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MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT FORE

Dear Colleagues,

The recent violence and tragedies on college campuses and throughout the nation reminds us of the importance of remaining vigilant of safety protocols in both our personal and working environments. Through the years, our leadership team has made public safety and security a primary goal, and our success in creating a safe environment is evidenced as we have implemented 49 of 51 industry recognized “best practices” in college safety.

To continue these safety measures, our Cabinet engaged Coastal Carolina University’s (CCU) Office of Public Safety to independently perform a security assessment of all campuses and all buildings. We have received CCU’s security assessment, and I am pleased to share that the CCU experts were complimentary of the various measures that our College has established.

CCU commented on the quality of exterior lighting in Conway and Grand Strand, the physical security measures throughout all buildings, and our emergency response and communication plans. Below are CCU’s recommendations for continuous improvement and our College’s response:

• **Continue with mandatory safety training for all employees.** Human Resources will continue to offer the S.A.F.E. (Secure, Alert, Fight, Escape) and Threat Assessment training throughout the year and on an annual basis for all employees. The most recent training was scheduled in March for the Staff Professional Development Day. As part of these sessions, trainers stress the importance of the “See Something, Say Something” theme.

• **Enhance lighting in sections of the Georgetown Campus.** The College has expanded its existing project scope for renovating Building 100 and Building 500 to also include enhanced lighting on the northern side of the Georgetown Campus. We anticipate the lighting upgrades to be completed by July.

• **Install exterior cameras college-wide and consider implementing a mass notification (public announcement) system for Conway.** Cabinet has approved a project to install exterior cameras covering parking lots and hardscapes on all campuses with a budget of $500,000. Access to the cameras will be shared between HGTC/CCU security officers. We are also exploring the viability of replicating CCU’s Conway Campus mass notification system which include installing large “public announcement” speakers in the center of our Conway Campus. These projects are being led by our Technology Solutions Division and details on the expected implementation dates will be forthcoming.

• **Repair certain call boxes that were not functioning.** We were aware of the non-functioning call boxes and had taken measures to secure the necessary replacement components. Unfortunately, supply-chain shortages delayed our receipt of these items. The replacement components have been received and are currently in the process of being installed.

In addition to the measures noted above, Cabinet has approved adding a licensed security officer to the Georgetown Campus. CCU is in the process of interviewing and screening applicants for the position and anticipate the officer to be in place by early April. Please contact me anytime about safety and security measures, or any other matters near to your heart. My office is always open to you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore
President, Horry-Georgetown Technical College
OUR WHY

STUDENT SUCCESS & TESTIMONIALS

**HGTC Student Earns Perfect Score on PTA Board Exam**

HGTC is proud of the accomplishments of its students with one recently earning a perfect score on the Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA) Board Examination. Halie Hurley is a 2022 graduate of the Associate in Applied Science Physical Therapist Assistant Degree.

“I would like to thank Dr. Martel, Dr. Garavito, and my entire support system that carried me through this challenging program. Their continuous encouragement, guidance, and support prepared me to excel in taking my PTA board examination. I am honored to join such a loving community and excited to become a healing hand in the lives of each of my patients,” said Halie Hurley, HGTC Physical Therapist Assistant graduate.

To be licensed as a Physical Therapist Assistant in the state of South Carolina, Hurley and her classmates must pass the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) and apply for Physical Therapist Assistant licensure with the Labor and Licensing Regulation Board of South Carolina. The results were phenomenal with a 100% pass rate and a perfect score for Hurley.

“I am very proud of each student and their accomplishments. They work very hard in this challenging program and their determination leads to their successes. Passing the national board exam is a major accomplishment and for Halie to score a perfect 800 is phenomenal. She is certainly a brilliant young lady but also a genuinely kind soul. I am incredibly lucky to have been a part of her journey to becoming a physical therapist assistant and I know she will excel in her career,” said Dr. Samantha Martel, Chair/Professor of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program.

**HGTC Graduate Becomes NMB Chief of Police**

HGTC is proud of the accomplishments of its graduates with one recently being promoted to the Chief of Police for the City of North Myrtle Beach Police Department. Chief Dana Crowell is a 2004 graduate of the Associate in Applied Science Criminal Justice Technology Degree.

