POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE

DURING MAY, SEVERAL SWIC EMPLOYEES AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS RECEIVED COLLEGE DIPLOMAS FROM SWIC AND OTHER COLLEGES IN THE AREA.

Michael J. Mance, right, son of Board Chair Nick J. Mance, graduated from SWIC with an Associate in Science degree.

Emily Muertz, left, daughter of Dean of Health Sciences and Homeland Security Julie Muertz, graduated from SWIC with an Associate in Applied Science degree in Radiologic Technology.

Computer Support Tech Gienna Wiegard, left, graduated from SWIC with an Associate in Applied Science degree in Computer Information Systems - Tech Support/Help Desk. Public Safety Officer Chris Layden, right, graduated from SWIC with an Associate in Applied Science degree in Administration of Justice.
Foster Grandparent Program

Assistant Director Quintella Matthews graduated from Lindenwood University with her Master of Science degree in Human Resource Management.

Sandra Swanson, right, mother of Institutional Research Associate Chris Hubbard-Valentine, graduated from SWIC with an Associate in Applied Science degree in Culinary Arts and Food Management and an Associate in Arts degree.

ABE Office Technology Coordinator Staccy Lampkin graduated from Lindenwood University with a Master of Arts degree in Counseling with a 4.0 GPA.

Mailroom Assistant Linda Russell graduated from American InterContinental University with an Associate of Arts degree in Business Administration.

Email Office Technology Coordinator Staccy Lampkin graduated from Southern Illinois University Carbondale with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Systems Technology.

Ben, a sergeant with the U.S. Army Reserves, will deploy to Kuwait in June as a hazardous materials certifier for his second deployment. Ben was one of the soldiers welcomed home from Iraq at SWIC in December 2005.

ABE Even Start Director Ann Clayton, right, graduated from Bowling Green State University with a master’s degree in Music Education. Chris graduated from SWIC in 2004.

Krystle Kaiser, center, daughter of Health Sciences and Homeland Security Divisional Secretary Dawn Kaiser, left, graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign College of ACES with a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Sciences with a concentration in Companion, Recreational and Laboratorial Animal Sciences. Also pictured is Krystle’s father, Robert.

Nick Calcaterra, son of Payroll Manager Louis F. Calcaterra, graduated from the University of Missouri with a Bachelor of Science degree in Bio-Chemistry. Nick will attend Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in the fall, pursuing a Ph.D. in molecular bio-chemistry/pharmacology.

Stephanie Birk, daughter of Enrollment Services Clerk Mary Birk, earned a Medical Assistant certificate from SWIC. From left, are Stephanie’s father, Steve; Stephanie; Mary; and President Georgia Costello, Ph.D.

Christine McClure, sister of Mathematics Assistant Professor Michael McClure, graduated from SWIC with an Associate in Arts degree with a 4.0 GPA.

SAUERHAGE

CLAYTON

McCLURE

HUBBARD

KASSER

RUSSELL
FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

From the technicolor display of uniformed graduates at our Health Sciences Pinning Ceremony, to the emotional stories shared by our GED ceremony speakers, to the capstone commencement address delivered by U.S. Under Secretary of Education Martha J. Kanter, 2011 graduation week at Southwestern Illinois College was as good as it gets.

While I encourage everyone who hasn’t heard it to tune in to Dr. Kanter’s commencement address, I want to share some highlights from her thoughtful presentation, which began with a most appropriate standing-ovation salute to SWIC faculty. As Dr. Kanter emphasized, student achievement can only be realized through superior instruction, which is our win-win situation at SWIC.

Dr. Kanter also shared:

• Jobs requiring at least an associate degree are projected to grow twice as fast as jobs requiring no college experience … 60 percent of all jobs will require employees who have completed a two- or four-year degree … “we will not fill those jobs – or keep those jobs on our shores – without the training offered by community colleges.”

• Today, roughly 40 percent of 25- to 34-year-old Americans hold college degrees. While that percentage was good enough to lead the world a generation ago, the U.S. now ranks ninth in the world, and that is affecting our ability to compete in the global marketplace. “We must transform those percentages and move from 40 to 60 percent,” which means an estimated 8.2 million additional students will need to earn a degree by 2020.

• There is a shift going on in how education is delivered and in the way graduates will do their jobs. Case in point: “The U.S. Department of Labor predicts that today’s graduates will have 10 to 14 jobs by the age of 38, so the imperative is to be fluid in response to the changes taking place in your midst.”

