

Connection

In this Issue ...



Annual Report Event Focuses On Community Partners..... 4



Ham Hudson Honored with Order of Merit..... 6



US Engine Valve Named Philanthropist of the Year..... 7



President's Cup Tournament Raises \$65,000..... 9

Larry Smith Joins College's Commission

Tri-County Technical College's Commissioners welcomed a new member to the governing board at a bi-monthly meeting October 7.

Larry A. Smith, retired plant manager for Schneider Electric in Seneca, attended his first board meeting since being appointed by the Governor to fill the Oconee County seat vacated by Ham Hudson, who retired in June after serving 18 years on the board.

"When Senator Thomas Alexander called and told me Ham was retiring and asked if I was interested in being nominated to serve, I quickly replied yes, given my belief in Tri-County and all the good work the College has done and continues to do in preparing folks for the future," said Smith. "I was honored to be asked because of the importance of the role and because of my respect for Senator Alexander and all he has done for our community and for South Carolina," he said.

Smith says the 26 years he served as Plant Manager of Schneider Electric, as well as the eight years he served as President of the Oconee County Industrial Group, kept him aware of the educational and workforce initiatives developed and implemented by the College. He is a strong proponent of building and maintaining a skilled workforce which he says is critical for local industries to be successful. He says Tri-County Technical College has played a key role in much of the industrial growth of the three-county area.

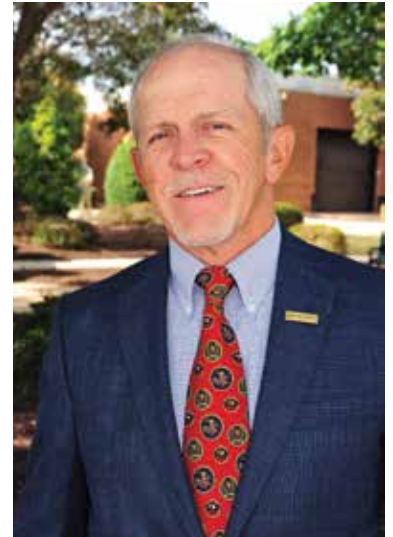
In addition to his role with the Oconee County Industrial Group, Smith has been an active member on Tri-County advisory committees and served on Tri-County's Foundation Board for seven years.

"Manufacturing folks must always strive to develop a pipeline of talent. In my experience, I found that Tri-County is a great asset to accomplishing that goal," said Smith.

"A high percentage of the Quality Assurance and Engineering teams at Schneider are Tri-County graduates so I know the value Tri-County adds. Tri-County graduates fill many critical functions at Schneider and at other industries across the tri-county area. They are major contributors to the success of manufacturing operations," he said.

"The skills and knowledge of technical college graduates are invaluable for South Carolina's business and industry success and equally important for the career opportunities for our people. With the unemployment rate at about three and one-half percent, finding qualified people for these skilled jobs is more challenging than ever. Tri-County also provides a golden opportunity for those folks who are unemployed or underemployed. A Tri-County education gives them a chance to step out of minimum-wage jobs by getting a certificate or a degree which positions them to make a positive difference in their lives," he said.

Smith served as the industrial representative on the team that planned the College's Oconee Campus and assisted the team with selecting the campus' location and



Larry Smith

(continued on page 14)

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



Connection

is published ten times each year by the Office of the President and the Public Relations Department.

Mailing Address (All Campuses)

P. O. Box 587, Pendleton, SC 29670

Pendleton Campus

7900 Highway 76, Pendleton, SC

Anderson Campus

511 Michelin Blvd., Anderson, SC

Easley Campus

1774 Powdersville Rd., Easley, SC

Oconee Campus

552 Education Way, Westminster, SC

Main Number

(864) 646-TCTC (8282)

Toll-free

1-866-269-5677

TDD/Voice

1-800-735-2905

Website

www.tctc.edu



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

Relationships and Partnerships

On October 24, we hosted an Annual Report reception for business, education, industry, and community leaders in Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties in our beautifully renovated Ruby Hicks Hall on the Pendleton Campus.

We were proud to share truly impressive rankings and achievements with our community partners, including our top rankings in student success and transfer rates among the sixteen colleges in the S.C. Technical College System, and our top one percent national ranking for successful transfers to four-year colleges and universities.

The theme of Our Annual Report for 2018-19 is "Relationships and Partnerships," brought to life by stories told by our students, graduates, and community partners.

Highlights include Rachel Ossman, who dropped out of high school and, after several starts and stops, received her GED from Adult Education and graduated from TCTC through the I-BEST program; Dustin David, also a high school drop out, who graduated from our Welding program and now works for Duke Energy; Melanie McLane, HR manager for Arthrex, who shares how important the TCTC/Arthrex partnership is to the success of the company; and Javier Amador, who earned 37 hours of TCTC credit before graduating from high school through our Technical Advanced Placement and Technical Career Pathways programs. He will finish his associate degree in Mechatronics in less than a year.

Their successes, and the success of other students featured in our Annual Report, would not have been possible without the relationships and partnerships we have formed in the communities we serve—partnerships where all parties are invested, have a stake in the outcomes, and share the work.

We also shared with our guests how we have come to realize our communities now need us differently, based on changing demographics, poverty and equity gaps, and other factors. It is no longer enough, nor as simple as, enrolling, educating, and placing students in jobs.

