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# PIONEER

www.occc.edu/pioneer

## College vision seen through students' eyes

### Achieving the Dream 'about success'

By Chris Lusk  
Editor

OCCC is not only committed to providing quality education, but also to providing its students every means necessary to graduate, said President Paul Sechrist.

At a luncheon open to all college employees, Sechrist gave an overview on a new initiative aimed at achieving these goals — Achieving the Dream: Community Colleges Count.

Achieving the Dream is a long-

term commitment to help students graduate, from here or elsewhere, Sechrist said.

He said the initiative is a part of a nationwide program that the college became involved in this past July.

The program is geared toward community colleges and is particularly focused on student groups who have traditionally faced barriers to success, Sechrist said.

"Our first goal is to bring the high-risk student success rates up to the average."

See "Vision," page 12

## OCCC employee diversity on the rise

By Matt Bishop  
Senior Staff Writer

The number of employees among OCCC workers has increased to create a more diverse work environment among faculty and students, according to a report given at the Board of Regents meeting Jan. 14.

The number of minority college workers at OCCC has increased by 3 percent among part-time workers and 2 percent among full-time workers since 2005, according to the report.

These increases put the minority workforce for part-time and full-time workers at 19 percent.

Native Americans were the minority with the largest increase in the OCCC workforce with a 1.5 percent increase from 2005, making up 4.9 percent of the workforce, compared to 3.4 percent in 2005.

African Americans were right be-

**"We have a diverse applicant pool and we want to show that OCCC is a good place to work."**

—Millie Tibbits

Human Resources  
Compliance Officer

hind with a 1.4 percent increase, making up 6.5 percent of the workforce.

The Asian workforce went up .4 percent to 4 percent total, and the Hispanic workforce was steady at 3.5 percent.

OCCC's Human Resources department is finalizing an institutional diversity plan that aims to strengthen the diversity in the college's workforce, said Millie Tibbits, Human Resources compliance officer.

"[The institutional diversity plan] is to broaden our recruiting net," she said.

## Getting with the program



Photo by Amber McBride

Nutrition major Marco Barbosa signs up to join the Psychology/Sociology club at the recent Club and Organization Fair held in the College Union. Student Clubs and Organizations Assistant Karlen Grayson said 25 clubs participated in the event. For more information on joining a campus club or organization, call Student Life at 405-682-7523.

"We have a diverse applicant pool and we want to show that OCCC is a good place to work."

The location of the college provides an easy commute for workers and students in and around Oklahoma City, Tibbits said.

"We just want people to know we provide a great educational and working environment."

Carlos Robinson, an OCCC alumnus who is still working at the Welcome Center where he has been employed for more than three years, said he thinks the college could hire even more minority

workers.

"I believe the minority workforce should be equivalent to the student population."

Robinson currently is attending Oklahoma City University, but maintains his job at the Welcome Center because, he said, he feels OCCC is a comfortable place to both work and attend class.

"[OCCC] has great culture and the leadership is good."

LaWanda LaVarnway, photography lab assistant, said the diversity plan is a great

See "Diversity," page 12

## Editorial and Opinion

## Editorial

## Want reality? Turn the channel

Here are a couple questions for you: In what country is the region known as Darfur located? Why is there a "conflict" there?

How many people have died due to violence or disease directly related to this "conflict"? What is the United Nations — or the United States for that matter — doing about it?

I find it disappointing that most of the people I know are completely oblivious to the tragedy that is occurring in Darfur.

It seems we as a country are more capable of listing the top three finalists for the last five years on "American Idol" than we are of explaining the events that have taken place in Sudan for the last five years.

I believe it is time for us, as a nation, to seriously re-examine our priorities. It is amazing to me how self-centered we have seemingly become.

We spend all of our free time updating our MySpace pages, checking comments that people leave on our Facebook and downloading the coolest new ringtones for our cell phones. All this while we sheepishly watch shows like "American Idol" and "The Apprentice" in a misguided search for entertainment.

Too often I feel we as Americans don't pay enough attention to what is happening outside our own country. We act like it isn't a big deal if it doesn't directly benefit or harm us in some way. As a country, we turn our heads and act like nothing is happening.

According to estimates from the U.N., something is definitely happening. More than 400,000 people have died due to violence and disease directly related to the conflict in Darfur since it began in February 2003.

In 1994 the world turned its head as more than 500,000 ethnic Tutsi and moderate Hutu tribesmen were exterminated by machete-wielding militias in Rwanda.

Now, in 2008, Sudan is embroiled in conflict and controversy.

People, real people, human beings are dying and being displaced every day, and the rest of the world sits back and does nothing.

While children starve and people are murdered halfway across the world, we sit back in our comfortable living rooms and applaud as Donald Trump fires B-list celebrities.

As the hopes and dreams of America rest upon the shoulders of a singer from anytown U.S.A., our ignorance and complacency make us just as guilty as the Janjaweed, but then it's only Africa ... What does that have to do with us?

—Scott Glidewell  
Staff Writer

write to editor@occc.edu

## Dfest searching for artists

### To the editor:

The most comprehensive music conference and festival in the Midwest is searching for emerging artists to perform July 25 and 26 at the seventh annual Dfest.

Last year Dfest had over 750 submissions and this year we are expecting more than 1,500 submissions. Over 120 unsigned artists will be selected to perform and 50 percent of those performers will be Oklahoma artists.

Each unsigned artist receives a complimentary badge to attend the conference, tradeshow and the music festival. This badge access to the conference allows artists to mingle with the best of the best of music industry professionals.

Dfest provides up-and-coming artists the opportunity to connect with representatives from well-known labels and music industry agencies and connect with fans.

Not only will artists selected to showcase be seen by major record label A&R professionals, but more importantly, they'll be showcasing for numerous indie

record labels, booking agents, entertainment lawyers, and management firms. And for artists, who prefer the DIY career path, the conference will be a valuable tool for picking up resources and learning how to have a successful independent career as an artist in today's changing music industry.

"It's our mission to advance the careers of breaking artists by providing them with networking opportunities and education about the music industry," Dfest Co-creator Tom Green said.

"In the past couple of years, we have had lots of talented artists apply to showcase and with the level of talent applying, it's becoming more and more prestigious to showcase at Dfest, because we showcase the best of the best."

This past year, the event served as a launch pad for Colourmusic, who signed with indie record label Great Society, a part of the World's Fair family of artists, which includes noteworthy artist The Flaming Lips.

Co-founder Angie DeVore-Green is featured in the

January 2008 Electronic Musician for an article regarding artists looking to attend and/or showcase at music conferences in 2008.

Interested artists should submit their music to [www.dfest.com](http://www.dfest.com) today. The deadline is April 3.

—Jen Clark  
Rex Public Relations

## PIONEER

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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 to the PIONEER office, mailed to: Pioneer Editor, 7777 S. May, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73159 or faxed to 405-682-7843.

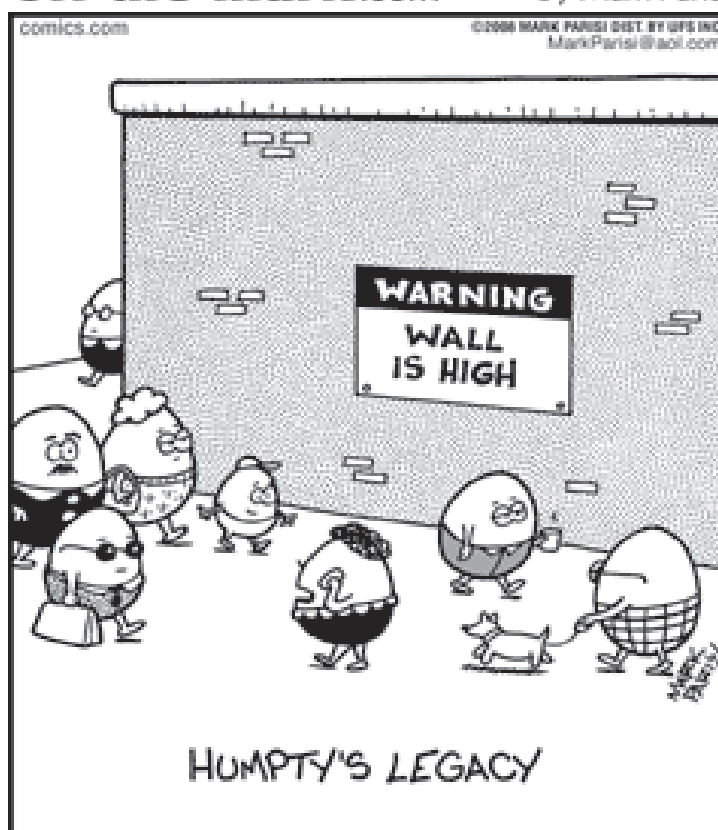
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The PIONEER can be accessed on the Internet at: [www.occc.edu/pioneer](http://www.occc.edu/pioneer).



OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## off the mark.com by Mark Parisi





## Comments and Reviews

# 'How She Move' steps with surprising success

"How She Move" is just another one of those dancing/stepping, inspirational flicks that seems to come out every six months and wows viewers with its insane choreography but offers no further substance. Or is it?

Raya Green's (Rutina Wesley) dreams of becoming a doctor seem to be dashed when her elder sister dies of a drug overdose. Sadly, the tragedy leaves her already overworked, West Indian parents so strapped financially that they can no longer afford the tuition, room and board at her exclusive prep school.

This means Raya will have to return home and attend the local public high school, which doesn't measure up academically to the private school where she's been on track to study medicine. Worse, she'll have to try to survive the streets of the same crime-infested neighborhood that took her sibling's life.

Back in the 'hood, Raya puts her ambitions on hold temporarily and focuses more on fitting-in than on excelling. However, when her math teacher exposes her for dumbing herself down in class, she unintentionally created tension between herself and a struggling classmate.

Like oil and water, the personalities of hard-edged Michelle (Tre Armstrong) and relatively refined Raya don't mix. What's worse, Michelle doesn't appreciate it when the newcomer suddenly starts hanging out with her "Step" crowd.

Raya's curiosity about the elaborate step routines was peaked when she learned about the upcoming Step Monster

Competition with a \$50,000 grand prize. She figures that if she can find a team that will allow her to join, she just might win the prize money to get her out of the ghetto again.

Although this premise might sound suspiciously similar to that of Stomp the Yard, given that it revolves around dance and a main character whose sibling dies at the point of departure, "How She Move" has enough of a variation on the theme to stand on its own.

In fact, this drama is superior in almost every way, especially in terms of character development, chemistry, choreography and conveying a feeling that you are watching real people in a real situation.

As a result, praise must be given for the inspired performances delivered by the two young leads, starting with recent Juilliard-grad Wesley, who makes a promising screen debut as the film's emotionally-conflicted heroine. Equally impressive is dancer-turned-actress Armstrong, who more than holds her own as Ms. Wesley's trash-talking rival.

Not to be outdone, the supporting cast does just enough to provide the realism unfamiliar in films of this vein.

The supporting cast includes Dwain Murphy, who does a decent job as Raya's love interest, Melanie Nicholls-King as her mom, and Brennan Gademans as her geeky shoulder to lean on. The film also features a few celebrities in cameo roles, namely, singers Keyshia Cole and Mya, and comedian DeRay



Davis.

Certainly the steps and choreography cannot go overlooked in a movie whose goal is to wow people with its dancing, and "How She Move" delivers beautifully. The film's choreography, done by the famed Hi Hat, was impressive and elaborate.

In short, this movie offers no surprises. In fact, the story line is quite predictable at times. But in a movie style that its main purpose is to entertain audiences through the art of step and dance, this is forgivable.

Rather, the outstanding performance of the cast enhances this movie to more than just another one of those dancing/stepping movies.

Given that this is not moviegoers first encounter with this style of film, I think many people will be more than surprised at the overall quality.

If you're looking for a pleasant movie with an entertaining view on the steppin' culture – and want to erase from your memory all those terrible lines of dialogue from similar movies – "How She Move" is a film that will deliver.

**Rating:** B-

—Chris Lusk  
Editor

## View from the PRESIDENT'S OFFICE



Last week the college was closed for the first time in recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. This national holiday not only celebrates the life of the assassinated civil rights leader, it has also evolved as a day of national reflection on the civil rights movement and the status of social justice in America.

It is my hope that is not just a day off from work or a day without classes, but that it is a day where we collectively engage in conversations about the principles that underpin American democracy — civil rights, social justice, and equality. It is a day when we collectively recommit ourselves to ensure that regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, or socio-economic status, all people are entitled to equal rights.

Having grown up in the 1960's, I have been a witness to the progression of the civil rights movement. And, although it has not yet reached perfection, I celebrate how far we have come. One only has to look at the diverse roster of viable candidates running for President of the United States — an African-American, a Mormon, a former Southern Baptist minister, a woman — as a hopeful indication that Martin L. King, Jr.'s dream is coming true.

I believe that access to educational opportunity is at the heart of equality and social justice. Oklahoma City Community College was founded for this very reason and remains a part of our official mission today — to provide broad and equitable access to a college education.

It is why we are an open admissions institution. It is why tuition is significantly lower than state universities and private colleges. It is why we have the OKC-Go! Program. It is why we encourage students to apply for grants, scholarships, and other financial aid. It is why we have classes in the evening, on Saturdays, online, and at off-campus sites. We simply want to ensure that a dream of a college education is possible at OCCC, without a hint of discrimination on any level.

While broad and equitable access to opportunity is something we may take for granted today, we have the courageous civil rights leaders to thank for leading the way, including Martin Luther King, Jr., who through his life and death accelerated our nation's journey towards greater opportunity and equality for all Americans.

—Paul Sechrist  
OCCC President

Have something to say? Let your voice be heard.  
e-mail us at [editor@occc.edu](mailto:editor@occc.edu)

# CLASS to make campuses safer

By Stephen Sossamon  
Staff Writer

About nine months ago, the shootings at Virginia Tech that killed 32 people, prompted Oklahoma Gov. Brad Henry to create the CLASS (Campus Life and Safety and Security) Task Force.

"We asked ourselves, could this happen in Oklahoma?" said Henry at a press conference Jan. 15 at the State Capitol. "How can we prevent this from occurring?"

The Task Force, using surveys, compiled information on safety and security for all the Oklahoma colleges, universities, and career technology centers.

**"Safety is top priority. ... We need a regular safety and security protocol."**

—Glen Johnson

Campus Life and Security Task Force Chancellor

"We need to take this report seriously and work together to make Oklahoma campuses safe," Henry said.

According to the final report the task force figured campuses needed to secure an additional \$16 million in funding to ensure that all campuses have adequate funding for security.

Using the surveys as a baseline, the task force determined that the security budgets should equal \$100

per student.

This means the total cost would be \$40.7 million for Oklahoma's 400,000 college and career tech students. The current safety and security budget for higher education and career techs is only \$24.7 million this year.

The baseline funding of \$40.7 million is aimed at bringing all campuses to the average per student funding amount, according to the report.

These funds will be gained through the use of federal grants and federal support until those means are exhausted, but the long-term solutions are quite expensive and beyond current funding for campuses right now, according to the report.

"Safety is top priority," Chancellor Glen Johnson said at the press conference. "We need a regular protocol."

Henry stated that the task force acted fast.

"We are ahead of the nation in the measures we're taking," he said.

The task force wants to develop a campus emergency response plan template for each post-second-

ary sector. This would assure that every campus appropriately covers all potential security and safety issues in their emergency response plans, according to the report.

A notification system also is wanted as a part of the plan. A universal method isn't feasible, but 100 percent coverage should be required.

"We also need help from the students and faculty of each campus," said Terri White, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse coordinator. "If they see a threat, they need to speak up."

