



PIONEER

College squares off against sexual assaults

OCCC offers resources for victims of sexual assault on and off campus

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Starting college at an unfamiliar campus can be intimidating for anyone, but especially for those who have experienced and survived trauma.

Not only is the victim worried about where a class might be located, or how much books will cost but victims of sexual assault fear for their safety.

Statistics show that, nationwide, one of every 25 students is a victim of sexual assault.

One of those twenty five, was "Kate." The Pioneer has changed her name to protect her privacy.

"I didn't tell anyone at first because I was confused and I wasn't very clear on what consent really was," Kate said. "I was also scared about stigmas that I felt would come with talking about it."

Too often victims of sexual assault suffer in silence.

"If I felt I could have talked to someone about it, it definitely would have been a lot easier for me to handle," Kate said. "I wouldn't have felt so alone and I could have processed and understood what had happened to me a lot better."

Oklahoma City Community College Police Chief Daniel Piazza said the event of reporting a sexual assault can be traumatizing, itself. He said his department wants students



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Title IX Coordintaor Regina Switzer. Victor A. Pozadas/Pioneer

Employees recognized at annual award ceremony

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Five OCCC employees were recognized at the 2016 Annual Convocation and Employee Recognition Ceremony on Aug. 9.

School officials presented The Robert P. Todd Leadership Award, The Elven Gray Award, and Faculty, Professional, and Classified Employee of the Year Awards during the event.

John Claybon, OCCC's Professional Development Institute Director, received the Robert P. Todd Leadership Award.

Nominees for the award must demonstrate leadership in their area and possess integrity, loyalty and responsibility.

As director of the institute, Claybon is responsible

for managing its day-to-day tasks. He's also in charge of business development training and workforce projects throughout the community.

OCCC President Jerry Steward said Claybon was honest, full of integrity and respected on and off campus.

Claybon said he was "shocked and completely honored" by the award.

He began working at the PDI as an accounting executive in 2007.

Claybon said one of his favorite things about working at OCCC is working with the staff and being a part of the Oklahoma City community.

The award was established in 2006 in honor of former OCCC College President Robert P. Todd, who died in 2005.

Building Services Assistant Rick Cowan, received the Elven Gray Award.

The award is given to employees who have worked at the college for a minimum of five years and demonstrate a positive attitude and go "the extra mile."

Cowan said he did not expect to be recognized, but thanked his co-workers for the nomination.

Business and Economics Professor Charles Myrick was awarded the Faculty Employee of the Year Award. Myrick said he felt shocked and humbled by the award.

"I know how many hard workers we have at this school and to be singled out is very humbling," he said.

Earlier this year, Myrick received the Distinguished Chapter Advisor Award, an international award presented by Phi Theta Kappa. The organization is one of the largest honor societies for higher education.

Myrick said some of his favorite things about

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EDITORIAL/OPINION

EDITORIAL | Allowing guns at school is an ongoing debate with more risk than reward

A college full of guns is a deadly place



College students in Texas are allowed to carry concealed handguns on campus under a new law, effective August 1.

Under the parameters of Texas Senate Bill 11, those with a concealed handgun license can carry firearms on campus and in classrooms.

While the number of school shootings in America has increased considerably in recent years, the discussion of gun control has come to the frontline of political debate. Both critics and supporters of gun rights advocate vehemently for the same thing – increased campus safety.

After finishing my research on the Texas bill and its looming consequences, I'm certain that guns should not be in the hands of students on college campuses.

Since 2013, there have been a total of 190 school shootings in the United States.

According to an ongoing study by Everytown Research, 10 of those shootings have occurred on community college grounds.

Supporters of open carry on college campuses often argue that an armed student body could prevent school shootings from becoming large massacres, making a safer overall environment for students.

Critics disagree, citing misfires and mishandling of firearms, emotionally fueled confrontations and the unknown mental stability of students allowed to carry handguns.

Sharon Vaughan, a political science professor at OCCC, said the issue has become so controversial that it has shut down debate.

"My concerns are that it's not good for academic discussion. I would be more hesitant to discuss controversial issues in the classroom, especially in my political science class," Vaughan said. "With ideological issues being as sensitive as they are, people can get upset."

Vaughan said she would also be more apprehensive about upset students visiting her during office hours.

"Every semester, you get a student who is really upset with you. They're upset because they didn't do the work or didn't come to class, but they're usually very emotional," Vaughan said. "I find it disturbing to think that person could come to your office with a gun."