Our role is much more complex, and it all starts with the "why."

As most of you have heard me say several times, we believe that education has the power to transform the lives of our students so they are able to reach their goals and achieve their potential, ultimately shaping and building strong and thriving communities. That's the "why" of our existence and the true definition of student success.

Because our communities need TCTC differently, we must adapt in order to continue to meet our mission. In broad terms, we must move from transactional to relational, from short-term to long-term, from processes to considering the person/people in the processes, from unrelated and stand-alone to interrelated and



Dr. Galen DeHay
President

"The success of students featured in our Annual Report would not have been possible without the relationships and partnerships we have formed in the communities we serve – partnerships where all parties are invested, have a stake in the outcomes, and share the work."

—Dr. Galen DeHay

(continued on page 15)



Spotlight on Power Line Worker and Heavy Equipment Rodeos

Students in the Level I Power Line Worker and Heavy Equipment certification classes recently participated in a rodeo where they showcased their skills for potential employers who are looking to fill these in-demand job across the State.

South Carolina employment data indicates the job market is wide open in both fields, and employers are looking to fill new positions and openings created by a retiring workforce.

These rodeos serve as a demonstration of the students' power lineman and heavy equipment skills obtained during their classroom and skills training.

"Rodeos are like a job interview, where students can demonstrate their skills and network with future employers," said Dr. Rick Cothran, dean of the Corporate and Community Education Division at Tri-County.

"The goal is to connect students with employers now," he added.

"Employers saw first hand that our students are marketable and what they have learned in their training," added Julia Lee, training coordinator for CCE.

Graduates of the Power Line Worker class, Matthew Alcorn, Wyatt Strang, and Dillon McKinney, completed the 14-week course and demonstrated pole climbing, pole top rescue, naming material, demo digging and setting poles, hanging insulators, switching, and underground work.

The three graduates are now enrolled in our CCE Division's five-week Commercial Drivers License A class to enhance their skills set by learning how to operate, drive, and haul utility equipment making them even more employable, said Timia Hunter, division recruiter and outreach program coordinator for CCE.

The Power Line Worker program curriculum includes American Heart Association/CPR First Aid training and courses in National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) core; OSHA-10 for Construction; Power Line Worker Level I Certification and modules out of Levels II and III; and the Power Line Curriculum with the option of adding Commercial Driver's License (CDL).

Power company employers attending the rodeo were Duke Energy, Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative, Seneca Light and Water, Sumter Utilities, Pike Electric, Easley Combined Utilities, and Utility Partners.



Students in our Power Lineman class, **Matthew Alcorn, Wyatt Strang, and Dillon McKinney**, holding certificates, completed the 14-week course and showcased their skills to potential employers at a rodeo. Students demonstrated the skills they obtained during their classroom and skills training. They are pictured with instructors **James Guthrie**, left, and **Mike Sanders**, right.

Heavy Equipment students, Peter Biscuti, of Walhalla, and Cheryl Shook of Westminster, demonstrated their skills the next day for employers at the Heavy Equipment Operators Rodeo. Cheryl and Peter had the opportunity to showcase their skills using the skid steer, wheel loader, and hydraulic excavators. The students are excited to graduate from the 8 ½ week program with the hands-on experience, knowledge, and employer connections required to successfully transition into a Heavy Equipment Operator position. The equipment that the students learned to operate was selected specifically by industry.

"Our curriculum is designed to prepare potential employees to meet the specific needs of employers in our area," said Rick. "We offer the Power Line Worker Training in addition to the Heavy Equipment Operator training and the existing truck driver (CDL) training. Our new outdoor career pathways through our QuickJobs programs can quickly put people to work in jobs paying a sustainable wage in high demand careers," said Rick.

"Employers are happy and enthusiastic about both programs," said Julia.

If the student qualifies for a workforce scholarship, funded by the state, along with community partners, such as SC Works and Vocational Rehabilitation, the tuition assistance can aid persons who are unable to afford the cost of training. Often there is very little out of pocket expense, said Timia.

Earlier in the spring, College and community partner agencies announced details about a \$200,000 grant from the South Carolina Technical College Foundation made possible by Duke Energy. The purpose of the grant was to develop and implement this Power Line Worker Training program.

(continued on page 16)

Tri-County's Success Is Due to Strong Relationships with Community Partners

The successes of Tri-County Technical College over the past year are a testament to the power of the strong relationships and partnerships the College shares with business, industry, and educators in the community, President DeHay told the crowd at an Annual Report event.

"We know our success is due in great part to our strong relationships with our partners in the community. You are the key to our success. We need you," said Dr. DeHay. "Most of what we have accomplished would never have happened without you," he said to the crowd of business, industrial, education, government, and political leaders who gathered at the October 24 event.

"It is the relationships and partnerships with you that make us successful," he added, referring to the theme of this year's Annual Report publication (Relationships and Partnerships) that highlights the major College and Foundation accomplishments of 2018-2019.

"These relationships and partnerships transform the lives of our students and help us to build stronger communities," he emphasized.

Dr. DeHay said there is more work to do in providing pathways to student success for all residents in our community. "We are working to improve the economic mobility of residents in the area and strengthening the College's role in economic development," he said.

"In everything we do, we believe that education has the power to improve the economic mobility of our students and results in stronger, more prosperous communities," he said.

He said one way to expand the pipeline



Dr. DeHay addresses the crowd at the Annual Report event.

