TRAILBLAZERS





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From the President

When I reflect upon the past year at Forsyth Tech, there is so much to celebrate. As a community of Trailblazers, we have taken many steps forward, towards our vision of being a catalyst for equitable economic mobility, empowering lives and transforming communities. We are working hard to exceed the strategic goals of our Vision 2025 Strategic Plan and committed to being partners in building more equitable communities.

It fills me with optimism and hope for the communities we serve, as well as for our state and our nation. I hope you'll enjoy this report to the community as we share with you some of our most impactful moments and achievements of the past academic year.

We now provide more pathways to family-sustaining wage careers including programs like Aviation Systems Technology at the Mazie S. Woodruff Aviation Technology Lab which opened in October 2021, and welcomed its first cohort of students in January of 2022. The holistic support efforts of Forsyth Tech Cares continued, as we opened new Connect pantries at multiple campuses and centers. We welcomed Governor Cooper and announced the extension of our College Commitment for 2022 graduating high school seniors, which enables them to attend college entirely for free one year with us.

Our students, faculty and staff, along with our community, had so much fun being together this year, too. Our students and staff won national awards at the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society Catalyst Conference in Denver. We were honored to be chosen to join Cohort 2 of North Carolina State's NC Reconnect adult learner reengagement initiative, re-enrolling more than 130 adult students who had stopped halfway

through their degree program. We were also honored to be named as one of the two partner colleges to host the Piedmont Region Teaching and Learning Hubs; and one of our Forsyth Tech students succeeded on Jeopardy! These are just a few of the reasons why the 2021 - 2022 academic year held so much joy for all of us.

Education is very future-focused, and our future is *ablaze* with possibilities and pathways for our students and the businesses and communities we serve. So, while we celebrate our successes, we are also ceaselessly continuing forward, creating a future where each and every student has an opportunity to thrive.

I want to thank you for being on this journey with us, and for your continuing support of Forsyth Tech. We are grateful for all the individuals, businesses and organizations that have partnered with us inside and outside of our classrooms to help us create brighter futures and better tomorrows for all North Carolinians. Our commitment to advancing student success through excellence in learning, completion, equity and labor market outcomes is unwavering. We believe in the power of education to transform lives, meet workforce demands, build stronger communities and create hope for the hopeless.

Please enjoy this look back at an extraordinary time at Forsyth Tech and rest assured, we will continue to blaze new trails, striving for an even bigger and better 2023!

U Janet N. Spriggs. Ed.D.,

President

"Education is very future-focused, and our future is ablaze with possibilities and pathways for our students and the businesses and communities we serve." - Janet N. Spriggs

Board of Trustees

Forsyth Tech is fortunate to be in such a supportive and adaptive community. As the type of industry has changed in our community and as our community needs have shifted, so has Forsyth Tech.

As we share with you our milestones, challenges and achievements over the last academic year, we want to also take this time to encourage all of you – from our business and organizational partners to our alumni, from our faculty and staff to our students – to continue to seek opportunities for our community. And, to come to Forsyth Tech when you have a need, or an opportunity or a problem you can't solve. As your community college, and a place of promise for all, we're here to help and we're ready to serve.

Our ability to adapt and support our community and economy's growing needs is evident in the projects we completed over the last school year: opening the Mazie S. Woodruff Aviation Technology
Lab to support growing transportation and
business needs; opening five new Forsyth
Tech Connect pantries on our campuses;
becoming a certified SAS Academy so that
we can now teach our students all four
programming languages; adding a Fire
Academy to train the next generation of
firefighters; providing free college through
our Class of 2022 College Commitment –
the list could go on and on.

I invite you to continue to be our partner in this important work and to continue to support us as we create a more equitable economic future for our communities, our region and our great state.

Or mil

Paul Wiles Chair, Board of Trustees

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Mario Rosas Nava SGA President Ex-officio Member "As your community college, and a place of promise for all, we're here to help and we're ready to serve."



Our Mission

Mission

Forsyth Technical Community College advances student success through excellence in learning, completion, equity and post-graduation outcomes.

Vision

Forsyth Technical Community College is a catalyst for equitable economic mobility, empowering lives and transforming communities.

Equity
At Forsyth Technical Community College, equity is grounded in a culture of belonging. We will intentionally design the college experience to ensure that each learner receives what they need to be successful.



Inclusive Excellence & Employee Care

Providing equitable economic opportunities for everyone is at the core of everything that Forsyth Tech does, so it came as no surprise when inclusive excellence emerged as a new division, housing human resources. Without inclusive excellence, there is no equity, and in order for Forsyth Tech to fully realize its mission, every decision must be viewed through a lens of equity, and it must be at the core of everything done by its faculty and staff.

When the division was formed, Dr. LaShan Lovelace was hired as the Vice President of Inclusive Excellence and Employee Care. Dr. Lovelace immediately brought a sense of urgency to establishing a framework for sound policies, practices and procedures for equitable experiences at the college. Thanks to his work, four

pillars of inclusive excellence at the college have been identified: access and success; education and scholarship; institutional infrastructure; and culture, climate and belonging.

Dr. Lovelace's passion for equity, diversity, accessibility and inclusion are apparent in everything that he does, and he has already hired a capable team, as well as established robust tracks of equity training for faculty and staff.

"This work is a window and a mirror," he says. "Look through the window to see where you want to go, and look in the mirror to see what you can do as an individual to improve equitable outcomes for all."



"Look through the window to see where you want to go, and look in the mirror to see what you can do as an individual to improve equitable outcomes for all."



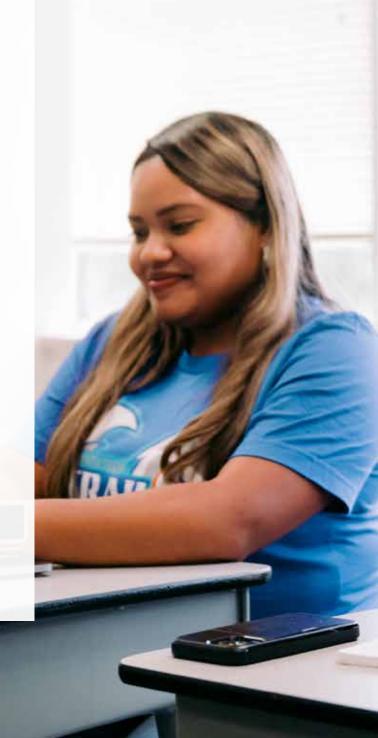
Academic Innovations

We're the trailblazers, so it makes good sense that we'd blaze new trails when it comes to adapting to new research and methods of educating our students in the ways that work the best for them. Over the course of the past year, we laid the groundwork for two innovative approaches that ensure that Forsyth Tech continues to serve as a place of promise for everyone.

First, we moved away from a model which requires remedial courses, and instead, focused on corequisite education. This means that underprepared students get to the course content that they need faster and for less money. Our corequisite model means that, if students start classes with us and they have low test scores or low grades in a subject, they now get enrolled in a college credit-bearing course with a corequisite that provides them with additional academic support – rather than a developmental course which carries no college credit.

Second, we began offering 8-week semesters in the spring of 2022, and will expand that model even further at the start of the next academic year. This decision was motivated by student success outcomes: data from other schools show that shorter semesters with fewer classes at a time is beneficial to students. Overall, students increased their passing rate of courses and retained more of what they learned over a longer period of time.

We know that these innovations are the first of many as we strive to meet our students where they are, and serve every member of our community on their education journey.











Forsyth Tech Cares

Forsyth Tech Cares, the groundbreaking program designed to remove non-academic barriers to student success, entered its second full academic year in 2021-22, and the program continues to have increased partnerships and community involvement, all while providing essential support to students outside of the classroom.

The efforts of Forsyth Tech Cares to address food insecurity continued, as new Forsyth Tech Connect pantries were opened at West Campus, the Mazie S. Woodruff Center and the Grady P. Swisher Center. The popular seasonal Community Farmers Market also returned, and saw increased attendance from our Forsyth Tech family as well as the community.

Forsyth Tech Cares Navigators also ran other successful programs, including the Angel Tree, which provides holiday gifts to students and their families in need, and the Great Forsyth Parenting program, a partnership with Parenting Path that awards students scholarships once they complete the program.

And, finally, the program received national acclaim, as it was awarded the Mark Ivester Innovation Award by the Community Colleges of Appalachia.

The important, innovative work of the Forsyth Tech Cares program could not be done without willing community partnerships, and the generous support of the Forsyth Tech Foundation.

