

Connection

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Doris Simpson Wins Regional ACCT Professional Board Staff Member Award

Doris Simpson, executive assistant for the president and the Commission since 1997, was the Southern regional winner and among the five nominees across the United States for the prestigious American Community College Trustees (ACCT) Professional Board Staff Member award. Doris and Dr. Booth, along with several Commissioners, traveled to Dallas, Texas, for the conference and an awards gala where Doris was recognized.

In her remarks at the luncheon, Doris expressed her appreciation to the Commissioners and Dr. Booth, who nominated her:

“Receiving this award is a tremendous honor - I’m really thrilled to receive it, and I’m humbled, too. I want to thank the members of the Tri-County Technical College Commission, especially the chair, Mr. Ham Hudson, the past chair, Mrs. Helen Rosemond-Saunders, and the College president, Dr. Ronnie Booth. They have given me tremendous support over the years. I also want to thank them publicly for being such sources of inspiration for me. They work tirelessly on behalf of the College, and they always put students and the community first in their decisions and in the directions they set for Tri-County. For me, to contribute and support their work in any way is a privilege. And to be recognized for that contribution is, honestly, something I never expected. I’m also honored to be in the company of these other regional winners who obviously are exceptional and accomplished support professionals. This is truly the most memorable experience of my career. Thank you all so much.”

Commissioners wrote in their nomination: “Doris is often the first point of contact for the general public, legislators, and other community stakeholders. Her role is one of handling all of the logistics, deadlines, and nuances involved with the day-to-day operations of the President’s Office and the Commission. She understands that this role is a critical one, and she ensures that each and every contact is a professional one that represents the College well.”

Doris came to Tri-County with 26 years of experience in the business and industry sector. Prior to joining the College, she was an executive secretary at Bowater, Inc., in Greenville for 15 years, including three years working directly for the CEO and chairman.



Doris Simpson

UPCOMING EVENTS

Benevolence Month Nov. 1-30
Collection Bins located on each campus
Thanksgiving Holidays
(College Closed)..... Nov. 23-24

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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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



Ronnie L. Booth
President

Each fall I look forward to welcoming business,
industry, and community leaders to the Pendleton
Campus for our Annual Report Luncheon. This year
was no exception. I enjoy the opportunity to share our many successes from the previous
year, talk about our vision for the coming year, and thank the crowd assembled for their
support and partnership. We were also privileged to have Congressman Jeff Duncan
deliver the keynote address and offer his perspectives on issues we face as a nation.

The theme of this year's luncheon was "Creating Opportunities for Student Success,"
and the annual report publication tells stories of student success through the eyes of the
students who have lived the Tri-County experience.

We shared the story of Ashley Anderson, who always wanted to pursue a college
degree, but it wasn't until we opened the Easley Campus close to her home that she
was able to make her dream come true. The report also highlights Jamille Reid as she
prepares to take advantage of our new agreement with Clemson University that allows
graduates of our Medical Laboratory Technology program to enroll at Clemson with junior
status in the Microbiology-Biomedicine program. The new BMW Scholars program was
featured through the eyes of Michael Bellamy, a young man chosen for the program that
teaches the skills he needs to succeed with a world-class automobile manufacturer.

The story of JerMonika Harrison, one of our Gateway to College graduates, illustrates
how giving a student a second chance to complete a high school diploma can change a
person's life and inspire her to give back to the community by working to improve South
Carolina's foster care system. Rodney Hollingsworth, a lifelong construction worker who
lost his job when the economy collapsed, shares his story of starting over with a second
career as a Certified Nurse Aide, thanks to a partnership between our Corporate and
Community Education Division and Goodwill Industries.

Those are only a few of the stories and highlights that appear in the report. I urge
you to read it in its entirety. Each and every one of you plays some role, great or small,
in every story you read. Copies are available through the Public Relations and Marketing
Office, and the report is posted on the public website.

After sharing our annual report publication, I directed the attention of our luncheon
guests to the future – the opportunities, challenges, and priorities that lie ahead for Tri-
County Technical College during the course of this academic year. Some of the examples
I gave include taking our focus on student success to the next level through our Learning
through Community and Connections (LC²) initiative and a new focus on retention;
growing our community campuses; completing the Industrial Technology Center in Sandy
Springs; constructing a QuickJobs Development Center in Anderson; kicking off our
50th anniversary year; and wrapping up our five-year Major Gifts Campaign to raise
\$7-9 million by the end of 2012.

