UNLEASH YOUR INNER ARTIST

Led by the Schmidt Art Center and the Visual Arts Club, SWIC employees and students helped complete a 12- by 53-foot mural at the Belleville Campus. The mural hangs in the MC First Floor Alcove.

Assistant Professor of Art Paula McAteer with Foundation Special Events Coordinator/Administrative Assistant Angela McVey, student worker Amelia Abalos, Accounting Specialist Lu Ann Peek, Office Assistant Roberta Calvin and Scholarship Assistant Sandy Billhartz

President Georgia Costello, Ph.D., and students Brandon Swanson and Hannah Bernardini, back

Schmidt Art Center Curator and Facility Coordinator Nicole Dutton and children from the Kids’ Club

ANNUAL REPORT — 2012

Every dollar invested in a community college yields a three-fold financial return … Check out how investment in SWIC is paying off in southwestern Illinois.

Learn more at swic.edu/annual-report, where you’ll find

• “SWIC-cess Story” achievements of faculty, staff and the institution
• Details about our newly expanded Liberal Arts Complex
• Our annual financial report
President
Georgia Costello, Ph.D.

Pay It Forward,

FROM THE DESK OF

It is my sincere pleasure to convey all the great work being done here for the public record at our monthly board meetings. Likewise, we share institutional highlights at our Illinois Council of Community College Presidents meetings. The following was prepared for our May meeting.

Salute to Women Vets
SWIC teamed with the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs to host the first Illinois Women Veterans Fair at the college’s Belleville Campus. Women veterans represent the fastest growing demographic in the state’s larger veteran community and face unique challenges as they transition to civilian life. Maj. Gen. Barbara Faulkenberry, vice commander, 18th Air Force, Scott Air Force Base served as keynote speaker. IDVA Director Erica Borggren addressed the crowd. The women veterans also participated in informational sessions and visited vendor/resource booths.

Governor’s Award for Excellence
Service to the veterans of Illinois earned SWIC the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs Governor’s Award for Excellence in Education. The award spotlights the work of Illinois colleges and universities whose veterans services go above and beyond basic services, and whose accomplishments in veteran-friendly programs significantly impact the overall experience of the student veteran community. SWIC has established a Veteran-to-Veteran Tutoring program; enrolled full-time AmeriCorps VISTA members to develop programs and services for student veterans concentrating on entrance and exit transition programs, student engagement and faculty development initiatives; developed a special offering at the annual New Student Orientation program that allows veterans to attend orientation together; and hosts a number of other events for veterans to help them find internships and employment and connect to VA services. The college also serves as a site for reintegration ceremonies, support events for families and friends of service members who've given their lives in the service of the nation, displays of Healing Field flags and Portraits of a Soldier, and a remembrance event featuring the reading of the names of 1,750 Illinois fallen soldiers from U.S. wars and military conflicts. SWIC serves the largest student veteran population of any public institution in the state.

Precisely Done
SWIC Precision Machining Technology students brought home several medals from the recent Skills USA 2013 Illinois State Competition in Springfield. Cody Coffin took first-place honors in Precision Machining Technology, with the top score in the history of this contest in the state of Illinois. Greg Kersulis won second place and Justin Deterding won third place in this category. In CNC Milling, Jacob Sams won first place and James Edmundson II won second place. In CNC Turning, Mike Campbell took top honors and Nick Huasmann won second place. In Welding, Mitchel McFarland won first place. In HVAR, Jarred Agney won first. In Automated Manufacturing, team members Tom Vojas, Charles Barger and Adam Peters took home second-place honors, while team members Jordan Norman, Mike Campbell and Patrick Meyer won third place. The first-place winners will compete at the national level in Kansas City in June.

No president at any postsecondary institution in the state is more proud of all YOU do for our students and the community than yours truly. When it comes to bragging rights, this kind of ongoing great news makes it easy.

Pay It Forward,

Georgia Costello, Ph.D.
President

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION
SWIC received the Governor’s Award for Excellence in Education at a ceremony at the Belleville Campus. SWIC serves the largest population of student veterans of any public institution in Illinois. Holding the award are Vice President for Student Development Staci Clayborne and Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs Director Erica Borggren, who joined members of the SWIC Veterans Services team.

