

NEWSLETTER

Beyond The Classroom

At **Interactive College of Technology (ICT)**, education goes beyond the classroom; it builds a direct bridge to a new career. Central to this mission is the Employment Assistance Coordinator, a dedicated advocate who ensures that students transition smoothly from graduation day to a fulfilling professional role.

The support begins long before graduation. Employment Assistance Coordinators work individually with students to polish resumes, craft compelling cover letters, and master modern interviewing techniques. They teach students how to dress for success, handle professional dialogue, and confidently navigate the job market. This personalized preparation ensures that each graduate is ready to put their technical or vocational training to immediate use.

Crucially, the coordinator secures hands-on externships at local businesses, providing invaluable, real-world experience. They also leverage institutional partnerships to coordinate job postings and arrange direct interviews with top regional employers. From the initial search to negotiating employment offers, the coordinator remains a steadfast ally.

Best of all, ICT offers Lifetime Employment Support. The coordinator's help does not expire when you walk across the stage; graduates can return for job search assistance at any point in their careers. By aligning specialized training with active market demands, the coordinator turns educational dedication into permanent career success.

ICT OFFICER'S LIST

CEO: Elmer R. Smith

COO: Thomas A. Blair

VP, Chamblee Campus: JoAnn Koch

VP, CCO, Gainesville Campus: Margaret P. Smith

CAMPUS DIRECTORS

Chamblee: JoAnn Koch-VP

Gainesville: Margaret P. Smith-VP

Morrow: Calvin L. Smith

Newport: Dewanna P. Hornback

N. Houston: Michael J. Ollsen

Pasadena: Alyssa Mayhew

SW. Houston: Diane K. Nguyen

ICT CAMPUS NEWS OUR STUDENTS

GEORGIA CAMPUSES:

CHAMBLEE

For World Chess Day, teachers celebrated with their students through educational classroom games and Media Center visits, combining skill-building in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and grammar with a fun event. That wasn't the only celebration on campus—our graduating VESL students also gathered for a graduation party alongside their families, teachers, advisors, and managers. Additionally, occupational students attended an Externship Orientation hosted by Mr. Gaurav Bhatia and Mrs. Mossamat Ferduci to learn about placement opportunities for their programs of study. Beyond the classroom, the spirit of giving remains strong at ICT. Following our recent household items drive for Welcome Co-op to support refugees, the Media Center is now collecting books and school supplies for Books for Africa, as well as relief items to aid survivors of the earthquake in Colombia.



GAINESVILLE

The Gainesville team has had an active month both on and off campus. This past month they represented the Interactive College of Technology (ICT) at the Wayne Sanderson Farm Wellness Bash. This community event provided hundreds of people access to flu shots, blood pressure screenings, and health and fitness demonstrations. ICT was proud to support the Bash for the first time while sharing educational opportunities with visitors. Given our Medical Office Administration program, many of the attendees who stopped by our booth could very well be the future faces of our local healthcare workforce.



ARE OUR MISSION

MORROW

This summer, the Morrow campus welcomed a new Campus Director. Calvin Smith brings with him more than a decade of leadership experience in admissions, sales and workforce education. Most recently, he served as Director of Admissions at Florida Education Institute, where he led recruitment and enrollment efforts across multiple career education programs while managing a team of admissions advisors. He has a passion for developing people and changing lives through education.



**Director Morrow Campus
Calvin Smith**

KENTUCKY

The Newport campus has been buzzing with activity as our HVAC students complete another successful semester and prepare to take the next step in their careers. Several students are graduating and moving directly into the workforce, equipped with the skills and hands-on training needed to succeed in the HVAC industry. We are especially proud of those who have earned industry-recognized certifications, demonstrating their knowledge, dedication, and readiness to meet the needs of employers in the field.

