

# 2016 CALENDAR

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Southwest  Tech

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DEMONSTRATION LAB**

*Special thanks to these sponsors:*

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Reddy Ag Service and Ross Soil Service  
Partners in Education

2014-15 Southwest Tech and  
Southwest Tech Foundation Annual Report

# Southwest Tech 2014-2015 Annual Report



**Jason Wood, Ph.D.**  
College President

**Thank you for your interest in Southwest Tech!**

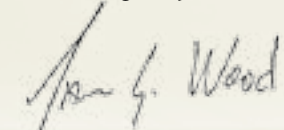
This document serves as a combined annual report for Southwest Tech and the Southwest Tech Foundation. It is my pleasure to note that next year's annual report will include the newly formed Real Estate Foundation too.

We are constantly striving for innovative ways to serve students and our communities through excellence in learning.

Southwest Tech has a significant impact on our region. With a \$46 million budget and nearly 200 full-time employees, we enroll over 8,600 students a year. Approximately 95% of our graduates report being hired within six months of graduation and 60% of those people find jobs right here in our five county service area. Slightly more than 95% of employers who hire Southwest Tech graduates are satisfied or very satisfied with the skills and abilities of our graduates. In short, at Southwest Tech we improve lives, and with us, it's personal!

If you know somebody who could benefit from our offerings at Southwest Tech, please provide me with their contact information. I will personally invite them to campus to learn more about our programs and services. After all, we love to share the opportunity to improve lives.

Here's to a great year in 2016!



Southwest Tech President

## Southwest Tech District Board



**Jim Kohlenberg**  
Chairperson  
Employer Member  
Appointed 2001



**Rhonda Sutton**  
Vice Chairperson  
Additional Member  
Appointed 2010



**Darlene Mickelson**  
Secretary  
Employee Member  
Appointed 2012



**Chris Prange**  
Treasurer  
Additional Member  
Appointed 2011



**Linda Erickson**  
School Administrator  
Member  
Appointed 2015



**Missy Fitzsimons**  
Employee Member  
Appointed 2006



**Russ Moyer**  
Additional Member  
Appointed 1981

### College Vision

Southwest Tech will be a leader in learning-centered education.

### College Mission

Southwest Tech provides lifelong learning opportunities with an individualized focus for students and communities.



**Eileen Nickels**  
Elected Official  
Member  
Appointed 2006



**Don Tuescher**  
Employer Member  
Appointed 1994

## On the Cover



We salute Reddy Ag Service, Inc. & Ross Soil Service, LLC for their strong support of Southwest Tech's agricultural programs and the 17-acre Agricultural Demonstration Lab. Generous investment by corporate partners makes it possible for Southwest Tech students and regional agriculture producers to learn applied skills in crop management, planting, scouting, harvesting, and farm equipment operation. The return on investment is realized not only by the employers and employees, but all stakeholders of the industry in our region.

*Pictured are employees that are also Southwest Tech alumni: Front (L to R): Matt Ihm, Jesse Hampton, Matt Schwantes, Caleb Wolff, Kaci Busch, Sue Ellis, and Brady Vondra. Back (L to R): Trevor Junk, Todd Richard, Ryan Brant, Jim Vondra, Paul Schaaf, and Bailey Berget.*

## A Special Thank You to Our Annual Report Sponsors



For all your residential, agriculture, and commercial construction needs, **Jim's Building Center, Inc.**, in Fennimore can do it all! Located on Hwy. 18 East between Dodgeville and Prairie du Chien, Jim's Building Center, Inc., has been serving the Grant County area for over 30 years. At Jim's Building Center, Inc., no job is too big or too small. Visit [www.jimsbuildingcenter.com](http://www.jimsbuildingcenter.com) or call (608) 822-3741.



**Livingston State Bank** has been serving Southwest Wisconsin for over 100 years and is guaranteed to be "The Only Bank You'll Ever Need." For all of your agriculture, commercial, and residential lending needs, contact Livingston State Bank. Now serving you at three convenient locations and online. Visit [www.livingstonbank.com](http://www.livingstonbank.com) or call (608) 943-6351.

SIELAFF CORPORATION  
STEEL FURNITURE MANUFACTURER



**Sielaff Corporation** partners with its customers to design, engineer, and manufacture flawless steel furniture and furniture components. Their

factory in Mineral Point produces exclusive private-label products for retailers throughout the U.S. The company's hallmark is to work with every customer with a spirit of openness and cooperation. Sielaff strives to manufacture all of its products to the highest quality standards. Visit [www.sielaffcorp.com](http://www.sielaffcorp.com).



At **Wisconsin Bank & Trust**, we pride ourselves in developing strong relationships with our customers to truly understand their banking and lending needs. Our experienced professionals possess extensive expertise and specialize in personal, business, commercial and agricultural banking and lending. By getting to know our customers, we can provide the products and solutions to meet each individual's specific banking needs.

Wisconsin Bank & Trust is a community bank serving the Southwest, South Central, Eastern and Northern regions of Wisconsin. We are dedicated to the community in which we all live and work by serving our customers and providing opportunities to our neighbors. *Member FDIC/Equal Housing Lender.*

## Southwest Tech Welcomes Dr. Jason Wood

Jason S. Wood, Ph.D., became the sixth president of Southwest Tech, effective July 1, 2015. The selection of Dr. Wood ended a five-month national search process that began in late 2014 after Dr. Duane M. Ford announced his retirement. Dr. Ford led the college as president for four years.

The committee representing Southwest Tech included the District Board, students, faculty, staff, Foundation Board, and regional economic development members. This committee guided the process for the selection of the presidential finalists. The Board



President Jason Wood and Retired President Duane Ford

of Directors was pleased to bring an experienced educator with outstanding leadership qualities to serve as college president. The District Board was looking for a president who would share the vision and mission of the college.

