

PRATT COMMUNITY COLLEGE



ACHIEVEMENT & ACTION



COMMUNITY REPORT



WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED.

With a 75 year history, Pratt Community College is a two-year public, comprehensive community college and an area vocational school. We offer a well-rounded general education for the student planning to transfer to a four-year college or university. For our technical students, we provide the skills needed to enter directly into the workforce.

PCC provides an active campus environment for more than 350 residents housed in six residence halls. In addition to numerous student activities, the college offers over a dozen student organizations and clubs with additional opportunities to participate in music, arts, and athletics.

PCC is a member of the highly competitive NJCAA Region VI, Jayhawk West Conference and offers 7 men's and 7 women's athletic programs.

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The mission of Pratt Community College is maximum student learning, individual and workforce development, high quality instruction and service, and community enrichment.

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*Created and produced by Leighanne Dean
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DR. MICHAEL CALVERT
president

Pratt Community College is a vibrant, dynamic, full-service community college that strives to deliver high quality instruction, workforce development and enrich the community and stakeholders of South Central Kansas. PCC has a long history of doing just that having recently celebrated our 75th Anniversary in 2013. As president, I have firsthand knowledge that the faculty and staff of Pratt Community College are second to none and truly care about our students. The commitment to learning and service were evident from my first week on campus and continue daily as the goal for each student to succeed drives each employee.

This report to our community shares much information including the many successes we experience this past year. Student success is at the core of what we do every day. These include being recognized by the Aspen Institute as a top 150 Community College in the Country, ranked #10 in the nation by financial services smartasset.com as a great return on investment, our Men's Basketball Team won the Region VI Tournament and advanced to the National NJCAA Tournament and for the second consecutive year our wrestling team had the highest GPA in the nation. These are just a few examples of our many successes.

I am honored to work at Pratt Community College, where I am surrounded by a dedicated faculty and staff committed to student success and personal development. Our students, faculty and staff are involved in community service, provide outstanding entertainment through the performing arts and showcase their talents on the athletic fields and courts. Our board and college administration are committed to providing the facilities, support and learning environment that is essential for Pratt Community College as we look to the future. Please enjoy our annual community report and GO BEAVERS!



MICHELE HAMM
board chair

The mission of Pratt Community College is maximum student learning, individual and workforce development, high quality instruction and service, and community enrichment. As a Board member, I see many data reports throughout the year that prove that this mission is being fulfilled. While data reports are important for a variety of reasons, hearing from the community and students that PCC is serving their needs is not only reassuring, but gratifying. With great pride, the Board has full confidence in the administration, staff and faculty from the numbers we see and the positive comments we hear.

Last year, 435 degrees and certificates were awarded. Nearly all of the credit hours earned came from Kansas students, but PCC also serves students online, from out of state and around the globe. Education is a global market and PCC is making a difference in our community and throughout the world. Because of affordability and accessibility, local students are able to enter the job market or transfer to a university without building up unnecessary debt. Having a college in our community truly benefits our county through major economic impact, offering employment opportunities, and an astounding number of community service hours contributed each year by students and employees. PCC creates a win-win for everyone directly and indirectly involved in the process of fulfilling its mission.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank our community for its continued support of higher education. I applaud the efforts of staff, faculty and administration to ensure the mission of the college is upheld through quality instruction and service. Last, but not least, I encourage students of all ages to not only consider attending Pratt Community College, but to invest in a life-changing experience as a student and to use the education and savings earned to make an impact on the world and within their own lives.



top ten community college



In January 2014, The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program named Pratt Community College as one of the nation's 150 top community colleges, challenging it to compete for the \$1 million fund for the 2015 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.

The Aspen Institute identified the 150 community colleges -- about 15 percent of all institutions -- using a quantitative formula that assesses performance and improvement in four areas: graduation rates, degrees awarded, student retention rates, and equity in student outcomes.

Through the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the New College Leadership Project and other initiatives, the College Excellence Program works to improve colleges' understanding and capacity to teach and graduate students, especially the growing population of low-income and minority students on American campuses.

We're very excited to be nominated," said Dr. Michael Calvert, President of PCC. "The areas we are nominated on are hallmarks for what PCC has done and truly show that we are meeting the mission of PCC."

In September 2014, Pratt Community College was named one of the Top Ten Community Colleges in the Country by SmartAsset.com, a blog that uses software and data to solve financial problems.

SmartAsset evaluated approximately 700 public community colleges across the country in order to find a low cost education, good return on investment and high success rate. The company measured:

- In state tuition for one academic year
- The ratio of starting salary for graduates to the cost of the education
- The percentage of students who enroll at the community college, graduate and then go on to transfer to a four-year institution.

Pratt Community College graduates make 22.8 percent more than their college expenses as a starting salary, and has a 54 percent graduation and transfer rate.

ACHIEVEMENT AND RECOGNITION

PCC TRUSTEE APPOINTED TO NATIONAL COMMITTEE

In December, Pratt Community College Trustee Darrell Shumway was appointed to the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) new Trustee Advisory Committee.



Shumway was contacted because he served on ACCT's Board of Directors for six years and chaired from 2000 to 2001.

"One of the main focuses of the ACCT is training and support

for community college trustees," he said. "There is training available, but so many times the training doesn't get to the people who need it most because of the cost involved in traveling to the national conventions. We need to establish a training module at the state level to bring the trustee education closer to home."

In addition to his time with ACCT, he also served on the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Board of Directors for three years and the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees (KACCT) for 20 years.

MOSS RECIPIENT OF 26TH BOYD DAVIES EXECUTIVE-IN-RESIDENCE



On March 11, Pratt Community College honored Lou Lynne Moss as the 26th Boyd Davies Executive-in-Residence.

Moss established The Flower Shoppe in 1977 at 106 South Main St. in Pratt. The shop then moved to 209 East 4th in 1982 and currently is at 201 East 4th. In 2001 she was on the Inaugural Design team for George H.W. Bush, and she received the Kansas Department of Commerce Regional Small Business Award in 2003.

"Lou Lynn Moss provides an excellent example of a local business owner who promotes their industry by serving in a leadership roles locally, and at state and national level," said Junnae Landry, PCC business instructor and Boyd Davies event coordinator.

The Boyd Davies Executive-in-Residence program was implemented in 1988 by the Accounting and Business Department to give the students at Pratt Community College the opportunity to interact with a business person from the area and learn about his or her experiences. Nominees come from a large background of fields, exhibit a long and successful career in business, and are willing to share that knowledge with our college community.

ADMINISTRATOR SELECTED AS HLC PEER REVIEWER



Lisa Perez Miller, Vice President of Students/ Enrollment Management has been accepted to serve the Higher Learning Commission as a new member of its Peer Corps. Miller is the first representative from PCC to serve in this position.

The HLC oversees the accreditation of degree-granting colleges and universities in 19 Midwestern and South-Central states. The 1,500 Peer Corps volunteers share their knowledge and experience to assure and advance institutional quality by evaluating member institutions for adherence to the Criteria for Accreditation and offering consultative feedback.

