MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT FORE

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.

- **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.

- **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.

- **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 this spring.

Please contact me anytime about safety and security measures, or any other matters. I am pleased to present an update on your college and appreciate the opportunity to serve our community as your President.

Sincerely,

Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore  
President, Horry-Georgetown Technical College
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.
The Horry-Georgetown Technical College Area Commission, a nine-member body, is an outstanding group of dedicated, community-minded professionals, individually and collectively committed to advancing higher education at and through Horry-Georgetown Technical College. It is our goal, each day, to provide the policy guidelines and broad-based vision that promote and ensures the success of the College, under the direction of its President, Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, and accomplished by the efforts of our wonderfully able team of professional faculty, staff, and administrators.

In loving memory of Mr. Donald W. Helms, Area Commissioner 2007-2023, who passed away March 31, 2023.
COMMUNITY IMPACT

COLLEGE SUCCESS

1966 | 12 PROGRAMS | 530 STUDENTS | 2023 | 70+ PROGRAMS | 9,350 STUDENTS

$50 MILLION OPERATING BUDGET
9,350 CURRICULUM STUDENTS ANNUALLY
2,200 CONTINUING EDUCATION STUDENTS ANNUALLY

4TH LARGEST Technical College in South Carolina
$207 MILLION Our Local Economic Impact
$2,186 PER SEMESTER One of the Most Affordable Colleges in South Carolina
600 Employees

STUDENT PROFILE

35% MALE 65% FEMALE
AVERAGE AGE OF STUDENTS: 25
44% FULL TIME 56% PART TIME
86% ARE SC RESIDENTS
88% RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID

STUDENT SUCCESS

96% of HGTC Graduates Live, Work, & Thrive in South Carolina
95% University/Job Placement Rate

44% FULL TIME 56% PART TIME
86% ARE SC RESIDENTS
88% RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID

96% of HGTC Graduates Live, Work, & Thrive in South Carolina
95% University/Job Placement Rate
HGTC invests in strategic initiatives to support the mission of the College and its commitment to student success while maintaining financial strength and economic stability.

In June 2022, the State of South Carolina approved the College’s 5-year $174.5 million strategic capital plan that reflected the input from employers, faculty, staff, and students. The plan was designed to sustain the growth in our area and to continuously support the needs of employers and students.

An essential component of that plan is HGTC ensures sound financial practices, transparency with stakeholders, and a fair allocation of resources.

As evidence of its fiscal stewardship, HGTC:

- Received excellent ratings from its independent auditors for over 15 years.
- Has no debt and imposes no capital/debt fees on students.
- Has the lowest tuition in South Carolina.
- Maintains an appropriate contingency fund.
- Consistently demonstrates growth in its net assets.
- Exceeds the State requirement for cash reserves.

HGTC benefits from the Horry County $.01 (Penny) Educational Sales and Use Tax and uses these funds to support its capital budget in Horry County. In using those funds along with other resources, HGTC has increased its total square footage by more than 27% over the past decade.

In addition to maintaining sound financial practices, HGTC creates a $225 million impact to the local economy each year.

An HGTC graduate will earn an estimated 33% more over their lifetime than an individual with only a high school diploma.

*Source: Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce.

As evidenced by the data below, HGTC has allocated its resources consistent with practices at other institutions across the State Technical College System and has wisely invested its capital funds as demonstrated by its dramatic increase in instructional space.

** Sources of Funds**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Annual Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuition</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Budget</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Uses of Funds**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Annual Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Instruction</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Budget</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Allocations are consistent with those across the SC Technical College System.
Thank you to Horry County voters for voting YES in support of the Educational Capital Improvement Tax, also known as the Penny Sales Tax, in the November 2022 election. Since 2008, the 1% sales tax has provided a revenue stream to help pay for growth and allow for more collaboration for educational programs among Horry County Schools, Coastal Carolina University, and HGTC. The referendum passed in November states that the penny sales tax continues to be shared according to the percentages that were determined for the original referendum:

- Horry County Schools receives 80% of the revenue.
- Coastal Carolina University receives 13.3% of the revenue.
- Horry-Georgetown Technical College receives 6.7% of the revenue.

HGTC is fortunate to receive a percentage of the revenue as an institution of higher education in the community. The proceeds have helped HGTC in many ways, including the funding of capital needs, maintaining state-of-the-art instructional facilities, and keeping tuition affordable. Since inception, the Penny Sales Tax proceeds have supported both the construction of new facilities and the renovation of existing facilities. Most notably, on the Conway Campus, the tax has assisted in the construction of the Advanced Manufacturing Center, the Engineering Building, and the renovation of the 55-acre campus-wide infrastructure. On the Grand Strand Campus, the tax proceeds supported construction of the famous International Culinary Institute of Myrtle Beach, the construction of our Dental Building, renovation of various academic and administrative buildings, and extensive renovations to the 75-acre campus infrastructure. Looking to the future, the HGTC Area Commission Board Members have approved a multi-year $174 million college-wide capital improvement plan, of which approximately $120 million is dedicated to expanding the Conway and Grand Strand Campuses. The Penny Sales Tax will be the primary funding source for those capital plans and will serve as the economic catalyst to support our growth into the future. For HGTC to continue driving economic development through a highly skilled workforce, the Penny Sales Tax gives HGTC the funds to have technology and equipment that not only matches but also exceeds industry levels. As a leader in higher education in the area and the State, HGTC is proud to be a part of what is being accomplished in the community for the good of its students, for the good of business and industry, and for the good of the citizens.
HGTC Hosts SC Educational Opportunity Program in Georgetown

HGTC hosted the annual South Carolina Educational Opportunity Program (SC ED OP) for Georgetown County high school students in October at the Howard Recreation Center in Georgetown, SC. The purpose of the SC ED OP Program is to provide high school students, particularly juniors and seniors, exposure to a variety of educational opportunities and exploration of specific interests.

“HGTC was very excited about sponsoring this consolidated college fair that offered approximately 500 high school students from Georgetown County the opportunity to meet with college and university representatives from across the state of South Carolina in a fun and interactive environment. We were proud to partner with the Georgetown County School District to host an event for students that supports the mission of our college and inspires lifelong learning,” said Dr. Cynthia Johnston, HGTC Assistant Vice President for Recruitment and Engagement. For more information about this program, visit the Carolinas Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers (CACRAO) website at www.cacrao.org.

HGTC and CCU Partner with SC-CREATE for Special Education

HGTC and Coastal Carolina University (CCU) have partnered with SC-CREATE (Centers for the Re-education and Advancement of Teachers in Special Education) to become a new CREATE Center. Celebrating its 20th Anniversary in 2022, SC-CREATE is a scholarship program sponsored by the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) Office of Special Education Services. The program underwrites all tuition, textbook, and Praxis II exam costs for qualified participants. To receive continuous funds, students must remain employed full-time in a SC public or charter school.

The HGTC and CCU partnership, that began prior to the fall 2022 semester, is offering a new fully online bachelor’s degree program in Multi-Categorical Special Education that provides initial South Carolina Department of Education licensure to teach. Full-time employees (instructional and non-instructional staff, in and out of the classroom) from all 98 school districts across the state are eligible. Upon completion of coursework at HGTC, students will be awarded an Associate in Applied Science degree in Teacher Education and will immediately transfer to CCU through a seamless partnership agreement between the two colleges.

The total grant HGTC received for the 2022-2023 academic year is $362,668.32.

For more information about the HGTC Teacher Education and Early Care & Education programs, visit hgtc.edu/teacher.
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.
HGTC employees and students collected thousands of non-perishable food items and other donations for Backpack Buddies. Several employees delivered the items to help feed children living in poverty.

The HGTC collection could not have come at a better time as Help 4 Kids/Backpack Buddies reported a temporary cancellation in assistance due to a shortage of supplies.

“I am very proud of the efforts of our employees and students to help children in need right here in our local community. It is hard to imagine the number of underprivileged Horry County children who may go hungry because of a lack of food. I am grateful to those who helped restock the supplies that were completely exhausted,” said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President.

The collection for Backpack Buddies was part of the HGTC Human Resources wellness initiative for October. Employees and students were encouraged to donate to the cause. The response was astounding with thousands of items donated for Backpack Buddies.

“The HGTC donation could not have been delivered at a better time for the Backpack Buddies program. We supply 2,600 bags to 40 schools for children each week and, due to supply chain issues and shortages, we have had difficulties getting enough food. I am so thankful for what we received from HGTC employees and students. The donations will help us continue our mission of helping children in need,” said Barb Mains, Founder and Director of Help 4 Kids/Backpack Buddies.
HGTC and Apprenticeship Carolina hosted an Apprenticeship Job Fair in November 2022. Those interested in an employment opportunity could stop by the HGTC Grand Strand Campus to learn more about the apprenticeships available.


