The Student Success Center (SSC) had another exciting quarter. They presented 13 workshops on various academic and student success topics. Although the student participation goal was not reached, there is an increase in numbers with each workshop. To better accommodate students and faculty, The Student Success Center staff presented during class in academic classrooms.

In the photo to the left, Dr. Rebecca Coats is presenting to the Early Care and Education students and to a tour group of high school students from Jeff Davis High School.

Usage of the DropGuard early alert software by SmartEvals.com is beginning to show increases among faculty and students. We are hopeful that faculty, staff, and students will continue to use this early intervention platform as it assists us in addressing retention issues. We are offering ongoing one-on-one usage training sessions and will soon be providing onsite training via DropGuard staff. Based on our baseline data for the Trenholm campus, the SSC has already seen increased retention rates from fall 2014 to spring 2015, and we expect to see more increases.

The Student Success Center is in the process of moving into our new home, the east wing of Building F on the Trenholm Campus. The furniture and equipment installation is currently ongoing, and the transition has been relatively smooth. The SSC consists of a computer lab, a supplemental instruction classroom and a (continued on page 4)
Title III-B funds supported recent professional development activities for Mr. Danny Perry, Mrs. Sharon Watts, Dr. Tracie Carter, Mr. Paul Blackmon, Ms. Michelle Simmons, Ms. Eboni Love and Dr. Mimi Johnson as they traveled to Nashville, Tennessee to attend the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Annual Meeting. This was an exciting time for Trenholm State.

The Board of Trustees announced on December 9, 2014 at the 2014 SACSCOC Annual Meeting that H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College was granted its initial accreditation as a Level I institution. As a Level I institution, Trenholm State is now accredited by the Commission to award associate degrees. SACSCOC is the regional body for the accreditation of degree-granting higher education institutions in the Southern states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia and Latin America and other international sites that award associate or higher degrees.

As a member institution of SACSCOC, Trenholm State has demonstrated that it has quality academic and support programs and is accountable to the SACSCOC standards through a peer-reviewed evaluation process. Trenholm State has demonstrated a commitment to the core values and research-based standards of the Commission: integrity, continuous quality improvement, peer review/self-regulation, accountability, student learning, and transparency.

H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College.
Building F Gets An Extreme Makeover

Trenholm State used carryover funds in the amount of $1,266,276.77 to make several improvements on the Trenholm Campus. The renovated building includes smart classrooms and a state-of-the-art computer lab. Students now have access to a study area, state-of-the-art classrooms and a computer lab located under the same roof for continuous study.

The renovated building creates a rich learning environment to encourage creative problem solving and critical thinking. The newly renovated Building F truly demonstrates Trenholm State’s commitment to provide an educational experience for our students that is second to none. It also accentuates the College’s pledge to rationally spend Title III-B funds for the purpose of improving instructional facilities.

This is an exciting time of progress for the College. Aged equipment and furnishings have been replaced with modern classroom furnishings and cutting-edge technology throughout the building to promote greater interactivity between faculty and students. The redesigned interior space adds flexibility and capability in the computer lab. The transformation of Building F will benefit future generations to come.

Other completed projects included additional lighting on the Trenholm Campus. The additional lighting creates a safer environment for our students, faculty and staff.

Drafting and Design Technology Receives New Classroom Furnishings

Drafting Design Technology is now located in the Library Tower. Students will have access to all new classroom furnishings in room 214.

Every new structure or machine starts out as the idea of a designer or an engineer. It is only through the knowledge and ability of highly skilled and trained drafters/designers that these ideas are put on paper and actually come to life. Drafting and design is a specialized craft that involves the process of converting an idea from a designer’s mind to precise working drawings and specifications from which a product or project can be constructed.

Wind Creek Casino Visits Trenholm State to Conduct Pre-Employment Screenings

The Trenholm State Career Center hosted a recruitment event for Wind Creek Casino Wetumpka on February 4, 2015, on both campuses. Recruitment specialists conducted pre-employment screenings and provided positive feedback to students and members of the community seeking employment in the hospitality field. In addition to Trenholm State students, participants from Heritage Training and Career Center attended the event.
Transformation in Progress via the Student Success Center
(continued from cover)

