



PRATT COMMUNITY COLLEGE



BUILDING FUTURES



# COMMUNITY REPORT 2017-2018



# PRATT Community College

## WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED.

With a rich 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 seven men's and seven women's athletic programs.

*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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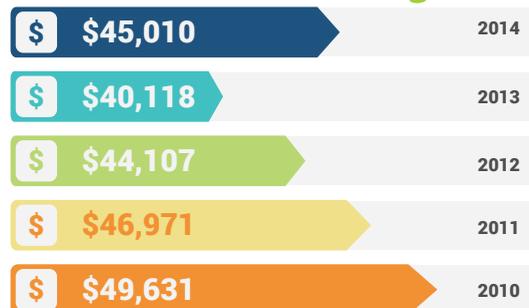


*Created and produced by Jessica Ward  
Additional content by Megan Mayhew*

# CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE



## PCC Grads Highest Paid Five Years Straight



For the fifth consecutive year, Pratt Community College associate degree graduates have earned the highest average associate degree starting salaries of the two-year sector. This year the average associate degree graduate earned \$40,231 from the technical colleges and \$30,336 from the community colleges, while PCC grads earned \$45,010.

“This is amazing,” said Dr. Michael Calvert, PCC president. “Hats off to our faculty and support staff that helped these students succeed and get good paying jobs. What a great return on investment for our students.”

PCC graduates salary was also higher than every state universities average salary with a Bachelor’s Degree which was \$37,905.

This information comes as the sixth installment of data from Foresight 2020, a 10-year strategic agenda approved by the Kansas Board of Regents for the state’s public higher education system. Established in September 2010, the plan sets long-range achievement goals that are measurable, reportable, and ensures the state’s higher education system meets Kansans’ expectations. The original plan included six goals, but a redesign reduced that number to three: increase higher education attainment among Kansans, improve alignment of the state’s higher education system with the needs of the economy, and ensure state university excellence.

The report and its appendices provide data for 21 metrics, including demographics, graduation and retention rates, student success index rates, credential production, and data on graduates’ rates of employment and average earnings in Kansas.

As well as leading the state in highest paid graduates PCC’s enrollment is also up. The 20th day certification date shows PCC up 5.75 percent compared to spring last year. This coupled with a 3 percent increase this past fall helps towards meeting enrollment goals.

In October 2017, Pratt Community College was recognized for being one of the nation’s top 150 community colleges for a fourth consecutive cycle. Highlighting the critical importance of improving student success in America’s community colleges, the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program today named PCC as one of the nation’s 150 top community colleges, challenging it to compete for the \$1 million fund for the 2019 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.

The Aspen Prize, which is awarded every two years, focuses on student success and looks at outstanding achievements in four areas: learning; certificate and degree completion; employment and earnings; and high levels of access and success for minority and low-income students. The idea is to share promising practices as well as spotlight the need for a quality postsecondary education to attain good jobs and careers, according to officials.

“This is an amazing accomplishment and my hats off to the faculty, staff, students and trustees that work tirelessly to help our students be successful,” said Dr. Michael Calvert, President of PCC. “I am very proud to be part of an institution that values and models quality instruction and care and concern for students. Promoting student success is truly a team effort!”



# CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE



Pratt Community College has been recognized for offering one of the best learning environments in Kansas for 2017 by LearnHowToBecome.org (LHTB), a leader in education and career resources.

“It was important to recognize the colleges and universities that are going above and beyond the standard for learning,” said Wes Ricketts, co-founder of LearnHowToBecome.org. “These schools have proven that their learning environments are exceptional and continuing to improve.”

The full ranking list and complete methodology can be viewed here: Best Colleges in Kansas – <http://www.learnhowtobecome.org/college/kansas/>

To be considered for this ranking, schools must be institutionally accredited, public or private not-for-profit institutions and offer at least ten total programs. The main data points considered when ranking universities include:

- In-state tuition and fees for undergraduates
- Student to teacher ratio
- 6 Year Graduation Rate
- % of students receiving institutional financial aid (first time- full time undergrads)

LearnHowToBecome.org has distinguished their ranking measurement by including the median earnings of alumni ten years after enrolling in college. Factoring in salary earnings alongside tuition and financial aid offers a more accurate assessment of the return on investment a university offers.



Pratt Community College was recently ranked one of the top community college's for the second year in a row from the 2017 Best and Worst Community Colleges by Wallethub, a company dedicated to helping people efficiently attain top wallet fitness. In 2017 PCC ranked 16 in the nation. In 2016 PCC ranked 14.

Wallethub's analyst studied 728 Community Colleges across the nation in order to find the best and worst Community Colleges. The three main categories reviewed were cost/financing, education outcomes, and career outcomes.

Pratt Community College ranks 16 in the nation for the best return on investment and is the only Kansas community college in the top 20. Leech Lake Tribal College in Minnesota is ranked No 1. The next highest Kansas community college on the list is Colby Community College at No. 55. Other Kansas community colleges in the top 100 are: Dodge City Community College No. 72, Fort Scott Community College No. 87, Coffeyville Community College No. 93, Hutchinson Community College No. 95.

PCC continues to succeed at being an affordable institution with exceptional student success. In a study conducted between 2008 and 2014, PCC graduates earned a higher annual income than the average graduates from all Kansas public colleges and universities.

“We are excited to be recognized again,” said PCC President Dr. Michael Calvert. “It validates the great work we have done in our classrooms in support of our students and their success.” PCC will add this ranking to its already impressive two time appearance in Smart Assets' 100 Best Community Colleges in the Country and the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program as one the nation's 120 top community colleges for the last three awards.



# ACHIEVEMENT AND RECOGNITION

## WITHERS AWARDED 30TH BOYD DAVIES EXECUTIVE-IN-RESIDENCE

On Apr. 26, Pratt Community College will recognize their 30th Boyd Davies Executive-in-Residence, owner and operator of Southwest Truck Parts, Dale Withers.

The Boyd Davies Executive-in-Residence program was implemented in 1988 by the Accounting and Business Department to give the students at PCC the opportunity to interact with a business person or persons from the area and learn about his/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.

“The committee was pleased to select Dale Withers for this award. He has successfully owned and operated Southwest Truck Parts for many years, and he can help our students understand what it takes to build a successful business,” said Carol Ricke, business instructor. “Congratulations to Dale!”

Withers grew up in Pratt and graduated from Pratt High School in 1960. During his senior year of high school, he decided he wanted to follow his family’s footsteps and start a business. At the time, the Withers family owned a salvage yard and sold used items. Dale started a business similar to his family’s line of work during the end of the first semester of his senior year. Southwest Truck Parts originated in 1959 on Highway 54 and has since branched into a major employer in Pratt.

The company gears itself to selling new and used parts, as well as providing the service for heavy duty trucks. It has a subsidiary company, 54 Pickup, which is geared for light duty trucks. It has grown to include three parts stores in Ponca City, Enid, and Woodward, OK. It serves southern Kansas, northern Oklahoma, and ships all around the world.

Withers attributes his part of his success to the time he started the business.

“I started in the best of times,” said Withers. “When I started, trucks didn’t amount to anything. The economy of the world then shifted and trucks were being made bigger. I was there at the right time and the right place.”