“HGTC’s Workforce Development and Continuing Education team is proud to work with Apprenticeship Carolina staff to register apprenticeship programs and host a Job Fair promoting apprenticeship jobs available through employers in our area. A registered apprenticeship program is an excellent opportunity for earning a paycheck while learning valuable skills,” said Vincent Myers, HGTC Workforce Development Manager.

The following positions have been offered by participating companies:
- HVAC, Plumbing, Electrical, Customer Service
- Assistant Superintendents, Greensmen
- Welding, Machine Operators, Shipping
- Communications/Public Relations
- Warehouse workers (Order Pickers)
- Industrial Seamstress
- CNA
- Cook

Apprenticeship Carolina is a division of the South Carolina Technical College System that works with employers in the state to have access to the information, support, and technical assistance needed to create demand-driven registered apprenticeship programs in the following high growth industries: advanced manufacturing and technologies, construction technologies, energy, healthcare, information technology, tourism and service industries, and transportation, distribution, and logistics. For more information about Apprenticeship Carolina program, visit the website.

More information about the partnership with HGTC can be found at hgtc.edu.

HGTC Foreign Film Night for Domestic Violence Awareness

HGTC Professor presents film in support of National Domestic Violence Month

In support of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, HGTC Professor Valerie Falbo presented: Te Doy Mis Ojos, a film about a couple’s struggle to conquer the demons of domestic abuse that threaten their marriage and family. The community was invited to view the film at an event in the Burroughs and Chapin Auditorium on the HGTC Conway Campus.

“Domestic Violence is a universal issue that affects all of humanity and is nondiscriminatory,” said Valerie Falbo, HGTC Spanish Professor. “In light of the growing diversity in our communities, the presentation of this film is a step towards understanding and unity for all in our community who struggle with this issue.”

The presentation of the film was in another language from another part of the world and emphasized the common threads that define domestic abuse patterns and address the effects of domestic abuse on families regardless of linguistic, economic, religious, racial and/or cultural backgrounds.

“We aspire to ‘open the door’ and create further opportunities for local forums with candid discussions where finding and securing necessary resources and assistance is more accessible to all,” continued Falbo.

Discussions were held in Spanish and English immediately following the film hosted by Dr. Maravillas Lencina, HGTC Associate Professor of Spanish. Local support agencies provided literature and contact information. For more information about the presentation, contact Valerie Falbo at valerie.falbo@hgtc.edu.
HGTC Receives Purple Heart College Designation
by the Military Order of the Purple Heart and Recognizes Active-Duty Military and Veterans

HGTC celebrated Veterans Day in a special way in 2022. Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President, accepted and signed a proclamation that designates HGTC as a Purple Heart College. The designation signifies HGTC’s commitment to and honor of veterans who were wounded in combat while serving their country and are now pursuing higher education and careers at HGTC.

“Our veterans are to be commended for their service to our country, and HGTC is proud to honor the hundreds of students on our campuses every day who have made the decision to go back to school and better their lives,” said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President. “We have many student success stories to celebrate especially among our veteran students and want them to feel our gratitude and indebtedness for their sacrifices.”

The College serves approximately 200 veteran students and honors those who have sacrificed for our nation. The Veterans Resource Center is located on the Conway Campus and provides a comfortable atmosphere where veterans or active military members can study, use computers, access veteran resources, and visit with other veterans. The Veterans Resource Center is also a meeting place for the HGTC Student Veterans Organization, which is open for current and future student veterans who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, active-duty, National Guard, or Reserve.

HGTC is approved by the Veterans Administration as a training facility to administer the various types of veterans’ resources. HGTC can assist prospective and current student veterans by providing counseling and direction on all education benefits.

For more information about the HGTC Veterans Resource Center and Financial Aid Options for Veterans, visit hgtc.edu.

HGTC Makes History at Carolinas Turf Bowl Championship
HGTC Recognized by Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association

For the third year in a row, HGTC students are the reigning champions of the 2022 Carolinas Turf Bowl Championship at the Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association (CGCSA) Conference and Show held at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. Professors Charles Granger, George McCauley, and Ashley Wilkinson prepared their team to lead the pack and take the win. This year’s winning team consisted of four Golf & Sports Turf Management (GSTM) students including Railey Smith, Andrew Rich, Mike Millburn, and John Weeks.

“I could not be prouder of a team that bonded and worked hard to achieve the win. Each student on the team is employed by a local golf course, and a few are already in assistant superintendent positions. The win speaks volumes for academics and the importance of students being employed and supported by the golf course superintendents and turf managers while they are in school,” said Charles Granger, HGTC Chair and Professor of Golf and Sports Turf Management.

Other participating colleges in the 2022 Turf Bowl included Clemson University, North Carolina State University, and Central Piedmont Community College.

HGTC has captured the prize eight of the last 10 years.

“HGTC is proud of its students and proud of this win,” said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President. “We may be underestimated at times, but our students are truly the masters of the game and have an outstanding record to prove it.”

For more information, please visit hgtc.edu/golf.
HGTC Professor Celebrates Success of Prized Documentary

Stolen Babies of Spain, a documentary film produced by HGTC Professor Dr. Maravillas Lencina and directed by CCU Film Professor Dr. Greg Rabidoux, was picked up by Amazon Prime Video, TUBI TV, ROKU and several other national video-on-demand and live streaming service providers.

The film, which chronicles the struggle of over 300,000 Spaniards who were stolen at birth and find out the truth about their biological origin, has won dozens of world-wide film festival awards, including best film, best original script, and best cinematography. Now the film is available to audiences everywhere on either a minimal fee or a rent-free basis.

“I am pleased that this important and entertaining film can now be watched by audiences around the world,” said Dr. Maravillas Lencina, HGTC Spanish Professor. “Our film continues to help all those who struggle to find truth, justice, and reconciliation with their true families, before it is too late.”

In addition to this award-winning film, anyone interested in learning more about the issue can also purchase the book, Stolen Babies of Spain: The Book, on Amazon, booksellers online and in stores everywhere. For more information about the film visit: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt11219178/.
HGTC and Lander University have formed a partnership to enhance the transfer of business students from HGTC to Lander. An articulation agreement was recently signed between the colleges to allow HGTC students in the Associate in Applied Science in Business Administration degree to easily transfer their credits and enter as juniors in Lander’s Bachelor of Science in Business Administration program with an emphasis in Management/Marketing. Students who meet the requirements of the program will be guaranteed admission to Lander University and receive priority acceptance into the major selected.

“HGTC is excited about the new partnership with Lander University for our Business Administration students. Prior to this agreement, only a few business-related courses were direct transfers to Lander,” said Theresa Strong, HGTC Academic Chair & Professor, Business Administration. “With the completion of HGTC’s Associate in Applied Science degree in Business Administration, students can transfer directly to Lander and begin their Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with an emphasis in Management/Marketing as juniors.”

The agreement was officially signed by both Dr. Richard Cosentino, President at Lander University and Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, President at HGTC.

“Our new partnership with Lander University helps both institutions honor commitments to develop a strong and able workforce through high-quality education,” said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, president at HGTC. “This latest two plus two degree with Lander is a wonderful opportunity for our local business students to begin with us and become empowered to lead satisfying and productive lives. The agreement not only benefits our students but also our entire area.”

“Lander University and Horry Georgetown Technical College share a common vision to help students advance their education and their future careers,” said Dr. Scott Jones, provost and executive vice president for Academic Affairs at Lander. “Our partnership with HGTC will help both institutions honor our commitment to South Carolina by developing a strong workforce through high-quality education and empowering our students to lead satisfying and productive lives.”

To learn more about HGTC’s Associate in Applied Science in Business Administration, visit the program webpage or contact Theresa Strong, HGTC academic chair and professor, at 843-349-7559 or theresa.strong@hgtc.edu.

HGTC and Liberty University also formed a partnership to enhance the transfer of business students from HGTC to Liberty. An articulation agreement was recently signed between the colleges to allow HGTC students in the Associate in Applied Science in Business Administration degree to easily transfer their credits and enter as juniors in Liberty’s Bachelor of Science in Business Administration program. Students who meet the requirements of the program will be guaranteed admission to Liberty University and receive priority acceptance into the major selected.

“HGTC is excited about this new partnership with Liberty University for our Business Administration students. Prior to this agreement, only a few business-related courses were direct transfers to Liberty,” said Theresa Strong, HGTC Academic Chair & Professor, Business Administration. “With the completion of HGTC’s Associate in Applied Science degree in Business Administration, students can transfer directly to Liberty and begin their Bachelor of Science in Business Administration as juniors.”

The agreement was officially signed by both Jerry Prevo, President at Liberty University and Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, President at HGTC.

