

Connection

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Industrial Technology Center Wows

Every time a visitor has toured the new Industrial Technology Center (ITC) in Sandy Springs – whether it’s faculty, staff, students, industrial prospects, College Commissioners, donors, or legislators – each person’s verbal response is the exact same word – an emphatic “wow.”

The 43,000-square-foot Center that houses the Welding and Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) programs was specifically designed to mimic a real-world industrial setting. It’s also being billed a showplace by economic development prospects and local companies. Michelin representatives who toured the nearly completed facility in fall of last year were excited that Tri-County has a world-class facility located so close to the company’s Sandy Springs and Anderson plants, said John Lummus, vice president for economic and institutional advancement.

“When guests walk in, they really see a place conducive to learning and helping students to be successful,” John added. “The equipment that our students train on in the ITC matches industries’ expectations of what graduates will use on the job.”

The new facility that opened the first day of spring semester (January 14) is a far cry from the Welding facility located on the Pendleton Campus since 1963. “There is a vast difference in the two facilities,” said third-semester Welding student Jessica Gray-Brewer, 21, who compares the two buildings as “going from a cave to the Taj Mahal. It just knocks you out. There’s so much energy in the room,” she said.

“It’s like a new program now with very up-to-date equipment. We are learning on the latest and greatest. It makes me eager to learn,” she added.

Another bonus is students can take all of their classes at the ITC – including the general education courses like math and English.

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Industrial Technology Center Building



In the new facility, there are 48 state-of-the-art welding booths, with the capacity for 72 students. A big change is the no-wait factor for using the welding booths.

UPCOMING EVENTS

South Carolina Speech and Theatre Association's Annual College Festival Competition, Pendleton Campus..... Feb. 2
Annual Vet Tech Continuing Education event held in conjunction with Upstate Veterinary Specialists and Pfizer....Feb. 10
Open House,
Pendleton CampusMarch 1
Industrial Technology Center Ribbon Cutting and Open House March 8

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

Connection

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Mailing Address (All Campuses)

P. O. Box 587, Pendleton, SC 29670

Pendleton Campus

7900 Highway 76, Pendleton, SC

Anderson Campus

511 Michelin Blvd., Anderson, SC

Easley Campus

1774 Powdersville Rd., Easley, SC

Oconee Campus

Hamilton Career Center
100 Vocational Dr., Seneca, SC

Main Number: (864) 646-8361

Toll-free (864 area code): 1-866-269-5677

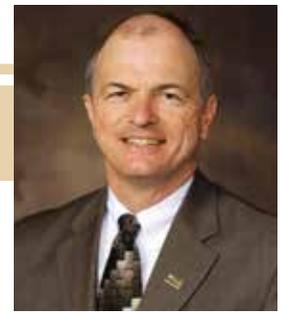
TDD/Voice: 1-800-735-2905

Website: www.tctc.edu



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Connecting



Dr. Ronnie L. Booth
President

Several years ago when we considered the idea of launching a Major Gifts Campaign through the College Foundation, we first thought about all of you – our employees. Although many of you have generously donated to the Foundation over the years, never before had we asked you to support a campaign of this magnitude. We believed your participation not only would help to raise much-needed funds, but also could serve as a visible endorsement of the campaign when we reached out to business, industry, and community members and asked for their support. You answered with a resounding “yes” – to the tune of 99% employee participation. Your commitment launched the first phase of our Major Gifts Campaign, which concluded last year as part of our 50th anniversary celebration. Thanks to your generosity and our supporters in the community, today the College is better positioned to meet the needs of our students, as well as those of the community. More than \$5.5 million in cash and in-kind gifts were raised, \$211,285 of which came from our employees.

“Thanks to your generosity and our supporters in the community, today the College is better positioned to meet the needs of our students, as well as those of the community. More than \$5.5 million in cash and in-kind gifts were raised, \$211,285 of which came from our employees.”

- Dr. Ronnie L. Booth

I wanted to take this opportunity to publicly thank you for your support. It says a lot about our College family when we are willing to give back to benefit students – and it spoke volumes to the community over the course of the campaign.

One of the many friends and partners who supported our campaign is the Abney Foundation, a long-time supporter of the College. Just before the Christmas break, they delivered a generous \$100,000 gift designated for student scholarships. No other foundation, individual, or company has contributed so generously to the Foundation; gifts which total \$4.7 million over the past 24 years. The Abney Foundation truly understands the challenges of our students, and they want to help empower them for lifelong success.

