

K NIGHTLINE

Olney Central College



September 2023

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

18 - Constitution Day Observation, Classes in Session

25 - Lunch & Learn Presentation, Creating A New Money Mindset with Dr. Linda Simpson, OCC Banquet Room, noon-1 p.m.

26-27 - OCC Theater Auditions for You Can't Take It With You, 7 p.m.

29 - Blue Preview, High School Seniors, 9 a.m.

OCTOBER

4 - Last Day to Enroll Fall 2023 Tuition Payment (2) Plan

7- Health Fest, OCC Gym, 7:30-11:30 a.m.

9 - College Closed, Columbus Day

10 - IECC Faculty/Staff Professional Development Day, No Day or Evening Classes

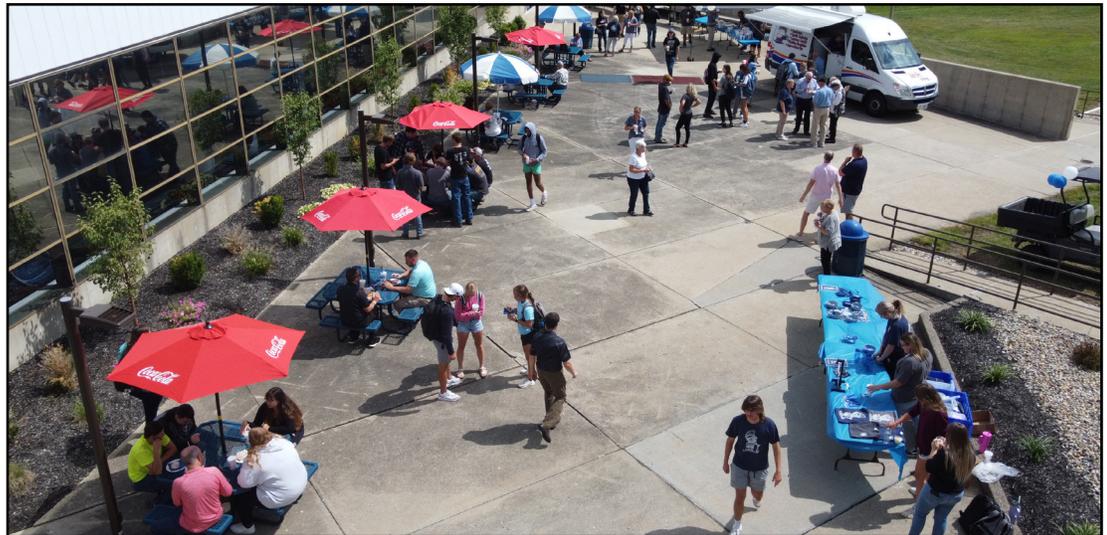
12 - Midterm

College Visits

Sept. 25 - Eastern Illinois University Representative Bri Bartosz will be here from 10 a.m.- 1 p.m.

Sept. 26 - University of Southern Indiana Representative Simone Payne will be here from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Tables will be located outside Student Services.



OCC Celebrates 60th Anniversary



Retired Illinois Eastern Community Colleges CEO Terry Bruce was the keynote speaker for the event.

OCC marked its 60th Anniversary with a celebration on Sept. 6.

In his keynote address, retired Illinois Eastern Community Colleges CEO Terry Bruce noted, “the real history of OCC is not the dates, but the people.”

Community leaders like Dr. Kent Wattleworth, Superintendent of Schools Les Purdy and many other individuals worked tirelessly to establish a community college in Olney and to ensure its continued success.

Other speakers included Olney Mayor Mark Lambird and OCC President Chris Simpson. The event wrapped up with tours and refreshments served on the patio.

LPN students achieve 100 percent pass rate

Olney Central College’s Summer 2023 LPN graduates achieved a perfect 100 percent pass rate on the NCLEX examination.

