James D. Halderman started as an instructor at Sinclair in 1975 in the Automotive Technology department. As one of the original instructors that helped to restart the automotive program in 1974, he was one of the lead developers of the program curriculum.

James is the lead automotive textbooks author for Pearson-Prentice Hall. He has authored over 17 automotive textbooks that are used by many college and high school automotive programs throughout the U.S. and overseas. The Sinclair automotive program is presently using all his textbooks for each of the subject areas.

Through his leadership and support of the Sinclair automotive program, it grew from an enrollment of 25 students in 1975 to an enrollment of over 500 students when he retired in 2005. His constant support of all the events and departmental endeavors led to national first place program awards such as the AIPC (Automotive Industry Planning Council) in 1996 and 2004. Other awards including the Chrysler College Automotive Program (CAP): “Best in the Nation” award in 2001-2005 and General Motors Sinclair ASEP program: “National Award of Excellence” in 1996 and 2004.