

Connection

In this Issue ...



Spotlight on Professional Development Day..... 3



Diana Walter, College Honored by SCAACE..... 4



Students Flock to Annual Career Fair..... 5



Student Nurses Association Hosts BSN Expo 7

Jim Wanner Named to Tri-County’s Commission

Jim Wanner has been appointed to the College’s Commission, the nine-member governing board of the College.

The Pickens County Legislative Delegation recommended Mr. Wanner to the Governor. His appointment began January 31, 2019, and his term expires April 1, 2022.

Mr. Wanner is a founder of KeyMark, a leading provider of today’s top enterprise information management technologies. KeyMark is headquartered in Liberty, SC, with a regional sales office in Camp Hill, PA, and a Document Conversion Services Bureau in West Hazleton, PA, that operates as IMR Digital. The company also is the creator of Forms InMotion, an innovative, cloud-based software solution for enterprise forms management.

Under Mr. Wanner’s leadership, KeyMark has consistently been named a top reseller by vendor partners and has been listed by Inc. Magazine as one of the 500 and 5,000 fastest growing companies in the United States. His background is in intelligent automation and automated data management. Mr. Wanner is currently in his 23rd year at KeyMark; 19 of which he has served as CEO.

KeyMark was named a Best Place to Work in South Carolina by the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce and SC Biz News for 2016, 2017, and 2018. The company also was ranked 17th in the 2016 listing of South Carolina’s Fastest-Growing Companies. In 2019, KeyMark received Hyland’s Platinum Sales Partner award for the 12th time and the Diamond Support Award for the 16th consecutive year.

Mr. Wanner holds a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from James Madison University.

He serves on the Manufacturers Caring for Pickens County (MCPC) board and Hyland Software Partner Advisory Council. He also has served on Pickens Habitat for Humanity Board and is currently active with the United Way of Pickens County.

Mr. Wanner and his wife, Kim, live in Clemson. They have a son, Jake, who works at KeyMark as a Solutions Architect and lives in Greenville; a son Mitchell, who attends Clemson University; and a daughter Megan, who attends Furman University.

“Tri-County Technical College has done an amazing job since its inception to create an environment where people can learn and be productive in the workforce. I hope to help continue that tradition with some of my background and expertise. I’m hopeful with my background in the technical field, and specifically with Artificial Intelligence, I’m able to provide insight that helps guide the organization for the next few generations so people in the Upstate thrive,” said Mr. Wanner.



Jim Wanner

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Tri-County Technical College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award the associate degree. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Tri-County Technical College.

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

From Service Provider to Solutions Provider

Like most organizations, we must continually reinvent ourselves in order to remain relevant in today's rapidly changing global economy. Products, processes, and services can turn on a dime, so our work is never finished.

During our annual strategic planning process, we ask ourselves tough questions about how well we work with our business and industry partners. Are we nimble and responsive to their needs? Do we truly understand their issues? Are we recommending solutions that will solve their problems? It is no longer enough to simply offer a wide array of training options for them to choose from. We need a different approach—a solutions-based approach.

Three years ago we started developing this new approach, and today we have the Integrated Workforce Solutions (IWS) Team in place to provide the infrastructure we need to be proactive and nimble in providing effective solutions that meet the education and training needs of employers. IWS Team members include the President, Chief of Staff, Senior Vice President, the Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Business Relations, and/or others, depending on the circumstances. They conduct a comprehensive needs assessment to determine short- and long-term goals of the company and obstacles to achieving those goals. Once the assessment is complete, the IWS Team deploys a group of content experts and curriculum developers from both our academic and Corporate and Community Education divisions to design a solution—credit, non-credit, or both—to meet their specific needs. Our new IWS Dean, Bryan Manuel, coordinates this effort. Then we deploy.

Simply put, we are moving from service provider to solutions provider.

The Michelin Manufacturing Scholars program is the first example of the IWS model at work. College and Michelin leaders worked together to address the skills shortage at the basic operator level and created a one-semester program that serves as the starting point for an intentional credit pathway leading to an associate degree. Orion Rugs is another example where we have created a customized pathway that meets its training needs for entry-level employees. We are now in discussions with area hospitals about their specific needs, with particular focus on creating pipelines and pathways for entry-level healthcare workers.