Dr. Wood's career began as a high school Spanish teacher followed by experience in higher education as a recruitment coordinator, senior director of college preparation, college dean, and dean for student services at various colleges in the Northwest and Western United States. He earned a Ph.D. in Community College Leadership from Oregon State University, a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Idaho, and a Bachelor of Art in Spanish with a minor in History from Brigham Young University.



*Kyle and Karla Fishnick were living their dream of being dairy farmers while raising a beautiful family. After 33 years, things took a turn and got rough. Karla began working off the farm and after two years the couple made the difficult decision to end their dairy operation.*

*Karla decided to follow her passion for cooking and came to Southwest Tech. She graduated from the Culinary Management program in May of 2015 and in October of 2015 opened her own restaurant and catering business, Karla's Kitchen, in Lancaster. Congratulations Karla!*

*Read Karla's story at [www.swtc.edu/Karla](http://www.swtc.edu/Karla).*

## Linda Erickson Joins Board of Directors



Linda Erickson joined the Southwest Wisconsin Technical College District Board beginning the 2015-2016 school year. Linda serves as the K-12 District Administrator on the board representing the Iowa-Grant School District. As Superintendent at Iowa-Grant, Linda brings 36 years of experience in K-12 education and is dedicated to supporting the development and expansion of educational and training opportunities for residents of the region.

## Paul Cutting Celebrates 25 Years



Paul Cutting receives the Longevity Award from WACTE representative Lisa Whitish for 25 years of service to career and technical education.

Paul Cutting, Agribusiness Science and Technology instructor, was honored with the Longevity Award at the 2015 Wisconsin Association for Career and Technical Education (WACTE) annual conference in April. The award is presented to WACTE members who have

served at least 25 years in career and technical education and have been members of WACTE for at least five years.

Paul began teaching at Southwest Tech in 1990 in Agribusiness. In July 2015, Paul and his former students held their 25th Anniversary Program Reunion at the Stitzer Park. The event is held every five years to bring former students together for socializing and networking.

Reddy Ag and Growmark sponsored the 2015 Agribusiness reunion. Representing Reddy Ag are (l to r) Trevor Junk, Caleb Wolff, Todd Richard, and Heidi Junk, employees and Agribusiness program alumni.



The Stitzer Ballpark fence lined with photos for each of the 25 years served as memory lane for alumni, honored guests, and their families.



## College Ramps Up for 50th Anniversary



Southwest Tech will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2017. There are plenty of people around who remember what the land looked like before a shovel moved the first mound of dirt. The visionaries who formed the College, with the help and support of the community, literally grew a campus from a cornfield – and we enjoy the fruits of their labors.

As we plan the events and activities of our 50th Anniversary, we will look to celebrate, thank, and impact the future. We will focus on our ability to improve lives through excellence in learning on a personal level. We hope everyone who has been a part of our history or would like to join us in the future will engage with us in the various opportunities that will present themselves.

There is so much to celebrate with the history of Southwest Tech. Tens of thousands of students went through our classrooms. Our employees, both former and current, live in all of the communities in the five county region. Millions and millions of dollars flow through the College and into the local markets boosting the

economy and providing jobs. We will celebrate the businesses and industries who hire our graduates and support our programs.

As we celebrate the successes of the College and our contributions

to the community, we would be remiss if we did not thank the many individuals who have contributed time, talent, and resources to our successes. We recognize, honor, and thank every single contribution by so many people.

In looking to the future of the college, please note that we anticipate a similar trajectory for future success. We have a singular opportunity to invest our collective efforts and support to have an impact on students in ways future generations will celebrate and appreciate. The 2016 calendar year will be focused on strategic planning designed to accomplish student and community successes.

We hope you will join us as we prepare to celebrate past accomplishments, thank individuals for their generosity, and create investment opportunities to impact generations of students to come. **If you know of someone who deserves a special recognition for their efforts to improve Southwest Tech, please email 50th@swtc.edu so we can do our best to show our appreciation.**

## Career Pathways

Career Pathways offer new ways to achieve your education goals. Instead of studying just one program, the Career Pathways model links related academic programs in a sequence. Each program offers direct job preparation and a path to the next higher academic program. For example, Administrative Professional students can earn a pathway certificate in Medical Office Receptionist and/or Receptionist. They can also earn a technical diploma in Office Support Specialist and/or an associate degree in Administrative Professional. Students can start at any point of the career pathway.

