

Introduction

REGRETS ARE FEW, STANDOUTS ARE MANY... EVEN JETER, GUMP WOULD HAVE TO AGREE

Now we know. The longer it takes to compile a history of Rend Lake College, the better. More fodder.

It is Fall 2014 and time to start getting serious about wrapping things up... finally.

But I seem to have the time to (take another break and) read the September 29 edition of *Sports Illustrated* featuring legendary Yankee Derek Jeter on the cover on the eve of his retirement. Inside, according to the banner headline across the top of the magazine: JETER ON JETER The Exit Interview by Tom Verducci.

"Derek Jeter may not be as famous in the legendary sense as Babe Ruth or Willie Mays, but he is the most *familiar* player there ever was, because no other ballplayer spent more time in the public eye than Jeter. He is the most influential and popular player in the sport's greatest era of growth," writes Verducci.

Now I would like to tell you the Captain, No. 2 in pinstripes, one of the greatest role models to ever play the – any – game, is a former Warrior. Just not true. Nowhere will you find any hint that Derek Jeter is a product of Rend Lake College, ever considered attending Rend Lake College as a student-athlete or – if truth be known – has ever even heard of Rend Lake College.

However, he very well may have (heard of Rend Lake College, not attended or considered playing for good ol' RLC).

The historian in you might recognize a name a page-and-a-half into the article on the model of consistency.

According to the author, first-round draft pick Jeter reported to the Gulf Coast League Yankees in Tampa in 1992 and immediately had to make a decision. "He picked through the wood bats until he found one that in size and shape most resembled what he'd swung in high school. It was a Louisville Slugger P72, a model first crafted in 1954 for a minor leaguer named Les Pinkham. This one was 34 inches long and weighed 32 ounces.

"From that first day in pro ball to what will be his last, covering more than 15,000 turns at bat, Jeter never used another model." No difference from age 18 to 40.

"The thing I'll tell my grandkids about with Derek," Verducci quotes Catcher Brian McCann, "is how much I learned about the

importance of routine. He is fanatical about preparation. He does the same thing every day: his work in the cage, his ground balls, his BP [batting practice]. He never deviates."

"I ask Jeter who influenced this belief in routine.

"No one," he says. "You learn what's best for you. I've always been a believer in hard work and no excuses..."

... "If a praying mantis could swing a baseball bat, it would hit like Jeter. His swing is a series of bent limbs folding and unfolding around a torso bent at the waist that falls toward the plate. His left foot comes up and down twice. His hands dip the bat barrel slightly before it comes forward. His left elbow flies out. The last guy to put up such great numbers with such an unorthodox swing was Arnold Palmer.

"An influence: Gary Denbo. He was Jeter's first Manager, during that summer of 1992. Denbo didn't try to change Jeter's swing. 'He saw what I was and just tried to make it better,' Jeter says. Except for five seasons when Denbo was with other organizations, Jeter has worked with him every off-season."

Much later in the narrative...

"It is beginning to come into focus. How many people influence a public life? 'Oh, man, if I named them all, you'd have two pages just of names,' he says. 'You know, like the movie credits that roll at the end.' But look back at the names he did bring up, and there is a theme. They all go back to before he became so familiar: Denbo, [minor league coach who did find it necessary to change the way Jeter threw and caught, Brian] Butterfield, [older spring training teammate-turned-"big brother," counselor and encourager Gerald] Williams, [the rookie's aging teammate, who taught him the importance of enjoying himself as he played, Tim] Raines, [his beloved New York Manager, "Mr. T," Joe] Torre."

Denbo could have said something about Rend Lake College to Jeter at some point in their long relationship. It is very possible.

Denbo was an All-Southern Illinois College Conference third baseman for the RLC Warriors as a freshman during the 1979-80 season. He hit .394 and swiped 22 of 24 steal attempts that Fall for the SICC co-champs;



Intention

SOURCE / DATELINE

It was early in the process of "writing" The History of Rend Lake College a determination was made not to attempt to rewrite the history of Rend Lake College.

Got that?

The reasoning behind the decision? Why try to re-create something already done?

Let the myriad of news releases, news stories, features and special publications that have worked for close to 50 years continue to do so.

Yes, for 49 years as of the beginning of 2016 and counting.

Thus the challenge became one of discovery, researching, sifting and sorting through materials at hand, online and wherever else they could be found or uncovered, rather than merely putting finger – fingers, if you prefer, but finger if the truth be known – to the keyboard and wordsmithing just for the sake of being verbose [see how easily it can get out of hand?].

Apologies even before we get started on the journey ahead. Some dates and timelines may be approximate, based on two-year catalog data with actual dates unavailable. Information for some years is missing or incomplete. Worthy stories may be absent; the memory is not what it used to be. Many valued students/staff operated under the radar, without fanfare.

Once again, got that? **GOOD. BETTER** get started. **BEST** you do not try to read it all at one setting! **THE HISTORY OF REND LAKE COLLEGE.**

he was featured on the cover of the 1979-80 Warrior Baseball brochure along with two other honorees, Mt. Vernon products Doug Creel and Scott Wagner.

In the Spring, he batted .317 and finished with a total of 63 stolen bases in the combined 41-19 campaign.

Warrior Coach Mike McClure understood Denbo's year-long battle with homesickness and gave his blessing to a transfer request for a sophomore season at Wabash Valley, less than an hour from his Indiana home.

Does anybody else find it as cool as I do that you can pick up a *Sports Illustrated* 34 years later, read a story about one of the all-time greats and discover he has reached out throughout his career for support from a former RLC product?

I swear. Nothing has changed just because *SI* decided to write about him, also. Denbo's story already was part of the RLC History Excellence in Athletics Chapter. No editing changes necessary, simply the additional, much-earlier reference herein.

But it is pretty neat, huh?

Rend Lake College recognition in *Sports Illustrated*? No big deal, apparently. It happens all the time.

The August 8, 2016 edition of *SI* featured a story titled, "It's About The Principal." Not what you might think, considering its inclusion in a document all about education, but the story is about NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell and the dictator-like manner in which he conducts discipline hearings "like a stern schoolmaster."

A frequent guest who made appearances before "Judge" Goodell was Super Bowl XLIV Champion Defensive End Anthony Hargrove, the last offense of which was for his role in the New Orleans Saints Bountygate scandal.

His eight-year professional career "ended a month before his 30th birthday, in June 2013, while he was still in his prime.

"Now Hargrove has found new direction. He's finishing his Bachelor's Degree in Special Education at Rend Lake College in Ina, IL, with help from a scholarship from the Players

Association. He's teaching high school students at an education center on the subject of acceptance and commitment therapy."

Hargrove directed a football clinic, – a Speed and Power Camp – at the RLC Rec in July 2016. Hargrove is an assistant Football Coach

He has been employed by Franklin and Jefferson County Special Education for the past year, most recently as a Certified Nonviolent Crisis Instructor.

[We assume the "Bachelor's Degree in Special Education" he is pursuing is offered by one of the many universities offering classes and four-year programs in cooperation with RLC on the Ina campus or at the MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon. Or he is working toward that goal as an undergrad.]

Two Rend Lake College-related sightings in *Sports Illustrated* in two years.

Speaking of pretty neat . . .

- FBI- and U.S. Attorney General-acknowledged Mark Michalic (RLC Class of '78), legit American Hero, who since September 2012 has been responsible for providing oversight for government capabilities pertaining to both man-made and natural disasters as Emergency Preparedness and Crisis Response Coordinator for the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice.

Michalic was the Special Agent who first fingered Timothy McVeigh as the mad bomber/killer of 168 innocent victims, young and old, inside the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City in 1995.

- Not one but two National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Engineers.

Michalic's classmate and friend, Cinda Chullen (Benton), was the first. Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center Technical Manager Cinda Chullen Riccio was overseeing 2,000 engineers and scientists in Houston and an Engineering Support Services Contract valued at \$1.059 billion when the RLC Foundation honored her as the 1992 "Alumna of the Year."

Nontraditional student Peter Johnson (Mt. Vernon), a one-time janitor before his graduation from RLC in 1985, already owned a Silver Snoopy

Award – thanks to his nomination by an Astronaut – when he accepted RLCF "Outstanding Alumnus" distinction in 2012.

Peters is an Instrumentation System Engineer for the Flight Avionics Division at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

- Tune in the Summer Olympics of 2008 and 2012, and you had the opportunity to show your Warrior pride by cheering on a distance runner representing his native Kenya and a sprinter and Silver Medalist wearing the Red, White and Blue.

The popular Boaz Lalang carried INA to ChINA, as well as Coach Brent McLain and his wife, for the 2008 Beijing Games. He did so after posting the fastest collegiate times – all levels – in the Mile and 800-Meter Run during the Spring season and capturing five NJCAA individual blue-ribbons along the way – three Indoors, 800M, 1000M and Mile, and two Outdoors, 800M, 1500M – and anchoring the first-place Indoor Distance Medley Relay quartet.

His impressive performance Indoors helped his adopted school to a first-ever NJCAA Indoor Track and Field crown.

Lalang missed a berth in the eight-man 800M Olympic Finals in the Bird's Nest by one spot, even though his semifinal time was seventh-fastest. The final space was awarded automatically to the winner of the slowest of three semifinals.

An offer from Adidas to turn professional was too tempting to turn down and prevented Lalang from returning to Rend Lake College for his sophomore year as planned. Before his departure from the States, the Eldoret, Kenya native and Ina's Adopted Son was saluted one last time on-campus September 3, 2008, declared "Boaz Lalang Day."

Ryan Bailey showed up that fall from Oregon and left after one year with Warrior sprint records, not to mention NJCAA National Championships Indoors (55M) and Outdoors (100M; second in the 200M).

Lo and behold, the 6-foot-4, 216-pound athletic specimen surprised everybody but himself three

years later by unexpectedly making the USA Olympic Team as the unknown third 100-Meter Man.

All he did after he got to London 2012 was finish fifth in the finals, behind repeat World's Fastest Man Usain Bolt, and found himself anchoring the American team in the 4 x 100M Finals, finishing behind only the you-know-who flash who ran the same leg and his Jamaican teammates.

Rend Lake College reps shining in back-to-back Olympic Games. Beyond amazing.

- Less distinguished, perhaps, on the world stage but nevertheless equally successful in their own rights are many of the Rend Lake College graduates who have returned as Rend Lake College faculty and staff.

To identify a sampling, starting at the top . . .

- President Terry Wilkerson (RLC Class of '92)
- Vice President of Student Services Lisa Bauer Price ('82)
- V-P of Finance and Administration Angie Trader Kistner ('89)
- Recently retired Physical Plant Director Randall Shively ('79)
- Director of Marketing and Public Information Chad Copple ('95)
- Dean of Liberal Arts Division Henry "Buster" Leeck ('00)
- Pinckneyville Campus Coordinator Heather Stanton Bauersachs ('96)
- RLCF Children's Center Director Brooke Pulke May ('05)

Way too many more to mention in positions at all levels, including a faculty chock-full of some of the finest educators at any institution of higher learning anywhere who chose to return to their roots to share their knowledge with students eager to absorb.

Full-time Faculty representatives boasting RLC degrees include Sarah Bilderbeck, Mike Burris, Cindy Caldwell, Shari Carpenter, Peggy Davis, Sarah Draper, Jeff Fairbanks, Nicole Haney, Charlotte Henry, Betty Jo Herbert, Greg Hollmann and Lynda Laningham.

Also, Rob Little, Ashley Marthaler, Therese Melena, Lora Phillips, Chris Sink, Nigel Thompson, Zachary Vahlkamp, Kevin Weston, Pete Wilce, Tim Wills and Charles Wingo.

Never in my wildest imagination as a college freshman – and budding Sports Writer/Editor – who merely had to walk a few steps across the campus of my prep alma mater, Mt. Vernon Township High School, to further my education could I have predicted the ultimate athletic prowess ahead for Warriors and Lady Warriors.

Blame me? Consider the Men's Basketball Team I covered that inaugural 1967-68 season for the *Mt. Vernon Register-News*.

If Roman Numerals had been extended to sporting events back in the olden days – okay, maybe the first Super Bowl had been won in January 1967 by the Green Bay Packers (for the record, 35-10 over the Kansas City Chiefs), but it was awhile before reference actually was made to the Super Bowl and someone decided Arabic numerals apparently were not good enough for suffix-purposes – the post-season wrap-up could have ballooned, Warriors I Won One.

Let the record show a 1-23 campaign under second-year Head Coach Jim Waugh (he coached the Mt. Vernon Community College Warriors in their final season the previous winter) was highlighted by an 89-76 triumph over Springfield in the lucky 13th game. Only once in the 11 games which followed did the RLC cagers come within 16 points of doubling their win total. It should be noted Springfield had conquered its downstate rival 102-96 previously.

Women's Basketball would not appear on the RLC scene until 1977-78, at which time the Lady Warriors I Won One Less in a winless debut.

Hardly the makings of Great Expectations to come . . .

- All "Hummer" Waugh would do is coach the guys 13 more seasons and then assume command of the distaff side for another 14, amass a total of 500 career wins on the hardwood at the prep and collegiate levels, gain entrance into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame (and RLC Sports Hall of Fame) and humbly accept the honor of having his name attached forever to the James "Hummer" Waugh Gymnasium on-campus. Nineteen years after the 1995 retire-

ment of the 1991 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award-recipient, he is still providing color commentary on televised broadcasts of Indiana State University Sycamore Basketball and checking on ISU Student Teachers while residing in his Terre Haute hometown.

- The RLC Men's Basketball Team, circa 2013 – or should we say, Warriors XLVI (that is 46, to save some readers from having to seek help to figure it out; I looked it up) – captured the 28th Annual National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II Men's Basketball National Championship thanks to a convincing, 87-69 thumping of Moraine Valley C.C. to cap a 30-3 campaign, including a Great Rivers Athletic Conference title over eight D-I programs, under third-year Head Coach Randy House.

- Other NJCAA National Championships have been brought back home in Men's Cross-Country (three in Division II, 2001-02-03, and two in upgraded Division I, 2006 and '09), Men's Indoor Track and Field (2008) and Women's Indoor Track and Field (2008).

Men's Golf has a couple of D-II Runner-Up finishes to its credit (1995 and 2005) and Men's Indoor Track and Field could boast of four second-place showings in a five-year NJCAA stretch from 2003-07.

Third-in-the-nation finishes have been claimed by both the Men (twice) and Women's Outdoor Track and Field squads, Women's Cross-Country and the Wrestling program, as well as Men's Indoor T/F (four), Men's Outdoor T/F (two), Men's Cross-Country (two) and Men's Golf.

Finishing in the Top Five nationally has become a common occurrence for the Lady Warrior Golf Team (six times since 2004), and RLC Softball advanced to the NJCAA Fast-Pitch Finals in 1996.

Baseball and Women's Tennis have claimed Region XXIV crowns four and three times, respectively.

- Overall Rend Lake College Warrior and Lady Warrior Athletic Program supremacy was especially noteworthy between 2005 and 2010, when the locals placed among the Top 12 in the country each year but one.

The National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators (NATYCAA) Cup Awards recognizing "overall athletics program excellence by two-year colleges at the national level" ranked RLC Men and Women student-athletes No. 3 in 2009, No. 4 in 2008 (in spite of a higher point-total than the improved status a year later) and No. 6 in 2010.

Do you find it as amazing as I do that a team representing Rend Lake College could whip the University of Notre Dame Fighting Irish in College Bowl academic competition?

Or that former Gov. Jim Edgar would clear his calendar to speak to two RLC groups immediately before starting a three-month guest lecturer series at Harvard University.

Or a conversation between a Rend Lake College Instructor and the Director of the Marine Lab run by Hofstra University. RLC had sent 42 students through the program in a three-year period, but only 10 in the last class.

"You don't realize how popular Rend Lake College is at Hofstra University. You are known at Hofstra as being The Little Engine That Could."

The director mentioned Notre Dame, Wake Forest and Stanford as schools that had sent students once but unable to return a second time.

"They are overwhelmed at Hofstra a school like Rend Lake College has put together the numbers we have," beamed Instructor-Sponsor Steve Holman.

In general, most of us seem to enjoy "Small-World, Isn't It?" examples. At least I always have thought everyone does.

Retirement 10 years ago transplanted yours truly to the Bluegrass of Kentucky, approximately 4 1/2 hours by car across Interstate 64 from Ina to Horse Country and the Lexington area.

Annually, a pioneer of women's athletics is recognized during half-time of a UK Women's Basketball Game.

The prestigious Susan B. Feamster "Trailblazer Award" recognizes those who have exhibited leadership and innovation in furthering women's

sports at Kentucky. Feamster was the first UK Women's Basketball Coach, when it was still a club sport, and former Women's Athletic Director.

The longtime Lexington resident presents the award each year.

She is the same Sue Feamster many of us worked with for a few years when Rend Lake College received the first of its Federal Title III "Strengthening Institutions" Grants and reached out to the Utah-based consulting firm of Clements and Associates.

There were occasional visits from Owner/Founder C. Ray Clements, but Feamster was the primary "Associate" responsible for guiding the RLC Foundation's introduction to the world of big-time fund-raising. Her survey of district leaders and continual advice led to the recruitment of Very Influential Person Sam Mateer to steer the "Generations of Excellence" Capital Campaign, and the rest is history.

Yet another University of Ina-to-University of Kentucky Connection is more disjointed but nevertheless every bit as "Small-World-ish" unique.

Less than three months after his arrival on the Ina campus and his return to Rend Lake College, this RLC alum and son of a Rend Lake College retiree turned Public Information Officer was visiting with a circle of colleagues while awaiting lunch as part of Fall 1979 In-Service.

Not all that memorable, save for the fact I recall two of the members of that particular "discussion" group were new acquaintances – high-spirited Art Instructor Susan Kolojeski and one of her Arts and Communications Department cohorts, Speech Instructor Michael Tick.

Tick had been at Rend Lake College only a few months longer than the recorder-of-the-history and stayed only through Spring 1980.

When the conversation turned to our immediate lunch menu – regarded as a major drop-off in quality when comparing offerings of the past to the cold cuts we were about to "enjoy" – the newbie of the Administrative Team was shocked to see Kolojeski flop to the ground in the Student

Center, feigning food poisoning or worse from what we were about to receive.

It certainly made an impression on me, since I was convinced every other soul in the room was shocked by the protest they were witnessing and the mob scene of must-be demonstrators surrounding her, Michael Tick and me included.

The demonstration was brief and no more came of it, but it was unwanted attention, to say the least.

Suffice to say, his proximity to the flopper did not stick with Tick and was not on his résumé when he left his post as Chair of the Department of Theater at Louisiana State University (LSU) to become the new Dean of the College of Fine Arts at the University of Kentucky in May 2010.

Neither of us has been caught standing in the same circle in Lexington; or could we have been and not been aware of it, unrecognizable to one another after 35-plus years? Not likely, considering he is in high(er) places now and I am, more often than not, mostly a blue jeans-wearing old-timer who blends in with the masses donning Big Blue attire.

It pays to advertise.

I had the privilege of attending two days of the 2008 Ryder Cup at Valhalla Golf Club in Louisville and was proudly wearing a Rend Lake College Golf Outlet cap. It did not go unnoticed.

I immediately recognized – honestly – the young lady who was approaching me, believe it or not (both that she was approaching me, and I recognized her).

It was Leigh Barnfield Lynch and her husband, Mike, of Louisville. I am fully aware it was the cap that got her attention, but it was wonderful to share memories with someone I remembered as a former Warrior cheerleader (1980-81) from Benton who would go on to extend her Ranger-Warrior connection to the Southern Illinois University-Carbondale Salukis sidelines as a cheerleader.

There is more. Within a month or two of the move to Kentucky, I would look up from the computer to see commercials featuring Tracey Webb, RLC Theatre Professor, airing on Lexington television stations. The

former Tracey Brouillette was a much sought-after part-time actor/spokesperson for a variety of products.

Yet another example: a recent phone conversation between Midway College Information Technology Chief Information Officer Salah Shakir and the former RLC Marketing and Public Information Officer. Our offices were once just a few doors down in the same building when Shakir was Dean/Vice President of Information Technology and Student Services; now the separation is approximately 28 miles.

Proof, again and again, it indeed is a Small World in which we live.

And finally, more Small-World Stuff from the golf course.

It warmed my heart to discover in Summer 2016 the Professional Golf Association (PGA) Kentucky Junior Golf Program honors one player each year with its prestigious Jace Bugg Award.

The annual statewide, end-of-summer recognition recognizes both sportsmanship and performance by an 18-and-under standout. It honors a native son who was a longtime PGA Kentucky Junior player and a much-beloved product of Rend Lake College.

If there are any regrets, it is this . . .

- The *Sports Illustrated* article did not make reference to, "An influence: Gary Denbo, who learned how to hit as an All-Great Rivers Athletic Conference third baseman as a freshman with the Rend Lake College Warriors under Coach McClure . . ."

- Or that Janet Reno, in 1997 when she presented Mark Michalic with the U.S. Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award, could not have thanked the "educational system, in general, and Rend Lake College, in particular, for a tremendous job done in preparing the Special Agent by instilling the qualities necessary to become an American Hero."

- Perhaps a red Rend Lake College banner draped around Ryan Bailey's shoulders immediately after finishing behind only Usain Bolt in their London Olympics Relay Final, and maybe a Rend Lake College Anthem – composed especially for this occa-

sion – played right after the Jamaican National Anthem when the runner-up American quartet shared the post-race podium.

- Or the heartfelt disappointment Bugg never had the opportunity to challenge the likes of Tiger Woods or Phil Mickelson or Rory McIlroy or Jordan Spieth for a PGA Tournament Championship.

Surely, as a stand-tall-and-proud RLC grad (Class of '69), I ask not too much.

Or do I just not get it?

Could my perspective be all wrong?

- Maybe we should all take the greatest pleasure in the hundreds of Rend Lake College graduates each year who become the first in their families to attain a post-secondary diploma.

- Maybe our greatest accomplishment comes in saving students and their families thousands of dollars annually – millions, in dual-credit courses alone in recent years – in their pursuit of better futures?

- Maybe the real value is more clearly revealed in sheer numbers . . .

~ From an unduplicated headcount of 883 incoming freshman and returning sophomore (Mt. Vernon Community College) students when the doors first swung open in 1967-68 to a record-high 14,698 in 2010-11.

~ Comparative years of 19,920 credit hours and 89 Associate Degrees awarded in Years One and Two, respectively, to all-time bests in Fiscal Year 2009 of 95,318 credit hours and 727 two-year degrees (increases of almost 4.8 times and 8.2 times, respectively).

- Outsiders seem to think very highly of us as well.

Note the well-deserved attention received in recent years both nationally and among in-state peer-groups . . .

- JULY 2016 ~ **No. 1 in Nation**

SmartAsset, a personal finance technology company, rated RLC at the very top after comparing data from 565 two-year public colleges.

The survey considered 1) Student-Teacher ratio (15:1); 2) Graduation and Transfer rate (67%); 3) Tuition and Fees for in-state students, and 4) Ratio of Graduates' Median Starting Salaries to Overall Cost of Attendance.

Rend Lake College was ranked No.

5 in the country by SmartAsset in 2014 and No. 2 in 2015.

- APRIL 2011 ~ **Top 10% in Nation**

The Aspen Institute, based in Washington, D.C., has identified its List of Top 120 (since bumped to 150) Community Colleges every other year since 2011 and Rend Lake College's inclusion is four-for-four.

Institutions making the list qualify for the \$1 Million Aspen Prize presented the following year.

Graduation Rate is the major standard for the award. In 2011, RLC was No. 2 in the state with its 44 percent figure, compared to the overall average of 21 percent.

"There are exceptional community colleges across our country providing students with a high-quality, affordable education that leads to good careers and strong economic opportunity," Josh Wyner, Executive Director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program, said. "Through this competition, we're working to inspire community colleges and help them understand how to ensure that more students succeed."

- AUGUST 2012 ~ **No. 1 in Illinois No. 5 in Nation**

A 50.3 percent Graduation Rate for Rend Lake College students topped the charts, according to the **Chronicle of Higher Education's Almanac of Higher Education**. The Chronicle looked at 3,800 degree-graduating institutions.

- AUGUST 2016 ~ **No. 1 in Illinois No. 7 in Nation**

WalletHub, a financial website, compared 821 institutions to come up with its "Best and Worst Community Colleges for 2016," based on 17 key performance metrics which went into four categories for measurement and ranking purposes.

RLC's lofty status benefitted most from Education Outcomes (18th overall) and Career Outcomes (20th). Also considered: Cost and Financing and Classroom Experiences.

The previous year, WalletHub was not impressed by the financial woes of the State of Illinois. Rend Lake College was No. 19 nationally re: Education Outcomes but no better than No. 9 in Illinois. Shawnee, at 92nd, was

the lone state representative in the Top 187 in 2015.

- JUNE 2012 ~ **No. 1 in Illinois**
No. 18 in Nation

CNN Money/College Measures, in a joint venture with the American Institutes of Research and Matrix Knowledge Group, charted a "Success Rating" based on the percentage of students graduating within three years of transferring to a four-year school. RLC boasted a "success rate" of 68 percent.

- MARCH 2015 ~ **No. 5 in Nation**

The Huffington Post placed Rend Lake College in the middle of its nationwide search for The Top Ten Community Colleges. Distinction was awarded to colleges offering a Low-Cost Education, Good Return on Investment and High Success Rate.

According to The Huffington Post, Rend Lake College came to the forefront thanks to a 66.8 percent graduation and transfer rate, nearly twice the national average, and statistics which showed grads making 33.4 percent higher than their college costs as an average starting salary.

★★★ ★★ ★★

So what exactly do we have here?

That is a question I have been pondering for some time now.

It became obvious many moons ago, as the pages and chapters continued to mount up, it was not going to be "a" book.

Volumes, perhaps? **1** "a book(s) forming part(s) of a work or series?"

It is a "History," by definition, in the sense the attempt has been made to include **2** "the whole series of past events connected with someone or something; an eventful past."

Yet another meaning of history: **3** "a continuous, typically chronological, record of important or public events of a particular trend or institution."

That might have worked, if not for that part re: "typically chronological."

There was never a thought to assemble the information provided chronologically. Too boring.

Never had any desire to try to place everything in order of importance. Way too subjective. Although it would be naive to think those events

of major importance are hidden in the back or challenging to find, just for the fun of search and discovery.

And besides, even if everything else met the criterion, that would make yours truly a Historian, "a person who researches, studies and writes about the past, and *is regarded as an authority on it.*" Rules that one out, for sure.

The thought of it becoming a Chronicle is appealing, maybe a little sexy or edgy. Imagine, **The Chronicles of Rend Lake College.**

Oops, there it is again: "a factual written account of important or historical events *in the order of their occurrence.*" No amount of sexy or edgy is going to get this guy to cut, paste and rearrange into that perfect order. Either forget **The Chronicles of Rend Lake College** or wait until the next person up is willing to re-write history.

Document? "a piece of written, printed or electronic matter that provides information or evidence or that serves as an official record." Just not certain about that word, "official."

Annals? "a record of everything" – so far so good – "... year by year." Not again!

Anthology? "a collection of literacy works chosen by the compiler. It may be a collection of poems, short stories [news releases and newspaper articles?], plays, songs or excerpts." Getting closer.

But what it is not is a "genre *fiction* anthology, which is used to categorize collections of shorter works such as short stories and short novels, *usually collected into a single volume for publication.*" A real health risk to the back, to say the least.

Perhaps we are narrowing in on a solution? Note the word, "compiler," and consider the very real possibility of a "compilation."

Compilation? **1** "the action or process of producing something, especially a list, book or report, by assembling information collected from other sources": *great care has been taken in the compilation of this guidebook;* **2** "a thing, especially a book, record or broadcast program, that is put together by assembling

previously separate items": *there are thirty-three stories in this compilation* | [as modifier] : *a compilation album.*

Or maybe the key word is actually "collection?"

Collection just might be good enough, simple as well as self-effacing. "A group of things or people: a rambling [that fits, somewhat] collection of houses; an assembly of items such as works of art, pieces of writing or natural objects, especially one systematically ordered."

Which makes moi? merely a Recorder, "a person who keeps records," or at best, a former Sports Editor-turned-Educational Editor, "a person who works for a publishing company, commissioning or preparing material for publication."

Me likes the modest references to a "Collection" and the unassuming title, "Collector."

Baseball cards as a youngster.

Rend Lake College treasures as a proud oldtimer. Proud of a near-lifelong association with Rend Lake College, that is, not of being old.

★★★ ★★ ★★

The credentials, in a nutshell, of your Compiler-Recorder-Collector-somewhat Historian?

A lifetime connection . . . teenage and beyond, since yours truly actually predates both Mt. Vernon Community College and Rend Lake College.

A Mother who was hand-picked by a highly respected Dean (Dr. Howard Rawlinson) – when there was only one Dean – to be his Executive Secretary and loved working for MVCC and Rend Lake College, both on the Mt. Vernon Township High School campus and the new digs a few miles down the road in Ina.

Her frequent travel partner in those early days was a good friend and another Executive Secretary of another Dean (Mark S. Kern) – there were a few more of them by then – who just happened to be the Mother-in-law/Mother of my Brother and Sister-in-law.

I do not remember there ever being any doubt as a 1967 high school graduate that I would be attending the local community college. No

tuition, a \$10 activity fee per semester and the comforts of living at home – i.e. laundry services and easy access to food – while attending college classes with a majority of my friends. A proud member of the first Freshman Class, with the ability to spend time in the apartments of new-found friends who were attending from outside the district.

I truly had no real desire to go anywhere else at that time in my life.

Basketball Coach Jim Waugh had the audacity of cutting this product of a county-wide Church League championship team, but I got over it (reluctantly). I covered the Warriors for the *Mt. Vernon Register-News*. [Surely my presence on the court could have helped that team win more than one game, but enough of that. Time to move on.]

The following year, I was once again a sideline contributor for all but one of the team's 21 games in a seven-win season. Do not ask me why – I have no clue – the lone game I missed was the all-time record 54-point outburst at Danville by RLC Sports Hall of Fame Inductee Larry Tutt. Go figure.

A memory I do have . . .

A popular group from American Bandstand fame, the American Breed, braving the elements one winter night in 1969 for a Rend Lake College Concert in the Mt. Vernon Armory (yes, it seemed very old even then). You know the group, I'm sure, with the hit, "Bend Me, Shape Me." Research tells me it disbanded the following year. Gym classes also were conducted in the Armory.

Flash forward to 1994. Welcome back to the Second Annual Valentine Dance, sponsored free of charge for several years by the RLC Foundation, with between 500-1,000 in attendance each year, held one time only in the Armory. Connections, a quarter-of-a-century apart.

Other ties. The first RLC Library – the old-fashioned forerunner to these newfangled Learning Resource Centers et al. – was across the street in the old First Baptist Church building, which provided my religious roots through early high school years until

a move to new, more modern facilities in the northern part of town.

Along with other college classmates, I was in attendance in a muddy field in March for chilly ground-breaking ceremonies for the Ina campus.

Years later, I had the great pleasure of serving as the Master of Ceremonies for special programs recognizing a much-anticipated RLCF Children's Center, the Aquatics Center, a unique centerpiece, the RLC Staff Clock Tower, and naming opportunities to honor two good friends, the James "Hummer" Waugh Gymnasium and the Wayne Arnold Aerobics Super-Circuit Fitness Center.

Wonder which of those is closest to where I might have been standing on that chilly, damp day back in '69?

I also would like everyone to know I took one for the team in Fall '79, less than four months after my first working arrival in Ina and my return to Rend Lake College. Make that, took two for the team in the formative years of the RLC Foundation Powerhouse.

My first official Spring Schedule was in the process of being printed when a decision was made to conduct an organizational meeting of the revitalized RLC Foundation, which was a reality by charter only prior to the November gathering.

How to get the word out? "I know," said the eager newcomer. One way would be to stuff a letter/announcement from President Harry J. Braun in the already-printed schedule, before it is mass-mailed out to approximately 40,000 in-district residents.

What was I thinking? Stuff 40,000-plus mailers by hand. My hands; the hands of my wife and my very young son, when begging convinced them to help; student-worker hands; the willing hands of Secretarial Staff volunteers. Just do not give me a hand for coming up with the idea for saving a little money in the process. Schedules eventually went out, stuffed.

Lesson learned. Never again.

Taking One for the Team, Part II, came either that November or in

the next one or two annual dinner meetings; just not certain which one.

I was sitting at one of the tables, preparing to eat with some of the community's finest leaders and prospective Foundation supporters. A student-worker helping serve the pre-meeting dinner was embarrassed to have a full glass of water slip from her hands (there is that word again) and empty itself in my lap.

Dr. Braun told me later how thankful he was that happened to me. (And not somebody important. I was at least smart enough to know exactly what he meant. No hard feelings. I, too, was happy it happened to me and not somebody of importance!)

Glad to take (another) one for the team. But this has got to quit.

Name-dropping. The kid who for some reason chose to be an average student grew up surrounded by some of the biggest names in Rend Lake College history.

The beloved Rawlinson is remembered by most associated with Rend Lake College as a wise intellect who was nearly blind, unable to read his own mail or the books/educational material he craved.

In fact, history will show he was once a near-Olympic quality pole vaulter during his own college days at McKendree College.

Rawlinson's family, it should also be noted, was from the tiny Southern Illinois town of Crossville.

Hey, my wife's family is from White County, also. Her grandfather was an educator as well, the Crossville Grade School Principal. Kendi, who became a Kelley in 1971, and Dr. Rawlinson, who retired 13 months later, are related! Distant cousins, they were Crossville H.S. graduates 42 years apart.

The good Doctor's major short-coming was being a Cubs fan, says the distant cousin-by-marriage and Cardinal advocate-turned writer-compiler-collector-pseudo historian.

Small, small world. But I emphasize, not the reason I got the job; if I am wrong, I do not care to know, thank you.

Two of the most cherished family friends were the revered Silas Echols

and Dr. J.L. Buford.

Mt. Vernon Township High School Principal Echols and his wife, Marykate, were First Baptist Church leaders and icons.

It was Echols, according to Dr. Rawlinson's publication, **The First Fifteen Years**, who "oft-expressed hope to see a junior college housed on the Mt. Vernon Township High School campus."

Buford was a nationally renowned educator and longtime Superintendent of Mt. Vernon District 80 Grade Schools. My Aunt was his treasured Executive Secretary, confidant and lifelong friend of the J. Lester and Dorothy Buford family.

Buford was responsible for spreading the positive message regarding the possibilities for a district-wide, two-year community college as Co-Chair of the Public Relations Committee. He was one of four featured speakers at a Founders Day Dinner held in 1979 to recognize those who made a difference.

The person credited with conducting the Feasibility Study which was first presented in May 1966? One of my first Little League Baseball coaches, Mt. Vernon Businessman Charles Pardee. A coincidence only, nothing more.

The President of the MVTHS Board of Education at the time it approved the move for separation of the college was Dr. William McAtee. Did I mention he was my dentist?

A member of the Board of Trustees when I was hired in 1979 and soon-to-be Chair, Joe McClure, another of my former Little League mentors. He was the leading vote-getter from a field of eight when first re-elected in 1978.

Was I that hard on my L.L. coaches between ages 10-12, because I can remember yet another one who was later the Postmaster? I could not have been that hard to manage; after all, Trustee McClure voted for me, I'm pretty sure.

Former Instructors who were still around and may have questioned my hiring 10 years later included Cheryl (Merkens) Foley, Dr. Eugene Estes, Eleanor Hall, Wayne Arnold, Jim Waugh, Richard Perrachione and

Judson DeWitt. I also worked one year on the student newspaper and its sponsor, my Mother's dear friend, Dr. Barbara Luchsinger.

I know my Chemistry Teacher from my sophomore year in high school, RLC Science and Health Department Chair Ed Kownacki, had to be shaking his head and wondering what college administrators were thinking. Much belated thanks for not questioning the decision, at least in public, to Ed, always a favorite of my Chem-major Brother.

Dave Patton, as well, considering

his many trips to the library balcony at the direction of Imogene Book to tell us to keep the noise down.

★★★ ★★ ★★

Before the reader begins discovering – re-discovering? – the virtues of Rend Lake College, past, present and future, we share the thoughts of a well-known character, aka Forrest Gump, who likewise shares a love for chocolates and community colleges.

Take time to enjoy both luxuries.

~ Bob Kelley

“
***That place made me
what I am today.***
”

**THE OPINION PAGES **
OP-ED CONTRIBUTOR HANKS ▶
Owe it all to community college:
Recalling his two years at Chabot

THE NEW YORK TIMES JANUARY 14, 2015
BY TOM HANKS, ACTOR / PRODUCER / DIRECTOR

In 1974, I graduated from Skyline High School in Oakland, CA, an underachieving student with lousy SAT scores. Allowed to send my results to three colleges, I chose MIT and Villanova, knowing such fine schools would never accept a student like me but hoping they'd toss some car stickers my way for taking a shot. I couldn't afford tuition for college anyway.

I sent my final set of stats to Chabot, a community college in nearby Hayward, CA, which, because it accepted everyone and was free, would be my alma mater.

For thousands of commuting students, Chabot was our Columbia, Annapolis, even our Sorbonne, offering courses in Physics, Stenography, Auto Mechanics, Certified Public Accounting, Foreign Languages, Journalism – name the art or science, the subject or trade, and it was probably in the catalog. The college had a Nursing program that churned out graduates, sports teams that funneled athletes to

big-time programs and parking for a few thousand cars – all free but for the effort and the cost of used textbooks.

Classmates included veterans back from Vietnam, women of every marital and maternal status returning to school, middle-aged men wanting to improve their employment prospects and paychecks.

We could get our General Education requirements out of the way at Chabot – credits we could transfer to a university – which made those two years an invaluable head start. I was able to go on to the State University in Sacramento (at \$95 a semester, just barely affordable) and study no other subject but my major, theater arts. (After a year there I moved on, enrolling in a little thing called the School of Hard Knocks; i.e., Life.)

By some fluke of the punch-card computer era, I made Chabot's dean's list taking classes I loved (oral interpretation), classes I loathed (health, a requirement), classes I aced (film as art — like Jean Renoir's "Golden Coach" and Luis Buñuel's "Simon of the Desert"), and classes I dropped after the first hour (astronomy, because it was all math). I nearly failed zoology, killing my fruit flies by neglect,

but got lucky in an English course, "The College Reading Experience." The books of Carlos Castaneda were incomprehensible to me (and still are), but my assigned presentation on the analytic process called structural dynamics was hailed as clear and concise, though I did nothing more than embellish the definition I had looked up in the dictionary.

A public speaking class was unforgettable for a couple of reasons. First, the assignments forced us to get over our self-consciousness. Second, another student was a stewardess, as flight attendants called themselves in the '70s. She was studying communications and was gorgeous. She lived not far from me, and when my VW threw a rod and was in the shop for a week, she offered me a lift to class. I rode shotgun that Monday-Wednesday-Friday totally tongue-tied. Communicating with her one on one was the antithesis of public speaking.

Classes I took at Chabot have rippled through my professional pond. I produced the HBO mini-series "John Adams" with an outline format I learned from a pipe-smoking historian, James Coovelis, whose lectures were riveting. Mary Lou Fitzgerald's Studies in Shakespeare taught me how the five-act structures of "Richard III," "The Tempest" and "Othello" focused their themes.

In Herb Kennedy's Drama in Performance, I read plays like "The Hot L Baltimore" and "Desire Under the Elms," then saw their productions. I got to see the plays he taught, through student rush tickets at the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco and the Berkeley Repertory Theater. Those plays filled my head with expanded dreams. I got an A.

Of course, I goofed off between classes eating French fries and looking at girls; such are the pleasures, too, of schools that cost thousands of bucks a semester. Some hours I idled away in the huge library that anchored Chabot's oval quad. It's where I first read *The New York Times*, frustrated by its lack of comics.

If Chabot's library still has its collection of vinyl records, you will find

my name repeatedly on the takeout slip of Jason Robards' performance of the monologues of Eugene O'Neill. On Side B he was Hickey, from "The Iceman Cometh," a recording I listened to 20 times at least. When I worked with Mr. Robards on the 1993 film, "Philadelphia," he confessed to recording those monologues at 10 in the morning after lots and lots of coffee.

President Obama hopes to make two years of free community college accessible for up to nine million Americans. I'm guessing the new Congress will squawk at the \$60 billion price tag, but I hope the idea sticks, because more veterans, from Iraq and Afghanistan this time, as well as another generation of mothers, single parents and workers who have been out of the job market, need lower obstacles between now and the next chapter of their lives. High school graduates without the finances for a higher education can postpone taking on big loans and maybe luck into the class that will redefine their life's work. Many lives will be changed.

Chabot College is still in Hayward, though Mr. Coovelis, Ms. Fitzgerald and Mr. Kennedy are no longer there. I drove past the campus a few years ago with one of my kids and summed up my two years there this way: "That place made me what I am today."

Tom Hanks is an Actor, Producer and Director. His 2011 film, "Larry Crowne," was inspired by his years at Chabot College.

newsbusters.org/ NBC'S LAUER CHEERS TOM HANKS
OP-ED PROMOTING OBAMA'S 'FREE' COLLEGE PLAN
BY KYLE DRENNEN FEBRUARY 25, 2015

Wrapping up an interview with actor Tom Hanks on Wednesday's NBC Today, co-host Matt Lauer took time to promote a January op-ed Hanks wrote for *The New York Times* praising "free" community college: "I read this op-ed you wrote recently . . . I love that. Why was it so important for you to get that message out there?"

Hanks replied: "I'm going to tell you right now that if I hadn't had two years of debt-free time in order to discover who I was and figure out what the world was about, I don't think I'd be here talking to you today. And I must say, a free opportunity to go to a very excellent place in order to

learn about yourself and learn about the world."

In the *Times* article, Hanks described his time at Chabot Community College in California "which, because it accepted everyone and was free, would be my alma mater." Concluding the piece, Hanks turned to advocacy, pushing President Obama's proposal to use taxpayer dollars to provide two "free" years of community college to students:

President Obama hopes to make two years of free community college accessible for up to nine million Americans. I'm guessing the new Congress will squawk at the \$60 billion price tag, but I hope the idea sticks . . . High school graduates without the finances for a higher education can postpone taking on big loans and maybe luck into the class that will redefine their life's work. Many lives will be changed.

Hanks was on Today, along with NBC Special Correspondent Tom Brokaw, to talk about the pair receiving the American Spirit Award from the World War II Museum in New Orleans.

On the community college topic, Brokaw proclaimed: "I think they're a very important part of the future of this country, Matt, I really do."

Lauer declared: "Much needed attention for a group of colleges that don't get enough attention. I completely agree."

**PUBLIC INFORMATION
• MARKETING**

PUBLIC INFORMATION
OFFICER

Steve Korris, 1975

PUBLIC INFORMATION
OFFICER

Scott B. Mones, 1976-78

PUBLIC INFORMATION
OFFICER

Gerald Buchanan, 1979

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER /
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING AND PUBLIC INFO

Bob Kelley, 1979-2006

PART-TIME
MARKETING ASSISTANT

Susan Eubanks, 1998-2000

PART-TIME MARKETING ASSISTANT
/ GRAPHIC DESIGN INSTRUCTOR

Jennifer Tarantino, 2000-01

MARKETING AND PUBLIC INFORMATION
ASSISTANT

Celeste Hunt, 2001-03

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INFORMATION /
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING AND PUBLIC INFO

Chad Copple, 2003-

MARKETING AND PUBLIC INFORMATION ASST.
/ MARKETING SPECIALIST

Nathan Wheeler, 2006-

PUBLIC INFORMATION
SPECIALIST

ReAnne Palmer, 2013-

STUDENT-WORKERS WHO HELPED PRESERVE
THE HISTORY OF REND LAKE COLLEGE . . .

Excellence in Students, Page 142

History...from a Rend Lake College point of view

EVERYTHING FROM “A” (AMERICAN HERO MICHALIC) TO “Z” (LALANG, BOAZ)

Rend Lake College has packed plenty of history into its first 49 years.

The late Glenn L. Dare, the first faculty member to retire after capping a 44-year teaching career as a Rend Lake College History Instructor from 1967-70, could only imagine the future potential of the area-wide two-year college he helped start with his personal touch of class.

Social Science Instructor Max Brandon (1967-78) witnessed more of it, but nothing compared to colleagues, History Instructor Vince Cain (1970-90) and Social Science Instructor Dr. Richard Doherty (1970-94).

That trio lived it. Doherty was coach of the College Bowl team that claimed the first statewide “Academic Olympics” championship in 1993 and a major player (All-Star) on the 1996 third-place squad. Cain brought his own experience to the classroom . . . a second career for a popular teacher who was a veteran of both the Army (17 years, including the Green Beret) and Navy, a race car driver and witness to an atom bomb explosion in Nevada in 1953. Brandon was part of an Academic Council that asked for the removal of the institution’s President and, in turn, was sued by him.

Then there is the exuberant Henry “Buster” Leeck (2004-), History Instructor-turned-Liberal Arts Division Chair. He views the history of Rend Lake College from an entirely different perspective as the son of a longtime Agriculture Instructor/Professor and former AAA Department Chair, the late Doug Leeck (1975-97).

History continued to repeat itself in 2009, when Nathan Brouwer was hired as History Instructor after Buster was booted upstairs. Brouwer quickly made his presence felt . . . he was honored as Phi Theta Kappa’s Rho Xi Honorary Member for 2009-10 and was later named PTK Advisor even before he was awarded tenure in 2012. His wife, nontraditional RLC student Krista Brouwer, was one of two nominees for PTK Academic All-Illinois/USA recognition for 2011-12.

But to best summarize some of the historical moments of Rend Lake College, we might be wise to copy the unique-to-say-the-least teaching style of the Proud-to-be-an-American History Instructor, Arthur A. “Art” Samford (1967-75).

He routinely would rattle off a brief litany of unique facts and stories regarding many of the characters and events comprising American History.

Samford’s students would memorize the four or five-sentence synopsis for each of the 15-20 subjects they were told they would be tested on each chapter, spend time beforehand on test days reciting the rote descriptions with classmates and then recount their knowledge accurately for a good grade.

Funny thing about this methodology of teaching/learning. It worked. Years after History 1101 was history, (**Editor’s Note** from a personal viewpoint: some of, not all of) Samford’s former students could still earn an “A” with their recall abilities. Name a specific historical event in America’s history, and RLC products probably could recite many of the facts learned in those classes. The late Instructor would be proud.

Let’s give it a try . . .

Mark Michalic (West Frankfort), Class of ’79. Special Agent, U.S. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. Dubbed American Hero for his role in capturing Oklahoma City bombing suspect Timothy McVeigh, responsible for killing 168 people in Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in 1995. Recognized by Attorney General Janet Reno and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). RLC Foundation “Alumnus of the Year,” 1998. Shared 1999 ICCTA “Distinguished Alumnus Award” with Comedian Jim Belushi.

Jace Bugg (Henderson, KY), Class of ’97. First-Team NJCAA Division II All-America golfer led team to third-place national showing as freshman, fifth as sophomore. Six-time individual medalist during Juco career. Reached quarterfinals of prestigious U.S. Amateur Championship a month after leaving RLC, losing to same Stanford University foe who was beaten by Tiger Woods in semifinals the previous year. Winner of pro tournaments on Canadian and Buy.com Tours. On track to earn PGA qualifying card with Top Ten finish before struck down by leukemia. Died December 5, 2003, at age 27 after 13-month battle.

Rend Lake College. One of three recipients of national Media Systems Business-

* - * - *

Official Seal a winner for Designer Wakefield

The official Rend Lake College seal was designed in 1967-68 by Architectural Technology student Ross John Wakefield, a sophomore from Shelbyville, for a contest among students of Art Instructor Jim McGhee. The seal was favored in a vote by both students and faculty.

Wakefield’s rendering features a lamp of learning and compass (representing vocational programs) imposed over an outline of Rend Lake. “The lake was not done at the time. We hoped it would resemble the design when it was finished,” McGhee said.

The runner-up entry was submitted by Rick Marlow, who would later teach at the college (1992-2006), retire and then get elected to the RLC Board (2009). Wakefield teaches Drafting at Romeoville H.S.

When Mark Kern became President, he expressed a desire to see the official college seal emphasized as much as possible on the official Catalog and other publications, etc. “I have always liked the seal, because I really think it depicts what Rend Lake College is all about,” Kern commented.

In September 1997, a fountain and a giant cast metal seal was dedicated on the front lawn of the Learning Resource Center. It was a 30th Anniversary gift from Kern and his mother, W. Juanita Kern, in memory of her husband and his father, Frank W. Kern, an area educator for 22 years at Ewing High and Moore’s Grade School before finishing his career as Principal at Thompsonville. He also was named a Master Farmer.



Area College vote figures show sweeping majorities

PYRAMID TIMES NOVEMBER 4, 1966
The following figures are the final totals in the Area Junior College Election October 22. These figures have been provided by Charles Pardee, who prepared the Feasibility Study for the proposed college.

DISTRICT	YES	NO
Sesser	659	49
Zeigler	221	77
Christopher	336	73
Benton	1,550	124
Thompsonville	50	24
McLeansboro	863	87
Dahlgren	218	17
Webber	211	37
Waltonville	288	54
Mt. Vernon	2,895	240
Pinckneyville	368	307
Tamaroa	155	38
Wayne City	457	57
Enfield	228	49
COUNTY	YES	NO
Franklin	2,816	339
Hamilton	1,081	104
Jefferson	3,394	331
Perry	523	345
Wayne	457	57
White	228	49
	YES	NO
Incorporated	5,461	605
Unincorporated	3,038	620
TOTALS	8,499	1,225

[EDITOR'S NOTE: There is an eight-vote discrepancy in the total "No" vote of five Franklin County districts and the County and Total counts. Slight discrepancies exist in other published accounts of the Area College vote figures.]



Original facilities design based on 1,400 students

BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 1967
Construction of the original facilities designed by the official architectural firm of Caudill, Rowlette & Scott of Houston, TX, was based on a 1,400-student campus by the Year 1975.

College Partnership Awards presented for first time in 1982 at American Association of Community and Junior Colleges National Convention in St. Louis. Cited for cooperative efforts in providing training for both Old Ben Coal Company and Inland Steel Coal Company. Programs "exemplify very creative responses" to increased productivity for business and industry needs. Shared honor with Bay De Noc C.C. (MI) and Central Technical C.C. (NE). Winners chosen from 28 model programs.

Rend Lake College "Most Affordable."

During Fall 1998 Press Conference, President Mark S. Kern declared, "We firmly believe we are the least expensive - the most affordable - community college in the state. And we might even be the most affordable college in the state." Opinion based on sixth-lowest tuition in state in combination with newly instituted textbook rental option. By 2009, Textbook Rental program had saved students and families \$4 million.

Academic Teams of Year / Academic All-Americans, 2004-05 and 2005-06. Six Warrior/Lady Warrior athletic teams designated Academic Teams of the Year both seasons. Women's Tennis ranked No. 1 nationally in 2004-05; 12 Women's Tennis squads achieved similar recognition, but no other team could match the overall GPA of 3.51 by Coach Diane Metzger's squad. Two-time honorees, in addition to Women's Tennis, were Women's Golf, Softball, Women's Basketball and Volleyball. Men's Basketball joined that quintet the first year; Men's Cross-Country was the sixth so-honored the next. RLC boasted five Distinguished Academic All-Americans (3.8-4.0 GPAs) and 10 Academic All-Americans (minimum 3.50 GPA) in '04-05, three of each in '05-06.

Hopefully, with apologies to Mr. Samford, whose descriptives no doubt were much more succinct and delivered in a distinctly likable cadence of their own, the reader gets the point.

No matter how it is presented - chronologically seemed too boring; any semblance of importance/priority was deemed too subjective - the chapters herein tell only a portion of the story that is, and has been, Rend Lake College.

Do not forget one very important fact along the journey, however.

The highest priority remains educating the students it serves. In light of the college's original Philosophy and stated Objec-

tives, the official Functions of the college in 1967-68 were . . .

- 1) To provide university-parallel instruction for students wishing to pursue curricula requiring professional training beyond the Associate Degree level;
- 2) To provide occupational training for direct entry into the labor market;
- 3) To provide opportunities for adult and continuing education;
- 4) To provide community service through faculty and facilities;
- 5) To provide an opportunity for growth and development for students whose educational background does not qualify them for immediate entry into other curricula;
- 6) To provide an opportunity for personal, educational and vocational counseling.

Need proof history will look kindly on that aspect of the college as well?

- Enrollment has grown steadily for the most part and by leaps and bounds in other years. From a headcount (unduplicated) of 883 generating 19,920 credit hours in 1967-68 to comparable figures of 7,187 and 54,141, respectively, by 1981-82; a sudden surge to 11,344 and 69,642 (including Correctional Education program) in 1999-2000, and yet another tremendous upswing in 2007-08 to 13,187 and 86,571 (even without Corrections) and 92,526 (with Corrections).

- Transfer students annually have fared better than "native" students and community college transfers as a whole at four-year colleges and universities where most complete their educations. It was not unusual for RLC transfers to rank first or second in terms of grade-point average at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, back when that institution released rankings; it stopped doing so years ago rather than offend two-year colleges which did not rate among the frontrunners.

- Guarantees of Educational Quality Control for baccalaureate degree-seeking transfer students and Career/Occupational graduates' ability to demonstrate competency in technical skills represented in the degree have been in place since April 1995.

If the graduate is not able to demonstrate skills expected by employers, the student will be offered up to 15 credit hours of retraining - tuition-free - subject to specified conditions.

- Accreditation visits by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools have resulted in the maximum 10-year recognition each of the last three times Rend

Lake College has compiled a Self-Study.

The tale that is Rend Lake College could take any number of twists and turns.

Take the Business-College Partnership Award, for example.

In 1982, the coal mining industry was prominent in Southern Illinois, in general, and in Franklin County, in particular. Rend Lake College, as the Media Systems recognition would attest to, was at the forefront of Coal Mining Technology education and training.

But it was not all that many years after that area mines would be boarded shut and Mining Technology classes would be almost nonexistent. The program remained part of the Official College Catalog primarily to entice laid-off workers who were close to earning degrees to return to college for any classes still needed to complete Associate in Applied Science Degree requirements.

Fast-forward now to 2008-09. A rebirth of Southern Illinois coal mining opportunities will start for many at Rend Lake College, which revived its program with encouragement from legislative representatives and incentive in the form of a \$1.6 million Federal Community-Based Grant for Coal Mining Training (March 2008), \$1.07M in State Coal Development Funds for a Coal Mining Training Center (April 2008) and \$285,000 from a state grant to improve safety in the Illinois coal mining industry with a cutting-edge Mine Rescue and Safety Training facility (August 2009).

Michalic and Bugg certainly are not the only alumni to distinguish themselves.

The difficult task for Rend Lake College and RLC Foundation officials each year is not to find a deserving "Alumnus of the Year" but to narrow a vast field of eligible, successful candidates.

Michalic, Student Trustee and President of the Student Senate (not to mention Christmas Dance King), was not even the first member of his graduating class to be immortalized in RLC Alumni annals.

Cinda Chullen (Associate in Arts Degree), who shared her 1979 graduation with her mother, Associate Degree in General Studies recipient Ella Stewart Chullen, was named "Alumna of the Year" for 1992.

It is safe to say Cinda Chullen's career path took off like a rocket after her graduation from Benton High School, RLC and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Thermal and Environmental Engineering from Southern

Illinois University-Carbondale. She would add a Masters in Business Administration (MBA) Degree from University of Houston.

At the time she was honored by her two-year alma mater, the wife of NASA Propulsion Engineer Joe Riccio was the Technical Manager of an Engineering Support Services Contract for the National Aeronautics Space Administration's Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston. The contract she oversaw involved 2,000 engineers and scientists and was valued at \$1.059 billion.

She previously had received NASA Outstanding and Superior Performance Awards and was an SIUC "Outstanding Alumna."

Their classmates included Associate in Applied Science Degree recipient Charles Randall Shively, who came to Southern Illinois as a student-athlete out of Whitesville, KY, and left after a record-setting pitching career for a return to his native Kentucky and Murray State University.

In between, Shively met his eventual wife, Wayne City resident Randa Rainwater (sister of Lisa Payne, Vice President of Career Technical Instruction), and later returned to Southern Illinois. Shively was working at General Tire when he was hired in 1995 as RLC Physical Plant Director.

Shively was presented an "Outstanding Staff" Award in 2003, the first year the honor was open to administrators and support staff, as well as Office Support and Physical Plant personnel.

Other students garnered state and even national attention while still in attendance.

• Jyl Pepple (Bluford), a graduate of Webber Township High School, was a member of the 1998 All-USA Academic Third-Team for Community and Junior Colleges, sponsored by *The USA Today* newspaper, Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society and the American Association of Community Colleges.