“Our new partnership with Liberty University helps both institutions honor commitments to develop a strong and able workforce through high-quality education,” said HGTC President, Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore. “This latest two plus two degree with Liberty is a wonderful opportunity for our local business students to begin with us and become empowered to lead satisfying and productive lives. The agreement not only benefits our students but also our entire area.”
The HGTC Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) program launched in the fall of 2022 after years of planning and approvals, including a local needs assessment to develop the program.

Sandra Wetter, HGTC Associate Professor and Director of the Medical Laboratory Technology program, has been involved in the developmental stages from the very beginning and is proud of the students who completed the first semester.

“This program has been on President Fore’s wish list for quite some time. Medical Laboratory Technology is a field for people who are interested in science and working with their hands. Medical Laboratory Technicians are detail-oriented problem solvers. They want to help patients in a medical setting but prefer to have limited patient contact. Medical Lab Technicians enjoy working with their hands, technical instruments, and communicating with other medical professionals. This medical laboratory role is challenging and requires life-long learning,” said Wetter.

The Associate in Applied Science in Medical Laboratory Technology degree prepares students to be able to perform laboratory tests, automated and manual testing following detailed instructions; it trains and educates students to analyze human blood and body fluids to detect and diagnose diseases using microscopes, semi-automatic blood analyzers, and other scientific equipment. A Medical Lab Technician is also qualified to analyze data and relay the results to physicians after testing and examining a specimen. This data can be utilized by healthcare providers to diagnosis, treat, and prevent illnesses.

One of the students who completed the first semester of the program was Andrew Harris. “I think the MLT program is a great opportunity for anyone looking for a career in the medical field, especially those who are not certain about performing direct patient care. It is a fast-paced career with a multifaceted environment for those who enjoy a more hands-on approach. Technicians are always doing something different depending on the patient scenarios,” said Harris.

Another student who completed the first semester of the program was Savannah Wilkerson. “I have thoroughly enjoyed my time thus far in the MLT program. I enjoy going to class, both the lecture and lab classes. Learning about the different biomedical instruments and biochemical tests done in the lab setting has kept me interested throughout the semester. My favorite portion of the program so far is the lab classes. I love focusing in on specimens with the microscope and using different tests to identify what I’m viewing. Overall, I’m more than excited to see what the future holds for me in the program. Anyone who has an interest in the medical laboratory setting should give this program a chance,” said Wilkerson.

HGTC’s MLT program is a limited access program part of the Healthcare Science division. Graduates are eligible to take the American Society for Clinical Pathology – Board of Certification (ASCP-BOC) exam. To be certified as a Medical Laboratory Technician the graduate must pass the ASCP-BOC generalist certification examination. The cost of completing this examination is not included in the cost of tuition for the program. Becoming an MLT (ASCP) will help them procure employment in hospital and private laboratories (clinical or research) or physician office labs.

The program is in the process of becoming accredited by the National Accreditation Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS).

For more information about Healthcare Science Admissions, visit hgtc.edu/healthscience.

For information about the Medical Laboratory Technology program, visit https://www.hgtc.edu/academics/academic-departments/physical-occupational-therapist/medical-laboratory-technology.html or contact Sandra Wetter, HGTC Associate Professor and Director of the Medical Laboratory Technology program, at sandra.wetter@hgtc.edu or 843-477-2144.
HGTC Reveals 2023 Lecture Series for Addiction & Recovery

Series Features Spectacular Celebrity Speakers Maintaining Recovery from Addictions

HGTC proudly hosted the 16th annual Addiction and Recovery Series 2023 with events held on Thursday evenings in February. The series featured two celebrity speakers, four creative demonstrations from local recovery institutions, and several student testimonials of recovery from different addictions using different recovery methods. All events were free and open to the public and held in the Burroughs & Chapin Auditorium on the HGTC Conway Campus.

The series was presented by HGTC and sponsored by Grand Strand Health, Lighthouse Behavioral Health Hospital, Shoreline Behavioral Health Services, and The Peer Connection.

HGTC 2023 Addiction and Recovery Series

**Todd Bridges** The former child star—best known as Willis Jackson on Diff’rent Strokes—speaks of his struggles with addiction, brushes with the law, and fierce fight to carve a path through the darkness and find his true identity. For Todd Bridges early stardom was no protection from painful childhood events that paved the road to his own personal hell. Bridges burst to the national forefront on the hit sitcom Diff’rent Strokes as the subject of the popular catchphrase, “What’chu talkin’ ‘bout, Willis?” When the show ended, Bridges was overwhelmed by the off-camera traumas he had faced. Turning to drugs as an escape, he soon lost control. Bridges opens up about his life before and after Diff’rent Strokes: the incredible reversals of fortune brought on by fame and the precipitous—and very public—descent that followed; the persecution from police; the drug addiction that nearly consumed him; the criminal charges that almost earned him a life sentence; and his successful legal defense led by Johnnie Cochran. His triumphant story of recovery and redemption is recounted here as well.

**Kevin McCauley, MD.** is a Senior Fellow at The Meadows in Wickenburg, Arizona and co-founder of the Institute for Addiction Study in Salt Lake City, Utah. His work is featured in the award-winning documentary, Pleasure Unwoven, summarizing the neuroscience of addiction and currently the most widely used media presentation in national and international treatment centers. Dr. McCauley will deliver a presentation with the most recent and timely information on recovery from both behavioral addictions and substance use disorders and the role that dopamine plays in our lives from food, sex, Internet and other addictions.

**Corporate Sponsors** Grand Strand Health, The Peer Connection, Lighthouse, and Shoreline offered presentations on what recovery is all about. The short presentations added some insight into aspects of addiction and recovery from a professional viewpoint.

**Students in Recovery** from different addictions and using different recovery methods describe what it was like, what happened and what they are doing on a daily basis to maintain their recovery.

The HGTC Addiction and Recovery Series was created in 2008 by HGTC physics and natural science professor Casey King to:

- increase public awareness of recovery in our community,
- educate the public on the biology and psychological basis that drives many addictions,
- demonstrate that addiction crosses all social and economic boundaries,
- reduce the stigma our culture assigns to those in recovery and to demonstrate that recovery from addictions is possible through a multitude of methods and can be free to those who want it.

If you would like to support the Addiction & Recovery Lecture Series, please visit hgtc.edu/give. For more information contact Casey King at 843-477-2154 or casey.king@hgtc.edu.
HGTC employees demonstrated support for The Shepherd’s Table in Conway when the HGTC Academic and Workforce Development Division hosted the annual “blue jeans week” fundraiser to support The Shepherd’s Table mission of serving nutritious meals to the homeless, working and non-working poor, veterans, and senior citizens, including men, women, children, and families.

“I am very proud of the efforts of HGTC employees donating in support of The Shepherd’s Table. Our faculty and staff genuinely care about the community that HGTC serves and look forward to annually supporting local charities in the area during fundraisers like this,” said Dr. Jennifer Wilbanks, HGTC Executive Vice President for Academic and Workforce Development.

HGTC employees presented a $1,445.00 check for the cause. Accepting the check on behalf of The Shepherd’s Table was Brandon Oates, Executive Director.

“The Shepherd’s Table expresses its gratitude to HGTC for thinking of us. The money that employees helped raise will go to support our mission of ‘Sharing God’s Love, One Meal at a Time.’ This mission includes not only feeding the hungry but also finding out why the plate of food is needed and doing what we can to reduce and end poverty in the area. We thank HGTC employees for their support and continued efforts in helping us further our vision,” said Oates.

The Shepherd’s Table, a South Carolina Eleemosynary Corporation, is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation in Conway, South Carolina. The Shepherd’s Table provides nutritious meals to children and adults in the Conway area. These acts of love are possible because of the many wonderful corporate and personal donors who provide funding, food and/or financial support.
HGTC partnered with the Food Lion store on Highway 544 in Myrtle Ridge Shopping Center to stock the shelves of HGTC Pantry locations. Over 700 Food Lion Feeds food boxes were donated with a mission to end food insecurity among members of the HGTC community. Each Food Lion Feeds box received is valued at $6 and provides enough food for two meals.

“We are grateful for our friends and generous partners at Food Lion Feeds who care about the overall wellbeing of our HGTC community. The donation, including hundreds of food boxes, was appreciated, especially by those who may have been concerned about the source of their next meals. It was a heartwarming gesture to come together and support our collective efforts,” said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President.

Food Lion Feeds was founded in 2014 by Food Lion to address food insecurity in the towns and cities it serves. It sponsors the annual apple bag and citrus bag campaigns as well as this Holidays Without Hunger food box campaign.

“HGTC employees are an awesome group to work with, especially on special projects like this. With similar missions for helping others, we were very pleased to make the unique connection at this time of year. We could not be happier about making the donation and helping HGTC provide needs for students and employees through the HGTC Pantry,” said Emma Haselden, Food Lion Associate, Myrtle Ridge Shopping Center on Highway 544.

