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PIONEER ONLINE

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ALL HOMELESS DESERVE A VOICE

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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PIONEER

JANUARY 14, 2011

WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

Part-time profs teach more than half of courses

State budget shortfalls cited as reason adjuncts teach 55 percent of campus classes

JANELLE STONE
News Writing Student

Adjunct, or part-time, professors now teach more than half the classes at OCCC, recent statistics show.

According to the analysis of sections taught, adjunct professors teach 55 percent of classes, whereas regular full-time professors teach only 45 percent.

College President Paul Sechrist said this trend is not to his liking.

"Our goal is to have a majority of our classes taught by full-time faculty who are able to share the workload of advising and mentoring students, evaluating and developing the curriculum," Sechrist said.

Sechrist said shortfalls in the state budget have prevented the college from adding more full-time professors.

"The increase in the percentage of adjunct faculty in the last two years at OCCC is mostly related to the budget," Sechrist said.

"OCCC is a state-supported community college. The greatest source of funding to hire faculty and other employees comes from the state of Oklahoma."

The allotment of money given to OCCC by the state has decreased during a period when the college has seen a dramatic increase in enrollment. Within the last two years, enrollment has increased by 23 percent, whereas the funding from the state has decreased by 5.5 percent, Sechrist said.

The average full-time professor earns almost \$50,000 per year, while adjunct professors are paid \$640 per credit hour, said Larry Robertson, director of compensation and human resources systems.

For full-time faculty teaching a full-time load of five three-credit-hour courses per semester, the cost per class is about \$5,000. By comparison, the cost of hiring a part-time professor to teach a three-credit-hour class is just under \$2,000.

In times like these, Sechrist said, when the college sees a spike in enrollment and no additional funding from the state to add full-time faculty, OCCC increases the percentage of part-time faculty to make

See **PARTTIME** page 9

A new semester begins



YASMIN SHIRALI/PIONEER

Bookstore employee Ashley Allen scans school supplies for nursing major Jamie Bills. The bookstore is open from 7:45 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays, from 7:45 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, and from 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays with extended hours until Jan. 21.

VIDEOS ON DEMAND ADDED TO LIBRARY WEBSITE

Library expands services

HOLLY DAVIS
WALKER
News Writing Student

The library staff is expanding its services to students both on and off campus, said Amanda Lemon, electronic services librarian.

Videos-on-demand, Internet chats and a document scanner are just a few of the expanded offerings students can use. One new addition to the library's website is access to films on demand.

Lemon describes it as an "academic-minded Netflix." There are videos on topics ranging from humanities to business, science to health. The films can be accessed under the features menu on the page, Lemon said.

A slightly older service that could bolster the

"We're just excited for the future. We want to be relevant. We want to make it as easy as possible for students to access."

—AMANDA LEMON
ELECTRONIC SERVICES LIBRARIAN

success of students is the Ask a Librarian section at www.occc.edu/library. It allows a student to e-mail, chat with, text or send an instant message to a librarian for answers to questions during regular business hours.

Responses generally come within five minutes, Lemon said, though it can take a bit longer if the librarian is away from the desk.

"In chat, the students are anonymous," Lemon said. "When I worked at the University of Central Oklahoma, some students were too intimi-

dated to come talk to us, but would use the ask features."

She said she hopes more students will take advantage of the ask features.

Chat has fast become the second most popular way for students to ask questions, right behind visiting the front desk in person. Lemon said.

"That's a really cool feature," said student Rachel Morrow, who just learned about the service.

See **LIBRARY**
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OPINION

EDITORIAL | College could do more to help homeless

Success story masks bigger issue

Nearly two weeks ago, Ted Williams was an ordinary homeless person begging for money on the streets of Columbus, Ohio, when a Columbus Dispatch videographer found the man with the “Golden Homeless Voice.”

After the Columbus Dispatch video went online, Williams found himself showered with a variety of offers for his talents ranging from NFL Films, MS-NBC, MTV, to the NBA's own Cleveland Cavaliers offering Williams a two-year contract with mortgage payments for housing.



Joey Stipek

I am not chiding the previous down-on-his-luck Williams for getting into a bidding war with various media outlets for his talents.

It certainly is a feel-good story designed to give readers fuzzy feelings in the inside of their stomachs.

However, Williams' situation raises questions about a much broader issue.

While America should give itself a nice big pat on the back for helping one homeless person get a job and nationwide fame, it feels as if the other 600,000 or so homeless people don't deserve that kind of

attention.

Many homeless people do not share the same checkered past as Ted Williams. They are our friends, family, and colleagues.

There are homeless students attending OCCC who have gotten themselves into circumstances beyond their control. These students are working toward better lives for their families and themselves.

While Student Support Services and our own faculty do as much as they possibly can to help OCCC students, at the end of the day everyone could still be doing more to help alleviate homelessness.

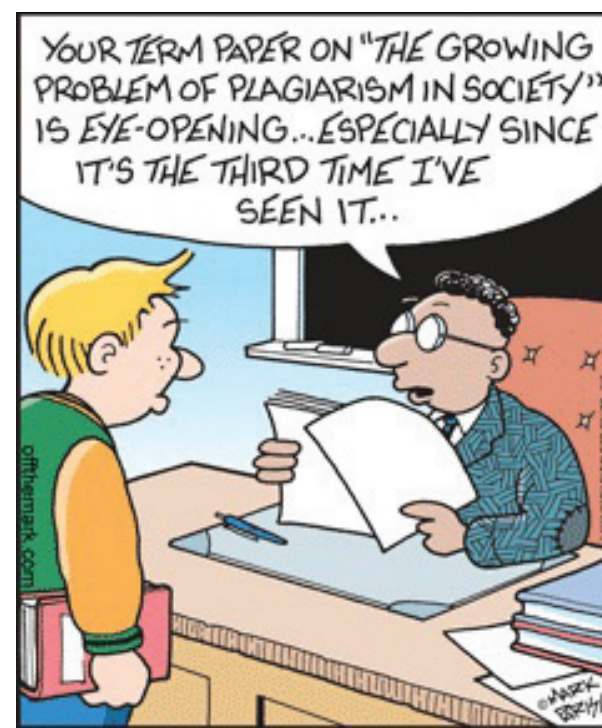
There are possible solutions that, with the proper funding from the state of Oklahoma and OCCC alumni, could help ease these problems on campus.

OCCC could offer free lunches and childcare for students or students with children who claimed homelessness on their FAFSA forms.

In an ideal world it would be wonderful for alumni donations to help fund a small dorm or shelter on or near campus for those students and their families who are without residence.

While OCCC is a commuter college, we are the fourth largest college in Oklahoma.

And if students know of anyone who is homeless or living in a shelter, please try to provide them with clothing, blankets, or a meal — anything that could help them get through an obviously trying time in



MARK PARISI/OFFTHEMARK.COM

their lives.