Both grades and community involvement were considered in trimming 1,300 highly qualified individuals from across the country to the final list of 20 First-Team All-America, 20 Second-Team and 20 Third-Team recipients.

• Freshman Boaz Lalang (Eldoret, Kenya) was the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Men's Track and Field National Champion in the 800-Meter Run, 1000M Run and Mile before anchoring an all-freshman first-place Distance Medley Relay quartet and leading the Warriors to the NJCAA Indoor title. He also won Out-



If not for July '67, RLC could have been Pyramid

"Although the name Rend Lake College had been used in publicity prior to the elections," according to Dr. Howard Rawlinson in his book, **The First Fifteen Years**, covering Mt. Vernon Community College and the earliest years of RLC, it was not until the July 18, 1967 Board of Trustees meeting the name became official. At the June 20 meeting, a Public Relations Committee formed by the Board presented six names proposed for the new college. They were selected from an original list of 67 names submitted for consideration. In order of preference of the committee [presuming in reverse order]:

- Blair Lakeside College
- College of Little Egypt
- Renaissance College on the Lake
- King's Point College
- Pyramid College
- Rend Lake College

After discussion in July, Carleton Apple (Enfield) moved and Holland Simmons (Benton) seconded a motion that the name of Illinois Junior College District No. 521 be named Rend Lake College. All seven Trustees present voted "Yes."



RLC nets \$16,604 refund from TCEC Capital Credits

NEWS RELEASE JULY 21, 2011

Rend Lake College President Charley Holstein accepted a check for \$16,603.97 from Tri-County Electric Cooperative Member Services Director Bruce Barkau at the college.

The money is being refunded to Rend Lake College as part of the TCEC Capital Credits program. This refund, according to Barkau, is for profits TCEC realized from 1981-82.



Overwhelming vote favors \$3.1M in building bonds

Voters in eight counties went to the polls on Saturday, November 18, 1967, to address the following . . .

PROPOSITION TO ISSUE \$3,100,000 BONDS – Shall the Board of Junior College District No. 521, Counties of Jefferson, Franklin, Hamilton, Wayne, Perry, White, Williamson and Washington and State of Illinois, issue Bonds of said District to the amount of Three Million One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$3,100,000) for the purpose of borrowing money to pay the cost of a site for junior college purposes and to build and equip suitable buildings and to provide funds for transfer to the Illinois Building Authority in accordance with the provisions contained in Article V of the Public Junior College Act of the State of Illinois?

A total of 6,232 voters responded, although 69 ballots were deemed spoiled. The overwhelming results . . .

YES 5,263
 NO 900

The 5.8:1 ratio in favor of the local share of the total anticipated cost of \$9.5 million compared to 8.75:1 in Franklin County (779-89) and 8.67:1 in Jefferson County (2,158-249), the two counties with the largest turnout of voters.

doors in the 800M and 1500M.

Then Lalang literally put the INA in CHINA during Summer 2008. Along with help from the RLC Foundation, he also put Coach Brent McLain and Mrs. (Dr. Dee) McLain in China.

They were there, along with many other Rend Lake College students and staff in spirit, to see Lalang represent his native country in the 800M Run in the Bird's Nest at the Beijing Olympics.

Lalang posted the seventh-fastest time overall in his third-place preliminary heat showing, nipped by .02-second by the runner-up, but did not qualify for the eight-man finals because first- and second-place finishers in each of the three heats were automatic qualifiers, even though one of those times was slower than that of Lalang.

Shortly after returning for his sophomore year, Lalang could not turn down a lucrative financial offer to turn professional. He remained on campus as a student, to train and to help coach other runners, several of whom were fellow Kenyans.

- Jason Craig (Huber Heights, OH), who would return to RLC as a sophomore to win the NJCAA Indoor 400M Championship and run a leg for the National Outdoor Champion 4x800M Relay Team, spent the summer between his two Warrior campaigns competing for the United States.

Craig ran the third leg in :45.6 for the USA 4x400M Relay that set a Junior World Record of 3:01.09 at the 10th International Association of Athletics Federation World Junior Championships in Italy in July 2004.

[Editor's Note: In March 2012, in his first year of eligibility, Craig was inducted into the Rend Lake College Sports Hall of Fame. The following year, the two-time NJCAA National Champion and six-time All-America honoree was named Track and Field Head Coach of the Warriors, succeeding Hall of Fame "classmate" Eric Alberter.]

- Freshman Jessica Merriweather (Memphis, TN) qualified for the World Junior Championships in July 2008 in Bydgoszcz, Poland, with her High Jump of 6 feet 1.25

inch at the Super-Region Track and Field Meet. She did not advance to the finals in the World Junior event.

- Kristen Ann Clark (West Frankfort) was one-in-a-million. She represented that many students statewide as The Lincoln Academy of Illinois Student Laureate for the Illinois Community College System in 1999-2000.

Recognized for "outstanding achievement in curriculum and extracurricular activities," Clark was the guest of Gov. George and Mrs. Ryan for a luncheon at the Executive Mansion following 25th Annual Award Ceremonies in November 1999 in the House of Representatives chambers of the State Capitol Building.

- Single-mother Becci Doering (Mt. Vernon) did her three children proud in 1996 by winning the annual Paul Simon Student Essay Contest sponsored by the Illinois Community College Trustees Association.

Doering was judged best in competition to explain "How My Community College Has Changed (Is Changing) My Life." Her winning entry, entitled "To Be a Bean," was published in the *Illinois Trustee* newsletter.

- Add Spring 2009 Male "Scholar-Athlete of the Year" Award-winner LeRoy David Griffin (Effingham) to the list.

For all the notoriety both the Men and Women's Golf Teams have brought to Rend Lake College since the mid '90s – a pair of NJCAA runner-up finishes by the guys, Top Five finishes five times in a six-year span for the gals, three First-Team All-Americans and six Second-Teamers for the men, one and two, respectively for the women – no RLC player had ever captured medalist honors.

Until the 3.94 GPA Sophomore Scholar-Athlete, Griffin, made an appearance at the 2009 NJCAA Division II Men's Golf National Championships at Goose Pond Colony Golf Course in Scottsboro, AL.

Griffin was in the first threesome to tee off on Day One, and his six-under par 66 held up to lead by two. Only RLC's Brit, John Singleton (England), with a 67 in 2005, had ever done that before.

INTERESTED CITIZENS GATHER TO DISCUSS AREA-WIDE COLLEGE
Meeting held in Whittington to consider establishment of area-wide junior college. Two individuals from each county comprise Steering Committee. / July 26, 1965

NINE HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS JOIN, FIVE FOLLOW
Representatives of nine high school districts - Benton, Dahlgren, McLeansboro, Mt. Vernon, Sesser, Thompsonville, Waltonville, Wayne City and Webber - indicate desire to join the cause, followed shortly thereafter by Christopher, Enfield, Pinckneyville, Tamaroa and Zeigler-Royalton. / September 13, 1965

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

- **FEASIBILITY STUDY IN 1966**
May / Feasibility study approved, petitions filed for election to establish area-wide junior college. June 7 & 11 / Petitions approved by Illinois Board of Higher Education and public hearing conducted.

1965 - 1966

The lead was three after Wednesday's 70 but disappeared following his 76 in Round Three. A third sub-par round (71) to complete 72 holes left him in a three-way tie at five-under 283, but the PING All-American parred two playoff holes to wrap up the Arnold Palmer Award presented annually to the individual medalist. "It was fun to watch," admitted Coach Dave Smith.

For good measure, Griffin tacked on "Distinguished Academic All-America," (3.96 GPA) to his Rend Lake College résumé.

For his good measure, 2005 NJCAA Illinois State Championship medalist Singleton would thrill his fellow countrymen in 2014 by qualifying for The Open Championship – the 143rd Annual British Open as an amateur near his residency in Wirral – and just missed the cut by two strokes at Royal Liverpool Golf Club, Hoylake.

- Two more late additions from the Wide World of RLC Sports – Men's Track and Field products Stephen Sambu (Eldoret, Kenya – Class of '10) and Ryan Bailey (Portland, OR – '09).

Sambu left Ina after two years as the most decorated athlete in Warrior history for the University of Arizona, where he was a seven-time NCAA All-America designee.

Sambu was the NJCAA Cross-Country National Champion as both a freshman and sophomore, a three-time Indoor National Champion and a successful defending National Champ in both the 5,000M and 10,000M Runs Outdoors, as well as the 2009 Outdoor 4 x 800M Relay Team. No surprise, Sambu was named 2009 Men's Outdoor Track and Field Co-Track Athlete of the Meet.

Individual showings in three other events indoors increased his All-America total to 13.

Arizona Wildcat recognition included NCAA runner-up soon after his arrival on campus, in the 2009 Cross-Country Championships, another second in the 2012 Outdoor 10,000M Run and a trio of thirds.

Bailey and Sambu were formidable freshman classmates in 2008-09, but Bailey turned professional after one year of college.

Bailey was a five-time RLC All-American, with firsts in the 55M Indoors and 100M Outdoors. His :10.5 clocking in the 100M was a personal best and a national Juco record; that time also made him the 13th fastest American sprinter in 2009.

He was clad from head to toe in Nike red (or was that Rend Lake College red?) when

he represented the United States in the 2012 London Olympics.

The 23-year-old up-and-coming sprint superstar – with his 6-foot-4, 216-pound muscular physique and "leading man" looks to go with it – was fifth (:09.88, equaling his personal best) in the 100M Finals Spectacle behind only the World's Fastest Man, repeat winner Usain Bolt (Olympic Record :09.63) and his fellow Jamaican teammate Yohan Blake (:09.75), Bronze Medal winner (and 2004 Athens Games winner) Justin Gatlin (:09.79) of the USA and American 100M record-holder, Tyson Gay (:09.80). Gay's clocking could not get him on the medal stand but would have won every previous Olympic 100M Finals save for the two claimed by Bolt.

Unlike numerous individual accolades, it took a collective effort to attain Rend Lake College's first state championship in 1993.

It came in the first-ever Academic Olympics, which brought together "College Bowl" winners from seven regions covering the state for a battle of quick buzzers and accurate answers. Parkland College hosted the finals in Champaign April 16.

A most unlikely quartet represented the South's finest . . . part-time librarian and nontraditional (i.e., older) student, Jeopardy TV veteran Glenda Wells (Dahlgren); the well-read Sunshine (i.e., Senior Citizen) Center discovery, 62-year-old part-time student Neil Linebaugh (Mt. Vernon), a college graduate long before Wells; the Kid (i.e., college Freshman) Robert Schnicker (Dahlgren, also, believe it or not), and an experienced youngster (i.e., Sophomore) Tim Cripps (Benton), who was a contributor the year before on a regular-season and post-season SICCM champion (combined mark, 12-1) and Southern Region winner that posted a 6-1 record against four-year rivals in University "College Bowl" competition on the U. of Illinois campus.

RLC jumped all over Harry S Truman in its opener, 160-5, but stubbed its toes in a 75-45 setback against John Wood in a match it led 35-(-5) at halftime. The resilient champs bounced off the canvas to floor previously unbeaten Elgin, 80-60; Kishwaukee, 305-15; undefeated-in-the-finals College of Lake County, 130-90; Prairie State, 130-70, in a come-from-behind effort after scoring 10 first-half points in the "must" win, and Elgin again, 185-145, in a showdown after both had finished round-robin play 5-1.

And certainly do not slight the impor-



\$2.50/credit hour tuition charged first time Fall '72

BOARD MINUTES MAY 18, 1971

The Board discussed the possibility of having to charge tuition effective Fall 1972. Only four community colleges in the state, with the exception of multiple-campus Chicago and a state-supported school in East St. Louis, do not charge tuition at the present time. It was recommended the Board take under advisement the possibility of tuition effective Fall 1972. Five Trustees voted in favor; the other member present, Allen Baker, opposed.

BOARD MINUTES JUNE 15, 1971

Dr. Snyder reiterated our financial situation for next year is in pretty good shape, but for the year following, unless we receive substantial support from some source not now available, we will have problems and probably will have to charge some tuition at that time. Eventually, it was resolved a full study regarding tuition would be conducted.

BOARD MINUTES JANUARY 18, 1972

Although Melvin Farlow was not in favor of charging tuition, he felt it had become necessary. Therefore, he moved Rend Lake College establish a \$2.50 per credit hour tuition as recommended by the administration; it was seconded by Marie Simmons. All voted "Yes" (Carleton Apple and Harry Irwin were absent).

BOARD MINUTES FEBRUARY 15, 1972

Tuition at \$2.50 per credit hour was approved on second reading by a vote of 7-0.

BOARD MINUTES FEBRUARY 9, 2016

Due to the State of Illinois budget impasse, resulting in no funding for the current fiscal year and continuing indefinitely, an increase in tuition is necessary. The Board approved an in-district rate of \$110 per credit hour, an increase of \$15 per credit hour.



Call it what you will . . . Hope is \$1,500 tax credit

The Hope Scholarship Tax Credit signed into law August 1997 by President Bill Clinton is worth up to \$1,500 annually for the first two years of a college education.

"It opens the doors of college to a new generation, with the largest investment in higher education since the G.I. Bill. It makes it possible for the 13th and 14th years of education to become as universal as high school is today," Clinton noted. The legislation is part of the Taxpayer Relief Act to assist more Americans in attending college and pursuing lifelong learning.

In reality, the "Hope Scholarship" is a tax credit only and not a scholarship. But it does live up to the definition of hope . . . "a feeling that what is wanted will happen; desire accompanied by expectation."

The Hope Scholarship is one of two income tax credit initiatives that are provisions of the Internal Revenue Service's Tax Payer Relief Act for students enrolled in higher education. These tax credit initiatives – the other being the Lifetime Learning Credit – are tied to tuition and fee costs. It represents a dollar-for-dollar tax credit against actual taxes owed for the first two years of post-secondary education. A family may claim 100 percent of the first \$1,000 spent in "out-of-pocket" tuition and fees (not books) and 50 percent of up
(Continued at far right on next page)

tance of third-year Head Coach/Recruiter Dr. Richard Doherty, who always went to great lengths to field the strongest teams possible. (With a tip of the academic beanie to his wife, Teresa Doherty, Director of the Mt. Vernon Sunshine Center.)

There are times it even takes more than a team to accomplish something pretty special. It takes many teams.

In June 2008, spearheaded earlier in the year by NJCAA National Championships on the same day from both the Men and Women's Indoor Track and Field Teams, Rend Lake College attained the unthinkable by finishing fourth overall in NATYCAA Cup standings.

So how did the Warriors and Lady Warriors fare one year later? Not too shabby, thank you. All they did for an encore was improve one notch to third in the nation!

The annual award is sponsored by the National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators "to recognize overall athletics program excellence by two-year colleges at the national level."

Has anything proven more successful than Dual-Credit courses for high school students. And has anyone in the state done Dual-Credit better than Rend Lake College?

More specifically, has anyone(s) taken advantage of Dual-Credit offerings quite like the incredible Hawkins twins, Alex and Maddy?

As fate would have it, Commencement exercises at Rend Lake College in 2008 were scheduled May 9. Pinckneyville Community High School Graduation was May 18.

So now you know how it was possible 18-year-old Maddelynn and Alexandria Hawkins actually received Associate Degree college sheepskins before picking up their high school diplomas.

It happened because two brilliant, determined young ladies took advantage of more than enough dual-credit and dual-enrollment opportunities, beginning the summer following eighth-grade graduation, to amass the necessary 64 college credits

around the same time they were ready to exit high school on their way to Medical School (Maddy) and Dental School (Alex).

Their unique journey through community college saved their parents approximately \$8,832 in RLC tuition and saved the high-achievers the first two years of college lives expected to extend for the next decade.

Question: What could possibly bring John Paul DeJoria, a co-founder and CEO of the world-famous John Paul Mitchell System, to Mt. Vernon, IL?

Answer: An Open House for Studio RLC, the sophisticated Paul Mitchell Partner School located in the Rend Lake College MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon.

RLC was the first public college in the nation to be accepted as a Paul Mitchell Partner School.

Hundreds of fans and many would-be Cosmetology students flocked to Studio RLC the evening of February 24, 2004, for the opportunity to meet John Paul DeJoria, the most recognizable face worldwide promoting Paul Mitchell hair and other fashion-care products, and Winn Claybaugh, Dean of Paul Mitchell The School, and learn more about a one-of-a-kind program to the area.

Rend Lake College earned one of three Awards for Excellence in Workforce Preparation, presented May 15, 1998 by the Illinois Community College Board for efforts in preparing a qualified workforce in their communities through various training and employment methods.

RLC, along with Lake Land College and Wilbur Wright College, were acknowledged "for their dedication and foresight. They all have worked hard to improve employment and job training needs of their communities."

Rend Lake College meets the needs for trained personnel through the development of the Correctional Officer Screening Preparation Program (CO-PREP). In cooperation with the Illinois Department of Corrections, CO-PREP helps those applying for jobs as Correctional Officers prepare better for the rigorous screening they must pass. Too few

VOTE 8-1 IN FAVOR; TRUSTEES ELECTED

Overwhelming vote of 8-1 in favor. / Oct. 22, 1966
Board Election - Carleton Apple (Enfield), Dr. Allen Y. Baker (Pinckneyville), Melvin Farlow (McLeansboro), Harry Irwin (Wayne City), Dr. Curtis A. Parker (Mt. Vernon), Holland Simmons (Benton), Forrest Stewart (Texico). / Dec. 16, 1966
July 1, 1967 established as takeover date at first organizational meeting of Trustees. / Dec. 21, 1966

NO TUITION TO BE CHARGED FIRST YEAR

Determined there would be no tuition charged first year. / January 3, 1967

SNYDER NAMED FIRST PRESIDENT

Dr. James M. Snyder named as first Rend Lake College President. / May 16, 1967

RAWLINSON HIRED AS COLLEGE DEAN

MVCC's Dr. Howard Rawlinson hired as first College Dean. Six college names considered. / June 20, 1967

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

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applicants had been successfully completing the screening to fill the demand prior to advent of the award-winning program.

The Emerging Leadership Institute (ELI) proved beneficial internally in a short time and a definite attention-getter to the outside world, which is hoping to emulate many techniques utilized to help “Grow Your Own Leaders – Identifying and Developing Future Community College Leaders.”

That was the title for RLC’s presentation at the 2008 Community College Leadership Congress, which explored challenges and opportunities confronting the nation’s community college Trustees. The Congress focused on strategies which enable colleges to gain greater effectiveness in securing future economic prosperity for their communities.

The ELI also was nominated for the Bellwether Award, presented annually at the Community College Futures Assembly held to recognize outstanding and innovative programs and practices that are successfully leading community colleges into the future.

Nine-month leadership training for a select group of 12-15 individuals includes motivational presentations from experts in leadership, studies of renowned books on the topic and hands-on workshops that will help participants lead the college into an even brighter future.

“The need for leaders in community colleges is greater now than ever before,” said ELI creator Mary Bornheimer, former Interim Dean of Student Services.

In 1979 and the early ’80s, the Mining Technology Department was home to a one-of-a-kind Part-Task Continuous Miner, a computerized trainer on loan from McDonnell Douglas Corporation. The project was funded by the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Mines.

Rend Lake College staff served as consultants for the Continuous Miner simulator which better prepares students for life underground, then provided feedback for its effectiveness in teaching/learning.

Christopher resident Brad Evilsizer, who was the first instructor hired by RLC for its Mining Technology program in 1974 and later named Department Chair, was handpicked by Gov. James R. Thompson to become Director of the Department of Mines and Minerals in 1977.

He took leaves of absence from Rend Lake College for a number of years while heading the state agency.

Other notable feats by Rend Lake College over the years include . . .

- The 21st community college to gain state approval was first to complete its Building Master Plan, in 1975.

An effective Board should be credited, in particular for its decision to hire Dr. James M. Snyder, 52, as its first President in 1967. Snyder was renowned for his ability to build college campuses in previous administrative positions.

- The college has produced its share of College Presidents as well.

Homeboy Mark S. Kern returned the second year of RLC’s existence, climbed the ladder from Ag Instructor and AAA Department Chair to Dean of Community Services and Dean of Instruction before taking over as the fifth President in Rend Lake College history in 1991. He retired in 2008.

Another local farmboy one-upped Kern. Terry Wilkerson was a Rend Lake College student and award-winning graduate first (1992) before coming up through the ranks as an Ag Instructor and Division Chair (not to mention RLC’s Emerging Leadership Institute program) and ascending to the Presidency in 2012.

Retired Army guy Charley Holstein arrived in January 2008 as Vice President of Student Services, was promoted to Interim President when Kern left that July and elevated to full-time Presidential status nine months later.

Dr. Philip G. Ward, College Dean who succeeded Dr. Howard Rawlinson from 1972-76, left to become President of Glen Oaks Community College (MI).

Dr. Kenneth LaSalle, Dean of Instruction during 1977-78, left to become President of Fulton-Montgomery C.C., part of the State Universities of New York (SUNY) system.

Dr. Homer L. Cissell Jr., Dean of Instruction in 2000-02, left to become President of Lassen Community College (CA).

Dr. Robert Spuhler, Dean of Administrative and Student Services between 1980-84, spent the last six years of his educational career as President of Colorado Mountain College before retiring in 2008.

William “Butch” Nevios, Administrative Assistant to the RLC President briefly in 1976 and later a photographer for *The Southern Illinoisan*, would eventually become President of Reinhardt College (GA) in 2000. The 5-foot-4 Nevios was named President of White Pines College in Chester, NH, in 2002.



Hope tax credit (cont.)

to the second \$1,000 in tuition and fees . . . for up to \$1,500 for each eligible dependent student in a family.

Tax credits are subtracted directly from the tax a family owes, rather than reducing taxable income like a tax deduction. The family must file a tax return and owe taxes in order to take advantage of it. The “Hope” credit is not refundable for families which do not pay taxes or which owe less in taxes than the maximum amount of the “Hope” tax credit for which the family is eligible.

The actual amount of the credit will depend on the family’s income, the amount of qualified tuition and fees paid and the amount of certain scholarships and allowances subtracted from tuition. The total maximum credit also is based on the number of eligible dependents, rather than a maximum dollar amount for the family, as with the Lifetime Learning tax credit.

Eligibility requirements:

- The student must be enrolled in a degree or certificate program during the calendar year just completed prior to reporting.

- The student must be enrolled at least half-time in an eligible program and must not have completed the first two years of such undergraduate study.

- The student or the individual claiming the student for income tax purposes must be responsible for the full or partial payment of tuition and fees.

- The student may not have been convicted of a Federal or State felony drug offense before the end of the tax year in which the academic period occurs.

Tuition and fee costs covered by Financial Aid or other scholarship programs are not eligible costs for the tax credit.



RLC's Recycling project wins 'Bright Idea' Award

F.Y.I. OCTOBER 18-24, 1993

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will share the spotlight with RLC representatives Dow Smith, Phyllis Rice and Bob Carlock at the annual Illinois Council of Community College Administrators Conference November 18-19 in Decatur.

The RLC trio will be present to accept one of three "Bright Idea" Awards for "Greening the Community College." Bob Ross submitted the nomination but will be unable to attend.

Awards will be presented Friday. A special session is scheduled Thursday for the winners to share their "Bright Ideas" with colleagues.

According to the "Greening" abstract submitted by Ross, "A Recycling Committee at RLC, created by the President and spurred on by a grant from the Illinois Dept. of Energy and Natural Resources, served as a catalyst to the development of a very successful campaign to 'green' the campus.

"The resulting environmental awareness in staff and students has led to a reduction of waste generated at the source; increased recycling, with a significant reduction in the amount of solid waste hauled to the landfill; increased purchases of products made from recycled materials; modification of chemistry lab practices to reduce toxic wastes; improvement in the way sewage is treated, and the planting of many trees on campus."

Title III Grants and AmeriCorps have become mainstays critical to the operation of the college over the last few years, or so it seems.

• "Unbelievable" was the first word out of Consultant Ramona Munsell's mouth upon learning of Rend Lake College's third successful venture applying for Federal Title III "Strengthening Institutions" Grants.

The first, valued at \$1.5 million over five years, enabled Rend Lake College to expand and diversify its financial base by hiring a full-time Resource Development Director and assistant and establishing a full-fledged RLC Foundation and to improve a campus-wide computer-based management information system. It also led to implementation of a computerized basic skills program.

The third, a \$1.8M award over five years from the U.S. Department of Education to support a regional training giant in the Wireless Communications industry. The Associate in Applied Science Degree program included Occupational Certificates as well in a field that "offers extremely strong regional employment potential in business and industry." It also afforded transfer opportunities for advanced degrees.

Both were accompanied by additional matching grants. A 2-for-1 match introduced in 1991-92 resulted in Rend Lake College / RLC Foundation receiving a bonus check for \$500,000 in April 1995; it provided the impetus for a capital campaign drive that netted almost \$2 million in the first 2 1/2 years. A 1-for-1 Endowment Option available beginning with the 2004-05 grant totaled \$365,000, which should increase RLC Foundation funds by \$1 million in 20 years. Each matching grant goal was reached well before the required deadline.

"Strengthening Institutions" Grant II provides perhaps the most interesting story.

The Rend Lake College proposal received almost unheard-of perfect scores (100) from each of three readers to soar to the top of eligibility charts, but there was no federal money available for dispersal in 1996. The

No. 1 position on the charts remained until limited funding could be released the following spring. It eventually added up to \$1.6M over five years.

Activity I of Title III Grant II addressed Critical Interventions to Increase Student Success. Activity II emphasized Curriculum Improvement, including creation of a Faculty Development Center, and Program Evaluation in five Vocational-Technical areas - Agriculture, Nursing, Industrial Technology, Architecture and Office Systems Technology.

Rend Lake College tried unsuccessfully for four years before landing the first Title III Grant, one of 57 awarded nationally from 459 applicants. Fewer than 15 were rewarded from an original pool of 450 in 1995-96; totals were 53 recipients and 260 eligible applicants in 2004. In each instance, RLC was one of only two institutions in Illinois to receive grant funding through Part A of the Higher Education Act.

• AmeriCorps, President Bill Clinton's initiative which was described as the domestic Peace Corps in 1994, has been part of the Ina-based comprehensive community college every year since.

Thirteen of 300 awards nationwide went to Illinois programs, allowing more than 200 individuals the opportunity to serve their communities as "compensated volunteers" in exchange for educational benefits.

One award went to Rend Lake College to serve as the administrative agency for Illinois ChildCorps, a statewide Child Care Resource and Referral project comprised of 16 diverse offices meant to strengthen an existing network through the establishment of a ChildCorps Volunteer program.

A second award was for a one-year planning grant, which RLC used to formalize AmeriCorps in Southern Illinois. The brainchild of RLC Director Rex Duncan placed students from three Southern Illinois community colleges and Southern Illinois University-Carbondale in mentoring and/or tutoring situations with at-risk grade

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

NAME OFFICIALLY ADOPTED

Rend Lake College name and educational philosophy stated. / July 18, 1967

TEMPORARY FACILITIES LEASED

Lease agreement with Mt. Vernon Township High School for facilities usage based on full-time enrollment, not to exceed \$100,000. / July 18, 1967

SEPTEMBER 19, 1967 BOARD MEETING

Adopted FY68 Budget of \$511,758. Hired architectural firm of Caudill, Rowlette and Scott (Houston), with FGM of Mt Vernon as associates.

DOORS OPEN FOR FIRST TIME

Doors open for first time to 729 in-district students (687.2 FTE). / Sept. 1967

LAND PURCHASE

Approved purchase of 351 acres near Ina. / October 1967

VOTERS APPROVE \$3.1M BOND FOR LAND, CONSTRUCTION

\$3.1M bond referendum passes for building construction by a 6:1 margin, 5,263-900 (69 spoiled). / November 18, 1967 // 1967-68 CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

1967 - 1968

school students and their families in 26 counties.

In addition, an office was provided for four Southern Illinois participants working with the Illinois RiverWatch Network, another AmeriCorps project, and yet another RLC student was one of 26 full-time volunteers statewide working with the American Red Cross AmeriCorps initiative.

Want more? So did Illinois Gov. George Ryan, First Lady Lura Lynn Ryan and the Illinois Commission for Community Service.

At their request, Rend Lake College officials expanded their AmeriCorps in Southern Illinois success story to Land of Lincoln AmeriCorps. The resulting project combined old and new to partner 12 colleges throughout Illinois.

While AmeriCorps Southern Illinois continued to help at-risk fifth- through eighth-graders, expansion allowed 80 Land of Lincoln members to provide in-school academic support to supplement classroom learning, provide individual and small-group tutoring and mentor students in Kindergarten through Grade Two.

"We were made aware of a program that was showing positive results for children, had relevance to the outcomes of our 'Futures for Kids' program and we expanded it to include more children and start earlier," commented Mrs. Ryan.

The RLC Music program took its show on the road for two history-making performances during the late '70s.

Memorial Day 1976 found the talented members of the Rend Lake College Collegiate Choir inspiring a 9:30 a.m. audience on the Ellipse in front of the White House – yes, Washington, D.C., that White House – as part of the National Park Service Bicentennial Concerts series.

Conductor Larry Phifer and Friends, joined by Narrator Cheryl Foley and accompanied by the RLC Brass Ensemble, were one of two groups picked to represent the State of Illinois for the outdoor concerts celebrating the nation's 200th birthday.

Phifer called the trip and experience a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the students and the college."

In April 1979, the Rend Lake College Jazz Band became the first Illinois community college band to be invited to participate in the annual Fiesta Musical Mexicana.

The Jazz Band did not just accept the invitation, it spiced up its peppery sounds and appealed to local crowds good for a

Bronze Medal showing as one of only seven United States representatives in the international competition. The RLC Jazz Band also presented six concerts during a tour of the country in Mexico City, Jojutla and Oaxtepec April 16-23.

An Art program whose students and staff have claimed every award imaginable in competitions throughout Illinois and the Midwest shares honors with its Nursing student colleagues when it comes to champions of fund-raising.

The Celebrity Auction conducted by Art students in March 1994 featured items solicited by Instructor Therese Howard Melena and her students from hundreds of well-known personalities. It raised \$7,327 for The Amy Schulz Center in Mt. Vernon, established to assist child abuse victims.

The "Students for Students Art Auction" made its debut in 1996 and has remained on the Southern Illinois social calendar each year since it first appeared as a Saturday afternoon outdoor attraction on campus.

With help from the RLC Foundation, the auction which puts art pieces donated by current and former students, as well as staff, on the auction block for sale to the highest bidder upgraded its image and reached for the stars in a different way.

The fifth "Students for Students" showcase at the Rend Lake Resort Convention Center in October 2000 saw 240 art pieces bring in over \$12,000. A major factor in the bidding wars was Patron Dave Bourland, Curator for the Illinois Executive Mansion.

Proceeds each year have resulted in multiple scholarships the following year for Art students from the sponsoring Art League.

The Automotive Technology program added another first in Southern Illinois to Rend Lake College in May 1995.

That was when college officials received word the training program had received master certification from the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation, Inc. (NATEF) and the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE).

Rend Lake College was one of just three schools at the time in downstate Illinois to attain this national standard and the lone community college south of Champaign.

For a campus that was first to complete its facilities Master Plan in 1975, it is truly difficult to fathom the expansion that has occurred both on- and off-campus in the past 20 years.



The cost of college in 1992-93 ...

ALL BUT R.L.C. DATA FROM CHICAGO TRIBUNE JUNE 22, 1992

(Estimated tuition, fees, room and board costs for 1992-93)

\$ 896	RENDLAKE COLLEGE (Tuition only - 32 hours)
5,828	Northern Illinois U.
6,030	SIU-Carbondale
7,114	University of Illinois *
7,530	U. of I.-Chicago *
10,258	University of Iowa •
11,857	Indiana University •
11,952	Purdue University •
13,514	DePaul University
14,640	Loyola University
16,800	U. of Michigan * •
18,430	U. of Notre Dame
18,750	Ill. Institute of Tech.
20,154	Northwestern U.
21,710	Harvard University
22,850	Duke University
23,047	U. of Chicago

* Rates not yet fixed
• Out-of-state tuition rate



College costs 2007-08

\$3,108	RENDLAKE COLLEGE (Tuition / Fees - 30 hours)
18,001	SIU-Carbondale
17,502	SIU-Edwardsville
17,174	Eastern Illinois U.
29,630	McKendree U.
12,376	Murray (KY) State
14,931	SEMO (MO)
35,698	U. of Evansville (IN)
14,356	U. of So. Indiana



Scott saluted by state peers with Trustee Service Award

NEWS RELEASE JUNE 2013

CHICAGO – Marvin Scott’s community college colleagues from around the state recently celebrated his outstanding service as a trustee of Rend Lake College.

Scott, 82, of Belle Rive, served an unprecedented 35 years on the RLC Board of Trustees. On June 7 he was recognized with a Trustee Service Award during the Illinois Community College Trustees Association Annual Awards Banquet at the Sofitel Chicago Water Tower.

Outgoing ICCTA President Reggie Coleman, a Trustee at John Wood Community College, introduced Scott.

“Marvin, your tenure on the Rend Lake College Board lasted longer than most careers,” Coleman said.

“In 35 years, I saw a lot of change,” Scott said. “I’ve been to several states. I still think Illinois is on the top of the list. We have good people.”

Scott pointed out the tenure of College of Lake County Trustee Richard Anderson, who was first elected as a student in 1974 and has served 39 years. Anderson was at the banquet. Scott joked it was time to retire because he will never be able to beat him. But that has never been Scott’s reason for adding his name to the local ballot six times. Scott always ran for the students.

His last meeting with the RLC Board was in April. Scott said then, “I’ve enjoyed being here and I want to enjoy leaving

(Continued at far right on next page)

• Three major additions close together were notable for a very good reason . . . no additional tax dollars were used to build the Aquatics Center, the RLC Foundation Children’s Center or the showpiece RLC Staff Clock Tower.

The \$2.6 million rehabilitative-friendly Aquatics Center, which opened in February 1998, took advantage of state funding and private donations to become a reality.

The much-needed Children’s Center, which fills child care needs of students and staff while serving as training grounds for the Early Childhood Education program, opened in Fall 1998, thanks to major contributions from Marjorie Farrar, Coyn Mateer and RLC Foundation members.

Donations from Board members, faculty, staff and retirees made the Staff Clock Tower a reality in 2002, approximately 11 months after its conception.

• Major remodeling of the Allen Y. Baker Administration Building during 1999-2000 doubled the size of the “Intake Center” and centralized many Student Service functions.

• Off-campus expansion in 2002 brought the RLC Murphy-Wall Pinckneyville Campus to Perry County and the eclectic Rend Lake College MarketPlace to Mt. Vernon.

• The Hitting Zone, a baseball-softball training facility, opened in 2003 and also was doubled in size and scope within four years. An eight-lane, Olympic-style outdoor track and field complex was constructed next to the Sports Center in 2007.

• A 22,300-square-foot Applied Science Center – later named for retiring President Mark S. Kern – filled the laboratory needs for Agriculture, Heavy Equipment and Diesel Technology when it opened in Fall 2005.

• A 20,000-square-foot Coal Mining Training Center greeted the revival of Mining Technology in Fall 2009.

Not bragging. Just fact.

In a recent span of five years, the quality and excellence that is Rend Lake College was saluted nationally time after time . . .

• The December 4, 2006, edition of *Community College Week*, ranked Rend Lake College No. 1 among the nation’s fastest-growing community college’s of comparable

size (2,500-4,000 students) thanks to its enrollment increase from 3,420 Fall ‘04 to 4,913 Fall ‘05 – 1,493 (43.7 percent). Western Wyoming C.C. was second at 28.1 percent.

The RLC bump was the second-highest among all 1,138 public, two-year nationwide – which, incidentally, represent only 18 percent of all postsecondary institutions yet enroll 35 percent of all students. [The public, two-year sector as a whole experienced a decline in 2004-05.]

• A June 2012 “Student Success List” featured on CNNMoney puts Rend Lake College No. 1 in Illinois and 18th nationwide with an overall success rate of 68 percent.

“College Measures,” a joint venture of the American Institutes of Research and Matrix Knowledge Group, created the chart for CNNMoney as a tool to help students determine which schools give them the best chance of transferring to the four-year level. The ranking is based on the percentage of students graduating within three years or transferring.

• According to The Chronicle of Higher Education’s *Almanac of Higher Education*, in an article August 2012 entitled, “Colleges with the Best 6-Year and 3-Year Graduation Rates in 2010,” Rend Lake College was No. 5 in the nation with its graduation rate of 50.3 percent for first-time, full-time students among colleges with at least 500 entering freshmen in 2007.

No other Illinois institution was included in the Top Ten.

• In April 2011 (and again in 2012, ‘14 and ‘16), Rend Lake College was one of 120 institutions – the Top Ten percent of all community colleges in the nation – recognized by non-profit, Washington, D.C.-based The Aspen Institute and therefore eligible to compete for the \$1 Million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.

The announcement April 28, 2011, was made by Dr. Jill Biden, a Community College Professor and the wife of Vice President Joe Biden, and U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan.

The Aspen competition was kicked off the previous year at a White House Confer-

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

INA GROUND BREAKING

Phase I groundbreaking on 350-acre site. / March 1968

CAMPUS MASTER PLAN APPROVED

Board of Higher Education approves RLC campus Master Plan. / May 1968

DEGREES / CERTIFICATES EARNED BY 104

First degrees and certificates from Rend Lake College awarded to 104 graduates. / June 1968

1967 – 1968

ence on Community Colleges as part of an initiative to improve graduation rates. The Top 120 Rating is based on graduation and transfer rates, as well as consideration of the number of low-income and minority students who completed their programs of study (and if those rates improved).

The quantitative formula used to assess performance and improvement in four areas focused on: graduation rates; degrees awarded; student retention rates, and equity in student outcomes.

Rend Lake College was credited with the second-best rate in the state – 44 percent – among “peer colleges” deemed similar by the Illinois Community College Board. That figure is more than double the state average of 21 percent.

Administrators cited several factors for the RLC distinction, including challenging faculty to find ways to make classrooms more engaging; renewing focus on student learning assessments; committed and engaged student advisors; in-class tutors, and support available to all students through the Learning Enhancement Center.

The overall caliber of “Alumnus of the Year” stalwarts is truly amazing . . .

- The RLC Class of 1975 also produced two esteemed “Alumni of the Year” in Brad Burzynski (Benton) and Carol Dilley-Jaudes (Mt. Vernon), both of whom were award-winning products of a very active Rend Lake College Music program.

Burzynski, the second student ever to be elected as a non-voting Student Representative on the Board of Trustees in 1974-75, served in the State House of Representatives from 1990-93 and was in the Illinois Senate representing the upstate 35th District when honored as RLC Foundation “Alumnus of the Year” in 1993.

The former Pinckneyville Middle School teacher and resident of Sycamore was a member of the Midwest Higher Education Commission and Vice Chair of the Senate Agriculture and Conservation Committee.

Carol Dilley-Jaudes, a stage actress and gifted vocalist, has called both St. Louis and New York as performance homes.

Most noteworthy, perhaps, was her role as Jennyanydots, only the fourth person to fill a demanding part as the tap-dancing cat in “Cats,” the longest-running show on Broadway in 1993. Her Broadway debut in the Big Apple came at age 38.

- Linda Sanders (Class of 1982), the first female student-athlete to receive an NCAA

Division I scholarship – from SIUC in volleyball – and the first female Federal Warden in Kentucky from 2001-04; named the 23rd “Outstanding” grad in 2004.

- Dr. Harl E. Ryder Jr. (Mt. Vernon Community College ‘58), a Professor of Economics and Director of Graduate Studies at the Ivy League’s Brown University in Providence, RI; recognized in 1985.

- Dr. Mary Kay Wитges Bengtson (‘71), a member of the Health Service Staff at North Carolina State University and Physician for the Wolfpack Women’s Basketball team; the sixth winner in 1987.

- Dr. Leslie E. Johnson (‘74) a Family Practitioner first in Mt. Vernon and later in Peoria; honored 10 years after he graduated. Three other members of his class would be singled out – Gloria J. Sloan-Reel, former “Outstanding Ag Student of the Year” at both RLC and SIUC and Brand Manager for Rhone-Poulenc Ag Company of Research Triangle Park, NC, in 1990; Craig M. Sinclair, Vice President of Advertising for The Walgreen Company, the nation’s largest retail drug store operation, in 1991, and Ronald Wayne Smith, former Benton Ranger and RLC Warrior, Men’s Basketball Associate Head Coach at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale when he was singled out in 2011.

- Limit of one NASA Engineer per college or university? Apparently not. After all, there are two primary Space Centers.

Another of those nontraditional students morphed from an Elementary School Janitor into an Instrumentation System Engineer for NASA’s Flight Avionics Division, landing at the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, FL. His name is Peter Johnson – aka Space Flight Awareness Silver Snoopy Award-winner – and he is a 1985 product of RLC and the 2012 RLC Foundation “Alumnus of the Year.”

- Here come de Judge? The Hon. Mike D. McHaney (‘77) took center court at the 2010 Annual Dinner. The Attorney and Former Public Defender was Fourth Judicial Circuit Court Judge when the Foundation made a (shining) example out of him. McHaney is the son of a former Rend Lake College Nursing Instructor and Allied Health Department Chair, Shirley McHaney, and Grade School Principal Lon McHaney.

- One of the best-known Coal Miners in Southern Illinois is no longer. No longer a Coal Miner, that is. And it was not until Jim Muir, at age 37, was laid off from the only



Scott saluted (cont.)

too. I’ve made up my mind I’ve served my time. I want to go out on a good note. But it’s hard to leave. I’ve spent a lot of time here and I love the kids. I’ve seen a great growth here. There’s so many changes . . .” RLC Board Chairman Bryan Drew pointed out Scott had been a member of the Board since Drew was 3 years old.

“That tells you how long he has been serving the people of this community,” Drew added. “It’s impressive. It’s not an easy thing to do. People forget there is no pay and, most of the time, it’s you paying. He does it because he loves this college. I can promise there is nobody who loves this college more than Mr. Scott. It’s been an honor and a pleasure being on the Board with him.”

Scott witnessed the establishment of a new campus, the selection of three college Presidents, and the expansion of numerous programs.

“We’ve had some extra good board members. Smart people,” said Scott. “You don’t do it all by yourself. Good teachers. Good people around us.”

His biggest supporter has been his wife of 63 years, Vivian, as well as the rest of his family. Marvin said Vivian told him not to retire from the Board. “She said, ‘You’re going to miss it.’”

When Scott received a fifth ICCTA Trustee Education Award in 2009, then President Jeff May said, “He has really shown a solid commitment to good trusteeship to get the most education possible to do his job well. He has taken the time to be the best trustee he can be. Someone who has been in at his level with as much training as he has had, we can really look to him to see how to be a good trustee.” Scott is a lifetime member.



Average RLC class includes 17.36 students in 1992-93

REND LAKE COLLEGE F.Y.I. JUNE 1993

Need some ammunition in your hunt to recruit new students for Rend Lake College?

Try this latest statistic . . .

The typical classroom at RLC includes an instructor and 17.36 students.

According to information compiled recently by Director of Admissions and Records Sue Wells, the average class size for Fall '92 was 18.07 and 16.69 for Spring '93.

Included are classes with PCS codes of 1.1 and 1.2.

Not included: Internship and On-Job-Training classes; Independent Study; Telecourses; Medical Records Technology program; Job Training Partnership Act "Job Strategy" classes; Math Lab courses, and Fitness Center.



Avg. No. Students per class

	Fall	Spring
1992-93	18.1	16.7
'99-2000		14.6
2000-01	15.2	15.9
2001-02	15.9	15.6
2002-03	15.6	14.2
2003-04	14.5	14.6
2004-05	15.0	14.0
2005-06	15.3	14.0
2006-07	15.1	14.7
2007-08	15.3	15.1
2008-09	15.8	14.5
2009-10	14.8	14.2
2010-11	15.0	14.2
2011-12	15.3	14.1
2012-13	14.7	
2013-14		
2014-15		
2015-16		

Excludes classes with less than 5 students, more than 40 (thru F2010); less than 5, more than 45 (beginning Sp2011)

job he had known since going underground at age 18, he became "famous."

The self-proclaimed "rough-around-the-edges" Muir returned to school, graduating from Rend Lake College in 1997, and became a newspaper reporter (hometown *Benton Evening News*) and columnist (*Southern Illinoisan*), in addition to a WQRL radio broadcaster ("Sound Off") and sports play-by-play man, before turning to Magazine Mogul as local Publisher for *Southern Illinois Sports Connection*, *Saluki Illustrated* and *Marion Living*, prior to being named 2009 "Alumnus of the Year."

• The Class of '76 has produced three "Alumni of the Year" to date – Flo Dudley, the 65-year-old recent retiree when honored in 1994 after a 16-year career as an elementary teacher, who returned to school after 29 years to fulfill a lifelong dream of graduating from college; Holly McCann, Acting National Director for the Internal Revenue Service's Office of Interest and Penalty Administration, former Warrior cheerleader and Phi Theta Kappa member recognized in 2000; Donald H. Dame, Vice President of Human Resources and Government Relations for Freeman United Coal Mining Co., the son of former RLC Mining Coordinator Dwight Dame Sr., in 2003.

• Three more date back to their days at MVCC – Bill Shields ('58), a two-time Student Council President who ranked No. 1 on the unofficial SIUC seniority list as Assistant Professor in the Department of Workforce Education and Development, College of Education, and Coordinator of the On-Campus Weekend Degree Program when tabbed in 2005; Dr. Gary R. Sweeten ('60), Minister of Christian Growth for College Hill Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati in 1986, and Robert Brown ('66), longtime Guidance Counselor for Mt. Vernon Township High School and part-time GED Instructor for Rend Lake College, in 1983.

• Winners who remained connected to RLC include Tim Wills ('84), Associate Professor of Health Education, Athletic Director and Men's Basketball Coach, in 1996; Courtney Cox ('72), a former RLC Music Instructor and Trustee who was a Partner with Hart

and Hart Attorneys-at-Law when honored in 1995 and later became U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois covering 38 counties; local rehabilitation frontrunner/RLC Aquatics Center Consultant Laird D. Wisely ('71), honored posthumously 2 1/2 months after the death of the owner of both Therapy Resource Associates and Physical Rehab Works, in 1999; David Junkins ('71), a Social Worker for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services who was the first honoree in 1982 and has been the Lady Warrior Tennis Coach the past eight seasons; Randy Rubenacker ('78), former Ag "Student of the Year" and currently on the RLC Foundation Board of Directors, who is co-owner and manager of Rubenacker Farms Partnership in Dahlgren and 4R Equipment, a McLeansboro farm equipment dealership, in 2008, and Kevin Davis ('72), Comptroller/Treasurer for the Rend Lake Conservancy District and veteran part-time Business Instructor for RLC, in 1989.

• Bengtson (Witges), Wisely and Junkins were all 1970-71 classmates of yet a fourth "Alumnus" honoree, Jonathan W. Thomas, CEO and Executive Dean for Ivy Tech State College (IN), in 1997.

• Also, business stars Carl Rowley ('77), Team Leader/Building Management Systems for The Panduit Network Connectivity Group, in 2001; Rose (Bland) Myles ('68), Manager of the multimillion dollar Network Services operation for Atlanta-based AT&T, in 2002; Chris Johnson ('98), Distribution Center Manager for the Walgreens Distribution Center in Mt. Vernon, in 2006; Brad Gesell ('80), an entrepreneur for the family-owned Gesell's Pump Sales and Service Inc. of Whittington, named Illinois Oil and Gas Association "Wildcatter of the Year" just after he was recognized by RLC in 2007.

• Honorees from 2013-15 were President/G.M. Trish Reed ('87) of UpTime Parts LLC (Navistar), upstate Merrill Lynch Senior Vice President Jim Mounier ('72) and Dr. Brian Kern ('94), Surgeon with the Orthopaedic Institute of Western Kentucky in Paducah.

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

AGRICULTURE CURRICULUM ADDED
Agriculture approved as first new vocational program (School of Practical Nursing founded in 1961). / July 1968

Accredited Institution
NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES
Official vote to accredit Rend Lake College as an Associate Degree-granting institution / March 1969

1968 - 1969

COMMUNITY 2000 MONTHLY COLUMN

If you remember 'then,' you may not believe 'now'

SIXTH IN A SERIES BY PRESIDENT MARK S. KERN / JUNE 2000

How many remember? How close Mt. Vernon Community College and Centralia Junior College were in the '60s to joining with Salem and forming an institution of higher learning to serve those communities? How, five years later, following the establishment of Rend Lake College as we know it, the North Central Association paid an official visit and commended the college "for outstanding progress," but denied accreditation, citing "a lack of autonomy and identification with the high school," among other things.

How many remember? Rend Lake College was first in the state to elect a Board – which included one person from Franklin, Hamilton, Perry, Wayne and White counties and two from Jefferson County – with no opposition to the Steering Committee's suggested candidates. Rend Lake College was first in the state to complete its facilities master plan.

There never has been any doubting peoples' support for a two-year college. In 1955, citizens of the Mt. Vernon district voted a tax rate of 17 1/2 cents to support the establishment and operation of a junior college. The support was overwhelming, 2,288-88. "I have never heard of such a great majority as there was in Mt. Vernon in voting for a junior college," said American Association of Junior Colleges Executive Secretary Jesse Bogue.

Over a decade later, residents of what would become Community College District 521 demonstrated their wholehearted support as well. They approved the referendum to establish Rend Lake College by nearly an 8-1 margin.

But some things do change.

Rend Lake College opened its doors for the first time on the MVTHS campus in Fall 1967. Accreditation was granted in March 1969, just in time for then-President James M. Snyder to make the announcement during groundbreaking ceremonies in a muddy field in Ina.

Consider some comparisons between "then" and "now" . . .

- No tuition was charged in-district residents the first five years of operation, and the cost remained under \$3 per credit hour through 1975. Since that time, tuition

has undergone 15 increases and is now up to \$42 per credit hour for Fall 2000, still a bargain compared to four-year institutions and other community colleges throughout the state.

Thanks to the savings we can pass along from one of the few textbook rental programs in the state, we feel it is a justifiable claim to say we are "the most affordable college" around.

- In September 1956, Mt. Vernon Community College welcomed 199 students, almost equally divided between full-time (96) and part-time students; they took 1,875 credit hours of college courses; 79 of those students attended evening classes. Enrollment in Rend Lake College that first year, in 1967-68, was 765, with approximately 650 of those full-time and 21,540 credit hours generated; Nursing by then was an established vocational program, along with Secretarial. A year later, Agriculture was added to the curriculum.

Today, the college boasts an annual headcount of about 8,000, or the equivalent of 2,000 full-time students. Credit-hour generation reached an all-time high in 1997 of 62,999 (excluding corrections).

- The first Commencement program from Rend Lake College in 1968 lists four full-time administrators and 40 faculty members. Our new catalog lists six top-level administrators; 22 other administrators and 64 support staff; 72 faculty members, including Corrections; 38 office support staff and 23 physical plant employees. That does not count all of the part-time instructors and others who also are essential to our operation.

Is it any wonder payroll and benefits account for approximately 65 percent of expenditures in a projected Education and Operation/Maintenance budget of almost \$12 million? The total budget, counting all funds, is over \$15 million.

- The full-time faculty on-campus represents a healthy mix of experience and expertise – 33 have attained "Professor" status with 10 or more years at the college; 17 are "Associate Professors," meaning they are tenured with less than 10 years at RLC, and nine are nontenured "Instructors."

- In his book, **The First Fifteen Years**, Dr. Howard Rawlinson, College Dean, stated,

* - * - *

1975: 'We can no longer operate without computers'

BOARD MINUTES MARCH 18, 1975

Dr. (James) Snyder stated that without doubt, Rend Lake College has reached the stage where we can no longer operate without assistance from computers. He stated that, in part, we are doing some work with computers now, but this is not enough in relation to the volume of work we are required to do for state agencies, etc. He stated Dr. (Phil) Ward and Mr. (James) Yates had done some investigation about possible computer services.

Cutler-Williams in Mt. Vernon has proposed an agreement whereby the colleges participating in SICCM may jointly use the computer service and each additional college participating will lower the overall cost for each college. He stated that Mr. Sy Heitmeyer, of Cutler-Williams, would explain any questions the Board members might have. Snyder then passed out copies of the proposed agreement with Cutler-Williams. He stated he had just received it and he would like for the Board members to have time to consider it carefully before taking action.

Mr. Heitmeyer stated that the proposed agreement had been looked over by our college legal counsel and explained several questions of the Board members. He stated that Shawnee College has already agreed to participate in the computer service which would be linked to the computer through ordinary telephone lines . . . Mr. Heitmeyer stated that this system is compatible with the Management Information System of the ICCB . . . Action was tabled for a month.



Graduation Attendance Policy made optional

BOARD MEETING JUNE 19, 1973
(First Reading)

Dr. (Philip) Ward stated that the Policy of the College with regard to attendance at the graduation ceremony states that attendance is mandatory. He stated that students and faculty had been surveyed in regard to this matter, and the general feeling is that attendance should be optional.

Dr. (James) Snyder stated that there is an article in the latest issue of the Community and Junior College Journal which states that colleges nationwide are making attendance optional. In fact, only 50 percent of the nation's colleges still have mandatory attendance at the graduation ceremonies.

Mr. (Albert) Gulley moved to approve the first reading of the policy stating, "Participation in the graduation ceremony is optional." Mrs. (Marie) Simmons seconded and all voted "Yes" by roll call vote.

This constitutes the first reading. As the Policy Manual requires that any change in policy be brought before the Board at two consecutive meetings, there will be a second reading at the next regular Board meeting for final approval.

[The policy was approved on second reading at the regular July 17, 1973, meeting.]

Community 2000 (cont.)

"Mt. Vernon Community College began with a modest program geared primarily toward those students who aspired to a baccalaureate degree, the only offering in the vocational field being in the area of Secretarial Science. Even here, the emphasis was on producing teachers of Secretarial subjects."

As many or more students today are enrolled in Vocational-Technical programs as there are in university-parallel instruction preparing to transfer after two years. Our offerings now include 23 degrees in Vocational programs and 30 Occupational Certificates, a dozen of which are directly related to other Associate in Applied Science Degree programs.

• Specialized programs, such as Truck Driver Training, and grant programs, in particular, have enabled us to reach out and serve a much more diversified population. Students on-campus benefit from the likes of the STARS (Student Transfer and Retention support) program, Special Populations (Perkins Grant), Cooperative Education and Employment Services. Many others are touched, or eventually will end up at RLC, thanks to such outreach programs as the Illinois Employment and Training Center – Satellite Office, IETC Career Center, "Project First Class," "Upward Bound," "Future Focus," "Project CHILD" Child Care Resource and Referral; "AmeriCorps in Southern Illinois" and "Illinois Child-Corps," both administered through RLC; Alternative Education classes, Teen Parent Services, "America Reads" and "America Counts," "Advancing Opportunities," et al. I trust there will be no need for you to become more familiar with our correctional education programs at Big Muddy River Correctional Center and Pinckneyville Correctional Center.

You get the idea. What we have become is overwhelming, when one compares it to what we were perceived to be in the early days of our existence.

• National statistics tell us only 50 percent of all high school graduates attend college. Yet the last three years, 52.2 percent of in-district graduates have chosen to continue their education at Rend Lake College. That is something we can be extremely proud of, although the numbers fluctuate a great deal from year-to-year and school-to-school and we feel as if we can always do better with improved recruiting efforts.

Is it working? Our growth and acceptance within the community – both by prospective students and the business community – would certainly indicate it is.

The students who transfer continue to do us proud, with Rend Lake College products compiling higher grade-point averages than "native" four-year students who started their college careers at the same school and transfer students from other institutions.

Individually in recent years . . . Jyl Pepple (Bluford / Webber Township High School) was a member of the 1998 All-USA Academic Third Team; Mark Michalic (West Frankfort, RLC Class of 1978) was named Illinois Community College Co-"Alumnus of the Year" after his heroic work in helping solve the Oklahoma City bombing tragedy; nontraditional student Becci Doering (Mt. Vernon), a single mother of three, submitted the winning entry in the Illinois Community College Trustees Association Paul Simon Student Essay Contest describing "How My Community College Has Changed My Life," and just last November Kristen Ann Clark (West Frankfort) was One in a Million, selected to represent all community college students statewide as recipient of The Lincoln Academy of Illinois Student Laureate Award "for outstanding achievement in both curriculum and extracurricular activities."

Yes, we are continually changing. But only for the better.

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

REND LAKE COLLEGE ON THE MOVE
Move from Mt. Vernon to new campus in Ina
in time for start of Fall Semester classes.
/ August 1970

1969 - 1970

1970 - 1971

R.L.C. ONE OF FIRST THREE IN NATION RECOGNIZED IN 1982 Business-College Award for coal company partnerships

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 1982

The beneficial link between Rend Lake College and area industry, particularly in the field of coal mining technology, has received national recognition.

