



The Distinguished Gentleman

TTC alum ReZsaun Lewis attended nine different elementary schools. But he still thinks he had it better than most.

“I was raised by a single mother, but I was lucky to have relationships with my dad and my grandfather, both of whom served as role models for me. Many of my friends didn’t have that,” he said.

It was important for ReZsaun to be a good example in turn for his two younger brothers, and going to college was a large part of that.

“I was that role model for them, and I knew everything I did would influence their own decisions,” he said. “But I honestly had no idea what I wanted to do at the time.”

It was during a math class at TTC that ReZsaun discovered his desire to teach.

His instructor, Frank Monterisi, often noticed him in the back of the

classroom helping other students with their work. He took him aside one day and asked him if he ever considered teaching.

“I could tell he had a desire to learn and he had the kind of personality a lot of people are drawn to,” said Monterisi. “So I suggested he go talk to Tim Brown, dean of Humanities and Social Sciences at TTC.”

“He actually made me go,” ReZsaun laughed. “When I didn’t go see him right away, Mr. Monterisi took me out into the hall and said, ‘Go. Right now.’”

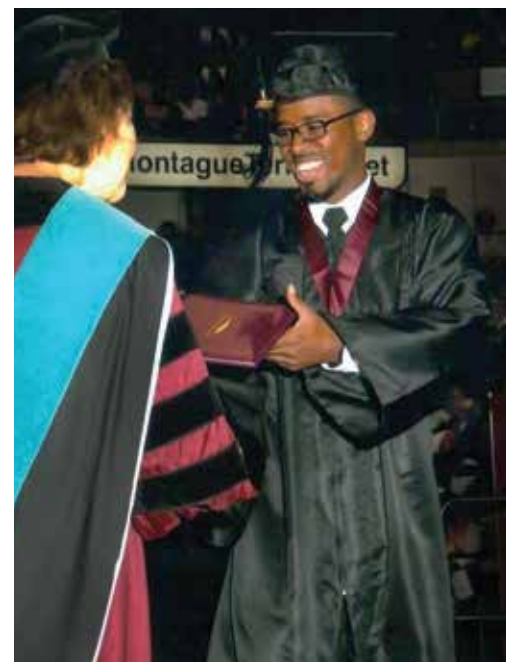
But he is forever grateful for that push. Brown got ReZsaun involved with the Call Me MiSTER (Mentors Instructing Students Toward Effective Role Models) program, whose mission is to increase the pool of available teachers from a broad, diverse background.

With scholarships he received through the Call Me MiSTER program, ReZsaun was able to complete his four-year degree at College of Charleston without

any out-of-pocket cost.

He now teaches fourth grade at Sires Elementary in Summerville and sees too many students who are not learning basic life skills, such as a proper hand-shake and networking abilities. He tries to incorporate these skills into their academic education as much as possible and has recently taken it a step further by starting a Summerville chapter of the

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A national spotlight shines on TTC's Youth Apprenticeship Program

Former White House Cabinet Secretary, Assistant to the President, and now Deputy Secretary of the Department of Labor, Chris Lu, recently made time for a special visit with TTC youth apprenticeship students. On Tuesday, Aug. 2, Secretary Lu stopped by Halls Chophouse where he met with TTC Foundation Trustee Bill Hall, of Hall Management Group, TTC apprenticeship staff, representatives from Apprenticeship Carolina, the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce, chefs from Hall's restaurant group, and four high school students in the program: Raven Bailey of Garrett Academy, who works at High Cotton; Michelle Hammock of West Ashley, who works at SNOB; August Miller of Cane Bay, who works at Halls Chophouse; and Megan Scharett of Berkeley Middle College, who works at SNOB.

Deputy Secretary Lu asked a number of questions, including why Bill Hall

as a business owner wanted to train potential employees who might go somewhere else. "Training new generations of chefs benefits the industry as a whole, and even if only a few join the Hall's family, it would be well worth it," said Hall. "Our chefs appreciate the commitment from the students, especially their dedication and enthusiasm. It's one thing to teach someone how to cook, but finding people with a strong work ethic and a true passion for the job is hard. These apprentices possess both."

Hall also knows from personal experience the benefits of an apprenticeship. In 1965, Hall started his career studying hospitality at City College in San Francisco. It was difficult to find a job at that time, but he saw apprenticeship program opportunities advertised at school, one of which was for the Fairmont Hotel. Thus began his early days as an apprentice polishing glassware at the Fairmont, eventually rising through the ranks of the

hospitality industry. He is now able to inspire and guide the next generation of hospitality employees.