study room, all equipped with cutting edge
technology. In addition, there are offices
for the coordinator, retention advising
specialist, and assistant.
We look forward to faculty, staff, and
students maximizing the use of our
resources to promote student success.
For the spring 2015 semester, the SSC
hired two success coaches and others are
in the process of being hired. Ms. Olivia
Johnson, a Ph.D. candidate at Auburn
University, is our new Math and CIS
success coach. She is available Monday
and Wednesday from 9 am - 5 pm and on
Friday from 8:00 am – 11:00 am. She has
already been extremely busy and we are
excited to have her on board!
Ms. Tamara Card joins us from the
Montgomery Public School System, where
she is a second grade teacher. She is a
Reading and English success coach. She is
available from Monday through Thursday
from 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm. We are equally
excited to have Ms. Card join the SSC
team!
Finally, the SSC and the Trenholm
State Career Center (CC) attended the
National Association of Student Affairs
Professionals in Higher Education
(NASPA) conference in New Orleans from
March 20th through the 25th. We attended
the Community College Institute, the
Small College Institute, and a variety of
other sessions ranging from Best Practices
for Student Success among Minority
Students to Career Preparedness. We had
an excellent time and plan to implement
what we learned into the framework of the
SSC and CC respectively.
The Student Success Center had an
exciting month during the month of
March! They are in the process of moving
into their new space in Building F, with
furniture and equipment installation taking
place at a fast pace. In addition to the office
space, they have a study room with plenty
of space to stretch out and study either at
tables with electronic access or
comfortable chairs with desk space
attached. The classroom also has tables
with electronic access, and seating for 30,
in addition to a Smart TV and projector
that can be used either with their own
device or one of our Surface Pro 3s. They
are looking forward to hearing from
faculty and students about utilizing this
great space! In addition to those rooms,
there is a computer lab with space for 30
and new computers for study or classroom
instruction. This room also makes use of a
Smart TV and projector.
We are seeing more use of DropGuard
and are encouraged by the increased usage.
We hope to see even more faculty and staff
use this resource to help us in reaching the
students. We will be offering training in
DropGuard soon, and are available for
individual training sessions as well. We
have already seen increased retention rates
from fall-spring based on our baseline data
for the Trenholm campus and we hope to
see even more!

Students Learn How to Dress for Success

The Trenholm State Career Center
hosted the Professional Dress for
Your Success Fashion Show on
Wednesday, October 29, 2014, at 11:00
a.m. in the Student Center of the Trenholm
Campus. Faculty, staff, and students took
part in the fashion show. Faculty and staff
were modeling “What Not to Wear” while
students were modeling “What to Wear.”
The event showcased appropriate attire for
an interview, a career fair, and the
workplace. The show was designed to
show students how to create their personal
image through how they communicate.
From the clothes they wear, how they act,
and the confidence they have, the goal of
the fashion show was to help prepare
Trenholm State students and alumni for
success.
Over 16 student models and 12 faculty
and staff models participated in the
showcase. Students, faculty, and staff were
engaged and excited for their opportunity
to walk the runway. Twenty-three
Trenholm State faculty and staff attended
to show their support. Approximately 88
students and guests attended the event. The
crowd was energized, supportive, and
receptive of all of the models. The event
was a huge success. The faculty support
was phenomenal as they brought their
students to the event to see and receive this
important information.
On January 26, 2015, the Trenholm State Career Center kicked off the spring 2015 semester by hosting “The Cost of 24/7 Connectivity on Social Media” workshop. The workshop, presented by Dr. D. Turner-White and Dr. W. Ward Hutchinson of Social Media Solutions, LLC, is based on their book Too Freakin’ Comfortable with Social Media. The workshop informed students, faculty, and staff about the dangers of social media including cyberbullying and teen suicide, the implications of cybercrimes and texting while driving, and the detrimental effects that inappropriate use of technology can have on future educational and career aspirations.

In an ongoing effort to increase the student job placement rate, the Career Center has completed the first phase of implementing the new student employment software. The Career Services Manager software, powered by Symplicity will allow currently enrolled students access and the ability to apply to over four million jobs, create resumes, request counseling appointments, schedule mock interviews, and register for future career fairs. A soft release is scheduled for the summer 2015 semester and full implementation of the software will take place during the fall 2015 semester.

Since the launch of the Career Center webpage, the site has received over 766 visits. Students are eager to identify employment opportunities as they complete their education, and we are excited to provide another avenue for students to identify employment opportunities. The page provides students resources to assist with writing a resume, dressing for an interview, writing a cover letter, viewing Alabama’s Hot 40 Demand Occupations, taking the Career Interest Survey, and doing much more.
The Career Center has hosted several workshops since 2014 to include Writing a Powerful Resume, Interview Letters (Thank You and Cover Letters), and Turning a Job Fair into a Job Offer. Over 80 students have attended one or more of these workshops offered. Since July 2014, the Career Center has provided services and resources to approximately 1800 college students, veterans, alumni, high school students, and members of the community.