Southwest Truck Parts has a number of employees who have been with the company for over 30 years. Withers feel that is another reason why the company has been successful. In order to keep the employees, he believes he and the company must take care of them, so they will take care of the company in return.

“We do have good people who have been around for a while, but we take care of them too,” said Withers. “They depend on you. I went to a Christmas party one year where 250 employees and their family members were present. I realized that I was responsible for every one of those mouths. I didn’t look at it that way before. Everything I did reflected on that little girl sitting out in the crowd. In order to keep employees, you have got to take care of them and their families.”

Withers is very active in the community and enjoys supporting it as a businessman and a citizen in Pratt. He takes pride in supporting the community and believes having a good relationship with the local community is crucial towards the success of a business. He donates his time and money to various local businesses and foundations, including the Pratt Community College Scholarship Auction, in which Southwest Truck Parts was the exclusive Platinum Underwriter in 2017 and 2018.

“When you do things you enjoy, you need to share it with your community,” said Withers. “They are the ones that give it to you. You’ve got to turn around and give it back to them. They are the ones that give you what you have.”

Withers believes the final piece to the majority of his success was his wife and former co-owner, Arlene.

“Arlene took care of the house. Since she passed, I have to do that, too,” said Withers. “If I had to do what she did, I wouldn’t be here. She would do the housework and once she was finished with that, she would come out to Southwest Truck Parts and work out here. She was a good woman.”

Southwest Truck Parts is located at 1630 E. 1st and they are constantly working on achieving their goal, which is exceeding customer expectations.



# COMMUNITY IMPACT

**PRATT**   
Community College

## ECONOMIC IMPACT



FY 2017-2018

**\$31.7**   
**MILLION** net economic impact on the Pratt Community

**\$22,564**

local sales tax generated by students & visitors 

**9,424**  **\$68,325**

hours of community service generated by students, athletics, faculty & staff

**VALUE** of Community Service 

**\$2.4**  
**MILLION**

annual purchases of local goods & services



30 percent of Total PCC purchases

 **\$5.8**  
**MILLION**

annual payroll for

**352** full time & part time employees

**20,000**  
facility visitors from local & outside organizations 

 **\$190,699**  
Pratt County resident scholarships

# RETURN ON INVESTMENT

THE AVERAGE PCC STUDENT GETS BACK

**\$4.71**

**COST OF 2 YEARS AT PCC \$27,468\***

\*Based on 19 Meal Plan in Beck, Novotny and Porter Halls

FOR EVERY

**\$1.00**

INVESTED TOWARDS TUITION ROOM, BOARD, BOOKS

THE STATE OF KANSAS GETS BACK

**\$2.32**

FOR EVERY

**\$1.00**

INVESTED

PRATT COUNTY GETS BACK

**\$6.02**

FOR EVERY

**\$1.00**

INVESTED



# ACADEMIC UPDATES

## EPT program offering online path for working students

The Electrical Power Technology (EPT) program at Pratt Community College will begin offering their program online starting Fall 2017.

Students all over the country can now apply for admission into the popular program for either a one-year certificate or two-year Associates of Applied Science while they are employed with an electric company. General education courses and EPT required courses will be available solely online for distance students. Online students are required to be accepted into an entry-level apprenticeship with an electrical company to fulfill the lab and field training portion of the degree program.

EPT instructors at PCC will work closely with distance learners and their employers to ensure quality training and completion of the program to be certified.

"This has a tremendous potential for both electric companies and future lineman, said Dave Campbell, EPT instructor at PCC. "Electric companies can hire and begin to train their lineman while they receive a quality education online."

According to the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET) resource center job opportunities for Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers is expected to grow 9 to 13 percent within the next seven years.

"There is a definite need for lineman in the industry right now," said Campbell. "We are seeing an increase in people who are 55 to 65 years old retiring and the industry needs certified lineman to replace them."

According to KSdegreestats.com, an online database resource created by the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR), the EPT program at PCC has one of the best return on investments for graduates of the program. Within five years of graduating, lineman in the region have the potential to earn almost \$100,000 in salary. Sixty percent of graduates in the program are employed in Kansas and Missouri. This data is collected by KBOR and published annually since 2003.

## New EPT pole field sparks interest in Wichita



"A power lineman can earn \$99,343 annually after five years in the field," states Pratt Community College President Michael Calvert.

The statement shocked the crowd attending the ribbon cutting ceremony at the new Westar Energy training site, located at the Wichita Area Technical College Grove campus on Tuesday. The training site was a collaboration between Westar Energy, Pratt Community College, Wichita Area Technical College, and USD 259 in an effort to fulfill the need of skilled power

linemen across the area.

After Westar relayed the need for more skilled workers in the field to WATC almost two years ago, the partnership began. WATC reached out to PCC to collaborate on the program. Students who participate in the program in Wichita will take their general education courses through WATC and their technical courses through PCC.

"This partnership and this facility provides a unique opportunity for students to learn about careers in our industry and develop those necessary skills, which

we hope sparks interest in careers at Westar," said Bruce Akins, Westar Senior Vice President of Power Delivery.

The field contains poles of various sizes for prospective linemen to practice their craft. The eye-catching facility is centrally located in Wichita to spark more interest and conversation about the trade.

The pole field will also serve as a training site for USD 259 students preparing to enter the workforce. Students can begin the program their junior year and will be work ready after they complete their high school education. Senate Bill 155 allows high school students to take technical courses such as electrical power technology at no cost to them.

Pratt Community College students Brett Vinns and Dalton Kincaid showcased their pole climbing skills they have learned in the EPT program at the ceremony. The ceremony was attended by Kansas Lieutenant Governor Jeff Colyer, Wichita Mayor Jeff Longwell, numerous Kansas legislators, Wichita Chamber of Commerce members, and more.



# MORE OPTIONS FOR PCC STUDENTS

## KACCT and Kansas State University launch dual-advising initiative

A new initiative between Kansas community colleges and Kansas State University will provide community college students with additional support as they prepare to transition to the university.

The Kansas Association of Community College Trustees and Kansas State University recently signed a memorandum of agreement to support a dual-advising initiative at the university called DirectLink. The initiative is designed to assist community college transfer students as they transition to a bachelor's degree program at Kansas State University through consistent and frequent interaction between the student, the community college advisor and the university academic advisor.

"Kansas State University is pleased to partner with the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees on this important initiative," said Sue Maes, dean of K-State Global Campus. "Students will receive a clear and direct pathway to obtaining a bachelor's degree, as well as customized support along the way to minimize obstacles and improve their rates of success."

DirectLink will launch in fall 2017 with nine pilot bachelor's degree programs at Kansas State University. The programs include options from the colleges of Agriculture, Business Administration, Education, Engineering and Human Ecology. DirectLink will be coordinated through K-State Global Campus.

"The community colleges are excited about DirectLink, which embraces a concept we have been working on for several years: streamlining the process for our transfer students and clearing pathways," said Linda Fund, executive director of the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees. "Ultimately, this concept can save money and increase completion while providing dual-advising support. We thank K-State for its vision."

Students who participate in the initiative will receive recognition for achievements made while completing the associate degree and will be provided with curriculum sequence information that will guide them through the most efficient and effective timeline to obtaining a bachelor's degree. Students also will have access to Kansas State University resources, customized campus visits, degree audits and activities designed specifically for DirectLink transfer students.