MAY CALENDAR

2 Guitar Ensemble, 7 p.m., Schmidt Art Center
3 Senior Celebration, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., PSOP
4 Creative Kids: Fun With Shrinky Dinks, 12:30 p.m., Schmidt Art Center; RSVP requested, ext. 5278; admission, $5 per child
5 Spring Choral Concert, 3 p.m., St. Paul United Church of Christ, Belleville
6 Jazz Band Concert, 7 p.m., BC MC Theatre
7 Spring Choral Concert, 7 p.m., BC MC Theatre
9 Concert Band Performance, 7 p.m., BC MC Theatre
13 Jazz Improvisation Class Concert, 7 p.m., BC MC Theatre
14 Health Sciences Pinning, 7 p.m., St. Peter’s Cathedral
15 GED Graduation Ceremony, 7 p.m., BC MC Varsity Gym
16 Commencement, 7 p.m., BC MC Varsity Gym
17 SWGCC Golf Scramble, 9 a.m., Arlington Greens Golf Course; ext. 7313 to register
27 Memorial Day (college closed)
SWIC FACULTY OF THE YEAR

Network Design and Administration Professor Matt Swinford was chosen as the college Full-time Faculty Member of the Year for 2013. SWIC will also nominate him to receive the Illinois Community College Trustees Association 2013 Outstanding Full-time Faculty Member Award. “My primary objective as a teacher is to prepare students for the work force,” Swinford said. “This is achieved not only from the content of courses I teach but the approach used to convey that content.”

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Students from the Technical Education Division recently competed in the Illinois SkillsUSA Competition, where several of them placed and will go on to the national competition this summer. This includes: Welding first-place winner Mitchel McFarland, HVAR first-place winner Jarred Agney, PMT first-place winner Cody Coffin (who also won the highest overall score in the state competition’s history for his group); PMT second-place winner Greg Kersulis; PMT third-place winner Justin Deterding; CNC Milling first-place winner Jacob Sams; CNC Milling second-place winner James Edmundson II; CNC Turning first-place winner Mike Campbell; CNC Turning second-place winner Nick Huasmann; Automated Manufacturing second-place winners Tom Vojas, Charles Barger and Adam Peters; Automated Manufacturing third-place winners Jordan Norman, Mike Campbell and Patrick Meyer; and Collision Repair Technology winner Lucas Mund.

SWIC GRADUATIONS

Health Sciences Pinning
Tuesday, May 14 • 7 p.m.
St. Peter’s Cathedral, Belleville

GED Ceremony
Wednesday, May 15 • 7 p.m.
BC Varsity Gym

Commencement
Thursday, May 16 • 7 p.m.
BC Varsity Gym

Gen. William Fraser III, commander, U.S. Transportation Command, Scott Air Force Base, will serve as the keynote speaker at the college’s commencement ceremony, sharing his views on the importance of higher education with the Class of 2013. USTRANSCOM is the single manager for global air, land and sea transportation for the Department of Defense, and includes more than 150,000 Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine and civilian personnel. Gen. Fraser has commanded an operations group, two bomb wings and a major command. His staff duties include tours on the Air Staff, Joint Staff, NATO and Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb. He has also served as chief of staff for U.S. Strategic Command, the assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the 34th Vice Chief of Staff, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

The Foundation will be selling alumni T-shirts the night of graduation. Get one for yourself or your graduate! Proceeds benefit the SWIC alumni scholarship fund.

Are you a May graduate? Is your son or daughter graduating? If you or your child is graduating from SWIC or another college/university, email your name, the college/university, the degree you’re earning and a photo, if you have one, to Julie Ninnis by Tuesday, May 21. Names submitted will be included in the June edition of Insider Chat.

THREE CHEERS FOR VOLUNTEERS!
Belleville AmeriCorps Field Coordinators Abdul Ursani and Earnestine Gilbert and Director Amanda Guinn pose with Kashmir the Snow Leopard at the recent Volunteer Fair at the Belleville Campus. Thirty organizations attended and 700 people inquired about volunteer opportunities. Guinn said that the organizations reported recruiting 235 SWIC students, faculty, staff and community members to serve their groups.