FACULTY MEMBER COMPLETES BOARD TENURE

In 2014, instructor Carol Ricke completed her four year term on the Accreditation Council for Business Schools & Programs (ACBSP). PCC's business program is accredited through the ACBSP. Their board is made up of 10 regions and has one person on the board from each area. Since stepping down she has started going on site visits for ACBSP to ensure that schools are fulfilling the requirements listed in their accreditation reports and program Quality Assurance reports. She plans to continue these site visits in the future.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Pratt Community College annually is one of the largest economic contributors to Pratt County. PCC is responsible for the livelihood of 1,128 Pratt County Wage earners (based on 2012 average Pratt County Wage of \$34,766). This is 12 percent of estimated Pratt County population of 9,656. (KS Statistical Abstract, 2013 48th Edition, Sept. 2014)

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Employment: 393 Employees (Full time and Part time)
Payroll: \$6.194 million
Pratt Community College Purchases: \$2.433 million
Student Purchases: \$850,000
Visitor Purchases: \$370,000
Value of Community Service at Minimum Wage: \$98,890

$\$9.8 * M X 4^{**} = \$39,200,000$ Annual Economic Contribution to Pratt

\$30,000	Local Sales Tax generated by visitors
\$98,890	Value of community service
\$39,328,890	(Sub Total)

<\$6,022,574> Less Annual Local Tax to PCC
\$33,306,316 Net Economic Contribution to County

*\$6.2 Annual PCC Payroll, \$2.4 PCC Purchases, \$1.2 Visitor Purchases
 ** Economist Recommended Multiplier to Account for Dollars respent in Pratt County



EDUCATIONAL IMPACT

Students Served:	2,285
Credit Hours:	33,276
Scholarship Dollars Awarded	\$140,000
Annually to Pratt County Residents:	
State and Federal Grants 2013-2014	\$740,000

PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAMS

- Learning Center at Pratt (Online GED Completion)
- Kansas Regents Network
- Tractor Safety Training for High School Students
- Facilities used by 20,000 people each year from 439 outside organizations

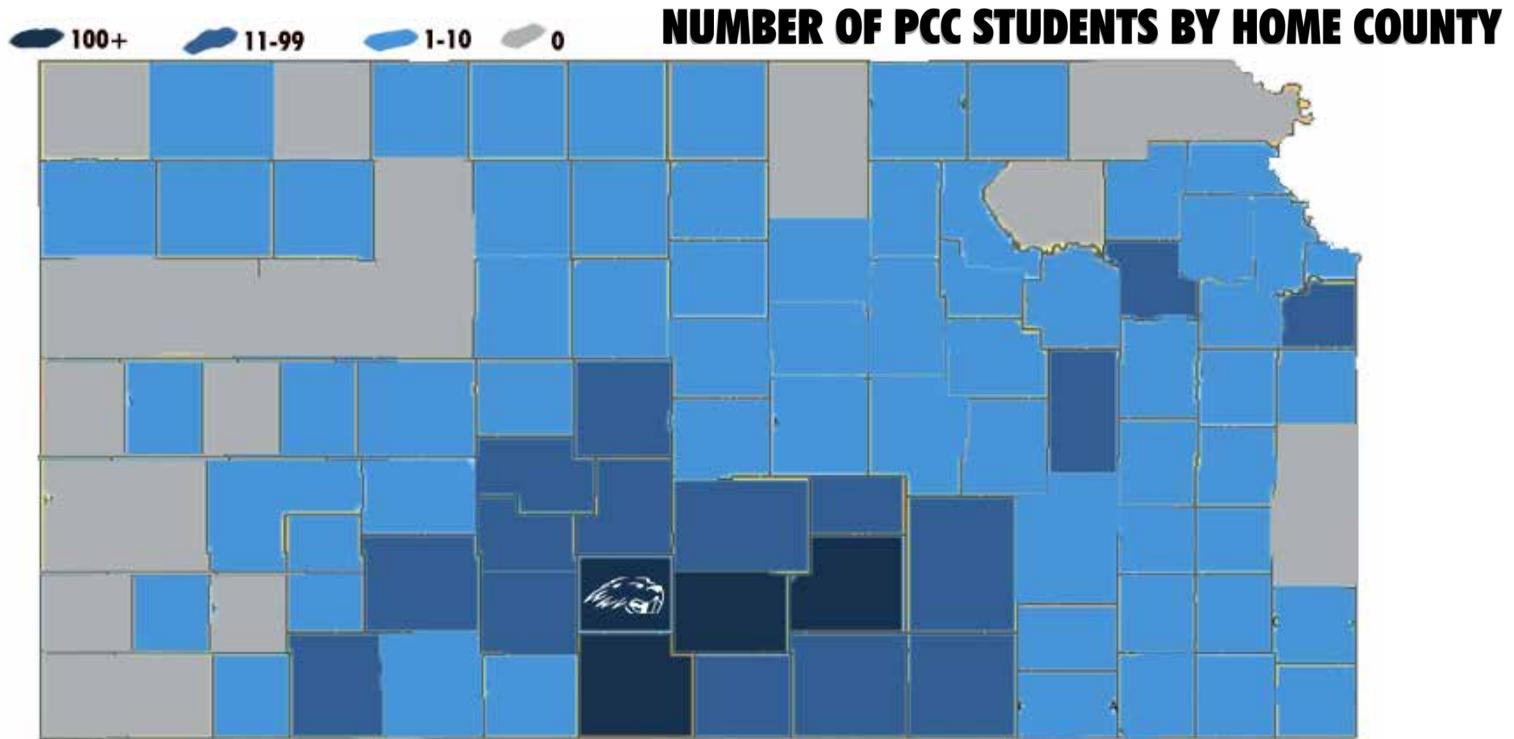
QUALITY OF LIFE CONTRIBUTIONS

- eduKan (Online associate's degree program)
- Pratt Online (Online courses by PCC)
- Student Success (The PASS program, developmental courses, financial aid, assessment testing and scholarships)
- Fort Hays State University Baccalaureate Programs (B.A. Education)
- Kansas State University Baccalaureate Programs (B.S. Technical Management)
- Concurrent courses for high school students (Career and technical courses with tuition waived)
- Continuing education opportunities (Business and industry training for business professionals, health occupations and public service occupations)

MAJOR EVENTS HOSTED AT PCC / FACILITY USAGE

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miss Kansas Pageant • Football Camp • College Rodeo (estimated contribution to community: \$217,308) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Olympics • Technology Program Day • Facilities used by 20,000 people each year from 439 outside organizations |
|--|--|

STATEWIDE REACH AND RETURN ON INVESTMENT



NUMBER OF PCC STUDENTS BY HOME COUNTY

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

The median annual income for a Kansan that graduates with an associate's degree is \$5,300* per year more than a Kansan with a high school diploma. Sixty percent of those Kansans earning an associate's degree remain in Kansas. (*Investment in State Postsecondary Education, published by a joint effort of NCHEMS and NPEC*)

Student Return on Investment

The present value of the additional earnings discounted at the direct loan rate of 4.66% is \$101,302.

Cost of Two Years at PCC:
(Tuition, Fees, Books, Room, Board & Misc.) \$17,458

ROI \$1 Investment; Returns \$5.80

County Return on Investment

Annual Economic Contribution from PCC \$39,328,890

Annual Taxes to PCC \$ 6,022,574

ROI \$1 Invested; Returns \$6.53

State Return on Investment

518 Students x \$101,302
Sales Tax 6.15% \$3,227,178
Income Tax average rate 4.8% \$2,518,773
Return to State \$5,745,951

State Aid and Grants to PCC \$3,056,889

ROI \$1 Investment; Returns \$1.88



ACADEMIC AND INSTRUCTION UPDATES



NEW NETWORK TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP

Starting in spring 2015, PCC will be offering coursework in association with WATC in Information Network Technology (INT). PCC currently offers an associate's of applied science degree in this field, but has limited instructional resources due to our location. However through the partnership, PCC will offer upper-level coursework at the WATC Grove campus to students from WATC taking entry level coursework in their IT Essentials general education program. Through this partnership, PCC will also offer a technical certificate in Advanced Computing Technology (ACT) comprised of stacked credentials from CompTIA including A+, Net+, Security+, Server+, Mobility+, Cloud+, Storage+, and CDIA.