The IWS effort dovetails perfectly with our commitment to finding new and effective ways to reach the vast group of under-resourced and under-employed adults in our area who are in critical need of better jobs. We have created new on-ramps to help these non-traditional students access higher education through our I-BEST (Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training) Pathways program. These one-semester certificates offer students the opportunity to earn college credit, national certifications, and non-credit training to prepare them for good jobs with a future in local manufacturing and healthcare, as well as additional education.



Dr. Ronnie L. Booth
President

"Simply put, we are moving from service provider to solutions provider."

—Dr. Ronnie L. Booth

(continued on page 10)



Spotlight on Professional Development Day

A variety of development opportunities were available to faculty and staff during the February 12 Professional Development Day. Morning sessions consisted of community service activities at Grace's Closet in Walhalla, the Dream Center in Easley, United Way of Pickens, Littlejohn Community Center in Clemson, AIM Food Pantry in Anderson, and Meals on Wheels in Anderson.

In addition, faculty attended seminars designed to develop our High Impact Practices as part of the SACS Quality Enhancement Plan, and wellness workshops helped folks to manage/improve their personal lives.

The Dream Center

The Dream Center of Pickens County is a faith-based, 501(c)(3) non-profit that has been offering assistance to families since May, 2012. The program empowers people to make different choices by offering incentives, rewards, and guidance in budgeting, money management, parenting, and employment.

A group of four volunteers, Glenn Hellenga, Jeanne Otey, Mark Vickery, and Cyndy Watts put block fill on a cinder block wall at the Easley facility in preparation for future painting.

But the job was more than just painting, said Glenn. It was an opportunity to make a difference at an organization that he believes in while getting to know fellow co-workers he doesn't often see. He added that he will go back and help if needed. "It was a rewarding day. We made a difference."

Frances Richmond, Bailey Naylor, and Caleb Stone helped to clean the soup kitchen oven and grill and food pantry, and everyone contributed to general housekeeping duties in the gym and hallway.

Any time Frances has a chance to pitch in and help at the Dream Center she does so. In the past, she has worked in the retail store in Easley and at the Santa Shop.

"I'm glad to help however I can. I really like their mission," she said. "They offer a hand up and not a hand out which empowers the people in the program to take steps toward getting back on their feet. I like what they stand for and how they do it."

Littlejohn Community Center

Littlejohn Community Center in Clemson hosts programs like TRI0, which provides college counseling services to adults, after-school programs, Head Start classes, GED courses, and English as a Second Language courses, among other services.

A team of 17 spent the morning with the Head Start students at Clemson Littlejohn Center engaging in math, science, and reading development activities. They included: Kathy Brand, Lindsey Burns, Leigh Coates, Marla Cobb, Catherine DuRant, Rebecca Eidson, Veronica Glanton, Shannan Holland, Briana Johnson, Tasheka Johnson, Cynthia Kwietniewski, Heidi Mathis,



Frances Richmond, Bailey Naylor, and Caleb Stone helped to clean the soup kitchen at the Dream Center of Pickens County.



Glenn Hellenga, Jeanne Otey, Mark Vickery, and Cyndy Watts put block fill on a cinder block wall at the Dream Center.



A team spent the morning with the Head Start students at Clemson Littlejohn Center. Pictured here are Cynthia Kwietniewski, left, and Pam McWhorter.

Pam McWhorter, Emma Robinson, Kenneth Tredinnick, Donald White, and Bob White.

The volunteers assisted three- and four-year-old children with a Literacy Day (STEM) activity. They worked on math, science and reading activities in small groups. Each child received a book to take home at the end of the day.

(continued on pages 8-9)

Diana Walter, College Honored by SCAACE

The South Carolina Association for Adult and Community Educators (SCAACE) is a professional organization which consists of Adult Education teachers, directors, transition specialists, administrative assistants, paraprofessionals, and supporters. SCAACE provides membership to a professional organization that specifically addresses adult education issues and concerns, both State and nationwide.



Diana Walter

SCAACE recognizes outstanding members at the annual spring awards luncheon.

Diana Walter, who leads our Technical Skills for Success initiative, received a top leadership award at the SCAACE 2019 annual spring awards luncheon held February 15 in Columbia.

Diana was honored with the Citizen Leadership Award for her contributions to the development and implementation of the State's first Integrated Education and Training (IET) component for articulated I-BEST career pathways, which enable adult ed students to be concurrently enrolled in a postsecondary credit program.