IN THEIR SPARE TIME

East St. Louis Success Center Math Specialist Pam Lauf, left, and PALS student worker Jennifer Brown recently participated in a fundraiser at St. Clair Bowl to benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters.
OUTSTANDING OFFICER—At a ceremony held recently to honor the graduates of Southwestern Illinois College Police Academy Session 120, SWIC Public Safety Officer Gina M. Deno Thomas, left, accepts a plaque commemorating her service as president of Session 120 from Academy Deputy Director William Sax. Thomas also won the Most Outstanding Officer Award from the Illinois Police Chiefs Association, as well as the awards for Defense Tactics and Most Improved Physical Fitness.

In addition, Officer Michael Flake graduated from Police Academy Session 13A in April. Session 13A is a two-week class for officers who have already completed the part-time academy and have become full-time officers.

HIGHEST HONOR
Assistant Director of Public Safety Capt. Michael Stark received the Seven Seals Award from Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve in a surprise ceremony. Clyde Jones, the southern-eastern leader for the ESGR, presented Stark with the award, which is the group’s broadest and most inclusive honor. Sgt. Christie Rasmussen nominated Stark. Pictured, left to right, are Director of Public Safety Mark Green, Jones, Michael Rasmussen, Christie Rasmussen, Stark and Vice President for Administrative Services Bernie Ysursa.

AWARDS SEASON—SWIC has received eight awards in three national marketing communication competitions for work done in 2012, recognizing every graphic artist in the PI&M Design Group.

Design Group Associate Director Dawn Heimann-Neumann, silver in the Collegiate Advertising Awards for Jay Harrington Court and merit award in the Service Industry Advertising Awards for the naming rights brochure and book

Graphic Artist Dan Beckemeyer, SIAA merit award and Educational Advertising Awards merit award for Flat Kashmir

Graphic Artist Robert Hall, EAA merit award for Get Ready to Rock poster and SIAA merit award for Are Ghosts Real? staircase art

Graphic Artist/Publishing Specialist Stehn Soderman, SIAA silver for Are Ghosts Real? poster and SIAA merit award for the naming rights brochure and book (with Heimann-Neumann)

Graphic Artist Misty Weidemann, SIAA silver for Meschiya Lake and the Little Big Horn poster

THE GREATEST THREE HOURS IN TRIVIA
Best Derby Hat honors at the 2013 Derby Night @ SWIC trivia night and silent auction went to Ryan Ruehrup, left, husband of Medical Assistant Adjunct Instructor Amber Ruehrup, and Schmidt Art Center Curatorial Assistant Jessica Mannisi.

ILLINOIS WOMEN VETERANS FAIR—SWIC recently hosted an event offering resources and support for women veterans and featuring a keynote address from Maj. Gen. Barbara Faulkenberry, vice commander, 18th Air Force, Scott Air Force Base. Pictured, from left, are Career Center and Veterans Services Coordinator Bonnie Heuer, President Georgia Costello, Ph.D., Faulkenberry, Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans’ Affairs Erica Borggren, Vice President for Student Development Staci Clayborne and Director of College Activities/Veterans Services David Paeth.

A UNITED NATION—The Blue Storm baseball team supports a portion of a large U.S. flag displayed before the team’s doubleheader against John A. Logan. Athletics joined with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Col. Hecker Camp No. 443, the Sons of Confederate Veterans Lt. Dixon Camp No. 1962 and the 3rd Illinois Volunteer Cavalry Regiment for the Civil War Encampment, Living History Day to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War. A Lincoln impersonator threw out the first pitch.
FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AT THE APRIL MEETING, THE SWIC BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

- Accepted a $157,200 Veterans Reimbursement Grant sponsored by the Illinois Community College Board; a $91,060 federal grant benefitting PSOP/RSVP from the Corporation for National and Community Service; and a $62,500 St. Clair County Multipurpose Senior Center Program grant also benefitting PSOP.
- Approved the following appointments: Counseling Coordinator Michael R. Johnson; Manager of Student Accounts Jessica Rolla; TRIO Student Support Services Program Director Cyria Canessa.

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

JUST PLANE FUN—The judges at the recent College Activities Paper Airplane Competition were a fold above the rest. Pictured, left to right, are Assistant Professor of Art Paula Mcateer, Assistant Professor of Mathematics Robin Anderson, College Activities Board Member Elijah Korneffel, Coordinator of College Activities and Theatre Operations Jeff Blue and Associate Professor of Mathematics Keven Hansen. They awarded prizes for distance and style.

SUNDAE SURPRISE
Steve Morrese, coordinator of the Success Center at the Sam Wolf Granite City Campus, was the lucky staff member chosen to get “sundae’d” at the SWGCC Spring Fling. Covering him in ice cream and syrup are Kashmir the Snow Leopard, left, and members of the College Activities Board.