Last year, PCC began offering a Wildlife Outfitting & Operations program under its existing farm and ranch technology program. This associate's degree program was started with nine freshman students. This semester, lead instructor Luke Laha teaches 18 freshmen, an increase of 100% over last year.

The program continues to be popular both with students, industry partners and local county partners including the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, offering services to the community such as hunter safety training, among others.

The WOO program is the only associate's degree program in the state of Kansas and one of only two college programs in the nation.



NEW LIVE EVENT PRODUCTION PROGRAM OFFERED

Starting in fall 2015, PCC in association with Hutchinson Community College will offer a technical certificate in live event production. This program will prepare students for jobs in live event media production including editing, scripting, production and directing. This program was brought to our attention by the Kiowa County Media Center of Greensburg, Kan. With their assistance and through a grant from the KBOR, students will be provided with cameras, microphones, recording equipment, tripods and backpacks for use in capturing and producing interviews in media advertising.



NEW POWER LINEMAN PARTNERSHIP

In the spring 2015, PCC in association with Westar Energy, Wichita public schools and Wichita Area Technical College will deliver a high school power lineman training program at WATC grove campus in downtown Wichita. This program is the first of its kind in the nation, preparing high school students for job placement in the electrical power distribution industry. Instructor Ryan Walton is a former PCC student who graduated from our electrical powerline technology program in 2008.

100% GROWTH IN WILDLIFE PROGRAM



MORE OPTIONS FOR PCC STUDENTS

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ONLINE OFFERINGS AT KSU

In 2011 **Kansas State University** and Pratt Community College started a program allowing a smoother pathway for students to transfer from PCC to KSU's online courses. In October of this year, KSU officials met with PCC again to discuss what they have added to make the transition even smoother, especially online. The smoother transition includes more scholarship opportunities for students and more degree options. This program isn't only beneficial to students who are graduating this spring, but also to students who graduated years ago and want to go back and finish their degree online.



NEW ARTICULATIONS AGREEMENTS WITH FRIENDS

In May, PCC signed an articulation agreement that allows students to seamlessly transfer credits to Friends University. This partnership allows a student who completes an associate's degree at PCC to be accepted into the *College of Adult and Professional Studies* at Friends.

In November, the two schools signed an additional articulation agreement that will allow a student who completes an associate's degree at PCC to be accepted into the *College of Business, Arts, Sciences and Education* at Friends.

"We are pleased to partner with PCC on this agreement," said Dr. Darcy Zabel, interim president of Friends University. "This agreement recognizes that PCC students have completed their general education requirements and are ready to pursue a bachelor's degree at Friends."



PASS PROGRAM CONTINUES TO BENEFIT STUDENT ATHLETES

The Program for the Academic Success of Student-Athletes (PASS) was created in 2010 and institutionalized after the fall 2012 semester. Its focus is providing student-athletes with orientations, structured study halls, and intrusive advising to increase chances of student success at Pratt Community College, and after the student transfers to a four year college.

"We want to be proactive with our retention efforts," said Kurt McAfee, PCC athletic director. "It costs us a significant amount of money to go out and recruit new student-athletes as opposed to retaining those who we recruited from the previous year. I believe their success in academics plays a key role in their retention."



as Physical Science, College Algebra, Biology, etc. SI was discontinued at the end of the Spring 2014. PASS remains strong, however. The program has shown improvements in student-athletes' GPAs, retention and graduation rates for a three-year period.

"I am planning to introduce new concepts to enhance the program beyond its current state, in cooperation with the faculty and administration," said Head Softball Coach Mike Manderino who was chosen to take over the PASS program in Fall 2014. "PASS is and will continue to be an

integral instrument in the success of Pratt Community College's student-athletes."

The Supplemental Instruction (SI) program was added later as a valuable tool for all students enrolled in "high risk" classes such

STUDENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

During 2013-2014 students in Pratt Community College clubs and organizations completed

8085

HOURS OF SERVICE, VOLUNTEERING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Phi Theta Kappa honor society students commit to keeping highways debris free

PERSONAL GROWTH

“Leadership positions can range from small positions in the classroom to leading an entire country or nation. Each position can be a positive learning experience, and one that is learned over time.

I have been involved with the Student Admissions Representatives, Encore, Miracle Makers, YoUnited Teens and ICT S.O.S. My involvement with these organizations has taught me integrity, honor, respect, knowledge, judgement, tact, and courage.

These are all important traits to becoming a strong leader, and I am using these skills to pave the way for my future.”

-Callie Hobkirk, Wichita, Kan.

SHARED SUCCESS

“Last summer I enabled another student in completing her associate’s degree by tutoring her in math. After many unsuccessful attempts, math was the only credit she lacked. For months I worked with her in partnership with the course instructor.

Going to school, working full-time and tutoring was a lot of work. Despite the extra effort, I am so glad I was given that opportunity. It was a learning experience for me just as much as it was for the girl I tutored. When she received her associate’s degree, it was a great accomplishment for us both.

-Shannon Neifert, Pratt, Kan.

ABOVE AND BEYOND

Each year, the Above and Beyond scholarship is awarded to the best and brightest students. It provides full tuition and books plus a stipend of \$500 per semester. Students on scholarship must also perform 50 hours of community engagement each semester.

We take pride in being an integral part of the community through volunteer service, engagement and enrichment.

FACULTY AND STAFF IN THE COMMUNITY

The faculty and staff are active on campus, in the classroom and in the community. The following areas are just a few of the areas in which our employees are involved:

2710

Hours of community engagement performed by faculty and staff in 2013-2014.

- Girl Scouts of America
- American Legion Baseball Tournament
- Rotary Club
- Barber County Fair
- Pratt County Fair
- Kingman County Fair
- Pratt Young Professionals
- Pilot Club
- Nomar CDC
- Relay for Life
- St. Paul Preschool
- PHS Volleyball
- Pratt County Lake
- Pratt Food Pantry
- Miss Kansas / Miss America
- Red Cross
- AGAPE clinic
- Bike MS
- First Christian Church clothing store
- Hospice thrift store
- District 7 VFW
- Pratt Area Churches
- PCC Rodeo
- Pratt Chamber of Commerce/ Tourism Committee
- Area rest homes
- Old-Fashioned Christmas Downtown
- Middle School Lil Buddies

Staff members and their families walk for the cure at the 2014 Relay for Life



OUR STORIES - WHY WE GIVE BACK



ERIC WEBB

assistant to the president for planning and assessment

“I invest my time in Pratt because of how much Pratt has given to me. As an employee at PCC, I have been given opportunities that will shape my future for the better. It is important to me that I am spending my time in Pratt at more than a desk job, but also in making the people and places around me better.

Growing up, I had a lot of great mentors in my life. It has been important to me that their influence in my life lives on through mentoring others. My time with Angel Wing Ministries and the Presbyterian Family Night Out has been an opportunity to continue that legacy.”

JENNIFER BARTEN *asst. director of residence life & coord. of information services*



From the time I was little, volunteering has been something that I was involved in with my family. I was taught that it is important to give back to your community by volunteering. I was taught that you can give all the money in the world, but if no one is around to do anything good with it than there is no point in giving the money.

You must give both your time and money to be successful.

The place I have volunteered the most is with my church. Being raised in a small, rural church I knew that if something was going to happen, everyone had to be on board and willing to help. Even now that I am in Pratt, I still am on a church committee and feel that being involved with the church is a great way to give back to the community, get involved and meet new people.

Volunteering is such a rewarding experience and I’ve met so many wonderful people by doing it.