The Medical Office Administration students have also been hard at work preparing for their Basic Life Support (BLS) certification exams. In the classroom and lab environment, students are practicing vital signs, patient care procedures, and professional medical interactions through hands-on exercises with their classmates. These real-world learning opportunities help build confidence and prepare students for success in healthcare settings. Looking ahead, the Newport campus is excited to participate in several job fairs coming to the Cincinnati area.

CAMPUS NEWS CONTINUED

TEXAS CAMPUSES:

NORTH HOUSTON

Recently, the North Houston campus invited different employers onto the campus for an externship kick-off event. Each employer presented their company and talked with students about what the role of an extern would be if selected. They were able to network and get more of a sense of the externship program as a whole.

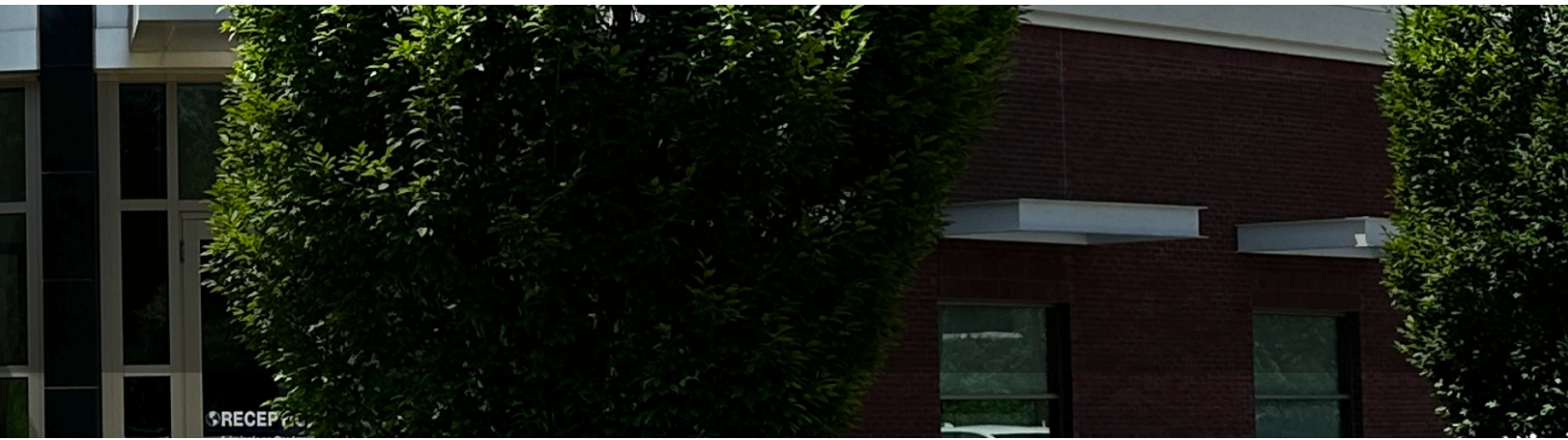
North Houston also participated in a Blood Drive competition this past month. The campus partnered with local community organizations to host a campus blood drive on Friday, August 28. Designed to bring together students, faculty, staff, and neighbors in support of local healthcare facilities and emergency supplies, the event provided a convenient, welcoming space for community members to donate life-saving blood. Whether it was a student donating for the first time or a regular contributor, participating in the morning drive was an impactful way to give back locally. The drive supported regional blood banks, and made a direct difference in patients' lives.

SOUTHWEST HOUSTON

The Southwest Houston campus always has a lot planned. This summer has been no exception. The campus recently put together an eight-week Citizenship Class where students could put the English that they learned at ICT to good use. The class was attended by 10 students wanting to become citizens of the United States of America. The OAC Community Partners Networking event was also held at the Southwest Houston campus. They were able to recruit six additional new members in the areas of VESL, HR/BM, Accounting, BIS, and Medical. Their goal to recruit more members are ongoing. This will be an annual community networking event to showcase our school and what we offer the community.

