

Connection

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Our College Family 4



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Ninth Annual Fall Classic Raises \$30,00013

Tri-County Opens QuickJobs Development Center in Anderson

Tri-County Technical College held a ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony October 11 in Anderson for a QuickJobs Development Center dedicated to preparing an advanced workforce to meet the needs of area manufacturers.

This is the College's third QuickJobs Development Center for its three-county service area. Others are located at the Oconee Campus at the Hamilton Career Center in Seneca and at the

Easley Campus. The Centers also are home to the SC Works Centers which offer job seekers and businesses access to employment and training opportunities.

During the ceremony, officials praised the collaborative efforts of Anderson County, the College, S.C. Department of Commerce, and SC Works of Anderson in bringing the Center to fruition.

"It's all about coming together to help make the community a better place," said Dr. Booth. "This is important for the College and the county. My definition of a good citizen is a well-employed citizen."

The 5,847-square-foot-building houses classrooms and a large space for labs, in addition to office space for SC Works. The facility is funded by a \$500,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission through the S.C. Department of Commerce to Anderson County.

The QuickJobs Development Center is operated by the College, and instructors from the Corporate and Community Education Division will teach QuickJobs training courses, such as American Heart Association Certification, Law Enforcement and Private Security programs, Office and Medical Office Skills Certifications, CDL Class A and B (Truck Driver Training), Chemical Industry Training, Heavy Equipment Operator Training (sponsored by Blanchard Machinery), South Carolina Manufacturing Certification, WorkKeys Testing, and more.

In addition, the Center will offer customized training for area businesses and industries.

A key ingredient that sold Anderson County Council Chair Francis Crowder on the QuickJobs

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Dr. Booth, center, and Commissioners joined county and community leaders as they gathered to cut the ribbon for the new Tri-County Technical College QuickJobs Development Center located across from the Anderson Campus.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Report Luncheon – November 5
ADN Students' Health Fair – November 6
Patriots' Place Opening – November 11
Vet Tech Adoption Day – November 21
Chorus Concert – November 22
Thanksgiving Holidays – Nov. 28 and 29
Alumni Association meeting – December 5
Faculty/Staff Holiday Drop-In – Dec. 11
C2C Graduation – December 17

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

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

At least once a day I find myself in discussions about the quality of the workforce in South Carolina. Most often the topic comes up in conversations with local business and industry owners and operators. Other times the question is asked by elected officials. Recently it was discussed at the dedication of the QuickJobs Development Center at our Anderson Campus. Are we doing all we can to prepare our students for the current and future demands of the world of work? My initial reaction is to affirm the value of our educational programs and the strong work ethic of South Carolinians. However, there is much room for improvement in developing employees who have the skills set needed in an increasingly sophisticated world of work.

How do we meet the need for new and more technically-capable employees in a world where we continually experience radical and rapid shifts in systems and techniques? How do we create a pipeline of skilled workers to replace retiring employees in business and industry? Our task is doable, but not easy. To meet current and future workforce needs, we must fundamentally change the way we go about educating our students.

We are fortunate in Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties to have a group focused on the issue of developing the workforce. The Partnership for Academic & Career Education (PACE) is made up of our seven local school superintendents in the three-county area, our Regional Education Center, staff from Tri-County Technical College, and representatives from local businesses and industries. With leadership from our Director of High School Engagement and Outreach, Amanda Blanton, this group is focused on finding new ways to introduce middle and high school students to the many technically-advanced, high-wage career opportunities that require less than a four-year college degree.

As a result of many hours of conversation, background work, group brainstorming, and trial and error, we are on track to see real change in our service area in the near future.

We have taken our successful dual credit program, which historically has focused on high school students enrolling in University Transfer courses during their senior year, and expanded the model to include a dual credit career pathway leading to a technical degree. This fall we are piloting such a program on our Anderson Campus in conjunction with Anderson District Three. Students from Crescent High School are enrolled in TCTC electronics technology courses for which they will receive not only high school and college credit, but also a Basic Electronics certificate from Tri-County by the time they graduate from high school. This certificate will enable these students to immediately enter the workforce with marketable skills and/or continue at Tri-County to earn an associate degree in Industrial Electronics or Mechatronics.

