

## End of an era

President Johnson's career at  
Southeast Technical comes to an end

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A MEMBER OF THE MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES SYSTEM



On the cover:  
Outgoing president Jim Johnson talks with Adenuga Atewologun, President of Riverland Community College, during a retirement social held in Winona on June 12.



# A final farewell

As president of Southeast Technical, I have given many addresses to graduating classes over the years. But on June 12, I had the unique opportunity to address the Mechanical Engineering graduates of Quzhou College of Technology in China. As I was not able to be there in person, we arranged to give the speech via Skype, speaking across an ocean, thousands of miles, and taking into account a 13-hour time gap.

As parting words in this, my final issue of Connections, I'd like to share some of what I said to the students in China, and some of what I've said over the years to many graduates of Minnesota State College – Southeast Technical.

It is with great excitement, anticipation and honor that I am allowed to address this gathering of the 2014 Mechanical Engineering graduates of the Quzhou College of Technology. We have continued to develop our association over the past two years through exchanges of faculty from our respective colleges and are working towards expanding this collaboration to include student exchanges.

One of the major goals of developing this relationship has been to gain a better understanding of each of our respective cultures through faculty, staff, and student interactions. This cultural understanding is an absolutely necessary skill set for all of us working in today's vast global environment.

Words cannot express how much we have appreciated the generosity shown by students, staff and faculty of Quzhou College of Technology towards myself, our visiting scholars, and others over the last few years.

I am leaving this college in the hands of a great leader in Dr. Dorothy Duran. Dr. Duran will start her career with Southeast Technical on July 1, 2014. She has a great knowledge of technical and career education and an extensive background in higher education. I also know she is excited to continue the support of our growing relationship with Quzhou College of Technology and the Sister City initiative with Red Wing.

In closing, I would like to impart a few words of encouragement. You all have received, through hard work and dedication, an exemplary education in a variety of occupational skill sets. These skills are now going to be the foundation for your career long into the future. You have mastered the skills that employers require in order to be competitive in a world economy.

Walt Disney's older brother, Roy A. Disney, once said: "Do not be a coaster in life, because if you are coasting you are going downhill." Think about that: "If you coast, you are going downhill..." You need to stay engaged in your life and career to be a success. Be a life-long learner. Coasting will not allow you to be successful in your life's work — embrace life-long learning to assure yourself of a successful career.

Thank you for allowing me to take a few minutes to talk with you today on such a grand day of academic achievement for you all. I am honored and humbled.



Jim Johnson speaks to Mechanical Engineering graduates of Quzhou College of Technology using a laptop video connection on June 12, 2014.



MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGE - SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL VARIETY SHOW



## Musically inclined

### Red Wing campus resounds with building, repairing and playing musical instruments

In 2013-2014, students came from as far away as Florida, Pennsylvania and Colorado — even Taiwan and Switzerland — to attend Southeast Technical’s Band Instrument Repair, Violin Repair, and Guitar Repair & Building programs. It’s no surprise that many are accomplished performers. From that wellspring of talent, the Southeast Technical variety show has become an annual event at The Sheldon Theatre in Red Wing.

In February, groups were required to audition before an expert panel of nine college and community members. Fifteen musical acts (and one solo poet) — a total of 47 individuals — were selected to entertain at the showcase, newly titled **Strings, Winds & Brass**, at The Sheldon Theatre on March 29.

“We have an amazing depth and range of talent at Southeast Technical,” according to Jo Poncelet, Southeast Technical Dean of Academics. “The new title of the annual concert reflects that range. It’s all styles of music — all the way from blues to bluegrass, old-time to Celtic, sacred to jazz and country to classical.”

The show’s music came from both the folk/traditional side,

including songs with guitar, fiddle, mandolin and hurdy-gurdy; and the classical side, with instrumental duos and trios and a low brass choir. For the first time in recent memory, the band instrument program students gathered forces and formed a 26-piece wind ensemble. Their grand finale performance was a highlight of the concert!

#### Annual Guitar Show

Almost 80 new hand-crafted custom instruments were on display at the 2014 Guitar Show in Red Wing on May 13. The acoustic guitars and mandolins were played for the first time on stage by professional area musicians, including Bill Cagley, Sarah Cagley, Phil Heywood, Mark Kreitzer, and Dean Harrington.

## DECA successes at state and nationals

### Single and team events take honors

The Minnesota State College – Southeast Technical Winona chapter of DECA took home many honors in the State Career Development Conference (SCDC) in February, 2014. DECA is an organization that prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality, sales, and management. At SCDC, eleven SE Tech DECA students competed successfully in single and team events in a wide variety of categories, including:

- First Place, Professional Sales: James Elvidge
- First Place, Sales Manager Meeting: James Elvidge
- Third Place, Sales Academy: Calvin Corey, Steven Blue, Karl Feltes and Michael Servais
- Outstanding Student Service Award: James Elvidge, Joseph Loken



Southeast Technical Collegiate DECA in Washington D.C.

In addition, Southeast Technical’s own James Elvidge was elected State President for 2014-2015 at the State Career Development Conference!

Everyone on the team qualified to move on to the International Career Development Conference (ICDC), held in April in Washington D.C., where our students again earned top honors:

- Second Place, Sales Manager Meeting: James Elvidge
- Second Place, Entrepreneurship Challenge: Michael Servais (the team included Elliot Schimming and Mo Merrell from Minneapolis Community and Technical College)



# Carpentry class finishes home

## Southeast Technical Carpentry Program students put finishing touches on new home in Pickwick Valley

As the 2014 school year came to a close, Southeast Technical Carpentry Program students and their instructor, Ralph Roemer, saw a year's worth of work come to completion as they put the final touches on a new single-family house.



Carpentry students work on the wrap-around deck

While many college students measure success in terms of a term paper or a final exam, these students can be proud to have accomplished something extraordinary — crafting a beautiful home that will be a place for a family to enjoy for decades to come.

