



Pratt Community College

Monthly Newsletter

The

The official newsletter of PCC

BEAVER

January 2015

Buzz

Call for February newsletter content

If you have information, ideas for new content, fun facts, or PCC trivia, send them to Leighanne for inclusion in the next newsletter!

>>> leighanned@prattcc.edu

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Upcoming Dates

- **In-service blackout days**
1/2 - 1/16
- **MLK, Jr. Day - campus closed**
1/19
- **Board of Trustees Meeting**
1/26 | 7 p.m.
- **Joint Council**
1/27 | 2 p.m.
- **Blood Drive**
1/29 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- **Preregistration Deadline for HS Technical Program Education Day**
1/30

PCC Dedicates New Building



Current Agriculture Power Technology students express their appreciation.



On Dec. 5, PCC honored a longtime supporter of the college and dedicated the recently expanded and renamed **Carl Dudley Agriculture Technology Center**.



Updates from the Linda Hunt Memorial Library

Spring 2015 Hours

8 a.m. – 9 p.m. Monday – Thursday

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Friday

Closed Weekends and PCC Holidays

Upcoming Events:

Game Night: Jan 22 | 9 p.m.

Coffee with the President: Feb 16 | 9 a.m.

Holocaust Remembrance Speaker:

April 16 | 8:30 a.m. via Skype

The Library and Learning Resource Center is available for study halls, clubs and organizations with a meeting room for 10.



On December 17 we launched Office 365, a free service to PCC students and adjunct instructors. Adjunct instructors and students now have PCC email addresses.

Student accounts also include access to Microsoft Office on Windows and OS X and 1 Terabyte of storage on the cloud storage service OneDrive. Students locate their accounts by visiting portal.office.com.

Adjunct Instructors at PCC now also have a PCC email address through the Office 365 portal at portal.office.com

The new account login information has been emailed to all users, which should now also be used to login to Self-Service. Users still unable to locate their login information or access Self-Service should email pccupdates@prattcc.edu

Links and tutorials for use can be found at prattcc.edu/Office365

Nursing Department wins “Jingle and Mingle” Contest

In December, the PCC Nursing department won first prize in the non-retail division of the Pratt Area Chamber of Commerce’s Jingle and Mingle contest. The contest was open to any Chamber member business and judged by “Secret Visitors.”

The theme was the song Toyland, and the decorations included a conveyor belt of toys, a cozy fireplace with fake cookies and candies, a tree with toys and candy canes, and a stable of eight reindeer.



Save the Date: Upcoming Blood Drive

On January 29, the semiannual Red Cross Blood Drive will be held in the Pratt Community College gym. All participants receive a free t-shirt.

Donor appointments are available from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. and usually take 15 - 30 minutes. Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are recommended.

Volunteers are also needed from 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. and no medical training is necessary.

To donate or volunteer, contact LeighanneD@prattcc.edu.



American Red Cross

Donate your cell phones and ink cartridges!

A collection box is located in the office of the VP of Students / Enrollment Management near the Switchboard. Donations are collected every Saturday and benefit the Pratt Area Humane Society.

Connect with Pratt Community College



Visit prattcc.edu/comment to give us feedback on an experience you had with us.



Like and follow us on social media!
On facebook: Like Pratt Community College for general updates
Add Bucky Beaver as a friend for student life updates



Find previous issues of the newsletter at prattcc.edu/NewsletterArchive

Find Our Community Report

This annual publication highlights the very best of our year with a focus on our community impact to the Pratt area. Learn more about our people, our mission and our stories from 2014.

PRATTCC.EDU/COMMUNITYREPORT



PCC Leads Recycling Efforts

In a time when county landfill capacity and renewable energy is reaching a level of critical importance, Pratt Community College remains a leader in recycling and sustainability.

“The college supports environmental stewardship and energy savings in many ways,” said Kent Adams, Vice President of Finance and Operations. “In addition to recycling, the college installed wind turbines that supply approximately 20 percent of our electrical needs. PCC has also retrofitted lighting across campus to more energy efficient lighting, replaced aging boilers and a chiller with fuel efficient models.”

Wind turbines and efficient lighting is just one of the ways PCC supports the environment. Representatives of the Pratt County Recycling Center state that while no official records are kept, PCC is estimated to be the number one recycler in the county in the category of white paper at approximately 300-400 pounds deposited each month. White paper is the most lucrative category of recyclable materials and therefore yields the greatest return to the county.

