



SCC named Tree Campus USA by Arbor Day Foundation

SCC achieved recognition as a 2017 Tree Campus USA. Tree Campus USA is a national program launched in 2008 by the Arbor Day Foundation that honors colleges and universities and their leaders for promoting healthy trees and engaging students and staff

in the spirit of conservation.

According to the Arbor Day Foundation, to obtain this distinction, SCC met the five core standards for an effective campus forest management including establishment of a tree advisory committee, evidence of a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, an Arbor Day observance and the sponsorship of student service-learning projects.

“If ever there was a time for trees, now is that time,” said Dan Lambe, Arbor Day Foundation president. “Worldwide we are facing issues with air quality, water resources, personal health and well-being, and energy use. By earning Tree Campus USA recognition, your campus has shown its commitment to protecting and preserving its valuable tree resources and will reap their benefits for generations of students to come.”



SCC president recognized in Who's Who Diversity in Color

Who's Who Diversity in Color released its fourth edition “Saluting Diversity in Higher Education” on May 3. A ceremony was held at Ballpark Village in St. Louis to release the book and present various Higher Education Diversity Champions with an award.

Barbara Kavalier, Ph.D., was among 12 area college presidents and chancellors to be included in the issue as a Higher Education Diversity Champion. SCC continues to take steps toward creating an environment that is inclusive for everyone, as it is a priority for the college.

SCC, UCM sign computer science articulation agreement

SCC and the University of Central Missouri (UCM) signed an articulation agreement in April to provide clear pathways for students to transfer. Students who earn Cyber Security A.S., Management Information Systems A.S., Programming A.S. and Supply Chain Logistics and Manufacturing Technology A.A.S at SCC can seamlessly transfer into a variety of Bachelor of Science programs at UCM.

According to the agreement, it “expresses our mutual commitment to increasing opportunities for student access and success in higher education.”

The agreement was signed by President Barbara Kavalier, Ph.D., on April 18, and signed by Charles Ambrose, Ph.D., president of UCM, on April 24.



SCC DPS receives \$6,500 in equipment

SCC's Department of Public Safety received \$6,500 worth of equipment for assisting Belluscura with the creation of a training video about Belluscura Evacuation Slydes, which aid in evacuating the disabled or injured.

“We are proud to help our community, whether it's by keeping it safe or aiding in a project like this,” said Bob Ronkoski, SCC director of public safety/ chief of police.

ST. CHARLES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – May 2018



SCC cuts ribbon at Center for Healthy Living



SCC celebrated the dedication of its Center for Healthy Living May 2 on the Dardenne Creek Campus. The Center for Healthy Living is home to all of SCC's current and future nursing and allied health programming as well as new programming such as agriculture and other workforce needs.

The event included a ribbon cutting, refreshments, self-guided tours and a speaking program featuring Barbara Kavalier, Ph.D., SCC president; Pamela Cilek, SCC Board of Trustees president; John Bookstaver, Ph.D., vice president for academic affairs and enrollment management; Cory Baum, SCC nursing student; and Amy Koehler, SCC campus dean/dean of nursing and allied health.

“We are extremely excited to work collaboratively with community leaders to change policies that bring healthy living and healthier communities within reach,” Koehler said. “Everything in the new building has been and will be purposeful, supported by research and well designed.”

According to the dedication planning team,

during the self-guided tour, community members learned the ins-and-outs of the building from the people who know it best. Students and faculty were stationed around the building to explain how each space is specifically used.

“The Center for Healthy Living provides the room necessary to grow and expand all of our healthcare programs,” Koehler continued. “It is a beautiful environment where students, faculty and community members are working together to train healthcare providers in the most effective way.”

The four St. Charles County chambers – Western St. Charles County Chamber of Commerce, Greater St. Charles County Chamber of Commerce, O'Fallon Chamber of Commerce and Industries, and Cottleville/Weldon Spring Chamber of Commerce – joined SCC administrators and Board of Trustee members during the ribbon cutting, as this building is anticipated to have a large impact on the county's workforce.

SCC honors high-achieving students at awards banquet

SCC's annual Student Awards Banquet was held at Whitmoor Country Club May 3. Nearly 60 students were honored with departmental and club leadership awards. A welcome was provided by Heather McDorman, vice president for marketing and student life; an introduction of the speaker was given by Kaleigh Oliver, student government president; the speaker was Mara Vorachek-Warren, interim dean of arts, humanities and social sciences; and the presentation of awards was given by John Bookstaver, vice president for academic affairs and enrollment management, Barbara Kavalier, Ph.D., college president, and Mandi Smith, student activities manager.

The Maria Espinoza Presidential Leadership Award and scholarship was awarded to John McGinnis and The President's Rising Start Award and Scholarship was awarded to Kaleigh Oliver.





Graduating nursing students take part in SCC's annual pinning ceremony

The annual pinning ceremony for SCC's Associate Degree Nursing graduates included speakers, pledges, pins and candlelight at the May 9 event held in the College Center Gymnasium.

Fifty-nine students were eligible to take part in the ceremony in front of family and friends. Amy Koehler, campus dean and dean of nursing and allied health, shared a ceremony overview, and Jen Bussen, associate professor of nursing and Nursing Department chair, provided a program overview.

