



Pratt Community College

Monthly Newsletter

The

The official newsletter of PCC

# BEAVER

JUNE 2017

Buzz

## Call for upcoming newsletter content

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

>>> [megane@prattcc.edu](mailto:megane@prattcc.edu)

## Contents

PHEA Teacher of Year	2
Dennis Lesh Award	3
PCC Retirees	4
Nursing Student Scholarship	5
Kids Camp Musical	5
Germany Education Seminar	6
Pratt Leadership Graduate	6
Track and Field Meet	7
Athletic Awards Ceremony	8
PCC Graduation Recap	9

## Upcoming Dates

Miss Kansas	June 7-10
Beaver Building Day	June 21
Second Mini-Session	June 29-Jul 28
Seussical Jr.	June 23-24

## PCC Performing Arts Group Takes on Tennessee

Instructors, students and supporters of the Pratt Community College Performing Arts department took their annual end-of-year trip as the school year came to an end. This is the fifth year the department has organized this trip for students to Tennessee and surrounding areas for a week of music, entertainment, service and fun.



Twenty-five students and 8 adults, including PCC staff and supporters of the program, traveled from Pratt to Missouri and on to Tennessee making different stops along the way and doing what they do best, performing.

The group of students and adults began their trip on May 14 driving from Pratt to Independence, Mo. where they continued the tradition of sight-seeing along the way including the Superman statue in Metropolis, Mo.

The Tennessee trip continued with five days in Pigeon Forge, Gatlinburg and Memphis where they combined sight-seeing with live performances at tourist spots as well as an assisted-living facility.

"We sang an hour show at an assisted living facility where the kids helped the residents dance," said Beck. "Residents and students both enjoyed it a lot."

The group visited the popular Dollywood theme park to soak up some Blue Grass musical entertainment as well as a variety of other genres where they performed for guests at the park and played a "selfie" scavenger hunt throughout the park snapping photos of popular attractions and people.

They also performed at the popular Country Tonite Show in Pigeon Forge on stage in front of a good sized audience.

Travelling back home the group stopped in Memphis to visit Graceland and for dinner at King's Palace on Beale Street where they listened to some great blues by the resident musician and were also invited to perform for the crowd.

The PCC performing arts department organizes this annual trip with help from staff, faculty and the Pratt Community.

"We are so grateful to all of the wonderful individuals and businesses who have helped us this year by coming to our shows, participating in our fundraisers, donating money, sponsoring shirts, buying us food and supporting us through your positive thoughts and encouragement," said Beck.

# Carol Bonham Awarded with PHEA Teacher of the Year

Pratt Community college has awarded their 2017 Pratt Higher Education Associations (PHEA) Teacher of the Year to Science Instructor, Carol Bonham. Fellow PCC instructor and PHEA Teacher of the Year award recipient in 2016, Dave Chambers, presented the award to Bonham at the PCC Commencement on Friday, May 12.

"It's an honor to receive this award," said Bonham. "Especially when it comes from your peers who I work with and respect very much."

Bonham just completed her 29th year at PCC. She began as an adjunct instructor and became full-time in 1991. Bonham teaches chemistry and geology which she has had an interest in since she was a child and is one of many teachers within her family.

"I love the spark you get when a student "gets" a concept that will help them reach their career goals," said Bonham. "Students share life experiences and begin to relate science concepts to those experiences."

PCC instructor of English and Literature, Monette DePew, nominated Bonham for the award because of her outstanding display of instruction to students.

"She sets high standards but first meets students at their skill level and then creates opportunities for students to meet those standards," said DePew. "By setting the mark high and her willingness to help students meet that mark she truly demonstrates outstanding instruction and a sincere visible concern for students."

Bonham says that her teaching philosophy is centered on the students. By giving them the tools they need to succeed and by sharing observations and experiences in a way they understand. Each semester Bonham says she changes up labs and assignments that emulate the culture of the classroom or what is happening in the world so that lessons don't become stale.

"I want each student, each class, to have a unique experience in my classroom," said Bonham.

"She varies her classroom presentations and assignments to better engage student interest and understanding," said DePew. "She works with students inside and out of the classroom. Her overall goal is student success."

