



TECH TRENDS

The Official Newsletter of Southern Crescent Technical College
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



SCTC: Making An Impact

Since I assumed the role as President one year ago, my days have been filled with endless opportunities to meet individuals on campus and in the community. Through my many interactions, one thing has become very clear - Southern Crescent Technical College is making an impact, both in the communities and in the lives of the students that we serve.

Our impact is easily seen in our current enrollment numbers. For Spring Semester, SCTC is serving 5,252 credit students which is over a 6% increase in enrollment from this time last year. Most notably, our dual enrollment numbers are also quite impressive, with a 48% increase in enrollment from last year.

As the Spring term continues, we are looking forward to one of the highlights of the academic year with our upcoming graduation ceremony. During graduation, we are able to see first-hand the impact of our efforts on our graduates. We are thrilled to be able to celebrate with them and know that they, too, will make an impact as they embark on their next journey.

Our students continue to excel in all that they do. Congratulations to Tiffany Hooten, our local EAGLE delegate, as she was recently named a finalist in the state competition and to Horticulture student Letitia Trotter who has placed top in her category in the State SkillsUSA competition.

I begin my second year at Southern Crescent Technical College committed to success and filled with excitement and anticipation for the many new initiatives to come. I am so proud of the work that we do and look forward to continuing our efforts to make a lasting impact and meet the workforce development needs of our area.

- Dr. Irvin Clark, President

Industrial Systems Mobile Lab Expands Training Opportunities

Southern Crescent Technical College recently cut the ribbon for a new state-of-the-art Industrial Systems Technology Mobile Training Lab. This mobile lab, currently housed at the Butts County Center, will assist our credit and non-credit programs in training students in the high-demand career areas of Industrial Systems, Mechatronics, and Automated Manufacturing.

During this event, SCTC President Dr. Irvin Clark spoke of the importance of this lab to the workforce development efforts in SCTC's service area. The mobile training lab houses a variety of training equipment utilized in advanced manufacturing facilities and can be transported for a number of different training opportunities. Additionally, this lab can remain in a fixed location to provide an additional training lab for students and industry partners.

With the new lab, SCTC can support workforce development projects for municipalities, up-skill current staff at an employer's place of work, train job seekers looking to gain new skills, and work with the next generation of trades workers to develop skills and interest. Open session mechatronics training will be offered in 6-12 week cohorts targeting incumbent workers, as well as unemployed and underemployed workers wishing to increase their skill level.

Industrial Systems Technology student Timothy Holt offered a student's perspective as he shared his excitement over the addition of the mobile lab and how it will make training in these fields accessible to more students.

Lisa Durden, Executive Director of the Butts County Chamber of Commerce, and Bob White, Executive Director of the Butts County Industrial Development Authority commented on the strength of the partnerships between their organizations and SCTC while also highlighting the significance of this lab to local workforce development efforts.

Larry Alford, South Metro Regional Manager of the Georgia Manufacturing Extension Partnership at Georgia Tech, wrapped up the guest speakers, sharing industry insights and workforce initiatives where this lab will play a crucial factor in attracting and keeping high-demand industries in this area.

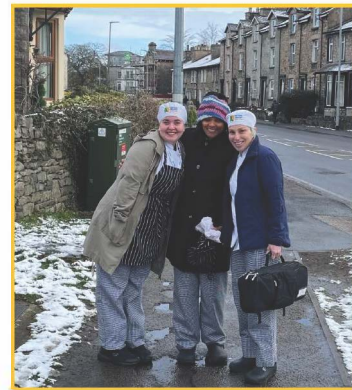
The program commenced with Dr. Clark cutting the ribbon alongside key individuals and partners who have supported this project.

Industrial Systems, Mechatronics, and Automated Manufacturing careers are categorized as High Demand Career Initiatives (HDCI) careers in Georgia. In 2022 Georgia Senate Bill 379, was signed into law by Governor Kemp. As Georgia's first-ever state-funded apprenticeship initiative, the HDCI Program



represents a historic investment by the State of Georgia in registered apprenticeships. This program is aimed to both up-skill Georgians and increase skilled talent within Georgia's high-demand industries.

Culinary students travel abroad



Three SCTC Culinary Arts students, accompanied by their instructor Chef Patrick Boutier, have just returned from a study abroad program at Kendal College in England. On their trip, Madeline Combs, Monique Moon, and Sima Nail applied their culinary skills and knowledge with confidence to foreign foods and techniques while adjusting to new cooking situations and demands. They participated in dinner preparations hosted by Three-Star Michelin Chef Simon Roganas and assisted with the Lake District Culinary Award Event celebrating young culinary talents from the popular tourist region of Cumbria.

In its eighth year, the travel abroad trip was made possible from the fundraising efforts of the Culinary Arts Advisory Committee and the SCTC Foundation. According to Chef Patrick Boutier, "The study abroad program contributes greatly to the enrichment of a student's educational journey by not only exposing our students to different cultures, flavors, and landscapes, but also by providing our students with the opportunity to develop and hone essential critical thinking skills. These same skills will become so important as they grow into their careers and access management level positions."