“Starting my educational journey at Horry-Georgetown Technical College really helped me find my footing as a new officer in the law enforcement field. During my training at HGTC, I met several North Myrtle Beach Police Officers and completed my departmental project with the North Myrtle Beach Police Department. It was through that unique experience that I was able to not only find my way to the NMB area but also the best place for me to serve as a successful officer in my law enforcement career. I look forward to continuing the partnership with HGTC over the next several years in my new position,” said Dana Crowell, Chief of Police for the North Myrtle Beach Police Department.

Chief Crowell has already sent new hires to HGTC for the Police Pre-Academy Training.

“The HGTC family supports Chief Crowell on this journey and believes she will be an excellent Chief of Police. We wish her the best and continued success on serving the members of her department, as well as the citizens and visitors of the City of North Myrtle Beach,” said Dr. Dan Wysong, HGTC Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs/Dean.
HGTC PACE Student Accepted into West Point

Peyton Granger, HGTC PACE student from Myrtle Beach High School, has been accepted into the US Military Academy at West Point.

Ms. Granger received many letters of recommendation during the college application process from her community, including retired US Army Colonels and HGTC professors. Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President, also wrote a letter of recommendation.

“The HGTC family is proud of Peyton Granger and the goals she has already achieved academically. Her accomplishments are astonishing, not only academically but also in community service and leadership. Although HGTC cannot claim full responsibility for this outstanding news, her honorable acceptance into West Point is a true testimony of the success of our PACE program for high school students and our strong relationship with Horry County Schools,” said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President.

Two professors who played a role in her success at HGTC were Dr. Minda Chuska, HGTC Chair/Professor of Communications and Randall Moser, HGTC Assistant Chair/Professor of Mathematics.

Dr. Chuska said, "Peyton already was and is a strong student. I so much appreciated her love of learning. I looked forward to reading her essays and offering suggestions and ways to improve what were already well-written essays. I knew she would be accepted into West Point. What college or university wouldn’t want a student like her?"

Professor Moser said, “Peyton is an exceptional student and has been a joy to teach. She was always early and eager for the start of every calculus meeting we had. Her intellectual curiosity, work ethic, and desire to seek out challenges has brought her much success and will continue to do so at West Point.”

Ms. Granger will graduate with 50 college credit hours. She has a 5.333 weighted grade point average and is currently ranked in the second spot among more than 300 students in the senior class at Myrtle Beach High.

She reports June 26, 2023 to the Academy to major in electrical or systems engineering and branch air defense artillery.

HGTC Outboard Marine Student Earns Inline Certification

Corey Meek, current HGTC Outboard Marine Student, has successfully completed the Inline Systems Certification at the Yamaha Marine University Instructor Led Training in Kennesaw, Georgia. Meek was sponsored by Mickey Thompson, President of Sportsman’s Choice Marine in Longs, to attend the training. Earning the certification is a huge accomplishment for students as the training was previously only available for those employed at dealerships. Yamaha Marine recently made the instructor led training available to students in partnering trade schools and technical colleges. Meek was one of the first students to successfully complete the program.

“Yamaha has proven that they are committed to training the next generation of Marine Technicians. Not only will these select few have Yamaha Maintenance Certification Program (MCP) but will also have advanced credentials along the Yamaha Master Technician pathway. This makes them more desirable to Yamaha dealers for employment,” said Kenyon Ward, Yamaha Training Coordinator.

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.
Licensed Professional Counselor

HGTC Student Affairs would like to introduce Trina Cornelison, Licensed Professional Counselor. Trina works Monday through Wednesday on the Conway Campus. Events and experiences in our personal lives directly impact our abilities to succeed in our academic lives, so please recommend Trina to your students. Trina can be reached at counseling@hgtc.edu or 843-349-3663. She is available to meet with students on any of the three campuses.

TECH Central

TECH Central remains our “one stop shop” for students to receive assistance with Financial Aid, Admissions, declaring or changing their major, and assistance with registration and advising.

Purple Heart College Designation

In conjunction with Veterans Day 2022, HGTC was established and recognized as a Purple Heart College. The College received the designation for supporting combat-wounded veterans in coordination with the re-opening of the HGTC Veterans Resource Center in the Student Affairs office. The Veterans Resource Center serves as a place where military students can socialize, study, and get information about available resources. It has a computer area, where military students can do homework, as well as a lounge area and a break room.

