

ST. CHARLES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – February 2020



SCC Continues to See Positive Enrollment

Contrary to statewide and national trends, St. Charles Community College is reporting positive annual enrollment growth for the 2019-2020 academic year.

“As far as we know,” said Todd Galbierz, vice president for administrative services and COO, “we are the only community college in Missouri that is experiencing this upswing.”

During the summer semester, credit hours were two percent higher than the previous year. While the college budgeted for a decline in credit hours for the

fall and spring, credit hours improved by 2.3 percent and .8 percent, respectively. Overall, SCC had 1.6 percent growth for the 2019-2020 academic year.

“The reason we are up in credit hours is because of the hard work of our faculty and staff,” said David Leenhouts, vice president for student services. “Our processes are focusing more on student success. We are doing everything we can to engage students and make them feel welcome.”

Leenhouts believes enrollment and retention rates will continue to rise as the student onboarding process continues to strengthen.

“We are moving forward as an institution,” he said. “It’s about creating an ideal learning environment for our students, and we want to be collaborative and innovative in our approach. I truly believe St. Charles Community College can become a national leader in this area.”



Staff Update Energizes Crowd, Lays Out Vision for the Future

Applause and cheers were plentiful at the spring semester staff update. Dr. Barbara Kavalier, SCC president, kicked off the event with an overview of the many successes the college experienced in 2019 – including achievements related to the strategic plan. Looking forward, Dr. Kavalier explained her optimism for 2020 as it relates to state funding, enrollment and college initiatives.

Todd Galbierz, vice president for administrative services and COO, gave an update on current and future facilities projects. The Campus Lake Apartments currently have more than 25 residents, up nearly 38 percent since the beginning of the semester. Galbierz was pleased to announce SCC was working with the St. Charles Parks and Recreation Department to bring back some green space to the area in the form of an 18-hole disc

golf course. Campus sign renovation news was also well received by the crowd. All campus entrance signs will get updates in the next year. Galbierz also explained the plan being developed for installing LED informational signs at two locations on campus.

David Leenhouts, vice president for student services, spoke to staff about initiatives to decrease wait times in Student Services and improve the student experience overall during the onboarding process. He announced the launch of QLess, an appointment scheduling and queue management system. The goal is to boost productivity and increase student satisfaction rates at the same time. Student Services is also looking at an online onboarding experience. The interactive experience will aim to make students feel more prepared at orientation and on the first day of classes.

Also at the staff update, Boyd Copeland, executive dean of student life, reported that mental health counseling services were coming back to campus through a contract with St. Louis Counseling. They also hope to utilize a mobile app in the near future to bring additional resources to students at any time.

Donna Davis, vice president for human resources/CHRO, gave an overview of the new career progression program, discussed a variety of opportunities for staff development, and introduced the new culture of service initiative. Kathy Brockgreitens, assistant vice president for college transitions and support systems, announced some good news for the Early College Academy.



Community Resource Fair Receives Positive Response From Students

More than 150 students attended the Community Resource Fair in early February. Though the planned two-day event was cut short due to inclement weather, Executive Dean of Student Life Boyd Copeland was enthusiastic with the results. “We had 31 vendors providing information about everything from food insecurity to mental health to addiction,” he said. “Responses from our students and organizations were all great. We hope to bring this event back to campus next year.” Students who attended the event were given a free T-shirt.

Faculty, Staff Recognized for Years of Service at Ceremony

St. Charles Community College recognized faculty and staff who reached a milestone year of service in 2019. More than 100 employees were recognized for service of 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30 years to the college. Honorees who attended the annual recognition luncheon were awarded a certificate on stage from Dr. Barbara Kavalier, SCC president, and Shirley Lohmar, Board of Trustees vice president.

