



GPTC Forward

The Official Newsletter of Georgia Piedmont Technical College

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GPTC CONNECTS

CONNECT WITH US



Setting sights ahead for success



Lions,
Thank you for a great year! As we look toward 2025, I am excited about our future. Together, we will prioritize three key areas that will define our path forward: student success, improving customer service, and professional development.

First and foremost, student success remains at the heart of everything we do. We are committed to creating an environment where every student can thrive and find meaningful employment. This means improving instructional quality, enhancing academic support services, and fostering an inclusive campus culture. Our goal is to ensure that all students have the tools they need to achieve their dreams.

Second, improving customer service will be a critical focus. Whether interacting with prospective students, alumni, or community members, we want every touchpoint to be “unforgettable” and reflect our commitment to excellence. We will streamline processes, enhance communication, and prioritize responsiveness to better serve all who engage with our college.

Finally, professional development will be a cornerstone of our shared vision. Investing in our faculty and staff not only enhances the quality of education and services we provide but also strengthens our community. Our goal is to offer more opportunities for training and career growth to ensure that our team remains equipped to meet the evolving needs of our service delivery area.

I am confident that by focusing on these priorities, we will continue to grow and thrive as a community and produce a highly-skilled workforce for DeKalb, Newton, and Rockdale counties. Thank you again for your dedication and commitment to GPTC.

- Dr. Tavaraz Holston, President

UPCOMING EVENTS

Holiday Break | Dec. 24 - Jan. 1

> College closed

Classes Start | Jan. 13, 2025

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day | Jan. 20

> College closed

GPTC hosts annual 'Grateful Gathering'



The GPTC Grateful Gathering on November 22 was the perfect opportunity for all lions and special guests to come together as a 'pride' and show our appreciation for one another in a heartfelt celebration. Employees were honored for their five, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years of service, the Foundation recognized the generosity of several donors, and we heard several student success stories. Building Automation Student and Alumni of the Year (for HVAC) Justin Hawkins' words led to the Division of Industrial Technologies & Professional Services earning the coveted GPTC belt. Overall, it was the perfect opportunity to kick off the holiday season!

'The Lions' Den' gets a roaring makeover



The Lions' Den on the Clarkston campus is on its way to becoming a warm, friendly gathering spot for our students. Work is underway for signage, digital monitors and possibly even gaming tables; the attached is a concept of what to expect. Keep an eye on the space as the den starts to take shape!

Out & About: GPTC Lions on the Prowl



Fall 2024 has been packed with all kinds of events, keeping GPTC Lions busier than ever! From the MILE and MNCP programs, giving student Veterans top-tier industrial and hi-tech training and cutting the ribbon to the new CDL range at the Newton Campus D on Oct. 15 to the recently held Georgia Match and #ClaimYourSpot day at the DeKalb Conference Center, there has been no shortage of fun. This fall also saw the largest Law Enforcement Academy class ever -- 52 students enrolled! For all the latest details and more, connect with us [here!](http://www.gptc.edu)

WORDS FROM THE WORK STUDY: JEFFREY LOWE



Jeffrey Lowe
GPTC Student
Work Study

This holiday season, our gift to you is our new newsletter segment—Words from the Work Study. Each edition, this section will showcase fun facts about our work study students and their ambitions. These are the students we serve and we want to make sure you know about them!

MAJOR: Marketing Management

WORK STUDY DEPT: Marketing and Communications

FAV FOOD: Sushi and lots of it!

FAV MEMORY: My high school graduation trip to Hilton Head with my family

FAV QUOTE: “As long as life continues, the creative challenge is to tussle, play, and make love with the present moment while giving your unique gift. It’s never going to be over, so stop waiting for the good stuff.” – David Deida

1 THING YOU'VE LEARNED: It is important to strategically use your marketing budget depending on the time of year. Ex: Spend more on advertising during enrollment periods and less during the school year itself.

GOAL AFTER GRADUATION: Pursue a Bachelor's in Marketing at a partnering college

WELCOME TO THE PRIDE

CELEBRATING NEW EMPLOYEES

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Akhter,Rafia | Sheppard,Jabril |
| Jennings-Samuels,Keisha | Robins-Troupe,Rose |
| Lamb,MaryAnn | Palermo,Richard |
| Martin,Adina | Vasquez Gudiel,Keilyn |
| Hauser,Deon | Lowe,Jeffrey |
| Thomas,Terrance M | Evans,Leslie Ann |
| Delatte,Joshua | Thornton,Nigel |
| Watkins III,Thomas | Desmond-Williams, |
| Revills,Jacob | Shane |
| Bell,James Lee | Jones,Titus |
| Beasley,Kayla | |
| Baptiste,Sheneka | |
| Matics,Michael Joseph | |
| Johnson,Tarizmah | |



Have a question? Comment? Got a great story idea? Email us at marketingandcommunications@gptc.edu