The newly built home is located in Pickwick Valley, three-fourths of a mile south of the Pickwick mill. The house features three bedrooms, four bathrooms (two full, one 3/4 bath and one 1/2 bath), a large two car garage, a lower single garage/workroom, hardwood floors, and a number of other amenities, including vaulted ceilings, a gas fireplace, and a wrap-around deck with scenic valley views. The new owners moved in early in June, 2014.

# The Quzhou, China connection continues

## Faculty exchanges take place in 2013-2014

Located southwest of Shanghai, Quzhou (pop. 2.5 million) was named a Sister City to Red Wing more than 20 years ago. A delegation from Southeast Technical visited Quzhou in September 2012. At that time, Southeast Technical and Quzhou College of Technology signed a memorandum of understanding to actively exchange teaching ideas and coordinate faculty and student exchanges.

In the fall of 2013, two professors came from Quzhou for several weeks to spend time at the college. English professor Wang Pei Hui (known by his English language nickname, Ben) and automotive mechanics instructor Fang Ziaofen (Fong Shao-fen) visited a variety of classrooms, serving as guest lecturers and learning more about American approaches to instruction.

As guests of Becky and Brad Alsop in Red Wing, Ben and Fang were able to enjoy classic Minnesota activities like camping, fishing and canoeing. “Even in China the Mississippi River is well known, so we wanted them to experience life along the river,” said Brad Alsop.

“Our colleges have similar missions and programs — nursing, automotive, CNC machining — so having these two individuals visit from China was an invaluable learning experience for them and for us,” said Ron Sellnau, Dean of Business, Information, and Trade and Technologies.

Plans are in the works to strengthen the connection with Quzhou by designing courses the colleges can share via ITV (Instructional Television). Even though there is a 13-hour time difference between the two locations, with some adjustment to schedules, a morning class in Red Wing could translate to an evening class in Quzhou.

In June, Auto Collision Repair instructor Tom Brandt and Automotive Technology instructor Niel Christensen travelled to China to visit the Quzhou campus, while Band Instrument Repair instructor Lucas Pemberton represented Southeast Technical at a major international trade show in China.



Southeast Technical Automotive Technology Instructor Niel Christensen in Quzhou, China

## Kids in college

### Cultivating the next generation of learners

#### **WSU, Southeast Technical collaborate to create HOPE for young people**

Students in grades 9-12 participated in the H.O.P.E. (Harnessing Opportunities for Post-Secondary Education) Academic and Leadership Academy this year. They lived on campus at Winona State University for eight days, staying in dormitories, eating in the college cafeteria, and attending courses taught by college faculty from both WSU and Southeast Technical.

Both academics and leadership skills were on the agenda, with classes in math, science, and English. Special activities were designed to help them realize that intellect, integrity, courage, respect, passion, and leadership are the true building blocks for future academic and personal success.

“H.O.P.E. Academy is an exhilarating experience that students will consider life-changing,” said Nate Emerson, Southeast Technical’s Vice President of Student Services. “We want to help these young people make a successful transition from high school to college. By visiting our campuses, we hope they will be able to envision a future where college will be part of their lives.”



2014 H.O.P.E. Academy participants

#### **GUESS What? Girls are Understanding and Exploring STEM Science!**

Young women from five area schools attended April’s GUESS Academy at Southeast Technical. Special guest Carrie Leopold from the Great Plains Girls Collaborative Project in Fargo, North Dakota began the day by sharing her enthusiasm for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) careers.

The girls took part in hands-on experiences in auto body, welding, computer aided design, and robotics. Among the many highlights: chasing a robot, spray painting an auto body panel, wielding a welding torch, generating a 3-D design, seeing an airbag explode, and designing a package that could withstand being dropped, thrown against a wall, and soaked in water.

Marc Kalis, Alice Zimmer, and Jim Ziegler organized the GUESS day. Tom Brandt, Niel Christensen, and Casey Mann were also

involved, along with students from the auto body, welding, and electronics programs. “Our goal is to increase the diversity of those pursuing STEM fields and to engage more girls in considering careers in those areas,” said Alice Zimmer.



Cutting sheet metal at GUESS day

#### **Scrubs Camp: Hands-on activities in health care**

35 students in grades 6-8 attended Middle Schools Scrubs Camp at Southeast Technical in June, exploring healthcare careers through hands-on activities.

“Middle school kids think health care is just about being a doctor or a nurse,” said Nancee Wozney, Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs. “At Scrubs Camp we expose them to biomed, med lab tech, medical support careers, radiography, massage, nursing, and cosmetology. But we don’t just educate them about potential careers; we give them as much hands-on experience as we can. They try everything from blood typing and looking at bacteria through a microscope to painting nails and doing chair massage.”

Nancee added, “We need to reach out to middle school students so that if they become interested in health care as a profession, they can take the required high school science and math classes that are needed to enter college in the health care field.”

Middle School Scrubs Camp is coordinated by Southeast Technical, Winona Health, and HealthForce Minnesota.



A lesson in blood pressure at Scrubs Camp



## Citizen of the Year

### Shannon Sullivan-Hanson named Citizen of the Year (Red Wing) for 2014

On June 3, the Red Wing Area Branch of the American Association of University Women named our own Shannon Sullivan-Hanson Citizen of the Year for 2014!

Beyond her genuine commitment to volunteering in the community, the honor recognizes Shannon's leadership roles in three areas: Red Wing's Sister City Commission (2014 Chair), Women Build (Executive Committee) and Brave New Girls (co-chair), which presented a workshop for 60 middle school girls this spring on how to be active consumers of media through inspiring content and critical thinking.