The Office of Institutional Research and Advancement Develops Friday Factoid’

SAFRA – Activity III – Strengthening Institutional Research and Advancement has as one of its objectives to advocate and facilitate collegiate planning, management operations and decision-making by providing relevant and pertinent college data through a minimum of at least three professionally published and factual assessment documents. Therefore, the Office of Institutional Research and Advancement developed a new publication, the Friday Factoid. This publication is designed to inform Trenholm State constituents about interesting facts, data, and information on a monthly basis. It is designed to be a fun and informative publication.

The concept of the Friday Factoid is attributed to Donny Femino, director of institutional research of Endicott College in Beverly, Massachusetts. Dr. Mimi Johnson, SAFRA Activity III director, received permission from Mr. Femino to implement this concept here.

Thus far, OIRA has distributed three Friday Factoids with topics such as Fall 2014 Headcount of Alabama Two-Year Public Colleges, Eleven of Alabama’s Hot 40 Demand Occupations at Trenholm and Trenholm State Academic Inventory and the CIP Codes System. Readers are encouraged to submit ideas for ideas for the OIRA staff to research and report in the Friday Factoid. This publication also includes a hyperlink to the OIRA webpage that contains comprehensive institutional research, institutional effectiveness and assessment information.

Upcoming Events

2015 National Association of HBCU Title III Association Technical Assistance Workshop

June 22-26, 2015
San Antonio, Texas
ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES

1. Purchase, rental, or lease of scientific or laboratory equipment for educational purposes, including instructional or research purposes;

2. Construction, maintenance, renovation, and improvement in classroom, library, laboratory, and other instructional facilities, including purchase or rental of telecommunications technology equipment or services;

3. Support of faculty exchanges, faculty development and faculty fellowships to assist these faculty members in attaining advanced degrees in their fields of instruction;

4. Academic instruction in disciplines in which Black Americans are underrepresented;

5. Purchase of library books, periodicals, microfilm, and other educational materials, including telecommunications program materials;

6. Tutoring, counseling, and student service programs designed to improve academic success;

7. Funds and administrative management and acquisition of equipment for use in strengthening funds management;

8. Joint use of facilities, such as laboratories and libraries;

9. Establishing or improving a development office to strengthen or improve contributions from alumni and the private sector;

10. Establishing or enhancing a program of teacher education designed to qualify students to teach in a public elementary or secondary school in the State that shall include, as part of the program, preparation for teacher certification;

11. Establishing community outreach programs that will encourage elementary and secondary students to develop the academic skills and the interest to pursue postsecondary education; and,

12. Other activities that it proposes in its application that contribute to carrying out the purpose of this part and are approved by the Secretary as part of the review and acceptance of the application.

What is TITLE III?

The Title III Historically Black Colleges and Universities program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education and is one of many initiatives funded by the federal government as a part of a mission to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence to all Americans.
Activity I - Academic instruction in disciplines in which Black Americans are underrepresented and Support of faculty exchanges, faculty development, and faculty fellowships to assist in attaining advanced degrees in the field of instruction of the faculty

Activity I is designed to promote curriculum development, career upward mobility, enhancement of instructional delivery by the purchasing of state-of-the-art equipment to prevent obsolescence and to meet the changing needs within the College service area.

This activity engages faculty, staff and administrators in professional development opportunities through workshops, seminars and conferences.

Ms. Ronica Thomas - Activity Director

Activity II - Construction, maintenance, renovation, and improvement in classrooms, libraries, laboratories, and other instructional facilities, including purchase or rental of telecommunications technology equipment or services

Activity II will utilize a multi-pronged approach to alleviating the deficiencies in the physical facilities of the College. This activity will focus on repairs/renovations of existing campus buildings that currently house academic programs/courses; restructuring at least one academic building, and, enhancing physical facilities such as classrooms, laboratories, and instructional offices to ensure a conducive learning environment.

Mr. Dennis Monroe and Mr. Kenny Cox - Activity Directors

Activity III - Funds management, administrative management, and acquisition of equipment for use in strengthening funds management

Activity III is designed to address the problems in the College’s current system of managing and collecting information. The activity seeks to promote better use of the College’s administrative network and technology by providing administrative computing and technology-related training sessions for administration, faculty, staff, and advisors.

Mrs. Regina Rudolph - Activity Director

Activity IV – Purchase of library books, periodicals, and other educational materials, including telecommunications program materials

Activity IV is designed to strengthen and improve library resources by increasing its library books, periodicals, and other educational materials, including telecommunications materials. This activity will strengthen and expand library resources available to students, faculty and staff.

Mr. Paul Blackmon - Activity Director

Activity V – Tutoring, counseling and student service programs designed to improve academic success

This activity is designed to improve academic success through tutoring, counseling and other student service programs. This activity will address critical issues pertaining to retention.

Dr. Mimi Johnson - Activity Director