

Olney Central College KNIGHTLINE



OCTOBER 2022

CALENDAR

OCTOBER

13 - Midterm

14 - Blue Preview Day

18 - Spring Registration Begins

28 - Priority Application
Deadline

NOVEMBER

6-12 - National Radiologic
Technology Week

11 - College Closed - Veterans'
Day

23 - Last Day to Withdraw
from 16-week Fall Semester
Classes

24-25 - Thanksgiving Break,
College Closed

COLLEGE VISITS

Oct. 24 - Eastern Illinois University representative Sierra Hollenbeck will be here from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Oct. 24 - Southern Illinois University at Carbondale representative Jason Nugent will be here from 9 a.m. to noon.

Oct. 25 - A representative from Murray State University will be here from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Oct. 26 - University of Southern Indiana representative Simone Payne will be here from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tables will be located outside Student Services.



Anderson Library opens Zen Den

The Anderson Library partnered with OCC's Peer Coach Program and the Active Minds Club to create a meditation room within the library.

Designed for students, faculty and staff, the Zen Den provides a dedicated space for meditation, prayer, contemplation, calming sensory overload and reflection. Located in the Academic Success Center, Room 255B, the Zen Den offers visitors a soothing and relaxing environment where they can reduce anxiety while recharging the mind and body.

Furnishings include an oversized armchair, woven floor mat and decorative wall hangings along with twinkling fairy lights, a bubbling fountain and sound machine. The items were purchased with Title III grant funds.

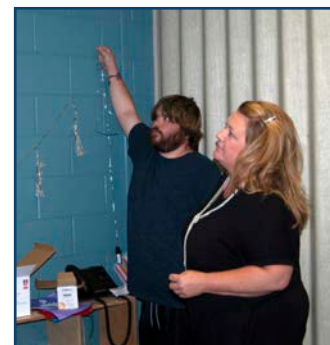
District Librarian Andy Cougill said the idea for the Zen Den came from a discussion on mental health issues during the fall faculty and staff workshop. The conversation included Director of Instructional Support Services Chad Groves, TRIO Student Support Services Director Wain Davis and Library Assistant Kaitlyn Weger, who is also involved in the Active Minds Club.

Title III Advising Specialist and Active Minds Advisor Cheryl Michl also worked on the project.

"The last couple of years we have really been focusing on mental health especially with our COVID-era students," Groves said. "We hope people will come in and use this space. We want everyone to feel safe in there and to benefit from it."

The Zen Den is available during regular library hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Visitors can check in at the front desk to use the facility. No appointment is needed, but the space is limited to one user per 30-minute session.

"The space has been used by students and they seem to really like it," Weger added.





OCC vocal students attended a production of Mozart's *Don Giovanni* at Indiana University. Following the performance, students met the conductor Louis Lohraseb, who is an assistant conductor with the Los Angeles Opera.

Students attend IU production of *Don Giovanni*

OCC Director of Choral Activities Dr. Andrew Pittman and his students traveled to Indiana University on Sept. 16 to attend a performance of Mozart's *Don Giovanni*.

Regarded as one of the greatest operas of all time, *Don Giovanni* is traditionally set in 17th Century Sevilla, Spain. However, Pittman said the Jacobs School of Music presented a modern adaptation taking place in 1930s New York City with Giovanni as a twisted nightclub owner.

Following the performance, students had an opportunity to meet the conductor Louis Lohraseb, a friend of Pittman. Lohraseb played organ for OCC's Community Christmas concerts in 2016 and 2017. He is currently the assistant conductor for the Los Angeles Opera.

"He got out of the reception line to speak with us," Pittman said of Lohraseb. "He spent three minutes talking with us, shook our hands and posed for a photo with the group."

During the visit, the students took a private tour of the theater, visiting backstage, the second-floor woodworking shop, third-floor balcony and the catwalk. Prior to the opera, students walked through campus and downtown Bloomington, Ind., where they enjoyed dinner at the Trojan Horse, a Greek-American restaurant, and ate dessert at Baked!

"This is one of the most successful trips we've taken," Pittman said. "It was the best show we have seen. The students loved the opera. They enjoyed the story, costuming and staging. They enjoyed dinner and getting to meet Louis, the assistant conductor for a major opera company, was especially thrilling."

Students who participated were Andrew Tarr, Brody Sharp, Lily Bierman, Maggie Payne, Owen Traub, Owen Hough, Steven Mason, Madi Fulk, Mason Parrott and Summer Sanders. They were accompanied by Pittman and Jessica McDonald.



OCC Director of Choral Activities Dr. Andrew Pittman and the conductor for *Don Giovanni* Louis Lohraseb.

Still time to enroll in mid-semester classes

Olney Central College is offering several fall mid-semester classes starting Oct. 14.

Mid-semester courses are ideal for students who may have dropped a class earlier in the semester or for those who want to complete a course in just 8 weeks.

Face-to-face classes include:

ART 1141 Cinema Appreciation, 1 to 3:50 p.m. on Friday

BUS 1101 Introduction to Business, noon to 12:50 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday

CHM 1115 Chemistry & Society, 9 to 10:50 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday

LSC 1103 General Botany, 10 to 11:50 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday

MTH 1102 College Algebra, 10 to 11:50 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday

MTH 1201 Technical Math, 8 to 8:50 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Online courses available include:

ACC 1203 QuickBooks II

ENG 1101 Introduction to Composition



INM 2210 Occupational Safety (OSHA)

LSC 1105 Environmental Biology

LSC 1107 Introduction to Human Genetics

REM 0422 Math Literacy

PLS 2101 Government of the U.S.

SOC 2102 Social Problems and Trends

For more information or to register, contact your advisor or Student Services at 618-395-7777.



