

2012 Annual Report



Passion. Purpose. Focus.

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FY 2012

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Our Vision

Shaping the workforce by providing quality education for today and tomorrow.

Our Mission

Minnesota State College-Southeast Technical is dedicated to providing education for employment, skill enhancement and retraining. The primary focus is to anticipate and meet the educational and training needs of students and employers.

Southeast Technical provides students with a strong foundation of general and technical education and opportunities for acquiring knowledge, skills, and attitudes for a lifetime of learning. The college anticipates and responds to global, technological and social changes.

Southeast Technical provides equal opportunity and recognizes individual needs in its education, service and employment practices. Certificates, Diplomas, Associate in Science, and Associate in Applied Science Degrees are awarded upon successful completion.

Our Values IDEALS:

Integrity Diversity Excellence Access Learning Stewardship



A MEMBER OF THE MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES SYSTEM

2 Annual Report





Message from the President

I am pleased to present to you our 2012 annual report. As you read through this document you will see themes of responsiveness, relevancy, collaboration, efficiency, sustainability, engagement, stewardship and global awareness. The embodiment of these themes in the daily work at Southeast Technical is paramount to our success and when coordinated through a dynamic and cohesive strategic plan allows faculty and staff of this great college to accomplish its primary mission of "regional workforce education and life-long learning."

Minnesota state higher education continued to be adversely impacted by declining state legislative support in 2012 thus perpetuating a trend toward a state funding model of low state support and and as a result difficulty in keeping tuition affordable. Even so, you will see throughout this report the continued pursuit of excellence by Southeast staff, faculty, students and volunteers. While the cuts to higher education in Minnesota have been in the range of 48 percent since 1999, Southeast Technical's enrollment has increased by 64 percent causing a significant stress on the development of programming for our regional constituents and students. It has been imperative that we pursue strategies of alternative funding resources, nurturing new business partnerships, grow foundation programming and strive to keep tuition increases modest in order to maintain our competitiveness.

On a more encouraging note this annual report will highlight new programs that have grown out of the successful pursuit of alternative funding streams, approximately 4 million dollars, through the National Science Foundation and Department of Labor. We also highlight other programs developed through close alliances with regional business sectors. The regional business alliances help us recognize critical labor shortages, develop appropriate training programs, support us with program resources and eventually hire our graduates. You will also learn about collaborations with regional high schools that have grown significantly over the last few years as we have increased sections of college courses offered within those school districts.

As I have interacted with regional industry leaders over the last few years, one theme I have heard repeatedly is the globalization of their businesses and the need for our students to be aware of this dynamic and prepare them to be part of it. This is why we are so excited with the progress of our emerging relationship with Quzhou College of Technology in Quzhou, China. That relationship will be highlighted in this report.

Again this year the annual report will reveal the successes of the Southeast Technical Foundation and their support of our students, struggling to deal with rising tuition costs, closely tied to dwindling state support. The dedicated volunteers of the Southeast Technical Foundation lead by President Dan Matejka are to be commended for awarding over \$108,000 in scholarships for 2012.

I hope you enjoy reading through our 2012 annual report as much as we enjoy serving our students and constituents.

James J John

RELEVANCY

Program News

Medical Laboratory Technician

Employment of the medical laboratory technician is expected to grow 16 percent this decade. This program launched in the fall of 2012 to meet the needs of a changing society. Increased demand for healthcare services and increasing complexity will increase the demand for lab personnel.

MLTs work as members of the healthcare team performing laboratory procedures that aid in diagnosis and treatment of diseases. MLTs perform blood collections, analyze blood and other body fluids, match blood for transfusions and examine specimens for bacteria, parasites and other microorganisms. This program allows for hands-on practice through clinical experiences at laboratories off campus as well as extensive state-of-the-art simulated clinical laboratory experience. Upon successful completion of the program the student will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination. Job opportunities for MLTs are in clinics, hospitals, and other healthcare settings.

Nursing

In 2012, the Practical and Associate Degree Nursing programs underwent significant curriculum revision, incorporating competency-based curriculum taught in a concept-based format. The program changes occurred to better prepare students to meet ever-changing healthcare demands. The program continues to be based on standards and requirements from a variety of professional organizations. Additionally, the Nursing Programs maintain approval from the Minnesota Board of Nursing.

