Hello and happy spring 2017! Please take some time to read about what is happening in the SCC Early College community—student accomplishments, a faculty spotlight, and program notes.

To the following Viking Early College seniors on earning both a high school diploma and an Associate in Arts degree in spring or summer 2017:

- Jacob Belue
- Malik Brent
- Orinthius Byrd
- Charles Jeffers
- Steven Lo
- Angel Martinez
- Xavior Porter
- Ruben Ramirez
- Tyresse Sawyer
- Andrew Tate
- Nathan Touch

To the following dual enrollment students on earning an associate’s degree and a high school diploma in spring 2017:

- Madeline Robinson—Mountain View Christian Academy—Associate in Science
- Hunter McLeod—Byrnes High School—Associate in Arts
Over the last few years, there has been a lot of talk about STEM curriculum being implemented in K-12 academia and Alexis Drummond is a student that certainly jumped into this discussion.

Alexis is a senior at Spartanburg High School who is currently taking EGT 245 Principles of Parametric CAD for dual credit at the Daniel Morgan Technology Center. Alexis is excited that she is able to gain valuable experience in the engineering field while earning high school and college credit simultaneously. She believes that there is great opportunity for women who are seeking careers in the engineering/STEM arena. Alexis isn’t afraid to stand out or break the mold in a career choice that traditionally was mostly pursued by males.

Currently, Alexis holds a college GPA that is above 3.0 and acknowledges how taking dual credit classes enhances both her high school and college transcripts. When asked what her advice would be to another high school student considering taking college classes while in high school, Alexis states, “I would tell them to try it, because it will benefit them in the end.”

Alexis is considering starting her 4 year degree path at SCC and attending Clemson University to earn both a bachelor’s degree and master’s degree in the engineering field. She is also considering attending Claflin University or Winthrop University.

**Opening the Door to Success**

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Contact Brian Tucker, SCC Early College Counselor, at tuckerb@sccsc.edu or (864) 592-4256

Everyone has a story to tell. We want to hear yours...
**What is your educational and professional background?**

I actively served in the U.S. Army and after my service I started college at Spartanburg Technical College (SCC now) in Industrial Electronics then worked as an electrician at Upstate Medical Center. After six years at the hospital I went back to college and got my B.S. in Biology (Clinical Track). I worked as a Veterinary Assistant and laboratory technician for five years and then went to work for Milliken Research. I worked with Milliken for 11 years in Research & Development and was able to earn five patents, gain unprecedented business experience, and earn graduate hours in Textile Engineering and Environmental Law as well as pursue graduate degrees. In addition to my career I also served in the SC National Guard for 10 additional years. I now have a M.S. in Biological Sciences from Clemson University and a M.Ed. in Natural Sciences from Converse College, and graduate studies in Hazardous Waste Management with Environmental Law and Textile Engineering. When the textile industry started to subside I decided to go into education and earned my teaching certification through P.A.C.E. (Program for Alternative Certification). I love teaching and work fulltime at the high school and teach two Science courses at SCC every semester.

**How many years have you taught at Byrnes High School?  How many years have you taught dual enrollment courses there?**

I have been teaching high school for 10 years. I have been at Spartanburg District 5 for 4 years and have taught dual enrollment the last two years. I have served as an adjunct at SCC for 6 years.

**You teach classes in two settings-at the high school and on the SCC campus.  What do you enjoy most about teaching dual enrollment students?**

Dual enrollment students are excited about taking true “college courses”. They take it serious and work hard. We also have more time for labs and they love doing labs. It is exciting to see students actively learning and wanting to learn.

**What kinds of things do you do to ensure that the students taking BIO 101 at BHS get a true college experience?**

We work very hard to ensure the student experiences this class the same as they would on campus. We follow the college schedule exactly to include time in class. We have a 1 hour and 20 minute class so the students get to leave class 10 minutes early. We only have lecture two days a week and lab two days a week so the students do not come to class on Fridays (I use that for office hours). We follow the colleges fall and spring break and finally we have final exams after 14 weeks of class instead of 18 like the high school schedule. We also use the same lab equipment and textbooks. They take the same exams I give to the campus class. They are given a student ID and allowed to access all of the benefits at the college, including TLC and the Career Center.

The addition of dual credit classes has been a great success and we are excited to offer more of them through SCC. Next year we are going to offer Bio 102 and Bio 112 in addition to Computer 101, Art Appreciation, Eng 101 & 102 and Public Speaking. This year we have several students who will be graduating with 30 – 45 hours of credit. I look forward to see this program grow and offer prepared students an opportunity to get college credit during their high school years.
Okay, so you are now getting to the age where you can actually get a job. Beginning around 16 years of age, many high school students are either working or will be looking for jobs very soon. This can be an exciting time, but yet it is normal to be nervous as well about landing a job. It will be important to know how to dress, fill out an application, and acquire interview skills to get the job. Below are some interviewing tips that can help you land a job, be it your first or not.

1. **Dress to impress.**
2. **Turn off your cell phone or leave it in your car.**
3. **Arrive 15 minutes early to the interview location.**
4. **Mentally rehearse possible interview questions with yourself or do a mock interview with someone.**
5. **Keep eye contact and give a firm handshake after the interview.**
6. **Thank the interviewer verbally, by a follow-up note or phone call after the interview.**

*Source: www.snagajob.com*

Thanks to the Spartanburg Community College Career Services Office, more great information can be found at the following link: [Career Tips](#)
Summer Registration begins March 20th

Full-Term Summer Semester Begins May 15th and ends July 20th

Fall Registration begins April 17th

Fall Classes begin August 14th

*All final grades due from instructors on May 1st by 9:00 a.m.

The spring SCC Open House will be held Tuesday, April 18th from 4:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. Come explore SCC and all of its programs!

SCC will waive the $25 fee for admissions applications during the week of April 17th—21st. See your guidance counselor for more information.

We hope that you have enjoyed reading our spring newsletter and that you all have a wonderful spring ~ we appreciate all that you do!