



SCC reduces need for remedial math courses, saving students time and money – and aiding in degree competition

The Achieving Success in Math Program at St. Charles Community College has made strides in combatting one of the most prevalent barriers to student success in college – completing college-level math.

High school students who reach their math requirements by junior year are opting out of math their senior year, not realizing the impact it can have on their college education – placing into a lower class than expected or not passing their first college-level math class.

More than two-thirds of community college students take at least one remedial course to prepare for college-level work, according to the American Association of Community Colleges.

“For the majority of students, mathematics is the highest hurdle they have to clear to complete their degree,” said Chris Breitmeyer, vice president for academic and student affairs at St. Charles Community College.

SCC implemented the Achieving Success in College Math program after exploring the correlation between high school math and success in college math. “The program sets students on the right path to be successful in college-level mathematics and higher education as a whole,” Breitmeyer said.

Through the program, funded by the SCC Foundation, SCC math faculty visit high schools within St. Charles County and SCC’s extended five-county service area, encouraging students to take math their senior year and providing them with information about what is expected in college-level math.



Dorothy (Dot) Peterson, adjunct faculty member of math, presents to area high school students as part of the Achieving Success in College Math program.

“We go directly to the individuals who can make the greatest difference in college placement – the students themselves,” said Joyce Lindstrom, Ed.D., SCC math professor.

Students receive a booklet with college and career readiness tips, and they learn that students who take math in their senior year of high school have a higher placement/assessment score on average than those who do not, according to SCC Math Department data.

“Toward the end of the program, the high school students take a very short assessment test and are unofficially placed into a math class,” said Jackie Radle, SCC math instructor. “It makes everything very real for them. Students are not prepared for the test and usually do not do great. It is easy to demonstrate why they need to prepare.”

The program gives students the knowledge to make the decisions in high school that will ultimately save their time and money while in college. Most importantly, the program’s success means that more students will persist in college and complete a degree.

The program began in 2008 with just 888 students hearing the message. To date, more than 26,000 area high school students have

Wait, there’s more ...

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SCC student Muhammad Farhan Ullah Babar (left) receives the Missouri Community College Association Student Leadership Award.

Three from SCC recognized by Missouri Community College Association

Three faculty and staff members from SCC were recognized for their achievements by the Missouri Community College Association in November.

Those recognized were chosen from thousands of peers across the state for their outstanding leadership, innovation and support of their community college campuses.

Student Muhammad Farhan Ullah Babar was honored with the Student Leadership Award. Babar, an active member of Phi Beta Lambda (PBL), placed first in Desktop Publishing and second in Computer Concepts at the Missouri PBL Leadership Conference in 2015. He went on to the national conference in Chicago, where he placed fourth alongside his partner in Desktop Publishing. He designed and currently maintains the SCC PBL chapter website and has taken on leadership of the organization. He also serves as Student Senate President at SCC and is helping start a new computer programming club at the college.



TINA SIEKER

Tina Sieker, SCC associate dean of continuing education, received the Senior Service Award. Sieker began working at

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benefited from SCC's Achieving Success in College Math program.

The success of students who have taken part has demonstrated the program's measurable benefit.

A reported 83 percent of the students who heard the presentation placed into Beginning Algebra (MAT 098) or above, while only 50 percent of the students who did not hear placed at that level. Additionally, 31 percent of those who heard the presentation placed into at least Intermediate Algebra (MAT 121), the first level of SCC math courses that awards college-level credit, while only 16 percent of those who did not hear the presentation placed in MAT 121.

Students who heard the presentation are also proving to be more successful in their first SCC math class. More of them chose to take math their first semester at SCC (82.8 percent compared to 70.2 percent), and more passed with an A, B or C (48.7 percent compared to 39.9 percent).

Not only has the program benefited students, it has saved SCC more than \$200,000 by offering fewer remedial math courses between the summer 2011 and spring 2015 terms.

"We love this program," said Erin Coleman, Fort Zumwalt East High School math teacher. "It is eye opening for some students. Reality is, working hard now will pay off in the end, and we have students who need to hear this."



