



Pratt Community College

Monthly Newsletter

The

The official newsletter of PCC

BEAVER

JANUARY 2017

Buzz

Call for upcoming newsletter content

If you have information, ideas for new content, fun facts, or PCC trivia, send them to Megan for inclusion in the next newsletter!

>>> megane@prattcc.edu

Contents

Legislative Luncheon	2
eSports Ranked 1	3
Saturday Tours	3
Nursing Update	4
Faculty Update	4
Featured Artists	5
Go Beaver Nation App	5
Devon Andrews	6
New Bucky Beaver	6
Student Life	7
Student Activity Calendar	8

Upcoming Dates

Residence Halls Open	Jan 9
Board of Trustees Meeting	Jan 9
Classes Begin	Jan 10
MLK Jr. Day	Jan 16
*No Classes, Offices Closed	
Kansas Day	Jan 27

PCC Offers Tuition Assistance for Pratt County Students

Pratt Community College is giving back to the Pratt County community with scholarship dollars and service. The Pratt County High School Senior Grant Scholarship was established by the PCC Board of Trustees. The scholarship provides tuition assistance for all graduating high school seniors who are residents of Pratt County or graduated from Pratt County High School. In addition to the scholarship dollars it also provides community service hours back into Pratt County. This grant is available for the academic term within three years of high school graduation.



"PCC wants to recognize the investment Pratt County residents have made in support of the college," said Dr. Michael Calvert, PCC President, "We are helping our local students and in turn they are helping Pratt County with their community service hours required by this grant."

There are two levels of assistance available for students. The first level will entitle students to a maximum of \$350 per semester while maintaining a GPA 2.0 or higher and completing 20 hours annually of community service within Pratt County.

The second level, which was created this year, will offer students a full-tuition scholarship currently valued at \$1,900. In return the student must maintain a GPA of 2.5 or higher and completed 50 hours of community service annually also within Pratt County.

Applications for the Pratt County High School Senior Grant is August 1 of each year. Potential and current students who are interested in applying for any scholarship can visit prattcc.edu/scholarships. There they can apply directly for the Pratt County Senior Grant Scholarship by selecting it on the application.

PCC Hosts Kansas Legislative Luncheon

Pratt Community College hosted their annual Legislative Luncheon on Dec. 12 at the Pratt campus. Managing the state budget was top concern among legislators who met with the PCC administration and board of trustees.

Guest legislators were District 32 Senator-elect Larry Alley (first term), District 33 Senator-elect Mary Jo Taylor (first term) and incumbent 114th District Representative-elect Jack Thimesch.

Linda Fund, executive director of the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees, was also in attendance.

When the 2017 legislative session starts Monday, Jan. 9, legislators will have to find a way to overcome a deficit in state revenues, fund education and balance the budget among the rest of the departments.

The session will be a big challenge for legislators with creating more jobs in Kansas a major issue. Alley wants to look at community colleges as a place to expand technical fields.

Pratt Community College President Michael Calvert presented a "PCC wish list" to the legislators and encouraged them to consider each carefully during the session. He reminded the legislators of past legislation that had impacted all community colleges including SB345 that phased out county out-district tuition. The state was going to fund those amounts but it was only funded two years and that reduced funding to the colleges.

On the wish list was a restoration of the four percent cut in funding that cost PCC about \$100,000 and a loss of \$4.5 million to all 19 Kansas community colleges. The cut will require tuition and or mil levy increases to local tax payers. And there could be more cuts coming.

"We're concerned about additional cuts in revenue. It's going to be a challenge to the 59 new legislators," Calvert said. "If there are more cuts, we will have to cut staff."

A five percent additional cut would cost the college from \$105,000 to \$106,000 and that's two staff members, Calvert said.

Also on the list is fully funding SB155, a career technical education initiative that allows high school students to enroll in technical education courses for tuition free high school and college credit courses. Calvert said he was concerned with what would happen to enrollments if that funding went away.

He was also concerned about the proposed affiliation between Wichita State University and Wichita Area Technical College. He said community colleges are in favor of affiliation that makes sense but he was concerned how funding



would be impacted since WSU received \$71 million in state general fund money and the entire tiered technical education fund for 26 institutions was \$56 million.

"It's a sticky point. We don't want them to take advantage," Calvert said.

The concealed carry issue will come to a head in 2017 and Calvert hopes the legislature will find a solution that won't increase the financial burden for colleges. In his opinion, college campuses and guns don't mix.