Financial Aid and Admissions Assistant  
Shannon Sullivan-Hanson

## Quality Matters

### Programs developed by SE-Tech instructor receive certification



Early Childhood Instructor Rachel Daley

MnSCU announced in April that twelve courses from seven MnSCU institutions had received Quality Matters Certification. Of those twelve courses, three were developed by Early Childhood instructor Rachel Daley:

- Health, Safety and Nutrition
- Fundamentals of Child Development
- Ethics, Issues, and Professionalism

What is Quality Matters? It's an inter-institutional, faculty-centered, collaborative peer review process that is designed to certify the quality of online and blended courses. QM certified courses are listed in the Quality Matters national database of certified courses and each faculty member has been given a QM seal to display with the online course.

## Outstanding Advocate

### Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services honor awarded to Mary Stoos

Legal Assistant Instructor Mary Stoos won the 2013 "Outstanding Advocate Award" from Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services, an organization that provides free legal assistance for low-income residents of 33 counties in southern Minnesota.

She was co-nominated for the award by two attorneys and commended for her "extraordinary commitment and effectiveness in serving SMRLS clients and her assistance with hundreds of clients annually."

Mary began teaching at Southeast Technical in 1999 and is currently employed full-time as a legal administrative assistant for Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services. Over the course of her career she has received numerous awards, including the Bernard P. Becker award from the Minnesota State Bar Association in 2000.



Legal Assistant Instructor Mary Stoos

## A new look on the road

Have you seen Southeast Technical's newly wrapped truck on the road? It's been getting a lot of attention as our new drivers practice on area roadways.



# Riding off into the sunset

## Jim Johnson's storied career at Southeast Technical comes to a close

In 1981, Jim Johnson joined the staff of what was then known as Winona Technical Institute. He remained in administration at the College over the next 33 years, growing through the positions of Trade and Industry Coordinator, Adult Extension Director, Associate Director, Vice President/CEO, and his current position of Minnesota State College – Southeast Technical President since 1995. Last fall, Johnson announced his decision to retire in June 2014.

Jim has evolved along with the college through three name changes, two college presidents, eight state chancellors, the 1992 consolidation with Red Wing Technical College, and the 1995 merger of all state technical colleges and universities into one system, Minnesota State College and University System (MnSCU).

We caught up with Jim in June and had a heart-to-heart chat about the winding road that led him to Southeast Technical, his philosophy as a college leader, and his plans for the future.

### Is it true you started college, then dropped out after a music appreciation course?

Yes – it's true. When I was just out of high school, I couldn't see the relevance of such a course to my life. I came from a working class family, but my mother wanted me to be an English teacher so I signed up for four college classes. After one day in the music appreciation class, I went straight home and got a job in a factory. 18 months later I left that job, because I saw a college kid who was working there for the summer get his hands crushed in a machine — a machine that I had worked on myself. I decided that wasn't something I should do the rest of my life.

My dad and grandpa were bakers. I lost my dad to cancer when I was 13 years old and I went to work to help support the family. I learned young that you have to have skills and be able to support yourself in order to survive. We lived in a small town of 2000; the town took care of us and helped us find

work. Ultimately, I did go to college on a football scholarship and got a degree — that made my mom happy!

### What other twists and turns in your career led you to being a college president?

I went back and forth between education and industry. I worked as a machinist and in construction work before becoming a vocational metals program instructor in Sparta, Wisconsin. I had a friend who started a graphics company out in Colorado. I went to work for him and tripled my wages. I transferred to a job with his company in Houston, Texas but ultimately wanted to come back to the Midwest. I applied for two jobs, the Trade and Industry Coordinator at Winona Technical Institute and a machining job in Wisconsin. I was offered both jobs. I took the one in Winona because it paid a little bit more.

Over the years, I moved up through a number of jobs at the college, and applied to be college president in 1992 when Winona merged with Red Wing. I wasn't selected, but looking back, I don't think I was ready for it at that time. I was fortunate to work with President Cliff Korkowski and he was a wonderful

mentor to me. When the interim president position came open in 1995 I realized I could probably do the job, and with a lot of support from faculty and staff, I applied for and then got it. There was a national search for a permanent position, and in the end, I was selected.

### What do you see as the role of leadership for a college president?

To me, it's about allowing the organization to develop a culture of safety, inquisitiveness and "what ifs?" It's not being afraid to make a mistake, and believing that anyone can have an idea that could be developed into something good. Overarching is the feeling of trust, caring and respect for individuals. That's the type of atmosphere that I have encouraged here.



**LEADER OF THE PACK.** The above photo, taken in 2005, was used for an advertising campaign promoting the college. The ad stated, "What's around the next bend for Jim Johnson? Keeping his dynamic technical college team cruising towards their mission of shaping future workforce needs. As leader of this pack, Jim Johnson makes sure Southeast Technical is fueled and ready for the long haul."



The college participates in national student satisfaction surveys, and we always rank high as being a caring and safe place to be; that's a testament to the faculty, staff and leadership of Southeast Technical. We give our students a skill set that can help them get jobs, but we also give them a rewarding experience.

### **What are your fond memories of being president of Southeast Technical?**

The most rewarding things that stand out every year are the graduation ceremonies. When we start out in September there is so much angst among the students — and the faculty and staff — but we work together throughout the year and then in May we have this amazing celebration of achievement.

When the graduates walk across the stage, it's so emotional to see their pride in their accomplishment. It is also so reassuring to know that the College has given them a skill set for life. I've greeted thousands of students crossing that stage and seeing their faces, their tears, that in itself is what has kept my batteries recharged. That's what I will remember for the years to come.

### **What has been the height of your career at Southeast Technical?**

The most humbling and rewarding time of my career has been really been in the last six months. So many people have come up to me at various functions to thank me for my ser-

vice and I am humbled and overwhelmed by that support. But it's more than that — the same people have testified to the value of what we do here at Southeast Technical and its place in the community. It means so much to me.

