

Connection

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Vet Tech Student Chosen for Prestigious UT Internship

Providing compassionate care for animals is what Jayne Hutcheson is passionate about.

As a student in our Veterinary Technology program for the past two years and a weekend employee at the Animal Emergency Clinic of Greenville, she has had many diverse and unique opportunities to build a strong foundation as a veterinary technician.

Beginning in June, she will broaden those opportunities. She is among the three veterinary technology students, chosen nationwide from 20 applicants, to participate in a year-long paid internship program at the University of Tennessee (UT). The University's Veterinary Technician Internship Program is the only one of its kind in the country.

The veterinary technician internship program is a rotating internship for graduate veterinary technicians through the Small Animal Teaching Hospital. It is designed to offer the technician the opportunity to increase knowledge and gain practical experience in an educational environment. Only graduates of AVMA-accredited Veterinary Technology programs are considered.

"I am so excited. I love this field, and I love caring for animals," said Hutcheson, who received her degree at spring commencement May 10. "I am so honored and humbled to be chosen. I hope to do everybody proud."

For the next year, Hutcheson will do a rotating internship in a small animal hospital at the university, said Janet Jones, clinic director at the UT College of Veterinary Medicine.

Core rotations include anesthesia, radiology, internal medicine, surgery, oncology, dermatology, ophthalmology, neurology, and day and after-hours ICU. Elective rotations include avian/exotics, rehabilitation, integrative medicine, and nutrition. "This program prepares her to be more marketable in a teaching hospital or a large referral hospital," said Jones. "She will go to rounds and seminars with residents and interns. We were looking for students who stood out – those who demonstrate an interest in learning more. We aren't looking for future veterinarians. We choose those who want to continue to work as veterinary technicians." Hutcheson is the first Tri-County graduate chosen for the program.

"I will get a taste of it all and will be taught by the best under the direction of licensed veterinary technicians. There are many areas of veterinary medicine that I would love to explore. My expectations from this internship are that it will further my knowledge and competency of the skills I already possess and

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Jayne Hutcheson

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tri-County Road Race..... May 21
Summer GraduationAugust 4

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

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in admission or employment on the basis of race,
color, religion, sex, qualifying disability, veteran's
status, or national origin.

Connecting



Ronnie L. Booth
President

I enjoyed seeing so many people at Spring Convocation, which is our time to celebrate the success of the previous academic year and recognize the many people who have helped to move the College forward. Many of you were knee-deep in grading exams and helping students enroll for Summer Term, so I appreciate your taking the time to attend.

I spent a few minutes talking about what I define as a "journey" we have been taking together – a journey we started when I arrived at Tri-County Technical College in 2003. It's a journey focused entirely on student success. I sometimes fear our College family doesn't truly understand how everything we have been doing on this journey is connected. Nothing is random; each step we take prepares us for the next step.

At the beginning of our journey, we were focused on becoming the role model in community college education. We wanted to be known across the nation as the college that does "the right things right." We set the bar high for ourselves.

Woven into that thinking was our desire to become a true learning college. We spent a great deal of time through staff development helping the College family understand learning college principles and the role each of us plays in the learning process. We talked about the importance of creating substantive change in individual learners and engaging them as full partners in the learning process. We focused on creating as many learning opportunities as possible, with particular emphasis on collaborative learning activities and measurable outcomes.

This new way of thinking opened the door to our Learning Excellence Initiative (LEI). Built on learning college principles, the major components of the LEI are an expanded orientation program and thematic learning communities for first-time postsecondary students. This initiative has been enormously successful in improving student learning and retention. At this point, we knew we were heading in the right direction.

But "the right direction" needs to be crystallized into something more tangible, which led to the development of our first ten-year vision and a new approach to strategic planning. While our vision and strategic plan encompass far more than instruction, at its core are learning college principles and a focus on student success.

Our next step was to find a way to institutionalize and expand our LEI initiative, which required additional resources and infrastructure. The Title III federal grant opportunity provided the answer. Our Title III grant, one of 48 awarded to colleges and universities and the only one awarded in South Carolina, will allow us to implement the next phase of LEI – the Learning through Community and Connections (LC²) initiative. This fall we will introduce thematic, linked, and integrated learning communities and make them available to all students. Later, we will add a comprehensive academic support network involving an extended orientation, an enhanced advising process, and an automated monitoring system with the capability to track student progress and prompt essential interventions.

What does this really mean? Greater student success. We believe LC² will help more students successfully complete their coursework, persist to the second semester, continue to the second year, and ultimately graduate.

Each initiative described above is a key milestone in our journey. Our ten-year vision states, "Our students will experience an outstanding learning environment and know that at TCTC we are truly invested in their success."

We have planned our work. Now it is time to work our plan.

Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D.
President



Spotlight on Student Ambassadors

Nineteen students were inducted April 22 as new members of the Tri-County Technical College Student Ambassadors.

“This program fosters the personal and professional development of students interested in acquiring leadership skills by serving our College,” said Lisa Robinson, advisor for the Student Ambassadors and coordinator of orientation services.

“Interested students submitted applications for the new program, and this group was selected on their high academic achievement/standing, referrals from faculty and staff, and their ability to represent Tri-County well,” said Alison Reynolds, co-advisor of the Student Ambassadors and a counselor in Career Services.

