

Kansas Kollator



Official Association of Kansas Community College Office Professionals Publication
Spring 2007

A Message From the President

Greetings,

The weather turned out to be very nice today. I try to enjoy the very nice days, because you never know when Old Man Winter will send another cold, snowy blast this way again.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the 2007 AKCCOP Conference in Pratt, April 11, 12 & 13, where we will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of the AKCCOP organization.

The AKCCOP founding group developed the following mission. "The purpose of this association shall be to promote the standards of the office professionals within the community colleges of Kansas, and to provide a finer understanding of the relationship between our colleges and communities, so that we may better serve our institutions." (AKCCOP By-laws)

The logo at the top of the *Kansas Kollator* is composed of three overlapping shafts of Kansas wheat, set in a cameo representing the concept of administration, faculty and staff working together in a common effort to enhance education.

As an AKCCOP member you have the opportunity to attend an annual conference where you can network with other professionals from community colleges and technical schools, scholarships to help pay for the costs of personal education, and an annual directory of AKCCOP members for reference. I hope that many of you will consider being a part of AKCCOP.

This year is an election year for the executive board. You will notice on the next page we have a couple of openings on the board. Nominations will be accepted from the floor during the business meeting on April 11.

The AKCCOP Executive Board is continually seeking hosts for future AKCCOP conferences. If a group is interested in hosting a conference, a letter from the college president needs to be sent to the AKCCOP president inviting the AKCCOP organization to their campus. Labette Community College will host in 2008 and Hutchinson Community College in 2009.

Have a great spring semester. See you in Pratt.

Terri Barnes,
Seward County Community College

ASSOCIATION OF KANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
OFFICE PROFESSIONALS
EXECUTIVE BOARD
2006-2007
www.akccop.org

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Allen County Community College
Alice Williamson - Reporter
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Hello to everyone from the campus of ALLEN in lola!

We are enjoying this wonderful spring weather and hoping it will be here to stay for a while.

We are pleased that our enrollment for the Fall and Spring 2006/07 semesters are noticeably increased. We have three campuses, one in Burlingame, New Strawn and our main campus here in lola.

Due to our student increase, we have realized the need for more housing. On February 28, 2007, ground was broken here at the main campus for a 56-bed residence hall. You may watch the progress on our website at www.allencc.edu and look in the lower right corner to access the webcam for the construction progress.

ACCC is continuing the AQIP (Academic Quality Improvement Program) process. We had all personnel from the lola and Burlingame campuses in attendance at the in-service held at the New Strawn campus on February 20, 2007.

I hope that gives all of you a little idea of a few things going on here at Allen County Community College!

Barton County Community College - BCCCOP
Jeri Brozek – Reporter
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Greetings from Barton County Community College. Has it been as cold where you are as it has been here? I thought that if the ground hog didn't see his shadow, spring was around the corner. One of us is confused.

We have a good year going. Our New Member Come-and-Go Luncheon went great with eight new members.

The Bosses Appreciation Luncheon was a big hit again this year. There is always a new recipe tried out and this year was no exception. The big hit was a dessert simply called Brownie Dessert. Believe me it was not just a brownie!

The Christmas meeting program was an Ornament Gift Exchange with the game Right, Left which is so much fun and believe it or not I have never ended up with the ornament I brought.

January meeting program was held in the Dorothy Moses Morrison Chapel, which is by far the most beautiful room on campus. There are five beautiful stained glass windows and the way the lighting has been done just makes it awesome. Justin Engleman does a wonderful job telling the story of the windows.

Our group decided that each member is to bring a box of tissues, diaper wipes or antibacterial wipes for the Child Development Center. I can't imagine how many boxes of tissue they go through in a week's time.

We also decided to give two \$150 scholarships this year. The recipients are chosen from those in the Office Technology Program. The names will be announced later this month.

The January Social was a Pizza/Movie party held in the Cougar Den.

The Birthday Cake deliveries are still a big hit with the students.

Hope to see you at Pratt.

Butler Community College
Laura Albert - Reporter
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Butler is seeing several renovation projects this fiscal year. We have seen a domino effect of temporary office switching and personnel moves. Part of Information Systems moved from El Dorado to Andover so that Human Resources and Accounts Payable could move into their office space in El Dorado while the Administration building was remodeled. Their new offices have been enlarged by doing away with the conference room. Human Resources moved to the central part of the building and Accounts Payable moved back into the north end of the building. Two of our Finance staff have their own doors instead of sharing a doorway.

Once HR and AP moved back to their new spaces, Help Desk and PC support staff moved in to share space with Media Resource Center and the remainder of the IS department moved to Andover. Renovation for El Dorado's IS department should be completed sometime in March or early April and the IS department will return to the El Dorado campus.

The second floor of the 600 building which houses the Nixon Library, Staff Development, and Instructional Technology Department has also seen changes. The addition of a coffee bar in the library was part of the changes. Other changes include new, more private office space for Online instructors, a more secure tutoring lab with computers that students use their school IDs upon entering and exiting, and a more professional look and small meeting room for the Instructional Technology Department (Online Learning).

Butler's Operational Staff Organization had an amazing year and raised approximately \$2500. This money helps with Op Staff scholarships.

Some of the Butler employees are enjoying ZUMBA. Zumba is a fitness program that combines "Latin and International music-dance, creating a dynamic, exciting, effective fitness system." Zumba targets glutes, legs, arms, abdominals and the heart. It is a combination of dance steps and body sculpting movements in a party-like atmosphere.

Our room reservations for Pratt have been made, and we have twelve Butler AKCCOP members ready to head to the Fortieth AKCCOP Anniversary.

Coffeyville Community College
Janice Lair – Reporter
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Greetings from Coffeyville Community College.

The Business Professionals of America group from the Coffeyville Community College Technical Campus held a tailgate party before one of the football games. The fund raiser was to help send BPA members to the national contest. BPA is a national organization whose mission is to contribute to the preparation of a world class workforce through the advancement of leadership, citizenship, academic and technological skills. Wal-Mart will donate \$1000 to BPA through a grant that will match \$1000 of the money that has been raised by them with their fund raisers.

Coffeyville Community College started the fall semester with a change in the Computer Networking program. By combining programs and intensifying the coursework, students are asked to complete testing sooner in the program and will be prepared to work in specific areas of computer networking in half the time. Seven students have passed their A+ Hardware exam. So far eight students have earned the CompTia A+ Certification and two the CompTia Network+ Certification.

The Technical Campus is offering a wide variety of short courses for those life long learners in the area. The Basics of Investing, Stained Glass, Residential Wiring, The Introduction to Conversational Spanish, CMA Recertification and Knife Making will offer an inexpensive way to expand your education and have some fun.

CCC spent the summer converting one of its buildings to meet the needs of a new program. North Little Rock Nissan donated the Garmat Downdraft Spray Booth to be used by the college for their collision repair technology program on the Columbus campus. The employment outlook for automotive body repairers is expected to grow through 2014. Opportunities will be best for persons with formal training in automotive body repair and refinishing.

CCC is moving forward on the articulation agreement with Oklahoma Wesleyan University. Coffeyville Regional Medical Center will be working with the two schools about providing a nursing program. Coffeyville will teach the first two years of general education courses with Oklahoma Wesleyan teaching the final two years of the BSN program through ITV on the CCC campus. The program will start in the fall of 2007.

Our college is now offering Introduction to Precision Machining. The course will cover shop safety, basis of manual mill and manual lathe, blueprint reading, use of precision measuring equipment and CNC lathe and CNC mill programming and operations. Graduates may work in aerospace product and parts manufacturing, motor vehicle parts metalworking machinery manufacturing and machine shops.

The struggle to break the language barrier when assisting someone in a medical, sales or emergency setting can be overcome by a new course offered here. The Technical Campus has received certification as an official registered provider of Command Spanish, Inc. and cross-cultural training programs. Training can be in such areas as nursing, law enforcement, dentistry, public safety, construction, banking, office management and retail sales to name a few.

