

The Voyager

a Frontier Community College newsletter



September 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

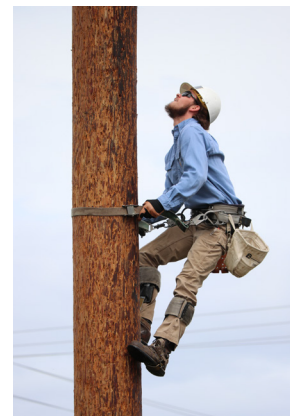
September

- 14 Volleyball Tournament @ Illinois Central College
- 17 Constitution Day
- 17 SIU-C Representative Visit 10AM - 1PM @ Mason Hall
- 18 USI Representative Visit 10AM - 12PM @ Mason Hall
- 18 VB vs. Vincennes / 6PM
- 18 Star Party / 8:30 - 9:30PM @ Mason Hall Parking Lot
- 20 VB vs. John Wood / 6:30PM
- 28 VB vs. WVC / 6:30PM

October

- 2 District Workshop @ OCC No Classes
- 3 Job Fair / 10AM - 2PM @ Workforce Development
- 3 VB vs. Lewis & Clark / 6:30PM
- 8 College Closed - Columbus Day
- 11 Midterm

Forbes Ranks FCC a Top 25 Trade School in America



In a report published by Forbes on August 16, Frontier Community College (FCC) was ranked the 15th best two-year trade school in the nation. Written by Carter Coudriet of Forbes Staff, the report is titled “The Top 25 Two-Year Trade Schools: Colleges That Can Solve The Skills Gap” and has been published on Forbes’ website.

Unlike the well-known Forbes Top Colleges list, which names four-year public and private universities, the Top 25 Two-Year Trade Schools list includes technical and career colleges that provide programs to cover a large variety of in-demand jobs.

As high school students graduate and prepare to enter the next step in their educational careers, many choose to attend a four-year school. In fact, the number of bachelor degrees awarded across the nation is climbing steadily, while the amount of awarded associate degrees has stalled since 2012. However, there are many growing job opportunities that academics simply cannot fill.

“Four-year schools are good fits for many students, but the notion that they’re the best one for all students is downright wrong,” says Coudriet. Some students prefer hands-on work, and trade school programs offer a variety of opportunities across diverse industries, such as FCC’s Automotive Technology, Construction Technology, and Information Systems Technology.

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“We are both honored and humbled to receive this prestigious recognition,” said Dr. Paul Bruinsma, Dean of Instruction. “This highlights our commitment to providing high-quality programs that meet our students’ educational needs.”

Research for the report included federal data from Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) and College Scorecard, and the methodology was divided into four parts: student experience, affordability, completion success, and post-graduate success.

Coudriet stated that “students can’t fully enjoy the benefits of a strong education if they are stuck paying for it for years on end.” FCC is an affordable college and led the list of 25 schools with the lowest average net price of just \$2,327. Many financial aid opportunities also allow students to earn a certificate or degree at a reasonable cost.

Forbes used student retention rates as a proxy for overall student experience, implying that students believe they are earning an adequate education if they continue their studies. In a report published by SE Illinois News back in March, Frontier Community College led the state for highest “on time” graduation rates among two-year Illinois colleges. While the statewide graduation rate in 2016 was only 11 percent, FCC saw 61 percent of its students graduate.

“Being nationally recognized as a college committed to student success speaks volumes about our efforts to assist students, not only academically but also with other needs they may have,” said Dr. Jay Edgren, President of Frontier Community College. “Since FCC is a smaller institution, we’re able to get to know our students and build meaningful relationships which are critical in helping our students graduate in a timely manner.”

Many of the Top 25 Trade Schools are located in the Midwest region, but FCC was the only college from Illinois. The complete report and list of 25 schools may be found at www.forbes.com.

FCC to Host District 109 Candidate Forum

A candidate forum for Illinois District 109 will be held in Workforce Development Center on Monday, September 24. The informational event, which is co-sponsored by the Wayne County Farm Bureau and FCC’s Student Senate Club, will feature Republican candidate Darren Bailey and Democrat candidate Cynthia Givens, who are both running to fill the seat of outgoing State Representative David Reis.

The candidate forum will begin at 7:00 p.m., and the candidates will answer questions regarding their positions and legislative priorities for the State of Illinois. Both Bailey and Givens will receive the questions ahead of the forum, and Student Senate members will present the questions.



Darren Bailey (R)



Cynthia Givens (D)

The State House District 109 covers all of Clay, Edwards, Jasper, Richland, Wabash, Wayne, and White counties. It also covers portions of Lawrence and Effingham counties.

For more information, contact Julie Bryant, Coordinator of Public Information & Marketing at FCC (bryantj@iecc.edu) or Doug Anderson, Manager of the Wayne County Farm Bureau (danderson@waynecfb.com). The public can stay updated by following the event on Frontier Community College’s Facebook page.

LRC Hosts 5th Annual Game-A-Palooza

Frontier's Learning Resource Center (LRC) held the 5th annual Game-A-Palooza for students on Wednesday, September 5. The daylong event drew its largest crowd to date and featured a taco bar, board games, card games, Bingo, ice cream sundaes, and pizza. Students dropped by between classes for lunch and throughout the afternoon to take a break from the start of the fall semester.



Merna Youngblood, Director of the LRC, was very pleased with the turnout and enjoyed meeting students throughout the day.



The E-Sports Club, which is new to the FCC campus, also had a station set up at the event to recruit new members into the club.

