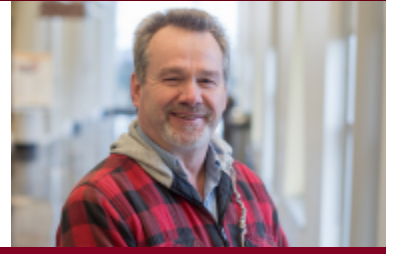


ST. CHARLES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – January 2017



SCC students compete with hackers from around the world

With what was previously an unshakably negative reputation, some computer hackers are taking a different path these days. St. Charles Community College's Computing Club students joined hundreds of people at GlobalHack VI to help solve a single civic technology program centered around homelessness.

GlobalHack VI brought together software developers, graphic designers, technologists and entrepreneurs from around the world to work in teams to develop software that helps

agencies like the St. Patrick Center and other service providers better answer the question, "How can we do more with less?" The event was held at Chaifetz Arena in October.

More than 156 solutions were created during the three-day event.

"The experience was very exciting to be able to compete on a professional level," said SCC student Hai Phan. "It was amazing to work with a team to create a project that could potentially change someone's life. It was an experience all beginner programmers



SCC Computing Club students represented SCC at GlobalHack VI, held at Chaifetz Arena in St. Louis in October 2016.

should experience. It gave me a lot of hope in the field of programming."

WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

SEE "HACKING," P. 2



We might not all need a 4-year degree, but we all need an education

With the possible exception of political polling, no industry has taken a beating in the recent past quite like higher education.

The list of complaints about higher education are all familiar:

- Colleges drown students in debt.
- A degree is no longer a guaranteed ticket to a good job.

- Colleges do a poor job of producing graduates with the skills employers need.

The complaints about higher education listed above are rooted in some truth. One of the few pleasures of getting older is not having to contemplate what it would be like to graduate with \$150,000 in student loan debt – and have to figure out how to be grateful and excited to get a job paying \$30,000.

So, while at this age a long bike ride can hurt in a new way every time, at least I'm not staring at a \$700 student loan payment on an \$800 paycheck. This is the scenario facing too

many recent graduates.

However, the data shows the answer is not to try your luck in the job market with a high school diploma.

So how do we solve the affordability problem?

One solution already exists. Community colleges, which are relatively new to the world of higher education, help square the college affordability circle. These institutions also play an important role in local economic development.

I'll give a couple of examples:

I have a friend who, after a few years in the workforce, decided surviving on \$700 a month and "borrowing" breakfast from the free buffet at a hotel near his office was no way to live. He began attending classes at his local community college. He started with one class, and four years later earned his bachelor's degree and two master's degrees – with a minimal amount of student debt.

Today he owns a business in St. Charles County and is working on his Ph.D.

But you don't need to start a business and earn a Ph.D. to validate the existence of community colleges.

WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

SEE "PRESTEMON," P. 2



GlobalHack VI, Chaifetz Arena

HACKING, FROM P. 1

Rex McKanry, assistant professor of computer science at SCC, and three of his students, Ron Odenthal, Ryan Stevens and Michael Schultz, also attended Hack4Hope, a one-day event that helps expose middle school students to programming and problem solving, in October to mentor participants.

“We worked with students to design a way to help younger adults and kids get more involved in the political process,” McKanry said.

According to Hack4Hope, the organization provides STEM educational opportunities and events to help heal the social and economic divisions of St. Louis, thereby offering youth a gateway to success. The event helped introduce STEM to underprivileged and under-represented middle and high school students.

“The kids had so many ideas, so many, that it was even hard to keep up with all of them,” said Michael Schultz Jr., SCC student. “The experience was one of a kind. Those kids had no limitations or boundaries on what they could do with their task. I learned a lot, even though I was supposed to be the mentor.”

For more information, contact McKanry at rmckanry@stchas.edu.

PRESIDENT’S MEETINGS

Dec. 6 – Economic Development Partners in Progress

Dec. 7 – MCCA Presidents’ Meeting

Dec. 16 – Economic Development Blue Zones Meeting

Jan. 3 – Met with Cottleville Mayor, Jim Hennessey

PRESTEMON, FROM P. 1

Every year, St. Charles Community College graduates hundreds of students who are workforce- ready, with credentials offering students quality jobs and a chance at having a middle-class lifestyle.