• SWIC initiatives are in place to prepare students for the future, including a demonstrated commitment to sustainability as a founding member of the Illinois Green Economy Network. “At the same time, SWIC graduates have learned how to nurture and sustain the incredible advances we’ve made in science, the arts and technology,” graduate experiences “that will generate further advances for society.”

• “Education is a moral imperative” … which means “friends don’t let friends give up on their education.”

While Dr. Kanter was asking our graduates to inspire their friends and relatives to promote lifelong learning, her closing point took me back to her opening salute to SWIC faculty.

Because at the Pinning Ceremony, at the GED celebration and at Commencement … each of those events featured student speakers profusely thanking SWIC faculty members – individually and at large – for offering large doses of encouragement at every opportunity. In the teaching profession, that’s also as good as it gets.

Pay It Forward,

Georgia Costello, Ph.D.
President

JUNE CALENDAR

2 The Dog Days of Summer exhibit, opening reception, 6-8 p.m., BC Schmidt; exhibit runs through July 29
7 Concert in the Café, You Can’t Beat Experience Band, 7 p.m., BC MC Café
11 A Day of Play – Piano Recitals and Art Projects, 1-4 p.m., BC Schmidt
14 Concert in the Café, Waterloo German Band, 7 p.m., BC MC Café
21 Concert in the Café, Ed and Friends, 7 p.m., BC MC Café
28 Concert in the Café, Don James Band, 7 p.m., BC MC Café
30 Blood Drive, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., ESLCCC Visitor Parking Lot

KEYNOTE SUCCESS

U.S. Under Secretary of Education Martha J. Kanter, Ed.D., served as the keynote speaker at SWIC Commencement. Kanter, left, is pictured with SWIC President Georgia Costello, Ph.D.

TIME TO CELEBRATE – From left, Business Division faculty members Tim Brown, Dan Woloszynek, Sharon Banjavcic, Christie Highlander, Diane DiTucci and Charles Hannon celebrate another great year before the graduation ceremony.
**ALOHA! –** Vice President for Student Development

Staci Clayborne looks just the part for this year’s “Tropical Paradise” Dinner Auction held at the Belleville Campus. Clayborne, center, is pictured with women’s basketball players Kaitlynne Smith, left, and LaTeasha Hill, right.

**BIDDING WARS –** Hundreds of people filled the Varsity Gym for this year’s Dinner Auction. Some of the bidders enjoying the auction action, from left, are Instruction Executive Assistant Donna Watson, Vice President for Instruction Clay Baitman and Business Division Dean Janet Fontenot.

**PARTNERS IN EDUCATION** —

Southwestern Illinois College and Greenville College have joined forces to offer a bachelor’s degree in elementary education taught entirely at the SWIC Belleville Campus. From left, Greenville Dean of the School of Education and Director of Online Learning Vickie Cook, Ph.D.; Greenville Vice President for Enrollment Michael Ritter; Greenville Provost Randy Bergen, Ph.D.; Greenville President Larry Linamen, Ed.D.; SWIC President Georgia Costello, Ph.D.; Greenville Director of Marketing Nathan Brewer; SWIC Education Program Coordinator Caroline Adams, Ed.D.; and SWIC Dean of Liberal Arts Paul Wreford, Ph.D.

**DINNER AUCTION**

**FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**AT THE MAY MEETING, THE SWIC BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

Accepted a $300,000 state grant to support the Home Energy Auditor Training Program.

Approved the following full-time tenure track faculty positions: Assistant Professor of Computer Information Systems Lawrence Applebaum (BC); Assistant Professor of Mathematics Philip Huling, Ph.D. (RBC); Assistant Professor of Art Paula McAtee (BC); Assistant Professor of Speech Communication Kristen Ruppert-Leach (BC); Assistant Professor of Economics Joseph Sobieralski (SWGCC); Assistant Professor of Accounting Jessica Talleur (BC); Assistant Professor of Music Diana Umali (SWGCC); Assistant Professor of Mathematics Robert Wachtel (RBC); Assistant Professor of Reading Nancy Wagner (BC); Assistant Professor of Psychology Andrew Wheeler (RBC).

Approved the following appointments: Human Resources Training and Development Administrative Assistant Candy Buechler; Public Safety Officer Christopher T. Layden.

“Regular Board Meeting Minutes” and “Other Board Minutes” are posted on SWIC.edu. Click “About Us” and “Board of Trustees.”

**SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT**

Got something to talk about?

Email melanie.reinhardt@swic.edu with your individual or your department’s accomplishments.

