

# PIONEER

AN APOLOGY TO  
OUR READERS  
PAGE 2

## Life after child abuse

**Child abuse awareness month brought one student's story to light**

HUNG TRAN

Senior Writer

seniorwriter@occc.edu

Children easily become victims of abuse, often by their own parents. Biology and chemistry major Howard William Kincade said sometimes children at early ages might not realize that they are being abused.

Kincade said if kids only knew they were being abused, they could reach out and get help.

He said that when parents hit or yell at their children for no apparent reason, deprive them of food for punishment (or any other reason), if punishments are unnecessarily harsh or if parents over-invade their children's privacy, miss their accomplishments or expose them to bad people, these may be abusive behaviors. All of these happened to Kincade when he was too young to realize he was being victimized.

Kincade said his birth father died before he was born. When he was 2 years old, his unstable, diag-



Howard William Kincade looks back on the abuse he experienced as a child and knows now how it affected him even years later. *Melissa Sue Lopez/Pioneer*

nosed bipolar mother dated a man in his thirties who physically abused Kincade when he was only a toddler.

"From what I remember, he burned me with cigarettes, he trapped me under a reclining chair, told me to punch him and when I did, it didn't really hurt him but he punched me back in the stomach, he put food for me on top of the fireplace mantel so I couldn't reach it," Kincade said.

He said his birth mother knew what was going on but she was too unstable to stop it or, he said, she might just not have cared.

Kincade said abusive behavior toward children

must be prevented because the mental damage sticks with the victims for the rest of their life.

"I was 2 when that happened to me and I shouldn't be remembering that stuff but I remember it almost like yesterday," Kincade said.

He said the abuse continued to affect him after it ended, but it took years for him to realize how. At age 16, he noticed he'd become very uncomfortable with people touching him.

"I got chills and shied away," Kincade said.

He didn't know why. Then at 19, he was diagnosed with depression.



Howard William Kincade. *Melissa Sue Lopez/Pioneer*

## How life has changed

Kincade said his life tremendously changed in the year after his abuse began.

That's when he was taken into foster care and met the family that would become his own.

Kincade said someone called authorities and, as far as he knows, his abuser is currently in jail for domestic abuse.

Kincade was 3 years, 11 months, and 13 days old when his new family took him in.

Kincade said he quickly became attached to his new family, something he had never felt with his birth mother.

"My adopted mom said that whenever my blood mother came to visit, I kind of clutched to my adopted mom instead of her," he said. "I just already had basically acknowledged her being my actual mom instead of my birth mother."

Kincade said there are not enough words to ever express how grateful he is for the affection he's received from his adoptive family.

"In the first Christmas I ever had with them, my mom told me that I had over 50 gifts," he said. "They treated me like their son before I was even their son. They loved me and took care of me."

"My life now is amazing," Kincade said, "I'm a supervisor at my job. I'm making decent grades. I have a girlfriend. I'm not being starved, I actually eat more than I should. I've got a nice brother. We're both adopted. And, my parents pretty much have spoiled the crap out of me since before I was even adopted officially. My life couldn't be better."

# TO OUR READERS

**EDITOR'S NOTE** | Due to an editorial oversight, miscommunication and poor decisions on our part, you are due an apology.

## Pioneer apologizes for our oversight



**LENORA  
LA VICTOIRE**

First and foremost, we owe our readers, our college, and most importantly, one particular source a sincere apology.

The OCCC Pioneer staff is truly sorry.

You may have noticed that the OCCC Pioneer was not on the stands Friday morning, April 15.

Due to a hold-up by our printer, the Pioneer did not hit the stands until about noon.

Unrelated, this turned out to be to our advantage.

This is because in that edition of the Pioneer we inadvertently printed personal information in a photo.

We did not intend to include that information.

In order to be as clear and transpar-

ent as possible, I want to explain our mistake to our readers.

A News Writing student received a photo from the source. The source asked that student to obscure the information in the photo. On March 9, that student came to the Pioneer photographer, Melissa Sue Lopez, and asked her to digitally edit the photo. Melissa did, but neither she nor that News Writing student knew when the story would run. The edited version stayed in her possession alone. Melissa said that she remembers our faculty adviser, Sue Hinton, being there with the News Writing student; however, Professor Hinton does not recall this.

In a completely separate exchange, and not knowing that the News Writing student had a photo, Hinton contacted the source requesting a photo.

He sent her another completely different photo but did not mention that personal information was on it or ask her to obscure that information. Hinton sent that photo directly to our lab

director, Jorge Kryzaniak, who helped lay out the page the photo was on.

On April 14, the Pioneer that would be coming out on Friday was peer-edited by all the staff at the Pioneer. Lopez happened to be out of the office that day and no one else at the Pioneer caught the mistake.

I was the last one to final proof Friday's paper, and on Thursday the paper was sent to the printer.

As I mentioned above, the papers came to OCCC late on Friday.

Usually, they are being placed on the stands from 6 to 7 a.m. However, that day, they were placed on the stands between noon and 1 p.m.

At the weekly Friday Pioneer meeting, the error was brought up by Lopez around 2:30.

She told the rest of the Pioneer staff that this was not the right photo.

At that time the decision was made to leave the papers on the stands.

In retrospect, we know that this was the wrong decision to make.

We should have acted immediately to remove the papers.

We did not, and about two hours later, other college staff removed them.

We owe great thanks to Rochelle Mosby, all of the student staff in the Arts Division office, Anne DeClouette, and the OCCC police officers who were there and acted quickly to help remove the papers on Friday.

The gentleman whose confidentiality was disclosed is being offered identity theft protection, the cost of which will be paid by the Pioneer.

The current Pioneer staff, including myself, will be making and collecting donations to repay the Pioneer.

As journalists, we know that the burden of truth lies on us. This is why we assume full responsibility for our error.

For more information or to contact the Pioneer about anything, please email editor@occc.edu.

—LENORA LA VICTOIRE  
PIONEER EDITOR

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR** | College worker addresses complaints about the coffee shop from another reader

## Reader rebuffs another recent letter to the editor

**To the Editor:**

In response to this article (a letter to the editor titled "Reader steaming over campus coffee" that ran in the Pioneer April 8), I believe the record needs to be set straight.

The OCCC Coffee Shop is not, nor has it ever been, a Starbucks.

To purchase a Starbucks franchise would have cost the college thousands

of dollars.