Everything we undertake is aligned with our ten-year vision and three-year strategic
plan, but none of it would be possible without the dedication and hard work of each
member of our College family. Our students are successful because of the excellent
instruction, helpful guidance, and caring support you provide day in and day out.

Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D.
President

Mrs. Kleo Stathakis Honored with Order of Merit

The College honored former Foundation Board member and Anderson resident Kleo Stathakis with the highest award given by our nine-member Commission.

Dr. Booth presented Mrs. Stathakis with the Order of Merit at the October 20 Annual Report luncheon. The Order of Merit is an honorary society that recognizes community and state leaders who have contributed to the development of Tri-County Technical College and the State Technical College System.

“For 26 years, Kleo served as an invaluable member of the College’s Foundation Board and has been a staunch supporter of the College, always devoted to its mission and purpose,” said Dr. Booth.

As a charter member, she represented Anderson County since the Foundation Board’s first meeting on June 7, 1985, and served as the secretary to the Foundation Board since January 1, 1995.

She served on numerous Foundation-related committees and assisted in the solicitation of major gifts to the Foundation. Her most notable accomplishment as a board member was when she introduced Mrs. Ruby Hicks to the College and Foundation. When Mrs. Hicks, a member of the College’s Foundation Board, died October 2, 1992, she bequeathed the majority of her estate, valued at nearly three-quarters of a million dollars, to Tri-County to establish scholarships. Until 2001, this was the largest single donation the College had received in its history.

Since 1993, Mrs. Stathakis has generously contributed to a scholarship established in the name of her late husband, Pete Stathakis. She also was instrumental in the Anderson County Woman’s Club establishing an endowed scholarship, and since 1989 the Club has given a total of \$27,500 to Tri-County.

Her commitment to the community has never wavered and as a devoted volunteer, she worked in the chaplain’s office of AnMed Health, the March of Dimes, and the Kennedy Street School/



*Tri-County Technical College honored former Foundation Board member and Anderson resident **Kleo Stathakis**, left, with the highest award given by the College’s nine-member Commission. **Dr. Booth**, right, presented Mrs. Stathakis with the Order of Merit at the College’s October 20 Annual Report luncheon with Mrs. Stathakis’s son, **John Pete**, back left, and daughter, **Alexandria**, right, at her side. The Order of Merit is an honorary society that recognizes community and state leaders who have contributed to the development of Tri-County Technical College and the State Technical College System.*

Concord Elementary School parent-teacher association, and was a teacher in the Great Book program.

She represented the community with honor and distinction with her service as a board member and recording secretary for the Anderson Historical Society, along with the Anderson Arts Council, and the Anderson County Library System.

In 2005 she was honored by the Anderson County Democratic Women for her 50-plus years of community service with the group’s first-ever Woman of Distinction of Anderson County award, and the Anderson County Council designated April 16, 2005, as Kleo Stathakis Day in Anderson.

A political activist and longtime member of the local Anderson County Democratic Women’s Club, she worked third shift to register voters at local industries during the 2004 election campaign, served as a Delegate to the national conventions for the Democratic Party in 1980 and 1988; and in 2007 was inducted into the SC Democratic Women’s Hall of Fame.

Mrs. Stathakis has two adult children, John Pete and Alexandria, and she lives in Anderson.



Debbie Norris, accounts payable technician in the Business Office sent this e-mail:

“**Matt Whitten** has far surpassed my expectations since he joined the Purchasing Department last year. He is willing to learn multiple new tasks and to assist anyone who needs help regardless of the undertaking or time involved. Matt’s background in business economics coupled with his ‘can-do, will-do’ attitude make him a tremendous asset to the Business Office.”

Lou Ann Martin, LC² Academic Support Network Coordinator, sent these words of thanks:

“I would like to say thank you to **Courtney Tillet** and **Dave Bucy** in Information Technology for their help in developing single sign on (SSO) capabilities for the readiness assessment, SmarterMeasure. SSO makes it possible for students to go directly to the assessment from the Get Ready tab in eTC without an extra login step. It also should make data gathering much easier down the line. They worked through the process very quickly so that the assessment’s launch could be much smoother.