The consistent and frequent interaction between the student, the community college advisor and the Kansas State University academic advisor will help the student make a smoother transition to the university, and changes in curriculum or degree requirements can be communicated more quickly.

## PCC and WSU sign 2+2 Engineering Agreement

Representatives from Pratt Community College and Wichita State University gathered on Oct. 19 to sign a 2+2 articulation agreement in engineering.

Through the partnership, students interested in engineering can attend PCC for two years to obtain an Associate of Science degree then seamlessly transfer to WSU for an additional two years to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Technology with a concentration in either Mechatronics Technology or Engineering Technology Management. The agreement creates a coordinated four-year program between the two parties with a clearly outlined curriculum designed to give students a straightforward path into the engineering field.

Students who have earned an A.S. degree according to the engineering technology degree plan and achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 from PCC will be guaranteed admission to the WSU engineering program. Upon graduation from PCC, students will enter WSU with a junior status toward a baccalaureate degree.

"Through this agreement, students will be able to leave Pratt Community College as a rising junior," said WSU Provost and Senior Vice President, Dr. Anthony Vizzini. "This collaboration gives students the opportunity to graduate with their bachelor's degree in a timely fashion."

The partnership between the two schools provides a more affordable route for future engineers since the first two years can be completed at PCC rather than a four-year university.

"The opportunity to provide a seamless pathway allows students to become fiscally responsible," said PCC Vice President of Instruction, Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick.



## Faculty & Staff

*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:*

- Girl Scouts of America
- American Legion Baseball Tournament
- Rotary Club
- Pratt County Fair
- Pratt Young Professionals
- Pilot Club
- Nomar CDC
- Relay for Life
- PHS Volleyball
- Pratt County Lake
- Pratt Food Pantry
- Miss Kansas / Miss America
- Red Cross
- AGAPE clinic
- Bike MS
- Hospice thrift store
- District 7 VFW
- Pratt Area Churches
- Pratt Chamber of Commerce/ Tourism Committee
- Area rest homes
- \* Eagle Wing Ministry Program
- Pratt County 4-H events
- Old-Fashioned Christmas Downtown
- Middle School Lil Buddies

## Pratt Community College Donates 268 Coats to Local Community Members

Pratt Community College donated 268 coats and jackets to children and adults in need of warmth this winter. The coats were donated to the Pratt Hope Center so they could be distributed in the community. Blankets, sweaters, sweatshirts, gloves, and hats were also donated.

“We were so glad to partner with One Warm Coat this winter. There is a real need for coats in our local community and One Warm Coat’s program made it easy to us to make a difference and spread much needed warmth. We had a goal of collecting 100 coats, and we surpassed it,” said Jessica Sanko, Coordinator of College Relations and Student Services Assistant.

Each year, hundreds of thousands of gently worn coats are distributed across North America to children, women and men in need through One Warm Coat’s Coat Drive program. “We are so grateful for our wonderful Coat Drive Ambassadors like Pratt Community College. We are thrilled Pratt came together to provide warmth for their

neighbors in need and are thankful to the many area residents who donated to PCC,” said One Warm Coat President & CEO, Jennifer Stockard.

One Warm Coat is a national non-profit organization that works to provide a free, warm coat to any person in need and raises awareness of the vital need for warm coats. One Warm Coat supports individuals, groups, companies and organizations across the country by providing the tools and resources needed to hold a successful coat drive. Coats are distributed in the communities where they were collected, to any person in need, without charge, discrimination

or obligation. Over the last 25 years, One Warm Coat has worked with its volunteers to give away more than 5 million coats. Learn more at [www.onewarmcoat.org](http://www.onewarmcoat.org).



# ATHLETES IN THE COMMUNITY

## PCC Student Athletes Make Impact on Community in 2017-2018

Pratt Community College student athletes made great contributions to the Pratt Community both on and off the field of play during the 2017-18 school year. As an athletic department, PCC athletics had a total 3,758 hours of community service across 12 athletics programs.

The women's sport with the most community service hours was volleyball with 588 hours. For the second year PCC volleyball participated in the Samaritan's Feet equipment fund raiser. Partnering

with Dodge City Community College, the two teams collected packages of socks, pairs of shoes, and various other volleyball equipment and athletic apparel for impoverished children, especially in the African continent.

Out of all the PCC athletic programs wrestling led the way with 909 hours of community service. PCC wrestlers accrued these hours by cleaning facilities across the PCC campus and in the community. They also set up and broke

down various community events for the Pratt community. A highlight for the wrestlers for community service was contributing in various wrestling camps and clinics, and participating with the USA Kansas wrestling regional training center practices.

Congratulations to all PCC student athletes for their contributions to the community during the 2017-18 academic year.



## PCC women's soccer gathers shoes for sneakers4funds shoe drive over 2017 season

Throughout the 2017 season the Pratt Community College women's soccer team has been undertaking a cause greater than wins and losses. Off of the field the Beavers have been collecting shoes for a shoe drive to sneakers4funds, the athletic division of funds2orgs.

Funds2orgs is a for-profit social enterprise with its core components being shoe drive fundraisers, providing an economic opportunity for workers in developing nations, and helping the environment. Founded by Wayne Elsey, Funds2orgs has shipped over 20 million pairs of shoes to people effected by natural disasters. They creatively provide organizations and individuals with fundraising opportunities.

Over the course of the season, the Blue and White collected new or gently used shoes for the shoe drive. In all, PCC women's soccer collected 103 bags of shoes. Each bag contained 25 shoes for a total of 2575 pairs of shoes collected.

"I am very excited to say we collected over 2500 pairs of shoes to donate to underprivileged people around the world," said PCC head women's soccer coach Ashley Burnett. "A special thanks to everyone who contributed in any way, including friends and families, employees of Pratt CC, and local charity stores. We are very proud of this fundraiser."



# PCC and Dodge City CC volleyball combine to raise equipment for Samaritan's Feet

Pratt Community College volleyball and Dodge City Community College volleyball combined their efforts for an equipment drive to benefit Samaritan's Feet. The teams collected packages of socks, pairs of shoes, and various other volleyball equipment and athletic apparel.

This was PCC's second year contributing to Samaritan's Feet. The Blue and White used the Dodge City match as an exchange of equipment for admission.

"I became aware of the Samaritan's Feet program three years ago through my coaching mentor Ibraheem Suberu, who was born in Nigeria," said PCC Head Volleyball Coach Jenny Mueller. "He has been such a great influence in my life and my coaching career that I also wanted to get involved in this amazing cause. How often do we take the little things for granted? Something so automatic for all of us, having shoes and socks to wear when we play; we take those things for granted as they will always be there for us. This



organization helps so many that have so much less. If I can use my platform as the volleyball coach at Pratt Community College to help raise awareness, I would gladly do so."

Samaritan's Feet is a non-profit organization for the purpose of sharing hope with children in need by washing their feet, giving them a new pair of shoes, and helping them to believe that their dreams can come true. Samaritan's Feet is a growing movement of people willing to humble themselves as servants so that

others might know the opportunity to a better life. Samaritan's Feet have had over 3,000 high school, city leagues, university and college coaches aid in the cause by coaching games, donating equipment, or managing practices in addition to making public appearances in their bare feet. With the cooperation between Samaritan's Feet and the volleyball coaching community awareness has been raised which has helped provide shoes, free skills training and volleyball resources to impoverished children especially in the African continent.