Both Alison and Lisa serve as guides and mentors to the student ambassadors.

Ambassadors completed the training sessions, held March 15 – April 13, which focused on business etiquette and networking, making oral presentations, and guided tours to learn about the College’s varied academic programs.

Students will represent the College at internal and external events, such as the college and career fairs, graduations, annual report luncheons, tour guide services, community events and College promotional initiatives. Their first activity was spring graduation (May 10).

“Wherever you are, you represent this institution,” Alison told the inductees at the ceremony. “You are a reflection of who we are and what we are. This is a great responsibility you take on today. We are confident in your abilities to represent us well.”

“I can’t say how delighted I am with the program and with your participation,” said Dan Holland, vice president for the Student Affairs Division. “Thank you, ambassadors, for sharing your time, talents, efforts, and commitment to lifelong learning. You have the leadership characteristics to serve this program and our College well.”



Student Ambassadors with Co-Advisors Lisa Robinson and Alison Reynolds

STUDENT AMBASSADORS

Jeanine Bowen
Associate Degree Nursing

Thomas Richards
Computer Technology

Nancy Brown
Veterinary Technology

Christopher Rogers
Welding

Timothy Chapman
Criminal Justice

Maja Slijvic
Nursing

Brittany Donald
Medical Office Specialist

Justin Smith
Industrial Electronics
Technology

Brenda Evans
Medical Assisting

Wendy Sutton
University Transfer

Susan Harrison
Nursing

Hannah Talley
Nursing

Angela Hughes
Business Management

Ashley Vaughn
Expanded Duty
Dental Assisting

Brenda Miller
University Transfer

Tessa Weatherly
Nursing

Michael Mosher
Criminal Justice

Paul Watson
Business Management

Pamela Munyak
Nursing

SPOTLIGHT is a regular feature of CONNECTION that highlights College instructional programs, activities, and support services. Surveys show that our own faculty and staff play a significant role in influencing potential students to apply to the College. We're all ambassadors – so stay informed and keep doing a great job spreading the word that Tri-County is a great place to learn and grow!



Jenni Evans Creamer, director of Bridge and Educational Partnerships, writes:

"I'm proud to share the e-mail that **Amber Mulkey**, coordinator of student life for the Bridge to Clemson Program, recently received from Katherine Gaulin, a Bridge student. Amber truly is great at her job and has an immeasurable impact on our students and the Bridge to Clemson Program."

Dear **Mrs. Mulkey**,

"I'm sure you might not know me, but I just wanted to take a second to thank you for every effort you put towards helping the students in the Bridge Program. You are good at your job, and I hope one day I could do great things like you. Have a fantastic summer!"

KC Bryson wrote:

"I am writing to express my gratitude and appreciation for **Wanda Screws'** contributions to several of my recent research projects. In addition to her normal job duties, she has recently gone out of her way to assist me with some research related to COMPASS testing and student placement. I greatly value her thorough knowledge of the COMPASS system as well as her friendliness and flexibility in working with me. Wanda is a wonderful resource, and it is a pleasure to work with her."

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

Our College Family

excellence through service



Dr. Elizabeth Bryan, adjunct DVM, left, auscultates a dog's lungs during a physical exam as **Brian Plank**, a recent Veterinary Technology graduate, restrains the animal.

Dr. Kyle Williams Powell, staff veterinarian at the Anderson County P.A.W.S., sent this note to Dr. Booth.

"Please accept my gratitude for the assistance given to the Anderson County Animal Shelter by the faculty, staff, and students of the Veterinary Technology Department.

The shelter has been moving to a larger, more state-of-the-art facility, necessitating the processing of over 200 animals. Safe transport of our animals, physical exams, diagnostic testing, vaccination and medical record updates, bathing, and grooming all

had to be accomplished in six days. There was no practical way for our limited staff to meet this deadline.

On Thursday, April 21, **Dr. Peggy Champion, Dr. Elizabeth Bryan, Christee Williams, Stephanie Brown**, and 20 Veterinary Technology students joined us in transporting and processing all of our adoptable dogs. Their professionalism, enthusiasm, and good humor were evident in everything they did. The preparedness and discipline were almost military, and I see now why graduates of your Veterinary Technology program are coveted employees statewide and beyond. Even when lunch was late and the temperature was high, I never heard a word of complaint or discouragement.

I have been at the Shelter since August 2009, and from the beginning, Dr. Peggy Champion has been a strong ally. Many of our animals find themselves rescued and adopted through the Veterinary Technology program. Peggy also has graciously offered the use of her X-ray and diagnostic capabilities when we needed help, and has made the life-or-death difference in many cases. It is not going too far to say that there are many of our animals alive and well because of the efforts of Dr. Champion.

The close relationship our Shelter and your Veterinary Technology department enjoy is a point of pride for me when I compare notes with colleagues in shelter medicine. All are envious of our good fortune, and rightly so.

We will be filling the position of Veterinary Technician in July of this year, and I am eagerly anticipating the addition of one of your graduates to our team."

Congratulations to Associate Degree Nursing instructor **Shannon Johnson**, who will receive her doctor of Nursing Practice degree from MUSC May 20.

in transition

Three new positions were funded by the Title III Learning through Community and Connections (LC²) federal grant project. **Cheryl Enfinger** joined the team as its Administrative Assistant. She has more than two decades of experience working in law firms as a paralegal and as a legal assistant. She also worked as an



Shannon Johnson

ADN Program Receives Maximum NLNAC Reaccreditation

Administrative Assistant at Clemson University for 12 years. She earned a Paralegal certificate from Hillsborough Community College. She and her husband, Daniel, live in Anderson.



