



The VOYAGER

The Frontier Community College Newsletter

April 2022

THREE SELECTED FOR ALL-ILLINOIS TEAM

Frontier Community College's Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) chapter, Beta Alpha Lambda, is pleased to announce three members have been named to the All-Illinois Academic Team. Alexa Price, Haylee Willett, and Kenna Stum will be honored during a banquet in Springfield, Illinois on April 28. In the fall, PTK members apply for scholarships and up to four students can be nominated to the All-Illinois Academic Team. Those students are then placed into competition for \$500,000 in national scholarship opportunities.

Alexa Price, a sophomore from Mt. Carmel, is currently Vice President of Beta Alpha Lambda. She has volunteered for many events on campus and was an integral part of the online financial literacy course for new students. After graduating from FCC, she has plans to attend Paul Quinn University to major in Liberal Arts Communications.



PHI THETA KAPPA
HONOR SOCIETY

Haylee Willett, a Fairfield native, will graduate in 2023 with an Associate Degree in Nursing. She is a new member of PTK, and she was recently selected to be the Student Advisor for first-level nursing students. When Haylee enters the nursing workforce, she has a strong interest in working with pediatric or psychiatric patients.

Kenna Stum, a student from Mt. Vernon, will enter the nursing program in the fall. Kenna is a new PTK member and welcomes new opportunities to become involved with FCC's chapter. After completing nursing school, Kenna plans to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from a university.

These students are shining examples of high academic achievement and student leadership at FCC.

Upcoming Events

April

15 Spring Holiday

May

06 Last Day of Classes

09 Start of Final Exams

13 Last Day of Semester/Graduation

30 College Closed



SMALL BUSINESS, BIG OPPORTUNITY

New to Illinois Eastern Community Colleges this spring is a Small Business Development Center (SBDC). This office, located on Frontier's campus, is funded by a grant at Southeastern Illinois College and offers a wide array of business support services. Specific areas include business plan development, financial analysis and projections, sales and marketing support, regulatory compliance training, and overall best practices in entrepreneurial endeavors.

Claire Vaughan serves as the SBDC consultant. Bringing years of business experience to the position, Claire is eager to help anyone interested in starting a small business or entrepreneurs with an existing business who needs support. She can be reached at 618-842-3711 ext. 4516 or by email at vaughanc2@iecc.edu.



To learn more about services provided by the SBDC, the public is invited to an open house scheduled for Thursday, April 21 from 1pm to 3pm in the Learning Resource Center located in Clemence Elizabeth Cox Hall on the campus of Frontier Community College.

STUDENT NURSES ASSOCIATION SPRINGS INTO SERVICE

Frontier Community College's Student Nurses Association (SNA) is incorporating their skills in compassion and empathy into their spring service projects. According to SNA Club Sponsor Beth Wilson, the club has collected over 80 stuffed animals to be delivered to pediatric units in Evansville hospitals the last week of April. In addition, they are planning to deliver candy-filled Easter eggs to a local daycare center.

SNA has fourteen active members. Membership is open to students who are currently enrolled in the Associate Degree in Nursing program at Frontier Community College.



Donations for area pediatric units

ADVISOR EXPLORES AUTOMATION OPPORTUNITY

FCC Academic Advisor Kara Blanton has been working behind the scenes on a project to automate a portion of the registration process. Bookings, a Microsoft 365 product, is an application that provides an adaptable way for students to schedule appointments. Bookings works directly with Outlook and provides students with a real-time link to schedule their advisement appointments.

Kara knows the need for this platform and the convenience it will afford students. It is convenient, eliminates the need for callbacks, and will send the student a confirmation and reminder texts once the appointment is scheduled. Bookings is ready to exit test mode for live beta testing with a small group of students.



Bookings is a Microsoft 365 product

Kara has worked on the back end of the platform to make sure the proper questions are displayed to the student and that the right amount of time is shown for scheduling options. Ultimately, Kara hopes the link will be on the website for students to find easily. This is an exciting, student-focused initiative that FCC is excited to pioneer.