# PCC men's and women's basketball help serve at Pratt Thanksgiving Dinner

The Pratt Community College men's and women's basketball teams spent their Thanksgiving morning serving meals to the Pratt community. Hosted at the Municipal Building in downtown Pratt, the annual Thanksgiving Day dinner was a great opportunity for the players and coaches to interact with the community.

"It was very fulfilling, and an honor to help serve the community on Thanksgiving Day," PCC women's basketball head coach John Ishee said. "I know that I speak for our young women and my assistant when I say thank you to Ms. Carmen Forrest, Dwane Deweese, and everyone involved."

PCC men's and women's basketball players helped set up the event by putting up chairs and tables as well as helping cook the meal. During the meal the players helped serve food and took the meals to the sitting patrons of the dinner. About 200 members of the Pratt community attended the dinner.

"Thanksgiving Day at the Municipal



Building is an incredible event for our guys to lend a hand and feel a part of something greater than themselves on Thanksgiving," PCC men's basketball head coach Sean Flynn said. "College hoop player rarely spend Thanksgiving with their families so this event makes our guys feel good while doing some work for the community."

PCC women's basketball players who helped with the Thanksgiving Day dinner are Aymee Soane, Juliana Alarcon-Diaz, Rebecca Younis, Nya Mach, Dakota Smith, Breeona Cannon, and Tianna Tullis. The PCC men's basketball player who helped with the dinner are Tyvon Taylor, Clinton Bentley, Devin Marsh, Anfernee Smothers, and Asem Johnson.



# ATHLETICS UPDATES

## PCC Cross Country runs at NJCAA Nationals

Pratt Community College cross country ended the season at the NJCAA national championship meet in Fort Dodge, IA. The six runners faced a cold and wet course, and finished the season with a strong showing.

“Racing in cold weather has different effects and some handle it well while others do not,” said head coach Eric Larson. “I thought the team handled it pretty well as the results show.”

The women’s 5K was highlighted by the efforts of Aminata Kenyawani for the Blue and White. She finished her race with a time of 19:43.20. She was the highest place finisher for Pratt in either race securing the 61st place finish out of over 300 runners. Anastasia Graves finished with a time of 22:06. Leeasha Madison finished with a time of 22:14 to round out the women runners of PCC.



In the men’s 8K race, every runner for the Beavers finished with their best times running for PCC. Izak Molterno ran a 28:49.20 race and improved his best time by 58 seconds. With a time of 30:03.90, Xavier Ortiz beat his best time by 11 seconds. Running a 30:11.80, Elijah Battle bested his fastest time by nine seconds.

“It was a solid way to end the season for these student athletes,” Larson said. “The guys really left it out there, and had big time races. The girls competed well. Aminata finished right around where I thought she would and placed high in the race. The other two girls have shown vast improvement since the beginning of the season. All three girls are now running two minutes faster on average than what they were running when I brought them in. That is a real solid jump considering where they are now. Both the men and the women are setting themselves up for a great track season.”

## PCC winter sports student athletes named to KJCCC all-conference teams

The Jayhawk Conference has announced the award winners for the 2017-18 winter sports. Several Pratt Community College student athletes were selected as some of the best athletes in the KJCCC.

Nick Lucas was selected to the second team KJCCC for wrestling. Lucas was an NJCAA national qualifier this past season at 165lbs. At nationals, Lucas was one round away from qualifying as a NJCAA all-american. Lucas finished his freshman season at PCC with a record of 15-4 with 10 pins and two tech falls.

Jaylon Wilson was selected as a men’s basketball KJCCC all-conference honorable mention. The sophomore guard was an iron man for the Beavers this season averaging 31 minutes per game. Wilson shot 46 percent, 34 percent from beyond the three-point arch and 82 percent from the free throw line. Averaging 14 points per game, Wilson scored 443 points for the Blue and White. Wilson came down with 117 rebounds, had 67 assists and 34 steals.

Channa Parvin was selected as a KJCCC all-conference honorable mention in women’s basketball. The sophomore guard averaged 24 minutes per game. Parvin shot 32 percent from the field, 34 percent from three-point range and 76 percent from the free throw line. This season Parvin scored 193 points. She also had 62 rebounds, 38 assists and 15 steals.

Congratulations to these PCC student athletes for their accomplishments this season.



# PCC wrestling competes at the 2018 NJCAA National Championship Meet



Pratt Community College wrestling wrapped up the 2017-18 season in Council Bluffs, IA at the NJCAA wrestling national championship meet. The five Pratt wrestlers who qualified for nationals at the West Central District Region Qualifier competed for a chance to be the national champion of their perspective weight classes.

In the 125lbs. class, Brayen Balderrama battled for the Blue and White. In his first match, Balderrama lost to eighth ranked Noah Bauer from Rochester. Falling to the consolation bracket Balderrama rallied winning his next two matches against Jacob Mendoza and Matt Genau. Balderrama's tournament came to an end at the hands of Boo Dryden of Northeast Oklahoma A&M. Dryden advanced through the tournament to take third in the weight class.

Justin Hershberger competed for PCC in the 133 lbs. class. Hershberger won his first match against Harper's Jordan Carson. In his next match, Hershberger went up against the first ranked Todd Small from Iowa Central. Hershberger lost the bout to Small, the eventual 133 class champion, and fell to the consolation bracket. Hershberger then lost to Taylor Jeffries of Northwest Wyoming to end his run in the tournament.

At 184, JT Ellis fought hard for the Beavers. First match was against the sixth ranked Hunter Roller of Northland. Ellis lost the bout and fell to the consolation bracket. Ellis won his next two matches defeating Nick Sanfors and fifth ranked Dominic Gallo from Harper. Ellis lost to Northwest Tech's Joseph White to end the day for Ellis. White moved on to take seventh place in the weight class.

Nick Lucas ended his 2018 season on a strong showing at nationals. Lucas lost his first match of the tournament. Lucas dug deep from there having to face the seventh ranked Aaron Soloman from Camden. Lucas defeated Soloman and his next two opponents for a matchup with third ranked and defending national runner up Dillon Ulrey of Clackamas. Ulrey ended Lucas' tournament and moved on to take fourth place. Lucas came one bout away from being an all-American, a great accomplishment for the freshmen.

Kevin Kissane had the best run of the Beaver wrestlers at nationals in the 141 lbs. class. Kissane started the tournament as a wild card in part to a shoulder injury earlier this season. First up was the sixth ranked Sam Eckhart from Northeastern. Kissane won the first bout and went on to defeat Barton's Keaton Sander next. Iowa Central's third ranked Eric Clarke defeated Kissane sending him into the consolation bracket. Kissane won his next two matches over Kollin Wade and Jake Thompson before coming up against fourth ranked Tyree Johnson from Triton. Kissane lost setting up a rematch with Clarke for fifth place. Due to the injury, Kissane could not compete, but still finished sixth in the weight class.

Overall, PCC wrestling finished the 2017-18 season ranked in the top 25 nationally.