Similarly, we have entered into a partnership with the School District of Pickens County to teach the Manufacturing Skills Standards Council (MSSC) certificate for select high school students. Like the program with Crescent High School, the Tri-County courses will count toward a high school diploma and the completion of a certificate from Tri-County. Upon graduation, these graduates will be equipped with a marketable credential, allowing them to go straight to work or continue at Tri-County for additional education.

We plan to expand the technical career pathways model to other school districts next year and develop additional pathways leading to technology-focused careers.

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Spotlight on Wellness Challenge

Mathematics instructor Robin Pepper initially joined the 12-week Wellness Challenge that kicked off September 23 as a favor to her good friend, Lou Ann Martin. “She knew I had been trying to get healthier over the summer. We are such good friends, so when she called and asked me to join her team, I said yes,” said Robin, who, along with 114 other full- and part-time faculty and staff, signed up.

“What began as a favor to a friend has become a way to reconnect with my colleagues and to achieve some healthy lifestyle goals I set for myself this summer,” said Robin, who, before the Challenge was announced, began parking in the Mechanic Street parking lot and making the one-and-one-half mile trek to and from her Oconee Hall office most days.

“This challenge is designed to help each of us, no matter our physical level, incorporate some healthy activities into our daily lives,” said Lisa Anderson, Wellness Center/benefits coordinator at the College. Activities are categorized by physical activity, mental health, nutrition, general health, and wellness center events.

Here’s how it works:

Employees (permanent and/or temporary) form a five-person team to compete in this challenge. Team members do not have to be from the same department or campus. Twenty-three teams were formed, and team captains were established.

Each team member tracks his/her points on a weekly basis and submits them each Monday throughout the 12-week challenge. The points are tallied each week and posted on team boards in the Wellness Center and the wellness webpage.

All Wellness Center events and activities are posted on the new webpage powered by Regroup (<http://tctc.regroup.com>). Additional points and gifts will be awarded throughout the 12-week challenge, which ends Sunday, December 15.

Overall prizes will be awarded in January 2014 to the team with the most points and the employee with the most points.

“This Wellness Challenge is not about diet and weight loss. You never have to step on the scales,” Lisa stressed. “You don’t have to be an athlete to join the Wellness Challenge. It’s about starting and maintaining a more healthy lifestyle. You can gain points for completing weekly activities, such as community service, drinking 64 ounces of water a day, taking 10,000 steps a day, brushing and flossing your teeth, getting seven hours of sleep a night, and eating a healthy breakfast,” she said.

The beauty is these activities can be done at home or while team members are at work. “You don’t have to work



Benefits Coordinator **Lisa Anderson**, who is spearheading the College’s Wellness Challenge, decorated the Wellness Center with team posters.

out in our Wellness Center,” said Lisa.

“Points easily can be racked up by everyday

activities. Participants get two points each week for checking their blood pressure, which can be done at home or at CVS or WalMart. They got points for attending our Benefits Fair and for participating in a blood screening.”

As Robin indicated, an added bonus is the camaraderie that is developing amongst team members whose paths don’t cross on a daily basis. “They are stopping and talking. People are saying they are having fun. They are more aware of how much water they are drinking, how many steps they take per day,” said Lisa.

Dr. Dick Whisenhunt, an adjunct science and nutrition instructor since 2006, jumped at the chance to form a team when he received the e-mail announcing the Wellness Challenge. “I’ve been waiting for something like this. I’m so excited. It’s a program that fits anybody’s needs. It’s an easy way to get healthier,” said Dick, who is downloading the weekly wellness recipes located on the website. “I’m a cook. I’m trying them with my family,” said Dick, who participated in the blood screening several weeks ago. He learned that his glucose level was elevated. “I had no idea,” he said, and plans to get it under control through eating healthier and exercise—both components of the Wellness Challenge.

“What counts is consistency across a broad spectrum of healthy habits,” said Lisa. “If you engage in these activities and you adopt one healthy habit for life, you’ve been successful.”

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!

Our College Family

excellence through service

Congratulations to the following individuals who have been chosen to deliver presentations at the S.C. Technical Education Association annual conference in February 2014:

George Fiori, CIT instructor, “Finishing a Class Before the End of the Semester;” **Lou Ann Martin**, Title III activity director, “Helping Advisors Get the Big Picture;” **Dr. Brian Swords**, Easley Campus director, “Pathways to Success—A Common Sense Model for Intake Processes;” **Kevin Steele**, Administrative Services director, “Student Engagement Strategies for Campus Stores and Café Operations;” and **Amanda Nelson**, adjunct faculty member, “Don’t Shoot a Gnat with a Cannon.”