5 years



Left to Right, Front Row: Mary Clodfelter, Cathy Daugherty, Joanne Hare, Chris Hubbard Jackson, Scott Kearnes, Pamela Cilek, Dr. Barbara Kavalier, president, Shirley Lohmar, Board of Trustees vice president. *Middle Row:* Suzanne Salmo, Debby Schultze, Nikki Sutton, Christal Thomas, Trey Warren, Erika Williams-Brown, Diane Papageorge. *Back Row:* Garrett Foster, Joe Baumann. *Not Pictured:* Jennifer Abate-O'Dell, Beth Bauer, Kevin Bruns, Gina Burrows, Christopher Candice, Miranda Carter, Tina Claybon, Rebecca De Los Santos, Charles Debord, Stephanie Derenski, Jon Garrett, Stacey Hagen, Sheila Hamm, Amber Hart, Stephen Haupt, Thomas Horan, Anna James, Heather Kettle-Singleton, Lisa Larabee, Rachel McWhorter, Pam Meyer, Lauren Miles, Greg Miller, Steven Monroe, Russell Murphy, Sean Reed-Bippen, Susan Shive, KJ Spurlock, Joseph Steineger, Ronald Turner, Jennifer Vest, Parker Weigle, Steve Wilson, Desirae Yznaga.

10 years



Left to Right, Front Row: Julie Barrow, Victor Bunze, Kimberly Fiorini-Willis, Sam Imperiale, Chuck Owens, Rose Mack, Dr. Barbara Kavalier, president, Shirley Lohmar, Board of Trustees vice president. *Back Row:* Emily Johnson, Sonja Mugler, Mercedes Tolliver. *Not Pictured:* Shannon Beahan, Randy Beck, George Bognar, Stephanie Brueggeman, Phyllis Farwig, Laura Grant, Daniel Granzow, Chris Hazel, Toyna Hill, Diann Imbierowicz, James McCollum, Vince Ploch, Corey Porter, Aaron Proctor, John Schnurbusch, Beth Twiehaus, Kevin Wilson.

15 years



Left to Right, Front Row: Donna Davis, Janelle Meyers, Paige George, Carol Pitzer, Pam Purtle, Jessica Trimborn, Lisa Stoner, Dr. Kavalier, president, Shirley Lohmar, Board of Trustees vice president. *Back Row:* Jennifer Lansdowne, Tracy Powers, Julie Schippers, Lisa Schwab, Christina Webster. *Not Pictured:* Ken Bray, Mary Kwarta, Heather Rodgers, Isaac Ruedin, David Schuchmann, Liza Willis.

20 years



Left to Right: Dr. Barbara Kavalier, president, Phyllis Marchand, Sharon Schreiber, Shirley Lohmar, Board of Trustees vice president. *Not Pictured:* Mary Horner, Josh Niemczyk, Alison Ouellette-Kirby, James Steers.

25 years



Left to Right: Dr. Barbara Kavalier, president, William Fuszner, Tom Hacker, Shirley Lohmar, Board of Trustees vice president. *Not Pictured:* John Bookstaver, Sandra Hinkel, Robert Terhune, Jean Ehlmann.

30 years



Left to Right: Mary Schnare Stodden, Board of Trustees secretary, Shirley Lohmar, Board of Trustees vice president, Timothy Braun, Michael Dompierre, Dr. Barbara Kavalier, president, Pam Cilek, Board of Trustees president, Rose Mack, Board of Trustees treasurer. *Not Pictured:* Heather McDorman.

"Visions of Cuba" Gives Rare Look Inside Isolated Country

St. Charles Community College was proud to host the "Visions of Cuba: An Exhibition of Photography" reception on Feb. 12. Curated by Professor Brian D. Smith and photographer Jeff Hirsch, images in the exhibit were all shot on location in Cuba over the last three years by a select group of local photographers. The purpose of the exhibit was to showcase the unique characteristics of the Cuban people and their culture.