DISSECTION GOES DIGITAL

Students in Human Anatomy and Physiology I and II have a new opportunity in the classroom. FCC recently purchased an interactive Anatomage Virtual Dissection Table. Users can visualize anatomy exactly as they would on a cadaver. Nixie Hnetkovsky, Life Science Associate Professor, says the advantage of the Anatomage Virtual Dissection Table is that students can see the entire body and its internal structures all at once. It also gives every student the opportunity to perform dissections - unlike with real organs where there may only be one available.

“This is a huge jump forward for our department” says Hnetkovsky. She has wanted this technology for nearly three years. Students in the class are excited as well.



Nixie Hnetkovsky and her students viewing the Anatomage Dissection Table

AN ARRAY OF POSSIBILITIES

Construction is underway on the 45kW solar array on the campus of Frontier Community College. The project is funded by a \$120,750 grant from the Illinois Green Economy Network (IGEN). Located north of the Workforce Development Center (WDC), the solar array will provide both green energy to help power the campus and educational opportunities to students in the Automotive Technology and Electrical Distribution Systems programs.



Installation of the first section of solar panels

Installer Jeff Overturf, owner of Overturf Electric in West Frankfort, Illinois, expects the system to be complete and fully operational by the middle of May.

His company has extensive experience with solar array installation and has been the lead on similar projects throughout the Midwest.

When complete, power from the solar array is projected to offset roughly 50% of the energy consumed by the WDC. This savings, coupled with expanded programmatic opportunities, makes having the project on campus a welcome *green* addition.

Business & Industry Training

B&I is partnering with LWIA 23, DCEO, the Flora Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Flora to hold a Business Roundtable discussion and small business gathering on May 19 in Flora.

Adult Education

The Adult Education (AE) program held an Area Planning Council (APC) meeting in March on the campus of Lincoln Trail College. The APC meetings bring service partners together to discuss new services, opportunities, and challenges. AE is expanding English as a Second Language (ESL) services by adding an in-person class in Grayville and a fully online class this summer.

Emergency Preparedness

With relaxed restrictions, CPR classes are now back in session for students in all 16 district high schools. In collaboration with Kaskaskia College, a Paramedicine cohort is being established at Wabash General Hospital for this fall.

TITLE III UPDATES

The following updates are from Title III Project Director, Carol Dreith.

This past month, Title III team members Carol Dreith and Derek Dunn met virtually with University of Illinois professionals Eric Schumacher and Kevin Southworth of the University's Center for Innovation in Teaching to develop additional strategies in maximizing the faculty recording studio layout and functionality at FCC. Eric and Kevin both provided recommendations stemming from their vast experiences in lighting, recording, and green screen production. The Title III team is working to implement the team's recommendations and is looking forward to providing the campus and community with the latest in video production technology.



Collaboration with University of Illinois Production Team

This is an exciting time for the first cohort of Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) students as they enter the final stretch of their two-year academic journey at FCC. At this time, three large regional lab employers have sponsored recruitment lunches on the FCC campus designed to attract these future MLT graduates to accept employment at their facilities. Clearly, MLT graduates are in high demand, and they have a bright employment future ahead. As part of the program accreditation process, the self-study for the National Accreditation Agency of Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) was recently submitted. Once accepted, graduates are able to sit for the national exam to become certified MLTs. A site visit by NAACLS is expected in the fall.

Title III Steering Committee and Internal Monitoring Team meetings were conducted in recent weeks to assess the success of the project through the end of Grant Year 2 and to evaluate Year 3 Goals and Objectives. On April 1, 2022, the five-year grant reached the "half-way" mark; therefore, the work of both teams is important in reflecting upon project successes to date and anticipating any grant modification requests or resources required to ensure future goals are achieved. As more course content is transitioned to hybrid delivery and additional online student services are developed, the goal of increased student accessibility to higher education offered through Frontier Community College should be realized.

SCHOLAR BOWL TEAMS VISIT CAMPUS



Scholastic Bowl Winners from New Hope Grade School

On Friday, April 1, Frontier Community College hosted the Wayne County Junior High Scholastic Bowl. Six teams were on campus for this annual event. Scholastic Bowl competitions bring quite a following, as many parents and grandparents attend in support of their student. New Hope Grade School was the winner of first place, going undefeated the entire day. Second place went to Cisne, and Wayne City secured third place. The other participating schools were Fairfield, Jasper, and Geff. The local radio station, WFIW, aired the evening matches in a live broadcast.