



President's Council on Race and Diversity Reinforcing Important Initiatives on Campus

Embedded in the mission of St. Charles Community College is a promise to celebrate diversity and prepare students to succeed in a global environment. To help advance this mission, Dr. Barbara Kavalier, college president, has established the President's Council on Race and Diversity which will include faculty, staff, students and community representatives.

"The purpose of this council is to explore opportunities for expanding awareness and understanding of racial issues and to identify

strategies for further growth as an institution," explained Dr. Kavalier "We must engage in these critical conversations and take action to do better and be open to change."

As an advisory group to the president, the Council will identify possible strategies, policies, and procedures that may eliminate barriers to racial equity and diversity, while helping make SCC a more welcoming campus culture and community.

[Meet the Council](#) ▶



2020-21 Members of the Council

Community Representatives

- George Sheets
Chief of St. Charles Fire Department
- Dr. Curtis Cain
Superintendent of Wentzville School District
- Linda Luera-Sanchez
Director of Riviera Too, LLC
- Dr. Stephen Thompson
Publisher/Owner of FocusOn Magazine

Student Representative

- Alexis Finney
SCC Student

Faculty and Staff Representatives

- Ingrid Casillo
Lead AEL instructor
- Boyd Copeland
Executive Dean of Student Life
- Dr. Chris Hubbard Jackson
Director of Institutional Research
- Martha Garcia Kampen
Chief Diversity & Compliance Officer
- Dr. Ranya Taqieddin
Biology Instructor
- Marvin Tobias
Psychology Professor

SCC Foundation Golf Scramble Raises More Than \$35,000

The St. Charles Community College Foundation raised more than \$35,000 at its 24th Annual Presidents Classic Golf Scramble on Monday, Sept. 28, at Old Hickory Golf Club. Proceeds will support scholarships as well as academic and program enhancements at SCC.

"We are so thankful for the commitment and support of our community, even with the challenges present this year," said Betsy Schneider, SCC Foundation executive director and special assistant to the president.

Rx Systems, Inc. was the "Eagle" sponsor. Botz, Deal, & Company, P.C. and First State Bank of St. Charles were the "Birdie" sponsors. "Par" sponsors included Acropolis Investment Management, LLC, Ameristar Casino Resort Spa, Barnes-Jewish St. Peters and Progress West Hospitals, Cintas Corporation, Commerce Bank, David Mason + Associates, Fred Weber, Inc., McClay Senior Care, Mercy, Vantage Credit Union, Weis Design Group, and WIN Home Inspection.



President's COVID-19 Emergency Scholarship Awarded to 130 Students

To help students through these uncertain times, the SCC Foundation created a new scholarship to help students financially during the fall semester. The President's COVID-19 Emergency Scholarship provided financial assistance to students who were experiencing unplanned education-related financial expenses due to COVID-19.

Thanks to the efforts of the SCC

Foundation and Dr. Kavalier, more than \$70,000 in scholarships were awarded to 130 students. The scholarship funds were used for tuition, fees and/or books.

To be eligible, students had to be enrolled in at least six credit hours at SCC for Fall 2020. Additionally, students had to be experiencing unplanned education related financial expense due to COVID-19, such



as lost employment or hours significantly reduced; parent or domestic partner lost job or hours significantly reduced; student unable to obtain employment; lost day care, etc.

Performing Arts Goes Virtual With "In the Tank"

What's it like to be peered at by hungry humans? That's the question that was answered in the hilarious one-act play, "In the Tank" Oct. 3-4. The virtual Center Stage Theatre performance followed the life of two lobsters stuck inside a tank, waiting to discover their fate.

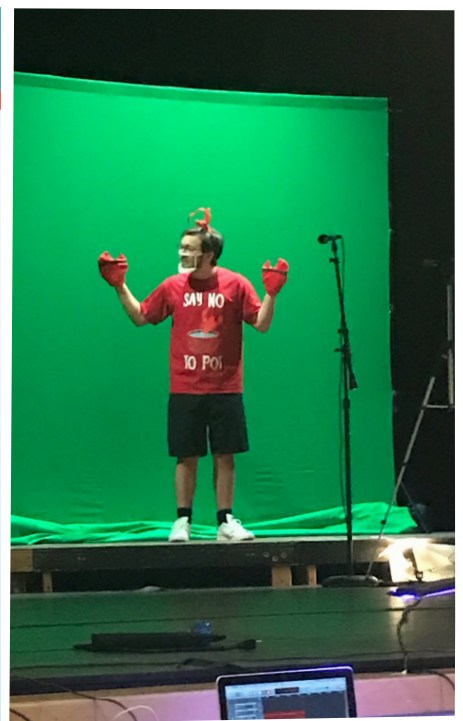
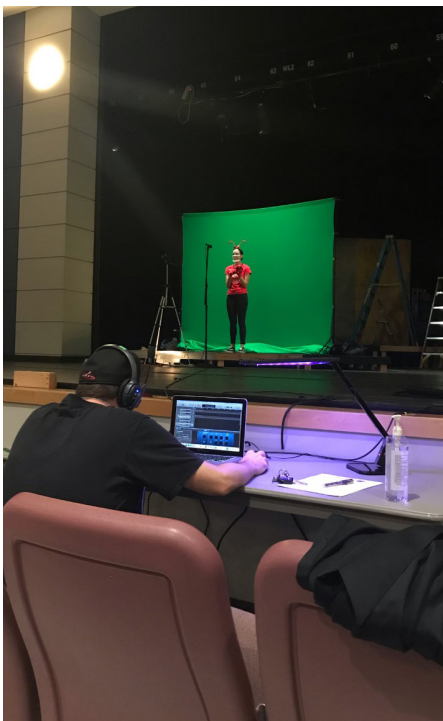
For the first time, the performance was available exclusively online. The show had two

separate casts and was shot entirely in front of a green screen. The actors had no contact with each other during each of the recordings, which was by design.