Gregg Stapleton, vice president for Business Affairs, has been selected to conduct a presentation titled “A ‘Model’ Approach to Managing Sustainability Risk” at the fall conference of the Southern Association of College and University Business Officers in November.

in transition

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Jeanell Hughes is our new Human Resources Consultant. Since 2005, she has worked as a Human Resources Consultant/Manager in education and business. She comes to us from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She worked as Human Resources Manager for Express Oil Change, as well as Target Stores and Indiana University. She began her career in product development at General Mills/Pillsbury. She has a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from Kent State University. She is a member of the Professionals in Human Resources organization. She and her husband, Marc Wilson, live in Central.



Jeanell Hughes

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Jenni Creamer is our new Transition to College Dean. She will provide leadership to the new Transition to College unit, which includes high school engagement, TRiO, recruiting, Bridge to Clemson, Connect to College, admissions, comprehensive studies, and college skills classes. The



Jenni Creamer

new Transition to College unit was formed to enable the College to provide a more cohesive transition experience that allows students to develop learning capacity within an educational environment that is engaging and positions them for success.

Jenni has been Director of the College’s Bridge to Clemson program since joining Tri-County in 2009. Prior to joining the College, Jenni was employed at Presbyterian College, where she served as Director of Residence Life and Student Activities from 2007 – 09. Prior to that, she was Residence Life Coordinator at Wake Forest University for a year and was Graduate Hall Director at Clemson University for two years. She began her career at the S.C. Governor’s School for the Arts and Humanities as a Residence Life Coordinator.

Jenni holds a B.A. in Sociology from the University of S.C. at Spartanburg and an M.Ed. in Counselors Education – Student Affairs from Clemson. She received the Walter T. Cox New Professional of the Year Award in 2008 and is Director of Member Services for the S.C. College Personnel Association.

Christina Houck (no photo available) joined us as a Recruiter for the Admissions Department. She was a Customer Service Leader for Cross County Home Services for the past year. She earned a bachelor of arts in Communications from Anderson University in 2011. Christina lives in Anderson.

ARTS AND SCIENCES DIVISION

John Cook is the new Lab Coordinator for the Science Department. He has worked as an adjunct physics, physical science, and astronomy instructor here since 2007, as well as a tutor from 2011 – 12. He worked as an adjunct instructor of physics at Anderson University from 2005 – 2007.

John earned B.S. and M.S. degrees in Physics from Clemson University. He was the Arts and Sciences Division’s nominee for the Outstanding adjunct faculty member Presidential Award in 2013 and received the American Association of Physics Teachers Award for Most Outstanding Teaching Assistant for 2001 – 02. John lives in Clemson.



John Cook

ECONOMIC AND INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Beth Byars joined us September 30 as the Administrative Assistant for the Division. Many of you remember Beth, who worked as a Marketing Assistant from 1991 – 2000 at the College. Since then, she has worked as a Customer Service and Advertising Account Executive for the Anderson Independent-Mail and The Printer in Anderson. She spent the last seven years employed as a sales associate at Belk in Anderson.



Beth Byars

Beth is a 1983 graduate of our Radio and Television Broadcasting program and later earned a Microcomputer Applications certificate.

In the past, she served on the board of the local S.C. Technical Education Association chapter, as well as the Upstate Postal Council. She is a member of the Junior League of Anderson and holds an office in the Bud and Bloom Garden Club of Anderson. She and her husband are members of NewSpring Church in Anderson.

Beth has two sons, Matthew, 24, and Jonathan, 18. She and her husband, Larry, live in Anderson.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

We welcome two staff members to our SC ACCELERATE Program located at the Industrial Technology Center.

Charley Holden serves as the Director/Counselor of the Adult Postsecondary Transition Center through the S.C. ACCELERATE Program. She worked as a Probation and Parole Agent for the S.C. Department of Probation, Pardon, and Parole Services for 13 years. She is a 1997 alumna of our Business Technology program and holds a B.S. in Sociology from Clemson and a master of science in Management from Southern Wesleyan University. Charley and her husband, John, live in Anderson and have a daughter, Jaylie.