The Ina-based community college was one of three institutions honored recently at the annual American Association of Community and Junior Colleges National Convention for their cooperative efforts with business and industry.

Cited at the awards banquet in St. Louis were programs linking Rend Lake College with Old Ben Coal Company and Inland Steel Coal Company. Sarah Resnick, President of Media Systems Corporation, the New York publishing firm which sponsored the first-time college-business award, presented checks of \$1,000 to each of the three community colleges with model programs.

Programs represented "exemplify very creative responses" to increased productivity for business and industry needs, Resnick commented. Rend Lake College shared the award with Bay De Noc Community College of Michigan and Central Technical Community College of Nebraska. The winners were selected from 28 model programs submitted nationwide.

"Opportunity with Excellence: A College and Community Partnership" was the theme for the 62nd Annual AACJC Convention, held at Stouffer's Riverfront Towers.

"Through this kind of training," added the presenter, "we are making a tremendous investment in human capital."

Dale Parnell, AACJC President, said the Media Systems Business-College Partnerships Awards "enable us to point with pride to outstanding examples of proven partnerships . . . colleges, business, industry and labor working together to improve America's economic development and well-being."

The three recipients and their partners were commended for the favorable impact their cooperative programs have had on local economies. These programs, Parnell indicated, illustrate the kinds of services many of the nation's 1,200 community, technical and junior colleges are capable of providing to business and industry.

Rend Lake College and the mining

industry joined hands for the first time in Spring 1975. At that time, Old Ben Coal Company revealed plans to have two new mine sites in operation within two years and asked the college to train all of its repairman personnel in electricity, welding, mechanics and hydraulics.

As a result of Old Ben's commitment to "help in any way," a 28-week training program was devised through the joint efforts of both parties. Four additional programs have since been developed - one-day Annual Electrical Training for Mine Health and Safety Administration certification; a 10-day, pre-employment program for all new hires; federally mandated Annual Retraining for underground employees, and similar retraining for all surface employees.

Old Ben Coal Company has sent over 10,000 employees to Rend Lake College for various classes or programs during that six-year period.

In 1977, Inland Steel Coal Company was prepared to open its second mine site in Southern Illinois and discovered a specific training need for mining equipment maintenance mechanics.

College personnel and Inland Steel representatives worked together to create an intensive, nine-month scholarship program in which potential employees receive college credit in addition to a monthly stipend from the company. Eight groups of 18 students each have completed this program to date, with two others presently attending classes at Rend Lake College.

Today, more than one out of every 10 students who completed the scholarship program have been promoted to management-level positions at Inland Steel.

A seven-month training program for employees has been added to the mining curriculum since then. Also in recent months, Rend Lake College, Old Ben and McDonnell Douglas Electronics Company, with funding from the U.S. Bureau of Mines, have been responsible for training validation of a computerized continuous miner simulator, the only one of its kind in the nation. Rend Lake College provided the instructional resources and facilities for this training process, with more than 60 machine operators from Inland Steel Coal Company participating.

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Placement testing introduced in '82 to improve success rate

ANNUAL REPORT 1981-82

Placement tests were added for the students' benefit in mathematics and reading. A similar test in English was initiated two years ago because "the faculty had asked for something like this for some time, primarily because of the wide variance of abilities in each class," according to Dean of Instruction Mark S. Kern. "We plan on introducing math and reading placement tests for the very same reason."

Kern indicated the English test, given prior to registration for those students who have not taken the ACT exam or did not score high enough on that exam, has proven to be "one of the best services we have ever had available for our students" and noted he did not feel it was a deterrent in keeping prospective students from enrolling. "It is a bigger barrier," Kern said, "if we put a person in a higher-level class than he or she belongs in. That student may flunk the class and never be back in school again."

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'Good Neighbor Policy' opens doors to BMRCC

BOARD MEETING MARCH 22, 1994

Trustees received information regarding the number of Big Muddy River Correctional Center employees, spouses and dependents who took advantage of the college's new "Good Neighbor Policy" to permit tuition deferments up to three semester hours.

A total of 74 individuals did so Fall 1993 (\$5,692 in tuition deferments), and another 47 did likewise this spring (\$3,479).



B. Jones farm (351 acres) purchased for \$242,500

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 1968

The Rend Lake College Board voted to purchase the Byford Jones farm property of 351 acres in Ina at a total price of \$242,500, less the advance option fee and proration for taxes. Plans call for the college to retain about 250 acres; Trustees propose selling 100 acres to the Corps of Engineers. The November 19 Board meeting was conducted at the Bonnie campus, the home of the college's Automotive program.

On December 3, 1968, at Pinckneyville High School, at a continuation of the recessed November Board meeting, contracts totaling \$2,731,272 were awarded for construction of the new campus . . .

GENERAL CONTRACTOR – Lipps Construction Co. of Mt. Vernon, \$1,735,509.

PLUMBING – H & H Plumbing, Heating and Electric in Mt. Vernon, \$215,803.

HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING – H & H Plumbing, Heating and Electric, \$445,274.

ELECTRICAL – H.F. Blades, Inc. of Decatur, \$262,620.

SCIENCE EQUIPMENT – Hamilton Manufacturing Co., Two Rivers, WI, \$50,331.

GYM EQUIPMENT – Allied School Equipment, Springfield, \$21,735.

Business award (cont.)

College enrollment has grown tremendously in recent years, thanks primarily to its involvement with the mining industry. The equivalent of 1,925 full-time students attended Rend Lake College classes in 1980-81, compared to 1,032 in 1975-76. A Mining staff which began with one full-time instructor six years ago now includes 19 full-time instructors.

Both Inland Steel Coal Company and Old Ben Coal Company have helped maintain quality training with state-of-the-art equipment through numerous donations and loaning of various mining components and pieces of heavy equipment.

Inland Steel created over 500 new jobs with its second mine operation. Old Ben, which received the first RLC Foundation Award for Community Support and recently contributed \$45,000 toward the purchase of electronics equipment, has expanded from three sites and 1,550 employees to five sites and 2,700 employees since striking its first agreement with Rend Lake College.

Several representatives from the college administrative and instructional staffs, in addition to both coal companies, attended the awards banquet. Making the presentation on behalf of the seven-member AACJC Awards Committee was Joshua L. Smith, President of Borough of Manhattan Community College in New York.

Dr. Harry J. Braun, President, accepted Rend Lake College's award on behalf of Vocational-Technical Dean Carroll Turner and Mining Technology Department Chair Ron Sanderson, who were responsible for submitting the program for consideration, and the Mining Technology staff. Rich Sachoff, Manager of Employee Relations for Old Ben, and Charlie Morris, Supervisor of Employee Development for Inland Steel, accepted the awards for their companies.

Central Technical Community College was praised for its work training Kansas-Nebraska Natural Gas Company servicemen for the past 10 years. Bay De Noc Community College was honored for

"Contracting with Business and Industry," in which 57 local businesses are served.

Also honored during ceremonies which featured a greeting by U.S. Senator John Danforth of Missouri was Paul Simon, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Southern Illinois who was recipient of the first "Distinguished Service Award."

1984 SURVEY SAYS: ▶ BRAC one of two model programs selected to head statewide project

REND LAKE COLLEGE BOARD MEETING JANUARY 1984

Rend Lake College's work with business and industry has been cited as one of two model programs statewide following a survey of Illinois community colleges.

Phase I of a "Project Assessment of Business and Industry Based Instruction with Community Colleges in Illinois" attempted to determine the current status of contractual and cooperative training arrangements, according to C.C. Lowery, Director of the RLC Business Resource and Assistance Center. From this survey, RLC and Moraine Valley College in the Chicago suburb of Palos Hills were selected as model programs for more in-depth analysis.

"From the field tests done at RLC and Moraine Valley, plus another survey they will make later at 10 other colleges, a model will be developed for other community colleges on how to work with business and industry, particularly in the high-technology areas," explained Lowery.

The Phase I survey points out RLC, from January 1982 through August 1983, reached 3,446 students representing 15 area firms through 16 specialized courses and 34 workshops/seminars, including nine which were offered either on-site or off-campus.

During that period, RLC offered specialized programs for General Motors, Country Companies, International Harvester, Chrysler Corporation, John Deere, Old Ben Coal, General Radiator, Standard Electric, Joy Manufacturing, Illinois Department of Mines and Minerals, Lee Norse, General Tire, United Mine Workers of America and Mt. Vernon schools.

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

CAMPUS FACILITIES DEDICATED

Dedication ceremonies.
/ September 26, 1971

REND LAKE DEDICATION EAST OF DAM MAY 27

Official Dedication, 2 pm. Weekend included Ball, Pageant, Parade, 9th Ann. RL Days. / May 23-27, 1972

NEW CONSTRUCTION UNDER WAY

Building construction starts for both Phases II and III. / May 1972

TUITION CHARGED

Tuition of \$2.50/credit hour charged for first time. / 1972-73

BUILDING TAKEOVER

Phase II buildings occupied. / July 1973

1971 - 1972

1972 - 1973

FALL 2005 ENROLLMENT INCREASE OF 43.7% BEST OF PEERS RLC ranks No. 1 among nation's fastest-growing colleges

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE DECEMBER 2006

Rend Lake College ranks No. 1 among the nation's fastest-growing community colleges of comparable size, according to the most recent issue of *Community College Week* – a journal targeted at community, technical and junior colleges across the nation.

Enrollment at RLC rose 43.7 percent from Fall 2004 to Fall 2005. The increase is 15.6 percent more than at the second-fastest growing community college in the nation with between 2,500 and 4,999 students, Western Wyoming Community College, which reported a 28.1 percent increase in enrollment during the same period.

With Fall 2004 enrollment of 3,420 students surging to 4,913 in Fall 2005, RLC posted a record year in enrollment with an increase of 1,493 students.

"This is a tremendous accomplishment because we did it in an area that is not experiencing large population growth," said RLC President Mark Kern. "It is a credit to everyone who supports the college – our Board of Trustees, faculty, staff and the community. Rend Lake College has become, not just a place to go to school, but the place to go."

"Interpreting the Numbers" is the report that appears in the December 4 edition of *Community College Week*. The author, Dr. Victor M. H. Borden, examined and compared the growth among institutions that vary in size from a few dozen students to tens of thousands. His findings are grouped into two-year institutions with less than 2,500; those with 2,500-4,999; between 5,000 and 9,999, and 10,000 or more. Borden is Associate Vice President at Indiana University and Associate Professor of Psychology at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI).

According to *Community College Week*, the 1,138 public, two-year institutions included in the analysis represent 18 percent of all postsecondary institutions, but enroll 35 percent of all students – second only to the public, four-year sector.

RLC is way above par for the two-year, public sector as a whole, which experienced a slight decline in enrollment for 2004-05, according to the report. And the college is on track for another record year regarding credit hours and headcount.

Many students who take noncredit courses through the Continuing Education and Adult Literacy programs at RLC were not included in the report because noncredit students are not counted in enrollment analysis by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Set (IPEDS), which was a source for *Community College Week's* report.

RLC enrollment growth from 2004 to 2005 was the second-highest among all public, two-year colleges in *CC Week's* report. The highest was L.E. Fletcher Technical Community College in Louisiana with a 100.5 percent growth in its less-than 2,500-person student body. According to the article, LEFTCC's growth of 809 students between Fall 2004 and Fall 2005 was partly due to displaced students who were forced to relocate to another college after Hurricane Katrina hit.

"The level of growth that Rend Lake College experienced in its record-setting year is a wonderful achievement on its own," said Mary Bornheimer, Interim Dean of Student Services. "However, to be nationally recognized for that achievement is a thrilling testament to what we have known all along. Rend Lake College is a great place to go for an education and proves to be a vital stepping stone toward continuing that education."

Since 1988, *Community College Week* has been the independent source of in-depth information for and about two-year college faculty, administrators and Trustees, according to the publication's Web site.

Published biweekly, *Community College Week* boasts readers who are college presidents, chief academic officers, faculty, student-service professionals, librarians and other educators, the Web site states. *CC Week's* partners include The Community College Foundation, The National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development and The American Council on Education, among others.

"In each edition, our readers find news and features not provided by other news sources, including analyses of critical academic trends and issues, vital statistics, technology updates and employment opportunities," *CC Week's* Web site states.



SIUC offers Elementary Ed program at MarketPlace

OCTOBER 2006

The groundwork is ongoing for a breakthrough opportunity in education.

A packed room was the setting for a milestone meeting Tuesday night at the Rend Lake College MarketPlace. Representatives of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and community colleges of the region met with those who dream to teach.

SIUC has teamed with Rend Lake College and many other educational institutions in the region to offer a baccalaureate degree in Elementary Education. Through the new program, students can obtain a degree without ever laying eyes on Faner Hall or stepping foot on SIUC soil.

Beginning Spring 2007, classes toward a four-year Elementary Education degree from SIUC will be held at the RLC MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon.

Since the coursework will not be at SIUC, fees associated with the program will be less than those required of an on-campus student, according to Dr. Patricia Elmore, Interim Dean of the SIUC College of Education and Human Services. One student reported her savings in gasoline alone would be \$1,400 per year to attend classes closer to home. More than a dozen educators from Mt. Vernon City Schools District 80 were in attendance.

Chancellor Walter Wendler indicated SIUC is looking to offer other programs at satellite locations such as the RLC MarketPlace.

Community College Week

THE INDEPENDENT VOICE COVERING COMMUNITY, TECHNICAL AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

RLC fastest-growing community college (2,500-4,999 students) in nation

Rank	Affiliation	State	ENROLLMENT (HEADCOUNT)		Growth	Percent Growth
			Fall 2004	Fall 2005		
1	REND LAKE COLLEGE	IL	3,420	4,913	1,493	43.7%
2	WESTERN WYOMING COMMUNITY COLLEGE	WY	2,619	3,356	737	28.1%
3	PALO VERDE COLLEGE	CA	3,507	4,214	707	20.2%
4	COCONINO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	AZ	3,232	3,816	584	18.1%
5	HARRISBURG AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE – LANCASTER	PA	4,146	4,842	696	16.8%
6	METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE – BLUE RIVER	MO	2,290	2,662	372	16.2%
7	GATEWAY COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE	KY	2,573	2,952	379	14.7%
	BOWLING GREEN TECHNICAL COLLEGE	KY	2,477	2,840	363	14.7%
9	SNOW COLLEGE	UT	2,968	3,333	365	12.3%
10	GEORGIA HIGHLANDS COLLEGE	GA	3,416	3,817	401	11.7%
11	DARTON COLLEGE	GA	4,125	4,578	453	11.0%
12	SUSSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	NJ	3,153	3,461	308	9.8%
13	WEST CENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE	GA	2,634	2,888	254	9.6%
	NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE	OK	4,377	4,797	420	9.6%
15	CENTRAL OHIO TECHNICAL COLLEGE	OH	2,784	3,046	262	9.4%
	BOSSIER PARISH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	LA	4,429	4,845	416	9.4%
	SOUTHERN MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	ME	4,103	4,487	384	9.4%
	ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY – BEEBE	AR	3,636	3,976	340	9.4%
19	SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	NC	3,327	3,636	309	9.3%
20	JOHNSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	NC	3,758	4,095	337	9.0%
21	HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE	MS	4,494	4,896	402	8.9%
22	SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT	LA	2,331	2,536	205	8.8%
23	COCHISE COLLEGE	AZ	4,270	4,610	340	8.0%
24	CASPER COLLEGE	WY	3,799	4,100	301	7.9%
25	ROBESON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	NC	2,346	2,527	181	7.7%
	SPARTANBURG TECHNICAL COLLEGE	SC	4,095	4,409	314	7.7%
27	ATLANTA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	GA	3,274	3,523	249	7.6%
	HUTCHINSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	KS	4,526	4,869	343	7.6%
29	MORTON COLLEGE	IL	4,436	4,744	308	6.9%
	CENTRAL VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	VA	4,480	4,787	307	6.9%
31	LAKESHORE TECHNICAL COLLEGE	WI	2,751	2,939	188	6.8%
32	JAMES A. RHODES STATE COLLEGE	OH	2,865	3,058	193	6.7%
	LAMAR INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	TX	2,540	2,711	171	6.7%
	GAVILAN COLLEGE	CA	4,550	4,854	304	6.7%
	PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE	NC	2,432	2,594	162	6.7%
	RAPPAHANNOCK COMMUNITY COLLEGE	VA	2,691	2,870	179	6.7%
37	DANVILLE AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	IL	2,559	2,728	169	6.6%
	IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE – BLOOMINGTON	IN	3,169	3,378	209	6.6%
	ITAWAMBA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	MS	4,672	4,979	307	6.6%
40	WISCONSIN INDIANHEAD TECHNICAL COLLEGE	WI	3,321	3,533	212	6.4%
	COASTAL GEORGIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	GA	2,879	3,062	183	6.4%
42	SOUTH MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	AZ	4,293	4,561	268	6.2%
43	ODESSA COLLEGE	TX	4,569	4,849	280	6.1%
44	LANIER TECHNICAL COLLEGE	GA	3,019	3,196	177	5.9%
45	ROGUE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	OR	4,211	4,454	243	5.8%

SOURCE: COMMUNITY COLLEGE WEEK ANALYSIS OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION DATA

'A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE UNION HALL'

Graduate Michalic ('79) has been a member of good teams

REND LAKE COLLEGE CLASS SCHEDULE FALL 1999

Comedian Jim Belushi was a co-winner of the "Distinguished Alumnus Award" presented by the Illinois Community College Trustees Association at its 29th annual banquet.

But fellow recipient Mark Michalic was not kidding recently when he told honored guests at the 32nd Annual Commencement exercises at his alma mater, Rend Lake College . . . "A funny thing happened (to me) on the way to the Union Hall."

The would-be electrician from West Frankfort had a change in (career) heart when he responded to the encouragement of his neighbor, RLC Architecture Instructor Fred Bruno, and enrolled at Rend Lake College. The rest, as they say, is history.

He attended Rend Lake College from 1977-79 and Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, serving both institutions as a Student Trustee, and eventually went to work for the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

"Anything I have done to this point . . . Rend Lake College has been the impetus," Michalic told the graduates gathering in May.

Michalic is a Special Agent, a 15-year veteran of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. His immediate future with the government would appear to be in Washington, D.C., where he is expecting to train to become a supervisor for ATF.

What Michalic has done to this point would include serving on Secret Service protection details for then-Presidential candidate Bill Clinton, Vice Presidents George Bush and Dan Quayle, Jesse Jackson and others; assisting in the attempt to serve federal search warrant papers on the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, TX, and being a key member of the investigative team for the Oklahoma City Bombing tragedy.

Four of his fellow Special Response Team members lost their lives at Waco in February 1993 and many others were injured.

The Oklahoma City event which touched a nation two years later was even more personal for Michalic, whose office was located in the Alfred P. Murrah Building for 11 years prior to the bombing. "I personally knew a number of the bombing victims and consider myself lucky to have been a part of the prosecution efforts," he said.

He is considered a national hero for locating the main suspect in the Oklahoma City

bombing, Timothy McVeigh, in a county jail on a minor, unrelated vehicle charge and identifying him just moments before his anticipated release.

Michalic was responsible for placing the federal hold on McVeigh that kept him in custody until he and others could drive to Perry, OK, and place him under arrest.

He was cited in the March 24, 1997 issue of *Newsweek* magazine. He was presented both the ATF Distinguished Service Medal and the Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award, the latter from Attorney General Janet Reno. He was recognized by his colleagues with the Federal Bureau of Investigation as recipient of the FBI Jefferson Cup, which was inscribed "with deep appreciation for your dedication, commitment and tireless efforts to protect the American people from crime and terrorism, and your extraordinary contributions to the cause of justice in the investigation and prosecution of the OKBOMB case."

Yet, as he did at the RLC Foundation Annual Dinner in December, when he was named "Alumnus of the Year," Michalic insisted the local award meant more to him than the rest. "All of the other awards pale in comparison to this, because it came from the people who know me . . ." he told the RLCF audience of 300-plus.

"I don't accept this because of what I've done. I accept it for what you have done for me. In life, you never do anything alone. You do it as a team . . . I am going to accept this award for all of us."

It was more of the same when he picked up the state "Distinguished Alumnus Award," at the ICCTA Banquet at the Marriott Resort in Lincolnshire. There he gave credit to all of those many educators in the Illinois Community College system for playing a part in any successes he may have experienced, as well as those of thousands of others. (Belushi, the first Student Trustee at College of DuPage, was unable to attend.)

Michalic reiterated that theme to the Class of 1999 and an overflow crowd at Commencement.

Michalic congratulated the latest RLC grads and told them, "I'm not a celebrity. I'm not rich or famous. I'm just a small-town kid from West Frankfort, IL.

"You are me 20 years ago. But if there is anything I can tell you, it is that I have

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'Got a feeling a whole bunch of FBI boys want to talk to him'

MORNING SENTINEL DECEMBER 9, 1998

An excerpt from the story re: the RLC Foundation Annual Dinner December 8, 1998 by Mt. Vernon Bureau Chief Randy Snyder . . .

He (Mark Michalic) recalled the moment when, after several telephone calls to Oklahoma law enforcement personnel, he got through to Sheriff Jerry Cook in Oklahoma County. Michalic had heard of a man who was stopped by a State Trooper in Northern Oklahoma for driving with no license plate and possessing a handgun.

"Sheriff Cook said he recalled such a suspect," Michalic said. "When I asked him the suspect's name, he said, 'Timothy James McVeigh.'" Michalic said the makeshift command room "where we were jammed together shoulder to shoulder and nobody had shaved in about eight days - the aroma wasn't too good - got so quiet you could have heard a pin drop. It was as if they knew some good information was going to come from my phone. I yelled, 'We got him!' and everyone started cheering.

"Sheriff Cook said a Deputy was taking McVeigh for a bond hearing [and the opportunity to post bond, which could have set him free] and I told him, 'You put one of those federal holds on him because I've got a feeling there's gonna be a whole bunch of FBI boys up there wanting to talk to him.'"

["You had to be there," *Register-News* Reporter Gregory Norfleet quoted Michalic, "it was an electric moment, because, for some reason, everybody thought the phone I was on had some sort of magic . . ."]



Him? 'You could tell he was going to make a difference'

F.Y.I. DECEMBER 14, 1998

The presence of National Hero Mark Michalic at the 1998 RLC Foundation Annual Dinner brought more media coverage than ever before.

Four television stations – WSIL-TV 3 in Carterville, WPSD-TV 6 in Paducah, KFVS-TV 12 in Cape Girardeau and WSIU-TV 8 from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale – and two newspapers covered the event.

During interviews and throughout his speech, Michalic talked more about how "lucky" he was to have his support team than his own accomplishments. He thanked his parents, George and Agnes Michalic, his Southern Illinois friends of longstanding, Rend Lake College and his teachers. That was especially true of retired Architectural Instructor Fred Bruno, a neighbor who convinced Michalic he should give college a try.

The humble Michalic related the following story . . . Benton Consolidated H.S. Supt. Russell Clover, a family friend, was reading *Newsweek* magazine when he first learned of what happened. "I know a Mark Michalic," the honoree laughed while recalling Clover's reaction, "but this can't be him."

RLC President Mark S. Kern knew otherwise. "Seriously, you really could tell when Mark was a student at Rend Lake College (1977-79) he was going to make a difference," Kern said. "I mean that."

Grad Michalic (cont.)

learned a few things in 20 years. Because of the good Lord and good luck, and just as importantly because I have been a member of a good team, I was able to do something that got me some attention individually. But you will never do anything by yourself; you always have to have that support of others."

Michalic's support at the ICCTA Banquet in the Chicago suburbs included his parents, George and Agnes Michalic of West Frankfort; RLC "Faculty Excellence" Award-winner Ro Hoar; RLCF Executive Director Pat Mitchell; members of the President's Cabinet, including President Mark S. Kern and Deans Bob Carlock, Dr. Julie Meents, Terry Clark, Salah Shakir and Mary Roe.

In his letter of recommendation to the ICCTA, U.S. Attorney Patrick Ryan indicated he has known and worked with Michalic the past four years, observing him as he "supervised a major lead project involving 12 other agents. Mark exemplifies all of the traits that are necessary to be an excellent agent and supervisor. He is a man of courage, judgment, dedication and integrity. In addition, he has a wonderful sense of humor and was extremely well-liked by those working on the task force."

The fact Michalic would emerge as a leader and ultimate national "hero" should come as no surprise to those who remember him from his days as a Rend Lake College Architectural Technology student. One of only two persons ever to serve two years as the Student Representative on the Board of Trustees, he also was Vice President initially and later President of the Student Senate as a sophomore, Illinois State Lieutenant Governor of the South District for the Kiwanis-affiliated Circle K Club, Christmas Dance King and a member of the Tennis team.

Many of the early awards and medals he was given were in turn presented by Michalic to his father, who was stationed at Pearl Harbor the Sunday morning of the attack by the Japanese on December 7, 1941.

The "Distinguished Alum" indicated to

the ICCTA, "With the sobering thought of retirement to look forward to (in 10-17 years), my dream would be to be able to teach at a community college upon retirement. I believe that giving back to the community that has given so much to you is a duty and an obligation.

"I would love to be able to return to Rend Lake College and teach a Law or Law Enforcement course to those from my home area. If future aspirations are dreams, I truly hope this one will come true."

To those following in his footsteps, he closed with a wish and a challenge . . .

"May you have enough happiness to keep you sweet; Enough trials to keep you strong; Enough sorrow to keep you human; Enough hope to keep you happy.

"Enough failure to keep you humble; Enough success to keep you eager; Enough friends to give you comfort; Enough faith and courage in yourself to banish depression; Enough wealth to meet your needs, and Enough determination to make each day a better day than yesterday."

"Rend Lake College has given you the best education from a two-year institution that you can receive," he added. "I challenge you to make it even better."

[P.S. After 15 years as a Special Agent . . .

1999-2002 – Group Supervisor, Intelligence and Firearms Trafficking - Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms / Dallas, TX

2002-04 – Branch Chief, Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information - Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives / Washington, D.C.

2004-07 – Division Chief, Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information - Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives / Washington, D.C.

2008-2012 – Special Assistant to Deputy Attorney General, U.S. Dept. of Justice, re: National Preparedness and Response Policy / Washington, D.C.

September 2012 – Emergency Preparedness and Crisis Response Coordinator, Office of the Deputy Attorney General, Dept. of Justice, providing oversight pertaining to man-made and natural disasters.

In addition, he earned his Master's Degree in National Security Strategy from the National War College, National Defense University.]

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

1973 TRANSFER STUDENTS NO. 1 IN STATE

Follow-up study by the ICCB (in 1976) of 1973 transfer students reveals those from RLC achieved a 3.0 grade-point average at senior institutions, highest in the state among 49 two-year colleges.

1974-75 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

"I have developed a philosophy over the years which can be summarized by a few words: 'Anything worth doing is worth doing well.' A short time spent on campus, I believe, will provide considerable evidence that this philosophy is accepted and practiced quite consistently . . ."

- Dr. James M. Snyder

FIRST IN STATE TO COMPLETE MASTER PLAN

The 21st community college in the state to be approved, Rend Lake College becomes the first to complete its original facilities Master Plan.

/ 1975

1973 - 1974

1974 - 1975

COLLEGE ASSISTS CORRECTIONAL OFFICER APPLICANTS

CO-PREP earns ICCB Excellence in Workforce Prep Award

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE MAY 1998

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Community College Board honored three of its 49 institutions at its May 15 meeting for their efforts in preparing a qualified workforce in their communities through various training and employment methods.

ICCB Awards for Excellence in Workforce Preparation were presented to Rend Lake College, Lake Land College in Mattoon and Wilbur Wright College in Chicago.

“Community colleges continue to be the state’s primary provider of workforce preparation for adults in Illinois,” said Joseph J. Cipfl, President and Chief Executive Officer of the ICCB.

“It is a pleasure to recognize these community colleges for their dedication and foresight. They all have worked hard to improve the employment and job training needs of their communities, and we congratulate them for their efforts.”

Rend Lake College meets the needs for trained personnel in its district through the development of the Correctional Officer Screening Preparation Program (CO-PREP). In cooperation with the Illinois Department of Corrections, CO-PREP helps those applying for jobs as correctional officers to prepare better for the rigorous screening they must pass. Too few applicants had been successfully completing the screening to fill the demand.

As RLC personnel reviewed the screening process, they discovered many applicants were failing more for lack of testing skills rather than lack of actual skills.

Rend Lake College’s Skills Center developed a curriculum within its Adult Basic Education program to evaluate and remediate applicants’ deficiencies in reading comprehension and vocabulary. Use of video tapes and “live-action” scenarios further enhanced the preparation by developing a student’s recall and reporting skills.

Individualized physical fitness programs addressed the abilities tested by the Illinois Department of Corrections.

About 72 percent of applicants who have tested after completing CO-PREP have been successful. This compares very favorably with IDOC’s 40 percent success rate of those who tested without CO-PREP.

Because of this success, IDOC and Rend

Lake College are developing partnerships with other Illinois community colleges to design similar programs based on the RLC model.

Lake Land College developed a unique program for training individuals who provide quality control and quality assurance in Illinois’ road-paving industry. Lake Land developed partnerships with two road-paving contractors and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

By state mandate, industries and IDOT employees involved with road-paving specification compliance and testing must undergo QC/QA training. Lake Land created and submitted a proposal to IDOT with the help of a local asphalt contract to offer appropriate courses that could train personnel in the required disciplines.

Lake Land is the sole provider of this type of Quality Control/Quality Assurance training in Illinois. It offers 10 courses on multiple dates throughout the year. There have been 106 sections taught to date.

Responding to the Chicago banking industry’s need for skilled bank tellers, Wilbur Wright College developed a 13-week certificate program in partnership with several city banks to educate students for these entry-level positions.

Wright designed classes to integrate welfare-to-work candidates, self-pay students and dislocated workers.

The Wright program utilizes ongoing involvement of personnel from many different banks. A consortium of college and bank representatives uses a screening instrument they developed during the interview process with each candidate. Bank staff also lecture regularly on a variety of industry topics.

The curriculum for this program allows modification as needed for improvement and relevancy. To date, 28 graduates of the first three programs are working as tellers, with two classes of 26 participants currently in training.

Wright also has coordinated its Bank Teller Certificate program with the local Illinois Employment and Training Center (IETC) to provide testing and vouchers for eligible welfare recipients.

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Three of four grads in '97 receive financial assistance

REND LAKE COLLEGE F.Y.I. JUNE 1997

According to information compiled by the Financial Aid Office, slightly more than three out of every four 1997 Rend Lake College graduates – 77 percent – were recipients of some type of assistance while completing their studies.

Types of degrees awarded and the percentage of those receiving aid: Associate in Arts Degree, 74%; Associate in Science Degree, 78%; Associate in Applied Science Degree, 75%; Associate Degree in Nursing, 79%; Practical Nursing Certificates, 86%; Occupational Certificates, 73%.

Approximately 64 percent of all students receive financial aid . . . \$3.5M this academic year.

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Dress Code established for ‘professional image’

BOARD MINUTES AUGUST 12, 2003

“In order to maintain the professional image of the college,” the administration proposed a dress code for administrators, Academic Support staff, Office Support staff, Physical Plant staff and student-workers . . . And the Board approved a new Administrative Procedure.

Items not deemed appropriate – *denim jeans, **tee-shirts, tank and halter tops, **shorts and flip-flops. (Exceptions – *student-workers, Physical Plant employees and Computer Technicians; **Athletic Dept., Aquatics and P.E. personnel. Staff may wear jeans Fridays.) Unkempt clothing or inappropriate attire (too tight or short, not covering torso or midriff), if worn, may result in being asked to return home to change.



IAI Core Curriculum aims to prevent any credit loss

NEWS RELEASE MAY 1998

The long journey from the first day of college to the last is about to get a little easier for thousands of Illinois students.

The General Education Core Curriculum – a collection of basic courses required by virtually all colleges and universities – will become available to students enrolling in college this summer. The Core Curriculum, designed by the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI), will give students who enter participating colleges and universities a base of credits that will readily transfer to a four-year institution where they can finish their studies.

A major aim of the IAI is to help assure students they will not lose credits earned in one college when they transfer to another, thus saving them both time and money as they work more efficiently toward their Bachelor's Degree.

Rend Lake College courses which qualify as IAI courses are indicated at the bottom of course descriptions in the official 1998-2000 College Catalog, as well as in the A.A. and A.S. Graduation Requirement worksheets in the catalog.

More than 100 institutions will accept the Core Curriculum, which includes such courses as freshman composition and public speaking, mathematics and various electives in the humanities, fine arts, social and physical sciences.

More than 30,000 students transfer annually. More information is available on the IAI website at www.iTransfer.org.

CORRECTIONAL HOPEFULS RLC's Duncan, Ross, Cox and Arnold responsible for successful program

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE MAY 1998

SPRINGFIELD – Chief administrators Mark S. Kern, President, and Dr. Steve Tietz, Vice President, were on hand Friday morning (May 15) to accept the Illinois Community College Board's Award for Excellence in Workforce Preparation on behalf of Rend Lake College, along with three of the four people perhaps most responsible for making the Correctional Officer Screening Preparation program (CO-PREP) a success.

The threesome was comprised of Cooperative Education and Job Placement Director Rex Duncan, who spearheaded the original concept; Linda Cox, responsible for the Adult Basic Education testing and classwork which evaluates vocabulary and reading comprehension skills and improves participants to a 10th-grade minimum competency level, and Wayne Arnold, who works with the physical conditioning of prospective guards on an individualized basis to attain personal fitness and stamina levels that will allow them to pass the required five-part test.

Skills Center personnel develop coursework addressing individual deficiencies and help prepare applicants in filling out Inmate Disciplinary Reports, thanks to materials provided by IDOC. Training also is provided regarding how to complete applications and interviewing skills. GED instruction is available, if necessary.

Bob Ross, who oversees Rend Lake College's Correctional Education programs, was involved with Duncan in the early plan-

ning stages of the concept after the pair had observed many applicants failing the IDOC testing. Ross was not able to attend the Illinois Community College Board meeting.

"We were all a little taken back by all of this," Duncan said. "When we put something like this together, we did so with the idea of helping put Southern Illinoisans to work. We weren't thinking of being recognized with an award of this magnitude.

"I guess we were all a little overwhelmed by the attention. It was nice," added Duncan.

At the time Cox submitted the proposal as a possibility for the Workforce Preparation award, approximately 100 individuals had taken advantage of the CO-PREP training. Since that time, she has had to change classrooms because the program had outgrown its surroundings.

"Without a doubt, the most gratifying part is when you work with somebody who has failed the test originally, then goes back after having gone through the CO-PREP program and passes," commented Duncan.

"It is a good feeling to know you have given some people hope (for employment) who may not have had a chance previously."

Although the program is geared to helping candidates prepare for the Pre-Employment Screening, there is no guarantee the individual will pass or of employment.

Duncan indicated approximately 300 job opportunities will become a reality to area residents in late 1998 or early 1999, when a medium security correctional facility opens just east of Pinckneyville. It will be the second facility in the RLC district and the third to open in Southern Illinois in five years.



R.L.C. TRANSFER STUDENTS NO. 1 STATEWIDE WITH 3.0 G.P.A.

REND LAKE COLLEGE TODAY OCTOBER 1, 1976

Rend Lake College transfer students achieved the highest grade-point average of all the 49 community colleges in the state.

The Illinois Community College Board conducted a follow-up study of 1973 transfer students from all Illinois Community Colleges. The transfer students from Rend Lake College earned a 3.0 grade-point average, which was the highest in the state.

The study showed Rend Lake College students improved their GPA by 6/10 of a point after transferring to a senior college, which was the greatest increase reported by any college.

The average transfer student received lower grades after transferring. The results indicate Rend Lake College is doing an outstanding job in preparing its students for transfer.

MARTIN NAMED SECOND PRESIDENT
Dr. W. Travis Martin Jr. (chosen July 21) replaces Dr. James M. Snyder as President. / September 21, 1975

NEW MINING FACILITY
A new Mining Technology facility on-campus includes lab equipment for hydraulics, electricity, mechanics and welding. Maintenance Building also is under construction. / November 1976

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

1975 - 1976

1976 - 1977

NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION STAMP OF APPROVAL

Maximum 10-year accreditation each of last three visits

REND LAKE COLLEGE BOARD MINUTES JANUARY 1969

Dr. James M. Snyder reported that on January 16-17 an examining team from North Central Association visited on our campus for the purpose of determining if our institution will receive North Central accreditation. Some of the strengths of our institution they outlined are as follows:

1. They were very complimentary toward the Board and the way it has handled matters this past year, as well as its outlook for the future.

2. They thought the morale of the Board, administration, faculty and students was exceptionally good. They felt we really had a dedicated faculty and praised us for the kind of relationship we have maintained with the high school personnel.

3. They regarded as a definite strength the additional faculty members and administrative staff brought in recently.

The following represent their major points of concern:

1. They were very pleased with our Agriculture program, but felt we still needed to exert considerable effort in the development of other new vocational programs, and that we should continue to strengthen the others that we presently have.

2. The other major area in which they expressed concern was in Student Services personnel. They particularly felt we needed to provide more personnel, especially in the Counseling area.

A full written report will be sent to us by the Chairman of the examining team, but the above items represented the major points they discussed with Dr. Snyder at the close of their visit.

Dr. Snyder stated he was very optimistic about the outcome of the visit, and informed the Board he has received a letter from Mr. Robert Bartlett of the North Central Association indicating the report will be considered by the Commission on Monday, March 24, in Chicago, and extending an invitation to him as chief administrator to be present.

[At the April 15, 1969 Board of Trustees meeting, a letter was shared from Norman Burns, Executive Secretary, informing college officials NCA had officially voted to accredit Rend Lake College as an Associate Degree-granting institution and extending congratulations.]

FALL 1977 ▶

Three years: Decision-making process adversely affected by campus environment

REND LAKE COLLEGE BOARD MINUTES NOVEMBER 1977

The North Central Association evaluation team visited Rend Lake College on November 2-4 for accreditation purposes.

Team members were Dr. Richard Brown, President of Nicolet College in Rhinelander, WI; Dr. Russell H. Graham, President of Coffeyville (KS) Community College; John E. Broderick, Executive Vice President of Terra Technical College in Fremont, OH, and Gay R. Dahn, Director of Community Education, Kirkwood C.C. in Cedar Rapids, IA.

The evaluation team will prepare a document which college officials will have a chance to review before it is submitted to North Central Association, which will then turn the report over to a review committee.

In the spring, the college President will be invited to attend the NCA meeting, at which time a decision will be made and a recommendation as to the appropriate action and approval of the institution.

REND LAKE COLLEGE BOARD MINUTES APRIL 1978

Dr. Kenneth LaSalle, Dr. Eugene Estes (who was responsible for coordinating the Self-Study and accreditation visit) and Interim President H.J. Haberaecker went before the NCA reviewing committee Sunday, April 9. Those people were well briefed on the situation at Rend Lake College.

The chief concern is a question of the decision-making process of the college. They are going to expect us to analyze our decision-making process at the college very carefully. And to be sure that we do it, some time in 1979 they are going to have a focused commission advisory visit. They will come and see what progress we are making.

The next comprehensive review has been set for 1981-82. President Haberaecker said, "I have faith in you as Board members. I think you will let administrators administer, teachers teach and students learn. When they come in 1979, they will be pleased to see the progress the college has made."

Dr. LaSalle thanked the Board for sending the three to represent the college. President Haberaecker was in a very difficult position, and there were some very pointed questions asked of Dr. LaSalle and Dr. Estes.

* - * - *

Dr. Claxton recognized; NCA visit February '74

BOARD MINUTES DECEMBER 4, 1973

Dr. Evelyn Claxton was recognized for putting together the College Self-Study.

BOARD MINUTES JANUARY 15, 1974

Board members were notified the official visit from the North Central Association Accreditation Team is scheduled for February 20-22. Dr. Edwin E. Vineyard, Principal of Northern Oklahoma College, will chair the committee.

BOARD MINUTES AUGUST 20, 1974

Trustees learned North Central accreditation will be continued, with the stipulation of another re-evaluation forthcoming within 3-5 years. In addition, an annual report, with emphasis on finances, is due July 1, 1975.

* - * - *

Request from Woodlawn for annexation approved

BOARD MINUTES NOVEMBER 1973

Dr. James Snyder stated that he had received a copy of a resolution and other documents from the Woodlawn Community High School District No. 205 Board of Education, declaring their intention to annex a portion of that school district to Rend Lake College District. He recommended the Board approve an official resolution in this regard.

Trustee William Moore moved to adopt the resolution pertaining to the annexation. Carleton Apple seconded, and all voted "Yes" by roll call vote.

Snyder mentioned the portion which will be annexed represents about two-thirds of the Woodlawn District, is approximately 65 square miles and has an assessed valuation of \$5,957,024.



Consolidation changes in-district feeder system

Consolidation has altered the look of Rend Lake College's in-district feeder schools over the years; i.e., Enfield High School faded from the scene in 1985-86, becoming part of Norris City-Omaha-Enfield (NCOE), as did Tamaroa High School, which joined forces in 1988-89 with Pinckneyville Community High School.

But did you know there have been other attempts or near-attempts to alter the makeup of the RLC District?

In January 1968, the Rend Lake College Board was informed of a telephone conversation with a West Frankfort resident of the desire on the part of "a considerable number (estimated by the caller at 2,000) of individuals in West Frankfort to change districts and become part the Rend Lake College District."

In March 1968, the RLC Board received a letter from representatives of Fairfield and Mills Prairies indicating they were "in the process of collecting materials and information needed in connection with the possible annexation to the Rend Lake College District."



'67-'68 rate: Student work, \$1.25/hour; mileage, 10¢

■ As of July 1, 1967, Rend Lake College student-workers were paid \$1.25 per hour.

■ The mileage rate for travel reimbursement, established September 1968, was 10 cents per mile.

Accreditation (cont.)

Dr. Clyde Funkhouser, Board Chair, made a motion for a resolution of appreciation to the college members who represented us at North Central to include Dr. Estes, Dr. LaSalle and President Haberaecker.

SPRING 1979 ◆ Nineteen occupational programs commended by evaluation team

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 1979

"Rend Lake College is commended for the development of a complete one- and five-year plan and for its offerings in all five occupational areas . . . and 19 specific training programs," according to Dr. Loren E. Klaus, who directed the Illinois Office of Education evaluation of RLC's Adult, Vocational and Technical Education programs.

Klaus, President of Shawnee Community College in nearby Ullin, headed a team of 15 professionals who spent three days evaluating all aspects of Rend Lake College offerings in these areas. Team members conducted special surveys and had in-depth interviews with over 100 individuals before making their final report. They talked to students, instructors, staff, Board members, Vocational Advisory Committee members and citizens in the college district.

While presenting the team findings at a breakfast meeting with staff and faculty, Klaus said, "The evaluation team found a positive commitment to serving the individual needs of students and the community."

The visiting "inspectors" evaluated Rend Lake College in six major areas - occupational programs; program management; planning and evaluation; student services; personnel, and community resources. The resulting 13-page report contained 50-plus conclusions and some recommendations.

• In evaluating occupational programs, the team summarized its findings by stating, "Ninety-eight percent of students surveyed believe their courses relate well to their chosen career." That same percentage of students "felt their particular programs

rated high in preparation for an occupation."

"The college is commended for offering a course in labor relations taught by a qualified instructor experienced in labor relations," according to the report, and "for efforts to meet the needs of veterans, women and minorities through such programs as the Skill Training Improvement Program (STIP) in the mining industry."

The college also was praised for having an active affirmative action program in place.

The team found some courses were not described in the college catalog and other descriptions were inadequate. It was recommended these be reviewed and corrected.

• In evaluating program management, the team reported, "The Board of Trustees and administration of the college are enthusiastic and very positive in their support of the vocational programs of the college."

The team also reported, "Most (74%) of the faculty surveyed said they had a clear understanding of how the administrative structure operates the college."

Because some instructors did not have a clear understanding of the role of guidance personnel in identifying student needs and interests, the team recommended a series of steps to improve communications between counselors and occupational instructors.

• In evaluating college planning and evaluation of its Adult, Vocational and Technical Education efforts, the team commented positively on the "system of identifying high school students' interest in occupational areas" and for having an active and viable Advisory Committee composed of members of each occupational program.

The report also indicated some students are given an opportunity to evaluate some courses and recommended several techniques for expanding this type of evaluation.

• In the area of student services, the college received positive comments for developing an "Early Leavers Program" to work with high school dropouts and for a formal follow-up system on graduates.

The report made recommendations for improving student and staff understanding

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

3-Year Accreditation
NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION
Dissension on campus at time of visitation
adversely affecting decision-making process
/ November 1977

MOTHER OF SEVEN R.L.C. GRADS RECOGNIZED
Rose Maloney of Dahlgren receives Honorary Degree
after helping seven children graduate from RLC.
/ May 1978

BRAUN BECOMES THIRD PRESIDENT
Dr. Harry J. Braun assumes Presidency;
Mark Kern named Dean of Instruction. / August 1978

ALLEN Y. BAKER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
Administration Building named in honor of founding
Trustee Dr. Allen Y. Baker. / 1979

FOUNDERS DAY APRIL 6, 1979
Founders Day Recognition Dinner for those who
assembled in the cold and mud 10 years before
and dared to dream as a "dedicated group starting
something that will become a legacy."

1977 - 1978

1978 - 1979

of student guidance responsibilities, and indicated some students said there was an inadequate number of career information materials available for them. The report also indicated replacement services do exist but are not well understood by students.

- In the evaluation survey on personnel, students indicated their instructors' knowledge of the working world was high.

- In evaluating community resources committed to support adult, vocational and technical education at Rend Lake College, the team had five complimentary conclusions – Program agreements with several area colleges and agencies; special programs with CETA and STIP; on-the-job training programs in cooperation with area agencies and industries; a functioning occupational citizens Advisory Committee, and cooperation between the college and numerous private and public community education agencies.

This evaluation was directed by the Illinois Office of Education Department of Adult, Vocational and Technical Education (DAVTE). Results will be incorporated by Rend Lake College into its next one- and five-year plans for occupational education.

SPECIAL VISIT ▶ Vote of confidence: Emphasis returns to teaching/learning within 18 months

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 1979

Rend Lake College has received a vote of confidence from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. This organization accredits over 800 postsecondary institutions in a 19-state region.

According to NCA Official Thurston Manning, "Accreditation is a non-governmental, voluntary means for a postsecondary school to improve itself." "Accreditation assures those within the school, the students, the general public and local and state officials the college has clearly defined, appropriate objectives, and it has a structure, staff and resources for accomplishing those objectives. Accreditation promotes consistency in what the college claims to do for students and what it actually achieves."

When the NCA Evaluation Team made its normal visit to Rend Lake College in November 1977, it found several disturbing factors. The college's decision-making process was not working effectively. A considerable number of faculty members stated that learning and teaching were adversely affected by dissension on campus.

At that time, law suits between the President and 10 individual faculty members were pending in the courts. Dissension was high and staff and faculty morale was low.

From these and several similar observations, the NCA team recommended a special visit be scheduled in Spring 1979 to determine if these problems have been corrected. If these had been solved, the college would be evaluated again on the normal five-year visitation cycle in Academic Year 1982-83. If these problems still existed, the special focus team could recommend a full evaluation be scheduled in a shorter period of time.

The Evaluation Team Chief, in his exit briefing to college officials, indicated the visitors found the faculty attitude clearly not negative and very positive. Team members indicated instructors were spending time teaching students and did not have to worry about campus politics. The team felt the emphasis had returned to teaching and learning . . . a very significant change in the 18 months since the visit in 1977.

In talking with faculty and administrators, the team found several indicators the college was moving forward. Guidelines for placement and movement of faculty on the salary schedule had been developed; an in-service, self-improvement program for faculty development had begun, and faculty salaries had been studied.

The Evaluation Team saw a real change in the climate of the college and the atmosphere in which decisions were being made. But the team Chief cautioned the college could revert to the crisis situation if significant decisions and related actions were not carefully handled. The team noted RLC needs a period of stability and continuity.

The Evaluation Team recommended the college be visited again on a normal five-year schedule.

Team members for this special visit were Dr. Richard Brown, President of Nicolet College and Technical Institute (Rhineland, WI), and Kathleen S. Miles, Communications and Arts Division, Community College of Denver (CO). Brown was a member of the 1977 NCA visit to Rend Lake College.

FALL 1981 ▶ Seven years: 'Forward-thinking posture bodes positive for future development'

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE OCTOBER 1981

Citing significant progress in the development of a viable participatory form of self-governance, selection and retention of



Advisory group to offer financial solutions in '74

BOARD MINUTES FALL 1974 / 1975

All segments of the college were contacted and asked to select representatives to sit on a new Advisory Committee to the Board. The ad hoc committee was charged with studying the college's financial situation – with the purpose of bringing expenditures in line with income – and submitting a final report by February 1975. [At the close of the September meeting, when members were announced, it was announced the payroll was the biggest ever and it was the largest amount of bills ever paid for a similar period of time.]

Those selected include:

- Secretarial, Clerical and Support Personnel – Joann Wiggins Rauback
- Administration – Ed Kownacki
- Maintenance and Custodial Personnel – Robert Webb
- Faculty – Dr. Julien Levesque
- Student Body – Marlon Nettleton Robert Munday
- William Moore nominee – O.K. Ausmus, Comptroller for General Tire
- David Skorch nominee – Archie Woodrome, retired MVTHS Principal
- B.B. Connaway nominee – Ernest Hood, ret. Educator
- Carleton Apple nominee – Jack South, Enfield farmer / School Board member
- Dr. Allen Baker nominee – Robert Huff, Owner of Pinckneyville Grain Co.
- Board Rep (ex-officio) – Dr. Allen Y. Baker

Among suggestions: charge tuition at a minimum of \$4.50/credit hour; overall salary increases should not exceed 5%; all decisions should be in line to adopt a non-deficit budget.



DAVTE Report in '84: 'Most positive . . . ever'

FEBRUARY 21, 1984

According to a report to the RLC Board of Trustees by Dean Carroll Turner following an evaluation by the Illinois Office of Education Department of Adult, Vocational and Technical Education (DAVTE), Team Leader Dr. Tim Wentling "stated the Rend Lake College evaluation was the most positive evaluation he had ever been associated with or had read since becoming involved in the process in the '70s."

"The Nursing Program was cited as an exemplary program to be used as an example for other Allied Health programs in Illinois. Every other program was commended as well."

RLC Trustee Dr. Allan Patton said, "Evaluation teams are not allowed to give perfect reports, but this report appears to be about as perfect as they could give."



What's black and white and red all over? RLC!

BOARD MINUTES NOVEMBER 73

Dr. James Snyder stated that, for some time now, the cheerleaders have been using red in their uniforms. He recommended the Board officially include red in the school colors, along with black and white. Carleton Apple moved to adopt red as one of the school colors. B.B. Connaway seconded, and all voted "Yes."

Accreditation (cont.)

highly qualified individuals in key leadership positions and a "forward-thinking posture which bodes positive for future growth and development," an evaluation team from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools has granted Rend Lake College a seven-year accreditation.

The accreditation team, comprised of four individuals from other Midwestern institutions, spent 2 1/2 days on-campus and also had praise for "outstanding physical facilities which are attractive, well-maintained and certainly conducive to learning," well qualified and dedicated faculty members and a student population, including graduates, who display a "positive attitude toward the college and are well satisfied with the education they are receiving."

The last regular visitation for accreditation purposes, in November 1977, brought only a three-year accreditation and a recommendation that a special focus visitation be made in Spring 1979. Dissension on campus at the time of the regular visit was adversely affecting the college's decision-making process, the report indicated then.

Since that time, Dr. Harry J. Braun was named President and his entire administrative team has undergone drastic changes.

"Personally - and I believe I speak for the entire Rend Lake College community - I am extremely happy with the results of the report," Braun said.

"It was interesting that many of the concerns mentioned were identified previously as institutional needs; it is always reassuring to know outside evaluators see matters in the same light as we have as a staff.

"Results of the report," he continued, "are extremely important considering the fact just three years ago we were undergoing a special focus visit due to the large number of concerns raised by the North Central evaluating team which was here in 1977."

The seven-year accreditation, according

to Braun, "indicates the institution ranks very high among its constituents, since the average length of accreditation is five years.

"The bottom line is that the seven-year accreditation is a result of the hard work and positive attitudes of our students, staff, Board and the entire college community. Our Board of Trustees has provided encouragement and support for the staff to accomplish what it has; the atmosphere around campus and the achievement of our students reflect this," Braun concluded.

In addition to noting the three significant areas of improvement since the last visit, the North Central representatives mentioned such strengths as recent reorganizations in Business and Student Services, expansion of the college's outreach efforts through its Community Services program, skilled personnel in the Learning Resource Center and the Developmental Skills Center who are positive and responsive to student needs.

The morale of college personnel "is high at all levels, representing a complete turnaround from the previous regular visit," the accreditation team commented.

Other strengths include "dedicated and enthusiastic" Trustees, advisory committees for vocational programs which appear to be active, a student government which is functioning well and appropriate student services, curricula and course syllabi.

Among the concerns expressed during the group's exit interview: some courses of study are being implemented without adequate space to accommodate them, to the detriment of other programs, and a need for more space in many areas, particularly in vocational programs, administrative and facilities for workshops/seminars.

Computer courses which are being added for the first time this spring should be included in all instructional areas, the report recommends. Expansion and/or increased budgets also were suggested for more equipment in Mining Technology, audiovisual materials, the Skills Center and

R.L.C. FOUNDATION REBORN

Not-for-profit RLC Foundation is reactivated to help promote and maintain educational, scientific and cultural endeavors on behalf of Rend Lake College. Its members are charitable men and women who contribute their time and talents in support of RLC and students. / October 1979

A.D.N. PASS RATE 100% FOR FIRST TIME

Pass rate for RLC graduates of the Associate Degree Nursing program sitting for their State Board exams is 100% . . . a first. / Fall 1979

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

● "PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARSHIPS" FOR 19 GRADS
Awarding of first RLC "President's Scholarships" to 19 scholars (top 10% of class, 1-3 per in-district high school based on size) among recent high school graduates throughout district. / 1979-80

BOND-BURNING FOR 13-YEAR-OLD DEBT

Rend Lake College will forever be indebted to voters, who on November 18, 1967, decided by a 5,263-901 margin to establish the multi-purpose community college. But district residents are no longer in debt for RLC. The 13-year-old bonds which represented a \$3.1 million investment (local share of the \$9.5 million total cost of the original facilities) were ceremoniously burned prior to a Board meeting; taxpayers receive a reduction in property tax assessed valuations. / February 1981

1979 - 1980

1980 - 1981

the Learning Resource Center. The Business Office, Community Services and the LRC were identified as being understaffed.

"Although it is functioning well," agreed the visitors, "continued emphasis on communications within the institution needs to be maintained."

Also needed, according to North Central, is a strong component of institutional research and more analytical data in the college's self-study which would make it a more helpful document.

As a result of the positive findings, the college will enjoy full accreditation through the next scheduled visit in 1988-89.

I.C.C.B. JOINT VISIT ▶
'Exceptional number of positive things; easy to decide to grant full recognition'

ANNUAL REPORT 1981-82

Scheduled in conjunction with the accreditation visit was a staff recognition visit conducted by representatives of the Illinois Community College Board. The ICCB team was able to attend the exit conference with the North Central group, at which time it was made aware of the findings and recommendations by the NCA team. In addition, ICCB reps were able to confer with NCA members before and after their official visit.

The official ICCB report filed included six recommendations, all of an administrative nature in compliance with ICCB standards and all of which the college had responded favorably to within a matter of a few weeks following the visitation.

The first on-site evaluation by an ICCB team in the college's 15-year history provided even more reason to boast. "The college Board, administration and staff are to be complimented," noted an ICCB guest, "for being able to keep a stable budget during difficult times. It's a credit to the college you have been able to provide services you have with resources that are available."

Added the visitation team's Chairperson, "An exceptional number of positive things" could be cited. "It was very easy for us to decide to grant the college full recognition."

FALL 1988 ▶
Maximum 10-year accreditation a first: 'You are great ... keep up good work'

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE NOVEMBER 1988

Rend Lake College has passed its latest test with flying colors.

Trustees were informed Tuesday night (November 15) Rend Lake College can

expect the maximum 10-year accreditation from North Central Association of Colleges and Schools when the findings of last week's visitation become official.

The four-person team spent three days on the Ina campus and departed with these words from its chairman to college administrators and representatives of the Board, "We are recommending the next on-site evaluation to be in 1998-99. We are recommending 10-year accreditation.

"You are a great college . . . Keep up the good work."

In its verbal exit interview with college officials, the team indicated Rend Lake College "is a comprehensive community college with a clear statement of mission." It noted the Board "is strong and its vision is widely shared. The Board's philosophy has been implemented into a vital institution."