PCC Rodeo Team spends time with Girl Scout Troop 50170



ATHLETES IN THE COMMUNITY



During 2013-2014 athletes at Pratt Community College completed

2808

HOURS OF SERVICE, VOLUNTEERING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Pratt women's basketball team members have been volunteering their time with clients a couple times each week. It has become an activity that everyone looks forward to as they have grown friendships with the ladies.

Arrowhead West, Inc. is a not-for profit organization serving children and adults with developmental disabilities in Dodge City, Medicine Lodge, Pratt, Kinsley and Wichita.

"The opportunity to spend time with the clients at Arrowhead West has been a tremendous opportunity for our student-athletes and me," said Head Coach Stephanie Thompson. "We all look forward to the time we get to spend with them and we truly appreciate the friendships that are being built. We are looking forward to seeing them in the Beaver Dome during basketball season this year."

AWI Program Manager Richard Hawley says the community partnership with PCC has been very positive for everyone.

"Without community service, we would not have a strong quality of life," he said. "The unselfish effort of the Pratt women's basketball team has brought smiles and the opportunity to build friendships to our day service. and we look forward to more activities in the future."

Republished from the AWI Insider, a publication of Arrowhead West, Inc.

MEN'S BASKETBALL Additional reporting, Hutch News

"Little Buddies" is the official community engagement initiative of the PCC men's basketball team.

This mentoring program was started by Liberty Middle School instructor Connie Schartz 10 years ago. Each week, PCC students devote one hour to arithmetic and outdoor activities with fifth graders.

In March, the team made the NJCAA playoffs and their Little Buddies made the trip to Hutchinson to support their players. When the team re-entered the arena to

play the second half of the game, the little buddies formed a line between the door and the basketball court. Players and youngsters traded friendly hand slaps.

Cade Chisham's buddy, Kevin Allen, is 6-foot-10 and was the tallest player for the Pratt team last spring.

"I like to see when he goes up for a dunk," said Chisham.

Allen now plays for Boise State University.



Jose Bustamante spends time with his Little Buddy.

ATHLETICS UPDATES

Women's Basketball started volunteering two days a week for an hour each day at Arrowhead West. We have engaged in a number of activities with our friends including making holiday decorations, baking, singing and dancing, along with shopping for Christmas gifts. The 2013-2014 seasons were the seasons with the most success in 25 years. The Beavers finished the season 20-11 and finished fifth in the tight Jayhawk

will graduate 12 sophomores and return four freshmen. The returning freshman class includes starting staff Marina Hansen, Amber Cullwell and McKenzie Turner and support staff Kaleigh Soneson. Our in-state recruiting for 2015 is close to closing out. Six players have verbally committed and four have signed OLIs. As Lady Beaver volleyball players we recognize that without the community, there would be no Pratt Community

fall of 2014, many of our sophomores were put into leadership roles and set a solid foundation for our freshman. Our team learned how to compete on a daily basis. They learned a lot about themselves and what it takes to play college baseball. We have a great group of sophomores and a hungry group of freshman ready to take on the Jayhawk West this spring.

Softball began the Softball Sisters as their primary community service initiative. We chose a local team of 13-14 year old softball players and hosted pizza parties, practice times and individual lessons. The spring of 2014 was not the best representation for softball, unfortunately due to several key injuries. Several players stepped into roles they did not expect to be in.

October 2014 Volleyball Pink Out



conference race. Tatiana Grant was named a First Team All-American; the first in program history. Elle Stein was also selected as Second Team All-Jayhawk West.

Volleyball had a milestone worthy season in 2014. We accumulated a 22-11 record becoming the first 20-win season since 2008. Only two teams in the conference beat Pratt: Cloud and Hutchinson. Despite spending time in the standings at first and second place, we finished KJCCC West play tied for third with Seward and Cloud. Unfortunately, we were plagued with a small amount of success and a large amount of physical and emotional stress. We still had a remarkable season considering we were preseason ranked eighth out of nine teams. We produced one KJCCC All-Conference selection, Marina Hansen, a setter from Yuma, Colo. We

College, thus, we believe it is our pleasure to be respectful to the community. We have decided to attend five city events throughout the course of one school year. In October, we hosted a Dig Pink Match for breast cancer awareness, selling t-shirts for donations to the Dig Pink Foundation.

Baseball helped with the hospice fundraising auction and completed odd jobs around town. The spring of 2014 didn't go as we had hoped and we finished with an overall record of 20-34. Although we had many key injuries to battle through, we showed a lot of toughness and heart. We placed two student-athletes on the All-Conference First Team: Justin Crouch from Bossier City, La. at third base, and Pratt native BJ Dean in the outfield. Both finished in the top eight in the nation in homeruns. In the

Each of them gave their best effort every game, but the team fell short of the playoffs for the second straight year. With a solid core of returners and a versatile athletic group of freshman recruits, our fall season was both educational and productive. Many new faces will have the opportunity to have substantial playing time this spring. Every position has been solidified; Pitching brings the most improvement and depth. With a change in divisions to the Jayhawk West and a bump to NJCAA Division 1 level, the Lady Beavers look to compete for a spot somewhere in the top three teams of their division.

Track & Field supports the community through its promotion of health and well-being. Our community service initiative is

hosting community-wide running events at local schools. The track teams competed throughout the state of Kansas in 2014. Anthony Soto had a solid season in the pits, placing in both the long and triple jump at the conference meet. The squad of 10 freshmen proudly represented the college.

Cross Country supports the local schools when they host events such as cross country meets, road races, and family fun nights. Both cross country teams spent time ranked in the top 10 of the national poll during the 2014 campaign. The women finished fourth in the region and 15th in the nation. The men finished eighth in the region and 21st in the nation. Individually, Grasiella Navarro placed ninth in the nation to garner All-American honors, the first woman in Pratt Cross Country history to do so. Her time of 18:18 for the 5K is a new school record. The teams competed at Texas Tech, Kansas University, Oklahoma State, and Arkansas.

Men's Soccer went 10-6 on the 2014 season, and finished fifth in conference. We lost to Cloud on penalty kicks in the first round of the playoffs. Declan Fitzpatrick, James Gragson, Sam Nobo, David Nobo and Greg Roller made All-Conference Second Team. Jose Vaquera made Honorable Mention. Declan and Greg also made AI-Region Second team. In July, 2013 alumnus Nik Bohne signed to play professionally with the Wichita B-52s. The team volunteers to referee soccer in the spring recreation league in Pratt and surrounding areas.

Women's Soccer finished the season 3-9-6, and narrowly missed making the playoffs. Wynter Keetso made All-Conference

Second Team and Ashley Contreras made Honorable Mention. The team volunteers to referee soccer in the spring recreation league in Pratt and surrounding areas.

Men's Basketball participates in the Little Buddies program as our primary community service initiative. In March, the team won the Region VI tournament, qualifying for nationals for the first time since 2005. This summer, 2011 alumnus Niko Skouen signed to played professionally with MTV Herzoge. In October, Head Coach Jesse Shaw was inducted into the Northwest Missouri M-Club Athletic Hall of Fame. The 2014-2015 team is 8-5 going into Christmas break, with three of our losses to Top 12 teams in the country. We won two games that were one possession at the end of regulation, and lost four games that were four points or less at the end of regulation.

Cheer The cheerleading team is having a rebuilding year and undergoing a coaching change going into spring 2015. They have high hopes for recruiting for a stronger 2015-2015 squad.