Thanks also go to **Richard Smith** for his tireless work on editing and producing our assessment videos, also found on the Get Ready tab in eTC.”

Veterinary Technology instructor **Ashley Brady** returned to the classroom October 3. She and her husband welcomed a son, John Owen Brady, born July 7.

Anderson City Police Captain Kevin Marsee wrote Dr. Booth this letter:

“Please accept my compliments for the supportive role and assistance provided by **Susan Bladzik** when our agency co-hosted the Advance Gangs Investigations at Tri-County Technical College’s Anderson Campus. Our agency most recently identified a training void in that area of advanced gang training issues. We were fortunate to be selected by ROCIC as a co-host for an Advanced Gang Training, however, we lacked training space. Susan Bladzik was instrumental in forming
(continued on page 5)

Our College Family

excellence through service

Congratulations to **Lynn Shook**, who is Tri-County’s first Certified Payroll Professional (CPP). The certification training program is given through the American Payroll Association (APA). This certification is a valuable, objective credential that verifies a specified level of knowledge, skills, and abilities in the payroll profession.

APA sets the standards for payroll excellence through this certification program. In addition to required course work, the candidate for certification must have specific on the job experience, education background and pass a rigorous exam.



Lynn Shook

Dr. Booth and **Gregg Stapleton**, vice president for business affairs, and **Commissioner Butch Harris**, were presenters at the American Community College Trustees conference. Their seminar was titled “Planning to Succeed in Uncertain Times.”

in transition

Dr. Brian Swords has been named Director of the Easley Campus and QuickJobs Centers in Seneca and Easley. Since May 2010, Brian has been Interim Director of the campus. “I’m excited about serving the community where I grew up,” said Brian, a Pickens County native who has been with the College for 19 years, most recently as Director of Operations for the Corporate and Community Education Division. “It’s a good fit for me and the College,” he said.



Dr. Brian Swords

Tracy Kilgore joined us this semester as an English instructor for Comprehensive Studies. For the past six years, she has been an adjunct instructor and tutor for the Comprehensive Studies and English Departments here at Tri-County.

She has a bachelor of Science degree in English, as well as a master of Arts in English from East Tennessee State University. From 2003 – 2007, she was an English instructor at Northeast State Community College in Blountville, Tennessee. Other teaching experience includes serving as an English instructor for Greenville Technical College and as an Upward Bound instructor at Greenville Tech, in addition to East Tennessee State. She is a member of the National Association for Developmental Education and Sigma Tau Delta, the national English Honors Society. She lives in Simpsonville with her daughter, Katie, age 10.



Tracy Kilgore

College Mourns Passing of Retired VP Tom Lewis

We were saddened to hear of the October 12 passing of Tom Lewis, a retiree and a true advocate of Tri-County who devoted 26 years of unparalleled service to the College from 1973 - 1999.

Mr. Lewis joined the College in 1973 as head of the Business Technology Department and two years later was named Chairman of the Business and Public Services Division. He served as Assistant to the Vice President for Business and Finance between 1978 - 1982 before being named Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services.

For the next 21 years, Mr. Lewis devoted himself to designing, instituting, computerizing, updating, and administering a sound fiscal management system for the College. At the same time, he established and administered excellent administrative services, including the bookstore, personnel, purchasing, records management, inventory control, shipping and receiving, the physical plant operations and maintenance, auxiliary enterprise, and security. When the late President Don Garrison accepted a job in Texas for a short period in 1988, Mr. Lewis served as interim president.

He was the administrator in charge for construction for approximately half of the structural square footage on campus until 1999, and after his retirement, he oversaw the renovation of the College's three oldest buildings.

In 1993 he was honored with the Presidential Medallion for Staff Excellence. At his retirement, he was inducted into the Order of the Trilon (now known as the Order of Merit).

"There is one word that I would use to describe Mr. Lewis - fair," said Campus Security Officer B.J. Ellis, who worked for Mr. Lewis for 10 years.

"He was fair to everyone. He didn't show favoritism. He respected a person's work and when he said 'good job,' he meant it," she said.

"I admired the fact that Mr. Lewis would roll up his sleeves and get the job done. I've seen him work in the bookstore during peak times, dig ditches with the guys in maintenance, and jumpstart a vehicle if the security officer was busy. Anything he asked of his employees, he was willing to do himself. Professionally, he was one of the best supervisors I've ever worked for. As a person, he was truly genuine. His door was always open to talk. He gave good advice. He will be missed."