Above: Forsyth Tech Cares Navigator Rhea Witherspoon, Dr. Janet Spriggs, Grady P. Swisher Center Administrator Dr. J. L. Porter and Chris Comer, President of the Kernersville Chamber of Commerce, celebrate the ribbon tying announcing the opening of the Forsyth Tech Connect pantry at the Grady P. Swisher Center in Kernersville.







Public Safety

Our Northwest Forsyth Center and its programs continue to grow, with more students and programs than ever before! This center houses several opportunities for hands-on training for electrical lineworkers, public safety officers and firefighers. In fact, we graduated our first Fire Academy class this year and our 56th class of lineworkers.

Under the leadership of Dean Konrad Walsh, a former fire chief, many classes and programs are operating at full capacity, and we are helping to fulfill essential workforce needs in our community, state and region at an amazing rate.









Stokes County Center

The Forsyth Tech Stokes County Center is a favorite among faculty and staff – and it is easy to see why as soon as you pull up – the view of the mountains is spectacular! Of course, we think that there are lots of reasons to love and celebrate this center (including the view).

It's easy to see why: students at the Early College are among the best and brightest you'll find in any county, anywhere, and their eagerness to learn (and earn college credit while still in high school) is infectious and apparent.

The bustle and busyness of the Trades Shop could inspire even the most lazy, least "handy" of us to jump up and get involved. And the SIM lab, which houses truly stateof-the-art health mannequins for the practical nursing students to use, makes even the difficult-to-impress marvel at the miracles of modern science and technology.

Blaze, who is always ready for a hike, has a twinkle in her eye every time she visits the Stokes County Center, just like the faculty and staff who support our students at this special place.



A stunning view of the Sauratown Mountain Range, as seen from the Forsyth Tech Stokes County Center.







Grady P. Swisher Center

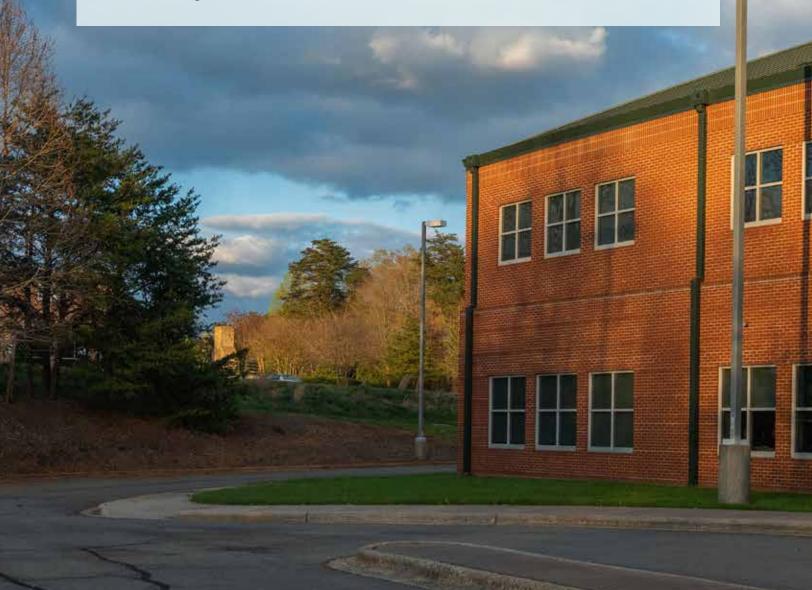
The Grady P. Swisher Center in Kernersville continued to serve the community through its innovative supply chain management program – perhaps more relevant now than ever, with the global supply chain issues that were highlighted during the Covid-19 pandemic – and the popular therapeutic massage program.

The center also expanded its community partnerships through the addition of two Forsyth Tech Cares program offerings: a Forsyth Tech Connect pantry and the Community Farmers Market. The connect pantries offer food, personal and household items to those in need, and are part of the holistic, wraparound services that the Cares

Program provides to address non-academic barriers to student success.

The farmers markets, also organized by Cares, began on Main Campus, and have now expanded to other locations, including the Grady P. Swisher Center! The markets are open to the entire community, and provide free, fresh produce that is often difficult to find at pantries, which typically carry shelf-stable items.

The Grady P. Swisher's focus on business and community is an exemplary model for innovation and care. It provides students with the resources and support they need for what is now, and what is next.









Innovation Quarter

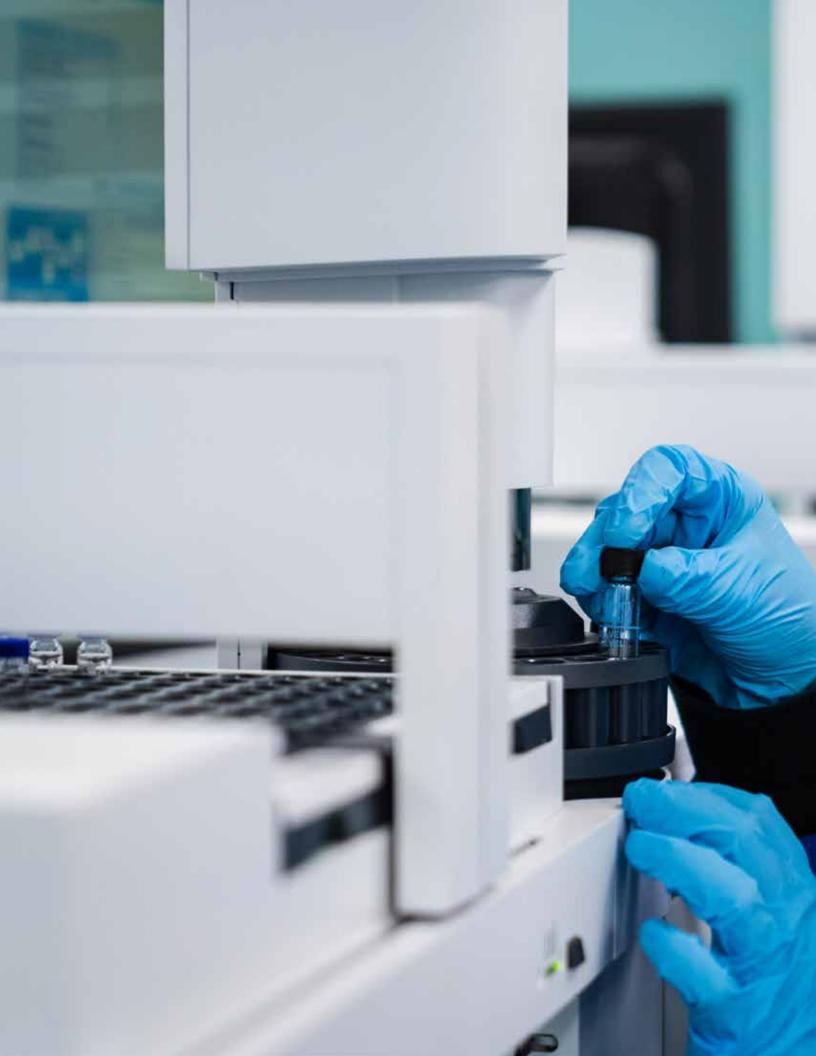
It's only natural that Forsyth Tech's National Center for the Biotechnology Workforce at Innovation Quarter (IQ) in downtown Winston-Salem would mark some impressive milestones in innovation. We were honored to be selected as one of sixteen member teams to receive funding to accelerate biomanufacturing in the U.S.

Bioindustrial manufacturing uses living organisms such as bacteria, yeast and algae to make new products or replacements for current products that are more sustainable and environmentally friendly than current processes. Our member team focus on nanobiotechnology to inspire the next generation of the skilled biomanufacturing workforce. The program inspires students to learn about leveraging microbes in bioindustrial manufacturing by putting cutting-edge nanobiotechnologies like hand-held DNA sequencers and scanning electron microscopes into classrooms.

Additionally, our center at IQ is working to develop micro-credentials. Micro-credentials, often described and issued as digital badges, are a recent development for workforce training and skills building. According to Forbes Magazine, however, they are important to effectively recruit, retain and upskill workers.

The Small Business Center continues to support and develop resources to share with businesses in Forsyth and Stokes Counties, and the molecular analytics lab continues to inspire with its groundbreaking research.

Precious Grace Castillo, 2021 Academic Excellence Award Winner, and Kara Libby, Lab Technician at the National Center for Biotechnology Workforce housed at Forsyth Tech work in the molecular analytics lab at our Innovation Quarter campus.







