

Connection

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Industrial Technology Center to Open Fall 2012



The Industrial Technology Center, a state-of-the-art welding and heating ventilation and air conditioning training facility, set to open in the fall of 2012

Renovation work began this summer on the Industrial Technology Center, a state-of-the-art welding and heating ventilation and air conditioning training facility, set to open in the fall of 2012. The 42,000-square-foot building is located on Highway 76 in Sandy Springs on five acres of land and is just four miles from the Pendleton Campus.

This summer the roof has been replaced, and on September 27 bids were opened for building infrastructure and welding program upfit, said Ken Kopera, director of our physical plant.

“We are adding sustainability components such as increased roof insulation and skylights for natural lighting,” said Ken.

Designed to simulate a real-life industrial setting, the structure will use various types of construction techniques in the retrofitting process to be used later as teaching tools in the classroom, said Eugene Grant, dean of the Engineering and Industrial Technology Division.

Enrollment for both programs has grown considerably over the last five years, said Eugene. In 2004 - 05, there were 40 welding majors. Now there are 135 students in the program. In 2004-2005, there were 38 HVAC students; now there are 59 enrolled this fall.

The renovated building will house updated equipment and provide additional space for instruction. It will allow us 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 the industries we serve.

Director of Development Elisabeth Gadd is actively seeking support for the new facility and says there are 30 room-naming opportunities for the Industrial Technology Center. “It is a great way for local industries to partner with the College through company exposure in the building. All students and visitors will see these names and remember them in future business decisions,” said Elisabeth. Interested persons should call Elisabeth at Ext. 1812 to tour the Industrial Technology Center.

Funds from the Fall Classic Golf Tournament, set for October 6, will support the Industrial Technology Center.

UPCOMING EVENTS

First Annual Wine Tasting at
Anderson Campus.....October 6
Fall Classic
Golf Tournament.....October 7
Annual Report Luncheon.... October 20

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



Ronnie L. Booth
President

Connecting

Soon we will have a new asset to boost our economic development efforts.

We recently received word that Anderson County was awarded a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission to build a QuickJobs Development Center on our Anderson Campus. Like our other QuickJobs Development Centers, the Anderson facility will be equipped and operated by the College and used to provide job readiness, technical skills, and workforce training for individuals and companies. It will be approximately 6,000 square feet, somewhat larger than the 4,500-square-foot facilities on the Easley Campus and the Oconee Campus at the Hamilton Career Center.

Having a QuickJobs Development Center at each community campus, along with our Economic Development Center on the Pendleton Campus, will be a true advantage for local companies, as well as an incentive to offer industries from outside our area who are considering relocating to our community.

The timing of this venture is ideal. Despite our continuing economic challenges at the the State and national levels, we have seen some positive signs in relation to stabilization and potential growth in industrial jobs in the Upstate of South Carolina. After a period of relative quiet, more companies are starting to contact the College to request training for current employees and new job openings. Additionally, our local economic development agencies are having greater success in luring industry prospects to our area as evidenced by the recent announcements by JR Automation Technologies and KP Components that they will locate plants in Pickens County. Each company will create more than fifty new high-tech jobs for the community.

This is definitely good news for Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties, particularly during these difficult economic times. We offer many attractive programs that appeal to local companies, including apprenticeships, cooperative education, credit programs in technical areas, and customized non-credit training. For new industries, we are able to commit to being their full-service training partner from beginning to end, starting with the readySC™ program that provides startup training free of charge for new and expanding industries.

Like the rest of the country, our corner of South Carolina has weathered tough times – and it is not over yet. But each step we take in improving and expanding our services to new and existing industries helps make them stronger, more competitive, and able to create new jobs. I am confident that better times are coming. I am equally convinced that the role we play in their success is now more important than ever before.

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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.

Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D.
President



Spotlight on TEACH Mentors

Shelly Marchbanks knows first-hand the value of having a mentor to rely on for advice and support when a college student is balancing studies with full-time teaching at a pre-school.

Eleven years ago, she began teaching in a pre-school setting while in high school. "I fell in love with the career. I wanted to be the best teacher I could be so when I heard about the advantages of the South Carolina TEACH Scholarship program, I entered the Early Childhood Development (ECD) associate degree program at Tri-County Technical College."