The OCCC Coffee Shop is free to serve any brand of coffee they so desire.

They have chosen to use Starbucks brand coffee for their specialty drinks and are allowed to display the sign "We proudly serve Starbucks coffee."

I am sorry that the reader was dissatisfied with the quality of drinks he or she was served.

However, because this is not a Starbucks franchise location, the Baristas are not trained by Starbucks.

I wonder if the reader considered returning the drink to the counter and voicing his or her complaint about the quality of the drink.

I hope you will give the OCCC Coffee Shop another try and, if you are not satisfied with your drink, please allow

them to address your concerns.

You may find that they will be able to prepare you something just as tantalizing as that of your experienced barista friend.

—BRENDA CARPENTER  
FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING DIRECTOR

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Sue Hinton..... <b>Faculty Adviser</b>			
7777 S May OKC, OK 73159	<b>phone:</b> 405-682-1611, ext. 7307	<b>email:</b> editor@occc.edu	
<b>Pioneer Online:</b> pioneer.occc.edu	<b>Facebook:</b> www.facebook.com/OCCCPioneer	<b>Twitter:</b> @OCCCPioneer	

## COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

# Two writers' favorite men's fashion brands

**FASHION REVIEW |** Topman continues to update worldwide trends with its products and styles

I view myself as a determined person, especially in saving money for upcoming important plans. I save money by going to cheap grocery stores, not eating out for a long time and looking for used stuff. Even so, I am completely unable to stop spending money on clothes.

My closet is now full of many different brands. But most recently, I've become addicted to Topman, one of the young Asian generation's favorite clothing brands. I believe Topman is also famous in America, especially in big cities like New York and Los Angeles.

Topman strictly sells men's clothes but Topshop, also from the same company offers trendy clothes for women too.

I am wondering why there is no store in Oklahoma, but that does not discourage me from buying clothes from Topman. Every purchase since I've come to Oklahoma has been online.

I'm usually the kind of a person who only buys things when I can physically touch them. I am always suspicious about whether the actual product's color,



size, or quality will be exactly like the images shown on the website. But with Topman I'm totally confident whenever I place any online orders.

The products are skillfully made of fine and good quality material. The color looks 100 percent similar to the images online.

Topman creates hundreds of products every week so its styles are always updated along the latest fashion trends. The clothes are fashionable and fit perfectly in both my homes; America and Vietnam.

There is nothing I could complain about relating to Topman.

The products are as good as the service. If you look it up online you will love it.

**Rating: A+**

—HUNG TRAN  
SENIOR WRITER

**FASHION REVIEW |** The Japanese brand, Uniqlo, is spreading its stores throughout the world with quality products

I buy a lot of clothes. Like, seriously, an absolutely abnormal amount of clothes.

Clothing, in general, is one of my biggest interests. In addition to buying too many clothes, I also buy clothes that are too expensive. One time, I told my father how much I spent on jeans, and he literally didn't talk to me for a week. My friends regularly make fun of me, and my mom gets genuinely frustrated by the amount of clothing that gets shipped to my house.

So, when I give my recommendation to Japanese clothing brand Uniqlo, you have to realize that this recommendation is no joke. When it comes to brands, Uniqlo is one of those brands that is relatively low-tier. In that, I mean that the prices are great, they have a lot of sales and you can find their stores in malls across the country.

They fall into the same category as an H&M, or a Topman or a Gap. The difference between Uniqlo and all of those other brands though, is that their clothes are very, very good quality.

I've never purchased anything from Uniqlo for more than \$30, and everything I've picked up has



been something I wear regularly. The quality of a shirt that I would spend \$15 dollars on at Uniqlo is on par with (or better than) shirts I have that were four times that price.

Uniqlo's style of clothing, for the most part, is very basic.

There's nothing with crazy patterns or outlandish designs. I love that, personally, because Uniqlo's best attribute is that their basic clothing is perfect

for anyone. Everyone needs a basic hoodie or two. Everyone needs some really comfortable t-shirts that they can regularly wear. What's the point of going to Walmart and spending \$15 on a package of Hanes T-shirts when you can buy two shirts from Uniqlo that are miles better in terms of quality? Quality is always better than quantity when it comes to clothing, because you can only wear one shirt a day.

Another great thing about Uniqlo that I love is that they regularly do collaborations. These collaborations often add some cool diversity to the roster of their clothing, and they're always something to be on the lookout for.

Uniqlo is simply the best brand for its price point in terms of quality.

They have really affordable clothes for both men and women, and anything you decide you might want will be something you will find yourself regularly wearing.

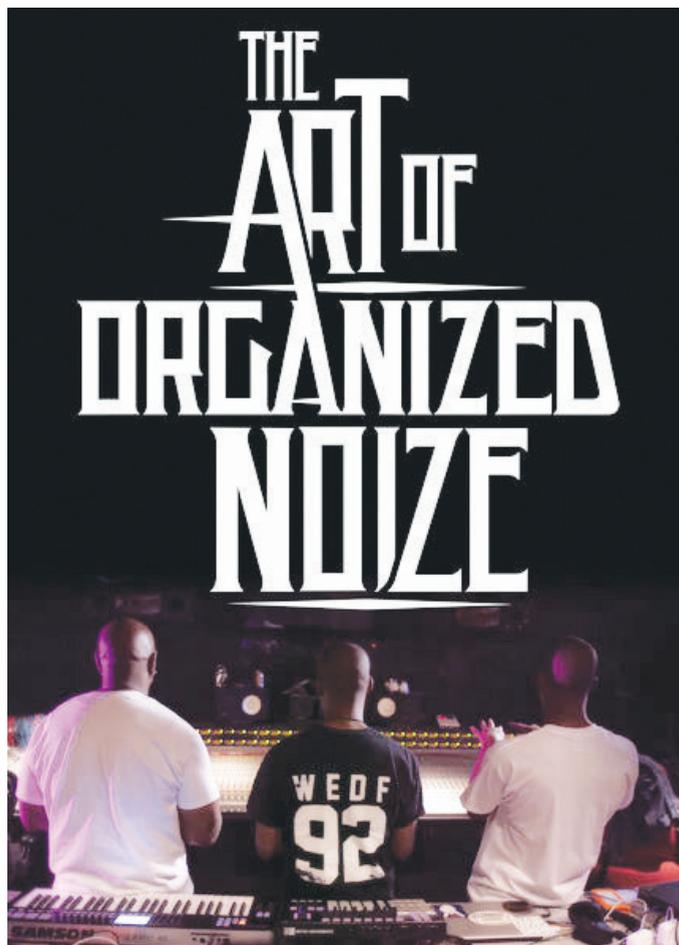
**Rating: A**

—IAN MANERA  
SPORTS WRITER

## COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

**MOVIE REVIEW** | Newly available on Netflix, a documentary to show the beginnings of America's greatest rappers

# Immortal innovators of hip-hop



Since I was a young man, I've been a huge fan of Southern rap.