Other strengths listed included "competent and committed" personnel, "much needed support" from local business and industry, the high quality of student achievement and a thorough self-study which was "open and productive and provided useful information for the planning process."

The draft report, expected within two weeks, also will include any concerns and suggestions cited by the NCA Evaluation Team. Team members represented two-year colleges from Arizona, Arkansas, Kansas and West Virginia.

Dr. Steve Tietz, Chairman of the Arts and Communications Department, and Bob Ross, Director of Resource Development, co-chaired the North Central Self-Study process which produced a 269-page document.

The last on-site evaluation for Rend Lake College resulted in a seven-year accreditation from North Central.

SPRING 1999 ▶
Ten years: 13 attributes singled out; 'We think (strengths) are considerable'

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE MARCH 1999

If it does as expected and accepts the recommendation of an evaluation team following a comprehensive visit to the Ina campus earlier this week, the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools will award Rend Lake College the maximum 10-year accreditation.

It marks the second time in the college's 33-year history, and second visit in a row, where findings resulted in the maximum accreditation, with no focus visit necessary before the next evaluation in 2008-09.



GRANT AWARDS

Fiscal Year	No. of Grants	Total Amount Awarded
FY91	22	\$1,146,958
FY92	21	*\$1,821,480
FY95	40	**\$3,738,222
FY02	53	\$5,188,526
FY03	48	\$4,479,755
FY04	48	\$4,255,528
FY05	49	\$5,351,284
FY06	42	\$5,064,228
FY07	41	\$4,875,698
FY08	33	\$7,793,660
FY09	26	\$7,097,291
FY10	28	\$7,195,345
FY11	27	\$5,762,293
FY12	29	\$5,450,073
FY13	25	\$3,488,586
FY14	55	\$9,617,773
FY15	64	\$9,307,562

[Total of all Federal, State and other Grants awarded to RLC]

* RLC Cash Match	\$20,275
F-T Employees Funded	29
P-T Employees Funded	88
** F-T Employees Funded	53
P-T Employees Funded	86



Math Lab concept offered through RLC Skills Center

ANNUAL REPORT 1981-82

A "Math Lab" concept of individualized study was introduced by Department Chair Larry Richmond and offered through the Developmental Skills Center.

Under the tutelage of Diane Metzger, students may take selected math courses through the "Math Lab," where they work at their own pace in comprehending the subject and completing course requirements for credit.

Courses available through the "Math Lab" concept include: MATH 1001 - Computational Math; MATH 1002 - Algebra for College Students; MATH 1106 - Intermediate Algebra; MATH 1108 - College Algebra; MATH 1109 - Trigonometry; MATH 1202 - Business Math. [Added later, MATH 1201 - Technical Math.]



Accreditation road ends in Thunder Sisters' tears

SOUTHERN ILLINOISAN / MARCH 1999
Five years of preparation for Rend Lake College's reaccreditation paid off this week with tearful relief from the "Sisters of Thunder."

The college's accreditation coordination co-chairs, Barbara Bauernfeind of Mt. Vernon and Ro Hoar of Carbondale, could only wipe tears from their eyes after hearing last Wednesday that the North Central Association evaluation team would offer a preliminary recommendation of a 10-year reaccreditation without a follow-up visit.

College President Mark Kern was first to reach the pair and share congratulations following the announcement. After all, it has been a long road to accreditation – literally.

"The Road to Accreditation" was one of the successes leading to the review team's preliminary recommendation of a near-perfect 10.

It was a custom public relations campaign that prompted a campus-wide buy-in by the college's 8,000 full- and part-time students into the long and tedious accreditation process

"In a practical way, as a student, parent or employer, everyone is concerned with the integrity and credibility of the college," explained evaluation team chair David Buettner. "We tend to be a very trusting society. People do take a very trusting position in what accreditation means without truly understanding its meaning."

(Continued at far right on next page)

Accreditation (cont.)

The NCA Evaluation Team commended the college for the "seriousness with which you have approached the whole process," and said of the college's strengths, "We think they are considerable."

Team Chair Dr. David Buettner singled out 13 of those strengths in a preliminary report presented during Wednesday morning's exit interview (March 24) before college personnel in the RLC Theatre.

Accreditation from the NCA's Commission on Institutions of Higher Education serves as official confirmation Rend Lake College is performing up to expectations. The team validated findings in the Self-Study, verified concerns from the last visit had been addressed properly and agreed general institutional values are being met.

Among strengths mentioned were:

- Faculty members with "many strong talents and commitment to student success."

- The overall leadership of administrators and an "alert, active and committed" Board of Trustees, who are knowledgeable with high expectations.

- Skillful management of financial resources and its ability to secure outside grants and contracts.

- The RLC Foundation as a "significant strategic asset."

- Other outreach programs involving the business community and a knack for "listening" to the needs of its district.

- New facilities, such as the Children's Center and Aquatics Center.

- Goal-orientation in terms of strategic planning.

- Innovative and effective staff development practicum programs.

- The favorable appearance of the physical plant and its unique setting as "an ideal learning environment." "I can't emphasize enough the positive impact your campus environment made on us," Buettner said.

"I am sure we could have found many more had we had more time," added the Chairman, "but that in itself is an impressive

list of strengths."

Also mentioned were a dozen suggestions for institutional improvement and seven areas of concern, which should be addressed before the next official visit. The college probably will be required to file a report by March 1, 2001, regarding assessment of student academic achievement.

Overall, noted Buettner, "You have an excellent college here and are doing a lot of great work."

RLC President Mark S. Kern told the four guests, "We appreciate the thoroughness of your findings and concerns. We will address the concerns, which we have to do, as well as the advice and suggestions."

Kern then turned his attention to the faculty and staff present and reminded them, "I said all along I hoped we would get the maximum 10-year accreditation and no focus visit, because you (faculty and staff) deserve it. And folks, today you got it!"

"We consider this a very positive evaluation," added Kern.

Preparations for the 2 1/2-day evaluation visit by NCA representatives were over two years in the making. Barbara Bauernfeind and Ro Hoar co-chaired the Self-Study, complemented by a committee of volunteer faculty and staff which helped produce a 183-page document, an accompanying appendices of 200-plus pages and a supplemental assessment document.

"Getting ready for this evaluation visit was a total team effort, with every segment of the college staff playing a positive part in it in some fashion," Kern commented.

"The extensive Self-Study evaluation was critical to receiving the maximum award."

Kern alluded to several comments made by the evaluation team regarding the overall appearance of the campus and facilities in emphasizing everyone's role in the accreditation process.

"The bottom line is," he said, "10 years without a focus visit. This was about as positive a visit as you could ever hope to expect."

Concerns mentioned by the North Cen-

HONORARY DEGREE FOR U.N. AMBASSADOR

Honorary Degree awarded to United Nations Ambassador Jeane Jordan Kirkpatrick. / July 1981

7-Year Accreditation

NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES
Progress cited: Development of self-governance; highly qualified leaders; forward-thinking posture. / October 1981

F.T.E. AT ALL-TIME HIGH IN 1981-82

All-time high to date of 1,804 FTE (full-time equivalent). Television courses added to curriculum.

A.A.C.J.C. National Recognition

INAUGURAL BUSINESS / INDUSTRY AWARDS
One of three colleges cited for cooperative efforts with Old Ben Coal Co. and Inland Steel Coal Co. 62nd Annual Convention in St. Louis. / April 1982

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

1981 - 1982

1982 - 1983

tral representatives, in addition to a greater investment in the leadership of a student assessment plan, include a disparity in the committee work done by the instructional leadership; technological needs, from a planning and research standpoint for future vocational programs to data information collections and the engaging of students in more research requiring contemporary learning resources, and expansion of learning resources and access to technology.

Other suggestions dealt with better communications with students, including an improved Internet website, a simplified mission statement and improved course syllabi; a review of faculty/staff evaluation methods; more space for Special Populations and tutoring services, expanded distance learning opportunities, advising and counseling and greater student records security.

Members of the Evaluation Team were Buettner, President of North Iowa Area Community College in Mason City; Dr. James D. Branscum, Vice President of Business Affairs for Rose State College in Midwest City, OK; Carolyn S. Fitzmorris, Business Instructor at Hutchinson (KS) Community College, and Dr. Harriet G. Friedstein, Vice President of Academic Affairs at Southern State C.C. in Hillsboro, OH.

Steering Committee writers/evaluators working closely with Bauernfeind and Hoar:

Criterion I - Mission Statement and Purposes – Rob Little and Chris Nielsen.

Criterion II - Human, Financial and Physical Resources – Debbie Benns and Barbara Davenport.

Criterion III - Educational Goals – Chris Kuberski, Don Lynch, Dr. Sue Tomlin and Kevin Weston.

Criterion IV - Planning Processes and Implications for the Future – Rick Marlow and Dr. Sue Trammell.

Criterion V - Integrity and Relationships – Doug Carlson and Bob Ross.

FALL 2008 ▶ Ten years: Affirmation to community tax dollars being used responsibly

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE NOVEMBER 19, 2008

Rend Lake College has once again received recommendation for the maximum 10 years of continued accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission.

After poring over the 236-page Rend Lake College Self-Study Report 2008 document, A Comprehensive Analysis of College

Operations, and spending 2 1/2 days on campus, a five-member team from the HLC delivered the news Wednesday morning to a gym full of college administrators, faculty, staff, Board members and constituents. It was the perfect result of more than three years devoted to preparing the Self-Study.

The team visiting Rend Lake College was made up of college administrators who gathered from across the nation to evaluate the Ina-based college. Its chairman, Dr. William Lindroth, delivered the team's findings.

"The summary of the Commission review: the next comprehensive visit will be in 2018-19 – 10 years. Congratulations!"

It marks the third consecutive time in the college's 41-year history where findings resulted in the maximum accreditation, with no focus visit necessary before 2018-19.

RLC Interim President Charley Holstein thanked the team for a thorough and professional evaluation.

"I was pleased," Trustees Vice Chairman Dave Edmison said of the news. "I think the staff and administration both teamed up and performed very well. With the changes we've had on campus, I think all of them have done really well together and I was proud to be part of it. We still have a little work to do; we'll always have work to do. That's part of a community college life."

The visiting team's mission was straightforward – coming up with answers to questions such as: What is the college doing well? What does it need to improve upon? And is it meeting the HLC standards for an accredited institution?

During its visit, the team met with many different departments at the college, a large number of students and representation of local constituents, government and industry.

The answers to the team's questions are important for the Commission issuing accreditation. They also are important to everyone associated with the college. Accreditation lends respect to RLC degrees and certificates, facilitates the transfer of credits to other institutions and affords access to financial aid and various funding opportunities.

Additionally, those in the community should see the 10-year accreditation as affirmation their tax dollars are being used responsibly.

Lindroth noted a number of strengths identified by the team . . .

- "The organization operates with integrity to insure the fulfillment of its mis-



Thunder Sisters (cont.)

. . . The NCA defines accreditation as evaluation of an entire institution in terms of its mission. It reviews educational offerings, governance, administration, financial condition, admissions, student personnel processes, institution resources and relationships with outside communities.

For students, accreditation can mean ensuring optimal credits transfer to universities. Federal financial assistance relies on the college's accreditation as a quality seal of approval. For taxpayers, it is an endorsement of the college's responsible fiscal duties.

Instead of pummeling students and staff with dry educational-ese and administrative verbiage, the campaign utilized free lunches of hamburgers or pizza and clever table-top tents in the cafeteria to spread the word on accreditation.

. . . Friends to begin with, Bauernfeind and Hoar quickly earned the nickname "Sisters of Thunder" for their similarities to the Biblical "Brothers of Thunder." Admittedly, Bauernfeind prefers a soft, polite approach while Hoar wields a strong-arm delivery.

Invested into the reaccreditation are countless hours and the donation of 80,000 volunteer minutes (56 days) raised during a creative auction.

. . . The hardest part of the process was figuring strategy, Bauernfeind said. "We were given a charge to conduct an investigation on the college to see if we do what we say we do," she said

. . . "This school from the beginning wanted to talk about students and what the faculty could do to help their students. You don't always see that, especially campus-wide," said Buettner.



'Caveat Emptor - Campus Buy-In' show goes on road

With a 10-year accreditation all but promised, the co-Chairs of the Rend Lake College Self-Study project are taking their show on the road at the request of the North Central Association.

Barbara Bauernfeind and Ro Hoar have been asked to be presenters at the North Central Conference for Evaluators and Self-Study Coordinators and Team Members April 10 at the Hyatt Regency in Chicago. In her role for RLC, Bauernfeind has attended conferences as a participant the past four years and Hoar has done likewise three times.

Their presentation is entitled, "Caveat Emptor - Campus Buy-In" and will feature the October 1997 In-Service auction and the Accreditation Visit pre-publicity campus-wide.

The RLC Self-Study document itself also will be on display as a model in the conference's Resource Room. Both representatives will be at the display booth during opening ceremonies to answer questions.



Board committed to both vocational and liberal arts

BOARD MINUTES JULY 18, 1967
PHILOSOPHY:

It was agreed that although the Board is strongly committed to a strong vocational curriculum that we are also in favor of strengthening the area of liberal arts courses.

Accreditation (cont.)

sion through structures and processes that involve the board, administration, faculty, staff and students," he said.

- "The organization's allocation of resources and its processes for evaluation planning demonstrate its capability to fulfill its mission and improve the quality of education, and respond to future challenges and opportunities."

- "The organization promotes a life of learning for faculty, administration, staff and students by fostering and supporting inquiry, creativity, practice and social responsibility in ways consistent with its mission."

- "As called by its mission, the organization identifies its constituencies and serves them in ways both value."

One area of needed improvement is the college's current computer-based legacy information system, according to Lindroth. He reported it does not adequately provide information for effective data analysis by end users and is very centralized.

Although the Commission's criteria on student learning and effective teaching was met, the team found assessment of student learning has not been adopted completely in the Career and Technical Education programs. Important strides have been made since 1999 in the routine use of student assessment data among Liberal Arts and Fine Arts program, Lindroth said, but a follow-up in the form of a progress report, due November 2011, will be necessary to assist RLC in implementation of assessment of Career and Technical Education.

"We knew that was a concern when we started the process in 2006," English Professor Rob Little, co-coordinator for the Self-Study process, said of assessment. "We realized that had not happened in Vocational Technology the way it should and so we have been discussing and preparing. We had a plan of action already in place when they got here, so I think part of the reason it is only a follow-up report had to do with the fact we had already recognized the problem and we had taken steps to address it."

Untold hours spent by administrators, faculty and staff went into the Self-Study document, which acted as its application to the Commission for accreditation. Coordination of that effort was shared by Little, Industrial Maintenance Professor Chris Nielsen and Biology Associate Professor Steve Holman. Overall, everyone at RLC, including students and community supporters, pitched in for the perfect 10.

A two-year public relations campaign was launched by a HLC Promotions Committee made up of staff and faculty. The on-campus campaign aimed to popularize the self-study process and visit; it included everything from campus-wide presentations for faculty and staff and monthly refrigerator notes to electronic bulletin board announcements, e-mails, banners and posters.

"One of (the HLC team members) said to me, 'We try to . . . see if there is any real passion in what people do,'" Holstein said. "And all the members - not one of them excluded - all of them said that from the different meetings they were in talking to employees on campus, the common thread was there is a passion. There's a passion here at RLC for what we do. For that, I just want to say, 'Thank you.'"

During the next few months, the team's report will go through a review process where any corrections can be made. Lindroth said the Commission Board should have its decision on the report's validity sometime in January.

"Two team members asked permission to take back our Self-Study as a document of reference at their college," Holstein added. "The document we provided on time was so thorough. Several of them said they didn't think they even needed to come, but actually said they were very happy they did."

"Today's findings by the HLC Team mark another great day in the history of Rend Lake College," Holstein said. "It is another example of the high-quality staff, faculty and programs we offer. The entire college was united for a common goal and the result is another 10-year accreditation - nothing less than what I anticipated from such a devoted group of professionals."

BUSINESS RESOURCE AND ASSISTANCE CENTER
The Business Resource and Assistance Center
(BRAC) made its debut on-campus. / 1983

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

1983 - 1984

1984 - 1985

'ABLE TO PERFORM ANY TASK WE HAVE ASKED OF THEM' Mt. Vernon Industrial Appreciation salute includes RLC

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE OCTOBER 1997

When Rend Lake College and three other educational entities in Jefferson County were saluted Thursday night (October 9) at the 13th annual Industrial Appreciation Dinner sponsored by the Mt. Vernon Economic Development Commission, Mayor Mark Terry was left wondering:

"Why this hasn't been done before? Just by the sheer numbers, (education) is one of the largest single employers in our county, and that is not even considering the economic impact it has on the surrounding area, which is tremendous."

RLC President Mark S. Kern must have been nodding his head in agreement.

"I've been in the audience at this dinner many times, and I've seen many industries receive this award," Kern would say later. "I've thought how nice it would be if Rend Lake College could win this award . . . and tonight, here we are."

While accepting one of the four plaques awarded, Mt. Vernon Township High School Superintendent Dr. Pat Garrett commented, "At a time when education is criticized, we are fortunate to be in a community where the value of an education is recognized."

A sellout crowd of nearly 500 concerned citizens, including more than three tables (over 40) of Rend Lake College Trustees, staff and friends, packed the Holiday Inn to pay tribute to RLC, MVTHS, District 80 City Schools and Jefferson County grade schools.

Or, in the words of EDC Chairman Mike Alexander, "The dinner was an immediate sellout when we put tickets on sale. It was the largest number of tables purchased in the 13-year history of the dinner."

"Education," added Terry, "is a vital component in the infrastructure of this community . . . Education must be a partner with city and county government, and city and county government must be a partner with education."

More from the Mayor: "We showcase education in this community every chance we get . . . This county has a tremendous education system from the elementary level through the community college level . . ."

"The quality of the workforce is the product of the educational system."

None of the four honorees was recognized to a greater extent than Rend Lake College.

Terry noted the college's impact on the entire region and the training available. "Never," he noted, "have they not been able to perform any task we have asked of them."

Those sentiments were echoed by Master of Ceremonies Alexander. "Mark Kern (and Rend Lake College) has stepped forward every time industry in this community has had a need," he told those in attendance.

Each of the recipients, represented by their chief administrative officers, was presented with a plaque from the Economic Development Commission and a resolution from the City of Mt. Vernon. October 5-11 officially was declared the "Week of Education" in Mt. Vernon.

District 80 Superintendent Nick Osborne accepted honors on behalf of his school system. Regional Superintendent of Schools P.E. Cross did likewise for the Hamilton-Jefferson Educational Service Region, which includes 15 rural schools in Jefferson County. Representatives of those 15 rural elementary districts received copies of the city's proclamation of "Industrial Development Week."

The Hamilton-Jefferson Educational Service Region, according to Alexander, is the next-to-smallest of 45 such regions in Illinois, but ranks No. 4 in the state in obtaining grants.

During the evening, Franklin Roosevelt was paraphrased, "You can't always build a future for your kids, but you can build kids for the future."

Before introducing Trustees and staff in attendance, President Kern told the audience, "I am very sincere when I say we appreciate it (the kind words and honor)."

"There are 40 public community colleges in the state," Kern added, "and I feel privileged every day when I come to work. I have the best staff in the state of Illinois, and I have the results (transfer surveys) to prove it."

The RLC contingent, in addition to Mark and Lana Kern at the head table, included members of the Board of Trustees and spouses (in some cases), Vice Chairman David Edmison, Caroline Quinn, Marvin Scott, Dr. Allan Patton and Robert Kirkpatrick.

They were joined by former Board members from Mt. Vernon, Dr. Clyde

* - * - *

Fall '77 enrollment jumps 52% over previous year

Fall 1977 enrollment figures for Rend Lake College are up an incredible 52 percent over Fall '76, according to school officials. The jump in student headcount, which includes both full- and part-time students, from 1,848 a year ago to 2,880, is the second-largest in the state. Only Carl Sandburg College in Galesburg boasted a greater increase - 77 percent.

In all, 31 of 51 public two-year institutions have reported increases in enrollment this fall.

* - * - *

Eight RLC grads at ISU post higher GPA than rest

F.Y.I. FEBRUARY 17, 1999

Good news, according to a recent e-mail from Director of Counseling David Vinyard . . .

"A recent transfer report from Illinois State University shows eight RLC transfer students currently enrolled in various degree programs. The mean GPA for the former RLC students is 2.88, compared to 2.76 for all Community College transfers, 2.85 from other four-year colleges/universities and 2.79 for 'native' ISU students.

"Another 'thumbs up' to the RLC faculty who helped prepare students for transfer!"

* - * - *

Self-Study Report 2008 available on RLC website

The Rend Lake College Self-Study Report 2008, A Comprehensive Analysis of College Operations, is available on the Rend Lake College website at www.rlc.edu/higherlearning/mission/Default.aspx.



On a Mission: The Illinois Community College Board

The mission of the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), as the state coordinating board for community colleges, is to administer the Public Community College Act in a manner that maximizes the ability of the community colleges to serve their communities, promotes collaboration within the system and accommodates state initiatives that are appropriate for community colleges.

In carrying out its mission, the ICCB affirms its commitment to the "educational development of all persons to the limit of their capacities" as established in the Illinois Constitution. The ICCB further affirms its commitment to providing leadership and direction to the community college system in ways that maximize local autonomy but which assure each institution is allowed an equal chance of success.

The ICCB accepts its role as a coordinating agency and believes, in this role, it is an integral partner with local boards of trustees in providing a framework for successful learning experiences for all Illinois residents. The ICCB commits itself to the following principles in implementing its coordinating responsibilities...

Society's values can and must be shaped and revised by community colleges, where leadership, integrity, humanity, dignity, pride and caring are purposefully taught and modeled.

The focus of all activities within
(Continued at far right on next page)

Industry salute (cont.)

Funkhouser, retired pastor now living in O'Fallon, and Joe Scrivner, along with retired College Dean Dr. Howard Rawlinson.

Kern made a point to single out Rawlinson, asking him to stand and be recognized and describing him as "a gentleman who we have sometimes overlooked . . . The first Dean of the forerunner of Rend Lake College, Mt. Vernon Community College. Rend Lake College is where it is today because of the start it was given by the people of Mt. Vernon."

Kern said Rawlinson had inquired how many of the original faculty who made the move when Mt. Vernon Community College became Rend Lake College in 1967 were still employed at the college.

"There are only five of us left," I told him," Kern said.

In the video presentation on Rend Lake College, Kern also mentioned a key leader on the Steering Committee and the first President of the Rend Lake College Board, Dr. Curtis Parker of Mt. Vernon.

Also in attendance from Rend Lake College were invited administrators, faculty and staff who live in Jefferson County or who work closely with Jefferson County industry in various fashion.

Guests included Wayne Arnold, Trish Bennett-Minor, David Brown, Bob Carlock (an ex-officio member of the Economic Development Commission in his role as Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce President), Doug Carlson, Terry Clark, William Dill, Carl Helverson, Camille Jones, Bob Kelley, Saundra Lipe, Joan Long, Ida Lowery, Wilanna Patton, Lisa Payne, Jim Peeples, Ronnie Ressel, Sharon Richardson, Dee Russell, Salah Shakir and Larry Williams.

FACTUAL COMPARISONS – Number of Employees (full-time and part-time) / Estimated Payroll / Total Budget / Student Enrollment

Rend Lake College – 450 / \$8,700,684 / \$12,429,281 / 3,033

District 80 Mt. Vernon City Schools – 253 / \$8 million / \$11 million / 2,007

Mt. Vernon Township High School – 160 / \$5,380,000 / \$9,739,092 / 1,468

Regional Schools – 446 / \$9.5 million / \$33 million / 3,447



The "Industry of the Year" Award "was conceived to recognize employers and also to have the community learn a little more about industries and have a community "Thank you" for them," Terry explained.

Mt. Vernon Economic Development Commission Industrial Appreciation award recipients . . .

- 1997 – Rend Lake College
- Mt. Vernon Township High School
- Mt. Vernon City Schools District 80
- Hamilton-Jefferson Educational Service
- Region representing Jefferson County Grade Schools (15)
- 1996 – Good Samaritan Regional Health Center
- 1995 – First Image
- 1994 – Hevi-Duty
- 1993 – Applied Research and Development Laboratory (ARLD)
- 1992 – Big Muddy River Correctional Center
- 1991 – GTY Tire Company
- 1990 – Walgreens
- 1989 – Everbrite
- 1988 – Precision National
- 1987 – Vern-Wood Press
- 1986 – General Tire
- 1985 – EDS

CORRECTIONAL EDUCATION

Rend Lake College enters into Correctional Education by offering classes at Menard Correctional Center in Chester at the request of the state. Occupational, transfer and developmental classes are held in the maximum-security center under a contract with the Illinois Department of Corrections. / 1986-87

Illinois State University Study Finds: R.L.C. ECONOMIC IMPACT \$7.4 MILLION
According to report, RLC annually returns more than \$7.4 million to area coffers (\$5M direct), another \$2.47M to credit base, and 500-plus jobs. / April 1987

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

20TH ANNIVERSARY

A 20th Anniversary celebration for Rend Lake College was made part of the RLC Foundation Annual Dinner. / December 1986

1985 – 1986

1986 – 1987

R.L.C. NO. 5 IN NATION: RETURN ON INVESTMENT, HIGH SUCCESS Graduation/transfer rate, resulting wages attract attention

THE HUFFINGTON POST / huffingtonpost.com / MARCH 13, 2015

A college education is increasingly important in order to get and keep a job in the current information-oriented world.

However, even as it becomes more and more of a necessity, college costs are rising, making it luxury-priced. Many people turn to community college in their local areas in order to get a higher education at a much more affordable price, either going into a career that requires a two-year Associate's Degree or transferring to a four-year institution to further their aims. SmartAsset has looked at close to 700 public community colleges across the country in order to find the best of the best.

To determine the best we wanted to figure out which colleges offered a low-cost education, good return on investment and high success rate.

To measure the cost of education, we looked at in-state tuition for one academic year. To measure return on investment, we looked at the ratio of starting salary for graduates to the cost of the education. To measure success rate, we looked at the percentage of students who enroll at the community college, graduate and then go on to transfer to a four-year institution.

Using these three factors, we ranked community colleges by how many standard deviations they outperformed the mean in each category. It gave us a list of the Top 10 Community Colleges in the country.

1. Coastline Community College

Fountain Valley, CA

Coastline Community College has 21 academic departments, largely in educational and medical support fields. Coastline graduates make one and three-quarters times their total education costs their first year working after graduating, and in-state students pay \$2,200 less a year than the national average to go to school, making it both the least-expensive school for local students and the top-performing community college on our list.

2. Northern Oklahoma College

Tonkawa, OK

Northern Oklahoma graduates have an even better rate of starting earnings to college costs than Coastline graduates do, at 187 percent. This school, which is between Wichita and Oklahoma City, also has about a 10 percent greater graduation and transfer rate than the national average.

3. Cochise College

Douglas, AZ

In-state students at Cochise College pay only \$1,680 per academic year, and once graduated, they make 63.5 percent more than their college costs in a year's salary.

4. Moorpark College

Moorpark, CA

Moorpark is one of the less expensive schools for in-state students, at \$1,338 a



ICCB Mission (cont.)

the system should be quality and excellence.

Expressions and manifestations of bigotry, prejudice and denigration of character are intolerable in the Illinois community college system.

Experiences of community college students should be directed at developing each individual into an informed, responsible and contributing citizen.

No individual is inherently more important than another, and each must be provided an equal opportunity to achieve success regardless of heritage or environmental condition.

The Illinois community college system has a responsibility to assist communities in identifying and solving problems that undermine and destroy the fibre of the community.

The Illinois community college system has a responsibility to be accountable, both for its activities and its stewardship of public funds.

THE TOP TEN COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Rank	College (Location)	Average Starting Salary to College Cost Ratio	Graduation and Transfer Rate	In-State Tuition	College Index
1.	Coastline Community College (Fountain Valley, CA)	1.748	40.20%	\$1,136.00	100.0
2.	Northern Oklahoma College (Tonkawa, OK)	1.878	45.70%	\$2,845.00	99.8
3.	Cochise College (Douglas, AZ)	1.635	46.00%	\$1,680.00	97.2
4.	Moorpark College (Moorpark, CA)	1.413	47.20%	\$1,338.00	92.1
5.	REND LAKE COLLEGE (Ina, IL)	1.334	66.80%	\$4,320.00	87.7
6.	North Central Missouri College (Trenton, MO)	1.451	47.00%	\$2,712.00	86.7
7.	Meridian Community College (Meridian, MS)	1.028	61.70%	\$2,230.00	84.0
8.	Tallahassee Community College (Tallahassee, FL)	1.168	52.30%	\$2,017.00	83.8
9.	Fort Scott Community College (Fort Scott, KS)	1.054	60.40%	\$2,580.00	82.4
10.	Pratt Community College (Pratt, KS)	1.228	54.00%	\$3,012.00	82.2

SOURCES: COLLEGE MEASURES; CAMPUS EXPLORER



A History of the Illinois Community College System

BY IVAN LACH, 1998 [CONDENSED]

Illinois is prominently identified with the early history of the community and junior college movement in the U.S. Joliet Jr. College, established in 1901, is the first public junior college in the nation.

Illinois adopted its first junior college legislation in 1931, which permitted the Board of Education of Chicago to establish, manage and provide for the maintenance of one junior college offering two years of college work beyond the high school level as part of the public school system.

The first Junior College Act became law on July 1, 1937, and provided for the development of the junior college system as a part of the public school system.

In 1943 legislation was adopted to hold referenda to set separate tax rates for both education and building funds to support junior college operations. State funding for junior colleges, however, was not established until 1955. Seven new public junior colleges were established in Illinois between 1955 and 1962, bringing the total to 18. Rock Island, Moline and East Moline joined to form Black Hawk College in 1961, the first junior college created separate from a common school district.

In 1951 the Illinois General Assembly enacted legislation setting forth standards and procedures for establishing junior colleges. In 1959 sepa-

(Continued at far right on next page)

No. 5 in nation (cont.)

year, and graduates make 41.3 percent more than their college costs on average in their first year on the job.

5. REND LAKE COLLEGE

Ina, IL

The Southern Illinois community college of Rend Lake has a 66.8 percent graduation and transfer rate, nearly twice the national average. Graduates also make 33.4 percent higher than their college costs as an average starting salary.

6. North Central Missouri College

Trenton, MO

North Central Missouri College charges about \$700 less per year than the national average for a local student with a tuition of \$2,712. Graduates make up college costs plus 45 percent in the first year out of school.

7. Meridian Community College

Meridian, MS

Not only does Meridian have a 61.7 percent graduation and transfer rate, it also costs more than \$1,000 less a year than average for in-state students.

8. Tallahassee Community College

Tallahassee, FL

Students at this community college in Florida's capital make 22.8 percent more than their overall college costs their first year out of school. Plus, 54 percent of them (about 16 percent greater than the national average) graduate and transfer to a four-year school.

9. Fort Scott Community College

Fort Scott, KS

Fort Scott Community College has a greater than 60 percent graduation and transfer rate, as well as in-state tuition about \$900 less than the national year average.

10. Pratt Community College

Pratt, KS

Rounding out the list is Pratt Community College, whose graduates make 22.8 percent more than their college expenses as a starting salary, and which has a 54 percent graduation and transfer rate.

Latest positive rating helps make RLC 'ambassador' for statewide system

wsiltv.com / BY CRAIG CHOATE MARCH 17, 2015

INA – As state budget cuts impact colleges and universities across Illinois, Rend Lake College got a bit of good news recently.

The rankings were released in a blog on the *Huffington Post's* website. Administrators at the school say it's good news, at a time when there are a lot of questions surrounding education.

Many students at Rend Lake College will tell you the school is tops on their list. Now the college is receiving national recognition.

"It's not surprising because it's really pretty out here," said Sophomore Jessica Parvin. "I really love it, and all the instructors are pretty nice, so I like it here."

The *Huffington Post* blog ranked schools based on the ratio of average starting salary to college cost, graduation and transfer rate and cost of one year in-state tuition. Rend Lake came in fifth on the list and was the only Illinois school in the Top 10.

"We feel it's a good representation of what the faculty and staff and everybody does day-in and day-out. It's about the students," said President Terry Wilkerson.

He hopes this sets a standard for other community colleges.

"Anytime you can get some recognition on the state or the national level that is positive, that's good," Wilkerson added. "(It) helps promote what we're trying to do and also helps us kind of be an ambassador for the rest of the community college system."

It is Prestunn Bolton's second year at RLC. He should help a 66 percent graduation/transfer rate, twice the national average.

"After Rend Lake, I'm going to play at Prairie State College (basketball), and I'm going to graduate in May with my Associate Degree in Criminal Justice," Bolton said.

He credits the school's success to the student's close relationship with teachers. "A lot of teachers here, they really held my hand through a lot of things," Bolton said. "Even though you're in college . . . there are a lot of good teachers here and they really help you with things you need."

AS REPORTED BY WORLD'S LARGEST BUSINESS WEBSITE CNNMoney rates RLC 'success' No. 1 in Illinois, 18th in nation

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE JUNE 2012

Student success shows at Rend Lake College, and a new student success list featured on CNNMoney puts RLC tops in the state.

College Measures, a joint venture of the American Institutes of Research and Matrix Knowledge Group, created the chart for CNNMoney as a tool to help students determine which school will give them the best chance of transferring to a four-year institution. The ranking was based on the percentage of students that graduated within three years or transferred to four-year colleges.

Rend Lake College was ranked first on the list for colleges in the state of Illinois with a success rate of 68 percent. Nationally, RLC ranked 18th (including ties).

"This top ranking speaks just as much to the quality of our students and the hard work they put in as it does to our efforts to make sure they succeed," said RLC President Terry Wilkerson. "We are here to make sure we can help each student achieve what they want to achieve, whether it's a transfer to a four-year university or training for a career."

Rend Lake College's efforts to ensure students complete their educations can start as soon as high school. Some high schools in the Rend Lake College district participate in the Upward Bound program, which is designed to provide academic support and guidance to participants.

When students enroll at RLC, programs such as Student Transfer and Retention Support, free tutoring in the Learning Enhancement Center and more are available to help students succeed. Also available are clubs such as Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for community colleges, and the Society for Success and Leadership.

RLC partners with several four-year

universities to allow students to transfer into Bachelor's Degree programs on campus or at the RLC MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon, which also has an effect on success rates.

Most recently, Rend Lake College teamed with Missouri Baptist University to begin offering a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice on the Ina campus. RLC also partners with Southern Illinois University, Mid-Continent University, McKendree University and Kendall College.

In addition, low tuition, the availability of financial aid, convenient class locations and dedicated faculty and staff contribute to student success at Rend Lake College.

How does your community college stack up in terms of success rate?

JUNE 6, 2012

NEW YORK (CNNMoney) – Not all community colleges are created equal. Figuring out which school will give you the best chance of transferring to a four-year college or university can be difficult, especially since there is so little standardized information out there.

But here's a good way to start. College Measures, a joint venture of the American Institutes of Research and Matrix Knowledge Group, has created a chart for CNNMoney to help students find the best options. Based on the percentage of students that graduated within three years or transferred to four-year colleges, they compiled a "success" rating for each community college in the U.S.

The study not count colleges with less than 200 full-time freshmen. You can find a breakdown of each community college's graduation and transfer rates separately at Collegemeasures.org or the National Center for Education Statistics' College Navigator.

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ICCS History (cont.)

rate junior college districts were authorized by allowing any compact and contiguous territory to be organized as a junior college district with an elected board of education with authority to maintain and operate the college and levy taxes for its operation. State funding for junior college operations was first appropriated in 1955.

As a result of recommendations of the Commission of Higher Education, legislation was adopted in 1961 creating the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

In July 1964 the final draft of the higher education master plan was published. As a result, the Junior College Act of 1965, the foundation for today's system of public community colleges in Illinois, was adopted. The act provided for establishment of a system of locally initiated and administered comprehensive Class I junior college districts.

On July 15, 1965, the Junior College Act became effective; and on August 1 the school boards of districts operating junior colleges with separate educational and building rates became the boards of the newly constituted Class II districts. Also in August 1965 Governor Kerner appointed nine members of the first Illinois Junior College Board.

In 1973, the term "junior" was changed to "community" in statute.

Since July 1990, the entire state has been included within community college district boundaries.

CNN MONEY / COLLEGE MEASURES "SUCCESS RATING"

Rank	Name	City, State	Success Rate
1.	East San Gabriel Valley Regional Occupational Program	West Covina, CA	93%
2.	New Mexico Military Institute	Roswell, NM	89%
3.	Victor Valley College	Victorville, CA	84%
	Utah State University - College of Eastern Utah	Price, UT	84%
5.	North Central Kansas Technical College	Beloit, KS	82%
6.	Snow College	Ephraim, UT	79%
7.	Northwest Iowa Community College	Sheldon, IA	77%
8.	Southeast Community College Area	Lincoln, NE	76%
9.	Georgia Military College-Milledgeville Campus	Milledgeville, GA	75%
10.	De Anza College	Cupertino, CA	74%

(Continued on next page)



Six tips for picking best community college . . .

JUNE 6, 2012

NEW YORK (CNNMoney) – Doing a little research and shopping around can pay big dividends for students who have a choice in which community college they attend.

In many states, community colleges within a few miles of each other have significantly different graduation rates or success at transferring students into top universities, according to data compiled by the federal government and organizations, such as College Measures.

“Somebody who is choosing a community college should be as careful as they are in choosing a four-year college,” says Thomas Bailey, director of the Community College Research Center at Columbia University.

Here are six tips that can help you choose the best community college for you:

1. Eyeing a specific community college? Take a look at the school’s success rate, as compiled by College Measures. Then, look up its graduation rate and transfer statistics on the federal government’s College Navigator web site.

Keep in mind there are other factors that may impact a school’s success rate, like the quality of its feeder high schools, and state rules governing transfer credits, but it is a good starting point, says Mark Schneider, President of College Measures.

“When people look at these (low graduation) numbers they think they are going to be in the 10% who will succeed. But the odds are you won’t,” he says. How does your community college stack up?

(Continued at far right on next page)

CNN MONEY / COLLEGE MEASURES “SUCCESS RATING” (cont.)

Rank	Name	City, State	Success Rate
	Lake Area Technical Institute	Watertown, SD	74%
12.	Marion Military Institute	Marion, AL	73%
13.	Western Wyoming Community College	Rock Springs, WY	72%
	North Iowa Area Community College	Mason City, IA	72%
15.	Northeast Alabama Community College	Rainsville, AL	70%
	Mitchell Technical Institute	Mitchell, SD	70%
17.	Colorado Mountain College	Glenwood Springs, CO	69%
18.	REND LAKE COLLEGE	Ina, IL	68%
	Ellsworth Community College	Iowa Falls, IA	68%
	Pearl River Community College	Poplarville, MS	68%
21.	Independence Community College	Independence, KS	67%
	Pierce College at Puyallup	Puyallup, WA	67%
23.	Santa Barbara City College	Santa Barbara, CA	66%
	Garden City Community College	Garden City, KS	66%
25.	Coconino County Community College	Flagstaff, AZ	64%
	Moorpark College	Moorpark, CA	64%
	Alexandria Technical & Community College	Alexandria, MN	64%
	Clarendon College	Clarendon, TX	64%
29.	Foothill College	Los Altos Hills, CA	63%
30.	Itasca Community College	Grand Rapids, MN	62%
	Cowley County Community College	Arkansas City, KS	62%
	Neosho County Community College	Chanute, KS	62%
	Coffeyville Community College	Coffeyville, KS	62%
	Central Lakes College-Brainerd	Brainerd, MN	62%
	St. Cloud Technical and Community College	Saint Cloud, MN	62%
36.	Snead State Community College	Boaz, AL	61%
	Kaskaskia College	Centralia, IL	61%
	Hutchinson Community College	Hutchinson, KS	61%
	Linn State Technical College	Linn, MO	61%
	Centralia College	Centralia, WA	61%
	University of South Carolina-Sumter	Sumter, SC	61%
42.	Sauk Valley Community College	Dixon, IL	60%
	SOME OTHER ILLINOIS COLLEGES		
66.	McHenry County College	Crystal Lake, IL	57%
	John Wood Community College	Quincy, IL	57%
81.	Parkland College	Champaign, IL	55%
90.	South Suburban College (<i>estimated</i>)	South Holland, IL	54%
	Spoon River College	Canton, IL	54%
	Oakton Community College	Des Plaines, IL	54%
	Lake Land College	Mattoon, IL	54%
130.	Carl Sandburg College	Galesburg, IL	51%
	Kishwaukee College	Malta, IL	51%
	Highland Community College	Freeport, IL	51%
136.	Illinois Valley Community College	Oglesby, IL	50%
	John A Logan College	Cartersville, IL	50%
	Danville Area Community College	Danville, IL	50%
	Harper College	Palatine, IL	50%
156.	Heartland Community College	Normal, IL	49%
	College of DuPage	Glen Ellyn, IL	49%
	Prairie State College	Chicago Heights, IL	49%
205.	Richland Community College	Decatur, IL	46%
229.	Lewis and Clark Community College	Godfrey, IL	45%
	Lincoln Land Community College	Springfield, IL	45%
344.	Southwestern Illinois College	Belleville, IL	41%

LOW TUITION, TEXTBOOK RENTAL = 'MOST AFFORDABLE'

Kern: 'We are least expensive community college in state'

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE AUGUST 1998

Illinois Community College Board Executive Director Joe Cipfl returned to Southern Illinois Tuesday (August 18) to stump for two-year institutions in general and Rend Lake College, in particular, sharing statistics as proof. "We are the major provider of public higher education in the state," he noted, citing both accessibility and affordability as factors for over one million students in attendance annually.

That said, Rend Lake College President Mark S. Kern made his bid for being the best of the best.

Thanks to a newly instituted book rental option and one of the lowest tuitions among 40 Illinois community colleges, "We firmly believe we are the least expensive – the most affordable – community college in this state. And we might even be the most affordable college in the state," Kern said.

The two educational leaders made their feelings known at a noon luncheon on the Ina campus for area media representatives. Cipfl is a native of the Metro East area and the former President of Belleville Area College. Kern, who worked his way up from the faculty ranks during a 30-year tenure at Rend Lake College, serves statewide on the Finance Committee for the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents.

Rend Lake College is tied for sixth-lowest tuition statewide, but has no desire to be No. 1 in that regard for several reasons, Kern commented. The majority of those colleges with lower tuitions charge more in additional lab fees, compared to course-specific fees in which RLC students only have to pay for what they receive.

Also, the college ranks 36th out of 40 districts in terms of equalized assessed valuation, and 37th in local tax dollars actually collected.

Students – 60 percent of whom are receiving some form of financial aid – must help pay their way to attend a college which relies on three main resources to exist . . . local taxes, state revenue and tuition.

"So we've gone about it in a different way," Kern added. The new Book Rental Policy, suggested by Dean for Finance and Administration Bob Carlock and approved a few months back (March 1998) by the Board of Trustees, reduces student book costs by

more than half for those who choose to take advantage of the program.

The only other Illinois community college known to rent textbooks, Lake Land College in Mattoon, charges considerably more than RLC in tuition and fees.

Kern used the example of a full-time student taking 30 total hours during the next two semesters spending \$220 less than the previous year – in spite of a \$2 per credit hour tuition increase – due to the textbook rental savings. He estimated the savings reduces the approximate cost of tuition to \$29 per credit hour.

Factor in the second-year Hope Scholarship, which actually is a \$1,500 per year tax credit, and in reality a community college education costs almost nothing for most students today.

Statewide, Illinois community colleges serve one in every 11 in-district residents. At Rend Lake College, that number is even better – one on eight – even though the district is the 14th largest in size in terms of square miles (1,850) and serves a population which ranks 35th at 87,781.

Cipfl held up the ICCB "Award of Excellence" presented to Rend Lake College in May as more evidence of the outstanding accomplishments of the local comprehensive community college. The CO-PREP program which benefits correctional officer candidates was one of only three "Outstanding Workforce Preparation" projects honored in 1998.

"These kind of awards are aggressively pursued," Cipfl commented, "and not to be taken lightly."

"Not only is it (CO-PREP) working for Rend Lake College and its residents, it is becoming a model program for the entire Illinois community college system," Cipfl added. "Individuals were succeeding in correctional officer training at the 40 percent level; this program has elevated that to 77 percent. That's dramatic improvement, folks."

Alluding to workforce preparation, Cipfl continued, "There is no more important topic at this point in time in this state and this nation."

In the 1950s and '60s, 20 percent of all jobs were considered professional in nature, 15 percent skilled and 65 percent unskilled.

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Picking the best (cont.)

2. Call the four-year college or university you eventually would like to transfer to, and ask which community colleges they accept the most students from.

3. Ask the community colleges you are considering if they have an honors program for which you could qualify. Many community colleges with low or average overall success rates have separate honors programs that graduate or transfer a high percentage of their students, notes Bailey. A list of colleges with honors programs can be found at the National Collegiate Honors Council site.

4. Ask the community college if they have any guaranteed transfer programs to four-year universities and what course and grade requirements you must meet to qualify. If they don't have guaranteed programs, ask which universities have "articulation agreements" that will at least give you some guaranteed credits.

5. Call for a specific program you're interested in and find out about their success rates. "Just because the overall graduation rate is low doesn't mean their nursing program isn't great," says Schneider.

6. If you think you might need to catch up on some basic math or other courses, ask the college about how they teach remedial courses.

Analyses of traditional remedial courses at community colleges show very high failure rates, Schneider notes. "Ask if they are teaching those courses in a new way, and what their record of success is," Schneider advises.



Resolution: Eltis Henson 'invaluable service' to RLC

BOARD MINUTES MAY 16, 1967

RESOLUTION: (Holland) Simmons moved and (Harry) Irwin seconded that the following resolution be adopted . . .

The Board of Education for Junior College District 521 has received invaluable service from (Mt. Vernon Township High School Superintendent) Eltis Henson during the five months the Board has been active. He has offered the Board the advantage of his experience and able counsel. In addition, Mr. Henson took an active part in organization of the district and did a major share of the work that led to our highly successful election in the district.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board for Junior College District #521 extend its gratitude to Mr. Henson and wish him the best in his new responsibilities as President of the Knox-Warren Junior College at Galesburg.

Mr. Henson then expressed his thanks to the Board for their expression of appreciation and extended his best wishes to the Board and to the new President who will be selected [immediately following]. He stated that a few years ago he recommended to the Board of Township High School District 201 that they work toward the development of an area district, and that it had now become a reality with the formation of Rend Lake College District. He expressed his interest in seeing it become a superior community college.

Most affordable (cont.)

"Now, as we approach the new millennium, the 20 percent professional level has remained almost constant, but the other 80 percent has literally been reversed - 15 percent unskilled and 65 percent skilled.

"In other words, 85 percent of all jobs are going to require some kind of postsecondary experiences, and it is literally going to thrust community colleges - the Rend Lake Colleges of the world - front and center," said Cipfl. "It also is true that 25 percent of the workforce by the Year 2005 is in place now, but 75 percent of that group will need to be retrained. That's where we come in.

"Thanks to the Illinois Community College Act of 1965, sponsored by Sen. Paul Simon, every citizen in the state has access to a community college . . . 64 percent of all students enrolled in public higher education in Illinois are enrolled in the 40 community colleges, and even though a whole lot of our students are part-time, community colleges represent 53 percent of the FTE (full-time equivalency) enrollment.

"The average age of students in the (community college) system is 31-plus, yet we have the largest number of traditional-age students (18-20) we have ever had. That just means we have a whole lot of folks who are more than 31 years of age."

Continued Cipfl, "We are all trying to survive in a technological revolution, and it is changing the face of education. A welder, for example, now needs to know computers to operate his or her equipment.

"As a result, Rend Lake College will be called on more and more to provide the necessary training. Rend Lake College and institutions like it are going to be called on to deliver this education because of its accessibility and affordability. With the average age of 31, we are talking about individuals in many cases who obviously have jobs, families and commitments. They can't travel a long way to receive this education. And we've got to be sure we keep it at a level people can afford so they can access it."

Other points made by Cipfl and/or Kern during the afternoon press conference . . .

- Lobbying is going on with the U.S. Congress suggesting community colleges be considered the primary provider of all freshman- and sophomore-level education.

- With the Illinois Articulation Initiative now in place, students at Rend Lake College and elsewhere in the state can be assured their credits will transfer "without a moment of wasted time."

- Materials provided by four-year colleges "clearly document the quality of education received at the Rend Lake Colleges of the world, with transfer students faring better than 'native' students their junior and senior years."

- Kern praised instructors for "buying into" the textbook rental project, emphasizing the need to use the same book for three years when possible. "It took a lot of cooperation from a lot of people," he admitted.

- It took a lot of people, many of them extremely generous people, to make two new facilities on campus a reality, also. That includes the \$2.6 million Jimmy J. Fulks Aquatics Center, built with no local tax assessments (\$2 million from the state, the remainder from private donations), and the RLC Foundation Children's Center, with the cost of \$437,000 totally provided through private contributions.

"That is \$3 million in facilities without any additional burden on local taxpayers," Kern noted, "and proof of what people think of this college when they step forward and support it like they have in recent years."

- "Community colleges are not 'places,' but rather they are processes of empowerment, elevation and enrichment, and they provide energy," Cipfl said.

"Next week (when fall classes begin), students are going to be walking through these doors with the desire to 'Help me make my life just a little bit better.' Because of Rend Lake College and other community colleges, it is a better day for this area, the state of Illinois and this nation. It's going to happen because of what is happening in education. You've got a good one here."

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

Maximum 10-Year Accreditation
NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES
"You are a great college . . . Keep up the good work."
Described as a comprehensive community college with a clear statement of mission. / November 1988

J. T. P. A. CLIENT SERVICE CENTER ON CAMPUS
A Job Training Partnership Act Client Service Center is established on-campus through a cooperative agreement with Illinois Farmers Union-Training, Inc., the administrative agency providing funding. The Illinois Dept. of Commerce and Community Affairs also provides support. / July 1989

1987 - 1988

1988 - 1989

R.L.C. A PIONEER WITH OPTION POLICY

Unique Textbook Rental program has saved students \$4M

The impetus behind Rend Lake College President Mark S. Kern's emphatic statement, "We firmly believe we are the least expensive – the most affordable – community college in this state; and we might even be the most affordable college in the state" . . .

Clearly, it is a unique Textbook Rental Policy which was introduced in 1998 and has saved Rend Lake College students approximately \$4 million since that time.

High school participants in Dual Credit classes alone in 2008-09 experienced an overall savings of \$187,416 just in textbook costs, according to a report generated by Bookstore, Retail Store and Copy Center Manager Dorothy Feira DeAngelo.

Students at 12 in-district high schools paid \$42,417.28 in rental charges for textbooks with a total value of \$229,833.56, had they been made to purchase the same material.

And textbooks used by Dual Credit students during Spring 2009 (1,263) represented less than one-fourth (23.4 percent) of the total rentals by all students (5,392).

A closer inspection of Spring Semester 2009 reveals 54 percent of all textbooks/videos issued were rented, representing a 65 percent savings to the 1,736 students who could or did take advantage of textbook rentals.

Instead of paying the average price of \$91.11 for those 5,392 textbooks/videos in Spring '09 (at a total cost of \$491,266.12), RLC student "renters" paid only \$32 per rented text (\$172,544.00).

That was for a grand total in savings of \$318,722.12 for Spring '09. Typically, almost twice as many textbooks are rented each Fall Semester as the following Spring, because many of the Fall rentals are used both semesters and are "loaned" for the year.

"Rend Lake College has been a pioneer in creating a textbook rental program to save students educational dollars they could utilize for transportation, child day care or everyday expenses," explained DeAngelo, who was able to dissect the policy as part of her Master's Degree program through Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

"It is through the vision of (former Vice President of Finance and Administration) Bob Carlock that Rend Lake College began a textbook rental program in 1999 that

continues to enhance enrollment in 2008 by serving the students."

Records from Spring 2002 to Spring 2008, according to DeAngelo, indicate 23,218 students rented 70,773 textbooks at a savings of \$3,116,740.11. This does not include the early semesters between 1999 and 2001, when data was not as complete, and totals for 2008-09.

"The textbook rental program was started Fall 1998. Bob Carlock created the concept of optional rent on textbooks that was adopted by the departments for three years," DeAngelo explained.

"A rental fee of \$22, plus a deposit fee of \$20, was charged for each textbook rented. Students received the \$20 deposit fee back when the textbook was returned in good condition at the end of the semester.

"The rental program was a benefit to all students, because many of the rental textbooks were for core subjects required for every student. Less money was taken for textbooks from grants and scholarships because of the low rental charge of \$42 per book. Mr. Carlock wanted a program that had the potential to benefit all students, and the Rend Lake College Textbook Rental Program did guarantee a savings to students during their two-year studies."

A report in 2008 by Feira-DeAngelo provides further details:

"During Fall Semester 1999, 25 percent of all textbooks were designated as rental textbooks and ranged in price from \$29.60 to \$130.55. The student paid \$22 in rental fees, so the savings ranged from \$7.60 to \$108.55. The average price of a rental textbook was \$68.29, which saved students an average of \$46.29 per rental textbook. Videos were added as a textbook rental item for 11 telecourse classes."

Mary Braden was the RLC Bookstore Manager during the introductory semester, when a library card system was first used. Students were billed for unreturned textbooks, along with a \$10 late-fee charge.

In November 1998, the textbook operation was separated from retail supplies in order to allow closed stacks for textbooks. Dorothy Feira was transferred to the Bookstore, serving as Co-



Thanks to '71 students, last grade counts re: GPA

BOARD MINUTES JUNE 1971

At the May 19 President's Council meeting, a proposal from the student body, which had earlier been sanctioned by the President's Council, the Faculty Council, the Student Senate and the entire faculty but which had not been implemented, was brought back to the table; namely, that a student be permitted to retake a course without having the first grade earned remain on his record. There was agreement with the general idea, particularly of counting only the last grade. However, there was some question about removing any grades from the record.

Subsequently, a recommendation was made that the Board be asked to change the policy so a student may take a course over; in such case, only the last grade earned will be applied to his grade-point average.

Mr. (Jim) Yates explained the students asked for this to benefit students who enrolled immediately after high school and left with poor scholastic records and then after they matured wanted to return. This would enable them to progress much faster in preparation to enter a four-year institution. He pointed out some other junior colleges already use this system.

Dr. Snyder recommended the Board approve this change in policy, whereby a student will be permitted to retake a course and only the last grade earned will be applied to his GPA.

Mr. (Carleton) Apple moved approval to institute the policy. Mrs. (Marie) Simmons seconded. All voted "Yes" by roll call.



Off-Campus Sites

R.L.C. MARKETPLACE

Fiscal Year	Credit Hrs Generated
FY03	1,604.5
FY04	3,930.5
FY05	5,022.5
FY06	5,060.0
FY07	4,964.0
FY08	5,435.0
FY09	6,509.0
FY10	5,351.0
FY11	6,944.0
FY12	9,002.0
FY13	N/A
FY14	10,169.0
FY15	5,688.0
FY16	4,318.0

R.L.C. MURPHY-WALL PINCKNEYVILLE CTR.

FY03	479.5
FY04	1,508.0
FY05	1,454.5
FY06	1,933.0
FY07	2,102.5
FY08	2,520.5
FY09	2,311.0
FY10	2,396.7
FY11	2,409.0
FY12	2,298.0
FY13	2,170.5
FY14	1,696.0
FY15	1,800.5
FY16	1,653.0

DISTANCE LEARNING

FY03	479.5
FY04	1,508.0
FY05	1,454.5
FY06	1,933.0
FY07	2,102.5
FY08	2,520.5
FY09	2,311.0
FY10	2,396.7
FY11	2,409.0
FY12	2,298.0
FY13	2,170.5
FY14	1,696.0
FY15	1,800.5
FY16	1,653.0

Textbook rental (cont.)

ordinator of Textbook Sales and Rental. Counter service was introduced Spring Semester 1999, but textbooks continued to be issued to students using a library card system.

"During April 1999, a Collegiate Bookstore Software designed by Homer Cissell was purchased for \$8,420 . . . Inventory was entered into a DOS computer program and beginning with the Summer Term 1999, textbooks were issued using student I.D. numbers and property code numbers. Cards were no longer used, and returns and inventory were better tracked.

"Due to the large number of unreturned rental textbooks, a reminder card was developed in Fall 2002. The reminder card was sent to students with rental textbooks three weeks before finals. The card simply reminded the student he or she had rented a textbook and the date it had to be returned or charged to his or her student account. The return rate improved 75 percent for Fall Semester 2002. The reminder card continues to be a positive part of the rental textbook program because it saves students additional charges on their student account and saves the Business Office additional work time adding (and billing/collecting) those charges. We now send reminder cards two weeks before finals; late returns are now less than 6 percent."