Vaughan believes the OCCC campus is already safe, due to the OCCC Campus Police Department.

OCCC has an active police department on campus, operating 24 hours a day, each day of the week. Officers are armed and trained just like any other police department.

OCCC College Policy No. 1016 states:

"To promote the safety of students, employees, and visitors, Oklahoma City Community College ("OCCC") prohibits the possession, use and display of weapons of all types at all times on OCCC Property and during OCCC activities, trips or events, except as specifically authorized below or as otherwise required by the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act."

This means that current OCCC students, faculty, employees and visitors can not currently bring guns through the college doors, but can leave their firearms in their vehicle if the weapon owner has a permit to carry.

Campus Police Chief Daniel Piazza said he supports the Second Amendment but is concerned about guns on college campuses.

"I'm a supporter of the Second Amendment, I was in the military, I have been in law enforcement. That's what I've been trained to do," Piazza said. "But you have to think about the handling of firearms."

"How is this student carrying that firearm? How is it secured? Can you have an accidental discharge? What's going to happen when you have an accidental discharge in a classroom with a lot of people around you?" he asked. "These

are all things you have to think about whether introducing handguns into a campus environment is going to make it safer or not. There are pros and cons for both sides of it."

In a school shooting situation, open carry on a college campus could present unclear lines between those who are lawfully carrying a handgun, and those who are an active shooter. It can prove difficult for law enforcement to determine the differences between "good guy" and "bad guy" when there is little time to ensure clarity of details before reaction.

Piazza said even among trained law enforcement, the lines can easily become blurred.

According to the New York State Task Force on Police-on-Police Shootings, "the handful of fatal police-on-police shootings we have seen over the years are only the visible tip of an 'iceberg' of police-on-police confrontations."

The possibility of accidents, miscommunications, and misunderstandings increases if we allow open carry on campus.

Are most students prepared to carry a gun to class? Though individuals over the age of 21 may be issued a license to carry, the prefrontal cortex of young adults does not fully develop until around the age of 25, according to the University of Rochester Medical Center. This part of the brain involves decision making, impulsivity, and planning behaviors.

According to the Journal of American College Health, students who owned guns were "more likely than non-gun-owning students to binge drink and then engage in risky activities 'such as driving when under the influence of alcohol, vandalizing property, and having unprotected intercourse.'"

Even with proper training, permitting young adults to carry guns on campus allows more room for impulsive, deadly mistakes.

Since 2008, University of Oklahoma President David Boren has taken action to prevent Oklahoma lawmakers from enacting legislation that would allow guns on campus.

Several other Oklahoman college presidents have stood in solidarity with Boren, including OCCC President Jerry Steward.

The belief held among college officials in Oklahoma has been nearly unanimous – more guns on campus will not prevent gun violence, only perpetuate it.

Supporters of carrying guns on campus have often claimed that a student with a gun could stop an active shooter before law enforcement arrive, preventing a mass shooting. According to an FBI report studying 160 active shooting incidents from 2000-2013, "only one incident was stopped by a concealed carry permit holder."

By comparison, 21 active shooters were stopped by unarmed individuals.

In the past eight years, several bills filed by members of the Oklahoma Legislature would allow guns on Oklahoma campuses. Those bills, however, have died before reaching the governor's desk. This has kept our campuses safer, more responsible, and more conducive to academic discussion.

If guns were allowed on our campus, I would have to walk through the school doors knowing deadly weapons were close to me.

While worrying about an upcoming test, I'd also worry about the possibility of being shot by another student. In lectures or heated discussions, our attention would be divided between schoolwork and self-defense.

We would see more injuries, deaths, and suicides.

Our campus would become more dangerous, and our classrooms would not only be the learning environments we paid for, but zones where active fire could easily erupt.

If more bills are presented that threaten the safety of Oklahoma students, it is the responsibility of students against guns on campus to back their college presidents in blocking legislation.

—SOPHIA BABB
EDITOR

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

NETFLIX REVIEW | A creepy throwback to everything gnarly about the ‘80s

Stream some nostalgic ‘Stranger Things’

You know that feeling when something extraordinary happens? That feeling when something is off, something abnormal is happening and you are about to witness something great or something terrifying?

The new Netflix original series “Stranger Things” exists to tell a story of this exact feeling.

“Stranger Things” is a mystery-horror-sci-fi love letter to everything you missed about the ‘80s – the vibe, the clothes, the talk, even the music are all here

with a story that will keep you guessing in every turn.