My infatuation has always been centered mostly around Texas rap like UGK, Fat Pat, E.S.G. and Slim Thug, but I've also loved the Southeast rap like Outkast and Goodie Mob.

"The Art of Organized Noize," a documentary about the hip-hop production group Organized Noize, is possibly one of the best documentaries I have ever watched.

Organized Noize, was made up of three producers; Rico Wade, Sleepy Brown and Ray Murray.

Collectively, they're definitely one of the greatest production groups of hip-hop but they were never in the world's spotlight like a lot of producers are now.

A few minutes into the documentary, Rico Wade rides around Atlanta and shows the world where Organized Noize and the musicians they worked with (like Outkast and Goodie Mob) grew up and began making music.

When Rico Wade steps out onto the infamous Headland and Delowe Drive, and "Elevators" by Outkast begins playing it gives me chills. In the first line of "Elevators," Andre 3000 says "One for the money, Two for the show a couple years ago on Headland and Delowe, was the start of

something good." That was the moment I received chills down my spine.

Andre 3000 produced "Elevators," but he made it at "The Dungeon," also known as Rico Wade's basement in a house that he shared with his mother and sister.

Organized Noize produced all of "Southernplayalisticadillacmuzik," an album that greatly influenced my liking of hip-hop. The song "Player's Ball" propelled Outkast to superstardom, and the video was shot in "The Dungeon".

Organized Noize would also go on to produce major hits of the late '90s and early 2000s, that would sooner than later land them a huge deal with Interscope Records. Unfortunately, the group wouldn't live up to the deal with Interscope and would leave about \$17 million on the table.

When I'm on Netflix, I'm usually not looking to find a documentary to watch, but when I came across this one that involved Southern rap, Outkast and coming up in Atlanta I couldn't resist. "The Art of Organized Noize" is a fantastic documentary.

If you have any interest in Southern rap, Outkast, Goodie Mob, TLC, En Vogue or Ludacris you should watch this documentary.

**Rating: A+**

—TYLER ADAMS  
VIDEOGRAPHER

**MOVIE REVIEW** | Melissa McCarthy's newest character is made even more humorous by her believable situation

# Hilarious reflection on modern reality

Rolling on the floor laughing. No one really expects any less from a Melissa McCarthy movie, and her latest gig, "The Boss," delivers on that expectation.

It's full of laughs, and a little bit of an emotional tug as Michelle Darnell (Melissa McCarthy) shares her less than fortunate past as a child.

The movie circles around Darnell, one of the richest women in America, being charged with insider trading and is sentenced to five months in federal prison.

After her release from prison, she joins forces with her ex-assistant, Claire (Kristen Bell). The two form an entirely new enterprise spawned by an idea cooked up at a Girl Scouts' meeting.

As the new company, Darnell's Darlings, sells more and more of its staple product, brownies, chaos erupts within the new enterprise, fueling the comedic appeal of this film. Multiple times throughout the movie I bellowed with laughter. Its full of crazy fight scenes in



the middle of the street between the "Darlings," little girls recruited from Rachel's school to sell brownies, and the rival girl scout troop.

Later in the film, as the two entrepreneurs split, the company is sold out from under them by a character one may not expect. Darnell's nemesis, Renault (Peter Dinklage), now is in control of the Darlings, and

Darnell and her colleagues must execute a hilarious attempt to retake control. This leads to more outrageous fight scenes full of humorous vulgarity.

The movie dominated its weekend box office, disallowing "Batman v. Superman" a third number one spot. In just three days, it accumulated an estimated \$24 million, which is decent for a comedy film, and similar to McCarthy's 2015 hit "Spy," which grossed \$29 million in its first weekend. Its also important to note that was a summer release.

For anyone looking for a great laugh, this is the movie for you. It has a great, realistic plot which makes it even better, the fact it could actually happen. Melissa McCarthy resoundingly delivers an odd yet relatable character once again, and a stellar supporting cast adds to the experience.

**Rating: A**

—TREY BELL  
STAFF WRITER

# Flirtation, financial frustration on campus

**HUNG TRAN**

Senior Writer  
seniorwriter@occc.edu

On April 8, a mother of a Pathways student reported to the OCCC Campus Police Department about a minor flirtation on campus. Based on the report, she said that a man, 33, tried to talk to her under-18-year-old daughter.

Police Officer Jeremy Bohannon reported that he and other dispatching officers made some searches around campus to look for the suspect. He said he attained the man's contact information through the Recreation and Fitness Office.

When Bohannon met the suspect, the suspect admitted that he had talked to a female on campus who he thought was 20 years old. However, after he figured out she was a minor, he was no longer interested in communicating with her and left.

Bohannon reported that the suspect, whose name was redacted from the report, also apologized to the female's mother when she came and stopped him, then he left campus.

On April 12, a verbal argument was reported to campus police.

Based on the report, a former student called the Bursar's office to complain that \$87.22 was being taken from his Oklahoma tax return for a debt to OCCC. After Bursar's office staff checked the

looked up the student's information, she found that this had taken place because he owed money for classes he signed up for but did not drop in the Fall of 2010.

The student argued that he had dropped the class and questioned why it took five years to process the deduction and why nobody had contacted him before.

The college worker, whose name was redacted from the report, also explained to him that the decision to intercept money from his income tax refund was made by the Oklahoma Tax Commission and independent of OCCC.

It was reported that after the student hung up the first time, he said "If I have to come up to the college, there will be a problem." Then he called back and another Bursar's office employee answered the phone. After receiving the same information, the student began yelling and then hung up. An investigation is pending.

On April 7, OCCC Campus Police Of-

ficer Ronald Ventresca was dispatched in response to a stolen personal property incident on campus.

Jumyl Zhang, 20, reportedly told police that at 3:30 p.m., he placed his backpack which contained a wallet and a laptop in a locker in the Wellness Center men's locker room and left without locking it. When he returned at 6:40 p.m., he found that his laptop and wallet were missing. Zhang said the missing laptop was an Apple laptop worth around \$1,100 and the wallet was blue and contained some Chinese currency, his Chinese passport and a Bank of America debit card.