Mr. Lewis, who resided in Anderson, is survived by his wife, Nancy, and his daughter, Catherine Lewis, of Atlanta; stepson, Roger D. Gilden of Greenville; stepdaughter,

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Tom Lewis

Brag & Share

(continued from page 4)

a partnership with our agency and with assisting the Anderson Police Department by providing space for the training. Throughout the planning and preparation phase, Susan was extremely helpful in assisting with needs for parking, electronic requirements, refreshments, and other necessities.

My class was attended by numerous officers from throughout South Carolina. Our speaker was Tony Avendorph, a retired gang detective from Prince George County, Maryland, who has appeared on such television documentaries as "Gangland" and Animal Planet.

With Susan's assistance, we were able to collaborate in a professional training initiative that was enjoyable, professional, and well orchestrated. We are grateful for her service."

Lynn Shook, payroll accounting technician in the Business Affairs Division, asked us to extend her heartfelt thanks to **James Canty** and **Carmen Lehmann**, both members of our Campus Safety Department, for their assistance when she fell and injured herself recently. She is ever grateful for their compassion and support.

Brian McGuinness, enrollment counselor/international student advisor, sent this:

"I would like to thank **Mandy Orzechowski** for inviting two prospective students, along with their parents and myself, into an Engineering classroom during a recent small group campus tour. She gave a great impromptu presentation explaining the current projects and equipment displayed within the room. We were all impressed with her knowledge, energy, and passion for her work. I am sure that we will be seeing those students on campus next fall!"

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.

MLT Grads Report Perfect Pass Rate on ASCP Exam

The nine May 2011 graduates of the College's Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) program who took the National Certification Exam administered by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) earned a perfect pass rate. One graduate out of 10 elected not to take the exam yet.

Since 2006 five out of six graduating classes have achieved 100 percent pass rates. The Class of 2007 achieved a 92 percent pass rate.

Tri-County ranks higher than the national figures when comparing registry scores. Tri-County's mean score was 616 as opposed to the national score of 510. (A person must score 400 or above to pass the exam.) Tri-County ranks 100 percent in average scores for this cycle (the last four months) as compared to the 80.93 percent national average score.

The exam is a computerized, competency-based exam. Students are tested on seven areas: chemistry, microbiology, hematology, immunohematology, urinalysis, laboratory operations, and body fluids. There are 100 multiple-choice questions to cover these five major areas of clinical laboratory science. Medical laboratory technicians analyze blood and other bodily fluids for disease processes in hospitals and doctors' offices.

"We are very proud of our graduates," said Polly Kay, MLT program coordinator. "This class was an extremely competent and capable group, both academically and clinically. They were high achievers and critical thinkers. They also were a very diverse group -- one graduate had a master's degree and several had bachelor's degrees and were preparing for new careers."

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Tom Lewis *(continued from page 5)*

Sandra E. Gilden of Hollywood, CA, and step granddaughter, Mary Payne Gilden. He was preceded in death by his son, Thomas Watson Lewis, III, and two sisters, Hazel V. DePrycker and C. Ann Williams.

Retiree Dr. John Manly Dies October 22

The College said goodbye to another longtime friend and retiree, Dr. John Manly, 87, who passed away October 22.

Dr. Manly retired as Executive Vice President in 1986. He held the College's then-second highest administrative post since joining the College in 1971. A veteran educator, he taught Industrial Arts in public schools in Anderson and Greenville counties before joining the State Technical College System in 1964. He served as Evening Director, Curriculum Research and Development Coordinator, and as Dean of Allied Health at Greenville Technical College before accepting the position at Tri-County.

At Tri-County, he was responsible for establishing the Child Development Department and for planning, implementing, and directing a special training program, in conjunction with Clemson University, for vocational and technical educators. He also provided leadership for the preparation of grant applications which resulted in the construction of four buildings and five-year funding for institutional development under Title III.

Dr. Manly was the recipient of the President's Award for Staff Excellence and in 1986 was a nominee for the A. Wade Martin Award. At his retirement dinner, he was inducted into the Order of the Trilon (now known as the Order of Merit).

Following his retirement, he taught for an additional 14 years in the Mechanical Engineering Department at Greenville Technical College.

