Building a Pathway to Baccalaureate:  
From Dual Credit to Stackable Credentials to Bachelor Degrees

A Presentation for  
Community College Baccalaureate Association (CCBA)  
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Presenters

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Outline

- **Overview**
  - Brief history of South Texas College
  - Creating a Pathway to Baccalaureate

- **Dual Credit Programs**
  - Aligning Dual Courses to Credential Attainment

- **Stackable Degrees**
  - Stackable Credentials

- **Pathways to Baccalaureate Degrees**
  - South Texas College Baccalaureate Degrees
  - Student Success Indicators
About South Texas College

- Senate Bill 251 in 1993
- Serving Two Counties: Hidalgo & Starr
- 6 Campuses and 2 Higher Education Centers
- Annual Budget of Over $180 Million
- 3 Successful Bond Elections with Community Approving Over $250 Million
- Fall 2019 Enrollment Over 33,000 Students
Six Campuses throughout the Rio Grande Valley

- Starr County Campus
  - Rio Grande City
- Nursing & Allied Health Campus
  - McAllen
- Pecan Campus
  - McAllen
- Technology Campus
  - McAllen
- Mid Valley Campus
  - Weslaco
Overall STC Enrollment & Dual Credit Enrollment
Fall 1999 – Fall 2019

Source: STC Research & Analytical Services
Ranking
Out of 1,100 Community Colleges in the Nation

- **1st in the Nation** in awarding Associate Degrees to Hispanic students in Education, Engineering, Law Enforcement, Mathematics, Public Administration, and Sciences (2019)

- **2nd in the Nation** in awarding Associate Degrees to Hispanic students in all Disciplines (2019)

- **One of the Top 10 Colleges in the Nation and #1 in Texas** for assisting students in **economical mobility** (2018)

- **Top 50 Nursing School in the Southwest** (2018)

- Designated as a **National Center for Academic Excellence in Cyber Security** (2017)
Inaugural Seal of Excelencia

- South Texas College was a recipient of the inaugural “Seal of Excelencia”
- STC was the only higher education institution in the Valley to receive this prestigious designation from Excelencia in Education (June 20, 2019)
- The Seal confirms that STC has demonstrated consistent success in helping Latino students graduate
Pathway to **Baccalaureate**

**Building a Pathway to the Baccalaureate**
Dual Enrollment, Stackable Credentials, Competency-based Learning

- **Dual Enrollment**
- **Developmental Education**
- **Stackable Degrees**
  - Marketable Skills
  - Certificates
  - Associate
- **Baccalaureate**
  - Applied Technology
  - Applied Science – Competency-based
Dual Credit Programs

Dr. Rebecca De Leon
STC is one of the Largest Dual Credit Programs in the State of Texas.

Since 2000, the College has served over 106,000 dual credit students tuition-free.

Serving two counties
Program Snapshot
As of Fall 2019

- **23** School Districts
- **70** High School Partners
- **1,500** Course Sections
- **200** Unique Courses
- **13,000+** Students
- **Over 570** Faculty

South Texas College Dual Credit Programs
1. **Dual Credit Courses**
   Earn college credit hours towards STC core curriculum courses (basics).

2. **Career & Technical Education Programs**
   Earn a Certificate in high demand technical careers.

3. **Designated High Schools**
   (Early College High Schools, TSTEM High Schools, and PTECH High Schools)
   Earn college credit hours up to an Associate degree.

4. **Academy Programs**
   Earn an Associate degree in the STEM, Business, or Criminal Justice field.
Dual Credit Initiatives

- **College Level Dual Credit Courses**
  - 1,500 Course Sections
  - 200 Unique Courses

- **Career and Technical Education Programs**
  - Over 40 workforce programs students can earn college credit hours toward a Certificate or an Associate of Applied Science degree

- **Designated High Schools (ECHS, T-STEM, and P-TECH)**
  - 33 Early College High Schools
  - 7 T-STEM Schools
  - 3 P-TECH Schools

- **Academy Programs**
  - 7 Academies offer Associate degrees
    - Biology, Engineering, Criminal Justice, Computer Science, Business Administration, Teaching, Pharmacy

- **High School Recovery Program**

- **TexPREP Program**
Dual Credit Enrollment
Fall 1999 – Fall 2019

Source: South Texas College Research & Analytical Services
### Dual Credit Graduates: Certificate and Associate 2012–2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Workforce Certificate</th>
<th>Associate Degree (Academies &amp; ECHS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1,038</td>
<td>442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>905</td>
<td>524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1,064</td>
<td>717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>890</td>
<td>880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>591</td>
<td>1,364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>1,451</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

35% (1,451) of participating Dual Credit High School Seniors earned an Associate Degree during Academic Year 2018-2019.
NACEP accreditation works to ensure that college courses offered in high schools are as rigorous as courses on the sponsoring college campus.