Ventresca explained to Zhang that there are no surveillance cameras in the locker rooms.

On April 5, a possible collision was noticed in the surveillance camera footage in parking lot C.

Campus Police Officer Andrew Schmidt said when he was viewing the

video from 12:02 p.m., he noticed a white Chevrolet Tahoe was attempting to park. When the vehicle was pulling into a parking space, he spotted a silver Dodge Durango swaying back and forth as if it had been struck by the white Chevrolet Tahoe.

Schmidt reported because of the camera angle, he was unable to distinguish how many vehicles were hit. He located the driver, whose name has been redacted from the report.

He reported that the driver of the Tahoe admitted she hit a vehicle but she did not have enough time to leave a contact note on the car she'd struck.

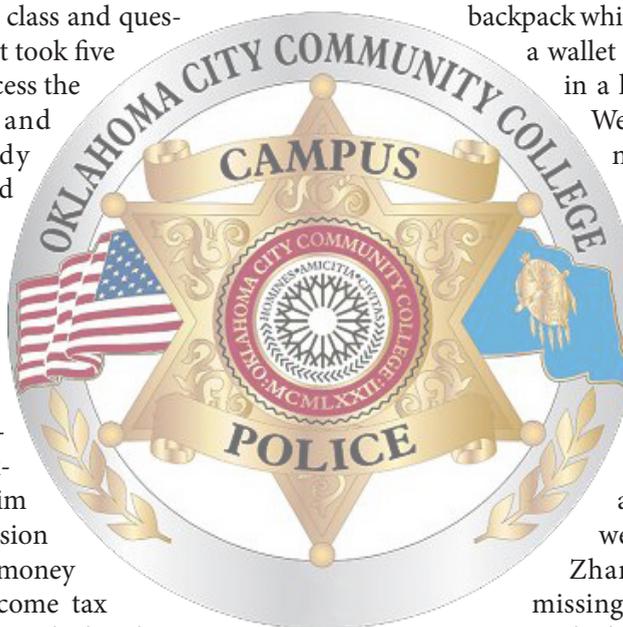
An Accident Information Exchange form was completed by the driver. As of press time, no victim has come forward to report damage to their vehicle from that day, April 5, Schmidt said.

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 OCCCPD Standard Operating Procedures involving information released and information withheld."

To obtain a copy of the procedure, email [cjordan@occc.edu](mailto: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.



## THE CITY OF EDMOND IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING SUMMER JOBS:

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APPLY AT 7 NORTH BROADWAY.

# Mentorship program keeps students afloat

TREY BELL

Staff Writer

staffwriter2@occc.edu

OCCC students now have an even greater potential to succeed with the help of a new mentor program being offered by the college. The program, Students Connecting with Mentors for Success, was created this semester to help solidify OCCC's mission to ensure success for every student, both in their educational and professional careers.

The program's main purpose is to allow students to connect with a professional who has already established a career in the student's desired field, and to help the student stay on track with their classwork.

Network for Student Services Director Bryon Dickens said it is imperative that colleges provide an environment where students can thrive.

"I believe, as an institution, we should provide an infrastructure for our students to support them in as many ways as we can," said Dickens. "One great way to support our students is providing a mentor."

"Studies have shown that mentors have improved educational outcomes for students," Dickens said.

Other colleges have similar programs, but they're often student-to-student. OCCC's new mentor program is student-to-professional. Professionals off campus are also allowed to participate in the program.

"Our roster of mentors really are just executives from various companies here locally," Dickens said. "We've got attorneys, entrepreneurs, doctors, just a wide variety really, of industries and professions."

"Along with providing that support of a one-on-one relationship, these professionals can introduce our students to their areas of professional interest, and also enable our students to be more engaged in the communities," Dickens said.

Dickens said, as of now, about 100 students are enrolled to be mentees, and he expects that number to continue to grow.

"What I try to do is match students with mentors who are in their area of professional interest," Dickens said. "Rather than just hurriedly placing a student with a mentor, I want to take the time and provide the best match possible."

Macedonian psychology major Julijana Bozhinovska said she has had a great experience working with her mentor.

"We had a meet and greet with all of the mentors and mentees," Bozhinovska said. "It was a great network opportunity. I found a lady I really liked and from the minute we saw each other we just started talking to each other. So Bryon set her as my mentor."

Bozhinovska's mentor is an educator that works off campus.

"I know what I want to do, but I never met anyone who has done that before," Bozhinovska said.

She said that her mentor is well placed to give her advice on how to become a psychologist.

"I don't want to go through all these years studying for something and then not be educated enough about it beforehand," she said.



Jermaine Peterson, TRIO project adviser, mentors two students, Taylor Clay, pre-engineering major and Benjamin Taylor, business major. *Melissa Sue Lopez/Pioneer*

Bozhinovska said students who are skeptical or don't think the program is for them should give it a try.

"It's a great, great program. It's always nice to have someone in your life that you can look up to and ask for advice," she said.

Diversified Studies major Brandon Ghoram said having a mentor has truly helped him in his education. His mentor is a manager at BlueBell.

"I was one of the first people to be introduced to Bryon and to the program," Ghoram said. "It really just started from a conversation that we had."

"We have conversations a lot of times just about life, he gives me a lot of advice on the mindset that I need to have when I transition from school to having a job," he said.

Ghoram said the experience is molded to fit students individually, for their needs.

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**"It's not like a one size fits all mentality, each individual gets their own tailored response," Ghoram said. "There's no pressure, there's no trying to fit you into categories."**

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OCCC Learning Support Specialist Alta Price is a mentor in SCMS and says the program is rewarding for both her and her mentee.

"When I was a student, I was lucky enough to have people who served as a mentor in some capacity and really touched my life and my educational direction that I went on to pursue higher education," said Price. "So I think part of it is to give back. The other part is getting to interact and engage with a student differently than you get to in your professional role."

"Being able to be a mentor means you learn more about them personally, learn about their struggles

and their successes," Price said.

She said it's important for students to try new things and branch out in their education.

"I think college is all about trying new things, pushing the boundaries you have for yourself and for others," Price said.

"Try it. If it doesn't work out, it doesn't work," Price said. "But what you may find out is its one of the best things you chose to do for yourself."