Mazie S. Woodruff Center

Partnerships are incredibly important to the work we do, and nowhere is that more apparent than at the Mazie S. Woodruff Center, which saw several programs grow this year. We saw an impactful expansion of offerings to our neighbors at Carver High School, increased emergency medical science program enrollment, and the addition of a Forsyth Tech Connect pantry through the Forsyth Tech Cares program.

We have always valued our partnership with Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools, so we were excited to announce an innovative program to provide all students at Carver High School, located less than two miles from the Mazie S. Woodruff Center, with greater access to college classes while in high school, the benefit of a one-on-one community-based mentoring program, onsite tutoring, career exploration and more. Thanks to this partnership, all students at Carver High School will have the opportunity to enroll in Career and College Promise (also known as CCP or dual enrollment), and earn free college credit while still in high school.

The Mazie S. Woodruff Center, along with the Northwest Forsyth Center, worked hard to meet the increased demand for emergency medical personnel that became even more apparent during the pandemic. With increased opportunities for scholarships, the faculty and staff at the Mazie S. Woodruff Center rose to the occasion to support students and meet the workforce needs of our community.

Finally, thanks to the Forsyth Tech Cares Program, a Forsyth Tech Connect pantry opened at the Mazie S. Woodruff Center. The pantry provides essential food, personal and household items to students, faculty and staff in need.

With such an expansive offering of programs and support to our Forsyth Tech Family and the community, the Mazie S. Woodruff Center is helping us redefine what it means to work in higher education and serve our entire community.



Dr. Phygenia Young, Associate Dean, Education and Design Technologies, Dr. Janet Spriggs, Evelyn Acree, Trustee, Masonne Sawyer, Vice President for Student Success Services and Kenyetta Richmond, Executive Director of Student Success Services, celebrate the ribbon tying at the Mazie S. Woodruff Center.



Carver High School band students strike a pose during their visit to explore Forsyth Tech's courses and dual enrollment programs.



Transportation Technology Center

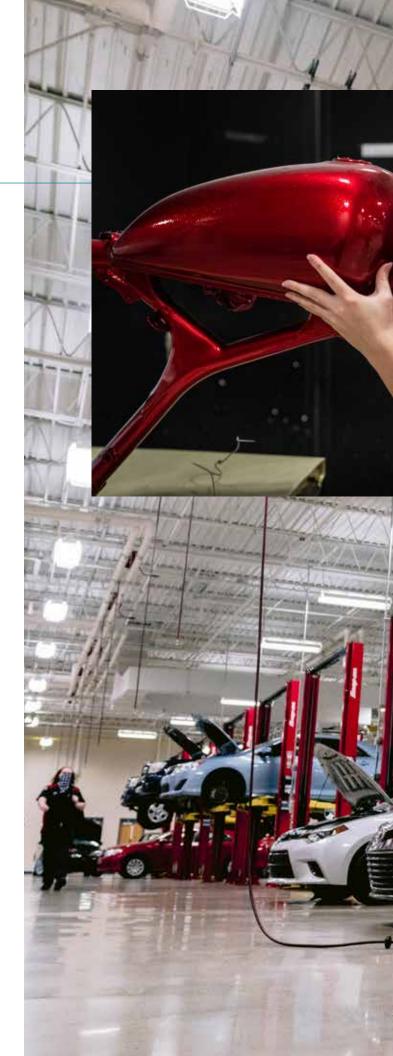
Sometimes, it's hard to believe that the Transportation Technology Center (TTC) hasn't always been that – an impressive, innovative campus in northern Forsyth County. Once, the sprawling space was a "strip mall," with a Food Lion grocery store, a discount store and, at one point, an auto parts store.

But, for ten years now, it has housed the only Toyota T-TEN program in the southeast, along with five other automotive programs, including diesel and heavy equipment, motorcycle mechanics, collision repair and refinishing, automotive systems technology and race car technology (Richard Childress Race Car).

In addition to the numerous labs and hands-on learning experiences available at the TTC, students are also able to take general education classes there, which means they can complete their entire degree or certificate at this campus. The TTC also finds fun ways to engage the entire college and community, too, mostly by hosting great events like drive-in movies and an electric vehicle showcase.

Inset: Kourtney A. Spangler mounts a finished motorcycle gas tank on the frame.

The Toyota T-TEN lab inside the Transportation Technology Center.













One Giant COPY For Our Students

Of course, we think there are many amazing things about receiving an education at a community college. This uniquely American system of education has mastered directly connecting students with careers and hands-on learning. But, Forsyth Tech has taken the idea of work-based learning and apprenticeships to a new level.

Students can participate in work-based learning on campus or with employers, in addition to the traditional clinicals and labs that you would expect in healthcare, welding, advanced manufacturing and similar programs. But, they also have the opportunity to attend school to earn a degree, while working part-time – and receiving full time pay – through the Learn and Earn Apprenticeship Program, known as LEAP.

LEAP grew to more than 25 employer partners during the 2021-22 academic year, with companies like Siemens Energy, Progress Rail and Pepsi Bottling Ventures all supporting apprentices with mentors and wage increases as new skills are gained.

The program continues to grow and has begun to receive accolades, earning the 2022 Outstanding Consortium Member award by Apprenticeship NC and the 2021-2022 Innovation of the Year Award from the League for Innovation in the Community College.

In addition to learning and earning a degree, students who complete the program also receive a national Journeyworker certification, and most begin their careers on a full-time basis with their LEAP sponsors.



Above: Dr. Janet Spriggs takes a #SpriggsSelfie with students at a LEAP Apprenticeship signing.

Right: Dr. Alan Murdock, Senior Vice President for Economic and Workforce Development, addresses employer partners, students, faculty and staff at the LEAP Apprenticeship signing.



Welcome Week

The start of the school year is a hopeful, exciting time. As a student, the world is stretching out beyond your feet, with each step bringing you a little closer to a dream, a goal, a promise. For faculty and staff, it represents the return of motivation, answering the deep *why* our instructors work so tirelessly to achieve.

Welcome Week 2021, held August 16-20, was all of these things and more, as students returned to our campuses and centers, albeit with masks on. Students, faculty and staff were greeted with tasty food, music, games, fun and smiling eyes. Thanks to the Forsyth Tech Foundation, there were also plenty of giveaways and swag for students to feel #ForsythTechProud.

Fall 2021 was an even more special time at Forsyth Tech, though, as we welcomed a new member of the Forsyth Tech family: Blaze!

Blaze, a two-toned gray fox native to North Carolina, is our new mascot! She is a fun, fierce, fearless female, and she received a warm welcome from our community's beloved mascots.

Anticipation of her arrival had been building for weeks, as pawprints popped up around our campuses and centers, and other hints of her arrival were peppered throughout our halls. Blaze's introduction to our campus and the community were a picture-perfect addition to the wonderful welcome back for our students, faculty and staff.

Inset: Students pose during Welcome Week celebrations.

Members of faculty and staff greet students during the first day of fall classes.









Aviation: Where Promises are Kept and Dreams Take Flight

The 2021-22 academic year was full of highlights, inspiring student and alumni successes and historic wins for Forsyth Tech. One of our most fun and inspiring days came, though, when we were able to open the Mazie S. Woodruff Aviation Technology Lab.

This awe-inspiring space, located in east Winston and connected to Smith Reynolds Airport, now serves as the training ground for students who will become aviation technicians and mechanics through an intensive five-semester program.

The Aviation Technology Lab is Forsyth Tech's second center named in honor of Mazie Spencer Woodruff, the first African American elected as a Forsyth County commissioner. She served from 1976 to 1990, and was known for her dedication to education and social justice. We feel it is



our duty to recognize individuals like Mazie Woodruff, and create economic opportunity in underserved areas of our community, and we are proud and honored to do so.

At the grand opening, held in October 2021, guests were greeted by gleaming white floors as they entered the impressive space, which encompasses 51,962 square feet, including a 15,000+ square foot aviation

hangar, classrooms and a library. The lab can store up to 8 aircraft and is one of only five aviation training programs that is connected to an airport in the state. This connectivity gives students the handson training they need, and fulfills our promise to all students to help them find a career, and serve as a catalyst for equitable economic opportunity in our community.











College Lift began ambitiously, and with the sense of urgency, hope and optimism that happens when someone finds their calling.

The first College Lift Orientation at Forsyth Tech, which was put on hold for two years due to the pandemic, was imbued with the same urgency, hope and optimism that founder Logan Philon has brought to the idea of equitable access to post-secondary educational success since the program's inception.