Set in 1983, the disappearance of a kid named Will Byers sets the stage for a supernatural chain of events that wreak havoc in the small town of Hawkins, Indiana.

This story from creators the Duffer Brothers harkens back to a time where practical effects, setting and tone worked in perfect harmony to present a mini-series that is definitely worth watching again and again.

The soundtrack by Michael Stein and Kyle Dixon is a fantastic highlight that complements the show perfectly. It takes synths (electronic synthetic beats), bass, and ambience, parallel to the great works of John Carpenter, that give you the heebie jeebies or the best kind of nostalgia.

There is a lot of Carpenter and Stephen King influ-



ence in this show – nothing ripped off or copied, but when men like King and Carpenter make movies with such uniqueness and love, it’s hard not to draw comparisons when you see something similar.

Practical effects are something underutilized in today’s media, but “Stranger Things” embraces the real and the tangible to give the show a more grounded feeling.

With a young group of misfits, teenage love and high waisted jeans, this show manages to capture what we all see in our favorite ‘80s movies.

The production value here is on point.

Hats off to the casting by Carmen Cuba who found the kids who carried this show to great, soaring heights.

Most child actors you find in movies and TV shows

just seem like puppets who are told by the director to do or say things with “insert emotion here”.

Child actors are just that – children. But if you find the right talent and wonder, you can expect something magical.

It is the suspension of disbelief that this show does so well. You care for these kids, and want nothing bad to come their way, but as all stories go there’s always something lurking. And, with fear comes adrenaline, with adrenaline comes excitement.

It’s this excitement that made me binge watch and fall in love with this show.

There are multiple twists and turns during the run of the show that always grab you and keep you wanting more.

It’s not perfect by any means. It leaves some unanswered questions and some of the characters differ from their established traits, but for what it’s worth, “Stranger Things” is a well-written, emotional, and marvelous mini-series that Netflix can be proud to call its own.

Watch if you enjoy: mystery, suspense, horror, sci-fi, John Carpenter, Stephen King, or the ‘80s.

—VICTOR A. POZADAS
ART & MUSIC WRITER

Do you have an idea for a review? Send it to the Pioneer!
Email to the Pioneer editor at editor@occc.edu

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PIONEER

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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 reserves the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity. Letters should be no more than 250 words. Students must list a major. OCCC staff and faculty must list a work title.

Letters to the editor can be submitted to the PIONEER office, located in room 1F2 on the first floor of the Art and Humanities Building, mailed to 7777 S May Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73159, or submitted via e-mail to editor@occc.edu with a phone number for verification included.

The PIONEER ONLINE also can be accessed at <http://pioneer.occc.edu>.

WHERE TO BUY BOOKS?



Options available within and without college

Campus bookstore offers options and easy returns for students.

HUNG TRAN

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At the beginning of each semester, the price of textbooks becomes a primary concern for students. One wrong decision while purchasing could cost hundreds of dollars.

Students, especially newcomers, wonder whether they should buy textbooks on campus or somewhere else, or if they should be renting instead of buying.

OCCC's Textbook Manager Sheila Laferney said there are advantages to buying at the college bookstore.

"[Students] can make sure they get the correct book, and can make exchanges or returns if needed. They can just bring it in here with the receipt," Laferney said. "I can't comment on other people's websites because they are not our website. The books we have in our bookstore are always the correct books, most of them are custom, and we conveniently have customer service."

She said the bookstore provides options for its shoppers.

"Students can buy a brand new or used textbook in the bookstore, or they can rent," Laferney said.

She said sometimes bookstores have complicated policies toward buying books back.

"Sometimes we have to pay a lesser amount because of the software that is included with the book. Sometimes, we can't buy a book back because it requires a code. If they [professors] are not using them in the next semester, we can't buy them back," she said.

Rheis Campbell, pre-engineering major, said in his first semester he spent about \$400 for his textbooks at the bookstore.

"If I want to buy textbooks with my financial aid money, I have to buy them in here," he said.

Campbell said instead of making a rush decision, there are alternatives that help students save money.

He said there are many places where people can find lower prices for textbooks if they already have access to money for books.

"I would recommend that you find out from your teacher first what the book is, then look at eBay, or Amazon.com. It is almost always going to be cheaper than buying them at school," he said.

Campbell said students should not worry too much about getting a book's latest edition.

"In my experience, most professors don't really mind if you have an older edition of the book," he said.