In fact, community colleges are so important to the health of cities that *Atlantic* columnist James Fallows named having and supporting a community college as one of his “11 Signs a City Will Succeed.” In his research, Fallows describes how community colleges play an important role in training students for jobs and are one of the one most effective existing ways to reduce income inequality:

“Just about every world-historical trend is pushing the United States (and other countries) toward a less equal, more polarized existence: labor-replacing technology, globalized trade, self-segregated residential-housing patterns, the American practice of unequal district-based funding for public schools. Community colleges are the main exception, potentially offering a connection to high-wage technical jobs for people who might otherwise be left with no job or one at minimum wage.”

Fallows’ statement is not just a theory. My office is located just down the road

from St. Charles Community College. Over the years I’ve seen the type of students Fallows describes. These students may not have an opportunity to attend a four-year school or may find the work of a welder far more fulfilling than the work of an accountant (and I can’t say I blame them). While they come from varying backgrounds, these students graduate from community college and play an important role in the local economy.

These students are employed by some of our county’s most dynamic businesses.

These students lead some of our county’s most dynamic businesses.

These students start some of our county’s most dynamic businesses, often from the incubator here at EDC Community and Business Partners.

Our educational future cannot be graduates with \$150,000 in debt taking \$30,000 jobs.

That’s a reality we can’t accept for our students and communities, and we don’t need to wait for some new federal government program to come along and change higher education for the better. We can reduce educational cost for students and create an educated workforce by shining a spotlight on the good work of community colleges.

So I begin by saying thank you to St. Charles Community College and to the rest of the community colleges in this region.

James Fallows is right. We couldn’t do it without you.

Greg Prestemon is President and CEO of the St. Charles County EDC Business and Community Partners.

SCC, Central Methodist University sign articulation agreement

Officials from SCC and Central Methodist University signed an articulation agreement during the fall to promote a seamless transfer for students who would like to gain additional knowledge about business management to advance their career. The agreement provides

students who have earned an Associate of Science or Associate of Applied Science degree in an area other than business at SCC the opportunity to complete a Bachelor of Applied Science in Management at CMU. With this degree, CMU will accept a minimum of 18 hours from the core classes to apply toward the major.

MARK THE CALENDAR

Discover the full slate of SCC events and deadlines at stchas.edu/calendar.

What You Need to Know About Health Insurance | Jan. 23 | noon-1 p.m. | SSB auditorium

Back-to-School BINGO | Jan. 24 | 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Scooter’s Place, Student Center

Between the Covers Book Club meeting | Jan. 25 | 2:30-3:30 p.m. | LRC commons

Health Insurance Enrollment Days | Jan. 25-26 | 9 a.m.-6 p.m. | SSB 1102

Beyond the Surface Art Show | Jan. 30-Feb. 24 | FAB

Lunchtime Trivia | Feb. 9 | 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Scooter’s Place

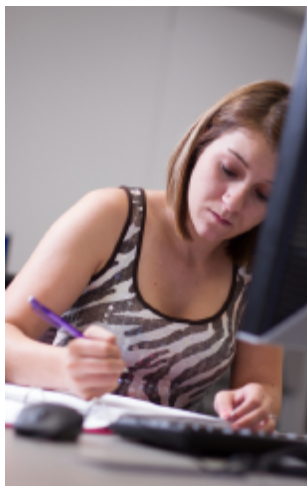
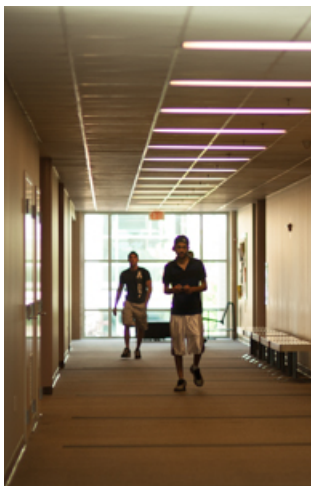
Safe Zone | Feb. 10 | 1:30-3:30 p.m. | SSB 1207 & 1208

Comedy Night | Feb. 11 | 7-9 p.m. | FAB theater

Bowling Night | Feb. 16 | 7-9 p.m. | Brunswick Zone XL-St. Peters

SCC Speaks Freely: Being Black on the SCC Campus | Feb. 16 | 10-11 a.m. | SSB 1102

Young People’s Theatre’s production of *Aesop’s Musical Foibles* | Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 18-19 | 3 p.m. & 7 p.m. (Saturday) 2 p.m. (Sunday) | SSB auditorium



IT, network computing and facilities project updates

Various improvements and changes to the college's IT, network computing and facilities are underway or have recently been completed.

IT revised the financial aid process for students. The new process has a projected implementation date of April 2017. It will improve student services with its self-serve software capabilities. Students will be able check and submit work for financial aid on their phones and take advantage of revised financial aid processes, flows and automated forms.

