

# InSight

A York Technical College  
Continuing Education Publication

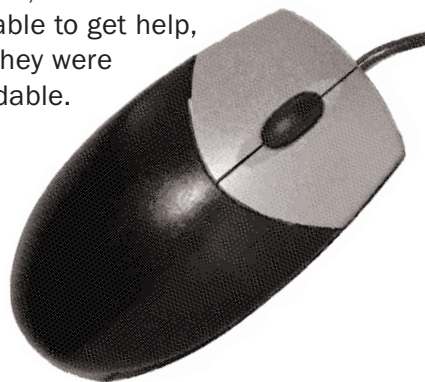
## Online Learning Paced For You

**H**ectic lifestyles such as those of working adults and busy parents, and the rising cost of gas, are convincing more people to turn to convenient and economical online classes for quality training.

The college offers over 200 instructor-led online courses through its partner Ed2Go and enrollment has nearly doubled since last year.

Sue Abernathy said, "This is the 8th class I have taken via Ed2Go. It's great for those of us who, due to work and home issues, cannot travel to a classroom."

Sarah Nuckles took advantage of online classes to improve her Microsoft PowerPoint and Publisher skills. Sarah says one reason she took the classes is because the classes weren't canned, which meant she was able to get help, and they were affordable.



***"I don't see how you can work today without taking classes as you go along."***

***-Sarah Nuckles***

Within weeks of taking the classes, Sarah was able to put her new skills to work creating a flyer and a postcard for her employer.

The interactive classes are designed so that lessons, quizzes, and other assignments that help reinforce the material can be done at a student's own pace.

Discussion areas allow students to interact with each other and the instructor by posting questions, comments, class feedback, and/or suggestions.

"My memory isn't good," said Sarah, "which made the reinforcement especially valuable."

Another online student, Dave Tayloe, said he appreciated that the material was presented in a straight-forward and easy-to-follow format, with plenty of checks for "cockpit errors" during each lesson.

Many people take the courses as a convenient way to upgrade skills, and often their employers will pay for the classes. But the courses aren't just for individuals looking to improve workplace skills; a number of people take online classes for personal enrichment in topics such as creative writing, personal finance, or digital photography.



Photo by K.D. Starnes  
*"Time is a premium and going online gives me the option to water my roses at eight o'clock and go online at nine o'clock," says Sarah Nuckles pictured.*

Some of the more popular class topics include Microsoft Office applications, programming languages, certification prep, digital photography, in addition to the hundreds of other topics.

For more information, visit [www.ed2go.com/yorktech](http://www.ed2go.com/yorktech) or contact Katie Dykhuis at [kdykhuis@yorktech.com](mailto:kdykhuis@yorktech.com) or 981-7372.



## Spotlight on Student Success

**Lisa Brantley, Foreclosure Acquisitions Analyst at Wells Fargo Home Mortgage,**



researched a variety of project management schools before finding Cheetah Learning through the college. Lisa found the price of the course reasonable and knew her company would recognize it as a reputable school. "The classes have been informative and interesting. In the short time I have been enrolled, **I have used the study material in my job and in my home life.** I look forward to continuing the [online] courses, at my own pace— which is a bonus," she said. More info? Call Katie Dykhuis- 981-7372.



**Libby Sweatt-Lambert,** Executive Director of the Children's Attention Home, has arranged three Defensive Driving classes for employees. "Safety is a tremendous

issue for [us]," she said. The home takes many trips with the children to doctor appointments, church services, and recreational pursuits. Libby said the positives of the classes were three-fold. The home developed safe drivers, were able to secure excellent training at an equitable cost, and reduced vehicle insurance by 10%. "The better trained our staff is, the better our facility is." More info? Call Katie Clamp- 327-8029.

**Randall Higgason, Manufacturing Engineer at Kings Electronics,**



found himself unemployed in the twilight of his career and discovered that no one else was going to get him a job. "That was my task," he said. "Sitting at home sending out resumes won't get you a job." Randall became proactive and enrolled in several of the college's pre-employment training courses. "I took advantage of anything that was offered to me." Even before he'd finished the program, he had a job. Randall said he learned he couldn't just rely on past accomplishments. He had to prove he was willing and able to learn. More info? Call Christine Turner- 981-7246.

Source: 1-16 photo: erin@yorktech.edu; photo: 1-16 photo: erin@yorktech.edu; photo: 1-16 photo: erin@yorktech.edu

# The Lure of Real Estate

With the country's housing market booming and prices skyrocketing, real estate agent is becoming a career of choice.

The College offers a variety of real estate courses, from sales to appraisal and from post licensing to broker and home inspector.

Tommy McCarter, instructor, says the classes are geared toward people looking to get into the business, and agents/brokers needing license renewal or skills updates. It prepares students to take the state required real estate exam.

Tommy has been in real estate for five years and enjoys the flexibility of working for himself.

"Being an agent is more work than many people think," he says. "You're involved in the biggest purchase people make in their lives."

Linda Ferguson recently went through the program and has begun working at First Choice Century 21 in Fort Mill. She'd worked

in real estate before as a business broker and really enjoyed it. She thought being a real estate agent sounded like it would be challenging work and more rewarding financially than her work as a yoga teacher.

