

# Connection

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## QEP, TSE: Joined at The HIPs

Over the past year, Margaret Burdette, coordinator of SACSCOC Compliance and Assessment, with the assistance of a large number of individuals across the institution, has written the College's Compliance Report for our accrediting agency, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on College, or SACSCOC. The report is a required step in the process of reaffirming the College's accreditation.

An offsite review team is reviewing the report and will meet at the SACSOC office in Atlanta April 19-21 to determine the College's compliance with the Core Requirements, Comprehensive Standards, and Federal Requirements. The College will receive feedback from the committee within a few weeks of the review and have the opportunity to respond with a Focused Report. The Focused Report will be sent to an offsite committee along with the College's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) in September.

Work on the QEP has been transpiring for over a year, said Sarah Shumpert, director of Curriculum and Instructional Support, who is chairing the committees tasked with the creation of the plan. The College selected High Impact Practices or HIPs as its topic for the QEP, which is a written plan to improve student learning and is another required component of reaffirmation of accreditation. "The plan will show how the College plans to embed at least two HIPs, such as learning communities, service learning, work-based learning, and capstone projects,

*(continued on page 14)*



**Margaret Burdette**, coordinator of SACSCOC Compliance and Assessment, left, and **Sarah Shumpert**, director of Curriculum and Instructional Support.

### Timeline Leading to Our QEP Topic Selection for Reaccreditation

- 2006—Adopted the Learning College Principles and completed the first QEP, the Learning Excellence Initiative (LEI)
- 2010—Approved and implemented 10-year vision to support the Transformative Student Experience (TSE); also received five-year grant from U.S. Department of Education (DOE) Title III Strengthening Institutions grant funds to more powerfully focus on student learning and success for first-time postsecondary students.
- 2014—College defined the Transformative Student Experience (TSE).

# Connection

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## Mailing Address (All Campuses)

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### Pendleton Campus

7900 Highway 76, Pendleton, SC

### Anderson Campus

511 Michelin Blvd., Anderson, SC

### Easley Campus

1774 Powdersville Rd., Easley, SC

### Oconee Campus

### Hamilton Career Center

100 Vocational Dr., Seneca, SC

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### TDD/Voice

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[www.tctc.edu](http://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

## HIPs is Centerpiece of New Strategic Plan



Dr. Ronnie L. Booth  
President

During our Spring Faculty/Staff meeting at the end of March, I shared the significant progress we are making in improving student success, retention, persistence, graduation, and employment rates.

We are achieving solid outcomes that prove our students are successful, and all of you deserve a round of applause. Everyone working together with intense focus on student success keeps us heading in the right direction, and having concrete data that show the positive results of our collective efforts is highly rewarding.

During the meeting, we also shared our new Strategic Plan for the upcoming academic year (2016-17), which builds on the progress we are making this year.

We developed fifteen initiatives aligned with the four strategic directions we established three years ago—Driving Organizational Change through Our People; Reinventing Our Offerings to Address Changing Realities; Positioning and Equipping Students for Success; and

Embracing Accountability for Students' Learning. Most of the initiatives in the new plan build upon the work completed this year. Copies of the plan were handed out at the meeting, and in the near future you can access the plan in the eTC portal.

The centerpiece of the plan is the implementation of our SACSCOC Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) for our upcoming reaccreditation—the implementation of High Impact Practices (HIPs) throughout the curriculum. Our objective is to provide every student the opportunity to participate in at least two high-impact educational experiences, such as work-based learning, service learning, learning communities, and capstone projects. Proven to improve learning, engagement, and completion, the implementation of HIPs will support the College's goal of providing a transformative experience for every student.

Currently, we have pockets of excellence in HIPs throughout the College. Our challenge, over a five-year period, is to bring these practices to scale and embed HIPs into the entire curriculum.

Implementation of HIPs and the other activities in our strategic plan represent a significant step forward in our efforts to position and equip our students for success and to create an environment that fosters transformation. 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.

*"Our objective is to provide every student the opportunity to participate in at least two high-impact educational experiences."*

*~Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D.*

Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D., President



# Spotlight on Media Arts Production

For years Program Coordinator John Woodson wrestled with the idea of changing the longstanding Radio and Television Broadcasting (RTV) degree's name to better reflect what today's students are learning and doing in the workforce.

"The program is successful—it has a great reputation and always has. But the Radio and TV name was limiting. We do more than those two words. In today's world, content is king," said John.

"When you say TV today, in addition to networks, you also mean Hulu, Netflix, and YouTube," added instructor Amy Roberts.

Two years ago Amy and John talked to the program's advisory board, comprised of communications professionals who hire our graduates, about changing the name of the program to Media Technology and Arts (MTA). In 2014 Amy, John and committee members redesigned the program's curriculum as it moved in the direction of multimedia and content creation, but the degree name remained RTV.

The work continued last year and another name change transpired that Amy and John say is less confusing for the employers who are hiring our graduates, as well as for prospective students.

"As always our curriculum is a work in progress," he added. "The new name reflects what we do—create content."