Cheryl Enfinger



Katy Goforth



Lou Ann Martin

In addition, **Katy Goforth** is serving as Learning Communities Coordinator, and **Lou Ann Martin** is our Academic Support Network Coordinator. Katy and Lou Ann have extensive and comprehensive knowledge of both the College and the grant project; therefore, in addition to their job duties, they will share responsibilities previously assigned to the Activity Director. Title III offices are located on the second floor of the Ruby Hicks Building in the Instructional Support area of the newly renovated Learning and Collaboration Center.

The following recently have departed the College. We wish them well in their new endeavors.

Debra Bindschatel

Heidi Friedel

Carol Miller

Our Associate Degree Nursing program received an unrestricted, continued eight-year accreditation by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). This is the highest recommendation a program can receive from the accrediting body.

The National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the national accrediting body for all types of nursing education programs.

Accreditation is a voluntary, self-regulatory process by which non-governmental associations recognize educational institutions or programs that have been found to meet or exceed standards and criteria for educational quality.

Nursing Department Head Janet Fuller says the department submitted a self-study last year, and it was followed by a three-day site visit from program evaluators last September. "We were reviewed by the NLNAC Commission, and they accepted our report and gave us an unrestricted continued accreditation for eight years," she said.

"Accreditation shows that we are meeting the national standard. It also means that students can continue their education at baccalaureate-level programs," she said.

In their report, evaluators commended the program strengths, which include a faculty who is committed to excellence, a supportive administration, a strong curriculum, pass rates on board exams and the diversity of clinical sites (hospitals in the tri-county area).

"I am very appreciative of the extra work from our faculty during the self study and our supportive administration," said Janet.

The department is approved by the State Board of Nursing for SC.

Four Attend TYCA-SE Conference

From left, **Mary Geren**, **Dana Griffith**, **Matt Simon**, and **Dr. Amoena Norcross**, not pictured, attended the 46th Annual Conference of the Two-Year College English Association—Southeast (TYCA-SE), March 3-5, 2011, in Decatur, GA. Dana was selected to give a presentation entitled "Knees Shaking? Heart Pounding? The Audience Doesn't Know: Taking the Fear Out of Oral Presentation." Matt currently serves as the South Carolina State Representative to the TYCA-SE Regional Executive Committee, and Amoena is the editor (along with Meg Matheny of Jefferson Community & Technical College) of the TYCA-Southeast Journal.



Faculty and Staff Receive Awards for Service to College and State

Two members of our faculty and staff were recognized for three decades of service to the State/College at the annual spring convocation.

Carolyn Gambrell, an accountant in the Easley Campus Business Office, was recognized for 30 years service to the College and the State, and Janis Cox, an instructor in the Computer and Information Technology Department, was honored for 30 years of service to the State.

Mohammad Ghobadi, coordinator of instructional activities for the Mathematics department, received a pin for 25 years of service to the College.

Receiving 20-year pins for service to the State and College were Doug Allen, Instructional Technology department head; Larry Barnes, network systems manager for the Information Technology department; Elaine Foster, health care training coordinator for the Corporate and Community Education Division (CCE); Barbara Hammond, office skills coordinator for the Business Training Center; Horace Perkins, HVAC mechanic for the Maintenance department; Barry Phillips, offset press technician for Printing Services; Sandra Roddey, office manager for the Arts and Sciences Division; Sandra Strickland, director of business training for CCE; Patricia West, administrative specialist, licensing and recertification, CCE; Caroline Williams, Information Center specialist; and Susan Womack, health care administrative specialist, CCE.

Receiving 15-year pins for service to the College were Rachel Campbell, enrollment counselor, Admissions; Rebecca Eidson, director of Public Relations and Communications; and Frank Garland, Social Sciences department head.

Recognized for 10 years of service to the College were Elaine Alexander, security officer; Melissa Baxter, technical support specialist at the Easley Campus; Margaret Burdette, coordinator of learning effectiveness and advancement for the Academic Affairs Division; Roger Burgess, Engineering Graphics Technology instructor; Janelle Hicks, director of health care, CCE; Suzanne Konieczny, department head for Computer and Information Technology; Ken Kopera, director of Physical Plant; Trenna Metts, director of Career Development, CCE; Richard Parker, training and development director for the World Class Training Center; Phil Smith, instructor for Computer and Information Technology; and Frances Wilson, registrar/administrative specialist, CCE.

Rick Clark, director of public safety, received a pin for 10 years of service to the State.



Mohammad Ghobadi
25 yrs. TCTC



Doug Allen
20 yrs. C&S



Larry Barnes
20 yrs. C&S



Horace Perkins
20 yrs. C&S



Sandra Roddey
20 yrs. C&S



Caroline Williams
20 yrs. C&S



Rachel Campbell
15 yrs. TCTC



Rebecca Eidson
15 yrs. TCTC



Suzanne Konieczny
10 yrs. TCTC



Ken Kopera
10 yrs. TCTC



Trenna Metts
10 yrs. TCTC



Richard Parker
10 yrs. TCTC



Phil Smith
10 yrs. TCTC



Frances Wilson
10 yrs. TCTC

Students and Alumni Network with Employers at Annual Career Fair



First Quality Senior Recruiter **Paul Landers**, left, talks with student **Matthew Wash** about job opportunities at the new Anderson County plant. Wash, of Anderson, is a 2010 Welding graduate who is back at Tri-County pursuing an Industrial Electronics Technology degree.



