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PIONEER

Bookstore complaints prompt inspection

National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health recommends changes

By Mark Stack
Editor

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health inspected the OKCCC bookstore after complaints dealing with health issues were filed by a bookstore employee.

NIOSH came to OKCCC for a two-day visit Oct. 17. They measured average noise levels for the bookstore, analyzed the general noise levels to see how well the plywood wall filtered gym noise and looked at ventilation and roof leaks in the bookstore that could possibly be causing mold and mildew.

According to the evaluation results in the NIOSH report, noise levels in the bookstore were not sufficient to cause permanent hearing loss or damage.

NIOSH did find that "the noise levels measured in the bookstore do confirm that there is interference with communications and disruption of work," according to the NIOSH report.

The bookstore has been temporarily relocated to the college gym while its permanent space is constructed. A plywood and mesh partition separates the store from gym activities.

NIOSH's recommendations for fixing the wall include constructing two walls that extend all the way to the ceiling, with Fiberglas insulation within the walls to reduce noise. Paula Jackson, shipping and receiving supervisor, asked NIOSH to conduct a review of working conditions in the bookstore.

"My point is the college preaches that our health and safety is their number one concern, but they aren't showing it," said Jackson.

Jackson's concerns not only deal with the plywood wall coming apart, but also there is no sound barrier to block noise from bouncing balls and loud whistles.

Jackson said she had to take worker's compensation leave last summer after the noise from children's summer camps began to affect her hearing while also making her sick.

"I was off work for two weeks on

worker's compensation from hearing problems and sickness related to the dust and noise in here," said Jackson.

Art Bode, vice president for business and finance, said the netting initially put in place above the plywood wall was supplemented with additional material to help reduce the noise from the gym.

Bode said several factors went into the decision to not replace the wall.

"The determination to not make changes to the wall structure was based on [information in] the NIOSH report, the temporary nature of the concern, the necessity to provide continued service in both the gym and the bookstore to students as well as the limited resources that are available," said Bode.

Bode said he had a discussion with recreation and community services director Chris Moler about lowering the noise levels in the gym to aid bookstore employees. Bode said Moler expressed a willingness to reduce the noise levels by scheduling more outdoor and swimming pool activities.

NIOSH also recommended that house-keeping inside the bookstore improve.

"I have had at least three doctors tell me that they can't help [my condition] until we get out of this gym because it's

See "Store," page 8

State employees e-mail open records

By Ashley Martin
Staff Writer

It's official. In a decision handed down Nov. 9 by Oklahoma Attorney General Drew Edmondson, e-mail that is created or received by state employees concerning state business or public funds is now considered a public record.

According to the Records Management Act, a record is defined as "any book, paper, map, photograph, film, recording or other material or any copy there of."

The Oklahoma Department of Libraries made an



Photo by Kat Mohr

It's a sunshine day: OKCCC student Sumbol Ali, finance major, enjoys the sunny weather while studying for finals. Spring semester ends May 19. Students who are taking summer school have a 3-week siesta before the summer semester begins June 10.

official request in September 2001 to Edmondson's office, asking how e-mail should be handled as a record.

Edmondson returned his decision in November that e-mail is indeed considered public record.

How does this affect OKCCC?

Dudley Freeman, director of staff development, said that since the implementation of retaining public records is not new to faculty, it shouldn't affect the college much.

"This is not anything new. [The decision] is just

See "Mail," page 12

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

Sooners need to lose phobia

Open your eyes Oklahoma. I have lived in Oklahoma for a year and a half now. In that time it has really frustrated me that I cannot share my opinion on many subjects because of the staunch conservative views that surround me.

I come from a place where the majority of people are accepted for who they are and not judged according to religious views or personal bias. Homophobia exists in other places, but is limited.

I have lived in different states including California. The streets of Los Angeles may be a little tougher than Oklahoma, but the transvestites and kisses between males go almost unnoticed.

I realize this is the Bible belt, but too often religion is used to hide behind when ridiculing a person for his or her choices in life. It's time to catch up to the rest of the country. Gays and lesbians have a right to equality.

The United States Census from 2000 shows more than 600,000 heads of households indicated they lived with an unmarried partner of the same sex, according to gay-civil-unions.com. Close to 6,000 of those same-sex partners reported lived in Oklahoma at census time. Oklahomans coexist with gays and lesbians.

This means accepting the public displays of affection from gays and lesbians. It's a well known fantasy that most men want to see two women romantically together, but when it comes to men, the tables turn.

This means getting rid of the holier-than-thou attitude that believing in God gives anyone the right to be the judge and jury to the gates of heaven and hell. We are given the role of leading our own lives, not manipulating others. Hate and ignorance are what fuels evil, not same-sex marriages.

A woman, who is practically family to me is in a same-sex relationship. She has to take extra legal measures to make sure her partner has a right to her estate. Because they cannot enter into a legal marriage this all must be done with expensive contracts to make sure everything that could be disputed is taken care of.

Acceptance is the path I would like to see taken with same-sex relationships. Currently, Vermont is the only state that offers a legal civil union, an alternative to marriage offered to same-sex couples. I would like to see many states follow the example of Vermont in the near future, including Oklahoma.

Society has a long way to go before gays and lesbians are as unquestioned as heterosexuals in a relationship. "Six Feet Under" (HBO) and "Queer as Folk" (Showtime) are both groundbreaking shows with male/male relationships that are quite popular with the mature audiences of cable.

Oklahoma will never become a Mecca for gays and lesbians. I believe that Oklahoma has the ability to find a way to incorporate the homosexual way of life into its society.

—Kate Brennan
Staff Writer

Help raise money for good cause

To the editor:

On May 11, there will be a walk for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation at Eldon Lyon Park in Bethany on N.W. 36th Street between Rockwell and Council.

If you would like to participate, you must be there before 9 a.m.

Cystic Fibrosis disease affects approximately 30,000 people in the United States alone and there is no

cure.

We are hoping the donations given, scientists will find a cure for all who are stricken with this disease.

Research is very important and needed. Because of the problems associated with the disease, one has to take many medications just to be able to breathe.

All age groups are affected by this disease.

If you are not able to walk

but would like to send donations, please make the checks payable to the Great Strides Foundation and bring them by the bookstore, and Deborah Kahmar will deliver them for you on Saturday.

If you have any questions please call 682-1611, ext. 7689.

—Deborah Kahmar
Accounting Clerk

Profs going global

To the editor:

We have received notification that the Board of Trustees of The Higher Learning Commission took action extending the accreditation of Oklahoma City Community College through the year 2011-12.

The College received the

maximum accreditation possible, and we are extremely pleased with this news. A special thank you to Dr. Martha George and Dr. Annmarie Shirazi for their excellent leadership in the self-study process.

—Dr. Robert P. Todd
OKCCC President

Thanks given to club

To the editor:

This school year has presented some trying times, and involvement in student clubs have reflected that.