He is survived by his wife, Frances Lansdell Manly; his brother and sister-in-law, Dr. Jack P. and Annette Manly of Newberry; his sister and brother-in-law, Joyce and Fred Smith of Easley; and numerous nieces, nephews, and their families.



Dr. John Manly

Longtime Employees, Brenda Rice and Janis Cox, Retire

JANIS COX

“Little did I know those many years ago when I stopped by Tri-County on a Friday afternoon (and was hired on the spot to teach an evening course in “development studies algebra” starting on the next Monday night!) that I would spend the majority of my working years at TCTC,” says Janis Cox, who, after 28 years in the classroom, retired September 30. She will remain as an adjunct instructor for the Computer Technology Department.

“What a joy and blessing it has been to work with smart and interesting colleagues at a place where we can make a difference in a person’s – and a family’s – life,” she added.

Janis joined the staff as a Data Processing instructor in 1983. She came here in 1980 as a member of the adjunct faculty of the Comprehensive Studies Math Lab. She joined the Computer Technology department in 1983 as a full-time instructor

Several years later, she was named Management Systems Analyst where she worked with faculty and staff to determine each office’s data-gathering needs. She also provided instruction in the use of equipment and software. Her work with the College’s (1990) five-year, \$2.5 million Title III grant helped move the College forward in areas such as faculty/staff computer training, registration, admission processes, ASSET, graduation systems, and institutional data.

In 1993 Janis was named Computer Technology Department Head and went back to teaching later.

“Janis has always been the kind of friend I could call on,” said Dr. Brian Swords, who met her when he worked in Student Services as an Admissions Coordinator in the early 1990s. “I can’t count the number of times I asked Janis questions that she could answer on the spot. Students also respect her knowledge, and they all knew the material when they left her classes. In fact, she is responsible for my teaching. I was working late one night, and her adjunct didn’t show up. She asked me to call the roll and somehow I became the

BRENDA RICE

Day in and day out, for more than three decades, Brenda Rice has effortlessly provided clerical and administrative support to two Divisions at the College. At the end of August, she retired as the College’s longest standing employee with 33 years of service but has been continuing her duties on a temporary contract that ends October 31.

Brenda has been employed at Tri-County since 1978, one year after she graduated as the College’s outstanding Secretarial Science student. While a student, she was a work/study for the Business Technology Department.

She began her career at Tri-County as a part-time Clerk Typist and was full-time Secretary for the Business and Public Services Division from 1978 – 95. She received the Girl Friday Award in 1982. She worked as administrative specialist for the Dean of Students’ office (later called Student Affairs) from 1995 until her retirement.

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Janis Cox received a 25-year pin from Dr. Booth in 2009.

instructor and have taught adjunct classes since then. Because of Janis, I discovered a love for teaching. I’m so happy she will still be on campus as an adjunct instructor. She is an asset to the College. I’m proud to call her a colleague and a friend.”

For two consecutive years, she was elected as a nominee to represent Tri-County in the South Carolina Technical Education Association (SCTEA) competition for Outstanding Educator of the Year. She served as President and Secretary of SCTEA’s executive board in 1994.

“While I am looking forward to my ‘retirement years,’ I’m so glad that I will be able to continue teaching, as I still love working with students and doing all I can to enable their success,” Janis said.



Brenda Rice

Golden OPPORTUNITIES to shape the future

Foundation's First-Annual Wine Tasting a First-Class Event

The College's Foundation hosted its first annual wine tasting fundraiser event at the Anderson Campus to benefit a new Culinary Arts certificate program set to begin in the fall of 2012.

The event, which drew more than 150 guests, was catered by the Lake Keowee chapter of Les Marmitons, along with guest chef Hamid Mohsseni, owner of the Anderson Restaurant Group and a member of the College's Foundation Board. The Lake Keowee chapter of Les Marmitons, an international culinary club, gathers monthly in the culinary lab of the Anderson Campus to learn about cooking.

Bank of Anderson was the premier sponsor of the event.

"We are looking forward to next year's event and working with Les Marmitons, who did a fabulous job of preparing and serving an exquisite five-course meal with appropriate wine pairings for each course. People are still talking about what a first class event it was," said Courtney White, manager of donor relations for the Foundation.

