

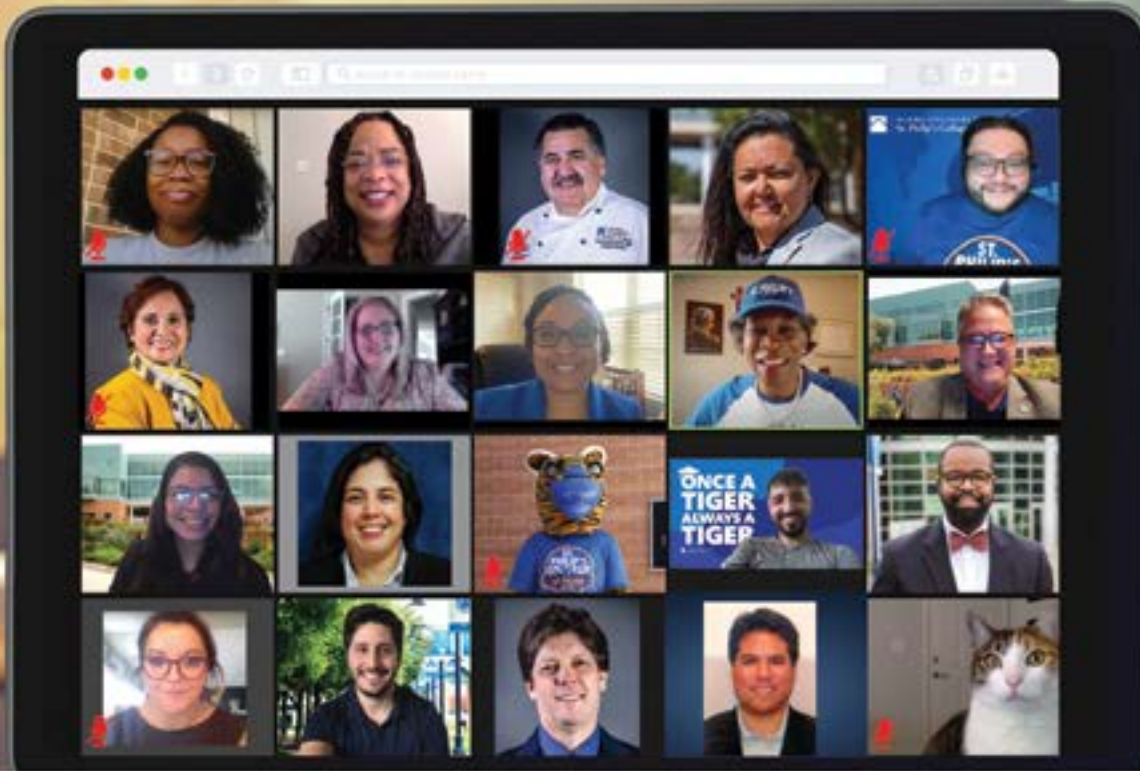


ALAMO COLLEGES DISTRICT
St. Philip's College

"A Point of Pride in the Community"

President's Newsletter

Fall 2020



PHYSICALLY APART, ALWAYS UNITED

In March, St. Philip's College transitioned over 8,000 students and 650+ employees to 100 percent remote delivery amidst the coronavirus pandemic. In preparation for the changes, Dr. Loston delivered a virtual message to students, faculty and staff to announce the Remote Ready Plan. Despite the sudden shift, faculty and staff continued to work diligently to provide students the services and support necessary to promote collegiate success. In May, the college hosted a virtual celebration for over 900 graduates. The celebration included graduate spotlights and a message from Dr. Loston, staff and faculty. St. Philip's will continue remote instruction through the end of the year in accordance with the Alamo Colleges District Return to Campus Plan with the exception of Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses and some arts and sciences courses that require some face-to-face learning.



President's Message



It is a rare opportunity for any college student to take a position in educational leadership. At St. Philip's College, we are blessed to have two students who have earned roles that will exponentially amplify their

voices and positively impact those they represent.

Amira Johnson is our 2020 HBCU Competitiveness Scholar, representing SPC as part of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). She is one of 44 students attending 33 HBCUs nationwide. The scholars hail from four countries, 19 states and the District of Columbia.

Each September, we celebrate National HBCU Week. This year's conference will, by necessity, be held virtually, but is an excellent opportunity for Amira and her counterparts to grow as national leaders.