Dr. Mary Gaston, SC Adult Education technical assistance specialist, who worked with Diana and other team members to develop two pathways allowing adult education students to enroll in manufacturing and/or healthcare pathway programs, said in her nomination letter, "From the first time we met to discuss options for developing an IET in our Upstate area, Diana has been unwavering in her support of the initiative. She has years of experience working with at-risk populations; this experience coupled with her research skills have been invaluable to the partnership."

The I-BEST Manufacturing Pathway is a one semester program that allows students to explore careers in manufacturing and learn basic skills for entry-level manufacturing jobs.

Initially Diana and the College assisted with professional development for adult education staff to increase their awareness of area manufacturing and to assist with contextualization for the classroom, said Dr. Gaston. "Diana and her staff partnered with ITRON, who hosted a day of professional development, including tours, information sessions, and time with the employer for questions.

"Although there have been others from TCTC who have worked to make the I-BEST program a success, Diana has been our main point of contact. She has been the one to connect the dots between adult education and the many College departments and representatives, including instruction, curriculum development,

College Transitions, Student Support & Engagement, Financial Aid, Corporate & Community Education and Marketing, to name a few." This partnership isn't limited to Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties, but throughout the State, as well. "Diana and her staff have presented at Statewide adult education institutes, sharing ideas, research, and resources. She and Galen DeHay (Senior Vice President) presented about our partnership to the technical college Presidents from across the State. She joined the Coalition for Adult Basic Education in order to learn more about adult education and is currently working with colleagues so that the Pell Grant Ability-to-Benefit program will be available to adult education students in Integrated Education and Training programs. Diana is an out-of-the-box thinker when it comes to enrolling and supporting all students. She understands the need to provide a nurturing environment while encouraging growth and independence," said Dr. Gaston.

The College also was honored at the conference with the Outstanding Organization of the Year Award for its partnership with Adult Education in Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties to develop and support the I-BEST career pathways.

I-BEST programs are different because they focus on immediate employment and pathways to careers requiring an associate degree. They blend college credit, non-credit training, and industry-recognized skill certifications. They also build confidence and competence for jobs that pay family-sustaining wages and for continued college study.

The first career pathway developed was for manufacturing, which allows qualified adult education students to co-enroll and earn eight hours of college credit, two industry-recognized skill certifications, and a TCTC Manufacturing Production I certificate. The second career pathway

(continued on page 10)



Grayson Kelly, vice president for Institutional Advancement and Business Relations at the College, center, accepts the Outstanding Organization of the Year award. He is pictured with **Michael King**, state director of Adult Education, left, and **Dr. Allen Fain**, director of adult education for the Pickens County School District.

Students Flock to the Annual Career Fair

The annual Career Fair was held February 20, on the second floor of the Student Success Center. Students came professionally

dressed, prepared with multiple copies of their resumes, and ready to talk to employers about themselves and their career goals.



LEFT, TOP: Michelin Maintenance Manager **Giancarlo Mattei** talks with, from left, **Zach Tortorici**, **Maxwell Ford**, and **Matthew Cogdill**, all Mechatronics majors.

LEFT, MIDDLE: Bosch Technical Scholar **Luke Bunton** manned the company's table talking with students about work-based learning opportunities.

LEFT, BOTTOM: AnMed Health representatives were on hand to answer questions. **Christee Wright**, human resources business partner, talks with **William Bradley**, of Clemson, a Business major.

RIGHT, TOP: **Dennis Turman**, of Anderson, gets information from QuikTrip training managers **Rick Price** and **Jon Doerfer**.

RIGHT, ABOVE: **Joseph Ramey** of Seneca, an Industrial Electronics Technology major, right, talks with Schneider Electric representatives.

Our College Family

excellence through service

Congratulations to Grants Director **Laneika Musalini**, who received Anderson University's Alumni Service Award February 20 as part of the Founder's Day convocation. Laneika, a 2006 Anderson University grad, was recognized for her outstanding and unselfish service to her alma mater, her community, and humanity. Each year Anderson University recognizes alumni and friends who have truly exemplified the call to live a life of faith and service.



Grants Director **Laneika Musalini** receives her award from **Dr. Evans Whitaker**, president of Anderson University.

Jenni Creamer, dean of College Transitions, received an e-mail from a dual enrollment parent Brian Naumuk, who shared his appreciation and respect for **Amanda Blanton**, director of High School Engagement and Outreach.

