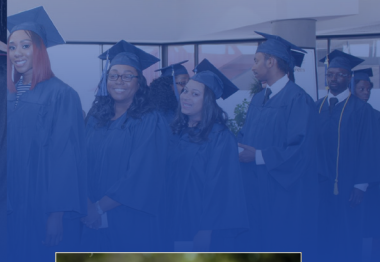




SPRING COMMENCEMENT 2017

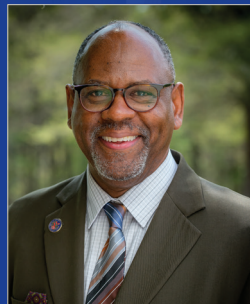


**GEORGIA  
PIEDMONT**  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
FOUNDATION

**ISSUE 2**

AUGUST 2017

**Dr. Jabari Simama**  
President  
Georgia Piedmont  
Technical College



# 2017 SPRING COMMENCEMENT

GPTC wants to send a hearty congratulations to all of our recent graduates who were honored in the Spring 2017 commencement. Our esteemed President, Jabari Simama, gave the commencement address highlighted by a rousing rendition of Ruby Davis' poem, I Am Somebody. We wish our graduates the best on their road to success in their fields.

## FAST FACTS

GPTC has the  
**#1 LPN program**  
in the state.

#1

98.7%

**98.7%** of GPTC graduates were  
**placed in a job** that was in or related  
to their field of study, or went on to  
continue their education.

78.6%

**78.6%** of GPTC graduates find work  
within their **field of study**.

2016

Over **5,600**  
**students** were  
enrolled during  
the **2016**  
Academic Year.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



You have had first-hand experience with the transformative power of an education gained at GPTC. We implore you to aid others to also have a positive experience in improving their lives. Join other gracious GPTC volunteers in supporting current students and your alma mater, peers, future students and community through your skills and experience. We have exciting ways you are able to contribute based on your schedule and comfortability. If you're interested in volunteering for the GPTC Foundation, please contact [white@deptc.edu](mailto:white@deptc.edu).



## GET ACTIVE!

If you are not a member of our esteemed GPTC Alumni Association, be sure to register today!



There are many ways to show your GPTC pride. From giving back to current students through donating your time to participating in community events to offering financial support. Your association membership is key to maintaining a relationship with the school as it shapes its future. We depend on reconnecting with our network for integral feedback, as well as helping to create better positioning for desired job placement and helping you to build impactful professional relationships to leverage long-term success. Email [mceachinc@gptc.edu](mailto:mceachinc@gptc.edu) to learn more about the benefits of joining our Alumni Association.

# IN THE SPOTLIGHT



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT .....

**Patricia McFadden**, mom of three and grandmother of three, recently received her Associate's degree in Paralegal Studies at the May Commencement ceremony. Unlike many who choose their field of study based on already working or having been raised in that industry, Patricia had a unique driving force for choosing Paralegal Studies. After stepping foot in a courtroom for the first time as a result of divorce proceedings, she wanted to turn her fear into understanding. Going back to school to earn her degree was driven by the notion that if she ever had to return to a courtroom setting, she would have knowledge of the process, while feeling more at ease.

Of course, her major had its share of challenges but those difficulties were met and surpassed by the passion she felt for learning about the law. Additionally, Patricia wanted to make good on a promise that she'd made years before to her mother about going back to college to finish with a degree. When she enrolled, Patricia second guessed the timing of her decision. However, determined to finish what she's started, she paced herself by taking two classes while working fulltime until the end. Carefully pacing her classes helped her to dedicate focus and grasp a complete understanding of each subject matter. Funny enough, it was her own children who helped enrich her college experience. Patricia began at GPTC when her children were beginning their own college experiences. Teasing her about doing homework and at the same time encouraging her to excel made the last two years a real 'family affair.'

*Join us in congratulating Patricia McFadden!*

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT .....

This newsletter's staff spotlight is on **Beverly Thomas**, Dean of Public Safety and Legal Studies. She has been with GPTC since 2004 and is responsible for the Forensics, Criminal Justice, EMT, Paramedic, Fire and Law Enforcement Programs. Ms. Thomas, a sworn police officer (Deputy Chief) and dog lover, was excited to talk about the newest program under her direction which is 9-1-1 Communications. Coming next year, it will extend GPTC's offerings to give even more opportunity for enrichment in the courses of study available to its students. Additionally, the Fire and E.M.S. Departments will be moved to where Law Enforcement is housed in an effort to have a more efficient public safety training facility. The transition will provide students a more insightful view of how these different sectors of public safety interact with each other.