"I am very proud of the way we competed this weekend and their gratitude and effort towards representing not only our institution, program and region, but the Pratt community," said Ken Kepley head wrestling coach at PCC. "This year has been a year full of injuries and recovery, and we finished strong. We may not have finished where we wanted, but we and everyone else in the nation know where we stand if we are healthy. This goes to show how strong our team was this year with the amount of adversity we experienced. With injuries to where they had each other's backs and rose to the occasion for their injured comrades. It was a great feeling as a coach to see someone step right in, trust the process, and capitalize on their opportunities. We will use this momentum straight into the off-season. As a coach, with those freshmen coming up to me with the fire and desire to get back to work on Monday, it is the best

## PCC track finishes season at the 2018 NJCAA Track and Field National Meet

Pratt Community College track and field team finished the 2018 outdoor season with the 2018 NJCAA outdoor track and field national meet. Nine runners competed for the Beavers over the course of the three day meet.

In the men's 100m dash Jevony Murray ran a time of 10.53 for a top 15 finish. Murray also competed in the 200m dash. He finished with a time of 21.41. In the 400m race, Robert Maston ran with a time of 48.36. The men's 800m race saw Elijah Battle finish with a time of 1:58.55. Kylan Wess competed in the 1500m with a time of 4:21.75.

The women's 200m saw Anysia Romain run a time of 25.79 for the Blue and White. Feja Hodges competed in the 400m race finishing with a time of 1:00.35. In the 400m hurdles, Madeline Jacobsen ran with a time of 1:06.31. The 4x400m relay team of Ashley Marcelin, Hodges, Jacobsen, and Romain ended the 2018 season with a time of 4:00.93. Aminata Kenyawani was the last Beaver runner competing at nationals. In the 5000m race Kenyawani finished with a time of 20:12.17.



"It wasn't the greatest meet of the season for us, but this national meet was a huge stepping stone leading into next season," said Jamaal Barnes head track and field coach at PCC. "We ran nine kids this past weekend, and seven were freshman who will be back next year. That's what this season was about for me, building to set us up for a big year in 2018-19. I'm happy about the work our sophomores put in to guide us, and I wish them the best in their future endeavors. Moving forward our focus is to finish recruiting and prepare for the 2018-19 track season."



# PCC student athletes awarded in the 2018 PCC student achievement awards

On the night of May second Pratt Community College held their annual student achievement awards. Several of the Beaver student athletes were awarded for their accomplishments over the past year in the classroom and on their fields of play.

Juliana Alarcon-Diaz received several awards for her contributions to the PCC community off of the basketball court. Alarcon-Diaz was awarded by the PCC Club International as the outstanding international student. She was also awarded for her role this past year as a residence assistant in the residence life department.

Alarcon-Diaz was not the only student athlete awarded by residence life. Student athletes made up 16 of the 22 residence assistants in the dorms at PCC. Each residence assistant was awarded for their contributions in the residence halls and at events sponsored by residence life throughout the 2017-18 school year.

Sophomore volleyball player Kwanza Jones was recognized for her contributions to PCC performing arts. For her two years of work for performing arts, Jones was recognized as an awesome sophomore with the rest of the performing arts students.

The second half of the awards ceremony was dedicated to PCC athletics and the student athletes who made an impact in their sport.

The fall sports had several athletes recognized for their performances on the field in 2017. For men's soccer Aaron Grant was selected as the defensive player of the year as well as the most valuable player for PCC men's soccer. This past season Grant had two goals and two assists with six points. Offensive player of the year was Francesco D'Auliero. D'Auliero ended his season for the Blue and White with three goals, two assists and seven points. Both D'Auliero and Grant were selected to the first team KJCCC this season for their contributions to Pratt men's soccer.

On the women's side, Mattison Futhey was selected as defensive player of the year for PCC women's soccer. The offensive player of the year was Avery Villines. Villines ended the season with eight points, four assists and two goals for the Beavers. She was selected to the second team all-conference in the KJCCC.

In cross country, Aminata Kenyawani was the female runner of the year and Xavier Ortiz was male runner of the year. Kenyawani qualified for the NJCAA cross country national meet and set the school record for the female half marathon. Ortiz also qualified and competed in the NJCAA cross country national meet.

Rounding out the fall sports was volleyball. Lexi Schamberger received the most valuable player award. The leadership award was given to Gabrielle Ediger. Most improved was Jordan Jones.

PCC cheer awarded the outstanding cheerleader of the year to Carly Tomlin. Tomlin will move on from PCC to cheer for McPherson College.

Channa Parvin was selected as the leading field goal percentage player for women's basketball. Parvin was selected as a KJCCC all-conference honorable mention shooting 32 percent from the field, 34 percent from three-point range, and 76 percent from the free throw line. She also scored 193 points with 62 rebounds, 38 assists and 15 steals. Tianna Tullis won the top rebounder award with 127 rebounds and 151 points. Most improved player was Anna Wesley.

For men's basketball, the most valuable player was James Brooks. Brooks ended the season with 401 points and 192 rebounds. He was selected as the KJCCC player of the week for week 10. The outstanding human award was given to Jaylon Wilson. Wilson was selected as a KJCCC all-conference honorable mention scoring 443 points and 117 rebounds for the Blue and White this season. Asem Johnson received the most improved award.

PCC wrestling selected Dalton Hensley as the freshman of the year. The leadership award was given to Nickolas Lucas. Lucas was an NJCAA national qualifier at 165. He was selected to the second team KJCCC with a record of 15-4 with 10 pins and two tech falls. Braylan Balderamma received the most improved award. Due to injury, Balderamma went from a freshmen who was going to be redshirted to a national qualifier at 125 lbs. class.

Ashton Roy received the hitter of the year award for baseball. Roy batted .360 with 48 RBIs, 40 runs and 10 home runs. Pitcher of the year was Sean McElwee. McElwee had 12 appearances and 10 starts for the Beavers this season. He threw 49 strikeouts this season. The baseball leadership award was given to Trace Maddux.

In softball, defensive player of the year was Taylor Schuller. Schuller batted .298 with 21 runs, 13 RBIs and two home runs this season. She also had 95 put outs and 24 assists in the field. Marisa Jonas was selected as the offensive player of the year. Jonas hit .380 with 30 runs and 30 RBIs with 8 home runs. The most valuable softball player from this season was a tie between Jonas and Schuller.

Track and field had several athletes who were awarded for their accomplishments this season. Most improved male athlete was Juvens Pierre. Jevony Murray was awarded as the male freshmen of the year. The most valuable male athlete for track and field was Dorson St. Phard. On the women's side, Feja Hodges was selected as the most improved female athlete. Freshmen of the year was Madeline Jacobsen. The most valuable female athlete was split between Jacobsen and Anysia Romain.

Several students may not have performed on the field, but their efforts in athletic training helped keep their classmates playing or improving to return to the field of play. The student trainers of the year were Brinklee Reed and Marissa Dedrick.

The PCC male student athlete of the year was James Brooks and the female student athlete of the year was Marisa Jonas.



# PCC completes renovations to the Sports Performance and Fitness Center

Pratt Community College held a ribbon cutting ceremony to commemorate the completion and opening of the newly renovated and revitalized Sports Performance and Fitness Center. The weight room at PCC has had a few different floor plans here on the current campus. The lower level of the Riney Student Center has always been its home, but it has spent time in both the north and south rooms of Riney. Those who used the equipment housed in the room, would have described it as sufficient to get basic strength training done, but it had definitely seen better days. There was also a genuine concern about improving the cardio equipment. Discussions have been ongoing for several years to design and implement plans to upgrade and add the kind of equipment which could be used by student-athletes, the general student population, faculty and staff.