As the national accrediting body, NACEP will provide **national recognition** to colleges who follow best practices and meet quality standards.

The entire process has approximately a **two-year timeline**.

**South Texas College** is in the final steps of the accreditation application process.

- Decision will be made by **May 2020**.
Stackable Degrees

Dr. Anahid Petrosian
Authorization

- **Texas Senate Bill 286**

In **2003**, the **78th** Regular Session of the Texas Legislature established a pilot program that authorized three community colleges to offer Bachelor degrees in applied science and applied technology. In **2007**, the **80th** Regular Session of the Texas Legislature removed the pilot status.

- Brazosport College
- Midland College
- South Texas College
- Tyler Junior College
  - (added in **2017 - 85th Legislature**)
South Texas College Program Offerings
2019-2020 Academic Year

123 Programs

- 80 Workforce
- 43 Academic
- 5 Bachelor’s

- 14 Occupational Skills Awards
- 56 Certificates
- 62 Associate Degrees
- 5 Bachelor’s Degrees
- 36 Online Programs
Stackable Credentials

- Marketable Skills
- Certificate
- Associate Degree
- Advanced Certificate
- Baccalaureate Degree

These workforce certificates have become part of the **stackable credentials** that dual enrollment students can earn while they are still in high school.
# Example Pathway

## High School to Baccalaureate Degree

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High School Endorsement</th>
<th>STC Certificate Program Earned in High School</th>
<th>STC Associate Degree Options</th>
<th>STC Baccalaureate Degree Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Business &amp; Industry</strong></td>
<td>• Computer Applications Specialist</td>
<td>• Business Computer Systems AAS</td>
<td>• Technology Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <strong>Business Programs</strong></td>
<td>• Computer and Internet Specialist</td>
<td>• Electronic &amp; Computer Maintenance AAS</td>
<td>• Computer and Information Technologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <strong>Technology</strong></td>
<td>• Multimedia Specialist</td>
<td>• Precision Manufacturing AAS</td>
<td>• Organizational Leadership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Precision Manufacturing</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Medical and Health Services Management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pathway to Baccalaureate Degrees

Creating a Pathway

- **Success Indicators**
  - Developmental Education
  - Dual Courses
  - Certificates
  - Associate Degrees
  - Baccalaureate Degrees
Baccalaureate Degrees

Bachelor of Applied Technology (BAT)
- 2005 – Technology Management
- 2008 – Computer & Information Technologies
- 2011 – Medical & Health Services Management

Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS)
- 2014 – Organizational Leadership Competency Based

Bachelor of Science (BS)
- 2020 – Nursing
Historical Enrollment
Fall 2005 – Fall 2019

Enrollment by Fall Semester
2005-2019

Source: South Texas College Research & Analytical Services
Demographic information of 803 students enrolled in Bachelor Degrees for the Fall 2019 semester indicate that **56% of all students enrolled are full-time and 94% are Hispanic.**

**Enrollment**
- Full-Time: 56%
- Part-Time: 44%

**Diversity**
- Hispanic: 94%
- White: 3%
- Other/Unknown: 3%

*Source: South Texas College Research & Analytical Services*
Demographic information of 803 students enrolled in Bachelor Degrees for the Fall 2019 semester indicate that 56% of all students enrolled are Female and 46% are between 25-34 years of age.
Since 2007, over 2,000 graduates from South Texas College have earned a Baccalaureate Degree.

Bachelor Degree Graduates 2007 - 2019

Source: South Texas College Research & Analytical Services
Pathway Success Indicators

- **Bachelor Degree Graduates (2006-2019) = 2,189**
  - Graduates with *prior developmental* coursework = 1,203 (55%)
  - Graduates with prior *Dual Credit* = 361 (16.5%)

Source: South Texas College Research & Analytical Services
Creating a Pathway
Stackable Credentials

Program Graduates with Stackable Credentials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Type</th>
<th># Of Students</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associate Degree in an Academic Field (AA or AS)</td>
<td>1,466</td>
<td>67.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate of Applied Science degree (AAS)</td>
<td>426</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Prior Degree</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,189</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: South Texas College Research & Analytical Services
Thank You

1st Bachelor Program Graduating Class in 2007