



**SOUTHERN
CRESCENT**
TECHNICAL COLLEGE



TECH TRENDS

The Official Newsletter of Southern Crescent Technical College
SEPTEMBER 2023 www.sctech.edu

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



SCTC: Making An Impact

It brings me immense pleasure to extend a warm greeting to all of you as I reach out to you once again to celebrate the excellence, innovation, and collaboration that define our college community.

Within this issue, you will find a myriad of insights and updates that highlight the incredible achievements of our Southern Crescent Technical College family. I am particularly proud to share the information regarding our substantial increase in enrollment this Fall Semester. It is extremely powerful to think of the impact that Southern Crescent Technical College is making in the lives of the people that we serve.

Each member of our team plays a pivotal role in our mission to empower individuals with the skills and knowledge needed to support our industry partners. Our faculty and staff continue to evolve as they work to inspire and educate our students, equipping them with the practical skills and expertise required to succeed in their respective fields. The dedication from our faculty to nurture talent and foster innovation is truly commendable. Our staff members work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the seamless operation of our college. Their hard work and commitment to providing support and resources are invaluable in creating an environment where our students can thrive. Beyond our campus, our community members are essential partners in our journey. Your engagement, collaboration, and support enhance the impact of our institution and broaden the horizons of our students.

In this edition, you will discover the latest developments, initiatives, and upcoming events that promise to further enrich our community. This is your invitation to stay informed, participate actively, and be inspired by the collective achievements of our college. We encourage you to explore this newsletter, share your feedback, and actively engage in the exciting opportunities that await you within our vibrant technical college community.

Thank you for being an integral part of Southern Crescent Technical College. Your unwavering commitment, expertise, and enthusiasm drive our shared success. As we move forward, let us continue to work together and learn from each other to reach new heights.

—Dr. Irvin Clark, President

Fall Semester Enrollment Soars at SCTC, Ranks Top in State

Southern Crescent Technical College saw a large leap in enrollment with the recent kickoff of the 2023 Fall Semester. The latest uptick indicates that 5,727 students are registered for credit courses, marking a 14.1% increase in total enrollment when compared with SCTC's Fall Semester 2022 figures. SCTC's tremendous enrollment increase is the largest in the state among the 22 technical colleges that make up the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG). Additionally, SCTC also leads the state in the increase in the number of credit hours taken by enrolled students with a 14.8% increase from last Fall Semester.

These reported numbers indicate that SCTC is trending well above the statewide average across TCSG. The TCSG average indicates that enrollment has expanded by 7.1% from this time last year and credit hour production is up 8.8%. All numbers reported are courtesy of the TCSG Data Center.

This increase shows that enrollment has grown across the board within all student types. Most notably, these reports also indicate that SCTC's Dual Enrollment has experienced a 37.3% increase in enrollment from last year with that number now reaching 1,752 dually enrolled students.

"Typically, Fall Semester marks our largest semester for enrollment, and this year is no different. While we have been working extremely hard to support our students through to completion, our current

enrollment increase is attributed to several factors including a strong commitment to serving students by faculty and staff and the expansion of facilities, services, and programs," according to Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Xenia Johns.

SCTC's enrollment has been steadily on the rise in recent years with the 2023 Fall Semester enrollment figures the highest since 2010. Boosting enrollment has been a goal for Southern Crescent Technical College President Dr. Irvin Clark, who has worked diligently across all divisions of the College to increase enrollment since he came on board.

Clark commented, "In the past year, our entire team has been laser-focused on new initiatives at Southern Crescent Technical College in the attempt to move the needle in a few key areas. I am thrilled to report that our efforts have had positive results with a substantial increase in enrollment.

This growth in enrollment shows that more and more people realize the value of a technical education to obtain a great career and an outstanding collegiate experience. Our mission at Southern Crescent Technical College is workforce development, and it is evident that we are responding to the needs of our community. When the numerous career options available in our region for graduates with the skills offered by SCTC are coupled with the low cost of attendance, there is no doubt why Southern Crescent Technical College continues to make a



marked impact on this area's workforce. It is encouraging to see more students taking advantage of the tremendous opportunities afforded to them. Additionally, with a stellar job placement rate and the demand for SCTC graduates far exceeding supply, we are extremely optimistic that this enrollment growth will continue."

Answering the call of area citizens and local business and industry, Southern Crescent Technical College has recently expanded our offerings in high-demand career areas. With the addition of new programs and specialized initiatives designed to meet the unique needs of our students and industry in this area, Southern Crescent Technical College is poised to continue this trajectory of growth through upcoming terms.

Improvements Made to Flint River Campus CDL Range



The Commercial Truck Driving Range on the SCTC Flint River Campus in Thomaston recently received several upgrades and improvements thanks to grant funding provided by the Governor's Emergency Economic Relief (GEER II). Improvements included repaving 62,500 square feet on the CDL range and adjacent loop training road, reengineering the range to eliminate drainage issues, reconfiguring and restriping training areas, and installing upgraded lighting and poles to improve safety and training for evening classes.