Waneta Davis was the guest speaker at the Southeast Writer's Club fall meeting. She spoke on the topic Technical Writing: Everyone Should Use It.

The Concert Choir and Wind Ensemble will perform in Chicago. Performances will include the Navy Pier and at least one church. This will allow our students to be exposed to a different part of the country the "big city" life. This trip will give these students opportunities they may not have again in their life.

The Dale Casteel Symphony of Winds Festival will be held February 17 with over 230 musicians on campus for the event.

Doug Rike, member of The Rising Suns was on campus and used the music department facilities. He said his group had a great rapport with our students from members of the Jazz Ensemble as they would come over to check out the music.

It takes good grades and dedication, but for students who succeed, the rewards Honors Program can be big. The ACT score required is 25 or higher with a graduating high school grade point average of 3.82 or higher to be a member. The scholarship covers the cost of tuition, fees and books. Honor students may become provisional members of the Eta Gamma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. Coffeyville Community College has the first provisional member PTK chapter in Kansas and one of the only few community college chapters in the nation to have such a program.

The PTK group joined Operation Christmas Child to produce shoe boxes filled with gifts for poverty stricken children in Africa. Boxes were filled with non-perishable items and school supplies. It took approximately \$20 to fill a box and ship it to Africa. This is the first year to be involved with this program. Two hundred and fifty shoeboxes were filled for this project.

Student Government Association collected winter clothing gear which was taken to the local Safehouse, a non-

profit organization that assists abused and battered women and their families. This was a way to give back to the community and help these families stay warm.

Art student Silas Hooper took best in show at the Cherokee Nation Holiday Art Competition this fall. He won with a pencil drawing.

The CCC Livestock Judging Team won 3rd at the National Barrow Show. The contest is sponsored by Hormel and hosted 12 teams from five states. Contestants place eight classes, talk four sets of reasons and answer one set of questions. Josh Campbell was 4th high individual.

The livestock team competed at the Mid-America Classic in Wichita placing 4th overall out of 16 teams. They were high team in swine and reasons and 4th in cattle. Clem Neely was high individual in the contest. He was high individual in reason and cattle, 3rd in sheep and 4th in hogs. The Livestock Judging Team worked up to a fifth place spot out of 27 teams at the American Royal.

The Coffeyville Community College Team continues to build up points in the Central Plains Region and find ways to practice on a variety of rough stock. The team is sitting 10th out of 24 in the Region. The students were able to talk to some of the members from the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association and stock contractors getting some advice and pointers.

The team took 7th place spot out of 25 teams at the National Western Stock Show in Denver this January. CCC placed 4th in swine judging, 5th in reasons, 6th in cattle and 9th in sheep.

Kansas Farm Bureau donated \$700 to CCC to help the college state a Collegiate Farm Bureau Chapter. The program is offered for anyone who has an interest in agriculture or who would like to become more involved. The purpose is to promote the profession of agriculture and agriculture related occupations while developing an understanding for the Farm Bureau policy process. They closely communicate with the county, state and national Farm Bureau organizations to develop new goals and schedule new activities for the chapter.

Construction of the new outfield fence is complete. The next step is to paint the fence. The new baseball boosters will also help construct new home and visitor bullpens. The welding department has finished one dugout bench seat and the other one will be built next year.

CCC's *Hurricane Iphigenia, Category 7 Tragedy in Darfur* play is being considered for advancement to Kennedy Center Regionals. This play has been invited to the KCACTF Region V Festival 39 in January at Iowa State University. If the play is selected at regional, then it would go to the national level and be performed in Washington at the Kennedy Center in April. It was not selected, but we will still be attending the festival with our Irene Ryan nominated actors from this production.

According to Theatre Director Mark Frank, Coffeyville Community College now has 12-15 former theatre students doing professional theatre around the country. Some CCC alumni are writing for The Conan O'Brian Late Show and some are auditioning for Saturday Night producer, Lorne Michael.

The Red Raven men's soccer team beat the #2 seed in a Region VI quarter final match up. The win puts the Raven's in the Region VI final four in Topeka, at the Hummer Sports Complex. In their second year of existence, the men's soccer won the region tournament by defeating Garden City. Irwing Romo and Rodrigo Luczensky were both named to the Region 6 All Region Team. Romo was also named to the First Team All Conference in men's soccer.

Four Red Raven volleyball players were named to the All-Conference Team following the completion of the regular season. One was named first team, one second team and two honorable mentions. Three members were named All-Region Team for Region 6, one for first team and two for second team.

Four Ravens were named as Distinguished Academic All-Americans. Two played on the college football team,

one competed on the track and field team and one played on the softball team. To be selected an athlete must compile a grade point average between 3.8 and 4.0.

Five Raven baseball players were selected to the KJCCC East All-Conference Team.

The Raven golfers battled the wind at the Highlands Golf Club but came away with the team's best finish so far during the fall portion of the season. They finished 6th as a team with a 36 hole total of 682.

The Red Raven football team went to Utah for a bowl game on December 2 to play against #3 ranked Snow College. We are 7-4 and co-conference champions in the top conference in the nation. They lost to Snow College 26-21.

The Red Raven cheer team is ranked #6 in the nation in the junior college division by the Universal Cheerleaders Association. They will be competing for their second national championship in January.

November 8, 2006 was Senior Day with approximately 288 high school students on campus. Starting the day with registration, campus video, instrumental music, choral music, rubber chicken factory and a mock disaster were some of the things these students saw before lunch. Then there were hands-on demonstrations of art, agriculture, horticulture, web design, TV technology and even pictures with cool backdrops like they do in Disneyland that were mailed to them.

The first Red Raven Holiday drew over 300 visitors to the campus for a magical evening of lights and fun. The creativity of the students was put to the test as they worked to create a magical piece of campus with white trash bags and flour to create snow to a camp fire, a 28 foot Christmas tree with ornaments from each area of campus and much more to turn the campus into a winter wonderland. They hopped on a hay rack ride to see seven large holiday globes then entered the greenhouse to visit Santa and pick up a poinsettia. Activity moved to the theatre for a production of *A Christmas Carol* musical.

Colby Community College
Kathy Britton, Reporter
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This summer on June 13 – 15, Colby Community College and the United States Air Force Academy are sponsoring a Leadership Symposium in Colorado Springs. Nationally recognized experts in community college leadership will be the featured speakers. We are proud to be involved in this exciting new field.

Amy Wilson, CCC sophomore, captured the title of Miss Rodeo Kansas 2007 at the Dodge City Days Round-up Rodeo in August. Wilson is majoring in agriculture communications and was a news anchor during the spring semester for the CCC student television broadcast which airs on cable channel 118 in Colby.

Michael McVay, social sciences division chair at Colby Community College, was recently recognized for his contribution to the ninth edition of Ethics Theory and Practice written by Dr. Jacques P. Thiroux. McVay, who has been an instructor at CCC since 1989, was acknowledged by the authors and the publisher Prentice Hall for his contributions and review of the publication.

Long time CCC instructor Roger Hale was the tour director for a fall Colorado scenic railroad tour last September. Trip participants could earn one college credit while enjoying three railroad rides in the scenic fall foliage of Colorado. Many participated in the tour and earned college credit.

October 17, legendary coach and wrestler Dan Gable was on campus for the annual Wrestling Banquet. Gable, Olympic Gold Medalist in wrestling and 15-time national champion coach was a well received speaker by hundreds of eager listeners.

In October, CCC hosted an IHSA show at the indoor covered arena in Oakley. The event included equestrian teams from West Texas A&M, Texas Tech University, Oklahoma Panhandle State University, University of Wyoming, United States Air Force Academy, Nebraska School of Technical Agriculture, Laramie County Community college and the University of Colorado. The exhibitors were divided into divisions based on their experience and skill level. Contestants drew for the horse they competed on right before their classes entered the arena to perform in the 15 classes held each day. CCC riders took home three 1st place, four 2nd place, four 3rd place, five 4th place, eight 5th place, two 6th place and three 7th place awards.