The Employment Assistance Department is scheduling a Career Prep workshop for all VESL Level 4 students and Occupational grads and withdrawal students to attend. This will assist students to prepare for employment by enhancing resumes, interviewing skills, and providing job leads.





PASADENA

We are pleased to announce that Ms. Alyssa Mayhew has rejoined the Interactive College of Technology family as Campus Director of the Pasadena Campus.

Ms. Mayhew first joined ICT as a VESL Advisor at the Southwest Campus, where she was quickly promoted to VESL Division Manager. In 2019, she was appointed Director of Education for the North Houston Campus. Most recently, she served as Campus Director and CEA Compliance Manager for LCI Language Centers in Houston, where she spearheaded institutional accreditation initiatives.



Ms. Mayhew holds a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Please join us in extending a warm welcome back to Ms. Mayhew as she assumes her new leadership role.



CEO'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Students, Families, and Community Members,

When Interactive College of Technology was founded, it was built on a simple yet transformative principle: education should directly empower individuals to change the trajectory of their careers and lives.

In today's fast-moving economy, traditional higher education is not the only—or always the most effective—pathway to success. Employers today are not just looking for theoretical knowledge; they need practical skills, industry certifications, and real-world adaptability. That is precisely where the true value of an Interactive College of Technology education lies.

Our commitment to your future rests on four core pillars:

1. Practical, Hands-On Training

We believe the best way to master a career is by doing the work. Whether you are studying Information Technology, Medical Office Administration, HVAC, or Business Management, our programs are built around applied learning. In our labs and classrooms, you train with the exact technology, software, and tools you will encounter on the job from your very first day.

2. Equal Opportunity & Career English Fluency

Education should create opportunities, not barriers. Through our comprehensive Vocational English as a Second Language (VESL) program, we provide non-native English speakers with the language skills, technical terminology, and confidence necessary to excel in this country. We take immense pride in supporting a diverse, resilient student body across all our campuses.

3. Clear Paths to Career Outcomes

An ICT education is an investment designed around a single target: a meaningful career. We embed relevant industry certifications into our coursework and build externships directly into our occupational academic programs, ensuring you gain verifiable experience before you graduate. Furthermore, our dedicated Career Services team provides lifetime job placement assistance to help you throughout your professional journey.

4. Personal Attention & Genuine Community

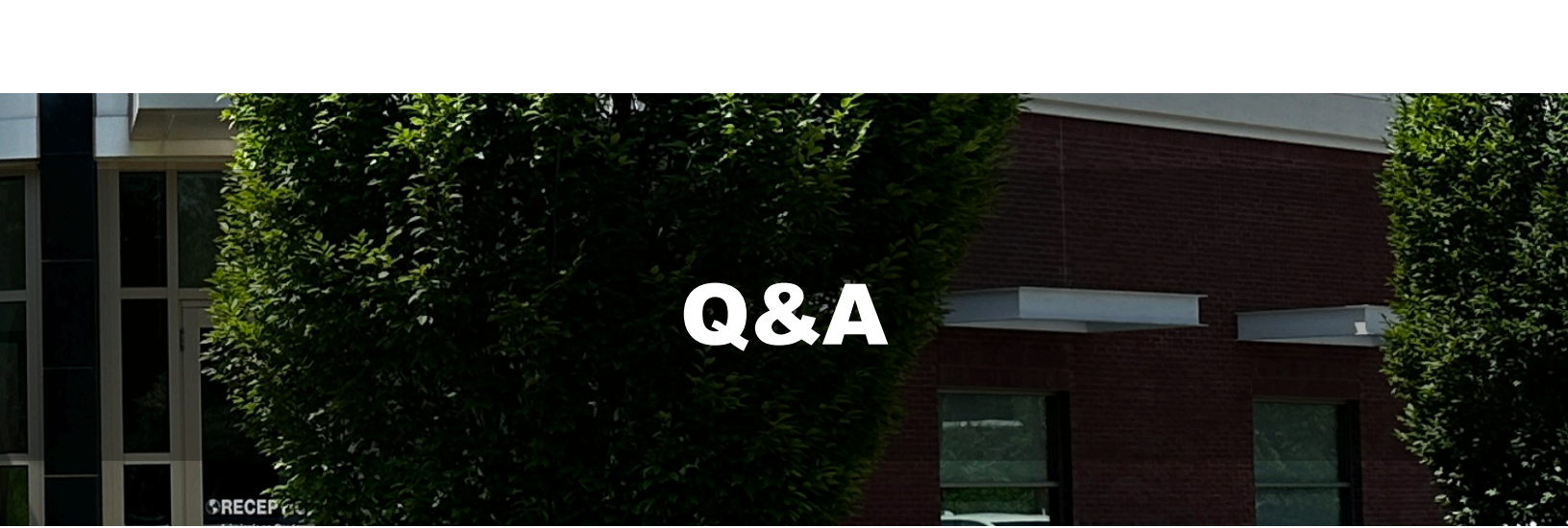
At ICT, you are never just a number in a massive lecture hall. Our faculty members bring real-world industry experience into small, interactive classes where your goals are known, your challenges are addressed, and your success is celebrated.