Charley Holden

Emma Campbell is the Program Manager for the SC ACCELERATE Program. She comes to us from the National Association of Women in Construction



Emma Campbell

Education Foundation, where she was the Administrator from 2007 - 12. She also worked as a Case Manager III at SHARE from 2004 - 06 and was named Case Manager of the Year in 2005. She was an Administrative Specialist for the Registrar at Clemson University from 2000 - 04.

Emma earned an associate degree in Business in 2001 from Tri-County and a bachelor in Business from Limestone College. She has a master's in Public Administration from Walden University. She is a member of the Pi Alpha Alpha National Honor Society for Public Administration and is a Certified Career Development Facilitator. She served as Secretary for the Toastmasters Club from 2012 - 13 and is a volunteer for Ripple of One. Emma lives in Seneca.

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

Hugh Cole

Jane Gray

Michelle LeTourneau

Chesley Tench

Catherine Vinson

Buffy York



This note came from Debbie Norris:

First, I want to take this opportunity in Brag and Share to personally thank each and everyone here at TCTC for the support, cards, and words of encouragement to me in the recent passing of my husband, David Norris.

Second, I want to commend **Dr. Lynn Lewis** and the entire Nursing faculty for doing a superb job in preparing the Nursing students for their careers. In the five-plus weeks at the hospital, I encountered many of our former students. The care and concern they showed to my husband was phenomenal, and I am sure that all of the patients of these nurses were receiving the same great care. Many conversations would start when the nurse would ask where I worked, and they would proceed to tell me of their love for TCTC and their instructors. So a huge "Kudos" to our Nursing Faculty for a job well done!

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.

Alumni Association News



The Alumni Association created a display featuring scarecrows representing each academic division of the College as part of the Pendleton Fall Festival held October 5.

Scarecrow Display

Tri-County's Alumni Association entered the Pendleton Fall Harvest Festival Competition, Scarecrows on the Square. The display included a nurse representing the Health Education Division, a welder representing Engineering & Industrial Technology, a law enforcement officer representing Business and Public Services, and a University Transfer student. During the month of October, many stopped by the display at the corner of Queen and Exchange Streets on the Pendleton Square to meet our scarecrow family.

Book Scholarships

Do you know a Tri-County student who needs extra funds for books and supplies? Are they the child, parent, or spouse of a Tri-County graduate? Then encourage them to apply for the Alumni Association's book/supply awards for spring semester. Five awards of \$250 will be made.

Discount Tickets

Planning a trip to Biltmore Estate this fall? The Alumni Association has a limited number of tickets for \$40 each – a \$19 savings off the gate price. Tickets do not expire and can be used for any daytime visit. Profits from ticket sales benefit the Alumni Association's scholarship fund.

For more info, email alumni@tctc.edu or call Mary Johnston at 864-646-1808.

College Participates in Annual Business & Industry Showcase

*Aaron Hand, a student at Seneca Middle School, stopped by the College's Engineering and Industrial Technology Division booth at the Fourth Annual Business & Industry Showcase held October 2-3 in Littlejohn Coliseum on the Clemson University Campus. Here, Academic Advisor **Stephanie Evans** demonstrates how to program the Staubli industrial robot.*



During the two-day event, students from Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties school districts had an opportunity to learn about a wide variety of career choices that are available in the Upstate. The goal of the event is to help young people understand the decisions that they need to make now in order to thrive in their future careers.

*Students from Powdersville High School stopped by the College's booth at the Fourth Annual Business & Industry Showcase. Here, **Janelle Hicks**, director of health care for the College's Corporate and Community Education Division, left, talks to students about careers in the health care field, while demonstrating how to measure the blood pressure of student **Bryson Martin**. Pictured with them are students **Austin Snow** and **Ethan Williams**.*



College signs agreement with USC Upstate

Tri-County and USC Upstate recently finalized a transfer agreement with USC Upstate that allows TCTC graduates who have an associate in applied science degree in General Engineering Technology or Engineering Graphics Technology to seamlessly transfer into the Engineering Technology Management bachelor's program at USC Upstate with junior level status.



ARC Grant Funds More Welding Booths At Industrial Technology Center

A \$250,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) will add 24 new welding booths and equipment at the Industrial Technology Center (ITC), allowing the College to expand enrollment in one of its fastest-growing technical programs.