Betty Rotich, Kenya, capped off a tremendous cross-country season by finishing first overall at the NJCAA championships.

Lyubomir Kumbarov from Bulgaria was named the Outstanding Wrestler in the NJCAA Division at the National Duals in Cedar Falls, Iowa January 13-14. The CCC Trojan wrestlers took third at the dual. They have won seven duals in a row.

For the first time at CCC, the New Year's baby was visited by President Lynn Kreider and awarded a full scholarship to include tuition, fees and books for two years when that child is ready to begin college. We are looking forward to seeing Hayden ReNae Mann attend CCC in the year 2025.

While the CCC baseball team waits for warmer weather and a dry baseball field, they held their annual "Try-Athlon" in February. The event featured three events of Bowling, Darts and Pool. Seventeen teams competed with a lot of support from alumni, college and community members.

We lost a good friend and colleague on December 22, 2006 when Carl Adams passed away unexpectedly. Carl graduated from CCC in 1973. He returned in 1985 as the assistant women's basketball coach and assistant softball coach. Carl took over as head softball coach in 1987 and for the next 20 years the softball team had a record of 552-467. He became Athletic Director in 1999. Carl wore many hats and left big shoes to fill. We all miss him.

Cowley College - "Find the Noise"
Chasity Bain, Reporter
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All Aboard to Cowley College! Cowley College has endured quite a year. Many new adventures, new faces along with many accomplishments have graced the college this past semester. Please join us on a journey through our college!

Starting at the beginning of the Fall Semester, Cowley College had a large new employee group. Twenty-two new employees joined the Cowley team. In order to accommodate, such a large new employee group a new employee orientation program was designed. The new program "Destination Cowley" held a two day training session at the beginning of the semester and continued every Friday for two hours in the afternoon until the end of the semester. The sessions consisted of a campus tour, presentations from each department in the college and a new mentoring program. Each new employee was given a "Passport" to map their adventures and destinations. The passport contained different types of assignments that helped the new employee learn about the college and its "language." Also, in the passport were different signature requests that the employee would travel around the college and obtain. This enabled the new employee to acquaint themselves with all the different friendly faces on the campuses.

"Destination Cowley" also introduced a new mentoring program. Each new employee was teamed up with a "veteran" Cowley employee. The mentor and mentee shared many activities together. The mentors were able to share their knowledge and offered advice to the new employee.

Being one of the new employees, I had the opportunity to participate in “Destination Cowley.” This new program was a huge success! With such a large employee group, this offered me the opportunity to familiarize myself with other employees outside of my immediate work group. Learning all the policies and procedures can be a bit overwhelming, but with this program the process was made simple. “Destination Cowley” guided me through my new path at Cowley College. It gave me the opportunity to learn about the organization the people, and the benefits of working at Cowley College.

With all the new faces on all of the campuses, one familiar face will be missed. Forest Smith, the Cowley College registrar retired in January after being at the college for 31 years. Smith, who has worked in the registrar’s office for the past 18 years, started his career at Cowley in the admissions office in 1975. His smiling face will truly be missed around campus.

This past fall, Cowley College was granted the rare opportunity to perform the musical *Les Misérables*. Cowley College was one of the first colleges given the right to perform the show. The music and the story of *Les Misérables* is incredible. The performance received rave reviews. The show was performed by Cowley students and conducted by the Cowley College director of vocal music Connie Donatelli. Cowley College director of theatre and theatrical services Scott MacLaughlin directed the show, while Cowley’s Jamison Rhoads served as the technical director. Jennifer Blatchford handled the choreography of the show and Brittany Richerson served as stage manager. The show was a huge success displaying some of the finest vocals, acting, directing, and stage design at Cowley College.

Cowley College recently teamed up with the Winfield Economic Development Program and unveiled a new technical center in Winfield with a ribbon cutting ceremony on January 30. The new “Center for Technical Excellence” will focus on specialized industry training to increase and support the workforce for local area employers and manufacturers. Cowley College will teach a series of courses with the Manufacturing Business Skills certificate program. With the new center, Cowley College will also launch its new Mechatronics program which will give students skills on how to repair automated systems. Cowley College is very excited about the new center and program.

The Cowley College volleyball team capped another stellar season with a third place finish at the NJCAA Division II National Championships held in Scottsdale, Arizona in November. The Lady Tigers who finished as the national runner-up in 2005, ends the season with a record of 30-9. Phenomenal sums up the last two years of play for the Lady Tigers with a record of 64-16. They also captured their second straight Kansas Jayhawk Conference Eastern Division Title and were the District M Champions.

Joanna Pryor, Cowley College Head Volleyball coach was honored as the District M coach of the year at the NJCAA Division II National Championships in Scottsdale, Arizona.

This past January, Cowley College had a visitor “drop in.” World-renowned motivational speaker Dana Bowman ended his three day engagement in Cowley County when he spoke to a captivated Cowley audience sharing his inspirational story demonstrating the triumph of the human spirit. Bowman told his harrowing story during his presentation “It’s Not the Disability, It’s the Ability.” Bowman, a retired First Class Sergeant from the U.S. Army, lost both of his legs in a skydiving accident. He was a member of the Special Forces and the Army’s elite Parachute team, the Golden Knights. In 1994, while conducting a standard parachuting maneuver, he collided with his partner Sgt. Jose Aguillon. With a combined speed of 300 miles per hour the impact killed Aguillon instantly. Bowman parachuted to the ground with two severed legs. Nine months later, he surprised the world when he parachuted into his re-enlistment ceremony to become the first double amputee to re-enlist in the Army. Since his accident, he has made over 1,000 jumps and has given as many speeches. Many individuals in the Cowley audience agreed that Bowman was one of the most inspirational speakers they have ever heard. Bowman has astounded the nation and the world with his drive, determination, and will to succeed. Bowman suffered a loss but managed to “climb back up the mountain.”

Beginning of a new semester brings the “noise” to Cowley College. Cowley College unveiled its new website also in January. Everyone should visit the new website and learn what all the noise is about!

Dodge City Community College
Velda Thomas, Reporter
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A big hello from Dodge City Community College.

August 15 was orientation with as many staff, faculty and students participating as schedules would allow. Classes began on the 16th. We sent apples to all the faculty members as a welcome to the fall session and received many thanks. At our August OPP meeting, Carla Wilson, Director of Human Resource spoke about the new Mentoring – Conq Staff Welcome program. It gave us some ideas to think about getting word out about our organization on campus.

September found Dodge City Community College involved with the many fall sports: Football, Volleyball, Men & Women's Golf, Softball, Baseball, Men & Women's Soccer and Rodeo. The Art Department hosted Jennifer Bockerman's Art show, "Hanging Sculpture/Installation" in the LRC. We also said farewell to Cathy Reeves, Director, Learning Resource Center, after 25 years at the College. Don Hart, from Pratt is the new LRC Director. Open house, homecoming and parent's weekend took place at the end of the month, which included the rock wall, tricycle races, poetry reading, pep rally, campus tours, art displays, live broadcast by our college radio station, the wellness center open to the public, ceramic displays and of course prizes for the students and guests. The football game, fall homecoming coronations, and dance rounded out the weekend. OPP's meeting in September featured Debbie Bisch, Business Office Manager, as our guest speaker. She spoke about the health insurance coverage and answered our questions. We also decided to have a November bake sale as a fund raiser. The committee for the deserving student was appointed and selections will be made after recommendations have been submitted. The deserving student is a single parent who will receive a \$50 Wal-Mart Gift certificate at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter.

"The Art of Z" by Gordon and Rae Zahradnik exhibit of paints and ceramics was on display in the LRC during October. The music departments kept us and the community entertained with a Wind Ensemble & Concert Choir, Choral Union & College Singers in concert. A Hispanic Symposium was held on Friday the 13 that all were welcome to attend. Student services held a College Planning Conference at Dodge City High School for area schools.