The program changes are part of the Continued Quality Improvement process to align with the standards and requirements of the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission. Curriculum taught in a concept-based format decreases the need for large amounts of content, teaches application of material to better prepare students for the National Council Licensure Examination and reflects contemporary nursing practice.

Network Administration and Technology

The Network Administration Technology program provides students with learning experiences to meet the challenges of an ever-changing computer-networking environment.

Students are trained on the various ways to design, plan, implement and manage network systems with an emphasis in the hands-on applied approach to learning. Stressed throughout the program, this approach adds a dimension necessary to acquire practical problem-solving and troubleshooting skills to function efficiently in this complex computer field.

Individualized Studies

The Individualized Studies program is designed for students who intend to focus on a specialized interest, those who wish to combine and integrate multiple areas into a single degree, those who would like to complete the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Package (liberal arts and science courses that transfer to any MnSCU institution) and/or those who wish to build on current areas of expertise. Students have some flexibility to tailor the program to suit their educational and professional needs through a career and educational planning course. In addition, each student in this program is assigned an advisor to assist him/her in the successful completion of the program requirements.

The A.S. degree in Individualized Studies can lead directly to employment; it is also a transferable degree accepted at other institutions of higher learning. Earning an A.S. degree in Individualized Studies allows a student the opportunity to either begin a career or to begin a baccalaureate degree here at Southeast Technical and complete it at a four-year university. This program is currently one of Southeast Technical's largest majors with approximately 350 students enrolled.

Biomedical Equipment Technology

Biomedical equipment technician training gives students the skills and knowledge needed to maintain, adjust, calibrate, and repair a wide variety of electronic and electromechanical, as well as computerized and networked equipment used in hospitals. These machines are being connected in complex, computerized networks giving the students a solid foundation as they start their career. Students acquire the skills needed to work on equipment used in practitioners' offices such as monitoring equipment, ultrasound equipment, electric wheelchairs, and sophisticated dental, optometric and ophthalmic equipment.

This up and coming occupation is in high demand due primarily to the increasing demands for healthcare services and increasingly complex medical equipment. The medical equipment repair field is expected to grow 31 percent nationally this decade.

EFFICIENCY

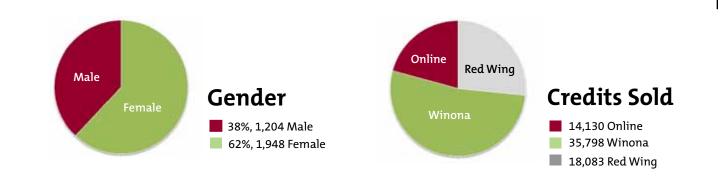
Being Proactive Improves Financial Health

Minnesota State College - Southeast Technical took a proactive approach to dealing with the recession of the last four years. The college established a committee comprised of individuals representing all areas of the college to work on cost saving measures through continuous quality improvement or CQI. This group identified areas of duplication of services and expenses in various areas and put plans into place to reduce costs accordingly. The group was successful in reducing operational costs by more than \$250,000 annually.

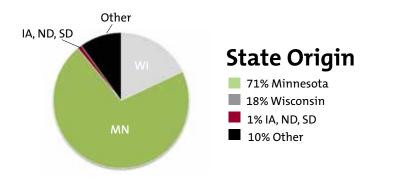
During this same period the college sold the Airport Campus and replaced the space with an addition to our truck driving building consolidating two Winona sites into one and reducing square footage by 45,000 square feet. This rightsizing of the college reduced utility and personnel costs and put students back on one site, reducing unnecessary travel for employees and students. Consolidating sites also allowed students to access student services and learning resource areas more readily.

Financial health of colleges and universities is measured by financial ratios that are compiled into a Composite Financial Index. The CFI moves up or down based on how efficiently the college manages its resources. In the last four years Southeast Technical has increased its CFI from .68 to 3.27 while the system average went from 1.91 to 2.78 over the same period of time.