College Lift, which provides rigorous academic support to socioeconomically disadvantaged students, known as scholars, held its first orientation and kick-off event in October 2021, with games, food and fun for participating families and their caregivers.

Scholars learned about the promise of scholarships to all that complete the program, and were able to hear from President Spriggs and Philon, now serving as Director of College Lift at Forsyth Tech, about the ways that the program would continue to grow and flourish.

For Philon, it was a moving day. "Creating a more equitable future for students in our community through education is what I am most passionate about. To see the support of everyone present that day for these scholars felt like the realization of a dream," he said.

Gaviota Johnson, a sixth grade scholar in her first year of the program, has fun at the College Lift Orientation.







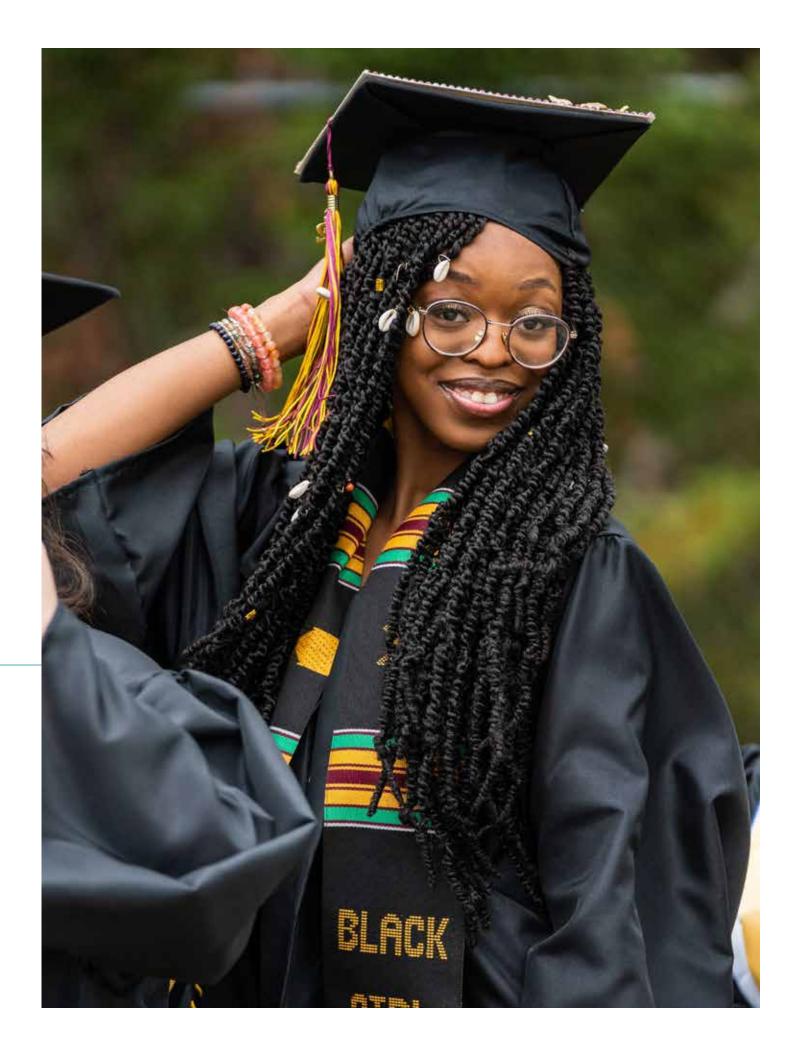
Dual Enrollment, Early College and Middle College

Forsyth Tech is home to one of the best-kept secrets for students in high school: early college, middle college and dual enrollment! Have you heard of this innovative way for students to earn free college credit while they are still in high school?

Similar to Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses, students who participate in dual enrollment (sometimes called career and college promise) earn college credit while they are still in high school. Once they have completed their coursework, dually enrolled students earn their high school diploma and may even be able to graduate with an associate degree at the same time.

We're filled with pride when we think of these high-achieving trailblazers who give us hope for the future!

Above and right: Students at their early college and middle college graduations.









Jolly Jamboree

Forsyth Tech is in the business of hope and opportunity – which means we get to make dreams come true. No day was that more apparent than on December 1, during our first annual Jolly Jamboree!

As students, faculty and staff all celebrated the rapidly approaching end of the first fall semester that felt "normal" in years, Santa and Mrs. Claus stopped by Main Campus to make a special appearance. They met and posed for photos with children and children-at-heart while everyone enjoyed games, prizes, hot cocoa and cookies (Santa's favorite!), and made crafts.

The event was hosted by the Shugart Women's Center, which provides counseling, referrals, leadership experiences, coaching and resources to female and female-identifying Forsyth Tech students.

Many students describe the services and events of the Shugart Women's Center as a "lifeline" for important resources and assistance. The Jolly Jamboree was one of several events throughout the year designed to support and uplift students – often done through fun and celebration!



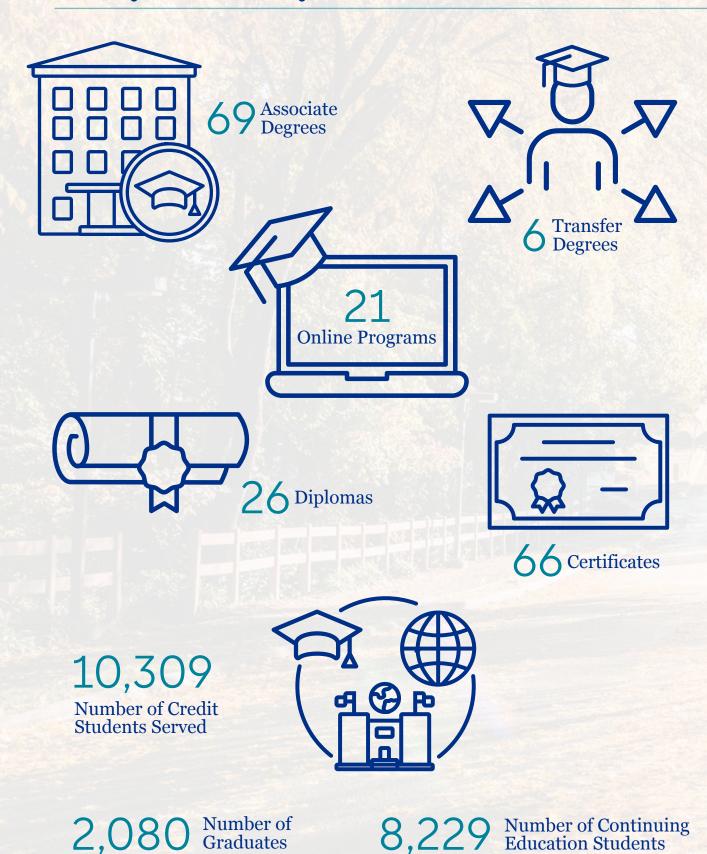
Above: Paula Dibley, Vice President for Strategy and Outreach and Pamela Shortt, Dean, Business and Information Technologies, help out as Santa's elves during Jolly Jamboree.

Left: Santa inspires smiles with a future Trailblazer.

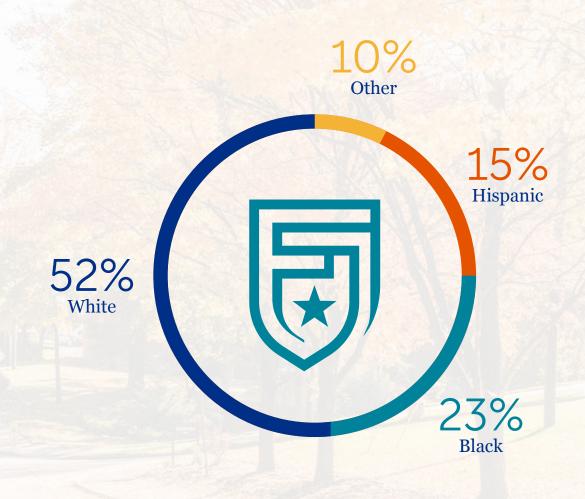




Forsyth Tech by the Numbers



66





1,151 Associate Degrees 371 Diplomas 853 Certificates

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

As we move to realizing our Vision 2025 Strategic Plan, serve as a place of promise for all students, and seek to truly become a catalyst for equitable economic mobility in our community, the importance of welcoming thought leaders and inspiring figures onto campus cannot be overlooked. Forsyth Tech's celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life and legacy in January of 2022 inspired our students, faculty and staff to continue this important work in new and groundbreaking ways.