"I am writing this note to express just how much I appreciate Amanda Blanton and the work she does with the high school engagement program. I contacted her recently because my daughter was working through the process of dual enrollment and encountered some hurdles. Mrs. Blanton was able to help us work through those hurdles and completely solve all of our problems. I knew to contact her from previous experience with my eldest daughter, who also participated in dual enrollment and had a fabulous experience.

Often people are quick to criticize, but not as quick to recognize. I myself have fallen into that pitfall. I was talking with a friend today and telling him just how wonderful Mrs. Blanton is and how much she has helped us. In doing so, it occurred to me I should reach out to make someone in her department aware so to hopefully recognize her in a meaningful way. I really cannot say enough good things about Mrs. Blanton. It would not be an exaggeration to say she has changed our family's life for the better."

Brian Naumuk, P.E.
General Manager—Customer Delivery Operations
Mountain Zone

Jenni added, "Amanda truly goes above and beyond to ensure that all 700+ dual enrollment students have the most transformative experience possible. Her work to lead and manage all seven school districts is incredibly significant in maintaining the quality relationships the College enjoys with our K-12 partners and in ensuring that our processes and systems align well - that's certainly no small feat. She is indeed a tremendous asset to the College and our students and embodies our vision statement."

in transition

Justin Herndon has been named Program Director for Industrial Technology. He continues to lead the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Technology program, which is located in Cleveland Hall.



Justin Herndon

Be on the lookout for information about the Upcoming United Way of Anderson County Campaign which kicks off March 12 following an announcement at the Faculty Staff meeting set for 3:30 p.m. in Parker Auditorium on the Pendleton Campus.

Nursing Student Elected to SC SNA Board

Lindsay Cabasa, an associate degree Nursing student, is one of 10 students statewide elected to serve on the South Carolina Student Nurses' Association (SNA) Board. The Student Nurses' Association of South Carolina (SNA-SC) is a pre-professional organization for nursing and pre-nursing students enrolled in South Carolina-accredited associate and baccalaureate degree nursing programs. SNA-SC is an official constituent of the National Student Nurses' Association, Inc. (NSNA).

SNA-SC offers leadership experiences, educational opportunities, career networking, and information concerning state and national issues that affect the nursing profession.

Lindsay, an Anderson resident, also serves as secretary for Tri-County's SNA chapter. She also works as a student nurse in the Cardiac ICU at AnMed Health and attends Tri-County on a Hayden Abney Fulp scholarship.

Lindsay Cabasa, an associate degree Nursing student, center, is pictured with **Stacy Smith**, associate degree Nursing instructor and advisor for Tri-County's SNA chapter, left, and **Jackie Rutledge**, department head for Nursing at Tri-County.



SNA Hosts BSN Expo

The Student Nurses Association (SNA) held its Spring 2019 BSN Expo February 19 for all Pre-Nursing and Nursing students to meet with BSN school representatives to help them determine which path is best suited to continue a nursing career. Many colleges, universities, and hospital systems were on site.

Here, **Marissa Fatt**, director of corporate and educational partnerships for Anderson University, right, talks with **Malerie Jenison**, of Townville, **Brandi Lackey**, of Powdersville, and **Olivia Thomas**, of Liberty.

Expanded Duty Dental Assisting Receives Maximum Reaffirmation of Accreditation

The Expanded Duty Dental Assisting program received a maximum full reaffirmation of accreditation following a meeting of the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

"The CODA met February 7, 2019, to consider the site visit report and granted the program a seven-year accreditation status approval without reporting requirements," said Mandy Hanks, program director for the Expanded Duty Dental Assisting program. The next site visit for the program is scheduled for 2025.

Following the College's extensive self-study of this program, a committee of site visitors visited Tri-County in May

of 2018 to validate the program's compliance with CODA standards. In addition to talking with College administrators, the site visitors met with the program's advisory committee members, faculty, students, and area dental office professionals.

Dental assistants may work in general or specific dental offices, clinics, and public health settings. They also may work as adjunct instructors for Dental Assisting programs at technical colleges if certified by the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB).