Beginning next fall, the one-year Culinary Arts certificate program will be offered at the Anderson Campus through the College's Business and Public Services Division. The program will focus on food preparation and serving, as well as the business side of managing a restaurant or owning a catering business.



Bank of Anderson was the premier sponsor of the event. Pictured here are **Jimmy Kimbell**, president /CEO of Bank of Anderson, right; and **John Lummis**, vice president for the Economic and Institutional Advancement Division.



Foundation Board member **Mike Cannon** makes a selection from the Wall of Wine.



Foundation Board Chair **David Wakefield** enjoyed the delicacies prepared and served by Les Marmitons, an international culinary club that gathers monthly in the culinary lab of the Anderson Campus to learn about cooking.



Business instructor **Shallon Suber**, left, and Business and Public Services Dean **Jackie Blakley** were among the guests. The Culinary Arts program will be offered through the Business and Public Services Division.

Fall Classic Tournament Raises Money for Industrial Technology Center

For the seventh consecutive year, the Fall Classic Golf Tournament drew a record crowd and rave reviews, and raised more than \$25,000 for our Industrial Technology Center set to open in the Fall of 2012. The state-of-the-art welding and heating ventilation and air conditioning training facility is located on Highway 76 in Sandy Springs on five acres of land and is just four miles from the Pendleton Campus.

The invitation-only event was held October 7 at the Anderson Country Club and attracted 120 golfers. The tournament was supported by community partners BorgWarner and Thrift Brothers.



Thanks go to the Planning Committee (Mike Cannon, Ham Hudson, Dan Cooper, John Lummus, and Courtney White) for all of their planning and expertise in producing another successful tournament and to many of you who worked at the tournament that day in various capacities.

Next year's tournament is set for October 5, 2012.



The Michelin team took home the first-place prize for the tournament. From left are **Mike Cannon**, who led the planning committee, team members **Matt Cole**, **Erik Martin**, and **Kim Neal**, and **Courtney White**, who managed the tournament. Not pictured is golfer **Joel Heard**.



Playing on the Itron team was 1995 Electronics Engineering Technology alumnus and Don C. Garrison scholarship recipient **Chris Hawks**, far right. Joining him were, from left, **Kevin Nichols**, **Frankie Burrell**, and **Mark Kaufmann**.



Commissioner **Ham Hudson**, left, and Congressman **Jeff Duncan** played on the Tri-County Technical College team.



Mick Lankford, a member of the Tri-County Technical College Men's Golf Team

Annual Report Focuses On Student Success

Nearly 200 business, industry and community leaders gathered on the Pendleton Campus October 20 for the College's Annual Report Luncheon. Congressman Jeff Duncan was the keynote speaker, followed by remarks from Dr. Booth focusing on the progress made by the College during the last academic year and our focus on student success. Dr. Booth also presented a 42-page report titled "Creating Opportunities for Student Success."



Peggy Deane, a member of the Foundation Board, reads the annual report publication, titled "Creating Opportunities for Student Success." The report highlights and documents the year's activities.



President/CEO of Upstate Alliance **Hal Johnson**, left, and **Ray Farley**, director of economic development for Pickens County, were among the attendees.



Keynote speaker **Congressman Jeff Duncan**, fifth from left, talks with from left, Executive Director of Oconee Alliance **Jim Gadd**, **Sandra Sandifer**, **Richard Imersheim**, **George Acker**, and **Rep. Bill Sandifer**.



BMW Scholars **Adam Grant**, left, and **Michael Bellamy**, middle, meet Congressman **Jeff Duncan** after the luncheon. Grantz and Bellamy are among the Tri-County students chosen for the program that allows students a chance to pursue their education, gain necessary hands-on experience, and become viable candidates for positions at BMW. Both students are highlighted in the 2010 – 2011 Annual Report publication.



Following the luncheon, Duke Energy representatives presented a \$4,000 donation to the Foundation to support the Major Gifts Campaign. Pictured from left are **George Acker**, Duke Energy's vice president, South Carolina government and community relations and a member of the Commission; **Dr. Booth**; **Mike Wilson**, business relations manager for Duke Energy Carolinas; **John Lummus**, vice president for the Economic and Institutional Advancement Division; and **Courtney White**, manager of donor relations.