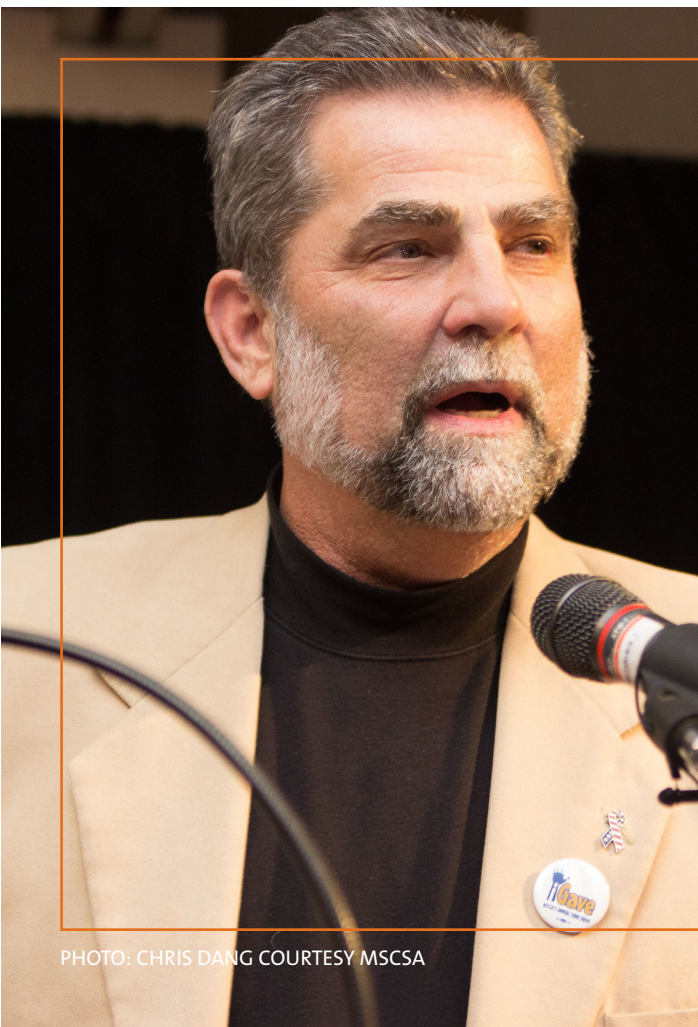
### **What is the funniest thing that ever happened to you here?**

Well, it was funny, but it was also terrifying. One year during a graduation ceremony I was standing at the podium and introducing everyone on the stage. When I got to MnSCU Trustee Cheryl Dickson, I just blanked out. I had known her for six or seven years — I knew perfectly well who she was but I just couldn't remember her name. I turned to say "Trustee..." but nothing came out. She looked up at me and whispered her name so I got through it. That was the scary part. I was thinking maybe I'd lose my job!

The funny part was that when Cheryl got up to give her speech, she said "I want to thank all of the dignitaries on the podium tonight..." and then she looked at me and said, "And that guy over there." It really brought the house down!

### **What parting words of wisdom do you have for incoming president Dr. Dorothy Duran?**

It's important to value the niche that this tech college is for this region: workforce education. That means the training we offer has to align with the business community we serve. This provides the skilled labor force that these businesses require to stay competitive and thrive into the future. It is also



## **JIM JOHNSON NAMED "COLLEGE PRESIDENT OF THE YEAR" BY STATEWIDE STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

In April, Southeast Technical President Jim Johnson was named the 2013-2014 "College President of the Year" by the Minnesota State College Student Association (MSCSA). The Winona campus Student Senate and its president, Gabriel Hall, led the charge to win the award on Jim's behalf. They passed out flyers, spoke in classrooms and even encouraged faculty to get involved with the nomination process. The letters of support they collected were sent onward to MSCSA for evaluation. Student Life Coordinator Peggy Whalen helped organize the effort as well.

"We wanted to honor Jim Johnson because he was literally a leader for us to follow. He made us feel

comfortable at Southeast Technical and he was the one person who has kept this school going. We all looked up to him as a leader and as a teacher. We were very grateful to have Jim Johnson as our president and we were so honored to actually work alongside with him for events. He has been a huge role model," said Gavin Herber, Winona Student Senate Representative and Student Ambassador.

"This award is very humbling and unexpected. I am honored to accept it on behalf of the faculty, staff and students of Southeast Technical. No president could succeed without their hard work and the positive relationships between them," said Jim Johnson, adding, "I will treasure this honor for the rest of my life."

important that the graduates leave the college with the knowledge and skills to be lifelong learners.

