

Connection

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Renovated Ruby Hicks Building Re-opens

We kicked off the spring semester with faculty, staff, and students celebrating the re-opening of the refurbished Ruby Hicks Building. The building now houses the Assessment Center, Advising, Cashier, Student Success Coaches, Curriculum and Academic Support, Administration, and conference/training spaces, as well as TC Central and its home offices Admissions/Recruiting/Orientation, Registrar/Student Data Center, and Financial Aid.



Students relax on the main floor of the renovated Ruby Hicks building. See more photos inside on page 6.

Three Faculty/Staff Members Honored as Tri-County’s Educators of the Year

Three faculty/staff members have been honored as Tri-County Technical College’s Educators of the Year and will be recognized at the South Carolina Technical Education Association (SCTEA) annual conference in February.

Jenni Creamer, dean of College Transitions, is the College’s outstanding administrator; Mia Tensley, reading instructor for the Comprehensive Studies Department, is the outstanding instructor; and, Scott Jaeschke, coordinator of community standards, is the outstanding staff nominee.

SCTEA is a professional association of technical education personnel and others interested in post-secondary technical education. The group will be recognized at an awards luncheon at the SCTEA conference February 14–16 in Myrtle Beach. The conference theme is Collaboration: The Key to Success.



Jenni Creamer



Mia Tensley



Scott Jaeschke

Passionate people TRANSFORMING LIVES
AND BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITIES ONE STUDENT AT A TIME.



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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

Looking Ahead: A New Ten-Year Vision



Dr. Ronnie L. Booth
President

In 2010, we published the College's first Ten-Year Vision titled "2010–2020: Transforming Lives, Shaping the Community."

Nine years later we are setting the stage for 2020–30. Between now and the end of June, we will lay the groundwork for the College's next Ten-Year Vision and Strategic Plan.

Our College Commission is charged by law to ensure the College fulfills its mission and to set the parameters within which the College operates. Our Commission has determined that our current direction is appropriate, effective, and should continue. Notably, this does not mean our new plan will be just a continuation of past practices; rather, it will reflect our new and ever-changing environment, taking into consideration new data, including demographic trends, economic development needs, emerging technologies, funding, and program delivery.

The College Commission, Executive Staff, and President's Advisory Council will begin work in earnest in February. A number of steps have been identified, including an analysis of our current environment, both internally and externally, as well as our strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities. All of this information will be used to develop a practical vision and strategic directions for where we see ourselves in five years.

After completing these steps, we will be able to identify the overall strategic directions that will guide us through the next decade, as well as the strategic activities we want to undertake during the first year of the new planning cycle—FY20. Your new President will be named during this process and have the opportunity to provide input. Our new Ten-Year Vision for 2020-30, a five-year Strategic Plan, and Strategic Initiatives for FY20 will be published by summer.

We know this process works because we developed it—and it has stood the test of time. When I look back over our annual plans from the last decade, I am able to quickly see what we were able to accomplish, how those accomplishments relate to our strategic objectives and, ultimately, how they impacted student success.

A few examples of our many achievements over the last decade: We opened the Easley Campus, Industrial Technology Center, Oconee Campus, and Student Success Center; developed a Cyber security plan; launched Technical Career Pathways; instituted a student loan default management plan; created the I-BEST Pathways program; created TC Central; developed a Student Engagement Strategy; implemented High Impact Practices; developed a Master Facilities Plan; defined the Transformative Student Experience and the Transformative Employee Experience; and implemented Banner 9.

This volume of work is tremendous, and the results of that work are nothing short of remarkable. As I have said many times to many people, the proof of our success is in the numbers, and the credit for our many accomplishments goes to each and every one of you—our faculty and staff. We rank at the very top in graduation, transfer, and student success rates among all sixteen colleges in the S.C. Technical College System.

More importantly, for many students the TCTC experience is far more powerful than gaining the skills and knowledge they need to enter the workforce or transfer to a four-year college or university. We literally transform their

(continued on page 10)



Spotlight on NSLS Scholarship Recipient

As a two-year breast cancer survivor, Lynn Bonner has learned how to appreciate every moment in life.

“Having cancer really puts things in perspective,” said Lynn, an associate degree Nursing major who was diagnosed with breast cancer at age 33. She is a BRCA gene carrier with no family history of cancer. “Initially when I received my diagnosis, I was stunned. But quickly I opted for the double mastectomy, and it was the best decision I ever made.”