TRIO ELITE Scholars

TRIO ELITE Scholars – SSS (Student Support Services) Grant, is providing services to currently enrolled HGTC students who meet eligibility criteria for the grant. Several College tours, visits, and cultural enrichment activities are planned for students including Francis Marion University, College of Charleston, and the South Carolina Aquarium.

Student Engagement

Student Engagement hosted the SANKOFA African American Museum on Wheels in February as part of the College’s Black History Month activities. The exhibit, which was viewable on each campus, featured a collection of old and new photos, antiques, and collectibles, and highlighted the history of African Americans. Other student activities in the spring semester included a Welcome Back Celebration on all three (3) campuses where students had the opportunity to “Build a Chomp”, compete in trivia contests and cornhole tournaments, partner with Coastal Carolina University to present a screening of Tipping the Pain Scale, and participate in the Rape Crisis Center Clothesline Project. The annual Scholars’ Garden Party, honoring currently enrolled students, who have completed at least 12 hours, with a cumulative GPA of 3.75, will be held on Friday, April 21.
Dual Enrollment

Dual enrollment reached record registration with 1,240 dual enrollment students for the spring 2023 semester and continues to grow and expand through our partnerships with the local school districts, private, charter, and home schools. We are excited about the creation of an Early College program with Carvers Bay High School to expand opportunities for students in Georgetown County. Georgetown County School District (GCSD) was awarded a $14.9 million dollar Magnet School Grant which support efforts to develop and revitalize magnet schools with academically challenging and innovative instructional approaches designed to bring together students from different social, economic, ethnic, and racial backgrounds. GCSD invited HGTC in a partnership that provides additional dual enrollment course options in the new Carvers Bay Early College and Career High School starting in the Fall 2024. HGTC is ready for the opportunity to be a part of this new venture and offer additional dual enrollment course offerings for Georgetown County students.

Recruitment Team

During the spring semester, the Recruitment Team conducted tours for 1,620 guests who visited one of our campuses through either a weekly campus tour or a group tour. Additional visits and events will continue throughout the end of the spring semester and into the summer semester. Special thanks to the HGTC Gator family for making our guests feel welcome.

Commencement Ceremony 2023

HGTC will be hosting the 2023 Commencement Ceremony at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center on May 10, 2023, at 3:00 pm. We anticipate over 600 fall 2022, spring 2023, and summer 2023 graduates will attend the ceremony.

Chomp’s Hangout & Serene Space

Phi Theta Kappa students and advisors had a vision for Chomp’s Hangout & Chomp’s Serene Space and worked with the Office of Student Engagement to make their dream a reality. The renovations included the installation of new carpet and window shades, the addition of a foosball table and an air hockey table, the placement of pictures with Chomp and current HGTC students, the reupholstering of eight (8) chairs to provide comfortable seating, the addition of several rocking chairs and high-top gaming tables, the installation of a video game console, and the purchase of board games. A space on the Georgetown Campus is currently being renovated for a similar student lounge experience as Phase II of the project, and Phi Theta Kappa hopes this space will be completed by the end of the spring semester. For Phase III, there will be a new or renovated space at the Grand Strand Campus; more details will be forthcoming.
Stimulus Funding and Tax Credits

After 11 months of legal and financial due diligence, the College has filed for a refund of approximately $5.0 million from the Internal Revenue Service under the Employee Retention Credit Act. This refund is available to certain institutions of higher education that can demonstrate they were impacted by the recent COVID pandemic. HGTC was the first technical college in South Carolina to research, document, and file this claim and has served as a leader to several four-year institutions in pursuing the tax credit.

Capital Projects and Major Renovations

HGTC is continuing with its plans for building new and renovating existing facilities and campus infrastructure. The College is currently managing 15 capital projects valued at more than $45 million dollars. Some of the projects include:

Renovating the Interior of Grand Strand Building 100
With a budget of $15 million, the renovations will be dedicated to supporting inter-professional educational activities and the College’s existing Nursing Program and other para-professional healthcare programs. The interior improvements will include but not be limited to constructing simulation centers, classrooms, multi-disciplinary labs, faculty offices, restrooms, and a conference room.

Renovating the HVAC systems on all three campuses including new units in Conway Building 1100 and Georgetown Building 100
The project includes replacing the HVAC systems on 14 buildings and has a budget of $6.4 million. The improvements will take place throughout 2023.

Renovating the roofing systems on all three campuses
The project will include roofing system repairs and replacements on 12 buildings and has a budget of approximately $6.1 million. The improvements will take place throughout 2023.