"These relationships and partnerships transform the lives of our students and help us to build stronger communities."

—Dr. Galen DeHay



View the Annual Report publication at www.tctc.edu/AnnualReport or contact the Public Relations Department at Ext. 1507 for a copy.

of workers is to continue to find new and innovative ways to attract recent high school graduates, through initiatives like Technical Career Pathways. "We also need to find ways to enroll more non-traditional older students who are unemployed or underemployed," he said, emphasizing that in Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties, there are about 160,000 individuals, ages 24-40, who have a high school diploma but no college credential. "These people need what Tri-County has to offer them. We need to expand programs, like I-BEST, to serve more non-traditional students. Second, we will create more intentional partnerships and pathways to benefit our students," he said.

"Partnerships only work when all parties benefit, participate, and invest in the work. Tri-County Technical College is best suited, and perhaps the only organization that can connect all the partners to effect change—K-12, businesses and industries, non-profit organizations, community agencies and State and federal governments," he said.

"Third, we want to do a better job meeting business and industry needs to help them grow and be sustainable," he said. Earlier this year the College rolled out a new model, called Integrated Workforce Solutions, for working with business and industry. "Integrated Workforce Solutions can create tailored solutions to meet business and industry needs," said Dr. DeHay.

"Educating and training more people in our communities is one of the surest and best ways to strengthen this special part of South Carolina that we call home," he said.



Annual Report Draws State and Local Leaders

Dr. DeHay is pictured with guests **Mike Callahan**, Duke Energy SC state president, **Garvin Barker**, member of the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education, **Senator Thomas Alexander**, and **Robert Halfacre**, senior vice president and relationship manager, Carolina Alliance Bank and a member of the College's new Board of Visitors.

Industry Partner Arthrex Featured in Annual Report

Arthrex is the focus of just one of the feature articles in the Annual Report publication that highlights the importance of relationships and partnerships. Arthrex executives say they witnessed the power of partnership at its best from the moment they announced the expansion of their business to Anderson County as Tri-County and other community stakeholders pulled together to provide the necessary resources to meet their workforce needs.

From day one it was all action, not just a plan, said Melanie McLane, human resources manager for the Arthrex Sandy Springs facility. The College's readySC team hit the ground running, working with McLane and others to customize a pre-employment training plan to develop a strong pipeline of qualified employees.

Melanie McLane, human resources manager for the Arthrex Sandy Springs facility, is pictured here at the Annual Report reception with Arthrex Director of Operations **Chris Johansen**, second from left, Anderson County Economic Development Director **Burriss Nelson** left, and **Dan Cooper**, chief of staff.



Ruthie Millar Addresses I-BEST Patient Care Aide Class



Ruthie Millar, director of Community Outreach, Clemson Downs and a Tri-County alumna (standing, fourth from left), spoke to the I-BEST Patient Care Aide class. "My degree has served me well, and it made such a difference in my life. You're on the path to success, and you're starting at the right place," she said. "What I learned at Tri-County will serve me for the rest of my life."

Ham Hudson Honored with Tri-County's Order of Merit

The College honored recently-retired Commission member and Seneca resident William H. (Ham) Hudson with the highest award given by the College's nine-member Commission.

President DeHay presented Mr. Hudson with the Order of Merit at the College's October 24 Annual Report reception.

The Order of Merit is an honorary society that recognizes community and state leaders who have contributed to the development of Tri-County Technical College and the State Technical College System.

Mr. Hudson joined the Commission in 2001 and devoted 18 years of dedicated service as a member representing Oconee County. During his tenure, he served as Chair of the Commission (2011–2014) and as Vice Chair (2007–2010).

"This is a great honor and probably the biggest surprise ever," said Mr. Hudson upon accepting the award. He referenced the College's vision of Transforming Lives and Building Strong Communities, One Student at a Time. "That is so important. Our communities are better off because of Tri-County. I only wish the best for the College as it continues to move forward."

"Ham has been solidly committed to the community college philosophy and in every way has pursued the mission and purpose of the College. He gave generously of his time and resources to enhance the College's ability to serve students, faculty, staff, and this community," said Dr. DeHay.

Mr. Hudson made lasting contributions in his service as the Commission's Chair and Vice Chair of the Executive Committee, seven years on the Finance Committee, serving as its Chair (2008, 2009, and 2011), on the Building Committee for five years (2014–2018), and as an ex-officio member of the Foundation Committee.

As a member of the Building Committee, he was instrumental in moving the Oconee Campus project forward and was a leader in bringing Tri-County Technical College to where the Oconee County community lives and works.

"He always had the students and their access to an affordable education at the forefront of his thoughts, actions, and decisions," said Dr. DeHay.

In 2018 Mr. Hudson was honored by the S.C. Association of Technical College Commissioners (SCATCC) with the



*Tri-County Technical College honored recently-retired Commission member and Seneca resident **William H. (Ham) Hudson** (at podium surrounded by his family) with the highest award given by the College's nine-member Commission.*

Commissioner Award at the SCATCC Academy and was a nominee for the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Southern Region Competition.

His deep commitment to his community and his strong sense of civic responsibility were recognized when he received the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor when he retired after 32 years of service as Chairman and CEO of Oconee Memorial Hospital. At that time, the Board of Directors of Oconee Memorial Hospital awarded him the title of President and CEO Emeritus.