This fall, the Newton Campus will be celebrate two decades of being open. Aptly named Newton 20 Celebration, the campus will have activities to commemorate this auspicious occasion. Stay tuned for more details.



## Take a Swing for Scholarships Event

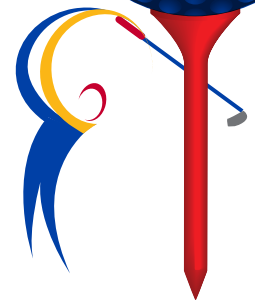
Join the Georgia Piedmont Technical College Foundation at Topgolf Atlanta Midtown for an evening of fun, fundraising and golf in support of students!

Now in its second year, Take a Swing for Scholarships serves as the primary fundraising event for the Georgia Piedmont Technical College Foundation in support of the GPTC Annual Fund. Corporate sponsorship packages are available, so don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity. The GPTC Annual Fund supports student scholarships and foundation operations, along with special academic initiatives and projects that help enhance the GPTC student experience. For more information, email [whitede@gptc.edu](mailto:whitede@gptc.edu)

**September 21, 2017**

**Location:** Topgolf Atlanta Midtown – 1600 Ellsworth Industrial Boulevard, NW, Atlanta, GA 30318

**Time:** 3:30-7PM – golfers will tee off at 4PM





# Georgia Piedmont Wins Big at Statewide Student Competition

GPTC students participated in yet another SkillsUSA Leadership and Skills Conference. We are excited to announce that 13 students won medallions while representing GPTC during the statewide competition. The 2017 SkillsUSA Statewide Leadership and Skills Conference showcases students' skills during hands-on competitions in the following areas: leadership development; occupational-related; skilled; and technical science. "Georgia Piedmont Technical College's success at the statewide SkillsUSA Conference is to be commended. It illustrates not only the commitment that students have to learning their craft, but also the faculty's commitment to providing quality instruction that leads to excellence at our college," said Dr. Jabari Simama, President, Georgia Piedmont Technical College.

## GOLD AWARD WINNERS:

**Career Pathways, Human Services:**  
Jacquelyn Durgan, Montana Marts,  
Adreinne Thompson

**Motorcycle Service Technology:**  
Octavius Terrell

**Practical Nursing:**  
Crystal Wright

## SILVER AWARD WINNERS:

**Architectural Drafting:**  
Emeraude Amedegnato

**Job Skills Demonstration Open:**  
Sydnee Jordan

**Motorcycle Service Technology:**  
David Payne

**Occupational Health and Safety- Multiple:**  
Essence Jones, Michael O'Neal,  
Nikeion Wynn

## BRONZE AWARD WINNERS:

**Early Childhood Education:**  
LaTasha Rankine

**Motorcycle Service Technology:**  
Joshua McLain



# Georgia Piedmont Technical College's Licensed Practical Nursing Program

# RANKED #1 IN STATE



What an honor it is to have GPTC's Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) Program be ranked #1 in the state of Georgia by [www.practicalnursing.org](http://www.practicalnursing.org), a website dedicated to providing substantive information to prospective students who are considering a career in nursing. There were 22 other LPN Programs evaluated on a number of qualifying criteria. Astoundingly, the program achieved a 100% pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nursing (NCLEX-PN) from 2012 through 2015, which was practical nursing org's evaluation period. We would also like to send a warm congratulations to those who ranked immediately after GPTC; Ogeechee Technical College in Statesboro placed second and Chattahoochee Technical College in Marietta placed third.

*If you are interested in more information regarding Georgia Piedmont's Award Winning Licensed Practical Nursing program, please contact Kaye Henry, program director, at 770-786-9522 ext. 5047 or [henryk@gptc.edu](mailto:henryk@gptc.edu).*



# THE GPTC ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN

## Kicks-off in September!

The Annual Fund at GPTC is a 3-month long campaign that formally runs from September 21 through December 31. The purpose of the Annual Fund is to:

- Increase dollars, donors and supporters of the College
- Educate the community and constituents on the impact of a GPTC education
- Identify special and major gift prospects

Funds raised during the Annual Fund campaign will be used to support student scholarships; foundation operations; special academic initiatives and projects.

All funds received between September 1 and December 31 qualify as a gift to the Annual Fund campaign. Additionally, all gifts designated for Take a Swing for Scholarships will count towards the campaign, no matter the date received.

**To contribute to the campaign, visit [www.gptc.edu/give](http://www.gptc.edu/give)**  
and make a gift anytime between September 1 and December 31!  
Our students are depending on you!