Please join me in congratulating Amira on the journey to come.

Darius Martin has been named to the Alamo Colleges District Board of Trustees. Darius' position as Student Trustee, selected after an extensive application and interview process, affords him the unique opportunity to represent 60,000 students.

Darius participates in board meetings, providing insights and perspectives unique to students. He engages with students and communities as a board member and joins his colleagues on the Board of one of the largest college districts in the state.

Most higher ed institutions do not extend board memberships to students, so Darius serves as a national model for student engagement in governance and policymaking. His voice reverberates far and wide.

Please join me in congratulating Darius on the journey to come.

Adena Williams Loston, Ph.D.
President

2020 HBCU Competitiveness Scholar

The White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) announced the selection of Amira Johnson as the St. Philip's College 2020 HBCU Competitiveness Scholar. The initiative selects undergraduate, graduate and professional students who are recognized for successfully preparing to compete in top opportunities that improve long-term outcomes. Students are nominated and endorsed by their institution's administrators.

During the course of her one-year term, Johnson will engage in local and national opportunities that ignite new passions and explore ideas critical to lifelong growth and development. In addition, she will participate in monthly web chats that support a wide range of topics, including the spirit of engagement and entrepreneurship, broad-based innovation and career development.

Johnson hopes to use her platform to promote community engagement, student leadership, and mental health awareness.



"I look forward to starting conversations that surround current issues in our community such as suicide, depression and racism. I also want to encourage my peers and be a good example for those around me," she said.

Johnson is currently pursuing an Associate of Arts in Theatre Performance. She is involved in several campus organizations, including Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Student Government Association and the Music and Arts Club.

SPC Student Joins the ACD Board of Trustees as New Student Trustee



Darius F. Martin

The Alamo College District (ACD) Board of Trustees selected St. Philip's College student, Darius F. Martin, as the new Student Trustee for 2020-2021. As a Trustee, Darius participates as an advisor to the Board and serves as a liaison between students, board trustees and the Chancellor. While gaining leadership experience, his role will ensure

that ACD students participate in district governance.

Darius is currently pursuing an Associate's Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance. He is an active member of Collegiate 100, a chartered support organization that serves to nurture and enhance the growth and development of young men and women of color. Through the organization, he mentors and guides the Early College High School students on professional development skills and college readiness. In addition to mentoring, Darius participates in various community service activities such as volunteering with Wealth Between Us. He is a graduate of Karen Wagner High School where he was a member of the JROTC program, Assistant Director to the production of A Christmas Carol, Student Chef in the culinary program and team leader of the Wagner football team.

SPC Distributes \$1.7 Million to Students Through CARES Act



St. Philip's College received \$1.7 million in grant funding under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund-IHE/Student Aid. The grant provides funding to institutions to deliver emergency financial aid to students whose lives have been disrupted by the coronavirus. Since receiving the grant in April, it has provided financial assistance to 2,753 students who met the eligibility requirements based on guidance and criteria provided by the U.S. Department of Education. Students were able to use funds to buy

groceries, pay rent or utility bills, healthcare expenses, childcare and to access technology needs to support remote learning. In addition to financial relief, the college has connected students to local community resources for those in need of case management services. Through the crisis, St. Philip's has remained focused on student success and access by putting students first and empowering the community with emergency resources and support.

BHFSA Donates to Fund Scholarships for Students in Allied Health Programs



Students in the Physical Therapy Assistant program receive training to prepare for work under the direction of a physical therapist in a hospital, clinic, rehabilitation unit, sports-medicine facility, nursing home, extended-care facility, or pediatric facility.

The Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio (BHFSA) awarded a \$49,500 grant to St. Philip's College to provide tuition assistance to students pursuing an education in one of the four eligible Allied Health programs -- Physical Therapy

Assistant, Radiography Technology, Invasive Cardiovascular Technician and Biomedical Engineering Technology Technician.

BHFSA awards annual scholarship funds to not-for-profit organizations that provide healthcare services and health education throughout Bexar County and contiguous counties in South Texas. Scholarship grants are made by invitation only to partner institutions who play a role in preparing tomorrow's healthcare providers and leaders.

"BHFSA has proven to the community of San Antonio its commitment to quality health care. As the demand for professional health careers increases, we are grateful for their continued support at St. Philip's," said Dr. Sharon Crockett-Ray, Director for Institutional Advancement & Development.