OPERATIONAL COSTS REDUCED BY \$250,000+



OUR POPULATION



Faculty Profile

Full-Time	71			
Full-Time	/1			
Part-Time	32			
Adjunct Faculty	28			
Master Prepared	53%			
Total Faculty	164			
Average Student-to-Teacher Rat				
	20:1			

RESPONSIVENESS

Flexibility in Learning

Minnesota State College - Southeast Technical offers a variety of flexible programs which can be completed online, hybrid or in a traditional classroom setting. Online medical coding alumna, Bethany Holtegaard was glad that she didn't have to sacrifice time with her family to get her degree. She recalls, "My daughter went to bed about 8 or 8:30 and I would do my homework then."

Thirty-one percent of all higher education students now take at least one course online, according to the Babson Survey Research Group's annual survey of more than 2,500 colleges and universities. Unlike many web-based learning programs, Southeast Technical online learners have instructors who are right here in southeastern Minnesota. Students can connect with instructors via e-mail, phone, online discussions or in person. "Whether in the classroom or online we are here for students," said Jill Halverson, accounting instructor. Resources for online students are the same as those for classroom students. In addition, faculty utilize a variety of tools such as discussion boards, video and audio lectures, additional computer software and service learning projects to provide a sense of community and enhance the e-learning environment.

This year marks the start of the online Computer Aided Drafting program. "I am really excited about this online program," said CAD Instructor Jim Ziegler, adding, "It really provides a lot of flexibility for non-traditional students and part-time learners while still functioning as a two-year A.A.S. program for traditional students."

Flexibility is a consistent message associated with online learning at Southeast Technical. Online accounting student, Bethany Ensminger notes, "Online learning is the only thing that would work with my schedule since I work full-time."

Southeast Technical offers a number of online majors in several program areas, including:

- Accounting
- Administrative Support
- Computer Aided Drafting (CAD)
- Computer Majors
- Early Childhood Education
- Individualized Studies
- Legal Assistant Careers
- Medical Support Careers

To learn more about online learning, go to www.southeastmn.edu/StudyOnline



College Credits in the High School

In a continuous search for opportunities for students who excel academically in high school, schools in Minnesota State College - Southeast Technical's region are increasing their collaborative efforts. One of these collaborative efforts is the college's Concurrent Enrollment Program— Connect to College. A C2C course is one of Southeast Technical's courses taught by a high school teacher for college credit that also fulfills a student's high school curriculum.

High school teachers must meet the course's credentialing requirements just as the college faculty. These teachers are paired with a college faculty collaborator in their area and attend an annual professional development opportunity through the college. These requirements ensure that the course offered at the high school meets the college standards in depth and rigor.

This offers high school seniors who are in the upper 50 percent and juniors in the upper 33 percent of their class the opportunity to complete a college course and receive a Southeast Technical transcript with all the benefits of remaining in their high school.

Southeast Technical is proud to offer several C2C courses in regional high schools and work with high schools regularly to expand the offerings. This partnership began in 2003 with only two sections in one high school, since then offerings have increased 800 percent in five high schools. This year high school students will earn more than 750 college credits through Southeast Technical, resulting in a significant savings as students begin their college career. In 2012, the college began the process to receive accreditation through the National Alliance for Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships. Accreditation ensures that the college standards are being met—results of this application will be received in April 2013.

GLOBAL AWARENESS

Moving Forward with Quzhou Exchange

In an increasingly global economy, individuals with experience working and interacting with people from other cultures will have an edge in the workforce. "The ability to have experiences in understanding another culture is valuable not only in values learned, but also in technology," said James Johnson, Minnesota State College - Southeast Technical president.

The college continues to move forward in its exchange with the Quzhou College of Technology, born from Red Wing's sister city relationship. The vision is to offer student and faculty exchanges both in person and online to allow opportunities for more students and staff to benefit. Under the direction of Jo Poncelet, Dean of Academics, three members from last fall's delegation will return to Quzhou this spring with very specific objectives. Southeast Technical IT Specialist, Tao Peng will travel in the beginning of April to explore and help them develop the technical capabilities to allow online exchanges between Southeast Technical and Quzhou College of Technology. "If all goes smoothly we could see online exchanges as early as this fall," said Peng.

Becky Alsop, Associate Dean of Academics, will coordinate student exchanges. The goal is to have students exchanging in person by summer 2014. "To be able to share culture and experiences will be a huge benefit to students at both schools," Alsop says. She is heading to Quzhou in April to work with the administration at the Quzhou College of Technology to plan the details of student exchanges.