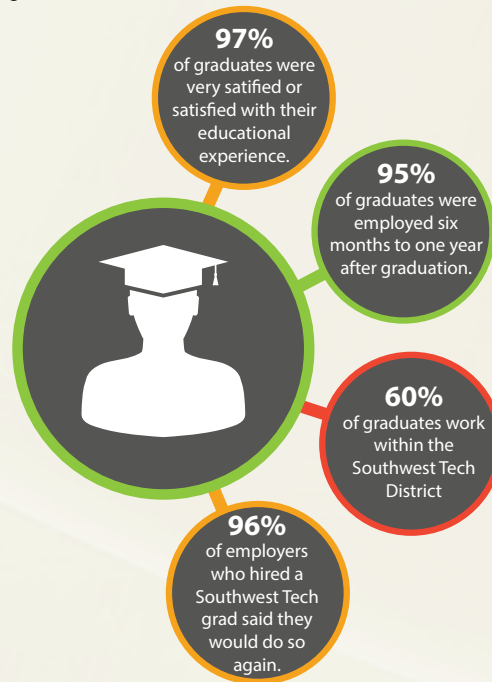
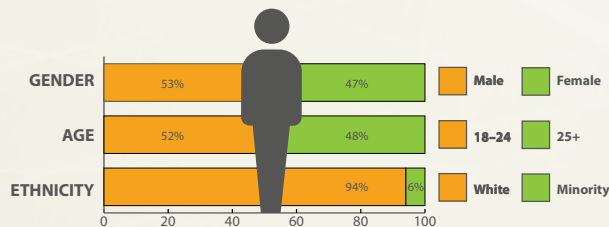
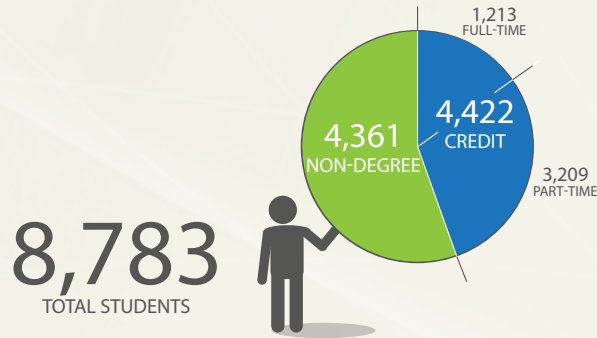
In 2015, new Career Pathways were developed in the Administrative Professional and Supply Chain Management programs. **For more information, visit [www.swtc.edu/pathways](http://www.swtc.edu/pathways).**



## About Southwest Tech

Southwest Tech opened its doors in 1967 as one of the 16 two-year, non-profit, open access institutions within the Wisconsin Technical College System. The College serves 3,800 square miles including 30 school districts in and near Crawford, Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland, Dane, Green, Sauk, and Vernon Counties. The Higher Learning Commission and the North Central Association

of Colleges and Schools accredit us. Southwest Tech offers Career & Technical Education/Training with 40+ Associate of Applied Science Degree and Technical Diploma programs, numerous certificates, customized training for incumbent workers, continuing education, Adult Basic Education, and GED/HSED boot camps and testing.



## 2014-2015 Grant Funding

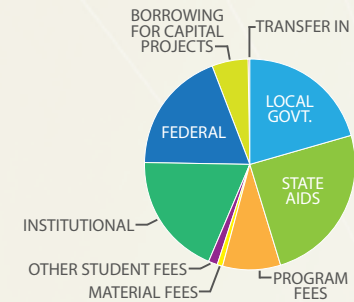
	Annual Value	Number Awarded
WTCS Grants		
GPR	\$754,979	7
AEFL	93,134	2
Perkins	\$179,652	5
WAT	256,714	13
Other State Grants	\$714,000	11
Federal/Private	\$1,851,006	14
<b>Total Grants and Value</b>	<b>\$3,849,883</b>	<b>52</b>

## K-12 Partnerships

Southwest Tech believes that partnerships with our district's high schools is the key to strengthening communities by providing opportunities that offer convenience and savings. The College currently has 163 articulation agreements with area high schools, serving nearly 1,278 high school students. Of the total number of district high school graduates, 25% chose to attend Southwest Tech.



## Southwest Wisconsin Technical College 2014-2015 Budget Summary

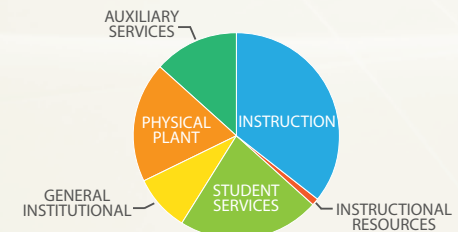


### REVENUES

Local Government	\$9,540,000
State Aids	11,448,000
Program Fees	4,080,000
Material Fees	320,000
Other Student Fees	650,000
Institutional	8,713,000
Federal	8,773,000
Borrowing for Capital Projects	2,500,000
Transfer In	78,000
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$46,102,000</b>

### EXPENDITURES

Instruction	\$16,505,000
Instructional Resources	491,100
Student Services	10,267,000
General Institutional	4,107,000
Physical Plant	8,666,000
Auxiliary Services	6,066,000
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$46,102,000</b>





*"It wasn't easy coming back to college, but the results have been life changing!"*

# Darlene Mickelson

ACCOUNTING GRADUATE (2011)  
DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER AND  
FUTUREMAKER

One would think there is nothing more difficult than losing your job after 34 years. Consider returning to college in your late 50's to enroll in a program area that was nothing like the factory labor you had been employed in for over three decades. Working with numbers had always been of interest to Darlene Mickelson. She had taken a college level accounting class at one point, thinking she might continue her education while working. That never worked out. Darlene enrolled in the Accounting program at Southwest Tech with her daughter, Jessie Clason, who was also laid off. Those two years were sometimes difficult, but so worth it for Darlene. She landed on her feet with an excellent job as the Executive Assistant of the Grant County Economic Development Corporation in Fennimore. Darlene also serves as an Employee Member on the Southwest Tech District Board, currently holding the office of Secretary.

# JANUARY 2016

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*"Southwest Tech provided an opportunity and skills that led to a rewarding profession in the community I live in."*

## Andrew Steger

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT  
GRADUATE (2004)

As a Relationship Manager for Trust Point, Inc., Andrew Steger works directly with personal trust clients on various aspects of retirement planning, trust administration, and investment management. He is responsible for helping families and businesses achieve their investment and financial goals now and for generations to come. Andrew credits Southwest Tech for giving him the foundation and real world experience he needed to get started in the finance world. He furthered his education by gaining a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management and a Master's Degree in Corporate Financial Management through Southwest Tech's Agreement with Upper Iowa University. He is currently pursuing the designation of Certified Financial Planner. Having the ability to start his education close to home, at a more cost-effective college, was appealing to Andrew's business mind.