I just wanted to say thanks to the International Student Association club and their president Kim Pham who showed a real dedication with her con-

tinuous efforts in raising money and hosting events such as the Vietnamese dance group.

The campus has been inundated with unique cultural experiences that students of OKCCC can only benefit from.

A big thank you to ISA!

—OKCCC student



PIONEER

Vol. 30 No. 32

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Kate Brennan.....Staff Writer
Kat Mohr.....Photographer
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All opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the publisher.

The PIONEER welcomes letters to the editor and encourages the use of this publication as a community forum. All letters must include the author's name, address, phone number and signature. However, the PIONEER will withhold the name if the request is made in writing. The PIONEER has the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity.

Letters to the editor can be delivered in person to the PIONEER office, mailed to: Pioneer Editor, 7777 S. May, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73159 or faxed to 682-7568.

Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@okccc.edu. A phone number for verification must be included.

The PIONEER can be accessed on the Internet at: <http://pioneer.okccc.edu>.



Comments and Reviews

Psychic reuniting people with deceased loved ones

For anyone who believes in the power of psychics and their ability to speak to those who have passed on, "Crossing Over" is the show to watch.

John Edward, a self-proclaimed medium who allegedly communicates with the dead, realized his ability at age 15, when he had visions of the dead and out-of-body experiences.

After meeting with a psychic who told him of his special gift, he went on to strengthen it and began reuniting people with passed loved ones.

"Crossing Over" comes complete with a live audience. Edward opens the show by walking around, trying to figure out which audience member a particular spirit is trying to contact by asking questions and giving information about the spirit.

When he locates the person, he then sends messages to them from the person on the other side, supposedly messages only the audience member would understand.



On the night I watched the show, a woman who had lost her 3-month-old nephew was in the audience.

The baby had died 21 years earlier from a form of muscular dystrophy. The baby told his aunt through Edward that he was fine and he was with his grandpa.

The woman displayed the appropriate amount of shock and happiness, but not so much so that I believed she was an actress. Her emotions, as did everyone's on the show, seemed genuine.

Edward has many critics and skeptics watching him, trying to figure out how he does it.

They claim he knows just the right questions to ask to get the desperate person to reveal information to him. He then makes it seem like he knew it before they did.

I watched and listened closely, and I have to admit, he seemed like one of the more legitimate TV psychics. Compare him to Miss Cleo, the Jamaican Tarot card reader, and there's no contest.

"Crossing Over" comes on the Sci-Fi channel at 10 and 10:30 p.m., Sunday through Thursday.

Edward does leave viewers with a valuable message at the end of each show: communicate, appreciate, and validate. Do all of those things with loved ones, because there may not be a tomorrow.

Even for non-believers, it's a message well-worth following.

—Ashley Martin
Staff Writer

Never too full for a late night 'Dinner'

So what do you do when you're not writing a screenplay, directing a movie, producing a movie or starring in one as well?

If you're the quintessential king of independent films like Jon Favreau, you host your own show.

Favreau has created the new show "Dinner For Five" which he also hosts every Monday at 7 p.m. on the Independent Film Channel.

Favreau, who is best known for his roles in the movies "Made" and "Swingers," designed the setting of the show to take place at real restaurants in New York and Los Angeles.

Guests of the show are given free reign to discuss whatever they wish.



Last week's show was a perfect example of that as Andy Dick and Marilyn Manson took dinner conversation to new heights. The discussion ranged from Manson's attempt to make an independent film to different ways of method acting. Most of the conversation, though, dealt with adult situations. Got me?

Other guests have or will include Kevin James, Sa-

rah Silverman, Vince Vaughn, Cheri Oteri, Christian Slater and many others.

Favreau said being able to curse and drink on IFC was a

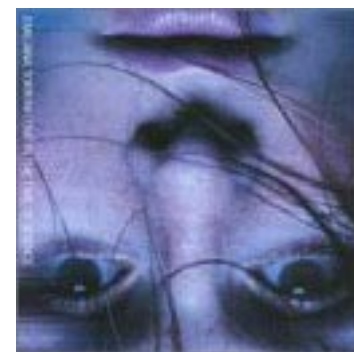
definite bonus, because no one feels the need to hold anything back.

The season includes eight episodes, four of which have already been aired. Be sure to catch the encores and the new episodes. Viewers get a great perspective and insight on what is going on in Hollywood.

—Mark Stack
Editor

CD portrays artists' unfolding maturity

A sunset invokes many different emotions. The sun leaving the sky speaks of longings and regrets of another day lost. The knowledge the sun eventually rises invokes feelings of hope for tomorrow. Combined with the collision course of emotions involved with the actual beauty, a sunset is like a melodious song.



That same mixture of emotions and beauty are what Emilia Torrini portrays in her CD "Love in the Time of Science."

The girlish warmth in her voice caresses the listener. The jazzy electronic music behind her voice tricks the listener into cheerful beats and emphasizes her daydreaming voice at just the right places.

This 23-year-old Icelandic singer portrays many different characters in her lyrics. The listeners need to prepare themselves to roll down the windows and cruise carefree to the sounds of "Unemployed in Summertime."

She sings joyfully of carefree youth in the lyrics "stay awake until the morning, with makeup all over my face." She goes from a carefree youth to mad scientist in "Telepathy."

She intensely sings "let me see your joy and fear," to her lost lover about her obsession with wanting to read his mind to weaken him.

This album contains 11 universal short stories with different characters.

Characters that she portrays with beauty and grace. The scenery of the album is like a sunset, majestic in its physical beauty and awesome in the emotion it contains.

This first album for Torrini reveals her coming of age, yet allows her room to grow.

—Gracelynn Pruitt
Staff Writer

Have a story idea?
Have a complaint?
Want to share your
opinion? Or write a
review? e-mail the
editor:

editor@okccc.edu

Nursing graduates hard work pays off

By Scott M. Everett
Contributing Writer

Years of hard work will finally pay off for about 60 nursing students who will be pinned in an annual ceremony symbolizing their entrance into the program.

"We are really excited for them," said nursing Professor Susan Wright Mann.

"They have gone through a lot of work to get to where they are."

The ceremony, planned for 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 15, will be attended by friends and family of the graduates. Also in attendance will be Dr. Paul Sechrist, provost/vice president for academic affairs and the entire nursing faculty.

The pinning ceremony is in addition to the commencement exercise that all graduating students are eligible for.

"It's a traditional ceremony," said Connie D. Kuebeck, professor of nursing.

ing.

"Nurses have always been pinned. More [nursing graduates] will attend the pinning ceremony than the [college wide] graduation."

The pinning ceremony is unique in many ways, said Kuebeck.

The graduates will show two videos that they have put together.

One is a memories video that shows pictures of the graduates throughout the course of their educational career. The other is a thank you video in which each student personally thanks people who have been responsible for helping them make it through the program.

These people will include family members, employers, faculty and others.

"It's a real tear-jerking experience," said Kuebeck.