An in-house software program was written in Spring 2002 by Mary Bornheimer. Using Windows as its operating system, the program in Delphi and SQL Server integrated with the college's Student Administration System (SAS) allowing for the search of student information, automatically charging student accounts and charging for rentals not returned, etc. The program was used for the first time Summer 2002. Registers

were interactive and student history was accessible with the Business Office; inventory could be tracked and reports were produced much more efficiently as needed. Rental fees remained the same the first five years of the program.

- Beginning Fall 2003, the rental fee was changed to \$27, with the deposit fee staying at \$20. The average price of rental textbooks by then was \$63.84.

- The rental fee was changed to \$28 and the deposit fee remained \$20 beginning Fall 2006. The average price of a rental textbook was \$74.28.

- Fees were \$29 and \$20 beginning Fall 2007, due to the upgrading of more than 10 rental editions. The average price of a rental textbook was \$82.82.

- Beginning Fall 2008, the rental fee will be \$32, with the \$20 deposit fee left intact, due to rising costs of textbooks and the upgrading of 25 rental editions. [The average price of rented textbooks/videos Spring 2009 was up to \$91.11.]

"This most recent rental fee brings the total increase to \$10 over a period of 10 years. Rend Lake College has brought savings to students for 10 years with the Textbook Rental Policy."

A decade later, according to DeAngelo, almost 60 percent of textbooks are rented, including approximately 80 percent of those for the core subjects, such as math, English, science, et al. Over 60 percent of Vocational Technical textbooks are rented as well.

Some programs – Computer Technology and Nursing, for example – do not participate in the textbook rental program simply because they frequently must change books more often than every three years due to the rapidly changing subject matter.

DeAngelo indicated at least three other institutions of higher learning have requested considerable detail regarding the Rend Lake College Textbook Rental Policy and have adapted the program to meet their own needs.

BUILDING RENOVATIONS

Renovations for Vocational Building (Automotive wing) and Industrial Technology Building. / 1989

FOURTH PRESIDENT NAMED

Dr. Jonathan Astroth becomes fourth RLC President, succeeding Dr. Harry Braun. / July 1, 1989

"PROJECT FIRST CLASS" ASSISTS MINORITIES

HECA Grant enables RLC to provide help and encouragement for youthful minority students through "Project First Class." / September 1989

LIVE TELECONFERENCES

New satellite dish allows RLC to offer live teleconferences. / 1990

INTERACTIVE VIDEODISC CHEMISTRY LAB

RLC first community college in state to utilize University of Illinois Professor's Interactive Videodisc Chemistry Lab, a safer, inexpensive alternative for many experiments. / August 1990

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

\$1.5 MILLION TITLE III GRANT

Rend Lake College awarded four-year, \$1.5 million "Strengthening Institutions Title III Federal Grant to improve Management Information System (MIS), computerize Skills Center curricula and bolster outside fund-raising capabilities. / July 1991

1989 - 1990

1990 - 1991

FIRST STATEWIDE 'OLYMPICS' CLAIMED BY REND LAKERS

Academic success as simple as 1-2-3-4 for College Bowl teams

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 1993

CHAMPAIGN – Rend Lake College, long dominant in "Scholastic Bowl" competition in Southern Illinois, flexed its brainpower for the rest of the state Friday afternoon (April 16), winning the first-ever "Academic Olympics" over six other regional qualifiers.

"Cool, calm and collected," is how Coach Richard Doherty described his state championship squad after the locals finished 5-1 in round-robin play and then defeated Elgin Community College in the finale, 185-145.

The Rend Lakers dropped their second match and were behind in two others. Ever the optimist, even the fourth-year head coach admitted, "There were a few times during the day I doubted we could do it, but the players remained steady and good."

Veterans Neil Linebaugh, the 62-year-old Sunshine Center discovery from Mt. Vernon, and Glenda Wells, a part-time librarian and nontraditional student from Dahlgren, earned two of the five "All-Star" berths awarded by the sponsoring Illinois Community College Trustees Association. Freshman teammate Robert Schnicker (Dahlgren), who missed similar honors by just five points to give RLC three of the day's top six point-producers, and sophomore Tim Cripps (Benton) also contributed mightily as Doherty's team clearly demonstrated the best balance while answering 45 of 68 toss-up attempts correctly (66 percent).

Each of the four players will receive a \$500 tuition scholarship from the ICCTA. Accompanied by RLC President Mark S. Kern, they will be introduced prior to next weekend's Chicago Cubs-Cincinnati Reds game on "Community College Day at Wrigley Field."

Linebaugh showed the way in the state finals by correctly answering 14 of the 16 toss-up questions he tried, while Wells was 12-of-14. Schnicker responded with five accurate answers in one match, four in another and finished with 13 correct responses, and Cripps supplied six toss-up answers, including key ones in each of the last two games.

Southern Region Champion Rend Lake College finished 6-1. Previously unbeaten Elgin C.C., the West Suburban Region survivor, suffered its only two losses all season against RLC and settled for second at 5-2.

North Suburban Region rep College of Lake County and Central Region rep John Wood C.C. tied for third with 4-2 records, followed by Prairie State College (South Suburban) at 2-4, Kishwaukee College (Northwest) at 1-5 and City Colleges of Chicago rep Harry S Truman College at 0-6.

In their opening match on the Parkland College campus, the seven-time (in eight seasons) Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market (SICCM) kingpins whipped Truman, 160-5, as Linebaugh went 4-for-4 and all four players scored.

Quincy-based John Wood reversed that momentum rather quickly, however, claiming a low-scoring, 75-45 decision in the next encounter. RLC led 35 to negative-5 at halftime, but John Wood got three of the four second-half questions to come from behind.

Matches in the inaugural state meet were based on 7-minute timed halves, compared to 22-question regular-season matches.

Dr. Doherty's crew rebounded from that disappointment for an 80-60 verdict over Elgin. The upstate squad trailed 45-10 at the break but got 40 points, thanks to a 30-point bonus answer, on the first question of the second half to take a momentary advantage. Again, all four team members scored for Rend Lake College.

Kishwaukee was humbled in Game Four, 305-15. The winners were 12-of-13 overall, with the Dahlgren duo of Wells and Schnicker going 5-5 and 5-6, respectively.

That set up yet another showdown, this time with 4-0 College of Lake County. RLC led the entire match and won, 130-90, as Linebaugh and Wells were both 2-2.

Heading into the final round-robin matches, Doherty & Co. were aware they had to win to force the championship encounter under the "Academic Olympics" format. That is because Elgin and Lake County were getting ready to pit their 4-1 marks against each other.

Sixth-game opponent Prairie State brought a 2-3 record into the contest but led at the break, 70-10. "We stunk," recalled the coach, himself an Illinois Senior Olympics champion previously in Free Throw Shooting and other Track and Field events. With Doherty's blood pressure soaring, RLC knotted the count on the 10th question at 70 and won going away, 130-70.

* - * - *

Wells 29-of-31 as team dominates SICCM rivals

FEBRUARY 1992

Rend Lake College continues to be the dominant force in Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market academic competition.

The hosts won three of four matches to finish 7-1 in round-robin play and defend their regular-season championship.

Coach Richard Doherty & Co. can thank Glenda Wells for much of Tuesday's positive results. The Dahlgren housewife, volunteer librarian and part-time student was even better than usual, correctly answering 29 of 31 toss-up questions (93.5%) attempted during four matches.

The champs finished with an 82.0 percent success rate as a team (50-61).

"We have never played that well before," Doherty said of a squad which also won the "Bare Bones" Invite at Motlow State (TN) and the Southern Region Tournament and third in the 12-team Midwest "Two-Year" College Bowl Tourney.

The RLC machine rolled past Paducah (KY), 300-95, and Shawnee, 255-135, with Wells 6-6 and 8-9, respectively.

Wells was a perfect 7-for-7 vs. Southeastern Illinois and provided a majority of her team's bonus responses, also, but RLC was upset, 225-220, when it answered the 22nd and final toss-up, nailed the first of a two-part bonus chance but failed on the second part. She was then 8-9 in a 295-50 rout of John A. Logan, the surprise winner of the meet in Chicago.



ENCOURAGING ATMOSPHERE

STUDENT PROSPECTIVE 2007

"I decided to attend Rend Lake College because I went to a very small high school and thought attending a small community college would make for an easier transition. It also helped financially because I received a tuition waiver that covered all of my direct expenses.

"After attending Rend Lake College, I have realized that there are many additional advantages. The faculty and staff here are so committed to providing an encouraging atmosphere that makes it more possible for students to succeed. All of the college's employees make sure they are available when students have questions or need extra help. My experience at Rend Lake College has been extremely positive."

- Rachel Sveda

Christopher / RLC 2006

Illinois Merit Recognition recipient Rachel Sveda likewise was recipient of a two-year Rend Lake College High Achievers Scholastic Award, covering the cost of tuition, fees and books. She was a Student-Worker both years in the Financial Aid Office and served as a Student Ambassador. In March of her freshman year, she was elected by her peers to be the 2005-06 Student Representative on the Board of Trustees. After graduating two years later from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, Sveda returned as the full-time RLC Financial Aid Specialist.

MARK S. KERN ASCENDS TO PRESIDENCY

Mark S. Kern, former Ag Instructor, Department Chair, Dean of Community Services and College Dean, becomes fifth full-time President. He succeeds Dr. Jon Astroth; Kern was Interim President prior to Astroth's arrival in 1989. / September 3, 1991

College Bowl (cont.)

Elgin had no problem defeating Lake County to equal RLC's 5-1 mark.

In the state championship showdown, played before a cheering audience in the Parkland Auditorium, the Rend Lake College representatives jumped out to a 105-25 halftime lead and withstood a late charge by leading scorer Jim Wilke, who answered three in a row to pull his team within 175-150 prior to the last question. Wilke missed that one (negative-5), and RLC followed with the correct answer, for the final tally. Schnicker was outstanding again, succeeding on 4-5 tries, and Linebaugh was 2-2 to assure the crown.

Doherty, in putting together the first overall championship squad in state history, indicated he looks for "students with high ACT scores, older people and younger players who competed in high school.

"To me," he added, "this (state title) is important because this is what college is supposed to be all about . . . academics. We couldn't be any prouder."

UNIVERSITY TOURNEY ▶

Tie-breaker loss to Indiana prevents 6-1 RLC from gaining finals vs. U. of I.

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE FEBRUARY 1992

URBANA - Toss-Up Question No. 1 ▶ "Where is Rend Lake College?"

Toss-Up Question No. 2 ▶ "Is it true Rend Lake College is a community college?"

Some of the top brains in the state were stumped by those two questions prior to an appearance this past weekend (February 27-28) by RLC in the 15-team Region IX University College Bowl Tournament hosted by the University of Illinois.

Now they all know.

Rend Lake College, indeed, is a comprehensive, two-year community college located in Southern Illinois, Ina to be more exact. A team representing the previously unknown Rend Lake College whipped up on many of the so-called big boys of academia.

With All-Star Glenda Wells coming up with many of the answers others could not,

and a strong supporting cast headed by fellow "oldtimer" Neil Linebaugh, RLC nearly pulled off a miracle Friday and Saturday.

Against competition which included 14 four-year colleges and universities and no other two-year rivals, Rend Lake College scored more points than any other team, trounced such opponents as Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, Western Illinois University and Bradley University and finished 6-1 overall, tying for first in its division only to lose the tiebreaker for a berth in the finals against three-time defending champion Illinois.

Imagine what might have been Sunday . . . U. of I. vs. U. of Ina. Ina vs. Illinois, with the championship belt at stake.

Only Indiana University, which placed second a year ago, prevented the little RLC engine that could from going unscathed.

Coach Richard Doherty got all he could have asked for Friday night. His charges showed they came to play by first defeating St. Francis College of Joliet, 300-90, then topped Indiana University-Northwest at Gary, 240-85.

The 61-year-old Linebaugh, in particular, was outstanding. He correctly answered 12 of 13 toss-up questions he attempted in the two Friday matches.

But the locals were far from done.

They returned Saturday morning to trip Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology of Terre Haute, IN, rallying to answer the last two questions in a 175-155 victory.

SIU-Carbondale was next. No sweat. Rend Lake College moved to 4-0 with a 235-100 cakewalk.

The afternoon started off fine, also, considering a 230-60 romp past Western Illinois. Wells had taken charge by this point, responding correctly to 28 of 32 toss-up tries in the first three games Saturday.

Leave it to Indiana University to finally

COMPUTERIZED SKILLS CENTER OPENS

New computerized Skills Center opens in Technology Building. / January 1993

800 ATTEND FREE VALENTINE DANCE

Free RLC Foundation Valentine Dance attracts 800 to Benton Civic Center. / February 6, 1993

B.M.R.C.C. CORRECTIONAL EDUCATION

Big Muddy River Correctional Center Education Program approved. / February 1993

R.L.C. CLAIMS FIRST "ACADEMIC OLYMPICS"

All-Stars Glenda Wells, Neil Linebaugh joined by Robert Schnicker, Tim Cripps for 6-1 mark, beating Elgin C.C. in finals, 185-145. Richard Doherty's squad 45 of 68 on toss-ups (66%). / April 16, 1993

COLLEGE BOWL TEAM 6-1 VS. 4-YEAR FOES

RLC loses tie-breaker to Indiana University or would have played U. of Illinois in finals of 15-team University College Bowl. Victims included SIUC (235-100), WIU and Bradley. / February 1992

1991 - 1992

1992 - 1993

end the perfect streak, gaining momentum from a Rend Lake College protest that was not upheld and four RLC deductions for wrong answers en route to a 270-60 verdict.

Their hopes shattered? Hardly. Doherty's troops concluded with a 275-65 triumph over Bradley, thanks in large part to a 6-of-8 toss-up performance from Eric Rawls.

Illinois earned Division A honors with a 5-1 record.

U. of I., Ina variety, and I.U. deadlocked in Division B at 6-1 and the Rend Lakers outscored their Hoosier rivals, 1,725-1,615 points, yet head-to-head results gave the best-of-three championship showdown spot to Indiana and sent RLC packing. WIU was the lone team to beat Indiana in divisional play.

"I couldn't quite believe it. We really could not have done any better than what we did," said a proud mentor.

"I knew we were a very, very good team, but I would not have believed a two-year school could have done this well. We were the best-kept secret around, but a lot of people at the larger schools know where Rend Lake College is now!"

When the five-player All-Star teams were announced, the name of Glenda Wells (Dahlgren) was the first mentioned for her division.

The fact all 10 players chosen for the two squads were from different schools was the only thing keeping Linebaugh from receiving the same honors, Doherty reasoned.

As a team, RLC converted 74 of 96 toss-up questions attempted, a 77 percent average.

Wells, who has appeared on the popular television game show "Jeopardy," is a part-time student and librarian and full-time mother/housewife. She finished with 41 correct answers in 47 attempts (87 percent). Wells stuck around Sunday to compete in All-Star matches.

Linebaugh (Mt. Vernon) was 15-20 overall, Rawls (Dahlgren) 10-15, Terry Bullock (Bluford) 4-6 and Tim Cripps (Benton) 4-8.

NEAR-PERFECT SHOWING ▶ **Schools with rich traditions collide, RLC Four Horsemen rout Notre Dame**

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE FEBRUARY 1996

If it had been played in the fall under the shadows of the Golden Dome, it would have been considered an upset of epic proportions.

Instead, it will go down in history as one of the finest hours in a proud lineage of

"College Bowl" folklore at Rend Lake College... a 310-70 triumph Saturday (February 24) over the University of Notre Dame in a first-ever meeting between two institutions boasting rich traditions.

The success of Rend Lake College is well-documented, of course: the state's inaugural "Academic Olympics" champions in 1993; a 6-1 record the first time they challenged four-year rivals in this event in 1992; nine championships in 10 previous post-season conference opportunities, including the last six in a row, et al.

Adding to that reputation, the Four Horsemen of RLC ran roughshod Saturday over the Fighting Irish academic representatives, correctly answering 13 of 14 toss-up attempts in a near-perfect display of one-upmanship in the Region 9 University "College Bowl" Tournament hosted by Bradley University in Peoria.

Unfortunately, the two-year community college from Southern Illinois fared as well against only one other opponent – a 280-5 drubbing of Illinois College – and finished 2-3 overall. RLC dropped a 225-190 decision on the last two questions to Quincy University and was beaten by the top two teams in its half of the tournament bracket, once-beaten Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and Valparaiso (IN) University.

Perennial Region 9 champion University of Illinois did not compete on this occasion. That left the championship up for grabs among several contenders.

SIUC proved it was in the title chase in dramatic fashion with a 365-90 win over Rend Lake College in their opening match. Ironically, two of SIUC's top players also are part-time John A. Logan College students and "College Bowl" competitors who had lost to RLC earlier in the month.

The Rend Lakers rallied from a 165-70 halftime deficit against Quincy to lead after 15 questions, 190-165, before their opponents swept the last two questions and subsequent bonus points. Player-Coach Richard Doherty, making his first appearance as a player in the Region 9 contest, was a perfect 6-for-6 on toss-ups in the loss.

Next up: Notre Dame, fresh off its victory over Valparaiso. But not even a speech by the Gipper could have saved the Fighting Irish from the Rend Lake College onslaught as both Doherty and Captain Derek Steed (Dahlgren) were perfect in six toss-up tries and Jeff Hankla (Sesser) was 1-1.

The domination continued against out-



Watching people learn, grow and go on to do great things

STUDENT PROSPECTIVE 2007

"Teaching at Rend Lake College is one of the best experiences I've had personally and professionally. I'm truly blessed to make a living by doing what I love... working with faculty/staff and students I respect and genuinely like. Being a part of the process of watching people learn, grow and go on to do great things is an amazing opportunity.

"I've taught students who began Rend Lake College not knowing what they wanted to do in life and are now very successful and thriving individuals. I know their time here was an integral part of that journey."

– Jeannie Mitchell-Collins
RLC Associate Professor
Liberal Arts / Psychology

Jeannie Mitchell was hired in December 1996, effective in January 1997, as Coordinator of the college's grant-funded AmeriCorps in Southern Illinois program. Two years later, she was promoted to the position of Rend Lake College Academic Counselor.

That pattern continued in January 2001, when Carolyn Reed Stewart retired at the conclusion of the Fall Semester and Mitchell-Collins was named as her replacement as Psychology Instructor to begin Spring Semester 2001. Since that time, Mitchell-Collins has added Certified Instructor of Leadership Development Studies to her résumé and served as Advisor to the RLC Chapter of Sigma Alpha Pi's Society of Success and Leadership, which is open to student's with grade-point averages of 3.25 (4.0-point scale) and higher.



In '90, 'Showed we could play with the best of them'

R.L.C. NEWS RELEASE FEBRUARY 1990

Rend Lake College placed fifth Friday (February 10) in the 13-team, four-state "College Bowl" competition in Grayslake.

A 3-2 record included a protest-marred loss to eventual champion College of DuPage in a match which ended in an apparent 185-160 RLC win before two post-match rulings enabled the Chicago suburban entry to escape, 170-160.

DuPage defeated Waubonsee in the finals, with McHenry and host College of Lake County next, just ahead of RLC "A."

Coach Richard Doherty's team opened with a season-high point total in a 290-30 rout of Lake County "B."

The loss to DuPage followed, when RLC was charged with responding correctly to a question before it had been acknowledged to do so.

RLC "A" then defeated its "B" teammates, 270-80, and Spoon River, 210-85.

Runner-up Waubonsee broke away from RLC in the final two toss-up questions for a 150-80 verdict which clinched its championship berth.

"We acquitted ourselves well. We showed we can play with the best of them," Doherty said.

Ty Johnson accounted for 230 RLC points, answering 23 of 38 toss-up tries correctly. Dwain Lynch was 13-of-19 on toss-ups, Chris Owens was 7-10 and Terry Vandre 5-10.

"B" Team captain Brent Webber was 7-of-9 in its losses to defending champ Lake County "A" and RLC "A."

College Bowl (cont.)

manned Illinois College. The winners were 14-of-16 overall, with Doherty going 8-9, Dennis Gulley (Buckner) and James Hayes (Mt. Vernon) each 2-2 and Steed 2-3.

In other matches, Gulley was 3-4 against SIUC and Steed was 3-4 versus Valparaiso.

Rend Lake College settled for a sub-.500 record even though it had a 75 percent accuracy rate on toss-up attempts. For a rookie, Doherty did all right; he was 22-of-29 in all, followed by Steed at 16-22, Gulley at 6-9, Hankla at 3-3 and Hayes at 2-2.

The only other two-year institution competing was College of DuPage, a suburban Chicago college with an enrollment around 28,000 students. DuPage did not win a game.

SIUC defeated Valparaiso for the title. Rend Lake College tied with Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville for seventh in the 12-team field.

SECOND ▶

No. 1 All-Star Mullins spearheads 4-1 runner-up finish to defending champs

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 2000 / PRESSING TIMES STORY MAY 2000 BY RYAN DODSON

DECATUR – Rend Lake College finished second in the state Friday (April 28) to a Joliet Junior College juggernaut that totally dominated the "College Bowl" finals held on the campus of Richland College.

The impressive, 4-1 showing by Rend Lake College in head-to-head competition could be attributed in large part to Sophomore Captain Marshall Mullins (Benton), named the No. 1 All-Star after leading the state finals in scoring individually with 255 points on toss-up questions.

Joliet, the defending champion, left little doubt who was going to be the boss on this day, tallying 1,005 points while blowing away four of five opponents and finishing 5-0 at the event co-sponsored by the Illinois Community College Trustees Association (ICCTA) and the Illinois Community College Student Affairs Administration (ICC-

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

"BRIGHT IDEA" AWARD-WINNER

RLC one of three "Bright Idea" Award-winners from Illinois Council of C.C. Administrators for campus-wide recycling efforts, "Greening the Community College." (By 1996, staff recycling 49 tons of trash annually.) / November 1993

DISTANCE LEARNING GRANT

RLC shares in \$1 million Distance Learning Grant for Southern Illinois consortium. / October 1993

SAA). Survivors from eight regionals advanced to the finals.

South-East Region Champion Rend Lake College, the runner-up, finished with 565 points while competing at the state level for the fourth time in the eight-year existence of the state finals. Illinois Central College was third at 3-2 with 512 points.

RLC representatives claimed the top prize in the inaugural "Academic Olympics" in 1993, placed third in 1996 after losing by five points to the eventual winner and fourth a year ago.

Mullins and the RLC cause were supported by Sophomore Stacy Dagg (Texico), Sophomore Angie House (Mt. Vernon), Sophomore Josh Sims (Benton), Freshman John Hefner (McLeansboro) and Freshman Sara Eubanks (Valier). Earlier this spring, the team won the Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market championship for the 10th time in its 15-year history.

"I could not be any more proud of them," second-year Head Coach Rebecca Biggs said of her troops after they defeated Waubonsee, 105-70, and Illinois Central, 130-100, lost to Joliet, 275-80, and then rebounded to beat College of Lake County, 115-30, and Kaskaskia, 135-45.

"Joliet was truly an unbeatable team. I don't think second is anything to sneeze at, because Joliet is unreal," added Biggs, who is assisted by Mike Mullen. "It was like playing the Yankees. One of their contributing schools is the Math and Science Academy, and they killed teams in that area (of questioning).

"We were doing some of our best work

R.L.C. LANDS TWO AMERICORPS GRANTS

Two of 13 AmeriCorps Grants for volunteer service statewide awarded to RLC - "Illinois ChildCorps" and "AmeriCorps in Southern Illinois." / August 1994

"CHALLENGE GRANT" ON RESERVE

College announces "Endowed Challenge Grant" on reserve with federal government. / December 1994

FAMILY INVESTMENT CENTERS

RLC and Franklin Co. Housing Authority land \$1M HUD Grant for Family Investment Ctr. / January '95

EDUCATIONAL GUARANTEES

Board approves "Guarantee of Educational Quality Control" for most programs. / April 11, 1995

AUTO PROGRAM NATIONALLY CERTIFIED

Automotive program receives nationally recognized NATEF and ASE Master Certification. / May 1995

28TH COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

The 10,000 Degree/Certificate is awarded at 28th Commencement (high of 563 in '93). / May 12, 1995

CORRECTIONAL PROGRAM BEST IN STATE

Construction Occupations program at Big Muddy River C.C. named best in state. / May 16, 1995

1993 - 1994

1994 - 1995

that day," Mullins told the *Pressing Times*. "We were getting our kind of questions and the team members really helped each other out. Joliet was just unreal. They deserved to win the tournament."

Each member of the second-place squad received \$100.

As outstanding as he was, Mullins was just being Mullins. He has been doing the same thing during competition the past two seasons, according to his coach.

"I could sense he was a little more nervous than normal, because he wanted to do well. But I think that gave him a little more enthusiasm," she said.

"They all participated, though, and everyone did a wonderful job. I am very, very proud of them."

Kaskaskia, which finished second in SICCM league play to Rend Lake College but advanced to the state finals out of a different region, failed to match last year's third-place showing here. But KC reps did give Joliet its stiffest challenge, by far, before falling, 150-110.

Friday's win by RLC over Kaskaskia was its third in four meetings during the 1999-2000 campaign. The SICCM champs were 8-1 against league foes.

THIRD ▶ Coach-turned All-Star Doherty, Steed show way; Winner ICC nips RLC by 5

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 1996

DECATUR – A tornado greeted them upon their arrival Thursday night. The airwaves were filled with more severe weather warnings as they departed.

Nothing disastrous actually happened to the "College Bowl" representatives from Rend Lake College Friday (April 19), but the South-East Region champs could not escape the dark cloud that seemed to hover overhead, especially early, and had to settle for a third-place finish at the Fourth Annual "College Bowl" State Finals sponsored by the Illinois Community College Trustees Association and the Illinois Community College Student Activities Association.

Undefeated Champion Illinois Central College played "Beat the Clock" with a correct toss-up answer just ahead of the buzzer to edge RLC by five points in their second-match showdown. That provided the impetus for its title drive.

The East Peoria-based winners waltzed past Moraine Valley, 130-45, in a battle of 4-0 teams in the fifth and final game of the six-

team round-robin event staged at Richland Community College.

The top three teams would have finished with identical 4-1 records had it not been for West-Central Region champ ICC's dramatic, come-from-behind win over Rend Lake College. However, Illinois Central still would have prevailed based on the tie-breaking system which rewarded points scored. ICC tallied 700 points overall, to 650 for the Rend Lakers and 615 for runner-up Moraine Valley, the North-Suburban Region kingpins.

Members of the third-place team were awarded \$50 each for their efforts. Winning team participants received \$300 each, with \$100 for each of the runners-up.

Rend Lake College, bidding to repeat the championship it earned in 1993 in the state's inaugural "Academic Olympics," did place two players on the six-member ICCTA/ICCSAA "College Bowl" State Finals All-Star team – Dr. Richard Doherty (Mt. Vernon) and Team Captain Derek Steed (Dahlgren). All-Star distinction is based on most toss-up points accounted for during the competition; six were chosen because of a tie.

Former coach-turned standout player Doherty, the 63-year-old retired Instructor playing for the first time Spring Semester '96, and third-year performer Steed, 21, were responsible for 14 toss-ups apiece.

Doherty has been connected with the program for eight years, the last 6 1/2 as Head Coach.

Doherty and Steed were joined on the All-Star squad by Andy Alig of Illinois Central, Steve DeLoria of Moraine Valley and the Kankakee Community College duo of Shawn Ayres and Peter Fisher.

Rend Lake College advanced to the finals out of the South-East Region by getting past Southeastern Illinois, the 1995 state champion, and Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market champ John A. Logan College, the '94 state bridesmaid. Kaskaskia, 1-4 in the finals to tie with Kankakee and College of DuPage, beat Belleville Area in a best two-of-three match to win the South-West Region qualifier.

The RLC reps dropped their first two matches, 195-90 to Moraine Valley despite a 40-15 advantage at the start and the next to Illinois Central in a come-from-behind decision on the final question, which beat the buzzer by a matter of seconds.

Rend Lake College proved its resiliency thereafter for Head Coach Steve Kennett,



SICCM foes out-coached; perennial favorites go 5-0

NEWS RELEASE 1996

The explanation is simple enough: Five league rivals were out-coached Tuesday afternoon by the team representing Rend Lake College.

A rejuvenated RLC squad, buoyed by the expertise of Player/Coach Dr. Richard Doherty, won all of its matches in the second round of Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market "College Bowl" play.

The 5-0 mark pushed the perennial champs back into title contention despite a 2-3 showing in the fall in the first of four round-robin events that will determine the conference champion this year. Rend Lake College has won the SICCM crown nine of the 10 previous seasons.

Dr. Doherty, who retired as a full-time instructor over a year ago, plans on giving up his coaching duties after this year. To fulfill a burning desire, he decided to go out with a bang, signing up for the necessary six hours of college classes to be eligible and becoming a player-coach for the first time.

His decision cast new Assistant Coach Steve Kennett in a more important role, and another "seasoned" veteran, Vera Whiteside, graciously stepped aside to allow Dr. Doherty to play. Whiteside, recently retired school teacher and part-time RLC student who competed in the fall, is serving as the team scorekeeper since only one person with a degree is eligible to play per team.

Captain Derek Steed still led RLC with 17 correct toss-up answers in 29 attempts, but Dr. Doherty was next with 12 in 20 tries despite playing only a half in some matches. Doherty was 3-5 in a 135-105 win over previously unbeaten Logan.



FOR YOUR INFO: DID YOU KNOW?

FROM *thirtysomething* (1996)
A REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY
REND LAKE COLLEGE

- ▶ serves a population of 87,300 diverse individuals who live in a district that covers 1,850 square miles.
- ▶ counts on a district tax base with an Equalized Assessed Valuation of just over \$400 million.
- ▶ is the third-lowest community college in the state in terms of revenue generated by local tax dollars.
- ▶ is the fourth-lowest in the state in revenues generated through a combination of local taxes, ICCB grants and tuition.
- ▶ is the third-lowest in the state in revenue per credit hour (amount in support of each student).
- ▶ is the fourth-lowest in the state in unit cost; i.e., amount spent to generate a credit hour of instruction.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- ▶ 45% of all undergraduates in the U.S. attend 967 public and 147 independent two-year institutions (49% of all first-time freshmen).
- ▶ Two-year enrollments include 5.7 million credit and 5 million noncredit students.
- ▶ Public Community College students make up the largest sector in higher education in the U.S. - 37%.

(Continued at far right on next page)

College Bowl (cont.)

the Psychology/Philosophy Instructor who shed his Assistant's role to take over as Head Coach when Doherty joined the playing ranks.

Third-place became a reality when RLC downed Kaskaskia, 185-50; College of DuPage, 140-120 when Doherty saved the day by answering the 20th and last toss-up to add to a 130-120 lead, and Kankakee, 130-115, no thanks to a negative-30 points due to incorrectly answering six questions before they were completed.

Other contributors were 42-year-old laid-off miner/factory worker Dennis Gulle (Buckner), 28-year-old History major Jim Hayes (Mt. Vernon) and Jeff Hankla (Sesser), 39-year-old retired Air Force veteran.

Another major contributor was scorekeeper/tournament official Vera Whiteside (Mt. Vernon), the retired Wayne City High School librarian who willingly stepped aside Spring Semester so Doherty could play. "College Bowl" rules permit only one person with an advanced degree per team.

RLC Instructor Mike Mullen also served as a tournament official.

THIRD ▶ Phelps & Friends bounce back from loss with fourth Top Four finish in five years

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 2003

EAST PEORIA - With a well-deserved reputation to uphold, representatives of the Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market did quite well in the 11th annual "College Bowl" state finals, thank you.

While regular-season SICCM champion Kaskaskia College was improving one notch to claim its first-ever state championship, third-place Rend Lake College was finishing in the top four for the fourth time in the

last five years and sixth overall in an event sponsored by the Illinois Community College Trustees Association and the Illinois Community College Student Activities Association.

Rend Lake College established the reputation by winning the inaugural statewide "Academic Olympics" in 1993. That was quickly followed by state titles for Southeastern Illinois College in 1995 and John A. Logan College in 1997 and '98.

Kaskaskia's unbeaten march through this year's finals snapped a four-year Southern Illinois drought, during which time Joliet Junior College became a three-time state champion and Morton edged Kaskaskia for honors last spring, only because RLC upset K.C. in the day's final match.

In between the first crown for Rend Lake College and the latest 1-3 showing by the conference, Rend Lake College finished third in 1996, fourth in '99, second in 2000 and fourth a year ago. Kaskaskia was runner-up in 1998 as well as last year, and Logan tied for second in 1994.

Champions from six regions across the state advance to the finals, hosted for the first time this spring by Illinois Central College. Rend Lake College, coached by Mike Mullen, went undefeated in both the fall and spring tournaments to advance from the South-East Region over league rivals Logan, Southeastern Illinois and Shawnee. Kaskaskia is assigned to the South-West Region.

Mullen's squad finished 16-5 for the combined fall/spring campaign, with two of the losses coming in the state finals and three of the setbacks directly attributed to State Champion Kaskaskia.

Kaskaskia made it 3-0 against RLC this season by winning the opening match in the "College Bowl" state finals. The Rend Lakers bounced back, however, to dispose

NATIONAL TELLY AWARD FOR LOGO

Computerized logo on RLC Foundation's "Generations of Excellence" video earns prestigious Telly Award in national competition. / August 1995

SECOND "BRIGHT IDEA" AWARD

A second ICCCA "Bright Idea" Award, this one for Instructor Barb Davenport's "The \$90 Science Lab" geared for distance learning. / September 1995

TRUCK DRIVER TRAINING RECOGNIZED

Truck Driver Training program cited by Metro-East Private Industry Council for making "significant contributions" to local JTPA. / October 1995

ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT / September 1995

Auditor: "The college probably is in the best financial position it has been in in a long time."

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

WAUGH GYMNASIUM, ARNOLD FITNESS CTR.
Dedication ceremonies for James "Hummer" Waugh Gymnasium and Wayne Arnold Super-Circuit Fitness Center. / November 18, 1995

CAMPUS ADDS ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE
One-room Independence Schoolhouse is moved to campus from its "roots" in Ewing. / December 1995

REND LAKE COLLEGE 310 - NOTRE DAME 70
Ho-hum. Just another day at the office. Another College Bowl triumph over some unknown opponent. Correct on 13 of 14 toss-ups, inc. 6-6 by Richard Doherty and Capt. Derek Steed. / February 24, 1996

DOERING WINS STATEWIDE ESSAY AWARD
Becci Doering wins the annual Paul Simon Student Essay Contest sponsored by the ICCTA for her entry, "How My C.C. is Changing My Life." / June '96

TIMES SQUARE CAMPUS OPENS IN MALL
RLC Times Square Campus in the Mall at Mt. Vernon opens for business featuring a computer lab targeted for business software training. / August '96

CAPPS' PAINTINGS BOUGHT FOR VETERANS
Two patriotic paintings by Sarah Capps purchased by state for permanent display in the new Illinois Veterans Home in Chester. / September '96

1995 - 1996

1996 - 1997

of McHenry County College (Crystal Lake), host Illinois Central and Elgin.

That set up a showdown for second with Joliet in the finale of the round-robin format. Only 10 points separated the two teams at intermission, but it was all Joliet in the second half. The match was similar to the opener with K.C.

McLeansboro Sophomore Alan Phelps, an all-stater last season, personally accounted for 110 RLC toss-up points (five more than last April) but finished sixth overall. All-State status was earned by Kaskaskia standout Charlie Bryant (Salem), top scorer with 230 toss-up points; and teammate Dale Hill, third with 190 points; they were joined by Joliet's Michael Hainzinger (210) and John Evans (140) and Brandon Buchner of Illinois Central (170).

Other contributors for Mullen and Assistant Coach Robin Yucus were sophomores Josh Perschbacher (Herrin) and Nathan Shelton (Enfield / Norris City-Omaha-Enfield High School), both of whom were responsible for 80 total points on 10-point toss-up questions, sophomore Jennifer Martinek (Mt. Vernon) and freshman Sam Grimes (Iuka). Shelton and Martinek were both members of the team that placed fourth at state a year ago.

"I am very, very pleased with this team and the fact they were able to finish third in the state," said Mullen, "especially considering how they lost to Kaskaskia for the third time this season in the first round and yet came back to win three tough matches in a row. Then we gave a good Joliet team a tough match for a half and almost finished second."

Mullen appreciated the balance of his team, with Phelps at the forefront on toss-up questions. "When it came to bonus points, everybody had their specialty. Everybody contributed. It was a good team effort all year," Mullen added.

Rend Lake College was 7-3 in SICCM competition, 6-0 in the two South-East Region qualifiers and 3-2 at state.

THIRD ▶ **Dreas leads RLC Scholar Bowlers to 7th Top Four finish in 18 years**

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 2010

PALOS HILLS – Rend Lake College took third overall at the College Bowl State Championships today (April 23) at Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Hills.

RLC Sophomore Jim Dreas of Ashley

scored the fourth-highest amount of points among all competitors at the tournament and received a medal for his performance.

"I think if he had known he was going to be recognized for that, he wouldn't have answered a single question," RLC Coach Joe Ervin joked about his soft-spoken team member.

Bryan Carter of Benton served as team captain for the Rend Lake College squad, which went 2-4 overall to beat another 2-4 team, Morton College. RLC took third over Morton based on its aggregate score of 720-590.

Host Moraine Valley took the title with a 5-1 record. Rend Lake upset eventual runner-up Oakton Community College, 155-100, in their match. The Lake lost, 145-80 and 160-95, to Moraine Valley and fell 175-115 in its other match against Oakton. "There were some really strong teams," Ervin said.

The team – Dreas, Richard Pigg (DuQuoin), Carter, James Ledbetter (West Frankfort), Josh Bullock (Royalton) and Zach Cash (Waltonville) – is heading home with a plaque and medals.

Since claiming the state's first-ever academic competition championship in 1993, Rend Lake College has placed in the Top Four six other times – runner-up in 2000; third in 1996 and 2003 previously and fourth in 1999 and 2002. The state finals in the past involved Region winners from six statewide contests.

FOURTH ▶ **Rend Lakers reach state tournament with 7-1 South-East Region showing**

MT. VERNON REGISTER-NEWS APRIL 1999
BY GREGORY NORFLEET

DECATUR – Rend Lake College took fourth place in "College Bowl" competition at the State Finals.

Coach Rebecca Biggs said the four-person team scored a "very respectable" average of 100 points per game competing against five other teams. "Fourth in state isn't too shabby," she said.

Team Captain and season-long scoring leader Marshall Mullins of Benton was named to an honorary All-Star team with a second-place score. He received a plaque at the awards ceremony.

At the end of round-robin competition, Joliet Junior College won, Waubesa Junior College took second and Illinois Central College was third.

Behind RLC were Kaskaskia College in

✱ - ✱ - ✱

DID YOU KNOW (cont.)

▶ About 47% of all minorities in college attend Community Colleges; more than 50% of higher education students with disabilities attend a Public Community College.

▶ Women make up 58% of C.C. enrollments.

▶ Nearly two-thirds of C.C. students are older than the traditional college age of 21, more than 30% are 30 or older.

▶ Almost 30% of Community College students receive financial aid through Pell Grants, student loans or work-study.

▶ 93.3% of the state's recent C.C. occupational graduates are either working or continuing their education (78% employed in positions related to training), with an average salary of \$10.46 per hour.

▶ A follow-up study reveals grads were "very satisfied" with training (4.18 on 5.0 scale).

▶ 65% of all C.C. Faculty serve part-time (employed by the same institution an average of 5.4 years); many are working professionals who can provide practical insights and real-world observations.

▶ Women comprise 42% of Community College Faculty nationwide, compared to 29% at four-year institutions.

▶ Median income of adults 18-plus: high school grads, \$18,737; Associate Degree, \$24,398. The average expected lifetime earning for grads with an Associate Degree is over \$1 million, or about \$250,000 more than those with only high school diplomas.

▶ Revenue sources for Community Colleges nationwide: State Government, 46.3%; Tuition/Fees, 19.9%; Local Government, 17.8%; Federal, 5.0%.

▶ Average annual tuition: Public Community Colleges, \$1,114; Public Four-Year, \$2,543; Private, \$6,343 and \$10,994.



General Tire recognized; tips hat to RLC training

MT. VERNON INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION
NEWS RELEASE SUMMER 1990

Representatives of the Mt. Vernon Industrial Commission called on General Tire June 27 to express appreciation for the plant's many contributions to the area and to discuss matters relating to industrial and community development with James Rippy, Vice President of Manufacturing.

Industrial Commission members participating were Mayor Rolland Lewis; Mark Spizzo, Rend Lake Economic Development Commission Executive Director; Bob Carlock, Director of the Center for Business and Community Services at Rend Lake College, and Dennis McEnaney, Manager of Illinois Power Co.

The Commission praised General Tire's efforts bolstering the local economy and discussed areawide services and opportunities available at the plant.

General Tire is involved with a joint expansion venture. Work has been under way for 12 months, with plans to start a new product line by early 1991.

Rippy expressed gratitude for the many local support services provided to the tire-building plant, including fire and police protection, water and sewer and recent economic development efforts. He noted Rend Lake College has provided numerous training sessions for the firm, which bodes well for the plant and its employees. Rippy also thanked the Mayor for the special efforts in the recent installment of a traffic light at the entrance to the plant.

Rippy thanked the Commission and reaffirmed the firm's "continued interest in supporting community development."

College Bowl (cont.)

fifth and McHenry County College in sixth.

Biggs said the team "is ready to go back next year," now that they know a bit more about the competition.

"We didn't expect the Joliet team to be quite as good as it was," said Biggs. Single-game winning scores usually average about 150 points, but Joliet scored 330 in its first competition. "We thought, well, Joliet may be someone to contend with," the coach admitted.

Rend Lake College qualified for the competition by earning the South-East Regional championship two weeks ago.

Angela House and Denny Leathers, both of Mt. Vernon, and Stacy Dagg of Texico made up the rest of the team.

That foursome made sure it was not necessary to have a playoff for the Region title and subsequent State Finals berth. Rend Lake College won the Fall Region Tournament, losing once in four matches, then went undefeated in all four Spring round-robin tries. A playoff would have decided the state qualifier had different teams won Fall and Spring honors.

"The thing about this group, they work together well as a team, especially on bonus questions," noted the first-year Head Coach.

"We are very proud of them," she added.

Assisting Biggs, as he did predecessor Steve Kennett, was English/Journalism Professor Mike Mullen. Kennett, Mullen & Co. took third in the state in 1996, the last time the team advanced.

FOURTH ▶

Upset in finale elevates Rend Lakers, denies rival Kaskaskia a state crown

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 2002

DECATUR – The Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market would have had its fourth "College Bowl" state champion in 10 tries if not for a couple of small details . . .

• South-East Region Champion Rend Lake College dropped its first two matches in the Illinois Community College Trustees Association-sponsored finals Friday by a total of 10 points. In both matches – an 80-75 loss to eventual champ Morton Community College and a 60-55 setback at the hands of Illinois Valley Community College – the RLC reps rallied from huge first-half deficits

only to find their comebacks cut short by the bell.

• Then, with SICCM regular-season kingpin Kaskaskia College, the South-West Region qualifier, poised to take the state title with a victory in its finale, the Ina contingent defeated its rivals from Centralia for the first time all season, 140-110.

Rend Lake College Freshman Alan Phelps (Mt. Vernon) earned a berth on the five-member All-State squad to salvage something for the downstaters on an otherwise bittersweet day on the campus of host Richland Community College. Phelps personally accounted for 105 points on toss-up questions in five matches to merit individual honors.

Morton completed round-robin play with a 4-1 record, compared to 3-2 for runner-up Kaskaskia. The four other teams all settled for 2-3 marks, with total points scored breaking the tie and placing Oakton Community College third, RLC fourth, Illinois Valley fifth and Prairie State Community College sixth.

Things might have been entirely different had Morton not been able to hold off the slow-starting Rend Lakers after leading at halftime, 70-10. Coach Mike Mullen's locals had just answered a five-point toss-up and were in the middle of answering bonus question when time expired.

Two other freshmen members of the team accompanied second-year Head Coach Mullen, Assistant Coach Robin Yucus and their teammates – Nathan Shelton (Norris City-Omaha-Enfield) and Jennifer Martinek (Mt. Vernon).

Rend Lake College claimed the inaugural Academic Olympics statewide crown in 1993. The perennial conference contenders also finished second in 2000 and fourth in 1999.

Following the state championship footprints by their Warrior predecessors, SICCM claimed additional ICCTA state champs in 1995 (Southeastern Illinois College) and 1997 (John A. Logan College).

STATE-OF-ART STUDIO R.L.C. AT MARKETPLACE IN MT. VERNON Paul Mitchell Partner School brings class to Cosmetology

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE OCTOBER 16, 2003

Rend Lake College can now proclaim another landmark as the first public institution the Paul Mitchell company has ever accepted as a partner school.

RLC's new Cosmetology program, housed in shiny new, state-of-the-art facilities at the Rend Lake College MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon, is scheduled to open its doors for the first day of class November 3.

Enrollment applications are still being accepted, but seats are expected to fill quickly thanks to a growing waiting list even though the program could not be officially publicized prior to state approval. New students will be enrolled on an ongoing basis every nine weeks, according to Jim Hull, RLC Vice President of Instruction.

"This is a Paul Mitchell Partner School," Hull said. The Rend Lake College program is the only one of its kind in a 100-mile radius and is the only public school which has been accepted as a partner; other schools which are Paul Mitchell partners are private schools.

According to Hull, Paul Mitchell is using Rend Lake College as a model to determine the success of the program in a public setting.

The goal for Paul Mitchell is to have a maximum of 80 partner schools nationwide. Currently, there are 18, Hull said, and only one other exists in upstate Illinois.

Cosmetology not only is the art of hair styling but also encompasses skin treatments, such as facials, and nail care, including manicures, pedicures and artificial nails.

However, Paul Mitchell schools take cosmetology to another level.

According to RLC Cosmetology Program Director Kenita Dudley, Paul Mitchell's style of instruction focuses on new ways of teaching and learning. "It is not a traditional lecture style," said Dudley, who is a certified Paul Mitchell instructor.

Students start to learn through hands-on experience up front, she said. Students immediately begin working with mannequins and after training, they serve real clients.

"This will be the premier Cosmetology school in Southern Illinois," indicated Hull, emphasizing the affiliation with a nationally recognized partner like Paul Mitchell.

The program entails 38 credit hours. Classes are available Monday through Sat-

urday. At \$9,100, it is the most financially reasonable Paul Mitchell school available, according to Dudley. Tuition alone at other Paul Mitchell schools costs a minimum of \$12,500, according to RLC Vice President of Finance Bob Carlock.

Carlock also emphasized financial aid in the form of grants and student loans is available for many students enrolling in the Cosmetology program.

Although less expensive than other Paul Mitchell schools, RLC's program lasts roughly the same length of time – one calendar year. Students will attend for two semesters and a summer term.

The maximum enrollment for the new program is 120 students. This is based on housing the program in its current facility with hours from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Part-time Cosmetology Instructor Susan Mulvany has been appointed to help with the program.

The general public promises to benefit as well. Beginning in January, the salon at the MarketPlace, dubbed "Studio RLC," will be open to the public. A complete line of Paul Mitchell products will be available for purchase at the salon.

"This will be a full-service school that will service the public," said Dudley. She said tentative operating hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dudley said students will have more than 150 hours of training before working on clients; an instructor will be on hand at all times.

Paul Mitchell instructors "go way beyond the basics," said Dudley. Students in RLC's Cosmetology program will focus on actual hands-on skills rather than textbook learning.

Carlock noted, "Rend Lake College is committed to spending more money on curriculum than other schools," adding that Dudley and Hull have taken several trips to California for training and information on the Paul Mitchell program. Dudley said she likely will return to California twice a year and to other sites annually for continuing training and education, adding up to about 250 hours per year.

"That's a lot of training compared to any other school," Dudley said.

In addition to advanced cosmetology skills, Paul Mitchell also teaches the "Paul Mitchell Culture," said Dudley. "The learn-



Studio RLC offers skills to public in January '03

NEWS RELEASE JANUARY 2003

Experience the quality and professionalism of the Paul Mitchell Culture at Studio RLC, now open to the public at Rend Lake College MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon.

Rend Lake College is the only public community college in the nation that is a Paul Mitchell Partner School. Students in RLC's Cosmetology Program are trained in Paul Mitchell methods and culture, and these students now are offering their skills to the populace.

"These students are highly trained, skilled and eager to serve the public," said Program Director Kenita Dudley.

Hours at Studio RLC are 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Walk-ins and appointments are welcome at this full-service salon. Studio RLC is a state-of-the-art facility featuring all-new equipment.

Typical prices at Studio RLC are \$7 to \$12 for haircuts, \$20 for permanents, \$8 for manicures and \$10 for pedicures. Other services include foiling, hair coloring, artificial nails, basic facials and brow waxing. Paul Mitchell products also are available for sale.

Students who train in a Paul Mitchell Partner School have an advantage of vastly increased marketability in the industry. Paul Mitchell training is ideal for those seeking a career rather than just a job. Paul Mitchell Partner School graduates operate on a higher level than graduates of an average cosmetology school, according to Dudley.

New classes at Studio RLC start every two months.



Community College Student Demographics

I.C.C.B. JANUARY 1997

Source: Student Enrollments and Completions in the Illinois Community College System, Fiscal Year 1996 . . .

Profile of Illinois Community College Students

▲ GENDER

- 55.7% Female
- 44.3% Male

▲ AGE

- Average Age - 30.4, but 40% are 31-plus
- 1.7% are 16 & under
- 26.5% are 17-20
- 16.7% are 21-24
- 15.9% are 25-30
- 18.4% are 31-39
- 16.8% are 40-55
- 4.0% are 55 & older

▲ ATTENDANCE

- 20.7% Full-time
- 79.3% Part-time

▲ RACE / ETHNICITY

Minority students make up 1/3 of student population

- 67.2% White
- 14.8% African-American
- 12.6% Hispanic
- 4.4% Asian / Pacific Islander
- 0.6% Non-Resident Alien
- 0.4% Am. Indian

▲ DEGREES EARNED

- 27.3% have already earned some college credit or a degree

Studio RLC (cont.)

ing process is different at a Paul Mitchell school. It is not just straight lecture. Students truly learn not only how to cut hair, but to do it in such a way the client is happy, satisfied and will return to your business."

The advantage to the student of going through a Paul Mitchell Partner School, according to Dudley, is vastly increased marketability. Dudley said Paul Mitchell's program is ideal for those "who want a career, not a job." It also is terrific preparation for those wishing to go into business for themselves, she added. A Paul Mitchell Partner School graduate operates on a higher level than a graduate from a regular cosmetology school, Dudley said.

Paul Mitchell schools are known for their atmosphere, learning style and the enjoyment of the program. Eventually, continuing education will be made available at RLC for area cosmetologists, according to Hull.

Dudley and Mulvany each have obtained their cosmetology licenses. Dudley has become a Learning Leader Advisor through Paul Mitchell and also has undergone the franchise's Learning Leader Training, Learning Leader Core Training and Learning Leader Advisory Training. She has had her cosmetology license for 20 years and has been licensed as a Cosmetology Instructor for the past four years.

Mulvany owns her own business - Sizzors in Salem - and has taken the Learning Leader Core Training through Paul Mitchell. She will be going next week to California with Dudley to take Learning Leader Training and will continue to train with Paul Mitchell instructors in the future.

STUDIO R.L.C. OPEN HOUSE ► John Paul Mitchell Systems CEO DeJoria, Dean Claybaugh make rare appearance

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE FEBRUARY 2004

There was no lack of enthusiasm Tuesday evening (February 24) when hundreds of excited fans and students flocked to the

Rend Lake College MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon to celebrate with John Paul DeJoria, Chief Executive Officer of John Paul Mitchell Systems, and Winn Claybaugh, Dean of Paul Mitchell The School, at the recently opened Studio RLC and Rend Lake College's Cosmetology program.

RLC is the only public community college in the nation which has been accepted as a Paul Mitchell Partner School.

Prior to the Open House, RLC Vice President of Instruction Jim Hull commented, "This probably is the one and only chance people in Mt. Vernon and the surrounding area will have to meet and talk with John Paul DeJoria.

"It is an opportunity to learn about the commitment Paul Mitchell Systems and Rend Lake College have made to the industry."

Hull indicated 32 students are enrolled in the program, which started in November, with another class to begin March 1.

Both DeJoria and Claybaugh had time for everyone Tuesday, always available for conversation, pictures or a handshake. The open house was held at the program's state-of-the-art salon which trains future professionals in hair care, skin treatments and nail care, with an emphasis on customer relations and business and marketing savvy.

"Why would Paul Mitchell partner with Rend Lake College?" Claybaugh asked the crowd. "It's all about relationships. The reason we have a Partner School here is because of our relationship with Rend Lake College. I think we've started a new family here."

Claybaugh thanked parents of Cosmetology students - "future professionals," as they are designated by Paul Mitchell - for entrusting their children to Paul Mitchell and Rend Lake College.

Claybaugh emphasized that in the Paul Mitchell culture, everything has to be fun. "Passion and desire will get you farther in this career than anything else," he said.

"John Paul DeJoria and Paul Mitchell many years ago had a vision that this would happen," said Claybaugh.

Claybaugh also offered his appreciation

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

Mt. Vernon Economic Development Commission INDUSTRIAL APPRECIATION INCLUDES R.L.C.

Four educational entities in Jefferson County saluted. Mayor: "We showcase education in this community every chance we get . . . The quality of the workforce is the product of the educational system." / October '97

ICCB Award for Excellence in Workforce Prep CO-PREP INITIATIVE RECOGNIZED

Correctional Officer Screening Preparation Program helps prepare job applicants for rigorous screening. / May 1998

KERN: "WE FIRMLY BELIEVE WE ARE LEAST EXPENSIVE COLLEGE IN THE STATE"

One of lowest tuitions and new textbook rental program lead to Presidential "most affordable" boast. / August '98

Maximum 10-Year Accreditation

NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES Commended for "seriousness with which you have approached the whole process." College strengths? "We think they are considerable." / March 1999

1997 - 1998

1998 - 1999

to the Cosmetology Program's instructors, who are called "Learning Leaders" in the Paul Mitchell system. "What you are doing warms my heart. I'll be your cheerleader. I'll make your dreams come true."

Claybaugh then introduced DeJoria. "His passion is future. His passion is Rend Lake," said Claybaugh of the Paul Mitchell chief.

DeJoria related portions of the history of John Paul Mitchell Systems, saying that while his competitors have repeatedly been bought and sold, Paul Mitchell "is in the professional beauty industry – period – and we are not for sale."

Paul Mitchell schools are known for their professional atmosphere, learning style and the enjoyment of participants within the program. The organization takes great pride in teaching its future professionals not only how to cut hair and many other advanced cosmetology skills, but to do it in such a way the client is happy, satisfied and eager to return.

"We're different," DeJoria said. "We want to teach somebody how to have a career." He said students in RLC's Paul Mitchell Partner School will learn not only about hair care, but also how to handle merchandising, how to build a clientele, how to present themselves and other factors that will lead to a truly successful career.

He said trying to learn these types of things after graduating from a normal cosmetology program while working full-time in a salon environment is much more difficult than learning them in a Paul Mitchell Partner School.

"Here, you will learn to perform like an artist," he said. "You will have fun, have a good time doing it and make a very good living."

DeJoria said when he learned Rend Lake College wanted to do something special with its Cosmetology Program, he and Claybaugh got behind it all the way. He said RLC has managed to put together an artistic, quality facility and put forth the effort to do it right.

Rend Lake College was chosen as Paul Mitchell's first partnership with a state-run college "because of heart and because of what they wanted to do for their students," DeJoria said.

"We want to upgrade this industry. We want to raise the consumer's viewpoint," he added.

"What you have in store for you is the most incredible career," DeJoria told the

future professionals. In the next decade, the public will make 100 million additional salon visits and there will be up to five jobs waiting on every Paul Mitchell Partner School graduate, he said.

DeJoria said Paul Mitchell searched for years for the perfect partner before happening upon Claybaugh's school in Provo, UT. In contrast to other cosmetology schools DeJoria had seen, it seemed that 90-95 percent of the graduates of Claybaugh's school remained in the business up to 20 years later. Plans were made to spread Claybaugh's methods throughout the nation and make other cosmetologists feel the same way.

"This is a great career and a great school. We are 100 percent behind what you are doing. We are very proud to be associated with our first state-run school," DeJoria said.

Although less expensive than other Paul Mitchell schools, RLC's program lasts roughly the same length of time – one calendar year.

RLC's Paul Mitchell Partner School opened its doors in early November 2003 and new classes are enrolled every nine weeks. Studio RLC is now offering its services to the public. Operating hours are 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Walk-ins and appointments are welcome at this full-service salon.

Rend Lake College recently approved a Cosmetology Teacher Certificate program and authorized its submission to the Illinois Community College Board for approval.



