



# THE VOYAGER

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Frontier Community College

January 2018

## Spring 2018 Calendar

- Jan 1** College Closed  
New Year's Day
- 2** College Reopens
- 3** Faculty/Staff Workshop
- 8** Spring 2018 Classes Begin
- 8-9** Extended Student Services Hours  
7:30AM - 6PM
- 15** College Closed  
Martin Luther King Day
- 16** IECC Board Meeting
- February**
- 13** Baseball @ Williams Baptist Coll.  
@ 12:00PM (DH)
- 16-17** Baseball @ Lawson State CC  
@ 12:00PM (DH)
- 18-19** Baseball @ Beville State CC  
@ 1:00PM (DH)
- 19** College Closed  
President's Day
- 24** Softball @ Volunteer State CC  
@ 12:00PM (DH)
- 24-25** Baseball @ Columbia State CC  
@ 2:00PM (DH)
- 27** Baseball vs. Williams Baptist Coll.  
Opening Day @ 12:00PM (DH)

## Neuman Will Serve as IECC Student Trustee



FCC students have elected Haylee Neuman to serve as the next IECC Student Trustee for the 2018-2019 term. Neuman will be seated on the IECC Board of Trustees in April 2018 and will serve a one-year term.

Haylee Neuman is a first-year student at FCC and is working towards an Associate in Science & Arts Degree and a Construction Technology certificate. Upon her graduation from FCC, Neuman would like to transfer to the University

of Illinois to pursue a Bachelor's in Civil Engineering. She hopes to someday return to the area working in the engineering field.

While in high school, Neuman took the dual credit Construction Technology class offered by FCC, which sparked her interest in engineering. The tiny house was built while she was in the dual credit class, and she has since been part of numerous projects. Most recently, the program has built a new classroom for the Emergency Preparedness department, and they completed a maintenance building located directly outside the Bobcat Den.

"I am really enjoying my time at Frontier and am excited for this upcoming opportunity to serve on the IECC Board of Trustees," said Neuman. She believes FCC has many great qualities and appreciates the one-on-one support that the faculty & staff provide.

Haylee is a 2017 graduate of Fairfield Community High School, and she is the daughter of Shane and Heather Neuman of Fairfield.



# FCC Alum Achieving Much Across the Street

At The Fairfield Banking Company, no day is the same for Jamie Jones.

“Because of the small scope of our business, my duties include helping with whatever needs to be done,” says Jones. Serving as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer (COO), Jones works closely with the tellers and oversees all retail and bank operations. To ensure the bank is keeping up with the latest technology and innovation, she is constantly researching new products and banking methods. Additionally, she manages the bank’s social media accounts.

A Fairfield native, Jones loves her job and the banking career she has built for herself. But 19 years ago when she was a student at Frontier Community College, Jones would have never believed she would be co-managing a bank just across the street.

After graduating from Fairfield Community High School, Jones made the decision to attend FCC and earn her Associate in Science & Arts. While at FCC, Jones was very involved on campus by joining Phi Theta Kappa and Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE). She was also a member of the Success Network, in which she tutored fellow students.

During her second year at FCC, Jones served as the IECC Student Trustee, a position that rotates annually between the four colleges in the district. In this position, the student attends monthly IECC board meetings and votes on various agenda items. When she graduated in the spring of 1999, Jones received the President’s Award.

“I started taking classes at FCC while I was still in high school, so it was a great economical choice to begin my college career,” stated Jones. “For those looking to transfer or balance classes with a part-time job, it’s so nice to remain local and work towards your education.”

Jones transferred to the University of Southern Indiana (USI) after graduating from FCC, where she earned a Bachelor’s in Elementary Education with a minor in Spanish in 2002. While she was completing her undergraduate degrees, however, Jones gained valuable experience by holding part-time jobs at Kohl’s, the Briarwood Inn, and Peoples National Bank.

“Teaching was my vision while I was in college,” stated Jones, “but once I began working for Peoples, I was learning anything and everything.” She began to find this line of work exciting and challenging, and eventually accepted a full-time position as a teller in Fairfield. Later, she was promoted as a processor in the loan department.

Jones’s education degree was especially helpful when she accepted a new role as Training Coordinator at Peoples’ corporate center in Mount Vernon, Illinois. Working with all Peoples branches across the region, Jones trained new employees during the onboarding process and also trained existing employees to learn new banking methods and utilize new equipment.

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In 2011, Jones accepted a position with The Fairfield Banking Company (a branch of The Clay City Banking Company). The move was a positive direction for her: she was able to work locally, spend more time with her twin daughters, and contributed to the foundation of a small business.

After the bank's CEO tragically passed away, Jamie stepped up to become the COO and continue the vision for the bank. Today the bank continues to grow, and part of the success can be credited to Jones's educational background. Employees have been trained to be multifunctional and perform tasks across a variety of departments. Jones has successfully implemented new technology and products into the business (such as mobile banking). These achievements include additional training for her coworkers.