Bonham said part of the reason she thinks she is successful is because of PCC's smaller environment. She says it's an asset to have a small classroom community and to have a faculty that is so close to each other.

Bonham serves on the Executive Committee of the Kansas Association of Teachers of Science (KATS) as President for the 2017 year (previously Vice President). Bonham first became involved with the organization when she was a student teacher and has opted to stay involved by being a regional representative. She is also and a member of the National Science Teachers Association. In addition to teaching for PCC, she teaches science courses for EduKan and was a high school science teacher before coming to PCC.

In years past Bonham has also received the award for Outstanding Rural Science Educator from State of Kansas, the EduKan Achievement of an Exceptional Rating from students and was a National Science Foundation grant recipient for Radiation and Man Workshop.

Bonham serves as the department chairperson for the math and science departments at PCC.

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



# Campbell Receives Dennis Lesh Foundation Teacher Recognition Award

At Pratt Community College (PCC), each year a faculty member is awarded the Dennis Lesh Foundation Teacher Recognition Award based on nominations by PCC students, faculty, and staff. This year Dave Campbell, Electrical Power Technology (EPT) Instructor, won the prestigious award.

Many of Campbell's students submitted recommendations nominating him for the award. A consistent theme throughout the reasons for Campbell's nomination included his outstanding knowledge of the industry, and his caring attitude towards students' success as well as his willingness to go above and beyond to help students both in inside and outside of the classroom.



Fellow EPT instructor Jerry Haskell, who won the award last year, also spoke of Campbell's dedication to the EPT career, education, and students.

"His (Campbell) long hours of looking for better ways to teach young men how to succeed in the lineman industry has contributed into making the program what it is today," said Haskell.

Campbell believes students will be successful and learn better when you can have fun and create an environment where students want to learn.

"My teaching philosophy is to have fun with them," said Campbell. "To create an environment where they want to learn. That's half the battle. If they're having a good and they're learning at the same time then it's the best of both worlds. I enjoy showing them the things I wanted to know as a young lineman. The questions I wanted to know and couldn't get answered. I make sure that I teach them those things so they don't have to learn them the hard way."

Previous to coming to PCC in 2008, Campbell worked in the industry not only as a lineman but also as a safety and technical training instructor.

"I feel very honored," said Campbell. "There are a lot of great teachers here (PCC). It's a privilege to receive an award like this. I've enjoyed working at PCC these past nine years. It's great people and it's always interesting. Every day is a new adventure of some kind. The students are great and I've had some great classes over the years and they seem to just get better and better."

The Dennis Lesh foundation Teacher Recognition Award of \$1000 is awarded annually to a PCC 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.

# Linda Bolt Receives Dennis Lesh Foundation Food Services Award

Each year at Pratt Community College commencement a member of the staff in Food Services at the college is recognized for their continuing efforts to PCC's students.

This year, Great Western Dining employee, Linda Bolt, received the award announced at graduation for the second year in a row.

The Dennis Lesh foundation Food Services Recognition Award of \$500 is to be awarded to a Food Services 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.

Bolt was nominated by PCC students and staff and selected by a committee in the Foundation.



# Stewart and Cramer Say Farewell to PCC

Staff and Faculty at Pratt Community College came together to recognize the retirement of two faculty members on May 15. Agriculture Power Technology instructor, Rod Stewart, and Psychology and Sociology instructor, David Cramer, announced that they will be retiring at semester end.

"These two have more than four decades of teaching at PCC between them," said Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick, PCC Vice President of Instruction. "They will be missed by all of us here at PCC as well as the students they have taught over the years."

Stewart and Cramer said a few emotional words at the reception. Both agreed that working at PCC and with students each year has been wonderful.

"My time here has been extremely enjoyable," said Stewart. "I very much enjoyed working with the faculty. We've become like family."

Stewart started working at PCC 18 years ago. He says his greatest accomplishment is being a part of the team who established the Ag Power program and growing it into a program that is highly respected among Ag dealers and industry around the state. Because of the relationships made and the quality of the program all of the Ag power students each year are placed into semester internships and could possibly receive jobs at after completion.