“Our total enrollment for the Welding program is 120 students total between day and evening,” said Paul Phelps, welding program coordinator. “This grant will allow us to expand our program to accept 48 more students and funding to purchase most of the welding equipment needed for instruction. Matching funds will supply the remainder of the welding equipment, and all installation costs, including special ventilation and piping of the potentially hazardous gasses.”

Until the ITC opened in spring of 2013, enrollment was limited to the number of welding booths at the Pendleton Campus, and students weren’t able to take classes that accommodated their varying schedules, he said. “There were 34 welding booths at Pendleton. We couldn’t meet industry’s demand for skilled welders. In the new facility, there are 48 booths, and this grant gives us the capacity for 72 booths by next semester,” he said.

“We appreciate the ARC funding. Individual welding booths and equipment are essential for each student. This program is very hands on and reliant on equipment—we need more than a desk and a chair,” Paul said.

“This facility, along with the expansion, gives students better scheduling options. At Pendleton, we were at capacity and therefore had limited scheduling options. Now we can offer more class sections at desired times. Now there are options for everyone,” he said.

In addition, one lab at the ITC will serve participants in the SC ACCELERATE program, a fast track educational and career pathway for adults. “This program, geared toward helping unemployed, underemployed, and dislocated adult workers to find a new career in welding and Computer Numeric Control, allows our two-year Welding curriculum to be condensed to one year through double time in the labs,” he said.

Paul expressed his thanks to ARC funding for the expansion, as well as companies who have supported the program. “It’s been phenomenal, the support we have received from the College, as well as donations from companies and the community. Because of it, our students are better equipped for the workplace. Two new companies, McLaughlin Body Company and SMF, recently located in this area, giving our graduates more job placement opportunities. The companies have been very open about this facility being the deciding factor, the reason they came to Anderson County.”



*Welding major **David Hinant**, of Anderson, is seen in a welding booth. An ARC grant will allow expansion of the welding program to accept 48 more students and funding to purchase most of the welding equipment needed for instruction.*

College Raises \$5,766 for United Way Campaign



Thanks to the hard work of co-chairs Emily Danuser, academic advisor in the Business and Public Services Division, and Greg Toney, speech instructor, the College raised \$5,677 for United Way.

United Way is an umbrella organization that supports dozens of local charitable groups, such as the Salvation Army, Foothills Alliance, Meals on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity, the American Red Cross, and Boys and Girls Clubs. Employees had the opportunity to designate the agency of their choice in the three-county area to be the recipient of their contributions. Those who signed up for a payroll deduction contribution of \$10 or more per pay period or an equivalent one-time contribution were entered into a drawing for a reserved parking spot.

“We really enjoyed working on the campaign. It’s always a good feeling when you are working to help an organization whose sole purpose is to help others,” said Emily. “It also gave us the opportunity to get to know faculty and staff we don’t see on a regular basis.”

“Years ago, I worked for United Way, and I strongly believe in its mission,” said Greg. “The generosity of the Tri-County family in donating to causes like this is something we should all feel good about.”

“I also want to thank the division representatives who dispersed the pledge forms,” added Emily. “It’s a lot of work to try to make sure everyone on campus has the opportunity to give.”

Student Veterans Center, Patriots' Place, to Open November 11



The College will open a new student veterans center, Patriots' Place, on Veterans Day (November 11) on the Pendleton Campus. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to stop by during the grand opening celebration set for 11 a.m. in the Student Center, Suite 155.

Patriots' Place will be open to all student veterans to relax, gather resources, have meetings, and enjoy a cup of coffee together, said Disabilities Coordinator Stephanie Winkler, who is working on the project as a member of the S.C. Technical College Leadership Academy. This center will serve as a one-stop shop for enrollment processes, resources, and a place to hang out and talk, she said. "It will give veterans a home on campus. Veterans take care of other veterans," she said. In addition, a licensed professional counselor will be available by appointment to give counseling to combat veterans, she said. "We have more than 200 veterans on all of our campuses. This will be a place where they can get to know each other, study together, have meetings, and access resources. Veterans' peers are the biggest support system they have."

Resources, services, and amenities will continue to be added to Patriots' Place, with offices at the Anderson and Easley Campuses to follow.

For additional information, please contact Stephanie Winkler at 646-1564 or swinkler@tctc.edu.