Students noted how much they appreciated the experience and the opportunity to explore the career of their choice. While the time commitment is high, they all agreed that so are the rewards. Many said their classmates were jealous of the opportunity they had to earn college credit and get paid for real work experience.

Deputy Secretary Lu expressed his admiration for the success of the youth apprenticeship program and the collaboration in Charleston. He travels broadly and regularly across the country and noted that everyone was talking about apprenticeships, and that the program was a prime method for workforce development.



From left, Bill Hall and Assistant Secretary Lu, along with youth apprentices Michelle Hammock, August Miller, Megan Scharett and Raven Bailey, Hall restaurant group staff, TTC staff, and Chamber staff at Halls Chophouse

President's Message — Dr. Mary Thornley



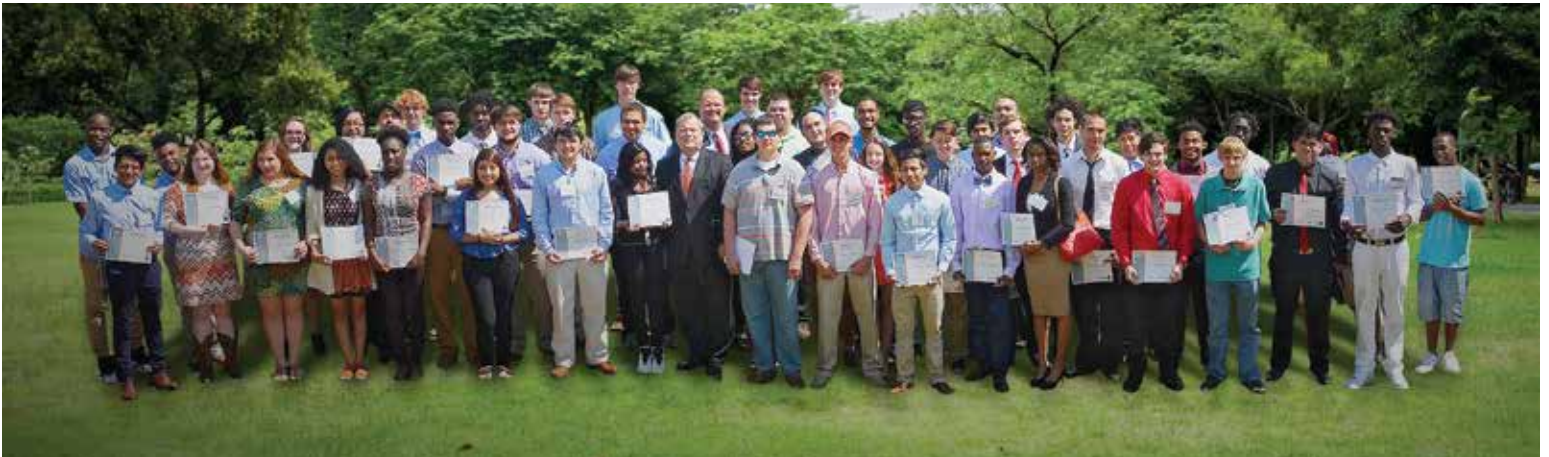
"All my life I was told success isn't for us; it is only for the rich and wealthy... I am very thankful that I am getting an opportunity to go to college

with a scholarship." 2016 AGC Scholarship Recipient

Imagine for a moment being a high school student. Graduation is approaching and your next steps are

far from clear. No one in your family has ever gone to college. Your job prospects with a high school diploma are limited, and your GPA, a 2.3, is far from stellar. But you have been part of a Career Academy at your high school which piqued your interest in health care. A counselor tells you that you can complete a two-year degree in health sciences that will lead to a career and, moreover, that tuition and books will be fully paid for by a scholarship! The prospect sounds too good to be true, but that's exactly the reality that 27 students have experienced the past two

years and that 75 more students will experience this fall as a result of the Accelerate Greater Charleston Scholarship program. The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce raised scholarship funds to allow graduating high school seniors with a 2.0 to 2.9 GPA the opportunity to obtain a two-year degree from Trident Tech. These Career Academy students will enter programs ranging from aircraft maintenance technician to radiologic technology to culinary arts. We look forward to supporting their success while they are with us and watching the talent that they will inevitably bring to our region's workforce.



