



**SOUTHERN  
CRESCENT**  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE



# TECH TRENDS

The Official Newsletter of Southern Crescent Technical College  
FEBRUARY 2024 [www.sctech.edu](http://www.sctech.edu)

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



### SCTC: Making An Impact

As we progress through another promising semester at Southern Crescent Technical College, I am filled with a sense of pride and gratitude for our vibrant college community, and I am energized by the opportunities that lie ahead as we work together to achieve our shared goals.

It is such an exciting time to be a part of technical education and I am thrilled to share the latest issue of Tech Trends with our friends throughout Tiger Nation. In this issue, we highlight several of the recent accomplishments of our outstanding programs, faculty, and students. Our credit enrollment has risen to over 6,200 students for Spring Semester and our academic, adult education, and economic development programs and initiatives continue to flourish. For a deeper dive into our accomplishments and data from the past year, take a moment to review the 2023 Annual Report, also included in this issue.

As students and staff excel both in and out of the classroom, Southern Crescent Technical College remains committed to success and filled with excitement and anticipation for the many new and upcoming initiatives designed to better serve our students and communities. I am so proud of our dynamic faculty and staff and of the work that we are doing to make this community prosper. I look forward to continuing our efforts to make a lasting impact and meet the workforce development needs of our area.

Thank you for all that you do to support our great college. I urge you to actively engage, participate, and stay connected as we continue to build upon our legacy of excellence.

— Dr. Irvin Clark, President

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Spring Mini-Mester Begins March 6, 2024
- Spring Break - April 1-5, 2024  
 > No classes

GRADUATION

**SAVE THE DATE! MAY 10, 2024**  
 NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH - NORTH CAMPUS - FAYETTEVILLE, GA

## Tender Tech Child Development Center Receives Quality Rating

Southern Crescent Technical College is proud to announce that Tender Tech Child Development Center, located on the Flint River Campus in Thomaston, has recently reaffirmed their 2-star Quality Rating with the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning Bright From the Start.

Quality Rated is a tiered quality rating and improvement system used to assess, improve, and communicate the level of quality in early and school-age care and education programs. Similar to rating systems for other service-related industries like hotels and restaurants, Quality Rated assigns a quality rating to early and school-age care and education programs that meet a set of defined program standards. These ratings allow caregivers an avenue to easily identify high-quality child care and early education programs that are using research-based best practices to prepare children for school and life.

Tender Tech is more than just a daycare; it's a nurturing haven for children aged 6 weeks to 12 years old. Open to the public as well as SCTC students, Tender Tech teaches children using a hands-on approach to learning with appropriate assessment of each individual child. Recently, Tender Tech's classrooms and playgrounds have been upgraded with state-of-the-art equipment, comfortable furniture, and engaging learning tools to enhance each child's learning experience.

With an extensive array of dynamic programs, Tender Tech strives to meet the diverse needs of local families. From our esteemed Georgia Pre-K initiative, giving eager minds a head start on their educational journey, to our convenient before and after-school program, ensuring seamless transitions for our school-aged children to and from Upson-Lee Elementary, Tender Tech has a childcare option for every family. In addition, Tender Tech offers full-day childcare camps that provide



an opportunity for fun-filled discovery and learning that are offered during each school break with an extended program during the summer.

Tender Tech offers grants to help with child care costs for parents who meet specific criteria. Tender Tech also accepts CAPS (Children and Parents Support) from Bright from the Start and is a part of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) which provides reimbursement for meals served to children. [sctech.edu/TenderTech](http://sctech.edu/TenderTech)

## SCTC Celebrates Black History Month

Throughout the month of February, SCTC hosted a variety of events and displays on multiple campuses to celebrate Black History Month and engage members of the College community in thought provoking discussions. Students had the opportunity to participate in a Unity Walk and a Talent Showcase to honor and celebrate the rich cultural heritage and significant contributions of African Americans throughout history.

According to Kristen Durham, SCTC's Student Activities Coordinator, "Black History Month is a time for joy, celebration, and reflection. It is not merely a month-long observance but a year-round commitment to fostering a sense of connection and empowerment among our student body. Black History Month serves as a catalyst for acknowledging

the significant contributions of black people throughout history. Through various events and cultural initiatives, we strive to create a supportive community where students of all colors feel connected to their roots, affirmed in their identities, and empowered to excel academically and socially."



## Talent Strong Program Expands to Butts



Jackson High School seniors Caydon Hardy and Brandon Benites-Lopez recently signed an agreement that will allow them to participate in Southern Crescent Technical College's (SCTC) Talent Strong Pre-Apprenticeship program. Through the Talent Strong program, students will gain the theory and hands-on skills training that will prepare them to enter the high-demand career fields of Mechatronics with added training in Industrial Systems and Machine Tool Technology.