The faculty speaker was Katy Morris and the student speakers were Cory Baum and Melanie Walsh. Following the presentation of pins, the graduates recited the Nightingale Pledge and took part in a candle lighting ceremony which represents the "Passing of the Lamp of Knowledge."

MARK THE CALENDAR

Campus will be closed Monday, May 28, for Memorial Day.

Food Truck Frolic and Family Movie Night | Friday, June 22 | 5-8:30 p.m. | Red Parking Lot/Technology Building lawn

Summer credit classes begin Monday, June 4.

For a complete list of upcoming events and academic dates and deadlines, visit stchas.edu/calendar.



SCC holds medaling ceremony for graduating veterans

Medals were presented on May 7 to graduating military veterans and service members in recognition of their achievement.

"We are thrilled to have created a unique tradition that recognizes our veterans and service members at commencement time," said Andrew Gates, SCC coordinator of veterans services.

The medals were presented before the May 12 commencement ceremony so they could be affixed to graduates' attire.

"The ceremony sends a positive message to our students and to the community. We at SCC appreciate their service," Gates said. "I look forward to continuing this tradition for many years to come."



SCC provides new career opportunities through spring career weeks and Job Fair

SCC hosted some 121 employers at Job Fair 2018 on May 4 in the College Center and provided opportunities for more than 325 job seekers to find job leads, job training and job search information and networking opportunities.

"Job seekers and employers appreciate that SCC provides a venue for them to meet and make connections for job opportunities," said Jenny Hahn Schnipper, SCC career services manager.

A SCC photography student provided a free portrait session to job seekers to use on their LinkedIn profile. Job seekers took advantage of a résumé critique/job coaching booth manned by Society for Human Resource Management organization volunteers. The booth provided laptops and a printer, so job seekers could



immediately edit their résumés and print new copies to distribute at the Job Fair.

The Career Explorations Alliance program provided 313 job shadowing and mentoring experiences during spring career weeks, April 9-13 and April 16-18.

BJC St. Peters, Progress West and St. Luke's Hospitals were supporters of the career weeks and provided many opportunities for students interested in medical fields.

"This year has been a tremendous year for the CEA program," said Dawn Thornton, Career Explorations program manager. Our database of professionals interested in volunteering continues to grow as more professionals see the benefits to their industries."

Since CEA began two and a half years ago, the program has increased the number of experiences provided to students by 86 percent and has impacted more than 4,000 students. Following discussions by the supporting school districts, the CEA Program will end June 30.

Steven Thomas receives 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award



Graduates gathered to celebrate their achievements at St. Charles Community College on May 12 for the college's 30th annual commencement exercises.

At the commencement ceremony, the Distinguished Alumni Award was presented to Steven Thomas, a decorated military veteran of the United States Navy and director of advanced systems and manager of business development for Ball Aerospace and Technologies.

During his time in the Navy, Steven developed a passion for the field of intelligence

and decided to further his education so that he would be able to continue and advance in his field. Although he previously earned a bachelor's degree in engineering, he needed a different degree for his career path. He chose St. Charles Community College because it was near where he grew up in St. Charles, and offered a flexible course schedule. He credits SCC for helping him to make the transition from the Navy into collegiate studies.

"SCC allowed me not only to change my career path, but also to make the most of the college experience so that I was better-suited for success in my career," Thomas said.

After earning an Associate of Arts degree from SCC in 2001, he transferred to the University of Missouri–St. Louis to earn a bachelor's degree in philosophy and then a Master of Business Administration.

Steven and his wife live in Defiance and are raising four children, ages 9, 8, 5 and 3.



Following a teambuilding activity, Professors Isaac Ruedin and Cheryl Eichenseer represent their table mates at rock-paper-scissors activity tie breaker. Eichenseer was victorious.

Planning and Budget Retreat

Over two days in late April, some 18 administrators and faculty members gathered off campus to review college priorities and plan for the next fiscal year.

The annual Planning and Budget retreat, hosted by college President Barbara Kavalier, Ph.D., was a little different this year. In addition to her Cabinet, the President invited senior administrators and faculty members who represented the Faculty Association, adjunct faculty, the President's Council, the Resource Allocation Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee.

"The group represented the college well. They worked in groups to update our priorities and brainstorm current challenges and future opportunities, as well as look at budget needs for the next year," Kavalier said.

Attendees also took part in group exercises meant to encourage creative thinking and to learn more about each other in a casual setting.

Work from the retreat was reviewed by the President's Council at its May 10 meeting.



President Barbara Kavalier, Ph.D., and students Skye Parker and John McGinness at annual PTK conference in Kansas City, Mo.

SCC students, faculty and administration attend 100-year PTK conference celebration

SCC sent a group of faculty, staff and students to the 100-year celebration for PTK's conference in Kansas City, Mo. SCC's attendees included President Barbara Kavalier, Ph.D.; John Bookstaver, Ph.D., vice president for academic affairs and enrollment management; faculty members Cathy Daugherty, Lisa Davis and Christy Gant; and students Rachel Rotter,

Antonia LaRocca, Hannah Ngugi, John McGinness and Skye Parker.

"It was a wonderful experience for our students as they helped celebrate PTK's 100th anniversary in Kansas City," said Kavalier.

SCC's chapter of PTK is internationally recognized as a 5-Star chapter and a Reach Rewards chapter.

Spring Fling Fun



Jordy Searcy Music performed during Spring Fling, April 25-26.