"Everyone I know has moved in the last year," she says, "The real estate in York County is hot now."

Linda said that the course and the textbook were very well organized and that Tommy kept the class busy and provided a variety of ways to learn the material. He reviewed constantly to keep the material fresh.

**"You're involved in the biggest purchase people make in their lives."**



Photos by M. McAllister  
Linda Ferguson shows a potential client several of First Choice Century 21's listings in the Fort Mill area.

"Tommy was wonderful. He encouraged students to talk to different companies and that really helped me find a company that was

a good fit for me," she says.

Individuals should know before taking

the class that real estate requires self-discipline, people skills, and motivation. There isn't anyone always telling you what to do or when to do it.

The real estate classes call for a great deal of self study and some material may need to be reviewed.

"The challenge in real estate is just getting your business going as a realtor and doing the best you can for your clients," says Linda. Linda's goal right now is learning how to help clients purchase the right home.

For more information, contact Michael Pinson at 325-2877 or pinson@yorktech.com.



# Criminal Justice For All



Photos by M. McAllister

Above Solicitor Tommy Pope speaks with York County Sheriff's Office Deputies, Sean Crabtree (l) and Robert Wooten (c) at the Moss Justice Center. Sean and Robert are pictured again on the right.

There's finally justice for law enforcement officers who once had to travel to Charlotte or Columbia for training. The college's new Law Enforcement Certificate, which includes Continuing Education required credits for law enforcement officers, makes training convenient.

Continuing Education's focus is mainly on officers who require specialized training or certification updates in areas such as firearms, defensive tactics, and law change updates. The courses are approved by the Criminal Justice Academy.

"I'm real impressed with how quickly the program got started," York County Solicitor Tommy Pope said. "I'm excited for the community, in particular the law enforcement community, because this program will make law enforcement more efficient and effective, which benefits everyone."

John Hart with Good Success Group recently held two criminal



justice events at the Baxter Hood Center on Juvenile Sexual Aggression and Domestic Violence.

"The collaboration between Good Success and York Technical College has a tremendous amount of promise," said John.

Linda Bolick, program manager, is planning to direct the new program toward providing for law enforcement's needs.

Some future topics include responding to crime scenes, mutual restraining orders, orders of protection, Fourth Amendment issues, victim and offender dynamics, recognizing special needs populations, and more.

For more information on this exciting new program contact Linda at 981-7194 or bolick@yorktech.com.

## WorkKeys: Preparing a Workforce

With the need for skilled workers growing, employers are continuously seeking better ways to address turnover and enhance skill levels.

WorkKeys measures job specific skills to aid in hiring and training employees, and can be implemented around a production schedule.

Alan Lansburg, Manager of Education and Training at INA, said his company has been using WorkKeys for a few months. "We are very encouraged about the possibilities of what WorkKeys can do for us," he said.

His company plans to use WorkKeys in all six of their South Carolina plants and hopes to eventually expand it to all of their North American holdings.

"We tried WorkKeys because we needed a way to develop pre-employment testing that wasn't extremely expensive," he said. "WorkKeys is affordable."

INA has also been using WorkKeys with their existing employees with great results.

"The initial results from the profile critique are very positive."

Profiles are conducted by certified job profilers. The profiler's report reflects the tasks, skills, and skill levels of employees in a particular job. The report is then used to develop a custom training program.

For more information, contact Christine Turner at 981-7246 or cturner@yorktech.com.



# Makeover For Baxter M. Hood Center



The Baxter M. Hood Center has recently completed renovations to eight meeting rooms, the lobby, offices, and restrooms.

Approximately 30,000 square feet of space was updated during the last few months, including the Barnes Telecommunications Theater and Campbell Room. These renovations included new carpet, porcelain tile, sound dampening ceiling tiles, wall coverings, a fresh coat of paint and a new color scheme. The lobby furniture was also re-upholstered.

In addition to the new look, several key technology upgrades

*Photo Courtesy of Chris Cassady  
Barnes Theater received a makeover as did the rest of the Center.*

were added, including new projection equipment in the Barnes Theater and an easy to use wireless network that allows clients to access the Center's high-speed Internet connection free.

Chris Cassady, the General Manager said, "These renovations allow the Baxter M. Hood Center to remain the premier meeting space throughout the region. Our goal is to make the Baxter M. Hood Center the choice of meeting planners and event coordinators in both North and South Carolina."

For more information about how your group, business, or family can rent the facility, contact Chris at 325-2890 or 981-7100.

## Register Now for Continuing Education Classes

**In Person** at C-101 in the Continuing Education Division

**Phone** (803) 325-2888  
(Have course information and credit card handy)

**Fax** course information and billing authorization to (803) 981-7327

**Mail** course information and payment to: Attn. Continuing Education, 452 S. Anderson Road, Rock Hill, SC 29730

**Online** at [www.yorktech.com/continuinged.asp](http://www.yorktech.com/continuinged.asp)

1. Choose Registration
2. Go to Campus Cruiser
3. Choose Register and Pay for Continuing Education Classes wait for the search screen (you will need to pay by credit card)
4. Follow the steps listed

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 CONTINUING EDUCATION  
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 ROCK HILL, SC 29730

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