Here, **Rhonda Hanvey**, of Anderson, who will graduate with a degree in Mechatronics next spring, talks with **Mark Scott**, production manager at Sandvik, right, back, and **Jerry Barger**, maintenance engineer.

The College's annual Career Fair is a prime opportunity for soon-to-be graduates and alumni who are looking for employment to talk about job opportunities with recruiters and managers and to develop a network of career contacts.

"This is an opportunity for our students and alumni to connect with employers," said Career Services Counselor Alison Reynolds. "Attendees learned about job opportunities in our community. The event was not just for graduates – it was for those students just getting started, also. Students met the employers and gathered business cards. Most important, they did important networking," she said.

The Career Fair was sponsored by the College's Career Services Office and Student Support Services.

Annual Health Fair Offers Services, Information



Marla Roberson gets a foot massage from **Louise Crocker**, a reflexologist with Dixon Wellness and Chiropractic in Anderson.



Here, **Cindy Henderson**, business health coordinator for AnMed Healthy Business, checks **Claudia Poore's** blood pressure.

The Annual Health Fair, held April 12, was a great time to get the right tools to jumpstart your health program. There were 33 vendors offering many services such as massages, hearing tests, and vision tests. Also, vendors were on hand to present information on elder care, sleep disorders, Alzheimer's care, diabetes, sample granola bars, protein shakes, and much more.

Executive Staff Updates

- **SACS requirements:** All campus sites that have not been visited by SACS will be visited in spring 2012. Our five-year report is due September 2012. One of the federal requirements is a student complaints procedure, which must be in place for on-campus and distance learning students.
- **LC² (Title III):** Marketing strategies are being developed to promote LC² opportunities to students for Fall Semester 2012.
- **Spring Commencement:** We are seeing an increase in the number of credentials being awarded, thanks in great part to an aggressive communications campaign.
- **Degree Works:** Members of the Title III planning group presented a recommendation to purchase and implement Degree Works, an advising/planning software tool for faculty, staff, and student use.
- **Student Success Center Project Charter:** The Executive Staff approved a project charter to conduct a feasibility study for the construction of a Student Success Center on the Pendleton Campus.
- **Other:** Student success rates; Summer 2012 Academic Calendar; SC Technical College System Leadership academy; State Technical College System Leadership Program.

Infusion Technology Seminar Draws 40 to Oconee QuickJobs Center



The College hosted an *Advances in Infusion Technology* seminar at the Oconee QuickJobs Center April 12 – 13. CCP and Composites One sponsored the seminar, which drew more than 40 attendees from all over the United States. The course is designed to expand on a working knowledge of Vacuum Infusion Principles. Other subjects include *Best Practices for Production* and a *Survey of Advanced Materials and Process Technologies for VIP*. The technical service teams from Composites One and CCP were joined by several industry experts for both classroom and hands-on workshops. Here, **Hank Yeagly**, technical support manager for Composites One, discusses lamination and infusion materials used.

Betty Morgan Receives Adjunct Faculty Presidential Award

Betty Morgan, a Registered Dental Hygienist who teaches in our Expanded Duty Dental Assisting program, received the College's 2011 Adjunct Faculty Presidential Award May 3.

This award is given annually at the spring faculty/staff convocation to the adjunct faculty member who is recognized for excellence in teaching, who has consistently high student evaluations, and who supports the philosophy and goals of the College.

Betty, who has taught at the College for five years, practiced in various dental offices in the Greenville area from 1975- 2006. She began working as a dental assistant in 1975 and earned an associate in science with a major in Dental Hygiene from Greenville Technical College in 1986. She went on to earn a bachelor's in Health Science from MUSC in 1995.

Health Education Division Dean Dr. Lynn Lewis says Betty "generates enthusiasm for dental assisting in her students through her own enthusiasm for the program. She has become an integral part of the Dental Assisting program and serves as a partner to Donna Shannon, allied health department head. Betty's steadfastness and commitment to the program is, therefore,

(continued on page 12)



Dr. Booth and Betty Morgan

College Announces Partnerships with USC-Upstate

The presidents of Tri-County Technical College and the University of South Carolina Upstate signed a joint resolution April 22, solidifying a partnership that creates more educational opportunities for graduates with associate in arts or science degrees.

Dr. John Stockwell, chancellor of USC Upstate, and Dr. Booth signed the agreement for the Upstate Direct Connect© initiative, an exclusive opportunity for two-year colleges that will guarantee admission to USC Upstate for Tri-County students who graduate with an associate degree in the university transfer area (Associate of Arts, Associate of Science or selected Associate of Applied Science degrees).

Introduced last fall, the Upstate Direct Connect© initiative quickly partnered USC Upstate with Greenville Technical College, Spartanburg Methodist College and Spartanburg Technical College.