The S.C. Teacher Education and Compensation Helps (TEACH) Scholarship Program makes higher education affordable, in terms of cost and time, by providing college scholarships to help with tuition, books, and travel while early childhood education professionals earn credentials and degrees. The purpose of the scholarship program, funded by the S.C. Department of Social Services, is to increase the educational levels of the childcare professionals in the State.

Terms of the scholarship include staying in the field one year after graduating and completion of nine credit hours in a calendar year to maintain the scholarship funding. Recipients also receive incentives, such as a \$300 bonus if they are working toward an associate degree, and a \$200 bonus if working when they complete the ECD 101 course.

TEACH pays 80 percent of the scholarship, and the participant and his/her sponsoring childcare program each pay 10 percent of the cost. South Carolina received \$1.35 million this year for its TEACH Program. Currently there are 12 Tri-County students in the program. TEACH SC is the fourth largest in the nation in terms of scholarships awarded annually.

Six years after receiving her associate degree, Shelly is back at Tri-County completing some University Transfer credits before transferring to Clemson where she will pursue a bachelor's degree. In addition she serves as a mentor for the very program that she credits with keeping her focused and successful.

Debra Nodine, program coordinator/instructor for our ECD program, who served as Department Head for the Center for Child Care Career



Early Childhood Development graduates, from left, **April Brown**, **Shelly Marchbanks**, and **Karen Durham**, are now TEACH Mentors.

Development – TEACH Scholarship Program for nine years, says it's exciting to see graduates coming back to serve as mentors.

"The weekly mentoring sessions are the program's most valuable component," said Debra. "These mentors have been through the process so they understand what it means to be full-time students, parents and employees. All are familiar with the responsibilities of working full time and balancing work, family, church, etc. They are familiar with the stresses that can occur within the family dynamics of going back to school. Students are returning to the classroom after many years, so they have to reintroduce themselves to the school process. The mentoring component makes them more successful students."

Karen Durham, director of the Pickens Presbyterian Church Day Care, earned an ECD degree in 2006 after 30 years of working in early childcare education.

"The TEACH mentors took every step with us," Karen recalled. "(Scholarship Counselors/Advisors) Debra Nodine and Wendy Liberator were so patient and encouraging." Today, as a mentor to four Tri-County students, Karen makes weekly contact by phone, e-mail, text or in person "to encourage and help them the way Debra and Wendy did for me. It's a chance to give back," she said.

(continued on page 7)

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!



Science
Department Head
Galen Dehay writes:
“The Science
Department wants
to thank **Kevin**

Steele and his staff, particularly **Patrick Stapleton**, for distributing thousands of course packets to all the campus locations. Their work saved faculty hours of time distributing materials so faculty could focus on getting ready for classes. Kevin and his staff did an amazing job in a short time frame, and we can't thank his staff enough!”

Ken Kopera, director of our physical plant, writes:

“On Wednesday, September 21, we were having issues with the HVAC Control system that had been plaguing us for several months. With no prior warning, **Larry Barnes** was met by Gregg Rowe and a Service Technician upon his return from lunch. Larry put aside his other obligations and worked on the problem non-stop until 6:30 p.m. at which time there was a resolution. I am very grateful to Larry for his selfless commitment to work on this problem until the end, especially with no advance notice.”

Congratulations to **Evette Moss**, administrative specialist in the Economic and Institutional Advancement Division, and her husband Marcus, on the birth of their daughter Elise Victoria, born September 16. Elise weighed 7 lbs., 10 oz. and was 21 inches long.

Congratulations to **Sara Crocker**, assistant manager of the Campus Store, and her husband Brent, on the birth of their daughter, Ava Grace, born September 4. Ava weighed 8 lbs., 3 oz. and was 20.5 inches long.

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

Our College Family

excellence through service

Christee Williams, a licensed veterinary technician and instructor in our Veterinary Technology program since 1989, has been asked to serve on the 2011 Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE) Practice Analysis Task Force, an ad hoc committee of 10–12 subject matter experts who represent a broad range of practice settings. The role of the task force is to critically review the current test content outline of the VTNE examination and to update it as appropriate to reflect contemporary practices in the field. She will attend her first meeting October 15 – 16 in Kansas City, Missouri.