When graduates march across the commencement stage in May, their degree will read Media Arts Production, or MAP, reflecting the newer way to look at multimedia and giving the program and the degree the same name.

"We've also restructured the program so students can get certificate(s), along with the associate degree," said Amy. "They can choose from three media certificates—Graphic Communications, Digital Production Techniques, and Digital Photography. The certificate gives them a specialty," said Amy. "The new degree has three electives and if they choose properly, they can graduate with two credentials—a degree and a certificate."

Amy said the certificate allows students to concentrate on the part they like best. A new fourth certificate—Audio Techniques—is coming soon to give even more opportunities, added John.

For many years, graduates predominantly worked behind the

camera and microphone.

They still are getting jobs in traditional media and are working at TV stations as cameramen and women and as producers and announcers at radio stations, but they also are working in hospitals, non-profits, churches, and businesses as videographers, graphic designers, and freelance photographers.

Bigger Brains in Anderson employs students who are creating international training videos.

Seven or eight graduates are working at Channel 7 as videographers, master control operators, and marketing assistants since last May and three are at Entercom Radio.

This summer, two recent graduates are traveling across the country in a production van shooting drone footage for a national company. Their videos will be seen in corporate videos and on the Internet.

John and Amy let students know about these jobs in classes and via the department's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/MAPTCTC/](http://www.facebook.com/MAPTCTC/).

"The average business needs someone with the skills students acquire in our program. They need someone to write ad copy and to produce educational and safety training videos for clients. Churches need light and sound engineers for their services. Companies need folks to create content and to design their websites. There are so many ways to hear or see your message. Our grads are versed in all of these professional media," said John.

The College's MAP program remains one of the few two-year broadcasting/media production programs in the nation.



Listen to 70's and 80's music at 95.1  
MAP the Hill on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/MAPTheHill](http://www.facebook.com/MAPTheHill).



**Amy Roberts** designed the new logo for the Media Arts Production program that is seen on walls on the MAP floor in Fulp Hall.

*Since 2012 the department has hosted Media Mash-Up, a media festival and exhibition of student projects including audio, video editing, animation and photography. Student entries are judged by advisory committee members and community leaders who often are looking for potential hires.*

*This year's Media Mash-Up is set for April 29 at 7 p.m. in the Oconee Hall Auditorium on the Pendleton Campus. For a preview, go to <https://www.facebook.com/MTAmediamashup>.*

# Professional Development Day

Full-time faculty and staff had the opportunity to participate in a variety of professional development activities on Tuesday, March 1, including College-wide workshops and division-specific activities. In addition to these photos, enjoy more shots from the day by accessing the College's Flickr link on the website homepage or eTC Message Center tab.

## Campus Safety Serves as Resource for College Community

"The Campus Safety Department works every day to ensure a safer, secure learning environment at TCTC for students, employees, and visitors," said Campus Safety Director Jonathan Finch, who led a seminar that gave an update on initiatives that have taken place this year and outlined upcoming events.



Campus Safety Director **Jonathan Finch** leads a seminar on campus safety.

"The Campus Safety Mission Statement calls out the fact that safety and security on campus is a shared responsibility. Students, employees, and visitors to the College should keep their head on swivel and contact us immediately if they see anything they think is suspicious or concerning," he added.

Over the next few months, there will be opportunities for employees to participate in general safety training, training exercises, and other volunteer roles. CPR training, fire alarm drills, and other exercises will be offered in the next few months. Faculty and staff also will receive an emergency guidebook, which serves as a quick reference guide for their desks.

"In addition to daily campus safety operations, my department is constantly working on creating a more prepared, resilient, and aware campus community. One big way we do this is by educating the community and practicing things like mass notification and other emergency drills," he said.

Please look for these opportunities and attend and/or participate if possible, said Jonathan.

"The department serves as a resource for the College community, and tips, concerns, etc. are always welcome. We can be reached by calling 646-1800 or by sending an e-mail to [campussafety@tctc.edu](mailto:campussafety@tctc.edu)," said Jonathan.

## Financial Aid Plays Beach Ball Q&A

The Financial Aid team spent the afternoon playing Beach Ball Q & A, a fun ice breaker game whereby each person answers questions that reveal details about their lives and personality.

Pictured here from left, **Rosemary Howlin**, **Carla Brewer**, **Adam Ghiloni**, and **Cathy Cole**.



## Student Success Center Project Update

Cindy Benjamin, an architect with LS3P Designers, gave an update on the Student Success Center project for a group of staff during Professional Development Day. She gave details on what we can expect in the near future. A team solicited input from a lot of folks around campus and is using this information as a benchmark for decisions on the building.

“The Student Success Center is important to achieve our mission and what is needed and fundamental to delivering a Transformative Student Experience (TSE) and student success. It’s not about the building or the furniture, but our culture will deliver the TSE. The furniture serves as tools that will allow us to deliver a TSE, as well as promote student success,” said Cara Hamilton, vice president for business affairs.

Benjamin said, “This new structure will be transformative for students, the community, and each person who has the privilege to work here at Tri-County. Every decision we make, we ask does it promote student success? After 20 months of work and input, the project is still a work in progress. Since 2014 we have been talking about the need to retain students on campus—to give them a variety of spaces to work collaboratively with groups or quietly as individuals,” she said.