“There are too many people in Anderson, Oconee and Pickens counties who do not have a college education,” said Dr. Booth. “Upstate Direct Connect© is yet another way to encourage people to pursue higher education. They can see their pathway in manageable steps and they are less likely to become overwhelmed.”

Dr. Booth sees partnering with USC Upstate as a tremendous advantage for the residents of the tri-county area and the students of Tri-



Dr. John Stockwell, chancellor of USC Upstate, left, and Dr. Booth sign the agreement for the Upstate Direct Connect© initiative.

County. “Our partnerships with senior colleges are changing the way we define success for many of our students. The Upstate Direct Connect© program will ensure transferability not only for graduates in our University Transfer program, but also for some of our career programs. We never want our students to stop learning. Pathways that help them continue their educations are a win-win for everyone.”

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Articulation Agreement Signed with USC College of Engineering, Computing

Officials at Tri-County and University of South Carolina signed an articulation agreement May 3 that allows our students who earn an Engineering certificate to transfer those credits to the USC College of Engineering and Computing.

After taking two semesters of engineering classes in our Industrial and Engineering Technology Division, students can enter USC as sophomores and continue their education in chemical, mechanical, electrical, civil, biomedical, and nuclear engineering programs.

“While they are here during their first year of college, they can enjoy reduced class sizes and one-on-one interaction with instructors, while taking advantage of our affordable tuition,” said Mandy Orzechowski, engineering graphics/Project Lead the Way instructor. “We have a vested interest in seeing students succeed so when they leave us, their skills are up to speed and they are ready for the four-year programs.”



Dr. Anthony (Tony) Ambler, dean of the College of Engineering and Computing at USC, left, and Dr. Booth, seated middle, sign an articulation agreement. Pictured with them are Dr. Don Griffin, dean of recruiting and retention, College of Engineering, Computing; and (standing) Mandy Orzechowski, EGT instructor; and Eugene Grant, dean of the I&ET Division.

Mandy added that studies show that a student’s retention rate greatly increases after a successful completion of his or her freshman year.

“We do our best to set our students up for success,” said Dr. Booth. “This is just another way to give students more
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Tri-County, Clemson Co-Sponsor ECD Conference



The Early Childhood programs of Tri-County and Clemson University co-sponsored a professional development conference April 18 for teachers, parents, and college students April 1. **Prince Lee**, right, one of the attendees, has spent more than 50 years working in the child care field. She is pictured with **Dr. Harriette Dudley**, public services department head/early childhood education instructor.

Julie Cook Awarded Mary Clary Award From S.C. Dental Association



Expanded Duty Dental Assisting student **Julie Anne Cook**, of Seneca, middle, received the Mary Clary Memorial Achievement Award for Assistant of the Year from the South Carolina Dental Association. This prestigious award recognizes leadership ability and dedication to the profession. Julie was chosen from eight nominees from technical colleges that offer dental programs. She received a \$1,000 scholarship and a plaque. **Dr. Jerry Ross**, a general dentist of Clemson, right, made the presentation at the College's annual awards ceremony. At left is **Donna Shannon**, allied health/expanded duty dental assisting department head.

Upstate Direct Connect *(continued from page 9)*

"USC Upstate is extremely effective in graduating students with baccalaureate degrees and extremely efficient in partnering with two-year colleges," said Dr. Stockwell. "Currently, about 40% of USC Upstate's incoming students enter as transfers, by far the largest percentage among universities statewide. As a consequence, the percentage of enrolled USC Upstate students who graduate each year with the baccalaureate degree is also the highest among the State's public universities."

"It can be very motivating to a student to know that admission to a four-year program is virtually guaranteed if he or she completes an associate degree in our university transfer area," said Dan A. Holland, vice president, student affairs at Tri-County. "And, they have the same option in some of our associate in applied sciences programs."

Joseph Whitten Honored with Two Awards at Annual Ceremony



Joseph Todd Whitten, of Anderson, fourth from left, was honored twice at the Annual Student Awards Ceremony. He received the Outstanding Student Support Services (SSS) Student Award, as well as the Outstanding Industrial Electronics Technology (IET) Student Award. Presenting the SSS plaque are, from left, **Dan Holland**, vice president for Student Affairs; **Tasheka Johnson**, tutoring coordinator; **Dr. Thwanda Davidson**, director of TRiO; and **Cindy Trimmier-Lee**, coordinator of Student Support Services.

EMS Task Force Discusses Advanced Courses



A task force comprised of area representatives from Emergency Medical Services (EMS), county fire departments, and rescue squads met on campus to explore the employment needs for the College to move from an EMT Basic training center offering First Responder and EMT Basic to an advanced EMS training center. **Janelle Hicks**, director of health care programs in our Corporate and Community Education Division, standing, says this designation would allow CCE to offer EMT Intermediate (Advanced EMT) and EMT Paramedic (Paramedic) classes. All EMT Intermediate and EMT Paramedic programs must undergo review by the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP), an accrediting body for EMS education in cooperation with CAAHEP by January 1, 2013. Pictured here, from left, are **Dr. Bill Howiler**, Oconee Medical Center; **Kent Whitten**, Oconee EMS Director; **Scott Krein**, Oconee County Emergency Services director; **Billy Gibson**, Anderson County fire chief; and **Arnold Alier**, EMT instructor.