Thank you for choosing ICT as your partner in education. We are honored to welcome you to our community.

Regards,
Elmer R. Smith, CEO

Elmer R. Smith





Q&A

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What are the benefits of going for my Associate of Science Degree?

Upgrading your education to an Associate of Science (A.S.) degree offers immediate and long-term advantages that far exceed secondary education or a diploma alone.

First, an A.S. degree significantly increases your earning power and job security. While high school graduates often find themselves restricted to entry-level, minimum-wage roles with limited upward mobility, associate degree holders qualify for specialized, high-demand positions in fields like technology, healthcare, and business. Employers actively seek out candidates who possess post-secondary credentials, leading to higher starting salaries and lower unemployment rates.

Second, an A.S. degree provides practical, hands-on training that high schools simply cannot offer. Instead of general introductory knowledge, degree programs deliver industry-specific technical skills, laboratory experience, and externship opportunities. You learn to use the exact tools, technology, and software used by professionals, making you job-ready on day one.

Finally, an associate degree bridges the gap between basic education and long-term professional growth. Beyond specialized skills, you gain vital soft skills like critical thinking and professional communication. Furthermore, your credits can transfer toward a bachelor's degree later on, ICT has an agreement with Morehead State, allowing our students to use their credits to go toward a Bachelor's Degree if the student elects. So, an A.S. degree is an affordable, powerful stepping stone toward further education or a thriving career.



REVIEW SPOTLIGHT

"I had Johnetta Ferguson at the Chamblee campus for 3 classes this semester. She jumped right in when our original teacher had to leave suddenly. Ms. Ferguson helped make the transition easier than expected and kept everyone engaged in class. Because of her diverse background, we were able to see the material being presented from multiple angles"

-Anne Le Moyne,

"Professor Aisha Salahuddin is a great English teacher. She is strict and has high expectations, but that really helps us learn and improve. We interact a lot during class, which makes the lessons more interesting and gives us many opportunities to practice English. She is always willing to help us when we don't understand something. I really appreciate her teaching style because she pushes us to do our best."

-Yanesky Montero

"I have had a great experience working with Dr. Denise Harris. I am glad she is at the Morrow Campus. She has been teacher since I enrolled here at the school."

- Mariama Sadio Diallo

"Thank you, Ms. Cassell, for being such an amazing Reading and Writing teacher! You are always so kind, responsive, and willing to help. I truly appreciate the extra materials you provide and the support and encouragement you give us. It was a real pleasure to learn, improve my English, and have fun at the same time. I'm very grateful for everything you have done for us!"

-Nina Gareva

INTERACTIVE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

Wed love a 5-STAR REVIEW

Chamblee GA Morrow GA Gainesville GA Newport KY SW Houston TX N Houston TX Pasadena TX