Online Editor Stephen Sossamon can be reached at [onlineeditor@occc.edu](mailto:onlineeditor@occc.edu).

## OKC-Go! expands to Western Heights

By Brian Schroeder  
Staff Writer

Oklahoma City Community College will be expanding the OKC-GO! free tuition program to more high school graduates in the Oklahoma City area.

Beginning in the summer and fall of 2008, students graduating from Western Heights Public Schools will be eligible to apply for free tuition through the OKC-GO! program at OCCC.

Everyone who graduates on time from an Oklahoma City or Western Heights public school and attends OCCC the following fall semester is eligible for up to three years or 61 hours of tuition, said Gayla Holmes, admission adviser.

This includes tuition costs only and students will be responsible for fees, books and other supplies associated with classes.

Holmes said there is an unlimited number of OKC-GO! scholarships available for students who are qualified and apply.

"I'm hoping we will be seeing more students from Western Heights because of

this program, and I think that we will," she said.

"I've talked to some parents from Western Heights and they are elated now that we have this program going (for their school district)."

Superintendent Joe Kitchens said about 80 percent of the students are economically disadvantaged.

Western Heights is a low-income school district, Holmes said. The purpose of this program is to provide financial assistance to students who need the help and incentive to go to college, Holmes added.

"OCCC is in the middle of the Western Heights School District, and it only makes sense that we are there to help that school district and are partners with them in continuing their student's education as much as we do Oklahoma City Public Schools," she added.

The program, which began in 1999, has provided more than 1,000 students with financial assistance who attended OCCC after high school. Approximately 364 students of more than

1,500 graduating seniors from Oklahoma City public schools were granted scholarships in the fall of 2007.

A new requirement for the program is for students to also apply for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

"So many of the students, just from the Oklahoma City Public Schools, are eligible for Pell Grants and other financial aid but had

no clue they were even eligible," Holmes said.

Each OKC-GO! students' performance is reviewed at mid-semester. If the requirements are still being met, the following semester's tuition is approved.

Holmes is a former Western Heights Public School teacher.

She said students in the district do not give a second thought to college as

option because of the cost.

"They can't grasp the concept of them being able to go to college — they feel it is for everybody but them," she said.

Holmes said she hopes the high school students will see college as an option and prepare themselves while they are in high school.

Staff Writer Brian Schroeder can be reached at [StaffWriter1@occc.edu](mailto:StaffWriter1@occc.edu).

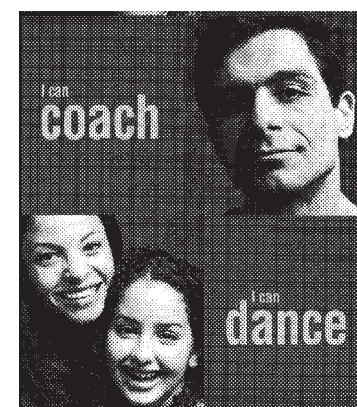
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# Oklahoma base offering internships

By Amanda McCutchen  
Staff Writer

Business students who will soon graduate will want to take notice of the Tinker Air Force Base Intern Program.

Tinker Air Force Base is offering student internships with pay, benefits and an opportunity to experience hands-on work at the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center.



gistics Center.

Judi McGee, Employment Services coordinator, said the program is aimed toward business and management majors who have completed around 60 credit hours.

Student intern benefits include flexible schedules, promotion opportunities and payment based on his or her GPA. Federal benefits include 10 paid federal holidays a year, federal health and life insurance,

paid time for on-base fitness activities, tuition assistance, and incentive and time off awards.

At 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30, representatives from the Tinker Internship program will be in

College Union room 3, providing students with information on how to get involved.

Interns must meet the following requirements; Be a U.S. citizen, enrolled in Tinker Track plan of study or willing to switch, completed at least 60 hours of college coursework, and are currently pursuing his or her first baccalaureate degree.

# New Cultural Programs director named

By Yvonne Oberly  
Staff Writer

Dan Yates, 31, recently has been hired to be the new Cultural Programs director. One goal he said he has while taking on the job is to solicit ideas from student groups about cultural programs they would like to see on campus.

"Being in the cultural programs department, we are here to serve," Yates

said.

He said he is excited about taking on the new position.

"I wanted a job that would allow me to contribute to the citizens of Oklahoma, and this job is exactly what I was looking for in every way," Yates said.

Previously, Yates worked for seven years for a non-profit group called the Ground Water Protection Council and, upon leaving,

**"I wanted a job that would allow me to contribute to the citizens of Oklahoma, and this job is exactly what I was looking for in every way."**

—Dan Yates  
Cultural Programs Director



Dan Yates

worked as the communications director.

As Cultural Programs director, three of the main assignments Yates will work on are to provide leadership for Arts Festival Oklahoma, plan the Cultural Arts Series and develop new cultural programs, he said.

Arts Festival Oklahoma is an annual OCCC event that includes arts and crafts, games and food vendors.

The Cultural Arts Series takes place during the spring and fall, and is where featured artists come from around the world to perform at OCCC.

Yates said he will work on bringing awareness to students about the new cultural program, so they can come to him with any ideas or plans they would like to see happen.

There are many ideas Yates has been brainstorming on, including having an outdoor music festival, he

said.

He would also like to get local minority-driven art out to the public at-large.

This could be done by having a festival, he said, so local area artists can get the publicity they have not been able to otherwise receive.

John Boyd, Community Development associate vice president, said he is pleased to have Yates at OCCC.

"It is my belief that he is going to be a tremendous asset to the college," Boyd said.

Yates graduated from Beaver High School, located in the Panhandle of Oklahoma.

He received his undergraduate degree from Oklahoma City University in vocal music education, where he studied opera, music theater and folk.

Continuing his education at the University of Oklahoma, he obtained his master's degree in public administration, Yates said.

Yates plans to continue his education in one year, once he gets comfortable in his new position, he said.

He is interested in work-

ing toward a second master's degree in political or social science.

If he does not do that, he will work toward a doctoral degree, he said.

"I have a very strong interest in continuing to learn," Yates said.

His interest in political science comes from his interest in politics and wanting to learn more about government.

He said he believes it will help to understand issues that come about with the college.

During the summer, Yates enjoys playing softball and is on three different softball teams.

He likes to play disc golf and badminton. He also likes to go bike riding and enjoys playing with his cat, Chloe.

Staff Writer Yvonne Oberly can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.

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# College VP congratulates students

**Students are eligible to be on the Vice President's Honor Roll by achieving a GPA of 3.5 while carrying at least 12 hours. Part-time students are eligible if they have maintained a 3.5 GPA for two consecutive semesters.**

Abdul Abdul, Julu Acharya, Curtis Adams, Arati Adhikari, John Adkison, Robert Ahboah, Philip Aken, Lucinda Akins, Umar Ali, Chelsea Alinger.

Jonathan Allen, Roger Allen, Rogelio Almeida, Farooq Altaf, Angelina Anaya, Ingrid Anderson, Jennie Anderson, Heather Arnett, Dwayne Ashlock.

Angela Atherton, Chika Atoyosoye, Shonda Ayers, Amanda Badgett, Dustin Baker, Robert Baker, Cori Barrier, Shawn Bass, Khalid Bawatna.

John Bayne, Cobey Bean, Randall Beavers, Wesley Behrens, Christopher Bellew, James Bell, Theresa Beller, John Bellymule, Kyoko Berry.

John Bingman, Amanda Blasingame, Andrew Blochowiak, Tyler Bowman, Steven Boyd, Logan Branscum, Nathan Bremmer, Ashley Brinlee.

Evans Brown, Janae Brown, Elizabeth Broyles, Beau Bruhwiler, Jennifer Buck, Jessica Buck, Asia Burbridge, Michelle Burke, Brad Burris.

Nathan Burris, Thomas Buster, Dylan Butler, Joseph Butler, Jason Bynum, Kevin Cameron, Callie Campbell, David Canizales, Ricky Cannon.