The educational pathways available through the Health & Bioscience Institute are comprised of accredited programs that prepare students for exciting careers. Each program is uniquely designed with outstanding courses that provide an advantage in today's competitive healthcare field. Close affiliation with major health care institutions offer students excellent clinical training in all areas of specialization.

Real Work Matters Ranks SPC's Radiography Technology Program 10th in the US



Real Work Matters (RWM) ranked the St. Philip's College Radiology Technician Program the 10th best school for radiologic technologists' studies. Each year, RWM ranks the best schools for radiology technicians by analyzing data from the U.S. Department of Education and the National Center for Education Statistics.



Students in the program experience clinical training in area hospitals and imaging centers. Graduates earn an associate degree in radiology technology and qualify to sit for the national certification exam administered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. In practice, radiology technicians use x-rays, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and computed tomography (CT) to examine the internal structures of the body and help physicians diagnose health problems in patients. Our program is accredited by the Joint Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology.

SPC Ranked No.10 Best Community College in Texas for Affordable Online Degrees

St. Philip's College was ranked the 10th Best Online Community Colleges in Texas by Guide to Online Schools. The ranking focuses on community colleges that are offering affordable online education options during the global pandemic. Online community colleges offer an affordable option for students who want to begin their education path at home and bypass the unpredictability of what the fall semester may bring. This choice also eliminates the financial strain of a four-year, on-campus degree at a traditional university, an important consideration as students face an uncertain economy.



The methodology used for the ranking incorporates many factors important to the success of a community college including retention rate, graduation rate, and the variety of programs available. Additionally, the ranking weighs the percent of students enrolled in online degrees, as an indicator of the success of the college's distance education program.

With the impact COVID-19 has had on higher education, many students are rethinking the traditional model of a brick-and-mortar education and considering the benefits and safety of online degrees. St. Philip's College currently offers 11 degrees and six certificate programs entirely online. The online offerings utilize the learning platform CANVAS for online programming. The platform provides students the opportunity to engage in class discussions through message boards, meet with faculty members, view lectures and submit regular assignments, including presentations. San Antonio College and Palo Alto College were among the other colleges that received top 10 recognition.

Automotive Technology Program Introduces New Software Designed for Distance Learning

The St. Philip's College Automotive Technology program provides automotive technician training enriched in current technology and fundamental hands-on skills for individuals seeking an entry-level or advanced position in the automotive career field. Due to the changes in traditional instruction caused by COVID-19, the program introduced an Automotive Essential software to provide online hands-on instruction to students. The software is part of Electude, a cloud-based automotive e-learning solution.

Automotive Essential provides a comprehensive online curriculum, complete with interactive lessons and quizzes designed for teaching and educating automotive students and technicians. Students gain insight and knowledge about the inner workings of vehicles through interactive lessons, animations and simulations. The St. Philip's Automotive Technology Program is nationally certified in eight content areas and maintains Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Master Certification status. Content areas include Automotive Service Technician, Automotive Service Shop Foreman, Automotive Service Manager, Automotive Service Advisor, Automotive Parts Sales, Automotive Parts Manage, Automotive Parts and Service Director.



9|11

DAY OF REFLECTION

19TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EVENTS ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

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Spring 2020 Graduates Recognition Celebration

St. Philip's College conferred over 1,200 degrees and certificates for Spring 2020, in addition to the 750 awards conferred last fall. The college recognized students through social media, video and the college website for their degree and certificate completion amidst a national crisis. The May 8 Commencement was canceled due to COVID-19, but graduates are invited to take part in a future ceremony. In a recorded message, Dr. Adena Williams Loston recognized graduates for their resilience. Below are a few of their stories.

Norasha Hatter



Meet Norasha. She earned an Associate of Arts degree. After experiencing the passing of her grandmother, who was the pillar of her family, she was reminded of the importance of pursuing an education to secure a successful career. During her time at St. Philip's, Norasha served as the Vice President of Service for the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and participated in the Student Government Association. She stayed motivated by the support of her husband of 13 years and her three children. "I carried their picture with me everywhere, looking at those faces motived me to have faith and be strong," she said. Although she faced many challenges, her family, parents and sister encourage her to stay persistent. Norasha aspires to work in the field of public service, specifically in child welfare. She seeks to obtain a Bachelor of Social Work at either Our Lady of the Lake University or Texas A&M University -- San Antonio.