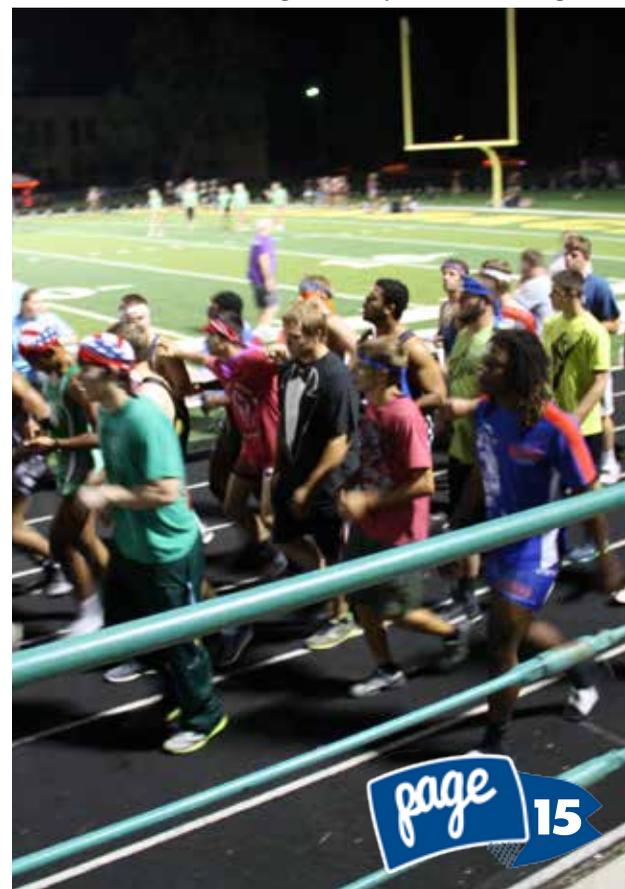
Wrestling completed over 1,000 hours of community service in 2013-2014 and had a 5-6 dual record. We made the school's first ever appearance at the NWCA National Dual Tournament and were one round away from placing in the top 8. We defeated defending National Champion Labette Community College twice. We were an All-Academic Team and Academic Team of the Year with a 3.14 GPA, the highest cumulative GPA of

any NJCAA wrestling team in the nation. We also had 14 individual Academic All-Americans. Alumnus Cody Carson was NJCAA All-American at 174 lbs. and is now wrestling at Minnesota-Mankato. In fall 2014 we completed 965 hours of community service. Coach Kepley is completing a Weight Room & Wrestling Room Facility Enhancement. Every Friday night, every student-athlete who misses a class or is late completes community service to remind them of how important it is to be responsible and accountable for their actions. Any time a community member needs something moved from their house or something hands on, we take the opportunity to help. The team maintains the only Olympic Wrestling Regional Training Center in the state, and free clinics are offered every Sunday for youths free of charge. The season record is 2-4, with all four losses to nationally ranked opponents. Syed Rafay Ali was the Baker Open Wrestling Champion, Joseph Garland was the Baker Open 4th Place, and Micah Felton was the Baker Open 4th Place with a win over #9 ranked Chris Berry by pin at Bacone (NAIA).

PRATTCC.EDU/ ATHLETICS



Wrestling at Relay for Life in August





PRATT WRESTLING

The wrestling team qualified six to the NJCAA National Tournament in Spokane, Wash., in February. Cody Carson tabbed All-American honors by placing seventh in the country at 174 pounds. This is the third year in a row that Pratt has had an All-American at the NJCAA National Tournament.



In June, the team was named 2013-2014 NJCAA Academic Team of the Year for the second year in a row, meaning that they had the highest cumulative GPA of any community college men's wrestling team in the nation with a 3.12. Also in the classroom, twelve wrestlers were named to the 2013-2014 National Wrestling Coaches Association (NWCA) All-Academic Team.

Other Pratt Community College athletic programs that were named NJCAA All-Academic Teams included men's baseball, women's soccer, women's softball, women's volleyball and women's basketball.



CROSS COUNTRY COMPETES AT NATIONALS

The #17 women's cross country team finished 15th at the NJCAA D1 meet on Saturday. There were 102 NJCAA schools participating in women's cross country. Grasiela Navarro finished ninth overall, making her the first Pratt female to earn All-American honors in cross country.

She is also the first cross country All-American Pratt has produced at the NJCAA Division 1 level. Her time of 18:18 is a new school record for the 5K (beating her own school record by 20 seconds).



MEN'S BASKETBALL REGIONAL CHAMPIONS

The men's basketball team won the Region VI tournament on March 8, qualifying for the national tournament in Hutchinson for the first time since 2005, and only the fourth time in school history. Kaion Seales was the MVP of the tournament; Robert Davis, Javis Flynn and Kevin Allen were all named to the All-Tournament Team.

In October, Head Coach Jesse Shaw was inducted into the Northwest Missouri M-Club Athletic Hall of Fame as part of the 2003-2004 Northwest Missouri State University Men's Basketball Team.

EXTRACURRICULAR SUCCESS



BLOCK AND BRIDLE STUDENT WINS NATIONAL AWARD

In November, Lane Kissinger received the National Block and Bridle Outstanding Sophomore Scholarship.

Block and Bridle is a club for students with an interest in agriculture. The objectives of the club are to promote student interest and leadership in agriculture, strengthen, improve, and promote the profession of agriculture, and scholarship among students of agriculture.



PCC STUDENT NAMED NCAS SCHOLAR

Pratt Community College student Silvia Alvarez spent three days at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas during November to participate in the National Community College Aerospace Scholars project (NCAS).

Alvarez, originally from Pratt, was selected as one of 40 community college students from across the U.S. and was the only student selected from Kansas.

The semester-long scholars program culminates with a three-day on-site event at Johnson Space Center and offers students the opportunity to interact with NASA engineers and others as they learn more about careers in science and engineering.

"My favorite part was interacting with the NASA team and seeing their facilities up close," said Alvarez. "It was an exciting experience for someone from a small town in Kansas, and it helped me to decide that I want to pursue an internship with NASA in the future. I've been interested in working with NASA since high school, and since I'm planning a career in science, this fits in well with my academic objectives."

Alvarez will graduate from Pratt Community College in May 2015 and plans to transfer to Wichita State University to study microbiology.

A student from Pratt Community College has won the award every year since 1997. Requirements for the scholarship are based on GPA, Block and Bridle activities and other school and community activities.

Originally from Mulvane, Kissinger is majoring in Feedlot Management and is on track to graduate in May. He decided to come to PCC because many of his friends were already here and had good things to say about the college.

"They have good, knowledgeable instructors in the ag department and they are willing to help out when the students need it," he said. "I'm happy with my decision to come to Pratt."



SHOOTING SPORTS COMPETES AT ACUI

Seven students from Pratt Community College traveled to San Antonio at the end of March to compete in the ACUI Collegiate Clay Target Championship, a national shooting competition. While there, each student competed in six events including: American and International Trap, American and International Skeet, 5-stand and sporting clays.

PCC was in division number three, which meant that they had nine shooters or less. Division three was the largest and PCC was up against many four-year universities and was able to beat a few including: the University of Maryland, the University of Tennessee and the University of Arkansas.

"We didn't have any expectations for ourselves," said Darrin McVay, of Greensburg. "We were there to have fun and accomplished that - and we didn't shot too badly either."