Stewart says that over the years all of the experiences and students coming in and out make it all worthwhile.

"The best part of working here and with this program are all of the students and parents who stay connected with me," said Stewart. "I still get calls and letters from graduates. That is my greatest accomplishment."

Cramer also shared memorable moments of his 28 years at PCC. The Psychology and Sociology came to Pratt with just a small van filled with his family and possessions.

He began teaching in graduate school because he says he enjoys logic, evidence, and the pursuit of knowledge.

"Even though we are a small community college in a small rural area, we attract students from every state of the union as well as countries from all over the world," said Cramer. "We have athletes, vocational students, and academic students. What a pleasure it is to meet so many individuals and to have them contribute to each other's development. I truly enjoy the challenge of working in an institution which combines academics, athletics and skilled-labor curriculums. I am certain this is why PCC is consistently ranked at the top in the nation by outside evaluators."

Cramer told the crowd that two words can sum up the 28 years at PCC and for him those are gratitude and pride. Cramer said that he is thankful for the opportunity to come here and work with so many great people and students.

"I am very proud to have worked with so many wonderful people and the Pratt Community," said Cramer.

For their years of service Stewart received a Snap-On tool chest. Students and others contributed towards getting him the new tool chest.

Cramer received a gift card presented to him from Fitzpatrick.

"A little start towards your boat," said Fitzpatrick, jokingly.

Cramer joked that his long range plan is to buy a house in the mountains and another at the beach. He and his family plans on taking a summer vacation to the beach and will remain active and healthy in the Pratt community.

Stewart and his wife are preparing to move North of Manhattan, Kan. to be closer to his father who is 87-years-old and their children and grandchildren. Stewart also has an opportunity to do some workshops at Pittsburg State University.



# Nursing student awarded Laura Betzen-Oeding Memorial Nursing Scholarship

Pratt Community College (PCC) student Kaitlyn (Katie) Millis was awarded the Laura Betzen-Oeding Memorial Nursing Scholarship at Commencement on Friday, May 12.

Millis, originally from Altamont, Kan., comes from a family of nurses including her mother and grandmother. That, along with what she saw and experienced from nurses taking care of her grandfather as he fought pancreatic cancer, helped her choose the nursing profession.

"That's what it's about- having such a deep compassion in caring for others that it truly does make a difference not only in their lives, but also in ours as a nurse and human being," said Millis.

After graduation, Millis plans on working to pass the NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination) and then start a Bachelor of Nursing program in the fall, which the scholarship will help her accomplish. Eventually she has her sights set on continuing on with her education through a master's program and possibly a nurse practitioner program.

"To be a recipient of the Laura Betzen-Oeding Nursing Foundation scholarship is a tremendous honor," said Millis. "I feel that it so much more than a financial award. It is an honor to receive this award in Laura's name and I will strive to continue to honor the legacy that Laura had set forth."

This scholarship is given in memory of Laura Betzen-Oeding. Laura completed her nursing degree at Pratt Community College in 2000. She then continued her education at Wichita State University where she earned her BSN in 2002, and she was then a graduate student at Fort Hays State University in the Family Nurse Practitioner program. Laura's family and friends believe that she would have wanted the scholarship to go to a student who demonstrates a love for nursing, professionalism, and a kind, caring demeanor.

The scholarship is open to an ADN completion student at the Pratt campus, and the recipient is chosen by the Betzen and Oeding families and ADN nursing faculty. Further guidelines are that the student must have a minimum 2.5 GPA and be in their second year at PCC.



## PCC Theater Kids Camp to Perform Seussical Jr. the Musical.

Horton the Elephant, the Cat in the Hat and all of your favorite Dr. Seuss characters spring to life on the Pratt Community College stage in *Seussical JR.*, a fantastical musical extravaganza for this year's kid's community theater production.

The PCC performing arts department will host 115 Pratt community kids, ages 4-11 for the production including camp alumni, sixth grade and up, as camp counselors and production techs.

