FROM THE EDITOR -- Julliana Probst

Welcome to UPDATE and thanks for your patience. Our January issue is a little late off the press due to the weather situation last week. Still, I hope everyone really enjoyed the snow.

Still, despite the weather, little has changed at Trenholm State, where colleagues continue pressing to make education better for students and professional development remains a top priority.

Such was the case at our recent spring professional development session in Atlanta, which is our top story in “President’s Corner.” Of course, the topic there was SACSCOC accreditation, and many faculty and staff helped clarify our next important steps and pave our way to a successful outcome.

Also in “President’s Corner,” we’re pleased to report on exciting developments in the works between Trenholm and Auburn Montgomery. And “President’s Corner” takes us to the recent lunch meeting, where the chancellor, provost and president uttered words of greetings.

In “Trenholm News,” we’re pleased to report on the very enjoyable Brown Bag Lunch Series, the first of the year hosted by the Patterson Campus library. Please check out the photos inside.

In “Center Stage,” we’re very happy to feature Veronica Sharp Cross, a highly successful Trenholm State graduate. Veronica is well-known and respected within a number of local organizations and within the community. She’s a native Montgomerian, and we’re proud she picked Trenholm State as her college and is enjoying a very fruitful life.

Not surprisingly, our “SGA News” section is packed with updates from our excellent students, who write about our first-ever Christmas party for Trenholm State students as well as the year’s first fundraiser, which coincided with our orientation. A full page of photos awaits you inside.

In our “In the Spotlight” section, we’re elated to welcome three new employees: James Perry, Donald Warren, and Thomas Hyde. We’re so glad to have you here at Trenholm State!

Enjoy your last days of winter because spring is almost here, and Trenholm will be abloom again! Thanks for visiting UPDATE!
SACSCOC

President Munnerlyn

On January 6, during the spring 2014 professional development, a variety of SACSCOC sessions were presented. The presenters included a variety of individuals who attended the 2013 SACSCOC Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. The morning began with Dean Barbara Anne Spears providing an overview of important points from sessions attended at the annual meeting. Danny Perry then discussed components of the compliance certification. He noted the variety of problem areas based on presentations at the annual meeting and the importance of ensuring these areas are thoroughly addressed in our preparation for submitting our compliance certification. Cathy Wright and Billy Merrill presented topics related to finance and emphasized the importance of all employees adhering to fiscal policies as well as operating within the defined budget to ensure compliance and avoiding the potential for audit findings during the current audit process. Drs. Johnson and Raza provided an overview of institutional effectiveness and workshop information from the annual meeting. Charles Harris provided a brief overview of safety, security, and technology as they related to SACSCOC as well as a few important points related to distance education. The morning sessions concluded with Paul Blackmon providing an overview of information from the annual meeting related to library services and information literacy. The afternoon included two breakout sessions. One Session, led by Sharon Watts, provided an overview of student learning outcomes, which allowed participants the opportunity to work on programmatic student learning outcomes. In the second breakout session, Paul Blackmon and Amy Smith provided an overview of new online services being offered by the library. Overall, the day was filled with a variety of SACSCOC related sessions to improve the College’s readiness for the upcoming accreditation team visit in September.

SACSCOC Liaison: Danny Perry

MEETING WITH AUM

(L-R): Mr. Spraggins, Dr. King, Dr. Ray, President Munnerlyn, and Chancellor Veres

On Friday, January 31, 2014, President Munnerlyn accompanied by Dean Spears, Dean Ross, Mrs. McBryde, and Dr. Probst attended a lunch meeting with Auburn Montgomery’s chancellor, provost, faculty, and staff to discuss collaboration between Trenholm State and Auburn Montgomery. The meeting was meeting of minds to serve the students and the community better.
BROWN BAG LUNCH

On Tuesday, January 21, 2014, at noon, the Patterson Campus Library hosted its first Brown Bag Lunch Series of the year. The guest speaker was Ray Adkinson, owner and general manager of AllFit Gym. Ray and Rodney Zeigler, an associate, gave an informative talk on health and nutrition and the human body. Participants learned something new that afternoon from how bodies process and digest food to the proper way of walking without injuring the lower back. Mr. Adkinson also gave out free passes to visit the AllFit Gym and encouraged all to begin a diet and exercise program.

HONORING NELSON MANDELA

In honor of the passing of the past president of South Africa Nelson Mandela, the Trenholm State library had an iconic photograph of the great leader on display at the front desk of the Library Tower. President Mandela represented equality for all and valiantly fought for justice and reconciliation.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

Nelson Mandela
Veronica Sharp Cross earned an associate’s degree in applied technology in Office Administration from Trenholm State Technical College in 1995 and a bachelor of science in Management of Human Resources (MHR) from Faulkner University, both in Montgomery, Alabama. Recently, she obtained her Certified Administrative Professional (CAP) designation from the International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP).