QuickJobs

(continued from page 1)

Development Center was the potential to bring new business and industry to the area. "Through a partnership with Tri-County Technical College, Anderson County stepped up and was the applicant for the grant through the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Governor's Office, and the Department of Commerce. It was good process that was unanimously approved by Council," he said. "There is a need for skilled workers on a different plane than we've ever seen before. Many locate here because of the workforce and our capacity to provide training for workers needed in their facilities."

"Job seekers cannot maintain status quo," said Ronnie Allen, executive director of WorkLink Workforce Investment Board (WIB). "They need a higher skills set to meet employer needs. The WIB executive committee put in a new service delivery model and now SC Works and WIA will locate to a more cost effective and efficient place here," he said. "We will offer comprehensive services to employers and job seekers. WorkLink and Tri-County have a hand-in-glove fit. SC Works offers career development services and Tri-County offers jobs skills courses. The goal is for all unemployed workers to be self sustainable when they leave here."

"We are pleased to be a funding partner," said Megan Anderson, CDBG grants manager/ARC program manager for the SC Department of Commerce. "Bringing training opportunities closer to home is just right for business and just right for economic development. We look forward to a future filled with opportunity and promise."



Teresa Young, operations manager for the Corporate and Community Education Division, is pictured with AFCCO President Andreas Abbing in a QuickJobs classroom.

Celebrating Constitution Day

Constitution Day 2013 was celebrated at all of our campuses with cake, free pocket constitutions, and a voter registration drive. Constitution Day commemorates the formation and signing of the US Constitution. Here, Graham Lynch, of Anderson, an IET major, registers to vote.

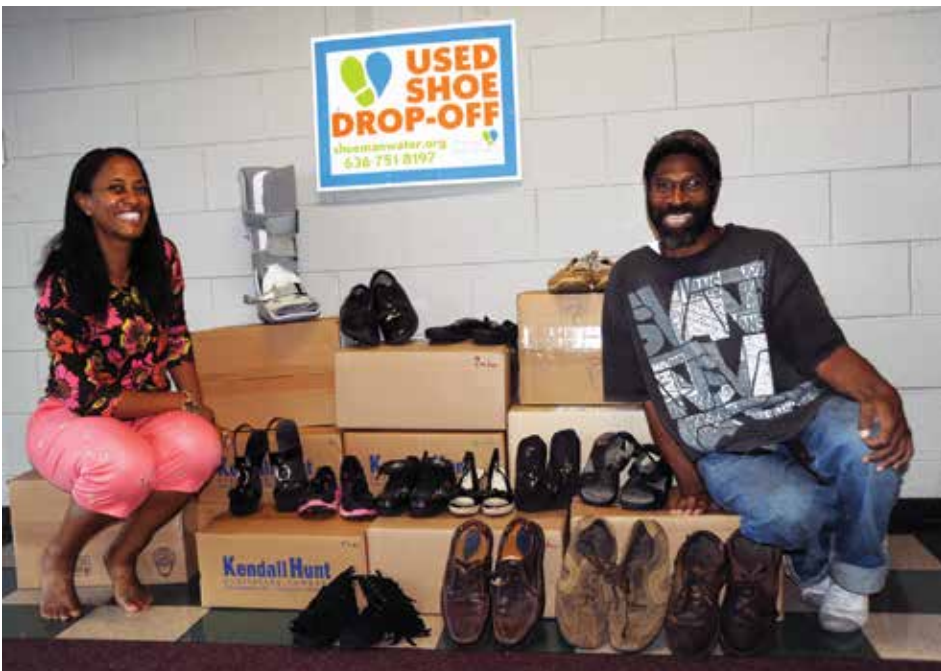




Tri-County Women Aim High

Several faculty and staff were part of the group representing Tri-County at the Women AIM High lunch to benefit Anderson Interfaith Ministries. Standing are **Alydia Sims, Sandra Magee, Pat Vatakis, Mary Johnston, and Laneika Musalini**; and (seated) are **Sue Bladzik, Denise Day, and Chesley Tench**.