In fact, she has come to view it as a blessing, she said. “I don’t get so overburdened now. I used to stress myself out about everything,” said the single mother of three children, ages, 11, 6, and 4. Through her illness, she says she also gained a new family consisting of friends and co-workers who stood by her during her year-long battle. A 2013 graduate of Tri-County’s Medical Assisting program, Lynn worked as a Certified Medical Assistant for five years until she enrolled again at the College last year.

Upon returning to college at age 35, she was asked to join the National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS), a national student organization designed to identify and develop students’ leadership skills with real-world applications.

NSLS is the nation’s largest leadership honor society, where top students nominated by their colleges come together to identify and achieve their goals.

Tri-County’s chapter focuses on the personal goals of members and how they can achieve them.

Last semester students who achieved GPAs of 2.75 or better and had completed at least 12 credit hours of full- and part-time college work were eligible to apply for membership. Lynn was among the 18 who completed all of the steps in fall 2018 to be fully inducted into the organization.

She applied for one of the organization’s scholarships—the Little Leaders Award. On its website, the National Society of Leadership and Success recognizes that “we all have a ‘Little Leader’ in our lives, be it your child, cousin, sibling, or even a family friend, who could benefit from a program which fosters and supports their interests (e.g., academic tutoring, sports classes, foreign language classes, etc.). The Society Little Leaders Award pays for these programs that will help our Little Leaders grow to be well-rounded individuals who make a better world.”

In her application letter, Lynn told her story about being diagnosed with cancer and later undergoing chemotherapy treatment followed by six surgeries in one year. Throughout the cancer battle, she admired her children’s resilience and endurance.

“My 11-year-old daughter is amazing. My kids are my leaders. They are my rock and were instrumental in my recovery.”

She learned late last year she was one of five nationwide

winners of the Little Leaders Award, which carries a \$1,200 stipend.

Lynn’s two daughters have long wanted to take gymnastics classes, but it was too costly. She enrolled them in classes which began this month. “They are so excited. They deserve it. They have sacrificed so much,” she said. “This is an amazing gift to give them. They have been my cheerleaders for this whole season of my life. I am now ready to be theirs.”



Lynn Bonner

Fall Semester President’s List Recipients Honored



“Congratulations on your good work. We’re really proud of you,” **Dr. Booth**, front, center, told the President’s List recipients (who earned all A’s for Fall Semester 2018) at a reception January 28. To be eligible for the President’s List, a student must be classified as a degree, diploma, or certificate-seeking student; earn at least 12 credit hours in courses numbered 100 or above; attain a GPR of 4.00; cannot earn an “E,” “WE,” or “U” grade for courses numbered 100 or below, or MAT 150 or ENG 150.

Catching Up with Alumni...

Katie Webb

Katie Webb recently moved back to the area from Dallas, Texas, where she had been living and working as an independent contractor for Dallas Metrocare Services for two years. Prior to that, she was Program Manager for The Well Community Center. She also served as Senior Pastor for Arcadia Park/Oak Haven United Methodist Church.

She attended the Corporate and Community Education Division's Job Fair held in January to survey her options. Now back in the Pendleton area, she is an independent contractor working in private counseling.

Katie served as SGA President in the 1980s and was a University Transfer student. She transferred to Clemson University and in 1996 received a Psychology degree and later earned a MHRD in 2000. She moved to North Carolina, where she earned a Masters of Divinity degree from Duke University in 2004.



Katie Webb, standing, middle, in Miss Tech pageant

Katie Webb today

Amanda Nicks

Amanda Nicks graduated from Clemson University December 20 with a bachelor's degree in Psychology and a minor in Architecture. This past semester, she worked with Tigers Together, Clemson's suicide prevention initiative.

In the future, Amanda wants to continue her education with a master's degree in Social Work and pursue a career as a counselor for fellow veterans.

Amanda worked with the Foothills Alliance's Child Advocacy Center, helping victims of rape. In October, she landed a full-time job with the group as a Legal Advocate.

The Navy veteran graduated debt free from Tri-County in 2017. Thanks to the military, her Tri-County tuition was paid for.