Erica Cardiel, Matthew Carlisle, Kimberly Carlsen, Jessica Carnes, Francisco Castro, William Chan, John Chancey, Luis Chavez, Kwanghee Cho.

Phong Chu, Julie Church, Alana Clark, Charmin Clayborn, Benjamin Clemons, Tanner Clift, Bradley Cline, Regina Cobb, Brianna Coker.

Cristina Conallis, Jessica Cook, Jeremy Cooper, Jerri Cordeiro, Camille Cory, Cynthia Coszalter, Jonathan Cotts, Brenda Couch, James Crabbe.

Erik Crooks-Becerra, Joni

Crowe, Edgar Cruz, Sheriann Cunningham, Christine Cuthbertson, Jennifer Davenport, Jessica David.

Austin Davidson, Jessica Davidson, Allison Davis, Alysa Davis, Jessica Davis, Amrita Dawadi, Zachry Deaton, Victor Deras, Joshua DeWeese.

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Chelsea Ferrell, Kimberly Ferrell, Jacob Fisher, David Flesher, Cheryl Flud, Mari Ford-Malatka, Kyle Fore, Matthew Fowler, Alisha Franks, Kali Fulmer.

Anup Gajurel, Shaune Garmon, Jennie Garrod, Christina Gause, Owen Gilmore, Theresa Giovanni, James Goldsbury, Jamie Gonzalez, Irma Gonzalez.

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Steven Hipp, Michael Hisey, Tu Ho, Ronnie Hochau, Amanda Hogue, Brian Holmes, Nathanael House, Carlous Hudspeth, Yvonne Hughes.

Jessica Hughes, Peggy Humphreys, Samuel Husky, Eric Hutchinson, Hai Huynh, Moustapha Ibrahim, Raejeana Inge, Ryan Jacob, Phillip James.

Julie James, Nicholas Jarman, Muhammad Javed, Kristen Johnson, Courtney Johnston, Christopher Jones, Ryan Jones, Cornelia Jones.

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terson, Kailie Patton, Brent Patty, Elizabeth Payne, Donny Pebworth, Betty Pendergrass, Jennifer Pennington.

Steven Pennock, Isela Perez, Zack Petersen, Jessica Petitt, Bich-Tram Pham, Linh Phan, Andrea Phillips, Hyacinth Phipps, Zack Pinkerton.

Thomas Pirtle, Sergio Porras, Robert Porter, Juan Posada, Dustin Powell, Jason Price, Adam Privett, Erika Puentes, Marilyn Ragan, Hailey Rawson.

Shawn Ray, Josh Raymond, Amanda Reich, Shamari Reid, Modesto Resendiz, Marvic Rey, Valerie Reynolds, Jerry Rhodes, Cynthia Rice.

Misty Riley, Erin Ritter, Cassie Rivers, Brandt Robbins, Erin Roberts, Krista Robertson, Erin Robison, Charissa Rojas, Jocelyn Rojas.

Claudia Romero, Timothy Rorie, Stephani Rouse, Connie Rowe, April Runyon, Caroll Sadler, Yousef Salous, Timothy Salvadori, Jill Sanchez.

Katherine Sanders, Apryl Satterlee, Amy Savage, Zachariah Sayre, Dennis Schaekel, Lacey Schat, Chanel Scheele, Amy Schoolfield.

Jennifer Schuster, Christopher Scott, Angela Seccrest, Kristina Seeds, Narjis Shah, Century Shah, Amin Shariat, Tommie Shea, Ronald Shelton.

Dijon Shepard, Angela Shepherd, Ryan Shepherd, Eun-Kyung Shin, Cynthia Shirk, Blake Shockley, Bradley Shoemaker, Manish Shrestha, Ilina Shrestha.

James Shurtz, Ilea Shutler, Lachelle Simpson,

Roshan Singh, Cristian Sirera, Ouissal Slitine, Brandon Slover, Chad Sluder, Chris Smith.

Clarence Smith, Cody Smith, Gordon Smith, Zack Smith, Ladawn Smith, Brian Snellen, Kelly Sovereign, Arica Stamper, Robert Steele, Jordan Steger.

Lana Steverso, Kendall Stevenson, William Stewart, Toni Stine, Dale Stoabs, Holli Stock, Drew Stone, Jennifer Stringham, Alisha Summers.

Belinda Summerville, Jesse Swenson, Isaac Taiwo, Kinu Tanaka, Zachary Taylor, Barbara Tech-Buckner, Deependra Thakuri, Anjita Thapa.

Ashley Tompkins, Taylor Toth, Jason Tran, Vinh Tran, Kathryn Treas, Ronnie Trindle, Paris Triplet, Ashley Tucker, Raymond Umipig, Daniel Urias.

Enrique Valenzuela, George Vasquez, Beth Veatch, Luis Velasco, Luke Vidacovich, Bobbie Vige, Kathy Voigtschild, Benson Voong, Cacia Walker.

Eryn Walker, Billie Wallis, James Walters, Heather Warren, Cole Watkins, Brandon Watson, William Waugh, Kathrianna Wear, Elijah Wenly.

Jennifer Western, Isaac Whiteside, Brandon Williams, Chad Williams, Lee Williams, Catava Williams, Amber Williams, Kelsey Williamson, William Willis.

Antranetta Willis, Holly Woidke, Adam Wolff, Donald Wood, Katye Wood, Breanna Work, Marion Wright, Winston Yanes.

Joshua York, Bereket Yosef, Haiget Yosef, Daniel Young, Garrett Young, Tapita Zamna, Huimin Zhao, James Zoller.

**"My congratulations go out to all those who made the honor roll. You do us proud and you are well on your way to achieving your goals. Once again, congratulations."**

—Felix Aquino  
Academic Affairs Vice President





# President Sechrist honors students

**Students are eligible to be on the President's Honor Roll by achieving a GPA of 4.0 while carrying at least 12 hours. Part-time students are eligible if they have maintained a 4.0 GPA for two consecutive semesters.**

Joshua Abernathy, Elizabeth Acevedo, Jessica Adams, Robert Adams, Nadia Ali, Lacey Allen, Heather Allen, Rachel Allen, Christopher Allsbrook.

Kathleen Anders, Kristy Anderson, Mindy Antrikin, Jessica Arnold, Christina Arrowsmith, Sean Asner, Jenny Atteberry, Marcelino Avila, Kathleen Baal.

Frank Balch, Linda Baladonado, Beri Bamnjo, Ashley Banks, Wendy Barnes, Alexandra Bass, William Baumann, Ana Becerra, Melissa Belanger.

Dilasha Bhetuwal, Sabrina Bingham, Michael Birch, Devone Bitseedy, Lisa Blaha, Holly Bookout, Carlos Borja, Jessica Bottoms, Christopher Box.

Alexander Boyd, Anita Boydston, Rachel Boydston, Kelly Bradshaw, Kelli Breedlove, Morgan Brenner, Kaylee Brewer, Jordan Brock, Jessie Brown.

Steven Brown, A Brown, Amy Brown, Diana Browning, Claudette Brumit, Joel Bryan, Peter Bui, Jennifer Burge, Bert Burnside, Ramon Butler, Jodi Butler.

Kristi Cagle, Christine Calfy, Michael Campbell, Christie Cannon, Miranda Canon, Marie Card, Michael Cassidy, Sarah Cervantes, Michael Challis.

Brandy Chapman, Candice Chastka, Kimberly Chatman, Dai Chau, Andrew Childers, Michael Choate, Laura Chu, Lorry Cieri, Aissata Cisse.

Kenneth Clark, Courtney Clark, Linda Clary, Brandon Claude, Jonathan Clement, Zane Coates, Nancy Coffey, Adam Colbert, Derek Coleman.

Bryan Cook, Jennifer Cox, Kelsey Cox, Jeffrey Crawford, Gentry Creager, Robin Criss-Praytor, Ryan Crow, Shannon Crutcher, Gregory Cummings.