"Throughout his career of exceptional service and leadership, Mr. Hudson had a profound influence on setting the course for Oconee Memorial Hospital, Tri-County Technical College, and the Technical College System and will always be among this area's most influential leaders," said Dr. DeHay.

Hudson and his wife Wilma, reside in Seneca.

US Engine Valve Named Philanthropist of the Year

The Tri-County Technical College Foundation named US Engine Valve the recipient of its 2019 Philanthropist of the Year award. This is the Foundation's highest and most prestigious honor reserved for individuals, foundations, companies, trusts, organizations, or other entities that have made a significant financial contribution, either cash or non-cash, to the Foundation to support the work of the College.

US Engine Valve Plant Manager Bobby Dover accepted the award at the College's Annual Report reception held October 24. Grayson Kelly, executive director of the Foundation and vice president for institutional advancement and business relations, presented the award.

"Thank you to Tri-County for your partnership and the longstanding relationship we have had over the years," said Dover. He acknowledged his appreciation for the technical talent—Tri-County graduates—who are now working at the facility. The plant recently celebrated its 30-year anniversary, and Dover said these alumni are "doing great things to make our plant successful. We look forward to another 30 years."

US Engine Valve, located in Westminster, has been a loyal donor to the Tri-County Technical College Foundation since 1989. To date, US Engine Valve—"A Nittan Valve Co., Ltd.—Eaton Corp., JF"—has given more than \$245,000.

In 1989, Tri-County's Foundation set a goal to raise \$500,000 for endowments that would support the financial needs of students. US Engine Valve was one of the first to establish an endowed scholarship, which benefits students enrolled in Industrial Electronics and Mechatronics, said Grayson.

"Recognizing the importance of providing relevant, up-to-date classroom instruction, US Engine Valve created a professional development endowment in 1991. The earnings from this endowment are used to award mini-grants to employees who apply for funds to attend conferences, enroll in advanced course work, or participate in other development opportunities that allow them to stay current in their field," said Grayson.

From 2002 until most recently in November of 2018, US Engine Valve donated a total of \$220,000 to upgrade and purchase training equipment for the College's Corporate and Community



*The Tri-County Technical College Foundation named US Engine Valve the recipient of its 2019 Philanthropist of the Year award. US Engine Valve Plant Manager **Bobby Dover**, left, accepted the award at the College's Annual Report reception held October 24. **Grayson Kelly**, executive director of the Foundation and vice president for institutional advancement and business relations, presented the award.*

Education Division's industrial programs.

In addition to making monetary gifts, US Engine Valve is also a member of the College's World Class Training Center, and the Company's employees have participated in thousands of hours of online and hands-on instruction through programs offered by the Center, said Grayson.

He added that company employees also demonstrate involvement and leadership through their service on academic program advisory committees.

"The relationships and partnerships that we are fortunate to have with so many businesses and industries in the tri-county community have made

it possible for the College to excel in many ways. US Engine Valve's gifts and other support of the College clearly demonstrates that the company is one of our most valued partners," said Grayson.



Holocaust Survivor Shares His Life Story

93-year-old Holocaust survivor **Dr. Walter Ziffer** shared his story of surviving life in seven different Nazi slave-labor concentration camps as a teenager. The event was sponsored by the College's Enrichment Series. Dr. Ziffer is the author of *Confronting the Silence: A Holocaust Survivor's Search for God*. He is pictured with his wife, **Gail Rosenthal**, left, and **Dana Griffith**, speech instructor and member of the College's Enrichment Series committee.

Medical Assisting Program Granted Full, Continuing Accreditation by CAAHEP

The Medical Assisting program has been granted full, continuing accreditation through fall 2028 by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP).

This is the maximum reaffirmation of accreditation a program can receive and accreditation status approval was without additional reporting requirements, said Medical Assisting Program Director Laura McClain.

This accreditation provides graduates with the proper credentials needed to sit for the Certified Medical Assistants exam.

For the past year and a half, Laura and adjunct instructors prepared for a site visit by gathering data and preparing an extensive 76-page self-study of the program.

A committee of site visitors visited Tri-County February 25–27 of this year to validate the program's compliance with CAAHEP standards. In addition to talking with College administrators, the site visitors met with the program's advisory committee members, faculty, students, and alumni.

"Site visitors talked by telephone or in person with students and alumni about their curriculum and classroom experiences," said Laura.

The accreditation process evaluates the following categories of the program or institution: overall mission of the institution; sound financial practices; an approved program of study; qualified instructors; curriculum standards, courses and goals; adequate facilities and equipment for training; requirements for admission; services to students; student evaluations; and fair practices.

"Site visitors complimented us on our documentation being so detailed and organized. They also were impressed with our renovations, which included our two new exam rooms and new paint and flooring in our classroom. One of the site visitors, who is a program director, asked if she could take a photo of our facilities," said Laura.

"I want to thank instructor Jan Gibbs, who was instrumental in helping in our lab areas. This reaccreditation status is her



Medical Assisting continues to be the fastest growing profession in healthcare due to graduates' important role and training to work in physician offices, outpatient labs, clinics, and other ambulatory care settings.

*The College observed Medical Assisting Recognition Day Wednesday, October 23. Here, Associate Degree Nursing students **Ivan Cobb**, of Walhalla, and **Emilie Cusick**, of Anderson, second and third from left, talk with Medical Assisting students **Hailey Galvez**, of Walhalla, and **Emmanuel Elrod**, of Easley.*

accomplishment as well as mine. That's the way we run this program. It's not myself and the team—it is all of us together."