All three HGTC campuses have an HGTC Pantry to provide non-perishable food and personal care items to meet the needs of current students and HGTC employees free and confidentially. The HGTC Pantry also provides links and information on additional resources offered within the HGTC community and surrounding community to ensure access to healthy food and personal care, community education and advocacy that leads to self-sufficiency and a brighter tomorrow.

Donations can be dropped off in the donation boxes located throughout each of the three campuses. Items may also be delivered to the HGTC Human Resources Office in Building 200 on the Conway Campus. To make a financial donation in person, please email hgtc-pantry@hgtc.edu.
HGTC Reveals New Police Training Simulator

Students Utilize Advanced Technology for Training in the HGTC Criminal Justice Program

HGTC is proud of a new police training simulator for the Associate in Applied Science degree in Criminal Justice Technology program. The police training simulator provides students with the opportunity to experience scenarios in which they must analyze a situation and determine the appropriate lawful response. The advanced technology is being used by HGTC Criminal Justice students, including those in the Police Pre-Academy Training (PPAT) and officers from local law enforcement agencies.

The police training simulator is helping students make smarter and quicker decisions while preparing them for the real-world application. Realistic scenarios that may be faced in a Criminal Justice career are presented in real-time. Instructors are already utilizing the equipment and incorporating the simulator training into the coursework.

“We are proud to be utilizing the latest simulator technology built on the requirement and ability to move realistically in a scenario. For example, scenarios are built using a library of scenes that make up the content for each screen and they branch, react, and play out as a single scenario. The 360 degrees 'shoot, don't shoot' experiences provided by the simulator allow students to be exposed to conditions that are as close as possible to real life without the potential of injury or death,” said Dr. Daniel Wysong, HGTC Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs/Dean. “Those skills can become the basis of the knowledge drawn upon when students become law enforcement officers. The simulator is also available for those already serving in the field and can provide additional training for local law enforcement agencies wanting to perfect certain skills.”

Criminal Justice professors at HGTC are former or current law enforcement officers who served as patrol officers, investigators, command staff, and/or training officers who hold graduate degrees in criminal justice.

For more information about the HGTC Associate in Applied Science degree in Criminal Justice Technology, please contact Jeff Scott at 843-349-7140, Larry Muncey at 843-349-3648, or Dr. Dan Wysong at 843-349-5326.
HGTC Receives Support from SC Endeavors for Early Care Education

HGTC was presented with a $16,500 check from SC Endeavors for the HGTC Early Care and Education program. SC Endeavors is an integral part of the SC Department of Social Services Division of Early Care and Education and is financially supporting HGTC through the McDonald Early Education Support Fund. There is an annual distribution of $6,500 and an additional one-time distribution of $10,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act. SC Endeavors is the professional development system for South Carolina’s early childhood workforce. The mission is to support the continuous growth and improvement of early education programs and professionals to create positive outcomes for young children and their families in South Carolina. The overall purpose of the partnership is to improve and enhance the Early Care and Education Department at HGTC.

“HGTC is committed to serving the needs of students pursuing their formal education in the field of Early Care and Teacher Education. We appreciate the additional funding from SC Endeavors to support students, faculty, and the department through materials, equipment, professional development, and more,” said Becky Hubbard, HGTC Chair of the Teacher Education Department and Professor of Education.

“SC Endeavors and HGTC have a long-standing history and have been working together for many years to advance our mission. HGTC has been a leader in the community, and together we are improving the quality of childcare for young children and families in South Carolina. We are proud of the partnership and look forward to working with HGTC as we continue recruiting, retaining, and supporting the career and education pathway of students interested in studying early childhood or advancing their career options through further education for many years to come,” said Melissa Starker, Director for SC Endeavors.

For more information about the HGTC Teacher Education and Early Care & Education programs, visit hgtc.edu/teacher-ed.
HGTC proudly hosted the Grand Opening of Chomp’s Hangout & Chomp’s Serene Space located on the Conway Campus in Building 1100 inside Café 1100. The event was held in February 2023 with the President’s Welcome and Official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony supported by representatives of the Conway Area Chamber of Commerce.

“We are very excited about Chomp’s Hangout & Chomp’s Serene Space. We hope the Gator community will enjoy the newest student space on HGTC’s Campus,” said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President.

Chomp’s Hangout is a newly renovated game room for students while Chomp’s Serene Space serves as a quiet room option for students to enjoy.

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, 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.

“Our chapter members appreciate the assistance and support of those who brought this vision to life. We hope it will be enjoyed by all HGTC students for years to come,” said Beth Carraway, HGTC Accounting Professor and Phi Theta Kappa Chapter Advisor.

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; however, this space has not yet been identified.
HGTC Announces the Start of Automotive Technology Program

HGTC proudly announced the start of an Automotive Technology Program on the Conway Campus in February 2023 with classes beginning for students.

“Automotive technician jobs are in high demand right now. HGTC aims to provide students with the highest quality of classroom and hands-on education while also emphasizing the importance of safety and professionalism which will prepare the student to enter the workforce,” said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President.

Within the first semester students will learn about hydro-boost power brakes and vacuum power brakes as well as master cylinders and caliper rebuilding, the basic study of the diagnostic procedures used to locate and repair internal engine malfunctions, the fundamentals of steering, suspension and alignment and includes inspection, diagnostics, maintenance and repair of systems and common welding and techniques/equipment used currently in trades and industry.

“HGTC has been working with industry leaders for quite some time to perform a needs assessment and develop the curriculum. If you are passionate about cars, take your first step toward a career as an automotive technician,” said Jeff Ball, HGTC Chair for Academic and Workforce Development.

Classes include:
- Automotive Braking System
- Automotive Engine Repair
- Auto Steering/Suspension/Align
- Welding (Automotive Technology)

Classes are subject to updates and changes due to industry/employer needs.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!

HGTC student performs an electronic diagnostic test on an automotive engine.
HGTC’s Becky Hubbard Joins Leadership Board for the SC Association of Teacher Educators

HGTC celebrated the appointment of Chair and Professor of Teacher Education, Becky Hubbard, to the Leadership Board for the SC Association of Teacher Educators (SCATE).

SCATE is a state professional organization affiliated with the Association of Teacher Education (ATE). Its purpose is to provide an opportunity for individual professional growth for all persons concerned with teacher education and promote high standards for the teaching profession through its policies and practices. SCATE holds a statewide conference each year in the fall, it publishes the Teacher Education Journal of SC, and provides regular professional development opportunities for its members.

Becky Hubbard is serving as the Two-year Institution Representative on the Leadership Board. She is also a member of the committee for professional development.

Becky earned both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Coastal Carolina University. She began her career as a public-school teacher and taught high school English for twelve years before becoming a Teacher Specialist for the SC Department of Education. Currently, she is the HGTC Department Chair of Teacher Education where she has worked for over 18 years.

During her tenure at HGTC, Hubbard has held the positions of Professor of English, Professor of Education, Director of Dual Enrollment, and Assistant Department Chair of Education. For the past six years, Hubbard has served as Department Chair of the Teacher Education Department, which includes Early Care and Education.

For more information about the HGTC Teacher Education and Early Care & Education programs, contact Becky Hubbard at rebecca.hubbard@hgtc.edu or 843-349-7117.

HGTC’s Tina Winesette Elected to Serve Horry County First Steps

Tina Winesette, HGTC Professor of Early Childhood Education, has been elected to serve on the Horry County First Steps Board of Directors.

The mission of Horry County First Steps is to ensure that children start school ready to learn by supporting the caring adults who touch their lives. Partnerships are established and resources are secured to provide programs that focus on quality early care and education, family support, health, and early literacy.

Prior to joining HGTC in August of 2017, Professor Winesette had many years of experience teaching early childhood education, English as a second language (ESL) classes, and general educational development (GED) classes for school districts and other community colleges in the Carolinas. She earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Special Education and a Master of Science Degree in Early Childhood Education.

“Horry County First Steps has been a vital part of the community since 2002 and continues to grow with the help of donors and volunteers that make our mission possible. I look forward to supporting young children, their families and community to promote school readiness,” said Tina Winesette, HGTC Professor of Early Childhood Education.

Professor Winesette’s focus on the board of directors will be family education, training, and support.
HGTC Names SCTEA Educator of the Year Award Winners 2023

Employees Honored at SC Technical Education Association’s Annual Conference

HGTC recognized three exceptional employees at the South Carolina Technical Education Association’s (SCTEA) Annual Conference February 17-18, 2023.

HGTC’s Educator of the Year Award Winners recognized at the SCTEA Conference include:

**Dr. Jennifer Wilbanks**, Executive Vice President for Academic and Workforce Development, in the administrator category,

**Allison Burlyn**, Chair/Professor of Mathematics in the faculty category, and

**Monica Ramsey**, Administrative Assistant for Human Resources, in the staff category.

The award recipients were nominated by their peers for superior leadership in their departments, quality work ethic, and community involvement.