It was an honor to welcome Funmilola Fagbamila to our Main Campus. Fagbamila is an award-winning Nigerian-American playwright, artist, scholar and founding member of Black Lives Matter. She visited Forsyth Tech on January 14, 2022, to speak about the legacy of Dr. King, and how to best help fulfill his vision for equality.

Fagbamila's presentation and discussion interspersed quotes from Dr. King along with musings on life experience and how to lead a fulfilling life, while also engaging in activism to affect real change. "You find ways to ensure that you can show up for yourself just as much as you attempt to show up for others," she said.

Fagbamila left everyone who attended her presentation feeling inspired and ready for the challenges we are facing as a community and a nation. Her vision for equality is one that we should all work to support and achieve.

Below: Students, faculty and staff prepare to listen to founding member of Black Lives Matter, Funmilola Fagbamila.

Right: Funmilola Fagbamila







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Black History Month

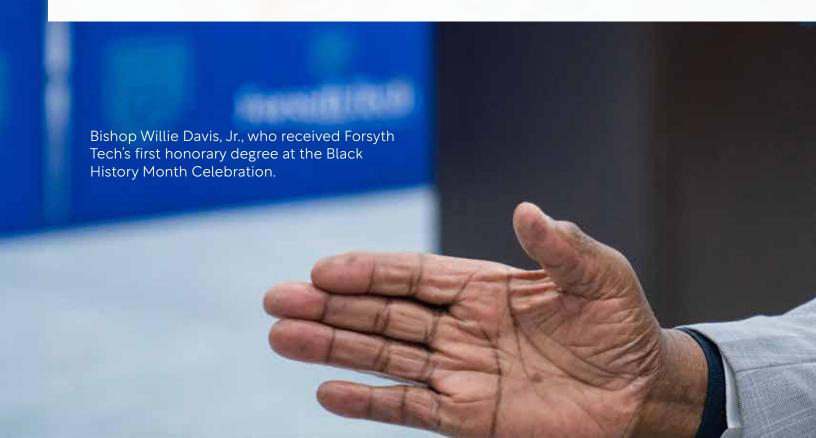
Rarely in life do institutions get the opportunity to right a wrong, but Forsyth Tech was afforded an opportunity to do just that in February 2022.

During our Black History Month celebration at the newly-opened Mazie S. Woodruff Aviation Technology Lab, we awarded our first honorary degree to Bishop Willie Davis, Jr. Bishop Davis shared with us that he grew up close to Smith Reynolds Airport, and saw the airplanes taking off, and that he dreamed of working on planes. Later, he was employed with Piedmont Airlines and still wanted to become an airplane mechanic. He was denied that opportunity because of the color of his skin, and he was denied the Airframe & Power plant certificate for the same reason.

After learning about Bishop Davis's six decades of service to better his community, his support of Mazie Woodruff, and his career at Piedmont Airlines, we knew we had to right this wrong. So, at our Black History Month Celebration on February 24, 2022, Forsyth Tech awarded Bishop Willie Davis with an Honorary Aviation Systems Technology, Airframe and Powerplant Associate Degree.

Bishop Davis received a standing ovation as he was presented with the degree, and Dr. Spriggs stated, "Today, in recognition of the vast knowledge you acquired while working for Piedmont Airlines, and your many, many years of service, we are proud, honored, and privileged to be able to do what is right by bestowing upon you this long overdue honorary degree."

Other highlights of the Black History Month program included keynote speakers Sheriff Bobby Kimbrough, Jr., and Assistant Chief of Police for the City of Winston-Salem, William Penn, who each discussed trailblazing in our communities, and always doing what is right.

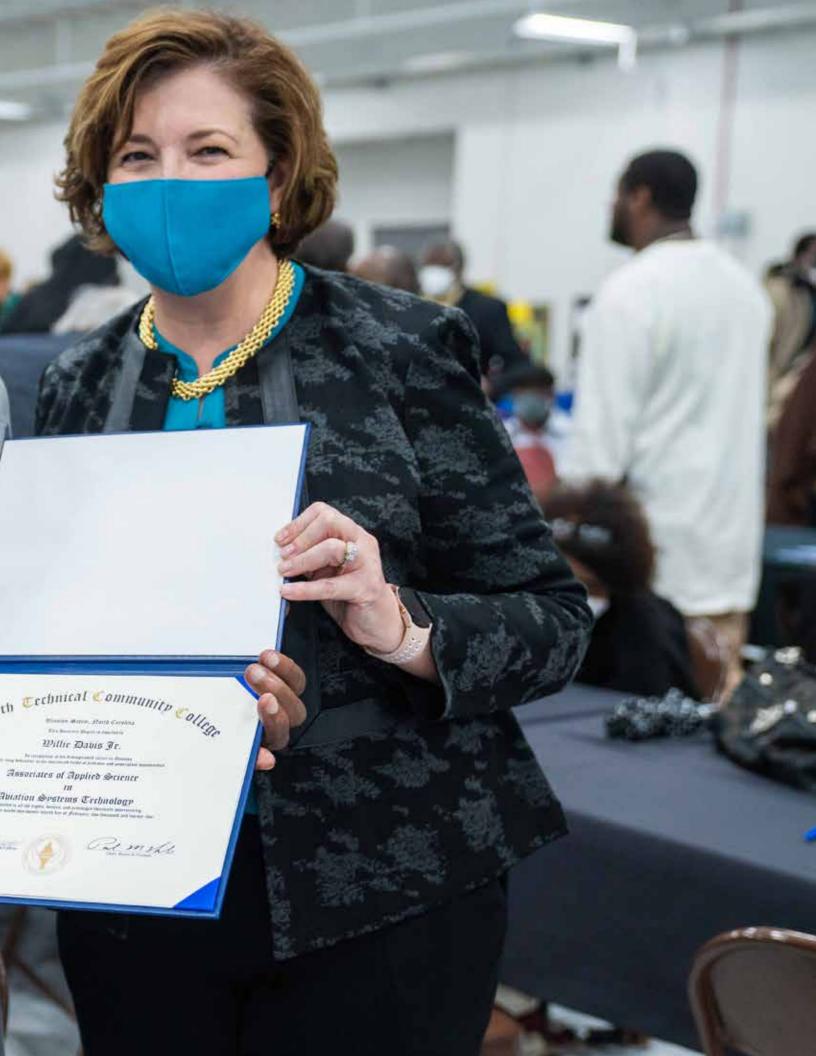












Jeopardy!

Forsyth Tech is no stranger to celebrities. In addition to hosting sitting and former presidents, activists, authors and athletes, we were able to celebrate a student who became famous overnight! Lawrence Long, a nursing student at Forsyth Tech, is also a three-time Jeopardy! champion.

Lawrence, who is a bit of a Renaissance man, easily laughs off his newfound fame, and is focused on his future. Like a lot of our students, Lawrence has already achieved so much. He described himself as a stay-athome uncle on Jeopardy!, but he's earned a BA in English from Clemson, attended a dramatic arts program in Colorado and worked as a sommelier in Chicago.

He plans to pursue his BSN at a four-year university after completing courses at Forsyth Tech. Lawrence's quick wit and easy smile come naturally, and he's been part of the local improv comedy troupe, The Bunker Dogs, for several years.

One of the questions he's gotten the most are about his plans for his winnings. He promised his niece a trip to Hawaii if he won (he'll assure you it's happening!) and he also donated to the Forsyth Tech

Foundation. Specifically, Lawrence created a fund to provide assistance to students purchasing books. We can't wait to see where the future takes this trailblazer.

Inset: Lawrence Long poses on the set of Jeopardy! with host Mayim Bialik.

Right: Lawrence Long





NC Reconnect

Forsyth Tech was welcomed into the second cohort of five colleges that received funding from the John M. Belk Endowment to reconnect with adult learners who stopped out before completing their degree or program. The initiative, called NC Reconnect, seeks to reengage these former students and provide them with the support they need to finish school.

In typical Forsyth Tech fashion, we jumped right into reconnecting and re-engaging with this special group of adult learners to help them acquire the skills, credentials and degrees they need for a better job, a bigger paycheck and an even brighter future for themselves and their families.

Through an outreach campaign and individualized connections with former students, we worked to bring even more adult learners back to college. Our goal is to connect and inform as many adults as possible about the variety of fast, flexible, and affordable education and job training programs that we offer.

So far, the efforts to reconnect with adult learners is going well, and we are excited to welcome these students back in the fall! Stay tuned for updates on their progress throughout the 2022-23 academic year!

