



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

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Upcoming Dates

Academic & Athletics Awards Ceremony	May 2
Final Exams Commencement &	May 9-11
Nursing Pinning	May 12
Mother's Day Faculty Work Day Memorial Day (Closed)	May 14 May 15 May 29

PCC SUMMER HOURS

May 22 - July 28, 2017 Monday-Thursday 7:45a-5:15p; Friday 8a-1p

Summer and Fall 2017 Enrollment

Enrollment is now underway at Pratt Community College for summer and fall 2017. PCC offers classes on-campus and online for high school students, current or new students and anyone interested in learning.

Interested in exploring the study of Physical Scince this summer?

Physical science is a survey of Astronomy, Physics, Geology, Chemistry, and Environmental Science. It's a great class for anyone interested in understanding the world through science. This class fulfills the physical science graduation requirement.

Interested in exercise and the fundementals of techniques? PCC is offering an Exercise Techniques class that will cover a combination of lectures that explore techniques for warm-up, stretching, and resistance training exercises. For each exercise, accompanying photos and instructions guide readers in the correct execution and teaching of stretching and resistance training exercises. This course also provides the understanding

and preparation for weightlifting and learning the technique of weightlifting related movements.

PCC also offeres a variety of summer classes in Public Speaking, Microcomputer Office Applications, Beginning and Intermediate Algebra, English Compostion and more.

Summer scholarships are also available to any student enrolled in six or more on-campus credit hours for \$300.

Visit prattcc.edu/schedule for a list of courses available for summer and fall.

Summer and Fall Enrollment

Summer sessions

May 31 - June 28

May 31 - July 28

June 29 - July 28

Fall Start Date
August 23

Residence Halls Open August 20

29th Annual PCC Scholarship Auction a Huge Success

Approximately 300 people attended the 29th Annual PCC Scholarship Auction which was held on April 7, 2017 at the 4-H building on the Pratt County Fairgrounds. This year's theme of "School Spirit" was a battle of the college mascots. The evening included dinner, raffles, games, silent auction, live auction, and a performance by PCC's vocal ensemble, Encore!.

According to Barry Fisher, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement and Alumni Relations, this was the most successful auction to date.

"Thank you to everyone who made this year's event our most successful auction ever," said Fisher. "Together, we were able to raise over \$64,000, and 100 percent of the auction proceeds go directly to provide scholarships for PCC students. Your support of this event has helped make PCC an option for many students who would otherwise not be able to attend college."

A wide-variety of scholarships will be provided thanks to the fundraising efforts of the auction including athletic scholarships, departmental scholarships based on area of study, tuition assistance for graduating high school seniors of Pratt County, summer scholarships, veteran scholarships, and tuition credit waivers to high school students who earn an A or B in qualifying College Start (concurrent) courses.

For more information about the Foundation, contact Barry Fisher at barryf@prattcc.edu or 620-450-2179. For information about financial aid for students, contact Financial Aid Director Alicia Novotny at 620-450-2248 or visit prattcc.edu/FinancialAid.

PRATT COMMUNITY COLLEGE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION







Two Electrical Power Technology Students Awarded ITC scholarships

On Apr. 13, ITC Great Plains, LLC awarded scholarships to two students from the Electric Power Technology (EPT) program at Pratt Community College. EPT students Austin Showman and Kyle Hammer accepted the scholarships, which will help them complete their degree, in front of PCC staff and fellow students.

This is the fifth year ITC Great Plains has provided scholarships to EPT students at PCC. ITC Great Plains is a transmission-only utility based out of Topeka providing access to reliable, non-discriminatory, competitive, and low-cost energy in the fifteen state Southwest Power Pool region with a particular focus on Kansas and Oklahoma.



The President of ITC Great Plains, Brett Leopold, presented the scholarship check to Showman and Hammer.

"ITC has been wonderful to award scholarship money to our students and help give back. There are a lot of companies out there that are helping to provide power to the country but there aren't many of them that give back and try to help the next generation of employees and linemen coming into the system," said EPT instructor Dave Campbell.

When speaking about this year's scholarship recipients, Campbell mentioned how they really earned this opportunity and how much hard work and leadership they showed within the program.

Showman is from South Haven, Kan. and took a non-traditional approach through a couple other colleges before landing at PCC and really enjoying the EPT program and experiences.

"The main thing I have taken away from doing this (EPT), is doing the best work you can do," said Showman. "You're going to be as successful as what you put into it."

Showman will be interning this summer at Heartland Rural Electric Cooperative based out of Girard, Kan.

Hammer, born and raised in Rossville, Kan., chose the EPT program because of his interest and experience working with an electric company during the summers.