“HGTC is proud of the outstanding service and achievements of these special individuals. Their dedication to our college is reflected in the unique vote of confidence of their peers,” said HGTC President Marilyn Murphy Fore. “We are extremely blessed to have employees whose professionalism is second to none in higher education. Our faculty and staff are working harder than ever to serve our students and this community.”
Dr. Michael Roberts, HGTC Professor of English, published his fourth book. His latest work, titled Scribbled Lines: Life in Pieces, is a collection of poems that range from poignant to irreverent. The poems in the collection are drawn from his real-life experiences, as well as philosophical musings about life that do not happen in a linear or logical fashion.

“The term ‘scribbled lines’ refers to those moments in life that we write down to preserve or to return to. The term also refers to writing something down just to make sense of it,” explained Dr. Michael Roberts, HGTC English Professor.

Dr. Roberts has taught at the college level for over 20 years. He joined HGTC in 2016 and has served as a Professor of English for the past seven years. He earned his Doctoral Degree from NC State University, Master of Arts degree from UNC Pembroke, and Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Andrews University.

After years of teaching college and university literature courses, such as Introduction to Literature and Literary Criticism, Dr. Roberts began publishing original poetry in 2020. Scribbled Lines: Life in Pieces is his first full collection of poetry. He has published two chapbook collections entitled Random Roadside Cemetery and Daughters, Soulmates, and the Spirit in the Urn. He has also published research books and articles on education and curriculum development. His poetry style is often described as a complex blend of “bookmarking life” and social criticism. He states that his literary influences are E.E. Cummings and Modernist authors.

Dr. Roberts is the father of two daughters, Cayce and Kathryn, whom he cites as the original inspirations for his creative writing.

“What I want readers to do is read my poems twice – once for entertainment and once for the experience. I can find inspiration everywhere and hope readers find some inspiration within the pages and words of my poems,” said Dr. Roberts.

“With the publication of his fourth book, Dr. Michael Roberts continues to educate and entertain others, both in and out of the classroom,” said Dr. Jennifer Wilbanks, HGTC Executive Vice President for Academic and Workforce Development.

For more information about applying, enrolling, and registering at HGTC, call 843-347-3186 or visit hgtc.edu.
HGTC Employees Nominated, Honored for Statewide Innovation Awards

HGTC is proud of the nominees and statewide winner for the A. Wade Martin Innovator of the Year Awards 2023. HGTC nominated Dr. Minda Chuska, Chair and Professor - English, Communications, Fine Arts & Humanities, to represent the College for the A. Wade Martin Innovator of the Year for her innovation to revolutionize the admissions process by eliminating the need for a college placement test that is a barrier for students and creating a direct path to college-level courses.

HGTC also nominated its Workforce Development Team to represent the College for the A. Wade Martin Innovation Team of the Year for the vision and innovation to serve as the exclusive implementation team for a special partnership with Horry County Councilman, Mr. Orton Bellamy, and other Horry County public officials, to serve the community through an educational grant funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Members of the Workforce Development Team include Brandon Haselden, Assistant Vice President for Academic and Workforce Development; Dean for Advanced Manufacturing, Engineering, Business & Natural Resources; Jeff Ball, Chair for Academic and Workforce Development; Vincent Myers, Workforce Development Manager; Kristi Evans, Program Manager; Courtney Sterbenz, Program Manager; and Katelyn Clay, Community Development Coordinator.

The A. Wade Martin Innovator of the Year Awards are presented annually by the SC Technical College System Foundation at an Awards Ceremony held at the South Carolina Technical Education Association (SCTEA) Conference in February. The A. Wade Martin Award recognizes individuals in the technical college system who employ innovative approaches to meet the ever-changing needs in the technical education arena and whose achievements impact most positively in the system’s statewide efforts in economic development and the education of technical college students. A. Wade Martin was the executive director of South Carolina’s first technical and industrial training program.

HGTC is proud to announce, for the third year in a row, a HGTC faculty member has won the prestigious statewide award. Dr. Minda Chuska, the Chair and Professor of English, Communications, Fine Arts & Humanities was excited to receive the A. Wade Martin Innovator of the Year 2023.

Dr. Chuska is a leader at HGTC and within the SC Technical College System. She has worked for HGTC for 26 years and spent more than two decades in a leadership role within her department. Prior to joining HGTC, Dr. Chuska worked as an English Professor at Black Hills State University. She is known for her student-centered pedagogy and can-do attitude. Dr. Minda Chuska worked with others to begin a phased in approach to streamline the general education curriculum and develop a Multiple Measures Placement (MM4) and Assessment Process for students entering all programs requiring English 155 or 101. At the time of its creation, this process was the first of its kind in South Carolina. Dr. Minda Chuska’s goal was not only to assist placing students appropriately during the pandemic but also to shorten their path to graduation by removing unnecessary courses along their academic journey to a diploma, certificate, or degree.

“Her innovation, compassion, and high standards are the epitome of excellence. She embodies the true heart and spirit of a higher education administrator. Horry-Georgetown Technical College is blessed to have Dr. Chuska as a Department Chair, educator, and highly esteemed colleague. I am grateful to work with and learn from Dr. Chuska. I support her as she continues to make advanced strides within higher education leading to student success,” said Dr. Heather Hoppe, HGTC Registrar.

“These innovative changes are just a couple of ways that Dr. Chuska has proven to be an asset at HGTC. She is highly respected among her peers at HGTC and within the South Carolina Technical College System. The impact of the changes she has made is immeasurable. Students are now reaching their academic goals faster by saving precious time and financial aid in the process. I’m more than proud to work alongside Dr. Chuska,” said Dr. Candace Howell, HGTC Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs/Dean of the School for Arts and Sciences.
Dr. Minda Chuska (right) receives A. Wade Martin Award from Bruce McCord, President for the SCTEA (left) at the Awards Ceremony.

Left to right: HGTC Innovation Team of the Year Nominee Jeff Ball, HGTC Chair for Academic and Workforce Development; Courtney Sterbenz, HGTC Program Manager; Vincent Myers, HGTC Workforce Development Manager; Kristi Evans, HGTC Program Manager; Brandon Haselden, HGTC Assistant Vice President for Academic and Workforce Development and Dean for Advanced Manufacturing, Engineering, Business & Natural Resources. Not pictured: Katelyn Clay, HGTC Community Development Coordinator.
HGTC’s Mike Williams Honored by Southeast Two-Year College English Association

One of HGTC’s own, Mike Williams- HGTC Professor of English, was honored with the 2023 Bill Doster Distinguished Service Award by the Two-Year College English Association-Southeast Region (TYCA-SE). Professor Williams was presented with the award at the TYCA-SE Conference in Chattanooga, Tennessee, which ran February 22-25, 2023.

“On behalf of the faculty and staff, we are thrilled that one of our very own is the recipient of this prestigious award. Professor Williams has been an advocate and supporter of the TYCA-SE organization through the years, and we know the honor is well deserved,” said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President.

Professor Williams’ service to TYCA-SE spans nearly 25 years. He has hosted two statewide conferences at HGTC that focused on a commitment to quality teaching of English at the two-year college level. Doug Branch, the awards chair for TYCA-SE, recalls Professor Williams’ many years of dedication to the organization.

“It would be difficult to overstate Mike’s service to TYCA-SE. That service began many years ago in 1999 after he attended the Institute in Technical Communication (ITC). Mike served as ITC Director from 2000-2004 and on TYCA-SE’s Regional Executive Committee (REC) in that capacity. He then served on the REC as the Local Arrangements Chair for the 2006 Conference in Myrtle Beach. After staying active as a conference attendee from 2007-2012, he was elected in 2013 by the South Carolina contingent as the State Representative. He served on the REC again from 2014-2016. In 2017, he was the Local Arrangements Co-Chair for TYCA-SE’s annual conference in Charleston. Over the years, he has been a tireless advocate of teaching English in the South Carolina two-year college system, putting together what South Carolinians used to call the annual ‘No-Frills’ Conference. Since 2018, that group has been known as TYCA-SC, and Mike has been the primary host of this conference when it has been scheduled at HGTC’s campus in Myrtle Beach. He has been described as ‘a humble leader within TYCA-SE, firmly committed to the mission of what we do – teaching English to students who need our support, our kindness, our compassion and understanding, and our desire to help students in our region become successful in whatever it is they choose to do in their lives,’” said Doug Branch, Awards Chair, TYCA-SE.

“We are so proud of Mike, who deserves this award not only for loyal service to the organization but also service to his profession! Through Mike’s leadership and hard work, TYCA-SE is having a stronger impact on HGTC and the state of South Carolina,” said Sean Glassberg, HGTC Director of Faculty Development.