The Talent Strong program allows high school seniors to simultaneously begin a pathway to earning a college credential while they train for a career in the high-demand field of Mechatronics. The Talent Strong Program began Fall 2023 Semester with students from Upson-Lee High School in Thomaston. [sctech.edu/TalentStrongButts](http://sctech.edu/TalentStrongButts)

## VP Register Joins TCSG Leadership Academy

Southern Crescent Technical College is proud to announce that Kimberly Register, Vice President for Academic Affairs has been selected to participate in the Technical College System of Georgia's (TCSG) 2024 Senior Leadership Academy, a professional development program designed to foster career advancement within TCSG and its 22 affiliated colleges across Georgia.

The 2024 cohort comprises a diverse group of talented professionals selected for their potential and dedication to the mission of TCSG. This yearlong program, split into eight two-day sessions, offers an intensive learning experience totaling 160 hours of content. This includes an 18-hour leadership training segment conducted by the University of Georgia Carl Vinson Institute of Government.



**Kimberly Register**  
Vice President, Academic Affairs

The Academy's curriculum is designed to enhance participants' understanding of the operational and administrative aspects of TCSG and its colleges. Key areas of focus include strategic planning, data-driven decision-making, budgeting, student affairs, compliance, workforce development, human resources, and legal services. These modules aim to equip future leaders with the necessary skills and knowledge to navigate the challenges and opportunities within the Georgia higher education system. [sctech.edu/LeadershipAcademy](http://sctech.edu/LeadershipAcademy)

## Georgia Power Makes Donation to SCTC



Jeneen Andrews, Area Manager for Georgia Power, recently made a donation of \$2,500 to Southern Crescent Technical College to support workforce development. These funds will be directed toward activities associated with the new Small Business Entrepreneurship Centers, located at the Flint River, Butts, and Henry locations. These funds will be earmarked for graduating seniors enrolled in SCTC's Spring 2024 Entrepreneurship Pathway Program.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

## GET TO KNOW: SCTC VP for Institutional Advancement Barbara Jo Cook



**Barbara Jo Cook**  
Vice President for Institutional Advancement



"Having worked for many years in multiple divisions within Southern Crescent Technical College, I have been fortunate to serve our students as a teacher, a department chair, an academic dean, and a vice president. In every role that I have had the privilege of serving, it has been my personal mission to help students gain the academic, technical, and work ethic skills they need to have meaningful careers and make the American dream come true for them and their families. All of my jobs at the College have been so rewarding, and I am thankful for each role and how I have been able to make a difference in the lives of our students and community. Serving as the Vice President for Advancement is a natural role for me, for I understand the classroom, the inner workings of the College, the College's relationship with the community as well as the students and their needs. My ultimate dream for each student at Southern Crescent Technical College is for him or her to receive the necessary skills for success in both life and work."

### ABOUT THE SCTC FOUNDATION

The Southern Crescent Technical College Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit organization organized under Georgia state law that provides guidance and helps secure funding for Southern Crescent Technical College. The Foundation is governed by a local board of trustees who represent positive leadership and community influence throughout the College's eight-county service area of Butts, Fayette, Henry, Jasper, Lamar, Pike, Spalding, and Upson. By serving as advisors in the advancement of the College, the Board of Trustees plans and implements resource development activities to improve programs and recognition for Southern Crescent Technical College.

In collaboration with SCTC's Vice President for Advancement, the Foundation plans and hosts special events and fundraisers to benefit the College and students including the Drive "Fore" Education Invitational Golf Tournament, the Food and Wine Pairings Event, and the Internal Campaign which provides scholarships for students from SCTC Faculty and Staff payroll deductions. Additionally, the Foundation solicits and reappropriates funds from external stakeholders for scholarships and other monetary donations to the College and its programs.

The Foundation is important because it provides Southern Crescent Technical College with the financial support needed to grow. The tie that binds the College and the Foundation is that the Foundation recognizes the unmet need for funding available to technical education.

The Southern Crescent Technical College Foundation, Inc., is fiscally and organizationally separate from the College. Its purpose is to receive private gifts, bequests, and donations and to account for, manage, and help appreciate monies or property submitted to the Foundation. The Foundation also exists to improve the image and expand community awareness of Southern Crescent Technical College. The Foundation's mission, goals, and objectives are consistent with the philosophy, purpose, and strategic plan of the College.

The Southern Crescent Technical College Foundation, Inc., is incorporated under Georgia Law and is financially and organizationally separate from the College. It is classified as a 501(c)(3) organization under the Internal Revenue Code and gifts received may be tax deductible. [sctech.edu/Foundation](http://sctech.edu/Foundation)

Have a question, comment, or story idea for Tech Trends? Email us at [marketing@sctech.edu](mailto:marketing@sctech.edu)

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