Brittanie Rivas



Meet Brittanie, an Army Veteran, wife and mother. Brittanie received an Associate of Applied Science in Nursing degree. Belonging to a family comprised of medical field professionals influenced her decision to pursue a career in healthcare. After being honorably discharged from the Army in 2018, Brittanie decided to further her education at St. Philip's since it was conveniently close to her family. During her academic journey, Brittanie experienced the birth of her two children. Her first child was born shortly after beginning the program and her second in April. The birth of her children sparked her interest to specialize in labor and delivery. "When I had my first child, the nurses were amazing and made sure I was well taken care of... I want to be able to do the same for others," she said. Brittanie has since transferred to Central Texas College in Killeen, Texas to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

James Martinez



Meet James. By his senior year in high school, he had attended 10 different schools. The transitions made it difficult for James to excel academically resulting in his decision to drop out halfway through his senior year of high school. After dedicating 10 years to the workforce, James decided to return to school and further his education. Fueled by the birth of his son and his son's autism diagnosis, he was determined to work towards his degree and give back to his community. James initially considered the culinary program, which stemmed from the eight years spent as a chef during his break from school. Yet, his passion and love for sports ultimately influenced his decision to pursue an Associate of Arts in Kinesiology which he ultimately completed in May. While at St. Philip's, James was a member of Tiger PAWS Literary Art Journal, a peer mentor for Academic Advising and Phil the Tiger. His straight-A streak resulted in his induction to the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, recognizing his academic excellence, hard work, leadership and commitment.

Megan Garcia



Meet Megan, an aspiring elementary teacher who earned an Associate of Arts in Teaching. Megan came to St. Philip's open to many career avenues and eager to accomplish her degree, however, she did not expect to discover her calling while taking a math course during her first year at SPC. Megan was inspired to pursue her studies in education following the positive influence left by her professor. As a Title IX Peer Mentor and disability services work-study, Megan found excitement in building her network with students on campus. She also enjoyed being a part of Phi Theta Kappa, an international honor society that recognizes students for their academic achievements. Megan graduated high school from the San Antonio Jubilee Academies Public

Schools where she now serves as the business office assistant. She hopes to have the opportunity to teach students and be a positive influence on their lives. Megan has since transferred to the College of Education and Human Development at Texas A&M University -- San Antonio.

SPC Employees Named NISOD Excellence Award Recipients

St. Philip's College is proud to announce the nine recipients for the 2020 NISOD Excellence Awards. As members of the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD), SPC nominates employees annually who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment and contribution to their students and colleagues. The recipients demonstrate the importance of teaching and leadership excellence in higher education.

"Our NISOD award recipients represent the best that St. Philip's College has to offer, these individuals are dynamic, caring, responsive, talented, resilient, dedicated, and committed to ensuring that all students can achieve their career goals. Their passion is evident on a daily basis as they continuously inspire and motivate students and employees," said, Dr. Loston.

NISOD serves to promote and celebrate excellence at

community and technical colleges. In 1989, NISOD hosted its first ceremony honoring NISOD Excellence Award recipients. The response to that ceremony was so positive that NISOD began what has become the largest gathering that recognizes the contributions and achievements of community and technical college faculty, administrators and staff.

"Recognizing those individuals who have contributed to student success and their colleges' mission is something we look forward to doing each year," said Dr. Edward J. Leach, NISOD's Executive Director. 2020 NISOD Excellence Award recipients include Christina Cortez, Elizabeth Castillo, Edinir de Oliveira, Bibiana Yanes, Jack Nawrocik, Gregory Gonzales, David Uminski, Juan Francisco Salinas and Laurilyn Humberson.



Christina Cortez



Bibiana Yanes



Jack Nawrocik



Gregory Gonzales



David Uminski



Frank Salinas



Elizabeth Castillo



Edinir De Oliveira



Lauri Humberson

SPC Employees Graduate from the Alamo Colleges District Leadership Academy for Success (ALAS)

In a virtual ceremony held in June, eight St. Philip's College employees were recognized for completing the Alamo Colleges District Leadership Academy for Success (ALAS). The nine-month leadership development program is designed to prepare individuals for future leadership roles at SPC and throughout the District. It also serves to promote personal and professional growth by establishing new skills to effectively lead within their respective areas of work.