Ambassadors Enjoy Cookout At President's Home



The College's Student Ambassadors enjoyed a cookout at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Booth on September 30. "I wanted to get to know our ambassadors personally, and one of the best ways to do that is to sit down and have a casual chat over burgers and hot dogs," said Dr. Booth. "They are a great group of students and represent the College well." Here, Dr. and Mrs. Booth, second and third from left, pose with four of those in attendance (from left), Paul Watson, Brenda Evans, Ashley Vaughn, and Timothy "Ryan" Chapman.

Easley Campus Hosts Baseball Players From Around the World



The Easley Campus staff teamed up with Outback Steakhouse of Easley to host one of the team dinners for the baseball players and team personnel that were in town to participate in the Big League World Series. The tournament, which has been hosted for the past 11 years in Easley, brings in 17-18-year-old baseball players from around the world to participate in a week-long tournament to decide the World Series Championship. Pictured is Michael Blakely, general manager of Outback in Easley (far left), along with members of the East Team, based in Cumberland New Jersey, and the coaching staff of the EMEA team from the Netherlands (right).

Brenda Rice

(continued from page 7)



Brenda Rice received the Girl Friday Award from Dr. Don Garrison in 1982.

Brenda is a former member of the College's Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Committee and the Staff Advisory Board. She is past secretary for the Instructional Affairs Committee and past secretary for the Part-Time Faculty Committee and a former member of the Accreditation Purpose Committee. She is a member of the South Carolina Technical Education Association (SCTEA) and served as Secretary of its Executive Board in 1994-95 and Secretary for Tri-County's SCTEA chapter in 2007. She was our nominee for the association's Support Staff award in 1991 and again in 2008.

"Brenda is a top-notch administrative assistant and one of the most dedicated, caring, organized people I know," said Career Services Director Glenn Hellenga, who has known her since she was a student here in the 70s.

"She always has a listening ear for students who come in. She is quick with a smile and friendly greeting, which are so important when working in the Student Affairs office. She has always made students feel comfortable. She is a person we will really miss. I wish her well in future days."

Brenda says she looks forward to retirement and to "enjoying life."

Executive Staff Updates

- **Retention Plan:** Discussed new framework for a College-wide retention plan presented by the Strategic Enrollment Management Committee; considered next steps in finalizing details and a roll-out strategy.
- **Compass Testing:** Discussed issues related to the possibility of requiring Compass testing for all incoming students, except transient students, to ensure adequate reading skill levels.
- **Copier Fleet:** A new State contract will allow us to use a fleet management contract for convenience copiers. Additionally, faculty and staff have saved the College significant funds by using Printing Services for course packets and other large copy jobs rather than convenience copiers.
- **Core Indicators:** The College tracks core indicators as a measure of how well we are performing (e.g., graduation rates, success rates, retention rates, etc.). Additional work is needed to ensure our core indicators are tied to desired outcomes in our Strategic Plan.
- **Strategic Plan Report-Out:** College leaders met October 24 for a mid-year progress update on the Three-Year Strategic Plan.
- **Student Success Center:** The Project Team assigned to conduct a feasibility study for construction of a Student Success Center for the Pendleton Campus submitted its final report and recommendations. The next step includes Commission approval.
- **Other:** policies and procedures review; long-term capital plan; Gateway to College changes (see article on page 13).

Campus Store Sponsors Baby Wipes Drive



The Campus Store sponsored a baby wipe collection drive from September 1 – October 6 with proceeds benefiting the Anderson Pregnancy Care Center. Those who donated earned a chance to win an e-reader or a Dell duo laptop. Pictured at the party held October 6 are **Julie Dixon**, director of the Anderson Crisis Pregnancy Center and **Jonathan Bryant**, bookstore sales associate.

Annual Benefits Fair



The 2011 Benefits Fair, held October 5, was a great time for faculty and staff to get answers to questions from the representatives of our insurance carriers. Here, Anderson Federal Credit Union Marketing and Business Development Manager **Stephanie Hall**, left, talks with **Cathy Payne**.

Meet Our SGA Officers



The College's Student Government Association officers for the 2011 – 2012 year are: (standing) **Wendy Sutton**, of Belton, president and a University Transfer major; and seated, from left, **Jennifer Mickle**, of Anderson, secretary and a Medical Assisting major; **Paul Watson**, of Anderson, vice president and a Business Management major; and **Rosa Montoya**, of Belton, treasurer and a Criminal Justice major.