These suggestions are only possible small solutions to an overall larger problem.

There are just as many talented individuals on campus at OCCC as there are on the streets of Columbus, Ohio. It is a shame they do not have a videographer to make them seen and heard.

—JOEY STIPEK
EDITOR

YOUR VOICE | Biology professor will be missed in the classroom

Student laments loss of ‘wonderful’ science professor

To the editor:

One of my former professors will no longer be teaching regular classes here at OCCC.

I am referring to Professor Virginia Hovda, whom I had for General Biology [in the fall] semester.

Mrs. Hovda will not be teaching regular classes

any longer.

From what I have been told, she will be teaching two online classes [during the spring] semester as well as being retained for the position of Lab Supervisor.

I was told this was to reflect the needs of the school and of Mrs. Hovda.

I believe that she is one of the best science teachers here at our school and I am concerned with the loss of her.

She had been teaching for around 20 years, and is a wonderful teacher.

She has very unique ways of explaining ideas that could be very complex and confusing nor-

mally, and just does such an amazing job.

This is a teacher who has not canceled a single class all semester, hasn't made any of us wait on anything, is very organized with information and actually makes the class one you want to attend — and it's science!

It's very disturbing to

me that we are losing such a wonderful teacher, but I also would like to see this brought to the school's attention.

I know I am not the only student whom has enjoyed her class — just by checking www.rate-myprofessors.com you can tell she is a good professor.

I can't say I am convinced that those of authority are putting the school's best interest first here.

It's a complete shame other students will not get the chance to learn from her in a classroom.

—NATASHA
RUSSELL
OCCC STUDENT

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PIONEER

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Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the **PIONEER**, the college or 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. E-mail letters should include all but the signature. The **PIONEER** will withhold the author's 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 should be fewer than 250 words. Students must list their major. OCCC staff and faculty must list their work title.

Letters to the editor can be submitted to the **PIONEER** office, located in 1F2 in Arts and Humanities, just inside Entry 2, mailed to 7777 S. May Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73159, faxed to 405-682-7843, or submitted via e-mail to editor@occc.edu with a phone number for verification included. The **PIONEER** ONLINE also can be accessed at www.occc.edu/pioneer.

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COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

YOUR VOICE | Professors are right to expect students to attend classes regularly

If you go to class, you will pass

To the editor:

First let me commend Morgan Beard for his thoughtful editorial in the last issue of the Pioneer.

He asks a legitimate question: If students can pass a class without attending, should they be penalized by the attendance policy if they don't go? The writer contends the answer is no.

He reasons that students who make the decision not to attend class should face the consequences.

Those students who can pass all the tests and complete all the homework should receive the grade they earn, regardless of whether they attended regularly and without losing points for absences.

Class attendance should be up to the students. It's their freedom of choice, the writer argues. This argument would carry more weight if students paid all the costs associated with the courses they enroll in.

At OCCC, that is rarely the case. Oklahoma residents pay \$265.80 for a three-credit-hour class.

The total cost for that class is closer to \$800. Who pays the rest? The taxpayers of Oklahoma, for the most part.

Why are Oklahoma taxpayers willing to pay almost 65 percent of the cost of a student's education at a state-supported college or university?

The thinking goes something like this.

Education pays off, not only for the individual,

“All students should do everything they can to complete their courses and finish their degrees.”

—SUE HINTON

JOURNALISM AND ENGLISH PROFESSOR

but also for society.

An educated population also enjoys other rewards, in addition to economic benefits.

Aside from state funds going directly to the college, many OCCC students pay their tuition and fees through the support of scholarships, financial aid, parents or employers.

So many parties have a stake in our students and their academic success. It's not just an issue of individualism.

All students should do

everything they can to complete their courses and finish their degrees.

This includes attending class. It's the best way to express appreciation to the taxpayers and others who have underwritten their endeavors.

And besides, going to class greatly increases a student's chances of success. That's why many professors choose to encourage attendance through class policies.

—SUE HINTON

JOURNALISM AND ENGLISH PROFESSOR

YOUR VOICE | Responsibility is vital to college success

Students should treat college as a job

To the editor:

Regarding Morgan Beard's opinion piece, "Attendance policy too restrictive," in the 10 Dec. 2010 issue, I submit a different opinion.

After being laid off last year, I returned to college to finally complete the degree I started 20 some years ago.

I have two sons, one 17 and the other 4, and work part-time. I chose to return to college and treat it like a job.

When a person voluntarily does something they should honor the rules set before them.

Unforeseen circumstances are unavoidable, but it is too easy to make up an unforeseen circumstance to avoid class

“An adult needs to take responsibility for the choices they make.”

—RANDY BURGHART
OCCC STUDENT

because of poor planning or procrastination.

In my experience, I have seen professors believe and excuse absences for just about everything.

However, being an adult means having personal responsibility and, truth be told, the majority of family emergencies and such that a student offers up are just excuses to get out of class.

I have had to go to class with unfinished assignments because of

poor choices that I made.

I could have contacted the professor and said that my child was sick [or] the dog died, and asked if I could turn my assignments next week.

Most of my professors probably would have said yes.

However, an adult needs to take responsibility for the choices they make.

Missing class may also impose on others.

A classmate may be asked to provide notes

from the class or the professor may be asked to repeat material covered in the missed class.

Class is a valuable time of interaction and learning. Hopefully, it will be more than a time of rote memorization from the textbook.

If a student has a valid reason to miss an occasional class, a professor will understand.

Personally, I like the professors who do not care why you miss class.

They do not want to be in the position of determining if an absence is valid or not.

If a student must miss or choose to miss a class accept the consequences.

For the student that does not want to attend

ADVISER'S 411

Explore OCCC

Happy New Year, everyone, and welcome back or to OCCC!

Just like clockwork, the wheels of time have brought us to a new year, a new semester, and changes in our lives.

Whether you are a brand new college student or a seasoned veteran, we hope you will avail yourselves of the many resources on campus that can help you be as successful as possible in your academic endeavors.

Sometimes, students arrive on campus with the attitude that success means knowing everything and doing everything independently.

While being a completely independent learner can be an asset, the belief that you can't or shouldn't ask for help when you need it is not.

We encourage you to explore the various learning labs, the library, Student Services offices, academic divisions, and even the college website.

Take advantage of every opportunity to learn what the people working in different offices do.

Get acquainted with your professors. They are real people who can be really helpful if you ask them for it.

Who better is there to explain something that you didn't understand in class?

Above all, be open and receptive to the idea of learning.

Read. Think. Discuss.

Your experiences here with us will change you. We in Student Support Services are here to help you with your journey.

—MARY TURNER

LEARNING SUPPORT SPECIALIST

class regularly there are in the class.

alternatives: take online classes or do not enroll

—RANDY BURGHART
OCCC STUDENT

Comments? Opinions?