Christee Williams

VTNE, owned and administered by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards, is used to evaluate entry-level veterinary technicians' competence to practice and to be credentialed. The computer-based exam is given in three testing windows a year and is constantly updated, reviewed and reevaluated by a highly qualified team writers so that it remains a valid tool. Most states and provinces require a passing score on the VTNE as one criterion for credentialing.

In addition to teaching full time, Christee serves as the faculty advisor to the student chapter of the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA). She also is a member of the South Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians (SCAVT) and serves as the regional representative on the SCAVT state board. She served as treasurer of the board from 2001–2011. In May Christee was honored with the highest award presented to the faculty, the Presidential Medallion for Instructional Excellence.

in transition

ARTS AND SCIENCES DIVISION

Jeff Christmas is the new Music instructor in the Humanities department. From 2004 – 2011, he was an adjunct Music instructor for Pellissippi State Community College. While there, he was a nominee for the 2010 Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award. Prior to that, he was Office Manager for the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra for two years and on the faculty of the Boston Arts Academy from 2001 – 2003.

Jeff earned a B.S. in Music Industry Studies from Appalachian State University and a master of Music degree in Vocal Performance from The Boston Conservatory. Jeff is a member of the Pi Kappa Lambda music honor society. He and his wife, Dr. Meredith McCarroll, live in Greenville with their two children, Jasper, 6, and Townes, 1.



Jeff Christmas

STUDENT AFFAIRS DIVISION

After three years as a Tutor Coordinator with Student Support Services, **Tasheka Johnson** is now an Enrollment Counselor in the Admissions Office. Her other work experience includes Site Coordinator for the Communities in Schools Site at Woodmont Middle School and a Mental Health Counselor for Spartanburg Area Mental Health. She earned a B.A. in Psychology from Clemson University and an M.A. in Counseling from Webster University. Tasheka lives in Easley with her son, Daniel, age 4.



Tasheka Johnson

Carol Watts is our new Assessment Center Coordinator. Carol spent the last year as a Career Counselor/Supervisor for Rescare. Prior to that she worked for Tri-County as a Student Services Coordinator /WIA Case Manager for two years. Carol also has worked as Office Manager for ERA Kennedy Group Realtors in Anderson.



Carol Watts

She earned an B.S. in Health Information Management from the Medical University of South Carolina, where she was a member of the College of Allied Health Sciences Honor Society. She also has an M.S. in Industrial Management from Clemson University, where she was a member of Beta Gamma Sigma, the honor society for collegiate schools of business. Carol lives in Seneca.

Caitlin Brougham has been on board since the summer as the Women's Soccer Coach, as well as a Customer Service Assistant in the Financial Aid Office.

Caitlin coached high school soccer and served as the head coach for the Women's JV Soccer team at Bishop England High School in Charleston for two years. She also coached the College of Charleston Women's Club Team and at the youth club level for two seasons while residing in Charleston. She holds a Communication (PR) degree from Wingate University, where she played women's soccer for four years. She coached the Wingate International Soccer Academy summer camp while a student. Last spring and summer, she was a team trainer for various youth teams at the Tri-County Soccer Club and also served as Clemson University Women's Soccer Director of Operations during the 2010 season. Caitlin holds a USSF (United States Soccer Federation) D License and resides in Clemson.



Caitlin Brougham

TRiO Says Goodbye To Student Support Services Staff

Faculty and staff joined the TRiO team for a send-off for longtime Student Support Services (SSS) Coordinator **Cindy Trimmier-Lee** and Tutor Coordinator **Tasheka Johnson**.

Earlier this year the Student Support Services staff received word that it did not receive continuation grant funding for the academic support program that began in 1978 at the College.

The program's primary objective was to retain and graduate students from Tri-County Technical College by offering academic counseling, personal and career counseling, tutoring, and educational and cultural enrichment activities. SSS also served university transfer students. These services included easing the transition for students transferring from Tri-County to four-year colleges and universities; scheduling and conducting college tours; academic advising and monitoring participants' progress while they were enrolled at Tri-County; tutoring; and providing liaison services with the senior institutions. The grant funding included grant-aid money to cover tuition, books and supplies.

Cindy joined Tri-County in 1989 as an Educational Talent Search Counselor and worked as an Upward Bound Coordinator in 1991. Since 1992, she has led SSS. Tasheka, who worked three years with SSS, is now working in our Admissions Office (see page 4).

