Welcome to the South Carolina Academy of Science
2014 Annual Meeting

Dear Students, Teachers, Scientists, and Colleagues,

Good morning and welcome to the South Carolina Academy of Science Annual Meeting. I am Dr. Laurie Fladd, President-Elect of the South Carolina Academy of Sciences (SCAS). I am the Associate Dean of Science and Mathematics here at Trident Technical College and a Microbiology instructor as well. On behalf of the Academy it is my pleasure to welcome you to Trident Technical College and to the beautiful city of Charleston. For those of you who are new to the Academy, SCAS is a state-wide, interdisciplinary science organization established in 1924. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in science and includes students, faculty, administrators, and related professionals. The Academy also sponsors the South Carolina Junior Academy of Science which is composed of high school students and introduces these students to the excitement of the scientific community by giving them an opportunity to present original research. Our mission is to promote the creation of scientific knowledge; to improve the quality of science education in our state; to foster the interaction of business, industry, government and education in the academic scientific community; to improve public understanding and appreciation of science; and to encourage young people to become involved in science.

The theme of this year's annual meeting “Aerospace” provides students with the opportunity to explore a fascinating field that combines science and engineering at its core. The aerospace industry has become very important to the economy in South Carolina and is expected to be a major contributor to jobs here in this state in the future. The combination of academic endeavors and industrial application will provide wonderful new opportunities to advance a very unique and exciting field. The SCAS is excited about the addition of the aerospace industry to our state and is dedicated to fostering the growth of this industry through the development of a skilled and knowledgeable workforce.

We are thrilled that over 400 students, faculty, teachers, and scientists in biology, chemistry, physics, astronomy, engineering, mathematics, health sciences and more are participating in this year’s meeting and sharing their discoveries through oral presentations and poster sessions. We are also excited to present the Governor’s Awards for Excellence in Scientific Research with a special introduction from Governor Haley this year. We are thrilled and honored to have as our plenary speaker Mr. Craig Charlton a mechanical engineer from Boeing who has a vast level of aerospace experience working on projects that include the 787 Dreamliner, Space Shuttle, Space Station, Air Borne Laser (ABL), C-130 aircraft, satellites, and military aircraft.

These events do not happen without teamwork. I would like to sincerely thank all of our sponsors and donors for their generous support of this important event. We are so grateful to Trident Technical College and its faculty, especially President Dr. Mary Thornley for her generous hospitality and support for this meeting. Many thanks for the countless hours
from our current President Dr. Pearl Fernandes and our Academy Councilors, especially Dr. Bill Pirkle, Professor Tammy Taylor, Dr. John Kaup, Dr. David Ferris, Dr. Edna Steele, Dr. Justin Wyatt, and Dr. James Privett, along with several others who have worked so hard to make today’s meeting a success.

A very special thank you to all of the students, their teachers, mentors, parents, scientists, and volunteers who have worked so hard to bring us their outstanding work today. Your hard work makes the South Carolina Academy of Science a better organization and reminds us of the words from Issac Asimov, “there is a single light of science, and to brighten it anywhere is to brighten it everywhere”.

Enjoy your day,

Laurie A. Fladd

Laurie Fladd, PhD
President –Elect, South Carolina Academy of Sciences