On the financial side, as far as revenue per credit hour goes, at PCC student tuition and fees is 22 percent, state aid is 21 percent, local taxes is 53 percent, grants and other sources is 4 percent.

Trustee Darrell Shumway said he would like to see a statewide one-tenth of a mil go into a building fund. That would be a big help, Shumway said.

One way to work on the revenue is to take a close look at income tax and close loopholes. That would give the state more revenue.

"I think we've got to see movement on closing the income tax loopholes," Thimesch said.

(Article and photo contributed by Gale Rose, Pratt Tribune)

PCC eSports Team Finishes Semester Ranked First

Beginning in August of 2016, 11 students at Pratt Community College joined together to form the first ever PCC eSports team. Finishing their first semester at 6 and 1, Head Coach Kenton Small credits the team's success to many practice hours and a deep understanding of the rules set forth by the Collegiate Star League (CSL).

The PCC eSports Team, cleverly named League of the Dam, participates in the CSL Division three. After playing regional teams this fall, Small hopes to schedule matches with National teams for the spring semester.

"We hope to continue adding to our roster and also expanding to play different games," said Small. "Continuing to build on this program will help our successes in the long run."



PCC Admissions Opens Saturday Tour Option for Spring 2017

Join Pratt Community College for the best dam tour around. Beginning in January 2017 PCC Admissions will be holding guided tours of the college on select Saturdays every month through the semester.

On a visit to the PCC visitors will have an opportunity to explore campus on a guided tour with an Admissions representative to see classrooms, residence halls, athletic venues and learn about what PCC has to offer.

Saturday tours will begin at 10 a.m. and will be open to groups of all sizes. During the tour potential students will also get important information about enrollment, financial aid and many more resources to help prepare to become a Beaver.

Scheduling a tour is quick and easy. Visit prattcc.edu/tour or call 620-450-2217 to schedule your Saturday tour at the Beaver Dome.

Saturday tours will be held on these dates: Jan. 21, Feb. 28, Mar. 11, Apr. 22 and May 20.



SCHEDULE A TOUR AT PRATT CC

VISIT PRATTCC.EDU/TOUR TO REGISTER
OR CALL **620-450-2217**



Nursing Gives Update on Testing and Future Goals

The Pratt Community College Nursing department gave an end of semester report to the Board of Trustees at the final meeting of the year on Dec. 19 to update current pass rates, enrollment and faculty success.

Director of Nursing, Kim Hansen, shared that the NCLEX-PN® and NCLEX-RN® pass rates for all first time test takers who took their exam between Jan. 1, 2016 and Sept. 30, 2016 were 83.33 percent for PN students and 31.25 percent for RN students.

“The Kansas State Board of Nursing (KSBN) requires Nursing Programs to maintain a first time test takers overall average of 75% or greater,” said Hansen. “I am very proud to say our PN Program has consistently met this criterion for the past five years and continues to demonstrate attainment of this goal for 2016.”

The RN Program has been challenged over the past six years to meet the KSBN pass rate requirement said Hansen. The nursing department has implemented specific strategies in place to improve overall quality, including board pass rates of the RN Program including a decrease in student numbers, an increase in program rigor, student mentoring and tutoring, faculty Professional Development, Director of Nursing mentoring and a development of a “Crosswalk” to ensure the NCLEX-RN® Test Plan is included in course objectives.

“Improving the overall quality, including board pass rates of our RN Program is going to take time,” said Hansen. “As the Nursing Department faculty and staff meet this challenge, we are grateful for the continued support of the PCC Board of Trustees, Administration, faculty and staff. I am also grateful for the continued dedication and diligence of the nursing faculty and staff towards attainment of our goals.”



PCC Faculty Share Success Outside of the Classroom

Faculty at Pratt Community college reported a busy end of semester in and outside of the classroom at December’s board meeting. Brian Elkins presented the latest successes on behalf of Monette DePew to the board.

Carol Ricke attended the ACBSP (business Accreditation) Board of Commissioners Meeting in Kansas City Nov. 13 – 15. Jennifer Wahrman and Ricke attended the ACBSP regional meeting, and Ricke was elected President-elect for Pratt’s region.

The fall semester Open Mic Night was held in November. Sandra Wagner sponsors the event. Several faculty members attended and watched students perform. A variety of musical genres, readings and more were presented.