The objective of ALAS is to provide definition and understanding in four leadership imperatives and their qualities: Inspire Trust; Clarify Purpose; Align Systems; and

Unleash Talent. The program delivers highly skilled individuals prepared to assume advanced positions in both leadership and management. During the ceremony, Vice President for Academic Success, Randall Dawson, received the Essential Leaders Award; and Certified Advisor and SPC Staff Senate President, Yvonne Benton, received the Leader of Leaders Award.

2020 ALAS graduates include Johnny Rodriguez, Brian Chase, Raquel Farias, Amy Huebner, Christa Mitchell, Gilbert Palomo, Frank Salinas and Yvonne Benton.



5th Anniversary of Saint Artemisia Bowden's Canonization

In observance of Saint Artemisia Bowden Feast Day, St. Philip's College hosted "Reflections of a Saint" in August. Students, staff and faculty shared their thoughts on how Artemisia Bowden's foundation and leadership continue to unite SPC's community. Saint Artemisia Bowden Feast Day is an annual celebration of her life and good works. The history of St. Philip's is intricately woven with her life and her commitment to quality education continues to shape the mission and values of the college.

2020 marks a significant year as the college celebrates the fifth anniversary of the canonization of Bowden by the 78th General Convention of the Episcopal Church that took place in 2015, with August 18 being named her saint day. The church added her name to its liturgical calendar and the denomination's book, "Holy Women, Holy Men: Celebrating the Saints." She is among the company of the Holy Bible's Peter, Paul, John the Baptist, the Virgin Mary and Jesus Christ, and notable

African-Americans like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Harriett Beecher Stowe, Harriett Tubman, Frederick Douglas and James Weldon Johnson.

The same year she was elevated to sainthood, she was named President Emeritus by the Alamo Colleges District in recognition of her leadership and service to SPC. The daughter of emancipated slaves led the institution from 1902 to 1954. During her time at the helm, Miss Bowden had to overcome many obstacles due to the effects of The Depression. As a result, the college ceased to function as a private institution and joined the San Antonio Independent School District and later to the San Antonio Union Junior College, today known as Alamo Colleges District. The transition led to Ms. Bowden's title change from President to Dean which she served as until retiring in 1954.

Nine SPC Employees Become Emerging Leaders

St. Philip's College celebrated nine employees who completed the 2020 Emerging Leaders Program (ELP). ELP is designed to prepare high potential employees for leadership positions by giving them the necessary mindset, skill sets and tools to make that possible. The program is six months in duration with Alamo Colleges Leadership Academy for Success (ALAS) grads serving as mentors.

ELP produces highly qualified individuals ready to compete for and assume positions of greater responsibility in both leadership and

management. Graduates were honored in a virtual celebration hosted by the Alamo Colleges District. During the ceremony, Vice President for Student Success, Dr. Mordecai Brownlee, received the Trusted Leader Award.

Graduates include Kimberly "Dawn" Lopez, Nathaniel Martinez, Eitandria Tello, Konnie Harper-Thompson, Maria Andrews, Solomon Nfor, Jacqueline Stevenson, Patrick Daniels and Shawana Blair.

SPC President Joins Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women

During a San Antonio City Council meeting in August, Mayor Ron Nirenberg selected St. Philip's College President, Dr. Adena Williams Loston to serve on the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women. The Mayor's appointed seat was previously held by Brielle Insler, a local marketing executive who stepped down in June urging that she be replaced by a black woman after noticing the lack of such representation in the group.

The Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women was established in 1970, to serve as an advisor to the Mayor and City Council on key policy issues and to further the equal legal, social, political, economic, and educational opportunities and

advancement of all women and men. In addition, members help foster a closer relationship and a fuller exchange of ideas between women of respective districts to eliminate discrimination based on sex in all phases of American society; promote the dissemination of information on employment opportunities for women in the public sectors; and to encourage women to assume initiative and accept their responsibility in the removal of legal and other barriers to the realization of their basic human rights.

The Commission is comprised of 11 members, each serving a 2-year term. Dr. Loston's term will expire on May 31, 2021.

Over 100 Vehicles Celebrate SPC's Oldest Alumnus with Car Parade



At 107-years-old, Gertha Lockett Murphy is the St. Philip's College and Alamo Colleges District's oldest-living alumnus. This year, more than 100 cars participated in a car parade to wish her happy birthday.