Student garners top award at state level



Congratulations to SCTC Horticulture student Letitia Trotter for receiving top honors with a gold medal in the Job Skills Demonstration category at the recent SkillsUSA Georgia State Conference and Competition in Atlanta. Trotter will compete nationally in June. Additionally, the SCTC SkillsUSA Chapter was recognized during the conference for achieving the status of Level One Quality Chapter. sctech.edu/skills23

The entire SCTC faculty and staff recently convened on March 30, 2023, for a day of Professional Development that included discussions and presentations about the College's current and future needs and challenges and to celebrate our recent accomplishments. External guests spoke on the importance of the College to the workforce development needs of this region. This annual event was a great reminder of the significant impact that SCTC makes on our students and community.

Educator Externship Kickoff a huge success



Georgia Power's Misty Fernandez talks about workforce development and kicks off SCTC's Educator Externship Program

Recognizing the need to strengthen the region's workforce pipeline through innovative collaborations with our K-12 colleagues, Southern Crescent Technical College in partnership with Georgia Power is hosting Connect - SCTC, an Educator Externship Program. This exciting program will provide an opportunity for educators to observe technical education in action while interacting with local companies and gaining real-world industry experience to bring back to their schools and students.

Southern Crescent Technical College has partnered with local public school systems in Butts, Fayette, Henry, Jasper, Lamar, Pike, Spalding, and Upson counties to offer this unique program. Through Connect - SCTC, three educators from each county will spend four days from June 20-23, 2023, participating in the Educator Externship Program. Time will be spent understanding the local economy and exploring career and workforce development opportunities in our Industrial and Allied Health sectors.

While at industry sites and medical facilities in the area, educators will meet with key leaders to learn about the mission and vision of the company, participate in a tour, and shadow



Connect - SCTC participants and sponsors



employees in key occupations. Proposed visits include local industry and allied health partners, Development Authorities, Chambers of Commerce, WorkSource Boards, Departments of Labor, and Southern Crescent Technical College classrooms and training labs. The educators participating in the program have each been nominated by their superintendents.

Misty Fernandez, Regional Director, Georgia Power Company, helped kick-off this exciting initiative. She addressed the college staff, externship participants and school system administrators and spoke of the importance of technical education in today's workforce. "Georgia Power is proud to partner with Southern Crescent Technical College to sponsor this important initiative as we work to create a better understanding of the important role that technical education plays in today's workforce."

The Educator Externship Program is designed to be rewarding, informative, and interactive. The program will provide a foundation for fostering future opportunities for our K-12 students in the region and strengthen the partnerships with education and industry to produce a better-equipped workforce.

SCTC Tigers Basketball wraps up 22-23 season



The Southern Crescent Technical College Tigers have recently wrapped up their 13th season where they competed in men's basketball as Division I members of the Georgia Collegiate Athletic Association (GCAA) in Region XVII of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). Coached by Calvin Sinkfield, the Tigers' overall record for 2023 Season was 11-17. Players Antonio Gordon (3.15 GPA) and Deandre Miller (3.75 GPA) have been officially named to the GCAA All-Academic Team. Alphonse Dutreuil was selected GCAA 3rd Team All Region. The 2022-23 Athletic Banquet is scheduled for April 13, 2023 from 5:30 - 7 pm.

In an effort to reestablish the Lady Tigers Basketball team, James Waldon, Head Women's Basketball Coach, is currently recruiting for 2023-24 Fall Season. sctech.edu/athletics



HIGH-DEMAND INDUSTRY SPOTLIGHT



CLICK HERE to learn more about this exciting career!

Faculty/staff gather for Professional Development



Fayette Chamber's Colin Martin speaks to staff

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Griffin

IT'S A GREAT DAY TO THANK A LINEMAN!

Led by Dr. Irvin Clark, President, SCTC administrators recently gathered with the electrical workers from the City of Griffin Power to provide lunch and thank them for their efforts during the recent tornadoes. These individuals worked diligently to restore electricity and repair and rebuild poles and lines so the Griffin Campus could quickly resume normal operations.

GET TO KNOW: SCTC Rick Perkins Award Winner Dr. Jerry Hubbard



Dr. Jerry Hubbard, Biology Instructor
 Rick Perkins Award for Excellence in Technical Instruction Winner

"Dr. Hubbard is a remarkable educator who is truly dedicated to his students' success. His innovative teaching methods and unwavering commitment to excellence in technical education make him a true inspiration and a role model for both his colleagues and his students."

- Kimberly Register
 Vice President for Academic Affairs

What is your favorite part of your job?
 Watching a student study hard and do well on that first exam and see a spark lit in their eyes! A spark of hope! Hope is a good thing, maybe the best of all things. That's what we do here!

What are three things you can't live without?
 The Good Lord, my family, and sweet tea

What is something people may not know about you?
 I am afraid of heights

Where is your favorite place to relax?
 On the lake fishing

Where would you take a dream vacation?
 Anywhere I can go fishing (notice a theme?)

What is the best advice someone has given you?
 Be flexible, bend without breaking, and money doesn't buy happiness!

What are you reading or watching?
 Currently student's lab reports, exams, paper presentations, and emails

What is your favorite memory?
 My wife walking down the aisle on our wedding day (I really hope she reads this!)

What do you hope that your students learn from you?
 Love EVERYBODY and treat people the way you want to be treated. Also, Never Quit! No matter what...Never Ever Quit!

As Rick Perkins winner, Hubbard will represent Southern Crescent Technical College throughout the upcoming year as our local ambassador for technical education. He has recently completed regional judging and will now move on to the state competition. The state Rick Perkins winner will be announced in late April. Read more at sctech.edu/RPA23