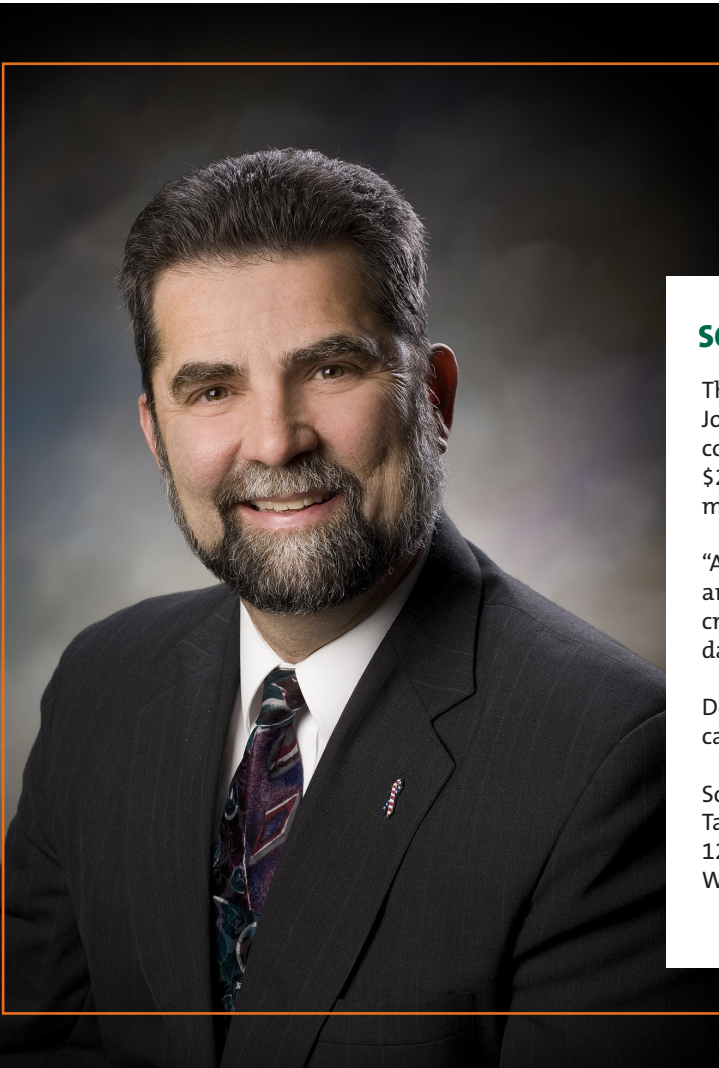
In today's dynamic work environment, the more lines of communication that an organization has available to internal and external constituents, the more connected the organization is to them. Always keep the lines of communications open — about issues like budget, direction, changes that need to be made, economic environment — keep the issues to the forefront and just let people interact. You'll find that the negative stuff gets filtered out and the good ideas will rise to the top and be able to be nurtured.

I hope people trust the leadership of this college because we have been open. We have been through some rough times but we always try to be honest and keep everyone in the loop. The more you communicate and deliver consistent messages the more trust you build. That's what transparency means. You're not hiding anything and that in itself is important. I hope to leave that legacy to Dr. Duran.

## How are your plans for a post-career career in truck driving shaping up?

Actually, the first couple of months after I retire, I plan to enjoy the summer and relax. I'll start doing some part time work in the fall. I've been a college president for almost 20 years. Now it's time to pay more attention to other interests, like my grandson Henry, traveling with my wife Mary, hunting, old cars and house boating.

When I decided to get my Class B straight truck driving license, I went to the premier college in the country — and I'm proud to say, that was Southeast Technical. I'm sure I can pick up some interesting trucking jobs in the fall. Maybe someday I'll come back and be a student and pick up my Class A so I can drive the big rigs... and then, maybe I'll be the one crossing the stage at graduation.



## SCHOLARSHIP FUND HONORS JIM JOHNSON

This spring, the Southeast Technical Foundation established The Jim Johnson Legacy Scholarship Fund, which is designated to help students complete their education. Organizers originally set a goal of raising \$25,000, but have since exceeded that goal and are continuing to raise money in Jim's honor. To date, almost \$50,000 has been contributed!

"After 33 years of dedication, service and leadership, it is with gratitude and honor that we recognize Jim's commitment to higher education by creating this endowment fund in his name," says Chris Schabow, Foundation Director.

Donations for the Jim Johnson Legacy Scholarship Fund are welcome, and can be made online at [www.southeastmn.edu/donate](http://www.southeastmn.edu/donate) or by mail to:

Southeast Technical Foundation  
Tandeski Center  
1200 Storr's Pond Road  
Winona, MN 55987



# Ready to “pay it forward”

## Introducing our new president: Dr. Dorothy Duran

In March, the Board of Trustees of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities appointed Dr. Dorothy Duran as president-elect of Minnesota State College – Southeast Technical. “Dr. Duran is committed to excellence and student success,” said Steven Rosenstone, chancellor of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. “She has a track record of fostering a culture of trust and collaboration and will be a generous partner with business, industry, the public schools, and the communities the college serves. She will be a strong, decisive, and effective leader for Southeast Tech.”

Dr. Duran was the vice president for academic affairs at Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs from 2006-2014. Previously, she served at Northern New Mexico College as dean/director of the El Rito campus from 1998 to 2006 and at Albuquerque Technical Vocational Institute from 1988 to 1996.

“I am tremendously honored to be named president of this outstanding college. I look forward to working with faculty, staff, students, and the Winona and Red Wing communities to build upon the college’s 65-year record of innovation and collaboration, and to lead Southeast Tech to new levels of excellence,” she said.

A native of New Mexico, Dr. Duran grew up in Albuquerque. In tenth grade, she was seriously injured trying out for a soccer tournament. She was in and out of the hospital for the next two years and didn’t return to finish high school. She later went on to complete the GED exam.

When she was 18, she accompanied a friend who was enrolling at the University of New Mexico. She recalled, “I felt intimidated and unworthy to even go through the door, so

he went in without me. After he registered, he came back out and finally coaxed me to sign up for classes. One person’s belief in me made all the difference.” Four years later, she graduated from college with a major in English and minor in sociology.

Dr. Duran went on to earn a master’s degree in educational foundations from the University of New Mexico. As a Kellogg Fellow, she earned her Ph.D. in 1988 at the University of Texas–Austin’s Community College Leadership Program, one of the nation’s top programs for developing community college leaders.

“I’ve been blessed and I want to pay it forward,” Dr. Duran said. “I’ve gone from GED to Ph.D., and I want to help people develop the passion, determination, and resilience that have seen me through to where I am now.”

On July 1, 2014, Dr. Dorothy Duran will become the college’s eighth president. She stated, “I am very excited to come to Minnesota State College – Southeast Technical. Jim Johnson has put the college in a great place by sharing the same qualities that I feel a leader has to have, such as valuing people, acknowledging success, respecting one’s team, and creating a shared vision. Every time I have had the opportunity to visit the college, I have been delighted by the happiness, focus, and genuinely positive atmosphere found at Southeast Technical.” We are very happy to welcome Dr. Duran to Minnesota State College – Southeast Technical!



