



# CHANGE STARTS HERE

## Middle College Success Berkeley Campus

As a child, Tonirae Moore never spent more than two years in any one school. He moved from place to place with his mother, brothers and stepdad.

During those young years, Moore, the youngest of three boys, faced overwhelming personal challenges. His older brother dropped out of high school. Also, Moore was devastated when his first cousin was shot and killed.

## TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

### Foundation and Alumni News



*Tonirae Moore graduated in May 2012 from the Berkeley Middle College.*

Moore made the decision to move to New York to spend time with his father and attend school there. "I didn't know what my father looked like until 6th grade," Moore noted. "I had only spoken to him on the phone."

Still struggling in school, his mother begged him to come back to Berkeley County. He completed 7th grade at College Park Middle School. He got back on track with Star Academy at Berkeley High School. Moore set his nose to the grindstone and completed both 8th and 9th grades in one year, starting 10th grade on time at Stratford High School. Soon after, he realized the large high school setting was not for him. "There were a lot of distractions that kept me from focusing," said Moore.

He discovered Berkeley Middle College at an open house. Located on Berkeley Campus, the Middle College serves up to 100 juniors and seniors with a blended curriculum of high school and college courses. The Middle College's smaller classes and one-on-one attention intrigued Moore. "As soon as I learned there  
*continued on next page*



# Message from the President

## Dr. Mary Thornley

We have opportunities and challenges this fall regarding funding for technical colleges. First, the good news: the General Assembly increased the S.C. Lottery Tuition Assistance (LTA) from \$936 to \$1,140 per semester. **Our full-time tuition for Tri-county students is only \$715.40 a semester with LTA that is available to most S.C. residents regardless of financial need.** The technical colleges also maintained the same level of base funding from the state, and TTC received a one-time allocation of \$500,000 for aeronautical equipment that will be used to train students.

The more challenging news is that federal financial aid for needy students is less available while enrollment continues to soar. Pell Grant awards are now limited to fewer semesters than before while the maximum income related to “Expected Family Contribution” has been changed which impacts federal financial aid eligibility. We are working hard to make sure that a TTC education remains affordable and have reduced our registration fee from \$75 to \$14 this fall to compensate for other increases.

**With an eye toward the future and the need to ensure affordability and access, the TTC Foundation is undertaking a \$3.5 million fundraising campaign.** The goal is to support student scholarships and invest in technology that will allow the college to realize millions of dollars in net savings over the next decade.

TTC creates an educated community that results in a higher tax base, lower rates of poverty and crime, and greater opportunity for economic development. As TTC grows, we look forward to continuing to meet the needs of local businesses while making higher education accessible and affordable for more students.

Mary Thornley, Ed.D., President



**BUILDING OPPORTUNITY**  
The Case for Trident Technical College

Main Campus | Berkeley Campus | Palmer Campus | Mount Pleasant Campus

### Middle College Success *continued*

“The Berkeley Middle College is a great opportunity and an excellent start for your career,” said Tonirae Moore, the first in his family to graduate from high school.

was a place I could get away from the commotion and concentrate, I was ready to sign up,” Moore said. He transferred to the Middle College in 2010.

“Tonirae doesn’t let anything get in his way,” said Middle College High School Principal Claire Freeman. “If there is a roadblock, he goes around it and doesn’t let it get him down.”

Moore graduated in May 2012 – the first of his family to graduate from high school. He hopes to join the Navy and become a pilot.

When asked what advice he would give to students considering the Middle College, Moore got straight to the point. **“Focus on your studies and don’t be afraid to ask for help. The Berkeley Middle College is a great opportunity and an excellent start for your career,”** he said. “It cuts down on the time it takes to earn a degree, and it is a great help financially. The more college credits you can have under your belt, the higher you can go in life.”