Terry Garcia, OPP president and AKCCOP Historian, attended the executive board meeting in Hutchinson on October 20. Jim Janney, a retired cardiac surgeon and his wife Nancy presented plaques and certificates to students awarded interest free loans from a program they funded at the college. The Business and Industry, Continuing Ed held a Flora design class, and a conceal and carry training class in October. Some Dodge City Community College employees volunteered to work at the train depot keeping it open for travelers. Wacey Munsell, member of the college rodeo team, won his 2nd world championship in bull fighting. The new science building is on schedule. October 26 was the monthly meeting of OPP. The November Bake sale date was decided to be just before Thanksgiving. The Deserving Student Committee had three nominations with only one to be selected, upon the committee's recommendation. Halloween always brings out the hidden talents and secrets of many on the Dodge City Community College Campus. The Day Care children dress up and parade through the building. The women in the business office also do their part by dressing up and parading around campus tossing candy to children both young and old.

The college drama department presented the comedy *Moon Over the Brewery* on November 3 - 5. Basketball's first home games were also that weekend with the Tip Off Classic. The election of 2006 had "The Conquistador" asking questions and opinions from students, faculty and staff about voting and candidate issues. The Phi Theta Kappa chapter hosted a "Texas Hold Em" fund raiser for the American Cancer Society, as well as recruiting and the induction of members for Phi Theta Kappa. Business and Industry held an evening of cooking delight, and the first DCCC Wrangle Stage Combative Workshop with speakers from all over the US. The annual High Plains music festival was held on campus, November 10. Admissions did a Phone-a-Thon for recruiting students with the help of staff and faculty. Dodge City Community College and the Tech Center hosted the District FFA Agriculture Mechanics and Horse Judging contest, which had

around 200 students from 17 southwest area schools. The November OPP meeting reflected the success of the bake sale we held before Thanksgiving. A date was set for making Christmas goody bags for all DCCC employees. Beverly Temaat, Associate Dean of Students, asked OPP to consider another single parent student for a one time assistance. After discussion we agreed to help her with a \$100 Wal-Mart gift card. We are looking into having more benches made for the campus and having a wall of photos for retired classified staff. The nomination committee will be asking for candidates for officers and present the slate for voting at the December meeting.

December was a busy time for our music department. The Concert Choir, Choral Union & College Singers were in concert again, this time at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Windhorst. This kicked off the Christmas spirit. A concert by the Wind Ensemble was held at the Little Theatre. The employee annual Christmas party was on the 9th of December with lots of eating, dancing, games, prizes and socializing. Final exams closed out the semester and OPP put together our goody bags and delivered them on the 13th before the faculty were gone. OPP also celebrated Christmas with a dinner and gift exchange and had a good time just visiting with each other.

The new year is here and we are doing business as usual. Enrollment is taking place for the spring semester, and sports are going on. A reception was held for Doris Donovan, Director of Business Services, who resigned to take a similar position at Kansas State University.

On January 15, we celebrated Martin Luther King Day with guest speaker, Dr. Crystal Kuykendall. She is a nationally known educator, author and lawyer. She delivered four speeches that day. Three were at DCCC for staff, faculty, students and the community. The final speech was at the Comanche Intermediate Center for a city-wide celebration. It was a very rewarding and successful day.



OPP had officer installation at our January meeting, new officers are: Joan Cox, President, Richard Thomas, Vice-President, Ramona Strawn, Secretary and Linda Burke, Treasurer.

A retirement party was held for OPP member Bob Holt on January 30, who retired from maintenance after 26 years. This sums up DCCC happenings. See you in Pratt.

Garden City Community College
Pam Caldwell - Reporter
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The 2007 Spring semester at Garden City Community College started out VERY cold from the winter storm blasts that have harshly effected Western Kansas. Everyone has been really brave, facing the frigid temperatures, ice and snow to continue attending classes to accomplish their educational goals.

The GCCC Dean of Student Services, Dr. Clayton Tatro, PhD, has accepted a new position as president of Fort Scott Community College. He will begin his new duties full time starting July 2007. GCCC will miss him not only for his devotion and enthusiasm, but his fun attitude has always made people laugh.

GCCC Black Student Union students were invited to attend the 30th Annual Big XII Conference on Black student government at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. Workshops and panels will be presented on a variety of issues including health awareness, community involvement, entrepreneurship, women's rights, and identity protection. Twelve GCCC students will be there from February 15 through February 18.

GCCC HALO students were among the hundreds to converge at the Topeka State House Tuesday, February 6, to rally on various issues. One of the key topics was college tuition. The rally was led by the Sunflower

Community Action group, a non-profit organization based in Wichita and associated with 35 community organizations including Garden City. Kansas officials have proposed repealing a 2004 law that allows certain illegal immigrant students to attend Kansas colleges by paying only in-state rather than out-of-state tuition. The law is supported by Hispanic organizations.

The 8th Annual College Goal Sunday event held by the Financial Aid Department at GCCC was a complete success. Volunteers from the Southwest Kansas Technical School, GCCC, Garden City High School, Syracuse High School, and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society assisted students and their parents in filling out financial aid paperwork to attend college, and encouraged all of them to complete the forms earlier than the April 1 deadline.

The Employment Development Committee at GCCC recently held a chili cook-off which was very appropriate during the cold winter weather. Faculty and staff were allowed to sample each entry and vote on the chili they liked best. The tasty entries ranged from very mild white chicken chili to extremely hot spicy chili. One of our “own” office professional members, Judy Stewart, was the winner!! Way to go Judy!!

Members are looking forward to the upcoming AKCCOP Conference! See you then!

Highland Community College
Betty Forney - Reporter
bforney@highlandcc.edu

It's hard to believe we are already into February of the spring semester – I hope everyone enjoyed their semester break!!!

Our organization has been involved in many activities over the past fall semester which I'll highlight below.

On Sept. 30, 2006, several members of our group enjoyed a trip to Kansas City to tour the Steamboat Arabia Museum, City Market, Crown Center and Union Station. It was a fun day for all who were able to attend.



On Oct 12, 2006, we were invited out for dinner to the home of one of our retired members, Shirley Twombly. She served a wonderful meal around a beautifully set table. Everyone attending enjoyed a very relaxing hour of conversation.

What has become our annual fall break outing was held on October 13, 2006. We traveled to our Perry site to tour their new location. From there, we ate in Lawrence and drove on to tour the Legends Shopping Mall. On the way home, we visited historic Weston, MO.

This fall outing gives us a chance to visit our off-campus sites, area attractions, learn more about educational sites and enjoy the company of our friends and co-workers outside of our work environment.

A baby shower was held on campus for Krynn Larsen, our Student Activities Director, on October 18, 2006. All of our OPO members donated to a fund to purchase a Pak-N-Play for Krynn and her baby.



The HCC Homecoming Parade was held on October 21, 2006. The parade had a Hawaiian theme, but the day was cloudy, cold and rainy. Some members of our OPO group, wearing leis, drove golf carts decorated with fringe and balloons.

Another annual event for our organization is handing out candy to the morning classes on Halloween. Some members dressed in costume while others wore Fall/Halloween shirts. The HCC Foundation donates the candy.

This was our first year to try a new fund raising event – A Faire for the Holidays – on November 18, 2006. There were 43 tables sold to vendors to display their products for sale – there was a wide array of products ranging from craft items to health care products, food, games, etc. Our OPO group had a table set up to sell coffee, hot cocoa, homemade muffins and donuts donated by Casey's. A part of our proceeds was donated to the Doniphan West Food Pantry with a matching donation coming from Wal-Mart.

December 14, 2006, was the date of our Christmas outing which was held at the Hoof & Horn River House in Atchison. The atmosphere, good food and good company were enjoyed by everyone.

HCC is celebrating its 149th birthday on Feb. 9. The Student Activities Office is sponsoring the first annual Scottie Games – stone toss, sheaf toss, weight throw, sack race, spell off and Highland trivia. Prizes to be awarded include a TV, iPod and DVD player.

