



Courtyard Chatter

Celebrating Employee Success

EMGI Recognized For Environmental Education

The Texas Association of Environmental Education, TAEE, has honored Brookhaven College's Ellison Miles Geotechnology Institute with its highest honor at their fall conference in Austin, Oct. 11. The award honors members or groups who have ongoing programs, collaborate with community organizations, and create innovative, sustained and flexible education programs.



The EMGI coordinates dozens of events, outreach activities and courses for different audiences.

"This is a wonderful honor for the EMGI," said Diane Brownlee, director of the EMGI. "We work hard to offer education and training opportunities for a variety of ages and skill-levels, for professionals and the public alike. To have the TAEE recognize our work is a wonderful validation."

The EMGI was created in 2001 to promote Earth systems education for teachers, students and professional geoscientists. Teachers throughout the state have access to Earth science education modules such as "More Rocks In Your Head."

[Read the full article online.](#)

Upcoming Events Calendar

Nov. 18 - Spring Registration Begins for Continuing Students

Nov. 21-22 - Dancers' Theatre
8 p.m., Performance Hall

Nov. 23 - Dancers' Theatre
2:30 p.m., Performance Hall

Nov. 24 - Spring Registration Begins for All Students

Nov. 27-28 - Thanksgiving Holiday,
Campus Closed



From the Office of the Vice President of Instruction

By Michael Dennehy, executive dean, Social Science, World Languages Divisions and Distance Education



Michael Dennehy

Access to instructional technologies is growing across Brookhaven College. More and more faculty members are using these tools to enhance student learning in some unique and innovative ways, both in the classroom and with online learning. Here is a sample of some of the current technologies, and a few that we will be seeing in 2009.

In the Social Science Division, psychology and sociology faculty will soon be acquiring a new student response card system or "student clicker system" that helps students learn more effectively in the class setting. The new system is more versatile and doesn't use the same type of proprietary software the previous system used.

"The student response card technology is vital to our teaching with students at Brookhaven College," says Stephen Link, psychology professor. "This technology supports the latest research on engaging students, and in the last three years that I have been using these response cards I have seen a noticeable

increase in student awareness and interest. This new generation of response cards increases the ability of an instructor to engage the student with a variety of possibilities."

[Read the full article online.](#)

In Memoriam: Charles McAdams

It has been a difficult year for the college community with the loss of so many of our colleagues, and continues with the most recent loss of Charles McAdams, humanities professor, on Oct. 26. Charles had begun his phased retirement after 29 years of service at Brookhaven College. It took him months to clean out his office.

Charles started his career as the band director for the Trumann Public School District in Trumann, Ark., in 1961. All together, he spent more than 46 years working in education teaching music and humanities, touching the lives of thousands of students during his tenure. Charles, with his fellow humanities professor, Adrien Cuellar-McGuire, developed the first online humanities course in the district.

In addition to his teaching, Charles contributed to students' education through his long work with Rotary International. He served as the chair of the Carrollton-Farmers Branch Rotary Club's scholarship committee and long encouraged the organization in its support of community college students.

When word reached the college of Charles' passing, colleagues from across the college shared their thoughts and memories.

[Read comments from his friends and co-workers in the full article online.](#)



Charles McAdams

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EXCLUSIVE CONTENT ONLINE!

NEW Facilities Workorder Process Coming Soon!

Read the full story in the online edition of the Courtyard Chatter. There's more in almost every story online at www.BrookhavenCollege.edu/chatter/. The *Courtyard Chatter* publishes monthly with important news about the college and community. Your employee newsletter is archived online.

Fall Dancers' Theatre Welcomes Skyline High School Students

Modern, hip hop, lyrical and jazz performances will be the key features of the Dancers' Theatre Fall Show, Nov. 21-23. The performances will feature the Brookhaven College Performance



Ensemble and special guests from Skyline High School.

Students taking a variety of courses come together once each semester for these shows. The professional dancers and choreographers who teach as faculty members in the Brookhaven College School of the Arts choreograph performances. Professors Micki Saba, Shannon Tate, Anna Marie Ewert-Pittman and Michelle Sherrill have created choreography for this performance, along with guest choreographers Keith Clark and Rebekah Caffey.

Performances are Nov. 21 and 22 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 23 at 2:30 p.m. in the Performance Hall.