Spotlight on Professional Development Day

(continued from page 3)

"I really had a great day," said Cynthia Kwietniewski. "My children are adults now so it had been a long time since I had spent time with little kids. I enjoyed my time with the four-year-old group. We built a STEM project (a houseboat and some palm trees) made out of food and toothpicks, and during story time Kathy Brand read to the group. She is a natural. Afterwards, a few children brought their new books to me to read to them. The day was filled with a lot of fun and laughs. The kids are adorable, and the people who run the Center are super nice."

A former elementary education teacher, Kathy enjoyed being back in the classroom teaching little ones to be creative while learning. She worked with a boy and girl, both four years of age, in building a motorcycle and a castle, made of marshmallows, toothpicks, raisins, and apples. "This allowed them to be creative and use their imagination," Kathy said.

"I always enjoy working with folks in different departments such as the Physical Plant, Engineering and IT. It was fun going to a community agency as a group and providing a service. The Center was very appreciative of our assistance."

AIM Food Pantry

The AIM Food Pantry team worked alongside other community residents who volunteer regularly at the non-profit organization that meets the needs of struggling individuals and families in Anderson County.

Volunteers included Teresa Adkins, Lisa Butler, Sue Dacus, Kandice Dacus, Betty Fant, Becky Garrigan, Jessica Haning, Berdina Hill, Rosemary Howlin, Ana Interiano, Michelle Jacobson, August Johnson, Robin McNeil, Lori Mulzer, Cathy Payne, Sisireia Simmons, and Deborah Wardlaw.

"It's a good opportunity to help others, and I see why they do it on a regular basis, said Becky Garrigan.

The Tri-County group helped in a variety of ways including sorting and prepping donations of food and even shoes. They

filled up grocery carts with pantry items that AIM clients would pick up during the day. In each cart, they assembled \$90 worth of groceries, consisting of fresh produce, milk, packs of meat, canned goods, bakery items, and one box of cereal. Since Valentine's Day was approaching, each client also received a big box of candy.

It was Becky's first time volunteering at the agency, and she said she was impressed. "They are very organized and work hard to fulfill their mission. They are kind and compassionate to their clients. It was raining that morning and they let folks in early to get out of the inclement weather," she said.

"They treat clients with respect and dignity and provide many needs with their Food Pantry. They also told clients about other resources available to them, such as free tax preparation service," added Becky.

United Way of Pickens

Denise Hall had a really good experience learning about the elementary school literacy program and helping to make kits for the summer camp the United Way sponsors each summer.

She and Denise Day, Aida Laham, Tammy Lollis, Jessica Raymond, Heidi Reeves, and Debbie Thrasher cut out construction paper pieces for a cat puppet kit that kids will assemble this summer. They assembled a large number of bags for the camp. It was really fun and interesting, said Denise Hall, who was so impressed by the camp that she left with a business card from the director. She says she will consider volunteering there in the future.

"We also learned about reading sessions held for children whose reading skills aren't progressing at the expected rate," said Denise Day, who also left with a business card for her and her grandmother to contact United Way. "My grandmother retired from the Anderson County Library, and she would really enjoy reading to these kids."



Kandia Dacus, Sue Dacus, and Lori Mulzer at the AIM Food Pantry



Denise Day and Denise Hall at the United Way of Pickens

Grace's Closet in Walhalla

Grace's Closet helps Oconee County students build self confidence and excel both in and out of school by providing them with resources, such as footwear, clothing, school supplies, and hygiene items. Volunteers included: Tiffany Carpenter, Sheryl Cox, Amy Cromer, Amy Jared, Chrisantha Maddox, Lou Moritz, Lee Perkins, Krista Shockley, Cathy Strasser, Bailey Woods, and Tracy Worley.

Volunteers worked in the storage and office area to inventory and organize donations. As a former student teacher in Oconee County, Tiffany Carpenter, who now works with I-BEST, says the closet is "incredible because it serves students in need."

The group arrived at the district office, where Grace's Closet is located, then traveled to Oconee Academy to sort through donations, keeping only the best items and categorizing them by style and size. "It is a great service for students who can't afford everyday clothing or a prom dress, as well as basic necessities, such as shampoo and conditioner," added Tiffany.

"The two volunteers at Grace's Closet told us we saved them between 30 and 40 hours of labor, and they were very appreciative," said Tiffany. In addition to sorting, Lou Moritz was among those who assembled clothes racks for the merchandise



Institutional Advancement staff and Meals on Wheels volunteers

they later helped to sort and transport. "It's very gratifying to help others in need," he said.