TRIO Student Support Service Adviser Jermaine Peterson is also a mentor on campus.

"I try to meet with my students at least twice a month," Peterson said. "Just to catch up on how their week is going, if they need any assistance. I think the hardest part of college is navigating it, and I think that's where this program would be helpful."

"I really believe in the mission of SCMS," Peterson said. "Before this program was implemented, I've been telling students for some time now that it's not all about what you know, its really about who you know, and who knows you, most importantly."

"This is what this program is all about, helping connect students to a professional in their field," he said.

According to a report by Harvard-based sociologist Mark Gronowetter, 75 percent of all professional positions are filled primarily through networking.

"The majority of jobs that are passed along, that person knows someone who's already there," Peterson said. "If you can network with someone who's already doing what you'd like to be doing, I think it opens up your eyes to see the field a different way, and it now allows you to have a contact."

"Your mentor may even be your future employer," Peterson said.

For information on how students and mentors can be involved in SCMS, contact Dickens at 405-682-1611 ext. 7753. To contact Price, email her at [alta.d.jesters-price@occc.edu](mailto:alta.d.jesters-price@occc.edu) To contact Peterson, email him at [jermaine.b.peterson@occc.edu](mailto:jermaine.b.peterson@occc.edu).



OCCC SEMSA members Evan Pendleton and Ahmid Elkhatib show 3-year-old Tyler how blood pressure is taken. SEMSA partnered with the Child Development Center to host a Teddy Bear Clinic at the Family and Community Education center. *Erika Fierro /Pioneer*

## Kids learn teddy bear care from students

**ERIKA FIERRO**

Online Editor  
onlineeditor@occc.edu

When children arrived at the Family and Community Education Center, they were given a teddy bear to practice medical procedures on during the Teddy Bear Clinic.

The OCCC Student Emergency Medical Sciences Association partnered with the Child Development Center and hosted 50 children to learn about pre-hospital care.

“SEMSA students donated all of the stuffed teddy bears for the children,” said Shelly Tevis, clinical affiliation compliance administrator.

Through hands-on experience, children learned about their pulse, taking blood pressure, listened to their heart beats using a stethoscope. They received a certificate at the end of the event.

The youngest child to participate was 2 years old and the oldest was 6 years old.

“The children can see us in our uniforms, they can see all the equipment that we use, and it’s good for

OCCC students to practice their pediatric assessment and learn how to talk to pediatric patients,” said Emergency Medical Sciences Professor Crystal Reynolds.

Reynolds said she was inspired to spearhead the event after reading that a hospital did something similar for a local community to help lessen the fear children have towards paramedics, doctors, and hospitals.

The idea was presented during a SEMSA club meeting a few semesters back and as the time passed, members added details to the event and kicked off the event this month, Reynolds said.

“A lot of our students have never dealt with children so this is a really good exposure for them to deal with and how to communicate with a pediatric patient and put them at ease when they’re scared and vulnerable,” Tevis said.

Tevis said she contacted Lee Ann Townsend, child development center lab supervisor to begin the partnership. Reynolds said she hopes to grow the event and make it a community event.

The clinic was coordinated during the Week of the

Young Child, Tevis said.

According to naeyc.org, the purpose of the Week of the Young Child is to recognize early childhood programs.

The Child Development Center did various activities with the children in their program throughout the week and ended with the Teddy Bear Clinic where parents were invited to attend with their child, Tevis said.

The OCCC FACE Center is located 6500 S. Land Ave in Oklahoma City.

A total of 50 children attended the event and 22 paramedic and EMT students were present.

SEMSA will be partnering with the YWCA and the Child Development Center to support battered women and children by donating items needed at the YWCA.

“It’s just another example of community outreach and all coming together for a common good,” Tevis said.

To learn more about the items needed contact Christian Timmons, child development teacher at 405-682-7561.

## SPORTS



**Kickboxing:** Jeremy Lopez, architecture major, practices Muay Thai at the Wellness Center. For more information about the Wellness Center call the Recreation and Fitness office at 405-682-7860  
*Melissa Sue Lopez/Pioneer*

## Kickboxing, a fast cardio workout

IAN MANERA

Sports Writer  
sportswriter@occc.edu

OCCC's spring semester is drawing to a close, and students who have had their free time constricted by trying to keep their GPA afloat can still find time for a great cardio workout, said Fitness Instructor Julie Slate.

Slate said group fitness classes can be a great way for students to get their hearts pumping. She said this is especially true with the kickboxing and cross training classes that are being offered from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Each class is 30 minutes long, she said. Slate, a personal trainer who has been teaching kickboxing since 1997, said the kickboxing class will improve the strength and balance of those who take it.

"The kickboxing class has a lot of shadowboxing, which is doing box-

ing moves without using a punching bag, as well as things that get your body moving in ways that a simple cardio exercise like running could not do," she said. "The cross training class is a lot different than the kickboxing class in that the students in the cross training use the weights that we have. Students go at their own speed."

Slate said she plans to start using the new Hoist equipment in the Wellness Center for the cross training class. "It's new to me too, and it's great." Of the two classes, Slate said, the cross training class is more popular, and she knows why. "It's because of the weights," she said. "The guys come in here and they love getting a chance to use the

equipment."

Slate said both classes are designed to keep the heart rate high and the body moving. She said the classes are great for students because they're so short.

"Students can get a full body workout in a very short time period, which is very handy. The time just flies by." Interested students can find a list of the classes as well as the times they're available at [www.occc.edu/rf/wellness-classes.html](http://www.occc.edu/rf/wellness-classes.html). For more information about any of the fitness classes offered at OCCC, contact the Recreation and Fitness department at 405-682-7860 or visit [www.occc.edu/rf/](http://www.occc.edu/rf/).

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## SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

**Oklahoma City Thunder vs. Dallas Mavericks**

**When:** Series began on April 16, could run until April 30

**Where to watch:** ESPN, TNT

**Player to watch:** Russell Westbrook, half-man, half-alien-basketball-machine, is going to be the biggest factor for the Thunder postseason. Westbrook himself is a basketball enigma. At times, he is unbelievably brilliant, dominating all facets of the game while blazing around the court like he downed 17 shots of espresso before tip-off. At other times, though, he is unbelievably frustrating, going for horrible steal attempts that lead to easy points for opponents and jacking up shots four seconds into the shot clock for no reason at all. He's easily the most entertaining player to watch in the league not named Steph Curry, but Westbrook needs to be more than entertaining if the Thunder want to make some noise this postseason. Thunder forward Kevin Durant will likely play very well, and if Westbrook can control the game while playing like a maniac, like he has shown he can do, without turning into an actual, bonafide maniac then the Thunder could make some serious noise. Regardless, he should have a field day against the Dallas Mavericks because they simply have no one on their roster that will be able to stay in front of him while guarding him.