Graduating student Billie Devilbiss agreed.

"It's very emotional," he said. "It's real important for me because it shows that I have accomplished a goal that I set out to do."

Being a 'Smart Start' tutor good way to get scholarship

Fly to someone's rescue as a Smart Start volunteer.

The University of Oklahoma will be holding the Sooner Flight Academy from now until June 3.

Ages 17 and up are invited to serve as Smart Start tutors to earn scholarship money.

This program teaches kids and adults alike the importance of science and math in society today.

Smart Start for Brain Gain 2010 is a program created by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and funded by AmeriCorps.

At the end of the service period, members can earn an AmeriCorps Education Award for up to \$2,362.

"Smart Start is not just for people living in the community," said State Regents' Chairman Joe Ma-yer, "but for people actively engaged with the

"Now that we have forged this partnership with the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission, our hope is that this alliance will open the door to other business partnerships in the near future."

—Joe Mayer
State Regents' Chairman

community and actually learning from the community itself."

Tutors assist the participants in hands-on experiments and activities.

The children also will have an opportunity to ride in an airplane so they can apply the knowledge learned in the program.

"This is a unique opportunity and a different type of partnership for our Smart Start program," said Higher Education Chancellor Hans Brisch.

Most partnerships are with schools.

The Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission played a key role in the partnership

between the academy and State Regents, said Brisch.

"Now that we have forged this partnership with the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission, our hope is that this alliance will open the door to other business partnerships in the near future."

One of the main Smart Start objectives is to engage more college and university students in community service.

For information on how to join Smart Start contact the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education at (405) 225-9195 or visit www.okhighered.org/smartstart.

Native flag a small reminder of homeland

By Juliet Okoroegbe
News Writing I Student

In the OKCCC student union, Florence Wairagu sees a small reminder of her home 8000 miles away on the west coast of Africa.

The national flag of Ghana, red and black horizontal stripes on a field of yellow, is one of 20 flags that represent countries with international students on the OKCCC campus.

Wairagu is one of 15 OKCCC students from her country.

She said she learned about the college from her cousin at the University of Oklahoma and arrived in August 1998.

She is majoring in computer science and plans to transfer to OU next semester.

As a member of the International Student Association, she said she has had the opportunity to meet people from different parts of the world and experience different cultures.

"It is fun learning dances from different countries, and eating foods from different countries," Wairagu said.

"ISA is just a friendly atmosphere."

ISA is an organization for, but not limited to, international students on campus.

With about 40 members who are all international students, they participate in community services in Oklahoma City and organize events that show different cultures of the world.

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OKCCC faculty forms a bond with students

By Kate Brennan
Staff Writer

OKCCC faculty and staff are asked to 'make a connection' with new students this fall.

"The College Retention Task Force has been working for the past four months on a strategic and college wide approach to retaining students, specifically new students.

"Connections is the result of their work," said Charlotte French, executive director of enrollment management at OKCCC.

The program will include study skills workshops, a faculty and peer mentoring program as well as tutoring and supplemental instruction.

An early alert system will also be available to alert faculty of troubled students on the verge of dropping out.

By offering these programs there is a hope that the student will form an attachment with the campus and the faculty and therefore continue until completing their degree.



Photo by Kat Mohr

Safety first: OKCCC student Denise Smith takes a break in between classes to read the oil field equipment safety stand which was part of the Safety Coalition Summit held on May 8 in the college union. Charlotte Bowen, executive director of the Brain Injury Association of Oklahoma, said she's been to every one of the summits and believes each one gets better.

"It's very important that we continue to participate in the safety coalition because that's the only cure we have for brain injury," Bowen said.

The PIONEER staff
is going on vacation.
Look for a
new issue
June 10.



Until then,
read all the
latest news online
at pioneer.okccc.edu

Graduation is
May 10. Look for
pictures and
stories about
the BIG night
on our website!
pioneer.okccc.edu



College gives back to community

The Alpha Theta Alpha Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Oklahoma City Community College is participating in Project Graduation... Feed a Body, Feed a Mind, an initiative designed to help alleviate hunger and illiteracy in our community.

Upcoming graduates, students, faculty and staff are asked to bring a non-perishable food item or children's book to the college during business hours through May 17, as a way of celebrating Commencement 2002.

Phi Theta Kappa members will be collecting the items from the Project Graduation boxes located in each of the College's buildings.

After the Project Graduation drive, the books will be donated to the Oklahoma City Public School District and the canned goods will be sent to the Oklahoma City Food Bank.

"Such a simple gesture of bringing a canned good or

book to celebrate the milestone of our graduates' achievements will help improve the quality of life in our community," said Richard Rouillard, Phi Theta Kappa adviser.

"We are excited to have this opportunity."

Michael Green, Alpha Theta Alpha President, said the opportunity to help is exciting.

"As student leaders within our college, we are

pleased to be at the helm of this new initiative," he said.

"We are proud to give students, faculty and staff an opportunity to honor our graduates by encouraging them to give back to the community that has supported them throughout their community college experience."

For more information, call Rouillard at 682-1611, ext 7389.



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College art graduates flaunt their talent



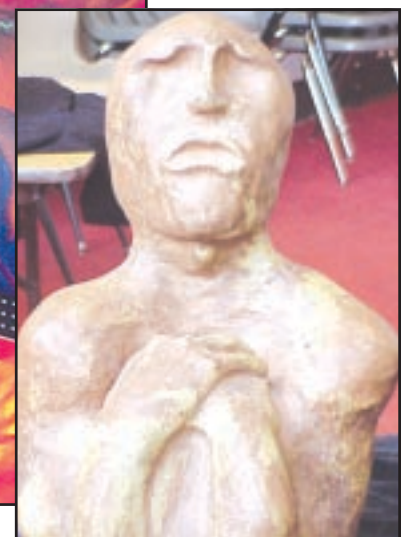
Elizabeth Tinsley shows her friend Linda Henry a dress she designed. "My art is my escape," said Tinsley. "It's my way of expressing what words cannot."



Duff Bassett created this piece to represent the hardships artists endure when they try to make a living through art. Bassett also displayed some of his sculptured pieces and his computer drawings.



Melissa Fenton explains her artwork to Tara Crites, who also displayed her artwork at the show. Fenton's artwork included black-and-white photographs along with color photographs and paintings.



Tommy Bannister sculpted this piece in 1987. "My wife has always called it the 'man in agony' and it just stuck with it."

Eleven OKCCC students shared the spotlight during the art show entitled "11 Reflections" held the first week of May.

Students were given the opportunity to talk with prospective buyers along with art fans during a reception which was held May 4.

All the students involved in the art show were proud to be able to explain the work they completed while attending OKCCC.

For many of the students this was the first time they had ever exhibited their art.

Photography and art major Melissa Fenton said, "This is my first art show and I'm really glad I got to work with the artists I did."

Fenton's artwork included some black-and-white photographs along with color slide prints and paintings.

