



HORRY-GEORGETOWN  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

# COMMUNITY UPDATE



Fall 2022

# HGTC COMMUNITY UPDATE Fall 2022



**IN THIS ISSUE**

- Mission Statement ..... 2
- Fast Facts ..... 3
- EMT Program ..... 4
- Employee Leadership Programs ..... 5
- Surgical Technologies Award ..... 6
- Culinary Arts Fund ..... 7
- Golf & Sports Turf Internship ..... 8
- Excellence in Education Award ..... 9
- Higher Education Commission ..... 10
- Marshall Altman Award ..... 11-12
- Bucksport Back to School Event ..... 13
- Surgical Technology 100% Pass Rate ..... 14
- Graduation Placement Rate ..... 15
- American Welding Society ..... 16
- OTA Program ..... 17
- Bank of America Partnership ..... 18
- McLeod Health Partnership ..... 19
- Culinary Team Award ..... 20

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What an amazing fall term as we celebrated the highest enrollment in college history and the largest increase to date! According to the enrollment report, the College has more than 8,100 students enrolled surpassing the 2010 enrollment period with 7,826 students. Total enrollment has increased by nearly 2,000 students across HGTC's three campuses in Conway, Grand Strand, and Georgetown. The College also has the highest number of new students registered with nearly 4,700 new students, a 35 percent increase over last year. In addition to record breaking numbers locally, HGTC has one of the highest percentage growth rates in the South Carolina Technical College System (SCTCS). The SCTCS preliminary enrollment report for fall 2022 shows a 9.9 percent increase overall as of August 26, 2022.

**QUALITY** The influx of new students speaks to the quality of education at HGTC. I am pleased with the community's faith in us especially in a time when two-year colleges across the nation have seen an alarming enrollment decline, and employers have seen an increased need for highly skilled workers. I am delighted to see a surge in interest in HGTC as the first choice among students to earn a high-quality education while enjoying a rewarding college experience. We remain focused on a high-quality education for our students, while also recognizing the different experiences of our students as a result of the pandemic. With all the challenges of the past two years, our students, faculty, and staff have persevered. We are seeing an eagerness from our community to move forward with a college degree. We proudly welcome them to the HGTC family and are thrilled to have them as part of our Gator community. Of the more than 8,100 students already enrolled this semester, 6,200 students are residents of Horry and Georgetown counties, and 85 percent are in-state residents. HGTC enrollment represents 32 states and approximately 36 percent are minority students.

**CULTURE OF CARE** I believe the HGTC culture we have worked hard to develop has played a significant part in our increasing enrollment trend. We have a culture of care on our campuses where we work tirelessly to support students to be successful and lift them up when needed. I believe that culture of care and the overall Gator community has resonated with our students, and that has shown in our enrollment numbers this fall.

**SPRING 2023** As we look to 2023, we are here to support our students in continuing this journey. Registration for the spring semester is going on now. HGTC is dedicated to helping students reach their full potential, meeting them where they are, taking them where they need to go, and changing lives in the process. As your president, it is my honor to celebrate our successes. Don't hesitate to reach out to me at any time if there is anything I can do for you.

With much gratitude,

Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, President





## HGTC MISSION

The mission of Horry-Georgetown Technical College is to provide accessible, affordable, high-quality, comprehensive two-year collegiate education and workforce development through traditional and distance learning delivery methods; to provide a student-centered environment and inspire lifelong learning; to promote learning through teaching excellence, to promote community service and embrace diversity; to promote economic growth; and to embrace technological innovation in instruction and workplace applications.

# HGTC COMMUNITY UPDATE Fall 2022

## HGTC ENROLLMENT DATA



4th Largest Technical College in the State  
8,000+ Headcount in Annual Enrollment  
2,000+ Headcount in Annual Enrollment in Workforce Development Training  
96% of Graduates are SC Residents  
80% of Students are Residents of Horry & Georgetown counties  
95% of Students Placed in a Job or Transferred to a Four-Year Institution  
96% of Graduates Remain in SC  
90% of Graduates Remain in Horry & Georgetown counties  
30% of Students in Healthcare

## HGTC ECONOMIC IMPACT



Lowest Tuition in the SC Technical College System – \$2,186 per Semester (In-County)  
Less than 1/3 (31-34%) the cost of the senior research institutions  
85% of Students Receive Financial Aid, Pell Grants, Lottery, Stimulus Funds  
\$53 Million Annual Operating Budget  
\$300 Million Annual Local Economic Impact  
600 Faculty & Staff – One of the Top 10 Largest Local Employers

## HGTC LOCATIONS & FACILITIES



Three Campuses: Conway, Grand Strand, Georgetown  
29 Buildings with 736,333 Square Feet; 166 Acres  
11 Capital Projects or Major Renovations at \$30 Million

