



EMPOWER

SCC Capital Campaign

Students, Communities, Careers





**SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
EMPOWERS PEOPLE TO CHANGE
THEIR LIVES.**



The vision of SCC is to transform and empower its diverse learners for fulfilling careers, lifelong learning, and community and societal advancement. SCC has a long history of graduating highly skilled individuals who go on to enjoy meaningful careers in key industries. However, the College has lacked the infrastructure and capacity to meet the needs of its communities, employers, and students.

To address the skilled workforce gap and the need to modernize our facilities and learning spaces, since 2014, we have completed construction and renovation projects totaling \$170 million across all of our three campuses. Although our progress represents a tremendous first step toward meeting the needs of our employers, communities, and students, we are coming to you to support the next stage of our vision. The **EMPOWER** campaign strategically builds on this momentum and continue SCC's unwavering commitment to providing open access to the life-changing benefits of higher education. This campaign is an essential part of our broader vision to be a national leader in developing high-contact technical and academic experiences by creating the highest quality learning climates through permanent, innovative, modern, sustainable and collaborative facilities.

In addition to changing lives, **EMPOWER** will fuel our state's economic growth by directly addressing workforce shortages and the higher education affordability gap. As you'll see in the next pages, the campaign will build institutional capacity through \$119.1 million in new facilities, including a private investment of \$47.7 million. As we come together and make an impact in this powerful way, we will launch SCC above and beyond what taxpayer dollars can do. Your investment in our students and these projects will create a margin of excellence otherwise not possible.

As we move into the future, now is the time to bring our facilities in line with the excellence of our students, faculty, and programs. As the spaces and places where learning and problem solving occur, modern facilities support and strengthen the foundation of SCC's culture and community. Vibrant, dynamic facilities are where students gain and grow the critical thinking and relationship-building skills that today's employers and communities need and expect.

SCC is and always has been committed to empowering people. It is a core institutional value and vision, and now we are asking you to invest in moving SCC forward to help us realize it. Join with us as we **EMPOWER** students, careers, and communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Illich'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'P' and 'I'.

Dr. Paul Illich
President, Southeast Community College

SCC BACKGROUND AND RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Southeast Community College (SCC) is a public two-year institution established by the Nebraska Legislature in 1973 as one of six technical community college areas. The College has campuses in Beatrice, Lincoln, and Milford and six Learning Centers in its 15-county service area, in Falls City, Hebron, Nebraska City, Plattsmouth, Wahoo, and York. SCC offers applied career and technical programs, academic transfer programs, and continuing education in a variety of fields, including customized training for business and industry.

In 2014, SCC began a full-scale space needs analysis and facilities master plan with Clark & Enersen Partners. The results of that work led to a Facilities Master Plan that began implementation in 2015. Since that time and in implementing the plan, SCC has made incredible strides in facility improvements, demonstrating its ability to successfully complete the priorities of the **EMPOWER** campaign.

Southeast Community College offers affordable, real-world learning opportunities to help students turn their dreams into reality.





Learning Center in Falls City



Residence & Dining Halls in Beatrice
Residence Hall in Milford

2019



- Campus Locations | **3**
- Learning Center Locations | **6**
- Counties in Service Area | **15**
- Programs of Study | **60+**
- Faculty & Staff | **1,105**
- Students | **9,302**
- Student to Faculty Ratio | **12:1**
- Alumni | **60,000**
- Scholarships Awarded | **\$2.03 million in 2020-21**



Health Sciences Facility in Lincoln



Crete Carrier Diesel Technology & Welding Center in Milford

2020



Renovation of the new Student and Academic Support Center in Lincoln



Academic Excellence Center in Beatrice

2021

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To grow our economy, Nebraska needs to offer affordable options to access the life-changing benefits of higher education and attract and retain the best and brightest workforce.



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The **EMPOWER** campaign will have a direct and immediate impact on workforce shortages in key and critical industries of **agriculture, information technology, construction trades, and welding technology**. Each of these sectors is sounding the alarm as their need for a skilled workforce intensifies. With improved and expanded facilities, SCC is positioned to answer this call.

Without an educated and dynamic workforce, our economy cannot grow. SCC **EMPOWERS** student success today, leading to the **EMPOWERED** careers and communities of tomorrow.