Medical assisting duties are a good mix of clinical and administrative work, she explained. Graduates are cross trained in every area of ambulatory care. Their duties range from hands-on patient care, under physician and nursing supervision, to front office duties.

Graduates work in a variety of doctor's offices, such as cardiology, neuroscience units, internal medicine, OB-GYN, and dermatology. They also can work in Urgent Care Clinics.

The department boasts a 100 percent job placement rate.

Meet the Mentor Session Held

*Business Administration Department Head **Brian Smith** (standing) led the Meet the Mentor session, a follow-up meeting for those who attended the Men of Color Luncheon earlier this semester. In future meetings, students will be assigned a mentor who will help to guide them academically and professionally.*



Foundation News

President's Cup Golf Tournament Raises \$65,000



The President's Cup golf tournament held October 3 raised approximately \$65,000 for the College's priority needs. A team representing David Taylor Heating and Air was named the tournament champions with the winning score of 52 (20 below par). Pictured left to right are **Grayson Kelly**, vice president of institutional advancement and business relations; winning team players **Mike Merritt**, **David Taylor**, **Chad Whisnant**, and **Aaron Kincaid**; and **Dr. Galen DeHay**. We appreciate the support of all of our players and their sponsors.

Contribute 2019 Fundraising Campaign Kicks Off

The Foundation kicked off its CONTRIBUTE 2019 campaign with a Spuds and Salad Bar for faculty and staff.

CONTRIBUTE 2019 is an annual giving campaign benefiting Tri-County Technical College. Staff, faculty, alumni, and friends are on a mission to transform lives one student at a time.

The annual giving campaign takes place during November to benefit scholarships, and priority needs.

Each fall our employees demonstrate their philanthropy by giving to student and College needs through cash, payroll deductions, and credit card gifts.

How Do I CONTRIBUTE?

Supporting Tri-County is easy. You can CONTRIBUTE online at tctc.edu/contribute. You can mail a contribution with a printable form. Employees can use an online enrollment form for payroll deduction giving.

EVERY DOLLAR truly does MATTER THE GOAL IS PARTICIPATION! Together, your gift will join other gifts to remove financial barriers for so many.



Eleven team captains are competing for competition bonus points. Which team will claim the new shiny campaign trophy and earn bragging rights? Join us Tuesday, December 3, from noon–1:30 p.m. for the Contribute Bowl when winners will be named. Details will be forthcoming. Pictured here are three team captains, **Meredith Dickens**, **Mandy Hanks**, and **Laura McClain**.



Elizabeth Gambrell, training facilitator in the Assessment Center; standing, talks with **Courtney White**, director of development, about the annual giving campaign that benefits students and priority needs.

Our College Family

*excellence
through service*

Jenni Creamer, assistant vice president of College Transitions, was recognized by the Anderson Independent Mail as one of the top 20 emerging leaders under the age of 40 who excel in their industry and show dynamic leadership.



Jenni Creamer

She and other honorees were nominated by their peers and the public and were chosen by a special selection committee. They were recognized in a 20 Under 40 special section of the newspaper and at the 20 Under 40 awards luncheon held October 28.



Tri-County Technical College won The SC Thrive Community Partner of the Year for 2019. Pictured from left are **Renee Frazier, Emma Robinson, Croslena Johnson, and Heidi Reeves**.

Lisa Garrett received a MarCom Gold Award for the tribute magazine honoring Dr. Ronnie L. Booth, retired president. The MarCom Awards competition recognizes outstanding achievement by communication and marketing professionals across the country and internationally. Entries come from PR firms, corporate marketing and communications departments, ad agencies, production companies, and freelancers. MarCom awards are administered and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals.

Registrar **Scott Harvey** presented a session titled "360 View of Our Students" at the annual CoHEsion Summit in St. Louis October 7-10.



Scott Harvey

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION SUMMIT



Our TCTC team participated in the Third Annual Diversity and Inclusion seminar held October 8 in Greenville. The Third Annual 2019 Diversity and Inclusion Summit is an all-day event designed to energize organizations' diversity and inclusion efforts and discover innovation found within inclusion-minded leadership. Pictured from left are (seated) **Mandy Elmore, Marci Leake, Becky Garrigan, and Tasheka Johnson** and (standing) **Laneika Musalini, Dr. Jackie Blakley, Mia Tensley, and Jenni Creamer, and Delia Allen** of Furman University.

Grants Director **Laneika Musalini** published her second article, titled Inclusion without Borders, in the October/November issue of NCURA National Council of University Research Administrators) magazine. It can be found at this link (starting on page 34) <https://issuu.com/ncura1959/docs/ncuramagazineoctnov2019?fr=sYzI3ZTQwNTM5MA>. Laneika chairs the organization's 2019 Task Force.



Laneika Musalini

Support NSLS Toys for Tots

The NSLS is partnering with Toys for Tots this holiday season to sponsor a toy drive to benefit children ages infants-15. The drive began October 28 and will run through December 2.

Drop-off locations are as follows: Pendleton Campus-Student Success Center and Ruby Hicks. There are donation receptacles at each of the community campuses in Anderson, Easley, and Oconee. They will be stationed in the lobby of each campus.

Donations should be unwrapped new toys for the younger kids and new books for the kids ages 11-15.