Survey says: Occupational grads working in their field

I.C.C.B. 1996 FOLLOW-UP STUDY
OF F.Y. 1995 OCCUPATIONAL GRADS

A new report indicates the vast majority (91.3%) of the state's recent community college occupational graduates are either working or continuing their education . . . and most of them hold jobs within their own community college district.

The study was conducted by the Illinois Community College Board, which surveyed more than 2,600 members of the Class of '95 from 33 different occupational program areas.

The ICCB report found an 84.1% employment rate among those responding 6-9 months after graduation. The unemployment rate among respondents was 7.6%. A total of 8.3% were not in the labor force (by choice).

- Just over 67% of the grads were employed in positions related to their training.
- Nearly three-fourths (73.5%) obtained employment while attending a community college or soon after completion.
- More than 92% of those employed remained in Illinois.
- Three out of five (59.3%) stayed in the district where they received training.
- Only 7.8% of the working graduates moved out-of-state to accept employment.
- Their average salary was \$25,812 (\$12.41 /hour) – three times the minimum wage.
- Nearly one-fourth (23.6%) of respondents were simultaneously employed and pursuing additional education.
- Graduates employed in positions related to their program were very satisfied with their current jobs (4.15 on 5.0 scale) and with components of their community college programs (4.08) and their college's student services (4.09).

BENEFITS: SAFETY, COST, TIME, LACK OF HAZARDOUS WASTE

RLC joins U. of I. in offering interactive videodisc Chem Lab

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE AUGUST 1990



National publicity for RLC thanks to computerized lab

COMMUNITY COLLEGE WEEK
SEPTEMBER 17, 1990

Rend Lake College will be the first community college in the state to adopt the interactive videodisc chemistry lab equipment and software it will begin utilizing in the fall.

The only other chemistry program where the simulated lab is in use is at the University of Illinois, where the software was authored by two professors.

The two Illinois institutions are among about 100 in the nation to take advantage of the innovative lab. That would include Princeton, Rice and George Washington University.

The computerized lab complements the actual lab experience and is especially beneficial in terms of safety, time constraints, cost limitations, ability to repeat experiments and the reduction in disposal of hazardous materials involved.



Hall reports to Board re: archaeological dig in '72

BOARD MINUTES NOVEMBER 21, 1972

Eleanor Hall gave a presentation showing surface samples of sandstones and pieces of pottery along with film slides of the preliminary and actual digging for remains along the Rend Lake waters, which indicated this was an Indian village between 500 B.C.-500 A.D. The object was to use the dig as a teaching device. Mrs. Hall was commended on her work.

Chemistry Instructor John Fisher draws parallels between the University of Illinois, Michigan State, New Mexico State, Boise State and the institution of higher learning he knows best, Rend Lake College.

Music students at one of those colleges are writing original compositions on special computers and then comparing their scores to existing work by well-known composers; language students at another practice German conversation by registering guests at actual German inns and hotels via an on-campus, computerized travel service; med-school students at yet another make basic clinical decisions based on observing actual patient situations by means of video disc.

"Many institutions not usually considered to be pioneers are leading the way in the use of interactive computer technology," Fisher told members of the RLC Board of Trustees and administrators.

He included RLC in the same breath as the University of Illinois.

That is because Rend Lake College is the first community college in the state to adopt the interactive videodisc Chemistry lab equipment and software it will begin utilizing this fall. In fact, the only other educational institution in Illinois believed to be taking advantage of this modern technology is the U. of I., where the technique was invented by Dr. Stanley Smith.

"Each of these institutions is going to be looked at as leaders for their efforts," Fisher commented. "RLC also is among the first 100 schools - all institutions - in the nation to purchase this technology.

Before demonstrating several experiments, including one where participants donned safety goggles and went outside to witness the reaction of the element, Bromine, and aluminum, Fisher admitted he is a "purist" at heart. "I've always adhered to the classical, traditional approach when it comes to teaching Chemistry.

"Chemistry," he added, "is an experi-

mental science based on interaction between materials. It is important for students to conduct, observe and understand these interactions if they are to understand the discipline. I always felt you have to 'get your hands dirty' and do the experiments yourself. And I resisted change for a long time."

The computerized lab, which is especially beneficial in terms of safety, time constraints, cost limitations, the ability to repeat experiments any number of times and the disposal of hazardous waste materials, or lack thereof, changed his way of thinking.

"I propose it complements the actual lab experience . . . it is a valuable supplement.

"There is a steady evolution in instruction taking place on campuses today. Constant advances in computer technologies are making possible new instructional strategies and changing our expectations as to what students should be doing and learning."

After producing the poisonous, corrosive gas and neutral salt out-of-doors, the computer convert quickly demonstrated the same experiment inside, thanks to the interactive disc and television monitor.

"We can see what happens without the limitations imposed by safety, set-up, clean-up, time and material cost," Fisher said, then repeated the test. "With videodisc labs, our students can work with explosive, toxic chemicals in a manner that is impractical or impossible in a traditional lab. Data is stored in the computer for the student's use later.

"As my buddy, Dr. Mike Buttram, says, 'With videodisc, you can *safely* blow-up the lab . . . as many times as you like.'"

"This tool puts RLC on the cutting edge in the use of technology to teach science. I predict we will have educators from all over coming to see what we are doing and following our lead.

"I'm excited and proud to be a part of it," Fisher said. "We've taken the Chemistry program from a parking lot in Ina (for previous experiments) to a NASA launch pad (as demonstrated on videodisc)."

STUDENT BODY: 52% OF RECENT GRADS

Traditionally, only about 50% of all high school graduates attend college somewhere the following year. In Fall 1999, 52% of in-district graduates chose to attend Rend Lake College.

COLLEGE BOWL TEAM 2ND IN STATE

Thanks to the leading scorer in the State Finals and two-time All-Star Marshall Mullins, RLC went 4-1 and finished runner-up to Joliet J.C. / April 28, 2000

REACHING OUT TO PERRY COUNTY

Groundbreaking ceremonies conducted for RLC Murphy-Wall Pinckneyville Campus. / July 2000

1999 - 2000

2000 - 2001

EMERGING LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FULFILLS A REAL NEED

While focusing on growth within, ELI merits outside attention

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE OCTOBER 10, 2007

Rend Lake College's Emerging Leadership Institute has focused on growth from within since it was created and implemented last year. Lately, however, the Institute has been looked at and praised by outside organizations.

College representatives presented the unique ELI program to attendees of the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Annual Congress September 26-29 in San Diego. Subsequently, the college was informed this week their presentation is in the running for a prestigious honor called the Bellwether Award.

RLC President Mark Kern, RLC Foundation CEO Pat Kern, State Farm Insurance Agency Field Executive Robert Bornheimer and Mary Bornheimer, former RLC Dean of Student Services and creator of the ELI, all had a part in showing the ACCT how the college is working to grow its future leaders from within.

"It is such an honor for the college to be recognized on a national level for initiating the Emerging Leadership Institute," Mary Bornheimer said after learning of the group's invitation to present. "I look forward to sharing this successful program with community college board members from across the nation."

The invitation was in response to her proposal for the Congress session, entitled "Grow Your Own Leaders – Identifying and Developing Future Community College Leaders." In the proposal, she stated, "The need for leaders in community colleges is greater now than ever before."

The 2007 Community College Leadership Congress explored the challenges and opportunities confronting the nation's community college Trustees. The Congress focused on strategies to enable colleges to gain greater effectiveness in helping secure future economic prosperity for their communities. The Bellwether Award is presented annually at the Community College Futures Assembly held to recognize outstanding and innovative programs and practices that are successfully leading community colleges into the future. The 2008 assembly will be January 26-29 in Orlando.

RLC's team of representatives – backed by Board of Trustees members Marvin Scott, Randall Crocker and Dave Edmison, who

also were in attendance – presented the Emerging Leadership Institute as a way to strengthen a college from within while improving the community it serves.

The ELI's initial group of RLC faculty and staff members who were chosen for the honor wrapped up their nine-month leadership training in March. Their training included motivational presentations from experts in leadership, studies of renowned books on the topic and hands-on workshops that will help them lead the college into an even brighter future.

A new group of ELI members were selected by the President's Cabinet in April and began with a kick-off installment of the ELI called "A Crash Course In Leadership" August 2. Their training utilizes the same tools introduced to the inaugural group.

Bornheimer, who moved from the district when her husband was promoted, is now the Director of Institutional Research and Planning at McKendree University. She came up with the ELI to combat instances of college personnel leaving for employment in the private sector and to prepare current employees for advancement when their leaders reach the age of retirement. Mark Kern pointed out the ELI training also provides good tools for members to use in their current positions.

Kern's presentation in San Diego was about his role in the leadership training process and included a summary of what worked, recommendations for success and some unexpected benefits that arose from the initial ELI training. He said some of the best practices RLC used with both groups included choosing employees who come highly recommended, issuing a personal invitation from the President to join the ELI and scheduling speakers from inside and outside the college, as well as something as simple as eating lunch together.

He identified two unexpected outcomes from the first ELI.

"It created a type of 'esprit de corps' among those who participated," he said. It also revealed there are employees who are comfortable in their current position and do not desire promotion. "And that is perfectly OK," he added. "They still benefited from the training."

"Presenting the Rend Lake College

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ELI: From Good to Great with Hedgehog Concept

NEWS RELEASE FEBRUARY 27, 2007

Last Tuesday marked the final get-together in a nine-month series of meetings for tomorrow's leaders at Rend Lake College.

For nearly a year, select faculty and staff participated in a training program called the RLC Employee Leadership Institute. Spearheaded by Interim Dean of Student Services Mary Bornheimer, the ELI enables participants to collectively consider the concept of leadership and develop leadership skills.

The purpose of the institute is to improve the effectiveness of current managers and prepare employees for future management roles.

Presentations, assessments, panel interviews, discussions and book studies on leadership topics like coaching, communication skills, motivation, team building, leadership traits and styles, decision-making, planning, vision, time management and balance were utilized.

RLC President Mark S. Kern played a major role in the development and support of the ELI, Bornheimer said. At the second meeting of the ELI, he introduced the book, **Good to Great**, by American business guru Jim Collins.

Kern said it was Bornheimer's idea to act on Collins' recommendation to form a council made up of diverse individuals. Consequently, a "Good to Great Council" of ELI participants was created to evaluate RLC and generate ideas that will help drive the college into a brilliant future.

At the final session, the group

(Continued on next page)



Hedgehog Concept (cont.) reflected on **Good to Great**, which Kern had asked each member to read. They highlighted the book and had a one-hour brainstorming session. Community Ed Division Chair Dawn Gibson, said the book "took some thoughts I held to be 'truths' and blew them out of the water, while it also validated a part of my belief system. I think each time you reread this work, you will find another bit of knowledge you can utilize."

Director of Counseling Lisa Price said the "Hedgehog Concept" stood out when she read **Good to Great**. "The hedgehog is a simple, consistent creature that figures out one great thing, does it well and sticks to it," Price said. "The fox is always trying to think of new ways to attack the hedgehog, but he is neither consistent nor successful. I have always thought to be successful you would want to be a

(Continued at far right on next page)

Emerging Leaders (cont.)

Emerging Leadership Institute to higher education administrators was a privilege," Mary Bornheimer said. "Presidents and Board Members from across the country were excited about the opportunity for leadership training within their college. Many colleges are facing the same challenges as we are and sharing this innovative solution was appreciated by the administrators. Many requested additional information and I suspect our Emerging Leadership Institute will be replicated in some form at colleges across the nation."

The ACCT is a nonprofit educational organization of more than 520 governing boards and 6,500 Trustees who govern public and private community, technical and junior colleges across the U.S., Canada and the United Kingdom.

In regard to the Bellwether Award, college administrators have until November 1 to officially accept the nomination. On Wednesday, Kern said, "We made the decision yesterday to accept."

According to Deborah Douma, program director from the University of Florida, Bellwether Award finalists will be competitively selected and invited to present at the Community College Futures Assembly in January at the Hilton Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando.

QUALITY OF PARTICIPANTS KEY Pioneer program message: 'We think this is important ... you are important'

REND LAKE COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT JULY 2007

An idea from Interim Dean of Student Services Mary Bornheimer has reached an amazing plateau. Her pilot leadership program has become a model for other colleges and businesses nationwide.

Select Rend Lake College faculty and staff members participated in a nine-month training program called the RLC Emerging Leaders Institute, which enables participants to collectively consider the concept of leadership and develop leadership skills. Presentations, assessments, panel interviews, discussions and book studies on leadership topics were utilized.

The President's Cabinet, consisting of top-level administrators at Rend Lake College, selected 14 of the individuals at the college who they considered to have leadership potential.

RLC President Mark S. Kern said one aspect which made ELI a strength for Rend Lake College was the quality of individuals chosen for the group combined with participation from outside sources, including most of RLC's upper administration.

"I believe when top-level administrators participate, we are sending two messages – we think *this* is important and we think *you* are important," Kern said.

Speakers from outside the college were invited to supplement the program, including State Farm Insurance Executive Robert Bornheimer, leadership consultant Bill McCoy and management speaker (and stand-up comedian) Casey McNeal.

Another group of 10-13 employees will begin a new round of the Emerging Leadership Institute in the fall, and the current group will be offered an Advanced ELI.

"It is challenging to find leaders for a community college, so we took the approach to 'grow' our own leaders from within," Bornheimer said. "This way, we know we will have another generation of leaders in the next few years."

EMERGING LEADERS INSTITUTE Faculty-Staff Participants

▲ 2007-08

Sharon Bowman, Industrial Training Coordinator; Shari Carpenter, Computer Science Associate Professor; Chad Copple, Director of Marketing and Public Information; Kathy Craig, Director of the Center for Business Services; Barbara Davenport, Chair / Math, Science, Education, Health and P.E. Division; Brad Helm, Computer Science Associate Professor; Jena Jensik, Counselor; Laura Johnston, Aquatics Center Coordinator; Kent McKown, Network Specialist; Chris Nielsen, Industrial Maintenance Professor; Carrie Ragan, Physiology Associate Professor; Nathan Wheeler, Assistant Director / Marketing and Public Information. Facilitator – Lisa Price, Dean of Student Services.

▲ 2006-07

Sarah Bond, Applied Science and Technology Division Chair; Glenn Box, STARS Counselor; Dawn Gibson, Director of Community Education; Greg Hollmann, Science Instructor; Steve Holman, Biology Associate Professor; Chris Kuberski, Liberal Arts Division Chair; Henry "Buster" Leeck, History Instructor; Kelli Lewis, Allied Health Division Chair; Brent McLain, Assistant to the President for Athletics; Cheri Rushing, Financial Aid Advisor; Jason Swann, Recruiter; Brandon Swarms, IT Director; Terry Wilkerson, Agriculture Associate Professor; Trudee Wynn, Resource Development Specialist. Facilitators – Mary Bornheimer, Interim Dean of Student Services, and Lisa Price, Director of Counseling.

MARKETPLACE COMES TO MT. VERNON

The unique, multi-purpose RLC MarketPlace opens in Mt. Vernon. / 2002

HITTING ZONE WELCOMES PLAYERS

The Hitting Zone, a baseball-softball training center, opens its doors to the public. / October 2002

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

DUAL-CREDIT COURSES INTRODUCED IN 2001
Introduced to in-district students at four cooperating high schools in Fall 2001. . . Eight years later, two prep students graduated from college at the same time, 12 schools participate and savings add up to \$1M/year.

2001 – 2002

2002 – 2003

PRESIDENT'S COMMUNITY 2000 COLUMN

Three major advantages for dual-enrollment opportunities

FIFTH IN A SERIES BY PRESIDENT MARK S. KERN / MARCH 2000

Dual enrollment is a concept relatively new to the state of Illinois.

By definition, dual enrollment occurs when a student still in daily attendance at the high school level is enrolled in a class and receives both high school and college credit for the same course.

This at first may seem to be "double-dipping" to some taxpayers. But closer scrutiny tells you there are three major advantages to dual enrollment: 1) It reduces the time a student must spend in school; 2) It speeds up the time a person can enter the work force; 3) It is great for the student and a significant savings to the taxpayer.

Both baccalaureate-transfer and vocational-technical courses lend themselves to the possibility of dual enrollment.

At the present time, Rend Lake College is providing dual enrollment opportunities for area high school students in English 1101 and 1102 (Rhetoric and Composition (I and II) and "Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 2101). Automotive Mechanics, Electronics, Child Development, Culinary Arts and Cisco computer certification are vocational offerings that have been utilized in similar fashion.

Meetings with high school administrators are being held on a regular basis, with the motivation to expand dual enrollment opportunities. The college would like to see all IAI-approved courses (Illinois Articulation Initiative) offered as dual-credit possibilities; these are classes guaranteed transferable to any four-year institution in the state. We would like to make available as many general education courses as possible.

Receiving college credit while still in high school is not without precedent, by any means. Select, "articulated" classes through the Tech Prep program have been promoted for 10 years or more; in this case, college credit as determined by various outcome methods is held in escrow, to be awarded and entered on a college transcript only when that student enrolls after high school graduation at Rend Lake College and has completed 12 hours. Vocational-Technical Director Terry Clark concedes, "Articulation isn't utilized to its fullest extent."

Dual enrollment enables the student

to receive instant credit upon successful completion and is transportable to other colleges as well as RLC. Relaxed Illinois Community College Board standards made dual credit a reality.

Methods of delivery can be quite varied as well.

- Distance learning, utilizing special equipment provided by Rend Lake College to in-district schools thanks to funding from a state grant. This two-way learning environment is established at the present time in Benton Consolidated High School, Mt. Vernon Township High School, Pinckneyville Community High School and Sesser-Valier High School.

This fall, Thompsonville Community High School and Wayne City High School will be added to that list, along with a seventh yet-to-be-determined site. More often than not, these classes likewise are offered in the on-campus Distance Learning classroom in the Learning Resource Center – their origination point – and the college will have another Distance Learning classroom from which a second class can originate simultaneously by fall.

- Internet. The possibilities are endless as we continue to explore and expand offerings available over the world-wide network.

- The more traditional means of providing dual enrollment opportunities is through an exchange program, where Rend Lake College either sends the instructor to teach a course at the high school setting or a high school sends its students to campus for the class(es). This is the case at the present time with a five-day-a-week, afternoon Automotive Mechanics class from BCHS; previously, the college has sent instructors to both Benton and Mt. Vernon to teach Electronics, among other subjects.

- Finally, the college would be receptive to allowing high school instructors to teach the course as long as the curriculum is aligned with the college course outline and the instructor is fully qualified. This is true of Child Development and Food Sanitation Culinary Arts courses; Horticulture may follow soon.

If the high school is furnishing the instructor, students are not charged any tuition even though they are receiving college credit for the class in question. Tuition



Hedgehog Concept (cont.)

fox. However, **Good to Great** shows you want to strive to be a hedgehog."

She also said, of Collins' four basic practices of leadership, "lead with questions, not answers" was the most impactful for her. "My personal work style is to get things done, quickly and efficiently," she said. "I don't always take the time to ask questions. I quickly want to find the answer. I also am deficient at helping those I am supposed to be leading to find the answers on their own. I want to learn to ask more questions and lead others to find the answers."

"I think it is one of the best, if not the best, business books I have read," Kern said.

The President's Cabinet, which consists of top-level administrators, selected 14 individuals at the college who were considered to have leadership potential. "Mary Bornheimer was totally responsible for putting the program together and she deserves a lot of credit," Kern said. "The President's Cabinet thought it was a great idea and it is."

Kern said one aspect that made the ELI a strength was the quality of individuals chosen, combined with participation from sources outside the ELI . . . other Cabinet members. Each one spoke to the group. "I believe when top-level administrators participate we are sending two messages . . . we think this is important and we think you are important," said Kern.

In addition to huge support and assistance from within RLC ranks, outside speakers also were invited to the meetings.



Dual-Credit savings total reaches \$5M by FY2011

R.L.C. QUARTERLY AUGUST 2011

A program put in place at Rend Lake College more than a decade ago has racked up savings of roughly \$5 million for area high school students and their families.

At the turn of the millennium, RLC administrators innovated the way local students prepared for college. It is called Dual-Credit. The program brings college curriculum to the high school classroom by fusing faculty from each level of learning. What started at four area high schools in 2000 has multiplied into programming at every school in RLC's district. "High school students taking college courses isn't unique," said RLC President Charley D. Holstein. "What makes our program stand out is we waive tuition and fees for high school students. It's quite a deal. You can't get a college education at a better price than that!"

In FY2011 (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011), 3,261 students enrolled in 8,895 total RLC dual-credit hours for a savings of \$ 922,848.45.

That is more than 25 times the number of students in FY2001. And the number of high schools on board since the start has tripled. Students saved more than \$1 million each year from 2008-2010. Overall, approximately 25,000 local students have taken about 60,000 credit hours for a savings of roughly \$5 million. Coordinator Jason Swann said the word is definitely out, but

(Continued at far right on next page)

Dual advantages (cont.)

is charged when the college is providing the instructor. Textbooks may be rented or purchased.

Quality can be ensured in a number of ways, also. Rend Lake College-generated course outlines, syllabi and textbooks must be used when the class is taught by somebody not affiliated with the college. Whereas student outcomes may be compared because identical finals will be administered in classes taught by high school instructors as those on-campus. Visits by Department Chairs or college counterparts for the purpose of monitoring classroom instruction help. English rhetoric classes, for example, can be graded occasionally by college instructors for comparison sake.

Clark cites "Keyboarding" as a good example. "If a student can demonstrate competency at the end of a class by typing a specified number of words per minute, why would we ask that student to repeat a course at the college level? It doesn't make sense that we would.

"This is particularly true in most introductory courses. By allowing the student to receive dual credit, the incentive is there for them to continue their education at the postsecondary level."

Our original goal was to make it possible for a high school to earn one semester of college credit that could be used at Rend Lake College or anywhere else the day they graduate from high school. Now we believe it is not unrealistic this could be expanded to a full year.

This becomes an extremely important concept when statistics show us a majority of college students are now taking more than four years to graduate.

Our target audience? Primarily juniors and seniors who are better-than-average students, because they frequently have most of their required high school credits out of the way by the time they are upperclassmen. They must declare their "dual enrollment" intentions at the time they register.

"We foresee a lot of students taking ad-

vantage of dual enrollment and having a half-year or more of college credit without ever having to come to campus," Clark said. That translates into money – from \$500 and up – for students and their families.

Students are encouraged to contact their high school counselors to learn more about dual enrollment opportunities that might be available to them.

Because it is a relatively new concept, there will be problems that have to be solved. But it also is something that should turn out to be a win-win situation for everyone involved. Instead of being threatened by it, Tech Prep programs should benefit, Clark believes. Dual enrollment is something you are going to see us emphasizing and pushing more all the time."

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

● **STUDIO RLC OPEN HOUSE FEBRUARY 24**
First public college Paul Mitchell Partner School John Paul Mitchell Systems CEO John Paul DeJoria and The School Dean Winn Claybaugh at MarketPlace facility, which opened November 3. / February 2004

● **R.L.C. TRAINING ROLLS INTO TIRE PLANT**
Rend Lake College and Continental Tire North America join forces to create on-site training center for the benefit of employees at the Mt. Vernon plant. / July 2005

2003 - 2004

2004 - 2005

DOZEN SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING; 11,523 CREDIT HOURS IN '08-09 By Year Eight, Dual-Credit saving prep students over \$1M

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 16, 2009

With the cost of a college education consistently on the rise, an unprecedented number of students in the area are getting their foot in the door early and saving big with Dual-Credit opportunities through Rend Lake College.

"Our Dual-Credit program has proven, term after term, to be a great cost-saving avenue for high school students enrolling in classes at Rend Lake College. And although these opportunities first emerged back in 2001, the savings were never as big as they have been in recent years," said RLC President Charley D. Holstein.

"This year, high school students have saved themselves and their families more than a million dollars in college costs. Those who got on board should be commended for showing great initiative. They enrolled in tougher courses and as a result are on an accelerated path to success."

A total of 4,783 students from area high schools took 11,523 credit hours this school year, amounting to savings of \$852,702 in Rend Lake College tuition and \$187,416 in textbook costs, for a grand total of \$1,040,118.

In addition to saving money for tuition and getting a head start on one's college career, Dual-Credit is attractive because it is credit that can shorten a four-year college stay by a semester or more.

The same 11,523 tuition-free credit hours through RLC Dual-Credit would cost \$2,684,859 (\$233/credit hour) at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, \$2,246,985 (\$195/credit hour) at SIU-Edwardsville and roughly \$4.4 million at the University of Illinois in Champaign, based on \$9,242 in annual tuition for a Fall 2008 freshman taking 12 hours, as stated on the U. of I. website. Dual-Credit also reduces travel costs to attend the local community college and drastically trims the high cost of room-and-board as a student at the four-year level.

"Not just by Dual-Credit, but by all comparisons, RLC remains the most affordable option for an education beyond high school, going back to school to retool for a new career or finishing a two-year degree or certificate program of study," Holstein said. "We take great pride in staying affordable, accessible, student-friendly and proactive in preparing our students."

Now in its eighth year, Dual-Credit has grown from four in-district schools participating in 2001 to a dozen today.

When it was spearheaded at RLC by Math, Science and Education Chair Barb Davenport and Interim Vice President of Academic Instruction Chris Kuberski – then chair of Liberal Arts – the program generated roughly 400 credit hours at Thompsonville High School, Pinckneyville Community High School, Wayne City High School and Benton Consolidated High School.

It has since grown nearly 30-fold. RLC's accrediting body, the Higher Learning Commission, recently identified the college's Dual-Credit program as a "best practice" during an accreditation evaluation of the college in November.

Credit hour savings alone is down slightly from approximately \$880,000 last year because some schools have scaled back college curriculum for student bodies with stagnant or lowering populations. However, this year is the first year textbooks have been factored into the overall savings and therefore is the first year savings of more than \$1 million are being reported by the college, according to Kuberski.

She said a lot of parents begin to ask her questions about Dual-Credit around the time their children are coming of age to take part at their high schools.

"A lot of parents tell me how glad they are our college and their high schools are offering this opportunity to their sons and daughters," Kuberski said. "I also get a lot of questions about it because the general public either doesn't know it is available to their kids or doesn't understand how it works."

High school students receive college credit for select courses which are taken during a normal school day and are also used to satisfy high school graduation requirements. These courses are offered by Rend Lake College tuition-free and at a reduced rate for textbook rental.

Students are tested for proper placement just like college students. The same evaluation standards, textbooks and syllabi are used as well.

If a high school instructor teaches the course, RLC provides a mentor the first

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\$5M savings (cont.)

terminology can be confusing. "Dual credit courses are college-level courses offered to high school students during the day. Dual enrollment courses are college courses offered to high school students and must be taken at a college campus. Dual enrollment classes are usually during evening hours or in the summer so they don't conflict with high school schedules, and there is a fee."

Swann visits each high school and registers students on site. Dual credit awareness letters are sent to every high school student in the district. "I also think our high schools do a very good job of promoting dual credit and have been successful working it into their curriculum," he said.

Participation is down about 700 students from FY2010 to FY2011, according to Swann. "The numbers are probably down a little bit because of the Dual Credit Quality Act (HB1079), which now limits dual credit and dual enrollment offerings to juniors and seniors, or those at least age 16." Holstein said legislation was needed and will provide tools the college would not have had otherwise. "House Bill 1079 became law in January of last year," he explained. "It established standards for dual credit I believe reinforced what we were already doing. [The law] also defined the oversight, review and reporting responsibilities for the college, ICCB and IBHE. That is good because it creates a place for our assessments to be used and provides us a look at how other institutions are doing with their dual credit programming."



Telecourses arrive at RLC Fall '81 with two choices

ANNUAL REPORT 1981-82

Television came to Rend Lake College and vice-versa during 1981-82. In the fall, courses in "Japanese History" and "American Government" were offered as telecourses by RLC.

The former was shown on WSIU-TV Channel 8, while the latter was made available through videotapes available at libraries in Benton and Mt. Vernon as well as on-campus.

The taped programs are accompanied by textbooks, study guides and seminars, with local instructors available.

In the spring, a Botany course in "Home Gardening" was offered, with an on-campus lab session optional.



NON-CREDIT CLASSES

Fiscal Year	No. of Classes	HEADCOUNT	
		Duplicated	Unduplic.
FY95		1,993	1,364
FY96		1,714	1,714
FY97		1,004	
FY98		1,820	1,657
FY99			
FY00	282	2,010	1,263
FY01	321	2,243	1,686
FY02	353	3,417	2,479
FY03	675	4,316	2,997
FY04	560	3,842	3,000
FY05	637	6,847	4,586
FY06	979	9,555	5,566
FY07	625	7,942	5,008
FY08	294	3,976	2,580
FY09	240	3,133	2,318
FY10	231	2,585	1,850
FY11	276	2,394	1,941
FY12	265	2,416	1,896
FY13		2,868	
FY14		2,365	
FY15		2,199	

Dual-Credit win-win (cont.)

three semesters to help assure course material and grading standards are the same as what a college student would receive at RLC. From this mentoring process grew an unexpected symbiotic relationship between the faculty counterparts, and the college and high schools, according to Davenport.

"The high school teachers and college teachers have developed some really fantastic working relationships," she said. "I don't think it was like that before and we certainly didn't predict that to be an outcome."

"Also, the counselors and superintendents have become more involved," Kuberski added. "We don't dictate to the high schools. They tell us what is best for their populations and we accommodate them without compromising our quality assurance.

"It also is important students realize the benefit of continuing at RLC after high school in order to transfer a completed degree from RLC to a university, versus just classes they have taken through Dual Credit," Kuberski said. "The university has the ability to pick and choose which credits it will accept; however, a completed degree will transfer a student in as a junior."

She also said Dual Credit is a wonderful way for students to transition from high school to college. Many times, student already are familiar with their college instructor when they take classes at RLC because they met the instructor through dual credit classes in high school.

"Typically, a student cuts about a year off of college beyond high school by taking Dual Credit classes," Kuberski explained. "And although they are younger when they technically begin college, they are more prepared and experience a smoother transition from high school to college."

Students at Mt. Vernon Township High School, easily the largest of the in-district schools, accounted for the most Dual Credit generated by one school this year with 1,913

students enrolled in 3,508 credit hours for tuition savings of \$259,592.

Pinckneyville High School had 473 students enrolled in 1,562 credit hours for tuition savings of \$115,588. Christopher Community High School had 677 students enrolled in 1,492 credit hours for tuition savings of \$110,408. Benton Consolidated High School had 371 students enrolled in 1,278 credit hours for tuition savings of \$94,572.

Sesser-Valier High School had 286 students enrolled in 830 credit hours for tuition savings of \$61,420. Webber Township High School had 179 students enrolled in 629 credit hours for tuition savings of \$46,546. Woodlawn High School had 332 students enrolled in 617 credit hours for tuition savings of \$45,658. Wayne City High School had 152 students enrolled in 421 credit hours for tuition savings of \$31,154. Hamilton County Senior High School had 136 students enrolled in 409 credit hours for tuition savings of \$30,266.

Zeigler-Royalton High School had 116 students enrolled in 368 credit hours for tuition savings of \$27,232. Waltonville High School had 98 students enrolled in 262 credit hours for tuition savings of \$19,388. Thompsonville Community High School had 50 students enrolled in 147 credit hours for tuition savings of \$10,878.

The top Dual Credit classes taken by students were Geometry, Music Appreciation, First Aid and CPR Training, Beginning Document Formatting, American Government, Human Relations, Weight Conditioning I, Introduction to Sociology, Elementary Spanish I, Volunteerism and Introduction to Welding Processes.

"Dual Credit is a win-win," Holstein said. "The college gets a student taking credit hours and the student gets a streamlined transition on the fast track from high school to a Rend Lake College degree while saving thousands of dollars."

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

APPLIED SCIENCE CENTER OPENS
New Applied Science Center, 22,300-square-foot facility located on southwest corner of campus, welcomes Agriculture, Heavy Equipment and Diesel Technology students. / Fall 2005

Among comparable schools (2,500-4,999 students) **R.L.C. FASTEST-GROWING COLLEGE IN NATION**
Community College Week reports RLC ranks No. 1 nationally among peer group with 43.7% enrollment increase from Fall '04 to '05 (to 4,913). / Fall 2005

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY FACILITY
State-of-the-art Radiologic Technology facility added to Advanced Technology Center. / July 2007

CONTINENTAL U. OFFERS 4-YEAR DEGREE
Continental Tire N.A., along with RLC and SIUC, forms Continental University, which will allow General Tire employees to earn a Bachelor's Degree on-site in Technical Resource Management. / July 2007

2005 - 2006

2006 - 2007

COMMUNITY 2000 MONTHLY COLUMN REVEALS FINDINGS

More than half of in-district high school grads picking RLC

BY PRESIDENT MARK S. KERN / OCTOBER 1999

[Greetings from the ever-changing campus of Rend Lake College, where we are beginning our 33rd year providing "New beginnings for endless opportunities" for recent high school graduates of our district and lifelong learning for hundreds of others throughout Southern Illinois. We appreciate the generosity of a half-dozen hometown newspapers to allow us this opportunity each month to keep you better informed of happenings at your comprehensive community college. We will use this space frequently to share some of the behind-the-scenes thinking that affects college decisions, actions, policies, etc. ~ August 1999]

Statistics reveal better than one out of every two high school graduates in our district the past three years – 52.1 percent – has chosen to enroll in Rend Lake College the following fall. These are impressive figures, particularly when one considers less than half of all high school graduates nationwide go immediately to college.

The individual figures vary greatly from year to year, of course, and from school to school. Last year, for example, an all-time high of 51 percent of the graduates from the largest feeder program in our district, Mt. Vernon Township High School, were reunited on the Ina campus (148 of 289). We were a more popular choice than that at 71 percent (37 of 52) with Sesser-Valier graduates. Our overall popularity rating area-wide for 1998 was an all-time high of 55.6 percent.

Waltonville and McLeansboro are current leaders from the Class of '99 at 58 percent (18 of 31) and 54 percent (52 of 96), respectively. It marks the second year in a row the majority of Waltonville graduates has matriculated a few miles to the south and east, while Benton Consolidated High School held steady the previous two years around the 48-49 percent range (68 of 141 in '98, 60 of 122 in '97). Also in 1997, we welcomed 65 percent of Thompsonville's graduating seniors (13 of 20) and 56 percent from Webber Township (23 of 41).

I think you get the picture. What can we surmise from this?

Some of the reasons are obvious, as we have stressed from the beginning . . . Location, location, location. Low-cost (a point emphasized more and more by a greater number of scholarships awarded each year; textbook rental, and a tax break in the form of the Hope Scholarship). A quality instructional staff. Small class size. A caring attitude.

A survey conducted last spring by Dean of Student Services Mary Roe sought answers from a random sampling of 814 students, both full- and part-time, responding. Among those qualities ranking high in student satisfaction:

- Nearly all of the faculty are knowledgeable in their fields.
- The institution has a good reputation within the community.
- Quality of instruction in vocational-technical programs is excellent.
- The campus is well-maintained, parking lots are well-lighted and it is safe and secure for all students.
- Students are made to feel welcome on the campus.
- Campus staff are caring and helpful.
- Tutoring services are readily available.
- Class change policies are reasonable.
- Faculty care about me as an individual.

The April survey was a follow-up to a retention study by nationally recognized Noel-Levitz. Findings will be utilized in strategic planning and retention initiatives, according to Roe.

Perhaps more important should be the satisfaction of area employers with Rend Lake College graduates – they are, from all indications – and the transferability of our classes to four-year institutions.

Historically, one complaint about attending a junior/community college has been courses won't transfer. I'm convinced those concerns were always greater than the actual facts, with most problems resulting from students deciding to change majors after a year or two and having to go back and pick up prerequisite courses in a new field.

If those concerns did have any merit, they have been eliminated by the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI). This is a state-wide agreement that assures the transfer of General Education Core Curriculum to any other participating college. Participants include all public, four-year institutions in Illinois and at least 48 private colleges and universities within the state. I.e., transfer courses are better articulated than ever before, when other state schools would accept 64 credit hours from in-state community college graduates but not necessarily accept certain courses to fulfill requirements at that school.



Preparing today's workers for tomorrow's jobs

SOUTHERN ILLINOISAN
BY SCOTT WUERZ SEPT. 21, 1997

Rend Lake College has come a long way since its humble beginnings as merely a primer school for four-year institutions.

President Mark Kern, who has been at Rend Lake College in various capacities since 1968, said the school only offered two vocational programs in its first year, but today it is the leader for preparing workers from six counties for the jobs of the future.

"When the college started in Fall 1967, Secretarial Science and Nursing were the only vocational programs we offered," Kern said. "But today we train hundreds of workers each year for new jobs. We also offer continuing education for workers who want to improve job skills in areas like computers, and we provide retraining for workers who want to start a new career."

Career training is especially important in Southern Illinois, where jobs are sometimes scarce, Kern said. "We have three of the counties with the highest unemployment in the middle of our district," Kern said of Franklin, Perry and Hamilton. "But while we used to have such a small portion of our programs dedicated to vocational studies, now more than 50 percent of our students are in a vocational program."

While the school has changed drastically through the years, Kern said it has suffered relatively few growing pains.

"Besides our new Aquatics building, all of our buildings are at least 25 years old," Kern said. "The reason: We were

(Continued on next page)



Today's workers (cont.)

the first college in Illinois to complete our master plan. So, students don't have to wait for us to grow to allow us to serve them. Instead, we have been able to shift our focus a little as new things come along."

The newest area is the use of long distance learning programs in high school classrooms across Southern Illinois. Benton High School Superintendent Russell Clover said RLC donated about \$1,500 worth of computer equipment that his students use to participate in classes being taught at the Rend Lake campus in Ina. Currently RLC is providing students access to college-level classes that will help acclimate them to college life while still in high school, Clover said. But high schools also use the technology to allow students to take electives they may not be able to hire a special teacher to teach to just a few students. While RLC has improved itself in other areas, preparing students for four-year university life is still something it does very well. An arrangement with SIUC guarantees credits will transfer 100 percent.

The cost for a full-time student at RLC is about \$2,400; SIUC may cost more than \$6,000, plus room-and-board. "The cheaper price makes college available to people who may not otherwise be able to afford to go away to school for four years," Kern added.

Community 2000 (cont.)

Now, a student can check with a Counselor or Advisor at Rend Lake College or find IAI-approved courses in the college catalog. Better yet, a student may go to the Internet and visit the iTransfer website – www.itransfer.org/iai – for the most up-to-date information regarding these courses.

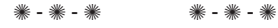
For instance, a student who plans on transferring from Rend Lake College to Eastern Illinois University can go online, determine what course prefixes and numbers at RLC are the same as those required at Eastern and plan their schedules accordingly. Not only can a student transfer credits from one school to another, this guarantees iTransfer majors can make the right decisions regarding subject matter and will be prepared to transfer as a junior into baccalaureate major programs. Each year, up to 30,000 students transfer between Illinois colleges and universities.

It has been well-documented for many years how well our transfer students do in comparison to "native" students upon their arrival at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, EIU, University of Illinois, et al.

One other misconception I might address. Students in the past who wanted to go into one of the professional schools often thought they should go directly to that school. With the exception of a few select programs, like Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy, this is not true. For pre-med or law students, this definitely is not true. In fact, a good GPA (grade-point average) helped by the support services available to community college students can make the prospective candidate for post-graduate work more eligible than if that student had struggled with grades without support at the four-year level.

Further evidence of our strengths was emphasized by the North Central Association visitation team earlier this year when the college was awarded the maximum

10-year accreditation. Among things cited were faculty members "with many strong talents and commitment to student success," the overall leadership of administrators and "alert, active and committed" Trustees who are knowledgeable with high expectations; skillful management of financial resources; a knack for "listening" to the district, and the major fund-raising organization for student scholarships, the RLC Foundation, as a "significant strategic asset."



FALL SEMESTER 2005 ▶ Record first-day enrollment exceeds 30,000 credit hours (2,974 students)

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE SEPTEMBER 2005

More and more students are reaping the benefits Rend Lake College has to offer, as proven by a record-high enrollment based on first-day numbers for Fall Semester 2005.

According to statistics provided by Mary Bornheimer, Interim Dean of Student Services, credit hours for the first day of the semester totaled 30,236, a 5.6 percent increase over last year. This is 243 credit hours more than the previous first-day record of 29,993 set in August 2003.

First-day figures also show a record headcount of 2,974, an increase of 311 (14.74 percent) over the previous first-day record, also set in Fall 2003. First-day figures for Fall 2004 were down slightly, with credit hours at 28,623, but this number was still just a slight decrease from a record high.

Tenth-day enrollment figures will provide a more complete picture of the probable causes of the increase in enrollment. Some possibilities include the opening of the new Applied Science Center, which probably has fueled growth in programs such as Ag Business, Ag Production, Ag Mechanics, Heavy Equipment and Diesel Technology; dual-credit offerings in area high schools; a newly renovated Culinary Arts facility, and continued credit offerings off-campus at the RLC MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon and the RLC Murphy-Wall Pinckneyville Campus.

Association of Community College Trustees
EMERGING LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (ELI)
RLC reps, including ELI creator Mary Bornheimer, present innovative program – a Bellwether Award nominee – to national audience. / October 2007

GRAPE / WINE WORKFORCE TO BENEFIT
RLC joins the Viticulture and Enology Science and Technology Alliance (VESTA), receiving almost \$500,000 in grant funding to train a workforce for the grape and wine industry. / December 2007

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

\$2.67 MILLION FOR COAL TRAINING / CENTER
U.S. Rep. John Shimkus delivers \$1.6M Energy Grant for Coal Mining training; State Rep. Kurt Granberg brings \$1.07M for construction of on-campus Mining Technology Training Center. / March-April 2008

Maximum 10-Year Accreditation
NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES
Three years devoted to Self-Study, 236-page professional document. College "operates with integrity to insure fulfillment of its mission." / November 2008

2007 – 2008

2008 – 2009

FINANCIAL AID ALONE BRINGS \$911,210 TO STUDENTS

Economic impact study in '87 reveals \$7.4M return to area

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 3, 1987

Rend Lake College has been at the center of attention more than customary in recent weeks, cast in a supporting role in efforts to boost the local economy through the procurement of new prison facilities and a turkey processing plant, as well as the establishment of a small business incubator system.

But the college's impact on the local economy is far greater than that, albeit much more subtle.

According to findings of an Economic Impact Study conducted by the Illinois State University Center for Higher Education, Rend Lake College annually returns more than \$7.4 million to area coffers, including a direct impact of almost \$5 million.

In addition, the college is responsible for another \$2.47 million to the district's financial credit base, the survey indicates.

"Although most people are aware that a college within its locality enhances the quality of life through educational, public service and cultural benefits, few are aware of the significant impact such an institution can have on the local economy," the study revealed.

"Rend Lake College functions as an employer, consumer of goods and services, investor, landowner and builder. As a result, jobs are created, income flows throughout the college district and increased funds are available to in-district financial institutions for loan activities. These factors constitute a significant contribution to the area's wealth and enhance the economic well-being of communities within the eight-county district served by the college."

Area businesses, according to the impact study, reaped a \$1,804,347 harvest for goods and services purchased by the college in 1985, the year for which the recent survey was conducted.

Additionally, the \$2,201,067 paid to college employees, for the most part, is spent primarily with local business to provide the necessities of food, shelter, transportation and health care, along with luxuries such as entertainment and recreation and the purchase of nonessential goods and services.

The RLC Foundation, the study noted, added \$19,456 to area cash registers.

Furthermore, financial aid to Rend Lake

College students provided \$911,210 more to the economy, not counting the tuition and fees students paid directly to the college for educational purposes.

That amounts to a combined direct economic impact of \$4,936,080. But the buck doesn't stop there, as any economist knows. For every dollar spent in the area as a result of Rend Lake College, at least another 50 cents is generated by local businesses providing related goods and services.

This conservative "multiplier effect" brings an indirect total of \$2,468,040 to local cash registers, ringing up a total of direct and indirect income generated by Rend Lake College to a wholesome \$7,404,120 annually.

The estimated \$2.47 million deposited in savings and checking accounts in local financial institutions, in turn, serves as a source of loan funds to district residents helping them to purchase homes, automobiles, services and other significant items.

This addition to the local credit base is derived from real estate taxes, allocated state revenues and the direct payment of student tuition and fees. A smaller amount is obtained from scholarships, grants, reimbursements and income from numerous state and federal agencies and departments.

Local taxpayers spend 32 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to support Rend Lake College. For example, for a home assessed at \$15,000 for a one-year period, the taxpayer will pay \$48 in real estate taxes to support the college's operations and physical facilities.

"The Economic Impact Study reveals how the economic return-on-investment for Rend Lake College district residents is significant," commented Dr. Harry J. Braun, RLC President. "Educational and auxiliary benefits to residents is far greater, and combined with a positive economic impact, makes the investment in the local community college an extremely worthy one."

Community College District 521 includes the major portions of Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson and Perry Counties, parts of Wayne and White and reaches into small unincorporated parts of Washington and Williamson.

High school districts within the Rend Lake College boundaries are Benton, Christopher, McLeansboro, Mt. Vernon, Norris

* - * - *

RLC fills education need: 49.1 / 1,000 population

NEWS RELEASE SEPTEMBER 1997

Three community college districts among 40 statewide – only two of those single-campus units – serve a greater proportion of in-district residents than Rend Lake College, both in terms of headcount and full-time equivalency.

According to the most recent survey of data and characteristics provided by the Illinois Community College Board, Rend Lake College was filling an educational need for 49.11 students enrolled in instructional credit curricula for every 1,000 population. That translates into the equivalent of 25.15 full-time students.

Illinois Eastern Colleges, a multi-campus district comprised of Frontier College in Fairfield, Lincoln Trail College in Robinson, Olney Central College and Wabash Valley College in Mt. Carmel, rank No. 1 in headcount, based on 1997 estimated district populations. Illinois Eastern serves 54.20 headcount per 1,000.

Second in headcount is the third-largest community college, Triton, located in the Chicago suburb of River Grove. Triton serves 53.92 per 1,000. Third is Southeastern Illinois (49.19). John A. Logan College ranks fifth at 39.84.

SIC and Illinois Eastern are 1-2 in FTE at 30.71 and 29.09, followed by Logan at 25.64, RLC and Triton at 24.38.

RLC draws from a population base of 87,800, with students coming from the state's 13th-largest district (1,850 square miles); i.e., many RLC students drive farther than most students in other districts.



Distance Learning Grant start: one on-site, one off

BOARD MINUTES OCTOBER 19, 1993
President Kern discussed the Distance Learning Grant the college has received through SICCM. He explained the concept of distance learning and what it can mean to the district and its residents.

David Patton, Director of the Learning Resource Center, continued the presentation. He said the State of Illinois is a leader in telecommunications systems and eventually the state system will include all four-year colleges, two-year colleges, business and industry, hospitals, etc. He said the consortium would receive \$15 million each year for five years, and that SIUC would be the fiscal agent and each of the SICCM colleges would be linked through SIUC.

The funds for this fiscal year will equip and remodel a site at the college and provide equipment for one off-site location. The off-site location for RLC is still to be determined. Equipment will be ordered in November, begin arriving for installation in January and February and instruction will begin in the fall of 1994. He said training will be required for instructors.

Kern concluded by saying eventually all high schools in our district will be connected to Rend Lake College and to each other, so that a master teacher could be shared by small high schools.

(Continued at far right on next page)

Economic impact (cont.)

City-Omaha-Enfield, Pinckneyville, Sesser-Valier, Tamaroa, Thompsonville, Waltonville, Wayne City, Webber Township (Bluford), Woodlawn and Zeigler-Royalton.

OTHER '87 FINDINGS

Over 500 area residents in jobs created either directly or indirectly by college

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 3, 1987

Over 500 area residents are employed in jobs created either directly or indirectly by the presence of Rend Lake College.

That is one conclusion of an Economic Impact Study RLC officials commissioned the Illinois State University Center for Higher Education to conduct.

The two-year community college benefits the local economy in many ways, according to the survey findings. Increased graduate earnings, increased knowledge and skills of the local workforce and back-up support in any attempt to attract new businesses and industries to Southern Illinois are some of the more obvious examples. But the Illinois State University study also shows colleges contribute to the economy by causing a substantial increase in jobs.

At the top of the list are 165 full- and part-time members of the faculty and staff.

Yet many other jobs exist throughout the college district as a result of Rend Lake College's business activities. Based on a conservative job-creation formula developed by economists and adopted by the ISU staff conducting the survey, Rend Lake College could be credited for the creation of an additional 346 area jobs. These indirect jobs belong to men and women in surrounding communities who supply goods and services to the college.

Direct employment by the college, combined with the indirect positions attributed to the college, results in the employment of at least 511 area residents, the report noted.

"As a major business enterprise, in addition to its primary role as a leading

educational institution, Rend Lake College makes a substantial contribution to the economic well-being of the district," the study concluded.

1997 REPORT

RLC more efficient educating students among 'peer group,' third-best overall

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE FEBRUARY 1997

Rend Lake College is more efficient educating its students, from an economic viewpoint, than any other institution in its "peer group" and third-best in the entire state, according to a recently published Fiscal Year 1996 Unit Cost Report for the Illinois Public Community Colleges.

The net instructional unit cost per student at Rend Lake College in FY96 was \$132.50, compared to the state average of \$158.92 for 40 districts governed by the Illinois Community College Board.

That figure translates to \$3,975 average cost per full-time equivalent (30 semester hours) student at Rend Lake College, a savings of \$793 under the statewide norm or \$1,690.88 for a typical, two-year degree.

Net instructional unit cost includes direct instructional salary costs, direct departmental costs, direct instructional equipment costs, allocated costs, operation and maintenance costs and building rental costs. Allocated costs consists of various indirect costs, including learning resources, student services, data processing, general administration, general institutional services and academic administration and planning.

"It is very important to be able to show when we write our PQP (Priorities, Quality and Productivity) Report and as we prepare for an accreditation visit by North Central we are using our resources as efficiently as possible," Dr. Steve Tietz, Vice President, informed Trustees at the Board Workshop.

President Mark S. Kern also pointed out a related survey showed Rend Lake College was the third-lowest college in the state in terms of revenue generated by local taxes and in the revenue per credit hour backing each student. The FY95 findings – information for FY96 is not yet available – likewise revealed RLC was fourth-lowest in the state

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

2009 - 2010

2010 - 2011

in revenue generated by a combination of local taxes, ICCB grants and tuition.

"We've got to be one of the most efficient," Kern commented, "because we don't have any extra (resources) to waste."

Others in Rend Lake College's "peer group," as determined by the ICCB, are Danville Area College, Highland Community College in Freeport, Kaskaskia College in Centralia, Kishwaukee College in Malta and Sauk Valley Community College in Dixon.

Kankakee Community College boasted the lowest FY96 net instructional unit cost in the state at \$104.92. Illinois Eastern – comprised of Frontier Community College in Fairfield, Lincoln Trail College in Robinson, Olney Central College and Wabash Valley College in Mt. Carmel – was next at \$105.67, followed by RLC, Lake Land College in Mattoon (\$132.56) and Belleville Area College (\$133.82).

Rend Lake College's "peer group" ranged from its \$132.50 and \$136.10 for Kaskaskia to \$153.25 for Kishwaukee, \$181.66 for Highland, \$185.04 for Danville Area and \$200.45 for Sauk Valley.

The Unit Cost Report notes, "Costs for the instruction function include expenditures for all of the cost classifications in all instructional categories from baccalaureate/general education through general studies.

"In comparing the unit cost of an individual community college, one must keep in mind that some types of programs generally cost more than others; therefore, a college with more expensive programs would be expected to have a higher overall unit cost."

The low net instructional unit cost figure for Rend Lake College is especially noteworthy because the report goes on to say, "Additionally, smaller colleges would be expected to have higher unit costs than larger districts due partly to economics of scale and the need for a minimum level of personnel, physical plant, equipment and library holdings necessary to maintain comprehensive programs."

The average net instructional unit cost for Rend Lake College was lower than the state average for each of the last six years shown in the ICCB report. In fact, the FY96 figure was down \$.32 from the previous year, compared to a 7.6 percent increase statewide. The Ina-based college has ranked either first or second in its "peer group" during that span.

Of the \$132.50 average unit cost, \$55.78 is for direct instructional salary costs. "We

put our money into instruction," Tietz told Board members and the administrative staff. "That is because we have a higher rate of full-time faculty (than most community colleges). If you are a Rend Lake College student, there is about a 70 percent chance your class will be taught by a full-time faculty member."

2007: IN LAST 10 YEARS ▶ 40% of area workers enrolled in credit classes; 97% have hired RLC products

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE OCTOBER 2007

Chances are good the reader is either a current or former student at Rend Lake College or works with one, according to a recent study. Chances are also good either the reader or co-worker makes more money now than before enrolling there.

The report, titled "Economic Impact of Rend Lake College," was prepared by the Center for Governmental Studies at Northern Illinois University (NIU) in partnership with the Illinois Community College Board and Illinois Community College Trustees Association.

Modeled after a statewide economic impact analysis of Illinois Community Colleges, the economic impact study for RLC was commissioned to better understand the return from investing in the college. About 15 individuals from NIU, the ICCB and the ICCTA contributed to developing the report and a 25-member advisory committee provided insight and feedback.

The study states that RLC contributes to the vitality of its service area in many ways – educationally, culturally, recreationally, civically and economically. "Perhaps the least measured and understood of these are the economic contributions," it states.

Supportive data show RLC adds skills to the workforce and boosts the competitiveness of area businesses while its graduates generate millions of dollars annually in local, state and federal tax revenues. Taking classes at RLC increases earnings for workers since students gain skills that contribute to higher earnings. Graduates of Rend Lake College enjoy even higher returns, according to the NIU Governmental Studies center.

Since 1991, when Mark S. Kern became President, the college has experienced an 18 percent growth in completed credit hours and a 52 percent increase in the number of students attending each year.

"We are very aware the college makes a tremendous impact in the district and not



Distance Learning (cont.)

BOARD MINUTES JUNE 25, 2004

Andrea Witthoft reported on Distance Learning enrollment . . . She indicated in 1992 an ICCB task force recommended that community colleges develop a statewide distance learning network. Fifteen million dollars was appropriated for the project and distributed through HECA grants.

In Phase I, we put Distance Learning classrooms on campus as well as at Mt. Vernon Township High School, Pinckneyville Community H.S. and Benton Consolidated H.S.

In Phase II, we put classrooms in high schools in Wayne City, McLeansboro, Sesser-Valier and Thompsonville, and added a second room on campus. We also upgraded equipment in the four original classrooms.

In Phase III, we moved equipment from McLeansboro H.S. to Waltonville H.S.; Hardin County H.S. to the Market-Place in Mt. Vernon, and Marion H.S. to the RLC Murphy-Wall Pinckneyville Campus.

In Phase IV, we received a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to upgrade the equipment. RLC's share of the grant will be approximately \$109,263. The new technology will reduce our maintenance costs and T1 line costs. Each SICCM school shared the cost to update the distance learning hub equipment at SIUC. Our share was \$27,000.



College staff keeps copier humming on a daily basis

BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 17, 1976

In considering a lease-purchase agreement for a supplemental copier, Skip Witunski indicated college personnel last year made about 5,000 copies per day . . . compared to 28,000 at the present time.



Clinton: 'All of you live every day with the future'

COMMUNITY COLLEGE TIMES MAY 1995
[Text of President Bill Clinton's speech April 24 to the AACC 1995 Convention in Minneapolis, MN.]

This whole community college movement has made as big a contribution to the future of America as any institutional change in the United States in decades. All of you live every day with the future.

You have important work to do. I ask you only to think of how different what you do is from what you have been hearing from the voices of division.

Why do community colleges work? Well, first of all, they are not encumbered by old-fashioned bureaucracies. By and large, they are highly entrepreneurial. They are highly flexible. They are really democratic; they are open to everybody. In the best sense, they are open to everybody. And people work together. When something doesn't work, they go do something else.

That's what you do. You do it in a spirit of cooperation. You are remarkably unpolitical in that sense. You see people of all ages coming through your doors, walking out your doors, going on to better, more fulfilling, more satisfying lives, able to help themselves and strengthen America in the process. It is the direct antithesis of the kind of paranoia and division and hatred we hear spewed out at us all over this country, day-in and day-out, by people exercising their free speech to make the rest of us miserable. And it contradicts the experience of what works in America . . .

Economic impact (cont.)

only because of payroll and expenditures," Kern said. "Where we really make an impact is in improving the existing labor force."

Having a community college close to home is valuable to those looking to retrain or continue their education, Kern added.

"There are many people who would not have obtained a college education if it were not for Rend Lake College existing," he said. "Many of our students are first-generation college students and there is no doubt they were able to do that because of the location and affordability of Rend Lake College."