Campbell said the Textbook Buyback event at the end of each semester hardly offsets students' original costs.

"Sometimes, you buy a \$100 - \$150 book. You can sell it back to the bookstore and you might get \$50 back, just depends what kind of book, but usually you don't get much back," he said.

Pre-Law major Ariadne Rodriguez said buying textbooks, especially brand new ones, is a waste of money.

"Renting is actually a good choice and a better choice," Rodriguez said. "One of my professors told me that I didn't have to buy a book, I could just rent and it would be a lot cheaper."

This fall, Rodriguez enrolled in four classes and said she hasn't decided where to buy textbooks. She said her friends advised her to shop at Amazon.com.

Nursing major Yonata Younis said he was still carefully reading the list of eight textbooks required

for his classes this fall.

"Not all of them are textbooks, some of them are lab manuals and study guides," he said, "I think it will cost around \$600 in total. I definitely shop around before buying from anywhere."

Younis said he is not going to buy all of the books until he speaks to his professor.

"For freshmen, they should definitely wait," he said. "Go to your classes first to see what the curriculum is like and if the textbook is really needed. If the textbook is required, shop around before buying."

Textbooks are available outside the college bookstore at Chegg.com, Amazon.com, and Half.com or at Textbook Brokers, at 7445 S. May Ave.

BOOK SHOPPING TIPS

(From OCCC students)

- **Talk to your professor to find out whether the textbook is required for the class before buying or renting one.**
- **Shop around for better prices.**
- **Try to rent textbooks instead of buying them.**
- **Buy an older edition of the book if the latest edition is not absolutely required for class.**



Advising office worth a visit every semester

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New and returning students alike can benefit from a visit to Oklahoma City Community College's Academic Advising Office.

The college's academic advisors are here for students when it comes to choosing a degree plan, a career, and goals for the future.

Sarah McDonald, who took summer classes here at OCCC, had never met with an advisor before.

She waited in a line, which was noticeably shorter than the usual.

"Today I'm hoping to declare my major and figure out my class schedule," McDonald said.

Meeting with an academic advisor at least once every semester can help you stay on track to finish your degree, or change your course if you feel pulled towards movement in another direction.

Ragan Marsee, an incoming student for this fall semester, also visited the office for the first time this past week.

Marsee graduated from high school in May, and is new to the college experience. She said that she walked into the office with a lot of questions.

Marsee was initially unsure of what classes to take for her degree, but left with a firm grasp on the schedule of her upcoming semester.

"Every question I had was answered and explained," she said.

Marsee said she felt much clearer on what she needed to know after her visit.



Advisors available to assist students by appointment or by walk-in. *Mateusz Gugalka/Pioneer*

"They were incredibly kind, and also really patient with me because it was my first time enrolling," she said.

The academic advisors are readily available to help you choose the right classes to enroll in, change your major, develop an academic plan, and more.

In addition to academic advisors, the office has a Faculty Advising program. Faculty advisors can answer questions specifically related to their area of expertise in a major.

Ginnett Rollins, who is one of many faculty advisors at OCCC, said students who've decided on a major can contact a full-time professor in that field of study, via phone, email, or during the professor's office hours, to discuss serving as that student's advisor.

Faculty advisors can assist in approving courses that are required for certain majors, help a student prepare to transfer to another college, and provide further knowledge in the area that they teach.

"Because we are more familiar with the requirements for the student's major, faculty advisors can help students choose courses wisely and avoid taking a course which might not be the best choice for the student," Rollins said.

She said they can even help a student find a career through the valuable tool of networking. Faculty advisors are experienced in their field of work, and have connections that could be useful to your future.

"Faculty advising has helped students the most in developing a solid background in their major field, and providing advice regarding an academic path that will lead to a career, including the smooth transition to the 4-year institution best suited to help them continue to progress towards their chosen career," Rollins said.

According to the Office of Academic Advising's webpage, academic advising is a collaborative relationship between the student and the advisor.

"Not only did they help me with enrolling, they also got me very excited for the semester. I will definitely visit again," Marsee said.

Located in the main building across from Registration and Records, the office accepts walk-ins on weekdays, as well as appointments. The office is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday.



Kyle Reid, known for playing country and swing, performs on cigar box guitar at the Powerhouse bar in Oklahoma City. *Victor A. Pozadas/Pioneer*

OCCC alum brings local artists together

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Music echoed through the Oklahoma City Farmers Market District July 30 as local musicians including Annie Oakley (a band composed of OCCC students), Kalyn Fay, and Kyle Reid played during the Powerhouse Sessions vol. 1 Release Celebration.