On Feb. 10, our campus will host Junior/Senior Day welcoming high school students and their parents to tour campus and attend informational meetings regarding admissions and financial aid. Our music department will perform for our visitors. Clubs and athletic departments will present an award and activity fair. The day will end with a home men's and women's basketball game.

I hope everyone has a good semester and will have a chance to attend the AKCCOP Conference April 11-13, 2007 at Pratt Comm. College.

Hutchinson Community College
Tammy Neal, Reporter
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Welcome to Hutchinson Community College and spring!

Yes, we would all like to see spring arrive, but I have a feeling we are going to have to wait awhile. We just dig out of one snow storm and another one arrives.

Hutchinson Community College Office Professionals are still trying to attract new members. We seem to have quite a few of our members join us when we have our BUNCO /Potluck dinner parties.

Our Endowment Office recently held its annual scholarship fund raiser, "Celebrate to Educate." The Endowment office raised an outstanding amount of money that will go towards scholarships for students that attend Hutchinson Community College.

Hutchinson Community College just held its second annual all employee convocation. These meetings are very informative in showing how our college is functioning and focusing mainly on campus renovations and how the renovations will help with campus growth and help the students achieve the goals that are needed for their future.

Our office professionals are real excited about the upcoming conference in Pratt and hope to see you all there. Hope everyone had a nice Valentines Day and try to stay well.

See you all soon,



Greetings from Independence Community College! It's hard to believe that spring is almost upon us – especially with all of the snow we've received down here. We hope that everyone had a successful fall semester.

Classified Personnel:

The Classified Personnel Association at ICC had a very busy fall. We began with a Soup & Chili Cook-off. Becky Duke from Student Support Services was the winner with her White Bean Chili. The biggest event of the semester was our annual Toy Drive. Over \$600 worth of toys were gathered & donated during the month of November to the children of Montgomery County. A special thanks goes out to Mick Wilson, the head of our Athletic department – he allowed us to waive the ticket cost for an evening of Pirate Basketball for anyone bringing the donation of a toy to that evening's games.

Staff Changes:

Richard Carvajal resigned as the Dean of Student Services in July, leaving for a position at Cascadia College in Seattle, Washington, and we welcomed Dr. Consuelo Lopez to the campus in September. Dr. Lopez received her Ph.D. from the University of Utah and has spent over eleven years in education, working in Colorado and Montana. Other new faces at ICC include David Vieira (William Inge Theatre technical director), Brenda Sanchez (developmental studies), and Jennifer Schmidt (political science).

Campus Expansion:

ICC was recently gifted with a 40,000 square foot building on West Main Street in Independence. This new facility will allow us to expand and make new programs available to both our students and to the public. Plans for the space in the new building include a senior citizens' center, new classroom space, and vocational programming.

Along with the new building, we're also reaching out to the local community with the new offering of property tax scholarships, the 55 & Better Club, and the Successful Entrepreneur program. Beginning with the fall semester, any property tax owner in Northern Montgomery County and the members of his/her household qualify for a scholarship which will cover all of the cost of tuition. This new opportunity has had great success and it's our hope that we will be able to offer this on a continuous basis. The 55 & Better Club was a program initiated by Candis Olsen and is open to any senior citizen. Activities include enrichment classes, bingo, "Coffee at the College," a monthly Lunch and Learn session, and travel opportunities. The Successful Entrepreneur Program is a two-year program providing instruction and tools for small business owners and key decision makers to be successful in today's competitive marketplace. Participants attend weekly class sessions with traditional lectures along with special presentations and interactive sessions with business experts. A special benefit of the program to the student is the individual training given by facilitator Jim Correll at the student's business location, complementing their classroom experience.

The Professional Playwriting Certificate Program was introduced to our course offerings in September. This new eight-week class will be taught by playwrights David Scott Hay, of Chicago, and Lydia Stryk, of New York. Different classes for various levels are being offered and graduate credit is possible through a special arrangement with Baker University.

We were also pleased to become the state's newest EMS Beta Test Site in October. This test benefits students in preparing for the required boards for EMT certification.

New Partnership:

A new partnership has been formed with Rogers State University allowing students who earn an associate's degree from ICC to seamlessly transfer to RSU and pursue a bachelor's degree, receiving in-state tuition.

ICC graduates will not be required to pay out-of-state tuition to attend RSU and it will enable students to begin working on their bachelor's degrees while enrolled at ICC.

Phi Theta Kappa:

The Beta Omega chapter of Phi Theta Kappa has been very busy on campus this fall with activities that included a clothing drive and bowling for a cure. In addition, students Christine Brady and Savana King were selected for the 2006-07 All-Kansas Academic Team.

Athletics:

Soccer and golf were new athletic programs introduced in the fall. Jason Hoenshell led a soccer team of 23 guys and has plans for a women's team for the 2007-2008 school year. Tony Fuentez led four guys and three ladies on a round of tournaments this fall with lots more planned for the new season. The cheer squad has taken a more active role on campus with the addition of Todd McElroy, another new head coach. Other new faces in the athletic department include Joel Saulsberry (athletic trainer): Glamora Maeweather, Eric Stamps, Mark James (basketball): Jermaine Porter, Lamar James, Roger Kelsey, Elzie Anderson (football); and Cassey Stacy (volleyball).

Trio:

The Upward Bound program at ICC continues to reach out to area high school students who desire to gain the skills necessary for a successful college experience. Participants have taken trips to The Renaissance Festival in Bonner Springs, Washburn University in Topeka, College of the Ozarks in Branson and Pittsburg State University. Six of our students traveled to the Mid American Education Opportunity Program in St. Charles, Illinois for the Student Leadership Conference.

Alumni in the News:

Ricky Denning (2006) has been accepted at the Boston Conservatory of Music – we're very proud of Ricky and wish him all the best in his pursuit of a degree in Musical Theater. Dr. Fay Bradley (1956), the ICC 1992 Outstanding Alumnus, donated \$10,000 to the ICC Foundation. This money will be used for scholarships and was his way of expressing his gratitude for the fond memories of his time in Independence.

William Inge Center for the Arts:

Last but not least are all of the great events that have taken place at the William Inge Theatre. The *Laramie Project* and *The Servant of Two Masters* took the stage this fall, the musical, *Happy End*, is scheduled for March 15-18, and the annual Anna Plays will take place April 11-12. Students Ashley Hull, Andrew Silva, Raymond Dean, Charlee Luallen, Ryan Cook, Gregory Henderson, Meghann Bates, Lisa Erbe, and Gabriel Di Chiara have all been nominated to compete for the regional Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship Award competition. In August, Stefan Haves was the first guest artist for the fall semester. Haves is a "Clown Scout" for the Cirque de Soleil's North American Tour of 2007 and thrilled audiences with his performance. Steven Sapp, a spoken word poet and theatre artist of New York City, presented an evening of story-telling in September, and Elizabeth Prescott, master voice teacher from Los Angeles, graced our stage with a beautiful musical performance in November. If you've never attended the William Inge Festival, this is definitely the year to do it – our tribute this year is to two great American playwrights, Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick, best known for their award-winning musical, *Fiddler on the Roof*. Always wanted to visit New York City? Join the Inge Center staff on the 2nd annual "Inge Festival on Broadway" exclusive New York Theatre Trip, Wednesday through Sunday, July 18-22, 2007.

Wow – finally done! Happy spring to everyone from all of us at Independence Community College.

Johnson County Community College
Leslie Quillen - Reporter
lquillen@jccc.edu



The 2006 Johnson County Community College Office Professionals League (OPL) Silent Auction occurred on November 16, 2006. The final total for the 2006 OPL Silent Auction was \$3,958.63, benefiting the JCCC Office Professionals League Student Scholarship Fund to help students in need. One of the primary goals of the OPL mission is to fund the OPL scholarship program. The silent auction is our biggest fund raiser; a check was presented to the Foundation president, Joe Sopcich, at the January 24, 2007, general OPL meeting.

