

Anderson University News 316 Boulevard, Anderson, SC 29621 P 864.231.2485 | F 864.231.2183

Contact: Andrew J. Beckner, Executive Director of Public Relations (864) 556-4784 | abeckner@andersonuniversity.edu

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Anderson University and Tri-County Technical College sign bridge program agreement

**ANDERSON**, **SC** - Anderson University (AU) and Tri-County Technical College (Tri-County) have formed a partnership designed to enhance the transfer of students from Tri-County to AU. The partnership is intended to serve students by providing program support and services through a seamless transfer pathway that prepares and acclimates students desiring to matriculate at AU.

The agreement establishes articulation pathways for Tri-County students seeking the following degrees:

- Bachelor of Business Administration
  - o Business Administration Concentration
  - Marketing Concentration
  - o Operation Management Concentration
- Bachelor of Arts Criminal Justice
  - Law Enforcement Operations Concentration
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Tri-County students who complete an Associate in Arts (A.A.), Associate in Sciences (A.S.), Associate Degree in Nursing (A.D.N.), or an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Business or Criminal Justice are eligible to participate. Graduates or students who are

pursuing the aforementioned degrees who complete 30 transferable credits (with grades of C or better) with a 2.50 grade point average (GPA) will be guaranteed admission to AU upon successfully completing all steps for enrollment. Additional admissions requirements may exist for particular academic programs. While admissions to AU is guaranteed, courses will be evaluated for transfer credit and applicability to the intended AU major/degree program. To support students in making progress towards both the Tri-County associate's and AU bachelor's degrees, students will have academic and advising support of both Tri-County's faculty advisors and AU's academic advisors. Students will have the option of completing their AU bachelor's degree program by taking courses fully online, on-campus or a combination of online and on-campus. AU will waive the admissions application fee for students transferring from Tri-County through the AU Bridge Program.

As part of the AU Bridge Program students will be offered the opportunity to participate in identified AU programs and events, such as access to the university's library and Trojan athletic events. Dr. Evans Whitaker commented, "we're excited to strengthen our ties with Tri-County Technical College to benefit TCTC students as they continue their education while staying close to home. AU is committed to supporting TCTC students within the community by offering innovative programs alongside the personal academic support that AU is known for."

"At Tri-County, we are committed to increasing access to higher education for the citizens of Anderson, Oconee and Pickens counties, including access to a bachelor's degree by way of applied associate degrees in our career programs," said Dr. Galen DeHay, president of Tri-County Technical College. "Many of our students complete an associate degree in a career program so they are prepared for immediate entry into the workforce. We have made a concerted effort to create pathways that will allow them to go on to earn a bachelor's degree, should they choose to do so, without loss of time, credits or money," he said.

"With this agreement signed, a bachelor's degree from Anderson University will be accessible, affordable and available to our graduates," added DeHay.

The AU Bridge Program will begin in the Fall of 2020. Individuals and prospective students can contact Lucas Moore, Assistant Director of Admissions & Transfer Coordinator at Anderson University, via email (<a href="mailto:lmoore@andersonuniversity.edu">lmoore@andersonuniversity.edu</a>) and Dr. Kristen Karasek, Director of Bridge Programs & Educational Partnerships at Tri-County, via email (<a href="mailto:kkarasek@tctc.edu">kkarasek@tctc.edu</a>).

Anderson University is a "more selective" comprehensive university offering bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees on campus and online. Anderson University is among US News and World Report's "Best Regional Universities South," and is on the publication's "Most Innovative," "Best Value," "Best Undergraduate Teaching," "Best Social Mobility" and "Best Online Programs" lists. Anderson also is ranked #27 nationally for Student Engagement by the Wall Street Journal; is a "Best College" among institutions of higher learning in the southeast by The Princeton Review; and is a three-time Apple Distinguished School.