At the Higher Education Legislative Coalition’s Legislative Education Caucus, Professor Emeritus of Biology Leo Welch presented “Transfer of Credits for Community Colleges” and “Role of Inspector General in Personnel Issues.”

**SWGCC GOLF SCRAMBLE**

**FORE!** – Women’s Head Basketball Coach Mike Juenger tees off at the SWGCC Golf Scramble.

**GIVE ME AN S-W-I-C!** – SWGCC Executive Director Chuck Whitehead, center, poses with two St. Louis Rams cheerleaders at the SWGCC Golf Scramble.
CORE VALUES — College and career readiness was the hot topic at the Common Core College Readiness Standards workshop for educators recently hosted by SWIC. In one of the breakout sessions, Illinois Board of Higher Education Director of Academic Affairs Debbie Meisner-Bertauski, left, SWIC Associate Professor of Mathematics Kirsten Webb, center, and SWIC Professor of Mathematics and Outcomes Assessment Coordinator Joyce Ray discuss the current state of college readiness.

This workshop was one of eight regional workshops sponsored by the Illinois Community College Board, Illinois Board of Higher Education and Illinois State Board of Education being held at community colleges throughout the state.

SAFETY FIRST — Public Safety Officer Dustin Simmons was commissioned as an officer by the Board of Trustees at its regular meeting May 18. Pictured, from left, are Board Chair Nick J. Mance, Simmons, President Georgia Costello, Ph.D., and Public Safety Director Mark Green.

STEJSKAL SHINES AS PTA OF THE YEAR — Senior Adjunct Instructor Lisa Stejskal has been named the 2011 Physical Therapist Assistant of the Year. Stejskal, who teaches in the SWIC Physical Therapist Assistant program, received the award from the Illinois Physical Therapy Association. The IPTA gives awards that recognize the efforts of clinicians, educators and leaders toward the advancement of the physical therapy profession. Stejskal, pictured below holding her award, enjoys a moment with her PTA students.

“I am extremely honored to receive this award from the organization that represents physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in our state,” said Stejskal. “As a 1983 graduate of the physical therapist assistant program here at SWIC, I strive to represent the program as I continue my journey of lifelong learning to the best of my ability.”

GREEN TEAM EFFORT
Local organizations around Randolph County collaborated to bring a prescription disposal program to county residents. The drop box will be located at the Chester Police Department and is free to all Randolph County residents who want to safely dispose of unused or expired prescription medication. Pictured at the drop box unveiling, from left, are Chester Chief of Police Ryan Coffey; Randolph County Health Department Director Tom Smith; Chester Water Plant Superintendent Mitch Eggemeyer; Memorial Hospital Director of Community Relations Gwendy Garner; Girl Scout Troop 234 member Courtney Gross; and SWIC Director of Sustainability Karen Stallman.

DOG DAYS – Computer Graphic Artist/Publishing Specialist Stehn Soderman, left, and Communications Specialist Katy Dahlmann cuddle up to some new friends from the St. Clair County Dr. Tom Amlung Adoption Center. The group brought adoptable pets to the Belleville Campus with the hopes of finding them good homes. Soderman was so smitten with his new pal that he adopted the pup, which he named Bjorn, and its littermate, a mixed breed he dubbed Pigglet (not pictured).

DO NOT PASS GO – PSOP Activities Coordinator Melissa Bischan, left, puts Alderman and PSOP Advisory Board member Dorothy Meyer into jail as part of the “Life’s a Game” Belleville Senior Celebration. Hundreds of seniors attended the annual event and enjoyed music, dancing, food, games and more.
The college recently submitted a quarterly report for the Illinois Green Economy Network that included SWIC sustainability efforts from January through April. WOW! It is amazing what each of us is doing to make our world and our institution just a little greener. Here are some highlights that might interest you:

A lighting audit was conducted at the Belleville Campus in the following areas: Modular Buildings, Intramural Gym, Boiler House, Greenhouse and all other outlying storage buildings. These facilities had not been audited in the past. More than 530 fixtures (1,135 bulbs) were converted from T-12 40-watt bulbs to T-8 28-watt bulbs. The estimated savings in energy cost is about $3,000 per year.

A committee was formed to establish a prescription drop box at the Chester Police Department. The drop box was "dedicated" in May, and now residents in the southern part of our district have a safe way to dispose of expired/extra prescription drugs.

The Career Activities and Employment Center hosted its first Green Job Fair in March. The event was held at the Belleville Campus with several employers and job seekers attending and was very well received.