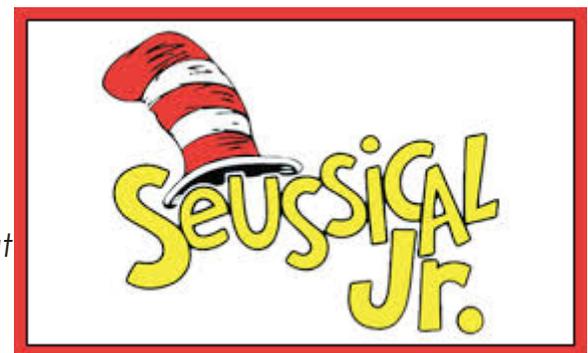
The camp begins June 12 and ends on June 24 with their

final performance of the hour and fifteen minute musical featuring all of the campers.

The two week camp includes one week of learning staging, music, crafts and costumes, games and library time with the last week dedicated to putting the show together, learning songs and dances.

"The success of theater camp is truly because of our helpers," said Beck. "They have gone through the camp before and know what to expect. They are great with the kids and want to have fun right with them."

Kid's camp wraps with a two-night performance of *Seussical JR.*, on June 23 and 24 both shows begin at 7 p.m. in Carpenter Auditorium. Tickets are sold at the door for \$5.



# PCC Instructor Traveling to Germany for Educational Seminar

A Pratt Community College instructor is trading in her beaver gear for lederhosen and traveling to Germany for a teacher's workshop during the summer. Education instructor, Rhonda Westerhaus, was selected, along with 19 other teachers across the United States, by the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG) to participate in a three week-long workshop that will take place in Leipzig, Germany.

In this workshop teachers will be developing classroom activities designed to incorporate technology, math and science as part of learning German in the classroom. The entire seminar will be conducted in German. In addition to observing classroom instruction, experiencing numerous workshops, and designing instructional materials, participants will visit the Deutsches Hygiene-Museum in Dresden and enjoy a two-day excursion to Wolfsburg for a hands-on experience with leaders in the German auto industry.



"I appreciate the support of Dr. Fitzpatrick who wrote a recommendation and the overall support of the college in this continuing education opportunity," said Westerhaus.

Westerhaus will be teaching a German Language class this fall both on-campus and online. The German I class on-campus will be held daily from 2:15 to 3:10 p.m. as well as being offered online through EduKan for distance learners. For more information on enrolling in this class contact PCC admissions by phone at 620-450-2217 or by e-mail at [pccadmissions@prattcc.edu](mailto:pccadmissions@prattcc.edu).

The AATG supports the teaching of the German language and German-speaking cultures in elementary, secondary and post-secondary education in the United States. The AATG promotes the study of the German-speaking world in all its linguistic, cultural and ethnic diversity, and endeavors to prepare students as transnational, transcultural learners and active, multilingual participants in a globalized world.

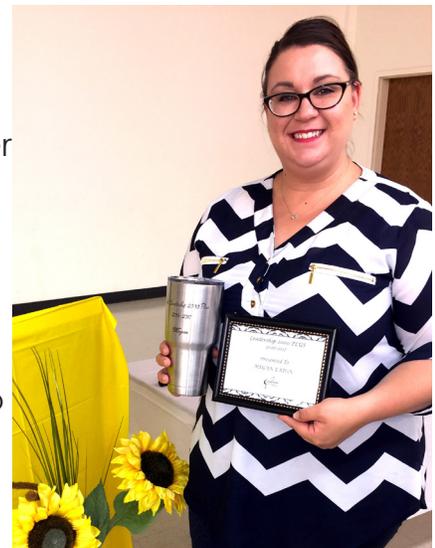
## Community Leadership Program Graduates PCC Employee

Each year since 1992, the Pratt Area Chamber of Commerce hosts a leadership program in partnership with the Kansas Health Foundation called Leadership 2000 PLUS. The program is open to area residents interested in developing leadership skills and aims to provide common sense skills and capacities along with the confidence to become a leader in the community. This year, one of Pratt Community College's (PCC) own, Megan Eaton, took on the leadership challenge.

Eaton, Coordinator of Marketing, Communications and College Relations at PCC, started the program in September and wrapped up in March. Along with nine other community members, Eaton graduated from the program on May 23.