## HGTC NEW PROGRAMS 2019-2023



|                                   |                                |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Automotive Technology             | Heavy Equipment Operator       |
| Commercial Driver's License (CDL) | Human Resources Management     |
| Computerized Axial Tomography     | Masonry                        |
| Crane Operator                    | Mechatronics                   |
| Cybersecurity                     | Medical Laboratory Technology  |
| Diesel Engine Technology          | Occupational Therapy Assistant |
| Digital Court Reporter            | Outboard Marine Technology     |
| Drone                             | Police Pre-Academy Training    |
| Electrical Lineman                | Surgical Technology            |



**HGTC had 12 Emergency Medical Technology (EMT) students successfully complete their practical examination.**

**HGTC had 12 Emergency Medical Technology (EMT) students successfully complete their practical examination.**  
Left to right, top row: Mario Stephens, Alex Fisk, Nick Sutton, Georgia Speier.  
Front row: Matthew Lincoln, Gage Hicks, Nate Ellis, Rob Anderson, Joey Lawson, Greg Johnson, Dwayne Wright, Cody Toomer, Danielle Dougherty, Bryan Levy, Bret Holland

# Emergency Medical Technology (EMT) Program

HGTC is proud to announce that 12 Emergency Medical Technology (EMT) students successfully completed their practical examination and are on their way to becoming certified EMTs. The completion of the program is part of a collaboration between HGTC and the Myrtle Beach Fire Department.

The Associate in Applied Science in Emergency Medical Technology (EMT) degree prepares students to provide emergency medical support to people who are injured or critically ill and to transport them to a medical facility, if necessary. When working in a first-responder situation, such as an ambulance service or fire department, EMTs are dispatched to the scene of the emergency, which can be as varied as a car accident, a fire, a falling injury, a dog bite, a shooting or stabbing, a birth, or a person who's suddenly fallen ill. Once at the scene of the emergency, EMTs assess the situation, determine if additional assistance is needed, and if necessary, request the additional help.

The flexibility of the EMT curriculum allows you to enter the profession at two levels - Basic EMT and Paramedic. This enables students to continue their education while working. In addition to receiving the technical education necessary for the profession, you will take general-education courses. Graduates of the program are eligible to take the National Registry Examination for EMT and Paramedic level.

The EMT Program is available for enrollment starting in the fall semester with day and evening options available. The EMT program is a two-semester program with students taking their certification exams in May. There are many opportunities for employment both locally and throughout the state of South Carolina.

# HGTC Employees Complete Leadership Programs with Local Chambers



**Left photo:** Diana Greene (left), Executive Director for Leadership Grand Strand, presents Nicole Hyman (right), HGTC Public Relations Director, with diploma.



**Right photo:** Becky Hubbard (left), Vice President of Educational Affairs for the Conway Chamber and Chairperson of Leadership Conway, presents Destiny Lewis (right), HGTC Student Development Coordinator, with diploma.

*HGTC is proud to sponsor and support employees in the participation of leadership programs with our area chambers of commerce, said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President. Leadership is not something we take lightly at the College. It is the basis for every decision we make; leading by example, inspiring passion, and motivating our team to accomplish the mission of our College.*

HGTC employees recently graduated from leadership programs with local chambers. Nicole Hyman, HGTC Public Relations Director, graduated from Leadership Grand Strand, a program of the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce. Destiny Lewis, HGTC Student Development Coordinator, graduated from Leadership Conway, a program of the Conway Area Chamber of Commerce.

The goal of Leadership Grand Strand is to develop a corps of informed, committed, and qualified individuals capable of providing dynamic leadership for the Grand Strand. During the 10-month program, class members volunteer at least 75 hours with various local charities. Over the years, Leadership Grand Strand has created a cadre of leaders who guide the direction of change throughout the Grand Strand. For more information about the program, visit [LeadershipGrandStrand.com](http://LeadershipGrandStrand.com).

Leadership Conway provides existing and emerging leaders with opportunities to enhance their civic knowledge and civic network. For over a quarter of a century, the program has helped participants better understand how our community works, build relationships with the area's current and future leaders and become inspired to focus talents in a way that will best serve the community. Leadership Conway participants develop the leadership skills necessary to assume leadership roles and become exposed to the involvement opportunities in the community. For more information about the program, visit [conwayscchamber.com](http://conwayscchamber.com).

# HGTC Students Earn 2nd Place Honors in National Surgical Technologists Championship



Left to right: HGTC Surgical Technology Team Members Bryana Carrera, Callie Metts, and Nayana Pires display their 2nd place National Trophy.

HGTC is proud to announce Surgical Technology students were awarded 2nd Place national honors in the Association of Surgical Technologists (AST) National Scrub Bowl Championship held at the 52nd Annual AST Surgical Technology Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana June 2-4, 2022.