"The biggest things I have taken away from this program are pride, respect, and brotherhood," said Hammer. "Getting the lights back on is going to be something you take pride in."

In May, Hammer will be headed to FreeState Electric Cooperative out of Topeka, Kan for his internship.

Both Hammer and Showman hope to gain full-time employment while using the scholarship to finish up their last year of the EPT program.



Mark and Janae Melvin Named Outstanding Alumni of the Year

Pratt Community College Foundation has selected Mark and Janae (Stucky) Melvin as the 2017 Outstanding Alumni of the Year. The Outstanding Alumni of the Year award goes to alumni who have made contributions to career and community and was originally established in 1966.

"Instructional Council members conducted a thorough analysis of all alumni of the year nominees," said Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick, Vice President of Instruction. "Although they were impressed with the highly qualified candidates, they selected Mark and Janae based on the totality of their personal and professional accomplishments."

Mark and Janae both graduated from PCC in May 2000. Mark, a native of Newton, Kan., graduated with





Mark knows his time in the auto shop helped shape his a career path and allowed him to grow as a mechanic. Janae points to her time at PCC as when she learned a lot about teamwork and leadership as well as balancing deadlines and priorities. After graduation, Mark returned to Newton to work full-time and Janae transferred to Fort Hays State University to complete her four-year degree. They were engaged during her junior year and married a month after she graduated from FHSU in 2002.

While Janae worked on her graduate degree at Wichita State University, she received a public relations internship at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway. After relocating from Kansas to Las Vegas, Mark received a job at the Speedway as well as a truck driver and part-time mechanic at the Richard Petty Driving Experience (RPDE). Janae was hired to be the Director of Speedway Children Charities, just six months into her internship.

During their eight years in Las Vegas, Mark was promoted to full-time mechanic and then mechanical operations manager for RPDE. Janae left the speedway and returned to traditional public relations work in Las Vegas. She worked for two boutique firms and spent two years promoting food and beverage options for MGM Resorts International.

In 2013, the Melvin's had the opportunity to move back home to Kansas from Las Vegas. Mark was promoted to the Track Operations Manager at the Kansas Speedway. Since opening the full-time operations at the Kansas Speedway, Mark is overseeing one of the more successful locations for RPDE. He manages a staff of more than 20 employees in addition to overseeing the travel division of the company. Janae is the public relations and social media manager for Ottawa University, handling all the PR, social media and publications for OU's six campuses.

Currently, Mark and Janae live in Kansas City, Kan., with their two children, Logan (9) and Kennedy (5). Both are involved with their children's school activities and fundraisers through St. Patrick Catholic School.

"We have often said that if we could go back and relive anytime in our lives, it would be the two years we spent at PCC," said Janae. "This college has played a major role in our lives, both individually and as a couple. We are so blessed and honored to be the 2017 recipients of this award. And to be able to celebrate this accomplishment together makes it even more special."

A recognition luncheon will be hosted by the PCC Foundation and the Melvin's will give the keynote address at the commencement and nursing pinning ceremony beginning at 2 p.m. in the Dennis Lesh Arena. For more information about this award or to nominate an alumnus, please contact PCC Executive Director of Institutional Advancement and Alumni Relations, Barry Fisher, at barryf@prattcc.edu or 620-450-2179.



PCC Shooting Sports Team Takes Third in San Antonio Nationals

March 28 through April 2, five students from the Pratt Community College Shooting Sports team traveled to the National Collegiate Clay Target Championship in San Antonio, Texas to compete against 76 teams from all over the nation. PCC Shooting Sports came home with a Division 4 third place win.

This is the sixth year PCC has competed in the event against local, regional and national universities and community colleges and the first year that 2-year institutions had their own division. PCC placed third in Division 4 against other 2-year schools and is ranked first nationally as a 2-year institution in shotgun shooting sports.

The team took five shooters to compete, Tyler Skaggs, Travis Ledom, Addison Smith, Shania Hansen, and Seth Simmons. Skaggs took the lead in points for the team earning top marks in American Skeet, American Trap, International Skeet and Sporting Clays. While Smith was the best of her team in International Trap and Ledom lead in Five Stand.

"We would like to thank all faculty and staff for supporting us throughout the year and especially at nationals in San Antonio," said Wildlife Instructor and Shooting Sports Coach Luke Laha. "While we've always held our own, placing in the top 1/3 nationally, it's difficult to stand out in one massive division."

The mission of the Pratt Community College Shooting Sports Club is to promote the safe handling of firearms, instill a lasting respect for the shooting sports, and provide the opportunity for members to improve their leadership and team building skills through a variety of training courses, competitions, and community service projects while enjoying the recreational and social benefits the shooting sports have to offer.