Inset: Bill McBrayer (Vice-Chair NCCCS Board), Burr Sullivan (Chair of NCCCS Board), Mike Krause, Janet Spriggs, MC Belk Pilon, Patrick Crane (VP of Strategic Initiatives at the NCCCS Office), Allison Fern, Chuck Kaylor.

Dr. Spriggs, Blaze, Bill McBrayer, Vice Chair of the NC Community College System Board of Trustees and M.C. Belk Pilon celebrate the kick-off of NC Reconnect.





Class of 2022 College Committment

We were honored to welcome Governor Roy Cooper to the Main Campus of Forsyth Tech in March, as we announced our second year of free college for all North Carolina high school graduates, or the Class of 2022 College Commitment.

"North Carolina's community colleges are a major force in strengthening our students and growing our workforce," said Governor Cooper. "The Longleaf Commitment community college grants program is already helping our students continue their education debt-free at one of our strong community colleges and it's great to see the

success of these grants lead to expanded access at Forsyth Tech."

This initiative began in 2021, thanks to generous funding from the North Carolina Longleaf Commitment Grant. Forsyth Tech took the funds from the grant, and made students' first year at Forsyth Tech entirely free – no tuition, fees or charges – for recent high school graduates. We awarded the second-most grants of the 58 community colleges in North Carolina, and are excited to help even more students in 2022!



Below: Students pose with Sen. Paul Lowe, Jr., Flora Calderon-Steck, Executive Director of Educational Partnerships, Governor Roy Cooper, Blaze and Dr. Janet Spriggs as the college announced the Class of 2022 College Commitment.

Right: Governor Roy Cooper at Forsyth Tech.









Legislative Engagement



Members of the Board of Trustees, student leadership, faculty and staff visited the NC Legislature during Community College Day. With the help of the Board of Trustees, students, faculty and staff, we continued our efforts to connect with legislators and local officials throughout the year, and share the tremendous impact that Forsyth Tech has on our local, regional and statewide economy.

Our advocacy work saw numerous returns this year, as the state passed an updated budget that included across-the-board salary increases and additional investments in education. We were honored to host several elected officials, including Governor Roy Cooper in March, as we announced our Class of 2022 College Commitment, which provides free college for a year for all NC high school 2022 graduates. Representative Kyle Hall also visited our Main Campus and toured the Advanced Manufacturing Lab; and we hosted state and local officials at our legislative breakfast at the Transportation Technology Center in the spring.

We traveled with students, trustees, faculty and staff to Washington, D.C. in February for the Association of Community College Trustees Legislative Summit and to Raleigh for Community College Day on June 8.









Top Left: Jaylin Moore discusses his journey at Forsyth Tech with Senator Joyce Krawiec.

Bottom Left: Glory Ordoñez Carboni shakes hands with Senator Deanna Ballard at the legislature.

Top Right: House of Representatives Kathy Manning at out Transportation Technology Center.

Middle Right: Senator Paul Lowe, Jr. greets Student Ambassador Jess Flynn.





Visual Art Showcase

In March, the Art Department held a Visual Art Showcase at Footnotes Coffee & Cocktails in downtown Winston-Salem, featuring 44 pieces of art by 16 Forsyth Tech students. The showcase featured a variety of media, including oil, acrylic and watercolor paint, color pencil, gouache, graphite and oil pastel.

This gallery showing provided talented students with the opportunity to display their art and even have it purchased by local collectors.

Faith Scott, who is earning her associate of arts, showed two paintings, "Deafening Hands" and "Oppressing Genius." She likened showing her work to having someone flip through her journal. "At my core, I seek to be understood," she said, adding that she was glad to be able to share her thoughts through her artwork.

The Visual Arts Showcase was such a success that instructors Jason Lancaster and Cecilia Wright plan to hold additional events for our talented, trailblazing students in the future.









Rae Smith poses with their artwork at the Visual Art Showcase.







Carver High School Initiative

Early Spring 2022 saw Forsyth Tech deepen its partnership with Winston-Salem/
Forsyth County Schools, and strengthen its commitment to serving those in our community that have historically been under-resourced. The creation of the Carver High School Initiative brought renewed energy, focus and commitment from the community and partners to deserving high school students.

This innovative program will provide all students at Carver High School with greater access to college classes while in high school, the benefit of a one-on-one community-based mentoring program, onsite tutoring, career exploration and more. Thanks to this partnership, all students at Carver will have the opportunity to enroll in Career and College Promise (also known as CCP or dual enrollment), and earn free college credit while still in high school.

The initiative is just one of the significant investments that Forsyth Tech has made in east Winston over the last two decades; the Mazie S. Woodruff Center is less than a one and a half miles from Carver High School, and the newly-opened Mazie S. Woodruff Aviation Technology Lab is only four miles away. These centers and this initiative help support Forsyth Tech's mission of advancing equitable economic opportunity, setting high school students up for success and post-secondary attainment.

Dr. Thyais L. Maxwell, Principal of Carver High School, Dr. Carol Montague-Davis, Former Principal of Carver High School, Tricia McManus, Superintendent of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools, and Dr. Janet Spriggs during the Carver High School event at Forsyth Tech.

Inset: Ivan Muñoz-Rodriguez, an alumnus now working as a paramedic, demonstrates a life-saving measure for Carver High students.





Phi Theta Kappa

Our Alpha Mu Ro Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society traveled to the international conference in Denver, Colorado, in April 2021 and came home with 11 awards. The recognition included being named a Distinguished Chapter, placing our PTK in the top 50 chapters in the country.

The Alpha Mu Ro Chapter's success was hard-won and is a shining example of perseverance among Forsyth Tech's student body; the chapter went from a one-star ranking to a five-star ranking, earning the distinction of being a Distinguished Chapter regionally and internationally over the course of just five years.

While a lot of this hard work was accomplished by students, it wouldn't have happened without the support of faculty and staff, including Kismet Loftin-Bell, Coordinator of Student Leadership and Honor Programs at Forsyth Tech. Loftin-Bell was also recognized and awarded a Paragon Award for New Advisors at the conference.

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society is the international honor society of students attending open-access institutions and seeking associate degrees, bachelor's degrees or other college credentials. Its headquarters is in Jackson, Mississippi, and has more than 3.5 million members in 1,300 chapters in 10 nations.

Students and staff were recognized in the following categories:

- Regional Award for Excellence in Scholarship (Liudmila Cass as 2021-22 Regional President)
- Regional Award for Excellence in Service (Liudmila Cass as 2021-22 Regional President)
- 5-Star Region (Liudmila Cass as 2021-22 Regional President)
- Paragon Award for New Advisors -Kismet Loftin-Bell
- Distinguished Chapter Officer Team -Lindsay Webb, Gloriana Ordoñez Carboni, Katlyn Kiger, and Jackie Flannigan

- Paragon Award for New Presidents -Dr. Janet Spriggs
- Distinguished Honors In Action Project
- Top 100 chapters (out of 1300)
- Distinguished Chapter Award (Top 50)
- New Century Transfer Scholarship Recipient - Han Nguyen
- Honors Case Study Challenge
 Honorable Mention Lindsay Webb







We used the ability to gather once again as a community and a campus in so many different and celebratory ways throughout this school year, and our Spring Fling is no exception!

This event is a great opportunity for students to gather, celebrate the spring semester and share food, fellowship and fun! In spring 2022, Student Life & Engagement added an extra element of fun to the event, with a cultural celebration and fair to honor and learn about the many diverse backgrounds of our students, faculty and staff.

There were representatives from several different countries, including Australia, Costa Rica, South Korea, Nigeria and more. Blaze, our trailblazing gray fox, danced with students and sampled cuisines from around the world!

It was a wonderful way to celebrate the cultural diversity at Forsyth Tech and in our community.















Students take advantage of the festivities and cuisines available at Spring Fling.

PRIDE

We were able to have a whirlwind year of "firsts" with Blaze as she made friends all over our campuses and community! One of the last celebrations of the 2021-22 fiscal year was Winston-Salem Pride!

For the first time, Forsyth Tech participated in the parade and celebration in downtown Winston-Salem. The Pride Club, led by advisor Rick Foster, along with several members of faculty and staff handed out swag during the festival while Blaze charmed everyone around, decked out in her custom-made rainbow tutu.

In order to be a place of promise for all the students we serve, we realize we must be dedicated to creating a sense of belonging for everyone. That is why Forsyth Tech hired Dr. LaShan Lovelace as Vice President

for Inclusive Excellence and Employee Care in August 2021.