Ryan Cummings, Amber Cummings, Neomi Dahn,

Meredith Dake, Corey Darnell, Kelly Darrow, Thomas Dauffenbach, Mark Davidson, Brian Davis.

Mikell Davis, Melissa Davison, Kenneth Day, Kurtis Delozier, Jessica Deppen, Severiano Deras, Elizabeth Derr, Lekita Diamond, Benjamin Dickason.

Kevin Dill, Lindsey Dill, Lindsey Dilley, Cuong Dinh, Truong Do, James Dodson, Nicholas Donaldson, Amy Doue, Joseph Douglas, Rheagen Duckett.

Gregory Dudley, Cari Duncan, Dominic Dungca, Nathan Dunn, Kimberly Dyer, Brent Earls, Paul Eastland, Alysha Edwards, Jeremy Edwards.

Daniel Elizondo, Christopher Elsten, Derek Elwood, Kim Epperley, Victor Escalera, Rachel Ewers, Herve Fabrice, Michal Ferak, James Ferguson.

Russell Ferrell, Rebecca Fesler, William Forkem, Robyn Fortson, Anthony Foster, Charles Franke, Kirsti Frias, Kristen Friend, Christopher Froman.

Justin Garrett, Brandi Gay, Troy Geary, Jennifer Giessmann, Erika Glenn, Justin Glick, Kristina Godwin, Megan Godwin, Eric Goforth.

Carlos Gomez, Heather Gore, Krislyn Gottman, Heather Graff, Zachary Green, Makenna Green, Rebekah Green, Sharla Grounds, Maryah Guice.

Anna Gunter, Thomas Gurule, Michael Hakim, Brian Hamilton, Conner Hamilton, Connie Hamilton, Kenneth Hammons, Evan Hardesty.

William Hardin, Angela Harris, Austin Harry, Julie Harvey, Johnny Haxton, Heather Hedrick, Patricia Heffley, Rahmin Hekmatara, Cara Hendrix.

Mary Henschel, Melissa Hensley, Justin Hensley, Kristin Herb, Jennifer Hess, Kevin Hill, William Hogan, Adam Holt, Kacey Hovarter, Ashley Hovda.

Reign Howe, Hui Hu, Lisa Hulsey, Laura Humphrey, Lori Husmann, My Huynh, Brittany Jackson, Jorge Jaramillo, Michael Jaramillo, Kristen Jarvis.

Dustye Johnson, Billy

Johnson, David Johnson, Carol Johnson, Bryan Johnston, Melanie Jones, Cynthia Karaffa, Kyle Kauffman, Kristi Kellogg.

Joseph Kelly, Meagan Kelly, Amanda Kennedy, Leah Kenton, Kangshin Kim, Victor Kimani, Matthew Kirkendall, Andrea Kissack, Melissa Knop.

Heather Knowles, Bukola Kunle-Alaba, Megan Kyle, Tyler Lai, Jared Landon, Michael Lang, Alex Lanphere, Bethany Layman, Quyen Le, Kayla LeBlanc.

Matthew Lemley, Sarah Leonard, Lisa Lewis, Jia Lin, Kimberly Lingle, Brenna Littou, Jui-Wen Liu, Carla Lopez, Jonathan Loveless, Elizabeth Lovett.

Kerry Lowery, Lance Lugafet, Emily Lutz, Asberg Mahanti, Bachir Mahomad, David Markus, Christina Marston, Sharon Matheny, Kenneth Mauldin.

Doratheia Maynard, Mitzi McBeath, Tracie McCoy, Danika McGee, Laura McGuire, Lori McGuire, Mark McKenna, Marty McKinsey.

Maryon McKinzey, Cyndi Melendez, Daniel Mesa, Nicholas Mesigh, Deann Messina, Ashley Meyer, Beatriz Meyer, Ivaylo Milanov, Drew Miller.

Glen Miller, Nathan Miller, Jonathan Mills, Amanda Mills, Dani Mirich, Beatrice Mitchell, Joshua Moll, Michelle Moore, Juan Moreno-Bernal.

Brian Morgan, Nancy Morgan, Michael Morrison, Arnaud Mugisha, Calvin Nelms, Charles Nelms, Lyle Nelson, Kristi Newberry, Thierry Ngansop.

Luke Nguyen, Ngan Nguyen, Quang Nguyen, Truong Nguyen, William Nguyen, Chelsea Nguyen, Giao Nguyen, Mai Nguyen, Oanh Nguyen.

Justin Niblack, Craig Nichols, Katja Nichols, Bibidh Niroula, Cody North, Jieun Northern, Amy Norton, Leslie Novotny, Adam Nowlin.

Choice Nowlin, Brian Obermeyer, Philip O'Connor, Mercedes O'Donnell, Jacob Ogle, Ryan Ogle, Joseph Otey, Wesley Pack, Nicole Padden.

Michael Pagonis, Brandie Palmer, Min Pandey, Dennis Pape, David Pappoe, Nawaraj Parajuli, Ryan Parks, Vikas Patel, Ricky Paxton, Ian Payne.

Floyd Perry, Daniella Peters, Bao Pham, Huan Pham, Long Pham, Han Phan, Regina Phillips, Laura Pittman, Luke Plant, Jerry Plumbtree.

Lauren Poe, Sarah Prescott, Nathan Price, Leah Price, Jason Pritchard, Alexandra Protopopova, Relinda Pruett, Brent Quintero.

Brandon Rader, MD Rahman, Parash Rajbhansi, Kevin Ramirez, Christina Ramos, Markqayne Ray, Nicole Renard, Jorge Reyes.

Aubrey Reynolds, Starling Rhymes, William Richards, Jessica Richardson, Michael Rickard, Kevin Robertson, Alexis Robertson.

Matthew Rockwell, Cory Roesel, Kyle Rogers, Jamie Rogers, Nancy Ross, Rebecca Ross, Matthew Ruskoski, Maryam Sabeghi, Olga Samoilova.

Kayla Sanders, Robert Satterlee, Joy Schulz, Doris Seaman, Sandra Seeley, Dylan Severson, Sandy Sheaffer, Jay Sheldon, Krista Sheppard.

Christina Sherman, Jennifer Shockley, Christina Short, Nirmal Shrestha, Jeena Shrestha, Elizabeth Shultz, Joshua Shultz, Danielle Shuman.

Robert Shupe, Meredith Siharath, Luke Simpson, Britany Skelton, Jenny Smith, Olin Smith, Zachary Smith, Courtney Smith, Kimi Smith, Kristi Smith.

Laura Smith, Heath Sneed, John Soderquist, Rhonda Spain, Jason Sparks,

Michael Sparks, Audrianna Sparks, Kyndra Spaulding.

Madoka Spence, Monica Spencer, Travis Staggs, Joshua Stanley, Erin Stanley, Karen Steelman, Julie Stevens, Michael Steward.

Christopher Stewart, Ryan Stewart, Denise Stewart, Kala Stilwell, Deann Stone, Jay Stovall, Kenneth Stull, Shea Sublett, Chelsea Summers, Grant Swayze.

Kerry Swink, Chau Ta, Lynn Takahata, Steven Tei, Virgil Teter, Callie Thompson, Do Tran, Hieu Tran, Huyen Tran, Kenneth Treagesser, Ha Trieu.

Roseanne Truelove, Tina Turner, Jerald Turnpugh, Jacqueline Underwood, Coleen Vache, Karina Valero, Nicole Vanduzer, John Vanhoutan.

Angelo Vargas, Clayton Vaughn-Roberson, Emilio Velasco, David Vick, Linh Vong, Crystal Wade, Dustin Wade, Tiffany Walker, Kevin Ward, Anihtra Watkins, Robert Weaver.

Wyran Webb, James Weddington, Duane Wesley, Steven Wesnidge, Stella West, Aaron Westbrook, Jennifer White, Pamela Wilbur, Alexandra Wilkes.

Karen Williams, Jaiden Williams, Jason Williams, Nathan Williams, Neysa Williams.