Fashion major Amanda Tritten felt the same way.

"I like that we all have our art work up so people can view our different interests and influences."

Tritten wanted to express her varied interests so she exhibited photographs and artwork along with some of the clothes she had designed throughout the two years.

Tommy Bannister enjoys every aspect of art.

"I love it all. I enjoy computer drawing, pencil drawing, painting and sculpting," Bannister said.

"Hopefully, I'll get a job and start doing bigger and better things."

Duff Bassett not only is looking for a job, but he also makes art that expresses the difficulty artists have when pursuing their careers. "I constructed a piece of my art to display the battle artists endure when trying to make a living through art."

Each student had a unique style but they all agreed on one thing — art is their relief from life.

"My art is my escape," said Elizabeth Tinsley, who exhibited some of her fashion designs along with a variety of other works.

"It's my release to the world. It's my way of expressing what words cannot."

Other students involved in the art show include Barbara Campbell, Tara Crites, John McGill, Tiffany Ramage, Stefanie Rooney and Arsam Salahimoghdam.

Photos and text by Kat Mohr

Memorial Day meaning varies for students

By Christian Anderson
News Writing I Student

Celebrated the last Monday in May, Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day.

On this day Americans pause to honor the U.S. men and women who lost their lives serving their country.

Decoration Day was established May 30, 1868 to remember those fallen in the Civil War. Over the years it has become known

as Memorial Day, and has been celebrated as a federal holiday since 1971.

In recent times, people have begun to think of Memorial Day as a day off from work and school, or extra time for barbecues, lake trips and partying.

For many, Memorial Day weekend represents the gateway to summer.

Student plans to celebrate Memorial Day vary.

Joseph Caswell, OKCCC student, plans to travel on Memorial weekend.

"I plan on going to Grand Lake with friends," said Caswell, bio-chemistry ma-

jor.

Kiana Sanders, pre-med major, said she plans on remembering loved ones who have died.

Roger Thompson, MIS major, is planning a trip to Dallas.

"I plan on going to Six Flags with my girl and friends," he said.

Emily Hwang, pre-med major, said, "I'm going to work.

"I don't think most people take [Memorial Day] as a big deal."

The meaning of Memorial Day to most is very much the same. Most think of it

as a day of cookouts, spending time with family and friends, going to the lake and honoring the contributions of the deceased.

Student reactions to the meaning of Memorial Day follow the same pattern.

Thompson expressed his meaning for Memorial Day by saying, "It's a day to remember your loved ones who have passed away."

Kevin Greene, criminal justice major, is going to use the time to hang out with friends.

"To me it's a time to fire up the grill, call up a couple of homies and put on some

old school," said Greene.

To OKCCC student Hannah Chorost, Memorial Day means much more than fun.

"[It means] remembering those people who lost their lives for our country," she said.

Others find it to be a day of struggle.

"It's a sad day for me," said Lovella Williams, an employee of Sellers' food service in the student union. "It's hard to visit someone close that you buried," said Williams.

For all, it will be a day of togetherness.

The History of Memorial Day

Since becoming a federal holiday in 1971, Memorial Day has been a very important holiday, not only to veterans but to anyone who has lost a loved one.

Now, many spend Memorial Day visiting cemeteries and leaving flowers on the graves of friends and family members who have died.

Memorial Day



It has come to serve as a day to remember all U.S. men and women killed or missing in action in all wars. Today,

Memorial Day is celebrated at Arlington National Cemetery with a ceremony in which a small American flag is placed on each grave.

It is customary for the president or vice-president to give a speech honoring the contributions of the dead and to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

About 5,000 people attend the ceremony annually.

Eulogy for a Veteran

**Do not stand at my grave and weep.
I am not there, I do not sleep.**

**I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.**

**I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the Gentle autumn rain.**

**When you awaken in the morning's hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush
of quiet birds in circled flight,
I am the soft stars that shine at night.**

**Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there, I did not die.**

Author Unknown

Memorial Day weekend happenings

There are many different activities going on in Oklahoma City and the surrounding areas on Memorial Day weekend. From music to art, there should be something for everyone.

- Paseo Arts Festival**
May 25 through 27
Historic Paseo Spanish Village, N.W. 30th and Dewey
Art, music, food and free kid's area
For more information, call 525-2688
- Chuck Wagon Gathering and Children's Cowboy Festival**
May 26 and 27
National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum.
Two days of food, stage entertainment and children's educational activities
For more information, call 478-2250
- Edmond Blues and Jazz Festival and Art Association Show**
May 27 and 28
Hafer Park
Music, arts, crafts and food
For more information, call 341-4344
- Memorial Day Observance**
May 28
45th Infantry Museum
Fly-over of military aircraft, music by the 45th Army band, speeches and presentation of a memorial wreath
For more information, call 424-5313

— information provided by www.okccvb.org and www.keyokc.com

Integris, OKCCC to partner up for nursing

**By Kate Brennan
Staff Writer**

Integris Health and OKCCC have joined to help rid Oklahoma of its nursing shortage, said Paul Sechrist, provost/vice president for academic affairs.

The program will train licensed practical nurses to become registered nurses in the 10-month program.

"Oklahoma City Community College is proud to partner with Integris Health, a leader in the medical field," said Sechrist.

"This partnership is a great way we can work to-

gether to help fulfill the workforce demand in the nursing field."

"We are very excited about the program," said Lea Ann Loftis, director of the nursing program at OKCCC. "The set up is very user friendly."

Unlike the current program that takes a full year of full-time study, the pro-

gram participants will be able to work while completing the accelerated course requirements two days a week for the 10-month period.

Integris will donate \$50,000 a year to cover faculty salary and benefits for the program that will graduate an additional 30 students from OKCCC's

nursing school.

"We're always hoping to expand in years to come, but right now I just hope that the program we have created is very successful," said Loftis.

The LPN to RN program is open to all qualified OKCCC students.

Contact Loftis at 682-1611, ext. 7289.

Pathways teacher to take part in National History Day

**By Angela Krizer
News Writing I Student**

Brooke Beasley, teacher for Pathways Middle College High School, is the only Oklahoma teacher accepted for participation in the National History Day Institute this year. The institute will be held July 20 through 26 in Atlanta.

The institute's theme for 2002 is "We Shall Overcome," covering 100 years of the Civil Rights Movement.

History Day is a national event that middle and high school students participate in annually during the month of March by preparing projects for competition.

"The institute will be teaching us how to do History Day with our students," Beasley said.

Participants will hear speakers, attend seminars and tour museums to review actual historic documents throughout the week.

Beasley teaches language arts and social studies for both eighth and ninth graders at Pathways, an alternative Oklahoma City public school that meets on the third floor of the main building at OKCCC.

Beasley took her students to the District 4 competition for History Day in March hosted by OKCCC. Although her students did not participate, they watched and learned about the competition.

Beasley was later asked to work with OKCCC faculty and staff by participating as a judge.