One trailer and three trucks were also purchased with these grant funds to support training opportunities in this high-demand career field. SCTC's Commercial Truck Driving program continues to be a popular program with students because of the concise program length, numerous job opportunities available in the area, and lucrative pay.

For more information on Southern Crescent Technical College's Commercial Truck Driving program, [CLICK HERE](#).

SOUTHERN CRESCENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

MILITARY FRIENDLY SCHOOL
23-24 SILVER

WE'RE PROUD TO ONCE AGAIN RECEIVE OUR MILITARY FRIENDLY STATUS

We ❤️ our Student and Employee Veterans and Active Duty Military

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

SAVE THE DATE



November 2, 2023 • Heron Bay Golf Club
www.sctech.edu/Foundation

to register, sponsor, or for more information

SGA Elects New Slate of Officers

College-wide student elections are in and new Student Government Association officers have been announced for the 2023-2024 academic year. We are looking forward to an exciting and productive year!

For more information, visit sctech.edu/sga

SOUTHERN CRESCENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

JENNIFER BIBLER President Paralegal Studies	ALISA ALLEN Vice President Paralegal Studies	CAREY WILLIAMS Parliamentarian Business Management	IDA HIGGINS Secretary Business Technology	KIM JEAN PIERRE Reporter/Historian Business Management
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College Updates Shared at Convocation

Southern Crescent Technical College hosted its first Convocation for faculty and staff on Thursday, September 14, 2023 with an exciting afternoon of activities, announcements, accolades, and updates.

Dr. Lisa Palmer, a native Georgian and Territory Manager for You Science in Georgia, served as the keynote speaker and spoke on the topic: *Merging Workforce Development and Innovation Through a Lens of Technology*. With over 25 years of experience in education ranging from middle grades education to higher education and workforce development in Georgia, Dr. Palmer offered SCTC faculty and staff a unique perspective on the future of technical education as it relates to career pathway identification and exploration.

In addition to the presentation from Dr. Palmer, the Convocation program included divisional updates and accomplishments from the members of SCTC's Executive Council. President Dr. Irvin Clark also celebrated recent successes, outlined new goals, gave updates on the State of the College including several new initiatives, introduced new staff members, and recognized employees with awards for longevity of service.



SCTC Foundation Chair Jack Bowdoin, Former SCTC President Dr. Randall Peters, Dr. Irvin Clark, Former SCTC President Dr. Alvetta Thomas

A special presentation was made to recognize former SCTC presidents Dr. Randall Peters and Dr. Alvetta Thomas. In honor of their commitment to SCTC, an anonymous donation was made to create a Teaching and Learning Center on the Flint River Campus. The donation also included resources for five employees to support the development of curriculum in the Center.

Supporting the College in this inaugural event included three sponsors: Pinnacle Advertising Specialties, Scholastic Images, and Walmart.

HIGH-DEMAND INDUSTRY SPOTLIGHT

MECHATRONICS

[CLICK HERE to learn more about this exciting career!](#)

GET TO KNOW: CAP Center Director Annita White



Annita White
Director, Career and Academic Planning

"One of the most gratifying aspects of my career in higher education is witnessing the remarkable journey of students as they strive towards their academic aspirations and ultimately graduate. Through my work at SCTC in the CAP Center and beyond, I hope to inspire students to see the transformative power of education. Education is a chain reaction, not only unlocking opportunities but also expanding mindsets."

What are three things you can't live without?
UGA football, chocolate, and a sense of purpose

What do you enjoy doing when you are not working?
When I'm not working, I enjoy watching Jeopardy and Family Feud with my sons.

Where would you take a dream vacation?
Negril, Jamaica

What is the best advice someone has given you?
Never allow someone's judgements about you become your reality.

Where is your favorite place to relax?
In a peaceful cabin in the mountains, especially at Callaway Gardens in Pine Mountain, GA. It's beautiful there!

What is something people may not know about you?
I enjoy learning to play different musical instruments, and right now, I'm learning to play the cello.

What are you currently reading or watching?
Since I'm currently a doctoral student, most of what I read is related to my coursework.

LEARN MORE ABOUT Career & Academic Planning Center



SCTC's Career and Academic Planning (CAP) Center is a valuable resource for students seeking academic guidance and career planning support. Through the CAP Center, students can receive expert assistance in selecting the right program and choosing the correct courses to meet their career goals and ensure a smooth academic journey. CAP advisors go beyond academics by providing comprehensive career services, such as resume building, job search strategies, networking tips, preparation for career fairs and employment. This approach ensures that students not only excel academically but also have the tools and knowledge to confidently step into the professional world.

To find out more about SCTC's CAP Center, contact: academicadvisor@sctech.edu
sctech.edu/advisement

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

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