Let us know.

e-mail **Joey Stipek** at **editor@occc.edu**, call

405-682-1611, ext. 7675,
or drop by 1F2 AH

Let your voice be heard!

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

FILM REVIEW | Portman shines in psychological beauty

Director's dark 'Swan' soars above the rest

Darren Aronofsky is known for his films to divulge into the darkness and horror of the physical human condition.

Aronofsky has directed such diverse films and characters like the junkies struggling for their next fix in "Requiem For A Dream" (2000), to a washed-up professional wrestler with family issues in "The Wrestler" (2009).

His fifth film, "Black Swan" is no different than his previous work.

Nina (Natalie Portman) is a dancer for a ballet troupe in New York City.

The theater company's director Thomas Leroy (Vincent Cassel) decides to replace his lead ballerina Beth (Winona Ryder) for the company's opening production of a reinvention of Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake."

While Leroy believes Nina is a respectable dancer, he does not believe she has what it takes to play the more physically demanding dual roles of the innocent white swan Odette, and her sensual, sinister double, the black swan Odile. However, because of a sexual obsession with Nina, Leroy soon becomes fixated on using her to replace the aging, veteran lead ballerina Beth anyway.

Nina in turn becomes obsessed with not only sur-

passing Beth, but she also sets her sights on usurping young upstart dancer Lily (Mila Kunis) as well.

This sets up the rest of the film as "Black Swan" veers into uncomfortable territory at times with Nina driven to the point of obsession and neurosis as she attempts to best her rival Lily.

Natalie Portman deserves the Academy Award this year for putting on the performance of a lifetime losing herself in the role of Nina.

She's clearly trying to impress from attempting to get the ballet rehearsal scenes right to a fine piece of real acting in the much buzzed about, infamous scene with Kunis. Portman executes Aronofsky's twisted vision with as much precision as a ballet dancer executing a pirouette.

"Black Swan" does get kind of hokey and borders on absurd parody at a few points, but coupled with striking cinematography, strong acting, and an intense, distorted score of Swan Lake – "Black Swan" still manages to spread its wings in all of its cinematic splendor.

"Black Swan" is rated R for graphic sexual content, disturbing images, language and drug use.

Rating: B

—JOEY STIPEK
EDITOR



GAME REVIEW | New game puts new twist on old classic

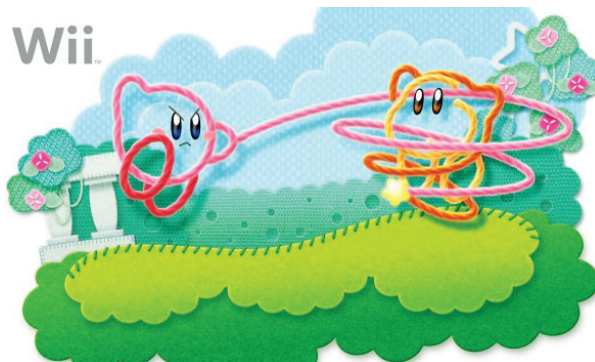
Wii game unravels latest 'Kirby' hit

From fire trucks and zippers to dolphins and stitches, "Kirby's Epic Yarn" will have your head spinning with all the various destructive possibilities.

This recent release is the latest in the line of "Kirby" games, and takes a slightly different twist on the usual way that Kirby does things.

Instead of sucking up monsters and stealing their abilities, you wrap a yarn whip around enemies and blocks, then either unravel them, or spin them into a ball of yarn and buttons to use as a throwing weapon.

The other abilities you have grown to expect from the small pink ball of awesome have been



replaced with other types of abilities.

Flying has been changed into turning into a parachute, and running changes you into a car.

The fact that Kirby can transform into various shapes has been emphasized with this game.

When you tear off a patch from the stage, you can find a small

patch that transforms you into something.

I find the tank transformation the most amusing as you get to spam the crap out of yarn missiles.

This version of Kirby also contains elements of roleplaying games as well.

One of the non-playable characters asks you to go collect beads, which are the currency

in patch land.

While this game provides a little challenge for seasoned players of the "Kirby" franchise, the fact that you cannot actually lose makes this game very friendly for new players.

It would be worth mentioning that this game has a two-player mode as well, which might go well with siblings or parents who like to play games with their children.

"Kirby's Epic Yarn" is available for the Nintendo Wii gaming console and retails for \$39.99 at your local video game retailer.

Rating: A

—ROBERT BOLTON
STAFF WRITER

THIS WEEK AT THE BOX OFFICE

TOP 10 movies in terms of weekend gross the weekend of Jan. 7 through 9

1. True Grit	\$14,605,135
2. Little Fockers	\$13,487,245
3. Season of the Witch	\$10,612,375
4. TRON: Legacy	\$10,090,002
5. Black Swan	\$8,113,011
6. Country Song	\$7,326,165
7. The Fighter	\$7,001,504
8. Yogi Bear	\$6,641,250
9. The King's Speech	\$6,414,407
10. Tangled	\$5,111,098

—weekendTop10.com

SIFE initiates 'going green' campus

ALISHA WALKER
News Writing Student

Implementing several "green" initiatives around campus in support of the OCCC Green Initiative task force is the goal of members of Students in Free Enterprise, said SIFE president Kody Payne. SIFE is an organization aimed primarily at business majors.

The projects SIFE is working on include recycling, water conservation, and energy conservation.

SIFE's interest in implementing green projects came from the encouragement of their faculty sponsors, Payne said. SIFE Vice President Manuela Nkwinkwa said the SIFE faculty sponsors, Professors Germain Pichop, Michael Machiorlatti and Charles Wayne Myrick, are very helpful in insuring the

organization's success.

Payne said the organization sought to answer the question: "What is a need on campus that we can meet and how can we meet it?"

In response to student concerns that OCCC should be more environmentally friendly, Payne responded that "this is what we are trying to fix."

The organization as a team wrote a grant to SIFE nationals, which is called the SIFE Environment Sustainability Challenge, according to Nkwinkwa. The grant proposed a plan for implementing eco-friendly awareness on campus. "We submitted it, but have not received any money yet," Nkwinkwa said.

According to the SIFE Environment Sustain-

ability Challenge grant, SIFE has undertaken this challenge not only to create awareness about recycling and its importance for the future of the planet, but also "to contribute to any existing recycling initiatives

"If you don't recycle at home, they will not be able to recycle anything for you. You cannot assume that if you can put it all in the same bag they will do it for you."

—MANUELA NKWINKWA
SIFE VICE PRESIDENT

and start new ones where they may not exist," according to the grant.

During the 2009-2010 school year, SIFE started a recycling initiative in the college's business division.

It consisted of recycling paper and types 1 and 2 plastic. Other faculty and staff mem-

bers have expanded the initiatives to their own departments, according to the challenge grant.

SIFE also plans to partner with PepsiCo Foundation, the Oklahoma City Public Schools System and other commu-

cate younger generations, Payne said.