Students, Instructors Honor Dr. Champion Through “PAWS for a Cause”

Students and instructors honored Veterinary Technology Department Head Dr. Peggy Champion, and her beloved cat, Tang, who passed away several months ago, through the Pet Paws Donation Program.

“PAWS for a Cause” campaign allows individuals to purchase a dog paw, a cat paw, or a horseshoe in memory or in honor of a beloved pet. Each one is personalized with the pet’s name, the donor’s name, and a brief message and is displayed in Halbert Hall. The cost is \$50 per paw.

The monies raised through “PAWS for a Cause” will one day be used toward the cost of expanding Veterinary Technology facilities to better serve the animals that come to the Veterinary Technology Department through local animal shelters.



Veterinary Technology instructor **Christee Williams**, left, presents **Dr. Peggy Champion**, Veterinary Technology department head, right, with her new paw on the wall located in the Veterinary Technology Department.

MLT Students Take Top Honors At Student Bowl



Sue Avenall and Brian Moroney

Sue Avenall and Brian Moroney took top honors at the S.C. Society of Clinical Laboratory Science (SCSCLS) State Student Bowl at Midlands Technical College April 15.

The Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) seniors competed against students from technical colleges in the State that have MLT programs.

Brian, of Clemson, was named Student Bowl champion for the State. He answered the most questions correctly.

Sue, of Anderson, received the “Keys to the Future” award by the SCSCLS in recognition of her scholastic achievements, hard work, dedication, and service to SCSCLS. This honor is awarded to one technical college student in the State.

The ultimate goal of the Student Bowl is to prepare students for the National Registry of the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP), said Polly Kay, MLT program coordinator. All 12 of College’s 2010 Medical Laboratory Technology graduates earned their national credentials by scoring a 100 percent pass rate on the National Certification Exam administered by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP).

Since 2006 four out of five graduating classes have achieved 100 percent pass rates. The Class of 2007 achieved a 92 percent pass rate.

USC Agreement

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opportunities to continue their education. We need more student to enter the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and this is a great pipeline to make that happen.”

“I’m very impressed with the technical colleges in South Carolina. You make a tremendous difference in what you do for us,” said Dr. Anthony “Tony” Ambler, dean of the College of Engineering and Computing at the University of South Carolina.

Betty Morgan

(continued from page 8)

critical to her students’ success.”

“Betty has a deep passion for the success of each student and is intent on graduating well qualified and educated students for our workforce,” said Donna.

In addition to teaching a variety of classes that include lecture, clinical, and lab components, she assists in lesson planning, book review, and clinical scheduling. “During the summer semester, she is assigned to clinical sites for student evaluations and she always presents herself professionally to our affiliating dentists and their staffs. She is respected by her peers and our students as a well educated and disciplined professional,” said Donna.

In addition to dental assisting classes, Betty teaches an allied health science class for the Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) students.

“I have seen first hand Betty’s reliability as an instructor and her caring nature toward her students,” said Polly Kay, MLT program coordinator. “She works diligently creating relevant learning activities and has helped students outside of class on many occasions. Often she is in the adjunct office preparing class and lab materials early in the morning and later in the evening, well beyond the hours that most adjunct faculty members follow.”

Betty, who also is a Certified Dental Assistant, maintains her dental hygiene license and is a member of the national, state, and local constituent of the American Dental Hygienist Association. She and her husband, Glenn, live in Liberty.

Welding Students Win Three First-Place Awards at Annual Competition



Welding students won three first-place and two second-place awards in the State Technical College’s Annual Welding Skills Competition. Tri-County students who competed are pictured here from left: **Ethan Graham**, of Seneca, first place in Category 6; **Adam Romberg**, of Lavonia, GA, second place in Category 3; **Justin Carver**, of West Union, first place in Category 4; **Johnny Hohenstein**, of Walhalla, second place in Category 5; **Michael Welker**, of Liberty, first place in Category 2; and **Brandon Fox**, of Easley.

Welding students won three first-place and two second-place awards in the State Technical College’s Annual Welding Skills Competition held April 22 at Spartanburg Community College.

First- and second-year Welding students from six of the state’s 16 technical colleges participated in various categories in the competition. The colleges who competed were Greenville Technical College, Spartanburg Community College, Florence Darlington Technical College, Piedmont Technical College, Central Carolina Technical College – Sumter, and Tri-County. They competed in six categories: MIG, TIG and stick, welding process, and structural and pipe application.

Overall Tri-County students had the best record of all competing.

- Michael Welker, of Liberty, won first place in Category 2 and received an ESAB MIG welder.
- Justin Carver, of West Union, placed first in Category 4 and received a ESAB Stick welder.
- Ethan Graham, of Seneca, placed first in Category 6 and received an ESAB cutting torch kit.
- In addition, Adam Romberg, of Lavonia, GA, received second place in Category 3 and received an automatic darkening welding hood.
- Johnny Hohenstein, of Walhalla, placed second in Category 5 and received an automatic darkening welding hood.

First Semester IET Classes to Be Offered at Easley Campus This Fall

This fall, the College will add first-semester Industrial Electronics Technology (IET) classes to program offerings at the Easley Campus.

The IET curriculum is still offered in its entirety at the Pendleton Campus, and the full first semester courses and labs will be offered at Easley, beginning in August.

"We will grow the program at Easley, semester by semester, and in two years, we hope to have the full program running at that campus," said Robert Ellenberg, lead instructor for the IET program at the Easley Campus.