ALL DRESSED UP – Building Service Worker Mike Harter sports a tuxedo at this year’s Programs and Services for Older Persons’ Project Re-Runway Style Show. This unique event combined fashion, affordability and going green by highlighting outfits from area thrift stores.

HONORING ILLINOIS’ FALLEN
In April, the United States flag and the state flag were flown at half-staff in honor of:
- Trooper James Sauter, Illinois State Police
- Corporal Aaron Ripperda, United States Marine Corps, of Highland, Ill.
- First Lt. John Terpning, United States Army, of Mount Prospect, Ill.
- Anne Smedinghoff of River Forest, Ill.
- The victims of the tragedy in Boston, Mass.
- Firefighter Lance Stone of the West Union Volunteer Fire Department
- Kevin Sanders, Bruceville-Eddy Volunteer Fire Department

In accordance with the Illinois Flag Display Act, the flags are flown at half-staff from sunrise to sunset on the day of the funeral of every fallen Illinois service member and the two days preceding that day.

SWIC (IN THE) NEWS
Get inspired by this story about a brave young woman who just happens to be a SWIC student. A national magazine calls her life a “miracle.” swic.edu/courtneys-story.

GOLFERS, SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS NEEDED FOR THE ANNUAL SWGCC GOLF SCRAMBLE!

The event tees off Friday, May 17 at 9 a.m. at Arlington Greens Golf Course, 200 Arlington Drive, Granite City. The 18-hole, four-person scramble is $70 per person and includes: green fee and cart; skins; range balls; attendance gifts; lunch and awards.

TEAMS ARE NEEDED! Register now via email or phone call to Chuck Whitehead at ext. 7313 or complete and return the registration form.

SO YOU DON’T PLAY? Tell golfers … give a round of golf as a gift … become a booster or a hole sponsor … donate a gift certificate or other prize … come join us for lunch at the course.

Come out and have some fun while raising money for SWGCC scholarships!
By the time you read this article, I will have moved on to Southern Illinois University Carbondale, where I have accepted the position of director of Continuing Education and Outreach. WOW! What strides the Sustainability and Green Economy Center has made since it was first established in 2009!

Here are just a few accomplishments:

**SUSTAINABILITY COMMITMENTS AND AWARDS**

In 2011, President Georgia Costello, Ph.D., and Lt. Gov. Sheila Simon signed the Illinois Campus Sustainability Compact, which states that SWIC achieved the bronze level and accepts the challenge to strive for the silver level.

**SUSTAINABILITY LITERACY**

Information about sustainability is included in the college’s new employee and new student orientations, student planner, catalog and ED 101 classes.

**GREEN WORK FORCE TRAINING**

SWIC manages two Trade Adjustment Assistance grants totaling more than $2 million. Funds are being used to expand the Precision Machining Technology and Welding programs through new machinery, technology, curriculum and improved facilities. In addition, the programs are promoting skills development and employment opportunities in fields such as advanced manufacturing, transportation, health care, science, technology, engineering and math. It is a successful example of public-private partnerships between educators and local employers. SWIC also houses an Industrial Technology Center, a state-of-the-art education center that incorporates solar, wind, geothermal and advanced manufacturing technologies into curriculum and career training programs.

**CAMPUS SOLID WASTE AND ENERGY REDUCTION EFFORTS**

SWIC is making great progress in this effort. The college has:

- diverted more than 6.3 tons of steel from a major piping and boiler retrofit project to a recycling plant
- replaced more than 2,000 T-12, 40W bulbs and magnetic ballasts with energy efficient T-8, 28W bulbs having electronic ballasts, reducing energy use by more than 85,000 kWh
- replaced 17 HID, 400W metal halide fixtures with 17, T-8, 32W four-bulb fixtures, reducing annual energy usage by more than 16,400kWh
- engaged in a retro-commissioning program and established parameters for implementing energy efficiency for mechanical and lighting systems.

**LEED-CERTIFIED GOLD BUILDING**

Completed in December 2012, the Liberal Arts Complex addition has electric vehicle charging stations, a sustainability terrace, a living vegetative wall and a storm-water collection infrastructure.

Good luck, SWIC, as you continue to go green! I know great green things are yet to come!