Jenifer Williams, Molly Williams, Timothy Williamson, Jennie Williamson, Derrick Wilson, Justin Wilson, Nicholas Wilson, Lynnette Winkleman, Crystal Woodard.

Matthew Woodland, Michael Wyatt, Bezawit Yosef, Kristine Young, Linsey Young, Paula Young, Xia Zhou.

**"My congratulations to each of these outstanding students. Your academic achievement is an honor that all of us at OCCC celebrate."**  
—Paul Sechrist  
President





# Sports

## UPCOMING

### OCCC INTRAMURALS EVENTS

•**Feb. 5:** Intramural Basketball will tip-off its regular season. For more information about signing up, contact Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**Feb. 9:** Registration for Power Volleyball League ends. This is a competitive league open for all men and women ages 18 and up. The league starts on Feb. 19 and games will be held on Mondays. The league fee is \$200 per team. For more information about how to sign up, contact Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**Feb. 13:** The Free Throw Hot Shot Basketball Contest will be held inside the Wellness Center Gymnasium. For information about signing up, contact Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**Feb. 18-22:** Intramural Billiards Tournament will be held in the Wellness Center Gymnasium. For information about how to sign up, contact Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**Feb. 20:** The 3-point and Spot Shooting Hot Shot Basketball contest will be held inside the Wellness Center Gymnasium. For information about how to sign up, contact Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**Feb. 23:** Registration for Men's Spring Basketball League ends. This basketball league is open to all men ages 18 and up. Game days are on Thursdays and the league cost is \$230 per team. For more information about how to sign up, contact Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

[www.occc.edu/rcs](http://www.occc.edu/rcs)

## Open swimming



Photo by Amber McBride

Pong O'Bryant swims laps in the Aquatic Center to keep healthy. The Aquatic Center is open for all swimmers from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday, and from 1 to 4 p.m. on Monday through Friday.

## OCCC hosts scuba lessons

By Matt Bishop  
Staff Writer

Tired of the cold winter weather yet? Good news is that spring break is just around the corner and what better way to prepare for that tropical vacation than scuba diving lessons?

OCCC has teamed up with Blue Water Divers of Oklahoma City to offer lessons that can ensure life long memories next time you travel to the ocean.

Allen Aboujeib, owner of Blue Water Divers of Oklahoma City, said students can take the course to earn certification in different safety levels starting at basic then advancing to night diving, navigation, deep diving, professional and instructor levels.

For beginners, the basic level will teach things about equipment, terminology, physics and physiology.

He said an instructional DVD and book will be sent home with students so they can study during

free time.

Students will then go to the 18-foot diving well in the Aquatic Center to execute dives, control buoyancy, assemble equipment and learn to handle emergencies.

When students have completed these tasks they can go to either the ocean or a local lake to complete four dives that will gain the certification in that particular level.

Aboujeib said there is a controversy in scuba diving on whether certification can be gained in a weekend of training or six weeks of training.

Aboujeib said the goal of the course is for the student to fully understand the concepts before earning the certification, in whatever amount of time it takes.

He also said many students prefer the ocean over freshwater lakes.

"Blue Water Divers networks with other dive shops around the world," Aboujeib said.

"An instructor can pick up where we left off and the student can

complete the course and earn certification at a location they may want to vacation at on the ocean."

Blue Water Divers provides all equipment for the scuba training, Aboujeib said.

The cost of classes vary on level of difficulty ranging anywhere from \$100 to \$200. The open water certification is \$75.

The company also has discounts for students interested in buying their own masks, fins and snorkels.

Those packages range from \$60 to \$300, which is a 35 percent discount from most retailers.

OCCC also hosts Scuba Tuesdays, an open scuba dive from 6:30 to 8 p.m. for divers with certification.

Divers must show proper certification to the head lifeguard before diving.

The cost for the dive is \$4 per visit.

Matt Bishop can be reached at [SeniorWriter@occc.edu](mailto:SeniorWriter@occc.edu).



**Career & Employment****Power in 25 Minutes!****Spring 2008 Workshops****Tuesdays 12:30pm-12:55pm****Main Building Room 1F6**

*Job Search through OCCC Job Board	January	29
*Optimal Resume Creation	February	12
*Optimal Cover Letter Creation	February	19
*Optimal Interviewing	March	11
*How to Dress for Job Interviews	April	01
*Hot Occupations-Top Salaries	April	22
*Internships-Greater Grads, Tinker & Disney	April	29

**Bring your lunch!**

For additional information contact:  
**OCCC Career & Employment Services**  
**Main Building - 1st Floor**  
**Advising & Career Services**  
[employmentservices@occc.edu](mailto:employmentservices@occc.edu) or 405-682-7519

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**405-682-7519**  
**[Employmentservices@occc.edu](mailto:Employmentservices@occc.edu)**



# Highlights

## Career and Employment Power workshops

OCCC Career and Employment Services will host a series of workshops this semester designed to help OCCC students make the transition from school into the workforce. This week's topic is "Job Search through OCCC Job Board" on Jan. 29. All workshops will be held from 12:30 to 12:55 p.m. on Tuesdays in Main Building room 1F6. For additional information, contact Career and Employment Services at 405-682-7519, or e-mail [employmentservices@occc.edu](mailto:employmentservices@occc.edu).

## New transfer tour dates

Students are invited to take a tour of colleges they might want to transfer to. Upcoming transfer tour dates: University of Oklahoma College of Journalism, Tuesday, Feb. 5; OU, Wednesday, Feb. 6; Oklahoma City University, Tuesday, Feb. 12; University of Central Oklahoma, Friday, Feb. 15; Southern Nazarene University, Monday, Feb. 18. There is limited space available for each tour. For more information or to reserve a spot, contact Leslie Jones at 405-682-7567, or e-mail [ljones@occc.edu](mailto:ljones@occc.edu).

## Upcoming Cultural Arts Series performance

The renowned woodwind trio Allegresse will perform at 7 p.m. Jan. 29 at OCCC. Tickets are \$17 for students, seniors, faculty and staff. The trio will also offer a free educational lecture titled "Discovering the Joy of Music" at 11 a.m. Jan. 29. Tickets can be purchased by calling the CAS ticket office at 405-682-7579 or visit [www.occc.edu/cas](http://www.occc.edu/cas).

## Attention business students

All business students are invited to attend an informational program from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30, in the College Union. Tinker Air Force Base is hosting the event to inform students of their internship program.

## Help support our Pathways students

Pathways Middle College High School will sell Blue and Gold sausage, bacon and chicken to support yearbook publication and senior class events. Blue and Gold products can be purchased in room 3L6 of the Main Building.

## Contribute to the Jones High School rebuilding effort

On Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 the Pathways Senior Class and National Junior Honor Society will sponsor a bake sale from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the cafeteria. All proceeds will be given directly to Jones High School to help with their rebuilding effort after a fire destroyed their school on Dec. 10, 2007.

## Free speed learning sessions offered to OCCC students

The Corporate Learning Department at OCCC will offer a four-hour speed learning course free to OCCC students. The course will be held from noon until 4 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 7, and Wednesday, Feb. 13; or from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 1. All sessions will be taught in Room 407A of the Keith Leftwich Memorial Library.

## Make a difference in the life of a child

There are more than 12,000 children in the Department of Human Services (DHS) custody who need loving and safe homes. If you can help by providing temporary care to a child in great need, contact Rita Williams, foster care recruiter, at 405-767-2657, or e-mail [Rita.Williams@okdhs.org](mailto:Rita.Williams@okdhs.org).

## Free income tax assistance

Sign in for free income tax assistance between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Feb. 4 through April 10 at the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance booth across from Student Life.

**All Highlights are due Tuesday by 5 p.m. for inclusion in the next issue. Highlight forms can be picked up in the Pioneer office, located on the second floor of the Main Building, across from the elevator.**



Photo by Amber McBride

Elizabeth Shultz, Society of Performing Artists club president, provides student Jed Green with information at OCCC's Club and Organization Fair. The Society of Performing Artists will meet at 12:30 Thursday, Jan. 31, in room 1F5 of the Arts and Humanities Building.

