International community college honor society leader to speak at SCC’s 2013 commencement

Rod Risley, Ph.D., executive director and CEO of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college, will be the keynote speaker at the 25th annual St. Charles Community College commencement on Saturday, May 18. The ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. in the the SCC College Center.

“We are pleased to welcome such a distinguished international leader to St. Charles County,” said Ron Chesbrough, Ph.D., SCC president. “Dr. Risley has championed the success of community college students for decades, and it will be especially inspiring for our graduates, as they celebrate the completion of their own degrees and prepare for the future, to hear Dr. Risley speak at their commencement.”

Risley is a community college graduate and a former national president of Phi Theta Kappa. He has served as executive director since 1985. As a longtime advocate for community college students, Risley led efforts to establish the Community College Completion Challenge and the Community College Completion Corps.

SCC’s Phi Theta Kappa chapter, Alpha Xi Chi, has nearly 200 members. To be eligible, students must complete 12 credit hours at SCC and receive a 3.5 GPA.

Forty students inducted into Phi Theta Kappa

Some 40 students were inducted into the Alpha Xi Chi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international two-year college academic honor society on Sunday, April 7.

The students invited have completed 12 college credit hours and have a grade point average of 3.5. The guest speaker was Paul Wright, Ph.D., associate professor of sports psychology and physical education at Lindenwood University, who is also an adjunct instructor at SCC and served as the coach of the 2012 Olympics Hong Kong/China track team. Wright encouraged the inductees to “reach for their own Olympic style of elite success.”

Members of PTK took time to sign a pledge to Commit to Complete, an effort to encourage students to complete their two-year degree.

Chapter Garners Awards

At the PTK Missouri Region Conference in March, the SCC chapter earned three awards. In the Five Star Chapter category, the Alpha Xi Chi Chapter won the Three Star Award. The chapter took home the Icarus Award “to recognize the efforts of a chapter in planning and implementing a project that didn’t achieve the expected outcomes.” Following the resignation of the chapter president in October, the group took the responsibility for reporting the reality of a failed project and what they had learned from that situation. Brenda Hollrah, chapter co-advisor, was recognized with the Glaux Faculty Award.

SCC is one of the 2013 Progress Award winners announced by Partners for Progress

SCC and Lindenwood University will be presented with the 2013 Education Progress Award for the institutions’ collaborative efforts to open the new Center for Nursing and Allied Health Services in Dardenne Prairie and the expanded medical training opportunities that will be offered to the community. The award will be presented by the Partners for Progress of Greater St. Charles (PFP) at Celebration 2013, the civic group’s annual awards banquet scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Friday, May 31, at the St. Charles Convention Center.

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SCC, Lindenwood sign nursing agreement

Ron Chesbrough, SSC president, signs the collaborative initiative. From left to right: Jim Shoemake, chairman of the Lindenwood University Board of Directors, James Evans, Lindenwood University president, and Ryan Robertson, president of the SCC Board of Trustees.

CALENDAR NOTES

- April 19 – Student Awards Banquet, 6:30 p.m., College Center
- April 22–May 3 – SCC Juried Student Art Exhibition, FAB Gallery
- April 25 – SCC Student Film Festival, 6:30 p.m., SSB Auditorium
SCC team meets with legislators at Missouri State Capitol

On Wednesday, April 10, MCCA Executive Director Zora Mulligan joined SCC President Ron Chesbrough (left) and Board member William Pundmann at the Statehouse in individual meetings and visits with all members of the SCC legislative delegation as part of SCC Week at the Capitol. Meetings were engaging and meaningful, focusing on updates to legislators about happenings at SCC and on legislation of importance to higher education and particularly MCCA. Much discussion focused on performance funding models for higher education and the impact of these on MCCA colleges. “I always enjoy meeting with the members of our delegation,” said President Chesbrough. “Our state legislators are strong supporters of SCC and the community colleges; I appreciate that strong support.”

SCC to celebrate National Library Week with used book sale April 15-17

The SCC library will host its annual used book sale from 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, April 15-17. The sale will be in the library, located in the Learning Resource Center on the SCC campus in Cottleville.

Both fiction and non-fiction material will be available. Books will be sold for $.50 for paperbacks and $1 for hardbacks. Faculty, student and friends of SCC have donated books and other books are withdrawn from the library’s collection.

Proceeds from the sale will go to the acquisitions fund to purchase new materials for the SCC library. To learn more, call 636-922-8620.

Fourth annual Rhythm and Ribs fundraiser set for May 10

The SCC Foundation’s fourth annual Rhythm and Ribs fundraiser, with live music, food and dancing, is set for 6-10 p.m. Friday, May 10, on the college’s campus in Cottleville. Event proceeds support student scholarships and educational programs for the college.

Smash Band will return, live on the main stage at 8:30 p.m. Doors will open at 6 p.m. with the St. Charles West Jazz Ensemble.

At 7 p.m., the rhythm revue hour will include a feature performance by the popular St. Charles-based acoustic/rock band, “Clockwork,” with SCC student Jordan Slone (guitar/vocals). Performances by up-and-coming vocalists Aurea Clark and Matt Wynn also will entertain the crowd.

