



**SOUTHERN
CRESCENT**
TECHNICAL COLLEGE



TECH TRENDS

The Official Newsletter of Southern Crescent Technical College

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



SCTC: Making An Impact

As we make our way through another eventful fall semester, I am elated to bring you the latest edition of Tech Trends. As you can see, Southern Crescent Technical College continues to thrive, providing transformative educational experiences that empower all students to achieve their dreams and shape the world around them.

We know that we cannot fulfill our mission of workforce development alone, which is why I was immensely proud to honor our first Champions for Technical Education at a recent event, which is featured in this edition. As our valued partners, we simply cannot thank these individuals enough for their investment in our great college. We are proud of our commitment to offer relevant technical education and are able to see each day the difference that we make in the lives of the students and communities we serve.

Looking forward, there is so much more to be excited about. We are in the process of launching new initiatives, including innovative academic programs, expanded partnership opportunities, and further enhancements to campus facilities that will benefit both current and future students. None of this would be possible without the hard work and support from our entire college community. Together, we are building a brighter future for Southern Crescent Technical College.

– Dr. Irvin Clark, President

SCTC Celebrates Champions for Technical Education

Over 100 guests were in attendance for the Southern Crescent Technical College (SCTC) first annual Champions for Technical Education Awards Celebration on September 12, 2024, hosted by the Southern Crescent Technical College Foundation. This event, held in the Frank and Constance Allen Johnson Event Center, honored champions for technical education in the eight counties that the College serves, as well as champions beyond the service area.

After an excellent dinner prepared by SCTC Culinary Arts students, SCTC President Dr. Irvin Clark, presented each Champion with their unique award which was a glass-enclosed dome that included a stainless-steel cube designed and made by SCTC Machine Tool Technology students and their instructor, Keith Smith. The award showcased images that represented the four pillars that define SCTC's Champions for Technical Education – workforce, resources, partnerships, and education.

Recognized for their commitment to technical education and Southern Crescent Technical College, the outstanding honorees included: *Butts County Champion* – Bob White, Butts County Industrial Development Authority Executive Director; *Fayette County Champions* – Kim Learnard – Peachtree City Mayor; Jack Smith, former Chairman of the SCTC Foundation; *Henry County Champions* – Josh Fenn, Henry County Industrial Development Authority



Executive Director; Carlotta Harrell, Henry County Board of Commissioners Chairwoman; *Jasper County Champion* – Kenny Garland, Jasper County Charter Schools Superintendent; *Lamar County Champions* – Kathy Oxford, Lamar County Industrial Development Authority Executive Director; Scott Swafford, former Chairman of the SCTC Board of Directors; *Pike County Champions* – Dee and Eric McLeroy, Principals of McLeroy, Inc.; *Spalding County Champions* – Rep. Karen Mathiak, Georgia House of Representatives District 74; Chad Pruitt, Griffin Regional College and Career Academy CEO/Principal; *Upson County Champions* – Hoppy Hopkins, former Chairman of the SCTC Foundation; Taylor Smith, City of Thomaston Economic Director; *Corporate Champion* – Chris Schier,

Vice President for Technical Training Aids; *Donor Champion* – Sam Allen, College Supporter; *Lifetime Champions* – Tom Gardner, Harry Kierbow, and Elaine White, Dundee Community Association.

Dr. Irvin Clark thanked each of the sponsors that made the evening possible and congratulated the individual honorees during a presentation. He stated, "Building strong students, strong careers, and strong communities is all about partnerships, and you are shining examples of the type of partnerships that set our College apart from so many others. Tonight I take great pride in honoring you and your commitment to the College, the Foundation, and most importantly, our students." sctech.edu/Champions

Eight Courses for Entrepreneurs to be Offered in Partnership with UGA

SCTC is thrilled to announce the signing of a partnership agreement with the University of Georgia's Small Business Development Center to offer a comprehensive eight-course series designed to equip small business owners with the critical tools and knowledge needed to thrive. This collaboration will give members access to both local and statewide resources to start and grow their businesses.

Courses include the following business topics: Mission/Vision: Critical, Marketing Plan Checklist, Budgeting for Success, Operations Manual: Assembling the Best Practices, Finding and Leading Your Team, Marketing – Measuring your ROI, Financial Microscope: Know the Numbers that Drive Your Business, and Planning for Growth.