From left:  
President Jim Johnson,  
MnSCU Trustee Cheryl Dickson,  
President-Elect Dr. Dorothy Duran,  
and Chancellor Steven Rosenstone.

# It's never too late to succeed

## Coming back to Southeast Technical helps student discover her potential

Alyshia Brinkman is a star student earning a 4.0 GPA at Southeast Technical and has served as secretary of the Red Wing Student Senate. In spring 2013, she was invited to join the American Association of University Women, which sponsored her for an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. to attend their National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. While in the nation's capital, she had the opportunity to lobby for student related issues.

Anyone would consider her a role model for college success. But this isn't her first try at attending college. In fact, Alyshia is back for the third time!

Now married and the mother of two, Alyshia's youthful appearance belies the fact that it's been more than 20 years since she first started at Southeast Technical.

When she was only 17, she trained at the College as a legal secretary through PSEO. She moved out of state and found a good job, but she wasn't happy and soon returned to Winona.

She enrolled in Southeast Technical a second time, but dropped out right away. "When you're that young you're not really focused," she admits. "I just wasn't ready."

Several years passed before Alyshia made the decision to restart her college career. She was motivated by the need to find a good job with benefits, so she could help support her family. "At first I didn't know what I was going to do or study. I settled on Individualized Studies, and one requirement was that I had to take a career planning class. That's when I had to start making decisions. I wanted to find a career that I had a true calling for."

Realizing that she loves helping others to better their lives, she has set an ambitious goal to work in church ministry as a hospital chaplain. She also hopes to be a writer. "From my first classes, my teachers always told me encouraging things about my writing, so writing is a focus of my Individualized Studies program."

Alyshia is truly an inspiration to her fellow students, her teachers, and her family. We wish her every success in reaching her lifetime goals!





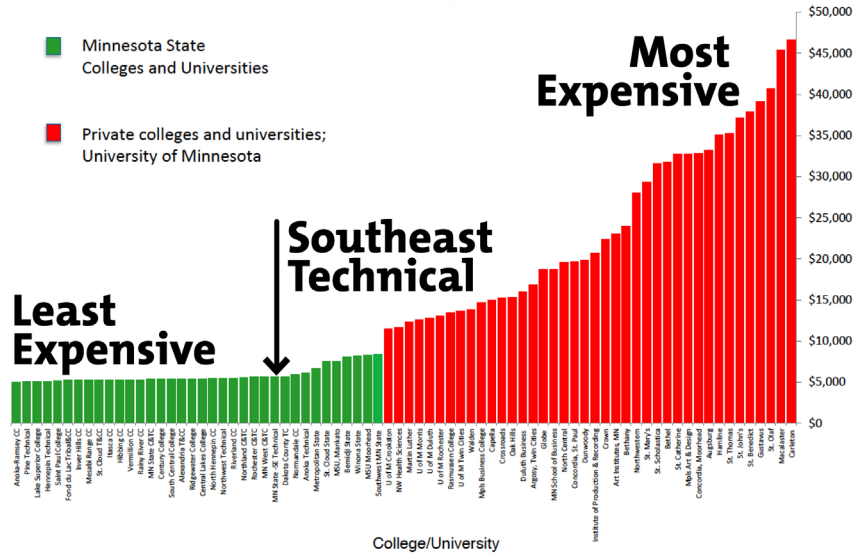
# Tuition freeze continues through 2015

## Tuition at MnSCU colleges less than one-third the cost of private trade schools

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) has announced that tuition will remain frozen in the 2014-15 academic year. Under the freeze, undergraduate tuition rates for 2014-2015 academic year will remain at 2012-2013 levels.

“The benefits of freezing undergraduate tuition for the second year in a row continue to make MnSCU colleges and universities the lowest cost, highest value higher education option in the state of Minnesota,” said Steven Rosenstone, MnSCU chancellor.

Tuition rates at MnSCU colleges and universities are dramatically lower than the alternatives. “Tuition at our 24 colleges is less than one-third the cost of private trade schools. These differences save students tens of thousands of dollars and leave students with dramatically less debt upon graduation,” said Chancellor Rosenstone.



## College programs of study

- Accounting
- Administrative Support Careers
- Auto Body Collision Technology
- Automotive Technology
- Band Instrument Repair
- Biomedical Equipment Technology
- Broadband Delivery Technician
- Carpentry
- Computer Aided Design (CAD) Drafting Technologies
- Computer Majors
- Computerized (CNC) Precision Machining Technology
- Cosmetology
- Criminal Justice
- Diesel Maintenance Technician
- Early Childhood Education
- Electronics Technology
- Guitar Repair & Building
- Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration
- Individualized Studies
- Industrial Technology
- Legal Assistant Careers
- Massage Therapist
- Medical Laboratory Technician
- Medical Support Careers
- Nanotechnology
- Network Administration & Technology
- Nursing
- Radiography
- Retail & Sales Management
- Supervisory Management
- Truck Driving
- Violin Repair Program
- Welding Technology



### NEW! Diesel Maintenance Technician

In September 2013, Southeast Technical was awarded a \$1.76 million Department of Labor grant to establish a Diesel Maintenance Technician program, and classes are already beginning in 2014. To earn the 56-credit diploma, students begin with the Automotive Undercar Specialist certificate, followed by two semesters of diesel mechanics, focusing on repair and maintenance of commercial trucks.

## From the Foundation Director



This year has simply flown by. The sheer volume of projects and events the Foundation has spearheaded the past several months has been both energizing and exhausting. As we ease into summer, I've had a few moments to reflect on this past year as the College Foundation Director.