A year after being honorably discharged from the Navy, she decided to go back to college to prepare for her dream – architecture. "I thought I was just taking associate



Amanda Nicks

in Science classes at Tri-County to prepare to transfer to Clemson but Stacey Frank, psychology instructor and advisor for Tri-County's Student Veterans Association chapter, is the one who helped me figure out I could graduate with a degree. She pulled up my schedule in DegreeWorks and said you have to take two classes and you can graduate with a degree."

Stacey and Amanda met in Patriots' Place, a veterans center that opened in November 2013 on Tri-County's Pendleton Campus. Located in Anderson Hall, it serves as a one-stop shop for enrollment processes, resources, and a place to study and socialize with fellow veterans.

"Patriots' Place has been very important to me," said Amanda, who served as President of the Student Veterans Association chapter. "When I left the military, I felt like I left my family, but at Tri-County, I had my brothers and sisters, although in a different and new environment, all having each other's back as we navigated our new mission of college," said Amanda.

Lindsey Morris

Lindsey Morris, a 2015 associate degree Nursing graduate and former Alumni Association officer, has been accepted to the University of South Carolina's Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program. "I may be somewhat reclusive for the next three years, but I know that it will be worth it! May 2022 can't get here soon enough!" Lindsey wrote in an e-mail.

In 2009 Lindsey, a National Merit Scholar, was awarded full academic and athletic scholarships and headed to the University of Delaware to begin her freshman year in college. The goal was to study Equine Medicine and compete as a member of the university's rowing team.

Then life—and circumstances beyond her control that she never saw coming—happened. One year later, she was living independently, with no source of income or financial aid to pay the next year's tuition. "Without parental support, I couldn't get private loans, and federal grants didn't cover the out-of-state tuition," said Lindsey.

She moved to Clemson, got a job, and enrolled in the College's associate degree Nursing program. "It saved my life," said Lindsey. Through her job and scholarships from the Abney Foundation and the College's Alumni Association, along with federal grants, Lindsey was back on her feet and looking forward.

"These scholarships made it possible. I appreciate all of the people who helped to make it happen." She went on to graduate summa cum laude from Anderson University. "I can't say how grateful I am."



Lindsey Morris

A. Wade Martin Award Winners to Be Named at SCTEA

The winners of the A. Wade Martin Innovator of the Year and Innovation Team of the Year Awards will be recognized at the upcoming SCTEA conference. Diana Walter is our nominee for the A. Wade Martin Innovator of the Year award. The Business and Public Services Student Success Team is our nominee for Innovation Team of the Year.

These awards are presented each year during the annual SC Technical Education Association (SCTEA) Conference. The awards recognize innovative approaches to meet changing needs of technical college education at the college and/or System levels.

The awards are named for A. Wade Martin, who was the first executive director of the SC Technical College System.

State winners will be named at the conference.

Diana Walter

Over the last year, Diana Walter, director of Technical Skills for Success, has been instrumental in leading and developing the first I-BEST Pathways in South Carolina.

The programs have been recognized Statewide and across agencies,

The I-BEST Pathways program, developed by Tri-County Technical College and local Adult Education offices, is a model for workforce development in South Carolina. Initiated in 2016, already the I-BEST Pathways program has been identified as a model for technical college and adult education partnership across the State.

While Adult Education and Tri-County Technical College have long served under-represented, under-resourced, and underserved populations, work on the I-BEST Pathways initiative began when both agencies recognized the need to work more collaboratively to help these citizens gain the education and skills needed to enter the workforce. Additionally, both agencies recognized new strategies were needed to address changes in Title IV laws and WIOA legislation. Diana stepped up, took the reins, and led the development of the State's first I-BEST initiative in conjunction with Adult Education.

A first-of-its-kind initiative in South Carolina, the TCTC and Adult Education I-BEST partnership creates an intentional credit, career-focused pathway targeted to students who are in the process of completing their GED through Adult Education. The program lasts one semester and prepares students for entry-level positions in the workforce. Currently, I-BEST pathways have been developed in two areas: manufacturing and health care. More pathways are in the development pipeline.

The program goal is for every student who completes the program to fill a much-needed position in the job market and earn an associate degree over time.



Diana Walter

Just prior to publication, Diana learned she is the recipient of the Citizen Leadership Award, and the College won the Outstanding Organization Award from the S.C. Association of Adult and Continuing Education.

The Business and Public Services Student Success Team

The Business and Public Services Division's "Student Success Team" initiative was designed to improve student success and to foster a sense of belonging for Tri-County students.