“The pass rate for 2023 LPNs at Olney Central College is reflective of the hard work and dedication of our nursing faculty and students,” said IECC Dean of Health Professions Alani Frederick. “With an emphasis on clinical judgment and the appli-

cation of nursing knowledge, the faculty at Olney Central are preparing students to work in a modern and complex healthcare environment.”

Frederick said the students’ success follows an emphasis on application of the nursing curriculum through active learning in the classroom along with hands-on learning with campus lab and agency clinicals.

OCC 60th Anniversary Celebration



Members of OCC's first class were among those who attended the 60th Anniversary Celebration on Sept. 6. Pictured, from left, are Sam Resor, Don Britton, Marge Fye and Jack Fye.





OCC Blue Preview set for Sept. 29

Olney Central College invites high school seniors to learn more about OCC's academic programs and college life during the annual Blue Preview on Sept. 29.

"This is a great opportunity for high school seniors to talk with faculty and current students one on one about their experience at OCC and everything our college has to offer," said College Admission Representative Curtis Miller.

Students can register for the event at www.iecc.edu/occ/BP.

Prizes will be awarded at the end of the event, including two \$500 OCC scholarships.

For more information, contact Miller at 618-395-7777, ext. 2008, or email miller3@iecc.edu.

8-week mid-semester math course begins Oct. 17

Did you drop a math class this semester or change your major and need to complete a math course?

Olney Central College is offering MTH 1102 College Algebra as an 8-week mid-semester course.

In this hybrid course, most of the homework and exams are online, while instruction takes place face-to-face. Students should consult their advisors as they may need to take a placement exam.

The 4-credit hour class will meet from 10 to 11:50 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning Oct. 17 with Instructor Lisa Benson.

For more information or to register, call 395-7777.



OCC Foundation assists with 60th Anniversary Celebration

The Olney Central College Foundation contributed greatly to the success of OCC's 60th Anniversary Celebration. The Foundation purchased the \$6,580 frames for both the 60th Anniversary and Welcome Banners by the Banquet Room entrance. Additionally, the Foundation donated \$2,000 to cover the costs for the 60th Celebration.

Creating a New Money Mindset

Lunch and Learn with Dr. Linda Simpson Sept. 25

Learn life-changing money management strategies with financial expert Dr. Linda Simpson during a lunch and learn event on Sept. 25 at Olney Central College.

Simpson's presentation *Creating a New Money Mindset* promotes financial goal setting, mindful and emotional spending and teaches individuals how to assess their own current financial situation. The goal is to assist individuals in understanding the reasons behind their money management behaviors and to help them build a solid, sustainable financial plan.

The event is open to faculty, staff and students and will be held from noon to 1 p.m. in the OCC Banquet Room.

With 30 years of experience in teaching financial literacy in higher education, Simpson has helped people of all ages and life stages to set goals and create simple financial plans that are sustainable to their lifestyle and spending behaviors.

During the discussion, Simpson will explore how money impacts every facet of life from the mental and spiritual to physical and social. She will also explain the three secrets that are required to know and understand about money management.

Participants also will learn how to curb non-essential spending and to build muscle memory to make the new spending behaviors a habit.

In these challenging times, individuals and families are facing uncertainty in their current financial situations, not to mention their financial future. Simpson is committed to helping as many people as possible to overcome these challenges.

The lunch and learn coincides with Simpson's book launch, which will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the OCC Banquet Room.

Simpson's book *Mindful and Intentional Money Management: An Unbeatable System to Calm the Chaos*, is not a cookie cutter, one-size-fits-all approach that tells people how and where to spend their money. It dives deeper to get to the foundation of why people spend as they do, taking them to the root of their money management behaviors. Simpson provides practical tools for anyone looking to improve their financial situation to execute a personal process for financial success – a life-changing journey where they'll build a financial plan they can stick with and use in the real world.

The book will be available for purchase at the discounted price of \$10.



OCC Theater announces scholarship recipients

Congratulations to the two newest Olney Central College Theater scholarship recipients, Haylie Roark and Amelia Ginder.

