James E. White
Automotive Technology Scholarship Endowment

Jim White graduated from SIU Automotive Technology in 1956 and was hired to teach in the Program in 1961. Mr. White’s specialization was electronic emission and fuel controls during a time of rapid development in these areas of the industry.

When Mr. Willey, the father of the SIU Automotive Technology Program, retired in 1975, Mr. White became the second Coordinator of the Program.

Under Jim’s leadership, the Automotive Technology Program became the first in the State to attain Master level certification by the National Institute of Automotive Service Excellence. In 1991, with the development of a national level recognition program by the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, the SIU Automotive Technology Program was first named the “Number One” program in the country.

After 35 years of service and leadership, Jim retired in 1996. In recognition of his unwavering dedication to students and excellence in the classroom, this endowment was created from support of alumni, to exemplify his positive attitude and a passion to learn.