"The Easley Campus is a convenient location for Pickens County residents who are interested in IET classes," said Robert. "Our degree has a reputation that goes well beyond the three-county area. With so much industry in surrounding counties, we feel there is a tremendous need to be served."

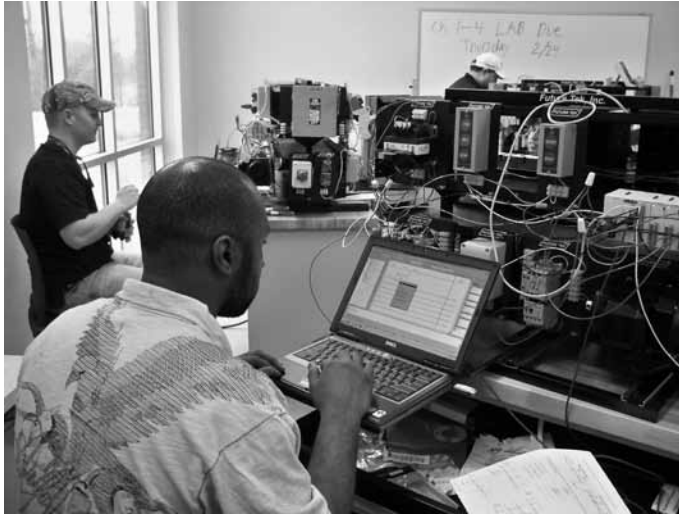
The IET program trains future electronics technicians. Students learn methods of producing, transmitting, and distributing electrical power. They also gain experience with industry-relevant equipment in a hands-on environment.

"Our IET program combines theory with a hands-on approach to learning," said Robert. "The lab at Easley is fully functional and is equipped with brand new equipment that is identical to the Pendleton Campus," he said. "We pride ourselves on offering equal parts lecture and lab time with the exception of two math classes. Our lab time is invaluable because learning to use the equipment and getting experience with tools and wiring shortens the learning curve once they become employed."

Graduates have the necessary skills to troubleshoot and maintain sophisticated electronic equipment used in modern industrial facilities. A wide range of course offerings makes graduates marketable to a variety of industries.

Job offerings for soon-to-be grads are "through the roof," he said. "Companies are calling and pleading for technicians. It's exciting for our recent alumni who have found employment and for the new grads, who have two or three job choices in front of them," he said.

"There is a strong demand for industry technicians, field service technicians, and technical support for hospitals," Robert said. Technicians service the medical equipment used in hospitals and doctor's offices, he said. Operating room technicians are trained to service ultrasounds, heart monitors, x-ray equipment, and more. Field service technicians are employed by equipment manufacturers and visit plants to repair machinery. "Duke Energy hires a lot of our graduates for full-time positions and supports a co-op program with the College. Power distribution and nuclear stations hire mechanical and electrical maintenance technicians. BMW tells us we are a primary source for their electronics technicians," said Robert.



IET students learn to troubleshoot and maintain sophisticated electronic equipment used in modern industrial facilities.

Vet Tech (continued from page 1)

provide me with exposure to those areas that I have not experienced," Hutcheson said.

"My future professional goals are developing as I learn more about veterinary medicine. I want to do everything. I love technician work and assisting with cases and diagnostics, and I also enjoy being a key part of the veterinary team," she added.

She says Tri-County prepared her for her current job at the Greenville Emergency Clinic and for the upcoming internship. "I have worked with and been taught by skilled veterinarians and instructors. I feel ready. I've learned how to think and act quickly."

"Jayne is a wonderful student who has an excellent work ethic – always willing to do whatever task is asked of her, and even doing things without having to be asked," said Dr. Peggy Champion, head of our Veterinary Technology program.

"She is self-motivated in every aspect of her life and this has spilled over into motivating her classmates, who come from a variety of ages and backgrounds. She also has leadership skills, which she has utilized in her responsibilities as the president of her class and National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA) student chapter. Of all the students I have taught over the years, Jayne is definitely one of the very best. If I were still in practice, I would hire her at any cost because she will be an incredible asset," said Dr. Champion.

Christee Williams, LVT, instructor and coordinator of instructional activities, says, "Jayne has taken the initiative, not just with organizing student projects, but also helping to promote her profession and our program to the community. During our program's re-accreditation site visit from the AVMA last fall, she was able to demonstrate her professionalism and personal integrity in interacting with the site visitors at a variety of meetings in conjunction with this visit. In my more than 20 years of working in this program, I feel that she is one of the best graduates we will have and that she will truly be an asset to any organization."

Christee Williams Honored with Presidential Medallion

Christee Williams, a licensed veterinary technician and instructor in our Veterinary Technology program since 1989, was honored with the highest award presented to the faculty, the Presidential Medallion for Instructional Excellence, at the College's annual commencement May 10.

Each year Dr. Booth presents the medallion to the instructor who has contributed the most during the academic year to the profession of teaching, to the development of the College, and to the students.

"Christee is a caring instructor who is committed to lifelong learning in the veterinary profession," Dr. Peggy Champion, who leads the Veterinary Technology Department, wrote in her nomination. "She is able to take her knowledge and explain it to the students on a level they can understand and use. Her combination of being able to teach in the lecture setting and then demonstrate in the lab gives students a solid foundation in the skills necessary to become excellent veterinary technicians," wrote Dr. Champion.

