

# ST. CHARLES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – January 2020



## SCC named best return on investment among community colleges in Missouri



When it comes to long-term value, a degree from St. Charles Community College is worth every penny. According to the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, a degree from SCC is worth more over time than any other community college in Missouri.

The study ranked colleges and universities from across the country by their return on investment

(ROI) for students 10, 15, 20, 30 and 40 years after enrollment.

After just 10 years, an SCC degree is worth approximately \$174,000. Out of more than 4,500 schools included in the study, including four-year universities, SCC ranked in the top 10 percent nationwide for ROI.

“With financial aid packages, A+ scholarship funds and our affordable tuition, the average St. Charles Community College student leaves with a median debt of only \$4,300,” explained Dr. Barbara Kavalier, president. “After a relatively short amount of time, their degree is worth nearly 40 times what they paid for it.”

The numbers continue to impress after the 10-year mark. According to the Georgetown

University study, a degree from SCC is worth \$304,000 after 15 years. After 20, it jumps to \$422,000. After 30 and 40 years, it increases to \$626,000 and \$793,000, respectively.

The report states that community colleges like SCC “have the highest return on investment because they generate strong earnings quickly after students finish their credentials.”

The study considered the net present value of a degree, which is the sum of money in the future and how it is valued today. The metric included costs, future earnings and the length of time it would take to invest and earn a certain amount of money over a fixed period of time.

## Forgue, Tobias named President's Award winners

The President's Council selected Thomas Forgue, public safety officer and police dispatcher, and Marvin Tobias, professor of psychology, for President's Awards in December.

"Officer Tom," as he is known at the Center for Healthy Living, ensures children from the Classical Academy de Lafayette are safe and supervised every day. He's a fan favorite of the children and beloved by the staff as well.

He goes out of his way to make sure everyone has what they need and is a friend to all.

According to his nomination, he "epitomizes the college values of trust, student success, cooperation, service and respect."

Marvin Tobias is known as a dynamic instructor who engages his students in innovative and creative ways. He takes a true interest in his students and tries to expand their knowledge and life experiences when given the chance. When he isn't teaching, he is serving on multiple task forces and committees at the college.

According to his nomination, he "supports the work of his colleagues and is always professional, kind, funny and humble."

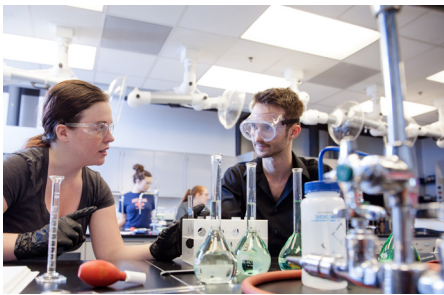
Congratulations to these well-deserving recipients!



Thomas Forgue



Marvin Tobias



## St. Charles Community College launches Weekend College in 2020

St. Charles Community College launched the Weekend College at the start of the spring semester. The college's new, affordable weekend program will help students accelerate their education or embark on a new career path without sacrificing their weekday work hours.

Weekend College features several Friday and Saturday classes, along with certificate options. SCC plans to expand the program with additional classes and certificates, as well as associate degrees, in future semesters.

"The program is a great opportunity for part-time or full-time students to obtain a more flexible class schedule," said Lauren Dickens, associate dean of workforce and industry programs. "The Weekend College can also assist working professionals in achieving higher pay by obtaining professional credentials."

To learn more, visit [stchas.edu/weekendcollege](http://stchas.edu/weekendcollege).

## Campus Store and Plaza Bistro open in January

In January, the Campus Store settled into its new home in the Student Center on the second floor. Renovations were also completed in the redesigned Plaza Bistro. The new Plaza Bistro Coffee Shop, which features Starbucks coffee, also opened in the new year.



## Move-in day a success at the Campus Lake Apartments

Scoter “helps” students move into the Campus Lake Apartments in January. Some 18 students now call the new complex home in 2020, including student-athletes and international students. It will hold an open house for potential students at the end of February.



## St. Charles Community College named “Top 100 Associates Degree Producer for Minorities” in nation

In the latest edition of *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* magazine, St. Charles Community College was honored with a “Top 100” designation for associates degree producers for minorities for 2019!

According to the publication, SCC was named to the “Top 100” in four different associates degree

categories: Marketing-Asian American, Marketing-African American, Marketing-Total Minority and Biological and Biomedical Sciences-Two or More Races.

“St. Charles Community College works hard every day to be a welcoming, diverse and inclusive campus,” said Dr. Barbara Kavlier, president.

“Being named to this exclusive list is a great honor for our faculty, staff and institution.”

This report, based on U.S. Department of Education data, examines degree attainment by fields of study for African-American, Asian-American, Hispanic-American and Native-American students.

## SCC named "Best Associate in Psychology Degree Program" for 2020

Intelligent.com has announced the Top 47 Associate in Psychology Degree Programs for 2020, and St. Charles Community College made the list!

The comprehensive research guide is based on an assessment of 81 accredited colleges and universities in the nation. Each program is evaluated based on curriculum quality, graduation rate, reputation and post-graduate employment.