Minority Student Association Shoe Drive Benefits Haiti Water Wells



The Minority Student Association (MSA) held a Shoe Drive this semester to benefit the Shoeman Water project. Students, faculty, and staff donated 120 pairs of new and gently-used shoes that will be resold and money used to build water wells in Haiti. The Shoeman Water Project collects donated shoes – any kind, new or gently used – from schools, churches, businesses, and shoe drives, exports the shoes to street vendors in places like Haiti, Kenya, and South America, and uses the funds from exporting for clean water programs in communities around the world. Pictured here are MSA President **Jimmy Gore**, of Pendleton, a Mechatronics major; and **Cindy Trimmier-Lee**, Educational Talent Search counselor and MSA club advisor.

College to Go Tobacco Free August 2014

The College's Commission unanimously voted at its October meeting to become a tobacco-free college, effective August 1, 2014. "We are committed to supporting a culture and environment of health for students, faculty, staff, and visitors. A tobacco-free environment contributes substantially to a healthier environment," said Dr. Booth.

Beginning Aug. 1, 2014, tobacco use will be prohibited on all Tri-County Technical College campuses and learning centers, including all building, parking lots, and outdoor areas. "Tobacco" refers to any and all tobacco products, whether inhaled or ingested, as well as electronic cigarettes.

Over the course of this academic year, the College will provide information and support to those who wish to stop using tobacco products through the Student Assistance Program, the Employee Assistance Program, and other resources and services.

Regular reminders of support services and the implementation date will be provided using all College communications tools. In addition, the new policy will be published in the College catalog and new students will be oriented to the policy during the enrollment process.

Additional information will be provided in the near future to include Tobacco Free initiative FAQ's.

Charter Media Producer/Alumnus Visits Radio/TV Department



Charter Media brought its large vehicle to campus October 15 as an opportunity for Radio and Television Broadcasting and other students to see the vehicle they use in remote production (mostly to cover sports and other area events). "Charter Media has been very generous to our program in hiring graduates, offering internships, and supporting our advisory committee and Media Mash-up," said John Woodson, RTV program coordinator. Pictured inside the Charter Media vehicle are student **Cody Crooks**, back, and **Steven Mathena**, RTV adjunct instructor.



1985 RTV graduate **Clayton Gibson**, senior sports producer, Charter Media, left, was a classmate with RTV Program Coordinator **John Woodson**, who also graduated in 1985.

Anderson District Three Observes New Crescent Career Pathway Program

Representatives from Anderson School District Three met at the Anderson Campus to see firsthand a new career pathway program designed for Crescent High School students to achieve a Tri-County credential by the time they graduate from high school.

Students receive Technical Advanced Placement credit for electricity classes taken in high school; then dually enroll at the Anderson Campus for four Engineering and Industrial Technology classes during their senior year. The program culminates with students receiving a Basic Electronics Certificate by the time they graduate from high school. They also accrue 20-plus hours of college credit towards an associate degree in either Mechatronics or Industrial Electronics.

This innovative career pathways model is the first of several being developed with school districts in our service area. These career pathways will provide the employer-defined skills needed in advanced manufacturing, business, and other disciplines.



Dr. Mason Gary, superintendent of Anderson School District Three Schools, center, observes the lab work of Crescent High School students **Grant Harbin** and **Trent Hill**.

Seen at left in background **Amanda Blanton**, director of High School Engagement and Outreach, talks with **Devon Smith**, principal of Crescent High School. Seen at right in background **Shan Smith**, Industrial Electronics Technology program coordinator, and **Kathy Hipp**, professional development coordinator for Anderson School District Three, observe lab activities.



Devon Smith, principal of Crescent High School, engages with Crescent High School students **Nathan Burdette** and **Justin Parnell**.

Connecting

(continued from page 2)

Creating technical career pathways takes a strong commitment and meticulous planning on the part of public school and college officials, with input from local industry partners. Our PACE Board believes we are moving in the right direction, and we are convinced we will be successful in using this strategy to prepare more and more young people for the high-skills, high-wage jobs of now and the future.

Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D.
President

Benefits Fair Well Attended

Printing Services Director **Denise Hall** talks with **Harold Nash** from Vision Care, one of the many vendors who participated in our Benefits Fair held October 3.



Faculty Elected to SCADE Board



Several members of the Comprehensive Studies Department attended the 31st Annual South Carolina Association for Developmental Education Conference (SCADE) October 24-25. SCADE is a chapter of the National Association for Developmental Education.