TYCA-SE is affiliated with the National Council Teachers of English (NCTE) and TYCA National. The organization allows English instructors in the community and technical college system to share and collaborate from Virginia to Florida and west to Mississippi.

The Bill Doster Distinguished Service Award was established in 2000 by the family of Bill Doster, the first Chair of TYCA-SE (then SCETC—The Southeast Conference of English in the Two-Year College). Though Bill taught at several colleges and universities, most of his 40+ years of teaching took place in two community colleges, Miami Dade, and the College of DuPage in Illinois. Bill was the author of numerous textbooks and journal articles on teaching, and he was a lively and active supporter of his colleagues and his profession. The Bill Doster Award honors his service by recognizing a TYCA-SE member of at least five years who has also served the organization in an outstanding way. The Doster Award winner is honored at the annual conference in several ways: with a special session in which he or she gives a presentation to the members, with waived registration fees, with a $500 stipend, with a lifetime membership to TYCA-SE, with a commemorative plaque, and with a reception following the presentation.

“Professor Williams provides this same energy and commitment at the college, and we are honored to have him on our team as well. We are all proud of his partnership, accomplishments, and passion for TYCA-SE,” said Dr. Jennifer Wilbanks, HGTC Executive Vice President for Academic and Workforce Development.

Mike Williams, HGTC Professor of English (left), receives Bill Doster Distinguished Service Award from Doug Branch, TYCA-SE Awards Chair (right), at the TYCA-SE Conference in Chattanooga, Tennessee.
HGTC Students Volunteer at THE PLAYERS PGA Tour

Golf and Sports Turf Management Students Work Behind-the-Scenes to experience Championship

HGTC Golf and Sports Turf Management students participated in the extraordinary opportunity of a behind-the-scenes working experience at THE PLAYERS PGA Tour event held at the famous TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida March 7-12, 2023.

The students were involved with the TPC Sawgrass Agronomy team and worked to prepare and maintain the golf course for play. The students were busy mowing and providing bunker and detail preparation for the tournament conditions. In addition, students received insight in the tournament preparations and operations through a special tour of the Agronomic Operations Center. Students were able to network with prominent industry partners and leaders. Participation gives students an opportunity to bring back small tips they will be able to utilize in their career development.

“This is the 15th year that HGTC students have participated as volunteers and observers at the tournament,” said Charles Granger, HGTC Chair and Professor of Golf and Sports Turf Management. “What our students experience while working professional tour events cannot be duplicated in a classroom setting. As much as we try, we just cannot replicate the unbelievable quality and world-class conditions. It also gives our students the ability to network and start working on soft skills. This is as much of an interview week as it is a work week.”

Originally from the nation of Georgia, Irakli Japharidze is a first year Golf and Sports Turf Management student at HGTC. He decided to attend HGTC because of the one of a kind program in South Carolina and access to a uniquely designed Turf Care and Demonstration Center on the college campus that provides applications-based learning for student, community, and industry engagement. He reflected on his experience at THE PLAYERS PGA Tour as a once in a lifetime opportunity.

“Serving as one of the student ambassadors at THE PLAYERS PGA Tour was the experience of a lifetime for me. I was amazed at the golf course operations and management team for one of the best courses in the world,” said Irakli Japharidze, HGTC Golf and Sports Turf Management Student.

Japharidze already has an internship secured at Chicago Golf Club in Wheaton, Illinois and will be on course for graduation in May 2024.
Carolinas Regional Convention Honors HGTC Alpha Nu Sigma Chapter with Regional Awards

HGTC Alpha Nu Sigma Chapter Members and Advisors attended the Phi Theta Kappa Carolinas Regional Convention March 17 - 19, 2023 in Columbia, South Carolina. HGTC faculty, staff, and students received numerous awards based on projects and contributions in 2022.

The HGTC Alpha Nu Sigma Chapter received the Most Distinguished Chapter Award 2023 placing first out of 83 chapters in South Carolina, North Carolina, and Bermuda.

Here is a full list of awards received:

- Most Distinguished Chapter, 1st Place
- Beta Tau Continued Excellence Award
- Best Chapter Website
- Yearbook Award
- Posterboard Competition – College Project
- Posterboard Competition – Honors in Action
- Distinguished Chapter Officer – Michelle Hernandez
- Distinguished Chapter Member – Laura LaFave
- Distinguished College Project
- Distinguished Honors in Action Project
- Distinguished Honors in Action Theme Award
- Five Star Chapter
- Horizon Award – Leila Rogers
- Carolinas Region Service Project Award
- Carolinas Region Honors in Action Award
- Carolinas Region Hall of Honor – Michelle Hernandez and Laura LaFave

In addition to the awards, Michelle Hernandez was elected to serve as the South Carolina Vice President for the Carolinas Region in 2023-2024.

“HGTC continues to celebrate the successes of the Alpha Nu Sigma Chapter year after year. To bring home the most distinguished chapter award this year just shows the ongoing commitment of our advisors and students. I am so proud that the work being done at HGTC to build character, leadership, and public service is being recognized regionally,” said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President.

For more information about financial aid, scholarships, important deadlines, processes, and support available, please visit the hgtc.edu.

To learn more and apply, visit hgtc.edu/admissions or call 843-349-5277. For a complete list of academic programs, visit hgtc.edu/programs.
HGTC and GWA, Inc. were recognized by the American Council of Engineering Companies of South Carolina (ACEC-SC) for engineering excellence pursuant to the campus renovation that was completed in April 2022. The annual Engineering Excellence Awards Gala was held at the Columbia Museum of Art and presented awards to the submitted projects with the highest scores in twelve categories. GWA, Inc. was honored with both an Engineering Excellence Award and a Small Firm award by ACEC-SC for the work on the HGTC Grand Strand Campus Infrastructure project.

Formerly operated as the Myrtle Beach Air Force Base, the Grand Strand Campus is HGTC’s largest campus in physical size and comprised of nearly 72 acres with six buildings, including the Dr. Robert E. Speir, Jr. Healthcare Education Center and the Charles F. Freeman Community Dental Clinic. The Grand Strand Campus is the headquarters for the College’s Workforce Development Division and home of the famous International Culinary Institute of Myrtle Beach.

The Grand Strand Campus Infrastructure Project updated building envelopes and improved their energy efficiency, enhanced vehicular and pedestrian traffic flows, significantly enhanced exterior lighting across the campus, and increased aesthetic appeal. Work was completed using a phased approach to allow the use of all campus facilities throughout construction activities.

The Grand Strand Campus enrolls thousands of students annually in a wide variety of curriculum programs, such as culinary, dental, personal services, healthcare, legal studies, and university transfer.

Construction began in August 2020 to renovate Buildings 100 (Former Gym), 200 (Classrooms and Student Services), and 300 (HGTC Foundation, Library, Paralegal Studies Courtroom). The campus transformation included significant renovations to the existing sidewalks, curbing, and overall landscaping throughout the campus. Improvements to the campus also included removing the existing overhead power lines and relocating that infrastructure underground.

Prior to 2020, there was extensive planning and studies in preparation for this project. The overall budget included approximately $8.4 million in building and infrastructure enhancements and an additional $900,000 in campus landscaping that was funded by the City of Myrtle Beach, the Horry County Penny Sales Tax, College Plant Funds, the Horry County Transportation Committee, and the Myrtle Beach Air Force Base Redevelopment Authority.
HGTC Dental Hygiene Faculty Complete Local Anesthesia & Laser Training for Certification

HGTC dental hygiene faculty completed certifications in local anesthesia infiltration and laser training, enabling faculty to deliver and oversee the practice in the department’s dental hygiene clinic. The training also enhances the department’s ability to guide students in the clinical setting. Both procedures are in the scope of practice for students, and now all faculty are certified to teach both.

“We are proud to announce that all faculty members have completed the local anesthesia training and certification, in addition to laser certification. Our dental team is committed to enhancing student learning outcomes and will continue to do so with lifelong learning through continuing education,” said Michelle Meeker, HGTC Program Director and Chair of Dental Sciences.

HGTC offers a variety of dental services to the community through its two public clinics serving 2,500 patients annually. Located in a state-of-the-art facility, these dental clinics allow HGTC to provide top-quality dental care at an affordable price. HGTC’s Dental Hygiene Clinic has specialized in providing thorough intraoral and extraoral assessments, cleanings, and X-Rays for our community since 1998. These procedures are performed by our Dental hygiene students, who are supervised by their professors. A Staff Dentist is present and available for consultation purposes to advise of any additional dental treatments that may be needed.

HGTC offers a vital, low-cost option for dental cleanings. Utilizing a waitlist, patients who are available to come on short notice may speed up their wait for an appointment.

HGTC students are also welcomed to make appointments for dental services. Dental cleaning appointments are three to four hours long and patients often require more than one appointment to complete their cleaning. Commitment to appointments is vital to the continued success of our students. Patients are treated two days a week during the college semesters. Call 843-839-1070 or email dental.clinic@hgtc.edu for more information.