Musicians at the Powerhouse, an Oklahoma City bar, presented original material, including songs recorded exclusively for the compilation album.

The event – crowded with local artists and listeners – featured music ranging from alternative rock to folk.

OCCC alum Jerrod Beck was one of the creative minds behind the sessions. When he's not throwing album release parties, he works as a Showroom Manager at Oklahoma Contemporary, a non-profit whose goal is to spread art through education and exhibition.

Beck said he has been involved with the Oklahoma music scene for seven years. He took a step back from his art to plan community and music events around the Oklahoma City area.

"I've done some fundraiser events for the YWCA and stuff like that.

Continued on next page



Oklahoma Cloud Factory at OKC Farmers Market *Victor A. Pozadas/Pioneer*



Left and Bottom Right: Kalyn Fay and John Calvin Abney. **Top Right:** Annie Oakley. *Victor A. Pozadas/Pioneer*

Powerhouse Sessions available now

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All of it with the intent of just bringing people together. It's very fulfilling," he said.

Clay Berkes, the owner of the Powerhouse, came to Beck with the compilation idea.

"He had this idea, I guess this past winter, to do this compilation album. He knew he wanted to compile local songs into an album," Beck said.

He said they thought it would be possible to record the songs at the Powerhouse itself.

"We came up with the idea to record the sessions live at the Powerhouse. I rounded up all the talent, reached out to everybody, this first time around mainly people I knew," Beck said.

Berkes was working on clearing out and creating a micro-venue west of the bar, inside storage unit spaces he owned, Beck said. With the help of Sound Engineers Steve Boaz and Atlee Hickerson, the group used this space to create a pop-up recording studio

where the album was going to be created.

The album was recorded live on March 6 and 7.

"It's surreal, with this being the first of its [the sessions] kind, we were just kind of learning as we went of what we wanted," he said.

Beck said giving back was just as important as the record. Half of the album's proceeds went to Country Roads Animal Rescue and the Oklahoma City Rock and Roll Camp for Girls.

"We wanted to make this a charity event as well that benefited something greater than just showcasing music," he said.

OCCC students Sophia and Grace Babb, of Annie Oakley, performed at the indoor stage to a filled room.

Annie Oakley is a folk trio featuring the Babb sisters on guitar and vocals, and Nia Personette on the violin.

"I didn't know what to expect at all. It was just a giant jam session. We played on several people's tracks and they played on ours," Sophia Babb said.

Sophia Babb said on recording the album, watch-

ing and performing with familiar faces gave them comfort.

"It felt like a reunion, I felt really inspired," Grace Babb said.

They said just hearing all the great bands and their songs shows how professional the Oklahoma music scene has become.

Tulsa Native and singer-songwriter Kalyn Fay creates acoustic folk music through her voice and guitar.

Fay played a set on the outdoor stage in the summer heat with John Calvin Abney on the guitar by her side.

Kyle Reid is a country and swing singer-songwriter out of Norman who performed on the indoor stage. Reid played a couple of tunes on his cigar box guitar. Those songs set a calm, intimate tone for the rest of his set.

Powerhouse Sessions Vol. 1 is available for purchase at Blue Seven and Guestroom Records in Oklahoma City.

SPORTS



Sports and fitness classes on campus

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OCCC will offer fitness classes and plans for intramural sports and flag football are underway, Wellness Center Director Brooke Dresel said Wednesday.

She said the classes offered and their schedules at OCCC this semester will be slightly changed, but no major disruptions are expected to take place.

“The group and fitness classes will change a little but for the most part, they’ll stay the same. Students can find the official fitness class schedule on the OCCC Recreation and Fitness Facebook page,” she said.

Changes include Tabata Cycle being re-scheduled from noon to 11 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, PIYO (Pilates and Yoga) will be offered at 11:30 a.m. on Thursdays, Self Defense/Taekwondo from Tuesday and Thursday nights to 6:30 p.m. Thursday nights

only, Yoga is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays. No Theatrical Dance will be offered this semester.

At the FACE Center, only PIYO will be offered.

Students will not need to sign up or enroll. All they need is their student ID to gain entry to the gym or to attend a class, Dresel said.

Intramural sports will also be back this fall after a short hiatus this summer. Sports and Recreation Specialist Matthew Wright is currently finalizing the official schedule.