HGTC Surgical Technology students competed against other technical colleges and community colleges from across the nation. Students were required to hit their buzzers and answer questions in a matter of seconds about Surgical Pharmacology,

Anatomy, Microbiology, Aseptic Technique, Sterile Technique, Law and Consents, Surgical Procedures, Instrumentation, Preoperative, Intraoperative, and Postoperative Technique. HGTC was a fierce competitor and the difference in the lead between the first and second place came down to the final five-point question. Holmes Community College in Mississippi took the first-place prize with 170 points, HGTC secured the second-place prize with 165 points, and Nassau Community College in New York achieved the third-place position.

HGTC's Associate in Applied Science Surgical Technology degree prepares skilled students to enter the healthcare environment as surgical technologists. Graduates work with other healthcare members, performing duties vital for surgical patient safety and care during operative procedures, such as preparing and maintaining sterile fields; passing instruments, sutures, and sponges; and functioning as a key part of the surgical team. Students are trained in aseptic techniques, medical-equipment nomenclature, and human anatomy for the operating room. HGTC's Surgical Technology program provides students with classroom study, laboratory practice, and clinical experience.

*The event was so close as our team kept scoring for the lead. We were on the edge of our seats the entire time hoping for the win. We are extremely pleased with the performance of our students and these outstanding results at a national competition, said Erin Ivey, AASCST, FAST; HGTC Assistant Chair and Professor of Surgical Technology.*

# Myrtle Beach Chapter of the Chaîne des Rôtisseurs Raises Funds for HGTC Culinary Arts



Allyson Hirsh (center) presents \$8,796.04 check to HGTC Culinary Students for study abroad trip to Paris, France. Left to right: Chef Nathan Hashmonay, HGTC Chef Instructor at ICI; Kirsten Willis, Student; Joe Bonaparte, Executive Director for ICI; Allyson Hirsh, President of the MB Chapter of the Chaîne des Rôtisseurs; Teresa Bartelotte, HGTC Foundation; Charlie Unger, Student; Jacob Benton, Student; Chef Humberto Guardiola, HGTC Chef Instructor at ICI.

## Culinary Arts Society Holds Fundraising Dinner and Donates Funds for Study Abroad Trip

HGTC Culinary Arts students recently received support from the Chaîne des Rôtisseurs Society for a study abroad trip to Paris, France. Local Chapter President Allyson Hirsh organized a dinner at the Fowler Dining Room at the International Culinary Institute (ICI) at the Grand Strand Campus for members.

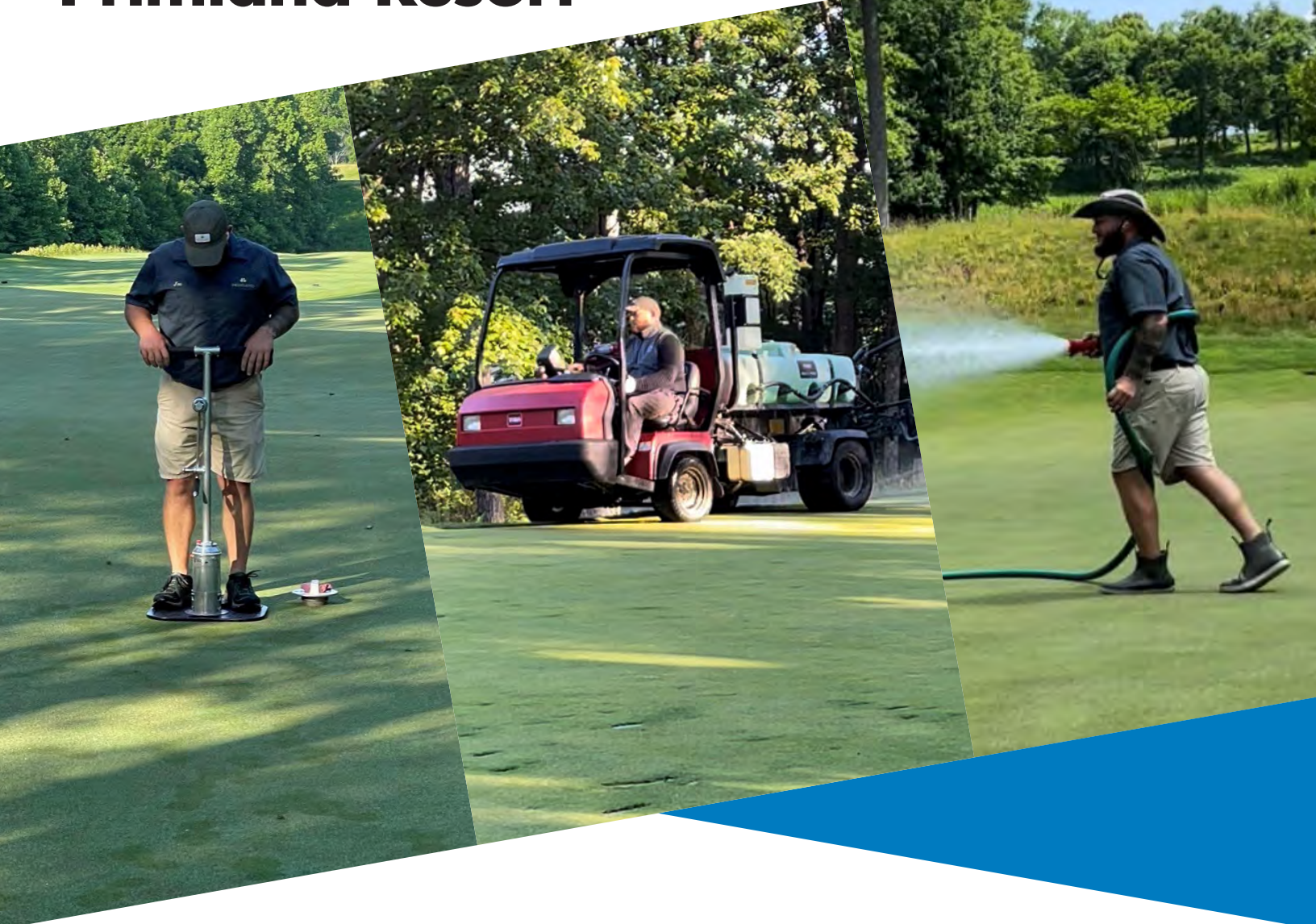
The French theme, six-course menu was enjoyed by 50 members of the Myrtle Beach area chapter. A live auction was held during the dinner; and various gift packages, gift items, and dinners prepared by International Culinary Institute chefs and students, went to winning bidders.