Rib vendors will include Ethyl’s Smokehouse and Saloon, Mannino’s Market, Rib City and Stumpy’s House of Bar-B-Que and Catering. Other fare will include popcorn and snow cones, with gourmet nachos and veggie burgers provided by Quintessential Catering, and beverages to include beer by Krey Distributing Company and O’Fallon Brewery, wine by Terra Firma USA and lemonade by Red Robin.

A complete list of sponsors can be found at www.rhythm-and-ribs.com.

Tickets are $5 for general admission, which includes entry to the event/live entertainment; $25 for the Music and More package, which includes live entertainment and food, beverages and raffle tickets; and $50 for the VIP package, which includes unlimited beverages, food and raffle tickets and reserved seating.

For more information on tickets and events, visit www.rhythm-and-ribs.com.

Practical nursing students honored in March 23 pinning ceremony at SCC

Graduates of the 2013 Practical Nursing program at SCC were honored March 23 in a pinning ceremony celebrating the culmination of their nursing education.

Graduates are awarded a certificate of achievement in practical nursing and are eligible to apply for the Practical Nurse Licensing Examination. The Practical Nursing Program at SCC prepares Licensed Practical Nurses to administer safe, patient-centered nursing care in beginning staff nurse roles in hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, doctor’s offices and other health care facilities and home settings.

CAD student Malee Alway wins statewide Breaking Traditions Award

SCC Computer-Aided Drafting student Malee Alway is the Missouri “Breaking Traditions” recipient of the Daphna Jones Spirit Award. Applicants come from Missouri post-secondary institutions from all majors that are non-traditional in gender. The awards are presented annually by the Missouri Center for Career Education and sponsored by Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office of College and Career Readiness.

A ceremony for Alway and other award winners will be held May 3 in Jefferson City, Mo.
Foundation receives grants to support campus programs, events on campus

The SCC Foundation office received a $10,000 grant from the UPS Foundation that will be used to help students reach their academic and career potential.

The funds will support a number of campus programs and services, including the Be Ready for the Future college preparedness program, English as a Second Language programs and sustainability projects such as the new community garden.

**Summer Movie Series planned thanks to Fifth-Third Bank partnership**

Fifth-Third Bank has awarded SCC a $2,000 sponsorship that will support campus programs including this year’s Summer Movie Series. Student Activities and SCC Friends & Alumni will host four community movie nights, which are free and open to the public including popcorn.

The event will kick-off May 3 with *Wreck-It Ralph*. Future showings include: June 14 – *Despicable Me*, July 12 – *Rise of the Guardians*; and Aug. 9 – *Monsters, Inc*. The movies are scheduled to begin at sundown on the lawn by the Technology Building.

**SCC’s new American Theatre Festival Combines theater, music and discussion**

SCC will host the American Theatre Festival in April and May, to include three theatrical performances, *Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf? RFK* and *Gertrude Stein and a Companion*, as well as a series of events focusing on history and literary topics, presented by the English, History and Theater departments at SCC.

SCC’s Center Stage Theatre performance of *Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, by Edward Albee, directed by SCC’s Hal Berry, will be in the theater of Donald D. Shook Fine Arts Building April 24-28. When Albee’s *Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf* opened on Broadway in 1962, critics raved at what became a transformational play for the American theater.

*Gertrude Stein and a Companion* by Win Wells and directed by SCC’s Rebecca David will be in the auditorium of the Daniel J. Conoyer Social Sciences Building May 1-5. The play illuminates the relationship between Gertrude, noted author and patron of the arts, and Alice B. Toklas, Gertrude’s friend, lover, editor, critic and muse.

*RFK* by Jack Holmes and directed by SCC’s Alex Saccavino, will be in SSB auditorium May 1-5. *RFK* is a moving portrayal of the words and events in the life of Robert F. Kennedy, from the death of his brother, President Kennedy, through the Civil Rights crisis and conflicts over the Vietnam War, to his decision that the only way to stop that war was to run for president himself.

**Arbor Day Foundation Names SCC a 2012 Tree Campus USA**

SCC is a Tree Campus USA for the third year in a row, the Arbor Day Foundation announced on April 1.

Tree Campus USA is a national program created in 2008 to honor colleges and universities for effective campus forest management and for engaging staff and students in conservation goals. Toyota helped launch the program and continues its generous financial support this year.

SCC achieved the title by meeting Tree Campus USA’s five standards, which include maintaining a tree advisory committee, a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures toward trees, an Arbor Day observance and student service learning projects.

“The SCC Tree Advisory Committee is growing every year and taking root into the community,” said Dan Porter, SCC grounds supervisor. “It will continue to branch out and raise awareness alongside the Arbor Day Foundation, amongst others.”

**SCC, Central Methodist University announce nursing education pact**

A new partnership between SCC and Central Methodist University will bring area residents the opportunity to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree, the institutions announced in April.

The program is designed for people who already have the registered nurse certification. Those who are not already RNs can begin at SCC and transfer seamlessly into the CMU program, with classes held on the SCC campus as early as June.

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**Calendar Notes**

May 6-9, 15-17 – SCC Spring Concerts, FAB theater

May 19 – Cougar Car Show, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., SCC campus