

INSIDE

Oklahoma City Community College
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BILL JUST A
SMOKESCREEN

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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PIONEER

JAN. 23, 2015

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COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

Window art



ETHAN COOPER/PIONEER

Chemistry major Garrett Williams and Lab Assistant Quatama Jackson paint pictures on the Physical Sciences Center windows. "I'm painting a gear system and he's painting a chemical reaction" Jackson said. The Physical Sciences Center is located on the first floor of the SEM Center.

President Obama proposes free college

America's College Promise would pay for two years of school

JORGE KRZYZANIAK

Senior Writer
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If President Barack Obama has his way, community colleges nationwide will be free to those Americans "willing to work for it."

In a recent speech at Pellissippi State Community College in Knoxville, Tennessee, and again in his State of the Union address Jan. 20, the president said he seeks to make two years of college as "free and universal

as high school."

Some details of the initiative have yet to be nailed down but the plan would mirror an already established initiative in Tennessee, Obama said.

Students would be required to attend school at least half time, maintain a GPA of 2.5 or better and "show steady progress," the president said.

OCCC President Paul Sechrist said affordable education is at the very core of this college's mission so he is watching the proposal with interest.

"We're excited about the prospect of making community college free as mentioned by President Obama and we look forward to hearing the details

of the plan," he said.

"We are certainly in support of anything that helps us continue to accomplish this mission.

"Our signature OKC Go Scholarship Program ... has opened the doors of college to many students. Expansion of a program like to all students would be a tremendous benefit."

Political science Professor Randy Hopkins said the concept is nice but more complicated than it seems. He said there are numerous things to consider — for instance, where the funding would come from.

"The President stated the program could work like that

"We're excited about the prospect of making community college free as mentioned by President Obama and we look forward to hearing the details of the plan."

—PAUL SECHRIST
OCCC PRESIDENT

in Tennessee, where two years of community college tuition for some is funded by excess lottery revenue," Hopkins said,

See **FREE** page 9

OPINION

EDITORIAL | While Oklahomans are busy worrying about silly proposals, important things are taking place

Hoodie ban a smoke-screen bill

Everybody has an opinion about the Oklahoma hoodie ban, the proposed bill known as SB 13.

Social media clamors with pictures of rebels with their hoods up, standing against a bill that will most likely never see the light of day while all kinds of legislation without a nickname passes under our noses.

Strangely, if your act of defiance showcases a consumer product, like buying a certain chicken sandwich or snapping a selfie in a sweatshirt you were going to wear anyway, it's viewed as an acceptable form of protest.

Engage in any sort of protest beyond that scope and many will happily applaud the cop who fills your face with pepper spray or shoots you with a teargas canister from five feet away. But I'm glad to see people taking some interest in politics I guess.

A hoodie ban would bring an interesting perspective to the "breathe easy" people, whose newly purchased sweatshirts are emblazoned with a slogan suggesting strict adherence to all law is an American's only guarantee against being choked to death by police. And for that reason alone I would welcome it.

But there is no hoodie ban.

SB 13 would make it a crime to wear a robe, mask

or other disguise that "intentionally conceals the wearer's identity."

But no part of it targets hoodies. There's an exemption, in fact, for clothes worn to protect from weather that would actually protect hoodies under the law.

No self-respecting GOP member is going to introduce a bill that could ever drive down sales at Wal-Mart. It would spell their doom.

State Sen. Don Barrington claims he authored the bill under encouragement of "business leaders" and said its aim is to prevent the wearing of masks and disguises during the commission of a crime.

Oops. There's already a law against wearing masks and disguises during the commission of a crime in Oklahoma.

So, SB 13 is perhaps all about those business leaders then. Particularly, business leaders of the American Legislative Exchange Council or similar organizations with access to a legislature mostly made of men whose campaigns these businesses paid for in the first place.

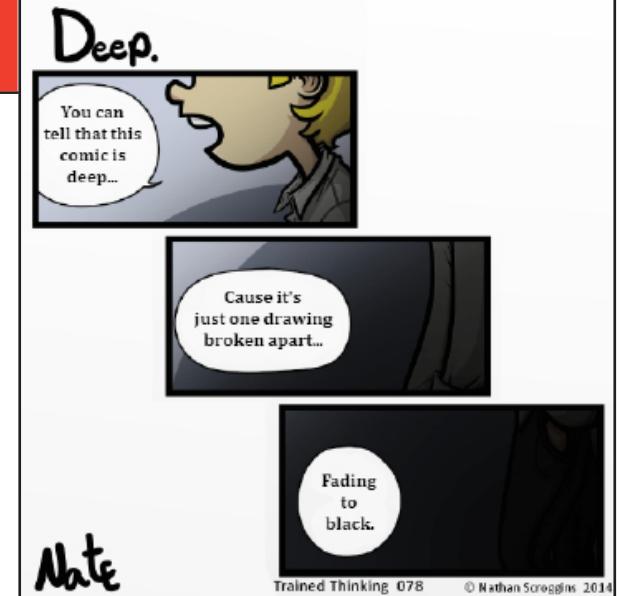
The "stand your ground law" and laws allowing companies to keep chemicals used during fracking undisclosed began as bills authored by "business leaders" and pushed on pet lawmakers for sponsorship.

It's possible SB 13 is designed to incriminate protesters who gather on the steps of these businesses. It may exist to strip demonstrators of the protective anonymity of their kerchiefs and Guy Fawkes masks.

More likely still, is the prospect that this is little more than a kind of marketing scheme.



JORGE
KRZYZANIAK



Trained Thinking 078 © Nathan Scroggins 2014

Barrington is at the end of his political career and remains mostly unknown. He realizes his value to the business world is waning and he needs some piece of legislation to point to as an example of standing with business over the common good, even if the legislation never gets out of committee. SB 13 is simply an example of an old man fleshing out his résumé.

He's introduced a useless bill but has done little to decry the misleading moniker it's been branded with. The hoodie ban is this session's sleight-of-hand trick.

Forget it for a moment and take a look at what else the Legislature is doing. Read the bills you are concerned about and let your legislators know how you feel about them. They can be found at www.oklegislature.gov/FindMyLegislature.aspx.

Don't be distracted by fluff.

—JORGE KRZYZANIAK
SENIOR WRITER

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | College leader is set to retire in July

Student says President Paul Sechrist will be missed

To the Editor:

I've been a student here at OCCC for a couple of semesters. Overall, I've been happy here, but I recently heard that President (Paul) Sechrist will be leaving this year.

I'm kind of scared about what will happen after he leaves.

Everybody I know really likes him. When I see him walking around campus, he always seems happy and is smiling. He even bought a cup of coffee for one of my friends one day over at

the coffee shop.

OCCC is a good school, but not everyone is as friendly and positive as he seems to be.

I don't know why he has decided to retire this year, but things will really be different when he's gone.

I wish we could convince him to stay at least until I could graduate next year, but that probably wouldn't happen.

I think it would be good for everyone who can and will to take the time to let Dr. Sechrist know how much he will be

missed and what his time as president of OCCC has meant to them.

Change can be scary, but I just don't

know how someone like him can be replaced.

—NAME WITHHELD BY REQUEST

The Pioneer welcomes letters to the editor and encourages the use of this publication as a community forum. All letters must include the author's name, address, phone number and signature. E-mail letters should include all but the signature.
The Pioneer will withhold the author's name if the request is made in writing.

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Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the **PIONEER**, the college or the publisher.

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name if the request is made in writing.

The **PIONEER** has the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity. Letters should be no more than 250 words. Students must list their major. OCCC staff and faculty must list their work title.

Letters to the editor can be submitted to the **PIONEER** office, located in room 1F2 on the first floor of the Art and Humanities Building, mailed to 7777 S May Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73159, or submitted via e-mail to editor@occc.edu with a phone number for verification included. The **PIONEER ONLINE** also can be accessed at <http://pioneer.occc.edu>.

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

RESTAURANT REVIEW | Handmade noodles are the best in Oklahoma City

Victoria's Pasta Shop gets B+

Pasta is my favorite food. I could eat it for every meal and never get tired of the delicious carbs. I typically get a craving after church every Sunday, so I am always on the lookout for new Italian places.

Luckily for me, a new place, Victoria's Pasta Shop, opened at 3000 SW 104th in Oklahoma City about five minutes away from campus.

I expected the restaurant to be busy, especially around 12:30 p.m. on a Sunday afternoon, but much to my surprise, my family and I were seated immediately.

We started out with some garlic bread and marinara sauce, which cost \$3.49 for four pieces. The bread was a light golden brown and had a tasteful garlic flavor, which was complemented by the fresh sauce.

After glancing over the menu, I decided I would try my favorite type of pasta — fettuccine alfredo. I wanted to add chicken, but I didn't feel like paying \$2.99 extra. Although that was a letdown, I was happy when I found out a half a loaf of bread comes with all meals and salads.