“Exterior space will be increased so people will want to be

outside, and terrace landscaping will give heart to the center of campus,” she said.

She added that Ruby Hicks “will be getting a new dress.”

The start date for the Student Success Center will be this summer. It will take 3–4 months to demolish Clarke-McKissick Hall and prepare the site for construction. “You will see steel coming out of the ground by late fall,” Benjamin said, estimating that it is a 16-month process. The Ruby Hicks renovation will begin in 2018 and will take about a year to complete, she said.



*Cindy Benjamin, an architect with LS3P Designers, gave an update on the Student Success Center project.*



## Administrative Services Department Practices Team Building

Administrative Services Manager **Lou Moritz**, seated, far right, organized additional professional development activities for his unit in the Business Affairs Division. The group worked on creative team-building exercises during the afternoon session. Here **Denise Hall**, printing services manager, third from left, reacts to her team’s win on The Barter Puzzle game. Pictured with her from left are **Jessica Johnson**, **Beth Cheek**, and **Lou**.



## Career Services Offers Expertise

**Glenn Hellenga**, **Lynn Smith**, and **Cheryl Garrison** from our Career Services office shared their expertise and offered suggestions on topics such as e-mail etiquette, body language, phone manners, face-to-face communications, and communication choices during an interactive workshop titled “What Our Communication Says about Us as Professionals.”

# Forum Presenters Highlight Selling Points of Technical Career Pathways: Clear Path; Great Starting Point; No Debt

Two years ago business, industry, and education partners gathered to strategize and develop action plans to encourage high school students to choose careers in advanced manufacturing.

“The goal was to develop action plans to increase the pace and number of high school students who are pursuing technical degrees in preparation for careers in advanced manufacturing,” said Amanda Blanton, director of high school engagement and outreach at the College.

“We left with lots of good material used to form

Curriculum, Counseling and Communication, and Middle School Committees—all with the goal of communicating with students and their parents about technical career pathways and how they meet the needs of today’s workplace,” said Amanda.

Industry and education leaders reconvened March 3 for the Second Annual Business and Education Forum to hear updates on what has been accomplished and what programs are on the horizon to encourage high school students to choose careers in advanced manufacturing.

## Stamey Says Häring Program Is Once in a Lifetime Opportunity

Another unique training and career opportunity for Tri-County students is through Häring USA, a leading global manufacturer of precision components and subassemblies for the automotive industry. Selected students move to Germany, where they attend an academy with students from other colleges and universities, and study as trainees, along with attending daily classes while immersing themselves in the German culture. They train to be team or group leaders at the company’s new U.S. facility set to open in Hartwell, Georgia, in 2017.

“This takes their educational experience and sets them up for career opportunities in ways we’ve never seen a company do before,” said Cheryl Garrison, job placement coordinator at Tri-County. “They will learn the business from the ground up, including reading, writing and speaking German,” she said.

“This is a once in a lifetime opportunity, and I’m going to go for it,” said Trenton Stamey, a former Technical Career Pathways student and 2015 Westside High school graduate, who was among the 12 Tri-County students recently accepted into the Häring program to train for three years at the company’s Bubsheim, Germany, facility. Trenton is a Mechatronics major.

He was among the first Technical Career Pathways graduates who received a Basic Electricity certificate in 2015 before he graduated from Westside. “Career pathways classes gave me the confidence I needed to go to Germany. It will be exciting to move to Germany for two years,” said Trenton, who has never been outside of the country.

A total of 35 individuals will be selected by Häring and will come back to the United States as a start-up group for the new plant in Georgia.

Ian McCraw, an Industrial Electronics Technology senior, a member of the first Technical Career Pathways Basic Electronics class who graduated with a high school diploma and a college credential in 2014, left for Germany on January 2, 2016.

“We have so many partnerships with business and industry,” said Amanda Blanton, director of high school engagement and outreach. “This is a great way to create a pipeline for a skilled workforce.”



*This group of students has been selected by Häring and will be headed to Germany in April. From left are **Phillip Westbrook**, GET; **Axel Lehmann**, Mechatronics; **Brooks Young**, CIT; **Kody Bennett**, EGT; **Jonah Shirley**, Mechatronics; **Trenton Stamey**, Mechatronics; **Dalton Laugh**, Mechatronics; and **Jaden Humphries**, IET. Alex and Trenton were among the 14 Crescent, T.L. Hanna, and Westside high school seniors in 2014 who earned a college credential before they graduated.*

*The Business and Education Forum II, held March 3, was hosted by The Clemson Center for Workforce Development, Partnership for Academic and Career Education, Tri-County Regional Education Center, S.C. Department of Commerce, and Tri-County Technical College.*

## TCP Program Grows to 166 Students in Two Years

In just two years Tri-County's Technical Career Pathways (TCP) program has grown from seven students in one district to 166 students from all seven school districts, Amanda Blanton, director of high school engagement and outreach, reported. The program gives students a head start on college, allowing them to complete an associate degree in a technical program within one year of full-time study after high school.