Paper recycling on the PCC campus began as a service initiative by the students of Kappa Beta Delta, a business honor society. The project was eventually taken over by the institution and expanded.

According to Darrell Kruse who now oversees the recycling program for PCC, the college’s cardboard recycling total is even larger than the white paper at approximately 1800 pounds per month, largely from the cafeteria and from mailed packages received by the college. Other materials recycled by PCC include glass, office pack (glossy and colored paper), chipboard (non-corrugated cardboard such as cereal boxes) and phone books.

For Kruse, recycling is not just another part of his job – it’s something he takes personally.

“Recycling is something that everyone can do,” he says. “Since the county started their recycling program and I started separating my recyclables at home, I produce a sixth of the trash that I used to. Every home and every business in town should be taking a look at their recycling practices.”

Library Recycling:

Qty. books reused or recycled	1,381
Since July 1, 2014 (lbs)	64
Since 2011 (lbs)	45,858

Savings In:

Trees	21
Water (g)	10,448
Greenhouse gases (lbs)	2,925
Landfill space (cu yd)	2
Electricity (kwh)	4,518



XC Signs Fastest Runners in School History

In December, the women's cross country team signed the fastest runners in school history: Fallon Spraggins (right) and Jamie Contreras (left) both with faster high school times than current All-American Beaver Grasiela Navarro.

Spraggins and Contreras are the top two runners of the impressive running program at Kingwood Park in Texas.

Contreras boasts personal best times of 18:56 (5K), 11:27 (3200) and 5:21 (1600). Spraggins posted an 18:36 (5K) and last spring, running 2:16 (800) and 4:48 (1500).

Pratt also signed Kiowa County harrier Alisha Ward.

On a not-so-subtle side note, Pratt also re-signed six of their top seven runners from the nationally ranked 2014 team.

In total, Pratt landed nine ladies in the first 11 days of their signing period.

"I'm far from finished," said Head Coach Dan Adler. "I have eight months to bring in five to six more ladies, and I'll continue to recruit every day. The nine girls deserve it. In the end, nothing is more important than giving them the best possible experience over the two years. We are lucky enough to have them on campus. Stay hungry, stay humble."

January Exhibit Features Sowa and "Startists"

During the month of January, the Delmar Riney Art Gallery features the work of Tiffany Sowa and her students. Sowa is a traveling art instructor and the owner of "You're Fired Ceramics and Canvas" in Coldwater, Kan.

Sowa believes that art is for everyone, not just for the educated, the affluent or the expressive. The one thing that brings her more joy than making her own art is the environment she creates where anyone can become an artist. She calls her students "Startists" because they have just started their journey to becoming an artist.

"There's a moment in every creation when the artist can suddenly see the art," she said. "Until that point, many of my students are just following along, maybe somewhat anxious, possibly even complaining a bit, but they follow instructions and put paintbrush to canvas, all along doubting that this stuff will somehow turn into art - then that moment happens, when they realize they can do it, and it's a beautiful thing."

Sowa's style is what she calls "random revelations," and involves throwing, splattering, dropping, dabbling and manipulating.

"I like the element of surprise - starting with a blank canvas and then exploring all the ways that the paint can be applied to create something beautiful," she said. "I go home each night not knowing what will be waiting for me in the morning. The unknown is exciting and always amazes me."

The Startists featured in the Delmar Riney exhibit are of every age, some as young as six years old. Club 62+ members will also get a chance to become a Startist this spring when Sowa leads a special painting event just for them.

Sowa has a Bachelor of Science in Strategic Leadership from Southwestern College, and received her art education through the Bicentennial Art Center of Aurora, Colo. The art gallery is free and open to the public Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. or by appointment.



Men's Wrestling

12/3 PCC 25; Bacone 21

Men's Basketball

12/02 PCC def. Allen 80-77

12/04 PCC loss to Hill College 104-94

12/06 PCC def State Fair CC 89-72

12/07 PCC def Ellsworth CC 98-79

12/13 PCC loss to Cowley 78-81

12/13 PCC def. NOC Tonkawa 66-65

December Athletics Recap

Women's Basketball

12/02 Pratt def. Allen 80-52

12/06 PCC def. Tonkawa 78-44

12/09 PCC def Coffeyville 64-60

12/12 PCC def. Northwest Kansas Tech 90-56

12/13 PCC loss to Northeastern Oklahoma State 57-66

PCC Trustee Appointed to National Committee

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

The 26-member ACCT Board recently decided to form the Trustee Advisory Committee to provide new perspectives and insight on trustee education programs. They reached out to former board members and board chairs to serve on the committee, and ACCT Board Chair Robin N. Smith made the final selection, appointing 11 members from across the nation to the 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.”