When they brought out my plate, I was nervous, because it didn't look like any other fettuccine alfredo I had ever eaten. Instead of a creamy texture, this



was baked and had more of a cheesy taste. It reminded me of a baked macaroni. Don't get me wrong, it was still some great food. It was just different than what I'm used to ordering.

The pasta is handmade and I could immediately tell the difference.

It wasn't overly soft or chewy, it was just right, and the flavor was incredible, as well. I also had some of my brother's chicken parmesan, and the spaghetti was spectacular. Their menu is rather small, but offers usual Italian dishes like chicken lasagna, tortellini, and pasta primavera. Build your own pasta, salads, and samplers also are available.

The dishes range in cost from \$6.99 to \$12.99.

Victoria's seems rather expensive at first glance, but they aren't any more expensive than other Italian places. And their pasta is pretty good.

I will be going back.

For more information, visit their website at www.victoriasthepastashop.com/home.html.

Rating: B+

—LAUREN DANIEL
ONLINE EDITOR

TOLL ROAD REVIEW | Oklahoma needs to do away with toll highways or use the money to fix them

Paying to drive on bad roads is wrong

While there are those who may be used to paying to drive on state highways, I am not. My home state of Oregon has no toll roads anywhere, so finding out I had to pay money to some strange person hanging out a window on a random, deserted spot in the middle of nowhere came as a bit of a shock.

The legal robbery of my hard-earned money or, to be honest, my husband's hard-earned money, was just the first shock. The other ones came in jolts and jumps as I was driving from Oklahoma City to visit my mom down in Elgin. The condition of these roads that I just gave money for were horrible.

Since my escape of the terrible turnpike, I can silently hear my truck begging for new suspension and shocks. Not only is my truck complaining about



one would think 'well, the state of Oklahoma gets the money!' Nope. That would be a big, fat negative.

The roads were built from bonds, and the multi-billion dollar profit from these roads goes to the bondholders. Makes you want to think of starting your own toll booth, doesn't it? At least that explains why the roads are so abusive to our vehicles.

So I would like to give a big, sarcastic thank you to those who pocket my money, mistreat my truck,

the mistreatment and abuse it just endured, but now I know what areas I need to work on myself the next time I go to the gym.

Seeing as how I am not from Oklahoma, curiosity started to build on where exactly the money was going from the tolls. Now,

point out my insecurities, and take away my silent time by keeping my son awake with the shocking, jolting, and harsh roads I have to pay to drive on.

I am sorry, but not sorry, to say that the toll roads suck.

Rating: F-

—KATIE AXTELL
COMMUNITY WRITER

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Dictionary app puts words at one's fingertips

Among the thousands of free apps that are helpful, I have used one that is consistently useful and easy to use.

The Dictionary app from dictionary.com is useful for obvious reasons: it shows you what words mean and how to spell them.

I'm mostly impressed with dictionary.com for its efforts toward making this simple app even more entertaining, like featuring the "word of the day."

The "word of the day" message that pops up on my screen every morning around 8 a.m. is a friendly reminder about how many words I don't know — and that I'm also late for work.

A wise man once told me those who broaden their vocabulary will see a bigger and more interesting world around them.

Through the dictionary app, your world can become bigger, more interesting and you can look like a snooty know-it-all by throwing out words like periphrasis.

Example: "This review is a mundane, jaded prating periphrasis with a ridiculous yeasty example."

Overall, the dictionary app is one of my favorites for two reasons: one, I love learning new words and using them correctly, and two, I'm a nerd.

—BRYCE McELHANEY
EDITOR

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

EXERCISE REVIEW | At 1.04 miles, anyone can easily navigate their way through the college while also getting fit

Campus walking trail great in a time crunch

It is likely very few people know that OCCC has multiple walking trails. One of these walking trails even resides inside the campus buildings.

This indoor trail is not an established trail, as the trails outside are. As basic as it seems, this trail is simply a path that one can walk, throughout the main campus building and into its many sections, such as the Transportation Technology Center, the Social Sciences Center and many others.

On a cold winter day, this young, energetic reporter decided it was time for a stroll. With the temperature outside being below freezing, I determined it was time to put this indoor walking trail to good use.

Spanning a total of 1.04 miles, I knew it would be no cake walk. It would take an extreme amount of focus, mental drive and perseverance.

My journey began at the Main Building entrance, at the Welcome Desk.

On my trek, I walked past the President's office, my own home at the Pioneer office and through the Health Professions Center. All along the way, I received many odd looks.

I then took a trip through the dining area and onward still into the Social Sciences department. A few more weird looks from passersby led me to evaluate

myself. It was then I realized people assumed I was lost.

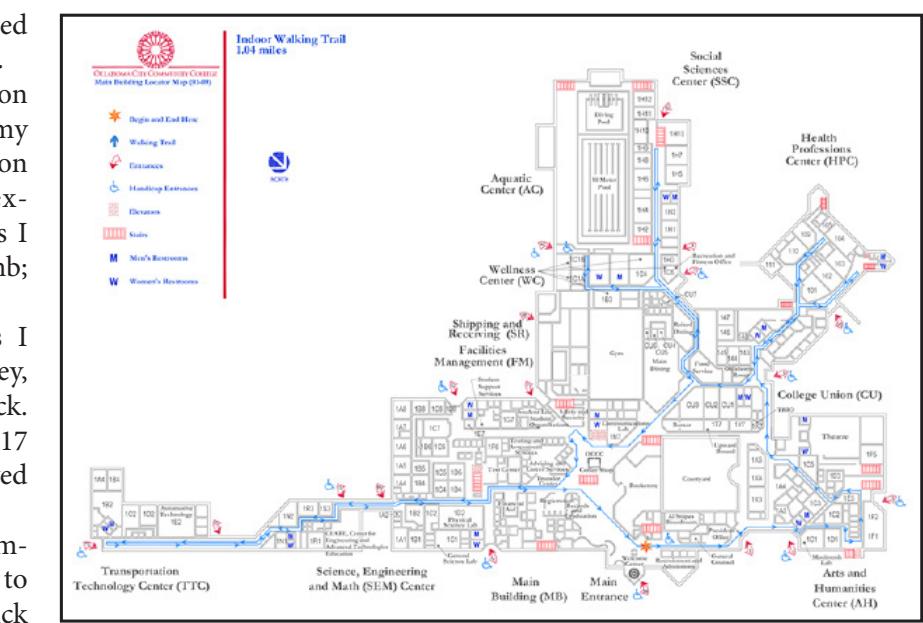
I traveled further still, on the longest section of my journey: the Transportation Technology Center. I expected odd looks there as I stuck out like a sore thumb; however, it was deserted.

I powered on and as I neared the end of my journey, I glanced at a nearby clock. I had only been gone for 17 minutes, but I had enjoyed every moment.

In the end, I would recommend the walking trail to anyone looking for a quick exercise regimen while on campus.

To find a map of the walking trail, visit www.occc.edu/rf/pdf/walking-trail.pdf.

Rating: A-



—CLAYTON MITCHELL
SPORTS WRITER

MOVIE REVIEW | Chock full of talented actors, comedy-drama is one fantastic movie

'Frank' weird, lovable, on Netflix

In the comedy-drama "Frank," Academy-Award nominated actor Michael Fassbender ("12 Years a Slave") wears an enormous papier-mâche mask over his head during the entire film.

That ridiculous concept alone should be enough to convince anyone to watch this fantastic movie.

The story begins with an aspiring musician named Jon (Domhnall Gleeson) joining an outlandish pop band led by the mysterious and eccentric vocalist Frank (Fassbender).

In a remote cabin, Jon and the band of misfits collaborate on their first album.

The daily recording sessions of far-out sounds consist of bizarre off-the-wall experiments motivated by high inspiration.

The urge to create anything genuine combined with the frustration of incompetence is a passion anyone can identify with.

While visiting Austin, Texas, for SXSW, Jon's desire to become well known doesn't sit well with his companions.

Frank and the other band members could care less about being likeable. Their primary purpose is to create art for the sake of art.

There's never a dull moment of dialog — the writ-



ing is rich and ludicrous.

For example, a death in this movie shifts from serious grief to sudden absurdity.

And the cast is about as unique as the film's music.

It never feels like Gleeson is beneath the others' performances.

If anything, Gleeson proves to be just as good an actor as his acclaimed colleagues.

And Maggie Gyllenhaal as the bipolar mess Clara never feels misused.

In the hands of lesser actors, the mental illnesses could have come off as dishonest and hokey.

Fassbender's cartoon gestures combined with his bulk mask is comedy gold.

For instance, you know the exact expression Fassbender has when he misplaces the powdered food.

And it's always great to see Scoot McNairy pop up randomly in the best movies.

The weird and lovable "Frank" is now on Netflix Instant and its soundtrack is available on the iTunes Store and Spotify.