Recently, SIFE took a field trip to Waste Management in Oklahoma City to learn about recycling different products like plastic, paper, glass and cardboard. Nkwinkwa said she didn't know a great deal about recycling before the trip. She said she learned that "if you don't recycle at home, they will not be able to recycle anything for you. You cannot assume that

if you can put it all in the same bag they will do it for you."

Payne said OCCC sends paper from the recycle bins to Waste Management to be recycled.

"We supplied all offices with paper recycling bins to help with this," she said.

SIFE's next project is to create stickers to place on light switches encouraging students and faculty to conserve energy and turn lights off in empty rooms, Payne said.

They also are collecting used cellular phones to send to recycling companies. That will serve as a fundraising opportunity to continue to incorporate more green projects around campus, according to the Challenge grant pledge.

Typically SIFE works with small business owners as well as the community to help implement responsible and environmentally friendly business decisions, according to the project grant.

For further information on SIFE, please contact Payne at kody.payne@email.occc.edu or Manuela Nkwinkwa at ida.m.tchdume@email.occc.edu.

Students offered tutoring in Accounting Lab

Lab Director said other help also offered

KACEY NOLAND
News Writing Student

The Accounting Lab is a place where students can get tutoring for Accounting I and Accounting II, said Julie Young, lab director.

The lab is located on the

second floor of the Main Building in room 2R1.

The five staff members who work in the lab are more than happy to help with any problems students may have, Young said.

They prepare practice tests, handouts for chapters, and practice sheets to help students succeed. The lab posts homework answers on the outside

of the lab window where students can check their homework.

"We want students to do their best, and we are there to help," Young said.

Students must bring an OCCC student ID to use the accounting lab. The

lab is free for students.

Travis Sutterfield, business major, said he plans to use the lab.

"I think the Accounting Lab is necessary to be successful in accounting courses," he said.

Students say the best

time to visit the accounting lab is right after they open in the morning.

Lab assistants advise students not to procrastinate about studying for tests. Right before a test is when the lab is the busiest.

Lab hours are 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Monday and Wednesday; 10 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; and 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Fridays.

For more information, contact Young at 405-682-1611, ext. 7286.

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Follow us for instant news and updates!

**www.twitter.com/
OCCCPioneer**

www.occc.edu/pioneer



Students encouraged to ask for help navigating OCCC

Shown are maps to all three floors of the Main Building which includes the SEM Center, Health Professions Center, and Arts and Humanities, and a map of the Visual and Performing Arts Center.

Many of OCCC’s labs and classrooms, as well as the Bookstore and College Union, are located in the Main Building.

More classrooms, labs, and offices are found in the Keith Leftwich Memorial Library and the Visual and Performing Arts Center.

For the spring semester, the Main Building and Visual and Performing Arts Center will be open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, and 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays. The campus is closed Sundays.

College workers will be on hand throughout the first week of classes to help students navigate campus.

In addition, students are encouraged to ask any college employee for directions if they have difficulty navigating any of the buildings.

Important Dates

Jan 18. Semester starts

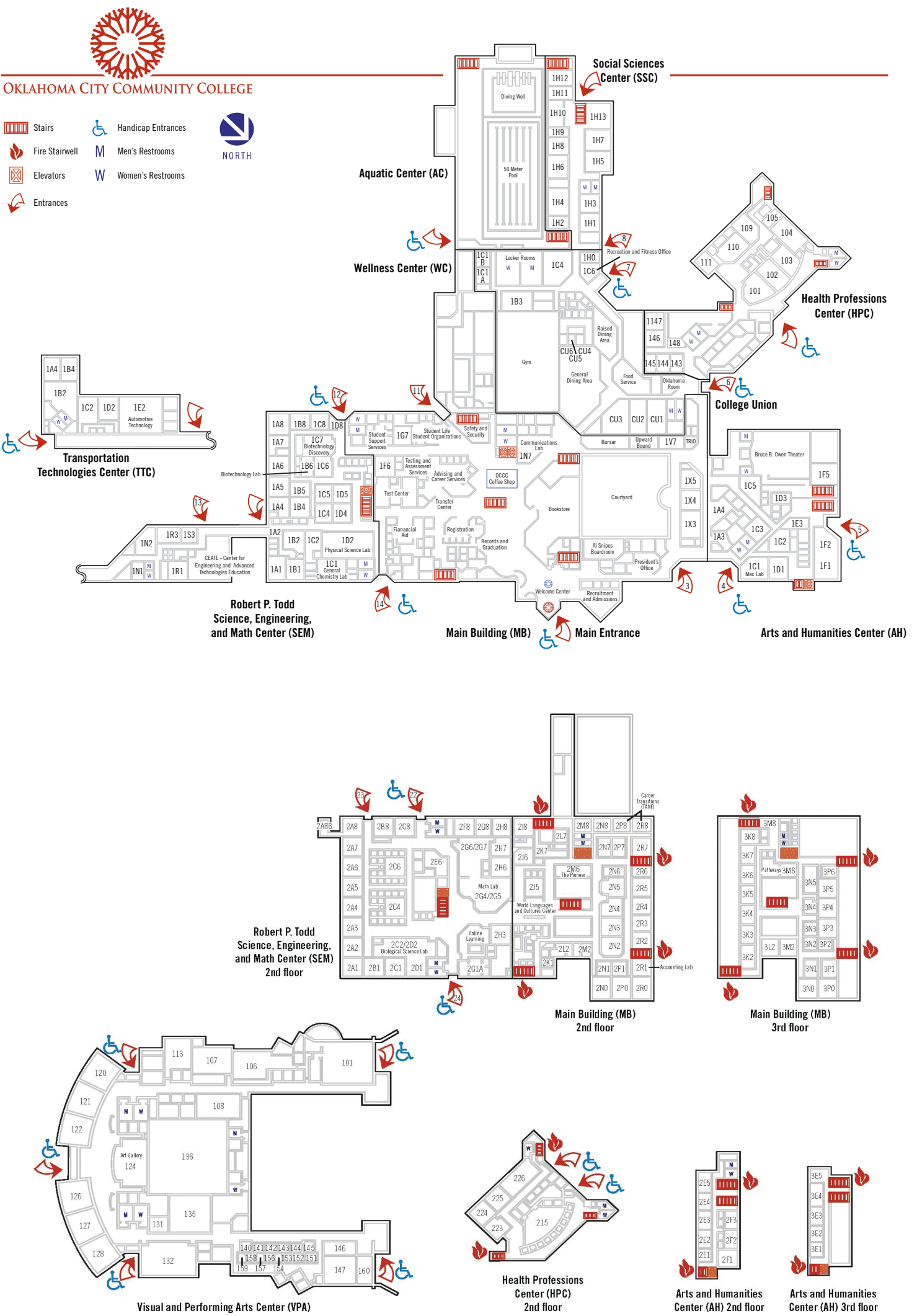
Jan. 28 Last day to drop classes with a refund

April 15 Last day to drop classes without receiving a grade (no refund)

May 14 Last day of class



Visit the Pioneer Online for additional campus maps, as well as exclusive news, interactive features, polls and more.