"It has truly been a pleasure working with both ladies," said Dr. Thwanda Davidson, director of TRiO. "The Student Support Services participants valued the support rendered by the staff. Cindy and Tasheka took pride in working with each student to help meet their academic needs. I wish both ladies much success in their future endeavors."



Faculty and staff joined the TRiO team for a send-off for longtime Student Support Services Coordinator **Cindy Trimmier-Lee**, pictured seated right, and Tutor Coordinator **Tasheka Johnson**, seated left, whose last days were August 31.

Golden OPPORTUNITIES to shape the future

Foundation Board Welcomes Four New Members

Four business and industry leaders have been elected to serve on the College's Foundation Board of Directors.

Joining the Board's current members are Alexandria Stathakis and Mary Ann Craft, both representing Anderson County and Alan Blackmon and Jim Evers, both representing Pickens County.

Members of the Foundation Board raise money to supplement appropriations thereby helping the College to meet the educational needs of the citizens of the tri-county area.

Ms. Stathakis has been a member of the Robert Bosch LLC team since 1994. Currently she is Director/Chief Consultant, Corporate Sector Purchasing and Logistics, Automotive Supplier Development. Other positions held at the plant include Director of Customer Logistics and Planning, as well as Manager and Acting Director of Purchasing.

From 1992-94 she was an adjunct instructor for University Transfer courses at Tri-County Technical College.

She serves on the AnMed Health Foundation Board, Anderson Greek Festival Board, Anderson County Arts Center (served as chair of the \$3.5 million capital campaign for 2001 - 2006), and was president of the Junior League of Anderson County for 1995 - 1996.

She is an honor graduate of Hollins College, where she earned a B.A. in Economics and received a Juris Doctorate from the University of South Carolina School of Law.

Mrs. Craft is Human Resource Manager at U.S. Engine Valve in Westminster. She is a member of the United Way, Oconee Industrial Leadership Group, and Business Education Partnerships. In addition, her board memberships include the Tri-County Corporate and Community Education Advisory Board, S.C. Diversity Council, Oconee Chamber of Commerce, and Oconee Society for Human Resources.

She was named to the MSSC Certified Production Technicians Experts Panel in 2010 and joined 39 other professionals to help MSSC stay current with its standards and to review issues and concerns regarding the certification systems. Panelists also are part of the critical process for maintaining third-party validation of standards.

She holds a B.S. in Business Management - Human Resources from Limestone College. She and her husband, Rudy, live in Anderson.

Mr. Blackmon is Manager of Engineering at Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative, Inc., in Pickens. He has served on the IEEE Industry Applications Society Rural Electric Power Committee since 1987 and was Committee Chair in 1990 and 1991. Board



Alan Blackmon



Mary Ann Craft



Jim Evers



Alexandria Stathakis

memberships include the Foothills Gala, Oconee Alliance, and SC Heritage Corridor - Region One. He is vice chair of the Oconee County Infrastructure Advisory Committee.

He earned an Electrical Engineering degree from Georgia Institute of Technology and is a Registered Professional Engineer in South Carolina.

He and his wife, Shelvia, are members of Trinity Baptist Church, and they have three daughters.

Mr. Evers is Regional Director of AT&T. He is active in many community organizations, serving on the board of directors for the Greenville Area Chamber of Commerce, Upstate Alliance, Anderson Chamber of Commerce, Meals on Wheels, Innovate Anderson, Urban League of the Upstate, United Way of Greenville

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Schneider Electric Supports EIT Division

Spotlight

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Schneider Electric in Seneca made a \$10,000 contribution towards its \$50,000 pledge to the Tri-County Technical College Foundation for the company's Teaching Chair Endowment in the Engineering and Industrial Technology Division. Pictured here, left to right, **Rick Cothran**, dean of the Corporate and Community Education Division; **Eugene Grant**, dean of the Engineering and Industrial and Engineering Technology Division; **Christine Nacnodovitz**, human resources manager, global supply chain, Schneider Electric; **Dale Watson**, MFG engineering manager, global supply chain, Schneider Electric; **Larry Smith**, Schneider Electric plant manager; **Dr. Booth**; **John Lummus**, vice president for economic and institutional advancement; **Elisabeth Gadd**, director of development; and **Jackie Blakley**, dean of the Business and Public Services Division.