The Associate in Applied Science in Dental Hygiene degree prepares students to provide direct patient care in the detection and prevention of oral diseases under the supervision of a dentist, as required by law. The dental hygienist’s major role is as an educator and includes designing dental hygiene treatment and education for patients on an individual basis. Graduates of this program are qualified to evaluate patient medical histories, take and record blood pressure, chart conditions of periodontal disease and suspected decay for diagnosis by the dentist, conduct oral-cancer screening examinations, educate the patient on the latest techniques of oral home care, and perform a thorough cleaning of the patients’ teeth. A dental hygienist is also qualified to apply sealants and fluoride for the prevention of decay, to expose and develop radiographs, and to provide nutritional counseling for dental patients.

Students in the Dental Hygiene program receive their education in a state-of-the-art Dental Clinic on the Grand Strand campus, under the direct supervision of licensed dentists and hygienists. Graduates are eligible to take national and state board examinations. After successful completion of these examinations, graduates will be licensed and recognized as a Registered Dental Hygienist.
It takes many HGTC employees working together to support the HGTC Pantry with donation, collection, and distribution efforts. Monica Ramsey, HGTC Administrative Assistant for Human Resources, recently agreed to serve the HGTC Pantry in the coordination of the fundraising and donation aspects of the operation.

“We have so many in need, and keeping the shelves stocked can sometimes be a challenge. We encourage everyone to donate to the Pantry and appreciate all the donations we have received to date,” said Ramsey.

Donations can be dropped off in the donation boxes located throughout each of the three campuses. Items may also be delivered to the HGTC Human Resources Office in Building 200 on the Conway Campus. To make a financial donation in person, please email hgtc-pantry@hgtc.edu. For more information, visit hgtc.edu/pantry.
Message from the HGTC Foundation

The purpose of the HGTC Foundation is to raise funds to support the programs, services and activities of the Horry-Georgetown Technical College, its students and employees, and to create and strengthen positive relations between the College and the community.

As we build on our reputation as a quality teaching and student-centered environment, we invite you to help share our vision by your financial support for scholarships, programs, facilities or other college needs; donation of equipment or technology; mentoring students; providing internships; and service on various academic or foundation advisory boards.

The HGTC Foundation is a 501(c)(3) Organization. The Foundation is recognized by the South Carolina Tax Commission as well as the Internal Revenue Service as a tax exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. No gift is too small or too large and your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by the IRS.

HGTC Foundation Elects New Board Members
Announces New Foundation President

In the summer of 2022, HGTC and the HGTC Foundation Board of Directors proudly announced the new President of the HGTC Foundation. Mrs. Shannon C. Detzler was selected as the successor for the position following the retirement of Mr. Neyle Wilson, current President of the Board, and past President of the College and Foundation.

Mrs. Detzler has a wealth of knowledge and over 26 years of experience in business operations and fundraising. She is a graduate of the University of South Carolina with a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and possesses a master’s in Business Administration from Winthrop University. A graduate of Leadership Grand Strand, she has served on the Board of Regents, the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and the Grand Strand Miracle League Board of Directors. Her accolades include being a Jefferson Award winner for public service, Volunteer of the Year by the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, and Young Professional of the Year by the Waccamaw Community Foundation.

“I want to personally congratulate and welcome our new incoming President, Shannon Detzler. The Board Members and I look forward to working with Shannon for the future success of the college,” said Tim Tilley, Chairman of the HGTC Foundation Board of Directors.

Mrs. Detzler began her new position as Foundation President effective September 1. She and her husband, Ben, make their home in Myrtle Beach with their son, Camp.

“As we build on our reputation as a quality teaching and student-centered environment, we invite you to help share our vision by your financial support for scholarships, programs, facilities, or other college needs; donation of equipment or technology; mentoring students; providing internships; and service on various academic or foundation advisory boards,” continued Tilley.
HGTC Foundation Introduces Steve Kipe as Philanthropic Coordinator

The HGTC Foundation Board of Directors introduced Steve Kipe as the new Philanthropic Coordinator in late February 2023.

Steve brings over 10 years of experience working in ministry in the Myrtle Beach area. He also has an extensive background in marketing and media working for multiple radio and television stations in South Carolina, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. Steve graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications/Journalism from Shippensburg University in 2001 and earned a graduate certificate in Christian Theology from Grand Canyon University in 2020.

As Philanthropic Coordinator, Steve will facilitate all fundraising events and donor relations. Shannon Detzler, HGTC Foundation President, has been impressed with what Steve has offered since being hired in late February.

“In a short time, Steve Kipe has proven his value and expertise to the HGTC Foundation. Coming on board the week of our annual gala, he was instrumental in organization and technology needs. He has furthered that with the implementation of a donor newsletter and has several projects on the horizon to boost marketing of the Foundation and promote our impact on HGTC students,” said Detzler.
HGTC Foundation Elects New Board Members

The HGTC Foundation Board of Directors are proud to announce six new board members recently nominated and elected to serve the Foundation. John M. Draughn, Jerry Jenerette, and Alicia Thompson joined the Board of Directors in October 2022 for the 2022-2025 term.

John M. Draughn is the Director of Commercial Sales and Management for Coldwell Banker in Commercial Real Estate. He brings many years of community involvement with the Coastal Carolina Association of Realtors, Coastal Education Foundation, and the Waccamaw Community Foundation.

Jerry Jenerette is a Commercial Banking Executive for United Bank and retired from the South Carolina Army National Guard. He brings many years of community involvement with the United Way, Civitan Club of Myrtle Beach, and Rotary Club of Conway.

Alicia Thompson is the President & CEO for the Myrtle Beach Area Hospitality Association. She brings many years of community involvement with the Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce, United Way, Myrtle Beach Workforce Housing Advisory Board, Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation, and the American Red Cross.

The HGTC Foundation Board of Directors also nominated and elected new board members to serve the Foundation through a special election in January. Etta Greene Carter, Bryan Lewis, and Ashley Nelson have joined the Board of Directors to fill open terms by recent board member retirements.

Etta Greene Carter is the Director of Adult Education for Horry County Schools. She brings many years of community involvement with the South Carolina Association of School Administrators, United Way, Finklea Community Center, and Waccamaw Workforce Development.

Bryan Lewis is the Director of Customer Service for Santee Cooper. He brings many years of community involvement with the Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce, Conway Chamber of Commerce, American Heart Association, United Way, and the Myrtle Beach Rotary Club.

Ashley Nelson is the Program and Communications Officer for the Frances P. Bunnelle Foundation. She brings many years of community involvement with the Village Group, Coastal Montessori Charter School, Junior League of the Grand Strand, and Waccamaw High School’s School Improvement Council.

“On behalf of the Foundation Staff, I would like to congratulate the new board members nominated to serve the Horry-Georgetown Technical College Foundation Board of Directors. It is my honor and privilege to welcome these three outstanding community members as our newest elected members of this dynamic organization! We are thrilled to have them serve on our Board, and we look forward to working with them in the coming years. I believe their knowledge, expertise, and vision will be an invaluable contribution in helping the Foundation reach our goals,” said Shannon Detzler, HGTC Foundation President & CEO.
The HGTC Foundation was pleased to receive support once again from HTC as the Premier Event Sponsor for the HGTC Foundation Annual Gala held on March 4, 2023. The sponsorship is crucial to funding student scholarships for the HGTC community.

The Annual Gala is the major fundraising event for the year and includes an hors d’oeuvre and champagne reception, live entertainment, virtual silent auction, a delicious gourmet five-course dinner prepared by HGTC professional chef instructors and students. The event was held at the HGTC International Culinary Institute of Myrtle Beach to raise funds in support of the culinary programs and scholarships for students attending HGTC.

“We were thrilled to have HTC as the Premier Event Sponsor of the 2023 Annual Gala,” said Mrs. Shannon Detzler, HGTC Foundation President & CEO. “HTC is the perfect brand to continue the title sponsorship. The committed support of a sponsor like HTC and the loyalty of our attendees are what makes this the best event of the year. Over the past 14 years, the Annual Gala has raised over $1,000,000. This year we continued our tradition of success.”

“HTC has always believed that investing in our local youth is critical to the continued growth and success of our community,” said Carlton Lewis, HTC Chief Executive Officer. “HTC’s local cooperative roots align well with HGTC Foundation’s mission of supporting deserving students in our communities.”

“The Annual Gala event has been an extraordinary success for the College raising over one million dollars in the past fourteen years for scholarships, student support, and numerous college projects,” said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President. “We are so pleased with the continued support from HTC, one of our most loyal business and industry partners.”