# Performing artists club open to all types

By Scott Glidewell  
Staff Writer

Interim Vice President Lydia Rucker wants OCCC students to know the Society of Performing Artists is open to everyone.

"It's for anyone that is interested or involved in performing arts, not just for majors ... any performer, musician, singer, thespian, stage hand, crew member or technical person," she said.

Rucker said the club used to be known as the Drama Club, but two years ago they revised the club's constitution in order to include all performing artists — hence the name change to the Society of Performing Artists.

"The Theater and the Music Departments had always been kind of separate," Rucker said.

"We made the change to try and bring the whole performing arts area together ... We really want both departments to benefit from the single group," Rucker said.

Elizabeth Shultz, President of the Society added

that their goal is, "... To be able to incorporate anyone interested in any performing arts, so we can help them do what they love."

Currently SPA is working hard to increase membership. With more than 40 new members signing up during the Club Fair, Shultz said, response is a lot better than in the past. Shultz attributed rising interest in SPA to the club as a whole to being more involved and better prepared this year.

Rucker said membership in the club is about more than just having fun though. It is also about donating time to make the surrounding community a better place, she said.

"Charitable work is very important to our organization."

"Being a part of any charitable work is good not only for your community, but also for you later in your professional life."

Last year SPA donated \$1,400 to the YWCA, Shultz said. The proceeds came from their production of "The Vagina Monologues." The production was such a

success that the group has decided to do "The Vagina Monologues" again this March. All proceeds will be donated to the YWCA this year as well.

Later this year SPA plans to take a trip to Chicago.

Shultz said the trip is meant to provide members with a chance to go somewhere that is a little more known for the arts in order to experience a broader view of the performing arts.

Those interested in more information concerning the Society of Performing Artists or their upcoming events, should attend a weekly meeting, held from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. every Thursday in room 1F5 of the Arts and Humanities building beginning Jan. 31.

Rucker encourages all students to drop by and see what they are all about.

"It's such a great group," Rucker said. "Everyone is just so friendly. I just wish that more people would give us a chance, because we're a lot of fun."

Staff Writer Scott Glidewell can be reached at [StaffWriter1@occc.edu](mailto:StaffWriter1@occc.edu).



# Classifieds

Pioneer Classified Advertising is free to all enrolled OCCC 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. For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or fax 405-682-7843.

## AUTOMOBILES

**FOR SALE:** '05 50cc Yamaha Zuma. Blue, less than 100 miles, garage kept, recently tagged. Great for quick trips to the store, or running errands around town. Approx. 60-65 miles per gallon. I am wanting a smaller scooter, but need to sell this one first. Asking \$1,500. Call Tammy Davis 405-524-9429 or 405-210-7438.

**FOR SALE:** '01 Toyota Camry LE, 4 cyl, maroon, 103k miles, 4 door, AC, power locks/windows, Automatic, AM/FM/CD, great tires, exc. condition \$7400. **ALSO** 1995 Green Toyota Camry, 4 cyl, Automatic, AC, power locks/windows, AM/FM, cruise control, great tires, in great condition \$3700. Call 405-255-5144

**FOR SALE:** '93 GMC extended cab pickup. PW, PDL, AM/FM CD player, chrome mags, nerf bar. 198,000 miles. New transmission w/ 8000 miles, New crate motor 2003 w/ 60,000 miles. All documentation. \$4,875. Call Terri at 405-413-1058. Leave message.

## CHILD CARE

**NANNY NEEDED:** Seeking trustworthy, dependable nanny service or live-in nanny to care for and love my 2-year-old son. Credentials, references and background check a must. Call Chris at 405-473-1267.

## ELECTRONICS

**FOR SALE:** 61-keyboard Casio. Like new, 137 tones, 100 rhythms, and more w/stand. \$95 Call Ray at 405-485-3382.

**FOR SALE:** Pair of Paradigm Reference bi-polar home theater speakers. Approx. 4' tall, black finish, in excellent condition. \$500 for pair-cost new was \$1,200. Check website at [www.paradigm.com](http://www.paradigm.com) for further information about quality of speakers. Call Christy at 405-401-1254.

**FOR SALE:** SprintPCS Palm Treo 650 smartphone. Perfect condition & works very well. No scratches or scrapes. \$150. E-mail [shelovezlaw@yahoo.com](mailto:shelovezlaw@yahoo.com) or call 405-210-2219 for pictures, ESN clearance number & discription. Serious replies only.

## EMPLOYMENT

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Cafe Mgrs,  
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Arcadia Lake, Parks &  
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Parish Secretary needed at Trinity Lutheran Church, 57th and S. May, OKC. 12 hrs per week: commitment to Christ, computer skills, organized. Call 405-685-3432. Leave your name and call-back number.

**ACCOUNTING, BUSINESS, & FINANCE MAJORS:** Tax preparers wanted for upcoming tax season. Generous compensation to motivated & knowledgeable preparers interested in attracting clients. Experience preferred but will train. Bi-lingual speakers also needed. Office located in Oklahoma City. Please call Harvey at Banner Tax Service: 405-491-9991. Leave msg.

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## MISCELLANEOUS

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**FOR SALE:** Lady Trek Cruiser Bicycle. Red, Heavy duty, new in box. \$150. Call 405-677-3714.

**FOR SALE:** One used Lifestyle 300 multi-action rowing machine. Smooth rowing action. Call 405-326-8134.

**Dark Room Equipment For Sale:** Dry table, darkroom lights, cameras, Nikor lenses, large print projector, pans, darkroom timer, tarminating press. \$300 OBO. Call Patrick at 405-496-6529

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## TEXTBOOKS

**TEXTBOOK FOR SALE:** I have an introductory & intermediate Algebra book, 3rd edition, for sale. Great condition! 405-206-4125.

**TEXTBOOKS FOR SALE:** Intro to Sociology \$45 and Living with Democracy \$45. Please call Terri @405-413-1058

**FOR SALE:** Fundamental Accounting Principles, 18th edition, set of 2 books. \$75. Call 405-387-3629.

**Fax your ads  
405-682-7843 or  
e-mail to  
[adman@occc.edu](mailto:adman@occc.edu)  
attn: Cynthia**

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### ACROSS

- 1 Tempo
- 5 Was in a choir
- 9 Authoritative belief
- 14 "— fair in love . . ."
- 15 Water, in Baja
- 16 Pseudonym
- 17 Tight
- 18 Truck parts
- 19 Beethoven's last symphony
- 20 Grill
- 22 Type of eye or school
- 24 Canadian river
- 26 "Just — suspected!"
- 27 Road
- 30 Dried up
- 35 Picked
- 36 Timber wolf
- 37 Actor's need
- 38 Yank's foe
- 39 Balancing
- 42 Got a prize
- 43 Opera highlight
- 45 Some August babies
- 46 Clumsy
- 48 "The Pit and the —"
- 50 Tolerates
- 51 — roll: winning
- 52 Snowy-white bird