Biology instructor Brad Alsop is currently in Quzhou as the college's first faculty exchange member, "I hope to get into the classroom as much as possible to convey to them our ability to use technology and showcase what technology we have access to, including lecture recording software (Tegrity) and our course management platform (Desire 2 Learn) and more." Alsop is laying down the foundation for the upcoming exchange. He will be working with students, faculty and community members. This fall a faculty member from Quzhou will stay with the Alsop family while teaching here at Southeast Technical.

Southeast Technical faculty and staff returning to Quzhou. Left to right - Brad Alsop, Tao Peng and Becky Alsop.

President Johnson expresses the importance of these exchanges, "As a college we train people for our regional workforce, yet many of our local businesses are global. This dynamic requires that our graduates understand and are prepared for the global impact to their occupation of choice."

SAVE THE DATE! ALUMNI AND FRIENDS REUNION



From Vo-Tech to Southeast Tech - Each year and program in between - you're invited to join us for an afternoon of fun, food, family and reconnecting with friends!

> WINONA CAMPUS SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2013 11:00 a.m. - 2 p.m.

RED WING CAMPUS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2013 Time : TBD



Like us on facebook for updates www.facebook.com

Connect with Casie Johnson cjohnson@southeastmn.edu 877.853.8324 ext. 6773 www.southeastmn.edu/alumnireunion to sign up.

STEWARDSHIP

From the Foundation President



Foundation President Dan Matejka

As President of the Southeast Technical Foundation Board of Directors, I am privileged to work with a group of volunteers who are committed to helping Southeast Technical College deliver a quality education to students faced with increasing costs and expectations. We do this in a variety of ways: serving as a conduit for regional businesses to donate state-of-the-art equipment to the college ensuring a relevant training experience for students; we offer opportunities for our alumni, communities and business

leaders to provide input and expertise for our programs; but most importantly providing increased opportunities for scholarships to help students.

As you see in this Annual Report, we have much to celebrate. This past year the Southeast Technical Foundation awarded \$108,700 in scholarships to 115 students. We received almost \$67,000 worth of goods and supplies for programs from individuals and businesses, and contributions of more than \$191,000 to support the work of the foundation and build our endowment.

Now is not the time however to rest on our laurels. We are working hard to respond to the needs of the college and its students. We cannot do this alone. As you look at the Foundation section of this Annual Report, you will see there are many opportunities for you to connect with the college and the foundation. I hope you take the opportunity to join us for one of the upcoming "friend-raising" activities. Whether it is one of the golf outings or the Alumni and Friends Reunions, your support and involvement in these activities will help us help our students.

Thank you for the role you played in making 2011-2012 a successful year, and I look forward to your continued support in 2012-2013 and beyond!

Jan Matcha

Dan Matejka President, Southeast Technical Foundation



2013 Golf Tournament Dates

Golf Tournament, Dinner and Auctions Mount Frontenac Golf Course, Frontenac THURSDAY, MAY 23

Golf Tournament Winona Cedar Valley Golf Course, Winona MONDAY, AUGUST 5

Board Officers

Dan Matejka, President City Administrator, City of Goodview

Tedd Morgan, Treasurer VP of Operations/COO, Thern, Inc.

Board Members

Pam Horlitz Business & Community Development, Community Health Outreach, Mayo Clinic

Philip McNairy Community Volunteer, Episcopal Priest (Retired)

Charles Richardson Attorney, Richardson and Richardson

Jack Richter President, Winona National Bank

John Riester Owner, Riester Refrigeration

Tom Schooley Community Volunteer, Traveler's Insurance Co. (Retired)

Terri Sim Owner, Sim Sound and Video

Nancy Braschler Owner, Braschler Bakery & Coffeeshop (Retired)

Nick Lundquist Executive Vice President, Fastenal

Sue Hovell Senior Vice President, Merchants Bank

SUSTAINABILITY

From the Office of Institutional Advancement



Institutional Advancement Officer Cheryl Hancock

It is hard to believe that it has just been over a year since I joined the Advancement Office at Southeast Technical. In my role as the Institutional Advancement Officer I supervise a great team of professionals in three departments: Marketing and Communications; Business Development and Financial Development. The Southeast Technical Foundation is a part of the Financial Development department.