AEL student walks the walk

SCC English Language Acquisition student Pedro Diaz (center) was recently recognized for his determination. On Monday, Nov. 16, the Adult Education and Literacy Program surprised Pedro with a certificate honoring his dedication to improving his English skills. Pedro, who walks one hour each way to SCC every day, hasn't missed a class since he enrolled in September. SCC President Ron Chesbrough, Ph.D., presented the certificate to Pedro along with Mandy Rose, associate dean of adult education and learning.



Dave Dickey, assistant professor of music at SCC, recently received the Merit Award from the St. Louis Metro District 8.

SCC music professor recognized by area music education group

Dave Dickey, SCC assistant professor of music, was presented with the Merit Award by the St. Louis Metro District 8 on Sunday, Nov. 22, at Chaminade College Preparatory School in St. Louis County.

St. Louis Metro District 8 is comprised of many St. Charles County school districts, St. Louis City Public Schools and all private schools in the metro area. Hundreds of students from these middle and high schools audition for honor bands such as the High School Jazz Band or Concert Band; those who win a seat are eligible to audition for the Missouri All-State

Bands which is sponsored by the Missouri High School Athletics/Activities Association, Missouri Bandmasters Association, and Missouri Music Educators Association.

The Merit Award is voted on and awarded by the music educators from the hundreds of area schools. The award recipient is an individual in the community who has helped, in some unique way, to advance the cause of music education in the St. Louis area (e.g. music teachers, music dealers, private teachers, or professional musicians).

In addition to his role as the program coordinator for instrumental music, Dave serves as the 2015 Metro 8 All-District Jazz Band clinician. He received a bachelor's degree in jazz studies from the University of North Texas and a master's degree in jazz performance from Florida International University. He has been a high school and college music educator and continues to perform as a trombonist.

"He received this award because of his continuous outreach to area schools and music students on behalf of not only St. Charles Community College but also music education as a whole," said Keith Moyer, vice president of the St. Louis Metro 8 High School Jazz Band and director of bands at Fort Zumwalt West High School.

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SCC in 1993 in the Adult Education and Literacy Program. In continuing education, she was instrumental in the purchase of Lumens software, allowing students to register and pay online for non-credit classes.



KAREN JONES

Karen Jones, SCC dean of arts, humanities and social sciences, received the Global Educator Award. Jones created the Canterbury exchange program at SCC. For more than 20 years, both students and faculty have the opportunity to study in Canterbury, England, thanks to her efforts.

The Missouri Community College Association's annual convention is the largest professional development opportunity in Missouri solely focused on community colleges. Its four award banquets, nearly 50 breakout sessions and countless opportunities for peer to peer networking attract more than 500 attendees from across the state.

MARK THE CALENDAR

Fuel Up for Finals | Dec. 7-8 | 9 a.m.-noon | Administration Building atrium

SCC Concert Band & Jazz Band Concert | Dec. 7 | 7:30-9:30 p.m. | FAB theater

SCC Singers & Chamber Choir | Dec. 8 | 7:30-10 p.m. | FAB theater

SCC Orchestra | Dec. 10 | 7:30-9:30 p.m. | FAB theater

YPT presents *Scrooge!* | Dec. 18-20 | FAB theater

College Closed | Dec. 24-Jan. 1 | Winter break

Fiddler on the Roof auditions | Jan. 2 | 8:30 a.m.-noon | FAB theater

Harry Tale Rock auditions | Jan. 9 | 9 a.m.-noon | SSB auditorium

SCC Opera | Jan. 9 | 7:30-9:30 p.m. | FAB theater

SCC Opera | Jan. 10 | 3-5 p.m. | FAB theater

College Closed | Jan. 18 | Martin Luther King holiday

Women's Soccer season ends with narrow defeat

After the SCC Women's Soccer team defeated St. Louis Community College on Halloween to win their second straight Region XVI Championship, they took home field against Lewis & Clark Community College on Nov. 7 for the District Championship.