# FEBRUARY 2016

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FINISH  
ADVANCED  
SUCCEEDED

FRANKLIN  
UNIVERSITY

*"Southwest Tech's 3+1 transfer agreement with Franklin University allowed me to earn my bachelor's degree while saving time and money."*

Connie Haberkorn

SOUTHWEST TECH EMPLOYEE,  
FRANKLIN PARTNERSHIP GRADUATE  
(2015), AND FUTUREMAKER

Dedicating herself to a career in talent resourcing and business, Connie Haberkorn brought her varied experience to the Human Resources (HR) team at Southwest Tech in 2011. Although she had already had a strong career in HR, Connie felt as though she really needed to finish her Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with a minor in HR. She looked at the transfer options available for her and chose Franklin University to complete her dream. The partnership between Southwest Tech and Franklin University allows students to earn an associate's degree from Southwest Tech, take an additional year of courses at Southwest Tech, and finish a bachelor's degree with Franklin. "The college transfer process has become a valuable part of many students' higher education experience," Connie said. "Although my path was not traditional, the same wonderful transfer program fit my situation too." Connie resides in Potosi with her husband Bob, where they own and operate Catfish Bob's Fish Market and Bait & Tackle store.

# MARCH 2016

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	Foundation Scholarship Reception					
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Southwest Tech Spring Break—No Classes						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Daylight Savings Time Begins				St. Patrick's Day		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Spring Begins				Staff In-Service Southwest Tech Closed to Public	Southwest Tech Closed	
27	28	29	30	31	APRIL 2016 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	
Easter						



*"Southwest Tech gave me all the tools necessary to be successful in the automotive industry."*

## Charlie Cupp

AUTOMOTIVE MECHANICS  
GRADUATE (1981)

Charlie Cupp graduated from the Auto Mechanics (now Automotive Technician) program in May of 1981, and began working in Madison that August. A lifelong career with Zimbrick, Inc. had Charlie working as an auto technician, technician team leader, service consultant, and for the latter part of his career as the service director. Charlie's passion for the automotive industry extended beyond his work with Zimbrick to include service as an advisory committee member for Madison College's automotive program and serving on two local automotive youth apprenticeship program boards. "I'm pleased to play a valuable role in meeting our industry workforce needs," Charlie stated. "Zimbrick relies on skilled technicians and is proud to have hired several Southwest Tech graduates who have become long-term employees. The College should be proud of the training they provide their students."

# APRIL 2016

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*"The greatest lesson you can teach your children is to follow their dreams."*

## Bonnie O'Brien

SOUTHWEST TECH EMPLOYEE  
AND FUTUREMAKER

For Christmas in 2014, Bonnie O'Brien received the greatest gift from her children: a portrait of them titled, "Mom's Three Heroes." Erika, a nurse practitioner at Mayo Clinic; Justin, a Lieutenant with the Fennimore Fire Department; and Cody, a Captain in the U.S. Army have all taken classes or training at Southwest Tech and Justin's wife Dana is a nursing instructor. Bonnie instilled in her children the importance of never letting go of your dreams. Bonnie's aspiration to be a keypunch operator seemed to end when she wasn't accepted to the program at Madison College. Not letting that stop her, Bonnie enrolled in their Clerk Typist program and took keypunch classes as electives. Excelling in those electives, her keypunch instructor recommended her for an open position with the college. After working in Madison for ten years, Bonnie kept her dream alive when she moved to Fennimore and was hired as a keypunch operator for Southwest Tech in 1977.

# MAY 2016

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8 Mother's Day	9	10	11	12	13 Southwest Tech Spring Term Ends	14 Southwest Tech Spring Graduation Armed Forces Day																																																																																				
15 National EMS Week, May 15–21	16	17	18	19	20	21																																																																																				
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*"I don't go to work. I go to the golf course every day!"*

## Matt Bohlken

GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT  
GRADUATE (2005) AND  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER

"I am living my greatest moment! Being able to be around the game of golf every day and getting to enjoy it with others who love it as much as I do," is how Golf Course Management alum, Matt Bohlken, explains his job as the Head Golf Professional at the Platteville Country Club. Matt has always been passionate about golf, playing many rounds with his father while growing up. He wanted to stay around the game so enrolling in the Golf Course Management program at Southwest Tech was a natural fit for him. "If golf is your passion, make it your career," Matt said. "Southwest Tech met all my requirements and expectations, and also provided me with the flexibility and support that I needed in order to achieve my PGA goals."



# JUNE 2016

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*"I'm living life on my own terms now ... and Southwest Tech gave me the tools and encouragement to succeed!"*

## Melissa Gile

DENTAL ASSISTANT (2006),  
OFFICE SUPPORT SPECIALIST (2014),  
HUMAN SERVICES ASSOCIATE (2016),  
SOUTHWEST TECH FOUNDATION BOARD  
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE, AND  
FUTUREMAKER

When asked why she attended Southwest Tech, Melissa Gile replied, "I hated my job. I looked at my three kids and thought about how badly I wanted a better life for them. I had to make a change." Melissa was unsure about what career to pursue, but knew she wanted to help people. "I've been through a lot in my life and have received help along the way," said Melissa. "I wanted to return that favor and help others lead better lives too, so I enrolled in the Human Service Program." Melissa has been very involved in clubs and organizations on campus and recently becoming a FutureMaker Donor giving back to the College that gave her so much. The decision to leave her job and come back to school with her family depending on her was a tough one. "I knew it would be hard, but this was the best decision for me and for my children," said Melissa. "Honestly, I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for them. I would have just continued to deal with the job I hated every day."