We are creating a sense of belonging by participating in events like this, but also constantly striving to improve our efforts focused on diversity, equity and inclusion. For example, we are the only community college in North Carolina to participate in the Campus Pride Index, an overall indicator of institutional commitment to LGBTQ-inclusive policy, program and practice. Recent initiatives to increase our score on the Index include the creation of a Pride Club and campus pride events, SafeZone training availability for faculty and staff, and actively seeking input from students on how to support them and create a sense of belonging for everyone we serve.



Below: Jacqueline Flannigan, Myra Fern Ward, Haley Lavanture, Sarah Weldner and Ryan Phillips participate in the campus Pride Fest.

Inset: Rick Foster, Coordinator for Career and Technical Education Advising and Pride Club Advisor with Amanda Davis, Department Chair for Mathematics at Forsyth Tech's Pride Fest.



Adult High School

We often say at Forsyth Tech that we're in the business of hope and opportunity. One could argue that nowhere is that more true or apparent than with our students that are pursuing their high school equivalency degrees and diplomas.

It takes courage and commitment to dedicate yourself to returning to school to earn your degree. It is hard to remember, when you are making sacrifices, that your future will be brighter and better with an education. At our adult high school graduation, the room was filled with families and loved ones, all there to applaud their courageous and committed graduates. And, as each student walked across the stage, every round of applause worked to erase any doubt that the sacrifices they all made were worth it.

We all join in the applause, and are proud of our Trailblazers and their pursuit of the promise of a career, a better life or a lifelong journey to learning!

Below: Adult High School Graduates at their commencement in November.

Right: Stephen Bovender, recent Forsyth Tech grad and Trailblazer.





Pinning Ceremonies

For many students, pinnings are the pinnacle of their time with us at Forsyth Tech. Commencement is fun and celebratory, and feels like a part with thousands of your friends – but pinnings provide the unique opportunity to recognize all of the accomplishments that you and your peers achieved, in a smaller setting, with your closest family members and loved ones, and the faculty and staff that helped make your dreams come true.

More than 250 health sciences students participated in eight pinnings over this academic year, marking the start of their careers as difference-makers in the patients they serve, and in our community at-large.

As the community college with the most healthcare programs in our state, it is an honor and privilege to serve and celebrate these students at their pinnings, and every day.

Below: Instructor Larry Bell congratulates a student at the Therapeutic Massage Pinning Ceremony.

Right: Sierra McLaughlin smiles to show her excitement at the Associate Degree, Nursing, Pinning Ceremony.







Students and instructors at the Medical Assisting Pinning.



Dr. Janet Spriggs takes a #SpriggsSelfie with students at the Dental Hygiene Pinning Ceremony.

Right: Leigh Mitchell at the Associate Degree, Nursing, Pinning Ceremony.





Award Winners

The 2021-22 academic year was an amazing one for our students, faculty and staff, and they received recognition on a local, regional and national level!

Our Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society earned 11 awards at the national conference in Denver, including: recognition as top 50 chapter in the country (out of 1300); and regional awards for excellence in scholarship and service. Dr. Janet Spriggs received the Paragon Award for New Presidents and PTK Advisor, Kismet Loftin-Bell, received the Paragon Award for New Advisors.

Our Student Government Association representatives won at the state level: Katlyn Kiger won the Daryl Mitchell Award for Outstanding Students in the Western Region and Shaun Adams won the Outstanding Community Service Award.

We also had some outstanding scholarship recipients, including: Han Nguyen received the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholarship; Mario Rosas Nava received the Goodnight Scholarship to attend North Carolina State University; and Destiny Perez was awarded a Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar.

Left: Mario Rosas Nava, 2021-22 Student Government Association President









Dr. Stacy Waters-Bailey Associate Vice President Academic Strategy and Partnerships

Our faculty of the year winner, Melissa Smith, program chair of the MRI program, was also named the statewide excellence in teaching winner! Melissa's dedication to her students, evidenced by their kind words about her – and their excellence in passing the statewide exam, and her commitment to excellence make her a shining example of the dedication our faculty members bring to their work every day.

Our staff member of the year, Dr. Stacy Waters-Bailey, serves as the Associate Vice President of Academic Strategy and Partnerships, and was recognized for her exceptional efforts to launch the Forsyth Tech Cares program, and provide continual,



Melissa Smith Program Chair Magnetic Resonance Imaging Program

non-academic support to our students who needed it the most. Under her stewardship, the Forsyth Tech Cares program launched pantries on campuses, served more than 1,300 students through emergency funding for basic necessities, rent and mortgage, tuition, childcare and more. Her extensive work to form lasting partnerships to provide resources for our students has had a tremendous impact already, and will continue to positively affect our community for years to come.

We could not be more proud of our faculty and staff, and their commitment to making sure that every trailblazer we serve has the tools they need to succeed.





Commencement

The excitement was palpable as our 2022 Commencement Ceremony returned to Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum on Thursday, May 5. Students and their loved ones were greeted by our best friend and mascot, Blaze, as the first day in the next chapter of their lives began!

Our new alumni persevered through so many challenges – most of them started in the pandemic – and weathered every storm with us. Our Forsyth Tech family was full of pride, as we were able to recognize the achievements, awards and milestones that this group of students earned on their path to degrees, certificates and diplomas.

The keynote speaker, North Carolina Community College 2022 Faculty of the Year award recipient and Forsyth Tech MRI Program Coordinator, Melissa Smith, encouraged students to commit to a lifetime of learning and to believe in themselves. "When you first started here, you made the decision to apply, decided on your program of study, decided to do the work. Look where you are! You know who gets the new position, the new skills training, the scholarship opportunity...the person that applies! Put yourself out there," Smith said.









Foundation Board

Our Foundation made important progress in 2021-22, reaching a four-year high in contributions from loyal and devoted supporters of Forsyth Tech, and providing much needed funding for scholarships, student support, instructional technology and professional development for our faculty and staff, while also bridging many other gaps that simply can't be met through the college's normal sources of funds. The Forsyth Tech Foundation is fully committed to helping the college realize its vision of being a catalyst for equitable economic mobility in our community, while changing lives every day.

The year ahead is another critical one for Forsyth Tech. We are expecting record enrollment for the fall semester and also record demand from our workforce partners for well-educated and highly skilled graduates. At the same time, we know that many of our students will continue to need help with childcare, transportation, housing

Beth Baldwin

and adequate food resources, while our remarkable faculty will strive to maintain the cutting edge technology that ensures our graduates are ready for the modern workplace. The Foundation stands ready to help our students realize their dreams and, in turn, to bolster our economy and the overall well being of Forsyth and Stokes Counties.

I'm so grateful for your willingness to join us in pursuing this important work and hope you'll help us spread the word that an investment in OUR community college will pay huge dividends for us all.

With gratitude,

Chair, Forsyth Tech Foundation **Board of Directors**

Foundation Board of Directors

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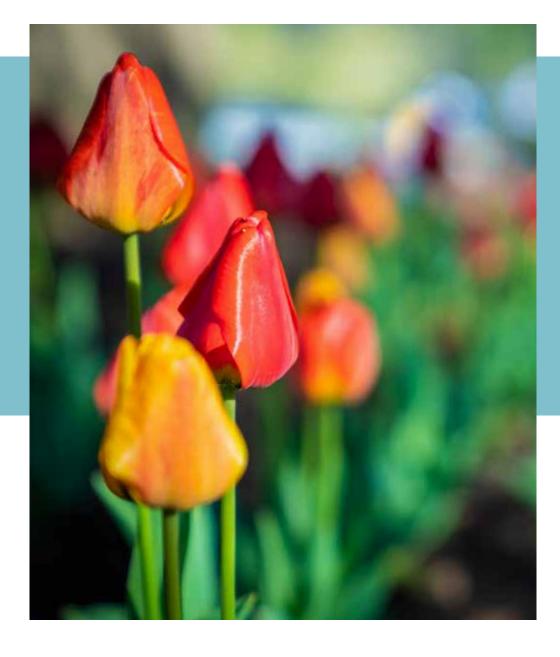
Precious Quire-McCloud Ann Watts Evelyn Re "The Foundation stands ready to help our students realize their dreams and, in turn, to bolster our economy and the overall well being of Forsyth and



Foundation Impact Report

With gifts from individuals, businesses, other foundations and many of our own employees, the Forsyth Tech Foundation bridges any gap between regular sources of college funding and the ongoing needs of our students and employees.