Their strategy focuses on eliminating recognized gaps in student achievement, more effectively directing students to the most appropriate resources available, and helping them to develop a sense of belonging. This initiative was developed with the intention of creating a model that, if successful, could be adopted by all of the other academic divisions at Tri-County Technical College.

The team adopted a case management approach to advocate for students, including targeted outreach to specific student populations, referrals to other departments and resources, initiatives to better serve student needs, and advocating for student-centered policies and procedures. Additionally, the varying roles of the SST team members allowed for intentional referrals and utilization of existing support structures. Among the events were technology training, a welcome back event and an academic recovery workshop.

Overall, the BPS Student Success Team's work has resulted in improved student outcomes and created a positive employee experience. This model will now be implemented in the Health Education and Engineering and Industrial Technology Divisions.



*The Business and Public Services Division Student Success Team members are pictured from left to right: **Tasheka Johnson**, director of Advising and Student Support; **Croslena Johnson**, manager, Student Development and Wellness Programs; **Briana Johnson**, academic resource specialist, Business and Public Services Division; **Dr. Jackie Blakely**, dean, Business and Public Services Division; **Lynn Smith**, career counselor; **Billy Carson**, department head, Computer Information Systems, Business and Public Services Division; **Catherine DuRant**, financial aid counselor; and **August Johnson**, student success coach.*

Photos from Ruby Hicks Re-opening



ABOVE, LEFT: County Councils tour Ruby Hicks.



ABOVE, RIGHT: Campus Police Officer **Daphne Miller** was among the faculty who joined staff and students for a free breakfast January 11 in the newly-renovated Ruby Hicks Hall on the Pendleton Campus.



Kerrington Moss, of Anderson, a Business major, talks with **Ross Hughes**, quality assurance coordinator for the Student Data Center.



Representatives from Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens county councils had lunch with Dr. Booth and his staff in the Board Room and toured the College's newly-renovated Ruby Hicks Hall. Many thanks for the Councils' continued support and dedication to today's students, as well as future generations. "Without your support we wouldn't be where we are today," **Cara Hamilton**, vice president for business affairs, told the Council members.



Robbie Krzyzanowski, a Mechatronics major, **Taracia Jackson**, a Business major, **Annie Adams**, a Dental Assisting major, and **Drodricuse Clemons**, a GET major, all Anderson residents, enjoy the new facilities.

Foundation News

Clemson Downs Supports Nursing Scholarship



Clemson Downs made a \$1,500 donation to Tri-County Technical College's Foundation to continue its support of a scholarship for a Nursing student in Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties.

Dr. John LeHeup, executive director of Clemson Downs, fourth from left, presented **Dr. Booth**, third from left, with the check. Also pictured are, from left, **Dr. Lynn Lewis**, dean of Tri-County's Health Education Division; **Grayson Kelly**, vice president for Institutional Advancement and Business Relations at Tri-County; and **Shauna Aluoto**, director of nursing for Clemson Downs.

Foundation Receives Gift from First Citizens



First Citizens Bank of Clemson continued its support of the College with a \$5,000 donation to the Foundation. Pictured from left are **Courtney White**, director of development at the College; **Bill Harley**, senior vice president/market executive II for First Citizens and a member of our Foundation Board; **Dr. Booth**; and **H.J. (Rocky) Miller**, senior vice president/finance sales manager, First Citizens.

Students Get Connected to Campus Resources

Get Connected events were held at each of the community campuses to introduce students to Tri-County's clubs and organizations, as well as campus resources.

BELOW, LEFT: **Cathy Cole**, office manager for the Student Data Center, answers questions from **Jackie Jeter**, of Anderson, an associate degree Nursing major.



BELOW, RIGHT: **Katie Rashid**, community campus coordinator and STEM Librarian, middle, and **Tanya Walker**, Learning Commons assistant director, right, outline the benefits of attending Leading Edge seminars for **Sabrina Coker**, of Anderson, an associate degree Nursing major.



Our College Family



Jennifer Hulehan

in transition

Over the past year, **Jennifer Hulehan's** responsibilities have expanded from Department Head of Comprehensive Studies to include strategic leadership for I-BEST Programs. As such, her position will now be Associate Dean for Academic

and Career Foundations within the College Transitions Division. Academic and Career Foundations is the newly named department that includes Comprehensive Studies and I-BEST Programs.