Gateway Program Transitions out of National Network, New Name Being Finalized

Gateway to College, a dropout recovery program offered by the school districts of Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens Counties and Tri-County Technical College since 2005, is transitioning out of the Gateway to College National Network (GtCNN). Starting January 1, 2012, the program will operate independently of GtCNN and be known by a new name. The new name and logo are being finalized and will be unveiled in coming weeks.

Since opening in 2006, the local Gateway program has served hundreds of deserving youth in the tri-county area. Over the past five years, the program has evolved to the point where a new name and more local discretion are needed in order to better support and shape the program's future.

The district superintendents, along with the president and commissioners of Tri-County Technical College, are committed to offering a quality, responsive dropout recovery program for the region that connects high school and postsecondary study for youth who need and deserve a second chance. This program, built on a solid foundation made possible by GtCNN and its signature Gateway to College program, will continue to fill a unique niche in the educational offerings for youth in Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties.

Luncheon Focuses On Work-Ready Community in Belton-Honea Path



A Belton-Honea Path Area Work Ready Community Luncheon was held October 18 at the Watkins Community Center in Honea Path. The purpose of the luncheon was to begin facilitating a Work-Ready Community in the Belton/Honea Path area by promoting services, training, and skills upgrades. Civic leaders, church leaders, industry leaders, and school leaders from the Belton-Honea Path attended, and each Workforce Development Alliance representative gave a short presentation on what services their organization can provide to Belton-Honea Path residents and employers. Here, Honea Path **Mayor Lollis Meyers** gives a report.

MLT

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She added that faculty received excellent feedback from the facilities where students did their clinical training throughout the year. "Comments indicated that our students were well prepared, were able to apply classroom knowledge, and showed an incentive to learn. It's rewarding to hear positive comments that tell us we are on track and preparing our students to be competent in a clinical setting."

Tri-County's six hospital affiliates are AnMed Health, Bon Secours Saint Francis, Baptist Hospital Easley, Cannon Memorial Hospital, Self Regional Health Care, and Oconee Medical Center.

Tri-County's MLT program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS). In spring of 2010 the MLT program received a recommendation for reaccreditation, listing several strengths and no deficiencies following a national accrediting agency's two-day evaluation.

SGA to Participate In Benevolence in November Campaign

Our Student Government Association (SGA) and other student organizations are assisting community agencies this season through the Benevolence in November campaign. Student representatives from SGA and the College's clubs and organizations will be collecting food and clothing for area community agencies on November 5 and 12 at the following locations: Food Lion on Highway 24 in Anderson on November 5 and Food Lion on Highway 81 in Anderson on November 12. Students are assisting the following county agencies: AIM, SHARE, Clemson Community Care, Salvation Army, Safe Harbor 2, and New Foundations.

Retired Teacher Named College in Her Will



Bill Senn, middle, son of the late Patricia H. Senn, of Seneca, contacted the Foundation office recently to inform them that his mother had put Tri-County in her will. Mr. Senn is pictured here presenting a \$30,000 check to **John Lummus**, vice president of the Economic and Institutional Advancement Division, left, and **Elisabeth Gadd**, director of development. The gift has been designated for faculty/staff development for the Engineering and Industrial Technology Division.

Mrs. Senn, who died August 13, 2011, was a retired fifth-grade social studies teacher, who spent most of her career at Gignilliat Elementary School in Seneca. "Education was her life," said Bill, now a Tuscon, Arizona, resident. "She really valued and believed in technical colleges," added Bill, whose father was a cousin of Mrs. Martha Parker, of Seneca.

"Many times we never know the College is named in someone's will until after his or her death, as with Mrs. Senn," said Elisabeth. "This is a very generous gift, one that is Mrs. Senn's way of giving back to her community college."

S.C. Education Superintendent Speaks at Anderson Campus

Our Anderson Campus was the host site for the "State of Education" luncheon sponsored by the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce on October 19. South Carolina's State Superintendent of Education, **Dr. Mick Zais**, was the keynote speaker and offered his perspectives on the state of public education in South Carolina. Other speakers included Anderson Campus Director Tim Bowen, who represented the new Anderson Area Business and Education Alliance, and Otis Rawl, Jr., representing SCMINDS@WORK.