The National Chaîne des Rôtisseurs matched local funds for a total donation of \$8,796.04 for the students' trip. Allyson Hirsh commented that "the Chaîne is committed to developing young chefs and students as the culinary leaders of the future."

The Chaîne des Rôtisseurs has over 20,000 worldwide members in 80 countries including 5,000 in the United States who share the same values and quality fine dining, the encouragement of the culinary arts, and the pleasures of the table. The desire of the Society is to bring together amateurs and professionals from all over the world, whether they are hoteliers, restaurateurs, chefs, or sommeliers in the appreciation of fine cuisine.



# Golf & Sports Turf Management Student Intern at Primland Resort



*We are very proud of Joseph Yeatts and the opportunity he has been given to intern this summer at Primland Resort in Virginia. This kind of experience will be very beneficial to him when he returns in the fall to complete his final year in the program, said Charles Granger, Chair/Professor of Golf & Sports Turf Management and Engineering Technologies.*

One of HGTC's own Golf and Sports Turf Management students interned at Primland Resort for the summer of 2022. Joseph Yeatts completed his first year in the HGTC program and accepted an opportunity to spend his summer working in Virginia at Primland Resort, the #1 rated resort in the Southeast on a 12,000-acre mountain estate. The Highland Course at Primland Resort was opened in 2006 by renowned golf course architect, Donald Steel. The 18-hole course recently ranked as the #28 public course in America by *Golf Digest* and ranked as the #2 public course in Virginia in *Golfweek*.

HGTC's Golf and Sports Turf Management associate degree program is the only associate degree program of its kind in South Carolina. Graduates of the Golf & Sports Turf Management program are qualified for employment as course superintendent, assistant superintendent, grounds manager, or foreman. Other employment areas include turf management, sod production, park management, landscape management, and turf products sales positions.

# HGTC President Receives Excellence in Education Award

HGTC President, Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, received an Excellence in Education Award for notable contributions to the City of Conway at the Mayor's Awards Banquet. She was one of the honorees presented with awards at the ceremony hosted by Conway City Council and Mayor, Barbara Blain Bellamy. President Fore's award introduction focused on her excellence in education as a formidable leader and the President of HGTC. She was also recognized as a repeated odds beater for how she dually impacts economic development in Horry and Georgetown Counties by training the workforce desired by industry and improving the work and salary opportunities for HGTC graduates.



## HGTC President to Lead SC Council of Presidents

**Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President, will lead the Council of Presidents for the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education.**

The Council of Presidents is comprised of the chief executive officers of each South Carolina public institution of higher education. The purpose of the Council of Presidents is to advance collaboration, cooperation, innovation, and efficiency across the state's system of higher education. As Chair of the Council, Dr. Fore will convene the meetings that serve as a forum for discussing the mutual needs, concerns, and issues facing public postsecondary education in the state.

*“Higher education institutions are in good hands due to the dedication, leadership, and vision of my fellow presidents in the colleges and universities of South Carolina. It is our mission to forge a strong sense of unity and purpose to promote the value of a postsecondary education for the economic, social, and cultural development in our state, said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President.”*

Leadership of the Commission rotates annually between the state technical colleges and the four-year universities. President Fore's term will run from July 2022 through June 2023.