Sarah Jackson attended the American Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges (AMATYC) conference Nov. 17-20. This year it was located in Denver. Jackson is currently completing her presidency of the Kansas affiliate, KAMATYC (Kansas Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges). In January, she will become the Immediate Past-President

of the affiliate for a two-year term.

The conference had almost 1500 attendees, and most of the sessions were led by peers from two-year colleges across the nation. Jackson came home with new ideas to try in some of her classes, and she learned about nationwide initiatives for developmental education and innovative teaching and learning strategies.

Jackson would like to express her appreciation to the administration for its support and for allowing her to attend this conference both years of her presidency.

The Performing Arts Department has been busy singing for Christmas parties, caroling, playing at basketball games, and performing three Christmas shows on campus. Misty Beck at Leah Patterson are sponsoring 16 students of the department on an educational trip to New York City Jan. 1-6. The trip is a 2 credit hour class.

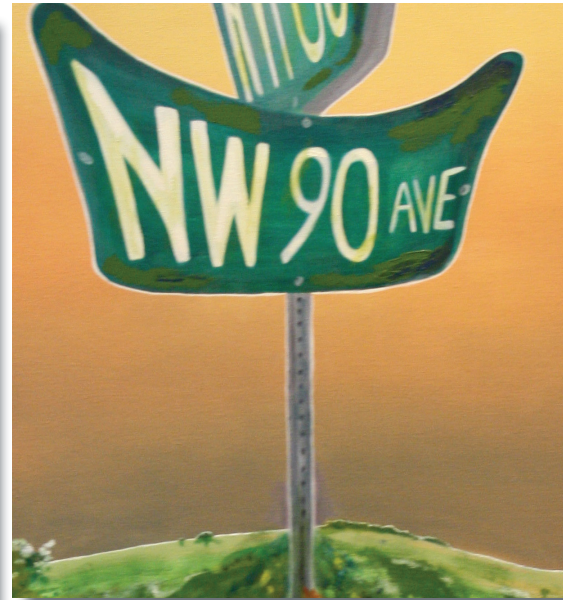
Monette DePew judged two essay contests for the Veterans of Foreign Wars: Patriot’s Pen and Voice of Democracy.

Become a Featured Artists at the Delmar Riney Art Gallery

Each month Pratt Community College is proud to feature works of art and creative pieces from artists all over Kansas. For more than two years the Delmar Riney Art gallery has seen paintings, drawings, photographs, sculptures and more from a new artist or group each month.

If you would like to be considered as a "Featured Artist of the Month" in the Delmar Riney gallery, send your name, contact information and a brief description of your artwork to Pratt Community College, Vice President of Students/EM, 348 NE SR 61, Pratt KS 67124 or lisam@prattcc.edu.

The Delmar Riney Art Gallery is located in the Riney Student Center, open Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Go Beaver Nation: PCC Launches Super Fan App

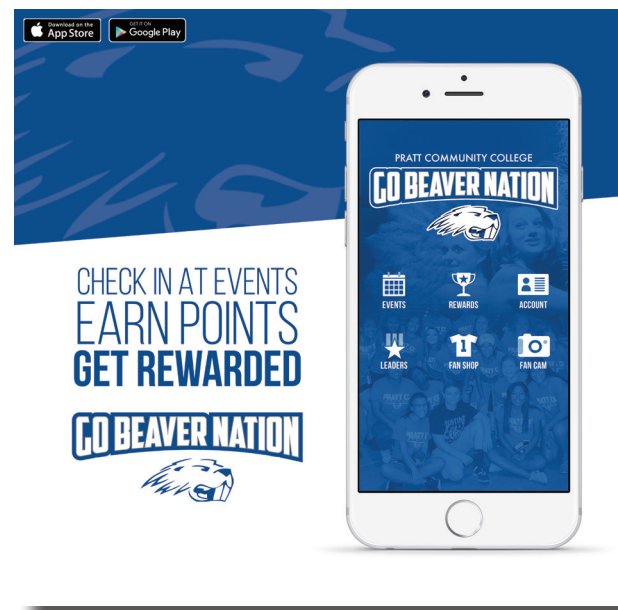
Students and Beaver fans now have an exclusive app just for campus events and activities. The new application is called Go Beaver Nation and is supported by Pratt Community College Student Activities, Athletics and Marketing departments in efforts to engage students and community members at events and help them earn some prizes while they're supporting PCC.

The app features an events tab that keeps super fans up-to-date with all on-campus activities, notifications to remind fans when and where events are, a prize shop and even an interactive Fan Cam.