"Grateful smile followed by quiet chuckle."

Rating: A+

—ETHAN COOPER
PHOTOGRAPHER

TOP 20 MOVIES

Weekend of Jan. 16 through Jan. 18
www.nytimes.com

1. *American Sniper*
2. *Paddington*
3. *The Wedding Ringer*
4. *Taken 3*
5. *Selma*
6. *Into the Woods*
7. *The Imitation Game*
8. *The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug*
9. *Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb*
10. *Unbroken*
11. *Blackhat*
12. *Annie*
13. *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1*
14. *The Woman in Black 2: Angel of Death*
15. *Birdman*
16. *Wild*
17. *Spare Parts*
18. *Big Hero 6*
19. *Inherent Vice*
20. *The Theory of Everything*

Jan. 30 last day students can drop classes with a refund

JORGE KRZYZANIAK
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

Friday, Jan. 30, will mark the final opportunity for students to withdraw from 16-week classes with a refund.

OCCC Registrar Allen Stringfellow said this 10-day span from the first day of classes is ample time for students to decide to drop a course.

"In that time a student's going to be able to see their syllabus," he said.

"Most of the syllabus is going to determine what's going to be expected of them. Class activities, tests and dates are going to be on that, and students can get a sense of whether there'll be any issues," he said.

Stringfellow said students should take advantage of this opportunity to ask professors any questions that pertain to scheduling and expectations.

"Be open with them," he said.

Stringfellow said these drop dates are designated by policy.

"Essentially, they just dictate that you have ... two weeks in a 16-week period, allowing students to drop and add, and do so without being charged."

Stringfellow said one week is allowed for students enrolled in eight-week courses.

Fast-track courses must be dropped within two class periods to receive a refund.

Intersession courses must be dropped prior to the third class period, he said.

Stringfellow said students

can log into the school's Mine Online web adviser system using their username (first name, middle initial, last name) and password, which by default is the last six digits of a student's Social Security number.

Once logged in, students will find the option to drop classes under the "Current Students" section of the site.

"This is available almost 24/7," Stringfellow said.

He said the system is unavailable for a few hours each day for maintenance.

"I would highly recommend students use our online system. It could take five minutes or less to withdraw."

Stringfellow said students also can drop classes at the Registration office located on the first floor of the main Building.

"You can fill out a withdrawal form and we can take care of that right here," he said.

However, Stringfellow cautioned, lines could be long during these busy first weeks of the semester and the office closes at 5 p.m. on Fridays.

He said students should try to drop classes while they can get a full refund.

"If you know for sure, do it as soon as possible," he said.

Stringfellow said there are a number of different factors determining the length of time it takes to receive refunds after courses have been dropped.

Refunds are handled through the Bursar's office, he said.

"I know they do a wonder-

ful job and will get that done as quickly as possible though."

Even students who drop classes within the allotted amount of time may still need to pay some fees, he said.

"Interest accrues beginning the first day of class," Stringfellow said.

He said there would be a small interest fee, which could

only be pennies depending upon the original costs, but failure to pay this small fee could lead to late charges that build up over time.

"If there's any question at all," he said of deciding whether to drop a course, "you definitely want to work with some of our advisers ... in advising or your faculty adviser because we are

definitely here to help you."

The last chance to withdraw from 16-week courses with no refund is Friday, April 10.

Information about tuition, fees and refunds is available at www.occc.edu/bursar/tuition-fees.html.

To add and drop classes, visit the Registration office or call 405 682-7522.

Spring break London trip booking

KATIE AXTELL
Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

OCCC students will have a chance to go to London for a Study Abroad trip over spring break March 13 through 22 if seats are still available.

A few scheduled items the trip will include are multiple theater performances, a Westminster walking tour of Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey, and Big Ben, and a visit to the British Museum and Library.

Journalism Professor Sue Hinton, who went with a study abroad group to Italy over the summer, will lead the trip.

She said students who go on these trips get a better sense of the world.

"It gives you a different sense of time and it gives you more of a sense, I think, in that you're kind of the caretakers for the next generation."

While the trip has a focus on theater, students have the opportunity to expand their knowledge in different cultures and history. The history of the buildings and ancient artifacts give students a chance to learn more.

Hinton said learning the history of a place



while on study abroad trips is something she and everyone else can expect to do.

"We live in a young country," she said.

"We think being 200 years old is old, but then you go to Europe and they have buildings that aren't even old until they are 300 to 400 years old, and they go back 1,000 years."

"In Oklahoma if it's 100 years old it's ancient. It gives a sense of time and how history is and knowing history matters."

Hinton said study abroad trips also help students venture out to see what else is in the world, learn new things they would be

unable to on any campus and gives them an opportunity to meet new people.

"It's nice to be in a group because that group ends up being a part of your family forever."

For more information about the London Study Abroad trip, contact Hinton at shinton@occc.edu or 405-682-1611, ext. 7311.

Tour Operator and Program Director Christian Alyea can be contacted for more information at christian@oklahomastudyabroad.com or at 405-549-3329.

A full schedule and what the trip will include can be found at the Oklahoma Study Abroad website at www.oklahomastudyabroad.com.

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Vice President's honor roll recipients listed

Students are eligible to be on the Vice President's honor roll by achieving a GPA of 3.5 while carrying at least 12 hours. Part-time students are eligible if they have maintained a 3.5 GPA for two consecutive semesters.

Heather Aaron, Autumn Ackerman, Tracie Adams, Victoria Alarcon, Francisco Albert, Jonathan Ariel Aldana Perez, Britten Allen, Mary Allison, Veronica Alvarado, Anna Alvey, Christian Ambrosio, Robert Anderson, Nicholas Anderson, Benjamin Anderson, Dakota Arms, Rose Ashu, Taylor Atherton, Eugene Atkinson, Jenny Atteberry, Veronica Austin, Jeremy Austin, Amy Avalos, Katie Axtell, Esther Baca, Melissa Baez, Lauren Bajema, Allison Bales, Baylee Balsano, Darla Baltrush.

Elizabeth Bare, Taylor Barnes, Alex Barnes, Nathaniel Barrett, Latisha Batiste, Katherine Bayliss, Gary Beebe, Ashley Beeson, Amanda Belcher, Shelba Bell, Kayla Bell, Mark Bennett, Michael Bennett, Ashley Berglan, Nicholas Binder, April Bitner, Arao Agostinho Binda, Russell Blackmon, Jennifer Bledsoe, Mycalyn Blomstrom, Melea Blomstrom, Brooke Boettler, Brandon Boland, Isabelle Bolin, Maxwell Bowman.

Michael Boyd, April Boyd, Skylar Bradley, Gina Brennan, Madison Brewer, Lindsey Brewer, Nicole Brogden, Allison Brogden, Skye Brooks, Karen Brown, Ashley Brown, Lauren Brown, Brenden Brown, Guy Brown, Amanda Brown, Haleigh Brown, Alissa Brummett, Amanda Bryant, Mark Bryant, Jonathan Bubier, Darrell Buck, Dustin Bui, Joshua Buzzard, Shelby Cagle, Kimberly Calloway, Richard Campos, Bridget Cannon, Stacia Carbajal, Christian Carnahan, Alexis Carney, Brian Carrethers, Norma Carrillo.

Amentha Carrion, Tabitha Carroll, Heather Carter, Connor Casey, Heath Castor, Blaine Cate, Solana Ceville, Dezaree Chambers, Chao-Yang Chang, Yun Chen, Nichole Childress, James Circle, Chasity Clary, Candace Clay, Amanda Clutter, Jacy Cole, Jessica Collier, Rachel Collins, Alicia Collins, Traci Collins, Nicole Cooper, Brandon Copass, Latoya Coverdale, Justin Cox, Keisha Creach, Megan Cronin, Courtney Crouse, Crystal Crowe.

Braden Crumly, Madison Culwell, Johnathon Cunningham, Madison Dancer, Thu Dang, Elizabeth Dang, Kenny Dang, Lauren Daniel, Madison Daniels, Aaron Daniels, Janette Daniels, Thu Dao, Nicole Daoust, Chad Daugherty, Bambi Davis, Ryan Davis, Evan Davis, Jessica Day, Philip DeFatta, Stephen Dellinger, Logan Denney,

Camille Dennis, Erika Diaz, Jessica Dinh, Lisa Dinh, Yannick Djomo, Thomas Dobbs, Jorge Dominguez-Manjarrez, Dustin Donaghe, Amica Doxey, Megan Dressler, Madison Dreyfuss, Alexis Dumas, Stacy Dunn, Andrew Dunn.