In this expanded role, Jennifer will collaboratively lead efforts to facilitate the design, pilot, and implementation of academic programs and services that support the transition of under-prepared and under-resourced students. She will provide direct leadership for these programs during the launch and pilot phases and lead the assessment of program launch processes to ensure continuous improvement during full-scale implementation.

Wade Pitts is the Program Manager for the Center of Workforce Excellence for the Corporate and Community Education Division. He holds a B.S. in Management and Marketing from the University of South Carolina and an MBA from North Greenville University.

Wade spent most of his career working in operations, continuous improvement, and production management positions in the automotive sector (Kongsberg Automotive and Eberspaerher). Most recently he was Production Manager for ZF Transmissions.

His certifications include Lean Sigma Black Belt and Certified Quality Engineer, and he is a Training Within Industry (TWI) instructor. He is past President of the S.C. Easter Seals and the Anderson County Easter Seals.

He and his wife, Anne, live in Anderson. They have a son, John.

Berdina Hill joined us as Career and Employability Resources Coordinator in December. She holds a B.S. in Psychology (with an emphasis in Counseling) from Lander University and an M.A. in Community Counseling from Webster University. For the last



Berdina Hill

six years, she worked as a Counselor for the S.C. Vocational Rehabilitation Department. Prior to that, she worked for five years as a Court Advocate for MEG's House, a shelter for abused women and children in Greenwood.

Berdina is a FEMA Crisis Counselor and a 2016 graduate of the Professional Development Leadership Program.

She and her husband, Joseph, have two children, Carmine, 7, and Alexander, 5. They live in Anderson.

Malissa Moore joined Campus Police in January as an Officer. After graduating from our Criminal Justice program in 2013, she worked at the Anderson City Police Department and the Simpsonville Police Department. She and her son, Daylen, live in Anderson.



Malissa Moore

Mark Vickery is an Information Business Analyst in Information Technology. He holds a bachelor's degree in Digital Information Design from Winthrop University. For the past year, he worked part-time as a Help Desk Technician for the College. Prior to that, he was an IT Engineer for Acumen IT. Mark lives in Anderson.



Mark Vickery

Brian Smith is the Department Head for Business Technology and a Business Administration instructor.

Brian was previously employed by Starwood Capital Group for the last 15 years as a Market Manager covering North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

Prior to that, he owned two restaurants—one in downtown Greenville and one in Anderson. Brian also worked as a Market Manager for Taco Bell covering South Carolina and northeast Georgia for nine years.

He holds an MBA and a bachelor's degree with a concentration in Human Resources from the University of Phoenix. He lives in Easley with his wife and five children



Brian Smith

Cheryl Aguero (no photo available) joined our Associate Degree Nursing faculty this month. Since graduating from our ADN program in 1995, she has been employed by Cannon

Memorial Hospital (now AnMed Health Cannon). She also holds BSN and MSN degrees from Western Governors University. She was a member of Phi Theta Kappa and Sigma Theta Tau. She is a member of the Emergency Nurses Association. She and her husband, Philip, are members of Pickens First Baptist Church. They have four adult children and live in Pickens.

Carole Morahan is the Administrative Specialist for the Health Education Division. She worked for 16 years as the Administrative Assistant for North Shore Medical Center in Salem, Massachusetts, before she and her husband Bill, moved to the Upstate in 2017. She spent the last 18 months working as the Administrative Assistant for Greenwood Genetic Center in Greenville. She and her husband live in Anderson and have two adult children.



Carole Morahan

Kimberly Sharp is an instructor for the Early Child Education program. She earned an associate in Science degree from Tri-County in 2011 and transferred to Grand Canyon University where she earned a B.S. in Early Childhood Education and the next year a Master of Education from Anderson University. From 2008 – 2018 she was a teacher at Anderson School District Five (South Fant School of Early Education). She and her husband, Anthony, are members of Beech Springs Tabernacle. They have four children, Noelle, Noah, David, and Harrison. They live in Belton.



Kimberly Sharp



Lynell Hecht

Lynell Hecht is the Learning Support Coordinator for the Comprehensive Studies Department.

She holds a B.S. in Education from the University of Memphis and an M.Ed. from Trevecca Nazarene University. For the last 14 years, she was employed by the Presbyterian Day School in Memphis, where she served as Director of Academic Support during the last seven years.

Prior to that, she was a classroom teacher for several schools in Tennessee.