According to Fall 10th-day enrollment figures, the college is well on its way to establishing another record year in terms of head count and credit hours. Fall 10th-day credit hours are up 13.2 percent and head count has risen 11.5 percent from the same time last year. The fact Dual-Credit has yet to be factored into overall fall enrollment is even more indicative the college will be looking another enrollment high.

"As a major employer and business entity, Rend Lake College generates millions of dollars in local sales and wages and an estimated 608 full- and part-time jobs," the study states.

Two primary sources of data from RLC District 521 were used to generate these findings. They are the financial and student data submitted by the college to the ICCB and Unemployment Insurance wage records covering 96 percent of total wage and salary civilian jobs and collected by the Illinois Department of Employment Security.

Using this data, the CGS examined student enrollment and completion data over a 10-year period and matched earnings data with students who graduated or otherwise left the college for two full consecutive semesters. It also looked at how RLC expenditures and jobs affect the local economy using economic modeling software.

• The study found 97.4 percent of all employers in the area hired a Rend Lake College student over the past 10 years and four out of 10 area workers participated in credit courses at RLC over the past decade.

• From 1996 to 2006, the number of students who completed programs at RLC increased by 36 percent. Occupational programs in health professions and related sciences experienced the largest gain.

• Students who attended RLC in 1995 paid an estimated \$51.87 million in state taxes and \$200.48 million in federal taxes between 1996 and 2005, according to the CGS at NIU. The Class of 1995 alone paid an estimated \$2.1 million in state taxes and \$8.8 million in federal taxes in that same period.

• RLC students who completed their education in 2005 and worked year-round made almost 40 percent more money than they did before enrolling at the college. A 25-year-old RLC graduate can expect a total lifetime earnings premium of more than \$322,000. That is 26 percent more than the \$1.2 million in lifetime earnings of a non-graduate. Graduates working full-time averaged \$25,342 a year. This is about 185 percent of the state's minimum wage.

As a major employer and business entity, RLC contributes local sales, wages and jobs to the local economy. As part of its day-to-day operations, RLC purchases goods and services, many of them from local businesses. It also pays its employees, who in turn spend their wages and salaries in the local economy. Additionally, the community college invests in site improvements, remodeling and new construction that generate additional expenditures and jobs.

The college provides an important source of expenditures and employment for the communities and area it serves.

• In FY 2005, Rend Lake College directly employed 207 full- and 231 part-time staff with a total payroll of \$14,602,646. In addition to wages and salaries, RLC reported \$5.5 million in operating expenditures.

• As these expenditures moved through the local economy, they generated another \$1.14 million and approximately 76 additional local jobs. RLC's total economic impact in FY05 was about \$6.7 million.

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

• **45th Anniversary**
ILLINOIS COUNCIL OF C.C. PRESIDENTS
June 11, 2013 marks the 45th Anniversary of the organization of the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents. / June 2013

2011 - 2012

2012 - 2013

R.L.C., LOGAN, SHAWNEE, S.I.C. ACHIEVE COMMON GOALS

Illinois Community Colleges celebrate 40th Anniversary

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE SEPTEMBER 2005

CARTERVILLE – Rend Lake College President Mark S. Kern recently joined colleagues from the three other southernmost community colleges in Illinois and high-ranking state officials to accomplish something their institutions do best: working together to help achieve a common goal.

Elliot Regenstein, Governor's Office Director of Education Reform, was in Southern Illinois to present campus leaders of Rend Lake College, host John A. Logan College, Shawnee Community College and Southeastern Illinois College with a proclamation recognizing the 40th anniversary of the creation of the "extraordinary" Illinois Community College System.

Then Gov. Otto Kerner signed the Illinois Junior College Act into law July 15, 1965. Today, every Illinois citizen lives in one of 39 community college districts statewide. Included are 48 unique colleges.

"We are the premier system in the country," said a prejudiced Geoffrey Obrzut, president of the Illinois Community College Board. According to Obrzut, the concept of two-year colleges started in Illinois with Joliet (in 1901), the state boasts the third-largest system in the country behind only California and Florida and educates over one million students annually.

"And we do work very well together. That is part of the reason for our success."

"We are the college for all ages," added Kern, speaking in generalizations as well as for the comprehensive, two-year college he has headed for the past 14 years. Kern taught at Wabash Valley College in Mt. Carmel the first year of its existence and returned to his home community as a member of the RLC faculty in Year Two.

"When you think of Rend Lake College, you think of Mark Kern," commented Dr. Robert L. Mees, Logan president, in his introduction of Kern, easily the dean of Southern Illinois community college presidents.

Kern praised the foresight of those who saw the need for junior colleges to provide the first two years of a college education within driving distances of the communities served. He pointed with great pride to the mandate demonstrated by local voters – the most overwhelming vote in the nation at that time – for the establishment of

what would become Rend Lake College the following year, in 1967.

He recalled the 1970s and '80s as a time of tremendous growth in technical courses, as a period in which community colleges took a leadership role in providing adult education and the advent of community education and self-improvement courses.

Training for business and industry gained an even greater foothold in the '90s, Kern indicated, along with retraining needs of individuals seeking employment. Course articulation and student transfer problems were resolved during this time, he said, "and it also was a time during which we gained greater respect. The 2000s have brought more of the same as we have become very much more involved with distance learning opportunities.

"But what makes community colleges so special," Kern concluded, "... We do it with quality, we do it with efficiency and we do it with responsiveness."

"Governor (Rod) Blagojevich is proud of the success of our community college system and appreciates the critical role community colleges play in the life of their communities," according to Regenstein.

"Without a doubt, it is the best community college system in the country," said Logan's Mees. "We have tremendous cooperation statewide serving the students of Illinois."

Dr. Raymond V. Cummiskey agreed. The fifth president of SIC is the first to be hired from outside the state. "The Illinois system is one of the reasons I came here," he said, "and I haven't been disappointed in any way. The support shown to each other and to four-year programs is second to none. There is a cooperative spirit in Southern Illinois you don't find everywhere."

Obrzut noted 38 of the 39 community college districts boast elected boards (Chicago is appointed by the Mayor). These institutions are "more flexible and responsive to the needs of the community," he said.

"Some colleges are strong in technical studies, but we provide university-credit transfer through articulation agreements, career-vocational training, adult education and literacy. We do all these things and do them all well. This is what makes us stand out over every other system in the nation."

* - * - *

25th Celebration: Great to be part of successes

R.L.C. F.Y.I. FEBRUARY 13, 1990

MARION – "It is great to be associated with success stories," commented Dr. Richard D. Wagner. And everyone in attendance was in agreement.

His association is with the Illinois Community College system, which serves approximately one million residents each year.

The occasion Thursday was a reception at Williamson County Regional Airport to acknowledge the start of a year-long celebration in honor of the 25th anniversary of the state's community college system.

Representatives from six Southern Illinois institutions – Rend Lake College, host John A. Logan, Frontier, Shawnee, Southeastern Illinois and Wabash Valley – joined local media in welcoming Wagner, the Executive Director of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, Illinois Community College Board Chair Harry L. Crisp II and other officials during their brief stopover as part of a statewide Fly-Around. Gov. James R. Thompson was unable to participate as planned.

Rend Lake College was represented by Vice President Keith R. Lape, who spoke briefly in the absence of ailing President Jon Astroth, other members of the administrative staff and representatives of the RLC Student Senate.

Wagner pointed with pride to the community college success story, emphasizing the two-year colleges' accessibility to all levels of learning for

(Continued on next page)



25th: Successes (cont.)

Illinois residents, affordability and program diversity, “perhaps the major achievement of the comprehensive community college.”

“Community colleges in Illinois are uniquely positioned to respond to the challenging needs” of the population they serve, Wagner added.

Crisp, the Marion resident who shared top-billing with Wagner for Thursday’s Fly-Around, agreed. “The past 25 years have witnessed unparalleled changes in our society,” he said, “and community colleges have kept abreast of our changing world.”

Over 500,000 students have graduated from Illinois community colleges in the last 20 years, Crisp indicated. Two-year colleges serve approximately half of the students enrolled in undergraduate higher education in the state. “We’re proud . . . and justifiably so . . . of our accomplishments. It’s the best system in the country and getting better all the time,” Crisp concluded.



Mt. Vernon Realtor pays for bond election radio ads

BOARD MINUTES NOVEMBER 21, 1967 (Treasurer Paul) Fitch presented to the Board a check from Mr. Earl E. Jamison that is to be endorsed to the Radio Station WMIX for advertising costs covering the (\$3.1M building construction referendum) bond election. [Jamison was a prominent Mt. Vernon Real Estate Agent.]

40th Anniversary (cont.)

Shawnee Community College President Larry Choate served as Vice President of Instruction previously. He attended Southeastern Illinois College. According to Choate, another advantage of a community college education is the fact “you get to know people in your community who then become lifelong friends.”

Cummiskey singled out Choate and Rep. John Bradley (D-Marion), who was present, along with Rep. Brandon W. Phelps (D-Norris City) as SIC products. “That really speaks well for the quality of programs we provide,” he said. In addition, “We feel our role is to be an economic engine to help our district grow.”

Bradley’s grandfather was an original Trustee at Southeastern Illinois. Both of his parents attended SIC. “I got a degree from Texas, and my law degree from University of Illinois,” Rep. Bradley commented, “and I got as good of an education through the Illinois system of community colleges as I could have anywhere in the nation.”

Sen. Gary Forby (D-Benton) indicated he had four community colleges within his 59th District, “and they are the best. They are doing a great job for our kids. These people give them a chance. I’ll put them up with any of the people in the State of Illinois.” Forby’s son is a student-athlete at RLC.

Current ICCB Chair Guy Alongi is a Herrin native whose father was a charter member of the Logan Board of Trustees. “I wish he were alive today,” Alongi said, “to see the great accomplishments of our community colleges over the last 40 years. It is a great debt we owe the system pioneers.”

According to the Governor’s proclamation, the “extraordinary system of community colleges in Illinois” has had more than 18 million students pass through its collective doors in those 40 years. Their lifetime earning power has increased by an average of 34 percent as a result.

Rend Lake College has experienced all-time record-enrollments three of the past four years. Along the journey, accomplishments have included:

- Rend Lake College was the first community college in the state to complete its entire facilities master plan. Groundbreaking for Phase I construction on the Ina campus was held March 27, 1969, the same day the college received word of its first North Central accreditation. Five buildings were ready for occupancy by August 1970, with Phases II and III finished in 1975.
- Rend Lake College was one of the first three colleges in the nation recognized as a Business-Industry Award-winner during the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges (AACJC) 62nd annual convention in St. Louis. The April 6, 1982, presentation was for “exemplary cooperation” with two local coal-mining companies, Old Ben and Inland Steel.
- Rend Lake College representatives won the inaugural “Academic Olympics” state championship (later renamed “College Bowl”) on April 16, 1993.
- Rend Lake College received the ICCB Workforce Preparation “Award for Excellence” in 1998 for its CO-PREP program which prepared applicants for Correctional Center guard position testing.
- Rend Lake College (1998) and Illinois Community College “Alumnus of the Year” (1999) Mark Michalic (Class of ’78) is dubbed an American hero as the federal agent responsible for tracking down Oklahoma City bombing suspect Timothy McVeigh. Michalic, a former RLC Student Trustee, was honored by the Attorney General, FBI and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.
- When Rend Lake College’s Cross-Country Team captured the NJCAA Division II National Championship in Fall 2001, it was a first for Southern Illinois representatives in any Juco athletic team competition. The Warriors repeated in 2002 and 2003.
- Rend Lake College last year was awarded a third Title III “Strengthening Institutions” Federal Grant, believed to be a first according to one national consultant. It is for five years and \$1.8 million for Wireless Communications Technology. Included is a Challenge Grant Matching Endowment Option totalling \$365,000 which could increase RLCF funds by \$1 million in 20 years.

● 50th Anniversary
ILLINOIS PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACT
July 15, 2015 marks the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Illinois Public Community College Act. / July 2015

COLLEGE 'MAJOR' TIMELINE

2013 - 2014

2014 - 2015

2013 MEN'S BASKETBALL D-II CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNEY

GRAC Champ Warriors (30-3) claim first NJCAA cage crown

N.J.C.A.A. NEWS RELEASE MARCH 24, 2013

DANVILLE – Rend Lake College rushed to a 19-3 lead en route to an impressive 87-69 win over Moraine Valley Community College in the title game of the 2013 NJCAA Division II Men's Basketball Championship Tournament Saturday (March 23).

The national championship is the first in program history for Rend Lake College.

The Warriors' three-point shooting was pivotal to their big lead in the first half, shooting over 50 percent (6-of-11) from long distance. RLC's shooting overall was most impressive as they found the bottom of the net on 32-of-62 field goal attempts (51.6%).

All-Tournament pick Cortez Macklin led the Warriors with 19 points and eight rebounds. NJCAA Division II National Tournament MVP Bronson Verhines posted a double-double of 13 points and 14 re-

bounds. Another All-Tourney selection, Jeril Taylor, had 15 points and Noel Allen added 12. Point guard Dawson Verhines, the Fred Pohlman Sportsmanship Award-winner, was credited with eight assists, six rebounds and five points.

The RLC defense held Moraine Valley to 34.7 percent shooting from the floor. Darryl Hervey led the Cyclones with 17 points. Dave Williams added 13 and Karrington Ward had 11 points to go with 11 rebounds.

The title game matchup between the two Illinois programs marks the first time two teams from the same state have played for the national championship in NJCAA D-II Men's Basketball.

THE SOUTHERN ILLINOISAN MARCH 25, 2013
BY LES WINKELER

It was a stellar year for the Rend Lake College Warriors.



Ag student pipeline flows to RLC Board of Trustees

No doubt encouraged to run by incumbent peers and departmental faculty, members of Agricultural programs have monopolized Student Trustee elections in the last decade.

There was no hint of things to come in the early years, when an Ag student winning election to the RLC Board occurred about once every 10 years – i.e., Brad Rainwater (Wayne City) in 1980-81, Jason Newell (Belle Rive) in 1991-92 and Steven Manning (Belle Rive) in 2000-01 – until Candice Fitch (Thompsonville), '02-03, made it two Ag reps in three years.

Luke Thomas (Springerton) in '08-09 was succeeded by Samantha York (McLeansboro), '09-10; Kody Schwarze (Valmeyer), '10-11; Caleb Buntin (Thompsonville), '11-12; Kelsey Allen (Bonnie), '12-13; Haden Smith (Wayne City), '13-14; Eli Liske (Okawville/Sesser), '14-15; Claire Pytlinski (Waltonville), '15-16, and Eric Schumm (Wayne City), '16-17.

The Board frequently has benefited from receiving perspective from the cream of the crop. Newell, Manning, Allen and Liske all departed with Ag "Outstanding Student of the Year" Awards at the conclusion of their sophomore years.

Other former Ag "Students of the Year" with strong Board credentials years after their graduation are current Trustees Randy Rubenacker (RLC Class of '78) and John Kabat (RLC Class of '82) and Rend Lake College President Terry Wilkerson (RLC Class of '92), who shared honors with Newell.

28TH ANNUAL NJCAA D-II MEN'S BASKETBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

March 19-23 – Mary Miller Center at Danville Area Community College – Danville, IL

REND LAKE COLLEGE WARRIORS (87)

No. Player	FG- A	3FG- A	FT- A	Reb.	Asst.	TP
10 Corey Ayala	2- 4	0- 1	1- 2	2	4	5
21 Noel Allen	6- 9	0- 0	0- 1	2	1	12
24 Dawson Verhines	2- 5	1- 2	0- 0	6	8	5
30 Cortez Macklin	5- 9	4- 7	5- 8	8	2	19
42 Bronson Verhines	6- 10	0- 0	1- 4	14	2	13
4 Dennis Froemling	0- 0	0- 0	2- 3	0	0	2
5 Trice Whaley	1- 2	0- 0	0- 0	1	2	2
00 Montez Williams	1- 2	0- 0	1- 2	1	0	3
12 Jesse Smith	1- 1	0- 0	0- 0	0	0	2
20 Stephon Bryant	0- 3	0- 2	0- 0	0	2	0
22 Jeril Taylor	4- 7	3- 4	4- 4	3	1	15
32 Montez Buford	4- 9	1- 3	0- 0	3	0	9
34 Alonzo Singletary	0- 1	0- 0	0- 0	0	0	0
TOTALS	32- 62	9- 19	14- 24	40	22	87
FG% – 1st: 18/31 .581	2nd: 14/31 .452	Game: .516				
3FG% – 1st: 6/11 .545	2nd: 3/ 8 .375	Game: .474				
FT% – 1st: 6/10 .600	2nd: 8/14 .571	Game: .583				

MORAIN VALLEY C.C. CYCLONES (69)

No. Player	FG- A	3FG- A	FT- A	Reb.	Asst.	TP
14 Karrington Ward	3- 11	2- 6	3- 4	11	2	11
15 Darryl Hervey	6- 14	3- 7	2- 3	2	1	17
21 Gerald Dorsey	3- 8	0- 2	2- 2	2	2	8
22 Dave Williams	5- 11	2- 4	1- 2	1	4	13
24 Brett Kaiser	1- 4	1- 4	0- 0	2	0	3
20 Marquell Pierce	0- 4	0- 1	1- 2	3	3	1
30 Mike Schick	2- 2	0- 0	0- 0	0	0	4
31 Cameron Jullierat	0- 1	0- 0	0- 0	0	0	0
32 Zoran Arsenovic	1- 2	0- 1	0- 0	1	1	2
33 Johnte Shannon	2- 11	1- 5	0- 0	3	2	5
34 Brian Townsend	0- 0	0- 0	1- 2	2	1	1
35 Des'niq Harris	1- 2	0- 0	0- 0	3	0	2
40 Derrick Lynn	1- 2	0- 0	0- 0	4	0	2
TOTALS	25- 72	9- 30	10- 15	34	16	69
FG% – 1st: 8/34 .235	2nd: 17/38 .447	Game: .347				
3FG% – 1st: 3/18 .167	2nd: 6/12 .500	Game: .300				
FT% – 1st: 7/10 .700	2nd: 3/ 5 .600	Game: .667				

Rend Lake College	48	39	–	87
Moraine Valley Community College	26	43	–	69

Rebounds – RLC (Off. 11, Def. 29); MVCC (Off. 13, Def. 21).
Turnovers – RLC 12 (D.Verhines 3, B.Verhines 3, Macklin 2, Allen 1, M.Williams 1, Smith 1, Bryant 1); MVCC 13 (Dorsey 3, D.Williams 3, Ward 2, Hery 1, Pierce 1, Schick 1, Jullierat 1, Arsenovic 1).
Blocked Shots – RLC 7 (B.Verhines 3, D.Verhines 2, Allen 1, Buford 1); MVCC 4 (Ward 2, Arsenovic 1, Townsend 1).
Steals – RLC 11 (D. Verhines 4, Bryant 2, Ayala 1, Allen 1, Macklin 1, B.Verhines 1, Taylor 1); MVCC 7 (Ward 2, D.Williams 2, Hery 1, Pierce 1, Arsenovic 1).
Personal Fouls – RLC 14 (Allen 4, B.Verhines 3, Whaley 2, Ayala 1, D.Verhines 1, Macklin 1, Buford 1, Singletary 1); MVCC 15 (Dorsey 3, Ward 2, Kaiser 2, Pierce 2, Arsenovic 2, Harris 2, D.Williams 1, Schick 1).
Enhanced Scoring – Points off turnovers: RLC 9, MVCC 6; Points in paint: RLC 36, MVCC 28; Second-chance points: RLC 13, MVCC 8; Points off bench: RLC 33, MVCC 17.

Records – Rend Lake College Warriors 30-3 (No. 4 seed) / Moraine Valley C.C. Cyclones 31-6 (No. 7)

NJCAA Division II National Tournament

Most Valuable Player –
Bronson Verhines / Rend Lake College

All-Tournament Team –
 Fred Mattison / Mott Community College (MI)
 Kevin Williams / Louisburg College (NC)
 Bryce Walker / South Suburban College
 Dallas Gary / Monroe Community College (NY)
 Joe Retic II / Owens Community College (OH)
 Wendell Pierre / The Brown Mackie College (KS)
 Rico Spikes / The Brown Mackie College (KS)
 Arnold Fripp / Monroe Community College (NY)
 Darryl Hervey / Moraine Valley Community College
 Jeril Taylor / Rend Lake College
 Karrington Ward / Moraine Valley Community College
 Cortez Macklin / Rend Lake College

Jack Cistrano Best Small Man Award – Bryce Walker (SSC)
Fred Pohlman Sportsmanship Award – Dawson Verhines (RLC)
Coach of the Tournament – Randy House (RLC)



RLC becomes heavyweight in world of recycling in '93

RLC F.Y.I. JANUARY 18, 1994

Rend Lake College became a heavyweight in the recycling world during the past calendar year, according to statistics released by Phyllis Rice of the Recycling Committee.

Year-end totals reveal 27,300 pounds of paper goods were returned through recycling markets and over 35,000 pounds in metal and can products was collected.

March was easily the busiest month for recycling office paper on campus.

The breakdown:

- Office paper collection amounted to 949.29 cubic feet, topped by March (137) and October (115), with a lull during summer months (136.5 total for May through August). That added up to 10,000 pounds available for marketing.

- Another 700 pounds (218 cubic feet) of green bar (computer) paper was marketable. September (44 cubic feet) and October (32) accounted for better than a third of that figure.

- Compressed cardboard was sent three different months for recycling and accounted for 14,100 cubic feet.

- Newspaper made up the remaining 2,500 cubic feet.

- Aluminum cans added up to 1,246 pounds, almost half of that sent to market in March (305) and September (298).

- And heavier metals meant an additional 34,136 pounds. "We would like everyone to know how appreciative we are of the effort made to recycle," Rice said. "Remember also to keep buying and using recycled products when possible."

[EDITOR'S NOTE: This subject matter is addressed more in-depth in SPECIAL EVENTS.]

Cage crown (cont.)

The 30-3 Warriors ended their season Saturday night, defeating Moraine Valley, 87-69, to earn the NJCAA Division II National Championship.

Woodlawn native Bronson Verhines, a 6-foot-7 forward, was named the tournament's MVP. It was the first national basketball title in Rend Lake College history.

However, according to Coach Randy House, winning the national championship was the team's second biggest accomplishment this year. House said winning the Great Rivers Athletic Conference championship – the GRAC is composed of eight Division I teams and the D-II Warriors – with a 14-2 record is probably more impressive.

"From top to bottom, you'd be hard pressed to find a better Division I conference in the country, and we happen to be the little guys in the conference at Division II," House said. "We had no grandiose ideas we'd be 14-2 in the conference this year. Rend Lake's goal in the conference is to be .500 or better.

"That's just being realistic. It's not realistic to think we can compete year-in and year-out with SWIC and John A. Logan."

The major difference, off the floor, between the two divisions is that Division I programs can offer housing and meals. Division II programs are limited to tuition and fees waivers.

As a result, Division II rosters tend to be filled with players in the 6-5 or 6-6 range.

"The bigger kids are going to get better offers," House said.

Yet, the undersized Warriors were clearly the class of the GRAC this year.

"We have to be a lot faster," House said. "If we have one guy who is 6-8 or 6-9, we're doing something. We've built our program on length, speed and athletic ability, and I'll say brains on the basketball floor. That's just the thing we thought would work."

The Warriors used a balanced attack that relied on 10 or 12 players filling their roles. "We knew after last year what we needed to be good, or at least what we thought we needed to compete at nationals," House said. "What we didn't know is how we could compete in our conference because our conference has a lot more size than you see at Nationals.

"We had the right pieces. We are just now playing the way I like for the kids to play. If we had another month . . . We've really bought into the 10-11 deep. They just flat

get after it."

The Warriors had six players average between seven and 13 points per game. Cortez Macklin led the team in scoring at 13.6 points per game. Bronson Verhines averaged 10 points and 10 boards per game. Noel Allen averaged 10 points per game, Montez Buford 8.9, Jeril Taylor 8.2 and Dawson Verhines 7.1.

Rend Lake also had some local connections with the Verhines brothers from Woodlawn, Dennis Froemling and Jesse Smith from Trico and defensive stopper Corey Ayala from Massac County.

A mid-season team meeting set the team on a mission to win the GRAC and the Division II title. Although the team was winning at the time, House said he sensed something was missing.

"We had a little team meeting and went over everybody's role," recalled House, the eventual NJCAA D-II Coach of the Tournament. "From that point on, we won all but one game. We just had to sit down and the kids started doing what they needed to do to help this team become a National Champion."

The champs will be honored at a 1 p.m. ceremony at RLC Wednesday (March 27).

EXCERPTS FROM REGISTER-NEWS AND OTHER REPORTS

Rend Lake College rode a quick start to a 48-26 halftime lead.

Rend Lake used hot shooting against Moraine Valley. The Warriors hit more than 50 percent of their attempts from the field while the Cyclones struggled. Moraine Valley hit just 35 percent from the field.

The Warriors were strong again in the championship in the paint and off the bench. Rend Lake outscored Moraine Valley 36-28 down low and nearly doubled up the Cyclones in bench points, 33-17.

The Warriors entered the national tournament this week with a 26-3 record after taking the Region XXIV Tournament title.

The Warriors also won the Great Rivers Athletic Conference title with a 14-2 record.

No. 4 seed Rend Lake College opened the National Tournament with a 98-75 win over Cecil College (MD), followed by stirring, come-from-behind victories over South Suburban College, 85-83 (after trailing by 22 points), and Owens Community College (OH), 80-75, before the championship.

It was the first 30-win season in team history (30-3, .909), surpassing the 29-6 mark (.829) of the 1988-89 GRAC and NJCAA Division I Region XXIV champions.

RECOGNIZED BY FOUNDATION AT 1999 ANNUAL DINNER

Area grade/high school staffs boast 140 with RLC ties

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE DECEMBER 1999

Like to be impressed? Rend Lake College can cite numerous examples of its value to the community . . .

Over 12,000 graduates since opening its doors in 1967 . . . One in eight in-district residents served on a regular, annual basis . . . A budget of over \$12 million which filters back through Southern Illinois . . .

Here is another figure to consider, as those in attendance discovered Thursday night (December 16) at the 18th Annual Dinner of the Rend Lake College Foundation: There are 140 teachers/staff members now employed in area grade and high schools with Rend Lake College connections, with an overwhelming majority of those having earned their Associate Degrees through the Ina-based community college before transferring and completing their education at the four-year level.

Graduates working in the field of education in in-district schools were saluted as part of the program.

Rend Lake College, which is in its 33rd year providing quality education for residents of an eight-county district (two of which have no voting residents living within the very small, unincorporated RLC boundaries within those counties), "is realizing a second generation of students who have been taught by educators who were themselves once enrolled at Rend Lake College," according to Rend Lake College President Mark S. Kern.

"We recognize the importance of these teachers and are very proud of the fact our graduates have made a significant impact on education in Southern Illinois. These people and many others who have graduated from Rend Lake College or Mt. Vernon Community College have made a difference by shaping the lives of our future generations."

The totals include 25 members of the Mt. Vernon School District 80 elementary staff and 18 at Mt. Vernon Township High School District 201; a total of 41 employees in Hamilton County Unit District 10; 28 individuals on the staff of Benton Community Consolidated School District 47 and another six at Benton Consolidated High School.

Elsewhere, there are 16 Rend Lake College graduates providing leadership in the Wayne City Unit School District; 16

combined in Woodlawn's elementary (11) and high school (five) districts; 15 in the Zeigler-Royalton Unit School District; 13 in both the Sesser-Valier Unit School District and Waltonville Unit School District; nine combined at Webber Township H.S. (five) and Bluford Elementary (four); eight at Ina Grade School, and seven combined at Pinckneyville Community H.S. (five) and grade school (two).

Other totals: Summersville, 6; Akin, 5; Bethel, 4; Opdyke-Belle Rive, 3; Farrington, Field and McClellan, two each; Head Start program at the Kenneth Martin Center in Mt. Vernon, 1.

One of those educators with RLC Alumnus credentials is David S. Beehn, who is Superintendent of Wayne City CU School District 100. Beehn also serves as an appointed member of the Rend Lake College Foundation.

"As a school administrator for many years, I have seen the benefits received by students from Rend Lake College scholarships and other RLCF programs. Many have been able to attend who might not have had the resources available to them (to attend college," Beehn commented.

"With the rising cost of college tuition, attending Rend Lake College is a financially sound decision. Students in the area are fortunate to have this opportunity and at the same time receive a beneficial start on their education."

Recalling his days as a student on the RLC campus shared with Mt. Vernon Township High School in its early years, Beehn confided, "As a graduate of Rend Lake College, I appreciated living at home and keeping my job while beginning my college education. Rend Lake College prepared me for my days at Southern Illinois University, and the transition was made easier after attending a community college."

[Editor's Note: In addition to RLC Foundation Director Beehn, the list also included Mt. Vernon Township High School Teacher John Kabat (RLC Class of 1982), who was elected to a six-year term on the Rend Lake College Board of Trustees in 2011, and Mt. Vernon School District 80 Administrative Assistant Sheila True Tackitt (RLC 1986), Executive Assistant to the President at RLC from 2004-11.]



Over 37% of employees also graduated from RLC

COLLEGE CATALOG 2000-01

Rend Lake College does more than just share its graduates with in-district grade and high school. Many graduates eventually return to their Rend Lake College roots as valued members of the faculty and staff.

Records are not easily accessible to discover how many RLC grads were employed full-time by their alma mater during academic year 1999-2000, at the same time in-district schools were reporting a total of 140 (see story at left).

The following year, however, represented the first time the official College Catalog listed degrees/certificates earned by all full-time employees.

According to 2000-01 info . . .

- Of 230 full-time employees, 206 boasted college degrees or Occupational Certificates (89.6%).
- Of 206 degree-certificate holders, 86 held degrees or certificates from RLC (41.7%)
- The 86 RLC graduates owned a total of 99 degrees and certificates; 13 individuals had earned two each.
- A breakdown of Rend Lake College accomplishments:
Associate in Arts (A.A.) Degrees – 35
Associate in Science (A.S.) Degrees – 19
Associate in Applied Science (AAS) Degrees – 38
Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) – 1
Occupational Certificates – 6
(Many staff members may not list certificates earned if they already are showing Associate, Bachelor, Master and/or Doctorate degrees.)



College like trusted friend: it's there when you need it

EXCERPTS FROM STORY SUBMITTED
TO BENTON EVENING NEWS MARCH 1994

... Let's face it. After serving the community for the past 27 years, Rend Lake College is often times taken for granted.

And that's not all bad. In fact, in many ways, that's good.

Rend Lake College is taken for granted by many because it is like an old, trusted friend . . . it is there when you need it. You have learned over the years to count on it being there for you. Going about the business of serving a college district which overwhelmingly approved its creation in 1967 and continues to give it a nod of approval.

Some good reasons not to take Rend Lake College for granted:

- The students. RLC grads are successful . . . Just ask recent "Alumnus of the Year" and former Benton resident Brad Burzynski. That is Illinois Sen. Burzynski, a one-time State Representative who now represents the 35th District in Northern Illinois. He began his political career as the non-voting Student Representative on the college's Board of Trustees, but his vote carries a great deal of weight today.
- College officials believe strongly in a "Good Neighbor" policy. Two area high schools, strapped financially, are borrowing a Counselor from the college on a part-time basis this year. Everyone involved, from Counselor Matt Yusko and RLC to the recipients – Benton and Waltonville high schools – have been pleased with the results. Consideration is being given to making similar "loans" to other area schools.
- A "Taste of Class" project in the works will encourage high school students to make a

(Continued at far right on next page)

IN-DISTRICT EDUCATIONAL EMPLOYEES WITH TIES TO REND LAKE COLLEGE / MT. VERNON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In-district educators with ties to Rend Lake College or Mt. Vernon Community College . . .

AKIN COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 91

- Judy Cole (Class of 1976)
- Brian Hodge (1983 / 1994)
- Kelly Hunt (1983)
- Chuck Montgomery (1990)
- Heather Sanders (1990)

BENTON COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 47

- Verna Barminski (1974)
- Crystal Brooks (1990)
- Debra Cantrell (1971)
- Deborah Clark (1973)
- Sheri Dyel (1976)
- Paula Fuller (1986)
- Anjanette Hughes (1989)
- Elva Hungate (1978)
- Betty Hutchens (1972)
- Keith Ing (1969)
- Cecilia Kirkpatrick (1970)
- Larna Kirsch (1978)
- Christine Knight (1990)
- Alisa Leffler (1992)
- Ruth Ann Lewis (1968)
- Phyllis Maragni (1977)
- Pamela Martin (1969)
- Catherine Martin (1975)
- Tammy McCollum (1989)
- Norma Minor (1974)
- Juanita Mitchell (1984)
- Karen Montoya (1969)
- Susan Nolan (1987)
- Kristi Picklesimer (1988)
- Mary Satterfield (1987)
- Penny Severin (1984)
- Tonya Shurtz (1984)
- Robyn Snow (1996)

BENTON CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 103

- Clydette Barnfield (1985)
- Lisa Bell (1986)
- Larry Hancock (1965)
- Scott Rice (1976)
- Brian Summers (1979)
- Julie Whaley (1980)

BETHEL SCHOOL DISTRICT 82

- Dorothy Johnson (1980)
- Mary Orcutt (1994)
- Jim Tuttle (1971)
- Ron Waller (1971)

BLUFORD COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 114

- Terri Helm (1982)
- Nicole Henson (1992)
- Marci Sherwin (1995)
- Amy Wylie (1992)

FARRINGTON COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 99

- Anita Allen (1987)
- Robin Flagg (1977)

FIELD COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 3

- Jon Ashby (1973)
- Judy Shurtz (1972)

HAMILTON COUNTY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 10

- Janice Webb Baker (1972)
- William Biggerstaff (1969)
- Jerry Corn (1982)
- Martin Cox (1972)
- David Crain (1973)
- Vicki Ellingsworth (1965)
- Deborah Eubanks (1982)
- Cathy Hall Futrell (1989)
- Kenny Grubb (1967)
- Wilburn Grubb (1967)
- Heidi Lasswell Hart (1984)
- John Hicks (1960)
- Susan Swartz Horton (1973)
- Denise Rubenacker Kirsch (1981)
- Sharon Phipps Knight (1976)
- Tonyia Knight (1986)
- Sharon Lasswell (1970)
- Diana Lemke (1971)
- Dennis Lynch (1974)
- Connie Darnell Magsig (1980)
- Thomas McKinnis (1970)
- Brenda Webb McPeak (1972)
- Karin Miller (1968)
- Vince Mitchell (1977)
- Debbie Sefried Morris (1972)
- Charlie Pryer (1973)
- Janet Cross Reed (1970)
- Dean Robertson (1964)
- Carolyn Gage Rubenacker (1969)
- Ellen Skelton (1990)
- Charles Sloan III (1978)
- Matthew Thomas (1989)
- Rita York Tracy (1967)
- Shirley Vaughan (1970)
- Cynthia Warren (1974)
- Bonnie Webb (1983)
- Marvin Webb (1967)
- Cathy Hindahl Webb (1989)
- Gary Whipple (1965)

- Angela Zackman Wiggins (1979)
- Stacy Bailey Winemiller (1995)

INA COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 8

- Allen Bigley (1975)
- Jane Fox Davis (1972)
- Ann Jenkins German (1973)
- Sandra Gilliam (1990)
- Meredith Fox Maxey (1992)
- Linda Bean Page (1970)
- LaDonna Richards (1981)
- Idella Lane Robertson (1970)

LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Laura Harrawood (1989)
- Rebecca Roane (1967)
- Patricia Smith (1970)
- Kent Stevens (1990)

McCLELLAN COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 12

- Roxanne Alldredge Bailey (1984)
- Joyce Earls Wilton (1972)

MT. VERNON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 201

- Lee Ann Bauer (1991)
- Tammy Beckham (1991)
- Teresa Black (1982)
- Starla Brieseacher (1988)
- Robert Brown (1966)
- Doug Creel (1980)
- Kenneth Feather (1978)
- Gary Graham (1966)
- Dale Hamment (1971)
- Gary Hatfield (1979)
- Rebecca Johnson (1978)
- John Kabat (1982)
- David Kassner (1976)
- Judith Knolhoff (1995)
- Steve Lacey (1971)
- Jerry Pepple (1968)
- Minnie Smith (1973)
- Lisa Trail (1984)

MT. VERNON SCHOOL DISTRICT 80

- Tami Beck (1996)
- Barbara Bodine (1961)
- Janice Eater Cherry (1970)
- Margo Ellerbush Garner (1988)
- Nancy Gibbs (1970)
- Carla Hanger (1966)
- Rhonda Hedger (1987)
- Nancy Webber Herzing (1973)
- Julia Laur (1993)
- Deanna McCoy (1993)
- Trent Mason (1989)
- Paula Metcalf (1994)
- Stacey Palmer (1981)

- Charlotte Snodsmith (1967)
- Kurt Strothmann (1973)
- Sheila True Tackitt (1986)
- Gina Wagner (1980)
- Scott Wagner (1980)
- Stephanie White (1997)
- Peggy Yates (1967)
- Sharon Simmons Yearwood (1970)

HEAD START KENNETH MARTIN CENTER

- Joanne Standerfer

OPDYKE-BELLE RIVE COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

- Tisha Willoughby Ellis (1992)
- Judy Harlan (1995)
- Doris Trotter (1979)

PINCKNEYVILLE COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 101

- Greg Hale (1974)
- Alice Hunt (1967)
- George McPheeters (1966)
- Diana Plumlee (1975)
- Lisa Wisniewski (1985)

PINCKNEYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT 50

- Rebecca McClurken McKinstry (1972)
- Victoria Lalumondier Weatherford (1970)

SESSER-VALIER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 196

- Chip Basso (1995)
- Martha Isenhardt Dimitroff (1969)
- Brenda Dorris (1988)
- Scott Haley (1992)
- Danny Kirk (1976)
- Brenda Kramer (1979)
- John Patchett (1969)
- Lenise Sgutt (1988)
- Brenda Sink (1976)
- Wanda Spotsanski (1972)
- Ava Thomas (1985)
- Beverly Webb (1979)
- Glen Wright (1968)

SUMMERSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT 79

- Monte Burns Clark (1985)
- Anita Sinks Hays (1977)
- Nancy Howard (1980)
- Monica Huntman Maxey (1996)
- Cheryl Martin McClure (1967)
- Carl Miller (1969)

WALTONVILLE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 1

- Phylis Bernard (1964)
- Debra Chauncey (1993)
- Pam Dent (1993)
- Janet Estes (1976)
- Bob Franks (1970)
- Pam Green



Trusted friend (cont.)

reservation to attend a college class in their prospective major field, to observe firsthand what the future might hold.

- After lending input which helped bring the Big Muddy River Correctional Center to Southern Illinois, RLC administrators welcomed staff personnel across Interstate 57 by offering free tuition (up to three hours) for new students, and 121 employees took advantage. Of course, the college has a separate staff to provide educational programs within the prison confines to inmates.

- Cooperative efforts between area high schools and their collegiate big brother are noting new. Two more recent grants will help ensure improved science instruction in high schools throughout the district and establishment of a model, state-of-the-art laboratory on campus for use by anyone throughout the district. The Illinois Board of Higher Education awarded RLC two Dwight D. Eisenhower Mathematics and Science Education Program Grants totalling \$123,000. Seven area high schools will benefit initially from a grant concerned with the "Introduction to Biotechnology for High School Faculty and Young Women." The other grant is a continuation of the "Videolab Science" project which has placed interactive computerized chemistry programs in all district schools and upgraded their equipment to a level that exceeds many colleges.

- "Distance Learning" becomes a reality this fall due to a \$1 million grant to a consortium of Southern Illinois colleges. Classes that could not be offered (lack of numbers or qualified instructor) at one site may now be available through Distance Learning.



Do not take for granted – Lawyers, Auditors, et al.

Even a college can be guilty of the phrase, “take someone / something for granted.” By definition, “failing to appreciate someone or something that is very familiar or obvious.”

■ For example, Lawyers . . . At the first C.C. District 521 Board Meeting, December 20, 1966, newly seated Trustees approved Kirk and Musick, Attorneys at Law, as legal counsel to represent the district. Present was law firm representative Donald G. Musick of Mt. Vernon. Musick continued to fill the role of Board Attorney for 34 years. (He was last appointed November 1999.)

In 1983, Ted Clark complemented Musick as Attorney for Labor Relations, and for the next 24 years, the Chicago-based firm of Seyfarth, Shaw, Fairweather and Geraldson – in particular, Bob Smith – shared duties related to labor and personnel.

Change came again in May 2007, when Gilbert, Kimmel, Huffman, Prosser and Hewson Ltd. (represented by John Huffman) was appointed.

Former student-athlete / Trustee Bryan Drew of Drew & Drew, P.C. was appointed Board Attorney in May 2014.

■ For example, Auditors . . . Mt. Vernon Auditors Alfred W. Briel and Donald Wood kept an outside eye on RLC financial affairs for the first dozen years, followed briefly in FY79 by Swinford and Palmer, Benton. Since 1981, however, with the exception of 1988 and '89 (Holt and Patterson), that distinction for general audits, financial aid and Title IV Grants has belonged to Clifton, Gunderson and Associates, based in Springfield. Senior Partner Bill Crompton represented the firm for most of those evaluations.

- Debra Hale
- Debbie Kash (1993)
- Michelle McGovern (1995)
- Linda Scrivner (1968)
- David Scrivner (1968)
- Alex Scroggins (1986)
- Jean Scroggins (1977)

WAYNE CITY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 100

- David Beehn (1969)
- Martha Elzy (1968)
- Michael Irwin (1968)
- Shelly Jackson (1995)
- Brenda Jennings (1976)
- Janet Johnson (1972)
- Christal Johnson (1977)
- LeAnn Johnson (1972)
- Karen Johnson (1991)
- Susan Maricle (1970)
- Kitty Mooney (1969)
- David Scott (1987)
- LaDonna Talbert (1984)
- Thomas Taylor (1974)
- Shelly Vaughan (1984)
- Sharon White (1978)

WEBBER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204

- Cindy Birkner (1991)
- Vicki Wild Bollinger (1977)
- Russell Dalby (1969)
- Bob Herzing (1982)
- Chris Johnson (1971)

WOODLAWN COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

- Nancy Greenwalt (1977)

- Reva McKee (1971)
- Terry Howard (1983)
- Jennifer Martin (1995)
- Jerry Wilson (1979)

WOODLAWN COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 4

- Ken Benjamin (1995)
- Danny Dees (1969)
- Terry Fisher (1995)
- Tonya Ford (1971)
- Lois Herzing (1984)
- Shlonda Eastham Horton (1975)
- Brenda Andermatt Kiselewski (1968)
- Peg O'Daniell (1968)
- Kathleen Schutte Ray (1973)
- Mark Richardson (1990)
- Nancy McKinzie Verhines (1981)

ZEIGLER-ROYALTON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 188

- Patricia Bagwell (1978)
- Terry Bagwell (1972)
- Leigh Bailey (1997)
- James Chamness (1976)
- Mike Dollins (1987)
- Cathy Gaddis (1991)
- Romona Weiser Hargraves (1984)
- Steve Henderson (1989)
- Stacey Patton (1990)
- Amy Scrivner (1992)
- Susan Derry Summers (1979)
- Robert Townsend (1969)
- Tammy Trusty (1978)
- Julie Van Horn Wielt (1992)
- Tamara Clark Willmore (1990)



OVERVIEW OF AREA POPULATION / HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

REND LAKE COLLEGE 2012 INSTITUTIONAL DATA

The population of Rend Lake College District 521 is approximately 90,394, according to 2012 figures used by the Illinois Community College Board in its Summary Profile of Illinois Public Community Colleges. Rend Lake College is the sixth-smallest district in terms of population and has a tax base of Equalized Assessed Valuation of \$773,164,929. About half of the district residents live in rural settings or small unincorporated communities.

County	Population	Total No. Households	Avg. Size	Population Under 18	Pct. Co. Under 18	Percentage of Households				Unemploy. Rate	Median Age
						HS Dip. or Higher	Bachelor or Higher	* At least 1 Enrolled	** Veteran Status		
FRANKLIN	39,627	16,100	2.42	9,003	22.7%	84.9%	12.8%	17.7%	13.0%	11.9%	41.0
HAMILTON	8,425	3,470	2.37	1,897	22.5%	82.3%	13.0%	19.3%	11.1%	8.4%	43.0
JEFFERSON	38,713	15,314	2.41	8,548	22.1%	85.5%	15.2%	21.1%	12.3%	8.6%	40.7
PERRY	22,264	8,252	2.42	4,562	20.5%	83.0%	13.7%	23.7%	11.8%	10.9%	39.6
WAYNE	16,651	7,241	2.30	3,770	22.6%	84.1%	12.5%	23.0%	12.0%	8.7%	42.9
WHITE	14,663	6,327	2.27	3,100	21.1%	85.3%	12.7%	18.6%	12.4%	7.5%	45.3
WASHINGTON	14,533	6,013	2.41	3,100	21.3%	87.1%	18.0%	22.5%	12.6%	6.8%	42.8
WILLIAMSON	66,622	26,764	2.39	14,666	22.0%	88.4%	22.0%	26.2%	12.2%	8.3%	40.5

* Number of households with at least one member ¹ enrolled in College or Graduate School; ² with a veteran status

GRADUATION RATE RANKS NO. 2 IN STATE

RLC named among Top 10% of community colleges in U.S.

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 28, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Dr. Jill Biden, a community college professor and wife to U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, joined Education Secretary Arne Duncan on Monday to announce a list of the 120 top community colleges in the nation.

Among those – Rend Lake College in Ina, IL.

RLC was one of five Illinois colleges to make the list – ranked by the Washington D.C.-based non-profit The Aspen Institute. Other two-year Illinois colleges include Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg, Lake Land College in Mattoon and two members of Illinois Eastern Community Colleges, Olney Central College and Lincoln Trail College in Robinson.

“A large part of the data this competition was based on was our graduation rates at Rend Lake College,” said President Charley D. Holstein. “In that regard, we rank second among public two-year colleges in the state of Illinois.

“Being ranked in the Top Five in the state and Top 120 of the nation’s 1,200 community colleges for something like that is a monumental credit to the hard work our faculty and staff put in each day, and of course to the students who made the smart decision to enroll and graduate from RLC. With one of the lowest tuition rates in the state, we feel we offer individuals educational programming of value and worth.

“I encourage anyone looking to complete your first two-years of college or gain accelerated access to a career, to come check us out.”

According to a report by Yahoo News, community colleges are now the fastest-growing sector of higher education in the country at 40 percent of total undergraduates nationwide and six-million students strong.

The Aspen competition kicked off at a White House conference on community colleges last fall as part of an initiative to improve graduation rates at two-year, public educational institutions each year, according to Yahoo. Winners were based on Department of Education data showing what percentage of students successfully graduate from community college or transfer to a four-year university. Judges also looked at the number of low-income and

minority students who completed their programs of study and if those rates improved over time.

The 120 winners, representing the top 10 percent of the country’s 1,200 community colleges, can now enter to win a \$1 million prize. Rend Lake College has the second-best graduation rate – 44% – among public two-year colleges in Illinois, according to the Illinois Community College Board. While college administrators constantly look for ways to improve that rate, RLC students are performing considerably better than their peers at colleges the ICCB has deemed similar in demographics. RLC students also are more than doubling the state average of 21% completion and/or transfer rates.

One goal of The Aspen Institute initiative is to identify schools with good graduation rates, fewer students coming in requiring remedial courses in math and reading and a high rate of courses transferring to universities. Their strategies could be exported to schools struggling in those areas, according to the Yahoo report.

So what is RLC’s secret? Chris Kuberski, RLC Vice President of Academic Instruction, mentioned a handful of ingredients that have helped account for its success.

Those include challenging faculty to find ways to make their classrooms more engaging for their students, a renewed focus on student learning assessment, a staff of committed and engaged student advisors, making the graduation application readily available at the student’s final advisement appointment and in-class tutoring.

In-class tutoring puts tutors right in the classrooms of subjects with low completion rates. The tutors are there to help students who feel they are falling behind. It was piloted in college preparatory classes at RLC several years ago when graduation rates were at 25%.

“The numbers have incrementally increased and our metrics continue to show an upward trend, so we are definitely doing something right,” Holstein said.

“We are here because we want our students to graduate,” said Kuberski. “We don’t want them to drop out. We want them to be successful and have the doors of opportunity open for them.”

* - * - *

Record Commencement follows Aspen designation

R.L.C. QUARTERLY AUGUST 2011

Rend Lake College’s 44th Annual Commencement Ceremony May 13 boasted the largest class ever to graduate – 926 students taking home 1,450 Associate Degrees and Certificates.

Timely. Less than a month before, The Aspen Institute ranked Rend Lake College in the top 120 community colleges in the nation based on graduation rates. RLC’s 44 percent is the second-best graduation rate among public two-year colleges in Illinois.

Factors contributing to this success, noted by Vice President of Academic Instruction Chris Kuberski, include instructors making classes engaging for students, a committed staff and making graduation applications readily available to students.

In-class tutoring is another factor to be credited. This program helps students with subjects that have low completion rates, and assists students who feel they are falling behind.

RLC President Charley Holstein noted, “With one of the lowest tuition rates in the state, we feel we offer individuals educational programming of value and worth.”

Several years ago, graduation rates at Rend Lake College were around 25 percent. Now, they are more than double the state average of 21 percent.



National graduation rank puts RLC No. 5 at 50.3%

AUGUST 31, 2012

Rend Lake College is fifth on the latest list of public community colleges in the nation with the best graduation rates.

First-time, full-time students at RLC complete their degree 50.3 percent of the time, according to the Chronicle of Higher Education's *Almanac of Higher Education*. In the article, "Colleges With the Best 6-Year and 3-Year Graduation Rates in 2010," the Chronicle compared public two-year colleges with at least 500 freshmen entering in Fall 2007.

President Terry Wilkerson said he is proud to see RLC representing Illinois on a list of the best colleges, but there is still much work to be done.

"We need to continue to strive to improve on this," he said. "The fact 50 percent makes us fifth in the nation is not acceptable. That's not good enough. We are going to keep our focus on our students and their success, and work hard to help them accomplish what they come here to do."

2-YEAR PUBLIC COLLEGES

Graduation rate within 150 percent of normal time to earn degree

1. Lake Area Tech. (SD) 73.5%
2. De Anza College (CA) 59.8%
3. Middle Georgia Tech 54.5%
4. Alexandria C.C. (MN) 51.0%
5. **REND LAKE COLLEGE** 50.3%
6. Northeast C.C. (NB) 49.2%
7. Snow College (UT) 47.3%
8. Chippewa Valley (WI) 47.1%
9. Western Tech. (WI) 45.7%
10. Foothill College (CA) 45.6%

"Smaller schools," Wilkerson noted a trend, "are producing the best completion rates across the country. Most of these schools have less than 6,000 students and a majority are located in places with about 20,000 or less residents."

The Chronicle looked at 3,800 degree-granting institutions.

Top 120 colleges (cont.)

Holstein indicated the college is planning to apply for the Aspen prize. He added that a share of student success at RLC can be partly attributed to the college's Learning Enhancement Center where any student can get free tutoring. "I believe, if we have a recipe for success, it's a concerted effort to focus on the needs of our students."

CONTENDER FOR \$1M PRIZE ► Aspen Institute Excellence Program returns RLC to Top Ten in Year Two

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 25, 2012

For the second straight year, Rend Lake College has been recognized among the top 10 percent of community colleges in the nation for its student success rates.

The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program on Monday (April 23) named its 120 top community colleges, challenging them to compete for a \$1 million fund through the 2013 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. The 2011 winner was Valencia College in Orlando, FL.

The institute's mission is to improve colleges' understanding and capacity to teach and graduate students by sharing and building on best practices found at community colleges across the nation. The goal especially targets the growing population of low-income and minority students on American campuses.

"It is, of course, an honor to receive this recognition for a second straight year for the quality efforts made at RLC to ensure our students are successful," said President Charley D. Holstein. "Our practices remain student-focused. Our student success rates, compared to our peers nationally, depict just that."

"The success of our nation's community colleges is more important than ever before," said Aspen Institute College Excellence Program Executive Director Josh Wyner, who made the announcement at the annual convention of the American Association of Community Colleges in Orlando, FL.

"At a time when a college degree is essential to entering the middle class, community colleges offer the most promising path to education and employment for literally millions of Americans. This competition spotlights excellence and helps raise the bar for all community colleges to improve

student achievement and better prepare the next generation for the job market after college."

RLC's graduation rate – above 50 percent – is more than double the state average and highest of all public two-year colleges in Illinois, according to the latest information from the Illinois Community College Board. Other Illinois community colleges that made the list include Illinois Eastern Community Colleges – Lincoln Trail College in Robinson, Olney Central College and Wabash Valley College in Mt. Carmel; Lake Land College in Mattoon, and Spoon River College in Canton.

"We continue to concentrate our efforts on student success as the indicators assessed by the Aspen Institute illustrate," said Holstein. "With a dedicated and focused faculty, staff and administration, these indicators will continue to improve even more as we remain engaged in ensuring the success of our students."

According to The Aspen Institute, it determined which community colleges across the U.S. would make its top 120 by using a quantitative formula that assesses performance and improvement in four areas: graduation rates, degrees awarded, student retention rates and equity in student outcomes.

These colleges will now compete for the prestigious honor following a year-long research process into how well their students learn, complete degrees and get jobs with competitive wages after graduating.

"We do plan to compete for the \$1 million Aspen prize," added Holstein. "For the second straight year, the Aspen Institute has recognized us for our efforts in ensuring student success, so I am confident our efforts and practices should make us competitive for the award."

A full list of the 120 community colleges is available at www.AspenPrize.org. Prize winners will be announced in March 2013, according to the institute.

NEW LOGO IN 2010 ILLUSTRATES COMMITMENT TO VALUES

Branding Committee puts its 'stamp' on Rend Lake College

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE FEBRUARY 22, 2010

Rend Lake College is proud to announce a new logo, created with a team effort between the college's Branding Committee and the Arthur Agency out of Carbondale.

The new logo features the college's Clock Tower, a prominent piece of architecture on the Ina campus, over the words Rend Lake College in a serif font.

President Charley Holstein called the new logo a proud milestone for RLC. "I'm happy to say we really have a true logo now. I'd like to thank the committee members and our friends at the Arthur Agency . . . for their efforts as well."

Work to develop the new logo began with formation of the college's Branding Committee in March 2009. Holstein credited Vice President of Finance and Administration Larry West's leadership of the committee to pull together all the ideas and come up with the logo.

"That's not an easy task and a lot needs to be said of Larry and his team for coming up with something as quality as this."

"This is an exciting time for Rend Lake College," West said. "The Branding Committee worked hard. Over my years in higher education, this has been one of the best committees I've worked on."

The 19 members of that committee represent a cross-section of the college:

- Heather Bauersachs, RLC Murphy-Wall Pinckneyville Campus Coordinator
- Shari Carpenter, Computer Science Associate Professor
- Chad Copple, Director of Marketing and Public Information
- Dorothy DeAngelo, Bookstore Manager
- Jo Dick, Assistant to the Vice President of Career Technical Instruction
- Joe Ervin, English Instructor
- Trinda Heitmeyer, Data and Technology Specialist for Project CHILD
- Nick LeMay, Assistant Director of the Small Business Development Center
- Jennifer Tarantino Linsin, Graphic Design Associate Professor
- Glenna Maxwell, Payroll and Financial Accountant
- Jamie McGovern, Student
- Erin Morris, Student
- Julie Oxford, Administrative Assistant for Athletics



- Cheri Rushing, Financial Aid Advisor
- Jason Swann, College Recruiter / Counselor
- Sue Tomlin, Sociology and Anthropology Professor
- Larry West, Vice President of Finance and Administration
- Nathan Wheeler, Assistant Director of Marketing and Public Information
- Terry Wilkerson, Applied Science and Technology Division Chair

The committee's first assignment was to develop a new logo.

"It's hard to make one mark that will say everything the college offers our students and the community," West said. "The committee wanted a brand that would show our commitment to the values of accessibility, community, innovation, education, employment and opportunity. I think we've done that with this brand."

After the Branding Committee came up with what it wanted to accomplish, the college hired the Arthur Agency of Carbondale to help develop the logo. The company has a good reputation for putting together effective marketing plans.

"We wanted to work with someone who was familiar with our college and Clint [Eilerts] is a graduate of Rend Lake College." Eilerts and Dennis Poshard are co-owners of the Arthur Agency, which has been doing business in the area for the past seven years.

"The new logo will serve many purposes," Eilerts said. "It breathes new life into their brand and can stand the test of time by complementing any marketing campaign or initiative. The logo gives Rend Lake College a clear identity that can easily be used



It's a Fact: The Illinois Community College System

www.iccb.org / 2014

The Illinois Community College System is third-largest in the nation, educating nearly one million students each year.