[Read the full article online.](#)

Congratulations Employee of the Month, October 2008

Meridith Danforth, Marketing and Public Information

Congratulations to Meridith Danforth, manager of public information and technological communications in the Marketing and Public Information Office. As those who attend EOM parades know, Meridith is always there with her camera to document our employees, and she usually sees the poster and certificate in the MPI Office before the parade, so it was appropriate that her parade fell on Halloween when tricks are appropriate. The entire MPI staff managed to keep a secret, and one of them even served as an EOM decoy so we could ensure a good surprise.



[Read the full article online.](#)

Spooky Bones Decorate For Halloween



Who could put together a better Halloween display than the Radiologic Sciences Department? Well, no one else has access to all those great bones. Rad Tech supplied the bones, and library staff supplied the labor to turn the back hallway on the second floor of Building L into the spookiest destination at the college.

Since it's the hallway near Christi Carter's office, there is a chance that it could stay this way throughout the year.

Pigeons Find Brookhaven College Roost

Just before the weather takes that winter turn, the two pigeons, who had built their nest on English professor Carol Cinclair's window sill have hatched their happy brood.

Carol's been very pleased with her new neighbors and has enjoyed all the care and attention the parents have lavished on their eggs. In just a few days, these latest additions to the college will begin learning to fly and move off. There is always the chance that since the nesting site has been successful, it may be used again.



ANNOUNCEMENTS and NEWS OF NOTE

New Procedure Coming For Business Card Purchasing

A new procedure is in the works for the purchase of business cards. Sometime this spring, a new procedure is expected to be in place, allowing designated personnel in each department to enter the information and place orders directly with the printing company. Details will be forthcoming, but it is hoped the new procedure will streamline the process for faster proofing and turn-around on business card purchases.

Nursing Program Gets State Support For Training

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board awarded Brookhaven College \$194,860.47 as part of the state's Nursing Shortage Reduction Program. The award recognizes the increased number of nursing graduates. The nursing program had an additional 39 graduates last year, increasing graduates from 29 in 2006-2007 to 68 in 2007-2008 the third largest increase in the state among the 32 community colleges who qualified for an award. In addition, the latest report from the Board of Nurse Examiners continues to support the program's excellence. From July 1 to Sept. 30, 20 Brookhaven College nursing students took and passed the NCLEX-RN exam. The program continues to maintain its 100 percent pass rate, since its 2004 beginnings.

Students Travel To Washington, D.C.

Six student government officers from Brookhaven College traveled to Washington D.C. for the American Student Association of Community Colleges National Student Advocacy, Leadership and Citizenship Conference, Oct. 25-28. Vanessa Tapia, Brookhaven College Student Government Association president, also serves as ASACC president. The conference included general sessions, keynote speakers, workshops and forums designed to educate the students on the issues critical to community colleges. Oscar Lopez, vice president of student services and enrollment management, and Yasaman Contractor, coordinator of Student Programs And Resources and Student Government Association sponsor, accompanied the group.

Radiologic Technology Program Earns Accreditation

A letter from the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) addressed to Juanita Zapata Flint, executive dean for health and human services, announced that the committee has accredited Brookhaven College's Radiologic Sciences Program for three years, the most time allowed for a new program. The JRCERT, based in Chicago, is the only agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for the accreditation of programs in radiology technology. The Radiologic Sciences Program is headed by Professor Christi Carter, MSRS, RT(R), who recently gave a presentation to radiologic technologists in Bryan, Texas, for the Blinn College Radiologic Technology Program's annual continuing education seminar. Carter's topic was titled "Child Abuse and Neglect: The Role of Radiology."

Minds In Motion Welcomes High School Students To Campus

About 150 Dallas Independent School District students from Seagoville, Thomas Jefferson and W. T. White high schools came to college for a day to sample college life while exploring career opportunities. As part of the Minds in Motion program, the students visited Brookhaven College on Oct. 31. Students attended career cluster workshops with 19 faculty members presenting information focused in health, computers, business and automotive, education or the arts. Minds in Motion is a college readiness and preparation program sponsored the Dallas ISD/DCCCD Majority to Minority Scholarship Program. The visit to Brookhaven College was coordinated by Jean Kaplan, college director, school alliance and institutional outreach, Greg Rife and Suzette Vaquera-Constantine, outreach and recruitment coordinators.