"The two casts never rehearsed together nor did they ever see each other perform," said Amy Scheers, director of performing arts. "The director experimented to see how the same material, same

editing, same costumes, etc. would present a different performance and experience based on the individual actors in the roles."

Scheers said she pleased with overall ticket sales and views for the performance, and the Performing Arts Department is looking forward to their next production, "It's a Wonderful Life," Nov. 27-29.



Drug and Alcohol Awareness Week Held Virtually for Students

The annual Drug and Alcohol Awareness Week had a different feel to it this year as it moved into the virtual space. However, the content and message were just as powerful in the new format.

Motivational speaker Joseph Green, an educational consultant and poet, spoke about his journey from a drug addict to a respected member of the recovery community on Oct. 5.

On Oct. 6, Mike Wood and Erin Lueker spoke on sexual consent.

They shared real-life stories and examples of their experiences working in the Lincoln County prosecuting attorney's office.

The Aviary closed out the week with a discussion about the opiate epidemic. They explored the disease model of addiction with students and simple ways of understanding the pathology of addiction.

The week was coordinated by the Student Activities Office and Mental Health Services.



Motivational speaker Joseph Green



Visual Impairment Doesn't Stop Student From Pursuing Her Dreams

Kristen Keene, an SCC Student, hasn't let her visual impairments get in the way of her education or from pursuing her dream - a career in vocal performance.

"I was born with a condition called retinopathy of prematurity. This is a disease of the eye affecting premature babies," said Keene. "I am completely blind in my right eye, and I have little vision in my left eye."

Keene's visual impairment prevents her from playing certain sports and brings about many challenges, but she focuses on the positive aspects.

"Although my life is different from other people, I am still just a college student who loves to learn, hang out with friends and have a good time," she said. "I also love to sing. When I am singing with them, I don't feel like I have a disability, I feel like a normal girl."

At St. Charles Community College, students with disabilities of any kind are encouraged to visit Disability Support Services, which coordinates support services that provide students with equal access to the college.

"All of the people in the DSS office made me feel comfortable with asking for help or any other accommodations I might require," said Keene. "They also took the time to understand me and my accommodations such as magnification, zoom text and large print."

After SCC, Kristen plans to attend Lindenwood University to continue pursuing a degree in vocal performance. "When I first arrived at SCC, I was a little nervous as to how I would navigate college life. But with excellent faculty and staff by my side, along with friends and family, I would say I am doing quite well now."

New SGA Officers Elected

Sophia Calignaoan has been elected president of SCC's Student Government Association for the 2020-21 academic year. A sophomore, Sophia is working on her Associate of Arts degree in elementary education. Last year she served as the secretary for SGA and was presented with the Rising Star Award as part of the Spring 2020 Student Awards program. Sophia will provide a monthly report to the Board of Trustees on the activities and efforts of the SGA.

Other students elected to this year's SGA executive committee are Vice President – Alexis Finney; Secretary – Jolie Newman; Treasurer – Nicole Passareli; and, Parliamentarian – Abigale James. Student Government Association is the official student governing body of SCC, serves as an advocate for the interest of students, and supports student engagement activities.

*Sophia Calignaoan
SGA President*



Faculty/Staff Update

Emily Steffen, nursing instructor, will be teaming up with Continuing Education to offer a self-care for healthcare workers class. The 30-minute session will be an opportunity for healthcare workers to learn about self-care activities and their benefits. October's topic will focus on self-compassion mindfulness.



Dr. Joe Baumann, assistant professor of English, recently placed three stories in various literary journals. “Close the Door on This Laughing Heart”

was published in Passages North. “I Will Eat You, Drink You, I Will Be Full” was published in Grist. “How I Know You’re Here” was published in The Emerson Review and was a finalist for the Story Foundation Prize.

The SCC Professional Development

Advisory Group sponsored the annual Focus on Teaching and Technology Conference (FTTC) 2020, which was held virtually this year. More than 40 faculty and staff registered for the professional development and networking opportunity.

Day of Service
2019



UPCOMING EVENTS

SCC Week of Service

Oct. 25-31

President's Council

Oct. 27
2:40 – 4 p.m.
Virtual

Tuesday Trivia Night: Halloween Edition

Oct. 27
7-8 p.m.
Virtual

Hidden History: History of Racism, Part II

Oct. 28
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Virtual

Pride Bingo

Oct. 29
7-9 p.m.
Virtual

Hidden History: History of Racism, Part III

Nov. 4
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Virtual

Hidden History: Stolen Paradise

Nov. 11
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Virtual

Between the Covers Book Club

Nov. 17
4-5 p.m.
Virtual

Thanksgiving Holiday

Nov. 25-28

It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play

Nov. 27-29
Virtual

Board of Trustees Meeting

Dec. 7
5:30 – 8 p.m.