Lewis & Clark entered the game ranked #7 in the country and with a record of 15-2-2. SCC brought a 13-4 record to the match.

"We knew Lewis & Clark was going to be an all-out battle. We had a week to put together and work on a game plan that we felt could get us back to Nationals," Jason Wyland, assistant coach, said.

The first half proved to be just as Wyland predicted. It was a scoreless game until five minutes left when Kyleigh Kristensen took the ball off the defenders' foot and past the goalkeeper for the game's first goal.

"I knew that if I could get in front of the net I could score," Kristensen said. "The entire team worked on the game plan and it allowed me to get the ball and head straight to the goal. What a great feeling."

Going into half time, SCC held a 1-0 lead. Lewis & Clark notched their first goal 10 minutes into the second half. And 15 minutes later, on a free kick, Nicole Howard, the leading



goal scorer in the nation, found a spot that SCC goalkeeper Mary McGilvray couldn't reach.

Lewis & Clark would add one more goal to end the game 3-1 and earn a National Tournament berth.

"That second goal really deflated the team," said Head Coach Josh Tyler. "They had worked so hard and played their hearts out. Every girl walked off the field knowing that they gave that game everything they had. Lewis & Clark is a great team, and they showed it."

Tyler said the team has a lot to be proud of this season – a second-straight Region XVI Championship; a record of 13-5; 58 goals scored, averaging 3.2 goals per game; and six All-Region players (First Team: Alexa Riley, Kyleigh Kristensen, Lacey Wesloh and Mary McGilvray; Second Team: Morganne Dugger and Kayla Collie) and the Region XVI Player of the Year: Alexa Riley. *Content provided by Josh Tyler, head coach*

FOUNDATION UPDATE

Zonta Club supports students at SCC

A \$2,500 grant from The Zonta Club of St. Louis will benefit the St. Charles Community College Foundation's Zonta-Marlene Fraser Irish Memorial Scholarship, providing students additional opportunities for success.

"We are so grateful for the support of the Zonta Club of St. Louis," said Betsy Schneider, SCC director of development. "With this grant, we will be able to provide even more scholarships to help students reach their educational goals."

The SCC Foundation enhances learning environments for thousands of students each year through scholarship awards, academic enhancements and community outreach programs. More than \$75,000 is awarded each year through SCC Foundation scholarships.

For more information about Zonta Club of St. Louis, visit zontastlouis.com. For more information about the SCC Foundation, visit stchas.edu/foundation. To learn more or to apply for an SCC Foundation scholarship, visit stchas.edu/scholarships.

Other News and Notes

Scholarship packets and recommendation forms are now available online (stchas.edu/scholarships) and in hard copy around the campus. More than \$175,000 is being made available by the SCC Board of Trustees and the SCC Foundation for tuition and book scholarships for the 2016-17 academic year. The deadline to return applications is the same for all of these scholarships: 4:30 p.m. March 1, 2016, to Enrollment Services, ADM 1113.

The SCC Foundation's Employee Sponsored Program (ESP) will host its annual **Trivia Night** from 6-11 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26, 2016, to raise funds for scholarships, campus enhancements and employee support initiatives. For more information or to purchase a table, visit stchas.edu/trivia.

The SCC Foundation hosted a luncheon for its **Legacy Society** (pictured below) on Nov. 13. The event is held annually to recognize those who have included SCC in their estate planning.



International Ed Week provides glimpse at cultures, traditions

SCC's annual International Education Week, held Nov. 17-19 on campus, featured movies, lectures, panel discussions and even a buffet lunch.

In addition to a schedule that featured movies about Christopher Columbus and Native Americans and an Indian family that brings their culinary flavors to France, the week also

included a lecture on free trade agreements, a student panel of non-native speakers speaking to culture shock and an authentic Thanksgiving feast (with donations benefiting a local food pantry).

A brief Indian dance performance by SCC students Nirali Patel and Krishna Bhagat was held Friday, Nov. 19, in the SSB student lounge.