Amanda has worked with public school officials and business and industry leaders for more than two years to develop this unique technical career pathways program with school districts to provide students with the employer-defined skills needed in advanced manufacturing and other STEM-related careers.

A \$1 million state-funded proviso is making it possible for these high school students to take college courses in technical career pathways with little or no out-of-pocket cost. Tuition and related expenses are funded under the proviso.

Each program is unique to each district and includes pathways for Automotive Technology, Mechatronics, Industrial Electronics, HVAC, and Welding. In addition to developing pathways to support advanced manufacturing, this year Amanda expanded pathways in health, business, and public services programs. Like the technical pathways, students may be awarded Technical Advanced Placement (TAP) credit for articulated high school courses and begin taking college courses that give students a head start toward their associate degree.

"The programs are growing, and we hope to have even more pathways," she said.



*Amanda Blanton*



*Larry Smith*

## TCP Gives Students a Running Start

The forum's keynote speaker, Larry Smith, retired manager of Schneider Electric in Seneca, said, "Technical Career Pathways classes give students a running start. After one year in the pathways classes in high school and one year at Tri-County, graduates can land a job at Schneider Electric making \$40,000 a year straight out of school. That's not a bad start. In three years, they can earn \$60,000 and have no college debt because of the efficiency of these programs," he said.

"A clear path. A great starting point. No debt. These are just three of the many selling points of the Technical Career Pathways program," he said.

Manufacturing folks are always striving to develop a pipeline of talent—one way is to work closely with Tri-County and its career services program, said Smith. "Tri-County does an excellent job of connecting with manufacturers—asking what is needed and what is changing to keep aligned with workforce needs," he said.

"But we manufacturers have a responsibility here, too," he said. "I always hear we can't find good people. We can't throw our hands up and walk away. We have to identify them, hire them, and develop them. Connect with the school district folks and express concerns you have. You have to be active and engaged by serving on advisory committees and teaching as an adjunct instructor at Tri-County," he said.



Michael Chandler

## Funding Pathways Classes Gives Students Chance for Success

Three years ago Mark Franks read an article forecasting that 65 percent of South Carolina's workforce would be retiring in the near future. "That time is now," said Mark, our Mechatronics instructor who teaches full time at the Anderson 1 and 2 Career and Technology Center. "We must keep a pipeline of young folks coming and the only way to do that is through individuals like Michael Chandler, a Wren High School senior who is a third-year Tri-County Mechatronics student taking dual enrollment classes at the Anderson 1 and 2 Career and Technology Center."

"When I first started the Mechatronics program I was not really sure if it was the profession that I wanted to pursue," said Michael. "After being in this program, I am certain that this is the correct career path for me. With the skills that I have learned I am positive that I will be successful in the Mechatronics workforce."

Michael's goal is to graduate from Tri-County and obtain a job in the Mechatronics field while pursuing a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering. He urged for continued funding for dual enrollment. "Funding dual enrollment helps all students. Funding is the key to establishing an educated workforce and giving students a chance for success," he said.



## Panel Urges Promotion, Branding For Manufacturing Jobs

"I hope we can hire every single student we have seen and heard from today," **Mike Oster**, human resources manager at Michelin US10, fourth from left, said to the business, industry, and education stakeholders during a panel discussion held at the end of the forum. "We need this talent in the future."

Panelists agreed that the answer is to do a better job of branding and make manufacturing more interesting to students and their parents. Also pictured from left are **Richard Blackwell**, Oconee Economic Alliance; **Amy Cribb**, BorgWarner; **Dr. Mason Gary**, Anderson School District 3; **Jackie Blakley**, Business and Public Services Division, Tri-County; **Hollie Harrell**, Anderson 1 & 2 Career and Technology Center; and **Bobby Brothers**, readySC.

## Pathways Classes Put Buchanan One Step Ahead

Kenneth Buchanan began Tri-County's Mechatronics program last fall as a third-semester student with more than 20 college credits and a silver WorkKeys® certification. He gained on-the-job experience at TTI Power Equipment in Anderson last summer through a WorkLink paid work experience, while earning more certifications through the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and ServSafe. Kenneth plans to graduate from Tri-County within a year – debt free – thanks to the State proviso that paid for pathways classes, along with a LIFE scholarship and Pell grant.

He says: "I feel really proud of myself because I am a step ahead of many of my peers; I took initiative and took advantage of opportunities generously offered to me by Crescent High School, WorkLink, and Tri-County."



Kenneth Buchanan





## Smith Recognized for Service, Contributions

Retired Schneider Electric Plant Manager **Larry Smith** was recognized for his years of dedicated service, exceptional contributions, and commitment to technical education and economic development in Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties, following his keynote address at the Business and Education Forum II held March 3. Pictured with him are **Dr. Booth** and **Mike Darby**, chairman of the PACE Board, right.

## Industry Leader Says Student is Shining Example



Hoke Durham

Tri-County Mechatronics major Hoke Durham is a “shining example” of how apprenticeships and co-op programs can lead to a full-time job in manufacturing, says Jeromy Arnett, production administration manager at United Tool and Mold in Easley.