Once a month, the group met a different businesses in Pratt in order to learn more about the Kansas Leadership Center's leadership philosophy. They also met with various groups and organizations from the Pratt area.

"I found the experience valuable because I am new to the Pratt area and we not only visited and toured many of the Pratt businesses but we had Leadership 2000 PLUS alumni speak with us about different aspects of leadership," said Eaton. "It really helped me get out of my shell, explore Pratt and meet people in our community."



# Club 62+ Announces Schedule of Events for Summer

Pratt Community College announces the Summer 2017 activity schedule for Club 62+ and invites eligible members of the public to participate. Club 62+ is a community organization for residents of Pratt, Kingman, Barber, Kiowa and Stafford counties who are 62 years of age and above.

There is no cost for membership in Club 62+ and benefits include access to exclusive programs and activities, free admission to home sporting events at the college, and waived tuition for any college course (fees and book costs still apply).

Susan Mayberry, coordinator of Club 62+ has released the schedule for the summer.

"We have some very exciting events planned for this summer and I hope that both new and old members can take advantage of the programs," said Mayberry. "We were able to incorporate many of our members' requests and suggestions into the schedule, and have also included some old favorites."

This summer patrons will visit the Rosewood Wine Cellar in Great Bend for a tasting and tour and will travel to Wichita for a trip to the Botanica and Wichita Art Museum.



## Summer 2017 Schedule

**PCC Performing Arts presents: Suesical the Musical Junior Concert // Friday & Saturday, June 23-24, 7 p.m. \$5. Carpenter Auditorium. No RSVP needed.**

Come watch our very own PCC community kids in this delightful concert! Horton the Elephant, the Cat in the Hat and all of your favorite Dr. Seuss characters spring to life on stage in Seussical JR., a fantastical musical extravaganza.

**PCC Linda Hunt Memorial Library Guest Speaker: Amy Cruce. Eat Well Live Well // Friday, June 30, 10 a.m. RSVP by June 23.**

Join Amy Cruce and the PCC library in a presentation about Juice Plus+. Juice Plus+ is whole food based nutrition, including juice powder concentrates from 30 different fruits, vegetables and grains. Juice Plus+ helps bridge the gap between what you should eat and what you do eat every day. Not a multivitamin, medicine, treatment or cure for any disease, Juice Plus+ is made from quality ingredients carefully monitored from farm to capsule to provide natural nutrients your body needs to be at its best.

**Rosewood Wine Cellar Tasting and Tour/Riding Ranch Facility // Tuesday, July 11, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. \$10 plus lunch. RSVP by July 5**

Join us on a tour and tasting at Rosewood Wine Cellar in Great Bend, Kan. They are nestled into the Rosewood Ranch, located in the heart of America, 9 miles west of Great Bend, KS. The Ranch is home to a nationally acclaimed therapeutic horse-riding program and to world-champion horses, for which our wines are named. As a group we will enjoy a customized tasting and be able to visit their retail store Downtown for purchases. We will have lunch. Cost is up to you.

**Botanica Gardens and Wichita Art Museum // Thurs. Aug. 3, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. \$10 plus lunch. Please RSVP by April 1.**

Join us for a self-guided walk around the Wichita Botanica. After we will head over to the Wichita Art Museum for a tour. Exhibitions on display in August are Contemporary Glass Art, Printmaking, Wichita Artists in their Studios and more. We will have lunch in Wichita. Cost is up to you.

# PCC Track and Field Competes at the Region VI meet

On May 6, the Pratt Community College track and field team competed at the Region VI Championship hosted by Cowley County Community College in Arkansas City.

The weekend kicked off on Friday, Women's team started the weekend with the long jump. Adriauna Sirls took fifth overall to start things off for the women's team. Aaliyah Brown ran the 100m dash and took 10th with a time of 12.23. Tavaija Bennett Ran the fastest time for the girls in the 200m dash which also comes as a career best for her in a time of 26.26.

The men started the day with the 4x800m relay. The team of William Charles, Logan Krenn, Alex Viscarra, and Christain Collins ran a season best time of 8:27.37. Tyler Bailey ran the 100m dash for the boys and posted a 19th place finish with a time of 10.93. For the men Christopher McEnery posted the fastest time for the boys in a time of 21.92 taking 17th.