At the conference, Department Head Jennifer Hulehan presented a session called "Creating a More Successful Maiden Voyage: Applying Best Practices in First-Year Student Success in the Developmental Classroom." Jennifer, who has served as Secretary on the SCADE Board for the last year, was chosen to serve as President-Elect in 2014 and will head the organization as President in 2015. Tonia Faulling was elected to replace Jennifer as Secretary on the Board.

SCADE will be hosting the National Conference in Greenville in 2015, and Tri-County's Board representatives and SCADE members already have begun working and will play a large role in preparing and running that conference.

Pictured (from left) are **Jonathan Warnock** (English), **Gwen Owens** (Reading), **Chris Meyer** (English), **Jennifer Hulehan** (Department Head), **Tracy Kilgore** (English), **Tonia Faulling** (Math), **Jimmy Walker** (Math), and **Andrea Barnett** (Math).

Executive Staff Updates

- **TCTC Going Tobacco Free in August 2014:** The Commission approved a tobacco policy effective Aug. 1, 2014. Tobacco use will be prohibited on all Tri-County Technical College campuses and learning centers, including all building, parking lots, and outdoor areas. "Tobacco" refers to any and all tobacco products, whether inhaled or ingested, as well as electronic cigarettes. Over the course of this academic year, the College will provide information and support to those who wish to stop using tobacco products through the Student Assistance Program, the Employee Assistance Program, and other resources and services.
- **College Financial Audit Results:** An external audit recently was conducted and the audit team found that the College's financial statement fairly reflects the institution's financial position and operations and complies with generally accepted accounting principles.
- **Transformative Student Experience Interviews:** Members of the President's Advisory Council (PAC) are conducting interviews to help define the "TCTC Transformative Student Experience" as part of our effort to create an environment that will

foster a transformative experience for all students and put them on the path to a successful life and career. This initiative is linked directly to the College's three-year strategic plan and ten-year vision to "transform lives and shape the community."

- **Defining Competencies for Employees:** The College is transitioning to a more comprehensive employee talent management approach aligned with our strategic plan. A project team is working to identify competencies for faculty, staff, and leadership. Competencies describe employee characteristics that result in effective and/or superior performance. Employees are being asked to contribute to the design of the competency list, which will have a direct impact on future job descriptions, hiring practices, training opportunities, performance evaluations, etc. The goal is to use the surveys, forums, and direct input to determine three or four core competencies that will be approved by the Talent Management Project Charter team, PAC, and Executive Staff.
- Other: Policy and procedure updates; north entrance improvements; Pickens Hall renovations.

Foundation News

It's not too late - you still can contribute to the Employee Giving Campaign. Contact Courtney White at Ext. 1484 or cwhite12@tctc.edu.

Ninth Annual Fall Classic Raises \$30,000

The ninth annual Fall Classic Golf Tournament, held September 20 at Cross Creek Plantation in Seneca, raised \$30,000. Since 2005, the Tri-County Technical College Foundation has hosted this tournament and to date has raised \$262,000 to support special initiatives at the College.

This year, the money raised will help support Connect to College (C2C), a dropout recovery program for youth between the ages of 17-20. The first of its kind in the state, C2C has helped many deserving young people to get back on track and focused on an education leading to a promising, productive future. C2C students take dual credit courses taught by Tri-County faculty in order to meet requirements for the high school diploma (awarded by one of the high schools in Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties) and to generate college credit toward a postsecondary credential.



Patrick Cox, who played in the Goodwyn Mills and Cawood team

This year, 31 teams registered for the tournament. "The tournament has grown so much over the years, so in order for everyone to enjoy the day, this year we divided the event into morning and afternoon tournaments. It worked out very nicely, and we received lots of positive feedback about the course at Cross Creek and how the 8 a.m. tee time gave people more flexible options for their busy Friday afternoons," said Courtney White, director of development and coordinator of the tournament. "We hope to grow the tournament to accommodate up to 48 teams."



*Connect to College students attended the tournament and served as volunteers. Pictured from left to right are **Reese Miller**, of Easley; Chesley Tench (kneeling, former C2C program resource assistant); **Judah Slack**, Westminster; C2C Director **Diana Walter**; and **Liz Stafford**, of Liberty.*



*The lead sponsor for the tournament was Tri-Tech, USA in Liberty. The company's owner, **Joe Bacigalupo**, left, played in the morning tournament with **Robert Colcolough**, general manager at the company. Robert is the husband, of Sharon Colcolough, director of personnel at the College.*