EMPLOYEE YEARS OF SERVICE



Less than 1 year

AMANDA BENTLEY
 JARED BROWN
 DeVON BRYANT
 ERIC COLBERT
 MICHAEL DANIELS
 STACEY DAVIES
 SANDRA DYCHE
 BEN GALLOWAY
 MARA HOLTGRIEVE
 KEVIN KEWLEY
 CHERI LECH
 HALEY LINDSEY
 KALIE MADER
 SUSAN MAYBERRY
 KRISTEN NIBLETT
 LEAH PATTERSON
 TRACY REYNOLDS
 MELINDA RODMAN
 CHRIS SHUMWAY
 MARLA STARK
 MARY SULLIVAN
 JAY VALERIUS

1 year

DANIEL ADLER
 CASEY BACKMAN
 JOHANNA BARTELS
 ELYSE BIRDSONG
 KATHERINE BROWN
 MICHAEL CALVERT
 LEIGHANNE DEAN
 MICHAEL EMMOTT
 MARK FREEMAN
 JASON GHUMM
 ERIN LACIO
 LUKE LAHA
 NATHAN LAWRENCE
 AMANDA WADE

2 years

CHRISTY ALLEY
 KIM CROMER
 VALARIE DELLROCCO
 BRAD DICKSON
 KATHRYN FALKINBURG
 THERESA GEE
 CAITLIN JACKSON
 SHARON LUKENS
 MIKE MANDERINO
 JUAN PERRON
 NIKKI POWELL
 CHAD SHADE
 KARLA STEEL
 DEB TAYLOR
 PRESLEY TINNIN
 STEVE VANDERVOORT
 KAY WATKINS
 LELANNE ZIMMERMAN

3 years

AMANDA DECKER
 CHER GRUVER
 DEBORAH HEARN
 FRANK STAHL
 RYAN VANDER PLUYM
 JOSEPH VARRIENTOS
 SANDRA WAGNER
 STEVE WESTERHAUS

4 years

JENNIFER BARTEN
 BRIAN ELKINS
 KIMBERLY HANSEN
 KENNETH KEPLEY
 CINDY LAMBERT
 SHARON LOGAN

SANDRA NISSEN
 HANNA SHORT

5 years

DAVE CAMPBELL
 LANE GOURLEY
 FAYE GRAFF
 TERRY JOCHEMS
 DARRELL KRUSE
 MARY MARQUARDT
 ANN RUDER
 JANIE WHITMAN
 ANDY GREENSTREET

6 years

MARLENE FORD
 KENNETH GAWITH
 AMY JACKSON
 GLORIA MUELLER
 HANNAH SHAW
 JESSE SHAW
 TONY SHULL
 ERIC THOMPSON
 STEPHANIE THOMPSON
 MARIO TURSINI
 HEATHER WILSON

7 years

MIKE ALLISON
 STEVE BEHYMER
 JEREMY RUPE
 BRENDA STERNEKER

8 years

JOYCE FREY
 KURT MCAFEE

9 years

SCOTT JACKMAN
 DELAINE RIGGS

10 years

MICHAEL JACKSON
 SARAH JACKSON

11 years

GREG BACON
 KIP CHAMBERS

12 years

SHARON BARRETT

13 years

RITA PINKALL
 EDWARD RAWSON
 ALLEN WIESE

14 years

MISTY BECK
 JUNNAE LANDRY
 STEPHANIE WIESE

15 years

ROY CLARK
 E. DEAN SENTER
 RODNEY STEWART

16 years

LORI MONTGOMERY
 JERRY SANKO

19 years

MARY BOLYARD
 SHERRY WARD

20 years

LISA KOLM

21 years

LEIGH ANN HALL
 WILLIAM HUNTER
 GAIL WITHERS

22 years

KENT ADAMS
 MICHAEL WESTERHAUS
 RHONDA WESTERHAUS

23 years

DARYL LUCAS

24 years

DAN PETZ

25 years

DAVID CRAMER
 PATTY HUFFMAN
 CAROL RICKE

26 years

CAROL BONHAM

27 years

W. GREGG WADE

27 years

MONETTE DEPEW

29 years

MARSHA SHRACK

30 years

CARMEN FOREST
 LISA PEREZ MILLER

32 years

LORRAINE PROSSER

35 years

CATHY BLASI
 TIM RENNER

A YEAR OF PERFORMING ARTS

2014 SHOW CALENDAR

Feb. 16	Valentine's Day Concert
March 13	County Choral Extravaganza
April 5 - 7	"Aida"
April 27	Finale Concert
June 20 - 21	"Peter Pan. Jr." (Kids Camp)
Sept. 28	Student Showcase
Oct. 24 - 26	"A Night on Broadway"
Nov. 11	USO Show
Dec. 5 - 7	"A Christmas to Remember"

**PRATTCC.EDU/
PERFORMINGARTS**



DEPARTMENT RECEIVES GENEROUS DONATION FROM BENSON FAMILY

On Oct. 26, family members of longtime college supporters Bruce and JoAnn Benson presented a generous donation to the PCC Performing Arts Department. The gift was recognized at the closing performance of "A Night on Broadway."

Bruce Benson was a member of the first Board of Trustees and served on the board for a total of 30 years non-consecutively before he passed away on Jan. 29, 2014.

JoAnn graduated from the college in 1946, and was followed by three generations of children and grandchildren who attended PCC or participated in music and theatre productions. The Benson commitment to Pratt Community College has left a legacy that has impacted the institution in the past, present and future.

"We are so grateful for the many years of service on the Board of Trustees,

the participation at concerts and plays, and attendance and graduation of so many members of the family," said PCC Foundation Director Ann Ruder. "We are thrilled to be a part of this family's story."

Pictured L-R: Wes Norman, Richard Benson and Elaine Geesling (children of Bruce), Misty Beck and Jeremy Rupe (Performing Arts instructors), and Alan Hanson.



NEW DUDREY AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY CENTER

On Dec. 5, Pratt Community College held a building dedication ceremony to honor a longtime supporter of the college and unveil the sign for the recently expanded and newly renamed **Dudrey Agriculture Technology Center**.

This summer, the college added 1,650 square feet on the east side to what was formerly known as the Ag Power Building. The addition was possible because of money that was given to the college by **Carl and the late Bonnie Dudrey**.

Along with the extra space, the building also has an overhead crane, which will allow students to easier work on equipment and larger doors to so they can bring in larger equipment.

This year there are 17 students on Dudrey scholarships, which are given to students in technical programs. Fall 2014 enrollment is up in the ag power program, and the college hopes to see that trend continue with the new addition.



"I wanted to do something to leave a bit of a legacy for the Dudrey name, beside just providing the scholarships. We help a lot of different organizations, but PCC is my main interest."

- **Carl Dudrey**

"More than 60 students have gotten an education and found jobs in their field thanks to donations from the Dudreys. Carl has certainly done his part to spur the local economy. It's easy to see how the Dudrey family is committed to the success of the area."

- **Michael Calvert, President**

"Thank you Carl, this is really something. A few years ago we had four-wheel drive tractors in here," Stewart said. "We were trying to pull the engines out of them and having a terrible time. I dreamed of something like this then, and now it's a reality."

- **Rod Stewart, Ag Power Instructor**

"Carl and Bonnie have been fabulous donors and longtime supporters of the college. They have allowed many students over the years to get scholarships that otherwise wouldn't have had one."

- **Kent Adams, Vice President of Finance and Operations**

Additional reporting, St. John News



LETTER FROM THE FOUNDATION DIRECTOR

Dear PCC Alumni and Friends,

It was October 2008 when I first stepped onto the campus of PCC, and I am still amazed that my memory of the feeling that washed over me still gives me a warm feeling and a smile.

I was here for a job interview. It was a cold, rainy, miserable day, and I had just driven in from North Texas the day before, wearing shorts and flip-flops. There was no way that I wanted to move back to Kansas with the drab colors of fall - the brown grass, brown fields, no trees, no greenery whatsoever! But all of that fell away upon entering the commons area of the Benson Education Center, PCC's main building. It was so very welcoming and I can only imagine and hope that others, including students, parents of students, alumni, community members and visitors in general feel the same welcoming effect that I did.