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels prepares and delivers approximately 420 hot meals each weekday to citizens of Anderson County who are not capable of preparing meals for themselves. By providing this service to the disabled and/or elderly homebound, Meals on Wheels assists them in maintaining their health, independence, and quality of life.

Courtney White knew the community service activities would be a great exercise in team building while giving back to the community. But an added bonus she didn't see coming was striking up a friendship with a 93-year-old lady the Institutional Advancement (IA) team visited during their work with Meals on Wheels.

The IA group wanted to work together as a team and chose the AIM Food Pantry project, but enrollment was at capacity. They opted to be placed on the waiting list, but the class remained full so the group decided to volunteer at Meals on Wheels in Anderson, an organization that is in need of daily manpower support.

Courtney, Debbie Nelms, Beth Byars, Laneika Musalini, Laura Crenshaw, and two student volunteers from our Medical Assisting program started their shift at 8:15 a.m., where they helped to assemble and pack 400-plus meals and later distributed them all over Anderson County to residents like Miss Louise, a 93-year-old lady who befriended Courtney during one of the stops. "She just wanted to talk, so I stayed and got to know her for a few minutes," Courtney said. "I realized that I ride by her house every day so I plan to stop in from time to time and check on her. We are so glad we made this connection," said Courtney.

"There is a true need in our community to help the sick and shut in," Courtney said. "Meals on Wheels offers a five-day per-week service for these folks to make sure they are well and well fed. We were on a tight deadline to finish before 11 a.m. We were amazed to see how many volunteers it takes," she said.

"We will all be in need of help one day. Most of these folks are alone, and all are so appreciative. It was a great way to spend the morning."



ABOVE, TOP: **Cathy Strasser and Tiffany Carpenter** at Grace's Closet

ABOVE: **Lee Perkins and Lou Moritz** at Grace's Closet



College Celebrates Employee Appreciation Day

The College celebrated Employee Appreciation Day March 1 by hosting an ice cream social on the Pendleton Campus. Similar events were held at each community campus the following week. The Human Resources Department spearheaded the celebration. Here **Ken Kopera**, director of Physical Plant, serves ice cream to **Betty Rogers**, adjunct faculty member.

From Service Provider to Solutions Provider

(continued from page 2)

I-BEST programs are created and offered in conjunction with Adult Education Centers and employers throughout the tri-county area.

I truly believe the IWS initiative has helped the College reach a significant milestone in improving our ability to be nimble in designing and delivering effective workforce solutions; creating a stronger pipeline of skilled workers for our industry partners, and improving the economic mobility of under-educated adults in our community.

Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D., President

Diana Walter, College Honored by SCAACE

(continued from page 4)

developed is for healthcare, which allows qualified adult education students to co-enroll and earn eight hours of college credit, resulting in a TCTC Personal Care Aide I certificate. For both of these pathways, the College adapted existing courses and developed new courses, and worked to have the certificates approved at the State level, which allows successful completers to earn a credential.

“There have been TCTC representatives from multiple departments who have worked to make the I-BEST program a success,” Dr. Mary Gaston wrote in her nomination letter. “Each department has devoted time and energy to ensure a successful launch and implementation for the I-BEST initiative. We know our students are in wonderful and caring hands at TCTC; the College has dedicated both space and staff to the I-BEST programs and has made it possible for our students to attend with no out-of-pocket expense for tuition or books. TCTC-facilitated visits to local manufacturing plants have allowed Adult Ed teachers and students to see first-hand the many benefits of a career in manufacturing,” she wrote.

“The Anderson/Oconee/Pickens Adult Education Programs are fortunate to have Tri-County Technical College as a partner, but SC Adult Education also has benefited from this partnership. We believe that SC Adult Education is better today because of Tri-County Technical College,” said Dr. Gaston.

(NOTE: * Integrated Basic Education Skills and Training [I-BEST] is a nationally recognized workforce development program developed by Washington State community colleges—and adapted for Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens Counties of South Carolina by Tri-County Technical College in partnership with local Adult Education Centers and employers. I-BEST enrolls students who are high school/GED graduates as well as those who are concurrently enrolled in Adult Education Centers and have completed two sections of the GED or are within a few units of completing their high school diploma. I-BEST programs are part of Tri-County’s Academic and Career Foundations Department. For more information, access www.tctc.edu/ibest).