Network Computing is working on replacing several End of Life (EoL) items – Child Development Center switch, campus-wide router and a firewall appliance. AT&T will be

the college's new Internet Service Provider, and testing is taking place for a new cluster on the new FX2 servers chassis.

Facilities installed a high-efficiency boiler, combustion air takes on existing boilers, carpet in the Humanities Building and a fire alarm panel in the Student Center and Learning Resource Center. A new cooling tower fill has been ordered. The college has been through a deep cleaning, and fresh paint has been applied in various locations in the Daniel J. Conoyer Social Sciences Building, Administration Building and College Center. The holiday lights have been taken down and put away.

Festive lighting display is SCC's largest yet

On Dec. 1, SCC added bold splashes of color to campus with its biggest holiday display yet – 57,070 bulbs, to be exact. The Grounds Department kicked off the celebration with a holiday lighting ceremony that included hot chocolate and self-guided tours.

“Our fantastic grounds crew did a great job transforming the St. Charles Community College campus into a beautiful winter wonderland of lights,” said Dr. Barbara Kavalier, SCC president.

‘Snow’ falls fast and furious on campus plaza during SCC Winter Social

Penguins and polar bears accompanied faculty and staff at the SCC Winter Social on Dec. 8. The igloo-themed party included a delicious-as-always spread prepared by the SCC Catering Department to keep bodies warm with hot cocoa, soup and toasted ravioli. Despite having no snow in the forecast, some ice-cold fun came in the form of snow cones and an outdoor snowball fight thanks to 240 snowballs delivered in from Bahama Buck's Original Shaved Ice Company.

This year's creative competition – an igloo-creating contest – was won by the Nursing and Allied Health Division. “This was one of the most successful winter events we've had since offices closed early and everyone was able to attend,” said Rachael Boll, special events committee member.





Anticipated purchase closing date for Nursing and Allied Health Building is Feb. 24

The SCC Board of Trustees approved the purchase contract of the Nursing and Allied Health Building, located on 1 Academy Place, O'Fallon, Mo., at their Dec. 5, 2016, meeting. The closing date for the property is expected to be Feb. 24.

A building rename will occur after the purchase is finalized. A public grand opening will be planned and will likely coincide with the kickoff of the fall 2017 semester.

John Bookstaver, Ph.D., interim vice president for academic and student affairs; Amy Koehler, dean of nursing and allied health; and

Amanda Sizemore, dean of corporate and community development, are working with Dr. Barbara Kavalier, SCC president, to develop a business plan to determine the best use of the property. The first draft was completed last week.

“The initial intent for this property will be to expand Nursing and Allied Health offerings and develop additional workforce and industry related programs,” Sizemore said.

“We hope to add additional career pathways for our students,” Koehler said. “We want to be able to meet students where they



are in their educational journey or career. With this site, we will have the opportunity to offer more stackable credits – things students can build on no matter where they are in life.”

FOUNDATION UPDATE



Donor Dinner – On Dec. 14, Dr. Barbara Kavalier, SCC president, hosted a group of Patron-level President’s Leadership Circle donors for an inaugural dinner on campus.

The President’s Leadership Circle is made up of donors who have made leadership gifts of \$1,000 or more. The Patron-level donors have made gifts of \$2,500 or more. In recognition of the Circle’s founding members, a sun dial will be installed in the center of the brick circle.

Donors in attendance included Callie and Kurtis Daniels, Pam Cilek, Barbara and Graham Fisher, Linda and Richard Jensen, and Susan and Mike Lissner. SCC staff members in attendance included Dr. Kavalier, Kasey McKee, Betsy Schneider, John Bookstaver and Donna Davis.

Trivia Night – ESP Trivia Night will be held Friday, Feb. 24. Doors open at 6 p.m. and trivia starts at 7 p.m. To reserve a table, visit stchas.edu/trivia or contact Peggy Schnardthorst at pschnardthorst@stchas.edu.

Distinguished Alumni Award nominations – The Foundation is now accepting nominations for the 2017 SCC Distinguished Alumni Award. The annual award is given to a former SCC student who has become a leader in his or her profession and has positively impacted the community. Nominations are due Tuesday, Feb. 28. For more information or to submit a nomination, contact Peggy Schnardthorst at 636-922-8278 or pschnardthorst@stchas.edu.

Mini-Grants – More than \$22,000 were awarded for 2017 mini-grant requests submitted by SCC faculty and staff. Academic and program enhancements are made possible by proceeds raised at events and by individuals and corporations who are passionate about education.