Highlights of the first year include organizing the Development office into a more traditional structure, with Chris Mart being named the Director of the Annual Fund

and Chris Schabow joining the organization just this March as the Director of Major Gifts/Special Projects. Casie Johnson is leading the Alumni Association initiative, in addition to our two successful golf outings she has reunions planned in Winona this summer and Red Wing this fall. With the good work of Chris Mart, we were able to increase the Faculty Staff Campaign to 67 percent participation. We have added scholarships to be disbursed to students this fall and an active and generous board of directors to help guide the way.

Hats off to the rest of the Advancement Office team. Jen Olson, Katie Hardyman and Calli Ekblad have brought numerous partnerships and in-kind contributions to the college through their work in Business Development, and Joanne Thompson and Heather Dutcher from our Communications department have produced great materials, including this Annual Report, telling the Southeast Technical story every chance we get.

Outside of my Division I have been so impressed by the dedication of the people. Whether it is our faculty members in the classroom, our support staff professionals or one of our financial benefactors, it is clear that they understand that they can positively impact the educational experience of our students and enhance it in some way. That is the kind of organization you want to be a part of and it is what has made this year such a pleasurable one.

As we look forward we know we have much work to do. To be successful we need your help to meet the needs of our students, our staff and our region. Please feel free to reach out to any member of the advancement office to see how you might become a member of the team. Be well,

Cheryl Hancock

Office of Advancement Chervl Hancock

Institutional Advancement Officer

Chris Schabow Director of Major Gifts/Special Projects

Nicole Sawyer Customer Support Specialist **Casie Johnson** Executive Assistant to the President & Alumni Director

Joanne Thompson **Director of Publications**

Jen Olson, Katie Hardyman and Calli Ekblad **Business Relations Directors**

Financial Position

		<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	
Assets				
Cash	\$	167,375	166,361	
Investments		1,230,654	1,209,395	
Receivables:				
Contributions		45,000	33,000	
Related party, lease			307,239	
Loan fees, net		23,711	183	
Investments, beneficial interest				
in funds held by Minnesota				
Community Foundation		791,445	785,440	
Land		510,599		
Property and equipment, net		563,539	6,000	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	3,332,323	2,507,618	

Liabilities and net assets:

Liabilities:			
Accounts Payable	\$	7,240	8,110
Note payable, bank		850,960	307,239
TOTAL LIABILITIES		858,200	315,349
Net assests:			
Unrestricted			
Board Designated		46,370	31,505
Undesignated		405,409	157,489
Total Unrestricted		451,779	188,994
Temporarily restricted		1,491,981	1,507,262
Permanently restricted		530,363	496,013
TOTAL NET ASSETS		2,474,123	2,192,269

\$ 3,332,323 2,507,618

Chris Mart Director of the Annual Fund

Heather Dutcher Interim-Director of Communications

ENGAGEMENT

Seeing the Need

At Minnesota State College - Southeast Technical faculty and staff see first-hand on a daily basis what a difference scholarships can make in the lives of their students. Many, like Karen Fettig and Greg Cady, step up to the plate.

Karen Fettig learned very young about the importance of education. "My mother always told me that it is everyone's responsibility to support education," she said.



When Fettig's dear friend, Roxy, passed away she knew that creating a scholarship in her name was the right thing to do. "A mutual friend of ours told me that shortly before her passing Roxy talked about how she wished she had gotten schooling beyond high school," said Fettig.

As a faculty member in the nursing department at Southeast Technical, Fettig sees first-hand what kinds of obstacles many of her students face. She felt it was important that

the scholarship go to a nursing student who had overcome adversity in their efforts to get an education.

Greg Cady rose to the challenge when Hiawatha Valley Family - Beyond the Yellow Ribbon asked for help. "As a service member of over 20 years to include a combat tour in Baghdad, I have a greater appreciation for those that have gone before me and whom currently serve in our United States Armed Forces. They are the heroes that defend our freedom for us and our families," said Cady.



As an active member of the committee Cady helped lead a holiday tree event in December. In the end, the decorated tree was auctioned off and the auction winner then donated it to a deployed service member's family. Money raised from this auction resulted in two \$500 scholarships to be awarded to a local veteran/ guard/reserve member. Cady added, "Our committee is dedicated to offering support to those that support our freedom."

These are just two of the most recent examples of Southeast Technical staff doing their part to meet the need. Many more have stepped up to the plate over the years.