I believe if I had one word to summarize this past year it would be pride. As I have gotten to know this college better I am so incredibly proud to be part of it! I feel so blessed to be part of an organization that respects and encourages new ideas, while building

off the strengths of tradition, past success, and hard skills. It has also been amazing to work alongside a supportive and energized team that helps move our sometimes lofty notions from concept to reality. How exciting it has been to see these ideas come to the surface and begin taking shape.

I would be absolutely remiss should I fail to mention how great it has been getting to know and work with the many volunteers, faculty/staff members, financial contributors, and students that are at the heart of this organization. The support and service provided from our many constituents cannot, and should not, be overlooked. Without their leadership and hands-on support we would simply be unable to advance our mission of making education available by providing scholarships and other resources to the college. Thank you all!

Earlier I alluded to being busy. I believe I speak for the entire department when I say, "Where did the first quarter of 2014 go?" I personally have no idea where that time went, but I do know we accomplished a great deal. Probably the most important footnote for the Foundation this past year was the success of the "Jim Johnson Legacy Breakfasts." Through a concerted grassroots approach we were able to hold breakfast fundraisers in both Winona and Red Wing to honor outgoing President Johnson. It was so energizing to see everyone show up to support and recognize Jim and all he has done for the college. I cannot say how lucky I feel to be part of that! We are so pleased to announce that these fundraisers not only hit the required \$25,000 necessary to endow a scholarship, but have nearly doubled that amount to date. Have we been busy? Very much so, but for us, it's never felt like work.

Our vision for the Foundation is to be the College's greatest partner by building strong regional relationships, while securing the resources required for the college to thrive. Our entire leadership team, including President-Elect Dorothy Duran, has formulated and rallied behind this unified goal in recent months. These are exciting times at Southeast Technical College. We know there is still work to be done as we reach for towards this vision, but I am confident we are on the right track!

Thank You,

Chris Schabow  
Foundation Director, Southeast Technical College

### KEEP IN TOUCH!

[www.facebook.com/Southeast Technical Alumni](http://www.facebook.com/Southeast Technical Alumni) | [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)

Join the Alumni Association and update your alumni profile: [www.southeastmn.edu/alumni/form](http://www.southeastmn.edu/alumni/form)

## 2014 Foundation

### Officers

**Jack Richter, President**  
President, Winona National Bank

**Tom Schooley, Vice President**  
Community Volunteer, Travelers Insurance Co. (Retired)

**Sue Hovell, Secretary/Treasurer**  
Senior Vice President,  
Merchants Bank

### Board Members

**Philip McNairy**  
Community Volunteer,  
Episcopal Priest (Retired)

**Charles Richardson**  
Attorney, Richardson and  
Richardson

**Terri Sim**  
Owner, Sim Sound and Video

**Nancy Braschler**  
Owner, Braschler Bakery &  
Coffeeshop (Retired)

**Fatima Said**  
Executive Director, Project FINE

**Joel VonHaden**  
Winona Heat & Vent

**Dan Matejka, Past President**  
City Administrator,  
City of Goodview





# 2014 Outstanding Alumni Awards

Winona, Red Wing alumni recognized

## Richard (Rick) V. Spitzer

Machine Tool & Die and Drafting & Design



Richard (Rick) V. Spitzer completed the Machine Tool & Die program at Southeast Technical in 1989 and returned to study Drafting & Design in 1994.

Now Director of Application Support at Miller Ingenuity in Winona, he began his career there as a machinist in 1988 and progressed through a number of roles, including Director of Manu-

facturing (2001) and Director of Safety and Manufacturing (2005). He was promoted to his current position in 2009, and oversees the development and implementation of new products. He volunteers for many community projects and retired with 20 years of service from the National Guard in 2006.

## Brenda Stelter

Secretarial/Clerical and Supervisory Management



A graduate of Southeast Technical's secretarial/clerical program in 1983 and Supervisory Management A.A.S. in 1997, Brenda Stelter went on to earn a B.S. in Business Management from Cardinal Stritch University in 1999 and a B.S. in Marketing from Concordia University in 2001.

The owner of Anchor Promotions, Apparel & Signage in Red Wing, Brenda has been in business since August 2004, assisting clients with promotional products, branded apparel, signs, banners, decals, cut vinyl, signage, and graphic design. Her outstanding commitment to personal customer service has helped her stand out in this highly competitive industry.

## Nominate an Outstanding Alum for 2015

Each year the Southeast Technical Foundation and Alumni Society honor an outstanding alumnus from the Red Wing and Winona campuses. The outstanding alumni are selected for personal or professional achievement and service to the community and the college.

The Southeast Technical Alumni Society invites you to submit nominations for the 2015 Outstanding Alumni award by calling the Foundation at 507-453-2663.

GET YOUR COPY OF:

## CHANGING TIMES Becoming Southeast Technical

From the history of technical education to the college as it stands today, this book takes a journey through the colleges development over the last 65+ years.

Contact the President's Office at 507-453-2663 or stop by the campus bookstores to purchase your copy for only \$7.

www.southeastmn.edu



# Another Eventful Year

Exciting events and activities designed for alumni, friends, and students

## Community Connections golf tournaments



Save the date  
Winona tournament

Monday, August 4, 2014  
Cedar Valley Golf Course

[www.southeastmn.edu/winonagolf](http://www.southeastmn.edu/winonagolf)



On May 22, 2014, 108 golfers turned out at the 9th Annual Community Connections Golf Tournament, a benefit event for Southeast Technical Foundation. The event was sponsored by Prairie Island Indian Community and raised more than \$15,000 this year, funding which is critical to providing scholarships for Southeast Technical students.

## Scholarship Banquets



Held each spring, the annual scholarship banquets celebrate the accomplishments of Southeast Technical scholarship recipients. The event also celebrates the generosity of our many donors. In the 2013-2014 academic year, 129 scholarships were awarded.