Arnett met Hoke when he was a 10th grader at Daniel High School and he recruited him to work in

the company’s co-op program. At 16 Hoke was hired and worked 40 hours a week, six days a week. He later graduated from the youth apprenticeship program at United Tool and Mold.

“When we talked about who is the best student for the apprenticeship program, Hoke’s name came up every time,” said Arnett. Hoke was selected for the apprenticeship and today is a leader at the plant. “He is the best employee we could ask for,” said Arnett.

“The apprenticeship showed me what I wanted to do with my life,” said Durham.

“We have to start early. This program builds the workforce of tomorrow,” said Arnett.

## Career Center Student Will Leave High School Ahead of the Game

Martha Baker, a counselor at the Hamilton Career Center, believes if kids find their passion, they will be successful and happy. She tells students to find what they enjoy and go do it.

Paige Johnson, a senior at Walhalla High School, has done just that. She completed one year of Auto Body classes and now is a Technical Career Pathways student in the Welding program.

She will transfer enough credit for four classes through Technical Advanced Placement to Tri-County when she enters the Welding program next year. “Why welding, a non-traditional field for women, many ask me. Because I’m passionate about it. I will leave high school ahead of the game and be able to work while I’m in school,” she said. Her goal is to graduate with a Welding degree and get a great job.



Paige Johnson

# Our College Family



Adam Ghiloni

## in transition

**Adam Ghiloni** joined Tri-County February 15 as our Director of Financial Aid. Adam has worked in Financial Aid Departments at two- and four-year colleges since earning his master's degree in May 2010. He spent the

last two years as Director of Financial Aid at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City. Prior to that, he was Assistant Director of Financial Aid for Ringling College of Art and Design from February 2012–January 2014. He began his career as a Financial Aid Advisor for Columbus State Community College. While in graduate school, he was an intern for Central Ohio Technical College/The Ohio State University, as well as Stark State College of Technology. Adam earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics with a minor in International Business (2008) and a Master of Arts in Higher Education Administration (2010), both from The University of Akron.

The Campus Safety team is now fully staffed with the addition of three new officers hired this month.

**Michael Nix** is at our Easley Campus. He comes to us from the Pickens County Sheriff's Office where he worked from 2011 until this year. He also was an officer at Clemson University's Police Department



Michael Nix

## excellence through service

An article written by **Dr. Chris McFarlin**, program coordinator for Criminal Justice, appears in the March issue of *Police Magazine*. "Electronic Control Devices (ECDs) and Use-of-Force Law" is the title of the article, where he discussed how the courts are taking more interest in how ECDs are used by law enforcement officers and what that means for them and their agencies. You may read the article at <http://www.policemag.com/channel/patrol/articles/2016/03/ecds-and-use-of-force-law.aspx>

*Police Magazine* is a national industry publication and has thousands of professional subscribers across the law enforcement community.



Dr. Chris McFarlin

from 2005–2008. Michael earned a B.S. in Psychology from Clemson University. He and his wife, Amanda, have a daughter, Chloe, 4. They live in Easley.

**Rodney Cordell** is a Security Officer at the Pendleton Campus. Rodney has 27 years of experience working in law enforcement as a deputy for Hart County Sheriff's Office, a School Resource Officer for the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, and as a deputy for the Lavonia, Georgia, Police Department. He is a 1984 honor graduate of the Georgia Police Academy, and he earned the Life Saving Merit and Commendation Award while working in Lavonia. Rodney has a son, Ben, 16, and they live in Hartwell, Georgia.



Thomas Williams

**Thomas Williams** is a police officer on our Pendleton Campus. Thomas is a 1975 graduate of Tri-County's Criminal Justice program. He and his wife, Colynette Tribble, live in Townville.

**Kimberly Hartman Hartley** is a College Skills instructor in the Comprehensive Studies Department. She spent the last four years working as an adjunct Sociology instructor at Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College and from 2010–13, she was an adjunct Sociology and Study Skills instructor at Southwestern Community College. She holds a B.A. in Philosophy and Sociology from Rollins College and an M.A. in Sociology from Boston College. While at Rollins College, she received the 2007 Award in Sociology, the C. Wright Mills Award, and the Ted Darrell Award. Kimberly serves on the board of directors for the Anam Cara Theatre Company and serves as its Development Director. She and her spouse, Erinn, live in Candler, NC.



Rodney Cordell



Kimberly Hartman Hartley



Tanner Poore

**Tanner Poore** is the Statistical and Research Analyst for Student Records. He holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Lander University, where he worked as a Registrar's Assistant while a student. He also worked as an intern for the Greenwood County EMS and Coroner's Office. Tanner lives in Anderson.

## Finch is Finalist for Director Of the Year

Congratulations to Director of Campus Safety Jonathan Finch, who is a finalist for the Campus Safety Director of the Year Award.

Each year Campus Safety magazine singles out 10 directors from campuses across the United States and highlights their accomplishments in its monthly online publication.