2016 Accelerate Greater Charleston Scholarship recipients on Award Day at the Chamber

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Distinguished Gentlemen's Club (DGC). The Club's mission is to connect caring adults with children to cultivate and build positive character through intentional mentoring.

ReSzaun attributes much of his drive and success to those who mentored him along the way and the education he received at Trident Technical College.

"My favorite instructors were at Trident Tech," he said. "They helped me gain confidence and made me feel so comfortable there. It felt like home."



Lewis with mentors from the Summerville chapter of the Distinguished Gentlemen's Club

Your dollars at work

Donations to the TTC Foundation support a variety of programs, including minigrants. Minigrants are awarded to faculty and staff to purchase instructional equipment and materials, as well as to fund special projects and bolster supportive services for students.

One recent minigrant funded a digital aircraft engine management monitor requested by a faculty member in the aeronautics division. "The majority of modern aviation aircraft employ digital monitors instead of outdated analog indicators," explained instructor Jack Douglas. "The new system will help students be able to take more accurate measurements of engine performance using digital

readings. We greatly appreciate the support of minigrants to strengthen our curriculum."

Approximately 100 awards of up to \$1,600 are made each year, supporting a wide array of projects. Recent materials purchased range from data recorders to skeletal system models to 3D printers to camera lenses. Special projects have included supporting student conference attendance, purchasing specialized test preparation materials, and funding a job readiness skills program for youth.

Whatever the program of study, all minigrant awards help to strengthen the academic instruction and career preparation of TTC students.



Michael Hoffman (left) and Andrew Shaw, of the Aircraft Maintenance program, work on an engine monitoring system.



Q&A 2016-17 Foundation

What drew you to TTC?

Well, aside from the same answer every board member for the last 30+ years has given to that question, "Dr. Mary Thornley invited me," TTC has been present in one form or another with every major workforce announcement in the tri-county area for at least the last dozen years. TTC has been there for the culinary world, health care needs, aeronautical training, dual credit for high school students, and many other "attention grabbers," but what really drew me to TTC was that as a father of four and grandfather of five, I was dumbfounded to learn that of all graduates of TTC (the college with the third largest undergraduate student population in South Carolina), 96 percent of them remain in the Lowcountry. That means everybody's



Scholarships making a difference

Last year, Trident Technical College and the TTC Foundation offered a record-breaking amount of scholarship funding totaling \$421,000. More than 2,100 applicants applied, and 339 awards were made from 111 different funds. At the annual spring scholarship luncheon, the college brought together student scholarship recipients alongside donors who make those funds possible. A panel of student speakers in programs ranging from health care to culinary to aeronautics spoke movingly about the impacts that their scholarships had on them and their families. The scholarship application is available from mid-January through early March.

Chair, Bobby Collins

children and grandchildren have more career choices right here at home. I was inspired.

What are your best moments so far of TTCF board service?

My favorite experience has been participating with Dr. Thornley, her staff, faculty and fellow Foundation board members to create a strategic plan for the Foundation. In the first two years of the plan, board members' engagement improved from 50 to 92 percent. The board achieved 100 percent personal giving to the annual fund, up from a prior 5-year average of 62 percent. So the most fun as a board member has been raising our engagement to keep up with the demands of the dizzying pace of change taking place in our community. Frankly, this has got to be



the most exciting time to be serving on the TTC Foundation board in our history.

What do you think people should know about the Foundation?

The Foundation board has two simple roles: advocacy and fundraising. Period. Our vision statement is "Creating Community Investments Today for Tomorrow's Workforce." What is most important for community folks to know about the Foundation is that our ultimate focus is on tomorrow's

workforce. But our actions lie in the first three words, "creating community investments," and our sense of urgency lies in the fourth, "today."

This year the Foundation board will step up our pace of "Creating Community" by advocating with our personal and professional networks to share the impact TTC has on our local economy. And the pace of change throughout our region requires that we not waste a minute, that we get it done "Today." We will connect Lowcountry individuals, families and enterprises to areas of the college where they have vested interests and can help to create new communities of support. Ok, I'll stop, but you get the idea. There's a lot to do so let's get to work – the community is ready! Are we?



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Thank you for your SMART investment in TTC students!

Your donations in 2015-16 resulted in tangible impacts for our students, faculty and staff.
 Thank you for giving to the TTC Foundation!



2015-16 Program Impact