We also are grateful to Foundation Board members, who served as ambassadors for the College during the campaign, leading the way to introduce and educate the community about our mission and purpose. Spearheading the campaign were Neal Workman, of Walhalla, chairman of Trehel Corporation; Kirk Oglesby, Jr., of Anderson, president emeritus of AnMed Health; and Jane Sosebee, of Clemson, director of government relations for AT&T South Carolina. They spent many hours helping us to organize our efforts and take our message to the community.

The campaign raised much needed funds to help the College advance its strategic mission in four areas: expanding educational opportunities, improving technology and equipment, enhancing opportunities for student success, and promoting economic and community development. Donations also went to name rooms at the Easley Campus and our new Industrial Technology Center, as well as to establish new endowments.

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Spotlight on Fall 2013 Recruiting

The October College Application Day events, along with other recruitment activities our Admissions team participated in last fall, were aimed at creating connections with area schools to let students and their parents know what Tri-County has to offer at our four community campuses and to encourage them to plan ahead for Fall 2013.

The Commission on Higher Education (CHE) encourages S.C. seniors to attend college by promoting and sponsoring October as College Application Month. Director of Recruitment and Admissions Renae Frazier, worked with Dr. Booth to support this initiative by waiving the application fee for our service area high school seniors for application days. "That made all the difference because even though it is a minimum fee, this allowed us to eliminate one of the barriers for our students," said Renae. The Admissions Office has received 1,002 applications from the service area high school seniors for Fall 2013.

Renae and the Enrollment Counselors assisted with thirteen application events at area schools. Many of the events were sponsored by CHE, but others were planned by the schools. Counselors assisted with application day programs at the Pickens County Career and Technology Center, as well as at Pendleton, Pickens, Liberty, Westside, Wren, Tamassee-Salem, Crescent, TL Hanna, and Belton Honea Path high schools. Teresa Horton, director of Guidance at Pendleton High, wrote, "Thank you so much for spending the day at Pendleton on College Application Day. You were so much help to the students." In addition, Enrollment Counselor Brian McGuinness spoke to every English class at Seneca High School about the application and enrollment process.

As a result of Tri-County presentations at Easley High on October 29, the school bused more than 50 students to the Easley Campus on Monday, November 12, for a mini-application day. Lakishia Dinkins, assistant director of our Easley Campus, and Enrollment Counselor Tasheka Johnson coordinated this event. These students were given a packet of information, the opportunity to apply to the College (using our mobile netbooks), and a tour of the Easley Campus.

"Students make a connection with us and can start the enrollment process early," said Enrollment Counselor Rachel Campbell, who serves Walhalla High. "They learn about our value, our new campuses, curriculum options, and the availability of lottery and other means of financial aid that make education more affordable for many." Eighty-nine of the 231 seniors at Walhalla High School



*The Admissions Team: (front row) **Tasheka Johnson**, enrollment counselor; **Renae Frazier**, director of recruitment and admissions; **Rachel Campbell**, enrollment counselor; and **LaKishia Dinkins**, assistant director of the Easley Campus; and (back row) **Butch Merritt**, **Donald White**; and **Brian McGuinness**, all enrollment counselors.*

applied for admission to Tri-County for fall 2013 as a direct result of the school-sponsored application event last October. "After the events we can start tracking and communicating with potential students," said Rachel. "I've started calling and e-mailing them to talk about narrowing down majors and discussing the importance of program fit. It's important to connect college to their career path," she said.

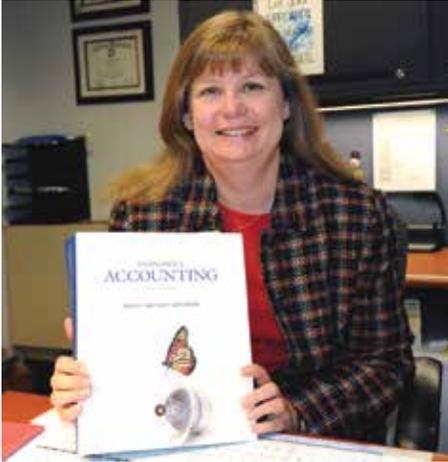
"For those who have applied, we are reminding them of our March 1 Open House when they can come to the Pendleton Campus to talk with faculty one on one and make that personal connection. Also, now that we have an applicant pool of interested students, we will set up individual senior meetings with applicants to go through the enrollment steps and sign them up for orientation," added Rachel.