# JULY 2016

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*The power of their work together extends beyond Southwest Tech. Their decades of service will leave a lasting legacy.*

Tom Sheehan  
Connie Larson  
RETIREES, FOUNDATION BOARD  
MEMBERS, AND FUTUREMAKERS

To most people on campus they were "Tom & Connie", and became as important to the students' lives as peanut butter & jelly. For a combined 50 years, Tom Sheehan and Connie Larson watched thousands of students walk through their office doors for program and personal guidance and go on to successful careers. "Southwest Tech has retained through the years excellent administrators, instructors, and support staff; but the College's greatest gift continues to be the students," said Tom. "Our graduates are nurses, day care providers, mechanics, cosmetologists, loan officers and other professionals that you see in your daily life," Connie added. "Everyone at the College played a part in a student's success."

# AUGUST 2016

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*"Southwest Tech helped Andrew to find himself educationally; using the skills he excelled in to make learning enjoyable."*

## Julie Molek

FUTUREMAKER

Julie Molek's son Andrew was born with a life expectancy of less than three years. Defying those odds, Andrew lived a happy and fulfilling life until almost age 23. As an Electro-mechanical Technology program student, Andrew was finally excited about school. "He would bring electronic kits home to work on, quickly completing the project several times," stated Julie. "This hands-on experience worked best for Andrew's repetitive learning style." With a gentle quiver in her voice Julie went on to say, "It was heartbreaking when we lost Andrew. His life was finally falling into place in a program he loved, and a job at Rockwell Automation putting those skills to work." To honor the positive experience Andrew had at Southwest Tech, his family established the "Andrew William Molek Memorial Scholarship".

# SEPTEMBER 2016

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4	5  Labor Day Southwest Tech Closed	6	7	8	9	10
11  Grandparents Day Patriot Day	12	13	14	15	16  Constitution Day Citizenship Day	17
18	19	20	21	22  Fall Begins	23	24
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*"I believe Southwest Tech's hands-on experience is crucial and teaches you things that cannot be taught in a classroom."*

## Justin Theobald

BUILDING TRADES-CARPENTRY  
GRADUATE (2007)

When Justin Theobald graduated high school, he knew he needed to go to college and get a degree, but he really didn't know what program he should enroll in. Having worked summers in the construction business, the Building Trades-Carpentry program at Southwest Tech seemed like the perfect fit. "The hands-on training in the program provided me a solid foundation in construction and residential building that I apply daily in my superintendent job with McCon Building Corporation," said Justin. "I learned construction skills and techniques including: framing, insulation, roofing, drywall hanging and finishing, deck building, window and door installation, and finish trim work." Justin also enjoys using his trade skills to help friends and family on home building and remodeling projects.



# OCTOBER 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		SEPTEMBER 2016 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	NOVEMBER 2016 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		World Dairy Expo Alliant Energy Center, Madison October 4-8				
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Columbus Day		Southwest Tech Open House No Classes			Sweetest Day
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Boss's Day					
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30					
	Halloween	31				



*"My love for learning has always been my guide."*

## Dr. Karen R. Knox

RETIRED COLLEGE PRESIDENT  
(1999 – 2011) AND FUTUREMAKER

As president, Dr. Karen Knox led the College through a profound transformation with the passing of the \$31.9 million dollar referendum in 2008. Although the majority of her tenure was spent as president, Dr. Knox worked at Southwest Tech for more than 22 years, having served as an instructor in the Business Machines program starting in 1971 and later serving as the Dean of Business for five years. On September 10, 2014, Southwest Tech recognized Karen for her steadfast service to the College and southwest Wisconsin as a teacher, mentor, and leader with the dedication of the Karen R. Knox Learning Center. From academic services to library services, support services and even the emergency food pantry, the Learning Center is the hub for students at Southwest Tech.

# NOVEMBER 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>OCTOBER 2016</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 3 4 5 6 7 8</p> <p>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</p> <p>16 17 18 19 20 21 22</p> <p>23 24 25 26 27 28 29</p> <p>30 31</p>	<p>DECEMBER 2016</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3</p> <p>4 5 6 7 8 9 10</p> <p>11 12 13 14 15 16 17</p> <p>18 19 20 21 22 23 24</p> <p>25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Daylight Savings Time Ends		Election Day			Veterans Day	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
				Thanksgiving Southwest Tech Closed	Southwest Tech Closed	
27	28	29	30			



*"An Ambassador gave me a tour of the campus and showed me the welding lab, and I fell in love."*

## Lucas Stoney

WELDING GRADUATE (2015)

Lucas Stoney visited Southwest Tech and knew it was the college for him. Excelling more in his trades classes in high school, Lucas felt technical college was definitely the right choice for him after graduation. He chose Southwest Tech for the real-world training he gained from instructors who were both knowledgeable and experienced. "Welding is not an easy skill to master", said Lucas. "Each instructor took the time to help us with specific problems in our welding techniques and also showed us how to overcome problems we would see on the job." Lucas proudly achieved Dean's List status both of his semesters at Southwest Tech and was employed before graduation with InterCon Construction as a welding assistant. Lucas's twin sister Jessica also attends Southwest Tech and is enrolled in the Business Management Program. She plans to utilize the Franklin University transfer agreement.

# DECEMBER 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		NOVEMBER 2016 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	JANUARY 2017 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7  Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17  Southwest Tech Winter Graduation
18	19	20	21  Winter Begins	22	23	24  Christmas Eve
25  Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30	31  New Year's Eve
Southwest Tech Winter Break—Campus Closed						

# Southwest Tech Foundation 2014-2015 Annual Report

## Greetings!

Once again, it has been an active year for the Southwest Tech Foundation Board. We experienced a number of personnel changes, initiated the Real Estate Foundation, welcomed a new College president, restructured Foundation operations and created two new staff positions. I'm pleased to report that all three new Foundation



Becky Fernette presents Nicole Stephens the Barber/Cosmetology scholarship at the annual Foundation Scholarship Reception.

employees are on board, and are actively engaged in Foundation events and programs.