Students to face fines for parking infractions

Decals, speeding among campus parking regulations

WHITNEY KNIGHT
Online Editor
onlineeditor@occc.edu

From registering your vehicle to parking in proper spaces, OCCC has several parking regulations students should follow, said Registrar Alan Stringfellow.

Tanya Vroenen, Safety and Security officer, said students who fail to obey the following rules could face fines of up to \$100:

- All vehicles that will

regularly be parked on campus must be registered. Free parking decals can be obtained from the Records and Graduation Services front counter. If students don't have a decal on their vehicles on the first day of classes, they could be fined \$5. If the decals aren't affixed properly, students could be fined \$3.

- Drivers also are required to park in designated areas. Students, faculty and employees, disabled drivers, and visitors all have a designated place to park, according to Safety and Security's website.

Student parking spaces are identified by yellow parallel

If you get a fine...
Fines may be paid in the Bursar's Office.
When a fine is paid, a receipt will be issued and the Safety and Security Department notified. Once all fines have been paid, all restrictions will be removed.

lines. Faculty and employee parking spaces are identified by blue parallel lines and lettering that states faculty and employee parking, according

to OCCC's Traffic and Parking Brochure. Handicapped parking spaces are marked with the customary sign as prescribed by law.

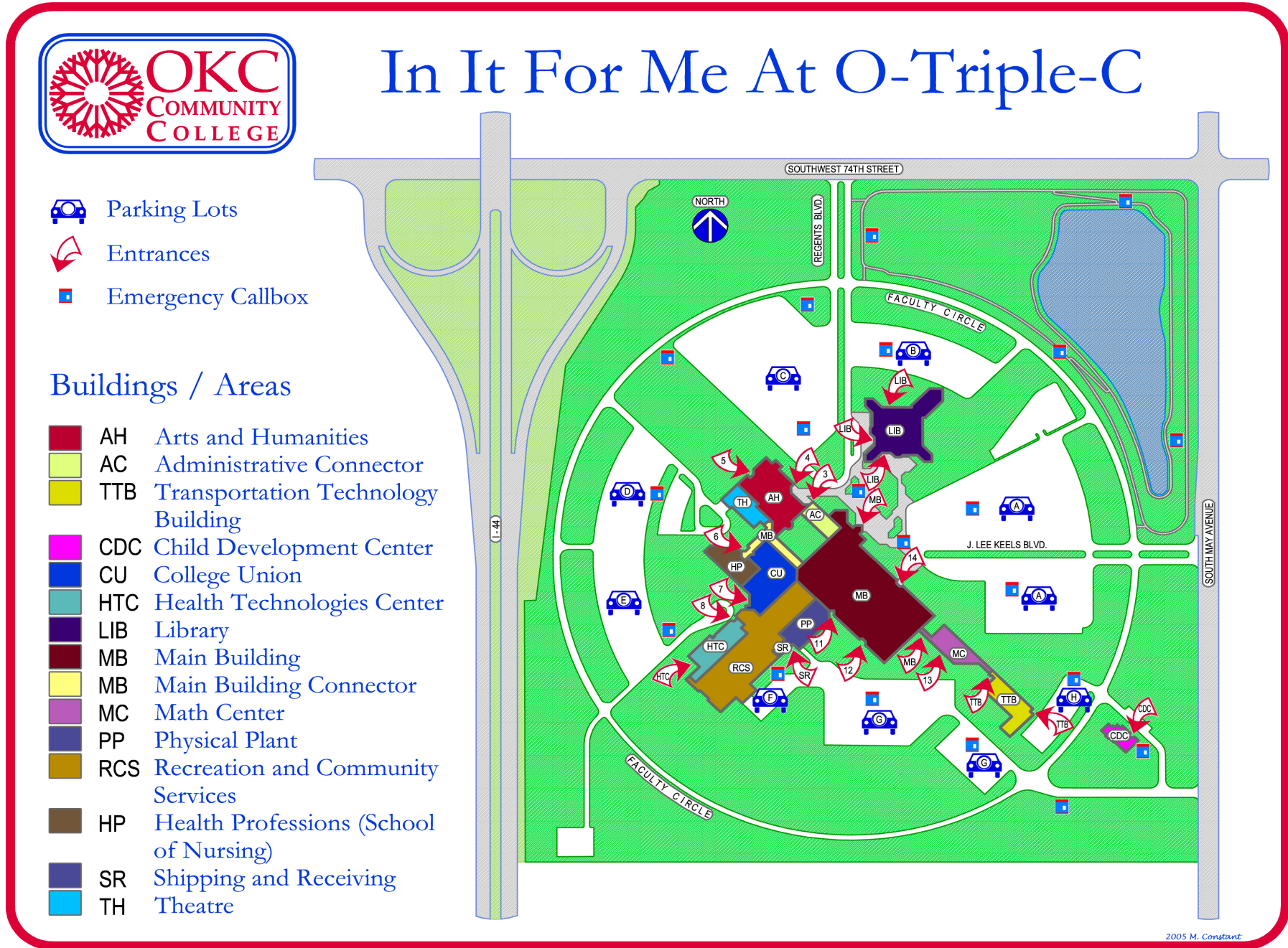
Students who park in faculty or employee parking spaces may be fined \$15. A fine of \$100 will be imposed on students who park in a handicapped spot or a fire lane. Violators also may face fines from Oklahoma City.

- Students must also drive with caution while on campus. Violations for failure to stop at a stop sign, going the wrong way down a one-way street and reckless driving carry \$25 fines. Similar

fines can be imposed for not yielding to pedestrians and speeding. In addition to fines charged by OCCC, students may be required to pay fines to the city if they are in violation of any federal, state, or local laws and ordinances, according to the Safety and Security website.

For more information, contact Records and Graduation Services at 405-682-7512.

For more information about parking violations, fines, vehicle assistance, and temporary decals, contact Safety and Security at 405-682-1611, ext. 7691.



All OCCC parking lots are patrolled 24 hours a day by campus Safety and Security. Unregistered vehicles, those with an improperly-placed decal, those illegally parked within faculty or employee parking spaces, or those illegally parked within handicapped spaces or fire lanes may receive fines of up to \$100. In addition, drivers caught driving recklessly, speeding, failing to stop at stop sign, going the wrong way on a one-way street or failing to yield to pedestrians may also yield fines.

SPORTS

Spring sports

Physical therapy major Lamonte Harris starts off the semester by hitting the gym to shoot hoops on OCCC's basketball courts. The gym is located in the Wellness Center and is open Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The gym and more including a workout room, Olympic-sized swimming pool and fitness classes are available to students, staff and faculty. Many of those offerings are free with a current OCCC ID while others are available at an affordable fee. Visit www.occc.edu/rcs for more information and full listing of classes and intramural sports teams offered.