Karla Duran, Agbor Ebob John, Ilham El Abari, Tory Eldridge, Samuel Elenwo, Covenant Elenwo, Jessica Eller, Marissa Elliott, Sarah Ellison, Haley Ellison, Michael Emerson, Kristina Eno, Cameron Ervin, Linda Espinosa, Francisco Esqueda, Laura Esquivel, Jonathan Estrada, Shed Ewings, Morgan Fares, Shiloh Farris, Taylor Faulkenberry, Courtney Felder, Tiana Ferguson, Stephanie Ferguson, Rick Ferguson, Michael File, Michael Fitzgerald, Andrea Fitzgerald, Erik Flores, Jade Floyd.

Jacob Fourcade, Justin Fowler, Joselyn Fowler, Roxana Franco, Abbie Freeman, Falan Fronko, Anna Frost, Nichole Funk, Chelsie Gabel, Amanda Gamble, Viridiana Garcia, Zaira Garcia, Cassidy Gardner, Austin Garland, Mariah Garner, Joseph Geffre, Dakota George, Sheree Germany, Vincent Giambaresi, Danelle Gibson, Johnnie Gilpen, Timothy Girkin, Michael Glancy, Kristen Godinez, Silvia Goicochea, Andrew Gomes, Alejandra Gonzalez, Aide Gonzalez.

Mary Goodnight, Marissa Graham, Megan Graver, Bailee Gray, Christopher Gray, Kendra Green, Peter Green, Ken Greenshields, Douglas Greer, Briana Gregg, Brady Griffin, Edwin Grimes, Taylor Grosschick, Jacob Grothe, Sarah Grotts, Jelena Grubisic, Zachary Guilbault, Mariah Hale, Paula Hale, Astoria Hallford, Bethanie Hamilton, Amanda Hardage, Bryan Harding, Angela Harper, Dee Harrison, Darin Hatch, Allison Hayes.

Joshua Heath, Jessica Heiderstadt, Lauren Heilaman, Paige Henderson, Nicolle Hendricks, Cecilia Henrion, Carlie Henson, Isai Hernandez, Victor Hernandez, Jake Hewett, Hailey Hibdon, Nicole Hibshman, Jamie Hileman, Chelsi Hill, Mark Hindman, Wendy Hoffman, Alex Holder, Graham Hornsby, Larry Hosek, Angela Houser, Seth Howell, Amber Hudson, Brandy Huff, Joseph Hughes, Monica Hutchinson, Vu Huynh, Rachel Interwicz, Camila Irarrazabal, Chizuko Isobe.

Nathanael Izu, Emily Jackson, Quatama Jackson, Jeremy Jacob, Khurshid Jahan, Stephanie James, Holly Jenkins, MacKenzie Jennings, Jonathon Jester, David Jimenez, Kristofor Johnson, Brooke Johnson, Kaitlyn Johnson, Rachel Joiner, Codie Jones, Ryann Jones, Carroll Jones, Kayla Jones, Kenneth Jordan, Saibra Journey, Seunghun Jun, Andrew Kabara, Robert Ka-

munyu, George Kanyingi, David Karugo, Jamie Kautz, Christ Kaya, Jesus Keefer, Stephen Keel, Emily Keith, Joseph Keller, Erik Kenrick, Andrew Kern, Phung Khong, Nguyen Khong.

Stella Kim, Gwangmin Kim, Jeffrey Kime, Leah Kincaid, Austin King, Courtney King, Regina Kraft, Tobias Kremeier, Brandon Kuon, Andrews Kwei, Joanie Lambert, Anthony Landers, Britny Lane, Elizabeth Langford, Harrison Langston, Zachary Larson, Kathy Le, Phuong Le, Lien Le, Nhi Le, Thong Le, Teionna Leach, Olivia Leachman, Luis Leal, Tania Lebron, David Lee, Isaac Lewis, Antoniesha Lewis, Penny Lewis, Yang Li, Sang Hoon Lim, Leroy Limke, Daniel Litton, Jessica Livesey, Krista Lloyd, Katherine Lloyd, Richard Lockhoff-

Nicholas Nguyen, Hiep Nguyen, Tiep Nguyen, Phuong Nguyen, Jenny Nguyen.

Phuc Nguyen, Tyrus Nguyen, Trang Nguyen, Lindsey Nguyen, Tam Nguyen, Tien Nguyen, Chris Nguyen, Tuyen Nguyen, Thao Nguyen, Jazmine Nichols, Lynsay Nichols, Philip Nicholson, Malorie Noah, Ragan Noonan, Madison North, Anthony Norton, Blake Nuncio, Alexander Okeke, Kaylee Oman, Christina Ormand, Holly Osterberg, Matthew Owen, Bailey Pack, Leonardo Padron, Christina Paez, Daxton Page, Kathryn Painter, Megan Palmer, Brian Palmer, Matthew Palumbo.

Iris Park, Jeongin Park, Alan Parker, Katherine Parker, Jennifer Parsons, Jillian Parus, Neel Patel, Joel Paul, April Pauletti,

Serna, Brittany Sexton, Nichole Shadid, Richard Shaw, Sarah Shirk, Tiffani Shorter, Frank Shover, Jack Shuler, Tobi Sims, Shristi Singh, Tiffany Sitton, Maegann Sloan, Kelsey Slovacek, Brandi Small, Destiny Smart, Jaley Smith, Kiel Smith, Pamula Smith, Madison Smith, Makenna Smith, Stella Smith, Austin Smith, Taylor Smith, Amine Sniter, Anna Soh, Elizabeth Sotomayor, Haley Sparks, Austin Spasic, Jenna Spengos, Jamie Stacey, Trenton Stamps, Amanda Standifer, Laurie Stang.

Catherine Starkey, Summer Stephens, Rebecca Sterkel, Jessica Stevens, Daraja Stewart, Neal Stewart, Haley Stewart, Jacob Storey-Gilliland, Jamie Stout, Marissa Stowers, Stacey Strunk, Cameron Sturtz, Feiyang Su, Jared Swartz, Rebecca Swihart, Shahrzad Tavasoli, David Taylor, Catherine Teeslink, Luke Thein, Melissa Thomas, Danielle Thompson, Matthew Thompson, Sarah Thonhoff, Isabella Thornton, Reagan Tijerina, Graciana Tiku, Christopher Tinsley.

Collin Todd, Kristen Torres, Jaclyn Towe, Dragon Tran, Jaime Trevino, Sarah Trosper, Victor Truong, Jamie Uhles, Yessenia Valadez, Megan Van Lew, Cheyenne Vanwassenhove, Jorge Vasquez, Nadya Vasquez, Elizabeth Vass, Andria Vaughn, Arely Vera, Caleb Vesely, Leonardo Villaseca-Cruz, Tan Vo, Alexa Voss, Minh Vu, Nhu Vu, Katelyn Walden, Ricky Walker, Amelia Wall, Paula Wallace, Tara Walton, Ann Waltrip, Yan Wang, Zechen Wang, Alexandra Warden, Kayla Warr, Annette Waters, Alexis Watkins, Heather Watson, Connor Watts, Zachary Watts, Morgan Weaver, Quinton Webb, William Weimer, Jacob Welch, Hannah Westmoreland, Erin Weymouth, Tracy Whetstone, Coby Whitaker.

Brian White, Leland White, Shelby White, Spencer White, Jada Wicks, Donnia Wietelman, Sheridan Wiles, John Wilkins-Kirk, Paxton Willard, Garrett Williams, Brandy Williams, Brett Williams, Jayde Williams, Dylan Williamson, Yandee Wilson, Lesimone Wilson, Johnny Wingate, Kiziah Winn, John Winter, Stefani Winter, Zane Winters, Zachary Wise, Kylie Wittenbach, Bryan Woodard, Cornelius Woodard, Kendal Woody, Misty Wornick, Darby Wright, Noria Yanz, Prince Yebo, Hyunjeong Yoon, Brandon Young, Angela Younkins, Maria Zapien Maynez, Barbara Zavala Renteria, Christy Zhang, Brandi Zielinski, Sarah Zuber.

(Don't see your name and think you should be on the honor roll list? Call the graduation office at 405-682-7521.)

“ It is my great pleasure to congratulate those who have qualified for the Vice President's honor roll. You have shown a continual striving for and achieving of excellence. My best wishes for you in your future endeavors. I know you will do us proud.”



—FELIX AQUINO

OCCC ACADEMIC AFFAIRS VICE PRESIDENT

Taylor.

Tracey Logan, Alexandra Logoutine, Erick Lopez, Margarita Lopez-Luera, Steven Love, Jesus Loya, Nancy Loyd, Vy Luong, Zackery Lupton, Chau Ly, Victor Macias, Noemy Magana, Hayden Magar, John Magelssen, Cameron Majma, Rachel Mallory, Angelica Maness, Frankie Mangus, Miranda Mann, Joseph Marlow, Aliyah Martin, Chance Martin, Jose Martinez, Jaciel Martinez, Lorena Martinez, Cloudine Mbong, Jordan McCarthy, Gage McCartney, John McCloy, Leslie McClure, Megan McCord, Cayla McCullough, Hannah McGill.