Constructing a Marine Technology Center on the Georgetown Campus
The project includes construction of a 25,000 square foot Marine Technology Center on the Georgetown Campus that will be dedicated to the Outboard Marine and Boat Building Programs. The new building is expected to be complete in early 2026.

Finalized renovations to the new Diesel Engine Technician Training facility located in the Atlantic Center across from the Conway Campus
The renovations are projected to be $2.4 million and have established a state-of-the-art training facility that will enable the program’s enrollment to more than double. The building is now open and being used by our Diesel students.

Renovations to the Georgetown Campus

Workforce Training Center – The building is being renovated to support expanding the existing Outboard Marine Technician Program to the Georgetown Campus and beginning a new Boat building program in the fall. The project is scheduled to be complete in July 2023 for classes this fall.

Main Building Rooms 302, 303, and 304 – These spaces are being renovated to support transitioning the HVAC classes from the existing Workforce Training Center. The project is scheduled to be complete in July 2023.

Center for Advanced Manufacturing (GCAM) – The project includes increasing the number of welding booths in the Center for Advanced Manufacturing from 20 to 30. The project is expected to be completed in the late summer.
Nominations Welcome for “Proud To Be HGTC” and “There’s More” Awards

We recognize the outstanding effort, hard work, and dedication our HGTC employees bring to their jobs every day. We can celebrate the invaluable contributions of our coworkers through our “Proud To Be HGTC” and “There’s More” awards programs.

“Proud To Be HGTC” Award

Is there a faculty or staff member who did something that made a positive impact on you, another person, or the College? Recognize them with a “Proud To Be HGTC” award today! To send someone a “Proud To Be HGTC” award, please complete the following form: Proud To Be HGTC Award Form.

“There’s More” Award

This program recognizes employees who have exhibited Motivation to lead, Outstanding performance, Readiness to help, and Exceptional service through his or her work. The “There’s More” award is a formal recognition of employees who consistently perform above and beyond the expectations of their job. To nominate someone for the “There’s More” award, please complete the following form: There’s More Award Form.

First Quarter Recognition Winners

“Proud To Be HGTC” Award Winners

Jeff Volk – Information Technology
Christy Hardee – Payroll
Courtney Sterbenz – Occupational Upgrading
Scott Lavigne – Maintenance

“There’s More” Award Winners

Heather Hoppe – Registrar
Jeff Scott – Criminal Justice

Professional Development

Team Building for High Performance Teams – Employees will complete the DISC (Dominance, Influence, Steadiness and Conscientiousness) model personality profile, and learn techniques to support communication, emotional intelligence, and team building. We will offer this session for administrative professionals on March 27 and College leaders on May 8.

Graduation for C2Lead Leadership Cohort

Friday, May 5, 2023

Congratulations to employees in Human Resources who received degrees or certifications recently:

Tara Lahnne – Certificate of Graduate Study – ED Higher Education Leadership, University of South Carolina
Bren Salgado-Edwards – Associate degree in Business Administration, Horry-Georgetown Technical College
Bobbi Jo Oxendine – Master of Science degree in Human Resources Management, Northcentral University

April is Stress Awareness Month, and May is Mental Health Awareness Month. We hope you can join us for some exciting events. Stay tuned!
Schedule Chomp for Your Next Event

The College’s mascot, Chomp, has been busy on campus. He was at the Student Engagement Welcome event, helped Admission recruiters greet various tours, and was the guest of honor at the grand opening of Chomp’s Hangout. If you would like to have Chomp at your next event, contact the Marketing department, and we will put you on the calendar and explain the process.

Highlighting Students & Alumni

The Marketing department continues to spotlight our amazing students and alumni. These outstanding individuals work hard to represent HGTC as positive role models for their peers and future HGTC students. We want to spotlight students and alumni based on their exemplary character, success in the classroom or the community, and recognize their personal and academic achievements. To nominate a student or graduate, email Lari Roper at laura.roper@hgtc.edu. Please include the person’s name, contact information, and provide details. Click screenshots at right to view videos.

Need a College logo or the Correct Email Signature?