Faculty and Staff Campaign

This past fiscal year, the Southeast Technical Foundation challenged faculty and staff to increase their participation in supporting the foundation - and they came through with an overwhelming response!

In the previous year 51 percent of full-time faculty and staff had made a gift to the foundation but at the conclusion of this year's campaign – a 15 percent increase was experienced resulting in 67 percent participation. Contributions to the Faculty and Staff campaign help fund the efforts of the foundation in its goal of supporting students. The foundation does this through making technical education accessible by enhancing scholarship opportunities and providing financial and other resources to assist the college.

Fiscal Year 2012 Giving

(Cash gifts given between July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012)

Visionaries

(\$5,000 and above) Dahl Automotive Eastwood Bank Merchants National Bank Miller Felpax Corporation Fred and Dianne Morgan John and Vicki Riester Thern Treasures Galore, Inc. Winona National Bank Wm. Miller Scrap Iron & Metal Company Xcel Energy Foundation C. Nick and Yonok Zeller

Innovators

(\$1,000 - \$4,999)Norris & Rhoda Abts Todd Hawkinson HBC. Inc. Marlene Hemsey Hiawatha HomeCare James and Mary Johnson Steve and Candi Kohner Lewiston Auto Nicholas and Maria Lundquist Minnesota State College-Southeast Technical Motor Parts and Equipment Dave and Jean Munson Jerry and Pat Papenfuss **RTP** Company Terri and Dean Sim Sugar Loaf Ford-Lincoln-Mercury Walz Buick-Pontiac-GMC Wells Fargo Winona Community Foundation Winona Rotary Club Winona Senior Friendship Center

Pacesetters

(\$500 - \$999) Baird Foundation Maura and Stephan Boesch Anne and David Dahlen DS & B Hiawatha Valley Marines Thomas and Cecilia Hoffman Marty Knauer Ron and Kay Kuhlmann Erik Sigurd Lee Minnesota Elks Association, Inc. Don and Donna Peterson Ronald Sellnau Jessica Stumpf

Investors

(\$250 - \$499) Acelectric of Red Wing Laurel Benedict Arne Dufseth James and Mary Eddy **Betty Elsen** Nate and Sherry Emerson Kari Everson Buck and Joan Foot Sara Freeman Michael and Jill Halverson Dennis and Joni Lynch Helene Olson-Reed and John Reed **Robert Raasch** Lisa Robertson Leah Schnaith Tim and Rita VanLoon Patty and Ed Watson Alice Zimmer

Sustainers

(\$100 - \$249) Brad and Becky Alsop Automated Equipment, LLC Laurie and Bill Becker Greg Beckwith **Bradley Benke** Peter Beurskens Randel and Ann Blaser Samantha Braschler Barbara Burchill Chet and Neva Burdick Gregory and LeAnn Cady John Campfield-Huth William and Judy Christianson Robert Cisewski Dennis and Karen Cleveland Muriel Copp **Dennis Earney** Brenda Edwards Daren Engler Colleen and Richard Fain Karen Fettig

GIFTS IN-KIND In FY 2012, our in-kind contributions were valued at \$66,942.11

William Fitzgerald Tony and Terri Fritz Joseph and Barbara Goggin Jerry and Sherry Haines John and Margaret Hale Cheryl and Victor Hancock Katie Hardyman-Morem Roger Holland Susan Hovell John and Lynda Kern **Chris Kiecker** Mike and Nancy Kroening Jerry Lunde Keith Mann Chris and Peter Mart Jeannette and Ron Matuska Phil and Linda McNairy Fred Mercord **Richard Nahrgang** Jennifer and Ryan Olson Amber Oshan Jo and Joe Poncelet **Rose Riesgraf Ralph Roemer** Garry Schindler David Schwantz Gayle Scott **Slaggie Family Foundation** Patricia Sobieski Paul Sorenson Kent Spaulding and Naznin Nelson Mary and Gary Stoos **Chris Stout** John and Barbara Tibor John Tittle and Jean Eqbert Keith and Jill Tutewohl Sandra VerBout David Vincent Deanna and Larry Voth Evelyn and Pete Wedde Peggy and Richard Whalen Kristina Wright Edward Zachary Cynthia Ziegler Steve Zmyewski