"I learned so much more judging than observing," Beasley said.

Many of Beasley's Path-

ways students are looking forward to participating in the contest next year.

Jennifer Lundy, ninth grade, said she would like to do a skit. She said she thinks it would be fun. "Not necessarily to win, but to say I tried," Lundy said.

Holly Tiller, ninth grade, said she learned a lot watching this year's competition and would be interested in doing a research paper or a display board with a group of people. "I want to win nationals," Tiller said.

Beasley looks forward to participating in the event next year with her students from Pathways.

"My students will definitely be participating in History Day next year, with hopes they will win awards," Beasley said.

Religious views differ among students

**By Lauren Karim
News Writing I Student**

College students have diversified views on religion.

There are many religious groups on campus for students to participate in, yet attendance is generally low in comparison to the size of the student body.

Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM), Chi Alpha, Christians on Campus and the United Methodist Student Ministry are a few.

Students who attend are pleased with the participation in the groups.

Freshman Richard Hill said the groups provide "a

good time in the middle of the week to praise and worship."

One reason some students avoid religious clubs is that some college students aren't open with their religious beliefs. Many believe that religion is a private matter.

"Religion in college is not as common as you would think," said sophomore Calyn Snell.

"Many people are really very quiet about their beliefs."

Though Oklahoma is a prominent state in the "Bible belt" of America, there are many people who hold no religious beliefs at all.

"I was raised as a Southern Baptist," said student Matt Lanon.

"But around 13 or 14 I started to doubt things."

Lanon said that he no longer considers himself to be religious.

"Many people only attend church for the social aspect," he said. "I view things scientifically."

College students often say they don't have time to participate in religious events.

Sophomore Cammie Hayes said, "I am a religious person, but I have no time to go to church when I am at school."

Hayes said she attends church with her parents.

Bookstore employee addresses concerns

"Store,"

Cont. from page 1

filthy," said Jackson.

Jackson said she bought a vacuum cleaner for the store but it doesn't do any good.

"I vacuum one day, and the next day, it's just as filthy," said Jackson.

She believes the dust just circulates in the store due to poor ventilation, causing allergic reactions for some employees.

"I just wonder why our concerns have

never been addressed," said Jackson.

Jackson's other concerns include nails that jut out of the wall on the gym side. Jackson believes with all the kids camps coming up, the nails could pose a serious danger.

Not only is the bookstore having to deal with noise issues, they also are dealing with a loss of business.

"It's hurting our business," said Jackson. "Our supply sales like pencils, notebooks, candy, have gone down drastically since we've moved over here."

Kathy Reed, bookstore director, declined comment on the situation.

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Development Center can help plan college career

By Rob Wagner
News Writing I Student

For students at OKCCC, the Student Development Center is one of the most useful tools when planning their college career. The SDC handles all academic issues as well as personal issues. There, a student can receive tu-

toring and degree planning to help choose the courses best suited for working toward graduation. "The Student Development Center is a major growth factor for students here at OKCCC," said Ed Williams, Student Development counselor. "We like to track incremental growth of students and see them improve during their time here." Williams said the SDC is not

available only during the fall and spring semesters. All services are provided during the summer semester and intersessions as well. Williams said the SDC gets busiest around the start and end of semester with more students coming in for enrollment advice. Because of that, he said, students are encouraged to use the SDC at all times of the year, and not wait until enrollment when the

lines are long. "If students come in during the slower times of the year, we can offer more individualized help," Williams said. He said OKCCC is dedicated to the success of students and the SDC is just one of the ways the college is helping them to achieve this success. For more information, call the SDC at 682-1611, ext. 7353.

College applauded for cultural series

By Marouane Bouabedi
News Writing I Student

The American Council for International Education has announced that OKCCC was awarded one of two 2002 International Achievement Awards.

OKCCC received the award for its Cultural Awareness Series on April 19 at the national conference of ACIIE in Seattle. The award was presented to Dr. Manuel Prestamo, OKCCC dean of Cultural Programs and Community Development. Prestamo was also the chairman of the national conference of ACIIE

in Seattle. "I was delighted to learn that the Cultural Awareness Series, and other international initiatives and events managed through my area were earning the college national recognition," said Prestamo. TransPacific Hawaii college in Honolulu was the other college to receive an award.

Test-takers need to be prepared

By Jose Perez
News Writing I Student

Students needing to take academic tests in the college's test center should not wait until the last minute, said Testing Director Jeff Beed. He said any student wanting to take a test must be present one hour before the testing center closes. Students also need to be prepared. Beed said students using the center will need to know the instructor's name, course name, course number and what test they are taking ahead of time. Also, students will need to bring school identification or any other picture identification, he said. The center will close on time, even if students are still working, Beed said.

One student knows this firsthand. "Don't go one hour before closing time if you know that it might take you more than an hour to finish," said journalism major Fairy Ndiaye. "They will kick you out." Beed said the busiest time in the Test Center will be Thursday and Friday, with the least busiest days being Monday through Wednesday. The center will be open Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 7 p.m. Students who have questions about the Test Center and the procedures should call the test center at 682-1611, ext. 7321.

Student borrowers should become loan savvy

By Kelli Sager
News Writing I Student

About 4,200 OKCCC students receive financial aid. Approximately 40 percent of those students also have taken out a loan to pay for their education. Pam Jordan, director of Financial Aid, said students may want to re-think that option. "Some students tend to borrow way beyond their needs," she said. Because of that, Jordan said, OKCCC strongly suggests the concept of "smart borrowing." Financial aid counselors routinely remind students that they can always decline any money they don't need. Jordan said, even though it feels like free money now, loans eventually have to be paid back, along with the interest that has accrued on the loan or that will accrue on it during repayment. OKCCC follows certain guidelines that help students make the best choices. First-time applicants who receive loans must attend a first-time loan counseling session. The counseling and mandatory test can be done online. With successive loans, counseling is optional but still can be help-

ful, said Jordan. Many types of loans are awarded to students. The first one is the Federal Subsidized Loan. With this loan, the government pays the interest while students are enrolled in at least six credit hours. The government continues to pay the interest up to six months after graduation. The second loan is unsubsidized which means that students are responsible for the interest from the time the loan is disbursed until it is paid in full. With the unsubsidized loan, students always have the option of paying the interest on a monthly basis or letting the interest accrue.

Work study another option

By Kelli Sager
News Writing I Student

One financial aid program often overlooked is a part-time job called federal work-study. Work-study allows students to work for \$6.50 an hour. Jobs are on or, in a few cases, off campus. This option is good for students who want to avoid student loans, because the work-study money does not have to be re-paid. A student is allowed to apply for all the different options on their

The interest rate will never exceed 8.25 percent under current law. A third loan called the Federal Perkins Loan is awarded to those who are in exceptional need of assistance. This particular loan is a little different in that the institution is the lender. The average amount awarded to OKCCC students is \$1,500 per year. "The maximum amount of subsidized and unsubsidized loans for a dependent freshman is \$2,600 and for dependent sophomores it is \$3,500," said Jordan. Jordan said there is still time to apply for financial aid for summer and fall.