Chief Jonathan Finch

The winners and runners up will be announced at the Campus Safety Conference in Washington, D.C., this July. Complete coverage of the winners will appear this fall in Campus Safety magazine, as well as on CampusSafetyMagazine.com.

Some of Jonathan's notable achievements that are highlighted in the online article are:

- Recommended and received approval from the College for the transitioning of his department officers from unarmed to armed;
- Developed the College's incident command team and led the team through multiple table-top exercises and workshops; and
- Developed more effective budgetary guidelines for department spending, which resulted in more than \$5,000 cost savings over six months.

You can read about Jonathan and other nominees at this link: [http://www.campussafetymagazine.com/article/campus\\_safety\\_announces\\_the\\_top\\_10\\_director\\_of\\_the\\_year\\_finalists](http://www.campussafetymagazine.com/article/campus_safety_announces_the_top_10_director_of_the_year_finalists).

## Foundation News

### Schneider Electric Supports Priority Needs



Schneider Electric in Seneca made a \$5,000 contribution toward a pledge to the Tri-County Technical College Foundation in support of priority needs at the College. Here, **Garvin Barker**, plant operations manager, left, presents the check to **Grayson Kelly**, executive director of the Foundation. **Larry Smith**, retired Schneider Electric plant operations manager and a member of the College's Foundation Board, is pictured at right.



**Dewey Norris** sent this note thanking **Mary Corley** and **Myrtle Mravich** from the Corporate and Community Education Division for taking a personal interest in their students:

"I just wanted to document two excellent employees you have working for TCTC. It is so easy to complain; I just wanted to share this positive story. I got online one weekend and paid \$5,000 for a SC Department of Transportation (DOT) class. On Monday I drove two hours from Columbia to attend the class. I presented my receipt to Mary for my paid class. Mary informed me it was

full, personally walked me to the correct office to start the refund process, and apologized for my drive and the online registration that should not have been processed.

By the time I got back home, Mary had already sent me an e-mail, placing me on a wait list for the course I actually needed to take. I had registered for a pre-class I did not need. She also sent me contact information at SCDOT to help me complete the required paperwork.

Myrtle got my refund quickly, and actually notified me of an opening that allowed me to bump from a May class to a March class. I signed up for another class today, and look forward to more classes in the future."

# Getting To Know You

## Galen DeHay

Senior Vice President

### 1. What is the best part of your job?

The best part of my job is seeing students overcome unimaginable obstacles to succeed. Hearing stories where TCTC played a part in helping students achieve what they never dreamed possible energizes me. Having a small part in providing the infrastructure to help faculty and staff make students' dreams come true explains why I come to work daily.



Galen DeHay

### 2. How do you define success?

Success is seeing the pay-off in your investment in others. The older I get, I've come to realize that the only thing that lasts is the impact one makes on people. That's why student success is so important to me.

### 3. What is the quality you most admire in people?

I find compassion extremely admirable. I most admire those that look for the best in people and see that much of the joy in life is the journey rather than the destination.

### 4. What is your least favorite chore?

My least favorite chore at home is ironing. It's one of those activities that is never finished and tedious. At work, my least favorite activity is signing documents.

### 5. If you took a year off, what would you do?

I'd spend some time taking classes because there's so much more I want and need to learn. I'd also use some time to travel. There's so much to learn from other cultures.

## Gloria Littleton

Human Resource Specialist

### 1. What is the best part of your job?

The best part of my job is the people. We have the opportunity in HR to make a positive lasting impression—from the nervous candidate who is interviewing for a position to the work/study student starting the new hire process for the first time in his or her career. We are the first impression for those who visit our College, and we want it to be our best. A smile and helpful information will make someone's day better.



Gloria Littleton

### 2. How do you define success?

I define success by asking one question—did I make a difference? Success is not measured by money, but the value you leave in someone's life.

### 3. What is the quality you most admire in people?

Honesty and compassion. You have to have both of these qualities. Even when you are giving difficult information, you must still have compassion and understanding.

### 4. What is your least favorite chore?

Washing and vacuuming the van.

### 5. If you took a year off, what would you do?

I would like to travel to a few special sites in the US, take a cruise, and last but not least—take all my children and grandchildren to Disneyland.

## Jackie Rutledge

Department Head, Associate Degree Nursing

### 1. What is the best part of your job?

Working with students to help them achieve their goals/dreams. One of the most rewarding parts of my job is to watch the students, especially Nursing, students complete the Associate Degree Nursing Program and then march across the stage to receive their degrees and later to hear from them either by telephone, in person, or e-mail that they have passed the NCLEX examination to practice as a Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse.



Jackie Rutledge

### 2. How do you define success?

I define success as the achievement of your goals and making a difference in someone's life through the work that you do for them without seeking reward for the work.

### 3. What is the quality you most admire in people?

- Caring and compassionate personality
- Integrity
- Accountability for themselves and their actions
- Determination to work hard to achieve goals
- Team player

### 4. What is your least favorite chore?

Dusting and cleaning windows at home.

### 5. If you took a year off, what would you do?

Travel cross country throughout the United States and to Hawaii.

