



## SCC Enters Into Historic Partnership With Harris-Stowe State University



St. Charles Community College and Harris-Stowe State University are partnering to create a joint admissions program for students in the region. This is the first such agreement between a community college and a Historic Black College and University in Missouri.

An official signing ceremony between the two higher education institutions took place on Thursday, Dec. 10, on the SCC campus.

“This historic partnership will allow students to leverage the resources and programs offered at both institutions as they prepare for their future,” said Barbara Kavalier, Ph.D., SCC president. “Students will be able to enroll in coursework at SCC and HSSU at the same time, first earning their associate

degree and then a bachelor’s degree in the discipline of their choice.”

“We are creating an easier pathway for students to be successful. Our goal is to increase affordability, access and student success. We are reimagining the student transfer experience to make it seamless, collaborative and more efficient,” said Corey S. Bradford, Sr., Ph.D., president of Harris-Stowe State University.

More than just a co-enrollment program, the new partnership will allow SCC and HSSU to jointly recruit students into a special program shared between the institutions. Students will have privileges at both institutions, allowing them to participate in campus activities and

take advantage of college resources.

Students will have broader access to scholarships, faculty and credit pathways. Additionally, SCC and HSSU will have the opportunity to engage in a faculty exchange program, as well as joint professional development opportunities.

“We look forward to bringing diverse ideas and perspectives to St. Charles Community College,” Dr. Kavalier said. “Celebrating diversity and preparing students to succeed in a global environment are two of our core values and this partnership will strengthen that resolve in so many ways.”

## Spring Faculty Update Highlights Achievements, Budget and Wellness

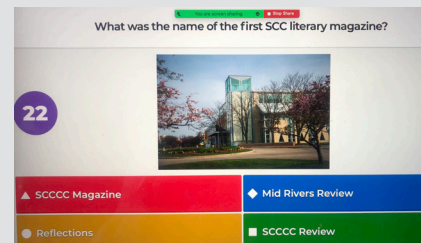
More than 100 faculty and administrators logged onto Zoom to kick-off the Spring 2021 Semester at the Jan. 14 Faculty Update meeting.

Dr. Holly Martin, vice president for academic affairs, set the stage for the day with a welcome and an update on Academic Affairs, including a new academic organizational structure, fall goals review and an HLC update. SCC President Dr. Barbara Kavalier provided an overview of national and state challenges but quickly transitioned to the good news from the state including the release of

funds from earlier withholds from the Governor.

She concluded with congratulations to two faculty award winners, Dr. Monica Hall-Woods, biology, and Rex McKanry, information technology, and she thanked the current leadership in SCC's Faculty Senate, Nicole Pinaire, president, and Bryonie Carter, vice president.

After the new employee video, Todd Galbierz, vice president for administrative services/COO, provided a very encouraging budget picture for FY21. He reported that revenues are up and increased funding from the federal government is helping to support student and institutional needs as a result of the pandemic. VP Galbierz also provided a Pandemic Committee update, a facilities review and the new Proposition CC progress website.



The Faculty Update included a lively round of SCC trivia.

The remainder of the day included a competitive SCC trivia game including fun facts about fellow faculty and staff members and SCC items led by Dave Leenhouts, vice president for student services. Dr. Martin wrapped up the meeting with reminders about self-care, and meeting participants took part in a yoga exercise and a mindfulness practice.

## SCC Alumni Involved in Creating COVID-19 Vaccine

In 2017, St. Charles Community College featured Andrew Lozano in a student profile. At the time, he admitted he had no idea what he wanted to do when he got to SCC. He changed his major five times until he finally found his passion—biochemistry.

When asked what he wanted to do with his future degree, his answer was simple: he hoped to work in pharmaceutical research and drug diversity and discover life-saving medications and treatments.

It didn't take him long to accomplish his goal. For the last several months, Lozano has been working on a team that is aiding in the development and improvement of new and old vaccines at Pfizer.

