

Spartanburg Community College

For Immediate Release

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## **QS1 and Southern Mulch Newest Additions to Spartanburg Community College Foundation Garden Railroad**

**Spartanburg, S.C.** – A scale model of downtown Spartanburg’s QS1 building and the Southern Mulch train car are two new additions to the Spartanburg Community College (SCC) Foundation Garden Railroad on the SCC central campus in Spartanburg.

The Garden Railroad, located adjacent to the College’s Alumni Amphitheater, is the only operating, small-gauge train garden on a college campus in the nation. The 300-foot, dog-bone-shaped track includes an O-gauge model train, landscaping designed by SCC’s horticulture students, a bridge, waterfall and replicas of prominent Spartanburg businesses and landmarks.

The ceremony also included the unveiling of new layout signage donated by Dr. and Mrs. Robert Mitchell through Upstate Forever, whose design principles of smart growth are utilized in the Garden Railroad layout.

SCC President Dr. Dan L. Terhune unveiled the three new components to the Garden Railroad at a dedication ceremony honoring QS1, Southern Mulch and the Mitchells for their support.

The Garden Railroad began as an idea born from now-retired SCC horticulture department head, Jimmy Painter and horticulture instructors who felt the project would offer SCC horticulture students a learning opportunity to design a unique miniature plantings garden combined with the focal point of a scale-model railroad that would embrace the historical roots of Spartanburg and the Upstate, and allow for the reproduction of local landmarks as the backdrop for the garden.

“When Jimmy first approached the SCC Foundation and asked for money to buy a toy train, there were raised eyebrows all around,” said Dr. Robert Mitchell, SCC Foundation board member. “But by the time he finished his presentation, we (the Foundation board) were all ready to buy a ticket on that train.”

The project also attracted the attention of area train enthusiasts and model railroaders. Members of the Piedmont Garden Railroaders Association provided expertise on railroad design and volunteered their time and talents in laying and installing the track and the train. Funding to begin the project was provided by the SCC Foundation.

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Prior to the unveiling, Upstate Forever project manager Ned Barrett spoke on smart growth, traditional neighborhood design and other tools for planned growth that focus on the environmental, economic and social aspects of a community.

The SCC Foundation is currently soliciting Upstate businesses interested in supporting the Garden Railroad project by including a replica of their building in the garden or by adding a company train car to the track.

For additional information on the SCC Foundation Garden Railroad, call the SCC Foundation at (864) 592-4624.

#### **About the Spartanburg Community College Foundation.**

The SCC Foundation exists to provide assistance to Spartanburg Community College through the provisions of scholarships, curriculum resources, equipment, facilities and grants that help students, faculty and the community achieve educational excellence thereby contributing to a vibrant, local economy. [www.sccfoundation.org](http://www.sccfoundation.org)

#### **About Southern Mulch, Inc.**

Founded in 2003 by Scott Montgomery and Christian Swensen, Southern Mulch is one of the Upstate's premiere manufacturers and distributors of quality bark, mulch, compost, soils and stone for the commercial and residential landscaping markets. The company also offers a variety of locally made organic and recycled filtration, storm water management and erosion control products for the construction market, including compost blankets and Filtrexx products. Retail operations are located in Boiling Springs and Greenville, South Carolina, with economical bulk delivery and blower truck installation also available. To learn more about the company and its products, visit [www.SouthernMulch.com](http://www.SouthernMulch.com).

#### **About QS1.**

QS/1, a software automation solution provider, serves HME businesses and pharmacies with HME departments. QS/1 is a division of the J M Smith Corporation, the third largest privately held company in South Carolina. For additional information about QS/1, visit the web site at [www.qs1.com/HME](http://www.qs1.com/HME), or call 1-800-231-7776.

*Photos are available for download at: [www.sccsc.edu/media\\_download/GardenRR.htm](http://www.sccsc.edu/media_download/GardenRR.htm)*

PHOTO CAPTION:

**Barrett-Moseley-Mitchell-Montgomery-Devine-Terhune-4**—(from left to right) Ned Barrett, Upstate Forever project manager; George Moseley, SCC Foundation chairman; Dr. Robert Mitchell, SCC Foundation board member; Scott Montgomery, CEO of Southern Mulch; Tammy Devine, QS1 senior vice president; and Dr. Dan L. Terhune, SCC president, stand next to two additions in the SCC Foundation Garden Railroad – a replica of the QS1 building and the Southern Mulch train car -- at a dedication ceremony held Tuesday, June 17, 2008 on the College's central campus.

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