

The Voyager

a Frontier Community College newsletter



January 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY

- 20 College closed
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 21 IECC Board Meeting
7PM @ Wabash Valley
- 22 Mobile Food Pantry
11AM @ West Hall Lounge
- 24 TEAS Testing
1-5PM @ Mason Hall 24
- 27 District 109 Candidate Forum
7PM @ Workforce Dev. Ctr.

FEBRUARY

- 1 The Office Trivia Night
7PM @ Fairfield Elks Club
- 3 VU Representative Visit
9AM-1PM @ LRC Foyer
- 6 TEAS Testing
1-5PM @ Mason Hall 25
- 6 EIU Representative Visit
9AM-1PM @ LRC Foyer
- 7 Nursing Application Meeting
10AM @ LRN 105
- 12 Mobile Food Pantry
11AM @ West Hall Lounge
- 12 Nursing Application Meeting
2PM @ LRN 105
- 13 TEAS Testing
1-5PM @ Mason Hall 25
- 17 College closed
Presidents' Day

TITLE III GRANT UPDATES UNDERWAY AT FCC CAMPUS

Four months have passed since Frontier Community College (FCC) received a \$2.24 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP). Several updates have been made or are currently underway as FCC works towards several goals and projects within the grant.

Carol Dreith, Project Director of Title III, and Jennifer England, Health Sciences Specialist, have been hard at work in the initial stages of creating the Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) Program. England has prepared initial applications to be sent to the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS). She is also currently working on a degree outline for the MLT program as well as curricula for MLT-specific courses, including Serology, Immunohematology, and Clinical Microbiology. The completed documents will soon be sent to the Illinois Community College Board for approval.

In preparation for the MLT program, Dreith and England have finalized a location that will serve as the classroom laboratory. FCC is working with Architecture & Design Group (ADG), LTD, an architecture firm based in Mt. Carmel, to convert Room 21 of Mason Hall (pictured left) into the laboratory. ADG is in the initial drawing stages, but the classroom will be fully completed by July and ready for the first cohort of students for the Fall 2020 semester. Additionally, England has assembled an equipment list to support the needs of the laboratory and curricula.



As part of the grant, FCC will begin strengthening its online opportunities for students. Multiple programs, including Phlebotomy and Health Informatics Technology, will transition to a hybrid or online format. These changes will

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require adequate space and technology to accommodate an online learning format. Therefore, FCC will develop a faculty recording studio on campus for all full-time and adjunct faculty members to utilize. A storage area in the Learning Resource Center (pictured right on previous page) will be converted into the studio with a spring completion date. Dreith is excited about this project, as it will provide "endless possibilities" for content delivery and enhancements for recording lectures.

England will plan to organize and lead a focus group in the coming weeks for the implementation and delivery of the MLT program. The focus group will consist of several local medical professionals to provide input and expertise that could enhance program offerings.

Dreith will be actively working with faculty members to initiate training in Quality Matters, which provides a system to ensure a level of quality with online learning. These efforts will be ongoing throughout the semester.

STAFF & FACULTY WORKSHOP HELD JAN. 2

Staff and faculty members gathered in Bob Boyles Hall for an employee workshop and luncheon on Thursday, January 2. The event marked the return from Winter Break and prepared employees for the Spring 2020 semester.

After a welcome and various enrollment updates from FCC President Dr. Jay Edgren, Dr. Paul Bruinsma, Dean of Instruction discussed several new endeavors for 2020. Bruinsma updated employees on the Title III grant, as well as an ongoing accreditation process for the Paramedicine program. Jan Wiles, Assistant Dean of Student Services and Athletic Director, provided noteworthy information on behalf of the athletic teams.

Employees then heard a presentation from Kristi Howell, BSN, RN, who serves as the Director for South East Illinois Area Health Education Center. Howell discussed the new cannabis laws and regulations for the State of Illinois and how these changes will impact FCC's campus and classroom conduct.

FCC FOUNDATION HOSTING TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER ON FEBRUARY 1

The Frontier Community College Foundation is sponsoring a trivia night fundraiser to celebrate the famous sitcom *The Office*. The event will be held in the upstairs Fairfield Elks Lodge on Saturday, February 1.

The Office Trivia Night will feature ten rounds of trivia based on the show that aired on NBC from 2005-2013 for a total of nine seasons. Dinner will be available from 6-7PM prior to the start of trivia, and the menu will include peanut butter sandwiches and "Kevin's World-Famous Chili," which is a reference to *The Office*. The suggested donation is \$5 per person.

Trivia will begin at 7PM, and participants may compete in teams of up to eight members. The cost to play trivia is \$100 per team. Pre-registration is not necessary, but it will be helpful to the Foundation. Teams may pre-register using the Google Form available on the Facebook event page.

Cash prizes will be awarded to the teams that place first (\$200) and second (\$100). Participants are also invited to put together their best outfits for a dress-up contest. Dundies, which are awards from the TV show, will be awarded to those with the funniest and most creative costumes. Dress-up categories are Best Individual, Best Duo, and Best Group.