Boeing SC Day

Boeing representatives visited Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties with the goal of educating young people about the varied career paths of working in advanced manufacturing.



Representatives from Boeing SC and the SC Manufacturers Alliance toured the Oconee Campus and pose here with Tri-County officials following a presentation to high school students. From left are **Rick Murphy**, SC Department of Commerce Regional Workforce advisor; **Libba Holland**, Boeing SC communications office; **Erin Fisher**, Boeing SC manager of global engagement; **James Richter**, director of Workforce Development and Member Relations, SC Manufactures Alliance; **Tim Jared**, Oconee Campus coordinator; and **Dr. Brian Swords**, senior director of community campuses.



James Richter, director of workforce development and member relations for the SC Manufacturers Alliance, and **Erin Fisher**, Boeing SC manager of global engagement, joined high school students in a robotics demonstration.

PACE Meeting Updates



Boeing SC representatives Kayley Seawright and Ashley Holbrook gave presentations to the PACE Board before visiting Belton-Honea Path and Crescent high schools, along with Upstate Warrior Solutions and Clemson University.

Jenni Creamer, dean of college transitions, gave an update on Manufacturing Works, a new partnership program with Belton-Honea Path and Wren high schools designed for high school seniors who want to gain exposure and skills to prepare for careers in manufacturing right out of high school.

Currently there are six students in the class which debuted in January. "They are learning about the manufacturing environment and will be prepared at age 18 to be quality employees," said Jenni. In August they will earn a college certificate (Manufacturing Production I), having completed eight credit hours and a work-based learning experience and gained the ability to go directly into the workforce or transition into the Engineering and Industrial Technology programs.

"They won't have to enter minimum-wage service industry jobs but will have a career path with a sustainable wage. They can go from being disengaged to a having a career plan," Jenni said.

Amanda Blanton, director of high school outreach and engagement, reported there are 173 students enrolled in the Technical Career Pathways (TCP) program this spring (including the six students in the Manufacturing Works class) and 18 new students from the Pickens County Career and Technology Center. This is the highest number of TCP students enrolled since the program's inception in 2013.

The program began with seven students from Crescent High School and to date, 521 have participated in a pathway. "We've come a long way," said Amanda. "We anticipate 91 seniors to graduate with a certificate at our May 6 graduation."

There are a total of 703 dual enrollment students this semester, an 18.75 percent increase over last spring. 167 are TCP and six are Manufacturing Works. The overall success rate for dual enrollment students is 86 percent.

Executive Staff Summary

- **STRATEGIC PLANNING:** All units of the College are seeking employee input as the College begins developing its next Ten-Year Vision and FY20 Strategic Plan. Members of the President's Advisory Council and other College leaders are currently participating in consensus workshops.
- **SIGNAGE:** Building names will be installed on the exteriors of the Student Success Center, Hicks Hall, and Parker Auditorium during Spring Break.
- **IT UPDATES:** The initial rollout of Banner 9 is complete. The team now is focused on workflow, communications, e-forms, and document imaging. The eTC portal was migrated to SharePoint during the Banner 9 implementation. A team is currently creating a project charter to begin next steps in upgrading our portal technology, look/feel, and content. We now have a full data backup at our Easley Campus. Several Blackboard projects are underway, including Blackboard OneStop (call center), Blackboard Learn, and Blackboard Intelligence.
- **FY20 BUDGETING:** All cost centers are involved in preliminary operational budget planning. Budget requests will be entered into Banner during March.
- **OTHER:** State funding; articulation agreements with four-year colleges and universities; spring faculty/staff meeting; and Bridge to Clemson enrollment.

Students Participate in Blood Drive



The Blood Connection was on campus February 13 in the Student Success Center. Here, **Jermaine Gambrell** of Anderson, a Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Technology major, took time to give blood.



Jake Hawkesworth, of Central, an Industrial Electronics Technology/ Manufacturing Management and Leadership major, is pictured with Phlebotomist **Katie Purvines**.



Students Get Transfer Information at Fair

The annual Arts and Sciences Division's Transfer Fair was held February 13 in the Student Success Center. Students were able to talk with representatives from colleges and universities across the State about admissions and transfer requirements. **Anastasia Berdan**, a Computer and Information Technology major who is the College's first BMW IT Scholar and was featured in this year's Annual Report publication, talks with a Clemson University representative.