# Greg Mitchell Appointed to Horry County Higher Education Commission



**Greg Mitchell, retired HGTC Vice President for Workforce Development and Continuing Education, has been appointed by South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster to the Horry County Higher Education Commission (HCHCEC).**

*“HGTC is proud to have a colleague and ambassador for the college serving as a member of the Horry County Higher Education Commission. To my knowledge, Greg is the first HGTC employee to have a seat on the commission, and I know he will represent us well, said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President.”*

Although Greg officially retired in March this year, he continues to dedicate his time to HGTC as a community relations liaison. In this new role, he works with the HGTC Executive Leadership Team to develop and implement initiatives that 1) increase HGTC visibility, and 2) connect people in the communities HGTC serves in Horry and Georgetown Counties. He is primarily responsible for creating and cultivating new relationships with businesses, individuals, and organizations as well as nurturing prior relationships with collaborative partnerships, including his service on the Georgetown Economic Development Alliance.

The HCHCEC was formed in 1959 by the South Carolina General Assembly to oversee the use of county tax millage for Coastal Carolina University. Today, there are 16 members appointed by the Governor of South Carolina and recommended by the Horry County Legislative Delegation to represent Horry County.

# HGTC Presents Marshall Altman “Top Tech” Award



Left: Matt Springs, HGTC Outboard Marine Technology Professor  
Right: Luke Sturdivant, Marshall Altman “Top Tech” Award Winner

*If you knew Mr. Marshall Altman, he would often say that working in the marine industry was not just a job or a career, it was a lifestyle. He told us that in order to be great at what you do, you must study it, know it, live it, and breathe it. Mr. Marshall Altman was that perfect example for all of us in this program, said Matt Springs, HGTC Professor of Outboard Marine Technology.*

The Outboard Marine Technology Program developed a “Top Tech” award in memory of Mr. Marshall Altman, Vice President and President of Marshall’s Marine for 18 years. Mr. Altman played a crucial role in establishing the first and only Yamaha Outboard Marine Technology Program in South Carolina at HGTC. A ceremony was held to honor his family with the surprise announcement and present the first-time award to a deserving student.

Receiving the first-time Marshall Altman “Top Tech” Award was Luke Sturdivant.

Originally from western North Carolina, Sturdivant completed a two-year automotive program at Wilkesboro Community College in Wilkesboro, North Carolina. Then, he planned to enroll at HGTC in the Diesel Engine program. Once he found out the program was full, he was led to pursue Outboard Marine Technology. He immediately fell in love with the coastal area and his experience with offshore fishing. After taking his fresh catch to a restaurant right on the docks in Little River and enjoying what the chef prepared, he was hooked on the lifestyle! Besides living the lifestyle, Sturdivant never missed a day of class, always had a positive attitude, showed up early or stayed late, was eager to learn, and helped in any way he could.

According to Springs, “Luke Sturdivant has exceptional professionalism and earned the respect of his instructor, as well as his classmates. Luke will no doubt become a successful marine technician. He is already working part-time at Saltwater Marine in Wilmington, North Carolina.”

In addition to the overall award, Professor Springs also presented certifications to the fourth cohort of students completing the program since 2019. Students have earned five (5) Yamaha certifications and two (2) National Marine Electronics Association (NMEA) certifications. These certifications are industry certifications that follow the student as they negotiate their careers in the marine industry.

The Outboard Marine Technology program was created in response to a significant local industry need for a skilled workforce in this area. The marine industry is growing at a rate that the technician labor supply is not matching.

# “Top Tech” Award

continued



Above, left to right:

Joe Maniscalco, Yamaha Marine Group, General Manager  
Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President  
Mark Harden, Yamaha Marine Group, Regional Service Manager  
Matt Springs, HGTC Outboard Marine Technology Professor  
Senator Stephen Goldfinch, South Carolina Senate, District 34  
Celeste Altman, Marshall Altman’s Wife  
Stewart Altman, Marshall Altman’s Brother  
Taylor Altman, Marshall Altman’s Son  
Jackson Altman, Marshall Altman’s Son  
Outboard Marine Graduates (14)

Below, left to right:

Taylor Altman, Marshall Altman’s Son  
Collin Altman, Marshall Altman’s Son  
Celeste Altman, Marshall Altman’s Wife  
Jackson Altman, Marshall Altman’s Son  
Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President  
Stewart Altman, Marshall Altman’s Brother  
Matt Springs, HGTC Outboard Marine Technology Professor



*When Mr. Marshall Altman approached HGTC about an outboard marine program, he was taking the monumental step in securing the future of the marine industry and establishing a crucial alliance. The partnership, formed between Marshall Marine, HGTC, and Yamaha, proved to be an essential piece to the sustainability of the marine industry, said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President.*

Yamaha Marine Group has been a dedicated industry partner needed to ensure the success of the program. Yamaha Marine University has consistently praised the success of the HGTC program as a national training model, as well as the exemplary leadership of Professor Matt Springs.

