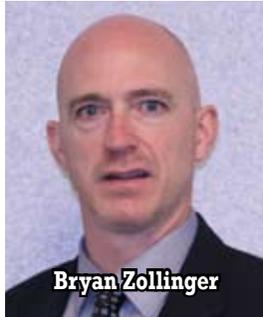




ALUMNI JOIN THE STAFF AT SCCC



Desiree Maxwell



Bryan Zollinger



Sara Drew



Gisela Arias



Jessica Murphy

The saying ‘you can never go home’ certainly doesn’t apply to several Seward County Community College employees who returned to the college where they began their post-secondary education. Current Director of Admissions **Desiree Maxwell** (’95), returned to Liberal in the summer of 2006 as Admissions and Marketing Coordinator. Maxwell spent two years at SCCC as a student and was vice president of Phi Theta Kappa, a Public Information office intern and was the men’s and women’s basketball manager. Maxwell returned to Liberal, her hometown, after working in Nashville, Tenn., for the Tennessee Titans in the National Football League as an assistant to the coaching staff.

Maxwell said coming back to Liberal would be satisfying not only for her career but also with family near by. “I missed seeing my family,” said Maxwell. “The main reason I chose to work at SCCC was for the job opportunity available to me. I have always been very interested in marketing and wanted to do something that better utilized by talents, so the marketing coordinator position was a perfect fit. Now, I serve as admissions director and I’m still able to handle marketing, so I love it.”

Bryan Zollinger (’86) has returned to SCCC for the second time in his career, after volunteering as a coach for the SCCC men’s basketball program from 1994-96. This time Zollinger will be calling all the shots for the men’s basketball program after being named the seventh head coach in SCCC history. Zollinger played for the Saints in 1985, when Seward County won their first-ever NJCAA Region VI Tournament championship trophy. The team also received a No. 1 national ranking, the first for any SCCC athletic program in school history.

Zollinger spent 10 years as the head men’s basketball coach at College of Eastern Utah before returning to SCCC. He sees his opportunity to coach at his alma mater as nothing but positive. “It was a great professional opportunity and it was closer to my family,” said Zollinger. “It has been a great transition with a lot of friendly and caring people who have tried to make the transition as smooth as possible.”

Sara Drew (’05) is only two years removed from her time as an SCCC student and has returned to the college as admissions secretary. Drew grew up in nearby Balko, Okla., and spent her past couple years working as an assistant at the Liberal Recreation Center. The atmosphere Drew remembered from her time as a student at SCCC was a main factor for her decision to want to return. “The people here are all so nice; it is like a big family,” said Drew. “Everyone has been great so far.”

Gisela Arias (’07) is the new Student Services secretary. Arias was involved with several organizations as a student at SCCC including Kappa Beta Delta, HALO, Peer Tutoring and Trio. Originally from Liberal, Arias previously was employed at Southwest Kansas Medical Center. Joining the SCCC work force is something Arias feels was meant to be for her right now. “I was in need for a new challenge,” said Arias. “Everyone has treated me with great enthusiasm. I’m very happy to be here.”

Jessica Murphy (’04) has worked as the secretary to the SCCC associate dean of educational services for three years. While in college she was a member and officer of Phi Theta Kappa and as an employee helped sponsor that organization. She will assume the position of admissions coordinator in August, the same time she completes her bachelor’s degree. Her experience as an employee at SCCC has been “fantastic. I have had such a great experience working in the college setting.” In addition, she said she is excited about getting out and meeting new people in her new position as well as to help ensure student success. “I can’t wait to get started.”

Dr. Duane Dunn, SCCC president, said he feels there are many benefits to alumni returning to work at SCCC. “One of the strengths of SCCC is the ability to have an atmosphere in which students don’t want to leave,” said Dunn. “However, we all want the students to move on in their career and educational plans, but having graduates return to work at our college truly means they don’t have to leave SCCC. Alumni who work here have a sense of student interest and student experience that is unequalled. It’s great to have these five individuals and the many other alumni employed here.”

Seward County Community College

1801 N. Kansas, Liberal, Kansas

www.sccc.edu

ALUMNI REMEMBER SCCC

Ten years brings a lot of changes

"When I first graduated from high school, I wasn't sure what I really wanted to do," said **Nora Rodriguez**, Seward County Community College class of 1998. "I knew I wanted to go to college but wasn't ready to move away to a strange place and SCCC was a perfect fit."