Renae and the Enrollment Counselors kicked off the fall season by meeting with the guidance directors of the service area high schools to plan ways to be of assistance this academic year. Enrollment Counselors visited the guidance offices and gave them an iPad with Career Coach loaded on the homepage. Career Coach, a web-based data tool, helps students to explore careers and to determine if they are a good match for their interests. Through a simple keyword search, students can learn about the employment prospects of careers they want to research. This real-time information is customized to our tri-county area and includes detailed wage

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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!

Brenda Mattison Co-Authors Accounting Textbook



Brenda Mattison

Accounting instructor Brenda Mattison can add textbook author to her list of accomplishments. Brenda is the co-author of Horngren's Accounting, 10th edition, a two-semester accounting textbook published by Pearson Education for Accounting 101 and 102 classes. Her co-authors are Accounting professors Tracie Nobles, at Texas State University San Marcos, and Ella Mae Matsumura, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Brenda also wrote and revised chapters in Horngren's Financial and Managerial Accounting, fourth edition, which offers a corporate approach with an equal emphasis on financial and managerial accounting. The College uses this version, with financial accounting taught in ACC 101 and managerial accounting taught in ACC 102.

"We are thrilled to welcome Brenda Mattison to the Pearson team and Horngren franchise," said Lacey Vitetta, accounting editor at Pearson Education. "Brenda's vast contributions have helped to redefine the tradition of learning accounting by creating learning materials that bridge the gap between textbook content and classroom instruction techniques. Her deep connections to

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Our College Family

excellence through service

At the annual meeting of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), the College's fifth-year report was approved with no follow-up required. Additionally, the QEP Impact Report was deemed acceptable. The College also was informed the QEP Review Committee was so impressed with the QEP report they will be contacting Tri-County for permission to place our report in the SACS resource center as a model.

Dr. Chris Marino, director of Research and Evaluation, writes:

"I want to recognize **Margaret Burdette** for her outstanding work on the SACS fifth-year report. Many people had to do a lot of work to help the College complete the five-year review with no findings, but Margaret's organization, attention to detail, and patience were critical. The College is lucky to have someone with Margaret's talents coordinating our accreditation compliance."

Congratulations to **Lynn Shook**, who was recognized in December by the Upstate S.C. Chapter of the American Payroll Association for her exceptional performance and innovative chapter contributions. Lynn is active in the Association and also holds tutoring sessions for those who are taking courses to become certified payroll professionals.



Lynn Shook



Jackie Blakley

Jackie Blakley has been selected to serve as Tri-County's representative on the board of the South Carolina chapter of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges (AAWCC). The purpose of the association is to encourage professional development for women in community colleges, support women in leadership roles, and develop communication among women in community colleges.

Katy Goforth has been selected as a recipient of the 2013 On Course Ambassador of the Year Award. Her work to help students become active, responsible, and successful learners will be acknowledged at the On Course National Conference April 25-27 at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa in Los Angeles.



Katy Goforth

in transition

At the beginning of the year, two interim appointments were announced to fill leadership positions in the Business Affairs Division.

Ann Hall has agreed to serve as Interim Fiscal Affairs Director for the College, filling the position vacated by Faye Allen. Ann reports to Gregg Stapleton.



Ann Hall



Carmen Lehmann



Kristen Karasek

Carmen Lehmann has agreed to serve as Interim Campus Safety Director, filling the position vacated by Rick Clark, who is now Sheriff of Pickens County. Carmen will report to Ken Kopera.

Kristen Karasek is our new Coordinator of Student Life for the Bridge to Clemson program. She holds B.S./B.A. degrees in Business Administration and Marketing from Geneva College in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, along with an M.A. in Higher Education and an M.B.A. in Management/Human Resources from the University of Akron, where she served as Hall Director from 2010 – 2012. She also was an Academic Advisor for the University of Akron from 2008 – 2010. She was Assistant Unit Marketing Director for Chick-Fil-A from 2005 - 2007.

She lives at the Highpointe Community, where Bridge to Clemson students are housed.