Both of these students started in the OCC/OAC Summer Children's Theater Program and have also performed in a variety of OCC productions.

Roark and Ginder each received a full-tuition waiver and a \$500 cash scholarship.

There are now a total of nine OCC Theater scholarship students.

OCC Theater producer Jon Wright created the scholarship opportunity to help students be able to afford college as well as learn more about theater.

For more information about OCC Theater, visit www.iecc.edu/occtheater or the OCC Theater Facebook page at www.facebook.com/OCCTheater.



Amelia Ginder, left, and Haylie Roark are the newest OCC Theater Scholarship recipients.

Anderson Library study rooms are now open



Three private study rooms are now available in the OCC Anderson Library.

Each room features a dry erase wall and provides a semi-private space for either quiet, individual study, or collaborative study or project work.

“Response has been overwhelmingly positive; particularly as a space for group study,” said Director of Instructional Support Services Chad Groves. “We generally have a steady stream of students utilizing the spaces throughout the day.”

At the present time, Groves said the rooms are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

“Overall, I think they enhance the ‘academic feel’ of the library, as well as provide an interesting and practical space for study and meetings,” Groves said. “I would encourage all students to stop in and utilize the spaces if they haven’t yet.”



First-year nursing students are among those using the new study rooms in the Anderson Library.

Your voice matters

We're listening and want to make a difference in how you are supported. We're asking selected first-year students to take the SENSE survey to weigh in on how your experience has been so far.



WATCH FOR SURVEYS BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 19



Questions or need assistance? See Kaitlyn Weger in the Anderson Library
7:30 AM – 11 AM, and noon to 4:30 PM



SNA Donation

Members of OCC's Student Nurses Association collected water and sports drinks for the Olney Fire Department. OCC Head Baseball Coach Phil Britton and the OCC baseball players helped deliver the items. Thanks to them for the help!

Apply now for Fall 2023 Scholarships

Several scholarship opportunities are available for students during the fall semester.

OCC Foundation Fall 2023 scholarship applications are available along with scholarships designated for Allied Health and Nursing students. Applications are available at www.iecc.edu/occ/scholarships. Hurry, the deadline to apply for most monetary awards is Sept. 29.

For more information, contact OCC Financial Aid at 395-7777.

Free math tutoring available for fall

Are you struggling with a math course or need help raising your grade?

Instructor Lisa Benson is offer-

ing free math tutoring on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

To schedule an appointment, email Benson at bensonl@iecc.edu.

timelycare 24/7 Virtual Health Care

TimelyCare offers **FREE** mental health services and self-care resources to students 24/7, anywhere in the U.S.

There's **no insurance** needed!

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First-Year Student Tip #1:
Download the
TimelyCare app!



Sports Schedule

Baseball

Sept. 15 — OCC vs. Lake Land at Westfield, Ind., 9 a.m.

Sept. 15 — OCC vs. Kaskaskia at Westfield, Ind., 2 p.m.

Sept. 19 — OCC vs. Frontier, 2 p.m. at home

Sept. 24 — OCC vs. Three Rivers at Rent One Ballpark, 11 a.m.

Sept. 25 — OCC at Brescia, TBA

Sept. 28 — OCC vs. Brescia, 2 p.m. at home

Sept. 29 — OCC at Lincoln Trail, 3 p.m.

Oct. 3 — OCC vs. Lincoln Trail, 2 p.m. at home

Oct. 6 — OCC vs. State Fair at USA Ballpark Millington, Tenn., 6 p.m.

Oct. 7 — OCC vs. TBA at Millington, Tenn., TBA

Softball

Sept. 19 — OCC at Eastern Illinois, 5 p.m.

Sept. 22 — OCC at Brescia, 1 p.m.

