



Missouri Governor Dedicates New SCC Agriculture and Food Science Collaborative Space

Missouri Governor Mike Parson was on hand to help dedicate the new St. Charles Community College agriculture and food science building on the Dardenne Creek Campus on Aug. 26.

The building has been transformed into a modern and open space that features a bakery, test kitchen, commercial kitchen and brewing lab. The space will house non-credit and future credit programs in culinary arts, brewing science and nutrition. The agriculture program will also utilize the building and surrounding fields for crop research and development.

SCC purchased the Dardenne Creek Campus in 2017 and immediately recognized its great

potential, according to Dr. Barbara Kavalier, SCC President. “Not long after moving in, we recognized that we could do something very unique and innovative by creating a new culinary arts and agriculture program and then merging this with nursing and allied health to create more than just course offerings – but to become a real center for healthy living in St. Charles County.”

The new remodeled space is expected to represent an opportunity for students to make connections between food, health and sustainability, while advancing their educational and career goals.

Proposition Community College Passes With Overwhelming Community Support

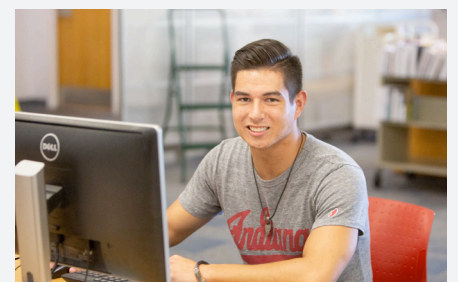


On Aug. 4, St. Charles County residents passed Proposition Community College, a \$30 million no-tax increase bond issue. The bond issue passed with more than 67 percent of the vote.

“We are proud and humbled to have such overwhelming support from the community in passing our bond initiative,” said Dr. Barbara Kavalier, SCC president. “A significant part of our budget is supported by the citizens of St. Charles County, and we want to thank voters for their continued support of SCC.”

Proposition Community College consists of four main initiatives which include the modernization and expansion of facilities needed to meet the needs of students in areas of workforce/technical training, STEM education, student support services and campus safety.

“Recognizing that it is unlikely the state will provide new funds within the next few years for any capital projects, the \$30 million will help us move forward in updating and expanding facilities while advancing the goals and mission of St. Charles Community College.”



St. Charles Community College Advances Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Efforts



Embedded in the mission of St. Charles Community College is a promise to celebrate diversity and prepare students to succeed in a global environment.

Though COVID-19 has come with many challenges, SCC has embraced the virtual space to continue facilitating conversations on diversity, equity and inclusion. This month, the Multicultural Experience and Hidden History-Uncomfortable Conversations Series brought to campus topics like race, social change and more.

The College is also launching several new initiatives this fall aimed at advancing critical diversity strategies, including identifying opportunities for students to engage in conversations about race, improving hiring practices, to increase diversity among faculty and staff, and creating a new multicultural center for students.

In addition, a President's Council on Race and Diversity will be established this semester, which will include faculty, staff, students and community representatives. The purpose of

the Council is to explore opportunities for expanding awareness and understanding of racial issues and to identify strategies for further growth as an institution.

Through these efforts, SCC is better positioned to help lead our community toward a more inclusive region.



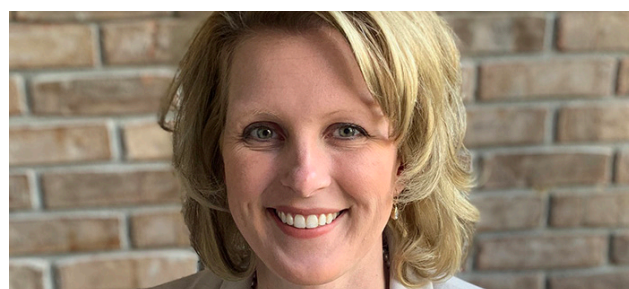
Board of Trustees Welcomes Mike Lissner as New Member

Mike Lissner was appointed to the SCC Board of Trustees at the Aug. 31 meeting, filling William Pundmann's seat. Pundmann was reelected in 2018 to a six-year term but stepped down from the Board in June for family reasons. Lissner will serve until the next election of the SCC Board of Trustees in April 2022.

Lissner is a founding partner at Acropolis Investment Management. Prior to joining Acropolis, he spent 13 years in the advanced technology and financial services areas at Accenture. Lissner has served as a member of the SCC Foundation Board for 15 years. He lives in Lake St. Louis, Mo., and has two adult children, Luke and Guinevere.

"St. Charles Community College provides the type of education that leads to growth and success for people living in our community, including our employees and clients," said Lissner. "I'm honored to contribute to the SCC Board of Trustees and help move the college forward."

Meanwhile, Shirley Lohmar was elected as the new Board president. Rose Mack was elected vice president. Pam Cilek will serve as secretary, and Mary Shnare Stodden will serve as treasurer and SCC Foundation liaison. Jean Ehlmann was appointed the legislative liaison.



New SCC Vice President for Academic Affairs Named

Dr. Holly Martin started her tenure as the Vice President for Academic Affairs in July, bringing to SCC more than 13 years of experience in higher education as both a faculty member and an administrator.

"Dr. Martin's combination of experience in academics and student success initiatives made her the ideal candidate for the vice president for academic affairs," said Dr. Barbara Kavalier, SCC president. "Her dedication to student success will be invaluable as we continue to achieve the goals set forth in our strategic plan."