**Prediction:** The Thunder and Mavericks aren't new to each other. This matchup will be the third postseason encounter for the two teams since the Thunder's first appearance in the playoffs back in 2010. Ultimately, this Mavericks team is very different from previous teams that OKC has matched up against. Mark Cuban, owner of the Mavericks, has assembled a team of castaways and misfits around star forward Dirk Nowitzki, who has regressed as he's gotten older. From guards like Raymond Felton and Deron Williams to big man Zaza Pachulia who they literally picked up for absolutely nothing, the entire roster is just full of these guys who no one else wanted. It's actually pretty endearing and it's a testament to Mavs coach Rick Carlisle that they even made it to the playoffs. Regardless, Carlisle's coaching should make this series relatively competitive, and he'll make it difficult for Westbrook and Durant, at times. However, OKC's talent and athleticism, as well as a tremendous advantage in rebounding, is too much to overcome for the Mavs. I'm taking the Thunder in 5 games.

# Demonic possession, writer's rage and bare buns



Neil Newby, Nichole Harewell, Keegan Zimmerman, Jerusha Laurel Brown and Ro Carter appear in character for "Very Still and Hard 2 See" Photo by Mark Fairchild

## Weyman Slaten

News Writing Student

From the darkest places of desire, to a heated argument between two lesbians to an inappropriate military medical examination ...

All this clearly describes the three one-act plays that will be presented at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 28, 29 and 30 in the Bruce Owen Theater.

The plays will be directed and performed by students.

Drama professor Brent Noel said he chose who would get to direct the one-act plays.

"I have selected three students who are confident in their directing abilities, and I have confidence in them," Noel said.

"The directing project gives our students the opportunity to learn all aspects of working with actors, the stage crew and overseeing everything involved in directing a play, and without a whole lot of interference from me."

Each student director has selected the play of his or her choice.

Tiffane Shorter is directing the one-act play entitled "Next."

"The story is about a man, Marion Cheever, played by Arthur Thomas Williams, who gets his draft notice to

serve in the military.

When Cheever goes to get his medical examination, he is determined to avoid being drafted.

However, Sgt. Thech, played by McKensie Dill, is determined to sign him up, Shorter said.

"This dark comedy follows that storyline," she said.

Dill describes her character, Sgt. Thech.

"She is stern, she doesn't care, and she is in the military and does not take crap from anyone," Dill said.

Thech is determined that Cheever will serve his country.

During this play, Williams' character strips down to his underwear for his examination, and eventually winds up nude under a sheet.

Assistant Director Miranda LoPresti said the play is funny.

"The audience is going to laugh through most of this play," she said. "But it's not a PG rated, family-friendly Disney one-act."

"What is the message of this show?" LoPresti said. "The message is, shit happens, and you don't always get your way."

"Next" is about 15 minutes long.

OCCC student David Chen is directing "No Such Thing."

"Our play is a simple and short scene

between two very resolved characters wanting something," Chen said.

Stephanie, played by Cheyenne Clawson, has submitted a story about the LGBT community and used a pseudonym.

The editor of the national magazine, Ellen, played by Danielle Hanson, loves Stephanie's story, and calls her in for a meeting, Chen said.

The audience will learn that Ellen and Stephanie had a fling in their college days. The editor tells Stephanie that they are going to print her story, but they have to use her real name; otherwise, they are not allowed to publish it.

Stephanie refuses, knowing that she will be outed, and could lose her job at a university where she is a professor. Her school is located in the heart of a closed Mormon community in Utah.

"This is where the conflict begins," Chen said. "Stephanie knows that the dean of the college where she works will find out that she is a lesbian.

"Sparks, fireworks and rage

happen when the editor informs Stephanie that her story will be printed under her real name whether she approves or not," Chen said.

Clawson said she started acting as a child, and has been cast in 15 plays, while this is the first play for Hanson. Krista Coleman is the assistant director.

"No Such Thing" will be 10 minutes long.

The longest play of the three, at 35 minutes, is "Very Still and Hard 2 See."

This ambitious one-act is directed by Mark Fairchild.

It has six actors playing 13 characters in five short scenes.

"It has a haunted hotel, plus demons and evil spirits who start causing ugly and dark things to happen," Fairchild said.

Tomas Torres plays the architect, Buck, who designed the hotel, and is used by a demon named Obake, played by Jerusha Jezek.

"My character manipulates Buck to build the hotel over the pit I live in, by offering to give Buck his darkest desires," Jezek said.

Torres said the demonic theme appealed to him.

"I like to embrace the dark side of theater," Torres said. "Our show is a whole different experience, and it's not recommended for children."

Fairchild said, "Everyone keeps saying our one-act is dark. It's not just dark, it's pitch black, with good guys and bad, leaving the question who is and who isn't."

The other actors helping to create the 13 characters are Nichole Rene, Keegan Zimmerman, Ro Carter and Neil Newby. Assisting the director is Krista Coleman.

Noel said the plays are worth watching.

"We decided to make it easy for everyone to come see these three outstanding one-acts," he said. "Admission is free for all three nights."

For more information, contact Noel at [bnoel@occc.edu](mailto:bnoel@occc.edu).



Cheyenne Clawson and Danielle Hanson rehearse for "No Such Thing," the one-act play directed by David Chen. Photo by David Chen

## CAMPUS COMMUNITY



# Indian tacos are back on campus



**WHAT:  
INDIAN TACO SALE**

**WHEN:  
11 A.M. TO 2 P.M. WEDNESDAY,  
APRIL 27**

**WHERE:  
OUTSIDE COMMUNICATIONS  
LAB**

**COST: \$5 EACH**

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE  
NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENT  
ASSOCIATION'S ACTIVITIES**

**TREY GOURLEY**  
News Writing Student

The aroma of fry bread, chili beans, and spicy meat will fill the lobby area outside the Communications Lab during lunchtime on Wednesday, April 27.

This is when the Native American Student Association will host its second Indian Taco sale this semester to raise funds for club activities, said Cornelia Vann, club president.