We encourage faculty, staff, and students to support this organization during the upcoming holiday season.

in transition

Carol Dyar is a Fiscal Technician in the Business Office. She began her career at Perpetual Bank as a Teller and later Branch Manager. From 1998–2019, she was Customer Specialist for Community First Bank.

She serves as Treasurer for Concord Baptist Church and previously served as Treasurer for Centerville Elementary School PTA and for the T.L. Hanna Band Booster Club.

She and her husband, Joel, live in Anderson.

Travis Durham is our Student Conduct and Advocacy Coordinator for the Student Support and Engagement Division. He is a native of Asheville, NC and moved to Upstate SC in 2008. He



Carol Dyar

worked as a School Social Worker, Assistant Principal, and Executive Director of Student Services for Asheville City Schools for over a decade. He served as Director of Related Educational Services for the SC School for the Deaf and Blind for three years before working as Intensive Foster Care and Clinical Services Coordinator for DSS for the last year.

He earned an AAS Degree in Paralegal Studies from South College, BSW from Mars Hill College, MSW from the University of South Carolina, and an Ed. S. in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis from East Tennessee State University.

His professional affiliations include the American College Personnel Association (ACPA)/SC College Personnel Association (SCCPA), Association for Student Conduct Administration (ASCA), United Way, Greenville Chamber of Commerce, and the Urban League. He has served as Board Chair for Lead Academy Charter School and served as a board member of Greenville Technical College's Charter High School. He is a Certified Leadership Coach with the John Maxwell Team.

He has four children and lives in Greenville.



Travis Durham

Three Honored As 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) meeting in February.

Tasheka Johnson, director of Advising and Academic Support Network and President's Advisory Council member, is the College's outstanding administrator; **Trent Hulehan**, program director for Automotive Technology, is the outstanding instructor; and **Lori Morrissette**, manager for Student Development and Involvement Programs, 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 13–15.



Tasheka Johnson



Trent Hulehan



Lori Morrissette

Open Mic Event Held in Student Success Center



The Music Club presented its first Open Mic event October 28 in the West Dining Hall of the Student Success Center. **Edward Armstrong**, above, and **Donald Blackmon**, left, both of Central, performed for the crowd. Edward is a University Transfer major, and Donald is studying engineering design.

Jimmy Walker Receives Outstanding Service to Student Award



Jimmy Walker

Comprehensive Studies Mathematics instructor Jimmy Walker says he remains “shocked, honored, and humbled” by the Outstanding Service to Students Award he received at the annual South Carolina Association for Developmental Education (SCADE) conference October 18.

Jenn Hulehan, associate dean of Academic and Career Foundations, who nominated him, says despite his modesty, Jimmy personifies

the exact qualities that this prestigious award recognizes.

This award is given to a person whose work exemplifies the mission and purpose of SCADE by demonstrating responsiveness to individual students, commitment to professional growth, and excellence in teaching.

“Math is hard for many students so it’s important to have the right person teaching it. Jimmy is patient, he cares about each student, and he is concerned about their successes,” said Jenn. “He connects with students in and out of classes, and his impact is huge. He truly deserves this award.”

Jimmy’s work as the lead faculty member with the Learning Disabilities pilot team this semester was the focus of Jenn’s nomination letter.

This semester he worked closely with ARC, TSS, Advising, Learning Support, and other faculty to develop and pilot learning techniques designed for students who exhibit symptoms of learning disabilities like Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, and Attention Deficit Disorder.

Jenn said Jimmy has become “the Department’s resident expert on learning disabilities,” adding that he has spent countless hours on research and brings this important information to team meetings. “His implementation in the classroom not only helps students in those classes but also helps adjunct instructors and students in other developmental classes. Developmental Education students are very likely to have undiagnosed or unreported learning disabilities, so this work is critical to the success of under-resourced populations—the population TCTC is focused on,” she said.

He keeps the team updated on his experiences and works with them to develop tools to implement in their classes. “He then develops and delivers training to adjunct faculty on the research behind the learning strategies, how to appropriately use the strategies to help not just those with learning disabilities but all students at all levels of the learning continuum. His research

also includes UDL (Universal Design for Learning), which he uses to develop tools/training and better learning experiences for students,” said Jenn.

One of the strategies Jimmy focuses on is retrieval practice, which is the act of trying to recall information without having it in front of you. “If one understands the properties and laws associated with a math problem, he or she won’t have to study as much and can focus on the math,” said Jimmy.

“These activities focus on listening to vocabulary and understanding mathematical language so they can be more engaging and less afraid to ask questions. They also see others (their classmates) are dealing with the same problems. They feel like they aren’t alone so they begin to relax and perform better,” said Walker. “Students then begin to deal with negative emotions that stem from bad math experiences,” he added.

He expressed appreciation to Jenn, who “gives us the freedom to do these activities, as long as we follow the curriculum. We can be creative, and that’s very helpful,” added Jimmy, who will continue his work next year by holding professional development seminars for faculty on using these strategies in class. The class will be piloted in the fall.

“Many students will tell you that math is their least favorite or most difficult subject, which is why the right instructor is vital to developmental math students’ success. Jimmy Walker has consistently been ‘the right teacher’ for our students. His students have time and again reported that Jimmy is a patient, caring, and concerned teacher, who knows what he teaches and explains it well,” said Jenn. “It’s not about me. It’s about learning skills and strategies than can transfer across disciplines,” said Jimmy.