David McIntosh, Sarah McKenzie, Kyle Mears, Jeremiah Meck, Natalie Melancon, Kirk Melton, Angela Merka, Joseph Merrill, Andrew Merriman, Nicole Miller, Amanda Million, Joshua Mize, Laurie Moglia-Lahood, Anthony Mokaya, Juan Montoya, Sarah Moore, Jaren Moorman, Katherine Morrison, Kaylee Mosley, Kristyn Motley, Valerie Muegggenborg, Chance Mueller, Michael Mueller, Anthony Murray, Sarah Muzny, Fred Nanthakoummane, Leila Ndomche Kondo, Connor Neale, Freshta Nematzadeh, Kylie Newey,

Joe Scoggins, Noel Scott, Tamara Scott, Jake Scroggie, David Scroggins, Christopher Seals, Ricardo

Students named to President's honor roll

Students are eligible to be on the President's honor roll by achieving a GPA of 4.0 while carrying at least 12 hours. Part-time students are eligible if they have maintained a 4.0 GPA for two consecutive semesters.

Hafsa Abounour, Isaiah Acker, Taylor Aiello, Juliana Akabua, Tanner Akers, Akwe Akwe, Roman Alcantara, Amr Alhuraibi, Sydney Allbritton, Amy Allen, Jesse Allen, Stephanie Alvarado, Noelia Alvarez, Nana Amissah, Melinda Anderson, Crystal Andrews, Erica Armstrong, Glenda Armstrong, Doyel Armstrong, Sandy Arnold, Eivy Arroyo Diaz, Lacey Arvizu McMullen, Natasha Ash, Tamerat Atlabachew, Susan Atwell, Brandon Austin, Desmond Awungayi, Melody Backues, Randi Baker, Steven Baker, Aaron Baker, Lindley Baker, Daniel Baker, Kyle Baker, Nannette Baker, Megan Barber, Kallie Barber, Richard Barnes, Kevin Barnes, Sean Barnette, Janie Barr, Nathaniel Barrack.

John Basgall, Ali Basheer, Oghene Ovie Bassey, Andrew Battistelli, Krystle Bawiga, Parker Bay, Emily Beavers, Nour El Yakine Bel Bekri, David Belk, Shannon Bell, Beau Bellamy, Jazmine Berry, Charity Bickford, Derek Biggers, Dustin Bingham, Cynthia Bishop, Lauren Blankenship, Benjamin Bobbitt, Jennifer Bohannon, Abigail Bolin, Michele Bolin, Mohammed Mazhar Bombaywala, Richard Book, Katherine Bornholdt Smith, Veronica Bors, Adil Bouhamidi, Letitia Boykins, Joseph Branco, Angela Brand, Kacy Breashears, Emily Breathwit, Anna Brewster, Michaela Bridge, Hayley Brock, Thomas Brock, April Brooks, Bailey Brooks.

Paula Broome, Dawn Brown, Morgan Bryant, Elisabeth Bullock, Zachary Carley, Miranda Carlisle, Jared Carpenter, Robin Carr, Latoya Carter, Morgan Carter, Joanna Casteel, Christian Castro-Nieto, Alyssa Cavner, Nicholas Cebalo, Jessica Chadwick, Andy Chakron, Matthew Chalender, Miles Chaney, Cory Charmasson, Dawei Chen, Elizabeth Chinchilla, Ming-Hsien Chuang, Jingeun Chun, Ty Clare, Kristia Clark, Morgan Clark, Samuel Clarkson, Makensey Clarkston, Garrett Clement, Eric Cline, Brandan Cobb.

Rachael Colbart, Iesha Colbert,

Summer Cole, Lavenrina Collier, Zachary Conant, Caitlin Connell, Abigail Connell, Jason Conner, Carly Conner, Darci Cook, Casey Cook, Dixie Cook, Stephanie Cooper, Matthew Corson, Anahi Cortes, Claudia Cortez, Ryan Costiloe, James Cox, Wesley Crane, Kyle Cranford, Anthony Cribb, Amanda Croskey, Collin Crull, Mitch Cruse, Whitson Crynes, Brian Cushman, Andrew Czeropski, Thomas Dauffenbach, Ruth Davenport, Kyle Davis, Nicole Davis, Chris Davis, Kathryn Davis, Emilie Defatta, Kyle Devries, Xuyen Dinh, Steven Dodd, Suifen Dong, Lucian Donley, Christopher Donnell, Joseph Douglas.

Savanna Drummond, Seger Ducharme, Cassandra Duncan,

Hernandez, Chelsey Herrin, Tedi Herron.

Kirsten Hess, Spencer Hinkle, Vinh Hoang, Jerika Hobza, Brianna Hogan, Ryan Hollingsworth, Kathryn Holt, Kritsana Hoonsan, Shane Hopkins, Aimee Hostetter, Kendra Howle, Cybele Hsu, Kaitlyn Hunter, Kathy Huynh, Raul Ibanez, Ifeanyi Ijioma, Bailey Ingram, Jacob Islas, Kareema Jabbar, Mathew Jackson, Farrell Jacobs, Landra January, Peter Jenkins, Jeffrey Jesters, Michelle Jeziorka, Jayme Jimboy, Misty Jobe, Johnathan John, Robert Johnson, Darron Johnson, Jorge Johnston, Brennah Jones, Dallas Jones, Min Jung, Keith Kalinich, Zoey Kazmir, Susan Keffer, Nehemiah Kennedy, Tyler Kennemer, Mo-

Karol Merlo Bucardo, Micah Metheny, Jordan Meyer, Victor Meza, Ronald Miller, Savannah Miller, Jon Minyen, Jennifer Miranda, Joshua Moll.

Patrick Money, Kevin Monreal, Reilly Montgomery, Nicholas Moore, Michael Moore, Julie Moran, Michelle Morse, Samantha Munter, Daniel Murphy, Brandie Murphy, Morgan Murphy, David Murray, Carene Ndong Sima, Brayden Neal, Orlando Neal, Eva Neufeld, Phuc Ngo, Dieuthu Nguyen, Umi Nguyen, Hy Nguyen, Son Nguyen, Tony Nguyen, Justina Nguyen, Anh-Thy Nguyen, Thao Nguyen, Duy Nguyen, Cuong Nguyen, Oanh Nguyen, Sydney Nguyen, Nhu Nguyen, Kaylen Nguyen, Harris Nguyen, Meagen Nichols, Sara Noriega, Holly Norman, James Nottingham, Flavour Nubonyin, Joshua Nunez, Angelique Nutter, Tim O'Dell, Jordan O'Neal, Makayla O'Brien.

Hannah Odum, Emily Oehlert, Rikki Ogden, Kaitlyn Ogle, Floyd Oliver, Erica Olson, Rebecca Otchere, Alyssa Owens, Oyediran Oyerinde, Jennifer Paradis, Sandra Parker, Dalton Parker, James Parker, Marissa Patterson, Sean Payne, Breanna Pelton, Bethany Pelton, Brooke Pelton, Belinda Pennock, Jennifer Penrod, Clyde Peralta, Juan Perez, Jovanna Perez, Louann Perkins, Richard Perry, James Pettigrew, Matthew Peverly, Alexander Pham, Viet Pham, Ngan Pham, Chi Pham, Tri Pham.

Ashleigh Pierce, Michael Pino, Monica Piros, Brenda Pittser, Jennifer Pontikos, Jessica Porter, Adam Prince, Tammy Propeck-Beatty, Kelley Queen, Sandra Quintanilla, Ryan Raberding, Indira Raichoudhury, Scott Rains, Nicholas Ramos, Christopher Ramsey, Emerson Ramseyer-Miller, Parker Randels, Dustyn Rappe, Andrew Rasbold, Justine Ratemo, Kimberly Ray, Blake Raybern, Haley Reed, Rachel Renkiewicz, Rosa Reyes, Nancy Reyes, Sara Rich, Cody Richardson.

Lindsey Ricketts, Steve Rideout, Robert Ritter, Michael Roberts, Madison Robins, Timothy Rockholt, Lauren Rodebush, Sarah Rollins, Lauren Romero, Evangelin Rook, Raquel Rosa, Shawna Rosenfelt, Fnu Roshan Mathews, Joshua Rothenay, Linda Rother, Kara Roy, Kathryn Royall, Dean Rufiesen, Jessica Ruiz, Shanna Rumburg, Nicole Russell, Yuridia

Saldana, Marcos Saldana Rojo, Ayesha Boureima Sambo, Emily Sanchez, John Savage, Pegah Sayar, Cherie Schubach, Aubrey Schultz, Jonathan Schumm, Nathan Scroggins, Deborah Senn, Eunsook Seo, Lisa Shaw, Naome Shaw, Ye She, Hannah Shelton, Melanie Shepherd, Jeremy Sherman, Boram Shin, Kia Shorter, Stacy Sigler, Christopher Simmons, Annette Simpson, Ethan Simpson, Brian Sims, Dragana Sindjic, Steven Slack.