"I am part of a very large group of people that have been working on the COVID-19

vaccine," he explained, "and it is truly an honor to be able to say that I am a small part of that."

Lozano says he spends most of his time doing analytical testing, ensuring his team knows as much as possible about any vaccine Pfizer is developing or working on.

"Every day I have the opportunity to be a part of a team whose main goal and focus is to improve the quality of life of people all around the world," he said. "Helping bring new medicines to market and improving the quality of life of people all around the world is something I truly love about my job."

The data he collects every day is used to optimize processes along the entire lifecycle of a vaccine from development to production.

"The idea of helping people and making a difference in their lives is what motivates me to

work so hard," Lozano explained. "That I get to work at a company that shares that same motivation makes me feel like what I'm doing isn't just a job — it's a calling."

He believes his time at SCC helped get him to where he is today. It prepared him for the next step in his educational journey at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, where he earned his bachelor's degree. It gave him the skills and knowledge needed to start his career at Pfizer. It built the confidence and determination needed to help him create life-saving vaccines.

"My experience at SCC was more than I could have hoped for," he said. "You can go anywhere to take a class, but it is rare to attend a school where the professors make you feel like they have a vested interest in your success. That's how I felt at SCC."

# New Men of Color: Student Success Program Kicks Off With Inaugural Summit

St. Charles Community College is actively recruiting for a new program on campus aimed at helping an underserved population in the community. The Men of Color: Student Success Program is specifically designed to support African American students as they navigate through the college experience and into a life of success.

According to research from The College Board, “at just about every stage of the educational pipeline, men of color lag behind minority women in terms of achievement, persistence, and school and college completion.” The Men of Color: Student Success Program hopes to reverse that trend.

Starting this year, SCC is inviting area high school male students of color to be a part of this

unique and powerful program, which includes financial scholarships, academic support, social engagement, mentorship and connections with successful community leaders.

“Through this initiative, we hope to empower students of color,” said Martha Garcia Kampen, chief diversity and compliance officer. “We want to give them the support they need to succeed, providing guidance and practical encouragement through their college experience.”

The new program will be introduced to the community at the inaugural Men of Color: Student Success Summit on Feb. 26, 2021. Those who attend the summit will get the chance to engage with nationally renowned speakers on timely and relevant

topics. Participants will also get the chance to learn more about the Men of Color: Student Success Program. The summit is open to all men of color from area high schools, whether or not they are interested in participating in the program.

## FOR MORE INFO:

[stchas.edu/menofcolor](http://stchas.edu/menofcolor)



# Goal of the New Campus Police Outreach Task Force Is to Build Community

A new Campus Police Outreach Task Force has been established with the goal to increase communication and support important discussions between students and Campus Police.

“The task force will work with students to build community,” said Bob Ronkoski, SCC executive director of public safety and facilities. “SCC’s Campus Police is different than a traditional police department. We are here to serve but also to support student success.”

## The Task Force has outlined its purpose with a three-pronged approach:

- To create an opportunity for the open exchange of ideas and perspectives between students and police officers about campus policing.
- To identify opportunities to demonstrate leadership in fostering strong relationships between students and Campus Police.
- To discuss current social issues impacting the community, region and nation.

The 15-member task force includes 10 students: the president and vice president of the Student Government Association, two international students, two student athletes, two students residing in campus housing, and two students at large. The remainder of the roster includes three Campus Police representatives, the Student Life Manager and the Chief Diversity and Compliance Officer. Lt. Jeff Drake will chair the task force.

“The work of the Task Force will provide a greater understanding of campus police, but it will also shine a light on the perceptions of police work in general,” Ronkoski said. “We expect the conversations between all involved to be meaningful, powerful, and, ultimately, positive.”

The group will meet twice a month in the Fall and Spring Semesters with the first meeting being held this month. Chief Ronkoski is planning to invite various guest speakers from the community to present and lead discussions. Meeting minutes will be available on the mySCC portal.