PCC Students can earn points by checking-in when they attend events and those points can be redeemed for anything they wish including PCC gear, concessions and even the grand prize of a 55" flat screen television.

Community members will also have the opportunity to collect points and cash them in for prizes which will soon be added to the prize shop.

The app is available for download in the Google Play and Apple App Store. Search Go Beaver Nation and download now!



Devon Andrews Selected as KJCCC and NJCAA Player of the Week

Devon Andrews helped Pratt Community College men's basketball end 2016 on a very positive note. The freshmen guard has been selected as the NJCAA and KJCCC player of the week for his play against Colby and Garden City.

In the two games against Colby and Garden City, Andrews was a dominate force for the Beavers. He averaged 40.5 points while shooting 55 percent

from the field and from beyond the three-point arch for the week. Andrews started his week with a 43 point, eight rebound, two steal and three block performance at Colby in an 88-80 win for the Blue and White. Against Garden City, Andrews led with a double-double of 37 points, 11 rebounds, six assists, a steal and a block.

Congratulations to Devon Andrews for being selected as the KJCCC and NJCAA player of the week.

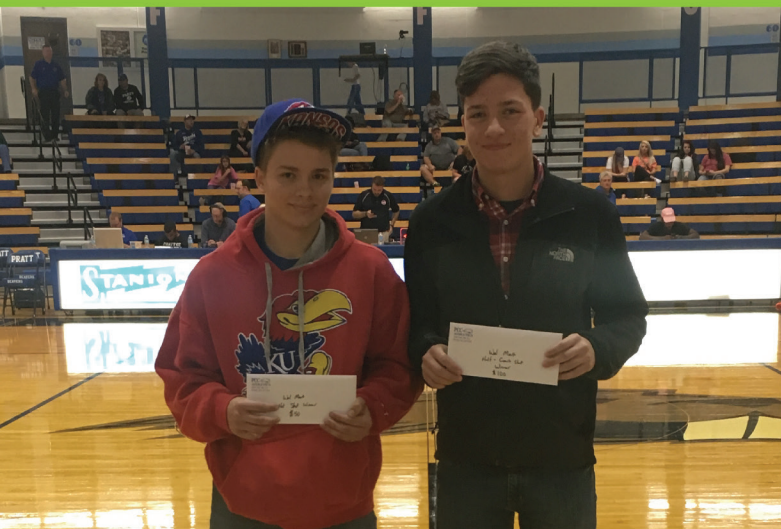


Welcome Back, Bucky Beaver

Bucky Beaver made a come back in a big way at the Dec. 3 men and women's basketball games at Pratt Community College. Bucky was revealed to a the crowd with a new look and a new sense of excitement for PCC athletics, activities and student life.

In November, PCC athletics, held auditions for the beaver mascot and an eagerly energetic student was chosen. The identity of the student will remain a secret but Bucky will be sure to make appearances at PCC events, activities and of course at athletic games cheering on student-athletes and connecting with the crowd.

Bucky even has his own Bio page on the new gobeaversports.com athletics page under the Fan Zone tab. You can learn about his story and how he came to be the Pratt CC mascot!





7 _____ Basketball vs. Barton CC - Skyline Night
Beaver Dome - Women 2:00PM, Men 4:00PM

9 _____ Move-In Day! Residence Halls Open
9:00AM - 5:00PM

10 _____ PCC Wrestling Tournament vs. Neosho
Beaver Dome - 7:00PM - \$1 Hot Dogs, Popcorn and Chili

11 _____ Basketball vs. Cowley CC - Blue Out Night
Beaver Dome - Women 6:00PM, Men 8:00PM

12 _____ Student Activity: Sumo Wrestling Tournament
Beaver Dome - 9:00PM

16 _____ Martin Luther King Jr. Day - **No Classes**

17 _____ Student Activity: Movie Night
Riney RM 312 - 9:00PM

18 _____ Basketball vs. Independence CC - Super Hero Night
Beaver Dome - Women 6:00PM, Men 8:00PM

19 _____ Student Activity: 3 on 3 Half-Court Shot Tourny
Beaver Dome - 9:00PM

25 _____ Basketball vs. Hutchinson CC - White Out Night
Beaver Dome - Women 6:00PM, Men 8:00PM

26 _____ Student Activity: Water Pong Tournament
Rec Center - 9:00PM

9 _____ Kansas Day
Library - Cake and Punch