Sept. 24 — OCC at St. Mary-of-the-Woods, noon

Sept. 30 — OCC vs. Brescia, noon at home

Oct. 1 — OCC vs. Lincoln Land, noon at home

Oct. 1 — OCC vs. IUPU-Columbus at Wabash Valley, noon

Oct. 3 — OCC at Indiana State, 3 p.m.

Oct. 7 — OCC at Southern Illinois, noon

Oct. 8 — OCC vs. Kentucky Wesleyan, noon at home

Feb. 15 — OCC vs. Southwestern Illinois, 5 p.m. at home

Sarah Bergbower completes doctorate, becoming first DCLS graduate in Illinois

Olney Central College Life Science Professor Sarah Bergbower recently graduated with her Doctorate of Clinical Laboratory Sciences (DCLS) from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. While there are approximately 50 DCLS graduates in the United States, Bergbower is the first Illinoisan.

During the ceremony, she was named recipient of this year's Outstanding DCLS Student Award.

On July 13 with friends, family, and colleagues in attendance at OCC, Bergbower successfully and publicly defended her doctoral research titled, *Implementation of an Algorithm for Testing, Diagnosis, and Antibiotic Stewardship of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria in Pregnancy*.

"My initial observation prompting the project was that providers tended to bypass urine culturing when an obstetric patient had leukocyte esterase (a white blood cell enzyme sometimes indicative of infection) present in the urinalysis, instead opting directly for antibiotic treatment," Bergbower explained. "This is not proper antibiotic stewardship, as leukocyte esterase is a relatively common finding during pregnancy, arising from numerous possible sources, and this practice leads to overtreatment with possible harms of a vulnerable population. I developed an evidence-based algorithm to guide urinalysis interpretation, culturing, and antibiotic stewardship in asymptomatic patients presenting for routine obstetric visits."

Bergbower then implemented the algorithm with the providers of various clinic locations of the local health system and evaluated its use in a retrospective and prospective quasi-experimental study of over a thousand patient cases.

"I found that error and deviation from my algorithm were significantly associated, but the parameters of interest improved after implementation," Bergbower said. "Surprisingly, I discovered that the failure to order urine cultures given a positive urinalysis was much more prevalent than expected and that many cases of asymptomatic bacteriuria were therefore likely going undiagnosed."

A poster presentation on part of Bergbower's research tied for second place at a national meeting in June. Bergbower's doctorate committee, which includes an MD in Obstetrics, a PhD in Pathology, and a DCLS specializing in Microbiology and Immunology, have advised her to publish the research in an obstetric journal later this year. Bergbower says she may continue her research as well.

Over the years, Bergbower has received several scholarships, both from UTMB and external sources, including her national professional organization (ASCLS) and a local health system, which reduced the high out-of-state-tuition.

"My most recent School of Health Professions Dean's Scholarship covered my last year's tuition," she added.

The Doctorate of Clinical Laboratory Sciences (DCLS) is an advanced professional doctorate designed for practicing clinical laboratory scientists who wish to further their level of clinical expertise and to develop leadership and management skills. The purpose of the program is the development of clinical laboratory sciences graduates who function as practitioners, community leaders, educators, and scholars in the profession of clinical laboratory science and the discipline of clinical laboratory science. Graduates of the program generate, disseminate, and apply knowledge to enhance the understanding of laboratory assessment of health and disease. Only three universities offer the DCLS: Rutgers, Kansas University and UTMB.

Bergbower first matriculated into the program in the fall of 2018, taking courses on a part-time basis.

She noted, "I spent the summer months of the past five years in Galveston, Texas performing clinical rotations rounding with residents, fellows, and attending physicians on a variety of services, including internal medicine, cardiology, and infectious disease, as well as participating in diagnostic management teams (DMT's) specializing in the laboratory interpretation of coagulation, anemia, antinuclear antibodies, and clinical chemistry/toxicology testing."



Dr. Sarah Bergbower is pictured with her Committee Chair Dr. Rajkumar Rajendran, DCLS, during graduation ceremonies at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston.