Trident Technical College
Receives $1 Million Gift
Trident Technical College recently received its largest donation in the college’s history of a pledged gift of $1 million by local business owner Carolyn D. Hunter.

“I was inspired to make this gift because I have been impressed by the college’s leadership and phenomenal growth over the past two decades,” said Hunter. Hunter is president and owner of C&A Unlimited Inc. which operates McDonald’s restaurant franchises. She joined the TTC Foundation Board in 2006 and also serves on the college’s Emergency Student Fund Committee.

“Because of my involvement with the TTC Foundation, I have a better understanding of the work that is being done to prepare our Lowcountry students for a better future through affordable education,” said Hunter. “It has increased my awareness of the assistance that is being provided and also the substantial unmet needs that still exist.”

While she has been reluctant to jump in the spotlight, Hunter said she hopes her pledge will inspire others to give to TTC. “There is a significant need, and I feel it is important to do what you can now instead of waiting,” commented Hunter.

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FALL 2011
Message from the President
Dr. Mary Thornley

Since TTC constructed its Health Sciences Building in 1989, enrollments in Nursing and pre-Nursing programs have grown tremendously - from several hundred students to several thousand. There is often a one-and-a-half to two-and-a-half year waiting list for the Nursing program as well as long waits for several Allied Health programs.

Thanks to the forward thinking leadership of the County Council members serving Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties who voted to fund construction, TTC will be able to build a new Nursing and Science Building. Projected to open in August 2013, the 91,000-square-foot building will serve approximately 9,000 students and will be certified LEED-Silver or higher.

Without the counties’ investment and support, this project would not have been possible. While the funding for construction came from the three counties, the college is still responsible for providing funds for equipment and classroom needs. We are hopeful that the community will support us in this effort.

An analysis of the economic impact of this project has shown that two years after the building is operational, the building will pay for itself with $8.9 million in salaries and $22.2 million in total economic impact. We are proud to be a part of moving our community forward toward a healthier future by educating this critical workforce.

Mary Thornley, Ed.D., President

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In addition, Hunter will continue to support the Rachel Hunter Thompson Scholarship Fund, which she established in 2010 in memory of her mother. The scholarship fund provides five $1,000 scholarships to TTC students each year.

“We are deeply moved by Carolyn Hunter’s generosity and confidence in our mission,” said TTC President Dr. Mary Thornley. “The only way we can meet the need for education and economic development in Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties is with the support of our community and the involvement of impressive and compassionate individuals like Carolyn.”
Changing Lives Across Continents: Kenya

Spend time with any of the nursing students who traveled during Maymester to Kenya as part of their Transcultural Clinical Skills Application course, and you’ll see how a college course can affect a life.

“I feel very experienced with being culturally sensitive,” said student Whitney Osborne. “I am so grateful for an unforgettable learning experience.”

For the past four summers, TTC students like Osborne, Lauren Richardson, Laurel Lotterhos, Erin Middleton, Allison Updyke, Brent Paape and Jeni Helmy have journeyed across the ocean for a multicultural learning experience that provides compassionate nursing care to people deeply in need.

The trip is expensive, and students generally pay out-of-pocket for all costs. Despite the cost, the students who travel half a world away wouldn’t trade their experiences for anything. As Erin Middleton, one of the students on the 2011 Kenya journey said, “Our trip to Kenya, our work in the hospital and the aid we provided in the desert was beyond a success. We touched so many lives in a variety of ways; one is unable to measure all that was accomplished.”

Mount Pleasant Campus
Q&A with Dean Mike Patterson

Q: What programs will be offered?
A: To begin with, we’ll offer a certificate in Microcomputer Business Applications and a certificate in graphic arts. After Phase II is completed, we plan to offer programs in Environmental Technology, Massage Therapy and Basic Construction Trades.

Q: What courses will be offered initially?
A: This fall, we have courses planned in Accounting, Visual Arts, Business, Computer Technology, Economics, English, History, Management, Marketing, Mathematics, Philosophy, Psychology, Speech and Theater.

Q: Can you describe the facility?
A: Our building is approximately 20,000 square feet. Our Phase I facility includes two lecture classrooms, one large computer lab, a Learning Center, a reception area, student lounge, Testing Center and staff offices for Financial Aid, Counseling Services, instructors and the dean.

Q: What are you most looking forward to?
A: I’m very fortunate to be working with two full-time staff members, D’Jaris Whipper-Lewis and Elinor Hamblin, who enjoy serving and helping others. I’ve only been with TTC a short time, but I find that everyone at TTC really enjoys the work and the service to others.
Thanks to TTC employees for raising a record total in this year's Campus Campaign.

Seventy-six percent of full-time faculty and staff participated in the 2010-11 Changing Lives Campaign, raising $64,993 to support student scholarships, books, equipment, faculty and staff development, technological upgrades and more.