# Zucker Family Makes \$1 Million Lead Gift to the *Building Opportunity* Campaign

Thanks to the outstanding leadership of Anita Zucker and the generosity of the entire Zucker family, the Trident Technical College (TTC) Foundation's *Building Opportunity* campaign is off to a roaring start. The family's \$1 million commitment to the campaign represents their most significant contribution to the college to date. The gift will support technology and scholarships.

Zucker, a member of TTC's Area Commission (the college's governing body) and a long-time supporter of the college, did not hesitate when asked to serve as the campaign chair. "Every day, I have a reason to talk about Trident Technical College and its enormous impact on our community," Zucker said.

**With a \$3.5 million goal, the *Building Opportunity* campaign will provide \$2 million to support critical infrastructure priorities and \$1.5 million in scholarship support.**

The Zucker family's commitment to TTC is longstanding. The late Jerry Zucker served for many years on TTC's Electronics Engineering Technology Advisory Committee and Anita is a former member and past chair of the TTC Foundation Board of Trustees.

"We must ensure that the college has the facilities, equipment, and human and financial resources necessary to fuel the region's economic growth and to make relevant training accessible to everyone who seeks a better life and livelihood," said TTC President Dr. Mary Thornley. "Never has what we do at Trident Technical College been more important, and never has the support that the college and our students receive been more critical. We are extremely grateful for the Zucker family's leadership and generosity."



From left, Dr. Mary Thornley and Anita Zucker

Zucker is the chairperson and CEO of The InterTech Group, her family holding company, and a myriad of family businesses.

**"Education – particularly the high-quality, highly accessible academic programs that Trident Technical College offers – is vital to our collective future,"** said Zucker. **"Without TTC, and the skilled workforce it provides, companies like mine would not thrive. Without TTC, so many of our young students would not have the opportunity for a better life through education."**

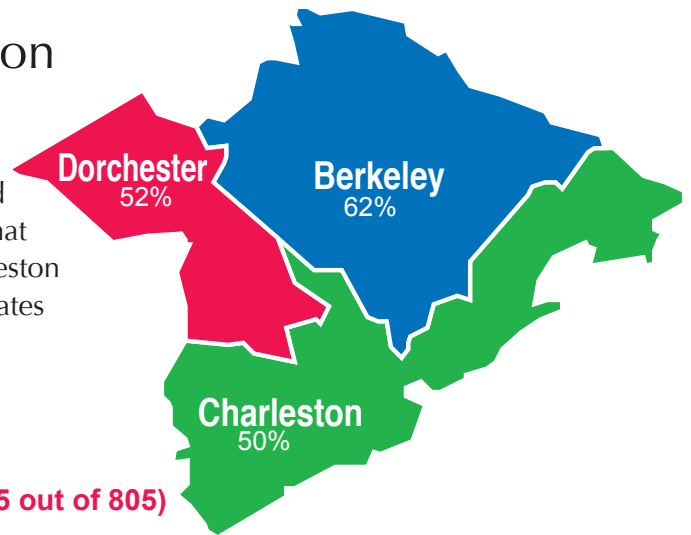


To join the Zucker family in their support of TTC, consider making a pledge or contribution to the *Building Opportunity* campaign today. Your gift will enable others to experience the power and promise of education.

For more information, visit [www.tridenttech.edu/supporting\\_ttc.htm](http://www.tridenttech.edu/supporting_ttc.htm) or contact Kim Sturgeon, [kim.sturgeon@tridenttech.edu](mailto:kim.sturgeon@tridenttech.edu), 843.574.6195.

# TTC is the choice for higher education for many Lowcountry students

More than half of Tri-county high school graduates who attend public colleges in South Carolina choose TTC. TTC is proud that 62 percent of Berkeley County graduates, 50 percent of Charleston County graduates and 52 percent of Dorchester County graduates attend as first-time freshmen.\*



**Berkeley County – 62 percent (600 of 964)**

**Charleston County – 50 percent (768 of 1,546)**

**Dorchester County (1 and 2 Combined) – 52 percent (415 out of 805)**

\*The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE) disaggregates each public college's first-time freshmen cohort by his or her high school of record. Fall 2011 CHE data reveals the above percentages of first-time freshmen attending public South Carolina colleges.