The official intramural sports schedule is expected to be out next week.

“I’m still planning everything out, but I can say flag football is coming first,” Wright said.

Teams that sign up for flag football will play on Wednesday nights, starting in September.

Students who wish to sign up for flag football or a different sport can sign up in the gym or at the Recreation and Fitness office.

An official intramural schedule will be released soon.

MAIN CAMPUS					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
11:00 - 11:30	TRX Gary	Zumba Rhonda	TRX Gary	Tabata Spin Patti	TRX Gary
11:30 - 12:00				PIYO Alisha	
12:00 - 12:30	TRX Gary	Sets & Reps Joni	TRX Gary	Sets & Reps Rhonda	TRX Gary
12:30 - 1:00		Cardio Kickboxing Julie		Cardio Kickboxing Julie	
1:00 - 1:30	TRX/HIIT Gary	Stretching Joni	CrossTrain X Julie	TRX/HIIT Gary	CrossTrain X Julie
1:30 - 2:30	TRX Gary		TRX Gary		TRX Gary
5:15 - 6:15		TRX Brooke		TRX Brooke	
6:30 - 7:30		Yoga Liz		Self-Defense/ Tae Kwon Do	

The group fitness class schedule is subject to change. Please check back for updated scheduled at the beginning of each month or like us on facebook to receive up-to-date information.

FACE CENTER					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
12:45p - 1:15p		PIYo Alisha		PIYo Alisha	

Assualt: students supported in reporting

Continued from Page 1

to know that they will be supported in reporting a sexual assault.

“We’ve had cases where it happened off campus and they really didn’t want to come forward,” he said.

For example, on June 24, the campus police department reported that it was contacted by a college employee regarding a possible rape of a student that occurred off campus.

An OCCC officer responded to the employee’s office to get the victim’s information, and the Oklahoma City Police Department was notified. The Oklahoma City Police Department was asked to make contact with the victim, but the victim was reluctant to discuss the case with police.

This is not uncommon, OCCC Title IX Coordinator Dr. Regina Switzer said.

“One of the things that we all have to recognize, and as a society do a better job of understanding, is that sometimes people are not ready to report when the event happens,” she said. “Sometimes they can’t even talk about it for an extended amount of time. Just because it happened yesterday or two days ago or even two months ago doesn’t mean that they’re ready.”

According to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, one in five women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted while in college and more than 90 percent of victims do not report the assault.

At OCCC, sexual assault victims have many resources available to them, Switzer said. She said there are two ways sexual assault on campus may be reported.

“A report can come in through the campus police, or it can come in through a Title IX coordinator. The Title IX coordinator would start the investigation under campus policy,” she said. “The campus police would individually and separately do their own investigation as law enforcement.

If the case is reported through Title IX, the discipline will be determined based on the findings of the Title IX investigation, Switzer said.

If the case is taken directly to the campus police, the campus police department will contact the local police, who will work the case.

Last year, state Representative Emily Virgin, D-Norman, introduced a bill that would have allowed school districts to teach affirmative consent in sex-

education or separate programs in grades 7-12. The bill was assigned to the House Education Committee, but did not advance.

The failure of Virgin’s bill means that Oklahoma students still have a gap in secondary school consent education.

OCCC, however, has taken initiative to prevent sexual assault on campus.

According to the college’s New Employee Guide, anyone contracted for services on the OCCC campus is required to complete Preventing Sexual Harassment training. This includes all faculty, supervisors and staff, including full-time, part-time, adjunct, temporary, student, and work study employees.

“We are always trying to put something out there to increase awareness and we’re going to do more of that this upcoming semester,” Switzer said.

In an email that will be sent out to all students, President Jerry Steward said his top priority was ensuring the safety and security of our students and fostering a safe educational environment where all members of the community can thrive.

“It is our obligation to provide our student employees with the information and training they need to ensure there is no unlawful discrimination and sexual violence at OCCC. Even one incident of sexual violence is too many,” Steward’s email said.

The college has implemented a Sexual Misconduct Policy, which all students are encouraged to become familiar with. Every student will be required to complete online training in Preventing Discrimination and Sexual Violence in their first semester at OCCC, and then again each subsequent year.

In addition to training for students, employees, and faculty, Switzer said the college offers an array of resources for victims of sexual assault and domestic abuse.

“We have licensed counselors that are on staff and their services are free to any student on campus,” she said. “We have counselors that are very good at responding to sexual assault. We also have on-campus advocates who help students with the internal legal process.”