Pratt Community College and the Pratt community, as a whole, has proven to be a place that I like to call "home." Is the feeling the same for our students and others as it was to me?

In order to gain perspective in one's life, at times you need to reflect on your life to see where you were and how the many twists and turns of life have impacted where and who you are today. It helps to see the growth in one's life, through accomplishments, challenges, celebrations, losses and the countless life decisions that seem so minute in that instant we are living them, but which may have had the greatest impact on where we are and who we have become.

All of us have those life-long stories to tell, and these stories are the ones I am most interested in hearing and being able to share with your fellow alumni and friends of PCC.

This year, we are focused on celebrating you, our alumni and friends. We look forward to reconnecting with you, hearing your story about how you came to know PCC, where our alumni have been since attending PCC, why our friends support PCC, and what keeps drawing you back to PCC.

We are looking for ways for our Alumni to give back to PCC, and not just monetarily. Giving back could mean being a mentor to a current PCC student, sharing your excitement in your own community, or allowing a prospective student of PCC to interview you in order to assist him or her in their decision on what school they want to attend.

We are also looking for ways to form PCC Alumni Chapters anywhere we can find large populations of Beavers. We hosted our first event of this sort in Wichita in October, and are looking to continue events such as these in order to reconnect you with your classmates and other Alum of PCC.

The possibilities are endless! I look forward to hearing your story. Let's get together soon.



Ann Marie Ruder, Foundation Director

To tell your story and keep us in touch with you, visit

WWW.PRATTCC.EDU/ALUMNIUPDATE



Irene Shumway and Ann Ruder at the first Wichita Alumni meeting in Oct.

ALUMNI AND FOUNDATION UPDATES

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION

On April 25, the Pratt Community College Foundation hosted the 26th annual scholarship auction. The theme was "Under the Big Top," and the carnival-inspired evening included dinner, raffles, a live auction with John Hamm, a silent auction and a performance by PCC's vocal ensemble, Encore!. Altogether, more than 90 items were auctioned off, and \$37,597 was netted for student scholarships.



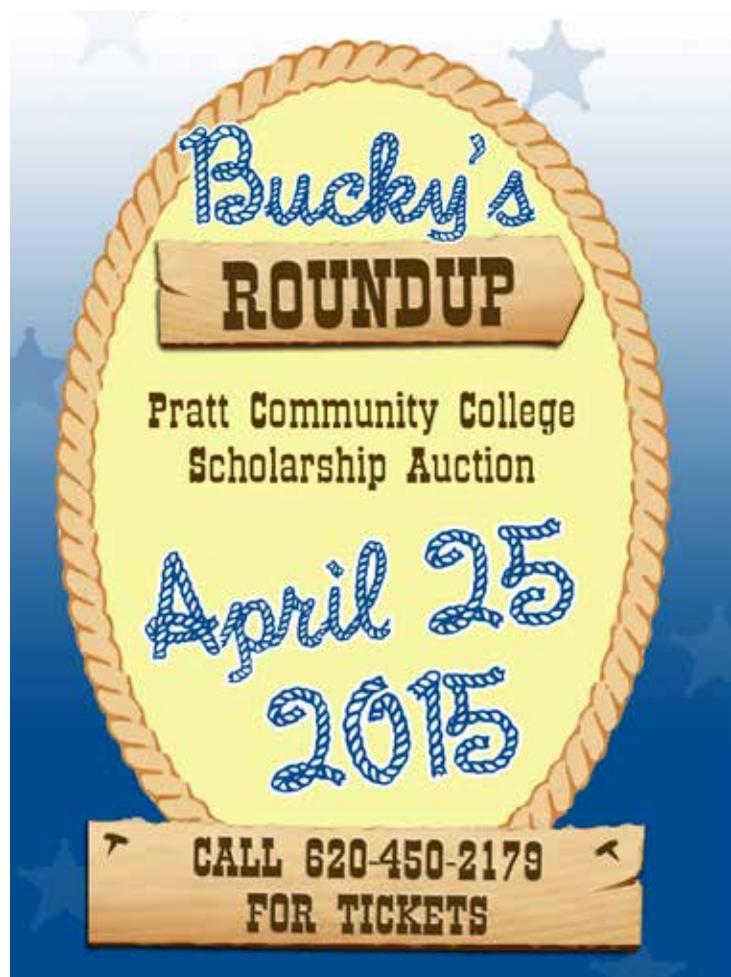
FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

President: Dave Schmidt	Marvin Proctor
Vice President: Diane Thompson	Rhonda Westerhaus
Treasurer: Kent Adams	Eric Bronson
Kurt McAfee	Lisa Perez Miller
William Wojciechowski	Dr. Mike Calvert
Rep. Kyle Hoffman	Darrell Shumway
Marilyn Kempton	Ken Van Blaricum
Richard Kerschen	George Nusz
Carolyn Williams Porter	

The mission of the Pratt Community College Foundation is to promote opportunities for a quality higher education and to advance institutional excellence through cultivating positive and enduring relationships with supporters.

The Foundation exists as a separate 501(c)3 non-profit organization responsible for college advancement, alumni relations, and stewardship of the college's endowment fund. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

EMAIL: ANNR@PRATTCC.EDU
DIRECT LINE: 620-450-2179
FAX: 620-450-2285



CELEBRATION OF ALUMNI AND SCHOLARS

2014 OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS

“As a graduate of Pratt Community College, I have met many role models of fellow graduates, but few as outstanding as **Dr. Shirle Ibeawuchi**. The year was 1952 when Dr. Ibeawuchi graduated from PCC. That summer she worked as a riveter at Boeing to pay for her tuition at Wichita State in the fall.

It was while she was a student that Ibeawuchi met her husband, Asuzu, an international student attending Southwestern College. Ibeawuchi’s quest to get a college degree took place in an age of Plessy vs Ferguson, when segregation was the law of the land and upward mobility was limited if not “colored” by the signs of the times. I am proud to know this courageous, straight forward, no nonsense, “let’s take life in stride” kind of woman that I know Dr. Ibeawuchi to be.

Eighteen years after receiving her Ph.D. from the University of Kansas, Ibeawuchi returned to Owerri, Nigeria to help her oldest daughter, Adamma, start a school, the Brighton Hall Academy named after her parents Effe and Jr. Bright. When Asuzu died after 60 years of marriage, Ibeawuchi and her family sponsored their Nigerian great-nephew, Ekene, who graduated from PCC with his nursing degree and is currently working towards a master’s.

Ibeawuchi also continued to work towards the success of Brighton Hall Academy, so more children could be provided the same kind of education. To this end, Ibeawuchi personally packed 75 boxes of books, desks, chairs and other school supplies all from her own home, and shipped them to Nigeria. To this day, Ibeawuchi still speaks to clubs and organizations to raise awareness of the educational needs of those less fortunate.”

- Rhonda Westerhaus, Instructor, Pratt Community College

ALUMNUS AND SCHOLAR BRUNCH

On April 26, Pratt Community College honored 2014 Outstanding Alumnus Dr. Shirle Ibeawuchi, the spring 2014 Presidential Above and Beyond scholars and the graduating named and endowed scholars at a spring brunch ceremony.

“Receiving this scholarship was important to me because it has given me the opportunity to complete my general education courses in my hometown, and greatly reduced the financial burden of pursuing higher education,” said Kumberg, a native of Pratt who is an Above and Beyond scholar.

Barb Schmidt is from Preston, Kan. and is studying nursing with the George T. Chandler scholarship. She also volunteers at the Agape Clinic and as a first responder for Pratt County.