Rodriguez said she has fond memories of her years at SCCC.

"I loved that SCCC was its own 'community within a community,'" she said. "I didn't have to leave Liberal to experience the college scene." SCCC gave her the opportunity to meet a variety of new friends and experience different surroundings and events. She said she still keeps in contact with friends she made at SCCC. "I loved night classes at SCCC," she said. "They were small and very relaxed.

I also loved hanging out with my friends at the dorms since I still lived at home. Vegas night at homecoming time was great! Trips with student government and Phi Theta Kappa were also a blast!" She was also involved in the Hispanic American Leadership Organization.

After graduating from SCCC, Rodriguez transferred to Fort Hays State University to finish her bachelor's degree. Rodriguez said the process went smoothly when she transferred. She immediately began taking core classes she needed for her communications/public relations major and graduated in 2000. As a transfer student she completed her bachelor's degree in four years. She later completed her master's degree at Wichita State University.

Rodriguez is currently working for Cargill Salt in Wichita in account services department for the salt division. Previously, she worked for Cox Media in the advertising department.

"After 10 years, I can say that my future is slowly falling into place with lots of hard work and determination," Rodriguez said. "I'm currently exploring the corporate world and also exploring the possibility of seeing what the advertising field has to offer again.

SCCC alum touches lives through "doctors without borders"

Dr. Frank Evans ('89) became interested in biology while he was a student at SCCC. Evans, a doctor of osteopathic medicine, graduated from SCCC and spent one year at Southwestern Oklahoma State University before being accepted into the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Tulsa, the first student in 10 years to be accepted after only three years of college. Evans later graduated from medical school and started his D.O.M. practice in Woodward, Okla., where he now serves approximately 250 patients per week.

Evans also joined forces with Doctors without Borders, an independent organization that provides health-care relief in more than 70 countries. Each July, Evans volunteers his time to travel to Romania to take care of gypsies in Arad, Hunedoara and Timisoara for 2-3 weeks. These patients do not receive other medical treatment throughout the year. Evans believes his time with these patients is well worth the experience, especially since the people in Romania reside in such harsh living conditions.

"A friend of mine through church had always wanted to go to Romania, so we decided to go and we have now been going for the last 10 years," said Evans. "We will see between 150-250 people every day. The gypsy area that we go to is basically all wasteland and is not a good environment."

Each year Evans reunites with the gypsies in Romania, but there is one special relationship that Evans has made that has turned out to be a life-long friendship, a young girl he met when she was 8. "She has a family with 11 people and I've had the opportunity to help them financially." He gave her a cell phone which she charges each month. "We talk almost every day."

Not only does Evans make lasting impressions on his patients, he made a positive

impression on SCCC Head Baseball Coach Galen McSpadden. In 1986, McSpadden recruited Evans as a right-handed pitcher from Laverne, Okla.

"Frank was a very mature man even at a young age," said McSpadden. "He was an outstanding person and he helped our program get established in what I consider our building years. He helped in doing that by adding stability as a student-athlete."

Evans saw SCCC as his opportunity in baseball, but also realized SCCC seemed like a natural fit for him. "The reason I went to Seward County was to play baseball," said Evans. "The academics really helped me. One person who probably helped me the most academically was Jack McConnell. Jack really took me under his wing and helped push me into the field I'm in now. Probably the thing that helped me the most

was I wasn't just a number. Growing up in a small place, I think I would have been overwhelmed going straight into a bigger school," Evans said. "Having the opportunity to be in a small classroom where they knew my name and were willing to help me out one-on-one was a great asset."

Evans has continued his relationship with SCCC by visiting with recruits and sharing his memories and experiences at SCCC. "The education at Seward County was superior," said Evans. "I had a rare opportunity to go into medical school after three years of college and it wasn't because I was brilliant, it was because I was well prepared when I got there. I attribute a lot of that to the success I had at Seward County."

Evans lives in Woodward with his wife, Lynn, and their two daughters Kailee, 20, and Emily, 10.