Regulars know to get in line early and be prepared to wait a few minutes to be served because the club often runs out of food before it runs out of buyers.

Customers who enjoyed the the Indian tacos in Feb. 24 know the wait in line is worth it. They will be sold for \$5 a piece.

At the first sale, five club members worked the stand, preparing Indian tacos at the counter, said Tim Niemic, NASA member who served food. He said many more worked behind the scenes to prepare the food to be served.

"It was a super positive experience," he said.

Niemic said people wait for these events all semester, some of the club's biggest fundraisers.

The club raised \$502 during the February event, Vann said.

After expenses, the club retained \$333. Due to price hikes in food, they did not profit as much as they normally do, she said.

The money raised goes towards helping students buy graduation gear such as gowns, caps, and sashes. The group also will vote at the end of the semester on where to hold an end-of-the year party. Last year, the group decided to go bowling and spent nearly \$300 on their venture, Vann said.

This is not the only event NASA puts on every semester.

Guest speakers are invited to campus as well. Perry Toppah, a Native American artist and activist, spoke at a NASA event earlier this semester.

For more information about NASA, contact the Student Life Department by phone at 405-692-7817.

## CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

### Get to know UCO Tuesday, April 26

Are you a student planning to transfer to the University of Central Oklahoma but not sure where to begin? Or are you a student wanting to learn about what UCO has to offer? Then visit GET-2-Know UCO, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Tuesday, April 26, in College Union 3. Speak with faculty members and academic advisers and learn about the colleges and the different degree programs UCO has to offer. No registration is needed. For more information contact Javier Puebla, coordinator of Transfer and graduation services at 405-682-7519 ext. 7567 or at [jpuebla@occc.edu](mailto:jpuebla@occc.edu).

### Student guitar concert Thursday, April 28

Are you a music lover? Then come out and support fellow OCCC students as OCCC Music presents the Student Guitar Concert, at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 28 in the Visual and Performing Arts Center, room 132. Admission is free. For more information contact the Arts Division office at 405-686-6278.

### Student directed one-act plays, April 28

Students have been directing their own one acts and now it's time to see their hard work on stage. Support OCCC students and join as OCCC Theater presents Student Directed 1 Acts from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., on Thursday, April 28, in the Bruce Owen Theater. A number of plays of varying styles will be presented throughout the evening. Admission is free. For more information contact the Arts Division at 405-686-6278.

### Kickball tournament free to all May 6

Anyone is welcome to participate in the upcoming kickball tournament, from 4 to 7 p.m., on Friday, May 6 in the Fitness and Recreation Center. The tournament is free to all students, faculty, and staff. For more information contact Matthew Wright, sports and recreation specialist at 405-682-7860 ext. 7684 or by email at [matthew.j.wright@occc.edu](mailto:matthew.j.wright@occc.edu).

### Art students work in gallery until May 2

OCCC visual art students will display their portfolios from 1 to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and on Fridays by appointment until Monday, May 2, in the Inasmuch Foundation Gallery located in the VPAC. The portfolios include drawings, paintings and mosaics all created by visual arts students. For more information contact Cultural Programs at 405-682-7576 or email at [culturalprograms@occc.edu](mailto:culturalprograms@occc.edu).

**All Highlights are due Monday by noon for inclusion in the next issue. Email your event to [editor@occc.edu](mailto: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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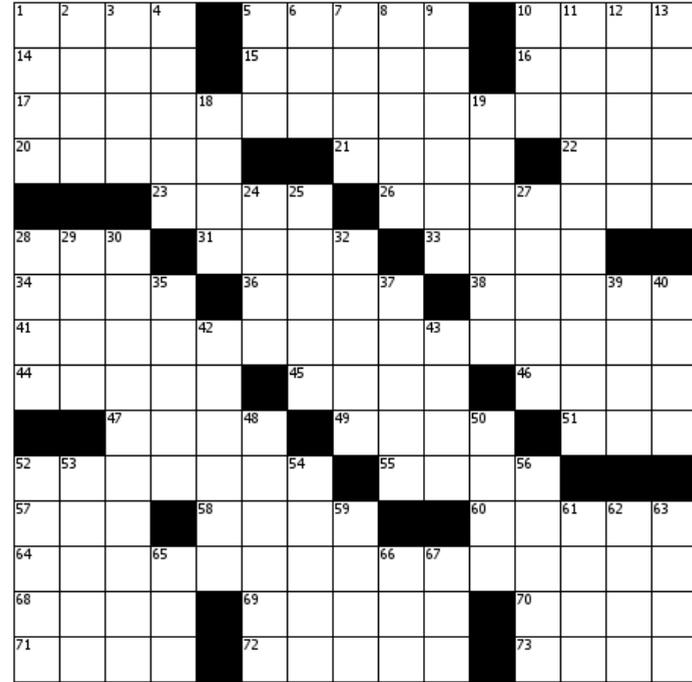
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# WEEKLY CROSSWORD

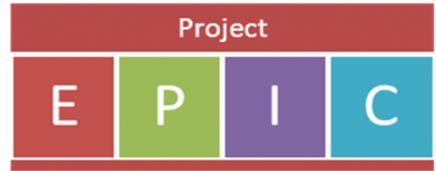
### Across

1. They often have big heads when drawn
5. Where some get a date
10. What the nose knows
14. Veg out
15. Contract player?
16. Mayoral assistant
17. "Eat" at college?
20. Get-go
21. Crosscut
22. Author expelled from West Point
23. Like Yorick
26. Initial beguiler
28. It's measured in minutes
31. Ready for surgery
33. Procrastinator's opposite
34. Tackle
36. Word of woe
38. Low man at the Met
41. "Eat" at Mary's place?
44. Stockpile
45. Flora pet
46. Twist around
47. Speech impediment
49. Anagram of 47-Across
51. Place for wallowing
52. Fair barkers
55. Workout gait
57. A Little Woman
58. End of a 1/1 song
60. Jib and spanker
64. "Eat" at an abrupt red light?
68. Shades
69. Line on a spine
70. Least favorite drop
71. Gray sea eagles
72. Pitcher of milk?
73. Tube trophy



