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ORIENTATION TO COLLEGE

By Ken Scott

Saturday school is not the punishment it seems to be. This past Saturday, students spent the day on the Trenholm campus completing most of the requirements for their Orientation class, and the event proved to be a tremendous success! This faculty-driven initiative, led by Dr. Julliana Probst, reformatted the Orientation course into a full day of information, testing, introduction, explanation, and guidance, with students gaining tremendous knowledge about how to succeed in college.

Many dedicated faculty members volunteered their time, spending the day with students to introduce them to work ethics, learning styles, critical thinking, communication, and more. Special thanks to Heath Flowers, Henry Tylicki, Dorothy James, Dr. Ken Scott, Phillip Allen, Ronica Thomas, Michael Barnette, and Dr. Julliana Probst for their hard work and volunteer spirit! Without these faculty members who were willing to give up their Saturday, this Orientation format would not have been possible! Several staff members also supported the Saturday Orientation by presenting information to students. Carol Millender visited each class and presented the WorkKeys overview; Tennie McBryde presented information on Student Services and Safety; Betty Edwards provided a financial aid overview; Joseph Trimble shared information about the Trenholm library; and Barbara Anne Spears welcomed students. Sharon Portis was also on hand to assist faculty throughout the day. The SGA sold pizza at the lunch break as a fundraiser; students also enjoyed the convenience of having food available on campus. Faculty enjoyed a delicious lunch provided by Dr. Probst, Ms. Thomas, and Mr. Phillip Allen; they also purchased the leftover pizza in support of the SGA.

Overall, the day was a huge success! Students responded positively to the opportunity to complete most of their coursework during the day-long class. The remainder of the class will be conducted online. Other sections of Saturday Orientation are scheduled throughout the summer.

SKILLS USA 2011

H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College recently competed in the SkillsUSA State Competition in Birmingham, Alabama. The event held on April 26-28, 2011 was the culmination of several high schools and two-year colleges across Alabama that competed in programs of study ranging from building construction to computer information systems. Trenholm State's SkillsUSA Chapter members won the following awards:

Chapter Member Award: 1st Place, H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College **Computer Maintenance Technology:** 2nd Place, Cornelius Warmack (Silver)

Automotive Services Technology: 1st Place, Nolan Fulton (Gold), 2nd Place, John Russell (Silver)

Technical Computer Applications: 1st Place, Norma Fredrickson (Gold)

Advertising Design: 1st Place, Mike Bainter (Gold), 2nd Place, Catherine Flavell (Silver), 3rd Place, Gerard Crawford

(Bronze)

Television (Video) Production: 1st Place, Team #500 (Gold), Mylo Jones, Chris Dobson

Prepared Speech: 1st Place, Erika Taylor (Gold)

Web Design: 2nd Place, Team #500 (Silver), Jermaine Peterson, Landon Isham

Customer Service: 2nd Place, Cheryl Ransaw (Silver)

Photography: 1st Place, Nick Drollette (Gold), 2nd Place, Laterna Harrell (Silver)

While in Birmingham at the BJCC Arena, the April 27 storm also came through Birmingham. In the afternoon of that day, after competing all day, the storm delayed the process and all competitors were moved to the lowest floor of the BJCC Arena and in the stairwells of the Shearton. Those of us in the Arena witnessed the storm on the big screen as it came very close to our location, turning at the last minute. Even in the midst of this process, our students worked hard and gave their very best in the competitions. Trenholm State Technical College should be very proud of the success of its competitors. Not only did they work very hard, they exemplified excellent character while in the storm and throughout the competition.

CONGRATULATIONS, DR. JOHNSON AND DR. SCOTT

Dr. Ken Scott and Dr. Mimi Johnson are bringing intellectual prominence to our College family with the publication of their research, "Strategic Leadership: A Model for Promoting, Sustaining and Advancing Institutional Significance," published in the *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*.