Veronica grew up in Montgomery, Alabama. Her passion for the field of office administration began when she was a little girl watching Perry Mason and his secretary, Della Street, who knew all the answers. Veronica dreamed of being the “fixer or know-it-all” in the office. Trenholm State’s program gave Veronica the tools and skills she needed to make her dream come true. She is presently employed in the Alabama Community College System as the manager of the SOAR Institute at Shelton State Community College. She is an active member of IAAP, as treasurer, Alabama Division, and advisor for the Mobile and Huntsville Chapter. Previously, Veronica was the executive secretary to the associate vice president of Student Affairs at the University of Alabama. She worked closely with the executive leaders of Student Affairs and was the HR liaison for her department, the technology wizard and the co-faculty advisor for Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society.

Veronica is involved in the following professional organizations: Alabama Developmental Association --Webmaster; IAAP--Alabama Division, treasurer; ASAP-American Society of Administrative Professionals--member; and National Association of Educational Office Professionals (NAEOP) --member.

Veronica loves to share her passion of office administration and technology with office administration students and show them that they can achieve their dreams. As long as they have God and faith, there are no limits.

She is married to Marcus Cross and has two beautiful girls, Jonisa, 19, and McKayla, 3. Her pets are Jordyn, the family cat, and Percy, her precious dog.

Veronica loves to sew and experiment with new recipes.
CHRISTMAS PARTY ARTICLE  
SGA Reporter: Christina Watts

On December 12, 2013, the SGA hosted its first Christmas party for Trenholm State students. The party was held on the Patterson Campus in the Student Center from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Despite the brutally cold weather, there was a better turnout than expected from students, faculty, and staff. The party started out with crossword puzzles, soft Christmas music, and hot apple cider to welcome guests. Afterwards, the guests were engaged in exciting Christmas games, and the winners had a wide selection of prizes. As the music played and the games were going on, many of the SGA members were setting up a buffet for the party guests. Before everyone sat down to eat, the SGA Historian Theresa Buycks Orr had a special gift to present to the hardworking SGA Advisor Ms. Law. Mrs. Orr explained to everyone how much dedication Ms. Law had put into the organization so she needed a day of relaxation with a spa treatment package. After everyone had gotten a plate of food, the SGA birthday committee had a special treat for all the birthdays from August until December. The Christmas party ended with a competitive game of Christmas Family Feud. Overall, the party was more of a success than the SGA had expected, and they were very happy that they were able to get some of the student body to fellowship with them before the holiday festivities!

Christmas Table

COLLEGE ORIENTATION 2014  
SGA Historian: Theresa Orr

On January 17 to 18, 2014, the Trenholm State SGA had its first event of the new year with an orientation fundraiser. New students that were attending Trenholm State for the first time were given important information about the rules and regulations of the College. During the afternoon sessions, Lateesha Wilson, SGA president, Catherine Flavell, SGA member, and Naomi Terrell, SGA member, assisted the new students with using the computers. The SGA and College Ambassadors along with their advisors, Dean Ross and Ms. Law, were there to sell food and refreshments to everyone. The SGA members that participated were Cheryl Thomas, Jeanette Britton, Vernetta Patrick, Theresa Buycks Orr, Ashlee Smith, Queenie Turpin, Naomi Terrell, Catherine Flavell, Angelo Townsend, and Mary Marshall. There was a station set up with information on all the College student organizations. Ashlee Smith and Angelo Townsend greeted students, gave out information and answered questions about the organizations. Several new students signed up to join the SGA, College Ambassadors, Skills USA, and the National Honor Society of Leadership and Success. The Alabama voter registration station provided information, and several students registered. Regions Bank also provided special services for students who opened a checking account. Several students took advantage of the offerings that were presented. There was a great turnout for all the events that were there. In honor of Martin Luther King Jr.
Luther King, Jr., the SGA and Cege Ambassadors showed their first act of kindness to Dean Ross and Mrs. McBryde. Their acts of kindness will continue into February. After Saturday’s orientation fundraiser, the fundraiser continued onto the Patterson Campus the following Monday and Tuesday. Thank you to the many that support the SGA and the College Ambassadors.

Dr. Raza Supporting the SGA

Angelo Townsend Presenting Roses to Ms. McBryde

Voter Registration

Naomi Terrell, Mary Marshall, Angelo Townsend, Queenie Turpin, and Vernetta Patrick

Dean Ross Cooking
WELCOME, NEW EMPLOYEES!

James Perry received his bachelor’s degree in psychology in 1987 from the University of Alabama and his master’s degree in psychology in 1991 from Auburn University Montgomery. He spent over twenty years working with people with physical and intellectual disabilities. His work has included psychological evaluation and assessment, behavioral treatment of disruptive behavior and residential services. During this time, he worked as an adjunct psychology instructor at Wallace Community College Selma, Ingram State Technical College and Alabama State University. James was a founding member and former board member of the Alabama Association of Behavior Analysts. He has provided consultation services to disability programs in Kentucky, Nevada and Washington, D.C.

Donald Warren is the new automotive service technology instructor. He comes to Trenholm State from Eclectic, Alabama, and has been in the automotive field for thirty years. He is excited to be working as an instructor at Trenholm State.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

CONTRIBUTORS

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FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2/6    ARNOLD STRINGER III
2/10   AURELIA WILLIAMS
2/11   JAMES PERRY
2/26   TENNIE MCBRYDE
2/26   LARRY WEBB

Thomas Hyde is Trenholm State’s new radiology instructor and program coordinator.

Donald Warren

James Perry

Thomas Hyde