SCCC Development Foundation board members who live on Lilac Drive recently hosted the "Lilac Drive Garden Party" fundraiser at the home of Dr. Duane Dunn, SCCC president, and his wife Cindi. Funds raised help support SCCC student scholarships. Pictured are John and Lydia Oringerdoff and Stephanie and Rock Ormiston.

ALUMNI NEWS

1970s

Greg Laker ('71) lives in Canisteo, NY. Greg and his wife, Shelley, have four grown children, one son and three daughters. Greg works for Cyncon Equipment. Greg and Shelley raise puppies for Guiding Eyes for the Blind.

Linda Sue (Skates) Paulus ('76) lives in St. Louis, MO with her husband, Fred. Linda works as a project manager in the information technology department at BJC Health Care in St. Louis, Mo.

Diana (Rickers) Brummer ('77) and her husband, Dale, live in Dodge City. She has spent the past 17 years working as a certified Apple/Macintosh computer technician. Diana and Dale have two children, Nikiya and Derek.

Ann (Donahue) Taylor ('79) is married to Timothy and is a stay at home mother with four children in Hennessey, OK. Ann serves on the Hennessey Public Library board.

1980s

Jody (McDonald) Popplewell ('80) is a 6th grade teacher in Oxford. Jody and her husband, Ed, have one son, Drew.

Weston Schartz II ('81) is a teacher and coach in Wichita. Weston and his wife, Nancy, have two daughters.

Stephanie (Long) Cruz ('82) and her husband, Humberto, live in Fort Collins, CO.

Deanna (Helmer) Gilbert ('87) currently lives in Alma with her husband, Royce. Deanna is a homemaker. She and Royce have raised three children.

Jo Lynne (Cummings) Mangino ('87) and

her husband, Rick, live in Trinidad, CO. Jo Lynne works for the Third Judicial District. Jo Lynne has one daughter, Kari.

Micky (Tibbetts) Brown ('88) and her husband, Ervin, live in Kiefer, OK. Micky works as a registered nurse.

1990s

Stephen Fuller ('90) works as a division chief of operations for the U.S. Department of Labor in Frisco, TX. Stephen and his wife, Michele, have three children.

Diane (Daley) Eagle Kristiansen ('93) is a mathematics instructor at Westwood College. Diane and her son live in Dallas, TX.

Angela (Talley) ('96) and **Sean Eylar** ('96) live in Oxford, MS. Angela is an official court reporter for the circuit courts and Sean is a K9 police officer. Angela and Sean have two children, Zane Barrett and Gus Edward.

Heather (Taylor) Wade ('96) lives in Norman, OK with her husband, Randy. They own two local businesses and have two sons, Grady Clay and Randy Colyn.

Danielle Johnson-Robinson ('99) and **Jason Robinson** ('00) live in Fresno, TX where Danielle is a project manager for the Texas Department of transportation. Jason is currently playing professional basketball overseas.

Teresa (Rodkey) Wehmeier ('99) lives in Hooker, OK. Teresa is the student tracking specialist for SCCC and her husband, Doug, is the SCCC maintenance electrician.

2000s

Gabriel Reyes ('04) lives in Smyer, Texas,

where he is working on his bachelor's degree in health management degree.

Marie (Idom) Slater ('05) lives in Liberal with her husband, Danny. Marie works as a registered nurse.

Births

To **Devin (Chaney) Rodriquez** ('03) and her husband Gilbert, a baby girl, Brittany May, born July 9.

To **Skye (Perkins) Clements** ('95) and her husband Shannon, a baby boy, Bennett Neil, born July 2.

Deaths

Beverly (McColm) Volz ('73), 52, died May 5, 2007 as a result of injuries sustained in the May 4 Greensburg (KS) tornado. She is survived by her husband **Norman Volz** ('73).

Debbie L. (Harding Blair) Scott ('93), 42, died June 16, 2007 in Garden City. She is survived by her husband, J. Kent Scott.

Marriages

Ara Alavez ('06) and Joe Jacobson, July 7.

Keri Hill ('03) and Darrall Guffey, May 25.