"The thing that makes the Psychology

Department special is our faculty," said Mitch Harden, psychology professor. "We have a diverse group, each trained in various perspectives in the field, who gives our courses their unique flavors."

Harden added that SCC's close partnerships with UMSL, Lindenwood and other Missouri universities has meant the education students receive serves them well when they continue their academic pursuits after graduating from SCC.

According to the official news release, "students who pursue any one of these programs

can expect to gain employment much quicker in comparison to candidates without a degree. In addition to accessibility and cost, the steady job growth in this market is one of the many reasons Intelligent.com researched and ranked the Top Associate in Psychology Degree Programs.

The 2020 Intelligent.com rankings are calculated through a unique scoring system which includes student engagement, potential return on investment and leading third-party evaluations.



## SCC Manufacturing Day recognized by Progress 64 West

In November, the Progress 64 West organization awarded the St. Charles County Manufacturing Committee the Excellence in Community Development Award. The award recognized the outstanding efforts in creating Manufacturing Day at St. Charles Community College in October.

More than 800 students, school administrators, parents and chaperones visited SCC to explore modern manufacturing. Nearly 36 employer partners offered interactive booths and exhibits during the event.

Progress 64 West is a partnership of citizens, businesses and civic leaders that work to create and maintain sustainable communities and a high-quality standard of life in St. Louis and St. Charles counties.

## Spring semester faculty update highlights fall successes, future projects

To help kick off the new semester, faculty took part in the spring semester faculty update. Faculty heard presentations about the many successes from the fall semester, as well as a report regarding the Missouri Community College Association's legislative agenda for the new year and how it could affect the St. Charles Community College budget. Additionally, Vice President Todd Galbierz gave an update concerning student housing, the new police

station and the new Workforce and Technical Center on campus. Galbierz also presented artist renderings of the soon-to-be renovated Dardenne Creek Campus, which will feature a space for a culinary arts and a brewing program. The event concluded with a panel discussion surrounding college-wide initiatives impacting SCC's four strategic goals: student success, developing our people, accountability and innovation.



## Faculty Updates

In December, Emeritus Professor of English **Michael Kuelker**, was appointed to the board of PotBangerz, a nonprofit organization that conducts food outreach and other services for the unhoused in St. Louis. Kuelker, who has volunteered for the organization for two years, will serve as secretary.

Assistant Professor of English **Dr. Joe Baumann** had the following stories published during the winter break: Veneration in The Bookends Review, Kiss Blossoms in Cottonwood (the national literary journal of Kansas University), Orbit in the Best Short Fictions 2019 anthology (after being published last year in Eastern Iowa Review), Menders in Astral Waters Review and Transubstantiation in the annual print edition of Big Muddy: A Journal of Mississippi River Delta Studies. Two of Baumann's works were nominated for awards: Glass Children – which appeared last year in The Meadow – was nominated for a 2020 Pushcart Prize for Fiction and Vernix was nominated by Mud Season Review for a Best of the Net Award.

Life Science Emeritus Faculty, **Dr. Kevin Patton**, was recently elected for membership in the American Association of Clinical Anatomists.



## Students welcomed back to campus

Though inclement weather caused the closure of campus on the official first day of classes, students were welcomed back on Tuesday, January 21, with open arms. The hallways and classrooms were once again filled with students for the Spring 2020 semester. The Office of Student Life provided students free hot chocolate and donuts to start their week off on the right foot.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Between the Covers Book Club kickoff meeting**  
2:30 p.m.  
Jan 29  
LRC commons

**Softball Team tryouts**  
2:30 p.m.  
Feb. 3  
CC gym

**Speaker Series Project: Human Trafficking and Challenges facing Anti-Human Trafficking Professionals**  
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Feb. 3 and Feb. 20  
SSB auditorium

**Visions of Cuba: An Exhibition of Photography**  
Feb. 3-28  
FAB gallery

**Visions of Cuba Reception**  
6-8 p.m.  
Feb. 5  
FAB gallery

**Community Resource Fair**  
9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
Feb. 4-5  
SSB auditorium

**Campus Lake Apartments Open House**  
9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Feb. 6

**Athletics Dept. Trivia Night**  
7 p.m.  
Feb. 7  
CC gym

**Black History Month event: True Justice: Bryan Stevenson's Fight for Equality**  
6:30-10 p.m.  
Feb. 6  
SSB auditorium

**Black History Month event: Black America Since MLK: And Still I Rise Parts 1-2**  
11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.  
Feb. 13  
SSB auditorium

**Black History Month event: Making of A Red Circle**  
10 a.m.  
Feb. 19  
SSB auditorium

**Black History Month event: Hip-Hop and Politicking**  
10 a.m.  
Feb. 19  
SSB auditorium

**Black History Month event: Change Agents: Black Women and Activism**  
10 a.m.  
Feb. 19  
SSB auditorium

**Coffeehouse**  
7-9 p.m.  
Feb. 20  
SSB lounge