All funds raised from The Office Trivia Night will be donated to the Adult Volunteer Literacy Program as well as a student appreciation day to be held in the spring.



COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAM OFFERING NEW LINEUP FOR SEMESTER

Frontier's Community Education program has put together a full lineup for the Spring 2020 semester. Registration is currently open for all classes listed below. Interested individuals may call FCC at 618-842-3711 or visit the Student Services office to register for a class.

First on the lineup is an 8-week book club, which is a returning favorite. Led by LRC Director Merna Youngblood, participants will read and discuss four books across a variety of genres. On January 28, one-night workshop Home Staging Tips will be held at B-Way Design in Fairfield. Store owner Patti Bowles will review helpful information about color schemes and shades, furniture positioning, and interior design.

February is a busy month, as six classes will begin. Those seeking a healthier lifestyle may register for Gluten-Free Living, which will be held on February 4 and 12. Quilting is another returning favorite, with 8-week classes scheduled in both Fairfield and Flora. Painting With Pizzazz was held last fall and returns February 5 as a level two class. Individuals looking for an entertaining class can register for Bowling, which will meet weekly at Spare Time in Albion beginning February 13. Conversational Spanish has been added to the schedule, and it is set to begin February 25 with Katie White, who serves as a Spanish teacher at Fairfield Community High School. Students can learn helpful words and phrases of the language to use while traveling, dining out, or in their community.

In March, individuals have the opportunity to register for a 3-week Bread-Making class, which will cover the process of making a braided loaf, dinner rolls, and cinnamon rolls. Crocheting begins March 3, and a 1-night Self-Defense for Women class will also be held that evening. Ballroom dancing, a popular class at FCC, begins at the end of March. Couples will learn how to dance the two-step, jitterbug, waltz, rumba, and one-step.

Wrapping up the lineup are workshops to be held in April. An Angel Food Cake Workshop will be held on April 6 and April 14 (choose one), and a 2-day Hiking class will be held on April 24 and 25. The cost for each class is \$25.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND TESTING DATES FOR NURSING APPLICATION

Becoming a nurse is very rewarding with a variety of career opportunities, great benefits, and job security. For the year of 2020, the World Health Organization, along with the support of the American Nurse Association, has designated it the "Year of the Nurse." Those interested in pursuing the Associate Degree in Nursing Program, which is offered on FCC's campus through Olney Central College, are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Applications will be accepted through Monday, February 18.

All applicants must attend one information meeting held on FCC's campus, and seats may be reserved by calling the Nursing Department at 618-842-3711. Meetings will be held in Room 105 of the LRC, and applicants may choose to attend on February 7 from 10-11AM or on February 12 from 2-3PM.

Applicants must also take the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) exam prior to enrolling in the program, and FCC is offering a TEAS preparation course to help applicants successfully complete it. The 2-day course will be held on January 17 and January 31 with instructor Juliana Fleming, and students may register by calling FCC. To register for the TEAS exam, please visit www.atitesting.com. Applicants may sit for the TEAS exam on FCC's campus on Friday, January 24; Thursday, February 6; or Thursday, February 13. The test may be taken up to two times, and students must score at the proficient level or higher prior to the application deadline.



FCC HOSTING DISTRICT 109 CANDIDATE FORUM

Candidates running for the Illinois Legislative District 109 will appear in a forum on the campus of Frontier on Monday, January 27. The informative event is sponsored by FCC, Student Senate, and nine county farm bureaus across District 109. The farm bureaus have also planned for additional forums on the campuses of Olney Central College (January 28) and Wabash Valley College (February 6).

Participating in the forum will include Republican candidates Andy Hires and Adam Niemerg and Democratic candidate John Spencer. Republican Cory Musgrave was originally going to participate in the forum, but he concluded his run for the seat in December. The forum will begin at 7PM with an approximate conclusion of 9PM, and it will be held in FCC's Workforce Development Center. The public is invited to attend the forum for the opportunity to not only meet each candidate but also learn more about their positions and legislative priorities for the State of Illinois.

Candidates will not receive questions in advance of the forum. Prior to the event, FCC and farm bureau members will compile a series of questions that address several issues for the State of Illinois based on submissions from District 109 citizens. No live questions will be taken at the event.

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 regarding the event, contact Doug Anderson, Wayne County Farm Bureau Manager, at danderson@waynecfb.com.



Adam Niemerg



Andy Hires



John Spencer

WEST HALL LOUNGE RECEIVES FACELIFT

The student lounge located in West Hall has recently received several improvements. Both students and employees were excited to see the changes after returning from Winter Break, as the lounge had not been renovated in over a decade.

In November, employees painted the lounge, changing the walls from slate blue to cream with a black accent brick wall. After the maintenance department removed old pieces of furniture, new items were placed in the lounge. The lounge now includes tables and chairs, futon couches, a rug, and bistro seating.

Students can now visit the lounge to study and enjoy lunch between classes. A microwave and mini refrigerator have been added for students and employees to access for lunch. A permanent food pantry is also now located in the lounge.

FCC plans to renovate the Mason Hall student lounge later in the semester.