The Outboard Marine Technology program runs for three semesters and provides training that covers all components and functions of an outboard engine including service, diagnostic electrical systems, rigging, propellers, lubrication, lower units, and fuel systems. After completion of the program, students will obtain skill sets needed to enter the workforce as an Outboard Engine Technician.

The HGTC Outboard Marine Technology program is the only one in the state of South Carolina and has the most graduates in the nation. The program is full through the fall of 2023.

For more information about the Outboard Marine Technology program, contact Professor Matt Springs at [john.springs@hgtc.edu](mailto:john.springs@hgtc.edu), 843-349-3172, or visit [www.hgtc.edu/academics/academic\\_departments/manufacturing\\_ind/Outboard\\_Marine.html](http://www.hgtc.edu/academics/academic_departments/manufacturing_ind/Outboard_Marine.html).



# HGTC Supports Back-to-School Event in Bucksport Community

HGTC proudly supported the Bucksport Community for a Back-to-School Celebration and Community Job Fair. The event was held on Saturday, August 13 from 3:00-6:00 pm at the James R. Frazier Community Center, 1370 Bucksport Road, Conway.



*We are working closely with the Bucksport Community to make sure that everyone in the area is aware of what HGTC has to offer this fall for Workforce Development and Continuing Education programs, said Vince Myers, HGTC Workforce Development Manager. We are proud of the partnership we have with the workforce and training center and look forward to meeting those in attendance to provide more information about the programs available at the center through HGTC.*



Everyone was invited to attend to learn more about HGTC, sign-up for free courses through the College, and participate in the other activities, including free school supplies and on-site interviews. The event was sponsored by Horry County, HGTC, A Father's Place, Absolute Total Care, Healthy Connections, and Seventh-Day Adventist Church.



# HGTC Surgical Technology Students Applauded for 100% Pass Rate

All surgical technology students successfully passed the National Board Examination for HGTC's Surgical Technology Program. There were 14 students that completed the program and a 100% pass rate. After successfully completing a National Surgical Technology Board Exam, all graduates will be prepared to enter the workforce as Certified Surgical Technologists.

*We are very pleased with the results of the board examination for our students. This is a huge accomplishment for our students who have worked tremendously hard to complete their classroom study, laboratory practice, and clinical assignments while preparing to pass the exam, said Erin Ivey, HGTC Assistant Chair of Surgical Technology. I am looking forward to hearing their success stories and following their careers as surgical technologists in the workforce.*

Above left to right: Erin Ivey, HGTC Assistant Chair of Surgical Technology; Lauryn Head, Audra Phillips, Callie Metts, Bethany Hart, Nayana Pires, Veronica Dilorio Marsden, Kaswana Haynes, Christy Johnson, Emily Coker, Julie Keener, Bryana Carrera, Chris Carpio, Olivia Borowicz, Kari Morris; Courtney Kriesle, HGTC Surgical Technology Clinical Coordinator.

The HGTC Associate in Applied Science, Surgical Technology degree prepares skilled students to enter the healthcare environment as surgical technologist. Graduates work under the supervision and delegatory authority of a surgeon to facilitate the safe and effective conduct of invasive and non-invasive surgical procedures, ensuring that the operating room environment is safe, that equipment functions properly, and that the operative procedure is conducted under conditions that maximize patient safety. Surgical technologists are experts in the theory and application of the principles of asepsis and sterile technique to combine the knowledge of human anatomy, surgical procedures, and implementation and tools and technologies to facilitate a physician's performance of invasive therapeutic and diagnostic procedures.



Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President, addresses graduates at 2022 Graduation Ceremony.

# HGTC Celebrates Highest Graduate Placement Rate

HGTC celebrated the highest graduate placement rate for students in the history of the College. The rate has continued to inch higher and higher over the last several years and reached 95% for the 2020-2021 academic year. The HGTC Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Development tracks the placement of students on an annual basis. The state technical college system-wide target for placement rates is 80%. HGTC exceeds that rate annually with the highest rate results calculated during the last academic year.

*“HGTC was founded on a commitment to prepare people for jobs, sustain a high job-placement rate, and facilitate university transfers. The statistic means that 95% of students are either placed in a job or transferred to a four-year institution. We are very pleased with this achievement and continue to strive for the betterment of our students and community, said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President.”*



# HGTC Receives Visit from American Welding Society



## Michael Krupnicki tours HGTC Advanced Manufacturing Center and Advanced Welding Technologies Lab.

HGTC received a visit recently from Michael Krupnicki, Vice President, and Grants Committee Chairperson for the American Welding Society (AWS). The purpose of the visit was to tour the Advanced Manufacturing Center on the Conway Campus and view the results of an AWS grant for equipment awarded in 2019.