New phone system and phone numbers at SCCC.
Main campus—620-624-1951
Alumni Office—620-417-1130
Registrar—620-417-1061
Business Office—620-417-1081
1-800-373-9951

RETIREMENTS

The college honored five employees who retired from SCCC this year. Pictured below from left: Dencye Gammell, director of the library, was with the college from 1987-2006; Gayle O'Kane, admissions secretary, was with the college for 31 years; Marilyn Ewing, accounting instructor, was with the college since 1991; Burke Ewing, was the adult basic education grant assessment coordinator/GED examiner since 1999; and Ruby Hitchcock, custodian for the dorms and academic building since 1999.



SPORTS NEWS

The **Lady Saints Softball** program had a spectacular season in 2007 with a school record of 49-13. The Lady Saints broke nine team statistical records and broke 14 individual career or single season records. Freshman second baseman Jena Rue became the first Lady Saints softball player ever to receive All-American recognition and was named a third-team NJCAA All-American and first-team Louisville Slugger/National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-American. Rue batted .430 in 58 games and played with a single-season school record 86 base hits and 24 doubles. Rue was also named first-team all-Region VI, first-team Jayhawk West all-conference and was tabbed the Jayhawk West Conference Freshman of the Year. A total of 10 SCCC softball players received regular season or post season awards this past season. The Lady Saints set a school record with a 22-game winning streak, where they went over a month without a loss. After finishing in second place of the Jayhawk West Conference, Seward County was runner-up at the NJCAA Region VI Tournament.

The **Saints Baseball Team** had its season come to an end after recording their sixth Jayhawk West Conference title in the last seven seasons. Seward County finished with a 36-22 overall record and a 23-9 mark in conference competition, and tied with Butler Community College for the regular season conference crown. Two Saints received NJCAA All-American recognition, sophomores Erik Hegstad, second team, and Tanner Rindels, honorable mention. Hegstad was also voted Jayhawk West Conference Most Valuable Player, first-team all-conference, and first-team all-Region VI. Rindels, a first baseman/out-

fielder from Hugoton, Kan., was a unanimous all-conference selection at first base. He was also awarded first-team all-Region VI, NJCAA Player of the Week and the Region VI Gold Glove Award at first base. Rindels was selected in the 36th round of the Major League Baseball First-Year Players Amateur Draft by the Detroit Tigers becoming the 75th player from the Seward County baseball program to be drafted or sign a professional contract with a MLB organization. Rindels, along with four other SCCC sophomore players have also signed official letters of intent for 2007-08 with NCAA Division I baseball programs. In addition, Saints freshman left-handed pitcher Christian Kowalchuk and Seward County head baseball coach, Galen McSpadden, were chosen to participate in the first-ever NJCAA Freshman Baseball All-Star Series, which took place June 14-17 at USA Stadium in Millington, Tenn.

The **Seward County Men's Tennis Team** made headlines for the second consecutive season by once again placing ninth at the NJCAA National Tournament in Plano, Texas. Two doubles pairs and three singles players finished competition in the round 8. Freshman No. 4 singles player, Luis Cabizuca, won the consolation bracket championship. In addition, the Saints lone sophomore, Rogerio Yamamoto, was the only SCCC tennis player to capture a regional title by winning the No. 5 singles championship in Wichita.

The **Lady Saints Tennis** program also qualified for the NJCAA National Tournament in Tucson, Ariz., for the second straight season placing 14th overall as a team. Three singles players made it into

round 16 with two doubles pairs winning their respective consolation bracket championships. The Lady Saints qualified for the national tournament with a second-place finish in the regional tournament.

The **SCCC Athletic Department** also had a terrific year in the classroom as well as the field and court with 105 student-athletes, cheerleaders and athletic trainers averaging 16.37 hours passed with an average grade point average of 3.30. A total of 65 student-athletes made the honor roll with 12 receiving a perfect 4.0 GPA for the semester. Curtis Hamilton (Baseball) and Katelyn Deckert (Cheerleading) were awarded the



Former Lady Saints basketball player, Candi White ('00), is the head women's basketball coach at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, spoke at the annual athletic banquet this past spring.

Sponsor our new gym seats

The college is giving alumni and friends the opportunity to purchase a brass plate that will be permanently placed on the back of the new green seats in the college gym. This is your opportunity to promote your business, show your support of SCCC as an alumnus or friend or honor the memory of someone.

Individuals or companies can purchase unlimited plates at a minimum \$50 donation for each plate. The tax deductible contribution can be made to the SCCC Development Foundation. All proceeds will be used for future maintenance and improvements of the SCCC gym and its programs.

Send your contribution to the SCCC Development Foundation, PO Box 1137, Liberal, KS 67905-1137 or go online to alumni.sccc.edu to make your donation by credit card. Please include the information

Seward County Community College Development Foundation



Party Auction Saturday, Sept. 22

Seward County Event Center—Fairgrounds
Silent Auction—6 p.m. Food served—6-8 p.m.
Live Auction—8:30 p.m.

This annual event raises money for scholarships. For ticket information or to donate a new or hand-crafted item or service or to make a cash donation, call 620-417-1130 or 1-800-373-9951.

CHANGES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS AT SCCC

Two SCCC allied health programs have changed the format of their programs beginning with the fall 2007 semester.

The Surgical Technology program is now offering the lecture portion of its curriculum online.

During the fall semester, students will come to campus for labs three mornings a week. During the spring and summer semesters, clinicals will be held at Dodge City, Garden City and Liberal hospitals.

The Respiratory Therapy program will begin offering its associate in applied science degree in conjunction with other community colleges in western Kansas. The allied health education consortium consisting of Seward County, Garden City, Dodge City and Colby community colleges have developed an agreement to allow students interested in a career in Respiratory Therapy to pursue general education requirements at any of the four community colleges.

The lecture component of the program will be offered online and over the KanEd ITV network. Students will be required to attend periodic laboratory sessions on the SCCC campus and complete their assigned clinical experiences in cooperative health-care institutions in the area.

Students interested in these programs must apply for special admission. Additional information is available at <http://alliedhealth.sccc.edu/>.



Angela Weinheimer of Deerfield, far left, and Katelyn Deckert of Liberal were named to the 2006-07 All-Kansas Academic Team during the Twelfth Annual Phi Theta Kappa Honors Luncheon. This honor is sponsored by the international headquarters of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, the Kansas Association of

Community College Trustees, and the Kansas Council of Community College Presidents. Each scholar was selected by his or her own community college for the annual statewide academic team, and each scholar also was a nominee for the 2006-07 All-USA Academic Team, sponsored by the newspaper USA Today, Phi Theta Kappa, and the American Association of Community Colleges.

Mark Vermillion, a graduate of Seward County Community College, was the featured speaker for the 2007 graduation ceremony. Vermillion, who graduated from SCCC in 1997, received a bachelor's of science in Social Sciences at Kansas State University and a master's of arts in Sociology at Wichita State University. He received his doctorate in Sociology from Oklahoma State University. He is now an assistant professor in the Sports Administration Program, College of Education, at Wichita State. While at SCCC he participated in Phi Theta Kappa as vice president, choir and show choir. His wife, Kimberly Howard, also graduated from SCCC in 1997.



The SCCC Field Biology class participated in a WaterLINK project to collect biological and chemical water quality data on the Cimarron River in Arkalon Park. The Geohydrology section of the Kansas Geological Survey tested the water samples in their lab and will use the data in future water studies. Above is former biology instructor Ty Hughbanks and student Dustin Johnson.



Mandy Meadows of Liberal was one of 22 associate degree nursing students who received their nursing pins recently at Seward County Community College in Liberal. Nursing instructor Veda King places a pin on Meadows. Twenty-seven practical nursing students received their caps during the same ceremony.

CLASS NOTES REPORT FORM

This form is for your convenience in sending news about yourself, your family or other alumni. Let us know of any changes in occupation, recent honors or degrees earned, marriages, births, memories of Seward County Community College and other news of interest. We want to hear from you. Please send us a photo of yourself if you have one. You may also log on to alumni.sccc.edu and submit your information.

Name _____ Maiden name _____ Year of graduation _____

Address _____ New address?

Spouse _____ Did your spouse graduate from SCCC? _____ Year _____

Email address _____ Present occupation/title _____

Schools now attending _____

Children names/ages _____

Current activities/awards _____

Memories of SCCC _____

Mail form to Director of Development, Seward County Community College, PO Box 1137, Liberal, KS 67905-1137

Attention parents: If you are receiving the SCCC Alumni News addressed to your son or daughter who no longer lives at this address, please use this form to notify us of his or her present address.

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