Since 1988, the Seneca company has supported the Tri-County Technical College Foundation through annual gifts, all devoted to advancing educational opportunities and instruction. Because of the company's generosity, through its teaching chair, faculty in the Engineering and Industrial Technology Division have grown professionally through participation in and presentations at seminars and conferences, along with enrollment in advanced course work.

Prior to teaching third grade at Anderson Christian School, April Brown was a Day Care Director of Agape Christian Outreach Church for 13 years. Her motto has always been never stop learning, so in 1997 she earned an Early Childhood Education certificate from Tri-County, and then went to Southern Wesleyan University where she earned a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Studies in 2008. She returned to Tri-County to earn an ECD diploma and associate degree in 2009. While directing the day care, all of the teachers participated in the TEACH ECD 101 class. "It's necessary to learn new and different ways to teach," she said.

April says she is proud to be working as a TEACH mentor. "I've learned that a little bit of encouragement works wonders," she said.

"I believe the mentor relationship will assist with focusing students on their short-term and long-term goals and a career path. I believe that as students begin graduating from the program they will give back to Tri-County and the community at large. The mentor relationship is going to grow strong, confident and relational people in the Anderson, Pickens, and Oconee county communities," said Debra. "Programs are going to be hiring more qualified individuals to work in their programs and that is something Tri-County can be proud of. I also believe that the role of the mentor will have a great impact in regard to professional development opportunities. It will be important for the students to learn that they are advocates for their learning. As students become strong and confident in the role of an early care and education student, they have a wealth of knowledge that needs to be shared with the community at large. There will come a time when the students become the teachers and are sharing their knowledge at local, regional, and State early childhood conferences," she said.

Tri-County's ECD program is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

Foundation Board

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County, The YMCA, Ten at the Top, and Oconee Alliance. In addition, he is currently a class member of the South Carolina Economic Developer Institute and the AT&T Project Management Network.

He holds a Journalism degree from Oklahoma State University and an M.B.A. from Northeastern State University.

He and his wife, Vicki, live in Greer, with their two children.

College Remembers 9-11



Dr. Chad Gregory, History instructor and coordinator of Instructional Activities for the Humanities Department, conducted a presentation on 9-11 conspiracy theories as part of the College's recognition of the 10th anniversary of the September 11 tragedy. The program was sponsored by the College Enrichment Series and attracted more than 100 people. Other 9-11 recognition activities included blood drives and the display of 9-11 banners signed by members of the student body at each campus.

Division Changes Name

The Industrial and Engineering Technology (I&ET) Division is changing its name to the Engineering and Industrial Technology (EIT) Division. We hope the new name will eliminate confusion between the division name and the Industrial Electronics Technology (IET) program name.

Campuses Celebrate Constitution Day



In keeping with the patriotic theme surrounding the 10th anniversary of the September 11 tragedy, each campus celebrated Constitution Day with cake and refreshments and distributed free pocket-sized copies of the U. S. Constitution to students. Pictured here at the Anderson Campus celebration are, left to right, **Spencer Heringa**, adjunct Biology instructor; **Jennifer Gaffney**, who was visiting the campus to complete the enrollment process and signed up as the newest member of the Student Veterans Club of TCTC; **Pat Vatakis**, office manager for the Anderson Campus; and **James Hawkins**, Radio and Television Broadcasting major and a student volunteer at the Anderson Campus.

Wine Tasting Fundraiser for Culinary Arts is October 6

The Tri-County Technical College Foundation is hosting 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, set for Thursday, October 6, from 7 - 9 p.m., will be 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. They will prepare heavy hors d'oeuvres which will be paired with an appropriate wine. "They will speak to the wine selections. This will be a learning event as well as a social gathering," said Courtney White, manager of donor relations for the College's Foundation.

The cost is \$40 per person and \$75 per couple. Tickets are available at Kitchen Emporium in Anderson and Wine Emporium in Salem or by calling the College's Foundation Office at Ext. 1484.

Bank of Anderson is the premier sponsor of the event.

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. "They want to be a partner in getting our credit Culinary Arts program established," said Tim Bowen, director of the Anderson Campus. "Les Marmitons is a great resource to our Campus. We are fortunate to have them in our area."

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Students Get Connected at Annual Event

Students got to know each other, enjoyed free pizza and drinks, and learned more about clubs and organizations at “Get Connected,” our annual fall semester event held at Pendleton, Anderson, and Easley Campuses.