The grant enabled HGTC to purchase new welding machines for the Advanced Welding Technologies program, an essential training aid to keep pace with technological advances in the welding industry. The new equipment contributed to the growth of the welding program and allowed HGTC to expand the program from 15 to 50 welding stations. In 2014, there were approximately 60 students in the program. Today, HGTC can admit 100+ students to meet the labor demands for a skilled workforce. The College has experienced high placement rates. This enables the College to fulfill its mission to provide workforce development and to promote economic growth.

HGTC has exceeded the original expectations of the welding program and has several cohorts of students to include its curriculum program students, Continuing Education students and the Technical Scholars Students through a partnership with Horry County Schools.

Left: Michael Krupnicki, Vice President, and Grants Committee Chairperson for the American Welding Society. Right: Jeff Ball, HGTC Chair for Academic and Workforce Development

Welding plays a critical role in the strength and durability of everything from cars to heavy industrial machinery to bridges. HGTC's Advanced Welding certificate provides students entry level training and practical skills in Oxy-Acetylene cutting and brazing, SMAW (Arc), GMAW (MIG), FCAW (Flux Core) and GTAW (TIG) in ferrous and non-ferrous metals, including purge welding of sanitary process pipe.

In addition to preparing students for AWS welder performance certifications, students will also learn shop and site safety practices, blueprint reading, principles of metallurgy, construction math, hand and power tool usage and basic layout techniques used in the fabrication industry.

Employers of HGTC alumni include Ballard Iron, Venters Welding, Saferack Manufacturing, and EnviroSep.

*We appreciated the support from the American Welding Society and are pleased to increase to 50 welding stations, thus accommodating more students. Right now, the College has over 100 students, which will provide more skilled workers to meet the workforce demands. The welding program has 100% job placement, said Jeff Ball, HGTC Chair for Academic and Workforce Development.*



*We were delighted to host Michael Krupnicki on our campus and present the results of the grant. The project goal was to deliver welding training that accurately reflects the industry workplace and increase the number of highly qualified graduates entering the welding workforce. The grant allowed the College to purchase Miller Dynasty Welders and contributed to the growth of the program, said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President.*

# HGTC Launches Occupational Therapy Assistant Program



HGTC launched the new Occupational Therapy Assistant program major this fall. The approval process for the new program began in the fall of 2020. The HGTC Area Commission, the governing board of the College, approved the program proposal in February 2021 with a projected implementation date of August 2022. There are currently 18 students enrolled in the first class that began August 22 on the Grand Strand Campus in the Speir Healthcare Education Center.

Occupational therapy is a healthcare field which specializes in helping people regain, develop, or master everyday skills necessary to live independent, productive, and meaningful lives related to decreased normal functions resulting from injury, pain, disease, or birth defects. Occupational therapy assistants work under the direction of an occupational therapist in the care and treatment of virtually every patient population, from the elderly to pediatrics.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program provides students with hands on technical experience, as well as didactic instruction of occupational therapy interventions for common diagnoses throughout the lifespan. Fieldwork rotations give the students exposure to patient care and experience in performing occupational therapy interventions to prepare them for this crucial part of the healthcare team.

*Student interest has been driven by the numerous healthcare related programs currently offered at the College. Many of the students currently enrolled in the Associate in Science healthcare path are interested in becoming an Occupational Therapy Assistant, said Gina Brown, HGTC Professor and Director of the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program.*

*HGTC is proud to offer the new Associate in Applied Science degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant program. The HGTC Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Development conducted a local survey of businesses in Horry and Georgetown counties. The results indicated there was a positive trend in new jobs with nearly 200 new positions available since 2019, said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President.*

# HGTC and Bank of America Partner to Enhance Student Programs



## Bank of America awards \$20,000 to support HGTC Career Training Programs and Scholarships

Bank of America awarded \$20,000 to support HGTC programs and scholarships. HGTC will receive \$15,000 for Career Training programs, and \$5,000 for the HGTC Emergency Scholarship Fund.

Bank of America's renewed support of HGTC programs and students comes as the school recorded its highest enrollment in history and the largest single-year increase in new students in over 55 years. The partnership will help bolster academic programs and financial assistance that underpins pathways to sustainable careers.

HGTC short-term training programs provide quick, good paying jobs that students can complete in as little as six (6) weeks. Programs include CNA, Heavy Equipment Operator, and CDL. These are high demand fields that pay

above average wages. Hourly wages average \$19-20 hour and provide immediate needed employment opportunities. Bank of America support will assist students with the cost of tuition, fees, books, and supplies.

In addition to programmatic support, Bank of America's grant will help fund the HGTC Emergency Scholarship Fund, which assists academically eligible students facing crisis situations that threaten to derail their educational and career goals. The Emergency Fund allows many of these students to pursue educational opportunities that would otherwise be limited or out of reach. For the last academic year, 240 Student Emergency and Book loans totaling \$27,686.49 have been disbursed to students in need.