In May, I had the good fortune to attend an Estate Planning workshop hosted by the Foundation. Initially I was concerned that I wouldn't understand the legal and financial terminology, and I would be asked to disclose my personal financial information. My worries were unfounded; the presenters began with the basics and allowed plenty of time for questions. Now I'm prepared to take the next steps to establish my legacy. Foundation staff are happy to speak with you about your options for planned giving to benefit current

and future generations. By including Southwest Tech in your estate planning, you become a member of the President's Visionary Circle, which includes recognition in this annual calendar.

The Dean of Industry, Trades and Agriculture approached the Foundation Board in June with his plan to establish a scholarship fund to recruit potential students who may need a financial incentive to enroll at Southwest Tech. The Board members agreed to personally match the initial contribution to create the Charger Scholarship. Five incoming students received \$500 scholarships because they chose Southwest Tech to continue their education. I share this story with you to illustrate that Foundation Board members are committed stewards of your gifts and are personally committed to the success of Southwest Tech's students and programs.

To everyone who gives to the Southwest Tech Foundation, whether it's canned goods for the Food Pantry, a present for a student's child during the holidays, a monthly payroll deduction, a memorial scholarship to honor a loved one, or the gift of your time; the students and their families, the staff, Board members and the many friends of Southwest Tech appreciate your generosity.

Sincerely,  
**Becky Fernette**  
*Foundation Board President*

## Foundation Volunteer Board of Directors



**Becky Fernette**  
*President*



**Jerry Brunner**  
*Vice President*



**Josh Wiederholt**  
*Treasurer*



**Connie Larson**  
*Secretary*



**Lori Barry**



**J. Bruce Bradley**



**Holly Clendenen**  
*Ex Officio*



**Dr. Joyce Czajkowski**



**Melissa Gile**



**Jim Kohlenberg**



**Nick Nice**  
*Emeritus Member*



**Kevin Raisbeck**



**Carol Rogers**



**Tom Sheehan**



**Ben Wood**



**Jason Wood, Ph.D.**  
*Ex Officio*

## Real Estate Foundation Volunteer Board of Directors



**Ben Wood**  
*President*



**Dr. Duane Ford**  
*Vice President*



**Kevin Raisbeck**  
*Secretary/Treasurer*

## Foundation Vision

To be the Foundation sought out for investment to allow Southwest Tech to deliver the highest quality technical education.

## Foundation Mission

Promote learning through funding and activities that enable Southwest Tech to provide opportunities for success.

## Foundation Staffing Update



(l to r) Holly Clendenen, Gina Udelhofen, and Kim Schmelz

The Southwest Tech Foundation welcomed a new executive director in August 2015, Holly Clendenen. Holly has a bachelor's degree in biology and master's degree in organizational management and brings more than nine years of fundraising leadership and development experience to the position. "I am very excited to join the team at Southwest Tech and learn more about the college, my colleagues, and our alumni and donors," said Holly. "I think the Foundation is in a unique position to increase its impact supporting the college through the 50th anniversary celebration."

During the 2015 summer the Foundation board of directors reviewed staffing plans in order to expand the work and reach of the Foundation and support the college's upcoming 50th anniversary. These discussions led to the creation of two new positions and the hiring of two new staff: Kim Schmelz as director of external relations and alumni development and Gina Udelhofen as coordinator of annual giving and donor relations. Together Kim and Gina have more than 25 years of experience in higher education advancement.

Another new development in the Foundation was the creation of the SWTC Real Estate Foundation (REF) in 2015. The REF will not only solidify the housing effort in support of Southwest Tech, but also potentially create new revenue streams to the Foundation and college. The REF is a separate non-profit organization fully supporting the Foundation; it is governed by a separate board of directors. Clendenen is the executive director of the SWTC REF as well as the Southwest Tech Foundation.

The current Foundation staff and board thanks Betsy Ralph-Tollefson, Dennis Cooley, Heather Fifrick, and Samantha Goss for their dedication and work supporting the Southwest Tech Foundation. 2016 will be a year of growth as the Foundation continues to work with alumni, donors, friends and business partners to support the college's vision of changing lives by providing opportunities for success.

### SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

School Year	No. of Scholarships	Range of Awards	Total Scholarships
2005-06	188	\$250 — \$1,500	\$107,800
2006-07	214	\$250 — \$2,000	\$120,900
2007-08	203	\$250 — \$3,000	\$115,400
2008-09	161	\$250 — \$1,500	\$89,200
2009-10	150	\$250 — \$2,250	\$80,625
2010-11	173	\$250 — \$1,000	\$85,050
2011-12	188	\$250 — \$2,000	\$96,000
2012-13	189	\$250 — \$2,000	\$102,250
2013-14	214	\$250 — \$2,000	\$133,000
2014-15	238	\$250 — \$2,000	\$133,601

## Updating of Alumni Information

Southwest Tech wants to promote our alumni success stories! Share your current information with us [www.swtc.edu/alumni](http://www.swtc.edu/alumni). You will also receive updated information about the College's 50th Anniversary activities!