"Day one started off a little rough," PCC track coach Josh Harden said. "We had one bright spot in Sirls taking fifth in the long jump. I was hoping that some of the rough performances didn't set the tone for how the weekend was going to turn out for us, and it didn't."

The second day started with the women's 4x100m dash taking seventh with a time of 48.32. The team of Tavaija Bennett, Anysia Romain, Sirls, and Brown reached the national qualifying mark and a school record with their time. Madeline Jacobsen wrapped up the women's weekend running the 400m hurdles with a season and career best time of 1:11.09. Her time sets a new school record in the 400m hurdles.

Day two for the men's team opened up with the 400m dash. Clifford Porter ran a career best time with 48.64 to take 10th. McEnery followed just behind with a time of 48.87 to take 12th. Charles ran the 800m taking 10th with a career best time of 1:59.19. Justin Moore took 10th, as well, running the 5k in a time of 16:40.25. The final event on the track for the Beavers was the men's 4x400m relay. A team of Anthony Paul, Juvens Pierre, Porter, and McEnery, took sixth overall with a time of 3:18.11. That time qualifies them for national meet and just missed the school record by .01 seconds.

"Our second day was a major turnaround," Harden said. "We had a lot of good performances. We had a school record fall and a lot of personal records broken, which I'm extremely pleased with. The focus is to always perform at your best around this time of the season. We will be taking eight athletes to the national meet in two weeks. We are prepping for that and planning to make that our best performance of the year."



## JOIN THE BEAVER BACKERS TODAY!



**FIND OUT MORE ON OUR WEBSITE**

**[gobeaversports.com/information/beaverbackers](http://gobeaversports.com/information/beaverbackers)**

The Pratt Community College Beaver Backers is an organization dedicated to supporting, promoting and advancing Pratt Community College athletics. The Beaver Backers is an organization that will assist Pratt Community College with providing the support and resources necessary for student-athletes to achieve success in each of these pursuits.

# Students Honored at Annual PCC Academic and Athletic Awards

As the 2016-17 school year comes to a close, Pratt Community College hosted the annual academic and athletic awards ceremony. Several student athletes were honored for their achievements on and off the playing field.

These student athletes were recognized for their academic achievements. In the business awards, baseball pitcher Ryan Seidel was awarded as the outstanding business transfer student.

The education department recognized Reed Stephens, men's basketball, and Kirsten Hansen, volleyball, for their academic achievements this year. Stephens received the outstanding secondary education major award. He was chosen for the award by his professors and maintained a 3.94 GPA this year. Hansen also excelled in the classroom with a 3.84 GPA. With the recognition of her professors, Hansen was selected for the outstanding elementary education major award.

Phi Theta Kappa then presented their awards where several student athletes were recognized. Jose Cortez, wrestling, was recognized as a Phi Theta Kappa ambassador. Megan Poole, women's basketball, received recognition as the Phi Theta Kappa chapter president. She represented PCC in Topeka, Kan. earlier this semester. Emma Hall, softball, served PCC as the Phi Theta Kappa vice president this past year.

Athletics closed the night out with several awards of their own. First, the student athletes who made nationals or received conference recognition for their play this year were honored. Team awards followed where student athletes were chosen for awards by their coaches and teammates. Ending the night was the naming of the PCC male and female student athlete of the year. Lexi Schamberger was selected as the female student athlete of the year. A dual sport athlete in volleyball and women's basketball, Schamberger played key roles for both teams.

Jordan Stubbings was awarded the male student athlete of the year. A forward for the men's soccer team, Stubbings was a force for the Beavers this season. He closed out the season being selected as the conference player of the week, and he was selected first team All-Conference and first team All-Region VI. Stubbings was also honored by being named the Offensive Player of the Year in the KJCCC.



CHECK IN AT EVENTS. EARN POINTS.  
**GET REWARDED**

**GO BEAVER NATION**



PRAATI COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
COMMENCEMENT AND NURSING PINNING 2017



*Congratulations Class of 2017*