Friends

(\$25 - \$99) Nicki and Ben Adank Carrie Allen Antonio Alonso

Robert and Donna Andraschko Harley and Chris Antoff Megan Ask Paul Berhow Binner Appliance Inc. Pete Boggs Cindy Brady Tom Brandt Jackie Briggs Wendy and Tom Bublitz Richard and Karen Budahn Troy and Lauri Buhr Mark Bushman Patricia Buxengard Gary and Christine Cameron Karen Clements Ramona Coron Holly Daley Mary Donlin Thomas Doyle Thomas Dreas Stacy Evenson David Felten Laura Foss Jody Freij-Tonder Sarah Gatzlaff Michael Gorden Terry Greene Patrick Gregory Gerald Haessig Eileen Halls Vanessa and Steve Harstad **Richard and Marilyn Hemsey** Steve Herman Allan Hines Mark Hoffman Kathryn Holthe Hormel Foods Jim and Barb Jacques Scott Jensen Torry Jeranek Casie and Bradford Johnson Dale Johnson **Tracy Kirchner Robert Koch** Terri Korsten Jon and Carolyn Kosidowski Cindy Kottke Steve Kunde Edward Kvestad Ron and Sandra Lande Michael Larson

Gary and Barb Marg Donald Mikitta John Montet PEO - Chapter ET of Red Wing Lisa Pozanc Susan Priem Susan Reed Shaun Rindels Lori Rother Mark and Kari Rud Anthony Russell Julie Schladweiler Kerri Schmidt **Robert Schultz Roger Sobeck** Sorensen Flexible Benefits, Ltd. Kent Speltz Larry Speltz James Steffenhaugen Mark Swanson Joanne and Jamie Thompson Roger and Marilyn Tomfohrde Janine Troke Mary Turner Danin Weltzein **David Wickstrom** Michael Wolfe James Ziegler Pamela Zimmerman

Lifetime Benefactors

(Cumulative Giving over \$10,000) **Dahl Automotive** Eastwood Bank Fastenal John and Barbara Hanson Elizabeth Helmholz James and Mary Johnson Robert Kierlin and Mary Burrichter Lewiston Auto Co. Nick and Maria Lundquist Jerry and Pat Papenfuss Sugar Loaf Ford-Lincoln-Mercury Thern, Inc. Wm. Miller Scrap Iron & Metal Company **Xcel Energy Foundation**

ALUMNI

Medical Support Careers - Every Student has a Unique Story

There are currently more than 7,000 medical secretaries in the State of Minnesota, with over 28 percent of them in the southeast. The need for medical secretaries is expected to grow by 34 percent this decade. Minnesota State College -Southeast Technical offers a variety of nonclinical medical careers in the Medical Support Careers program of study.

Patty Watson, Becky Korder and Brenda Edwards make up the team of instructors who teach Medical Support Careers at Southeast Technical and all have had a very positive impact on their students. Watson has been teaching at Southeast Technical for 23 years, and in that time, she has clearly made a big impression on her students. When Watson recently visited Winona Health, Sarnia Square, which houses the Center for Rehabilitation and Urgent Care units, a variety of her former students excitedly stopped to say hello. She remembered each of them in detail, asking specific questions about their family and personal life. What is strikingly obvious is that Watson truly cares about her students and their success; they in turn remember her as a fantastic instructor.

Medical Support Careers alumna, Beth Wolfe, Lori Kokinos and Cathy Stark are just three of the hundreds of students Watson has worked with over the years.

Beth Wolfe graduated from the Southeast Technical Medical Administrative Secretary A.A.S. program in 2012. "It really helped to be known as a person and not just another student," remarked Wolfe. She credits – in part – small class



sizes with getting her prepared to be successful in her career, "I was able to ask questions and really be involved in the learning process." Students in this and a variety of other programs have the flexibility to choose online, hybrid or classroom learning opportunities. Wolfe completed three semesters in the classroom and one semester online.