YASMIN SHIRALI/PIONEER

INTRAMURALS | 5-ON-5 BASKETBALL, BASKETBALL HOT SHOTS CHALLENGE, SOFTBALL AND MORE

Intramural sports almost here

JACOB CHAMBERS

Sports Writer

sportswriter@occc.edu

5-on-5 basketball for both men and women will be among the intramural sports on tap this semester.

OCCC students can look forward to a number of intramural sports to either participate in or cheer on from the sidelines.

For all intramural sports, students can sign up as an individual or as a team, according to the intramural student handbook.

The times and dates for all sporting activities are not yet available, when they are the Pioneer will list the dates and times.

There also will be a Basketball Hot Shots Challenge available for students who are good at shooting the basketball.

Students will be able to play CoRec Softball and CoRec Badminton.

Rita Manning, Recreation and Fitness

Assistant said, "CoRec means men and women can play on the same team."

Badminton has been offered at OCCC in the past, and teams will play doubles.

Tracey Powell, Management Information Systems major, said he likes to play Badminton. "Badminton is harder than it looks," Powell said.

Baily Sneed, first-year student said softball is her sport.

"We won the state title at Blanchard my senior year," Sneed said.

"I can't wait to play some more softball."

All interested students can register at the Wellness Center or Recreation and Fitness office, located in room 1C6 in the Social Sciences Center.

The Social Sciences Center is located on the southwest corner of the Main Building on the first floor.

If students have any questions about intramural sports they can reach the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611,

ext. 7310.

To participate in spring intramural events, you must be a current OCCC student, according to the intramural Student Handbook.

Students also can contact Eric Watson, Sports and Recreation Specialist, at 682-1611, ext. 7786, or ewatson@occc.edu.

In order for students to be eligible to participate in Intramural Sports they must be enrolled in a minimum of six hours at OCCC and have a current OCCC student ID, according to the Intramural Handbook.

For more information about all these sports opportunities, go online at www.occc.edu. Go to the Labs/Centers tab and click on Wellness Center.

All the information regarding rules, policies, equipment, and all the ins and outs involved with intramural sports can be found in the Intramural Handbook on the OCCC website on the Wellness Center page.

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

TBA: 5-on-5 Basketball for men. Sign up at the OCCC Wellness Center. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

TBA: 5-on-5 Basketball for women. Sign up at the OCCC Wellness Center. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

TBA: Basketball Hot Shots Challenge for men and women. Register at the OCCC Wellness Center. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

TBA: Softball CoRec. Apply at the OCCC Wellness Center. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

TBA: Badminton CoRec. Sign up at the OCCC Wellness Center. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

Jan. 3-31: Abs Express M/W, 5:05 to 5:25 p.m. Find out more at the OCCC Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext 7310. For more information contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness Specialist, at 405-682-1611, ext 7786.

Jan 4-27: Body Sculpting T/Th, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Find out more at the OCCC Wellness Center at 405-682-1611 ext 7310. For more information contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness Specialist, at 405-682-1611, ext 7786.

Jan 3-31: Pilates M/W, 6:30-7:30 p.m. To join contact the OCCC Wellness Center, at 405-682-1611, ext 7310.

**Have sports news?
E-mail Jacob Chambers
sportswriter@occc.edu**

Part-time: Adjunct professors teach majority of OCCC classes

Continued from page 1

sure there are teachers for the classes added as a result of the increased enrollment.

Some students say adjunct professors lack the commitment of full-time faculty.

Brian Crone, a video editing student, said he has had some negative encounters with adjunct professors.

"I have had adjunct professors that can sometimes act like they don't really care, or they're not really into their lesson, or they just kind of go through the motions," Crone said.

"It really depends on the individual, though, because my [video] professor is an adjunct professor, and he's a really great teacher," Crone said.

"He will definitely go the

extra step to try to help you."

The college maintains its academic standards when hiring adjunct professors, Sechrist said.

"The qualifications for our adjunct faculty are the same as for our full-time faculty," Sechrist said. "I know many of our adjunct faculty personally and know that they are very committed to OCCC and our students."

"Many have been teaching as adjunct faculty for a number of years and are as passionate about students as our full-time faculty."

Sociology adjunct Professor Robby Snow said she has a deep love for teaching that is deeper than her role as an adjunct.

"I have been an adjunct for over 20 years," Snow said.

"My passion for teaching goes beyond that of a full-time professor because I'm here, not for the money, but because I want to be."

Other students say adjunct professors are just as good in the classroom.

"I really can't tell any difference between the two," said nursing student Amber McKinzie.

"It seems that adjuncts usually put just as much time into their work as full-time professors do."

Sechrist said another reason for hiring adjunct professors is to control tuition costs for students.

"We want to stay true to our mission of providing access to students through affordability," he said. "If we did not use

adjuncts, tuition would dramatically increase, something no one wants to see.

"If we did not use adjuncts, we would not be able to add the additional courses and we would have to turn students away."

Andrea Weckmueller-Behringer, OCCC nutrition adjunct professor, explained her ideas behind the common misconception about adjunct professors being less effective teachers.

"Just like in any profession, it all depends on the professional," she said.

"You can have adjunct professors that take you very seriously and do a lot of extra work, although they don't get paid that much. And you can also have adjunct professors

that put in the minimum hours and don't provide good service to their students."

The same goes for full-time professors. The full-time or part-time does not matter, Weckmueller-Behringer said.

Sechrist said he hopes the college can dial back the use of adjunct professors when the economy improves.

"We make this temporary exception to the goal of having a majority of our classes taught by full-time faculty only when state funds fall short of keeping up with the increases in enrollment," Sechrist said.

"When funding is increased from the state, we plan to increase the number of full-time faculty positions so that our goal can once again be achieved."

Library: New services explained in detail on website

Continued from page 1

"It would be really useful for people like me who get lost online easily."

The site also offers library tutorial videos to assist students in finding their own answers during the times the library is closed. They are on the library's YouTube channel, www.YouTube.com/occlibrary.

The same videos are on the library's homepage, but can only be viewed in Windows Media Player. All videos are under five minutes long, Lemon said.

Other colleges as far away as Arizona and Colorado have called to ask for advice on building similar websites or to ask permission to use parts of OCCC's library tutorial videos, Lemon said.

She said there is a link to the library's blog on the main page to keep students up to date about events and new resources available in the library. These updates can also be found on the library's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/occlibrary.

All these features and more, such as online access to EB-

SCO Host, archives for The Daily Oklahoman, and other research-related databases, can be accessed off-campus just as easily as on-campus, Lemon said. All a student needs is his or her OCCC e-mail and password (the same as MineOnline) to log in.

Business major Joshua Walker said he recently used these databases to complete a report for one of his classes.