### Southwest Wisconsin Technical College Foundation, Inc.

#### Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2015 and 2014

ASSETS	2015	2014
Cash	\$65,366	\$252,557
Unconditional promises to give	77,500	20,700
Emergency loans receivable	4,225	2,028
Rent receivable	189,534	191,904
Investments	3,260,163	3,053,109
Property and equipment-net	<u>2,006,452</u>	<u>1,883,427</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$5,603,240</u>	<u>\$5,403,725</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable/accrued expenses	\$154,686	\$178,638
Construction payable	191,573	-
Security deposits	11,013	32,929
Funds held for others	14,000	14,000
Mortgage payable	<u>1,528,626</u>	<u>1,591,292</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>1,899,898</u>	<u>1,816,859</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted	720,467	712,369
Temporarily restricted	1,714,397	1,709,497
Permanently restricted	<u>1,268,478</u>	<u>1,165,000</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>3,703,342</u>	<u>3,586,866</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$5,603,240</u>	<u>\$5,403,725</u>

## Joe Crubel Memorial Scholarship

The Southwest Tech Foundation is proud to announce the establishment of the Joe Crubel Memorial Scholarship Endowment. It was established by Joe's family. Joe, a resident of Bloomington, Wisconsin, passed away unexpectedly in 2014. Joe attended Southwest Tech in 1975 for Ag Power until he started working for Price Equipment Sales. Joe was a "true giver" in the words of his wife, Donna. The scholarship is for a graduating high school senior from Fennimore or River Ridge High School with a GPA of 2.5 or higher. Through this scholarship endowment, Joe's memory and passion for giving will live on forever.

The Joe Crubel Memorial Scholarship was first awarded in May 2015 to Bradley Klein from River Ridge High School. "We are so pleased to offer the Joe Crubel Memorial Scholarship to Southwest Tech students," commented Holly Clendenen, executive director of the Southwest Tech Foundation. "Donna's description of Joe as a true giver means this scholarship is a very meaningful way to remember him. The Crubel family's generosity will help students continue their education at Southwest Tech and hopefully encourage many future recipients to pay it forward."

## Rick Manuell Lineman Award

The Rick Manuell Lineman Award was endowed in early 2015 through the Southwest Tech Foundation by Shyrle Sedgwick, of Platteville, Wisconsin. Thanks to this generous gift, \$1,000 will be presented to two Electrical Power Distribution students each year. Since the 2011-2012 school year the Rick Manuell Lineman Award has been given to eight students for a total of \$8,000.

In the words of Rick's mother, Shyrle, "Rick loved his job and always knew he wanted to be a lineman; so when he called and told me he wanted to get that job, I told him to go to the HR office every day until they hired him." At the time of Rick's death he was employed as a Lineman Supervisor for the Commonwealth Edison Electric Power Company of Illinois, headquartered in Rockford. He worked as a lineman for many years after graduating from Platteville High School in 1965. Southwest Tech is honored to award this scholarship each year in memory of Rick and his lifelong work as a lineman.



(l to r) Dennis Cooley, Bill O'Herrin, Shyrle Sedgwick, Alice Manuell, Steve Manuell, and Samantha Goss.

## Giving Trees Dedicated on the Southwest Tech Campus



Al Propst's family, friends and former colleagues stand by his tree as it was dedicated for his service to Southwest Tech.

Eight new trees have been planted on the Southwest Tech campus and all are in honor or memory of retired instructors and staff.

Ron Anderson, Al Propst, Harlo Webster, Gary Jessen, Randy Bussan, Ron McNett, Wayne Raymond and George Dulzo were recognized this fall by having a tree planted in their honor.

"It was great to add eight Giving Trees to our campus this fall, bringing our total to 11. Each tree recognizes an individual who had a tremendous impact on the college, their students, and their colleagues. We are honored to recognize these people on our campus now and for years to come," said Holly Clendenen, executive director of the Southwest Tech Foundation.



Randy Bussan, Pete Hoffman, Wayne Raymond, and Paul Cutting pose for a photo next to Ron McNett's tree. Wayne Raymond was also recognized with a tree from anonymous donors.

Giving Trees can be dedicated by giving a monetary donation to the Foundation. This living tribute contributes to the ongoing beautification of campus while honoring a loved one or special event.

**A special thank you to Instant Shade Nursery and Signs to Go, both of Platteville, for supporting the Giving Tree Program.**



Randy Bussan, '69 alumnus, and his family stand beside his tree. Randy retired from Southwest Tech in June 2011 after a 38 year career as an automotive technician instructor.



George Dulzo was recognized in front of students, his wife and the Public Safety staff, who donated the tree as a token of gratitude for Dulzo's service.



## Student Housing

108

Number of students currently in student housing.

2

New duplexes constructed and under construction by Building Trades-Carpentry Program. Each duplex has 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms.

\$20,612

Revenue earned by providing housing to local businesses for seasonal employees.

2  
3  
1

2 study tables, 3 lounge chairs, and 1 Smart TV were added to the six-plex basement to increase utilization of the area as well as make it more attractive to current and prospective students.



Student housing is managed by a new Resident Life and Student Resources

Coordinator, Stephanie Brown. Stephanie started in this position in July after previously working at the College as an advisor. Stephanie's office is in Student Services so that she is easily accessible for students with questions about housing options.

**"I knew I wanted to take a carpentry program and Southwest Tech had it."**



Blake Welu first majored in business at UW-Whitewater. After two years he needed a change, so he moved back home and enrolled in the Building Trades-Carpentry program at Southwest Tech.

He gained valuable hands-on experience as he and his classmates built the new student housing unit as a class project. Blake completed the program in less than a year and had a job before he graduated.

Blake still sees business in his future at some point. "Maybe I'll start my own construction business at some point and go from there."

Read Blake's story at [www.swtc.edu/Blake](http://www.swtc.edu/Blake).

## PSA Forever Fund

In June 2015 the Professional Staff Association (PSA) Forever Fund was created at the Southwest Tech Foundation with a generous donation of \$35,000. This endowment fund was set up by the Professional Staff Association for the purpose of supporting the Student Christmas Fund and the Support a Charger Fund, two funds which help students in need. The PSA created this fund as a representation of their long history at Southwest Tech and as a way to continue their support of students. Current PSA President Beth Cummins said, "The PSA has a purpose to work for the advancement of technical education, the welfare of students, and the improvement of educational opportunities at the college. The creation of the PSA Forever fund is our way of celebrating our purpose while continuing to support current and future students."