A total of 242 auction items, 97 gift baskets, 43 gift certificates, 35 baked goods, and 67 handcrafted and miscellaneous auction items were available for silent bidding. Without all the OPL members pitching in to help, the silent auction couldn't be a success. Members baked, brought items in, filled baskets, wrapped packages, made bows, put baskets together, priced items, and volunteered to work the day of the auction. Not only was the auction a lot of work, but also a lot of fun!



Labette Community College
Donna Garwood - Reporter
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Spring semester had a snowy, icy start. We had 14 inches of snow the middle of December and then a major ice storm in early January. The ice storm delayed our return to work so everyone has felt the extra crunch at work and under foot. Several staff members suffered falls, broken bones and surgery to repair the damage. Since the temperatures have stayed very cold until this week (week of Feb. 18), the thawing has been a slow process. The weatherman says we are in for more cold and snow this weekend. I'm sure most Kansans are more than ready for spring this year.

Computer Support Services has had some extra challenges. The installation of a new server created problems for everyone. It had to be replaced less than two weeks later. We appreciate all the extra time and effort it took them to keep things running during this difficult period.

Check out a new feature that has been added to our website to help our students! A LCC Programmer has set up a link for the bookstore, which includes the textbook price list. Students can get to the bookstore link by clicking on the student tab on the home page banner or by clicking on the "live chat" icon along the left side of our homepage.

Welcome New Employees

- Pamela Giefer, Admissions Assistant
- Kelly Kirkpatrick, Operation Excel Director
- Deborah Newby, Interim English Faculty
- Patrick Duncan, Talent Search Educational Advisor
- Cynthia Dyson, Financial Aid Assistant

Congratulations on New Positions

- Natalie Armstrong has moved from Talent Search Secretary to Talent Search Educational Advisor
- Judy Nance has moved from Financial Aid to Talent Search Secretary

Student Organizations

Labette Community College's Labette Idol was held on Friday, December 8. The event hosted over 150 spectators. Contestants were judged by Randy Blackwell, LCHS Music Instructor; Sandy Wilkinson, LCC Student; and Joe Burke, LCC Dean of Instruction. Cash awards were given to first, second and third place in 16 and Under, 17 and Older categories, and also for bands. Labette Idol was sponsored by LCC Student Government Association, Campus Activities Board, and Phi Theta Kappa honor society.

The Labette Community College Phi Theta Kappa honor society was notified by the Director of PTK Membership Services that they earned the Pinnacle Platinum in Phi Theta Kappa's 2006 Pinnacle Scholarship Award Program. The award recognizes chapters that increase membership acceptance during their fall membership campaign, or chapters that hold their first fall membership campaign. Phi Theta Kappa is proud to reward those chapters for successfully conveying membership benefits to eligible students not only in the spring, but also throughout the year. In recognition of its achievement, the LCC Tau Theta chapter has received a Pinnacle Platinum Scholarship valued at \$225 for the 2007 International Convention in Nashville, TN April 12-14. The scholarship will help with expenses for students attending the PTK International convention.

The LCC Tau Theta chapter holds several fund raisers each year to enable members to attend regional, and international conferences as well as provide support to the American Cancer Society and other non-profit organizations.

Two members were selected as All-Kansas Academic Team members. They were selected to represent LCC and have been nominated to the All-USA Academic Team. They received a \$300 scholarship, medal and certificate during the luncheon in Topeka. Many four-year universities offer additional scholarship dollars for Academic Team members.

Five officers and two advisors of Phi Beta Lambda attended the National Fall Leadership Conference held in Denver, Colorado. The officers and advisors were able to attend several breakout sessions and workshops on topics of leadership designed just for the PBL division.

LCC Music Dept.

Two LCC Band Students made the 2007 Kansas Intercollegiate Band that will perform at the Kansas Music Association Conference in February.

The LCC Choirs are still fund raising for their trip to Carnegie Hall in June. The students are working hard to raise the \$1600 each needed for the trip. This is definitely a once in a lifetime trip for many of these students.

The LCC Singers gave six concerts on Black History to several area elementary schools and the Kiwanis Club on February 21. In addition, Labette Community College History Instructor, John Mack, spoke about black history in Kansas, specifically Labette and Neosho counties, on February 6 at the Parsons Library. He also gave a Black History presentation on the LCC campus. I heard many positive comments on this informative presentation.

Athletic Department

The LCC Wrestling Team brought home 2nd place in the NJCAA National Wrestling Tournament in Rochester, Minnesota. Seven wrestlers received All-American honors placing 1st – 7th place in the tournament in their weight class. Our first place winner, Tim Elliott, also was recognized as the outstanding wrestler of the tournament. We are SO PROUD!

Our men's and women's basketball teams are close to finishing their season with respectable rankings. It has been a season of ups and downs for both teams and our new women's basketball coach. They are always fun to watch.

Baseball season is just beginning. Practice has been sketchy with the cold, wet weather as well as problems with the practice field.

From the President

I am extremely pleased that several staff and faculty worked together to devise a schedule for the 2007-2008 academic year that works better for our students! The schedule is more condensed as a result of the changes they have made and more student centered.

The Parsons City Commission voted unanimously to vacate the 13 hundred block of Broadway and will allow Labette Community College to have a continuous true campus for the first time. A big thank you goes out to the Parsons Planning Commission and the Parsons City Commission.

Award

Carol Rabig was named the First Recipient of the Special Employee Recognition Award

The idea behind the new award is to provide recognition for those who live out the ideal of the QBQ "Question Behind the Question" in their everyday work life. These are individuals who demonstrate the following traits in how they do their job: 1. Practice personal accountability for their own thinking and behavior and the results that they provide. 2. Ask the question behind the question. 3. Being a role model to those around them.

For individuals to be considered for recognition they must be nominated by another employee and have that nomination confirmed by their immediate supervisor. Or if a supervisor feels they have an employee who deserves the recognition, they may make the nomination on their own.

Carol received a Cardinal Lunch Punch Card and a gift certificate to the Bookstore. She also received recognition in the CARD Newsletter.



Neosho County Community College
Terri Dale - Reporter
tdale@neosho.edu

It has been a very busy fall and winter for our group at Neosho County. We hosted a luncheon for our bosses in October, worked the concession stand for home volleyball games, planned our first annual Holiday Homes Tour, and managed to have a Christmas outing with our spouses.

Bosses' Day Luncheon

On October 16th the Office Professionals invited their bosses to lunch featuring baked potatoes

with a variety of toppings, fresh fruit and homemade dessert.

The OP's at Neosho continue to offer the birthday packages for students in the dorms. The students really enjoy getting a care package on their special day.

Other fund raising activities included selling concessions at one home volleyball game and a wrestling dual. We plan to sell



concessions at all home volleyball games next fall and possibly some of the wrestling events. The ladies who worked had a good time joking with each other and making popcorn, hotdogs, nachos and chili dogs.

We also tried selling raffle tickets for homemade cakes at a couple of the home basketball games. The idea was well received, we just ran out of people who could work and bake for some of the games.

Six members and their spouses dined at Mo Gedi's Italian Steakhouse on December 19 for the OP's Christmas party. It was a nice evening with good friends and wonderful food.

Six of our members are planning to attend the AKCCOP Conference in Pratt later this spring. They are looking forward to visiting Pratt Community College and seeing old friends while being revitalized in their respective jobs.

Holiday Homes Tour

The NCCCOP's Holiday Homes Tour was a great success and plans are to make it an annual event. Originally scheduled for Saturday, December 2, the fund raiser had to be rescheduled because of the ice storm that hit southeast Kansas in early December. Our three gracious homeowners said they appreciated the extra week to complete decorating for their homes to be toured.

Tickets were \$5 in advance and \$6 the day of the tour. Over 100 people toured the three homes in Chanute and the Snyder Chapel on our campus. Homemade Christmas cookies and candy were served at the Chapel. We also had two door prizes

SYSTEM Legislative Dinner

NCCC hosted the 12th Annual Southeast Kansas Higher Education SYSTEM Legislative Dinner on November 28. All legislators from southeast Kansas were invited as well as members from the Kansas Board of Regents and staff, KACCT representatives, trustees and senior staff from the eight higher education institutions that make up the "SYSTEM." Those institutions include Allen County Community College, Labette Community College, Fort Scott Community College, Independence Community College, Coffeyville Community College, Neosho County Community College, Emporia State University and Pittsburg State University.