The committee will meet for the first time on Feb. 8 in Washington, D.C. when committee officer elections will be held. The committee appointment is for three years, with a possible nomination for an additional three-year term after that.

Shumway served on the PCC Board of Trustees from 1985 to 2008, and returned to the position in January of 2013. In addition to his time with ACCT, he also served on the American Association of Community Colleges (AACCC) Board of Directors for three years and the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees (KACCT) for 20 years.

Legislators Visit PCC for Annual Luncheon

On Dec. 15, Pratt Community College held their annual Legislative Luncheon where PCC administrators and trustees met with state legislators to share ideas, concerns and discuss issues of importance to education and community colleges.

In attendance were Senator Mitch Holmes of District 33, Representative J. Basil Dannebohm of District 113, Representative Jack Thimesch of District 114, Representative Kyle Hoffman of District 116 and Representative John Ewy of District 117.

Over the course of the luncheon, attendees discussed financial data, legislative priorities and PCC's impact on legislative districts.

“One of my main priorities is keeping SB 155 funded,” said Hoffman in reference to Senate Bill 155, under which tuition is paid by the State of Kansas for high school students to pursue college level courses in technical fields. “If I had the choice, I would cut funding to Regents universities before community colleges, because they have avenues for raising money that two year institutions don't have. We have to do what needs to be done to keep community colleges successful.”

Committee assignments have not yet been announced for the upcoming term, but Hoffman expects to again chair the Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget committee.

Representative Dannebohm echoed Hoffman's appreciation for the role of community colleges in higher education.

“My intern attended a major four year university, and when I ask him about his experience with academic advising, he tells me that it wasn't an experience at all - just another for to fill out before getting passed along with the rest of the crowd. I believe students should

be assisted with the evaluation and assessment of their strengths. That's where the smaller community colleges really shine: getting to know their students and helping them on to individual success.”

For Representative Ewy, this luncheon was about reinforcing the need for positive relationships between legislators and community college administrators.

“We want to know when things aren't working,” he said. “The state could not survive without the work of community colleges. We are here to be your voice in the legislature.”



Multimedia course to be offered through partnership

Live Event Production courses will now be offered at Kiowa County Media Center for college credit with a partnership that Pratt Community College has started with Hutchinson Community College.

“We think this is a great opportunity to allow us teach courses that we can’t currently offer,” said Joe Varrientos, Vice President of Instruction.

The courses will be taught by Kiowa County High School in association with Kiowa Media Center. Student will learn how to video, how to capture footage, interview skills and techniques, scripting, directing and producing.

Students who start taking classes their junior year of high school and successfully complete all the classes, will have a certificate from PCC when they graduate high school. These hours can then transfer to HCC and will help students complete their associates degree quicker.

“It’s a great opportunity for students who are willing to buckle down in high school,” Varrientos said.

Tuition, general fees waived for high school students taking INT courses

PCC is continuing to build a relationship with Wichita Area Technical College as the two work together to start Information Networking Technology courses mid-spring.

“The partnership is a natural progression resulting from our existing partnership in nursing and is another good example of how a community college and technical college can improve access to a program without much additional cost or resources to either place,” said Joe Varrientos, Vice President of Instruction.

Students will start by taking 15 hours of course work on WATC’s campus and getting a certificate of completion in IT Essentials. Once the students have successfully completed the certificate they will enroll in PCC’s INT classes in either Wichita or Pratt.

The courses will be offered on WATC’s Grove Campus. Juniors and seniors in high school can take these classes and get tuition and general fees waived but the program is open to everyone.

Student Life

Ag Instructor Bill Hunter (far left), President Mike Calvert and Education Instructor Rhonda Westerhaus serve students at the annual Late Night Breakfast during December finals week.



January Student Life Event Calendar

Jan. 5	Casino Night	9 - 11 p.m.	Upper Commons
Jan. 6	Movie Night	9 p.m.	Carpenter Auditorium
Jan. 8	Skate Night	9 - 11 p.m.	Roll-A-Rena
Jan. 13	Karaoke	9 - 11 p.m.	Rec Center
Jan. 22	Game Night	9 p.m.	Library
Jan. 27.	Grocery Bingo	9 p.m.	Wojiechowski Hall
Jan. 29	Canvas Painting	9 p.m.	Rec Center