## Twins Baseball Gathering

On June 7, 2014, the Southeast Technical Alumni Association hosted its first Twins Baseball Outing! Alumni, faculty, staff, students, and their families enjoyed a great day at Target Field.







## Career and Networking Fairs



In April, the Alumni Association held its annual career and networking fairs. The fairs offered students a variety of tools to help with their job search. Local employers were on hand accepting applications. Breakout sessions were available for students to attend, in topics such as dressing for success, interview tips, resume writing, and using social media for job searching. The fairs were held in conjunction with the Annual Spring Picnics.

## Giving to Southeast Technical



Thanks to the support of alumni, friends, and businesses, Southeast Technical Foundation helps ease the burden for Southeast Tech students. The Foundation is a 501 c(3) organization governed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors.

The success of Southeast Technical and its students would not be possible without the generosity of our donors. Gifts are used to support college initiatives, to enhance education, and to provide scholarship support for Southeast Technical students.

Gifts to the college Foundation may be made for general support, and will be used where they are most needed. They may also be designated for a particular program or made in honor or memory of an individual.

### Ways to make a gift

We encourage you to make a gift in a way that is the most advantageous for you.

- Pledge: You may pledge an amount to be paid over a period of time.
- Gifts of appreciated property: You can realize significant tax advantages by making a gift of appreciated securities.
- Philanthropy on a Budget Direct Debit Program: Make a recurring gift through direct debit from your checking or savings account.
- Through our secure online donation system
- Planned gifts
  - Bequests
  - Life insurance
  - Giving through retirement plans
  - Charitable trusts and annuities: You can enjoy the benefits of a current tax deduction while providing for yourself or loved ones, and making a significant gift to the college.



For assistance in giving to Southeast Technical call 507-453-1423 or email [cschabow@southeastmn.edu](mailto:cschabow@southeastmn.edu)

[www.southeastmn.edu/donate](http://www.southeastmn.edu/donate)





### A Smooth “Ride Along” from 2-year to 4-year degree

Making the transition from Southeast Technical to completing a bachelor's degree was a breeze for Tim Sullivan, who graduated from Southeast Technical in May 2011 with an A.S. degree in Criminal Justice.

In December 2013, Tim graduated with a B.A. from Metropolitan State University's School of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice in Brooklyn Park. “It was great that Southeast Technical and Metro State have a collaborative agreement, so all my credits transferred very smoothly,” he says. “Class sizes are only a little bigger at Metro State than at Southeast Tech, and I got to know my classmates and instructors very well. It's a friendly campus and the instructors are well qualified.”

Having passed the Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training test, Tim is now eligible to be licensed as a peace officer as soon as he finds employment in the field.

“Right now, my long term goal is to work in Goodhue County and I'm applying for positions with the sheriff's department. As a student at Southeast Tech, I spent quite a bit of time doing ride-alongs with road deputies and working in the jail and court system,” he explains.

“My favorite area was the Four Seasons Patrol Division, where you patrol the waterways by boat and make sure people are obeying ATV and snowmobile laws.”

What was the most valuable thing about his education at Southeast Technical? “It really solidified for me that law enforcement is the career that I want,” says Tim.

Criminal Justice Program instructor Greg Cady is enthusiastic about Tim's future. “Tim was a stellar student whose motivation, ambition, and academic success set the standard high for our program. I'm confident he will become a leader in the criminal justice profession and represent Southeast Technical well!”



# CONTINUING EDUCATION

## Fall Class Offerings

Many more online courses available in all areas!

Visit [www.southeastmn.edu/training](http://www.southeastmn.edu/training) for dates and location

### Healthcare and Integrative Healing

Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers  
Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers - Recertification  
First Responder Training  
Heartsaver - First Aid  
Home Health Aide  
Nursing Assistant Testing  
Nursing Assistant Training  
Pharmacy Technician - Online

### Integrative Healing

Healing Touch Level 1 & 2  
Healing Beyond Borders  
Reiki Level 2

### Business

Online Human Resource Certification Test Preparation



### Computers

MS Word, 2013 Basic  
MS Excel, 2013 Basic  
One-on-One Computer Training  
Online Computer Training

### Early Childhood Training

Developmentally Appropriate Behavior Guidance; Child development  
Stretching the Mind and Body; Creating a classroom for language and literacy growth  
Putting Out the Welcome Mat: Connecting with families  
Winter Wonderland: Playing and learning through Minnesota's finest weather

### Transportation Training

Driver Education for Youth  
Basic Motorcycle Rider Training  
Basic Motorcycle Rider Course 2  
Moped Training  
Minnesota State Patrol Commercial Vehicle Inspection Certification

### Trade and Industry

Boiler Operations  
Crane Certification and Recertification  
General Code for Registered Unlicensed Maintenance Electrician  
Minnesota Waste Combustor Operator Training  
Power Limited Technician Training  
Refrigeration Recovery

### Food Manager Certification

Food Manager Recertification  
ServSafe Training



**Early Childhood**  
**PROFESSIONALS FORUM**  
**Saturday, February 7, 2015**  
**Southeast Technical, Red Wing**



**KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Katy Smith**  
**2011 MINNESOTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

*Building our community  
...one child at a time*

## SPACE RENTAL

Minnesota State College – Southeast Technical is the ideal location for your next meeting, lecture or class. We offer professional spaces with complimentary amenities.



507-453-1440 (Winona) 651-385-6320 (Red Wing)  
[www.southeastmn.edu/roomrental](http://www.southeastmn.edu/roomrental)

Inspire - Recognize - Celebrate




**Professional Women's Leadership Event**  
**April 15, 2015**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Treasure Island Resort & Casino, Red Wing**



**This is  
exactly  
what  
I want  
to do**

-  Degree Programs
-  Online Courses
-  Continuing Education  
and Workforce Training



Southeast Technical's top programs allow you to reach your goals, boost your career and follow your passion—in two focused years.