Officer Brandon Misher will serve on the new task force.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Faculty/Staff Update

**Dr. Joe Baumann**, assistant professor of English, recently placed several stories in literary journals from across the country, including *Sou'wester*, *Shift: A Journal of Literary Oddities*, *Variety Pack* and *Hoosier Review*. Additionally, two of his stories were recently nominated for a Best of the Net Award and 2020 Pushcart Prize. His collection of short stories is currently a semifinalist for the *Gasher Journal* First Book Scholarship.

**Claudia Svoboda**, an advanced painting student in **Professor Brian Smith's** class, received some good news in January. Her painting was selected to be displayed at the national "Global Impact, The Wake of COVID" exhibition at the Foundry Art Center.



### President's Council Meeting

Jan. 25  
2:40 – 4 p.m.  
SSB 1102

### Hidden History: Uncomfortable Conversations

*Sister Rosetta Tharpe*

Feb. 1  
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.  
Virtual

### Tuesday Tips

*Time Management*

Feb. 2  
Noon – 1 p.m.  
Virtual

### Tuesday Trivia Night

*"Friends"*

Feb. 2  
7 – 9 p.m.  
Virtual

### Multicultural Experience Series

*Monroe Martin*

Feb. 3  
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.  
Virtual

### The Great Student Success Project

*Securing Transfer Scholarships*

Feb. 4  
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.  
Virtual

### Hidden History: Uncomfortable Conversations

*Black Wall Street*

Feb. 8  
2:30 – 1:30 p.m.  
Virtual

### Tuesday Tips

*Zoom Fatigue*

Feb. 9  
Noon – 1 p.m.  
Virtual

### Tuesday Trivia Nights

*"Black History Month"*

Feb. 9  
7 – 9 p.m.  
Virtual

### Multicultural Experience Series

*Adan Bean*

Feb. 10  
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.  
Virtual

### The Great Student Success Project

*Creating Great Resumes*

Feb. 11  
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.  
Virtual

### President's Council Meeting

Feb. 11  
2:40 – 4 p.m.  
SSB 1102

### Hidden History – Uncomfortable Conversations

*Jim Crow*

Feb. 15  
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.  
Virtual

### Tuesday Tips

*Anxiety & Uncertainty*

Feb. 16  
Noon – 1 p.m.  
Virtual

### Tuesday Trivia Nights

*"Nickelodeon"*

Feb. 16  
7 – 9 p.m.  
Virtual

### Multicultural Experience Series

*Aminah Imani*

Feb. 17  
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.  
Virtual

### The Great Student Success Project

*Understanding the Value of Internships*

Feb. 18  
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.  
Virtual

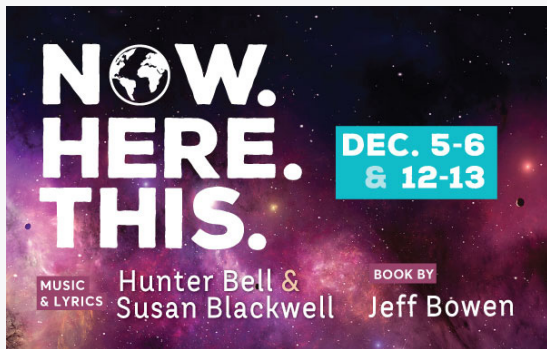
### Hidden History – Uncomfortable Conversations

*Before Columbus*

Feb. 22  
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.  
Virtual

### Board of Trustees Meeting

Feb. 22  
5:30 p.m.  
SSB 1102



## YPT's Now. Here. This.

SCC's Young People's Theatre presented the virtual production of *Now. Here. This.* in December.

The show followed the evolution and adventures of a group of friends in a natural history museum as they journeyed through time--from the present-day museum to the past, and back again. Inspired by various exhibits, the group shared their stories about friendship, laughing, living, dying and middle school.