Jalissa Sherard, of Belton, an RTV major, left, stopped by the Book Discussion table manned by **Sue Andrus** and **Marla Roberson**.



Andrea Starnes, of Central, a University Transfer student, middle, and **Marlene Olvera**, of Central, a Nursing major, right, talk with **Janet Brdar** about the Minority Student Association.



Members of the student bodies at each campus signed 9-11 banners that later displayed in front of the Pendleton, Anderson, and Easley Campuses. (Photo by Ashley Anderson, Easley Campus student)

Congressman Jeff Duncan to be Keynote Speaker at Annual Report Luncheon

Congressman Jeff Duncan will deliver the keynote address at our Annual Report Luncheon set for Thursday, October 20.

The luncheon annually attracts approximately 250 community, business, industrial, government, and political leaders from Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties.

Duncan, who serves the residents of the 3rd Congressional District of South Carolina, was elected to Congress in November 2010, and serves on the House Natural Resources Committee, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Homeland Security.

He was elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives in 2002, and was named Chairman of the House Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Environmental Affairs Committee in 2007.

Congressman Duncan is a 1988 graduate of Clemson University where he played football for Coach Danny Ford. Before being elected to Congress, he served as President and CEO of J. Duncan Associates, a South Carolina based, family owned real estate marketing firm which specialized in Statewide real estate auctions.

He has been married to his wife, Melody, for 22 years, and they have three sons: Graham, John Philip, and Parker. The Duncan's are members of First Baptist Church of Clinton.



Congressman Jeff Duncan

Executive Staff Updates

- **QuickJobs Development Center, Anderson Campus:** Anderson County received funding for a QuickJobs Development Center to be built at the Anderson Campus and equipped and operated by the College.
- **College Retention Plan:** The Strategic Enrollment Management Committee (SEMC) presented the first draft of a College-wide retention plan.
- **Student Success Center:** The project team assigned to conduct a feasibility study for the construction of a Student Success Center presented its findings. Results will be used to make a case for funding.
- **Mission, Vision, Values:** The College will revisit its mission, vision, and values by using focus groups to provide feedback and ideas.
- **Branding Style Guide:** Rebecca Eidson, director of Public Relations and Communications, reviewed the new College Style Guide, which is currently being introduced to employees via departmental meetings and faculty/staff development.
- **Other:** S.C. Technical College System survey; enrollment process charter; policies and procedures; USC Graduate Leadership Certificate Program; and fall registration follow-up/debriefing for process improvement.

Cultural Partner Program Kicks Off



The kick-off event for the new Cultural Partner Program (CPP) was held September 9. CPP is a program that pairs students, faculty, and/or staff with an international student attending our College. CPP partners get together on their own time and at the locations of their choice once a week to show international students more about American culture and the Tri-County way of life. Benefits include having a true impact on the life of an international student at Tri-County and developing unique cultural perspectives and building sincere friendships. Students will gain meaningful community service hours and bolster their resume. Pictured here, from left, are **Gaurav Shah, Shilkumar Patel, Kunlawadee Ridley, Laura Smith, Advisor Brian McGuinness, Qiuchen Hai, Chansong Park, and Josue Montoya**. For more information, contact Brian McGuinness at bmcguinn@tctc.edu or Ext. 2061.

Wine Tasting Fundraiser

(continued from page 8)

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," said Meg Allan, the College's Management department head, who also serves as Program Coordinator for the Culinary Arts program. "Our existing Business faculty will teach the Business classes, and the Culinary classes will be taught by adjunct instructors who are experts in the field. The inaugural class will include a select group of students (two classes of 24 students each) whom we anticipate will come from the high school career centers and those who have shown an interest in culinary arts as a career. We will accept those who meet the criteria and who will commit to the program," she said.

"The new certificate program will give our students opportunities for multiple pathways to a career in culinary arts," said Tim. "High school graduates can obtain a one-year certificate and be quite employable in the food service industry. Or they can transfer to two-year or four-year culinary arts programs. In this way, a student has several opportunities to exit with a credential in hand and be immediately employable."

"We expect a great deal of interest in this program," said Meg. "Our research has shown that there is a huge demand for culinary arts staff in the Upstate and we designed our curriculum to meet those needs."

For more information, contact Courtney White at Ext. 1484 or by e-mail at cwhite12@tctc.edu.