The Sports Performance and Fitness Center boasts the utilization of both the north and south rooms in the lower level of the Riney Student Center. Advanced Exercise helped put together the plans and choose the equipment to outfit both rooms.

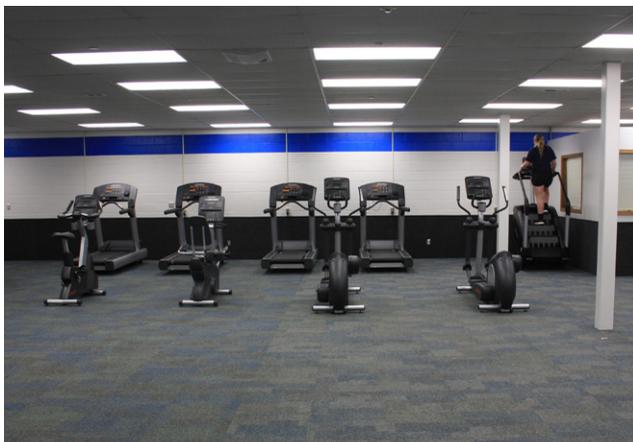
Pratt Community College President Dr. Michael Calvert said, “We are very excited to make necessary upgrades to our fitness center. This newly remodeled facility will certainly aid in the training of student-athletes at PCC and should make positive impacts in the recruitment of new students to PCC. The best part is that all students and PCC faculty and staff can use the new equipment. We are appreciative of the PCC Board of Trustees for their support and approval of the use of student fees to fund this much-needed project”.



The focus of the north room is the cardio equipment. It houses four treadmills, a stair climber, two ellipticals and both a recumbent and upright stationary bike. These items will allow our students, faculty and staff to have a place to improve their fitness and general wellness, in addition to decreasing stress. The room also houses a multifunctional fitness piece called the Synrgy 360T. It has multiple chin up bar alignments, a land mine station, a set of TRX bands, an adjustable height step up platform, and an adjustable height dip handle. This set of stations allows users to be more creative with their workouts and execute some of the current fitness trend exercises. For those who prefer using dumbbells for their training, it holds a set of dumbbells ranging from 5lbs to 30lbs.

The south room is geared more towards strength and conditioning and the Olympic style lifting programs utilized by several of our athletic teams. This room houses six half racks which hold two Olympic power bars to allow two users to be at work at once on one rack. Each rack is outfitted with weight plates and bumper plates ranging from 2.5lbs to 45lbs, a multi-adjustable bench, a set of power blocks that range from 12.5lbs to 125lbs, a multi-height plyo box, a landmine attachment, a set of med balls, and a set of strength bands. The room also holds a dual-functional trainer with two cable pulley stations and a multi-adjustable bench allowing for a variety of functional training exercises. Additionally, there are two TV’s installed for instruction, visual aids, and athletic training program use.

Student workers will be on staff from 9am-9pm Monday through Friday while classes are in session. They will be able to help people learn to operate the equipment and give some general descriptions for use. PCC offers a variety courses geared towards health and fitness including yoga, beginning and advance weightlifting, and exercise techniques. With the expansion of this facility there is a possibility of more courses being offered in the future. If you would like help putting together a personalized training program, please see Carmen Forest or Coach Ken Kepley.



# Jamaal Barnes hired as new track and field coach



Pratt Community College Director of Athletics Bill Wilson announced the hiring of Jamaal Barnes as the new head track and field and assistant cross country coach of the Beavers. Barnes brings quality experi-

ence to the Blue and White.

“We are excited to have Jamaal join the PCC family,” Wilson said. “With his NCAA division I background, he understands the caliber of student athlete it takes to be successful in the Jayhawk Conference.”

Barnes comes to PCC from Georgia State University where he was an assistant coach where he gained invaluable recruiting experience throughout the southeast including the states of Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. Prior to his time at Georgia State, Barnes was an assistant coach at Augusta University. He started his coaching career at Georgia State as an assistant in 2014. As a coach, Barnes specializes in sprints, hurdles, and relays.

“I’m grateful for this chance with PCC,

and I think it’s the ideal place for me to be during this stage of my career,” Barnes said. “I’d like to thank my family for supporting and believing in me. I would also like to thank Dr. Mike Calvert and Bill Wilson for giving me such an opportunity.”

In college, Barnes ran at the NCAA Division I level as a sprinter at Auburn University from 2004-2008. His best time at the 100m was 10.87 and his best 200m time was 22.43. He was a member of the Auburn 4x100m relay team that qualified for the NCAA Regional with a best time of 40.57.

“There is a lot of potential within the track program, and it’s currently filled with great kids who are looking for the same kind of success that I am,” Barnes said. “My plans are to continue building this program, and to take it to the next level.”

# Sean Flynn hired as head men’s basketball coach



Dr. Michael Calvert and Pratt Community College athletics are proud to announce the hiring of Sean Flynn as the new head men’s basketball coach. Flynn has coached the Beavers as the interim head coach since mid-November and looks to build on the foundation he has helped establish for the program.

“I’m excited to be removing the interim tag for Sean,” Calvert said. “I’ve been evaluating him since December. I’m pleased with what I’m seeing both on and off the court. He brings a variety of experiences including three years of experience coaching in the Jayhawk Conference. Sean relates very well with his players and is a solid recruit-

er. I’m very excited he is our men’s

basketball coach going forward.”

Flynn took over as the interim men’s basketball coach in mid-November following the departure of Max Good. Prior to the season, PCC men’s basketball was predicted to finish thirteenth in the KJCCC out of fifteen teams. Under Flynn’s guidance and without an assistant coach, Pratt currently sits tied for ninth in the KJCCC. The Blue and White are also currently enjoying a five game home win streak.

“I’d like to thank my players for working hard and sticking together through challenging times,” Flynn said. “They are fun to coach, and I’d run through a wall for all of them. I would also like to thank Dr. Calvert for hiring me to coach basketball in one of the best leagues in the United States. Dr. Calvert and athletic administrators Bill Wilson and Scott Goodheart all possess an incredible feel for two-year athletics. They understand this level through the respective lenses of players and coaches. Having an administration who holds this perspective makes coaching and competing at Pratt a terrific experience. The teachers and staff at Pratt support our kids every day. My players and I appreciate this. We look forward to building a program that community members and faculty can rally behind.”

Flynn has been with the PCC men’s basketball program for the past two seasons.

He came to PCC from Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. Trinity won the NESCAC title and advanced to the NCAA tournament while Flynn coached at Trinity. Flynn’s first experience in the Jayhawk Conference came as an assistant coach at Cloud County Community College during the 2014-15 season.

Flynn also has coaching experience under five New England Basketball hall of famers, Max Good (Pratt CC), Charlie Titus (UMASS-Boston), John Rice (Jeremiah E Burke High School), Leo Papile (Boston Amateur Basketball Club), and Jamie Cosgrove (Trinity College).

Flynn also gained invaluable knowledge working as a graduate assistant under Tom Herrion at Marshall University for three seasons.