Mark Monson



Caitlin Brougham

Mark Monson joined us last semester as a Service Analyst for the Information Technology Department. He had worked as a temporary Administrative Specialist for IT since 2010. He is a graduate of Salt Lake Community College, where he earned an associate of Science in Computer Information Systems.

He and his wife, Natasha Khan, live in Clemson.

Caitlin Brougham, who has been working as a temporary Customer Service Assistant in the Financial Aid Office since 2011, is now full time. She began the new year as a Quality Assurance Coordinator for Financial Aid.

From 2010 – 2011, Caitlin served as our Women’s Soccer Coach. Prior to that, she coached high school soccer and served as the head coach for the Women’s JV Soccer team at Bishop England High School in Charleston for two years. She also coached the College of Charleston Women’s Club Team and at the youth club level for two seasons while residing in Charleston.

She holds a Communication (PR) degree from Wingate University, where she played women’s soccer for four years. She coached the Wingate International Soccer Academy summer camp while a student. She has been a team trainer for various youth teams at the Tri-County Soccer Club and currently serves as head coach for the Clemson University Women’s Soccer Club. Caitlin holds a USSF (United States Soccer Federation) D License and resides in Central.

The following have left the College to pursue other opportunities. We wish them well in their new endeavors.

Rachel Joye

Cathy Payne

Brenda Mattison

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the academic accounting community, respect for fellow educators and true understanding of her students are evident on every page.”

“I love teaching Accounting and authoring the textbooks was simply an extension of what I already do in my classes,” said Brenda. “My co-authors and I had our students in mind as we wrote. From our experience as educators, we know what Accounting students struggle with, so we added student-friendly features that will help them be successful. I am looking forward to using the new edition in my classes.”

Brenda, who joined the College in 2002, has a bachelor’s degree in Education and a master’s degree in Accounting, both from Clemson University. She previously served as Accounting Program Coordinator at Tri-County and has prior experience teaching accounting at Robeson Community College, Lumberton, North Carolina; University of South Carolina Upstate, Spartanburg, South Carolina; and Rasmussen Business College, Eagan, Minnesota. She also has accounting work experience in retail and manufacturing businesses.

She is a member of Teachers of Accounting at Two-Year Colleges and the American Accounting Association. She is currently serving on the board of directors as Vice President of Registration of Teachers of Accounting at Two-Year Colleges.

Brenda engages in the scholarship of teaching and learning (SOTL). While serving as Faculty Fellow at the College, her research project was Using Applied Linguistics in Teaching Accounting, the Language of Business. Other presentations include using active learning and manipulatives, such as building blocks and poker chips, in teaching accounting concepts.

She is also an active volunteer in the community, serving her church, local Girl Scouts, and other organizations.

CONNECTING

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The campaign also allowed us to reach out and touch a broader base of our population in ways we never have – many times made possible through the efforts of the co-chairs, Foundation Board, and College Commission. As a result, more than one thousand new individuals and entities made first-time contributions to the College.

We are fortunate that our community is filled with generous and caring people who want to make a difference in the lives of others and invest in our success. In addition, we have strong support from our industry partners who realize that we serve as a catalyst for economic development by providing them with a skilled workforce. We touch every facet of the community through our programs – whether someone is pursuing an academic degree, diploma, or certificate or retooling for a new career through our Corporate and Community Education Division.

While the campaign is now officially over, we will continue to seek new community partners. Students always will need our help, and our Foundation is dedicated to providing the resources to help them succeed.

You hear me use the term “student success” at every opportunity. Everything we do, from the time students first contact us until they cross the stage at graduation, is focused on their success, helping them to get from where they are to where they need to be. Funds raised through this campaign help will make their success possible.

Again, please accept my heartfelt thanks for your support. Your gifts demonstrated your commitment to and confidence in Tri-County, and I am convinced your generosity inspired others to give.



Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D.
President

Industrial Technology Center *(continued from page 1)*

“Our vision was to make the ITC as close to a manufacturing facility as we could, with safety as the utmost concern in the lab areas,” said Doug Allen, acting dean of the Engineering and Technology Division. “The facility is OSHA compliant, complete with all of the necessary signage in areas where Personal Protective Equipment is required.”

This semester there are 105 Welding students and 50 HVAC students. “The welding booths were at capacity from 8 a.m. – 10 p.m. on the Pendleton Campus. HVAC also was out of space,” he added. “There were 32 welding booths at Pendleton. We couldn’t meet industry’s demand for skilled welders. In the new facility, there are 48 booths, and we have the capacity for 72 students. A big change is the no-wait factor for using the welding booths.”