PCC Student Receives KDB Scholarship



The Kappa Beta Delta (KBD) Honor Society has announced the 2017 recipients of Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) Regions Merit Scholarships which includes one Pratt Community College business student.

Sophomore, Tyanna Hughes, was awarded a \$500 scholarship which she says she will use next year when she transfers to Central Methodist University in Missouri.

"I was very excited when I found out," said Hughes. "The scholarship will be a big help next year."

The ACBSP Regions Merit Scholarship is given on behalf of those ACBSP Regions that wish to participate. Each participating ACBSP Region designates and funds the

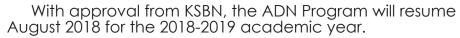
amount of the scholarship. Hughes was chosen out of all Region 5 applicants. Region 5 consists of the ACBSP Midwestern Council of Business Schools and Programs representing colleges and universities in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and the Canadian Province of Manitoba.

Hughes chose the Accounting and Business program at PCC after a high school counselor advised her to look into accounting. Hughes says she has a knack for numbers.

Along with KBD, Hughes is also involved in the PCC Rodeo team as a barrel racer.

PCC Puts ADN Program on Hold to Improve Test Passing Rates

Pratt Community College has put its Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) Program on hold for one year to allow faculty the opportunity to conduct a complete transformative restructuring of the ADN program starting with the mission and concluding with sustainable and repeatable measures to help ensure a high quality program in the future. PCC was granted approval by the Kansas State Board of Nursing (KSBN) on Mar. 29, to voluntarily cease admissions to the ADN Program for one academic year. Enrollment postponement for the program across all delivery modalities will occur for the 2017-2018 academic year.





PCC is taking this action because the ADN program lost national accreditation through the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) in August 2015. Also at that time, KSBN lowered the program's status to conditional approval. Since then, significant action was taken by the college to increase admission standards, adjust course content, and assess program rigor; aligning delivery modalities, integrating the campus community, and mentoring. However, the ADN program has been unable to achieve expected student and program learning outcomes.

Subsequently in November 2016, KSBN conducted a Focused Site Visit in response to three consecutive years of deficient ADN National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) pass rates comparatively to the KSBN 75% benchmark. (2013: 56.16%/2014: 52.14%/ 2015: 66.94%). As of April 2017, the 2016 ADN-NCLEX annual pass rate is 31.25%.

For reasons that are unclear, students in the PCC program are not passing the exam the first time with only 31 percent of the class passing. That fails to meet the required 75 percent of the class passing required by the State Board of Nursing.

But when the students take the test again, the pass rate jumps to 85 percent.

However, the Board only looks at the first time taking the test numbers. For five years, the PCC students in the ADN program have not met that 75 percent pass rate and they were placed on a conditional status.

"Why the difference is unknown. The data is inconclusive. We just don't know why," Calvert said.

For the students that have already enrolled for next year's ADN Program, the staff is working with those students to find an alternate program. Some students may prefer to delay their entry and enroll in 2018.

Calvert said PCC had met with hospitals they work with that supply facilities for practical testing and they are on board with the college as they go through this evaluation.

The college also has a Practical Nurse program that has met and exceeded the required NCLEX pass rates so it will continue operations as normal.

The PN students also have to take the NCLEX. It's not as difficult as the ADN version but students understand what is required of them for the exam. Why the pass rates drop so dramatically for the ADN program tests is a mystery since they know what is coming, Calvert said.

Also unknown is why the pass rates for on-line students, a dramatic drop from 77.8 percent in 2014-2015 to just 16.7 percent in 2015-2016.

The PCC nursing program, both the ADN and PN programs, had been exemplary for many years but the expansion of the program lead to a big turnover of 60 faculty members and seven directors over a five year period. During that time, the problems with ADN passing rates continuously failed to meet the 75 percent pass rates on the first time taking the test. During the same time period, the PN program continuously met and exceeded the 75 percent pass rate.w

PCC administration and nursing staff are now on the path to provide clearly defined, measurable, and assessable goals, objectives and benchmarks will be established and evaluated weekly, monthly, and quarterly to help ensure ADN faculty are meeting administrative expectations during

PCC Puts ADN Program on Hold to Improve Test Passing Rates, cont.

this transformational period. In addition, the ADN faculty will submit an action plan timeline for tracking progress.

A Strategic Communication Plan will include timely updates to stakeholders, including KSBN, regional medical providers, Board of Trustees and internal PCC constituencies throughout the review process.