According to OCCC’s website, the college encourages victims of sexual violence and misconduct to talk to someone about what happened so they can receive support, and so OCCC can respond appropriately.

Piazza, the chief of police, said the OCCC Student

Support Services office offers counseling for sexual assault victims.

“There are great people down there,” he said, “I’ve seen them do really great work for the students.”

Switzer said a person who has been traumatized may have difficulty academically, so sometimes the student may need accommodations with regards to their schoolwork. In some situations, the student may need an escort. The campus police are available to walk students from their car if need be.

“It is very fact specific. We try to address that need as best as we can, and it’s very individualized,” she said.

Campus police said they are willing to come to students who are not comfortable coming into the police office.

“We try to serve the victim as best as we can,” Piazza said.

TO REPORT A SEXUAL ASSAULT

To make a confidential report of sexual assault or other form of sexual misconduct, a student can contact a licensed counselor in the Student Support Services Department in person, or an online complaint form can be submitted in order to discuss options with the college’s Title IX Coordinator.

To file a report with campus police, a student can come into the campus police department, push any of the interior or exterior call boxes on campus, or call the department’s non-emergency line at (405) 682-7872.

Awards: winners thank college and coworkers

Continued from Page 1

OCCC are the relationships he’s established with his co-workers and students. Myrick will be starting his eighth year at the college.

The Professional Employee of the Year Award was awarded to Dan Gurka, Building Maintenance and Operations Manager.

Gurka began with the college in 2002. Steward

said Gurka was loyal, dedicated, and professional.

“I feel very humbled,” Gurka said, “There are so many talented professionals in the college and to receive this award is very humbling.”

Gurka thanked his colleagues for nominating him.

Campus Police Officer David Madden was named Classified Employee of the Year.

“I’m excited about the award, everyone kept it pretty quiet,” Madden said.

Madden first began working for the college as a work study student in February 2010.

After graduating with his degree, Madden became an OCCC police officer in 2013.

For more information about the awards visit: <http://www.dev.occc.edu/hr/EmployeeRecognitionAwards.html>.

See photos from the ceremony at the Pioneer online, pioneer.occc.edu.

CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Welcoming students from every nation

These flags on the college's second floor represent the 62 nations from which students have come to enroll here this year.

Below the flags, much of OCCC's Main Building, including the Cafe and Records Desk, bustled with activity throughout the days leading up to the Opening Day Event, beginning at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, August 13 for new student orientation and tours of the campus.

Enrollment and Student Services, Academic Affairs and the Bursar's office will be also be open for business during Opening Day.

Visit pioneer.occc.edu for information about events on campus and for news from Opening Day.

Photo by Victor A. Pozadas/Pioneer



Police investigating possible off-campus rape, thefts

Missing wallets, a stolen vehicle, and a possible off campus sexual assault topped reported crimes for the month of June, according to information released by the OCCC Police Department.

GRACE BABB
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

On June 24 an employee reported the possible off campus rape of a female student.

The Oklahoma City Police Department was contacted and asked to make contact with the student. The student was reluctant to discuss the case

with the police.

On June 6 a wallet was reported missing in the basketball gym. Police said the owner of the wallet stated he had placed the wallet and two cell phones on a bench, and had returned to find the wallet missing.

A second victim entered the OCCC Police Department, while the first victim was completing a statement form, and reported that his wallet was also missing.

The second victim had placed his wallet and phone on the same bench, and returned to find it missing.

On June 14 a red Chevrolet truck was stopped for having an expired license plate. The driver's license had been suspended. Police searched the vehicle.

The officer conducting the search reported that the vehicle's steering column and ignition had been tam-

pered with. There were no keys found in the vehicle.

The driver told police the vehicle had been purchased days prior on Craigslist.

The driver told police he believed the truck had a "50/50 chance of being stolen."

June 17 inappropriate behavior among youths was reported in the College for Kids youth program. The police report did not specify what behavior was inappropriate, nor how many youths were involved in the incident.

June 24 a female student was reported for not leaving the Testing Center at closing time.

Officers told the woman what the Testing Center hours were and that they had to close for the day.

Police said the woman was emotional and had to be calmed down.

Some information was redacted from reports under the direction of Marketing and Public Relations.

To contact campus police, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7747.

For an emergency, use one of the call boxes located inside and outside on campus or call 405-682-7872.