*HGTC's Career Training programs were developed to prepare students for jobs where workers are in high demand, said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President. Our partnership with Bank of America will allow HGTC to provide intensive and complete job training. Most programs only take a few months to complete, and some can be finished in a matter of weeks.*

*Bank of America is investing and giving in communities to advance local economies and prepare students to pursue careers that provide a living wage, said Kelly Tyler, President, Bank of America Myrtle Beach. Partnering with higher education institutions like HGTC that are filling the workforce pipeline with qualified candidates is just one example of our commitment to workforce development and how Bank of America is helping improve economic opportunity in the communities we serve.*

Left to right:  
Cecilia Evans, Bank of America  
Market Executive, Myrtle Beach  
Kelly Tyler, Bank of America President,  
Myrtle Beach  
Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President  
Lori Heafner, HGTC Vice President of  
Institutional Effectiveness  
& Development  
Shannon Detzler,  
HGTC Foundation President



# McLeod Health Partners in Nursing Education Programs

Above:  
**A donation is presented from McLeod Health to the Horry-Georgetown Technical College Nursing Program.**

Left to right:  
 Edward (Dick) Tinsley III  
 HGTC Foundation Board of Directors  
 Sherrill Nielson, McLeod Health Seacoast  
 Chief Nursing Officer  
 Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President  
 Monica Vehige  
 CEO of McLeod Loris Seacoast  
 Scott Montgomery, CEO McLeod Loris

## Contributions to HGTC will help ensure nurses for the region.

As a partner in nursing education for the region, McLeod Health has made a \$75,000 gift to HGTC to support their nursing program.

Nursing represents the nation's largest health care profession and the largest single component of hospital staff. By the year 2030, South Carolina will be one of four states with a nursing shortage of more than 10,000 according to an analysis by the US Department of Health and Human Services. Additional nurses will be needed to care for the aging population, who typically have more medical problems than younger people.

"The need for healthcare services is increasing as the number of aging baby boomers continues to grow," stated Sherrill Nielson, Chief Nursing Officer for McLeod Health Seacoast. "As a result, more nurses are needed to educate and care for patients. This is why it is vitally important to McLeod that Horry-Georgetown Technical College continues to educate nurses."

According to Nielson, nurses serve an important role in the delivery of quality health care. "McLeod recognizes the value of the nurse's contribution in patient care," said Nielson. "Providing patient advocacy, promotion of a safe environment, participation in shaping health policies and patient education are also key nursing roles. It is a tough job but with competent nurses as part of the medical team, McLeod is capable of carrying out its mission of providing quality health care for patients in the region."

Because nurses are essential to health care and the region's economy, this area is very fortunate to have a quality nursing education program at Horry-Georgetown Technical College.

"We are so grateful for our continued partnership with HGTC," said Monica Vehige, CEO of McLeod Health Loris Seacoast. "McLeod Health is committed to finding the best nurses to provide excellent care to our patients. HGTC does an outstanding job of training quality students that we hope will be part of the future of nursing at any of our three McLeod campuses throughout Horry County."

HGTC offers an Associate in Applied Science in Nursing (ADN) degree and a Practical Nursing (PN) diploma for students.

*“HGTC is so pleased to partner with McLeod Health to strengthen instructional opportunities for the nursing program, said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President. HGTC is developing a generation of well-trained and highly skilled nursing professionals prepared to meet the challenges of modern health care demands. We are fortunate to receive this generous gift and have the support of community partners like McLeod to provide the best and latest equipment for training our nursing students, so they are ready to respond to the ever changing healthcare needs.”*

# HGTC Culinary Team Wins 2nd Place in Nationals



## International Culinary Institute of Myrtle Beach Student Team earns top honors in American Culinary Federation Competition

Culinary students at the International Culinary Institute (ICI) of Myrtle Beach earned 2nd place overall at the American Culinary Federation Student Team of the Year Competition held during the 2022 ACF National Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The 2022 Student Culinary Competition consisted of the opportunity to expand and sharpen the skills of culinary students in menu development, time management, and general culinary methods, as well as a thorough understanding of teamwork. The experience proved to be beneficial to every member of the student team as they plan to launch their careers in the hospitality industry. Team members include Stephanie Lee, Connor Anuskiewicz, Kirsten Willis, Charles Unger, and Patricia White.

The HGTC International Culinary Institute located at 920 Crabtree Lane in Myrtle Beach offers associate degrees in culinary arts technology and baking and pastry arts, as well as certificates in kitchen and food preparation techniques, and professional cooking.

Top photo, left to right: Stephanie Lee, Kirsten Willis, Patricia White, Charles Unger, Conner Anuskiewicz

Inset photo, left to right: Conner Anuskiewicz, Charles Unger, Kirsten Willis, Stephanie Lee, Patricia White



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