Jimmy has taught at the College since 2007, first as an adjunct, then as a lecturer, and as a full-time faculty member.

Students and faculty praise Jimmy as being an invaluable asset to the classroom and the College. In 2012 received the College’s Adjunct Faculty Presidential Award.

Jimmy holds a B.S. in Mathematics from the University of South Carolina. He began college at Tri-County in the University Transfer curriculum.

He resides in Anderson.



Michael Crouch received the 2019 SCADE Scholar Award, which was awarded to a Developmental Education student who demonstrates exemplary academic performance.

Topic of Tech Talk Forum Is 21st-Century Skills



During a Tech Talk forum, business and industry experts, two of whom are alumni, participated in a panel discussion where they had conversations with students about what 21st-century skills look like in today's workplace.

Participating were, seated from left, **Chip Reaves**, owner of Bigger Brains; **Barbara Burke**, regional director of external affairs for Wingate University's Health Sciences Center; **Richard (Rich) Brock**, technical recruiter for industrial maintenance personnel for Michelin (TCTC alumnus); and **Amanda Nicks**, legal advocate for Foothills Alliance and a Tri-County alumna who earned an A.S. degree in 2017 and in 2018 she earned a bachelor of Science degree in Psychology (with a minor in Architecture), and a second bachelor's in Criminal Justice from Clemson University. Amanda is featured in the recently published Annual Report. Moderating the event was **Lynn Smith**, counselor in the Career and Employability Resources office.

Tri-County Student Nurses Association Sponsors Expo

Bachelor of Nursing programs from Clemson, the University of South Carolina, Anderson University, USC-Upstate, Southern Wesleyan University, and many others were available to discuss their program requirements and costs. All Pre-Nursing, and Nursing students were invited to attend. Here, **Kerrigan Alexander**, left, and **Hillary Turner** talk with **Marissa Fatt**, director of corporate and educational partnerships at Anderson University.



College Groups Attend Emerging Leaders Conference



Representatives from our Student Government Association and NSLS attended the Emerging Leaders conference October 25 at Midlands Technical College—Airport Campus. Pictured from left are **Greg Acatitlan**, **Noemi Romero**, **Mar'keese Rayton**, **Lori Morrissette**, manager for Student Development and Involvement, **Nicolle Davenport**, **Amber Davenport**, **Tabita Romero**, and **Danni Levesley**.

The Emerging Leaders conference is sponsored by the Student Life SC Technical College System (SCTCS) Peer Group. More than 160 SCTCS students attended the conference which included a keynote speech by Dr. Rayburn Brooks from Piedmont Technical College, breakout sessions, and networking opportunities.

Lori Morrissette and our Grants Director Laneika Musalini also were presenters.

College Celebrates National Veterinary Technician Week

First celebrated in 1993, National Veterinary Technician Week takes place in the third week of October each year.

National Veterinary Technician Week provides an opportunity to recognize veterinary technicians' contributions. Veterinary technicians are critical to the day-to-day function of veterinary practices and play vital roles in preserving animal health and welfare.

They've been called the backbone of veterinary clinics, and many veterinarians say they wouldn't dream of opening their practice on any given day without a veterinary technician who serves as an extra set of hands to handle many aspects of

patient care, as well as laboratory procedures.

Veterinary technicians work closely with veterinarians and other members of the veterinary team to deliver quality animal health care. Their primary responsibilities in a veterinary practice include animal nursing, administering medications, assisting in surgery, taking radiographs, inducing and monitoring anesthesia, client education, hospital management and laboratory duties.

Tri-County's program, which is accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), is endorsed by the South Carolina Association of Veterinarians.



Dental Lab



Dr. Elizabeth Bryan and students in surgery

Larry Smith Joins College's Commission

(continued from page 1)

curriculum. He emphasized the importance of including CNC in its offerings based on input he had received from the Oconee Industrial Group members.

He also believes the Technical Career Pathways program gives students a running start. After one year in the pathways classes in high school and one year at Tri-County, graduates have the opportunity to secure a job at area industries, often making \$35,000–\$40,000 a year straight out of school. "Their earning potential increases greatly, and they have no large college debt because of the cost efficiency of these programs," he said.

He says he hopes to use his manufacturing experience to support the mission and vision of the College and to be a contributing member of the Commission.

Smith says he is planning to reconnect with his former colleagues in the Oconee County Industrial Group to hear their business needs "first hand" to serve as a conduit back

to the Commission with the intent of optimizing Tri-County's offerings to best meet those needs. "My goal is to help businesses, industries, and working people to be more successful," he said.

Smith holds B.S. and MBA degrees from the University of Pittsburg. In addition to being former President of the Oconee County Industrial Group, he is a member of the Foothills Area YMCA Board, is a former member of SDOC Business Education Partnership, and served on the Clemson University Continuing Education Board. He is an avid tennis player and competes regularly in the U.S. Tennis Association leagues.

He and his wife, Judy, live in Seneca. They have four adult children and 10 grandchildren.

Members of Tri-County Technical College's Commission are appointed to a three-year term. The Commission meets at noon the first Monday of every other month.

Relationships and Partnerships

(continued from page 1)

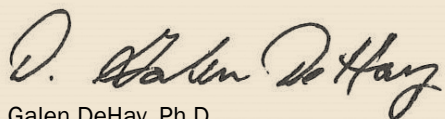
connected. This is where we start transforming the College into ONE TCTC that focuses on the needs of our students and the communities we serve.