Equipment for each program is state of the art. The Welding program has the latest robotic technology – two new \$50,000 robots – and the HVAC program has all-new gas packs for the heating and air conditioning units.

The EIT Division has begun the process of blending the Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning and Building Construction programs to become a single, more multi-functional degree.

“Based on recommendations from our advisory committees and industry representatives, we see this as an opportunity to blend the two programs,” said Doug. “The group recognized that the HVAC students need an additional skills set (offered through Building Construction) that includes plumbing, electrical wiring and carpentry for floor and ductwork. Adding these courses to an already strong degree offering makes our HVAC graduates much more marketable. As the economy improves and new construction increases, along with renovations of existing buildings, our graduates will be in a strong position to join the growing workforce.”

“The ITC will allow us to help industry with continuing education of their associates,” said John. “There’s no space at the Pendleton Campus for classes so the Sandy Springs location will allow the College to keep the industry training programs centrally located in the service area, which is important to our students who enroll from all three counties and for the local industries served by the College.”

There will be a ribbon cutting and open house for the ITC March 8. The public will be invited to attend.



Paul Phelps, program coordinator for Welding, gives an overview of the building and safety rules on the first day of class in the new Industrial Technology Center.



Zack Russell, of Easley, left, puts a cover back on a condenser unit after checking out the reversing valve on a heat pump.

Nearly 300 Flock to Job Fair and Training Expo

Britany McCoy and Tiffany Long, both of Anderson, arrived at the Job Fair and Training Expo hours before the doors opened to avoid long lines and waiting. Both are looking for jobs with more hours and better pay. They were among the 289 persons who registered at the January 7 Job Fair and Training Expo hosted by Corporate and Community Education Division (CCE) and the local SC Works Centers.

The event was held for unemployed and underemployed individuals in Anderson, Oconee and Pickens counties. It was held in the Industrial and Business Development Center located on the Pendleton Campus. Participants were given the opportunity to meet and interview with area employers and to find out about short-term training options in the fields of health care, business, heavy equipment operator, industrial/manufacturing, and trucking driving.

“This was an easy way for them to talk with potential employers about their career choices and to take the first steps toward a new career path,” said Sandra Strickland, program director of

our CCE Division. “Our employers who attended told us they had never seen so many qualified applicants at one event,” she added. Participating employers included AmCan/Great Wide, Ashmore Bros., Inc., Bosch, C3 Elder Care, Cross Country Home Services, First Quality, Interim Health, I-Tech Solutions, King Asphalt, Inc., Maxim Healthcare Services, Michelin, Oconee Medical Center, Phillips Staffing, WasteCo, Inc., and ZF Transmission.

“It was a great opportunity for individuals to begin working on their New Year’s resolutions to find employment or to start training for a new career through CCE classes or QuickJobs training programs,” she said.

Sandra added that the Job Fair & Training Expo was about connecting participants with potential employers. In addition, with new technology increasing the demand for higher entry-level skills, the event helped to connect participants to the CCE short-term training certificate programs endorsed by area employers.



Wallace Harris, of Anderson, left, attended the Job Fair and Training Expo. He is seen talking with **Tricia Hutchinson**, account manager of recruiting at Bosch. In the background, **Bob McElyea**, of Greenville, left, talks with **Scott Johnson**, lead technician at Bosch.



Walter Curry of Clemson, middle, and **Artavis Ramsey**, of Seneca, right, talk with **Ron Humphries**, CCE program director, about training in Industrial Maintenance and MSSC.



Britany McCoy, left, and **Tiffany Long**, right, both of Anderson, arrived at the Job Fair and Training Expo hours before the doors opened to avoid long lines and waiting. Both are looking for jobs with more hours and better pay.



Aaron Wheeler, of Seneca, left, gets information about a career in truck driving from CCE Truck Driving instructor **June Osborne**.

Foundation News

Oconee Family Community Leaders Support Foundation

Representatives from Oconee Family Community Leaders presented the Foundation with a check for \$1,050 before the Christmas holidays. The 51-member organization has established an endowed scholarship at the College for Oconee County students. From left to right are **Marie Chatlos**; **Courtney White**, manager of donor relations at the College; **Ethelin Stancil**; and **Elisabeth Gadd**, Tri-County's director of development.



