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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Blackhawk Technical College to restructure

JANESVILLE, WI -- Blackhawk Technical College today announced a sweeping change to its administrative and organizational structure in an effort to position the college for future growth and reinvestment. The restructuring is part of BTC President Dr. Tracy Pierner's efforts to streamline operations, improve efficiency and enable the college to more effectively respond to new opportunities and challenges.

"With the decline in enrollment of credit students in recent years, it was important for us to recognize that the old BTC financial model simply doesn't work anymore," said Pierner. "Restructuring is going to allow us to adapt to the current needs of our community and give us the financial flexibility to explore new investments in people, programs and initiatives."

According to Pierner the restructuring will be effective today and will not impact the services, courses, programs or support offered to students, however, 38 administrative and support staff positions will be effected. More specifically, 20 positions are being reclassified, 12 are being eliminated and six vacant positions will not be filled.

In September at the annual in-service for all faculty and staff, Dr. Pierner shared the financial status and upcoming fiscal challenges in his State of the College address. Currently BTC is facing an approximate \$400,000 budget shortfall and enrollment for credit students has declined this year by 9%.

"Moving forward, we want to serve a larger segment of the community through a variety of delivery methods and a broader range of programs," said Pierner. "BTC's culture must be agile, flexible, innovative and empowering and we simply can't do that under our current structure."

Although the staff changes and new reporting structure begins this week, Dr. Pierner noted some details will need to be worked out over the next few weeks as new departments and divisions fine-tune their areas, organizational charts and functions.

Other details about the restructuring include:

- Creation of a new Workforce and Community Development Division
- Alignment of human resources and financial services operations
- Expansion and restructure of the Teaching and Learning Support Division
- Consolidation of student academic support functions
- Merging academic divisions from five to three
- Enhancement of enrollment management function within the Student Services Department
- More focused attention on partnerships with PK-12, business, and community organizations
- Consolidation of grant administration
- Enhancement of the Human Resource Department to include organizational development
- Realignment of Information Technology services

All administrators and staff impacted by the restructuring plans were informed of the changes on Friday, September 30, and Dr. Pierner discussed the plans with the BTC Board of Trustees in closed session at the September Board meeting.

ABOUT BLACKHAWK TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Blackhawk Technical College is part of the Wisconsin Technical College System. BTC has five campus locations in Monroe, Milton, Beloit and Janesville, WI offering more than 50 programs including two-year associate degrees, one- and two-year technical diplomas and short-term career pathway certificates. In addition, BTC is a major provider of customized training and technical assistance for the Rock and Green County business community. More than half of all adults living in Wisconsin have accessed the technical colleges for education and training during the last decade.

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