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www.facebook.com/OCCCPioneer

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 405-751-8475

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. Fridays prior to the next publication date. For more information, call the Ad Manager at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or e-mail adman@occc.edu.

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 \$700 obo.
Text 405-208-9156 for pictures.

Cream colored sofa for sale from a pet friendly home!
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 Width: 41"
 Height: 36"
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 Made of micro-fiber.
Email mroll@occc.edu for a photo.

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WEEKLY CROSSWORD

Across

- Manage
- On a cruise
- Fall flower
- Precinct
- Telescope part
- Like old bread
- Tablets
- Subject to decay
- Streamlined
- CB ____
- Depressed
- Shredded cabbage
- Kind
- Sept. follower
- At any ____
- Zone
- Golf goal
- Corosive substances
- Judge's gown
- Actress Jennifer ____
- Guarantees
- Mortgage
- Item of value
- Bread choice
- 12th-grader
- "Moonstruck" actress
- NYC time zone
- Track down
- Potter's need
- Roker and Pacino
- Sacred images
- Anchorman ____ Jennings
- MBA's field
- Prima donna
- Florida metropolis
- Pennsylvania port
- Gallop or trot
- Kidney, e.g.
- Category
- Building extensions

Down

- Baseball hats
- Vocal
- Walker
- Artist's prop
- Swiss mountain
- Psychic
- Infuriated
- Out of the way
- On land
- Train stop (abbr.)
- File labels
- "____ Enchanted" (movie)
- Swamp plant
- Wrongdoings
- Jeweler's measure
- Texas town
- Beige
- October birthstones
- Narrow boat
- Songstress ____ Turner
- Liike a downpour
- Heeds
- Put back to zero
- Soft belt
- Fit of anger
- Search for
- Undress
- Stage decorations
- Beginning
- Marathon, e.g.
- Tailed celestial body
- Window sill
- Military supplies
- Animal's den
- Glitch
- Cut
- Good's opponent
- Pied Piper followers
- Doctors' gp.
- Links gadget

<http://pioneer.occc.edu>

Don't Text And Drive

Drivers who use cellphones are 4 times more likely to get into crashes that could be fatal

Using a cellphone while driving delays a drivers reactions as much as having a B.A.C. level of 0.08

"Don't Drive while inTEXTicated. Driving while inTEXTicated kills."

Local film-maker inspired by OCCC

LAUREN KABELITZ
News Writing Student

Developing film-maker Yosuke Shingu, 24, said OCCC is where he found his calling. Shingu found that calling in his film classes, a community, he says, that developed for 16 years under Professor Gray Frederickson and Program Director Greg Mellott.

Shingu works with the Oklahoma City video production company Grapevine Media, filming commercials and training videos for establishments such as the Ambassador Hotel. Grapevine Media also produces music videos.

Shingu also recently finished working on the feature film, "Frackers" in Dallas, a comedy about a dead human, who but doesn't realize he is dead, and falls in love with an alien from another galaxy.

On sets, Shingu can be seen aligning his stabilized camera on a shot while maneuvering around actors (and the occasional potentially hazardous prop). Or, Shingu may be seen collaborating with his clientele, working to merge their visions with his.

Shingu grew up in Japan and immigrated to America when he was 18. He graduated from high school and began studying film at OCCC.



Yosuke Shingu filming on the set of "Frackers." photo provided

He said he began pursuing his career in film-making because he wanted to help other people and inspire their passions.

"I want to make TV and film, even if only one person watches it, to help make them have a dream," Shingu said.

He said he began by working on student projects; three-minute videos, artistic performances and set-making.

He then discovered his niche, and became a director of photography. Shingu said he was responsible for directing his crew to capture images based on his own artistic and technical decisions.

One of Shingu's mentors, Gray Frederickson, the Academy Award-winning cinematographer and OCCC's artist in residence remembers Shingu well.

"He was very talented, and he knew what he wanted to do," Frederickson said.

Shingu said he and Frederickson share a similar ideology on the purpose of hard work to release creativity in movie-making.

Both men described the process of production and funding as a cycle. They work to earn funding for projects that they hope will provide a good financial return so they can continue the process.

Frederickson said that he and his colleagues, Film Program Director and Professor Greg Mellott and Professor Sean Lynch, have seen many students move into the movie-making industry (around 300 each semester), at OCCC.

Shingu said his job is also a lifestyle that requires sacrifice, but for him it couldn't be more rewarding. "This is how I do things," he said, "I'd much rather be on set than sitting on the couch."

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