FAFSA. When scheduling the student for work, the department that hires the student works around the student's schedule allowing them time to go to class. Scott Everett, OKCCC sophomore, said he chose work-study over another job because, "I like the fact that I can choose my own schedule." Everett has applied for a position in safety and security. Work-study is an opportunity for students to attend school full-time and work part-time while getting an education.

Highlights

Apply now for fall fee waivers

Fall tuition waiver applications are available in the office of Student Financial Support Services in front of the test center by the science area. Aug. 2 will be the last day to submit applications. No applications will be accepted after 5 p.m. that day. Academic fee waiver recipients will be posted in Student Financial Support Services on Aug. 16.

Donate your old cell phone to City Rescue Mission

Donate your used cell phone to City Rescue Mission and get a tax deduction on your 2002 return. Call (405)843-2355 for phone pickup or drop off at 2921 W. Wilshire Ave. or 800 W. California Ave., Oklahoma City.

Walk for the American Cancer Society

"Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" is a non-competitive five mile walk on Saturday, May 18 in Stars and Stripes Park at Lake Hefner. The walk is free. Only donations and pledges will be accepted for the walkers. Volunteers are also needed. For more information please call Pat Stowe at 682-1611 ext. 7471.

Applications due for LPN track nursing program

There are still openings in the LPN nursing program. Applications may be picked up in the office of Admissions and Records. Completed applications are due by noon, Friday, June 14. Call Lea Ann Loftis at 682-1611 ext. 7289 for further information.

Fall 2002 tuition to be paid in Bursar's office

All fall 2002 tuition and fees will be accepted only in the Bursar's office, now located in 1S7 of the main building. Payments for tuition and fees for semesters prior to fall 2002 will continue to be taken in the bookstore.

Low income scholarship available

The William P. Willis Scholarship is available for low income Oklahoma residents who are enrolled full-time in an undergraduate program for fall and spring at OKCCC. The deadline is June 14. For more information and to receive an application please see Prospective Student Services in board rooms A and B.

Future teachers scholarship available

Scholarships are available for future teachers seeking to teach in a shortage specialty of: counseling, foreign language, math, science, special education, speech/language pathology or technology education. The application deadline is May 31. For information see Prospective Student Services in board rooms A and B.

Remembering Justin Williamson

There will be a memorial banner to sign in the Arts and Humanities building near the main office on behalf of the Writing Club. Please show your support. We would also like to wish everyone good luck with finals. We are looking forward to serving you next semester.

Volunteer for the Senior Classic Games

The Oklahoma Senior Classic Games will begin at 8 a.m., Wednesday, May 22 in the college union. Volunteers are needed to escort the participants to each event. For volunteer information please contact Margy Davis at 682-1611 ext. 7536.

Highlights are due by 5 p.m. each Tuesday for publication in the next issue of the Pioneer.



Photo by Kat Mohr

Students cure a sweet tooth: OKCCC Art Guild Club member Fatemeh Taghavi raises money for her club as she serves up a strawberry snowcone to OKCCC student Nicole Battles, activities board club member.

Club conquers the rapids

Students rid themselves of stress before finals

By Juliet Okoroegbe
News Writing I
Student

The International Student Association survived a rafting adventure on the Illinois River during the last weekend in April.

About 40 people went on the two-day trip, visiting

the river and different places in Tahlequah, Okla.

Kim Pham, president of ISA, said the river trip was a time to have fun before finals.

"We needed to relax before our exams and just have a nice time," said Pham.

Students from the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University

joined OKCCC students.

They went canoeing, played volleyball and barbecued at night. Non-members of ISA paid \$20 and members paid \$10 for food.

"We ate regular American foods like fries and burgers, but we also got a taste of Vietnamese food," said Pham.

Pham said it was a fun and relaxing trip.

PsyOps interest Psi Beta students

By Kelly Clayton
News Writing I
Student

Staff Sgt. Dennis VanOven, U.S. Army recruiter of the Oklahoma City and Moore area, spoke to Psi

Beta Thursday, March 28.

VanOven discussed opportunities in the U.S. Army for Psychological Operations Specialists, whose duties include supervising, coordinating and participating in analysis, planning, production and dissemination of tactical, strategic and consolidation psychological operations.

VanOven went over the two levels: the entry level, which trains and maintains

proficiency in all major duties, and skill level two, which performs all duties of the preceding skill level as well as identifying psychological vulnerabilities and susceptibilities of psychological operation targets.

For more information on psychological operations specialists or any other area of the U.S. Army, contact VanOven at (405) 378-0563.



Got club news?
Call Kate
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Classifieds

Pioneer Classified Advertising is **free** to all **currently enrolled OKCCC students** and employees for any **personal classified ad**. Ads must be submitted in writing with IDs supplied or work area and college extension included. Deadline for advertising is 5 p.m. Tuesday prior to the publication date. Call 682-1611, ext. 7674 for more information.

AUTOMOBILES

FOR SALE: '99 Pontiac Firebird. T-tops, CD player, power locks, alloys, keyless entry and anti-theft system. 42K highway miles. \$13,900. Call 226-5329.

FOR SALE: '97 Oldsmobile Achieva. White, power locks and windows. Excellent condition, 69K miles. \$6,000 OBO. Call 684-2881 or 682-1611, ext. 7233.

FOR SALE: '97 GMC Yukon 4WD. 80K hwy miles, 350 V-8, black w/gray interior, loaded, lots of extras. \$17,000 OBO. 672-6341 or 408-7285. Please leave a msg.

FOR SALE: '96 Chevy S-10. 4-cyl., 5-speed (manual). 2.2 ltr, 85,000 miles, a/c, all maintenance records. Call Neill at 722-7510.

FOR SALE: '96 Honda Civic OX, 5-speed, A/C, cassette, one owner, new tires, EC. \$5,100 OBO. Call 691-5266 or 824-4998.

FOR SALE: '95 Pontiac Grand Am, V6, auto., new tires, power locks, cruise, ABS. Teal, rear spoiler, new tires, 110K miles. New CD player needs to be installed. \$2,500 OBO. Call 943-6073.

FOR SALE: '95 Dodge extended cab truck. \$5,500. Call 810-0456 or 205-9391.

FOR SALE: '95 Grand Am GT, new tires, CD, alarm, power locks and windows. Cruise, alloys. EC. \$4,500 OBO. Call 206-4149.

FOR SALE: '94 Honda Accord LX, 5-speed, 4-door, CD, a/c, 112K miles, very clean. Excellent condition. \$5,700 OBO. Call 613-6835 or 605-0566.

FOR SALE: '94 Mitsubishi Galant, automatic, 119K miles. Cruise control, power locks and windows, tinted windows. American racing wheels, AM/FM cassette. \$2,995 OBO. Call 642-4837.