The Marketing department webpage provides the College logos, brand guidelines, employee resources, and a template for your email signature. If you haven’t done so, please change your email signature. An email signature is a powerful way to convey professionalism to your readers and emphasize you as an HGTC employee with the correct College branding. An email signature helps leave a great impression and makes you stand out. hgtc.edu/marketing
Coming Soon to our Georgetown Campus:
HGTC Marine Technology Center

Message from....
Jennifer Wilbanks, Executive V.P. for Academics and Workforce Development

As a busy spring semester progresses, the 2022-2023 has been a year of accomplishments. With the support and work from wonderful faculty and staff, HGTC is the highest fall enrollment in the history of the college with over 6,500 students. This spring, we continue to see a high level of growth having the second highest increase of enrollment in the state with nearly 3,500 students. HGTC is fortunate to excel with faculty who continue to set the standard in South Carolina, high-quality programs connected to industry, strong student achievements, and continued plans for growth in our future. We hope you will enjoy some of the successes shared in this newsletter.

Thank you to everyone, inside and outside the college, for making a difference in the lives of our students.

In your service,

Dr. Minda Chuska receives A. Wade Martin Award from Bruce McCord, President for the South Carolina Technical Education Association (SCTEA).
This year, Technology Solutions has spent the last several months rebuilding the department with highly skilled professionals and implementing projects that have placed HGTC at the forefront of peers in the state as an innovative leader in technology.

The department has completed nearly 40 projects and projected to complete an additional 20 projects by June 30.

As the current fiscal year comes to an end, some of the most impactful projects are starting to reach the finish line in record time.

### Classroom Technology Upgrades

With the help of Academics and College Leadership, Technology Solutions has upgraded 60 new classrooms as of March 2023. By the end of June, the team will be completing a college-wide technology upgrade in over 120 classrooms, 8 conference rooms, the Thomas C. Maeser Auditorium, and Burroughs & Chapin Auditorium.

Below are some of the new enhancements to all of these spaces:

- New large display(s)
- Asynchronous and Synchronous learning capability
- High quality audio
- Wireless screen share
- Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)
- Simple use experience
Faculty Testimonial

“I don’t consider myself very tech savvy and was a little apprehensive to the new classroom technology, so I decided to attend one of the training sessions. I walked into the classroom, and everything worked perfectly and was very easy to use.”

Professor Sandra Lowes – Assistant Chair/Professor, Biological Science, Natural & Physical Science

Wireless Network Replacement

Since October of 2022, Technology Solutions has been replacing all of our wireless access points on all three campuses to provide the below enhancements:
- Replacing 200 wireless access points
- Improving the wireless network coverage
- Migrating the wireless network infrastructure to a hybrid cloud architecture

New Phone System Replacement

Technology Solutions is currently preparing for a college-wide phone system replacement by March 31st.
- IT staff will be replacing approximately 400 phones
- Migrating the existing phone server to the cloud
- Implementing new e911 capabilities to provide local 911 dispatch officers more visibility of where an urgent phone call has been placed to quickly send help
- Adding modern functionality: Updated software to replace Jabber, better reporting and analytics, and much more
**Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)\(^*\)**

- 54% Full-time, First-time Fall 2021 Cohort Retention
- 43% Prior Year
- 26% Graduation Rate Fall 2019 Cohort
- 28% Prior Cohort 2018

**Enrollment Spring 2023**
- Open 6,596
- Up 10% Over Spring 2022

**IPEDS Outcomes Measure for All Entering Students**
- 4-Year Award Rate = 26%
- 6-Year Award Rate = 29%
- 8-Year Award Rate = 31%

**HGTC Enrollment Data**
- 2022 enrollment headcount = 9,350 (Spring, Summer, and Fall 2022)
- 2022 enrollment headcount workforce development = 2,124 (Spring, Summer, and Fall 2022)
- 95% of graduates are SC residents
- 77% of students are residents of Horry and Georgetown Counties
- 95% of students placed in a job or transferred to a four-year institution
- 95% of graduates remain in SC
- 90% of graduates remain in Horry and Georgetown counties
- 28% of students in healthcare majors

\(^*\)IPEDS is the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System. It is a system of interrelated surveys conducted annually by the U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). IPEDS gathers information from every college, university, and technical and vocational institution that participates in the federal student financial aid programs. The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, requires that institutions that participate in federal student aid programs report data on enrollments, program completions, graduation rates, faculty and staff, finances, institutional prices, and student financial aid. These data are made available to students and parents through the College Navigator college search website and to researchers and others through the IPEDS Data Center.