# TCTC Students Dominate 2016 SCSTA College Festival Event

Tri-County students swept the top prizes at the 2016 South Carolina Speech and Theatre Association's Annual College Festival Competition, taking home the overall college championship, the overall individual student award, and placing in seven different events.

Colleges and universities from around the State competed at Clafin University Saturday, February 28.

Chelsea Adams, an Associate of Science major from Westminster, took the event's highest individual award. She won the Triathlon Award for best overall performance by an individual. Chelsea placed first in Prose Interpretation, first in Audition Monologues, and second in Persuasive Speaking. To qualify for the Triathlon Award, an individual must compete in one event in each of these three categories: Drama, Public Speaking, and Interpretation.

Jordan Cook, an Associate of Science major from Columbia, placed first in Persuasive and Informative Speaking.

Emily Wyndham, an Associate of Arts major from Fort Mill, placed third in Persuasive Speaking.

Dillon Sierra, an Associate of Arts major from Clemson, placed first in Impromptu Speaking.

Endia Jones, a Media Arts Production major from Anderson, placed second in Poetry Interpretation, and third in Storytelling.

"We are so proud of our students' success at this year's festival. You never know who your competition will be at this event," said Greg Toney, coach and public speaking instructor at the College. "We went in confident because our students were prepared and delivered good pieces. Two of our students were returnees, who won first-place awards in the Storytelling and Audition Monologues categories last year. We had four who were new to the team. Everyone was willing to work hard through the fall and spring to prepare, and it paid off.

"Our students showcased a wide range of talent because there are different skills for each category. We are so proud of all of them," he added.

"We have been taking teams to this competition for nineteen years. This is a great opportunity for students to develop important communications skills and do it in a competitive



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY GREG TONEY

*Tri-County students swept the top prizes at the 2016 South Carolina Speech and Theater Association's Annual College Festival Competition, taking home the overall college championship, the overall individual student award, and placing in seven different events.*

*Pictured from left to right are **Jordan Cook**, an Associate of Science major from Columbia, who placed first in Persuasive and Informative Speaking; **Emily Wyndham**, an Associate of Arts major from Fort Mill, who placed third in Persuasive Speaking; and **Chelsea Adams**, an Associate of Science major from Westminster, who took the event's highest individual award, the Triathlon Award for best overall performance by an individual. Adams also placed first in Prose Interpretation, first in Audition Monologues, and second in Persuasive Speaking; **Tara Lenertz**, a University Transfer major, from Clemson; **Dillon Sierra**, an Associate of Arts major from Clemson, who placed first in Impromptu Speaking; and **Endia Jones**, a Media Arts Production major from Anderson, who placed second in Poetry Interpretation and third in Storytelling.*

environment," said Greg. "Everyone worked hard and was deserving of their success."

Tri-County Technical College's Speech and Drama Team is coached by Greg, Lane Hudson, Kim Harp, and Dana Griffith.

The 2017 SCSTA College Festival Competition will be held Saturday, February 11, 2017, at Clafin University in Orangeburg.

The South Carolina Speech and Theater Association is a professional organization that promotes the study of all areas of performance and oral communication: acting, oral interpretation/performance studies, theatre, broadcasting, public speaking, discussion and debate, and speech education. SCSTA serves both the public and private schools and the colleges and universities in South Carolina through an annual conference and spring festival competitions in the Communication Arts, and through recognition of outstanding contributors.



## Fun at International Food Fest

Students, faculty, and staff enjoyed learning about culture, food, and music from around the world at the March 9 International Food Festival on the Pendleton Campus. Pictured here, **Cindy Trimmier Lee** serves students a sampling of international cuisine.

## QEP, TSE

(continued from page 1)

into each associate degree program over a five-year period,” explained Sarah.

“During the week of October 10–13, a team of our peers will come on site where it will be all hands on deck with SACS visiting team members meeting with a wide variety of faculty, staff, and students across the College,” said Margaret. “This team will be responsible for visiting and reviewing off-campus instructional sites, gathering additional information for standards and requirements where there are still questions, and reviewing the Quality Enhancement Plan,” she explained.

“Our challenge is that while the HIPs we have offered, such as learning communities, freshman seminar, and service learning, are effective and positively impact student learning, only a relatively small number of students have experienced these. We are striving to increase numbers; to build on our success. We will take what we learned from our last QEP and our Title III grant and bring what is really great to scale. It’s part of our commitment to deliver the Transformative Student Experience,” said Sarah.

## ADN Student Receives Palmetto Gold Scholarship

Ande Johnson, a senior in the associate degree Nursing class, is the recipient of one of the 2016 Palmetto Gold Scholarships. This scholarship recognizes the student’s caring and commitment to patients, families, and colleagues; leadership; assistance to others’ growth and development; positive promotion of the nursing profession; and high level of academic success. Ande will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the Palmetto Gold Scholarship Fund and will be honored at the 15th Annual Palmetto Gold Gala scheduled for Saturday April 16, at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.