### Down

- |                                      |                                   |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Low woman at the Met              | 19. Strip (archaic)               | 48. Hallucinogenic cactus          |
| 2. Type of shark                     | 24. Kind of contract              | 50. Affix for public notice        |
| 3. Benevolent group                  | 25. Piece of the past             | 52. Buried booty                   |
| 4. Virgil called it a gift of heaven | 27. Thunderous sounds             | 53. "My Cherie ____" (Wonder song) |
| 5. Clumsy clod                       | 28. Turkish title                 | 54. It has a mobile home           |
| 6. One, for little ones              | 29. Clean a pipe                  | 56. Focus of some tests            |
| 7. Mends                             | 30. Old troops on horseback       | 59. New newts                      |
| 8. Pizarro's foes                    | 32. They may be worn in the woods | 61. One thing among several        |
| 9. Put on board                      | 35. Pine dripping                 | 62. Good farm soil                 |
| 10. Galley item                      | 37. Clown's prop                  | 63. Moving well                    |
| 11. Disseminations                   | 39. Sooty matter                  | 65. Gender-changing suffix         |
| 12. Nickel finish                    | 40. Follow rules                  | 66. Foreman's superior?            |
| 13. Put back to 000                  | 42. Hockey stat                   | 67. "Comprende?"                   |
| 18. Over                             | 43. Pride's place                 |                                    |



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# Phi Theta Kappa and adviser wrack up awards

ERIKA FIERRO

Online Editor  
onlineeditor@occc.edu

OCCC's Phi Theta Kappa chapter, Alpha Theta Alpha won seven awards, including the 2016 Distinguished Chapter Award Top Five at the Oklahoma Arkansas Regional Convention in Little Rock, Arkansas, earlier this semester.

Throughout the semester, officers and members work on projects to support the college's mission, the community, and individual growth of each member.

PTK member Jana Smith, allied health major, said working on the community project taught her valuable researching methods and gave her the opportunity to gain public speaking skills.

Last year, officers and members researched the medical benefits and harmful effects of the cannabis plant, said Professor Charles Myrick, the chapter's faculty adviser. The findings were then shared with the community through an open forum.

For the college project, Phi Theta Kappa partnered with OCCC's peer mentor program to recruit new members, Myrick said. The chapter won the 2016 College Project Hallmark Award Top Five.

Phi Theta Kappa and its members are scheduled to meet with President Jerry Steward later this month to discuss this year's campus project, Myrick said.

Phi Theta Kappa is organized into three levels, local, regional and international, Myrick said.

On the Oklahoma Arkansas regional level, the OCCC Phi Theta Kappa chapter has been the largest chapter in the region most years, Myrick said.

Since the beginning of the Spring semester, 105 new members have joined the group of elites on campus.

Club President Kyle Holt and management information systems major, said the goal this semester has been to grow the membership of the club.

"I think we've been successful because even in our meetings our attendance has tripled," Holt said. "Last year we averaged five to eight people in a meeting, and this semester we're averaging 20 people."

"We're more than just an email. It's a group of people on campus ready to make a difference," Holt said.

At the regional convention, OCCC's chapter also won Five Star Chapter Plan, 2016 Distinguished Chapter Officer Team Award, 2016 Distinguished Chapter Advisor Award, Certificate of Participation Oklahoma C4 and 2016 Honors in Action Hallmark Top Five Award.

Business major Kristia Clark said she ran for regional vice president for the western division at the Little Rock regional



Dominique Dulaney, business and political science major, signs his name into Phi Theta Kappa's member book during the Phi Theta Kappa induction ceremony on April 15. *Erika Fierro/Pioneer*

convention.

Although she didn't win, Cook said, she gained interpersonal skills while she and other OCCC students developed ideas for her campaign.

Phi Theta Kappa prepares members for the workforce but it's also an organization that provides fellowship and the opportunity to meet dynamic people, Clark said.

"I've met many friends, my network is huge now," Clark said. "Whenever I first joined PTK and started attending meetings, I became friends with Natalie Fleming, former PTK president and we are still close today."

Clark said she also attended the international conference held in Washington, D.C. earlier this month where Myrick was

among 15 distinguished advisers around the world recognized with the Distinguished Chapter Advisor Award.

The officer team nominated Myrick for the award, Clark said. Myrick teaches business and economics.

"He's not just been there as a faculty adviser or a professor, but he's been emotionally there for us, mentally there for us, and he has pushed us to get us where we need to go," Clark said on her reasons for nominating the professor.

Myrick said that after he accepted his award, a former student paid him one of the nicest compliments he's ever been given.

"She said to me, I am so jealous of your chapter that they get to hang out with you everyday."

Myrick said there is a family atmosphere within the Phi Theta Kappa group on campus.

"I like the non-selfish caring attitude that's often associated with Phi Theta Kappa."

Students must meet two requirements before receiving an invitation to join the organization; the student must have a 3.5 grade point average or above and have completed 12 credit hours.

After being invited, the student must pay a one time fee, Myrick said.

"A lot of students think it's a scam but it's not," he said. "It's an opportunity to get involved, meet new people, and apply for scholarships."

Smith said she encourages those invited to join.

"I was nervous to meet people and didn't know what to expect but I would encourage others to go for it," she said. "Join, go to a meeting and see if you like it."

"It really helped me, gave me resources, and it has bettered my educational experience at OCCC."

Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society for higher education for top academic performers around the world, Myrick said.

REAGAN HAYES

News Writing Student

Business Professor Charles Myrick accepted an international award in Washington D.C. on April 8 for his role as an adviser in Phi Theta Kappa.

"We were competing against thousands of chapters," Myrick exclaimed. "I honestly did not know if I was even going to get recognized."

Myrick was nominated by members of Alpha Theta Alpha, which often is ranked among the top five in the region.

Dating back to 1918, PTK is the largest honor society in the world for higher education, Myrick said. Roughly 5,000 students have joined since OCCC initiated the program in 1984.

"[Charles Myrick] inspires us to lead and do everything on our own," said Kyle Holt, PTK president. "He encourages the organization to be student run and instructs us when we seek out help."

PTK member Linus Morgan said Myrick truly deserves this award.

"He always makes himself available to his students," Morgan said.

As a professor of economics and the PTK adviser, Myrick juggles many responsibilities. Myrick said the hardest part of being so involved is when he has to cut into his sleep schedule to get it all done.

Myrick talked about his favorite aspect of being an adviser.

"I like seeing students succeed where they did not think that they could," he said.

For more information about Phi Theta Kappa membership, contact Myrick by email at [cmyrick@occc.edu](mailto:cmyrick@occc.edu) or call 405-682-1611 ext 7492.