Murphy was born on May 20, 1913, in Goodwill, Texas, a small community in Washington County. She is the daughter of late farmers and the granddaughter of a former U.S. slave. Murphy graduated from St. Philip's in 1936 and worked in civil service for 27 years at Kelly Air Force Base. At the age of 60, she earned a bachelor's degree in early childhood education from the University of the Incarnate Word.



Murphy pictured outside her home as she was celebrated with a massive car parade that included the San Antonio Fire Department, San Antonio Police Department and the Bexar County Sheriff's Office.

Welcome New St. Philip's College Employees



*Adrian Shields
Instructor, Welding*



*Anna Edwards
Instructor, Vocational
Nursing*



*Beatrice Avila
Program Director of
Health Info Tech*



*Bonnie Hobbs
Instructor, Nurse Aide*



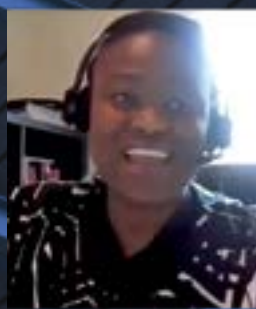
*Brandy B. Lewis
Certified Advisor*



*Dr. Maria Cormier
FT Instructor, Human
Anatomy and Physiology*



*Dr. Marie Feldmeier
Assistant Professor,
Philosophy*



*Dr. Joelle Nanivazo
Instructor, Economics*



*Dr. Celestino Valentin
Instructor, Business
Management*



*Dr. Tomeka C. Wilson
Academic Program
Director*



*Katrice Bender
Certified Enrollment Coach*



*Kris Hernandez
Academic Support
Specialist*



*Larry Canion
Instructor, Advanced
Manufacturing &
Logistics*



*Leanna Gomez
Administrative Services
Specialist*



*Leoda Presley
Instructor, LVN to ADN*



*Susanna Alvarado
Student Success Advisor*



*Thomas Marriot
Instructor,
Cardiovascular*



*Tom Corrtex
IT Data Anlyst*



*Tonya Jones
Health Services
Quality Coordinator*



*Tracy Watts
CIMSA-LSAMP Grant
Director*



*Charlie Young
Visual Content Creator*



*Chef Cris Goloby
FT Faculty Instructor,
THCA*



*David Hime
Instructor, Advanced
Manufacturing Tech*



*Dr. Michael Grillo
Assistant Professor,
Government*



*Josephine Williams Cody
Instructor, Surgical Tech*



*Elizabeth Ramirez
Early Childhood Teacher*



*Felicia Campos
Administrative Services
Specialist*



*Greg Wistain
Instructor, Radiography
Technology*



*Jaime Sosa
Certified Enrollment
Coach*



*Jeffrey French
Director of Strategic
Initiatives*



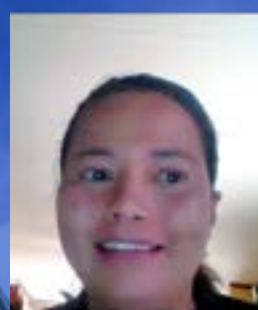
*Michaleen Christ Herrera
Instructor, Vocational
Nursing*



*Nicholas Andreoli
FT Faculty Instructor,
Automotive Tech*



*Rachael Taylor-Robinson
Faculty Intern,
Kinesiology*



*Rosalie Herber
Academic Program
Coordinator*



*Shannon Johns
Certified Advisor*



*Valentine Merchant
Administrative Services
Specialist*



*Yesenia Alvarez
FT IT Faculty*

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Welcome New SPC Employees!



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St. Philip's College

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SPC Breaks Ground on New Health & Wellness Building

In March, St. Philips College broke ground on a health and wellness building located on the MLK Campus. The 56,556-square-foot facility will replace the existing college fitness center built in 1949. The two-story recreation gymnasium and natatorium will include a gym with elevated track, a short course swimming pool, a therapy pool, weight and cardio training spaces, an aerobic studio, a cardio studio, teaching labs for kinesiology, first aid/CPR and massage therapy, gathering spaces and staff offices. A ribbon-cutting celebration will be held upon completion.

St. Philip's College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate degrees and certificates. Contact the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of St. Philip's College.

Upcoming Events

All Alamo Colleges District events have been canceled, postponed or will be delivered virtually until further notice. Follow us on social media to receive the latest information on campus announcements.



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