



PRESIDENT'S REPORT



FEBRUARY 2026



 **ST. CHARLES**
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

GRADUATION RATE SOARS

In 2025, SCC's **graduation rate** reached a record-breaking **32%**, a 7% increase over the previous year. The highest in SCC's history, this milestone is a testament to the unwavering commitment of our faculty and staff to our students' success.



MAYORS AND CITY ADMINISTRATORS VISIT SCC



Mayors and city administrators from across the country visited SCC for a productive discussion on the college's future plans and strategic priorities. Following an on-campus luncheon, the group toured the campus and experienced our state-of-the-art Center for Immersive Learning, highlighting SCC's commitment to innovation and student success.

HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION VISITS RWIC



On February 3, SCC welcomed Dr. Tony Breitbach, a **Higher Learning Commission (HLC)** Peer Corps Reviewer, an accreditation expert, to the new Regional Workforce Innovation Center in Wentzville. After meeting with SCC's staff, the Peer Corps Reviewer spoke highly of our facilities and team, commenting that SCC has an authentic and collaborative team deeply committed to student success. During the review, students shared positive feedback regarding the college's programs, instructors, and resources as well as SCC's emphasis on fostering student success.

DR. BARBARA KAVALIER NAMED ONE OF THE REGION'S TOP BUSINESS LEADERS SECOND YEAR IN A ROW



Entering her tenth year at St. Charles Community College, SCC President **Dr. Barbara Kavalier**, has been named to the St. Louis Business 500 list for the second consecutive year by St. Louis Business Magazine! Honoring the region's most forward-thinking leaders across a diverse range of industries, this recognition celebrates Dr. Kavalier's exceptional leadership and lasting impact as one of the area's most influential business and community leaders.

At SCC, Dr. Kavalier ensures the institution offers an affordable, high-quality education to all students. Under her leadership, SCC has launched many innovative, successful initiatives, including a new campus and Regional Workforce Innovation Center in Wentzville; The Center for Immersive Learning, bringing virtual reality to the classroom; and the college's new EXCEerator to strengthen academic support for students.



CONGRATULATIONS STEVE

SCC is happy to announce **Steve Oberg**, Department Chair for Business Administration, Accounting, and Economics, successfully defended his dissertation Tuesday, Feb. 17, and is now a Doctor of Business Administration (D.B.A.). He earned his credential through Wilmington University - Delaware. SCC is very proud of his hard work and dedication to helping students and continuing to further his personal education.

KSDK SHOW ME ST. LOUIS ON CAMPUS

Mary Caltrider, host of **KSDK's Show Me St. Louis**, visited SCC and the Center for Immersive Learning to record her experience with our classroom-based and free roam virtual reality (VR) learning labs. Organized by Marketing and to increase visibility for SCC and our campus, this segment aired on KSDK's Show Me St. Louis on Thursday, February 19.





SCC HOSTS TWO-STEP WELDING WORKSHOP

SCC hosted a hands-on **welding workshop** in partnership with 4-H programs in Warren and St. Charles counties through the University of Missouri Extension. A total of 40 students, ages 9–18, participated in the two-step workshop on Saturday, February 7. Equipped in full personal protective equipment, students worked individually at welding booths in the mobile trailer alongside experienced SCC instructors and parent volunteers to complete prefabricated projects. The workshops emphasized safety, foundational welding skills, and hands-on learning in a professional environment.

In addition, participants returned for a second workshop on Saturday, February 21, bringing their own materials and blueprints to design and fabricate original projects for competition at county fairs this summer. Through this partnership, SCC continues to support career exploration and technical skill development for area youth.

STUDY HALL SLAM MARDI GRAS EVENT A BIG SUCCESS

SCC's EXCEerator, our holistic hub for academic and career success, hosted a **Study Hall Slam** and festive Mardi Gras celebration on Wednesday, February 11, and Thursday, February 12. Bringing the spirit of New Orleans to campus, the event featured authentic, New Orleans-inspired treats, including seafood gumbo, king cake, fresh lemonade, and homemade beignets. The celebration kicked off with a lively Mardi Gras parade featuring band and staff volunteers, setting the tone for an engaging and flavorful experience.



FACULTY AND STAFF ENJOY SOUL FOOD LUNCH AND MUSIC

Student Activities hosted a **Soul Food Luncheon** on SCC's campus on Thursday, February 19. Faculty, staff, and students enjoyed a delicious soul food menu including fried chicken, greens, sweet potatoes, and banana pudding provided by Victorious Kitchen with live music performed by FReSh RAIN, a local, multi-genre cover band.