Bunting & Lyons to Serve as 2018-2019 Student Ambassadors



Blake Bunting and CaSandra Lyons, both of Fairfield, have been selected to serve as the 2018-2019 Student Ambassadors for FCC. Student Ambassadors represent Frontier and its student body in the public and at special events, such as campus functions and community outreach events. In exchange for their service, Bunting and Lyons receive 12 semester hours of tuition and a \$200 textbook scholarship for both the fall and spring semesters.

Blake Bunting is the son of Sheldon and Christy Bunting of Fairfield. A 2018 graduate of Fairfield Community High School (FCHS), Bunting is a first-year student at FCC. Thanks to dual credit opportunities during his high school career, he is on track to graduate from FCC in the spring of 2019. Bunting is working toward an Associate in Science and Arts degree, and he plans to transfer to the University of Southern Indiana for a Bachelor's in Computer Engineering. He hopes to one day work as a computer security engineer.

Not only was FCC an affordable option for Bunting, but it also allowed him to receive a quality education while remaining in his hometown. When he isn't in class, Bunting works part-time at Save a Lot and in the parts department at LeMond's Chevrolet.

CaSandra Lyons is a first-year student at FCC, and she is the daughter of Donnie and Tiffany Lyons of Fairfield. She is a 2018 graduate of FCHS and is currently pursuing an Associate in Science and Arts degree from FCC. After graduating next spring, Lyons plans to earn a Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training and eventually work as an athletic trainer. Wanting to remain in the area after graduating from high school, Lyons chose to attend FCC and soon after received the Student Ambassador Scholarship. She is excited to serve the student body throughout the 2018-2019 academic year.

FCC Ranked #2 Online School by BestColleges

Frontier Community College was recently ranked as the second best community college in the State of Illinois for online studies. The recognition comes from The Best Colleges, and the full report is located on their website at TheBestColleges.org.

The report was created by compiling and evenly weighing the following data: admissions rate, default rate, retention rate, graduation rate, and percentage of students enrolled in online classes. All data was received from the National Center for Education Statistics as well as individual community colleges.

Frontier offers many low-cost online classes throughout the fall, spring, and summer semesters that seamlessly transfer to many four-year colleges. Class offerings include Intro to Business, GED Test Prep, Elementary Spanish, Human Anatomy & Physiology, and more.

Topping the list was Southeastern Illinois College, located in Harrisburg. IECC was well-represented in the report, as Lincoln Trail College took third place on the list.



Bob Ross Painting Class Held on Campus



Happy little trees made their way to Frontier's campus on Thursday, September 6, as two Bob Ross painting classes were held at Bob Boyles Hall. The two sessions were led by Diane Franklin, a Certified Ross Instructor.

Both of Franklin's morning and afternoon sessions, which were booked full, learned how to paint a winter landscape. Students thoroughly enjoyed the three-hour class and took home a beautiful canvas painting at the end.

Due to popular demand, Frontier hopes to plan additional Bob Ross painting classes in the future.

Deferred Maintenance Repaints Workforce




Workforce Development Center, which is home to the college's career and technical education programs, has received a recent facelift due to deferred maintenance funds from IECC for fiscal year 2018.

"We are thankful for deferred maintenance monies provided by the District this year," said FCC President Dr. Jay Edgren. "Along with this project, we were able to replace several HVAC systems, repair a concrete parking lot, and replace water heaters and circulation pumps."

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 Frontier Community College

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The Bobcat Beat

 @FCCBobcatsAthletics

 @FrontierBobcats

Volleyball Season in Full Swing

SPORTS CALENDAR

September

- 13 VB @ LTC / 6:30PM
- 14 VB @ IL Central Tournament
- 14 BB vs. Vincennes / 4PM
- 15 BB vs. Spoon River / 1PM
- 15 SB @ Boonville Showcase
- 18 VB vs. Vincennes / 6PM
- 20 VB vs. John Wood / 6:30PM
- 21 BB vs. Rend Lake / 5PM
- 22 BB @ John A. Logan / 12PM
- 23 SB @ Kentucky Wesleyan
- 25 VB @ Rend Lake / 6:30PM
- 25 BB @ WVC / 3PM
- 28 VB vs. WVC / 6:30PM
- 28 BB @ SIC / 2PM
- 29 BB vs. SIC / 12PM
- 29 SB @ Arkansas St. Tournament
- 30 VB @ Parkland College / 11AM

October

- 3 VB vs. Lewis & Clark / 6:30PM
- 5 VB @ Lincoln Land Tournament
- 5-6 Region 24 Baseball Tournament
- 11 VB @ Kaskaskia / 6:30PM
- 13 BB vs. St. Louis Naturals Club
- 19 VB @ St. Louis CC Tournament
- 20 VB @ Vincennes Tri-Match
- 23 VB @ SWIC / 6:30PM



Bobcats Volleyball began the 2018 season with a home match against Shawnee Community College, winning the match with a 3-set sweep. Since the season has started, Frontier has also hosted Kaskaskia College (L, 1-3) and Rend Lake College (W, 3-1). The match against Rend Lake drew a large and loud crowd, with tight final scores of 25-17, 19-25, 25-22, and 25-23.

Volleyball has four home matches remaining in the season, with sophomore night set for October 3. The team will host Lewis & Clark College of Godfrey, Illinois.

FCC Hosting Region 24 Fall Classic

Frontier Community College will be hosting the NJCAA Region 24 Baseball Fall Classic on October 5 & 6. The first game of the tournament will begin at 10AM on Friday, and all games will be held on FNB Field. Scouts and recruiters have been invited to attend the event, which has scheduled games between the nine teams that make up Region 24.

This is Frontier's first year hosting the event. Guests can view the full schedule by visiting FCC Bobcats Athletics social media accounts.