FOR SALE: '94 Dodge Grand Caravan, green w/tan interior, power locks and windows. Keyless entry, rear air, CD player. 106K miles, \$3,750 OBO. Call 680-7513 or 650-2483.

FOR SALE: '94 Dodge Shadow, \$1,595, 4-door, automatic, good condition. 116K miles, minor body damage. Call 816-3131.

FOR SALE: '94 Mazda Protege, 5-speed, new tires, tinted windows, new clutch, very clean. \$2,500. Call 314-6322.

FOR SALE: '94 Honda Accord, black, V-tech auto, leather seats, sunroof, power windows and locks. New tires, very nice. Asking \$6,500. Call 314-6322.

FOR SALE: '93 Chevy Lumina APV LS (van). One owner. All power, cass./AM/FM, load lift system, 15" wheels, new tires, 7-passenger modular, red, 138K miles. \$3,500. Call 376-1258.

FOR SALE: '93 Pontiac Grand AM. 10-disc CD changer, a/c, heat, power locks, great car. \$2,800. Call 799-3412.

FOR SALE: '93 Chevy Beretta, 5-speed, a/c, cassette and power windows. Clean, runs well. \$1,800 OBO. Call 688-8981.

FOR SALE: '92 Honda Accord LX, auto, a/c, all power, CD, a/c, new timing belts, clean, loaded, 173K miles. \$2900. For pics, e-mail anakokc@yahoo.com.

FOR SALE: '92 Mustang, 4-cyl., automatic, a/c, runs great. School or work car. \$2,850. Call 691-4531.

FOR SALE: '92 Cadillac STS Seville, cherry red, leather seats, aluminum wheels, fully loaded. \$5,200. Call 386-9838.

FOR SALE: '91 Ford Explorer, black w/gray interior. Power locks and windows. Leather seats, \$4,000 OBO. Call 680-7513 or 650-2483.

FOR SALE: '88 Nissan Sentra, automatic, a/c, \$1,150. New CV axle, cruise control, 2-door, dependable. Call 816-3131.

FOR SALE: '86 Toyota Camry, white, 5-speed manual transmission, 4-door, new tires and brakes, good gas mileage. \$1,500 OBO. Call 557-0738.

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FOR SALE: 150-watt Crate 8-channel P.A. head, \$350, and Star System speakers. One speaker for \$200; two for \$395. All in GC. Call 324-0894 or 206-1049.

FOR SALE: Mid-80s Gibson Flying-V, yellow metal-flake with gold hardware, locking tremelo, & case, \$550; mid-80s Gibson Invader w/case, \$350; Carvin X-100-B, 100-watt tube amp, 2-channel, EQ, reverb, foot switch, \$350; Carvin 4-12 cabinet, \$350; Peavey 50-watt amp. 2-12 combo phase shifter, reverb foot switch, \$250; Peavey 8-chan. board w/case, \$150. Nelson at 793-2774.

FOR SALE: Amd Athlon 1.33 Ghz., 33D sound, 32 mb video,

56k fax/modem, 128 mb pc133 RAM. 40 gb hard drive, 16x speed DVD/cd-rom, fdd 1.44 mb, speakers, keyboard & mouse. Win. included, \$550. Call 364-9383.

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BOOK FOR SALE: PSY-1103 Human Relations book. The Dynamics of Human Communication: A Laboratory Approach by Myers and Myers. \$35. Call Ruth at 942-3121.

FOR SALE: Metal office desk, black and wood laminate, two drawers, good condition. Will need truck to move. \$50 OBO. Call 604-2773 after 5 p.m.

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FOR SALE: EZ battery powered golf cart. Needs battery. \$2,000 OBO. 400-ft. metal concrete forms, hangers and pins included, \$4,000. '99 709 Bobcat backhoe attachment, \$7,000. '99 Flag Staff 5th wheel, \$14,000. Call Kay at 517-4942.

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FOR SALE: Mountaineer Plus stair-stepping machine. Paid more than \$100. Asking \$50. 681-4539.

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ACROSS

- 1 Flavorful seed
- 7 Santa's helper
- 10 "— the night before ..."
- 14 Did a pre-papery job
- 15 Roman dozen
- 16 — of relief
- 17 Gallery
- 18 Ques. comeback
- 19 Arm bone
- 20 Unassisted
- 23 Oklahoma city
- 26 "— Alive!"
- 27 Outmoded
- 28 Busy as —
- 29 "The Ghost and — Muir"
- 30 Record speed
- 31 Glided downhill
- 33 Courageous
- 37 W. Hemisphere alliance
- 38 Overwhelm
- 39 Get older
- 40 — Zedong
- 41 Was angry
- 43 Acting like a bird
- 45 Young boy
- 46 Assist
- 47 Ancient Peruvian
- 48 Run —: get in trouble
- 51 Urban trains

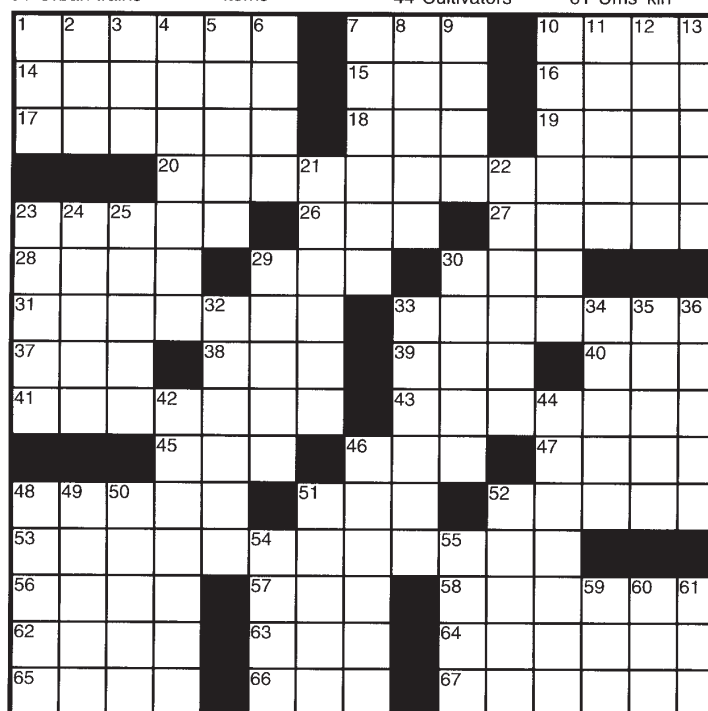
DOWN

- 1 Health resort
- 2 Goof
- 3 "Get 'em, Fido!"
- 4 Gathers
- 5 TV and radio
- 6 Eve's home
- 7 Raises in status
- 8 Rows
- 9 Use a rod
- 10 Tidal wave
- 11 Uninhabited regions
- 12 Choreographer de Mille
- 13 Window covering
- 21 Prepared (oneself) for action
- 22 Orchard fruits
- 23 Mexican-menu items
- 52 Tricks
- 53 Educational offering
- 56 Iraq's neighbor
- 57 Sharp — tack
- 58 Swindle
- 62 Spanish lady
- 63 Get-up-and-go
- 64 Passion
- 65 Part of HOMES
- 66 Cook's meas.
- 67 Prospector's tests

