement agencies at a departmental career fair March 27. Here, **Mischelle Weidman**, of Easley, left, gets information about serving as a victim's advocate from **Wanda Johnson**, victim services coordinator South Carolina's Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services (SCDPPS). Wanda is a 1995 graduate of our Criminal Justice program and was named one of last year's Alumni Faces of the Decades for our 50th anniversary celebration. Mischelle, who received a Business Management degree last May, entered the Criminal Justice program this fall.

American Heart Association Walk is April 12

The College is looking RED these days thanks to everyone who has purchased a red heart in support of the American Heart Association. Our celebratory walk will be held Friday, April 12, at 1:30 p.m. on the Pendleton Campus. We hope to see everyone come out and enjoy a one-mile walk around our beautiful campus. There will be three walking paths with varying intensity levels ... so no excuses!

Currently, the College has raised \$2,087.42 – 42% of our goal of \$5,000. Let's all do our part in making this a successful campaign.

Our team captains have been working diligently in recruiting team members. If you are not on a team, please e-mail one of the following team captains to join: Jackie Blakley, Gloria Littleton, David Little, Missy Gray, Janelle Hicks, Mandy Orzechowski, Claudia Poore, Lisa Poore, and Pat Vatakis.

Also, the Tri-County Technical College American Heart Association walk not only supports a great cause, it also is a great way to get in shape for the Tri-County 5K Road Race scheduled for Saturday, May 18 at the Anderson Campus. Runners and walkers are welcome, and we've added a one mile "fun run" this year. You can participate as an individual or join/start a team -- last year we had three teams comprised of faculty and staff from throughout the college, and the "Science Geeks" won the coveted Faculty/Staff team award! For more information, visit www.tctc.edu/race.

Executive Staff Updates

- **Culinary Arts program:** A decision was made to suspend the implementation of a credit Culinary Arts certificate for Fall Semester 2013. Work will continue on financial aid eligibility issues, as well as the business case for implementation. The Corporate and Community Education Division is exploring a possible expansion of non-credit offerings in this area.
- **EPMS/FPMS Ratings:** Using input from Executive Staff, the EPMS/FPMS ratings criteria have been more specifically defined and the new criteria were issued in a document developed by the Personnel Office. This documentation was shared through the Provost and Vice Presidents during the ratings period.
- **Institutional Culture Survey:** The Institutional Research office issued a survey in late March to gather information on the progress we are making in achieving the desired institutional culture described in our ten-year vision. The feedback also will be used in the creation of new institutional values as we update our College's mission, vision, and values statements during the 2013-14 academic year.
- **Strategic Plan:** A workshop has been developed to give employees the opportunity to gather and engage in meaningful conversations about the new three-year strategic plan, as well as explore what unique contributions each person can make to ensure we are successful in carrying out the plan.
- **Other:** tobacco use policy, grant proposal review, student success/strategic plan communications, IPEDS data/College Scorecards

Event Celebrates Rosenwald Schools



The Anderson Campus was the site for the third annual presentation of “Rosenwald Schools — A Celebration of African-American Schools Heritage” held February. Nearly 100 people attended the community event sponsored by the Anderson County Human Relations Council. The celebration included a review of exhibitions and a keynote address by Ron Knorr, an assistant professor of education in the Tift College of Education at Mercer University in Georgia. On display was a traveling exhibit, developed and provided by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, about Rosenwald Schools as well as an exhibit, prepared by the Anderson County Museum, regarding local Rosenwald Schools. Visitors also viewed the full-scale, one-room, 900-square-foot reproduction of the Rosenwald Schools, created by the College's Building Construction students last summer.

Novelist Discusses Award-Winning Book



Greenville novelist **Matt Mathews** autographs his award-winning Southern coming-of-age book, *Mercy Creek*, for **Blas Ossont**, after speaking at the College. The event was sponsored by the College's Enrichment Series Committee. Published by Hub City Press in 2011, *Mercy Creek* won the South Carolina Arts Commission First Novel Prize and the 2012 Bronze IPPY award in regional fiction of the Southeast.

WorkLink Job Fair Draws 500



More than 500 turned out for the WorkLink Job Fair held March 21 in our Student Center. The event, hosted by SC Works WorkLink Workforce Investment Board, was open to the public. Job seekers like **John Jeffries**, of Anderson, pictured here with **Miryam Carter**, personnel representative at Michelin, were able to meet with employers, discover educational and training opportunities, and network with fellow job seekers.



Around 50 exhibitors were at the WorkLink event, including manufacturers, healthcare and service industry representatives, and staffing agencies. Area colleges and community-based organizations also were available to help job seekers find other services and opportunities. Several employers like U.S. Engine Valve accepted resumes and applications on-site, and staff assisted applicants to complete the necessary paperwork. Here, **Jeff Rymer**, maintenance supervisor, and **Rhonda Addis**, human resource administrator, look over some resumes.

College Skills 105 Class Donates Time At AIM Food Pantry



Students in Mary Geren's College Skills 105: Improving America thematic class have enjoyed informative presentations by various community guest speakers who have offered ways students can improve their communities. These presentations have inspired students for a class project and beyond the classroom, said Mary. After a presentation by Kristi King-Brock, director of AIM, class members recently donated their time (during a class period) by serving at the AIM food pantry. For their major class project, currently the class is planning and will host a spring dance for the 40 kids at New Foundations.

College Hosts Appreciation Breakfast for High School Partners



Each year the College hosts an appreciation breakfast for our high school partners, which include guidance counselors, principals, and school district personnel from the three counties. The guests hear presentations about our high school initiatives (including dual enrollment), general enrollment, academic offerings, community campuses, admissions and recruitment, financial aid, Connect to College, and TRiO. Pictured here are **Pamela Edgar-Crain**, career counselor at Seneca High School, left, and **Trish Mayer**, guidance counselor at Seneca High School.

OPEN HOUSE

PENDLETON CAMPUS



Visiting the College's Open House to explore its programs and services is a great way to discover what we offer. Anderson resident **Matthew Todd**, left, and his mother, **Tammy**, stopped by to find out more about program offerings. They are seen here talking with BMW Associate Training and Development Specialist **Joy Trado**, right, who gave them details about BMW's Scholars program.



Samantha Hendricks, a senior at Westside High, middle, learned more about the Early Childhood Development program from instructor **Meredith McClure**, pictured at left, with Samantha's mother, **Regina Hendricks**, at right.



Michelin representatives **Steve Gromelski**, maintenance supervisor, front, and **Randy King**, personnel manager, both from the Sandy Springs plant, attended Open House. Here, **Matthew Anderson**, and his father, **Sean Anderson**, find out more about the company's new scholars program.



Mauldin High senior **Gino Cisko** stopped by the Career Services office to talk with Job Placement Coordinator **Cheryl Garrison**. Gino is interested in the BMW Scholars program.



Samantha Bailey, a senior at Liberty High School, was the winner of the iPad mini. She is pictured with **Kevin Woods**, financial aid counselor.