Ashley Sloan, Austin Sloan, Karli Smith, Crystal Smith, Caitlin Smith, Hunter Smith, Heather Smith, Jana Smith, Timothy Smith, Alora Smith, Bert Snider, Daniela Solis, Yang Song, Monica Soots, Stacia Sorrels, Jennifer Stacks, Brian Stansberry, Chad Stephenson, Micah Stewart, Crystal Stockton, Ryan Strawhun, Madison Sullivan, Mintu Sunny, Leah Sweet, Herve Taning Kaffo, Ashley Tate, Alexandria Tatum, Josh Taylor, Yolanda Taylor, Linh Tcheng, Edward Tellone, Kushal Thapa, Taylor Thomas, Sancho Thomas, Vallie Thomas, Cody Thornton, Trystan Tiffany, Erin Tilley, Lisa Tippett.

Alexander Tirado, Amber Tobin, Haden Tolbert, Nicole Torres, Thuy Linh Tran, Vivian Tran-Vu, Hung Trang, Gary Tripp, Patricia Truong, Kaylyn Tucker, Ashlie Turley, Obinna Ude, Jesse Uffen, Dov Urie-Lanman, Christopher Valencia, Roberto Van Dunem, Rachel Vandevoir, Jason Vanhouter, Justin Vannoy, Michelle Vasquez, Marcus Ventresca, Carlos Villanueva-Chavez, Ashton Vincent, Kayla Visor, Ai Vo, Chinh Vo, Cong Vu, Dat Vu, John Vu, Shelby Wade, Matt Wainscott, Christopher Walker.

Zachary Wall, Blake Wallen, Lindsey Waller, Rachel Ward, Zachary Washecheck, Logan Webb, Brady Webster, Jack Wells, Diana Wells, Lawanda Wertenberger, Aubree West, Joshua West, Carlee Wheeler, Lauren White, Robin Whiteneck, Matthew Whitney, Jamie Whitson, Clifford Whittenton, Alyssa Williams, Deborah Williams, Krista Witcher, Lesley Wood, Madison Woodcock, Brittan Woods, Agnes Wright, Tatum Yocom, Isaac Young, Paul Zapletal, Steven Zercher.

(Don't see your name and think you should be on the honor roll list? Call 405-682-7521.)

" My congratulations to these outstanding students. Your academic achievement makes us all very proud."

—PAUL SECHRIST
OCCC PRESIDENT



Lizette Duncan, Michaela Dunn, Thuc Duong, Shauna Durham, Evan Dymond, William Early, Stephanie Easterling, Megan Eaton, Fatima Elawam, Erin Elsenbeck, Stephanie Emperly, Anna Engel, Jarrod Engelbrecht, Murri England, Brittnee Erdelen, Jennifer Estrada, Nickalas Evans, Stefania Evans, Ashton Evans, Sharna Faerber, Keithen Faerber, Sarah Farmer, Tiffany Feese, Kody Felker, Ryan Fielding, Kristi Fields, Ariel Fitchue, Natalie Flaming, Juan Flores, Randy Freeman, Regan Fuget, Joshua Fuller, Kasey Garner, Wendy Garrett, Alexander Gately, Jennifer George.

Chasity Gibson, Jacob Gilleland, Lauren Girard, Danny Goe, Charles Golden, Catherine Gomez, Chen Gong, Blanca Gonzalez, Jared Gore, John Gorman, Kirsti Granger, Nicholas Greggs, Dillon Griffitts, Amanda Hamilton, Nathan Hamlet, Zachary Hanlin, Farouq Hanoon, Krystle Hansen, Veronica Harmon, Karsten Harris, Kaila Harris, Michael Harris, Daryn Harris, Diana Harrison, Autumn Harrison, Heather Haywood, Sarah Heath, Wendell Hedrick, Matthew Hefner, Chelsea Henderson, Derek Henshaw, Elissa

hammed Khouy, Darla Kilhoffer, Sunghoon Kim, Allira Kimrey, Kevin Kitchell, Matt Kloiber, Samuel Knight, Adam Kordsiemon, Casey Kraeger, Asma Lama Tamang, Taylor Lamb, Sarah Landon, Rebecca Laranang, Stacy Lawson, Lanchi Le, Quan Le, Tho Le, Hang Le, Thao Le, Cindy Le, Dat Le, Donna Leachman, Ethan Lee, Natanim Lemma, Amanda Lester, Eric Lewis, Sonia Ligon, Gordon Lizama, Brianna Logas, Angelica Lopez, Kathleen Love, John Lowry, Jennifer Loyd, Xin Luo, Ariana Lusk, Mylinh Luu, Michael Lyon, Brandon Malone, Sajani Manandhar, Sharon Manley, Robert Manley, Darren Mann, Rajath Manuel, Lee Marrs.

Candyce Marsh, Thaddaeus Marshall, Tiffany Martin, Aundrea Martin, Jesse Martin, Vanessa Martinez, Christopher Mason, Selina Matthews, Pamela Mayhew, Abbie McAlister, Kathy McCall, Wendy McCaughey, Trevor McClure, Barbara McDaniel, Megan McDonald, Samantha McElhiney, Adriana McElhiney, Danee McGeevey, Kris McKay, Jeremy McKinley, Jacob McKinney, Douglas Morris, Courtney Meikle, Jaison Melakayil, James Melton, Brandon Mendenhall,

SPORTS

Staying fit



ETHAN COOPER/PIONEER

Occupational Therapy Assistant major Enrique Benitez exercises in OCCC's Wellness Center. "I work out to feel good and have energy throughout the day," he said. Workout equipment at the center can be used by students free of charge with a valid OCCC ID. The Aquatic Center pool and gym also are free for OCCC student use. For more information, visit www.occc.edu/rf/wellness.

SPORTS I Basketball, kickball and more await students who sign up at IM Leagues

Spring intramural sports lineup determined

CLAYTON MITCHELL
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

Students looking for a break from stressful school work this semester can sign up for any of the intramural sports OCCC has to offer.

The Recreation and Fitness department hosts intramural sports for students and faculty to take part in each semester.

This semester's intramural events include a basketball season for organized student teams, a 3-point competition, a basketball golf competition, and dodgeball and kickball tournaments.

The only new competition to this spring's lineup is the kickball tournament, according to Intramural Sports Assistant Matthew Wright, who oversees the intramural sports.

"Last year, I tried to do a kickball league, where it would be four or five weeks, and I didn't really have anybody sign up for that," he said.

"So what I'm doing this semester is I'm going to try and do a kickball tournament, and just have it be like a two-day thing, after school, so maybe 4 to 7 p.m., on like a Thursday



or Friday."

Wright said, of this semester's sports, the most popular is the basketball season, which is the first intramural event for which the sign-up deadline is Tuesday, Feb. 3.

Another sport on this semester's list is basketball golf, Wright said.

"In golf, you have to have a ball in the hole within a certain number of hits to get a par," he said. "Basically what I'll do is set out nine different spots and there will be nine different holes per se."

"Each player shoots from that spot, and they get a score from that spot based on the difficulty. Once everybody has done all nine shots, we'd add up the scores from all their shots and the person with the lowest score would win."

Wright said any more sports that are added will be on the IM Leagues website at www.imleagues.com/occc. The site will list the sports, their sign-up dates and schedules, by the time classes resume Jan. 19.

Anyone who participates in intramural sports must have an IMLeagues account. That can be created at www.imleagues.com/Schools/OCCC/Registration.

For more information, contact Wright at 405-682-1611, ext. 7684, or at matthew.j.wright@occc.edu, or contact the Recreation and Fitness department at 405-682-7860.

EVENT NEWS

SPRING 2015:

- Students with a valid OCCC ID can use the Aquatic Center free of charge. The Aquatic Center features two pools, and an 18½-ft. deep diving well with 1- and 3-meter spring boards and 5-, 7- and 10-meter platforms. For more information, visit www.occc.edu/RF.

- OCCC Group Fitness classes are offered at a variety of fitness levels and are spaced conveniently throughout the afternoon and late evening hours. Discounted group fitness passes are available. See more at www.occc.edu/rf/cr-group-fitness.

- The Recreation & Fitness Center is open to students, faculty, staff and community members. The center features a 15,000-square-foot gym with two basketball courts and one recreational volleyball court, a cardio room with three treadmills, two cross trainers and two recumbent bikes as well as a weight room featuring a complete circuit of Cybex equipment and free weights. Students with a valid OCCCID can use the facilities free of charge. For more information, visit www.occc.edu/RF or call 405-682-7860.