“I don’t get to Pratt unless Leo Papile intimidates Max Good into hiring me,” joked Flynn. “Max is a great coach and might be the funniest person I have ever met. My players and I are lucky to have been a small part of Max’s career coaching basketball. Finally, I’ve worked for great coaches. I can’t thank Chad Eshbaugh and Jamie Cosgrove enough for what they’ve taught me about dedication to your players. All of their players are better human beings after meeting them. They are the two toughest guys I know. I hope I can make a similar impact at Pratt.”

## PTK Students Honored at Kansas Academic Team Luncheon



Two Pratt Community College students joined 54 of their peers when Kansas saluted the 57 community college scholars for their academic accomplishments February 15 in Topeka during the Twenty-Third Annual Kansas All-State Academic Team Luncheon. Representing the state's 19 community colleges, a private college, and a technical college, these scholars were named to the 2018 All-Kansas Academic Team, sponsored by the international headquarters of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees, and the Kansas Council of Community College Presidents.

PCC's PTK chapter is sponsored by faculty member, Trisha Jackson. The two student award recipients are Natalie Holguin and Kassidy Weaver.

"I was honored to be chosen to help represent PCC. It was a unique and wonderful experience, as I got to meet important people and celebrate my success along with other students' success," said Weaver. "It was definitely different, as I'm not used to the fancy atmosphere. It was a memorable experience and I'm glad I was able to be a part of it."

The Luncheon was held at the Ramada Inn Hotel in Topeka. Those in attendance included the scholars, members of their families, PTK chapter sponsors, community college administrators and trustees, university representatives, legislators, and members of the Kansas Board of Regents staff. They heard from Dr. Liang Chi Wee, President of Northeast Iowa Community College, who shared his history as an immigrant from Shanghai.

Michael Calvert, president, Lisa Perez Miller, vice president of students and enrollment management, Carol Ricke, faculty member, and Board of Trustees Darrell Shumway, Dwane DeWeese and Michelle Hamm were also in attendance.

Natalie Holguin is an Agribusiness major at PCC. She is currently involved with PTK and serves as the Kappa Beta Delta president. She is also known as a community volunteer and her 4.0 GPA has landed her on the President's Honor Roll.

Kassidy Weaver is a Pre-Veterinary major. She is currently involved with PTK, Block and Bridle, and currently serves as a rodeo manager. Along with working as a work study, she also volunteers at the Humane Society. Her 4.0 GPA has also earned her position on the President's Honor Roll.

Each scholar was selected by his or her own community college for the annual statewide academic team, and was presented with a medallion, certificate, and scholarship awards from the Presidents' and Trustees' organizations at the Luncheon. Each scholar also is a nominee for the 2018 All-USA Academic Team, sponsored by the newspaper USA Today, Phi Theta Kappa, and the American Association of Community Colleges. First team members will receive a \$2,500 stipend and will be featured along with second and third team members in USA Today. Names of the students will be placed on the Society's website, [www.ptk.org](http://www.ptk.org).

## PCC Shooting Sports Team takes fourth in Nationals

March 26 through April 1, seven students from the Pratt Community College Shooting Sports team traveled to the National Collegiate Clay Target Championship in San Antonio, Texas to compete against 76 teams from all over the nation. PCC Shooting Sports came home with a Division 4 seventh place win and fourth place win overall two year colleges in the nation.

This is the seventh year PCC has competed in the event against local, regional and national universities and community colleges and the second year that 2-year institutions had their own division.

The team took seven shooters to compete, Tyler Skaggs, Chase Bunyard, Joshua Dixon, Morgan Domme, Audriaunna Martin, Shania Hansen and Haley Slattery. Dixon took the lead in points for the team earning top marks in International Skeet, International Trap and Super Sporting. Dome earned top marks for the team in American Trap.

"We would like to thank all faculty and staff for supporting us throughout the year and especially at nationals in San Antonio," said Wildlife Instructor and Shooting Sports Coach Luke Laha.



# A YEAR OF PERFORMING ARTS



## Performing Arts Schedule 2017-2018

A Night On Broadway  
Back to the USO  
A Christmas to Remember  
Valentines Show  
Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor  
Dreamcoat  
Finale!



## PCC Performing Arts Presents: Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat



uncertain fate and helps him to rescue Egypt from famine. Animated with a high-energy mix of music and dancing from 50's rock to calypso to country, this show is hailed for its family-friendly storyline, universal themes, and catchy music.

Described as a high-voltage extravaganza, Joseph includes such classic songs as the contemplative "Any Dream Will Do," the Caribbean infused "Benjamin Calypso," the dazzling "Jacob and Sons/ Joseph's Coat," the rockabilly sensation "Song of the King" and the unforgettable "Go, Go, Go Joseph."

With "a crash of drums, a flash of light," Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, the internationally acclaimed musical and dance extravaganza explodes on the Pratt Community College Carpenter Auditorium stage this March 9-11.

PCC's Performing Arts students and college staff along with more than 80 community members make up this colorful cast directed by Misty Beck, Speech

Communications/Drama and Theatre Instructor.

The first full-length musical by the legendary theatrical team of Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, JOSEPH is a lovely, comic, and colorful journey through the Biblical story of young Joseph, sold into slavery by his brothers after his father favored him with a gorgeous colored cloak. His gift of prophecy saves him from an

Starring as Joseph is freshman Joseph Stewart, freshmen Kayley Geesling and Kayla Harbaugh tell the story as the narrators and community member and alumnae Josh Jacobs channels his inner Elvis as the Pharaoh. A large chorus of both adults and children are featured in the show as well as a principal ensemble and the brother's ensemble.

# EMPLOYEE YEARS OF SERVICE



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO PCC!

## 5 years

Jason Ghumm  
Casey Backman  
Theresa Gee  
Sharon Lukens  
Caitlin Miller  
Juan Perron  
Chad Shade  
Steve Vandervoort  
Christy Wright  
Lelanne Zimmerman

## 10 years

Heather Wilson  
Kenneth Gawith  
Andy Greenstreet  
Brenda Sterneker  
Mario Tursini

## 15 years

Greg Bacon  
Dave "Kip" Chambers

## 20 years

Lori Montgomery

## 25 years

Kent Adams

## 30 years

Carol Bonham



# EMPLOYEE AWARDS

## 2018 Dennis Lesh Teacher of the Year Awarded to Rhonda Westerhaus



Each year, Pratt Community College awards a faculty member the Dennis Lesh Foundation Teacher Recognition Award at commencement. The prestigious award is based on nominations from students, faculty and staff.

Rhonda Westerhaus, education instructor, won the award this year.

“Rhonda is an extremely optimistic and positive person in everything she does,” said Carol Ricke, business instructor. “She shows a genuine concern for her students. She’s always working hard to make sure they can be successful in and out of the classroom.”

Westerhaus is the sponsor of Club International and is known to support students in many ways. She attends athletic events, academic ceremonies, and assists with student activities every chance she gets. She is also known for her enthusiasm and caring nature in the classroom.

“Rhonda is a busy person that really enjoys helping out,” said Ricke. “Students are at the top of her list to support. She is the first one to provide help to students when they need something. The support is in both, in and out of the classroom. I can’t think of anyone on our campus that provides as much support to our students than Rhonda.”

Westerhaus has spent the last 26 years teaching. She loves putting ideas together and helping students connect those ideas. She believes disinterest from the students is the most challenging part of her job, but enjoys coming up with ways to make her subjects more intriguing for the students.