She and her husband, Paul, are members of St. Paul Catholic Church. They have two sons, Samuel and Grady, who are in college. The Hechts live in Seneca.

Katherine “Kit” Rashid joined us full time as Community Campus Coordinator and STEM Librarian after a year of serving

as part-time Library Supervisor for the Anderson Campus Learning Commons.

Kit earned a B.A. in History from Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh followed by an MSc in Statistics from the University of Toronto in Canada, an MA in History from the University of Pennsylvania and an MLIS last year from the University of Alabama. She currently is completing her dissertation.



Kit Rashid

She serves on the Learning Commons Collection Development Team at the College. Kit resides in Greenville.

Mary Pable (no photo available) is an instructor in the Humanities Department. She was a Copy Editor and Buyer for Miles Kimbell Company and a Spanish professor at the University of Wisconsin. She holds a B.S. in Education/Spanish from the University of Wisconsin, an M.S. in Spanish from Florida State University, and earned 23 graduate credits in History from the University of Wisconsin. She was a member of the Wisconsin Association of Foreign Language Teachers and the OshKosh Fine Arts Association. Mary lives in Anderson.

Gabe Hollingsworth is the new Director of TC Central. He comes to us from Wingate University, where he spent eight years as Director of Admissions. Prior to that, he worked as the New Student Recruiter for West Virginia University for two years. He began his career as an Admissions Counselor for Anderson University.



Gabe Hollingsworth

Gabe holds a B. A. in Elementary Education and a master’s of Human Resource Development from Clemson University. He and his wife, Christina, have a one-year-old daughter, Lillian. They live in Anderson.



Rebecca Pokorny

Rebecca Pokorny is the Coordinator of Technical Services for the Learning Commons. She earned a bachelor of arts from Furman University and an M.S. in Plant and Environmental Science from Clemson University.

She worked as an Applications Developer for 10 years, serving the independent pharmacy niche. For the last 12 years, she worked alongside her husband, Karl, in their business which provides tree care services in the local area. She serves as Vice President and Event Coordinator for the Pendleton Historic Foundation. She was named the 2018 Volunteer of the Year for the Town of Pendleton. She and Karl live in Pendleton with their three four-legged children, Buster, Stella, and Ozzie.

Doug Allen Retires After 28 Years at the College

Since the 1970s Doug Allen has been a part of the Industrial Electronics Technology (IET) Department, first as a student and then a faculty member since 1990.

Fellow colleagues praise his skills, calling him a role model, mentor, and compassionate instructor.

“Doug is a real example of what a TCTC faculty member should be,” said Mandy Elmore, dean of the Engineering and Industrial Technology Division. “He is an excellent instructor who took the time to get to know his students. He always went the extra mile to ensure student success. To this day, countless students return to visit with him. Many of us across the College were privileged enough



Doug in 1990

to count Doug as a friend and mentor. He always took the time to invest in those around him. To borrow the phrase he often used in referring to those around him, Doug is just ‘good people.’ While we are excited for Doug to have an opportunity to enjoy



Doug today

some time for himself, we are so sad for ourselves. We are so thankful for all Doug has given to our students, programs, division, and College,” said Mandy.

During Doug’s 28 years at the College, he worked as an IET instructor, Program Coordinator for IET, and most recently as Department Head for Industrial Technology. His excellence in the classroom and commitment to students earned him the 2005 Presidential Medallion for

Instructional Excellence.

In addition to his IET degree from Tri County and associate in Arts from Anderson University, he earned a B. S. in Industrial Education from Clemson University.

For two consecutive years, in 2005 and in he was named SCTEA Outstanding educator for Tri-County.

Below is a letter Doug drafted before his departure.

A New Ten-Year Vision

(continued from page 2)

lives in ways they never expected. When students are transformed, they go out into the world with an edge that helps them stand apart from graduates of other colleges. When we deliver this experience, we are doing something more impactful than what is written in our job descriptions. We set the stage to spark transformation not only in our students, but in ourselves.

Our vision statement truly reflects who we are and how we approach our work: Passionate people transforming lives and building strong communities one student at a time. The passion each of you brings to your work makes the difference between an ordinary and an extraordinary educational experience for each and every student. It takes everyone working together with intense focus on student success to keep us moving in the right direction.

I look forward to being part of this planning process as we look ahead to new challenges and opportunities—to setting our sights on a new vision to move us forward over the course of the next decade.



Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D., President

I want to thank all of you who have worked tirelessly with me over the years to help our students, college, and community by being a part of truly making a difference in our students’ lives. I have enjoyed all 28 years of my time here, but the truth is I’ve been walking (and running) up and downs these halls since 1967 when my Dad and I hunted and fished with a number of TCTC folks back in the day. TCTC truly has been a huge and vital part of who I am. I hope to teach a class or two as an adjunct or maybe do some other part-time things here going forward, so I’m sure I’ll be seeing everyone.

I appreciate the friendships made and the times spent working together.

Doug

excellence through service

Congratulations to Commissioner **Ham Hudson** and **Kathy Brand**, executive assistant to Dr. Booth, who were honored by the S.C. Association of Technical College Commissioners (SCATCC) at the SCATCC Academy in January 2019.

Commissioner Hudson is the recipient of the Commissioner Award and Kathy is the recipient of the Board Staff Award. Both were nominees for the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Southern Region Competition.



Jonathan Warnock

Jonathan Warnock,
Comprehensive

Studies adjunct English instructor, won the 2019 Nell Ann Pickett Award from the Two-Year College English Association-Southeast (TYCA-SE). This award recognizes an outstanding conference program proposal by an adjunct instructor. Jonathan is one of only two South Carolinians (and the only Tri-County faculty member) to win the award



*Commissioner **Helen Rosemond-Saunders** presents **Ham Hudson** and **Kathy Brand** with awards.*

in its 22-year history. He will be recognized at the annual conference in Memphis, TN. "I am excited that Jonathan is being recognized by TYCA-SE for the excellence we've seen first-hand in his day-to-day work at Tri-County," said Jennifer Hulehan, associate dean for Academic and Career Foundations.

South Carolina Technical College System Facts at a Glance

- 52% of all South Carolinians enrolled as undergraduates in South Carolina's public higher education attend one of our 16 colleges.
- Average annual tuition is 34% of the average annual tuition at a four-year institution.
- 95% of students are South Carolina residents. The vast majority choose to live and work in South Carolina after completing their education.
- 90% of graduates are placed in a job related to their field of study or are continuing their studies and furthering their education.
- Each year the System educates and trains nearly 175,000 South Carolinians through credit programs (109,815) and continuing education programs (64,712).

I-BEST Grad Shares TCTC Experience with Legislators

Juwan Freeman (far right) accompanied **Dr. Booth** and other College officials to the State Capital to meet with members of the legislative delegations from Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties. Juwan is pictured here with, from left, **John Powell**, chair of the Tri-County Technical College Commission; **Jenn Hulehan**, associate dean for Academic and Career Foundations; **Dr. Booth**; and **Julianne DiCiccio-Wiles**, director of I-BEST programs. Juwan graduated in December 2018, from the I-BEST Manufacturing Pathway. He currently is employed at BorgWarner in Oconee County. He spoke with legislators about his experience in the I-BEST program and how Tri-County set him on a pathway for a successful career in manufacturing.



Annual Job Fair Draws Overflow Crowd



An overflow crowd filled the Industrial and Business Development Center January 3 at our annual Job Fair on the Pendleton Campus. Attendees networked, applied for scholarships, and interviewed with companies. Tri-County Mechatronics alumnus **Dale Shaw**, of Pendleton, is seen submitting his resume to **Melanie McLane**, human resources manager for Arthrex.

Executive Staff Summary

- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Construction of a new training facility next to the Industrial Technology Center is underway. Initially the facility will be used to train workers for Arthrex, a new plant that manufactures medical devices slated to open later this year.
- **ENROLLMENT:** Enrollment is down slightly, less than one percentage point, from Spring Semester 2018. A final headcount is calculated in February when enrollment information is submitted to the State office. Preliminary data shows most SC technical colleges are experiencing declining enrollment.
- **STRATEGIC PLANNING:** The College Commission, Executive Staff, and President's Advisory Council will begin working on a new Ten-Year Vision and Strategic

Plan in February. The process will include an analysis of our current environment, both internally and externally; a formal analysis of strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities; the development of a practical vision; the identification of strategic directions; and strategic initiatives for FY 20.

- **TCTC FOUNDATION:** The Foundation raised more than one million dollars by mid-January, setting a record pace for FY19.
- **OTHER:** Orientation for new employees; Professional Development Day; Commission meeting plans; institutional art in public spaces in new buildings; and the legislative agenda for 2019.