Scan the QR code with your smart phone to be directed to a list of OCCC Intramural events, complete with the most current updates.

(Free QR code reader apps can be found online or in app stores on smart phones. Follow the directions for the app you download.)

All event news is due Monday by 5 p.m. for inclusion in the next issue. Email your news to sportswriter@occc.edu.

Inappropriate behavior reported in library

JORGE KRZYZANIAK

Senior Writer

seniorwriter@occc.edu

Campus police were called to the library to investigate a report of inappropriate behavior on the second floor around 10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 12.

According to a report filed by Officer Gordon Nelson, library employees had discovered the door of room 207 blocked and the lights out.

It was reported that when the lights were turned on, a male was seen by staff standing in the room while a female remained on the floor "pulling her

leggings up."

Library staff told the two they were calling the police. Both left through the north library stairwell before police arrived.

Nelson searched the library but according to his report, didn't locate either person.

The library's Lead Circulation Assistant, Monica Carlisle said she was witness to some of what took place in room 207 which is designated as a group study room.



"I did not see any studying," she said. Carlisle said the room's purpose is clearly identified with signage nearby and within the room and a list of rules is posted inside.

Housekeeping was notified immediately after the incident, she said.

"They were notified," she said, "about an unknown substance on the table just to be safe."

No arrests were made.

Additional information is available

in a supplemental report that was requested but not provided.

Some information was redacted from the reports under the direction of Marketing and Public Relations Director Cordell Jordan who said names are redacted "according to OCCC Standard Operating Procedures involving information released and information withheld." To obtain a copy of the procedure, email cjordan@occc.edu.

To contact campus police, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7747.

For an emergency, use one of the call boxes located inside and outside on campus or call 405-682-7872.

Free: OCCC employees, students speak out about proposal

Continued from page 1

"That means low-income residents, those that play the lottery, are paying tuition for middle-income students. ... Seems like an unfair redistribution of wealth to me."

Business and economic Professor Charles Myrick, a third-generation community college student, said he also has concerns about funding for such an initiative.

"If we're taking it away from another group and then that's going to end up hurting the economy, this impact could be little or none," Myrick said.

However, he said, education has a lot of "positive externalities associated with it" which could benefit the entire economy.

Hopkins said a nationwide educational program would require state and federal governments to share the costs.

"Good luck with that in Oklahoma right now," he said.

Hopkins said falling gasoline prices likely will negatively affect the state's budget in the future which, in turn, affects education funding.

"So I doubt we'll see any significant increase in funding from the state, unfortunately," he said.

Sechrist said while the current state fiscal situation may make it difficult to bring about such a program, it's not impos-

sible.

"I certainly would hope that if the federal government picked up 75 percent of the cost of tuition that the state would find a way to fund its 25 percent obligation," Sechrist said.

"If existing grant and scholarship programs were applied first, the balance may be financially doable for the state of Oklahoma."

Sechrist said OCCC would prefer that the state pick up the entire cost, but said even if the student had to pay 25 percent of the current cost, "that would make a real difference for students and would allow many more students to go to college."

Hopkins said the focus should be on programs such as Pell Grants and others that are already in place to help students with tuition.

"Perhaps those programs could be modified more easily than getting proposed legislation through the Republican-controlled Congress at this point," Hopkins said.

Physical therapy major Matthew Fay agrees with Hopkins but said he is still eager to see the full details of Obama's proposal.

"I'd enjoy free community college but I'm not sure if it's fair to everyone who isn't going to go to community college but will end up paying for me . . .," Fay said. "I imagine that taxes

"The proposal also could spark debate that could lead to the expansion of the Federal Pell Grant Program or Oklahoma's Promise . . ."

—PAUL SECHRIST
OCCC PRESIDENT

will go up."

On the flip side, Myrick said, in the long run, free college programs may actually drive taxes down or provide more benefit to taxpayers.

"A person is less likely to become a vagabond and we're not going to have to pay for the basic services to keep them alive now that they can earn money, contribute to the system and take better care of others," he said.

"Then the government's able to tax them more because that person makes more money."

That scenario could take place on a massive scale with a program like this, he said.

Myrick said those with some higher education also are less likely to become criminals, thus lowering crime rates and saving taxpayer dollars.

He said the social benefits of education are undeniable and OCCC would benefit from the added revenue.

Fay said he'll remain cautious

for now.

"Some things sound good at face value but what it ends up bringing about isn't all that good," he said.

Business accounting major Alex Burks said free community college would not only improve the educational experience but also could propel American business.

"I think this would definitely improve the standard of living across the board . . .," he said.

"It would help us keep up with inflation. And I think it will reduce the impending financial aid crisis."

Vice President for Community Development Steve Bloomberg said the value of a community college initiative would be unparalleled.

"By 2018, there will be 46.8 million job openings, including 13.8 million newly created jobs and 33 million previously-vacated positions."

"Of these openings, it's predicted 63 percent will require workers to have some college education," he said.

"The proposal put forth by President Obama would place students at OCCC in a great position to compete for these higher-wage occupations."

Myrick said it stands to improve the nation's overall competitiveness in the world marketplace as well.

Sechrist said, regardless of the outcome, it's a win-win

situation.

"While it may be difficult given the current budget restraints at both the federal and state levels to fully fund the proposal, the proposal increased the focus on community colleges and the many benefits of attending a community college," he said.

"The proposal also could spark debate that could lead to the expansion of the Federal Pell Grant Program or Oklahoma's Promise — which might lead to a greater number of students going to college without the worry of paying tuition out-of-pocket."

Obama said it's up to Congress now to draft legislation that could implement this plan.

He has called upon a bipartisan coalition to do so.

To see Obama's speech at Pellissippi State Community College in Knoxville, Tennessee, visit <http://youtu.be/TSMuY8NofJc>.

To see his State of the Union address from Jan. 20, visit <http://youtu.be/cse5cC-GuHmE>.

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CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Starting point



ETHAN COOPER/PIONEER

Pre-education major Harlee Davis searches for books to purchase at OCCC's bookstore. "I'm looking for my English Comp. II book." OCCC's bookstore is located on the first floor of the Main Building. For more information, call 405-682-7510, or visit <http://bookstore.occc.edu/home.aspx>.

COMMUNITY | Brown Bag luncheons, volunteer opportunities, more on Student Life calendar

Spring student events planned

KATIE AXTELL

Community Writer

communitywriter@occc.edu

From multiple Brown Bag meetings to service trips, Student Life's spring 2015 semester calendar is full of a wide range of events for students, said Student Life Coordinator Kendra Fringer.

"Our Brown Bag meetings to our ExCEL Series are two of the major events," she said. "We also have our service learning trips as well."

Multiple service trips are lined up for those who like to volunteer, Fringer said.

She said for those students who are signed up for the Civic Honors and Campus Impact awards, the service trips are great opportunities to receive hours for volunteer work.

However, Fringer said, there are a limited number of spots available for each trip, so those who want to help will have to sign up ahead of time.

The first trip is to the Christmas Connection on Saturday, Feb. 21, followed by Adopt-A-Street on Feb. 27.

A second Christmas Connection trip and other Adopt-A-Street events also are planned as well as trips to the Regional Food Bank, Oklahoma City Zoo and the Baptist Children's Home.

Several Brown Bag luncheons also are on the calendar, Fringer said.

She said the first one scheduled is a special black history Brown Bag at 12:30 p.m. Feb. 18, in CU3 with

Political Science Professor Sharon Vaughan.

She said she will discuss Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King and Nelson Mandela, and each man's journey for peace.

Fringer said other topics will range from receiving information on transferring, to the different awards programs offered through the college. She said Brown Bag events are open to all students, faculty, and staff.

Student Life also is starting Student 2 Student mentoring sessions this semester. Faculty Liaison for Service and Engagement Stephen Morrow, who will oversee the mentoring, said it's a three-step process for students to help other students manage their college success.

"The mentor listens to the story of the mentee and figures out the challenges in the way of success," Morrow said. "That's step one."

"Step two is they look at the challenges and at how they can overcome that challenge. And then, step three is the mentor follows up and supports the mentee throughout the semester."

To sign up to be mentored, Morrow said to contact him, Student Life Program Assistant Jill Robertson or the Student Life office.

Fringer encourages students to participate.

"I believe students get to explore new topics and develop peer relationships," she said. "It's a chance for students to interact and learn from the faculty and staff."

For more information, contact the Student Life office at studentlife@occc.edu or 405-682-7523.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Gamefest planned at southside library Jan. 25

A Gamefest will take place from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25, at the Southern Oaks Public Library located at 6900 S Walker Ave. Students are encouraged to bring friends to play video and board games. For more information, contact John Hilbert at jhilbert@metrolibrary.org or call 405-631-4468.

Service awards programs meeting Jan. 27

There will be a Brown Bag Service Award Programs meeting at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27, in CU2. The discussion will be about the service awards that are available on campus. For more information, contact the Student Life office at studentlife@occc.edu or 405-682-7523.