Scholarship Recipients Meet Benefactor

Bedford, New York, resident **David Eisenberg**, far right, is a longtime supporter of the College, donating to scholarships and the Machine Tool Technology (MTT) department since 2004. He and his driver, **Chuck Doolittle**, left, were on campus recently to meet two scholarship recipients, **Chris Avery**, of Fair Play, left, and **Justin Davis**, of Walhalla, right, and to tour the campus and the new Industrial Technology Center. Mr. Eisenberg, a retired Wall Street investment broker, became interested in Tri-County after looking at the College's programs on the website.



First Quality Holds Training Class on Campus

First Quality held a training class for its maintenance technicians in our Economic Development Center on the Pendleton Campus. Here, from left, **Perry Farrow**, vibration specialist, **Anthony Nicholson**, reliability engineer, and **Don Robinson**, maintenance technician, perform a balancing exercise.

Faculty/Staff Members Honored as Educators of the Year



Galen DeHay



Robin McFall



Lou Ann Martin

Three faculty/staff members have been honored as the College's Educators of the Year and will be recognized at the South Carolina Technical Education Association (SCTEA) meeting in February.

Galen DeHay, interim provost and director of planning and institutional effectiveness, is the College's outstanding administrator; Robin McFall, head of the English Department, is the outstanding instructor; and, Lou Ann Martin, academic support network coordinator, is the outstanding staff nominee.

SCTEA is a professional association of technical education personnel and others interested in post-secondary technical education.

For the past year, Galen has overseen the Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness. He is responsible for developing and implementing a robust institutional effectiveness program for the College, as well as strategic planning. Student success is a top priority for his team.

In July 2012 he took on additional duties as Interim Provost.

He joined the College in 1999 as a Biology instructor and in 2007 was named Science Department Head. He is the 2007 recipient of Tri-County's Presidential Medallion for Instructional Excellence, the highest award presented to faculty at Tri-County. The same year he was named the S.C. Governor's Professor of the Year for two-year institutions.

Lou Ann joined the College as a full-time Math instructor in 2003 after serving as a Math Tutor and an adjunct Math instructor since 1997. She received the Presidential Medallion for Instructional Excellence in 2009. That year she also was chosen as Tri-County's Educator of the Year through SCTEA.

During the 2008 and 2009 academic years, in addition to her teaching responsibilities, she worked with a team of faculty and

staff to develop the College's Title III proposal, Learning through Community and Connection. The grant focuses on expanding the use of learning communities to promote academic and social integration of students into the institution while implementing virtual tools to promote student success as students navigate their way to achieving their educational goals. In the fall of 2010, after the College was awarded the Title II grant, she assumed her current position.

Robin began teaching at Tri-County in 1990 as an adjunct instructor after working as a teacher for Anderson School Districts 1 and 3. In 1992 she became a full-time instructor and in 2004 was named head of the English Department for the Arts and Sciences Division.

Her award recognitions include the Presidential Medallion for Instructional Excellence in 2002, and she was named Educator of the Year among the State's 16 technical colleges at the SCTEA conference in 2003. That same year she was the College's nominee for the S.C. Technical College's A. Wade Martin Innovator of the Year Award.

During her time at Tri-County, she has developed some of the College's first distance education and online courses and developed and facilitated an orientation program for students in the Arts and Sciences Division. In 2006 she worked with Clemson University to develop academic and advising components for the Bridge to Clemson program and has served as the academic liaison since the program's inception eight years ago.

In 2010 she was appointed President of the South Carolina Association for Departments of English.

Executive Staff Updates

- **Title III Year-End Report:** Sarah Shumpert, Title III program director, reported the College met the objectives set forth for the second year of the Title III grant. The College was successful in increasing the numbers of thematic and linked learning communities available to students. Advisors now are trained to use DegreeWorks, and students were given access to this resource at the beginning of Spring Semester. Advisors and instructors began using the results of Smarter Measure in advising and classroom instruction. (To date, more than 2,500 students have taken the Smarter Measure assessment.) Sarah also reported that overall student achievement rates were unchanged during the reporting period and additional analysis will be needed to determine why.
- **Mountain Lake Business Development Corporation (MLBDC) Project:** A project was approved for the College to handle the administration of the MLBDC, a partnership program that assists entrepreneurs in starting new businesses. Partners include Tri-County's Corporate and Community Education Division, SCORE, and Clemson University's Small Business Development Center.
- **Information Technology Roadmap:** Information Technology (IT) director Lee Tennent presented the IT roadmap, which matches short- and long-term goals with specific technology solutions to meet organizational goals tied to the College's strategic plan. It also focuses on support to existing technologies, new products and processes, and emerging technologies, as well as efficient and reliable systems, data integrity, and disaster recovery.