Her experiences have included an emphasis on the first-year student experience, retention and student success initiatives, enhancing equity in education, and supporting active and engaged instruction.

"It has been an honor to be a part of such an extraordinary group of faculty and staff who are dedicated to providing high-quality educational programs and support services," Dr. Martin said.

Dr. Martin has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish and a Master of Arts in Leadership in Human Service Administration, both from Bradley University in Peoria, Ill. She received her Doctorate of Philosophy in Higher Education Administration from Saint Louis University.

Safe, In-person classes

St. Charles Community College's first day of classes had a different feel this semester. While a majority of classes were held virtually, a small number of classes did return to campus, with social distancing measures and mask requirements in place.



Planning Teams Prepared for Safe, Measured Return to Campus

Teams at St. Charles Community College took proactive measures over the last several months to ensure the health and safety of its students, faculty, staff and the community.

This fall, SCC continued its efforts to minimize the spread of COVID-19 by instituting a hybrid approach to classes. The majority of courses have been offered online; however, there are a small number of courses offered in-person, including classes that require hands-on learning.

"In this current environment we have faced so many uncertainties," said Dr. Barbara Kavalier, SCC president,

"but we have put measures in place to ensure that our students have the ability to complete their education at St. Charles Community College. The work that has been done has demonstrated to our students that they are not alone; we continue to offer all the courses and support services they need to complete a degree moving forward."

SCC has emphasized social distancing and required masks for anyone entering a building on campus. Additionally, temperatures are checked at designated entryways of each building, and all campus facilities have scheduled, regular cleaning and disinfecting schedules.



20th ANNIVERSARY
DEMOCRACY DAYS 2020
An Interdisciplinary Forum Assessing the History, Health & Functioning of Democracy in America and Abroad
SEPTEMBER 14 - 17
ST. CHARLES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Democracy Days Celebrates Major Milestone Virtually

Democracy Days celebrated its 20th anniversary at SCC this year, but the event looked a little different than it has in the past.

The annual interdisciplinary forum assessing the history, health and functioning of democracy in America and abroad moved into the virtual space. Students, faculty, staff and the community were invited to take part in engaging conversation and hear presentations from an array of speakers.

Alongside SCC faculty speakers, the event featured special guest speakers including the St. Charles County Director of Elections Kurt Bahr and St. Louis Metropolitan Police sergeant and President of the Ethical Society of Police Heather Taylor. SCC Emeritus English Professor Michael Kuelker organized and facilitated the event.

Faculty/Staff Update

Deepika Jagmohan, associate professor of computer science, completed her Lighthouse CC Diversity-Focused Professional Development for Community College Computing Faculty certificate this past summer. It focused on the importance of diversity in computing, avoiding stereotype threats and techniques for active recruiting.



Biology Professor **Dr. Monica Hall Woods** is representing SCC as a member of the Genomics Education Partnership administered by the University of Alabama and Washington University in St. Louis. The partnership is a nationwide collaboration of more than 100 institutions that integrates active learning into undergraduate curriculum through Course-Based Undergraduate Experiences (CUREs) centered in bioinformatics and genomics.

Associate Professor of Agriculture **Micah Humphries** expanded his beehive project over the summer, adding six new hives at the SCC-Dardenne Creek Campus. Additionally, his plant science classes have established crop demonstration plots outside the new agriculture and food science building.

Nearly 1,300 students attended virtual new student orientations this fall. According to **Vicky Herbel**, sociology professor, sessions focused on navigating online learning platforms, class schedules and expectations.

Dana Prewitt, sociology professor, and **Paul Roesler**, political science professor, are teaching a new Honors course in the fall semester: Problems and Politics: How Political Campaigns Address Social Problems in our Society.

The **Theatre Department** held “Tuesday? Tune In!” virtual performances during the summer semester, replacing its normal summer musical. The variety show featured faculty, students and community members through recorded videos.

From eSports to Trivia – Student Activities Go Online



The Student Activities Office has been busy creating fun, engaging activities for students during the fall semester. While students aren’t attending any festivals or in-person events, they are still getting a chance to enjoy campus life online.

Trivia Tuesdays and eSports Tournaments have been creating some healthy competition on campus in September. The Multicultural Experience Series and Hidden History: Uncomfortable Conversations Series are allowing students to take part in in-depth and insightful discussions surrounding important social issues.

Student Life Department has also been providing students opportunities to become more successful in college through its Great Student Success Project, covering subjects like test anxiety and essay writing. Tuesday Tips has offered helpful information regarding mental health and substance abuse prevention.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Hidden History: Uncomfortable Conversations – Black Wall Street

2:30 p.m.
Sept. 30
Virtual

In the Tank: One-Act Play

Oct. 2-3
Virtual

Fall Midterms

Oct. 5-9

Multicultural Experience Series – Joseph Green

7 p.m.
Oct. 5
Virtual

Hidden History: Uncomfortable Conversations – Imhotep

2:30 p.m.
Oct. 7
Virtual

President’s Council Meeting

2:40 p.m.
Oct. 8
Virtual

Fall Break

Oct. 12-13

Multicultural Experience Series – Jake Lawler

7 p.m.
Oct. 12
Virtual

Hidden History: Uncomfortable Conversations – Before Columbus

2:30 p.m.
Oct. 14
Virtual

Multicultural Experience Series: Saul Flores

7 p.m.
Oct. 19
Virtual

Hidden History: Uncomfortable Conversations – History of Racism, Part One

2:30 p.m.
Oct. 21
Virtual