Club, organizations fair Jan. 28 and 29

The Student Life office will host a Student Club and Organization Fair from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 29. Various campus clubs will be on hand for students to get information about and join. For more information, contact the Student Life office at studentlife@occc.edu or 405-682-7523.

The Leadership Council plans Jan. 29 meeting

The Leadership Council is meeting at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 29, in CU3. The meeting is open to all students. For more information, contact the Student Life office at studentlife@occc.edu or call 405-682-7523.

Dungeons and Dragons Game Day Jan. 31

Southern Oaks Public Library will host a Dungeons and Dragons Game Day from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31. Both new and old gamers are invited to attend. For more information, contact John Hilbert at jhilbert@metrolibrary.org or 405-631-4468.

Brown Bag meeting to focus on transfer process

A Brown Bag luncheon on transfer basics will take place at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3, in CU3. The meeting is open to all students who want to learn more about transferring from OCCC to another college or university. For more information, contact the Student Life office at studentlife@occc.edu or call 405-682-7523.

Scholarship money available for OCCC students

The OCCC Foundation has more than 30 scholarships available for students. The deadline to apply is Friday, Feb. 20. An email about the scholarship opportunities has been sent to all current students. For more information, contact Institutional Advancement Development Director Jennifer Harrison at jharrison@occc.edu or 405-682-1611, ext. 7771.

All Highlights are due Monday by noon for inclusion in the next issue. Email your event to editor@occc.edu or drop by the Pioneer office located in AH 1F2.

CLASSIFIEDS

Pioneer classified advertising is free to all enrolled OCCC students and employees for any personal classified ad. Ad applications must be submitted with IDs supplied by 5 p.m. Fridays prior to the next publication date. For more information, call the Ad Manager at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or e-mail adman@occc.edu.

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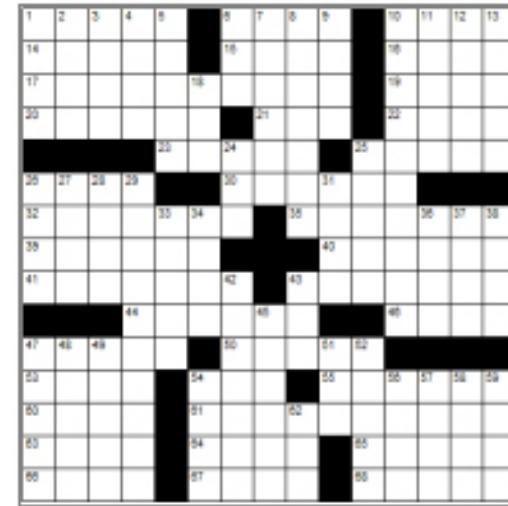
Available at Planned Parenthood.
www.pppfa.org/ppfa

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1-800-230-PLAN

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Column of wood
6. Hens make them
10. Informed
14. European currency
15. Container weight
16. Type of sword
17. Blue blood
19. Rent
20. Decrease
21. Ribonucleic acid
22. Regretted
23. Adjust again
25. Domesticates
26. Ancient Peruvian
30. Nuclear
32. Comforted
35. Deletion
39. Sheen
40. Hit the sack
41. Competitor
43. Sure
44. Reluctant
46. "What a shame!"
47. "The Final Frontier"
50. Egg-shaped
53. At one time (archaic)
54. Fitting
55. Neglect
60. 13 in Roman numerals
61. Made without yeast
63. Cocoyam
64. Does something
65. Ceased
66. Observed
67. Dregs
68. Tale



DOWN

1. Secure against leakage
2. Unadulterated
3. Colored part of an eye
4. Not a win
5. Fruity-smelling compound
6. And so forth
7. Loft
8. One who bestows
9. Bristle
10. Hard brownish-red earthenware
11. Codeine source
12. Embankment
13. Accomplishments
18. In song, the loneliest number
24. Unhappy
25. Anagram of "Merit"
26. Small island
27. Person, place or thing
28. Outlay
29. Allure
31. No more than
33. Throw with effort
34. Sea eagle
36. Ampule
37. Diva's solo
38. Focusing glass
42. Beat thoroughly
43. Chief Executive Officer
45. Slender
47. Genders
48. A group of lions
49. Comment to the audience
51. Actress Lupino
52. Plunges
54. Twofold
56. Dispatched
57. Annul
58. Clairvoyant
59. Countercurrent
62. S

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Intro to Japanese a favorite with students

JSTYN STRAIN

News Writing Student

Introduction to Japanese has been offered on campus for six years now because a group of students wanted to learn more about the Japanese language and culture.

Their petition got results, said Chiaki Troutman, coordinator of the World Languages and Cultures Center on campus.

This spring, OCCC's Introduction to Japanese class is on Tuesday nights.

This is an opportunity for students to learn skills such as listening, speaking, reading and writing in a foreign language, Troutman said.

It also offers an opportunity to experience the Japanese culture.

"It was 2008 in January," Troutman said. "A group of students visited me with a petition signed asking for a Japanese class."

"Back then we didn't have a Japanese class. I brought the petition to the departmental chair. She told me we were going to create a Japanese class, totally new, for the first time."

Troutman was asked to find someone to teach the class.

"[The head of the department] asked me if I knew someone who could teach," she said. "I had several people I knew who could speak Japanese and were educated. And I thought I knew someone (who would be) best."

And that is how Keiko Shafer, the sixth-year Japanese teacher, came to OCCC. Troutman said Shafer's talent with students has been notable.

"She's been teaching successfully," she said. "That's why we always have Japanese class. There are always students who want to learn Japanese."



Shafer said the course is an elective.

"Most people I have in my class want to study," she said. "That's why they are there. They want to learn, so I'm lucky to teach those students."

Shafer isn't the only one who feels lucky.

Her students said Shafer is very helpful and allows them to get the most out of the class, but without stress.

"It's been a really cool class," said Sara Bagley, one of Shafer's students who [took] the class to be able to communicate better with some of her relatives who live in Japan. "You can get as much out of it as you want."

Another student in Shafer's fall class was Shana Lancaster. She said it was on her bucket list to learn a foreign language and the Japanese class has given her the opportunity to expand on what she has learned.

"I have learned a lot," she said. "I've been given the fundamentals and I can easily take it from there."

On average, the Introduction to Japanese class has about 20 students. Most of these students are already interested in learning about the Japanese culture, though no prior knowledge about Japanese is needed to take the class.

As of Jan. 15, 23 students were enrolled for spring.

While it is not a foreign language credit class, this elective course may offer information students couldn't get from any other class they will ever take in college, Shafer said.

"When I teach the Introduction class, I try to teach all Japanese culture," Shafer said.

Students interested in the class should call the Arts division office at 405-682-1611, ext. 7143, or enroll online under World Languages 1003: Intro to Japanese.

Child Development major ready for classroom demands

ADDISON HUBBARD

News Writing Student

Child Development major Laura Joullian believes she will be ready to step into the teacher's role in a class of preschoolers when she graduates in May.

She said her confidence comes from her education in combination with her experience in the OCCC Child Development and Lab School. She has worked there as a teacher's assistant for a year helping with the 4-year-old students.

"Our program is child based," she said. "We focus on the needs of the child first and foremost."

"Before any other need is met, we make sure their most basic needs are met. The reason for this is we cannot expect for them to focus and learn if they are hungry or were up all night listening to their parents fight."

If the child is tired or hungry OCCC Child Development instructors meet their needs in a manner that does not encourage attention-seeking, she said. The instructors are highly trained and fully aware of how a 4-year-old child interacts with others their age, as well as with adults.

Joullian said each child in the Child Development Center is treated as an individual. Therefore, every need of the child should be treated on an individual level.

For this reason, OCCC Child Development Center teachers do not teach to the class, but rather to the child.

Assistant Director Julie Wray said a recent Oklahoma Department of Education survey has found that most newly graduated teachers did not receive sufficient preparation for what they would face in classrooms and should have spent more time with qualified teachers before they graduated.

"The program is child directed and the curriculum is project-approached," Wray said.

"The teachers talk to children to find out what their interest are and then develop the curriculum. This allows the children to dictate what they are learning."

Wray and all the others involved in the OCCC Child Development Program are a main contributor to students like Joullian wanting to pursue a career in Child Development.

With OCCC's program, students have multiple degree choices and



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.OCCC.EDU/CHILDEV

Child Development Teacher Constance Pidgeon works with children who attend the Child Development Center and Lab School. Child Development majors work at the center as part of their training.

opportunities to work in the child development field. Joullian said she looks forward to using the strategies and practices OCCC has taught her, when she soon is in charge of her own

classroom setting.

More information on the degree plans that are available through OCCC's Child Development Program can be found at www.occc.edu/childev.