*Ande Johnson*

Ande plans to pursue a BSN following May graduation, but her immediate goal is to pass the NCLEX and to get a job at a hospital. When asked to rate her Tri-County experience on a scale of 1 to 10, with no hesitation, she says a 10. “From the instructors, to the classes and the overall experience, it has been awesome,” she said.

## Students Talk Transfer at Annual College Fair

Representatives from four-year colleges and universities were on campus for our Annual College Fair. Interested students were able to talk with representatives and get information about transfer requirements.



Here **Ebony Bradley**, an associate in Arts major from Central, middle, and her mother, **Dorothy Bradley**, talk with **Brittany Bickel**, admissions counselor at Southern Wesleyan University.

## Hailey Thrasher Named to Phil Theta Kappa All-State Academic Team



**Hailey Thrasher**, third from left, is pictured here with her grandfather, **Michael Reese**, her mother, **Michelle Thrasher**, and **Dr. Booth**.

Hailey Thrasher, an associate in Arts major from Anderson, recently was selected for the South Carolina 2016 Phi Theta Kappa All-State Academic Team and honored at a luncheon at the Capital City Club in Columbia.

Phi Theta Kappa, a national honor fraternity for two-year college students, recognizes and encourages scholarship and provides opportunities for the development of leadership skills and service. To be eligible for membership, a student must be enrolled in an associate degree program, must have accumulated 12 hours, and must have achieved and maintained a GPR of at least 3.5. Alpha Zeta Beta is the name of the local chapter at Tri-County.

## Eighth Graders Participate in TEAMS

A group of 7th and 8th graders from Gettys and Belton middle schools were on the Pendleton campus for the TEAMS (Tests of Engineering Aptitude, Math and Science) class. They worked on real-world applications of math and science under the guidance of General Engineering Technology Program Coordinator Dorian McIntire and his students.

TEAMS is an annual STEM competition challenging students to work collaboratively to apply their math and science knowledge in practical, creative ways to solve real every day engineering challenges. After participating in TEAMS, students increase their knowledge of engineering, feel more confident about participating in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) activities and increase their ability to work with others to solve complex problems.

The event was co-sponsored by Tri-County Technical College, Clemson University, and the S.C. Department of Commerce.



**Tinna Kluge** with **Luke**

## Pet Adoption Draws Huge Crowd

Our March 7 Pet Adoption made the front page of the [Anderson Independent-Mail](#) and drew a huge crowd. A great story by reporter Mike Eads gave an update on the Animal Housing and Student Learning Center currently under construction. A gallery of beautiful photos by photographer Ken Ruinard showcased Tinna Kluge of Easley, who adopted Luke, left, and Katie Logue, who is seen holding Peak at right. The next adoption is set for April 20 from 2-6 p.m. in Halbert Hall.



**Katie Logue** with **Peak**

## Students Learn about Career Opportunities at CRJ Fair



Here, **Matthew Ruzika**, of Anderson, talks with **Sgt. Thomas Bracken**, and **Patricia Buchanan**, human resources manager at Perry Correctional Institution, from the S.C. Department of Corrections.

Attendees learned about the wide range of career opportunities in law enforcement available for those who hold a two-year Criminal Justice degree at the College's annual Criminal Justice Career Fair. Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies, and military recruiters, along with representatives from four-year colleges and universities, were present at the March 23 event.



## Students Inducted into AZB Honor Society

**Timothy Mattison Brooks**, of Anderson, a Welding major, right, was one of 40 Tri-County students inducted into Alpha Zeta Beta (AZB), a chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society. Presenting him with a certificate is **Hailey Thrasher**, AZB president at Tri-County.

Initiates into the Alpha Zeta Beta chapter must have completed at least 12 hours of college work leading toward an associate degree and have attained a grade point ratio of 3.5 or better. Initiates also must be judged of good moral character and possess demonstrated qualities of good citizenship and service.

## Executive Staff Summary

- **SERVICE EXCELLENCE:** The Service Excellence Team is now a formal College committee. The purpose of the Service Excellence effort is to champion a sustainable culture of service excellence throughout and across the College. The committee purpose is to ensure that each leadership action of the service excellence effort is executed effectively and in concert with other leadership actions. Committee Charter and Membership lists will be posted on eTC on Committees link.
- **CYBER SECURITY:** Executive Staff participated in a Cyber Security Risk Assessment and Prioritized Plan Methodology workshop presented by Matt Edwards. Focus categories for the assessment include asset management, risk assessment, risk management, access control, awareness and training, data security, protective technology, anomalies and events, detection processes, and more.
- **QEP PROJECT UPDATE:** Sarah Shumpert, director of Curriculum and Instructional Support, provided an update on the design of the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). Highlights include the revision and development of curriculum processes, standards, and training; developing and implementing a HIPs pilot; formulating a communications and engagement plan, and professional development.
- **STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS PROJECT:** Executive Staff approved a project to create a framework for using student characteristics to inform service, support, and programming. A multi-dimensional student profile model that combines both qualitative and quantitative student data will provide a framework to more effectively and efficiently develop services, support, and programming.
- **OTHER:** County budget presentation; SACS reaffirmation planning; key leadership teams—relationships and interdependencies.