Today, Jones resides in Fairfield with her husband, Jarrod, and her 7-year-old twin daughters, Jenna and Josie. She likes giving back to her community, holding active memberships in the Fairfield Kiwanis Club, First United Methodist Church, and North Side School's PTO. Years after completing her degree from FCC, Jones is now an adjunct instructor, teaching a Human Resource Management course as part of the Entrepreneurship Program. In the next year, she will complete her Master's in Business Administration from USI.

Jones is very grateful for her time at FCC and the path it created for her in the banking industry. She appreciated the one-on-one help she received from Student Services, and she believes instructors and advisors truly do put the individual student first. "Everyone at FCC was very helpful and friendly, and I think it's a great first step in getting your education." Her involvement in various student clubs gave her the confidence to take on leadership roles, and these experiences paved the way for her future in management.



## Spring Workshop Prepares FCC for Semester

The faculty and staff workshop was held on Wednesday, January 3, in Bob Boyles Hall. Employees reviewed the previous semester as well as the vision and goals for 2018. Jan Wiles, serving as Athletic Director, discussed the upcoming baseball and softball seasons, student athlete recruits, and the current construction of an additional student athlete housing unit. Dr. Jay Edgren reported on the college's new hires, upcoming events and projects, and long-term goals. Dr. Paul Bruinsma, Dean of Instructional Services, presented employees with program changes, grants, course additions, and enrollment reports.

Employees were thrilled to hear FCC's overall beginning enrollments for Spring 2018 were up 8% (6% for reimbursable hours), compared to Day 1 of the Spring 2017 semester.

"Our increasing enrollment over the last two years happened as a direct result of FCC implementing the SECP (Student Enrollment & Completion Plan)," said Dr. Edgren. "All of our full-time and part-time employees have done a wonderful job of contributing to this plan and working to grow the college."

Following a catered lunch, Carrie Halbert, Retention Coordinator, presented progress reports. Local policemen then led an active shooter training and drill, and the day concluded with an assessment workshop.

# Mini Job Fair Held on Campus

Four businesses were on campus for a job fair held on Thursday, December 14. Businesses seeking new hires included: Aerotek (Princeton, IN); Champion Laboratories (Albion); Magnum Steel Works (Mt. Vernon); and Williamson Home (Mt. Vernon). Both FCC students and the public were welcome to visit the job fair and learn about available positions in a wide variety of departments.

FCC will hold a large job fair later this semester, in which more than 30 businesses will be invited to set up a booth in the Workforce Development Center.



## FCC Receives Special Populations Grant

Growing up, children are frequently told, "You can be anything you want to be!" Children are encouraged to dream big and let nothing hold them back. By middle-school, however, these pre-teens have been told they must choose a career that is suited to their gender, intelligence level, or even stereotype. These barriers to following their interests impact the educational path that kids eventually choose by high school.

Last fall, FCC applied for and received a \$10,000 Special Populations Support Grant to educate students on nontraditional programs and increase their awareness of career opportunities. With this grant, FCC hopes to break down or even prevent the formation of the barriers for students choosing nontraditional fields of study. The grant committee consists of: Dr. Paul Bruinsma, Dean of Instructional Services; Kara Blanton, Academic Advisor; Carrie Halbert, Retention Coordinator; and Julie Bryant, Coordinator of Public Information & Marketing.

To explain the nontraditional fields of study that FCC provides, the grant committee contacted various individuals in the workforce who may or may not have attended FCC for their education. These individuals were either filmed or agreed to speak in-person to tell their story and path to building a career in a nontraditional field. On Friday, January 12, the committee will attend two local grade schools to present these stories to both students and teachers.

FCC programs included in the grant are: Automotive Technology, Construction Technology, Electrical Distribution Systems (EDS), Information Systems Technology (IST), Health Informatics (HIT), Nursing, and Phlebotomy. FCC nursing alum Logan Hill (2017) currently works at St. Vincent in Evansville, Indiana, and shared his experiences in floor nursing and the demand for male nurses in the healthcare industry. A female automotive technician from Carbondale traveled to Fairfield to share why she chose her career path and her continued ambitions as she works to complete a Master's degree.

In their search for a female to represent the EDS field, the grant committee learned that there are currently no female linemen in the state of Illinois. Power provider Ameren told FCC that, should any female complete the EDS program, she would be hired on the spot.

The research conducted for the Special Populations Grant proved that children should be encouraged to pursue a career that is suited to their interests and skills - not social stigma or their gender. In fact, those willing to speak on behalf of their field of study emphasized the advantages that come with choosing nontraditional fields of study, including income level, promotional opportunities, and unique situational perspectives.