Since the first graduating class in 1984, PCC's ADN Program had exemplar NCLEX pass rates and was considered a premier provider of healthcare professionals in the state. The solvency, stability, and sustainability of maintaining programmatic excellence began to erode around 2012 when a myriad of factors drastically changed the size, scope, and quality of graduates.

The increase of program capacity to 180 students across face-to-facade, multi-campuses, and online created an un-scalable growth model resulting in continuous turnover. Since 2012, turnover included 60 faculty members and 7 Directors over a five-year period.

PCC is committed to delivering quality academic programs and services to students and stakeholders. The Board of Trustees and administration are driven to restore quality to the ADN Program. The Board of Trustees was recognized by KSBN for their dedication and support of nursing education during this challenging time.

More information about both programs can be found at prattcc.edu/Nursing.

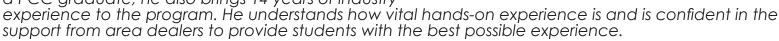
PCC Hires New Ag Power Instructor

In April of 2017, Pratt Community College hired Steven McKennon as Agriculture Power instructor to take over for retiring instructor, Rod Stewart. When both men were asked about the transition and change, they likened it to the passing of the "wrench."

"He'll (McKennon) do a tremendous job and he's the right man for the job," said Stewart.

"Rod does so much," said McKennon. "He's been here for 18 years. I have a lot of respect for him."

McKennon comes to PCC with a wealth of agricultural industry knowledge and experience. Not only is McKennon a PCC graduate, he also brings 14 years of industry





"My personal goal is to update the program to fit the demands of the new age of farm equipment," said McKennon. "Technicians today need to come out of a trade school with the knowledge, skills and ability to properly diagnose the basic electronic systems on equipment as well as understand the theory of hydraulics, theory of basic engine operation and have a grasp of the integrated solutions area that is growing rapidly. The program will provide adequate training in all of these areas at a level that will be sufficient for the workforce."

"Prospective students can be assured the APT program will be challenging and fun at the same time," said McKennon. "Any person that has the desire to work with their hands and make a difference in the farming and industrial technical fields needs to be encourage to pursue the Associate's Degree tied to this program."

If interested in the Agriculture Power Technology program, please visit prattcc.edu/enroll-agpower.



John Ishee Hired as New Head Women's Basketball Coach at PCC

Pratt Community College Director of Athletics Bill Wilson announced today the hiring of John Ishee as the Beavers new head women's basketball coach. Ishee brings to Pratt a wealth of experience as a basketball coach that spans over 25 years.

"We are very excited to have John Ishee join the PCC family as our next head women's basketball coach," Bill Wilson said. "John brings a great deal of coaching experience to Pratt as well as recruiting ties to Kansas, as well as all over the country. He has coached at many levels of women's college basketball and understands what it's going to take to build our program. We are excited for what

Ishee comes to PCC from his hometown of Gulfport, Mississippi where has spent the last couple of years caring for his ailing mother. While in Gulfport he assisted Coach Donny Fuller at Gulfport High School. During his time at Gulfport High, the

"I am ecstatic about the opportunity to be the next head women's basketball coach at Pratt Community College," Ishee said. "I would like to thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the College Board, President Dr. Mike Calvert, athletic director Bill Wilson, Coach Max Good, and the selection committee for their belief in me."





Prior to being at Gulfport High School, Coach Ishee coached college basketball for 25 years. During that time he participated in nine national tournaments including five NCAA tournaments. Ishee had stops at the University of Mississippi, Southern Mississippi, St. Louis University, McNeese State, Pacific, and New Mexico State. Ishee spent five years as the head coach at Southeast Missouri State from 2006 through 2011. While at Southeast Missouri State his teams won back to back Ohio Valley Conference championships. He was recognized as the OVC coach of the year in 2007. During his career, Ishee recruited and coached numerous all-conference selections highlighted by four players that played in the WNBA.

Ishee credits all the players, countless colleagues and notable Southern Miss coaches M.K. Turk, Kay James, Paul Duke, current Newman University coach Darin Spence, and the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley legendary coach Larry Tidwell for shaping his coaching identity.

"The last three years out of college women's basketball have been difficult but rewarding for me," Coach Ishee said. "Helping care for mom and eventually losing her to Heaven has been very, very tough. However, I'm now eager as a Beaver to return to doing what I love. Getting to do it in the state where the game was invented is simply awesome. With the support of the administration, the wonderful community of Pratt, and most importantly, the young women that will represent us, we will win in the classroom, in the community, and on the court. Go Beavers!"