I recently read where an institution had its employees bring their children to work one day in honor of Earth Day. The school had them all gather outside and told the employees, "This is why we have a sustainability effort … we want to make sure there is something left for them." What a great message. I applaud each of you for helping with our sustainability initiatives, and I look forward to seeing how much more we can do together. It is obvious from these highlights that I shared we are making a difference. Don't forget to visit the website (SWIC.edu/gogreen) for frequent updates.

AQIP – DEDICATED TO SUCCESS
BY STANLEY D. FREY

I have participated in the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) for many years, serving as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee and various sub-committees. Throughout this time, I have met many people dedicated to the success of the SWIC mission statement.

Personally, I have grown during my participation to understand how important AQIP is in relationship to student learning and the growth of the college. AQIP allows all of us the chance to have our voice heard, not only through the recent Strategic Improvement Survey, but also through the many action projects that result from college discussion days, like the next one scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 20.

Once again, AQIP gives us the opportunity to find our strengths and weaknesses within the college setting and to voice our concerns for improvement.

So please join us Sept. 20 as a college family in helping SWIC be the best place for our students, community and each other.

AQIP Q&A

What's the inside story behind the SWIC AQIP program?

Beginning this month, the AQIP Steering Committee invites questions about AQIP from all faculty and staff. Just email your question the AQIP Administrative Assistant Karen Sitzes, and she will forward it to a committee member. The most interesting Q&A will published in each month's Insider Chat.

So what's your question? Email it to karen.sitzes@swic.edu.
Spring Gateway Learning Community on Addiction

Year four of the Title III grant focuses on improving successful completion rates in gateway courses—courses that are prerequisites to more advanced courses in an academic program. One gateway project introduced this spring focused on the development of a highly engaging Learning Community at the East St. Louis Community College Center. In a Learning Community, students participate together in two classes that have a unifying theme and several integrated assignments.

The Learning Community theme was, “Addiction, Were You Raised to be an Addict? What is Your Poison?” created by Assistant Professor of English Treasure Williams, and Adjunct Psychology Instructor Maggie Boone. Students taking ENG 101, Rhetoric & Composition I, and PSYC 151, General Psychology, explored the theme of addiction and the multilayered impact on families, communities, children and the addicts themselves. Students developed a better understanding of the science underlying addiction and investigated common treatment and recovery methods. Each student received a copy of the book, *Tweak: Growing Up on Methamphetamines* by Nic Sheff. Students also viewed relevant videos including A&E’s *Intervention: Season 1: Then and Now*, National Geographic’s *The World’s Most Dangerous Drug* and HBO’s *Addiction*.

Williams and Boone also scheduled a series of guest speakers on the topic of addiction. A representative from Chestnut Health Systems spoke on rehabilitation and relapse. Clinical Supervisors from Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC) spoke about the organization’s Recovery Coach and Juvenile Justice programs. A detective from the Metropolitan Enforcement Group of Southwestern Illinois (MEGSI) spoke to students about commonly used drugs and their devastating impact on the body. Hearing from these speakers provided students with additional information for their 10-page research papers and oral presentations on addiction.

Structured Learning Assistance

An additional component of the Title III Learning Community was the integration of structured learning assistance or required labs/tutoring for participating students. Research conducted at other institutions found that if students spend more time outside of class interacting with course content, they are more likely to be successful. In order to give participating students more than one option in completing lab requirements, the instructors designed assignments that could be completed either in a physical lab with a tutor or online through Pearson’s MyPsychLab program. Tutors were selected based on their performance in ENG 101 and PSYC 151 and their ability to relate to fellow students. Throughout the semester, tutors James Gill, pictured tutoring a student, and Marya Ayers assisted students with meeting course requirements for both English and Psychology. Title III Learning...
Specialist Cynthia Jenkins, supervised the tutors and provided additional assistance to Learning Community instructors.

Student evaluations reflected their satisfaction with the learning communities. 100% of students indicated they would like to participate in another Learning Community and would recommend one to a family member or friend. One student commented, “I think that having the learning community helped me a lot with my classes. I’m not so sure I’d be passing without it. I would really like to see this program continue and hopefully I’ll have one next semester.” Another student noted, “The tutors are helpful, patient and motivating, which was particularly important to me since I have been out of school for a while. The theme of addiction is very interesting and my instructors invited open discussion. I hope learning communities will be around for a long time because they really help students who are struggling and lack confidence.”