These courses begin in early October and are offered through SCTC's new Small Business Entrepreneurship Centers (SBECs), located in Thomaston, Jackson, and McDonough. Open to both students and the community, the SBEC is designed to nurture and support both established entrepreneurs and those just starting out and serves as a hub for business development offering workshops, training programs, and personalized



consulting to help entrepreneurs navigate the complexities of starting and growing a business. Each facility is equipped with modern resources and technology, including Podcast Rooms and Makers Rooms, to facilitate learning and innovation. The centers also focus on creating a supportive community atmosphere where entrepreneurs can network, share experiences, and collaborate.

Participation and use of the Small Business Entrepreneurship Centers, including its programs and equipment, will be available for use at no cost to all currently enrolled SCTC credit, dual enrollment high school, and adult education students. The facility and various amenities will be available for rental to all other individuals. sctech.edu/UGASmallBusiness

Spalding Co. Inmates Earn Credentials through SCTC

SCTC recently celebrated over a dozen inmates housed at the Spalding County Correctional Institute (SCCI) as they received educational credentials to help them succeed after they are paroled. During this event, four students were recognized for earning their GED and eight students were recognized for earning a credential in Welding.

SCTC's Adult Education Department collaborated with the Certified Literate Community Partner to provide an Adult Education instructor to teach and assist students prepare for the GED Examination. The exam is then administered on site to these individuals at the SCCI. Welding courses were taught in partnership with Three Rivers Regional WorkSource and are offered and organized by the SCTC Economic Development Department. These eight participants all passed their welding certification tests and are now American Welding Society (AWS) Certified Welders, holding 1G, 2G, and 3G Shielded Metal Arc Welding Certifications.

SCTC and the SCCI are continuing to collaborate to expand offerings to reduce recidivism and develop a movement toward developing career pathways for incarcerated learners to achieve their educational and employment goals. sctech.edu/SCCI



Cosmetology Department Hosts Back-to-School Free Haircut Event

SCTC was buzzing with excitement at our recent Back-to-School haircut event held on August 26 on the Griffin Campus. SCTC's amazing Cosmetology students and faculty had an incredible afternoon serving the community and helping students get ready for a new school year.

Event coordinator and SCTC Cosmetology Instructor Kelly Evans said, "I am so proud of our students for

how they performed during this fun event. They demonstrated their skills with ease and enjoyed interacting with each child. The smiles on the kids' faces as they received their new cuts truly made our day!"



GET TO KNOW: Admissions Manager Alexis Bryant



"As the Admissions Manager, I want to impact each student's life by guiding them toward their educational and career goals. My goal is to ensure every prospective student feels welcomed, informed, and empowered throughout the admissions process, helping them overcome obstacles, make confident decisions, and turn their ambitions into achievements."

What is your favorite part of your job?
Assisting people in taking the next step toward higher education and supporting them as they make positive changes in their lives.

What do you like to do when you are not working?

Spending quality time with my family

Where would you take a dream vacation?

Mykonos, Greece

What are three things you can't live without?

My faith, my family, and the basic elements of earth

What is your favorite memory?

The day I married my husband

What is something people may not know about you?

I am a non-traditional learner. I started my career before completing my undergraduate degree and I am currently pursuing a master's degree in higher education.

What do you hope others learn from you?

Change is inevitable; growth is optional

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ABOUT

SCTC Admissions

The SCTC Admissions Department is responsible for guiding prospective students through the admissions process, from application to enrollment. This includes providing assistance with completing applications, understanding admission requirements, and navigating the necessary documentation. Located in Griffin, Thomaston, McDonough, and Jackson, the Admissions Office is important in facilitating access to educational opportunities, ensuring a smooth transition for new and returning students, and supporting the college's mission to foster academic and career success. With SCTC's micro-mesters, mini-mesters and full semester terms, SCTC is always enrolling and we look forward to assisting you as you get started on your educational journey! Apply Today! sctech.edu/admissions admissions@sctech.edu

Have a question, comment, or story idea for Tech Trends? Email us at marketing@sctech.edu

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