Watson says, "In this market, graduates need to be the best

they can be – Beth is one of the best!" The Medical Secretary training Wolfe received at Southeast Technical started her on her career path. It will not end here; she plans to continue her medical education in preparation for future opportunities in the medical field. **Lori Kokinos** graduated with a Medical Secretary Diploma in 2008 and now works in Urgent Care at Winona Health. Kokinos found herself without a job after 20 years when the company she worked for closed. She worked with the counselors at Southeast Technical to find the right path and



found that she was really interested in the medical field, but knew that nursing was not right for her. "There are a variety of different roles in the field," she said. That is how she settled on Medical Secretary. Kokinos remembers thinking that "something bad became something good." When another unforeseen disaster occurred, the flood of 2007, and even the books she purchased were destroyed, she found continued support from the college.

This experience made her even more determined to complete college, find a job, and move on with her life. She has very fond memories of her time in school. "Patty took time out of her schedule one day to take me home to see my new house being delivered after the flood! I was very honored for the care and concern that was given to me by the instructors; they really went above and beyond."

Cathy Stark graduated from the Medical Secretary program in 2003 and now works in the Center for Rehabilitation with

Wolfe. Stark was a non-traditional student. She remembers, "The instructors treated me like there was no age difference." Also, being a displaced worker, Stark says, "It was the best thing that ever happened to me." Her advice to others thinking about a career change, "Go for it! You are never too old to learn." Graduation ceremonies were especially gratifying for Stark. "I was 47 when I went back to school at Southeast Technical. My children and grandchildren were at my graduation. Walking across the stage was amazing," recalls Stark.



The Medical Support Careers instructors all agree that, "Every student has a real-life story which makes them unique. We try to enhance their natural abilities and talents to create well-rounded students who will be prepared for their next career step."

Taking Nominations for 2013 Outstanding Alums

Each year, the Southeast Technical Foundation and Alumni Association 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.

Submit nominations for the 2013 Outstanding Alum by calling the Alumni office at 507-453-2663.

COLLABORATION

Strengthening Our Community through Business Development

Donna Anderst moved her company, SCS-AIM, to Red Wing six years ago. Founded in 1976, the company supplies plastic injection molding; die cast; and metal stamped products, with special emphasis in elevator products and signage.

As the economy started to pick up and business began to grow the company noticed they were having a difficult time finding skilled workers to meet their needs. When Anderst met Minnesota State College - Southeast Technical President James

Johnson at the local Red Wing 2020 meeting she realized that there were services available they hadn't utilized yet. President Johnson put her in contact with Katie Hardyman, Director of Business Relations at Southeast Technical.

Anderst says she moved the company multiple times before settling in Red Wing. She'd worked with other technical colleges and never found any with the same energy, open mindedness and community involvement as she saw at Southeast Technical. "Katie is

a golden nugget. She takes the problem and runs with it. She doesn't run away from you, but with you to find a solution," says Anderst.

Hardyman worked with SCS-AIM to introduce them to the college's CNC (Machining/Tool & Die) program instructors from the Winona campus. The groups met multiple times on both campuses and most recently, several SCS-AIM managers made a presentation to the CNC students to educate them about their company and future careers in the industry. A potential internship program is now in the works. "The payback will be much greater than the small amount of time we spent honing these relationships," said Anderst, adding, "Other

businesses in the region may have the same needs. Our synergy will grow and these collaborative efforts will create a collective impact."

"They had a need and we reacted," Hardyman said, adding, "All I really did was listen and think outside the box." Hardyman is part of the Southeast Technical Business Development team. This team works with businesses in the region to help them to develop training solutions that will advance their workforce and create a stronger community.

For more information on how Southeast Technical's Business Development team can help your business call 877-853-8324 and ask for Custom Training.

Welding Short Course

This 8-week program, funded by a federal grant from the Department of Labor, provided no-cost welding training for individuals in and around Winona. The program was aimed at people who are looking to follow a career path in welding or would like to add welding skills to their resume to advance in their current career path, especially those who lack the financial means to do so on their own. As a part of this program students not only receive abbreviated welding training, but also receive OSHA safety training and other instruction to help them prepare for the workforce.

This special welding session developed as a result of a partnership between Minnesota State College – Southeast Technical, Minnesota Department of Workforce Development and the Winona Workforce Center.

Minnesota State College - Southeast Technical Directors of Business Relations

We are proud to deliver training and education solutions that help your organization succeed in a rapidly changing world. Let us put our collaborative power to work for you! We guarantee a solution that's as one-of-a-kind as your business - and one that drives results. That is what the right fit is all about.



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