The HGTC Foundation welcomes the community to become involved as the College continues to foster its reputation as a high-quality learning and teaching institution with a student-centered environment. The community can enhance this vision with financial support for scholarships, programs, facilities, or other needs; donation of equipment or technology; mentoring students; providing internships; and service on various academic or foundation advisory boards.
HGTC Foundation’s 15th Annual Gala – Huge Success

Foundation event raises funds to support HGTC programs, services, and activities

The HGTC Foundation 15th Annual Gala “Southern Charm” sponsored by HTC was a huge success, with net proceeds over $135,000!

On Saturday, March 4, 2023, HGTC’s new Foundation President & CEO, Shannon Detzler, and the Foundation Board of Directors welcomed the community to participate in the Foundation Gala at the HGTC International Culinary Institute of Myrtle Beach. The Gala is the major fundraising event for the year and includes entertainment, silent and live auctions, a delicious five-course gourmet dinner prepared by HGTC professional chef instructors and students, and so much more. The event was sold out and exceeded all expectations with the highest net in the history of the event.

The event raises funds to support the programs and scholarships for students attending HGTC. This annual event has proven to be a phenomenal success, with over $1 million raised in the past 15 years.

The virtual silent auction packages included Chef-Catered Dinner Parties, Salon & Day Spa Packages, Dining & Nightlife Attractions, Musical Performances, Travel Packages, and more.

“In addition, I would like to extend a special thank you to HTC for being our Premier Event Sponsor. The Annual Gala has a significant impact on our culinary and hospitality businesses in our community. The support directly benefits students through scholarships and program enhancements. These students are the workforce of tomorrow, and this event ensures their success as each one reaches their educational goals,” said Shannon Detzler, HGTC Foundation President & CEO.

The purpose of the HGTC Foundation is to raise funds to support the programs, services, and activities of HGTC, its students and employees, and to create and cultivate positive relationships between the College and the community.

“The Annual Gala event has been an extraordinary success for the College raising the essential funding for scholarships, student support, and numerous College projects,” said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President. “We are so pleased with the continued support of our Foundation President, Board of Directors, and numerous business and industry partners in our community.”

Presenting Sponsor: Horry Telephone Cooperative
Food Sponsor: US Foods
Golf Car Sponsor: Ocean Lakes Golf Cars
Wine Sponsor: South Atlantic Bank
Trip Sponsor: Merrill Lynch – Reid Folline
Cocktail Sponsor: Tito’s Vodka
Craft Beer Sponsor: Tidal Creek Brewery
Entertainment and Décor Sponsor: Coastal-Luxe Interiors
Table Sponsors: Carolina Radiology, Coastal Carolina National Bank, CRG Companies, McLeod Health, Performance Food Service, Philanthropist.com-Greg Everette, Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics, Sea Captain’s House Restaurant, South Atlantic Bank, and Truist Bank
HGTC Foundation Receives Wells Fargo Funding

Wells Fargo Scholarship helps students in need of assistance. The HGTC Foundation received a $15,000 grant from Wells Fargo to support scholarship funding for the College. The fund was established by Wells Fargo to provide scholarships for workforce training in high demand occupations.

“Wells Fargo is proud to support students with the financial assistance they need to obtain a valuable education at HGTC,” said Shannon Murphy, Wells Fargo District Senior Manager. “We are honored to work together with educational institutions like HGTC to help create a competitive workforce and sustainable economy for generations to come.”

A candidate for the scholarship award must need financial assistance and a resident of Horry and Georgetown counties. The Wells Fargo Scholarship may be used for tuition, books, supplies, or other educational expenses. Students must have a GPA of 2.0 or higher and must complete a FAFSA form to be eligible for any scholarship.

Students must submit applications to the HGTC Financial Aid Office and selection of the awardees will be made by the College Scholarship Committee. The HGTC Financial Aid Office will ensure the awardees receive the proper credit through the College Business Office.

Scholarships were awarded for the spring semester 2023.

For more information about the Wells Fargo Scholarship and to apply for assistance, contact the HGTC Financial Aid Office at 843-349-5251.
Duke Energy has been a generous supporter of HGTC through the years. HGTC received a $124,225.77 grant from Duke Energy in 2021 to purchase new equipment and safety gear for the program. HGTC also received a $195,116 grant in 2019 to expand the Electrical Lineman Training yard allowing the college to double the enrollment of the program for the 2021 fall semester and making it the largest Electrical Lineman Yard in the state of South Carolina.

“As Duke Energy and other utilities build the smart-thinking grid of the future, thousands of jobs will be created and filled,” said Mindy Taylor, government and community relations manager for Duke Energy. “The backbone of that workforce is the well-trained utility lineworker, and programs like those offered by HGTC are critical to providing a highly-skilled pipeline of talent that will help keep South Carolina competitive now and, in the years, ahead.”

The Electrical Lineman Technician program began in January 2015 following the initial construction of the lineman yard in November 2014. The program prepares students both mentally and physically to have the knowledge, skills, techniques, and professionalism to enter the utility industry and remarkably has a 98% job placement rate. The program is a one semester certificate degree and enrolls six cohorts of 16 students per year.
HGTC Foundation Receives $20,000 from Bell & Bell Buick GMC Trucks

Bell & Bell Buick GMC Trucks supports HGTC Automotive Technology Program

The HGTC Foundation recently received a $20,000 donation from Bell & Bell Buick GMC Trucks in Little River for the Automotive Technology program. The donation will assist with program needs, books, equipment, and scholarships.

“The HGTC Foundation is extremely grateful for partners like Bell & Bell Buick GMC Trucks in Little River. This donation exemplifies their commitment to investing in the communities they serve. The funds will go directly to enhancing our new Automotive Technology program and providing more skilled and qualified workers in our area workforce,” said Shannon Detzler, HGTC Foundation president & CEO.

“Bell & Bell is proud to support HGTC and especially the new Automotive Technology program. This is a great need for our community, and we are excited to be part of this program,” said Tammy Bell-Floyd, Executive Manager at Bell & Bell Buick GMC Trucks.

Classes began for the new Automotive Technology Program on the HGTC Conway Campus in February 2023.

“Automotive technician jobs are in high demand right now. HGTC aims to provide students with the highest quality of classroom and hands-on education while also emphasizing the importance of safety and professionalism which will prepare the student to enter the workforce,” said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President.

Within the first semester of the HGTC Automotive Technology program students learn about hydro-boost power brakes and vacuum power brakes as well as master cylinders and caliper rebuilding, the basic study of the diagnostic procedures used to locate and repair internal engine malfunctions, the fundamentals of steering, suspension and alignment and includes inspection, diagnostics, maintenance and repair of systems and common welding and techniques/equipment used currently in trades and industry.

“HGTC has been working with industry leaders for quite some time to perform a needs assessment and develop the curriculum. If you are passionate about cars, take your first step toward a career as an automotive technician,” said Jeff Ball, HGTC Chair for Academic and Workforce Development.

Please contact Workforce Development at wdinfo@hgtc.edu for more information as entry into the program is limited.
Duke Energy Supports HGTC Foundation in Honor of Lineworkers

The HGTC Foundation received a $10,000 Duke Energy Foundation grant in honor of National Lineworker Appreciation Day April 18. The grant will provide assistance to students in covering the costs of tools and protective equipment in the HGTC Electrical Lineman Technician program on the Conway Campus.

“We are grateful for the services lineworkers provide to our community year-round and so appreciative of the many ways Duke Energy has been instrumental in the enhancement of the HGTC Lineman Technician program. Many of our students struggle with the ability to pay for additional costs, especially the special safety equipment required for enrollment. Our college and community are reaping the benefits from the support of Duke Energy as we respond to the interest and needs expressed by local industry,” said Dr. Marilyn Murphy Fore, HGTC President.

“The HGTC Foundation is extremely grateful for partners like Duke Energy. This donation exemplifies their commitment to investing in the communities they serve. The funds will go directly to enhancing our lineman program, providing more skilled and qualified workers in our area workforce,” said Shannon Detzler, HGTC Foundation President & CEO.

Duke Energy has been a generous supporter of HGTC through the years.

“We are transforming the energy grid – making strategic, data-driven investments to improve reliability, use more solar and clean energy and provide customers with the intelligent information they need to make better energy choices and save money,” said Mindy Taylor, Director of Government and Community Relations for Duke Energy. “These investments will reap benefits for many years to come, but we must increase the talent pipeline for lineworkers here in South Carolina today to build the smart-thinking power grid of tomorrow. Programs like these are absolutely critical for us to be successful in these efforts.”

The next Electrical Lineman class will begin with the summer semester on May 15. There are a limited number of spots available for the summer cohort.

The Electrical Lineman Technician program began in January 2015 following the initial construction of the lineman yard in November 2014. The program prepares students both mentally and physically to have the knowledge, skills, techniques, and professionalism to enter the utility industry and remarkably has a 98% job placement rate. The program is a one semester certificate degree and enrolls six cohorts of 16 students per year.