“I started as an EMT in 1994 working as an emergency room tech, and wanted to continue and become a nurse,” she said. “This scholarship is making it possible to continue that dream.”

Below: Foundation Director Ann Ruder, Schmidt, Ibeawuchi, Kumberg and President Calvert at the April brunch.



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS HONORED

The fall 2014 Presidential Above and Beyond scholars and the first year named and endowed scholars were honored at a fall ceremony.



Scholarship Recipients

Above and Beyond

Jacob Bowles
 Emily Lucas
 Joshua Powell
 Charmayne Austin
 Anna Plante
 Rebecca Borger
 Ascha Lee
 Brogan Naylor
 Timothy Romine
 Lisa Smithyman
 Emily Wooldridge
 Remington Fry
 Corbyn Crump
 Kayla Maier
 Patrober Murindat
 Stefani Cain
 Elizabeth Watson
 Sara Marr
 Kevin Gose
 Rachel Ailstock
 Wajiha Akbar
 Yvonne Ramirez
 Shelby Streck

Victor and Thelma Cummins

Irene Krueger
Glen M. McCaslin

J.C. Lemon

Virgil Miles

Fred E. Haas and Mary Francis Haas
John Megaffin
Darrell and Irene Shumway
George Chandler

Harold and Margaret Brant Leak

Clarence Beck
Hicklin Memorial
Laura Betzen-Oeding

Carl and Bonnie Dudrey Scholarship Recipients

Agriculture

James Fitzsimmons
 Kacey Deweese
 Rachel Schmidt
 Bryce Staley
 Cole Patton
 Nolan Lankton
 Ryan Zoglmann
 Cory Heimerman
 Jayton Burns
 Jerry Ford
 Patrick Nemec

Agriculture Power Technology

Electrical Power Lineman Technology

Cameron Fields
 Cole Washington
 Mason Welsch
 Tracey Freeman
 Jeremy Huffman

Automotive Technology

45 YEARS OF RODEO

WHETHAM USES STEREOTYPES TO MOTIVATE HIM



“Most people who rodeo have been doing it since they were young and have been on horses all of their lives. I’ve only been doing it for four years,” said Ryan Whetham, rodeo sophomore. “At first knowing that information was intimidating, now it helps to motivate me.”

Whetham came to Pratt Community College on a rodeo scholarship to team rope and steer wrestle. Last year he received an Associate of Applied Science in Farrier Science, which is a

one year horse shoeing school and this year he is pursuing a degree in Ag Business. Whetham said not being from this area is something that people think he has going against him. “People hear where I’m from and don’t think people from the East Coast have as much talent,” he said. “It just gives me one more thing to prove and helps to motivate me that much more.”

His family had bought horses to have on their family farm and Whetham met Joe Bell, who helped him get into it and

taught him the techniques. He tried team roping, calf roping and steer wrestling and stuck with the two.

Last year, Whetham won team roping at the PCC rodeo, won steer wrestling in Colby and made the short-go in steer wrestling in Guymon, Okla.

“My goal is to make it to the short-go as much I can and to get a spot in the finals,” he said. “I really want to be consistent this year.”

45TH STANION WHOLESALE ELECTRIC RODEO OCTOBER 3 - 5, 2014



RODEO AND THE COMMUNITY

The rodeo program has a long history of engaging the citizens of the community.

Each rodeo is preceded by the annual **Kids Rodeo**, a preview exhibition by the PCC team for local elementary children. This year, 215 students from local schools attended.

This year, the PCC team held a **Chili and Hotdog Feed** for the community the evening before the event kicked off. Crowds of people gathered for good food and autographs from the team.



PCC RODEO: A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



founding members of the rodeo club. “The students talked to all the farmers in the area and borrowed their cattle panels to form their first makeshift arena,” said Perry. “They got the bucking chutes from Stafford and the stock at a heavy discount from Rumford Rodeo Company.”

Perry shares about the community team roping competitions that the students held during the summers to raise money, and how important the rodeo became for Ford, who served as president in the second year of the club’s existence.

“The administration was thrilled with the way the community rallied together,” said Perry. “The students were doing what they loved and eventually getting scholarships for it. That was something the college couldn’t have started and supported on its own, but the students worked hard for it.”

Huffman continued his involvement with the group, supported the students, and donated his own time, money and equipment to building the first real facilities. In 1973, the Huffman Arena was completed and named in his honor. Huffman continued to fundraise in the community and strengthen the program until his death in 1990.

Once the arena was established, the program expanded under the leadership of Kenton Baughman, who arrived from Abilene, Kan. in 1981 and spurred the team on to its first major success.

Rodeo was so important for my students,” said Baughman. “Many of them went on to very successful careers and learned some important lessons

during their time in the program. It really served them well in the long run.”

One of those success stories is Steve Knowles, a bull rider from Florida who went on to judge for the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA). Another is Ray Wessel of Cedar Point, Kan., who would go on to the College Rodeo National Finals, win the PRCA Prairie Circuit Finals in 1989 and 1995, and qualify for the National Finals Rodeo in 1994 in bull riding.

“Wessel is pure fortitude,” said Knowles. “He’s got a lot of try. He hangs on and doesn’t give up.”

In 1991, PCC rodeo saw the arrival of Head Coach Rocky Patterson. Rocky was raised on a farm between Anthony and Kiowa, and rodeoed at Allen Community College and Oklahoma Panhandle State University.

“I chose to go into teaching mainly so I could have summers off to rodeo,” said Patterson. “I was at PCC for nine years and then decided to focus on my rodeo career in steer roping.” Patterson continues to rodeo and reside in Pratt to this day. He boasts three world titles, most recently in 2012, which his wife Shelly compares to winning the Super Bowl.

Patterson was the 1992 PRCA Rookie of the Year, and a 19-time Qualifier to the National Finals Steer Roping (NFSR). In addition to retaining numerous titles and qualifications, Patterson is still active in the Pratt community. His two sons are active in rodeo and local 4-H activities, and Patterson has often been seen at middle school events giving demonstrations to area residents.

The 2014-2015 school year marks the 45th anniversary of the rodeo program at Pratt Community College. It began in 1969 as an extracurricular club through the efforts of a handful of students and faculty members, and has since become one of the largest programs on campus.

Dorothy Huffman is a resident of Pratt and shared this about her husband Herb Huffman, who was a member of the PCC agriculture faculty and a PCC alumnus himself:

“There was no rodeo program at the school up until that time, when some of the students approached Herb and asked him to sponsor a new club,” she said. “Herb told them he knew nothing about the sport of rodeo, but they begged him to act as their faculty sponsor and promised to do all the work. They were so excited, he couldn’t say no.”

So Huffman became the first PCC rodeo sponsor of a group that began to captivate the interest of the community.

Georgia Perry, who later worked for PCC for 17 years, was also heavily involved with the program. Her younger sister, then Helen Ford, was a freshman at PCC and one of the



Helen Ford



Kenton Baughman, back row far left; Ray Wessel, back row third from right



Rocky Patterson

CLUB 62+

Club 62+ is a programming and discount service for senior citizens 62+ years of age in Pratt, Kiowa, Barber, Kingman, Harper, Comanche and Stafford counties. In addition to great programs and events such as casino trips, crafting workshops, special speakers and murder mysteries, seniors may receive a discount card entitling them to:

- One-half price admission to home athletic events
- Tuition scholarships for all college courses (fees and books still apply)
- Free admission to college events to which students are admitted free

There is no charge for membership. To receive a schedule of upcoming activities and events, contact:

Leighanne Dean, Coordinator
620-450-2113
LeighanneD@prattcc.edu
prattcc.edu/Club62