"We are very grateful that the PSA endowed this fund with the Southwest Tech Foundation to help our students in their times of need," said Holly Clendenen, executive director of the Southwest Tech Foundation. "The PSA has a long history at the College, and this endowment will have an ever-lasting impact on hundreds of students at Southwest Tech now and in the future."



Southwest Tech staff members, including current PSA President Beth Cummins and Treasurer Lori Garvey, present the Foundation with a check to establish the PSA Forever Fund.

## Donor Wall

Located at the main entrance of the College, the Donor Wall is a tribute to those whose gifts to the Foundation and the students it serves reaches a milestone in their giving. Each year the Foundation has the honor of updating the Donor Wall and is proud to announce the following additions:

**\$50,000+**

*Rural Development Partners*

**\$25,000+**

*Microsoft Azure Education Team*

*Professional Staff Association*

*Shyrlle A. Sedgwick*

**\$10,000+**

*Michael J. Cornell*

*Donna J. Crubel*

*Patty A. Hartline*

*Peoples State Bank,  
Prairie du Chien*

Thank you to all who have donated, whether monetarily or in-kind, to the success of our students!



## ***Southwest Tech Foundation Futuremakers 2014-2015***

The following individuals, businesses, and organizations made a contribution to the Southwest Wisconsin Technical College Foundation between July 1, 2014, and June 30, 2015. The support of these individuals, businesses, and organizations is helping shape the future of Southwest Tech and technical education in Southwest Wisconsin!

### **INVESTOR [\$75,000 +]**

### **PARTNER [\$50,000-\$74,999]**

Rural Development Partners

### **CHAMPION [\$25,000-\$49,999]**

Microsoft Azure Education Team

Professional Staff Association–  
Southwest Tech

Shyrle A. Sedgwick

### **ASSOCIATE [\$10,000-\$24,999]**

Donna J. Crubel

Peoples State Bank - Prairie du Chien

Reddy Ag Service

Southwest Tech

### **ASSISTANT [\$5,000-\$9,999]**

Cabela's, Inc.

Districts Mutual Insurance

First Merit Bank

Madison Community Foundation

Garrison L. Lincoln Scholarship Fund

Doug C. and Karen R. Knox

Larry's Welding & Manufacturing, Inc.

Total Seed Solutions 22C

Randy W. and Shelly L. Weeks

### **LEADER [\$1,000-\$4,999]**

Alliant Energy Foundation

Tiffany N. Anderson

Community Foundation of Southern  
Wisconsin

Dennis R. and Stephanie R. Cooley

Michael J. and Norma K. Cornell

Derek J. and MJ Dachelet

Elmer G. Biddick Foundation

Daniel M. and Tamara A. Engelke

Duane M. and Sheri B. Ford

Mark A. and Cindy R. Gerein

Grant & Iowa County Tavern League

Patty A. Hartline

Heartland Credit Union

Murray A. Heitzer

Jim's Building Center

Brad R. and Mindy E. Johnson

Garry L. Kirk

Joy A. Kite

Thomas J. and Sarah R. Kretschman

Marla M. Leibfried

Jeff G. Midtlien

Morris Newspaper Corporation of  
Wisconsin

Mound City Bank

John W. and Julie Pluemer

Premier Bank

Richard J. and Amy J. Reimer

Ritchie Implement Inc

Richard A. and Carol A. Rogers

Schmitt Woodland Hills

Tom N. and Joan M. Sheehan

Southwest Wisconsin Two Cylinder  
Club

Unison Solutions

Vortex Optics

Colleen E. Watters

Wisconsin Golf Course Owners, Inc.

Wood Law Firm

Gregory J. and Kristen J. Wubben

### **STAKEHOLDER [\$100-\$499]**

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Carlton L. and Betty J. Austin

Badgerland Financial

Lori J. Barry

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Tom C. and Linda S. Parrish

Platteville School District

Potosi School District

Prairie du Chien High School

Randy and Barbara L. Rawlings

Richland Medical Center

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Gene L. and Alicia Schlueter

Matthew S. Schneider

Kristen M. Schoville

Jeremy J. and Danielle L. Seippel

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Shear Glory, Inc.

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Stanley D. and Rita K. Dilley

Mary S. Divine

Alan J. and Cindy W. Downs

David G. Dregne

Debra M. Drew

Wade P. Dull

Kyle A. Ebel

Mark D. and Dianne M. Edgette

Kim M. Ehlers

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WGLR/WPVL  
Wisconsin Agri-Business Association  
Wisconsin Bank & Trust

#### **PRODUCER [ \$500-\$999 ]**

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The Peoples Community Bank  
Thrivent Financial  
Tyler Tollefson and Betsy Ralph-Tollefson  
Dean C. and Barbara J. Tucker  
West End Salvage  
Caleb J. and Brenda J. White  
Gary D. and Kristy K. Wiest  
Kevin L. and Lori L. Wiest  
Jesse W. and Julia A. Zimpel

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Dennis L. Antonson  
Mary Ann A. Antonson  
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Glenn R. Bahr  
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Sarah J. Baumgartner  
Danny J. and Lisa K. Bee  
Patrick W. Beecher  
Theodore A. Behnke  
Rebecca A. Bohnenkamp  
Lawrence A. and Shirley A. Bowden  
Nancy L. Howell  
Charity A. Bray  
John L. and Mary Ann Brigson  
Helen M. Brunkow  
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