The annual event spotlights former students who have transferred from one of the community colleges in the SYSTEM to either Emporia State University or Pittsburg State University. Each community college selects a student who gives a testimonial about the advantages of attending a community college and then attending a regent school. This year about 100 individuals attended.

Student Health Clinic Opens

In January we opened a Student Health Clinic on campus. The clinic will serve as a satellite office of Panacea Family Medicine and is staffed by Physician's assistants. Open Monday through Friday from noon to 1:00 p.m., students can go to the clinic for \$5 per visit with a valid NCCC student ID.

The clinic provides basic health care and tests for strep, pregnancy, urinalysis, etc., on a walk-in basis to students. The student health clinic is being offered on a trail basis this spring and if it is successful will continue in the fall.

Aristocats

NCCC's dance team, the Aristocats, competed in Topeka at the Nation's Best Championships. In the pom-pom dance division the Aristocats received first place. They also received the award of Collegiate Dance Grand Champions. Captains of the Aristocats competed in the dance solo division. Sophomore captain Megan Warhurst received first place and freshman captain Lacey Persell received second. The Aristocats are coached by Melissa Kiefer.



ALL USA Academic Team Nominations

NCCC is honored to have four students representing our college in the All USA Academic Team Competition. Amelia Power and Morgan Ward will represent the Phi Theta Kappa Chapter on the Chanute campus and Alyssa Johnson and Cyrus Oliver will represent the PTK Chapter at the Ottawa campus.

Valentine's Day

The music department is selling "Singing Valentines" for your sweetheart as a fund raiser. They are offering several selection packages. Ambassadors from the Continued Lifetime Learner's group stuffed about 400 bags with valentine candy and goodies to pass out to students on Valentine's Day.

EXPO 2006

NCCC and the Chanute Chamber of Commerce partner to sponsor the 5th Annual Safari Days and EXPO on April 13 and 14.

The event features Osa and Martin Johnson's films on Friday evening and a fun-filled day on Saturday as area vendors display their wares and vendors sell great food.

The College is planning an open house so that residents can see renovations on campus and see the "sim-man" and "sim-baby" recently acquired by the nursing department. A surplus sale is also planned for the day, and a health fair.



Pratt Community College
Educational Support Professionals (ESP)
Diane Thompson - Reporter
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2007 AKCCOP Conference – AKCCOP's 40th Anniversary Celebration

Pratt Community College/ESP is excited to be hosting the 2007 AKCCOP conference. The theme of Reminiscing and Progressing has been chosen as we look back on all the accomplishments office professionals have made over the last 40 years and strive to be successful with the opportunities of the future. Registration packages were mailed out in January, so sign up to come to Pratt April 11-13, 2007. Early-bird deadline to return registrations is Friday, February 23. Get all the details and forms at www.akccop.org !

Wednesday night will be "dress in the fashions of your favorite decade"; we hope you all are thinking about what your college will be wearing. One of the topics that will be presented in Pratt is identity theft and fraud prevention, a great topic with personal and professional development value as we work to protect the identity of students, co-workers and ourselves. Two other topics that align well with our theme include:

- Dealing with Change
- Learning to work with the current "whatever" generation

For those of you who have been joining us at AKCCOP for years, we would like to display items given out to attendees over the last 40 years at conferences – or at least the last 20. Please contact the Pratt reporter, Diane Thompson at dianet@prattcc.edu or 620-672-2700 if you have something you would like to display. If each school could locate a sample of the gift(s) they have given over the years when they hosted, this would be a great start.

Membership News

The members of ESP were invited by the president to join discussions on Staff Incentives. ESP and the

college's Staff Senate were pleased to be asked for their input towards establishing productivity incentives. The group recommended monetary incentives for both enrollment growth and employee retention. The proposal will be taken to the Board during its planning session for final approval.

A second outcome of the meetings was the recommendation that Staff Senate become an elected representative body instead of being appointed by the president. Elections occurred in January and the new elected Staff Senate has met to begin establishing its charter.

ESP elections for officers are held in October (according to bylaws). Because of the work involved hosting the conference, the group determined it would be best to keep the same officers this year. So our officers continue to be Lora Lobmeyer (President), Diane Thompson (Reporter and Vice President), Cathy Blasi (Secretary) and Darlene Hemphill (Treasurer).

For Boss' Day, ESP treated the supervisors to a beverage and a donut at Beaver Bytes Café.

The ESP Christmas Party was held at the home of Janet Horton. There was a general gift exchange, and the previous year's secret pals were revealed. New pals were drawn.

Preparation for the 2007 AKCCOP Conference continues at Pratt. We were thrilled to have been awarded a grant for \$1375 from the Pratt Tourism Committee to assist with conference expenses.

It has been a difficult year for some members of ESP with several members losing members of their immediate family. Condolences are extended to Lora Lobmeyer, Mary Bolyard, Diane Thompson and Janet Horton. ESP will be purchasing memorial rosebushes to give to these ladies when the season is right for planting.

December is always busy for ESP. We decorate the "PCC Family Christmas Tree" by collecting special ornaments campus-wide, host the campus-wide Goody Day snack potluck and conduct our largest fund raiser of the year - "Finals Survival Bags". This semester ESP sold a record 151 bags.

Always Something Going On at PCC

October –

- "I guess I never thought of 23 as middle aged..." These are the words of Rick Stoddard, whose wife Marie at the age of 46 tragically died from lung cancer caused by cigarette smoking. Now as a spokesperson for the Kansas Quitline, Stoddard is reaching out to youth and adults across the nation to warn them about the dangers of tobacco use. Stoddard shared his story with students, community members and Kansas anti-tobacco advocates at PCC.
- The Pratt Community College Wrestling Team held its First Annual Blue/White which is the inaugural event of PCC's new wrestling program.
- Pratt Community College's Vocal Music Department is pleased to announce Vivace, a new soprano/alto ensemble.

November –

- The Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference announced PCC Volleyball coach Patrick Hall as coach of the year.
- PCC sophomore Ande Jorgenson ran a near perfect race at the NJCAA National Championships on Nov. 4 in El Paso, Texas. Jorgenson's season best effort earned him recognition as a Coaches' All-American for his 30th place finish out of 215 runners.
- PCC Men's Basketball player Kevin Goffney was selected as the NJCAA Player of the Week in Division I.
- Pratt Community College art instructor, Marsha Shrack, exhibited some pieces of her collection at the Carnegie Arts Center in Leavenworth, Kansas. Shrack's work was part of the first annual Ceramic Arts Invitational titled "All Things Ceramic." This particular exhibit was by invitation only.

January –

- Pratt Community College hosted "athletic training days" to provide prospective students the opportunity to learn more about the athletic training program and how it can jump start a career in sports medicine or physical therapy.

- Amanda Alexander and Chelsea Shrack were chosen for the 2007 All-Kansas Academic Team.

February –

- The Pratt Community College Nursing department unveiled their new “SimMan” human patient simulators – Kim and Tim Sims. The two SimMans were purchased with grant dollars from KBOR matching funds from local health care providers and college money. PCC Nursing has experienced both an increase in quantity and quality of nursing students over the last few years. With the addition of a Winfield campus and an online LPN to RN program, the capacity has increased 150 percent, from 80 students in 2004 to 200 students in 2007. They also boast one of the highest NCLEX pass rates, surpassing both state and national averages. In 2006, 94 percent of nursing graduates passed the RN National licensure exam on the first attempt while 100 percent of first year students taking the LPN National licensure exam passed the first time.

Seward County Community College

Diane Heiers - Reporter

diane.heiers@sccc.edu

Brrrr...we sincerely hope that you have thawed out or at least have your life somewhat back to normal. So many have suffered because of the severe new year winter storms and we empathize with those who have been without power for weeks, and have had and still are suffering livestock losses, and those facing the probability of crop damage.