More Than 75 People Take Part in Naturalization Ceremony

On Feb. 7, Political Science Faculty Paul Roesler and Gabe Harper hosted a Naturalization Ceremony on the SCC Campus, the first since 2017. More than 75 people became U.S. citizens at the ceremony. Each person stated their country of origin aloud before taking the official oath to become a citizen. More than 20 countries were read aloud including: Vietnam, Myanmar, Australia, Mexico, India, Pakistan, Iraq, Ukraine, Philippines, Somalia, Ireland, Ecuador, Kenya, Russia, Iran, Democratic Republic of Congo, Brazil, China, Colombia, Nicaragua and Bosnia. Mara Vorachek-Warren, dean of arts, humanities and social sciences, gave the opening remarks, and Assistant Professor Becky Thorn and the SCC Choir performed during the ceremony.



Black History Month Recognized on Campus With Several Events

The African American Faculty and Staff Association (AAFSA), the SCC Library (LRC) and the Office of Student Life are recognizing Black History Month with several events in February.

Two powerful documentaries were showcased during the month, including “True Justice: Bryan Stevenson’s Fight for Equality” and “Black America Since MLK: And Still I Rise.”

Many discussions were also held on campus, including a talk with Erica R. Williams, the founder of A Red Circle. The not-for-profit organization was created after the civil unrest in Ferguson in 2014. Its goal is to reverse the impact of the racial disparities and economic inequities that exist in North St. Louis County by focusing on employment, education, holistic living, policy and the arts.

Marvin Tobias, SCC psychology professor, also held a discussion titled “Hip-Hop and Politicking.” He explained the history of hip-hop music and culture in relation to political issues and African American life, focusing on the most influential and popular artists’ messages and how they’ve impacted policy and voting patterns of a generation. Nationally, Black History Month has been celebrated annually in February since 1976 and celebrates African American achievements and recognizes the central role of African Americans in U.S. history.

The Bridge Committee assisted by promoting the events and by providing volunteers.



Faculty/Staff Updates



Professor and Biology **Chair Monica Hall-Woods** received a grant from the Employee Sponsored Program (ESP) last year to develop the SCC Science Hall of Fame, which highlights the annual student of the year awardees and other student achievements.

The **COL 101** course has been redesigned and changed from a nine-day class prior to the start of the semester to a 16-week hybrid class meeting every other week during the fall semester (with course work also done in Canvas). The ultimate goal is to increase student success by staying with the students throughout their first full semester at SCC.



Annual Athletics Trivia Night Raises More Than \$9,000 For SCC Student-Athletes

It was another successful year for the annual Athletics Trivia Night. Nearly 300 people came together to raise approximately \$9,000 for student-athletes. According to Athletic Director Tim Brix, 100 student-athletes helped volunteer at the event. Of the 37 teams competing, Vice President of Marketing and Student Life Heather McDorman's team took home first place!



UPCOMING EVENTS

And Still I Rise: Parts 3-4

6 p.m.
Feb. 24
SSB auditorium

Student recital

Noon
Feb. 26
FAB 118

Between the Covers Book Club meeting

2:30 p.m.
Feb. 26
LRC commons

Distinguished Alumni Award nomination deadline

Feb. 28

Experiencing Black History & Culture

9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
Feb. 28
Griot Museum of Black History

Annual solo concert

7:30 p.m.
Feb. 28
SSB auditorium

Labor & Sex Trafficking Case Study Discussion

11:30 a.m.
March 2
SSB auditorium

Instrumental/voice master class

Noon
March 4
FAB 117/118

“The Mousetrap” auditions

March 4-8
FAB theatre

Bowling Night

7 p.m.
March 5
Bowlero - St. Peters

MFA Invitational Art Exhibit

March 9-April 3
FAB gallery

The American Woman & Voting

11:30 p.m.
March 9
SSB auditorium

Instrumental/voice master class

Noon
March 11
FAB 117/118

What Is Feminism?

11:30 a.m.
March 12
SSB auditorium

Spring break

March 16-21

Sold in America

6 p.m.
March 20
SSB auditorium

YPT's Beauty and the Beast production

March 20-29
FAB theatre