Chemistry and Earth Science Faculty Meet Over the Summer

Chemistry 101 and Earth Science 101 are popular courses for students seeking an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree. Both courses fulfill the statewide physical science general education requirement for all associate degrees. In addition, student performance in CHEM 101 is used to determine which applicants are accepted into many of the Allied Health programs at SWIC. Faculty in the Physical Sciences Department believe it is important that all sections of these courses be consistent in the content delivered and expectations for student learning.

A new Title III project this summer will bring together full-time and adjunct faculty in these two disciplines and focus on three key objectives: (1) the development of more concise student learning objectives, (2) the development of common assessments to determine how well the defined student learning objectives are being mastered by students and (3) the facilitation of workshops for all full-time and adjunct faculty for shared understanding of the newly-defined student and faculty expectations for teaching these courses.

Leading the Chemistry team is faculty member **Mitch Robertson, Ph.D.**

Leading the Earth Sciences team is faculty member **Joy Branlund, Ph.D.**

Oversight for the project is provided by **Linda Dawkins, Ph.D.,** chair of the Physical Sciences program, with support from **Dean Amanda Starkey.**

*Pictured, clockwise from top: Earth Science students review rock samples; Joy Branlund, Ph.D., left, assists a student with an experiment; Mitch Robertson, Ph.D., right, helps a student gather data during a lab exercise.*
What's the deal with the crazy squares?

Have you seen the little squares that look like impossible mazes? They're actually two-dimensional barcodes and are all the rage. They are in magazines, on coupons, on real estate signs and now at SWIC. These 2-D codes are similar to one-dimensional barcodes on products, but with much more potential. They store and share information such as website links, map coordinates, calendar events, contact information, text and more. There are many types, but currently the most widely used are Data Matrix codes and QR Codes, short for Quick Response Codes. In the future, Microsoft Tag, Aztec, and perhaps BeeTagg codes, might become more prevalent.

Retrieving information stored in a code, requires a smartphone equipped with a barcode reader, which can be downloaded from the phone's app store. With the reader app activated, the phone's camera “scans” the image. When the scan works, the phone will open the program that can use the information—Web browser for URLs, calendar for events, etc.

Generating 2-D codes

2-D codes can be a convenient way to share information, such as a paragraph of text or phone numbers. However, there are a variety of readers available, and there is no guarantee that all readers will be able to process all codes.

Storing text in a code may be the trickiest of its applications. Although 2-D codes can store up to 4,296 alphanumeric characters, reader apps can't handle that much information. It seems phone apps can process a code of 430 characters in QR Codes, but much less for Data Matrix.

To create 2-D codes, you'll need a Data Matrix or QR Code generator. These generators are available on websites or as smartphone apps. The QR Codes on this page were created on a computer at http://zxing.appspot.com/generator/ and http://www.i-nigma.com/CreateBarcodes.html.

Data Matrix Code  QR Code Phone Number  QR Code Website
Precautions to consider when using 2-D codes and code readers

CODE RISK
You can’t see the information embedded in 2-D codes, so scanning one puts you at risk of visiting malicious sites, which could:

• Put a virus on your phone
• Add code that hijacks your phone
• Phish for your login information for a secure site by mimicking the secure site

PRECAUTIONS
• Scan only codes that are provided by a trustworthy source, such as SWIC.
• Avoid codes that appear to have been manipulated, such as an over-laying sticker on the page.
• Ensure the site is actually the one intended before entering any information.
• Use a reader that allows you to view and accept the URL embedded in the code before actually opening the site. When choosing a code reader, research the provider of the app to ensure it is a reliable source.
• Whenever there is an update for your app, update it.

CODE READER RISK
When installing any application on your phone, you allow access to information and controls on your phone, GPS location and Internet browsing.

PRECAUTION
Before accepting the permissions, read what you are allowing the app to access to determine if it will access details you don’t want to provide.

Free 2-D code readers/scanners

The following list of code-reader apps scan both Data Matrix and QR Codes and display the URL embedded in the code with the option to decline or accept before going online.

NOTE: This is not a list of recommendations as there is no guarantee they will work on all phones.

• AT&T Code Scanner—Available in your phone’s app store
• BeeTagg—Available from http://get.beatagg.com using your mobile phone
• i-nigma—Available from www.i-nigma.mobi using your mobile phone
• ZXing—Get it from your phone’s app store or go to http://code.google.com/p/ zxing/wiki/GetTheReader for information
• NeoReader—Available from http://get.neoreader.com/ on your mobile phone

Free 2-D code generators/creators

NOTE: This is not a list of recommendations.

• http://zxing.appspot.com/generator/
• http://goqr.me/
• http://www.i-nigma.com/CreateBarcodes.html