"I am an online learning student," he said. "This was great because I was able to access more research from home and even get the call numbers for books I wanted to use. It made my trip to campus shorter since I already knew where to find what I needed."

A survey gauging student and faculty interest in e-books recently closed, Lemon said. Results are still being evaluated, and new e-book providers are being considered.

The OCCC library does have some academic e-books available that are about 10 years old, said Dana Tuley-Williams, systems librarian. Those can only be accessed online.

Tuley-Williams said she is

excited about the services the library is able to offer.

"It's really nice having a librarian dedicated to online services like Amanda is."

Another helpful tool is a scanner for students to use to copy documents or reference articles to save them without spending money on photocopies.

"The library recently acquired a new scanner so students can e-mail or save to a flash drive scans of documents they'd like to take home. The new scanner has a touch screen and is really easy to use."

Tuley-Williams said the scanner can reduce paper used for photocopies as well as save students some money.

"We're still tinkering with it a little bit, but thus far, it seems to work fabulous," she said. "It has been in the library since Nov. 8. We were looking at 'how can we be more green in the library?' and that's where this started."

Other changes also may be in store, Lemon said.

"We're just excited for the future. We want to be relevant. We want to make it as easy as

possible for students to access."


Library hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m.

to 9 p.m. Friday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays. These hours apply for the spring and fall semesters.

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 Planned Parenthood
1-800-230-PLAN

CAMPUS COMMUNITY



YASMIN SHIRALI/PIONEER

Future student Michelle Robinson brings her son Wyatt along while enrolling in the nursing program at OCCC. The last day to enroll for the spring semester is Jan. 21. Go to www.occc.edu for details.

OPENING DAY | Campus tours, maps and more available

Opening day to start semester

HOLLY DAVIS WALKER

Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

As a new semester begins at OCCC, Student Life wants to help students find their way around campus.

On Opening Day **Jan. 15**, staff volunteers will conduct personalized tours to anyone who attends, said Katie Treadwell, First Year and Student Life programs coordinator.

All the student services offices will be open, Treadwell said. Students will be able to take care of financial aid details, buy textbooks, and speak with an adviser. The bursar office also will be open, she said.

"We encourage returning students to come as well because they need financial aid and books, too."

At 11:30 a.m. on Opening Day, a New Student Orientation takes place in CU3, where students can find helpful information about the campus and the resources available to students, and receive tips to lead them to success throughout their college career, said Treadwell.

During the Opening Day event, students can visit the welcome booth in the college foyer and enter to win a Nintendo Wii game system or a high-definition television. Students also can take part in a scavenger hunt. The first 200 participants will receive OCCC T-shirts from Student Life.

The college will be closed Monday, Jan. 17, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Treadwell said, but Welcome Week continues **Tuesday, Jan. 18**.

She said a welcome breakfast for students begins at **8 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 18**, in the College Union and will last until the food runs out.

At **noon on Tuesday, Jan. 18**, is the return of Taco Tuesday in the union foyer. Taco Tuesday is an event held the first Tuesday of the month, every month, to encourage students to keep up-to-date with campus events.

Wednesday, Jan. 19, and Thursday, Jan. 20, both offer students another opportunity to attend a New Student Orientation. Wednesday's session begins at 2 p.m. in CU3. Thursday's session begins at 9:30 a.m., also in CU3. Students should RSVP by calling or stopping by the Academic Advising office or Student Life in the Main Building.

From **10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 20**, students can swing by the college foyer to make a wax hand.

Friday, Jan. 21, is OCCC Spirit Day. Students are encouraged to wear OCCC T-shirts to show their pride.

Student Life is hosting an open house from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 21, at the Student Life office to give students another opportunity to learn about their events and programs.

If you have community news, contact Holly Davis Walker at communitywriter@occc.edu or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7675

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Cultural Art Series presents K.C. Clifford

Award-winning singer/songwriter K.C. Clifford will appear at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 18, at the Bruce Owen Theater at OCCC. Tickets are \$12.50 for students and children; \$19.50 for faculty, staff and Alumni Association members; \$24.50 for general admission. For more information, call 405-682-7579 or visit www.occc.edu/cas.

Baptist Collegiate Ministries

BCM will meet at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20, in 3N0 for the club's weekly lunch and Bible study. Students are welcome to attend and join in the fellowship. BCM's weekly meetings will begin at noon on Monday, Jan. 24, in the foyer of the Bruce Owen Theater.

Student Organization Fair

Student Life will host a student organization fair from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 26, and Thursday, Jan. 27, in the college union. Students are invited to attend and discover all the clubs OCCC has to offer.

Hank Williams Sr. tribute band Jan. 28

Hankin' for Hank, a Hank Williams Sr. tribute band, will perform at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28, at the OCCC Bruce Owen Theater. Tickets are available from the Cultural Art Series box office for \$18 to students, faculty, staff, and members of the Alumni Association. General Admission tickets are \$20. For more information, call 405-682-7579 or visit www.occc.edu/cas.

OCCC's Study Abroad Program

The Study Abroad Program at OCCC is planning its next trip for May 23 through June 3 to Costa Rica. Students who attend have the opportunity to learn a foreign language, discover another culture, develop their independence, enhance their resume with desirable international skills. Applications are due by Feb. 1. For more information, contact Abbie Figueroa by e-mail at afigueroa@occc.edu

Spring Graduation Applications Due

Applications can be picked up by the Records and Graduation Services office on the first floor of the Main Building. Applications are due Feb. 4 and can be turned in to Graduation Services or Records after hours. Students can receive a degree evaluation in the Advising office to ensure they're on the right track for graduation this semester.

All Highlights are due Monday by 5 p.m. for inclusion in the next issue.

Highlight forms can be picked up in the Pioneer office, located in 1F2 of the Arts and Humanities building, just inside Entry 2.

CLASSIFIEDS

Pioneer classified advertising is free to all enrolled OCCC students and employees for any personal classified ad. Ad applications must be submitted with IDs supplied by 5 p.m. Mondays prior to the publication date. For more information, call the Ad Manager at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or e-mail adman@occc.edu.

APPLIANCES

FOR SALE: Hoover bag-less vacuum cleaner. Good condition and works good. Call: Ahmed at 405-996-0609.

ELECTRONICS

For Sale: TI 84 & TI Nspire keyboards, operating systems. Looks new, used for one semester. Manual, software. \$50.00. Call: 405-682-7804 or e-mail jatkinson@occc.edu.

FOR RENT

Roommate Wanted: Nice room to share close to OCCC, two-bedroom, pets allowed, no smoking or alcohol inside the apartment, \$250 per month. Call A.J. at 405-549-3398 or e-mail olalekanjl@yahoo.com.

Roommate Wanted: Nice room to share close to OCCC, two-bedroom apartment, no pets, no smoking or alcohol, \$400 per month. Call Jaime at 405-520-1262 or e-mail jaimecom@lycos.com.

FURNITURE

FOR SALE: Wooden high-chair. Good condition. \$10. OCCC ext 7674 or 405-501-8777.

REAL ESTATE

For Sale: No down payment, 3 bed, 1.5 bath, 2 car, CH&A, Move in ready, spotless, close to OU and OCCC, 227 S Bristow, Moore, OK. \$87,500. Call: 405-364-8555, 405-820-3630 or e-mail cshutt1@cox.net.

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Tutoring Offered: Are you struggling in any subject? Take a tutoring class with Nguyen. Call: Nguyen at 918-850-5625 or e-mail nguyen.h.truong@email.occc.edu

TEXTBOOKS
FOR SALE: Freshman books for Business & Management major. Used but in good shape and affordable price. Call: Ahmed at 405-996-0609 or e-mail anth19@gmail.com.

FOR SALE: Larousse student dictionary English-French for only \$5. Useful for students. Few other books for Business major are also available. Call: Ahmed at 405-996-0609 or e-mail anth19@gmail.com.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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RITA	SPUDS	AGUA
GOALIE	VICINITY	
OSLER	YEASTS	
	SAFE	EIDER
YURT	ATT	ARTERY
OFA	TILES	AGA
HOMBRE	CAT	ANON
OSSIE	RITE	
	GECKOS	ARGON
BOUFFANT	TROUPE	
ARLO	RATIO	SATE
LENO	EVEN	OVID
MOAT	TERNS	LACY

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PIONEER
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BEGINNING JAN. 21:
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CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER CELEBRATED

Martin Luther King Jr. remembered Jan. 17

JEREMY CLOUD

Staff Writer

staffwriter3@occc.edu

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is observed across the nation on the third Monday of January each year, which is around the time of King's birthday, Jan. 15.

While in past years, the college remained open and celebrated the national holiday with on-campus ceremonies, in 2008, it was decided closing the college would be more appropriate, said OCCC President Paul Sechrist.

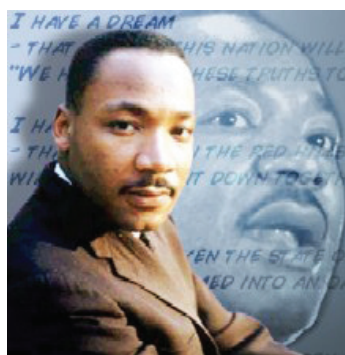
"As an educational institution, the recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. Day is an opportunity to acknowledge our history, to learn about our history, and to move forward

with an understanding of our history," he said. "If it were just another day of classes and work I am not sure it would have the same impact."

The holiday, which was signed into law as a Federal holiday by President Ronald Reagan in 1983, is important for a number of reasons, said Ray McCullar, history professor.

"It reminds us that African-Americans didn't always have civil rights," McCullar said.

"It celebrates the successes and ongoing work of the civil rights movement. For a lot of young people today, these events can



"Martin Luther King Jr. Day reminds me that because of Dr. King's work, we are in a new era in terms of racial understanding."

—RYAN CAMPBELL
OCCC STUDENT

seem like ancient history. It's good to look back and see how far we've come."

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

serves both as a memorial to a great man who died too young and as a day to remember his work, said Ryan Campbell, pre-engineering major.

"Martin Luther King Jr. Day reminds me that because of Dr. King's work we are in a new era in terms of racial understanding," Campbell said.

"This is not the world Dr. King grew up in," he said, "Now, the general consensus among most people, no matter what race, is that we should all get along. And I think that's his legacy."

Reminders such as these are ever more important in light of

ongoing efforts to make history politically correct, McCullar said. "People try to sanitize it, to make it less offensive," he said.

"Many Oklahoma history books don't mention, or touch only briefly on, the Tulsa Race Riots. And I read an article that said they were going to remove the n-word from the next edition of Huckleberry Finn.

"I understand why reading that would be offensive, but if we continue to try and clean up our history, we'll lose sight of how great the civil rights movement really was.

"We'll forget how great a man Dr. King was, and the strength it took to do the work he did."

For more on Martin Luther King Jr., visit the Pioneer Online at www.occc.edu/pioneer.

Martin Luther King, Jr. (Jan. 15, 1929 – April 4, 1968)

- King was born Michael Luther King Jr. but after a trip to Germany in 1934, his father changed both their names to Martin Luther to honor the German Protestant leader with that name.
- June 18, 1953: Martin Luther King Jr. married Coretta Scott in Marlon, Ala.
- Jan. 1957: King became president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.
- Feb. 18, 1957: King was on the cover of Time magazine.
- Aug. 28, 1963: King gives his famous "I Have a Dream" speech outside the Lincoln Memorial which was voted the best speech of the 20th century.
- Dec. 10, 1964: Youngest recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize.
- March 17 to 25, 1965: King, along with other protesters, marched from Selma to Montgomery as they voiced their right to vote.
- April 4, 1968: King is shot on the second floor of his motel's balcony.
- Nov. 2, 1983: President Ronald Reagan signed a bill creating a federal holiday to honor King.
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day is observed for the first time on January 20, 1986.
- More than 730 cities in the United States have streets named after King.
- King went to college when he was only 15.
- King received more than 21 college honorary degrees from numerous colleges in the U.S. and other countries.

—courtesy of <http://litthing.com>

Backpack theft from college bookstore area caught on camera

JOEY STIPEK

Editor

editor@occc.edu

On Dec. 21, a backpack containing items worth an estimated \$785 was snatched from the front of the OCCC Bookstore when two suspects allegedly grabbed the bag just a minute after it was set down.

OCCC student Timothy Hare left his backpack on the ground next to the bookstore cubbyholes at 4:39 p.m., according to a report filed with OCCC Safety and Security.

One minute later, security camera footage from outside the bookstore shows two suspects described as one white female with blonde hair past her shoulders, wearing a gray hooded sweat shirt, blue jeans, white tennis shoes, carrying a green purse over her right shoulder and carrying a black backpack in her left hand, and a white or Asian male with short black hair, wearing a black fleece jacket, black sweat pants with white stripes down both legs carrying a book in his left hand, appear on video.

It appears the male suspect acted as the lookout as the female set her bag next to Hare's bag, then picked up the victim's bag and left with the male toward the main entry near the Welcome Desk, leaving behind the bag she walked in with.

In the video, the two suspects then headed toward parking lot A where they were met by a third party, who was not seen by surveillance

cameras, in a canary yellow or cream-colored 1980s model Chevrolet Cutlass coupe.

Hare's backpack contained prescription glasses, an iPod charger, jacket, work keys and loose change.

The Oklahoma City Police Department was contacted to file a larceny report and to have an officer come to the OCCC Safety and Security office to take possession of the backpack that was left by the suspects.

According to the report, the backpack left behind contained blank City of Norman papers, makeup, a lock from a car door, a flashlight and a pen.