PCC student Wins All Around Cowboy

Pratt Community College student Cole Quaney made big strides at the Fort Hays State University Rodeo on Apr. 23. Quaney came back to Pratt with the All Around Cowboy award for his performances in team roping and tie down calf roping. He also placed sixth in the Tie down and fifth in team roping with his partner, Kobe Kastl.

The award of All Around goes to the highest scorer in multiple events. For Tie Down roping Quaney scored 47.5 points and he scored 24 points in Team Roping as the heeler.

"This year I've been heeling for Kobe and we've made the short go at Manhattan, won 2nd at garden city, made the short go at weatherford, and won 5th at hays," said Quaney. "We make a pretty good team."

Quaney grew up in Cheney, Kan. where he went to high school and has been around rodeo almost all of this life.

"I've been rodeoing for as long as I can remember," said Quaney. "Starting when I was born I was on a horse. I've been swinging a rope as long as I can remember also. I would always win the dummy ropings at the junior rodeos."

Quaneys two events are calf roping and team roping.

"I like to rodeo because it keeps the ranching and cowboy way of life alive," said Quaney. "Every event we do is something that use to be done in



the old west. I also enjoy the mindset of helping everyone. We are all competitors against one another but we still help each other."

Along with being on the PCC rodeo team Quaney is a student in the Automotive Technology program. Quaney will be working at Yellowstone National Park this summer as a mechanic for the park.

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SUMMER CLASSES BEGIN MAY 31

\$300 Summer Scholarship!

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- Must enroll in 6 Credit Hours
- On-Campus Classes Only
- No Application Needed

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2017-2018 Tuition:

- \$61 Per Credit Hour In State
- \$71 Per Credit Hour Out of State
- \$150 Per Credit Hour Online
- \$85 Per Credit Hour International

Visit prattcc.edu/Cost for more information

Residence Halls

• Please call the Administrative Assistant to Vice President, 620.450.2184 for information

Courses on-campus/hybrid:

- General Biology* Anatomy & Physiology General Psychology*
- Fundamentals of Chemistry* Developmental Psychology*
- Public Speaking* Intro to Music Foundation of Western Culture
- College Algebra Beginning Algebra Intermediate Algebra
- English Comp I & II*
- * Blended electronic/online course

Courses online:

- Accounting & Business Agriculture Allied Health Occupations
- Chemistry Computer Science Art Music Biology English
- Communications Health, PE & Recreation Education
- Psychology Mathematics Modern Language Sociology
- Philosophy Physical Science Political Science History
- Social Science Sociology

PRATT COMMUNITY COLLEGE does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age or veteran status in its programs and activities. Complete notice can be found at: http://prattcc.edu/notice



DENNIS LESH SPORTS AREA IN THE BENSON EDUCATION CENTER 348 NE SR 61, PRATT, KS 67124



CAP & GOWN PICK UP

MAY 8-11 MON-FRI 8-5 ADMISSIONS OFFICE 51

EXCLUDES NURSING STUDENTS. CONTACT NURSING DEPARTMENT FOR INFO.

PHI THETA KAPPA PICK UP HONORS REGALIA.



REHEARSAL

STRONGLY ENCOURAGED FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS MAY 12 AT 10 A.M.



CEREMONY LIVE STREAM

Prattcc.edu/Commencement2017



PARKING

FREE ON-CAMPUS



ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?

620-450-2218



HEADSHOTS AND DIPLOMA
SHOTS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
AT GRADIMAGES.COM







CHECK IN AT EVENTS. EARN POINTS. GET REWARDED





■ April 2017	All Students Welcome!!!		May 2017	Stude	Student Activities!!!	
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	Academic & Athletics Awards Ceremony Auditorium	3 Cook Out! Scholarship Basketball Court 5:30PM to 7PM	4 Cuatro De Mayo Dance Scholarship Basketball Court 9PM - Midnight	5 Cinco De Mayo	6
	8 LATE NIGHT BREAKFAST Café 9PM	Dog Day De-Stressor Outside the Library 2PM – 4PM	10	11	12 Graduation Beaver Dome 2PM	13
4 Mother's Day		16 3	17 e f	25	19 2 C	20 Armed Forces Day
8	29 Memorial Day	30	31	Follow us on Social Media Add Bucky Beaver	@prattcc @prattcc @prattcc	Download the App Beaver Nation

BRING STUDENT ID to all STUDENT ACTIVITIES!

RECREATIONAL TO DO's in PRATT!

*Blythe Family Fitness *Roll-A-Rink Skate Center *Green Sports Complex (Baseball Fields Behind Walmart)*

Beaver Baseball and SoftBall!

May 6th and 7th - Region VI 1st Round

For Beaver Away Games Visit!!!
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