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Spotlight *(continued from page 3)*

estimates, the credit and continuing education training that Tri-County offers, if employers are hiring, and up-to-date job postings with a given career.

"Knowing their career interests, we can talk about options and lay out an educational path for them. Once they get a plan, they can see where they are going," said Rachel.

Guidance counselors are very excited to have another tool. "Program fit is a big deal to students. This allows them to explore what is right and realistic for them.

Before, counselors didn't have anything that was portable. Now students can log in through the iPad to apply online and access Career Coach," said Rachel.

Renae led several interactive workshops for eighth graders at Belton Middle School using iPads to promote the Career Coach tool. Students responded enthusiastically with letters of appreciation:

"You provided a lot of information about careers and how to determine what we want to be. I also loved your use of modern-day technology with the iPads. I learned that we need to have a back-up plan and to start looking into our careers now and to start saving."

"It was a pleasure to hear more about what I would like to do with my future. Today I learned about my career. I want to be a veterinarian. I learned how many jobs would be open, the average pay, and the age groups for this job...This really had me thinking about my life. The way I will save my money and what classes to take in high school."

"I have never used an iPad before. They seemed very neat...and I learned how much I would make with my current career goal. Another thing I learned was that my job is not in demand currently. There were only five job openings and a hundred job positions. I may have to change my path but still may pursue this in the future."

"I want to thank you for taking time to speak to us today. I learned that there are a lot of interesting careers out there and now is the time to start thinking about college...and (to) get an idea of what we want to do."

Renae said, "Students are eager to learn so we must find a way to get across the importance for this age group to think about their future. The iPads allowed the students to use current technology, and the realization became apparent when they matched their attributes to their future career opportunities. I was glad I could provide that experience for them."

Numerous other area events took place this fall. Enrollment Counselors conducted several campus tours for school groups, gave presentations at four College/Parent Nights for area high schools, and participated in eight Educational Opportunity College Fairs, including one large consolidated event for Pickens and Oconee Counties. Along with local business and industry representatives, Donald White and Rachel Campbell had the opportunity to present to, and conduct mock interviews with, certificate completers at Walhalla High School. Enrollment counselors were involved in several community events, including education and career programs at Schneider Electric, Advance Pierre Foods, Verizon, and the Veteran's Event at the Anderson Civic Center.

"Even though we are right here, students often aren't aware of our timelines and what we have to offer at our community campuses and the new Industrial Technology Center. Reaching out to students in the fall really made a difference," said Rachel.

"This fall has been an exciting journey," said Renae. "Creating connections with the Tri-County service area schools, businesses, and industries is essential to impact lives by sharing the many opportunities the College has to offer our community."



Renae Frazier, director of Recruitment and Admissions, right, presents an iPad to **Wendy Ashley**, senior guidance counselor at Belton-Honea Path High School.

Tri-County Sponsors Junior Leadership Pickens County Program



Tri-County is serving as one of the sponsors of Junior Leadership Pickens County program this year. Our Easley Campus was the site for the group's first meeting of the inaugural class. Twenty-five high school juniors from across Pickens County went through a rigorous selection process to participate in the six-month program designed to enhance their leadership skills. The students will participate in several sessions throughout the program that will introduce them to topics impacting Pickens County and the State of SC, including education, health services, state and local government, law and criminal justice, and economic development. Dr. Brian Swords, Easley Campus director, is serving as Chairman of the program's advisory committee and facilitator during the inaugural year.

C2C Grads Celebrate Their Success

December 2012 high school graduates through the Connect to College program celebrated their success following the ceremony held December 13 at the College's Pendleton Campus. Pictured here, from left to right, are **Jake Eder** (Pendleton High School); **Colin Roberts** (T.L. Hanna High School); **Kayla Johnson** (Easley High School); **Dylan Goodwin** (Pickens High



School); and **Ashley Donald** (Pickens High School). The program's purpose is to serve academically capable youth age 17 to 20 who, for various reasons, have not been successful in a traditional high school environment but who have career goals that require postsecondary education. Using a dual credit model, students earn both high school and college credit and may simultaneously complete both the high school diploma (meeting all requirements of the South Carolina Department of Education) and a postsecondary credential (meeting all requirements of Tri-County Technical College).