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Milford Campus



AGRICULTURE

92% Farmland accounts for 92% of total land area in Nebraska

The average age of a Nebraska farmer in 2017 was 56; producers aged 35 and younger account for 9% of farmers

25% of all jobs in Nebraska are related to agriculture

CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

87% Expect to add new employees over the next year

90% of Nebraska construction firms report having difficulty filling some or all craft positions

73% of firms say a lack of skilled workers is causing delays on project completion times



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/STEM

83% of employers indicate applicants lack occupation-specific skills

50% of employers indicate applicants lack experience

12.4% of all Nebraska employment is in STEM occupations

WELDING

7% Demand for welders is projected to grow an additional 7% in the next 10 years

Welding is among the top 10 job skills in manufacturing job postings in the state

Annual job openings in the field have increased by 7% since 2020



EMPOWER YOUR PATH TO POSSIBLE

*Jesse Butterfield, Computer Information Technology,
Lincoln Campus*

Jesse Butterfield has long been passionate about Information Technology, but this career seemed out of reach. In 2020, Jesse's employer closed due to COVID, leaving him with extra time. So, he built a website for his band and realized his dream career was in reach. Determined to enter IT, Jesse completed an introductory course at another institution but was turned down for an internship. He knew he needed to find an affordable way to continue his education and landed at SCC.

Jesse enrolled in the Computer Information Technology program and quickly landed a role as Information Security Intern with Ameritas. His time at SCC has been key to his success.

Average starting salary for graduates of SCC's Computer IT program is \$48,000; 97% of graduates get jobs in Nebraska. The Sandhills Global Technology Center will enable SCC to meet demand and enroll more students like Jesse, **EMPOWERING** both their career goals and Nebraska's workforce.

"The faculty do a good job of providing several mediums to learn from, and all of them are willing to take the extra time to make sure you understand the material."



EMPOWER IMPACT IN THE FIELD

*Alex Voichoskie, Agriculture Management and Production,
Beatrice Campus*

Growing up on a farm, Alex Voichoskie knew she wanted a career in agriculture. When it came time to go to college, Alex was looking for somewhere affordable but personal, with a program where she could "get her hands dirty." Most importantly, she wanted somewhere that felt like home.

SCC's Agriculture Management and Production program in Beatrice fit the bill. At an estimated cost of \$8,280, the program allows students to use the latest technology on a 600-acre lab. Students learn on the latest equipment and are given real-world experience.

By the time Alex graduated from SCC in 2018, she'd been named the Agriculture Program Student of the Year and received the National Association of Farm Broadcasting Grow Smart Scholarship. She went on to University of Nebraska-Lincoln and graduated in 2020. She now works at Nebraska Rural Radio Association as Multimedia Producer.

The new Agriculture Career Center in Beatrice will create opportunities for more students like Alex to make an impact in the field.

"I attribute many of my accomplishments and opportunities, both personal and professional, to SCC. I am incredibly proud to introduce myself as an SCC alum."



BRIGHT FUTURES. BOLD WORKFORCE.

Key goals of the **EMPOWER** campaign are to:

- **Expand capacity to meet Nebraska's growing workforce needs.** Career and technical programs have a substantial impact on our state's workforce shortages and needs. With more than 60 programs of study already in operation, SCC is uniquely suited to help fill these gaps and strengthen Nebraska's homegrown talent.
- **Advance access to affordable higher education and improve educational attainment.** By providing open access to the life-changing benefits of higher education, SCC is working to educate the state's population in ways that work best for them and their future employers, at a cost they can afford.
- **Enhance quality of life and prosperity in Nebraska.** By training Nebraska's future professionals, SCC is actively building for the growth and future of the 15-county service area.

Southeast Community College seeks to transform and empower its diverse learners for fulfilling careers, life-long learning, and community and societal advancement.

There is a transition underway in higher education, and no mission is more important than the community college mission. SCC is investing in the future to meet this moment.

GIVING POWER TO YOU

The EMPOWER campaign isn't only about SCC – it's about you.

Through this campaign, we are giving power to YOU. You and your student. You and your workforce. You and your passion for learning and building the next generation of talent and drive for our communities and state.

Your contribution to the campaign **EMPOWERS** economic prosperity – for students, for industry, for companies, and for employees. **Be a part of the future with your gift today.**

Gifts can be made to the Southeast Community College Educational Foundation. Pledges of up to three years will be accepted.

Exciting naming opportunities are available.

CONSTRUCTION COSTS	AMOUNT
Agriculture Career Center & Arena	\$21,700,000
Construction Technologies Center	\$32,000,000
Sandhills Global Technology Center	\$32,400,000
Welding Technology Center	\$33,000,000
TOTAL COSTS	\$119,100,000

EMPOWER CAMPAIGN GOALS	AMOUNT
Agriculture Career Center & Arena	\$8,700,000
Construction Technologies Center	\$12,800,000
Sandhills Global Technology Center	\$13,000,000
Welding Technology Center	\$13,200,000
TOTAL CAMPAIGN GOAL	\$47,700,000

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