SCCCOP News:

Pictured are a few of the SCCCOP members at the Bosses luncheon last October.

New office professionals have joined our ranks: Sydney Hudson, Students Services Secretary; Alaina Norried, Wellness and Aquatics Secretary; and Karen Maxwell, Accounts Payable. Karen plans to attend the AKCCOP meeting in Pratt.



SCCCOP has had three successful fund raisers during the Christmas season with the RADA knives, Cookbook sales, and Subway cards. A little over \$1000 was added to the scholarship fund. Scholarships have been awarded for this spring to three SCCC non-traditional business majors: Shirley Adkison, Billie Adkison, and Ana Dominguez.

SCCCOP will be losing a long time SCCC employee and an active SCCCOP and AKCCOP member. Gayle O’Kane (Admissions office) will be retiring this summer, effective June 30. She was here in the beginning days of SCCC (June, 1969); worked off and on during the next 18 years and returned in 1990; giving a total of 31 years to the college. We wish her well and a happy retirement, but she sure will be missed. Gayle said that she really has enjoyed her time here at SCCC.

Library news:

In late December a retirement reception was held for Denyce Gammell, Library Director, who chose to retire and move to Illinois. She had a very positive impact on SCCC and the many students who had utilized the library. Her sense of humor and the summer time treat of lemon ice cream will be missed.

Jon Noland began his duties January 22 as the new Library Director. Jon comes to us from Florida. You are probably wondering why he came to Southwest Kansas! Well, he wanted to get a job at a community college library, and those positions are hard to find. Most people usually stay in their positions for long periods of time. He is originally from Iowa, has an MS degree from the University of Kentucky, an MA degree from Iowa State University, and he has fourteen years of experiences in California and Florida.



SCCC “Recruitment Teams”

SCCC has seen a decline in enrollment over the past few years, but for the spring 2007 there seems to be a change in that trend. We appear to be slightly above last year. One of the ways that SCCC felt could help boost enrollment was through the development of “recruiting teams”. The underlying intent is to provide each of us, as SCCC employees, the opportunity to help communicate with prospective students, and participate in local community events, etc.

without creating a lot of extra work for any one individual or department. This participation may be attending a local high school “basketball night”; it might be representing SCCC at an area Chamber event; it may be e-mailing a prospective student inviting them to campus; it may be writing a note to a student who visited campus telling them “thanks” for visiting and encouraging them to enroll; or it may be simply saying “hi” to a group from a local high school who is making a campus visit.

The “team” concept aims to create more of a connection with our area high schools and communities while also providing SCCC faculty and staff a way to be involved which makes the entire group feel comfortable. The college established 11 teams made up of approximately 12 members distributed among faculty and staff. Each team was assigned one or two area high schools and their communities to be their responsibility this year in carrying out the suggestions above and other activities that the team might think of.

Even though this effort began in the fall, the efforts have been well received at the area high schools, and with SCCC faculty and staff. The teams have attended a total of 14 area basketball games and distributed prizes and scholarships from SCCC. They have also helped sponsor other activities such as plays and class activities.

SCCC recognitions:

For the third consecutive year (and the fourth time in the last six years), *Telolith*, SCCC’s annual publication of student art, design, photography, and writing, has been awarded First Place With Special Merit in the American Scholastic Press Association’s Annual Review and Contest. *Telolith* 2006 received 970 of a possible 1000 points. *Telolith* 2007 will be published towards the end of the Spring semester. Art instructor, Susan Copus, and Bill McGlothing, English instructor, appreciate the campus support of their efforts to put out a quality publication that reflects both the talents of our student body and SCCC’s commitment to giving students the opportunities to express those talents.

The business division will miss Marilyn Ewing, accounting instructor and coordinator, who has been with the college for over 16 years. Her retirement will be effective May 31. Marilyn says she really loves her job and her students. Last fall Marilyn was nominated and won the Kansas Business Education Association’s most Outstanding Post Secondary Business Educator Award. With this award, Marilyn became not only the first instructor from SCCC to win the award, but also the first instructor from a two-year college.

SCCC Ag department had a very successful Celebrity Livestock Judging Auction/Contest in late November. They made a little over \$10,000 at the auction. The Livestock Judging Team has done very well the past fall with several placings and trophies. They continue their travels this spring to Fort Worth, TX; Iowa Beef Expo, Des Moines, IA; and the Houston Livestock Show.

Dean Cynthia Rapp reports that the following faculty members have received recognition: Suzanne Campbell, Medical Lab Technology instructor, for having an article published in the Women in Higher Education journal, and Todd Carter, Division Chair for Natural Science, Mathematics and Physical Education, on his recognition from The Chair Academy. Additionally, SCCC has received notification of national recognition by the National Academic Advising Association for excellence in student advising practices.

Rissie Parker, business instructor, was recently the winner of the 3D Division of Barrel Racing in Wichita Falls. She had been working towards this for a year. She won a trophy, a new saddle and a leather jacket.

Club news:

Our student criminal justice club, Sigma Chi Chi, competed at the regional competition for the American Criminal Justice Association in Jefferson City, MO in November. Kevin Hubbard, student, received 1st place for physical agility in the male 26-35 age group. Bethanie Keating, club sponsor, received 2nd place in the professional division for juvenile justice exam and 2nd place for LAE Knowledge exam.

Over 60 people braved the cold weather to attend the campus Black Collegiate Union (BCU) club's Martin Luther King remembrance event. They marched from the Library to the Depot. There was a chili feed and program after the walk with close to 125 attending the dinner and program. The BCU did a great job of organizing this event.

The SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) club is doing a Lock-In fund raiser to gain funds for their regional competition coming up in Florida, on March 30. Last year SIFE won at Regional's in a clean sweep, including several large cash prizes.

The agriculture department's Block and Bridle Club will be hosting their annual Farm Ed Day in April where they anticipate over 1000 k-1st grade students coming through the Ag Barn. It is a lot of fun to watch the kids and animals. Busses start coming at 8:30 a.m. and continue until 2:00 p.m.

Across Campus news:

Marilyn Ewing and Melissa Mellon, the accounting teacher from Southwestern Heights High School, have finalized a tech prep agreement for their accounting classes. This will enable a SWH student to "skip" our Accounting I class if he/she has completed the Accounting I and Accounting II classes at SWH with a letter B or higher. The arrangement is different than concurrent enrollment in that SCCC doesn't get the credit hours generated by the student for Accounting I, but it provides a "carrot" for the student to enroll at SCCC and complete his/her degree.

Darin Workman has arranged with area high school bands to play at our basketball games. The Elkhart and Beaver high schools will play this spring. This gives high school students a chance to visit our campus. We hope that these students will gain a positive experience and opinion of SCCC.

The SCCC drama and music departments will be performing *Annie*. The performance is scheduled to take place April 26 and 27 at 7:30 p.m. College and community people are encouraged to be involved in the SCCC musicals.

Carmen Sumner, surgical tech instructor, reports that the surgical technology program will have all didactic (lecture) course work on-line for the 2007-2008 program. The lab and clinical course work will still be done at our Surgical Technology Skills Lab and at the local hospitals. This will allow distance students to decrease their expenses by decreasing travel time.

The college is moving forward with technology in the long awaited phone system. The phone system includes installation of a Voice over IP telephone system, voice mail, and an integrated paging system. This system will work with the college's recently upgraded computer network, provide better connectivity to off campus locations and allow for easier addition of phones in the future. Periodic software upgrades will allow new innovations to the phone system. This system should be installed in May with conversion to the new system between spring and summer semester.

The SCCC administration is continuing to work with USD 480 on a consolidation agreement with Southwest Kansas Area Technical School. The college is recommending a July 2008 date for the merger with an agreement signed by April 2007. The merger date was moved because more time is needed as there are still many issues to be resolved.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Pratt! Have a great spring semester!