Leadership Anderson Meets on Anderson Campus



Superintendents of all five Anderson School Districts answer questions from the current Leadership Anderson class. The class was hosted by our Anderson Campus as part of an Education Day experience.

Executive Staff

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- **Energy Efficiency:** The College already has reached energy efficiency goals set forth by the State for the year 2020. The energy efficiency improvements we have achieved since 2000 save the College approximately \$200,000 per year. We will continue to make improvements to achieve an even higher level of efficiency.
- **Strategic Planning:** The Executive Staff and President's Advisory Council continue to work on the development of the Three-Year College Strategic Plan for 2014-16. Key strategic directions, objectives, and performance indicators (KPIs) are being finalized, along with first-year activities and process owners.
- **Other:** Approval of policies and procedures, the online teaching credentialing process, and spring and fall Convocation dates (May 8 and August 15 at 8:15 a.m.)

Partners Kick Off Work Ready Initiative

Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties will submit applications by the February 1 deadline to be designated as S.C. Certified Work Ready Communities, Elisabeth Kovacs, state coordinator for the S.C. Department of Workforce Development, announced at a January 29 luncheon to kick off the area SC Work Ready Communities initiative.

Upstate partners, including Anderson County Economic Development, Clemson Center for Workforce Development, Oconee County Economic Development Commission, Pendleton Regional Education Center, Alliance Pickens, and Tri-County have joined forces to raise awareness and build support for each county's efforts to link education and workforce development.

South Carolina is one of the initial four states chosen to participate in the Work Ready Communities pilot project designed bring education and workforce development together and to align them with their communities. "It's a locally-driven approach to connect job opportunities with job seekers. Specifically, it gives a company an idea how 'work ready' its community is and for expanding industries, it tells them about the existing labor pool. It creates an inventory of skills sets," said Kovacs.

The pilot program is overseen by ACT which produces the WorkKeys job skills test that measures real-world skills. "Work Keys is a tool to measure qualifications and capability," said Kovacs.

"Our three counties have done a great job of pushing forward," said Vice President of Economic and Institutional Advancement John Lummus, who commended industry partners, educational institutions, school districts and State and elected officials for their key roles in making this happen.

"The number-one question asked by industrial prospects is what are the skills of your workforce. I can't stress enough what this will do for economic development in our area," he said.

"A county's best asset is its individuals, and WorkKeys information provides a snapshot at the county level," said Kovacs.

Students Get Connected

Get Connected events were held at each community campus to give students an opportunity to meet other students, learn about clubs/organizations, and enjoy free food and freebies.

*Student Ambassadors President and Accounting major **Melina Guerra-Rodelo**, of Seneca, left, talks to students about the program that fosters the personal and professional development of students interested in acquiring leadership skills by serving the College. Pictured with her are from left, **Brandy Wilson**, of Pickens, and **Stella Notaro**, of Clemson, both University Transfer majors. Student Ambassadors 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.*



*Navy veteran **Domenic Metcalf**, of Seneca, second from left, gets information about the Student Veterans Club from Advisor **Hubert McClure**, Anderson Campus math instructor and Marine Corps veteran, seated. Pictured with them is **Hannah Alewine**, of Pelzer, a University Transfer major. The TCTC Student Veterans Club links veterans and their family members from all branches of military service who have served during times of peace and times of war.*



The organization strives to support veterans by providing a safe environment for student veterans to help one another facilitate the transition from military life to the College community.

***Lou Ann Martin**, academic support network coordinator, was on hand to demonstrate DegreeWorks, a new online educational planning tool that will simplify students' ability to monitor their academic progress toward a degree. Here, she shows Radio and Television Broadcasting major **Tim Carter**, of Fair Play, how DegreeWorks puts all of the students' curriculum information into a concise, consistent, easily accessible place and gives them quick view of their educational progress. "The tool allows students to see what courses they have taken and what they need to take to fulfill their degree requirements. It's a roadmap to their graduation success," said Lou Ann.*