Christee is a 1982 alumna of our Veterinary Technology program and was the program's outstanding senior. She began working at Clemson University as a research specialist in the Poultry Science Department. In 1989 she joined her alma mater. In 1995 she received the first-ever Technician of the Year award from the South Carolina Association of Veterinarians.

Christee serves as the faculty advisor to the student chapter of the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America. In 2005 the chapter was named the Student Chapter of the Year. She also is



Dr. Ronnie Booth and Presidential Medallion winner Christee Williams

a member of the South Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians (SCAVT) and serves as the regional representative on the SCAVT state board. She served as treasurer of the board from 2001 – 2011.

"Christee is, by far, the best technician I have ever worked with," said Dr. Champion. "I admire her as a technician, as an instructor, and especially as a caring and supportive advisor for all the students in the Veterinary Technology program."

Christee and her husband, Charles, live in Pendleton and have two children, Joshua and Ashley.

Hugh Burgess is Distinguished Alumnus of the Year

Hugh Burgess has always been a great ambassador for Tri-County Technical College. The 1977 Engineering Technology graduate recognizes that education is a lifelong process, and in his leadership roles in manufacturing and on community service boards, he often looks to Tri-County to fulfill training needs.

At graduation he received the College's Distinguished Alumni Award, which highlights his dedication to his alma mater. The recipient of this award must have been awarded a degree, diploma or certificate from Tri-County; must have graduated at least one year ago; and must have made significant contributions to the College, the Alumni Association, or the community.

Back in the 1970's, Burgess was the recipient of a scholarship through J.P. Stevens that allowed him to work full time during the day at the Clemson plant and attend evening classes at Tri-County. "That experience gave me an incredible foundation," said Burgess, who, today is president and managing partner of Consolidated Southern Industries (CSI), a mechanical, electrical, and general contractor services company located in Anderson.

"Tri-County's curriculum gave us hands-on training for problem solving. I had incredible mentors while there. What stands out most are the relationships I built there that continue today."

Prior to CSI, he spent 25 years in different engineering and management roles in manufacturing, including 11 as Plant Manager with Clark Schwebel in Anderson. He entered into a partnership in 2002



Distinguished Alumnus Hugh Burgess and his wife, Rita

with Anderson businessman Carey Jones, who owned CSI. Burgess serves on Anderson Interfaith Ministries Board (chairman), AnMed Health Foundation (vice chair), Anderson Vocational Rehabilitation, and other boards. He is a member of Welcome Baptist Church, where is a deacon, treasurer, and Sunday School teacher.

"I have incredible memories of Tri-County. I made great friends and contacts and relationships that have served me well over the years."

Burgess is married to Rita Prater Burgess, and they have two sons, Brandon and Johnathon Burgess.

Graduating Class of 2011 Urged to Embrace, Accept Change



In her address, AT&T State President **Pamela Lackey**, pictured with **Dr. Booth**, urged the 547 graduates, the College's largest graduating class to date, to embrace and accept change.



Cousins **Bridgette Boggs**, of Westminster, left, and **Ruthie Millar**, of Pendleton, pose for a photo following the ceremony. Bridgette received an Administrative Office Technology degree, and Ruthie received an Associate in Arts degree. A former Tri-County employee, Ruthie is now Membership Director for the Clemson Area Chamber of Commerce.



Three of the four Gateway to College grads marched in the spring commencement ceremony. Pictured here are **Taylor Davis**, graduating from T.L. Hanna High School, **Tabitha Gardner**, graduating from D.W. Daniel High School, and **Hannah Waddell**, also graduating from D.W. Daniel High School. Megan Ronk (Pickens High School), not pictured, was unable to attend the ceremony.



Kayla Massey, an associate degree Nursing major, left, who sang The National Anthem, is seen with her mother, **Vee Vee Massey**, of Williamston, an Administrative Office Technology graduate.



Proud mom **Lisa Saxon** poses with son, **Nicholas Moyer**, prior to his receiving a degree in Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Technology. Lisa is the Administrative Specialist for the Institutional Research and Evaluation Department and a longtime Alumni Association board member.

Jeff Burrell, of Powdersville, a graduate of the Medical Laboratory Technology program, plans to enter Clemson University's bachelor's degree program in Microbiology - Biomedicine through a new articulation agreement with Tri-County. After passing his National Certification Exam, administered by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP), he will enter Clemson as a junior.



Fourth Annual Spring Open Golf Tournament a Great Success



The **John Childers team** won first place. The Alumni Association and the Athletics Department joined forces several years ago to co-sponsor this annual golf tournament.



Kudos to Golf Coach **Clint Wright** and Spring Open Coordinator **Courtney White** for planning and executing another successful tournament. The Planning Committee was comprised of alumni and the Athletic Department. Thanks to Sue Rogers, Evette Moss, Lisa Saxon, and Angie Abraham for their hard work.



Braam Botha was one of the members of the Hawks Men's Golf Team who participated in the Challenge Drive.



Jason Craddock, who played on a team sponsored by Rep. **Brian White**, made an eagle, propelling the team to a third-place finish in the tournament.



Sandvik General Manager **Jaime Herrera-Torres**, who serves on our Foundation Board, sponsored a team in the tournament. The company also was a silver sponsor.