Westerhaus is a member of the Stafford and Kingman High Schools’ advisory committees. She is currently the co-chair on the Faculty Assessment Learning Committee (FALC) and a member of the American Association of Teachers of German, which provided her a trip to Germany to improve her proficiency in the language last summer. She has also served on the Foundation board and Auction Committee for many years.

“I am very appreciative to the students and faculty who nominated me,” said Westerhaus. “It is an honor to receive this award.”

The Dennis Lesh Foundation Teacher Recognition Award is awarded annually to a Pratt Community College teacher who is recognized as an excellent teacher, student advocate and exhibits general care and concern for the student body. The recipient is presented \$1000 during commencement to be used to enhance the recipient’s skills and abilities.

## 2018 Pratt Higher Education Association Instructor of the Year Awarded to Monette DePew



Pratt Community College has awarded their 2018 Pratt Higher Education Associations (PHEA) Teacher of the Year to English Instructor, Monette DePew. Fellow PCC instructor and PHEA Teacher of the Year award recipient in 2016, Dave Chambers, presented the award to DePew at the PCC Commencement on Friday, May 11.

For being the recipient of the PHEA instructor of the year, DePew received \$250 and plaque in her honor.



### Dennis Lesh Foundation Support Staff Award 2018 Recipient

Amy Jackson



### Dennis Lesh Foundation Food Service Award 2018 Recipient

James Lemon

The Dennis Lesh Foundation Awards recognizes an outstanding teacher, staff, and a food service worker at Pratt Community College. Each year PCC recognizes gives a Recognition Award of \$500 to a Food Services and Support Staff employee who, by his or her actions, exhibits courtesy, care and concern for students and is known for the quality of service that he or she consistently provides them.

The Dennis Lesh foundation Teacher Recognition Award of \$1000 is to be awarded annually to a Pratt Community College Teacher who is recognized as an excellent teacher, student advocate and exhibits general care and concern for the student body. The award is to be used to enhance the recipient’s skills and abilities.



# ALUMNI AND FOUNDATION UPDATES

## Annual Scholarship Auction

Approximately 300 people attended the 30th Annual PCC Scholarship Auction which was held on April 13, 2018 in the Dennis Lesh Sports Arena on Pratt's main campus. This year's auction was a milestone for the event being the 30th year. The college is marking the 80 year anniversary of the founding of the institution as well as the 50 year anniversary for the dedication of our main campus. According to Barry Fisher, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement and Alumni Relations, this was the most successful auction to date.

"Thank you to everyone who made this year's event our most successful auction ever," said Fisher. "Together, we were able to raise over \$74,000, and 100 percent of the auction proceeds go directly to provide scholarships for PCC students. Your support of this event has helped make PCC an option for many students who would otherwise not be able to attend college."

A wide-variety of scholarships will be provided thanks to the fundraising efforts of the auction including athletic scholarships, departmental scholarships based on area of study, tuition assistance for graduating high school seniors of Pratt County, summer scholarships, veteran scholarships, and tuition credit waivers to high school students who earn an A or B in qualifying College Start (concurrent) courses.

For more information about the Foundation, contact Barry Fisher at [barryf@prattcc.edu](mailto:barryf@prattcc.edu) or 620-450-2179. For information about financial aid for students, contact Financial Aid Director Haley Lindsey at 620-450-2248 or visit [prattcc.edu/FinancialAid](http://prattcc.edu/FinancialAid).

## Foundation Board Members

Diane Thompson, *President*  
Gregg Lesh, *Vice President*  
Kent Adams, *Treasurer*  
Eric Bronson  
Rep. Kyle Hoffman  
Richard Kerschen  
Karen Pinkall  
Carolyn Williams Porter

Marvin Proctor  
Darrell Shumway  
Linda Stelzer  
Rhonda Westerhaus  
Barry Fisher, *Foundation Director*  
Jeff Shumway, *Board of Trustee Rep.*

*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.*

[WWW.PRATTCC.EDU/FOUNDATION](http://WWW.PRATTCC.EDU/FOUNDATION)



# CELEBRATION OF ALUMNI AND SCHOLARS

## 2018 Outstanding Alumnus, Doug Brehm



great way to accustom himself to college by starting at a place he knew so well.

In 1982, Brehm graduated from PCC with an associate degree in science. While at PCC, he was involved in numerous student activities. He was a member of Encore! and Phi Theta Kappa. He enjoyed attending basketball games as a student and being able to continue his academic endeavors with his friends from high school.

After graduating from PCC, Brehm transferred to Kansas State University where he received his bachelor's degree in business administration and management in 1985. Brehm's educational goals extended past a bachelor's degree, so he attended Washburn University School of Law. In 1988, he received his juris doctorate from the university. He is currently a certified trust and financial advisor and an inactive member of the Kansas Bar Association.

After graduating from Washburn University, Brehm moved back to his hometown and advanced in his career to Vice President of the People's Bank, where he remained until 2000. At that point in time, he decided to change careers to work at the INTRUST Bank in Wichita, where he currently holds the title of Senior Wealth Advisor.

Although he resides in Wichita, Brehm is still very active in the Pratt community. He currently serves as Chairman of the Board for the Miss Kansas Scholarship Foundation and Miss Kansas Pageant Inc., where he has been a volunteer for 38 years. He is also a supporter of the Filley Art Museum.

The Pratt Community College Foundation has selected Doug Brehm as the 2018 Outstanding Alumnus of the Year. The Outstanding Alumnus of the Year award goes to alumni who have made contributions to their career and community. The award was originally established in 1966.

Brehm grew up in Pratt, Kansas and graduated from Skyline High School in 1980. He decided to begin his college career at PCC as both his parents and his brother attended. He thought it was a

In his free time, Brehm enjoys traveling, running, and learning more about history.

"It's a great honor to be the 2018 recipient of this award," said Brehm. "I feel that Pratt Community College plays an integral part in the community and enriches the students' lives that attend. It's important that we continue to facilitate the success of the college in all different ways."

## Congratulations Class of 2018



# SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS HONORED

## Scholarship Recipients

### *Above and Beyond*

Luz Acosta  
Joel Hendershot  
Dalton Hensley  
Ciarra Hodgkinson  
Natalie Holguin  
Logan Kalmar  
Briana Neifert

### *Krueger, Irene*

Moises Diaz

### *Laura Porter Trust Scholarship*

Miles Allanson  
James Brooks  
Wyatt Burchett  
Caleb Calhoun  
William Charles  
Marc Colman  
Rainier Conley  
Moises Diaz  
Marcello Esposti  
Aaron Grant  
Riley Hill  
Avery Jones  
Michael Krenn  
Christopher McEnery  
Louis Sharp  
Daniel Smith  
Alexandro Viscarra  
Devin Willinger

### *Linda Hunt Memorial Scholarship*

Juliana Alarcon-Diaz  
Natalie Holguin  
Mason Brack  
Taylor Schuler (Carey)

### *Novotny Memorial Scholarship*

Tanesha Lewis-Cook



# 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:

**Susan Mayberry, Coordinator**  
**620-450-2184**  
**[susanm@prattcc.edu](mailto:susanm@prattcc.edu)**  
**[prattcc.edu/Club62](http://prattcc.edu/Club62)**