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

PETS	ALAMO	SOWS
ODIE	RULER	PLAN
MIEN	MALTA	AIDA
PERILOUS	TURNIP	
OURS	VIPS	
CHARGE	MOOSEJAW	
EONS	DRAIN	RILE
ART	OIL	BIN
SNIP	DOZEN	VEND
ESCALATE	OXIDES	
GYMS	ASIN	
HEROES	DRIVEWAY	
IVID	ELUDE	GALA
BETA	LIKES	AVER
ORES	SPENT	REED

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College strives to meet given challenges

**By Mark Stack
Editor**

College administrators and faculty have been hard at work helping OKCCC meet the challenges that the Higher Learning Commission put before them six months ago.

Although the college has yet to receive the final official report from the accreditation team, they have wasted no time trying to get the college up to par with the recommendations made by the commission.

The HLC set two challenges for OKCCC: increase diversity among faculty and staff, and implement a comprehensive outcome assessment program.

Outcome assessment is the ability to show that students are actually learning what is being taught.

Dr. Annmarie Shirazi, dean of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness, said the college has always had a viable assessment program, but it was never in a set order, which is what the HLC is looking for.

"For the assessment programs, I think the big thing was that we really need something in place that shows our plan and how we are going to do it every year, so it was good of them to recommend that," she said.

Shirazi also indicated that a set vocabulary con-

cerning assessments needs to be developed in order to avoid confusion within faculty and staff at the college.

She said one change to be made will be to outcome assessment committees.

Currently, only one faculty member from each division is present during the committee meeting, but will increase to two faculty members in the future.

Brenda Harrison, associate vice president for Academic Affairs, said although assessment programs haven't been well documented, they have still been a great reference.

"The commission did tell us that we have a really good assessment plan, but we need to strengthen it by making sure it is well written, well defined and faculty involved," she said.

OKCCC President Bob Todd voiced the notion that assessment programs have always been on OKCCC's agenda.

"We have, since the institution's inception, done assessments, evaluations and follow-ups on graduates and other things that are measures of [institutional] effectiveness."

Todd said it is the commission's desire to see how OKCCC's assessment programs are structured and organized to show if students are learning what they are supposed to be learning.

As for the challenge of

creating a more diverse faculty and staff, Todd knows it will be exactly that — a challenge.

"We are going to continue to recruit and solicit individuals to provide as diverse a staff and faculty as we can."

Todd believes through various advertising and contracts, a lot of effort has been exerted to effectively recruit diverse individuals.

"I do believe there is a greater need for Hispanic and African-American representation within the faculty," he said.

Todd said it becomes tough because there is a lack of funding and a low turnover rate for teachers.

"It's a quality institution where people choose to stay," said Todd.

Dr. Charlotte French, executive director of enrollment management, said diversity has always been a top priority at OKCCC.

"Since I have been here, the college has always aimed to be as diverse as possible," she said.

French said she knows first-hand how hard the college tries in creating a diverse institution as she has one of the most diverse offices on campus.

"It's hard when well-qualified people of any color are being recruited for better jobs out-of-state."

The HLC has required the college to file a secondary report by May of 2004 deal-

ing with how OKCCC has addressed the assessment program challenges.

Todd said a report is not required on the challenge for increasing diversity.

Student diversity more than that of faculty

**By Farra Williams
News Writing I Student**

During a time period when minority enrollment is rising at OKCCC, the number of minority faculty members is declining, according to reports provided by the college.

More than one-fourth of the OKCCC student population is considered minority students, as of fall 2000, according to the Oklahoma Student Data Report.

At the same time, the diversity of full-time professors has slowly declined. Since 1998 minority faculty members have dropped from 15 percent to a current 12 percent. OKCCC currently employs 109 professors; 13 are minorities. One professor in eight is a minority, compared to one in four students.

The number of students at OKCCC during 2000-2001 was 9,358. Seventy-five percent classified themselves as Caucasian. Of the remaining 25 percent, 7 percent are listed as African American, 7 percent Asian, 6 percent American Indian and 4 percent Hispanic.

Within the last five years OKCCC has seen an especially large increase in students of Asian descent. Since 1995, overall enrollment on campus has decreased by nearly 600 students, while enrollment for Asian students alone has increased by nearly 150 students with 526 OKCCC students listing themselves as Asian.

Enrollment of American Indian students also has risen in the past five years from 509 to 520.

African American students, the largest enrolled

minority, have risen from 546 to 675 students since 1995.

The Hispanic population of students has also risen within the last five years from 293 to 356.

Every minority on the OKCCC campus has increased since 1995; although, overall student enrollment has declined by 573 students, according to the Student Data Report.

Faculty minority representation shows African Americans with the largest representation, with five professors placing themselves in that category.

Other minority faculty members are as follows: four Asian, three American Indian and one Hispanic.

"Minority professors give the benefit of different perspectives," says Patricia Jimenez Brooks, professor of modern languages. "Because our experiences have been different, we can give that to the students."

Tam Dinh, engineering sophomore, said he has only Caucasian professors this semester but said the racial background is less important than classroom skills.

"As long as they are good teachers, that's all that matters."

College administrators say they hope to hire more minority professors.

"The college is committed to increasing the diversity of the faculty," said Paul Sechrist, provost and vice president of academic affairs.

The administration is exploring new recruitment measures to increase the number of minority applicants.

"We will seek to hire the best faculty that fit with the college mission and vision," Sechrist said.

Employees to save e-mail according to law

"Mail,"

Cont. from page 1

supporting something that was already in place," said Edmondson.

"The major part will be getting used to disposing [of the e-mails] properly."

It will also be up to the individual state employee to determine what is a significant e-mail to retain.

Freeman said that a good example would be e-mail sent to a professor by a student in which college-related business is conducted. That professor would have to retain that

e-mail either on paper or on the hard drive of the computer.

John Richardson, director of computer systems development, said some changes may have to be made to the computer systems at OKCCC to accommodate all of the retained e-mail.

"We are still very early in this," Richardson said. "In my [department] there are three people who will be looking at it from a technical standpoint, and will then decide how to handle it," he said.

Richardson said the expansion of mailboxes and disk capacity for servers

may be a part of the project.

Once everything is in place, he said there will be some clarification given to faculty as to how to handle e-mail retention and how to follow the decision handed down by Edmondson.

"Within the next month we'll finish our part in determining how the decision affects [college employees] and we will then communicate that to them," he said.

Freeman said it is important for students to know that the Attorney General's decision does not affect e-mail they receive.

"This only applies to state employees," he said.