**Did You Know...?** Trident Technical College offers an array of spa and dining services that are open to the public and provide students with learning opportunities.

## 181 Palmer Dining Room

The 50-seat dining room lab is adjacent to and served by the student-run production kitchen. The facility's design, highlighted by bold lines and bright colors, garnered LS3P Associates an Honor Award, the American Institute of Architect's highest.

Skilled Culinary Institute of Charleston students produce and serve a seasonal prix fixe menu for a value that *Southern Living* magazine labeled "How to Save Money on Fine Cuisine." The dining room is open to the public for lunch, offers fine dining at an affordable price and gives patrons a unique view of kitchen activity.

**For reservations at Palmer, call 843.820.5087 and select option two or email [181Palmer@tridenttech.edu](mailto:181Palmer@tridenttech.edu).**



## Spa 66

Spa 66 at Palmer offers relaxing and therapeutic services at a great value. Esthetics clinics include customized facial treatments,



masks, herbal wraps, reflexology, acupuncture, full body waxing, makeup consultation and airbrush tanning (available services vary by semester). Nail clinics include manicures, pedicures, acrylics and shellacs; most services are \$5 or less. Massage clinics charge just \$25 for a one-hour massage. Enjoy these services while providing excellent experience for students in their chosen field of study.

### **Spa 66 appointments:**

**Esthetics:** Day appointments are available starting in October for Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 843.722.5505 for appointments.

**Nails:** Day appointments are available by calling 843.722.5578.

**Massage:** Day appointments are available beginning in February for March and April. Call 843.722.5552 for appointments.

**Additional services, including cosmetology, are offered at Berkeley Campus, Summerville Site at Trolley Road and Relish Restaurant Group Dining Room at Main Campus. For more information, visit [www.tridenttech.edu](http://www.tridenttech.edu).**

# “How Scholarships are Making a Difference for Our Family”

By Kenneth “Kenn” Plymel

Network Systems Management Student  
Vice President of Scholarship AEO  
(TTC Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa)

A few years ago I lost my job. I began looking for jobs in the IT field, in which I had worked previously. Since my most recent work in IT had been 10 years prior and I had never gotten a degree or any certifications in the field, the job search was not working. **My wife Jessica and I decided it would be best if I joined her at Trident Tech, where she was already a student.** I returned to school in the fall of 2010 and will be receiving my Associate of Applied Science in Network Systems Management in spring 2013. At the end of the fall 2012 semester I will be receiving four IT certificates from TTC and will be ready to take the certification test for Cisco Certified Network Associate and the CompTIA Security+. At the same time, I am pursuing an Associate in Science degree.

Both Jessica and I are obtaining student loans in order to work, attend school and raise our three children. **Scholarship support provided by the TTC Foundation has been essential. Together, our scholarships will help us lower our eventual student loan repayments by thousands of dollars and support our moves into our respective career fields.**



From left, the Plymel family including Kenneth, James, Brianna, Jessica and Khrystyna

During the recent academic year, 2,000 Trident Technical College students applied for a TTC Foundation scholarship. Unfortunately, the Foundation could provide scholarships to only 200 of them.

For more information about how you can support scholarships at the TTC Foundation, contact Keith Rumrill at 843.574.6196.

Pictured below, scholarship donors and recipients of their respective funds sit together and share stories at a panel discussion during TTC's 2012 Scholarship Luncheon.





**TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

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# Nursing and Science Building Groundbreaking



Trident Technical College broke ground June 25 on a new \$30 million Nursing and Science Building on the college's Main Campus in North Charleston. Above, TTC President Dr. Mary Thornley (center) is pictured with nursing students on the site of the future Nursing and Science Building, which is funded by Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties.