



ESL classes help students, community succeed

**By Jessica Phillips
 Editor-in-Chief**

English-as-a-second-language classes are offered four evenings a week free of charge to RSC students and the community.

Angela Keneda, professor of developmental reading, said the classes were first offered last fall as a lab for extra help and support for students learning English.

“All of the activities are individualized,” she said. “They (the students) tell us what they would like to work on.”

Students in the ESL classes are assisted with vocabulary, reading and writing; they also have access to the Language Lab in HU 134 where they can listen to recorded English.

Keneda said students will ask for materials to take home and are offered books to check out.

“They are just very hungry for anything to learn. ...It is really wonderful,” she said.

Keneda said she and other professors who oversee the classes are in the process of getting assessment materials to help track the progress students are making.

Professors Antoinette Castillo, Chris Knox and

Theresa Walther, in addition to students, volunteer at the classes to help ESL students.

Professors and volunteers work one-on-one with some students, while other students choose to work on their own.

Ahmed al Tameemi has been attending the classes for three months. He said he began the classes to help him pass the Tophel and GRE tests so he can obtain his master’s degree in international studies.

“I find the ESL pretty useful,” he said. “It helped me a lot.”

ESL classes are held in HU 130 from 4-5:30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays, and from 6:30-8 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

For questions or to volunteer, contact Keneda at 733-7509 or akeneda@rose.edu.



Developmental Reading professor Angela Keneda, standing, and other instructors tutor students seeking English-as-a-second-language assistance on Sept. 3 in the Reading Lab. (Photo by Jessica Phillips)

New equipment to inspire ‘fabulous’ student creators

**By Alex Roberts
 Assistant Editor**

RSC is set to open Oklahoma’s first academic-sponsored Fab Lab, designed to encourage students and community members to explore their creativity and make their ideas become reality.

Terry Byers, coordinator of the RSC Fab Lab, said the grand opening is projected for Nov. 1. The Fab Lab will feature 3-D printing, allowing users to create virtually any object in a computer program then print out a physical representation of the item on a small scale.

He said the Fab Lab will give individuals and businesses the opportunity to use professional equipment they otherwise would not have access to.

According to fabfoundation.org, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology based program’s mission is “to provide access to the tools, knowledge and financial means to educate, innovate and invent using technology and digital fabrication to allow anyone to make (almost) anything, and thereby creating

opportunities to improve lives and livelihoods around the world.”

Byers said some of the tools available at the Fab Lab will include: 3-D printers, laser cutters and a vinyl machine, along with the essential computer-aided design software needed to operate the machines.

Since the Fab Lab is sponsored by RSC, new opportunities for students may emerge in the future.



“The goal is to have a digital fabrication certification or degree,” Byers said.

He said the Harden-Miller Advisory Committee first suggested the idea of implementing a Fab Lab

at RSC. According to Sandy Stephens, RSC small business development coordinator, the committee “helps the Rose State Small Business Development Center provide small business education to area entrepreneurs.”

President Jeanie Webb; Stan Greil, vice president of Workforce Development; and the Board of Regents all supported the creation of a Fab Lab right here on campus.

“They were all instrumental in getting the lab process started,” Byers said in an email.

The Fab Lab network has expanded to locations in more than 40 countries with approximately 200 Fab Labs, according to the website.

Closely related to STEM, STEAM encourages education of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, with the addition of art.

According to steam-notstem.com, “STEM education is necessary but it is not sufficient – we must have STEAM education – our future is at risk otherwise.”



NEWS BRIEFS

2nd 8-week enrollment

Students can now enroll in the second eight-week courses for this semester. The term runs from Oct. 14-Dec. 13, and the deadline for enrollment is Oct. 16. The office of Graduation Services encourages students who need any assistance with enrollment to visit their office. For more information, call 733-7332.

Soccer shutout

The RSC men's and women's soccer teams were shut out in their home games vs. Northeastern Oklahoma A&M on Sept. 23.

The women's team had multiple chances to score but never capitalized. They gave up a goal with 8 minutes left in the game when the defense let a cross come through and ended up losing 0-1.

The men's team didn't fare any better. With a botched save by RSC goalkeeper Chance Campbell, they were down 0-1 at halftime. In the second half, the Raiders could not get past A&M's defense and let in another goal, suffering their first loss of the season, 0-2.

Midwest City AfterCareers Fair

The Midwest City Chamber of Commerce will host a career fair from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Oct. 2 in the RSC Student Center. Registration will begin at 9:45 a.m.

AfterCareers connects highly skilled job seekers with employers after military service, graduation or corporate downsizing. For more information call the Midwest City Chamber of Commerce at 733-3801 or e-mail information@midwestcityok.com.

**Compiled by
Marisa Caban,
Chief Photographer, and
Alex Roberts,
Assistant Editor.**

Environmental job training offered

**By Jackson Parker
Volunteer Reporter**

The RSC Training Institute is partnering with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to offer free job training for individuals in water treatment and wastewater operations.

Mark Boydston, EPA general project manager, said the program is part of a three-year grant. The purpose of the job training is to certify participants through the Oklahoma State Department of Environmental Quality. This will allow trainees to work with water treatment and wastewater operations.

Boydston said his favorite part is looking for

people who need a job, getting them in the program and then getting them placed in a job.

"The goal is not just to give them three weeks of job training. The goal is job placement," he said.

The next orientation will be Oct. 3, and training sessions will be Nov. 3-21.

Trainees must be at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma or GED, be able to pass a drug test/federal background check, be a U.S. citizen or eligible to work in the U.S. and read, write and speak in English.

To reserve a seat at the upcoming orientation, call the Professional Training Center main office at 733-7488.

Authors offer words of wisdom

**By Marisa Caban
Chief Photographer**

The third annual RSC Writers Short Course, founded and run by best-selling author and professor William Bernhardt, had a successful turnout of writers from 10 states on Sept. 19-21 at the Tom Steed Community Learning Center.

The short course began Friday evening with an open book-signing and meet-and-greet with authors. The RSC Bookstore offered books to buy from various authors and literary agents attending.

Panels focused on various writing and publishing topics, including marketing, self-publishing, dialogue, screen writing, journaling, literary magazines, and writing for young adults, children and teens.

Jacquelyn Mitchard, the guest of honor and recipient of the RSC President's Distinguished Author Award, not only led several panels but joined in meetings with attendees to discuss their publication plans and give helpful advice.

"I have a huge amount of respect for Bill (Bernhardt)," Mitchard said. "It's always exciting to be in the presence of people pursuing a dream and not giving up."

Patrons of the short course were able to share their manuscripts and ideas with agents, authors and other attendees. Authors congratulated and encouraged them to pursue their dreams of publication through their own personal experiences and advice in the field.

John Wooley, author of more than 25 books, received the Oklahoma Author of the Year Award.

"There are no dull subjects, only dull writers," Wooley said.

The theme of the conference was "The Best Time to be a Writer," since so many people have the opportunity to go the non-traditional route of self-publishing.

There were many panels about independent publishing's history and future.

Bernhardt, in his panel "Finding the Path to Publishing," said e-books are not the end of literacy and reading.

"There are more people reading now than five or 10 years ago, partly thanks to the young adult fiction

boom, partly thanks to e-readers," Bernhardt said.

Bernhardt said self-publishing requires much more skill, self-motivation and effort for much bigger royalties than traditional publishing.

"You know in your heart, books change lives for the better," Bernhardt said.



Attendees enjoy meeting authors at the book signing. (Photo by Marisa Caban)

Achieving the Dream recognizes RSC as Leader College

**By Marisa Caban
Chief Photographer**

The nonprofit organization Achieving the Dream has selected RSC as one of 16 colleges in the nation chosen as a 2014 Leader College.

In a Sept. 24 press release, RSC President Dr. Jeanie Webb said, "The honor confirms what

we're doing—helping students pursue their dreams."

According to Achieving the Dream's website, Leader Colleges help community college students achieve their goals, which results in improved skills, better employability and economic growth in the communities and nation.

Dean Fisher, vice president of

Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, said, "This award confirms that Rose State College is very focused on student success. Our institution's talented faculty, supported by a dedicated staff, should all be proud of this recognition."

"It confirms what happens every day--students move in steps toward their goals," he said.

Higher education equals higher rewards

By Jessica Phillips
Editor-in-Chief

Editorial

OPINION

Graphic by Melissa Bednarek

Committing to graduate from college is a big deal; it is a huge investment of time and money. Obtaining a college degree is becoming more and more expensive. However, investing in a degree still has numerous benefits.

Annually, college graduates earn an average of \$17,500 more than workers with only a high school diploma or GED, according to a 2013 study by the Pew Research Center.

In addition to higher wages, job security is another benefit of a college degree. While graduating from college does not guarantee a job, it does increase the chance of working in a desired field and maintaining the position in times of economic hardship.

Author Susan Adams on Forbes.com cited an earlier study by Pew Research that said higher education helped employees maintain their jobs after the 2008 recession.

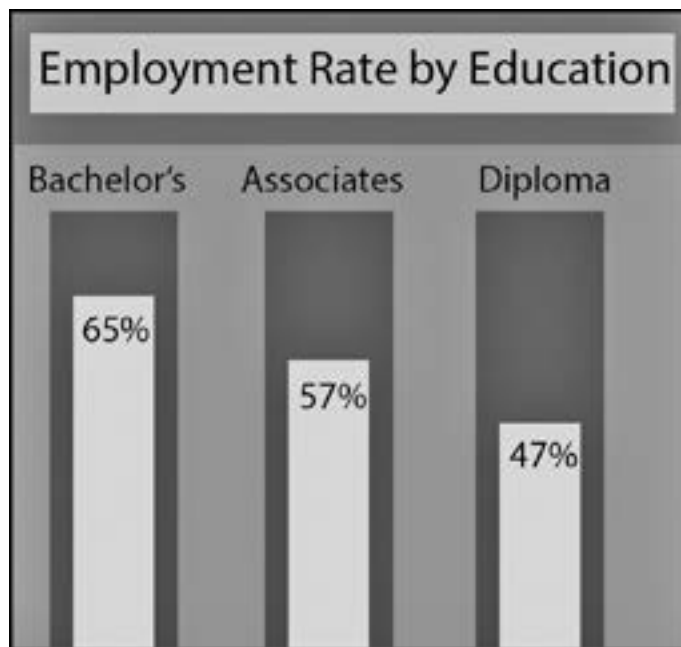
The employment rate of those with associate's degrees was 64 percent before the recession and

57 percent after. The employment rate for those with only a high school diploma went from 55 percent to 47 percent. The employment rate for those with a bachelor's degree went from 69 percent to 65 percent.

Nine out of 10 college graduates, ages 25 to 32, said their bachelor's degree has paid off, or they believe it will pay off, the study said.

So, if you're wondering if going to class, studying and working toward your degree is worth it, it is. College graduates tend to earn higher salaries, have a greater chance to work in their field of choice and maintain their employment. About 90 percent of graduates in the Pew Research study said their degree was worth the time and money.

Thomas Edison said, "There is no substitute for hard work." There is no substitute for a college degree and its benefits, either.



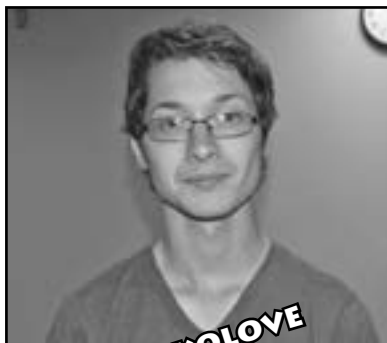
What is your dream job?

CAMPUS CHAT

By Jessica Phillips
Editor-in-Chief

"Probably to work with Indian child welfare."

TAYLOR MCCLELLAN



JUSTIN SOKOLOVE

"I'm not really sure. ... I suppose teaching."

"Helping people recycle more."

STACIE SPANGLER



COLEMAN VANSTEKLE

"To be a business owner, like a small business owner."

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Letters may be emailed to the editor [jphillips@rose.edu], hand delivered FA 110 or sent by mail to: 15th Street News, Rose State College, 6420 SE 15, Midwest City, OK 73110. Letters must be typed.

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Anyone having a complaint may call the editor in chief, 733-7400, or the Student Publications Board chairperson, Amber Mitchel, 733-7490.

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Sept. 26, 2014

Dallas art museum trip open to everyone

By Jessica Phillips
Editor-in-Chief

The Global Cultural Experience class is taking a trip to the Dallas Museum of Art on Oct. 4 and welcomes students, professors and community members to join.

"Anybody can go," said Sherri Mussatto, professor of English and co-coordinator of global and cultural learning.

The trip costs \$30 for the bus ride to and from, but general admission to the museum is free.

Lori Morrow, professor of English and co-coordinator of global and cultural learning,

said there are 50 spots available.

The class will focus on the exhibit, "Saturated: Dye-Decorated Cloths from North and West Africa," Mussatto said. Other attendees will be able to visit other exhibits on their own, she said.

"For us, it's exposing our students to other cultures and artwork," Mussatto said.

"And music," Morrow added.

To reserve your spot, call the Office of Continuing Education in the Tom Steed Community Learning Center at 733-7392.

Giving victims a voice



RSC mourns the loss of victims of domestic violence with the Silence Witness Exhibit Sept. 22-25 in the Learning Resources Center. (Photo by Alex Roberts).

Ready, set, swim!



By Jessica Phillips
Editor-in-Chief

The Aquatics Center reopened on Sept. 23 after its recent renovation.

Patron Consuela Bearson has been coming to the Aquatics Center for 14 years. "I missed the water so much," she said.

Swimmer Ellie Barrett has been coming to the center since 1995. "Looks great, nice and clean," Barrett said.

Free swim times are on Monday-Thursday from 7-8 a.m., 12-1 p.m. and 4:30-5:30 p.m. On Friday, the times are 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Upcoming intramurals

By Rachel George
Volunteer Reporter

RSC's Intramural Sports Program allows students to participate in competitive sports, regardless of their skill level.

This fall, RSC will host Whiffle ball on Sept. 30, flag football on Oct. 8, volleyball on Oct. 23 and dodgeball on Oct. 30.

Most students and faculty come and go on a regular basis, so these recreational activities can be an escape from the everyday pattern in which we find ourselves, said Dr. Tommy Klepper, director of student conduct.

"Student IMs promote better health, leadership and provide campus wide community building," Klepper said. The games can be short, but they are fun and relaxing in the end.

"Our students displayed a little bit of courage to try something new. By stepping outside of their comfort zone, our students experienced a new activity and even more importantly created some new lasting friendships along the way," Klepper said.

To participate in an intramural sport, stop by the Wellness Center front desk to grab a sign-up sheet and an information sheet about each sport being offered.

You can also contact the Wellness Center at 733-7351.

SUDOKU
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mopham Group

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#RSCMediaDay



15th Street News is excited to participate in National News Engagement Day on Oct. 7 and invites students and faculty of RSC to join in.

Post a photo of your news engagement, such as reading a newspaper, watching news on TV or sharing stories on social media with the hashtag #RSCMediaDay to be entered to win a prize pack, which includes a T-shirt, sunglasses and a notepad. Deadline to submit entries is Oct. 8,0 and winners will be announced Oct. 9 on our Facebook and Twitter.