Fiscal year 2021-22 saw increased demand from our students for assistance with the cost of attending college, including tuition, books, fees and post-completion testing and certifications. Additionally, many of our students needed help with the cost of living while attending college, which is often an even greater challenge. In conjunction with the Forsyth Tech Grants Office, and through the expert outreach of our internal student-support agency, Forsyth Tech Cares, the Foundation was able to meet these critical needs while also investing in other important college initiatives.



A sampling of 2021 - 2022 impact includes:

Providing last-dollar support for our Class of 2022 College Commitment that allowed recent graduates of any North Carolina high school to attend for two semesters at no cost.

Funding more than 50 scholarships to offset a wide range of student costs.



Supporting the establishment and stocking of five food pantries at campus locations, as well as providing food for multiple outdoor "little pantries."

Purchasing food for monthly farmers markets that provide free, fresh produce for students, employees and neighbors. The Forsyth Tech Foundation looks forward to another impactful year in 2022-23 through giving that translates directly into benefits for our students, our employees, our college and our community.



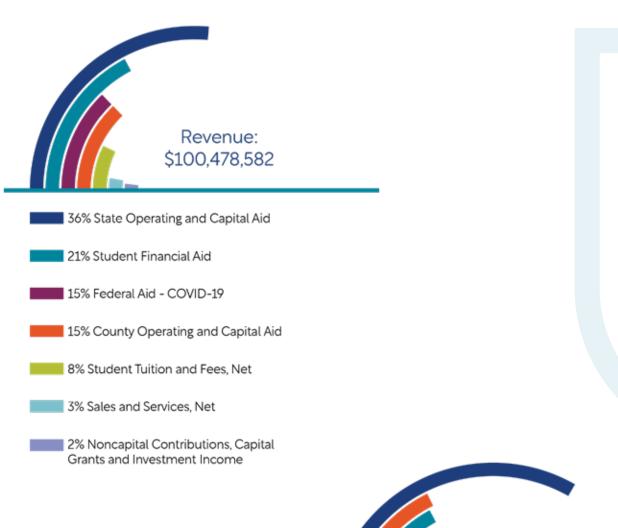
Assisting with the relocation and growth of our Career Services Office while continuing to fund the Robert L. Strickland Endowed Directorship for that office.

Matching funds from a state grant that places four Career Coaches in area high schools.

Acquiring state-of-the-art welding, manufacturing, healthcare and other specialized technology so students are job-ready at graduation.



Forsyth Tech Financials



Net Position June 30, 2022: \$65,370,754

Net Position July 1, 2021: \$55,376,431



Foundation Financials

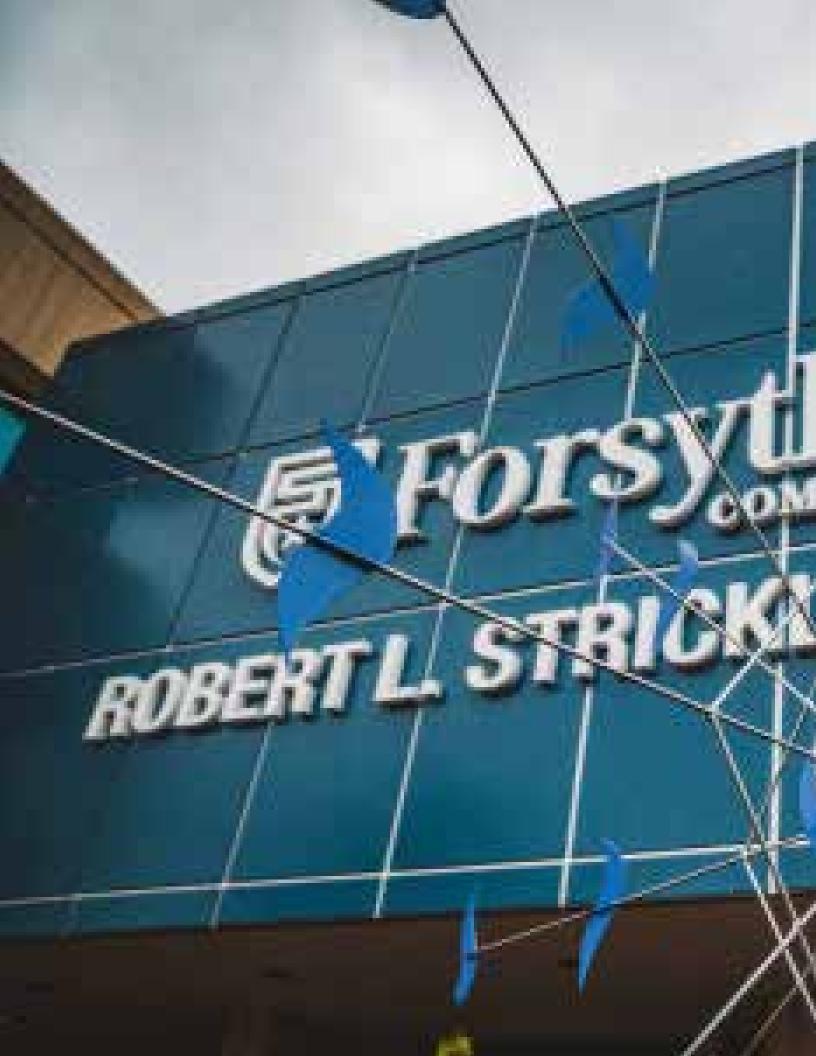






Net Assets June 30, 2022: \$14,109,134

Net Assets July 1, 2021: \$15,498,386





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Sharilyn Owens

Faye Robinson Owens

Mario Rosas Nava

Dr. Janet N. Spriggs Paul M. Wiles

Mary M. Tucker

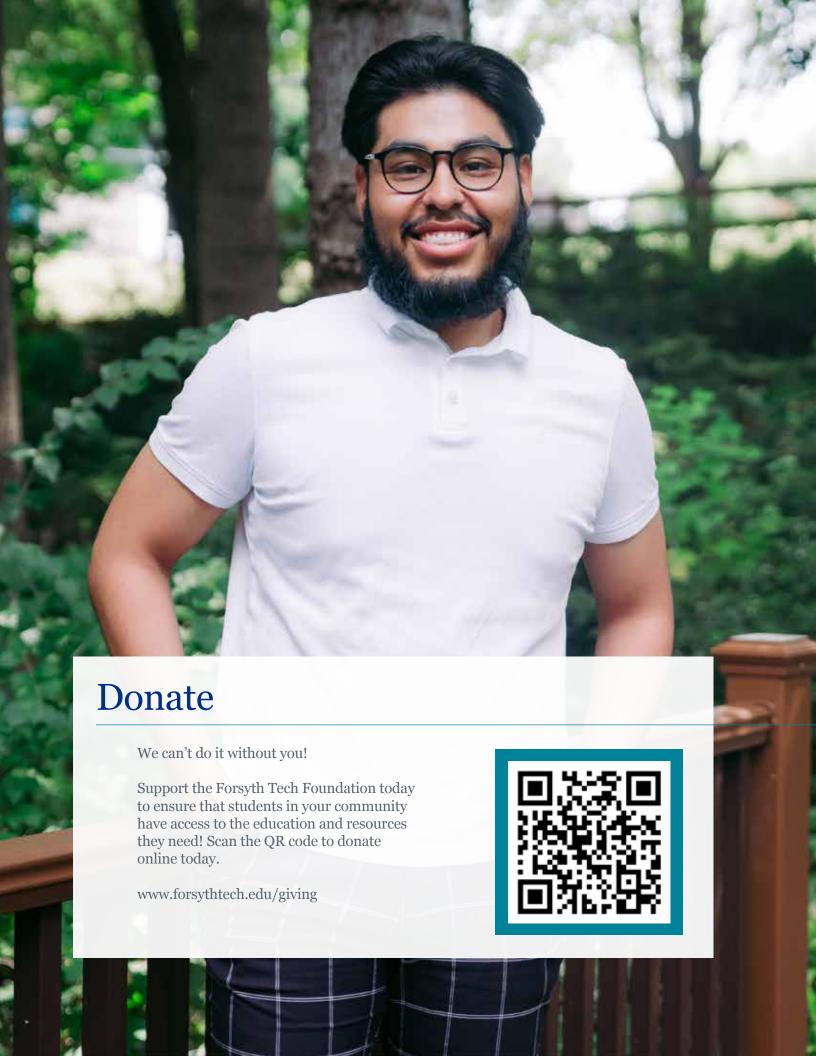
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