Our body of students is so diverse that a one-size-fits-all educational program is not enough. We have to continue to reinvent our programs and services to adapt to changing realities. I-BEST, TC Central, Success Coaches, Learning Commons—all are examples of programs and services that did not exist five years ago.

Looking forward, we will focus our efforts to ensure the College complements our students' complex lives; expands the workforce pipeline; creates more intentional partnerships and pathways to benefit our students; better meets business and industry needs; strengthens community relationships; and becomes ONE TCTC focused on helping students realize their potential.

At the Annual Report reception, I made it very clear that the successes we have achieved and our ability to reach the potential that awaits us starts with each of you—our faculty and staff—who bring our College vision to life: Passionate people transforming lives and building strong communities one student at a time. You bring the “why” of our existence to life with your unwavering focus on student success.

In your service,



Galen DeHay, Ph.D.

Fall Concert Featuring Chorus And Jazz Band Is November 22

The Tri-County Technical College Fall Concert will showcase all sides of chorus music this year, with solos and ensemble pieces featuring classic, folk, holiday, and classical music, says Julia West Miller, music appreciation instructor and director of choir and band activities.

The Chorus and Jazz Band will present its fall concert Friday, November 22, at 7 p.m. in the Marshall Parker Auditorium on the Pendleton Campus. The concert is free and open to the public.

Under the direction of Julia, along with Jazz Band accompanist Cory Dodgens, the concert will feature a holiday favorite, “Carol of the Bells;” a pop music selection, “Count on Me,” by Bruno Mars; “A Million Dreams” from “The Greatest Showman;” a folk song, “Homeward Bound,” and a vocal arrangement of Beethoven’s “Sonata No. 8.”

Julia says a highlight will be “Jingle Bells,” usually performed in 4/4 time but this evening will be in 5/4 time, giving it “a swing feel. The concert will include very eclectic styles of music, and will touch all sides of the chorus experience,” said Julia.

“These performances appeal to everyone in our Chorus and will to our audience. We will show that choir can be so many different things, and this group does it all well,” she said.

“We have the most robust men’s section we had ever had and all of the Chorus performers are very experienced in different styles of choir. Everyone came in with strong skills and voices. They really challenged themselves by performing different styles and songs,” she said.

Miller added that although the concert is free, donations to the College’s Music Scholarship Fund are welcome. The goal is to raise money for an endowed scholarship that will benefit students who want to enroll in the Chorus or Jazz Band but cannot afford it.

For more information, contact Julia Miller at 646-1436 or jwest11@tctc.edu.

Executive Staff Summary

- **DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION PROJECT CHARTER—PHASE II IMPLEMENTATION:** A new Diversity and Inclusion Project Team will begin outlining the work objectives necessary to implement the Diversity and Inclusion Framework established during the spring of 2019.
- **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION UPDATE:** Luke VanWingerden, Information Technology director, provided an update on various IT projects, including Blackboard, security, next steps for Banner, ID cards, and other projects currently in progress.
- **TEN-YEAR VISION AND STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2020–2030:** Work continues to develop the new Ten-Year Vision and Strategic Plan. Next steps including working with the President’s Advisory Council to develop goals for each strategic direction and activities in support of those goals and directions. PAC members will work within their departments to gain feedback for the process.
- **OTHER:** Professional development activities and discussions related to the role and scope of the Executive Staff under the leadership of the new President; physical plant updates; and Spring Semester enrollment.

Fall Book Ball Focuses on Making Literacy Fun for the Family

The Early Care and Education program hosted a community event aimed at making literacy fun for the entire family.

The Fall Book Ball was held October 28 from 5–7 p.m. in Ruby Hicks Hall on the Pendleton Campus. This literacy festival was for children ages 2–8 years of age and their families. Children dressed up in their favorite costumes for this Halloween-themed event.

“This was a fun atmosphere with literacy-based games, crafts, and activities,” said Meredith Dickens, program director for Early Care and Education.

“Our students were tasked with creating interactive literacy activities where children can have fun with language and reading. We encouraged families to take these ideas and have fun with them at home,” she said.

Thematic exercises included sorting and matching, an activity associated with children listening to a story, “If You Give

a Mouse a Cookie,” as well the book, How Full is Your Bucket?, which teaches children the language of kindness through a sharing and caring activity.

“We want to put resources in parents’ hands so they can make anything a teachable moment,” said instructor Kimberly Sharp. “If parents are excited about reading, then their kids will follow suit. These activities grow their academic, social, and emotional development, as well,” said Kimberly.



LEFT: English instructor **Kama Offenberger** and her daughter, **Maggie**, 2, enjoyed the event.



RIGHT: Student **Morgan Deane** helps **Johanna Lambert**, 5.

Power Line Worker and Heavy Equipment Rodeos

(continued from page 3)

The grant covers start-up costs of the program, including equipment and faculty.

For more about the Power Line Worker or Heavy Equipment Operator program and how to apply for a

scholarship, you can attend an Open House November 26 or December 10 from 9–10 a.m. or 4–6 p.m. at the Industrial & Business Development Center, call Ext. 1700, or visit tctc.edu/Learn.



Heavy Equipment Rodeo



Power Line Worker Rodeo