### DOWN

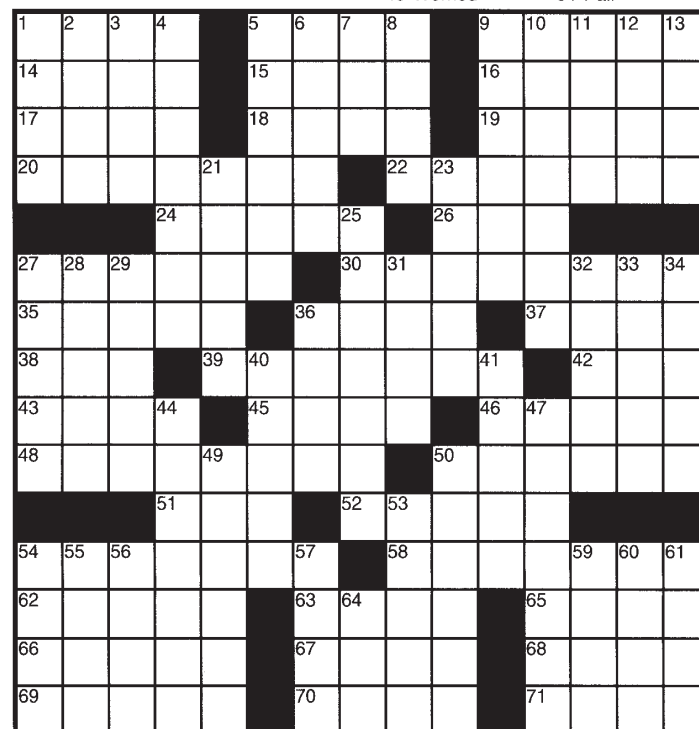
- 1 Route
- 2 Jai —
- 3 Social group
- 4 Millionaires' properties
- 5 Dresser-drawer item
- 6 Another time
- 7 Gist
- 8 Breathe hard
- 9 Breakfast item
- 10 1948 Oscar winner
- 11 Ms. Lollobrigida
- 12 Actor Dillon
- 13 Arthur of the courts
- 21 Crawl
- 23 Boca —, Florida
- 25 Couple
- 27 Junk
- 28 Not here

### PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

KNOB	SLEW	FATE
LAVA	PUMA	SEVEN
EVEN	RAID	ADOPT
FEAR	CAULIFLOWER	
TRAYS	JERSEY	
APHIDS	AROMA	
BARGE	SPAR	PRO
APO	TOWARDS	RIP
SAW	MADE	THEME
	SLATE	CEASED
LISTEN	ORALS	
UNCIVILIZED	URN	
CLONE	ODAS	FREE
RANGE	SORT	BENT
EWES	ELKS	IDES

7-4-98

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# Vision for the future involves students graduating college

## "Vision,"

Cont. from page 1

"Long term, we would like to improve the success rates for all students.

"It can be done."

Sechrist said the college could not stop at simply getting students into school.

"[Achieving the Dream] is not just about getting to college, it's about getting through college," he said.

Sechrist said the initiative is not a new mission or theme for the college, but is an important initiative that focuses on student achievement.

"This initiative is the bedrock of what the mission of

our college says," he said. "OCCC has a legacy of focusing on student success, and Achieving the Dream is a way to take a fresh look at our core mission and what we are doing to help students succeed."

The initiative is driven by collected data, Sechrist said.

Focus is given depending on which areas are lacking, according to the numbers. Teams have been established and are already producing and studying the data, Sechrist said.

Raising the success rates of students in developmental classes is an important first step, he said.

"Sixty percent of incom-

ing students take developmental math upon entering college," Sechrist said. "And 50 percent of these students never complete a degree."

"Getting our students better instruction at the developmental level is extremely important."

Encouraging more students to apply for financial aid was another key Sechrist addressed.

"Too many students fail to apply [for financial aid]," he said, "whether it be because of the complicated paperwork or because they assume they will not qualify."

"Lots of financial aid goes unused every year because

our students are not applying. We need to fix this."

He said studies show students who receive financial aid have higher success rates.

Sechrist said OCCC is one of 79 community colleges in 16 states participating in the program.

The Lumina Foundation began the funding for the initiative, but the college and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education are providing some additional funding, he said.

Sechrist said he believes this program will work in conjunction with various other programs aimed at raising student success such as OKC-Go — a pro-

gram helping seniors from the Oklahoma City and Western Heights school districts attend OCCC tuition free.

"We just want to make difference," he said.

But Sechrist also pointed out that although the college was making plans to do its part to assist student success, students have to be committed as well.

"Achieving the Dream is about trying to do something for students who are saying, 'I want to earn a college education.'"

"And we promise to help these students accomplish just that."

Editor Chris Lusk can be reached at [editor@occc.edu](mailto:editor@occc.edu).

## OCCC's workforce population sees about 3% diversity rise

## "Diversity,"

Cont. from page 1

way to reach out to everybody in area.

"It will help out with the entire community," LaVarnway said.

The number of student employees has also increased since 2005.

Many students believe working on campus is beneficial.

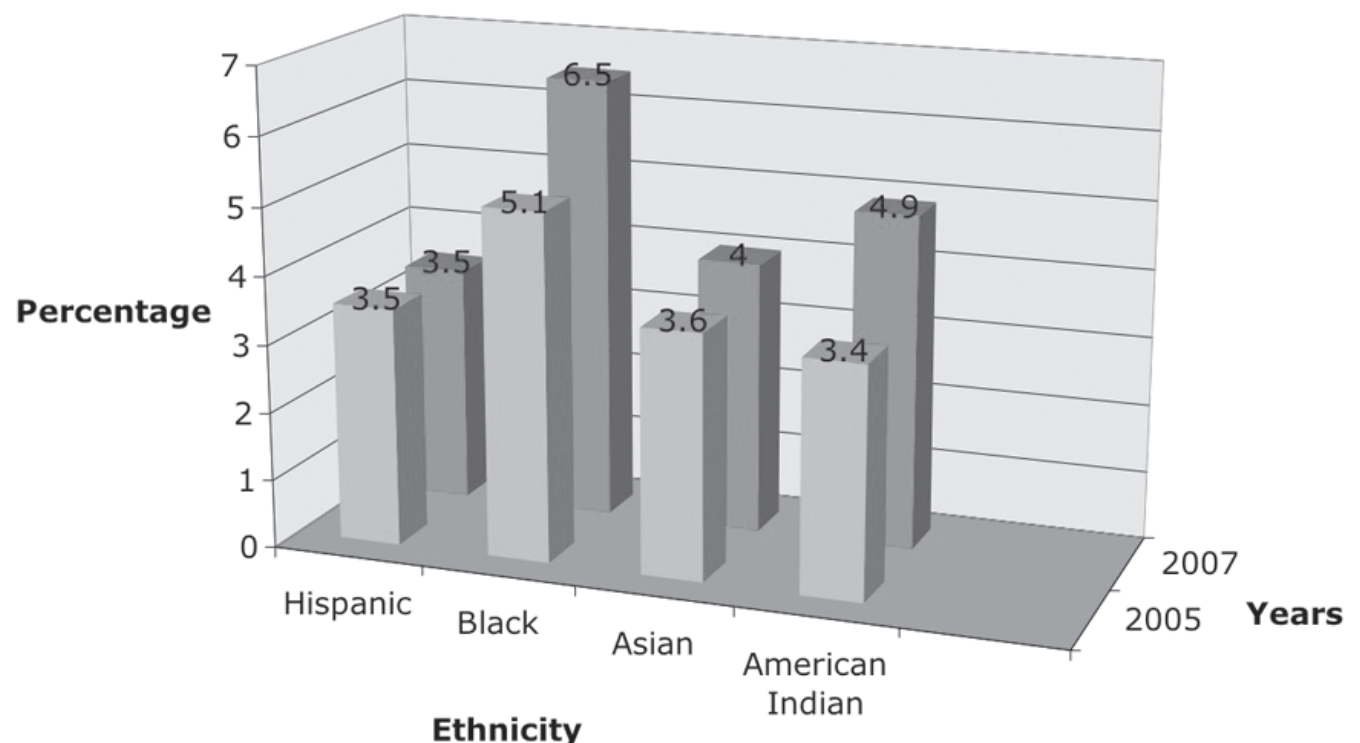
Physical Therapy major JoAnna McNicholl said she would consider getting a job at the college for the convenience.

"Working [on campus] would help on saving gas," McNicholl said.

"It would also be convenient because I could go straight to work right after class."

Matt Bishop can be reached at [SeniorWriter@occc.edu](mailto:SeniorWriter@occc.edu).

Percentage of Minority Workforce at OCCC in 2005 and 2007



The number of minority college workers at OCCC has increased by 3 percent among part-time workers and 2 percent among full-time workers since 2005, according to a college report.

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