Larry Harbaugh retires

Larry Harbaugh was honored during a retirement reception on Sept. 30. He served as a custodian at OCC for 23 years.

Save money with Meal Plan

Save money on your purchases in the Knight Kafe with Dining Dollars Meal Plans.

The plans offer a 10 percent discount on all OCC food purchases.

During the 16-week semester, the \$855 Platinum Plan provides an average of \$60 in Dining Dollars per week and is a \$950 value. The \$720 Gold Package, an \$800 value, provides an average of \$50 in Dining Dollars per week. The \$504 Silver Package is a \$560 value and provides an average of \$35 in Dining Dollars per week.

The \$288 Bronze Package is a \$320 value and provides an average of \$20 in Dining Dollars per week.

Dining Dollars Meal Plans are Pell eligible and can be purchased in the OCC Business office.

For more information, visit www.iecc.edu/mealplans.

File your FAFSA as soon as possible

OCC Financial Aid Coordinator Taryn Bunting is encouraging students to complete their 2023-2024 FAFSA as soon as possible.

Students can fill out their Free Application for Federal Student Aid at www.fafsa.gov.

Remember, you must complete the FAFSA every year you are attending college.

The FAFSA form is free, so if a website or mobile app asks you to pay to fill it out, you're not interacting with the official FAFSA site or the official myStudentAid app.

For more information, stop by the Financial Aid Office.



Library now offers wireless printing

Wireless printing is now available through the OCC Anderson Library.

Students can print directly from their personal electronic devices from anywhere and pick up their items at the front desk.

“It is very convenient for the students and we’re really happy to be able to offer this service to them,” said Director of Instructional Support Services Chad Groves. “We are trying to raise awareness to let students know this is available to them.”

Students can access the wireless printing service at www.printeron.com/iecc/olney.

Spring registration appointments available

Spring semester registration opens on Oct. 18. Current students can schedule an advising appointment.

Advising information can be found at www.iecc.edu/advisement or by contacting Student Services at 618-395-7777.

New students can apply for free at www.iecc.edu/apply. The Spring 2023 schedule is available at www.iecc.edu/schedules. Adult and community education courses are also available.

Spring classes start Monday, Jan. 9.

PTK collecting items for Humane Society

Phi Theta Kappa is collecting items for the Humane Society of Olney.

Donations are being accepted through Oct. 31 and can be dropped off in the library from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Items needed include Tidy Cat Scoopable cat litter, dry cat food, canned pate cat food, dry dog food, paper towels and bleach. Monetary donations are also welcome.

For more information, contact Advisor Kaitlyn Weger at 618-395-7777, ext. 2262.

Changing weather as autumn sets in is a reminder that the fall semester is in full swing with classes having met now for several weeks. Staff and students have settled into familiar routines. Student support services at OCC have done an excellent job of making sure students are receiving necessary support in a full range of services including financial aid, advising and many other forms of support.

The addition of a food pantry and student lounge area, along with a meditation room in the Anderson Library, known as the Zen Den, are providing OCC students places to gather and relax. Many students have chosen to become involved in various clubs and organizations. Involvement and immersion in campus life is an important part of the college experience. Our faculty and staff are committed to making these types of experiences available for our students.

As I get to know the faculty and staff better, it is obvious that one of the greatest strengths at OCC is the caring faculty. Instructors work closely with our Dean of Instruction Dr. Michael Conn, as well as our Director of Student Services, advisors and retention specialists. Significantly, the instructors also communicate and work well with each other to identify students who might be struggling. The Academic Success Center in the Anderson Library provides even more resources including free access to computers which includes fax and scanning capabilities, materials from all four IECC campus libraries as well as other colleges and universities from throughout the state of Illinois, online academic journals, disability services, plus tutoring services.

Speaking of support, the Olney Central College Foundation provides terrific support for a wide variety of programs. After a couple of years when meetings were not possible or held mostly virtually, the OCC Foundation has begun to meet in person this fall and has a full slate of project work underway. Once again, the Foundation will provide instructional support in the form of mini grants. Last year, almost \$50,000 was awarded to support instructional programs and other activities designed to promote and enhance instruction and our campus. Mini grant applications were sent to faculty recently and the Foundation will once again provide direct support for instruction and programs. This, of course, is in addition to the tens of thousands of dollars provided in the form of scholarships to our students. Some of the funding for this generous support comes from the annual "Campaign for Excellence," which will begin in a few weeks. If you are interested in supporting the Foundation, contact Beth Miller at millerb@iecc.edu.

There are several exciting projects underway and planned for the OCC campus this fall. A new sidewalk will be installed soon, which will create a much better footpath for students who walk between the campus and student housing. Everyone, most of all our student-athletes and coaches, are elated that this project was approved by the Board of Trustees. Thank you to the Board and everyone involved in making this a reality, including IECC District Construction Project Manager Nick Knapp. Maintenance work on the elevator at the north end of Wattleworth Hall has been completed, and the gym floor has been sanded, painted, and refinished. Thanks to Athletic Director Dennis Conley and our coaches for the design input and to O & M Team Leader Clay Atkins for overseeing work on this project. In addition, several other campus beautification plans are in the works. More on those projects in future reports.

The Marketing and Recruitment Team is an important cog in the efforts to increase enrollment at OCC and IECC. That team met recently and continues to plan activities designed to get the word out to a wider audience regarding the award-winning education available here at OCC. Deanna Ratts, Jodi Schneider, Curtis Miller, Vicki Thompson, Amy Tarr and Dr. Conn make up the OCC team.

I continue to hold individual staff meetings with faculty and staff with the goal of meeting with everyone here for at least an hour. So far, I have met with over 50 individuals who are working in various capacities to help to make OCC an outstanding community college. To say the least, I am impressed by the dedication, experience, and talents of these folks!



Roger Eddy