Earning an Associate of Applied Science or long-term certificate from an Illinois community college adds more than \$570,000 in lifetime earnings.

The average full-time Illinois C.C. student pays only \$3,570 per year in tuition and fees.

Nine out of 10 C.C. graduates live, work, pay taxes and raise their families in Illinois.

The "typical" Illinois C.C. student is female, white, age 27, enrolled part-time and preparing for transfer to a four-year institution.

More than 2/3 of minorities in Illinois public higher education attend community colleges, and about 15,000 students with disabilities and 62,000 students with limited English proficiency are served each year.

Illinois community colleges educate 65% of students enrolled in Illinois public higher education but receive only 16% of higher education funding.

Nearly 74% of Illinois employers have hired a C.C. student over the last 12 years, and over 26% of employees have completed a credit course at a C.C. in that same period.

A year after graduation, Illinois community college occupational graduates averaged a salary of \$36,420 in 2012.

Community colleges offered 8,780 dual credit courses to 82,895 high school students.

Illinois was the first state in the nation to "guarantee" its C.C. occupational graduates.



Illinois Articulation Initiative eases course credit transfer

I.C.C.B. NEWS SEPTEMBER 1994

A major new reform that will ensure ease of course credit transfers from two-year public community colleges to four-year institutions has been adopted by the Illinois Community College Board, the coordinating agency for 49 community colleges.

At its September 16 meeting, the ICCB approved the adoption of the Illinois Articulation Initiative – Phase I. It will replace the current process of articulating each transfer course with individual universities. Faculty member panels representing all colleges and universities throughout the state determined a General Education Core Curriculum that will be accepted for transfer by Illinois colleges and universities. The new curriculum will allow transfer students easier access to four-year institutions and includes a minimum of 37 semester hours of courses in communications, math, science, humanities and social sciences.

ICCB Chairman Harry L. Crisp II noted the initiative's importance: "This is the most significant improvement in statewide policy on articulation and transfer to occur in the last 24 years. This initiative makes Illinois a national leader in articulation and transfer reform." ICCB Interim Executive Director Dr. Ivan Lach commented, "This process will assure students that their first two years of higher education at a community college will be accepted toward a baccalaureate degree at any four-year college or university in Illinois."

'Branded' (cont.)

consistently, and one they can be proud of and shout from the rooftops."

"From our unique roof line to the Rend Lake College Walls of Fame and Honor, our college's landscape is littered with good features," West said. "But they are all a backdrop to the Rend Lake College Clock Tower. It is highly visible, memorable and is the distinct landmark of our campus. Plus, it was a project completely funded by the staff and faculty of Rend Lake College."

Before now, Rend Lake College had only used the college seal as its logo. The seal was adopted on March 19, 1968. It was designed by student Ross John Wakefield, under the direction of instructor James McGhee.

"The seal really should be a revered emblem for the college," Holstein said. "The logo is something more common that you will see out and about on campus and in the community."

"The seal is not being retired. It is being reserved for rightful use in moments of reverence, like our Commencement," West added.

The new logo is being phased in. It appears on the latest College Catalog and a few retail items will be available in the Bookstore.

The public is invited to attend Homecoming Wednesday night in the gym, where the new logo will be unveiled to the public. College officials will be handing out free T-shirts with the logo on them to the first 100 in the door for the basketball games. The first game tips off at 5:30 p.m. and the Branding Committee will showcase the logo to the crowd in between the men and women's games. Cheerleaders also will be throwing out some free T-shirts throughout the night.

Rend Lake College officials invite everyone to come celebrate Homecoming, during which the RLC student and faculty/staff Homecoming Kings and Queens will be crowned, and the college will launch its third Big Read partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts.



CHICAGO CONFERENCE Higher Learning Commission hears RLC reps boast about FYE and Tk20

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE MARCH 30, 2015

CHICAGO – Rend Lake College representatives Christina Kuberski, Vice President of Academic Instruction, and Henry Leeck, Dean of Liberal Arts, participated in the Higher Learning Commission's (HLC) Annual Conference yesterday in Chicago.

At the RLC booth, Kuberski and Leeck shared information about the college's First Year Experience (FYE) freshman orientation program, which was named the 2014 Quality Initiative Project by the HLC.

Course goals include helping students engage on campus, learn organization skills, prepare to meet professional standards for behavior and understand and successfully navigate the college culture.

The new program started with the need to revamp the then-online orientation process for incoming freshmen at Rend Lake College. Now the course is a face-to-face setup and is designed to build stronger connections between students and the faculty and staff.

Kuberski also was invited to address the HLC 2015 Annual Conference regarding the college's assessment process and the transition between a handcrafted assessment system to Tk20 the last two years.

She was joined at the podium by Abby Stott, Manager of Products for Tk20.

Customized assessment solutions provided by Tk20 enables the college to create an integrated culture of evidence throughout the campus by addressing Assessment and Reporting, Strategic Planning, Institutional Research and Accreditation.

Administrators, Faculty, Staff and Students all benefit from the ability to have access to select Tk20 data.

According to Reference/Instruction Librarian Garrett Trott of Corban University on the Tk20 website, "Students always need more information. More and more careers and professions depend not only on accessing information, but also on an employee's ability to weed through the massive information overload of the 21st Century. Therefore, higher education is in the midst of transitioning to teaching not only disciplinary content but also disciplinary method: how information is found, utilized and cited in 21st Century research. Because of this, information literacy is becoming a critical element in today's collegiate education."

ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY 2002

For every \$1 in RLC wages, another \$.25 generated off-campus

REND LAKE COLLEGE FACTBOOK 2003

Source: ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY, C.C. BENEFITS 2002

FACT SHEET: ECONOMIC IMPACT OF R.L.C.

What role does Rend Lake College play in the local economy? Business sales in Rend Lake Economic Region are \$138.3 million larger and labor income is \$64.8 million larger due to the past and present operations of Rend Lake College. The benefits of a robust local economy translate into job and investment opportunities, increased business revenues, greater availability of public funds and an eased tax burden.

RLC stimulates the local economy

- RLC had an operating budget of \$23.4 million in Fiscal 2001 and spent \$13.1 million (56%) of this on wages, salaries and supply purchases in Rend Lake Economic Region.

- RLC employs 233 full-time and 292 part-time faculty and staff. RLC paid faculty and staff wages of \$12.6 million in FY2001.

- For every \$1 RLC pays in wages and salaries, there is another \$.25 in wages and salaries generated off-campus in the Rend Lake Economic Region economy – this is the commonly known multiplier effect.

- RLC activities encourage new business, assist existing business and create long-term economic growth. The college enhances worker skills and provides customized training to local business and industry. It is estimated the present-day Rend Lake Economic Region workforce embodies over .6 million credit and non-credit hours of past and present RLC training.

- RLC skills embodied in the present-day workforce increase the output of industries in the Rend Lake Economic Region economy where the former students are employed by \$73.90 million. Associated multiplier effects (sometimes called indirect effects) in other industries increase sales by \$56.12 million.

- RLC skills from current and former students increase wages and salaries in Rend Lake Economic Region by \$27.7 million directly and by another \$21.4 million indirectly in FY2001.

RLC leverages taxpayer dollars

- State and local government allocated \$13 million in support of RLC in FY2001. For every dollar appropriated by state and county government, RLC's spending alone generated \$1.21 in wages and salaries in Rend Lake Economic Region.

- For every dollar appropriated by the state and county government in FY2001, student earnings will increase by an average of \$.91 per year every year through the rest of their working lives. Likewise, for every state dollar appropriated, Rend Lake Economic Region will see social savings of \$.09 per year every year (i.e., reduced incarceration and health care expenditures, reduced expenditures on unemployment and welfare and reduced absenteeism).

Generates return on government investment

- State and local government support for RLC in FY2001 will be fully recovered in 7.1 years, in the form of higher tax receipts (from increased student wages) and avoided costs (e.g., from reduced public expenditures on incarceration).

- Accounting for increased tax receipts and avoided costs, state and local government will see a rate of return of 18.3% on its FY2001 support for RLC.

RLC increases individual earning potential

- 11,497 credit and non-credit students attended the college in FY2001; 80% were employed full- or part-time while attending.

- 73% of students stay in the region and contribute to the local economy after college.

- Studies demonstrate that education increases lifetime earnings. The average annual earnings of students with a one-year certificate is \$38,377, or 79.5% more than someone without a high school degree or GED, and 15.8% more than a student with just a high school diploma. The average earnings of someone with an Associate Degree is \$45,056, or 110.7% more than someone without a high school degree or GED, and 36.0% more than a student with just a high school diploma or GED.

- After leaving college, the average student will spend 30.5 years in the workforce. The student who leaves with a two-year degree will earn \$364,277 more than someone with just a high school degree or GED.

- Over those 30.5 years in the workforce, the average RLC student's lifetime earnings will increase \$14 for every education dollar invested (in the form of tuition, fees, books and forgone earnings from employment).

- Students enjoy an attractive 32.9% rate of return on their RLC educational investment and recover all costs (including wages foregone while attending RLC) in 4.5 years.



College Signing Day for those who 'Reach Higher'

APRIL-MAY 2016

"College Signing Day" took on new meaning in Spring 2016.

No longer exclusive to standout high school student-athletes making their choice of a college team known, signing day reached out to all prospective college students. And Rend Lake College was quick to take advantage of the opportunity.

RLC reps traveled around the district in April and May to visit high schools and "sign" incoming star students for Fall 2016.

The "Reach Higher" initiative was launched by First Lady Michelle Obama as a way to provide encouragement for students and activating educators, counselors and other adults to help young people see college as an option.

According to information from the Reach Higher initiative, education after high school is a critical part of a successful future. College graduates have more opportunities than those who choose not to pursue their education past high school. Studies indicate college graduates are set to make 84 percent more over their lifetimes than high school graduates.

Results from the special Registration/Photo Opportunities: Benton Consolidated H.S., 28 signees; Christopher High School, 27; Hamilton County Sr. H.S., 37; Mt. Vernon Township H.S., 75; Norris City-Omaha-Enfield H.S., 9; Pinckneyville Community H.S., 28; Thompsonville Community H.S. 11; Waltonville H.S., 7; Wayne City H.S., 11; Webber Twp. H.S., 25 (80%); Woodlawn Community H.S., 12, and Zeigler-Royalton H.S., 12.



You have left a part of you
at Rend Lake College ...

TARN 1974 YEARBOOK

DEAN WARD'S MESSAGE

Tennyson said, "I am part of all that I have met," and so those with whom you have associated during your years at Rend Lake College are already woven into your life's pattern.

Can you remember the first time you saw Rend Lake College and your first impressions? I can and I was impressed by what I saw.

I continue to be impressed that learning at Rend Lake College is more than an accumulation of hours of classroom exposure, that different personalities flourish in different climates, that teaching is the opportunity for shared learning, that the quality of education is the quality of our students.

Just as Rend Lake College has become a part of your life's tapestry, you have left a part of you at Rend Lake College.



"Time is not measured by the passing of the years, but by what one does, what one feels and what one achieves."

— Jawaharlal Nehru



Philip G. Ward
Dean of the College



The cost in 2002-03 ...

\$ 1,664 **RENDAKECOLLEGE**
(Tuition only - 32 hours)



The cost in 2012-13 ...

\$ 3,040 **RENDAKECOLLEGE**
(Tuition only - 32 hours)

DISTRICT DEMOGRAPHICS BY COMMUNITY

CALENDAR YEAR 2001

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Community	Population	Households	Median Household Income	Average Home Value
▶ BENTON	12,088	5,022	\$ 32,022	\$ 75,502
▶ BUCKNER	470	210	\$ 27,187	\$ 49,900
▶ CHRISTOPHER	2,863	1,309	\$ 31,500	\$ 57,038
▶ EWING	705	256	\$ 32,361	\$ 66,666
▶ MULKEYTOWN	1,802	742	\$ 33,250	\$ 61,356
▶ ROYALTON	1,537	678	\$ 31,666	\$ 52,644
▶ SESSER	3,025	1,276	\$ 31,921	\$ 62,457
▶ THOMPSONVILLE	2,410	914	\$ 32,291	\$ 70,689
▶ ZEIGLER	1,657	706	\$ 28,181	\$ 49,565

HAMILTON COUNTY

▶ BROUGHTON	646	258	\$ 24,642	\$ 58,055
▶ DAHLGREN	1,615	627	\$ 30,913	\$ 67,734
▶ DALE	541	206	\$ 30,865	\$ 57,761
▶ MACEDONIA ¹	1,374	513	\$ 31,517	\$ 59,640
▶ MCLEANSBORO	4,483	1,862	\$ 29,613	\$ 59,799

JEFFERSON COUNTY

▶ BELLE RIVE	932	335	\$ 31,739	\$ 59,516
▶ BLUFORD	2,421	899	\$ 41,704	\$ 66,709
▶ BONNIE	1,218	484	\$ 34,305	\$ 66,632
▶ DIX	1,858	772	\$ 32,554	\$ 81,137
▶ INA	2,789	322	\$ 21,397	\$ 55,530
▶ MT. VERNON	24,256	10,093	\$ 32,390	\$ 87,599
▶ OPDYKE	892	301	\$ 41,953	\$ 76,599
▶ SCHELLER	748	289	\$ 34,375	\$ 67,897
▶ TEXICO	1,302	509	\$ 41,684	\$ 96,298
▶ WALTONVILLE	1,077	416	\$ 36,979	\$ 62,563
▶ WOODLAWN	2,414	886	\$ 39,843	\$ 86,242

PERRY COUNTY

▶ PINCKNEYVILLE	8,451	2,622	\$ 34,943	\$ 81,630
▶ TAMAROA	2,065	814	\$ 31,452	\$ 66,580

WAYNE COUNTY

▶ KEENES	1,030	380	\$ 30,500	\$ 63,500
▶ SIMS	812	316	\$ 34,027	\$ 52,916
▶ WAYNE CITY	1,459	618	\$ 31,132	\$ 67,028

WHITE COUNTY

▶ ENFIELD	1,209	496	\$ 30,089	\$ 61,692
▶ SPRINGERTON	504	203	\$ 27,500	\$ 59,333

R.L.C. DISTRICT 521

▶ TOTAL / AVERAGE	90,653	35,334	\$ 32,390	\$ 65,881
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NATIONAL

▶ TOTAL / AVERAGE	285,412,400	107,079,466	\$ 41,369	\$ 165,558
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¹ Also located in Franklin County

Source: INFORMATION DECISION SYSTEMS / From: REND LAKE COLLEGE FACTBOOK 2003

MISCELLANEOUS

'No significant' difference in grade distribution from 1986-96

REND LAKE COLLEGE F.Y.I. APRIL 7, 1997

There apparently is no truth to any rumors you may have heard that Rend Lake College instructors have gone soft and are giving out inflated grades.

"The totals from the 1986 and 1996 Grade Distribution Reports seem to indicate there is no significant difference," commented Dr. Steve Tietz, RLC Vice President.

"In fact, if anything, their is a slight deflation of grades – there are 3 percent fewer A's and 3 percent more E's."

Added Tietz: "This stability can only indicate inflation if one assumes the preparation and performance of students to be declining from year to year."

Tietz credits the assessment test – ASSET – for enabling Rend Lake College students to have a greater chance for success.

In the early 1980s, prior to ASSET testing, the dropout rate in English classes was nearly 50 percent, according to Tietz, the former Arts and Communications Department Chair. Once assessment testing was mandated, the dropout rate for Composition classes improved 20-30 percent and has stayed about the same level since that time.

'YOU'RE NOT JUST A NUMBER' ♦ Satisfied students dispel stereotypes of life at the community college level

MT. VERNON REGISTER-NEWS FEBRUARY 26, 1997
BY BRIAN L. HUCHEL

Easy classes, students unable to handle real life – those are some of the stereotypes about two-year community colleges.

Students at Rend Lake College, however, are quick to try to dispel them all.

"Been there, done that," Kim Hart, a second-year RLC student from Dahlgren, said about the stereotypes. "People say it's easy, and you can't leave home. But it's not easy. You get a pretty good education here."

Hart added that going to a two-year school like Rend Lake College has prepared her for classes next year at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston. She plans to major in mathematics.

As of the Fall Semester, 1,478 full-time students were enrolled at Rend Lake College. According to current figures, Rend Lake College has 650 graduates attending a four-year university as a junior or senior.

Students' reasons for attending RLC vary greatly.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION COMPARISON

Grade	A	B	C	D	E	CR	W	I
1986								
No.	2,488	2,057	1,302	551	533	2,199	794	124
Pct.	24.8%	20.5%	13.0%	5.5%	5.3%	21.9%	7.9%	1.2%
1996								
No.	2,750	2,466	1,593	543	1,005	2,864	990	117
Pct.	22.3%	20.0%	12.9%	4.4%	8.2%	23.2%	8.0%	.9%
Grades = A/B/C/D/E CR = Credit W = Withdraw I = Incomplete								

Samantha Lewis, a second-year student from Mt. Vernon, said she didn't want to immediately immerse herself – fresh out of high school – in the atmosphere of a four-year university.

"I probably was ready, educationally speaking, to go to a big school, but probably not emotionally," said Lewis, who is President of the student body at Rend Lake College. "Going to a four-year university is a big step, and I don't think I would have been ready right out of high school just to jump into the school and the campus life."

Instead, she opted for Rend Lake College and the chance to, mentally and academically, get ready for the challenge.

"I think that it's kind of an in-between step between high school and a four-year university," she said. "It's not to say the classes aren't equal to a four-year university, it's just preparing yourself for the university."

And it's that kind of preparation that can come in handy in the long run. Just ask current Southern Illinois University-Carbondale student Joe Anderton, a Christopher native who also wanted to prepare himself for a four-year university by attending Rend Lake College. The results have been rewarding.

From the standpoint of size, there is no comparison between Rend Lake College and SIUC, Anderton said.

"But if you look at the teachers here, they are a lot better because they have smaller classes. They get to know you, and can help you out more. You are not just a number like at other schools."

At Rend Lake College, Anderton was able to complete most of the general education courses required as prerequisites to courses relating to a particular major. He



FYI Fun Facts from Fact Books

QUICK FACTS 2002 - 07

■ 2002 >>>
Hamburgers purchased in College Cafeteria – 240 per week

■ 2003 >>>
Rolls of Toilet Paper used by the college in 2002 – 7,200

■ 2004 >>>
Cookies given away on Subway Free Cookie Day April 15, 2004 – 480

■ 2005 >>>
Pedicures given to customers at Studio RLC Cosmetology January 1-December 31, 2004 – 1,069

■ 2006 >>>
Nine students and one faculty member from the Culinary Arts Club volunteered at a restaurant in New Orleans to help Hurricane Katrina victims during Spring Break 2006.

■ 2007 >>>
A group of 14 – including student, staff and a faculty member – traveled to New York City during Spring Break for a Topics in Social Science course. While there, this group ate a total of 52 feet of New York hot dogs.



Associate in Science Degree added to A.A. Degree in '81

ANNUAL REPORT 1981-82

Graduates may now receive an Associate in Science Degree from Rend Lake College following a recommendation by Dean of Instruction Mark S. Kern and Board approval in January. Previously, the college offered Baccalaureate degrees in approximately seven areas, all under the Associate of Arts Degree.

Granting two separate degrees for those students pursuing a four-year diploma, pointed out Kern, "would be consistent with B.A. and B.S. degrees granted by four-year institutions."

The number of specific courses required for the A.A. Degree was increased from 16 to 39 credit hours, with 25 hours still permitted for electives.



ADULT EDUCATION

Fiscal Year	Students	Units of Instruction
FY03	324	2,097
FY04	306	1,920
FY05	335	1,812
FY06	339	2,137
FY07	250	1,822
FY08	242	1,587
FY09	278	1,838
FY10	274	2,103
FY11	217	1,494
FY12	212	1,843
FY13	184	1,526
FY14	138	1,065
FY15	120	1,346
FY16	126	1,165

ADULT LITERACY

Fiscal Yr	Tutors	Students	Families
FY04	88	440	25
FY05	31	256	36
FY06	33	206	
FY07	29	109	
FY08	18	97	
FY09	20	152	
FY10	25	159	
FY11	27	176	
FY12	39	184	
FY13	30	151	
FY14	28	139	
FY15	33	125	

[Volunteer Partnerships/Families]

Misc. (cont.)

also discovered a little bit about his future, he said.

"(My major) was Administration Justice when I first got here," he said. "Then I decided I didn't want to be stuck in Administration Justice in case something fell through there. I wanted to keep my options open."

Anderton is now majoring in Sociology at SIUC.

Hart was in a similar situation coming out of high school. A decision to study Engineering has shifted to a major in Mathematics while she has been at Rend Lake College.

"It gave me an opportunity to do my classes and not feel like I had no idea what I was heading into," she said. "I could take a couple classes here and a couple classes there, and then decide on what I wanted to be."

Emotional or academic preparation aren't the only factors that will convince a high school student to attend a two-year school first. Sometimes, economics plays a large role in the decision.

Lewis said her two years at Rend Lake College – one of which was paid for through a scholarship – let her save money to go to Illinois State University in the fall. She will major in art, she said.

Saving money was also the reason that Ryan Stanford, a student from Woodlawn High School, chose Rend Lake College first.

"Obviously, the money helps," said Stanford, an Ag Business major in his second year. It costs twice as much to go down (to SIUC). Besides, I get all my general education classes done here and I can jump into my major classes down there."

Stanford also decided on Rend Lake College, he said, after speaking with his brother, who went to SIUC directly from high school. "He was the guinea pig," Stanford said.

Responding to those who might criticize attending a community college first, Stanford noted that students who graduate from a two-year school tend to finish the curriculum at a four-year university at a higher level than those who enter the university directly out of high school.

According to statistics released by Rend Lake College and SIUC, the mean grade-point average of students who graduated from RLC is 2.84 – 0.28 higher than the average GPA of 9,244 SIUC students who did not attend a two-year school, and 0.11 higher than the average GPA of the entire student body.

These numbers also hold true for a few of the students who thought they might have done all right going straight to a four-year school, but not as well as they are doing right now at Rend Lake College.

"I would not have adapted as well at a four-year as I did here," Hart said. "Here, you have your parents' support, but there you just have a lot of people your own age."

And what would they say to convince a high school student considering attending a two-year school first?

"I'd tell them if they feel like they're not sure what they're going to be, and if they don't want to totally jump into life immediately, then this would be a great place," Hart said. "It depends on the person and how they feel."



TO BE CONTINUED . . . ▶ As far back as 1981, RLC rates praise for 'stable budget during difficult times'

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE FEBRUARY 1982

Rend Lake College refuses to rest on its laurels.

Considering some of the accomplishments of the past 12 months (1981), it would not be too surprising to find college officials content to sit around patting each other on the back.

As recently as last October, for instance, a visitation team from North Central Association of Colleges and Schools recommended a seven-year accreditation for the comprehensive community college.

Reviews from the team's 2 1/2-day stay brought praise for the "outstanding physical facilities which are attractive, well-maintained and certainly conducive to learning," well qualified and dedicated faculty members and a student population, including graduates, who display "a positive attitude toward the college and are well satisfied with the education they are receiving."

Later that same week, an official recognition visit by representatives of the Illinois Community College Board – its first on-site evaluation in the college's 15-year history – provided more reason to boast.

"The college Board, administration and staff are to be complimented," noted an ICCB guest, "for being able to keep a stable budget during difficult times. It is a credit to the college that you have been able to provide the services you have with resources which are available."

"An exceptional number of very positive things," cited the Visitation Team's Chair, who added, "It was very easy for us to decide to grant the college full recognition."

Yet college officials celebrated this news by keeping their focus on the future rather than relishing in the past.

Facility planning for the 1980s has taken center stage, with the culmination of this effort to go before Community College District 521 voters March 16 with a proposition to issue \$4 million in bonds which would provide additional vocational lab and classroom space as well as minor renovation and construction projects.

"Rend Lake College has been an important factor in the educational and economic development of Southern Illinois," according to RLC President Harry J. Braun. This influence is illustrated by the dramatic growth in college enrollment since 1966, when district voters last went to the polls on behalf of the two-year college which serves most of Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson and Perry Counties and parts of Wayne and White. (Washington and Williamson are represented, for the most part, by unincorporated areas.)

Continuing enrollment shifts have put a strain on certain college facilities, however. In the last six years, for example, the number of students in Vocational-Technical programs has increased 40 percent while Baccalaureate-Transfer classes have experienced only moderate gains. Facilities designed over a decade ago are no longer sufficient to meet this demand; in particular, space is not adequate to handle many of the live-lab exposures preferred by both instructors and students in such programs as Mining Technology, Agriculture and Automotive Technology, nor does it permit college officials to accept some of the training requests which come from various segments of the industrial and business community.

The proposed bonds, totalling \$4 million, would place the initial (highest) tax rate at approximately 13 cents, amounting to between \$13-\$18 annually for the average homeowner. This is less than the average rate paid over a 13-year period to retire the original bonds for the present campus, which is debt-free.

[Voters rejected the bond proposal.]

Staff and program planning likewise has resulted in the college's entry into the world of computers, both micros and minis, with the possibility of offering either a certificate

or degree program in Data Processing in the near future. Introduction to Computer classes are being offered to RLC students on-campus for the first time this spring.

To prepare for a reduction in state appropriations anticipated in the amount of \$169,000, college officials recently received permission to increase tuition 15 percent next fall, from \$13 to \$15 per credit hour, in order to increase the local share of revenue responsibilities in today's tightening economy.

Achievements the past year would seem to indicate Rend Lake College is meeting the needs of its district residents.

In fact, one ICCB report indicates Rend Lake College serves a greater percentage of the population within the district than any other institution covering as many square miles. There are more than 35 RLC students for every 1,000 residents, according to the report.

Community Services findings for the past year reveal over 1,100 students enrolled in classes offered at off-campus sites in Mt. Vernon, Benton, McLeansboro, Pinckneyville, Christopher, Sesser, Wayne City and Woodlawn. Another 1,879 residents attended workshops and seminars conducted by Rend Lake College, over 300 took advantage of special trips to the St. Louis Muny Opera and Westport Playhouse. Another 13,000 persons were on-campus to attend other events either hosted by RLC or conducted on the college campus.

A toll-free WATS line was readily accepted by the district, witness an average of about 50 incoming calls per day on one telephone line in the first two months of its existence.

National attention to Rend Lake College occurred at least twice in recent months:

- United States Ambassador to the United Nations Jeane Jordan Kirkpatrick received an Honorary Associate Degree from Rend Lake College when she returned to her hometown of Mt. Vernon for a day in her honor.

- Electrical objectives for the coal mining industry nationwide were established during meetings conducted on the Ina campus by the Mine Safety and Health Administration and attended by RLC Instructor Chuck Foster.

Local attention was directed primarily at RLC students . . .

- Graduates of the Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program who took state



Summer four-day work week saves money, boosts morale

NEWS RELEASE MAY 18, 1978

In an attempt to save approximately \$8,000 in utilities costs, the Rend Lake College Board of Trustees granted the college administration's recommendation to operate on a four-day week during the summer term.

Interim President H.J. Haberaecker told Trustees May 16 the purpose of the four-day week is twofold. "One is the financial savings for taxpayers and the college. The other is to improve the morale of the college staff by giving longer weekends," he added.

[Most faculty operate on a nine-month contract; it is at their discretion to teach a summer class(es) for additional pay.]

The RLC campus will be open Monday-Thursday from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. allowing the air conditioning system to be turned off after Thursday evening until Monday morning. College employees will work the same amount of hours as during a five-day week due to the lengthened hours but also will benefit from a 20 percent reduction in commuting costs.

The Interim President pointed out several community colleges statewide have operated on a four-day basis during the summer months and experienced substantial financial savings - up to \$14,000.

Special Mining classes will be conducted on Fridays, but the Mining facility does not depend on the campus central air conditioning units.

The four-day week begins June 5. The college will return to a five-day week August 11. The practice continued for a number of years.



Reasons to attend a C.C. > Qualities with wide appeal

www.iccb.org

■ Accessible and Affordable

Tuition costs average \$1,600 per year; university costs are more than twice that. With 48 two-year colleges statewide, one can be found nearby.

■ Smaller Class Sizes

More personalized attention. Instructors get to know their students. Students get to network with each other.

■ Quality Instruction / Support Services

Well-qualified faculty. Classrooms equipped with the latest technology. Tutors, advising and other services available.

■ Diverse Programs

One- and two-year Certificates or Baccalaureate-Transfer programs in Occupational and Academic areas. Businesses seek community colleges to train employees.

■ Transfer Opportunities

More than 10,000 courses can be transferred statewide.

Misc. (cont.)

board exams all passed for the second year in a row, a feat never before accomplished and one necessary to raise the overall success rate for all Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market schools to 87 percent.

• Tuition-free scholarships were awarded to JETS engineering contest overall winners, essay writing contest winners, President's Scholarship recipients for academic excellence in high school and a sophomore-to-be for outstanding contributions (and grades) made as a Rend Lake College freshman.



WALLETHUB STUDY 2015 ▶ RLC 19th-Best 'Education Outcomes' nationally; 9th-Best in Illinois overall

NEWS RELEASES ~ REND LAKE COLLEGE, www.wallet-hub.com and www.rebootillinois.com SEPTEMBER 2015

Rend Lake College is ranked 19th nationally in terms of "Education Outcomes" and No. 9 overall in Illinois, according to WalletHub, a financial website, in an attempt to identify the Best and Worst Community Colleges for 2015.

The study published in late August included 670 two-year institutions out of a possible 1,100-plus and was based on several key factors. A total of 17 key perfor-

mance metrics went into four categories for measurement and ranking purposes: Cost and Financing, Classroom Experience, Education Outcomes and Career Outcomes.

Comprising Education Outcomes were first-year retention rate, graduation rate, transfer-out rate and credentials (degrees and certificates) awarded per 100 full-time-equivalent students.

Financially strapped Illinois community colleges, in general, did not fare well in the survey but did better in Education Outcomes than any of the other three categories. Lake Land College of Mattoon was ninth and Elgin Community College 11th ahead of RLC at No. 19. Five other in-state representatives were between Nos. 36-58.

"It's always nice to see the hard work of the faculty and staff recognized, especially on the national level," said President Terry Wilkerson. "The culture of Rend Lake has been, and continues to be, centered on the success of our students."

RLC also outperformed many peer colleges in the Career Outcomes category, checking in at 194th. This category focused on the return on educational investment – the ratio of starting salaries for graduates to cost of education (weighted double) – and student-loan default rate.

Shawnee Community College of Ulin and two Chicago institutions, Truman and Olive-Harvey, were among 22 colleges sharing the No. 1 spot in Career Outcomes. RLC's 194 ranking was sixth-best among Illinois representatives.

Overall, the Illinois system was judged 34th out of 44 states considered. Not included: Alaska, Delaware, Indiana, Rhode Island, South Dakota and Vermont.

Rend Lake College was No. 366, in the top half of the 760 institutions rated.

In the Cost and Financing category, colleges were measured on the cost of in-state tuition and fees, amount of state and local aid, total amount of federal aid, cost per student, school spending efficiency and faculty staff salary.

The highest ranked Illinois Juco in Cost and Financing was Highland Community College (Freeport) at 217th.

The fourth category – Classroom Experience – focused on active and collaborative learning, student effort, academic challenge, student-faculty interaction, support for learners and the student-to-faculty ratio.

Kennedy-King and Shawnee led Illinois



SUMMARY OF TRANSFER RATES BY COLLEGE FY01-FY15

COLUMN A / No. of Fall ___ entrants with no prior college experience who completed 12 or more semester credits by Spring ___

COLUMN B / No. of Fall ___ entrants with no prior college experience who completed 12 or more sem. cr. and who transferred to senior institutions by Fall ___

FISCAL YEAR	REPORT STUDY DATES	COL. A	COL. B	TRANSFER RATE	STATE RANK	STATE AVG.
FY01	Fall '95 - Spring / Fall '99	726	174	24.0%	18th	22.1%
FY02	Fall '96 - Spring / Fall '00	1,083	252	23.3%	21st	22.7%
FY03	Fall '97 - Spring / Fall '01	884	211	23.9%	24th	24.7%
FY04	Fall '98 - Spring / Fall '02	799	178	22.3%	22nd	22.9%
FY05	Fall '99 - Spring / Fall '03	729	192	26.3%	31st	30.4%
FY06	Fall '00 - Spring / Fall '04	716	210	29.3%	26th	31.2%
FY07	Fall '01 - Spring / Fall '05	892	332	37.2%	27th	38.4%
FY08	Fall '02 - Spring / Fall '06	796	305	38.3%	21st	37.6%
FY09	Fall '03 - Spring / Fall '07	587	160	27.3%	41st	36.5%
FY10	Fall '04 - Spring / Fall '08	812	245	30.2%	38th	37.3%
FY11	Fall '05 - Spring / Fall '09	981	294	30.0%	36th	37.1%
FY12	Fall '06 - Spring / Fall '10	927	289	31.2%	36th	37.8%
FY13	Fall '07 - Spring / Fall '11	926	293	31.6%	33rd	37.8%
FY14	Fall '08 - Spring / Fall '12	1,003	316	31.5%	35th	37.4%
FY15	Fall '09 - Spring / Fall '13	1,104	315	28.5%	35th	36.5%

Source: ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD

reps in Classroom Experience at 55th and 64th, respectively.

Shawnee was WalletHub's top-ranked Illinois institution at No. 92, with Kankakee C.C. next-best at No. 188. Nos. 3-8 on the Illinois list: Carl Sandburg (194), Olive-Harvey (221), Lake County (250), Elgin (304), Harper (327) and Spoon River (343).

As the cost of attending four-year colleges soars, community colleges are an appealing alternative for those seeking a more affordable option to advance their education.

Two-year community colleges long have fought the stereotype that they don't stack up academically to traditional universities, but with college costs rising faster than the rate of inflation, attending community colleges has become a more practical choice for prospective students.

But guess what: Community College graduates are even out-earning Bachelor Degree holders. Indeed, the "junior colleges" are finally garnering the respect they deserve.

Much of the "second-rate college" stigma stems from: price, demographics and graduation times. Cheaper tuition rates are a clear incentive, but affordability also signals subpar educational quality to skeptics. With an average student age of 28, the nontraditional profile perpetuates a misconception students flunked out of high school or failed admissions standards elsewhere.

A vast majority of students balance studies with jobs, family or both – commitments that limit enrollment to one or two classes per semester.

Across the board, however, community colleges are slowly stacking up against their traditional four-year

counterparts. Schedule flexibility, rigorous coursework and smaller class sizes supply the majority of their appeal to first-time college entrants as well as to university students choosing to transfer to community colleges – an emerging trend that goes against the usual grain of transitioning from institutions.

The best community colleges in Illinois, according to WalletHub . . .

1. **Shawnee (Overall - 92)** Ullin
2. **Kankakee (188)** Kankakee
3. **Carl Sandburg (194)** Galesburg
4. **Olive-Harvey (221)** Chicago
5. **Lake County (250)** Grayslake
6. **Elgin (304)** Elgin
7. **Harper (327)** Palatine
8. **Spoon River (343)** Canton
9. **REND LAKE (366)** Ina
10. **Morton (377)** Cicero
11. **Illinois Valley (381)** Oglesby
12. **Kennedy-King (412)** Chicago
13. **McHenry County (427)** Crystal Lake
14. **Lake Land (438)** Mattoon
15. **Rock Valley (452)** Rockford
16. **Prairie State (460)** Chicago Hts.
17. **Highland (481)** Freeport
18. **Truman (488)** Chicago
19. **Lincoln Land (494)** Springfield
20. **Oakton (498)** Des Plaines
21. **Waubensee (508)** Sugar Grove
22. **Kaskaskia (513)** Centralia
23. **Parkland (555)** Champaign
24. **Triton (559)** River Grove
25. **Heartland (561)** Normal
26. **Moraine Valley (587)** Palos Hills
27. **Richard J. Daley (594)** Chicago
28. **DuPage (624)** Glen Ellyn
29. **Joliet (639)** Joliet
30. **Harold Washington (655)** Chicago
31. **Wilbur Wright (664)** Chicago

METHODOLOGY

In order to identify The Best and Worst Community Colleges in the U.S., WalletHub compared 670 institutions across four key dimensions: 1) Cost and Financing; 2) Classroom Experience; 3) Education Outcomes, and 4) Career Outcomes. Due to data limitations, we were not able to include all of the more than 1,100 members of the American Association of Community Colleges. We then compiled 17 relevant metrics and weighted them.

Our analysis draws in part on results of the Community College Survey of Student Engagement conducted by the University of Texas. Because most colleges do not administer the survey to students every year and results don't change drastically from year to year, we combined results from the three most recently available years spanning 2013-2015 for each school that participated consistently. For colleges that participated more than once in the three years, we used the most recent results.

COST AND FINANCING – Total Weight: 5

- Cost of In-State Tuition and Fees: Double Weight
- Total Amount of State and Local Aid Divided by Total Amount of Federal Aid (Grants): Full Weight
- Cost per Student (per-pupil spending by school): Full
- School Spending Efficiency (cost per student divided by cost of in-state tuition and fees): Full Weight
- Faculty Staff Salary Adjusted by Cost of Living: Full

CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE – Total Weight: 5

- Active and Collaborative Learning (measures students' level of involvement in their own education and participation in team activities/projects): Full Weight
- Student Effort (measures students' initiative to apply themselves to the learning process): Full Weight
- Academic Challenge (measures the complexity of courses and amount of work involved): Full Weight
- Student-Faculty Interaction (measures the strength of communication and personal relationships between instructors and their students): Full Weight
- Support for Learners (measures the availability and effectiveness of school-provided support services for students' academic success): Full Weight
- Student-to-Faculty Ratio: Full Weight

EDUCATION OUTCOMES – Total Weight: 5

- First-Year Retention Rate: Full Weight
- Graduation Rate: Full Weight
- Transfer-Out Rate: Half Weight
- Credentials (degrees and certificates) Awarded per 100 Full-Time-Equivalent Students: Full Weight

CAREER OUTCOMES – Total Weight: 5

- Return on Educational Investment (ratio of starting salary for graduates to cost of education): Double Weight
- Student-Loan Default Rate: Full Weight

SOURCES: National Center for Education Statistics, Center for Community College Student Engagement, Council for Community and Economic Research, American Institutes for Research and Optivity Advisors.



FULL-TIME FIRST-TIME ENTERING COHORT GRADUATED / RLC at 150% and 200% of Program Length

FALL ENTERING -	Full-Time First-Time COHORT NUMBER	Within 150% GRADUATING	PCT.	STATE RANK *	STATE MEAN	STATE AVG.	Within 200% GRADUATING	PCT.	STATE RANK *	STATE MEAN	STATE AVG.
FY07 [Fall '04 - Summers '07 / '08]	614	242	39.4%	13rd	119 -	23.0%	262	42.7%	3rd	144 -	27.1%
FY08 [Fall '05 - Summers '08 / '09]	836	371	44.4%	1st	116 -	22.2%	399	47.7%	1st	138 -	25.8%
FY09 [Fall '06 - Summers '09 / '10]	803	386	48.1%	23rd	109 -	23.4%	400	49.8%	3rd	131 -	27.0%
FY10 [Fall '07 - Summers '10 / '11]	871	438	50.3%	1st	112 -	22.9%	456	52.4%	1st	137 -	27.0%
FY11 [Fall '08 - Summers '11 / '12]	896	481	53.7%	1st	118 -	23.4%	507	56.6%	1st	147 -	27.7%
FY12 [Fall '09 - Summers '12 /]	991	464	46.8%	1st	138 -	23.4%					

* RLC State Rank compared to all colleges with minimum of 50 Cohort Number / 25 Graduating

¹ 1st - Lincoln Trail, 45 of 99 = 45.5%; 2nd - Heartland, 491 of 1,235 = 39.8% • ² 1st - LTC, 39 of 75 = 52.0%; 2nd - Wabash Valley, 25 of 50 = 50.0%

BETTER THAN OTHER JUCO PRODUCTS AS WELL

RLC transfer students typically outshine four-year 'natives'

With very few exceptions over the years, transfer students from Rend Lake College fare better at the four-year level than products of other community colleges from around the state and even "native" students, according to follow-up reports by the Illinois Community College Board and the universities.

Findings of mean grade-point averages (GPAs) for former RLC students follow a strikingly similar trend, whether for hundreds of students at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale or for much smaller numbers at Eastern Illinois University, SIU-Edwardsville or University of Illinois. It was true in the mid-1970s and it was true in the mid-1990s. It is still true today.

For example, in 1995-96, "native" students at SIUC – those students who originally enrolled at the school as freshmen, returned as sophomores and are now juniors and seniors – were credited with a mean GPA of 2.54 on a 4.0-point grading scale. Transfer students from all community colleges in Illinois did better, combining for a 2.66 GPA. And 618 Rend Lake College transfer students excelled even more with a 2.80 GPA.

The difference was even greater in 1987-88, when 342 RLC transfer students at SIUC compiled a mean GPA of 2.86, compared to the 2.50 for "natives" who began their education on the Carbondale campus.

Rend Lake College transfers, for example, in 1987-88 outperformed their "native" counterparts in all nine academic concerns reported – Agriculture; Business and Administration; Communications and Fine Arts; Education; Engineering and Technology; Human Resources; Liberal Arts; School of Technical Careers, and Science.

Eight of 50 Illinois public community college campuses represented in the Community College Summary, 1987-88, boasted a mean GPA at or above 2.78. Rend Lake College was one of seven two-year institutions represented by at least 200 transfer students at SIU-Carbondale.

Continued the report: Approximately 89.5 per cent of those former RLC students finished the Summer-Fall-Spring grading period in "good standing," compared to 87.5 per cent of community college transfers overall and 80.0 per cent of "native" students.

"Once again, we have documentation (1994-95 and 1995-96) that, in most instances, students transferring to four-year colleges and universities from Rend Lake College perform as well if not better than the students who initiated their postsecondary education at the four-year level," according to Nancy Kinsey, RLC Director of Admissions and Records.

"Furthermore, these figures illustrate Rend Lake College transfer students consistently perform better than transfer students from all public community colleges."

Rankings comparing individual community colleges to one another have not been released for a number of years, for fear of creating negative publicity for those institutions which do not rank high.



Mean GPAs - RLC Transfers vs. Native Students

	RLC Transfers	All Transfers	"Native"
■ 1995-96			
Southern Illinois U.-Carbondale (Includes 618 former RLC students)	2.80	2.66	2.54
University of Illinois	2.89	2.86	3.02
■ 1994-95			
Southern Illinois U.-Edwardsville (59)	3.00	2.83	2.76
Eastern Illinois University (49)	2.90	2.87	2.77
University of Illinois (12)	2.89	2.86	3.02
Illinois State University (8)	2.72	2.71	2.71
Northern Illinois University (5)	2.81	2.79	2.72
■ 1989-90			
University of Illinois (4) (5.0 scale)	4.53	4.33	4.01
■ 1988-89			
SIUC / Baccalaureate	2.86	2.78	2.50
SIUC / Capstone	2.96	3.13	2.95
Eastern Illinois University	3.11	2.75	2.76
■ 1987-88			
Southern Illinois U.-Carbondale (342)	2.86	2.78	2.50
SIUC-Carbondale / Capstone (55)	2.96		2.95
Southern Illinois U.-Edwardsville (17)	3.76	3.62	3.53
■ 1986-87			
Southern Illinois U.-Carbondale (297)	2.76	2.76	2.50
Eastern Illinois University (33)	3.13	2.73	2.74
Southern Illinois U.-Edwardsville (28) (5.0)	3.62	3.59	* 3.50
Southeast Missouri State University (5)	2.76	N/A	N/A
* Mean GPA for total student body			
■ 1985-86			
Southern Illinois U.-Carbondale	2.71		2.50
■ 1984-85			
Southern Illinois U.-Carbondale	2.68	2.68	2.50
■ 1982-83			
Southern Illinois U.-Carbondale (274)	2.68	2.72	2.56
Eastern Illinois University (51)	2.75	2.66	2.75
University of Illinois (5.0-point scale)	4.58		3.94
■ 1981-82			
Southern Illinois U.-Carbondale (271)	2.72	2.68	2.55
SIUC / School of Technical Careers (68)	3.28	3.12	2.88
■ 1979-80			
Southern Illinois U.-Carbondale (219)	2.71		2.56
■ 1978-79			
Southern Illinois U.-Carbondale	2.75	2.69	(*1st) 2.55
* Highest for institutions with 200+ transfers			
■ 1975-76			
Southern Illinois U.-Carbondale (73)	(1st) 3.0	2.6	+ .6 (1st)
The average transfer student received lower grades			
■ 1974-75			
Southern Illinois U.-Carbondale (5.0)	3.68	3.62	3.57
	RLC Transfers	All Transfers	National Avg.
All State Institutions after 2nd year following transfer (88 students)	(2nd) 3.14	2.80	2.68
All State Institutions after 1st year	3.02	2.64	–

Transfer students outshine (cont.)

A Rend Lake College news release in 1984 related, "The Office of Admissions and Records at SIUC stated in its annual report that the community college transfer student continues to do quite well," noted RLC's Pam Luttmers, Director of Advising and Student Development.

Larry Richmond, Science, Math, Health and Physical Education Department Chair, was informed of similar results after meeting with representatives from the University of Missouri at Rolla, where 15 RLC transfer students were enrolled Fall 1983.

"Rolla's transfer students normally experience a GPA drop of one letter grade after entering for their first semester," Richmond said. "Last fall, our students who transferred to Rolla did not experience a GPA drop, but instead kept their GPAs at about the same level as they had at Rend Lake College. This was a very unusual but pleasing observation which the Rolla staff made."

Of the 15 students from Rend Lake College at Rolla, only one experienced a significant drop in GPA. Nine students maintained GPAs better than 3.0 on a 4.0-point scale.

"Not to detract from the abilities of the students themselves," added Richmond, "I believe this achievement is a direct result of a fine staff in our department, both full- and part-time. Rend Lake College is committed to quality education, and this is evidence of that strong commitment."

ICCB Graduation Rate Study: 42% of full-timers graduate in two years

An Illinois Community College Board Study on Graduation Rates, released in Fall 1998, revealed . . .

■ **42.2%** of full-time Rend Lake College students graduate within two years, the majority of those in two-year programs; the state average – 21.4%.

■ **66.3%** or two out of three full-time Rend Lake College students had either graduated, were still enrolled or had transferred to a four-year institution within three years; the state average – 60.8%.

■ **38.7%** or 156 of the 403 full-time RLC students who were first-time, degree-seeking students entering in Fall 1994 were completers of at least a two-year degree.

■ **13.6%** or 55 of those 403 full-time RLC students were still enrolled after three years.

■ **23.6%** or 42 of the 178 not still enrolled and not completing a certificate or degree had transferred to a four-year institution.

■ **41.6%** or 74 of those 178 had left college in "good standing."

SIUC gets majority of transfers, followed by SIUE, EIU

The National Student Clearinghouse Enrollment Search Service provides information on students who transferred to other institutions after being enrolled at Rend Lake College. The Enrollment Search Service contains more than 60 million current and former student records provided by institutions across the country. The table summarizes Rend Lake College's Top Student Transfer Schools. The date range refers to when the student enrolled at the transfer institution. Students received a degree at Rend Lake College prior to transfer.

Rend Lake College's partnership with Southern Illinois University was strengthened by the establishment of the

SIU System Service Center at Rend Lake College. Located in the Administration Building, the center streamlines cooperation between the two institutions. Workers at the Service Center advocate for the University, RLC and students. They broker student services and act as ombudsmen and liaisons between the schools for both students and faculty. The Service Center also will assist with the existing "2 Plus 2" program, designed to help students make efficient use of their RLC educations so credits easily transfer to SIU. Under the program, SIU Counselors monitor such students and provide ongoing feedback regarding their transcripts to facilitate their continuing educations at the University.

– SOURCE: Rend Lake College Self-Study 2008

TOP TRANSFER SCHOOLS FOR REND LAKE COLLEGE GRADUATES

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Southern Illinois University-Carbondale	145	195	152	136	156	97		301		341						
Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville	26	26	19	20	30	40		60								
Eastern Illinois University	20	12	15	25	17	6		53		40						
Murray (KY) State University	0	0	0	11	10	9		30		13						
McKendree University	8	11	3	4	4	5		72		99						
Greenville College	6	9	6	2	4	3		12		20						
Rockford College	0	8	6	6	3	0		13		14						
University of Southern Indiana	4	6	1	6	4	0		8		13						
University of Illinois	3	4	4	3	2	2		18		18						
Illinois State University	9	2	0	0	3	0		41								
Southeast Missouri State	4	3	2	2	4	2		12		15						
University of Phoenix (online)								31		37						

– SOURCE: National Student Clearinghouse Student Tracker

IMPORTANT DATES IN THE HISTORY OF REND LAKE COLLEGE

The First Fifteen Years ¹

▲ JULY 26, 1965	Steering Committee for new two-year college formed
▲ SEPTEMBER 13, 1965	First Nine High Schools commit to new two-year college
▲ MAY, 1966	Feasibility Survey approved
▲ MAY 13, 1966	Petition for Establishment approved by Illinois Junior College Board
▲ JUNE 7, 1966	Petition for Establishment approved by Board of Higher Education
▲ JUNE 11, 1966	Public Hearing on new two-year College District
▲ OCTOBER 22, 1966	Referendum approved
▲ DECEMBER 16, 1966	First Board elected
▲ DECEMBER 21, 1966	First Organizational Meeting of the First Board
▲ MAY, 1967	First President Employed – Dr. James M. Snyder
▲ JUNE, 1967	First Dean Employed – Dr. Howard Rawlinson
▲ JULY 18, 1967	Name given to new two-year college – Rend Lake College
▲ JULY, 1967	First Dean of Student Personnel – James Yates
▲ AUGUST 26, 1967	Architects chosen – Caudill, Rowlett and Scott
▲ NOVEMBER 18, 1967	Bond Issue for Building approved – \$3,100,000
▲ MAY, 1968	Board of Higher Education approved Rend Lake College Master Plan
▲ JUNE 8, 1968	Flag donated by Daughters of the American Revolution
▲ JUNE 22, 1968	District #521 declared legal
▲ JULY, 1968	First Vocational Dean – Ronald Kruppa
▲ FALL 1968	First Vocational Program approved
▲ NOVEMBER 19, 1968	Site purchased
▲ DECEMBER, 1968	First Business Manager appointed – Paul Fitch
▲ MARCH, 1969	Accreditation received from the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools
▲ MARCH 27, 1969	Ground-Breaking Ceremony for Phase I Construction
▲ APRIL 18, 1969	First Musical Play – “Little Mary Sunshine”
▲ APRIL, 1969	First Baccalaureate Program approved – Music Curriculum
▲ JULY, 1969	First Dean of Community Service – James McGhee
▲ MAY, 1970	Librarian made part of Administration
▲ AUGUST, 1970	Ardell Kimmel replaces Kruppa as Vocational-Technical Education Dean
▲ AUGUST, 1970	Move to Ina campus
▲ DECEMBER 6, 1970	Open House
▲ SEPTEMBER 26, 1971	Dedication
▲ MAY, 1972	Phase II Construction begins
▲ JULY, 1972	Dr. Philip Ward replaces Dr. Rawlinson as Dean of the College

¹ From a history of Mt. Vernon Community College (1956-67) and Rend Lake College (1967-72) by Dr. Howard Rawlinson, College Dean, published by The Board of Trustees / Illinois Junior College District #521 / August, 1972

REND LAKE COLLEGE STEERING COMMITTEE

The First Fifteen Years ¹

NAME	DISTRICT
▲ FRANKLIN COUNTY	
C.B. Pierce	Christopher
Barnie P. Genisio	Benton
Robert M. Munday	Thompsonville
Clyde C. Corn	West Frankfort
William L. Ramsey	Zeigler
Dr. Gene D. Allsup	Sesser
R.A. Bonifield	West Frankfort
Paul Gayer	Zeigler
H.L. Browning	Valier
Holland Simmons	Benton
▲ HAMILTON COUNTY	
Charles M. Raglin	Mt. Vernon
J.A. Tucker	Dahlgren
Jasper Goin Jr.	Dahlgren
Rev. Edward Minor	Dahlgren
Carl E. Nation	McLeansboro
Ernest L. Hood	McLeansboro
Russell Pemberton	McLeansboro
Clyde Summers	McLeansboro
Russell Monroe	Dahlgren
Willis R. Gholson	McLeansboro
▲ JEFFERSON COUNTY	
Frank Chornak	Waltonville
Roy Stafford	Woodlawn
Van McGill	Bluford
Eltis L. Henson	Mt. Vernon
Dr. Howard Rawlinson	Mt. Vernon
Katherine Wall	Mt. Vernon
Bill Steffy	Mt. Vernon
Dr. J.L. Buford	Mt. Vernon
Dr. Curtis Parker	Mt. Vernon
William Moore	Mt. Vernon
▲ PERRY COUNTY	
John Qualls	Tamaroa
Glen Goforth	Tamaroa
Sylvester Malinski	Tamaroa
Hugh Malan	Pinckneyville
Winton Bigham	Pinckneyville
Dr. Allen Y. Baker	Pinckneyville
John Stumpe	Pinckneyville
Gail Hicks	Pinckneyville
Dean O. Smith	Pinckneyville

NAME	DISTRICT
▲ WAYNE COUNTY	
Warden White	Wayne City
Robert Beehn	Wayne City
Everett Kittle	Wayne City
Conrad Allen	Wayne City
Harry Irwin	Wayne City
Dr. Charles Jennings	Fairfield
▲ WHITE COUNTY	
Carleton Apple	Enfield
Clarence Dauby	Springerton
Ernest E. Fechtig	Enfield
Bernard Mitchell	Enfield
James Simmons	Enfield
Vincent Fyie	Springerton
Carl Edmonston	Enfield
Clifford Edwards	Enfield
Oscar Funkhouser	Enfield
Chelsea Erkman	Enfield

R.L.C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The First Fifteen Years ¹

▲ FRANKLIN COUNTY	▲ PERRY COUNTY
Holland Simmons	Dr. Allen Y. Baker
William L. Ramsey	John Qualls
Dr. Gene D. Allsup	Dean O. Smith
▲ HAMILTON COUNTY	▲ WAYNE COUNTY
J.A. Tucker	Warden White
Clyde Summers	Robert Beehn
Russell Monroe	Everett Kittle
▲ JEFFERSON COUNTY	▲ WHITE COUNTY
Eltis L. Henson	Carleton Apple
Dr. Curtis Parker	Clarence Dauby
Emil Norris	Ernest E. Fechtig

¹ From a history of Mt. Vernon Community College (1956-67) and Rend Lake College (1967-72) by Dr. Howard Rawlinson, College Dean, published by The Board of Trustees / Illinois Junior College District #521 / August, 1972

**STUDENT HEADCOUNT /
FULL-TIME EQUIVALENCY
/ CREDIT HOURS**

Fiscal Year	Unduplicated Headcount	FTE	Credit Hours
FY68 *	883	664	19,920
FY69 *	1,119	700	21,000
FY70 *	1,104	809	24,270
FY71 *	1,101	896	26,880
FY72 *	1,105	898	26,940
FY73 *		868	26,040
FY74 *		904	27,120
FY75 *	1,555	1,032	30,960
FY76 *	2,475	1,393	41,790
FY77 *	2,880	1,510	45,300
FY78 *	3,271	1,526	45,780
FY79 *	3,413	1,743	52,290
FY80 *	3,720	1,784	53,520
FY81 *	3,899	1,679	50,370
FY82 *	7,187	1,805	54,141
FY83 *	6,967	1,659	49,765
FY84 *	6,868	1,551	46,529
FY85 *	7,195	1,565	46,952
FY86 *	6,615	1,704	51,121
FY87 *	7,115	1,822	54,659
FY88 *	6,383	1,914	57,421
FY89 *	6,542	1,942	58,258
FY90 *	7,764	2,061	61,833
FY91 *	8,304	2,180	65,403
FY92 *	8,770	2,266	67,975
FY93 *	8,405	2,138	64,130
FY94 *	8,866	2,239	67,169
FY95	9,110	1,880	70,042
FY96	9,304	1,910	69,023
FY97	9,481	1,905	68,869
FY98	10,181	1,854	67,135
FY99	9,896	1,775	65,136
FY00	11,344	1,721	69,642
FY01	9,821	1,713	69,290
FY02	8,852	1,864	73,064
FY03	10,443	1,989	73,522
FY04	10,828	2,176	84,158
FY05	11,460	2,145	81,030
FY06	12,266	2,216	81,596
FY07	13,555	2,278	84,878
FY08	13,187	2,546	92,526
FY09	13,435	2,554	95,318
FY10	13,882	2,686	89,720
FY11	14,698	2,698	91,350
FY12	14,470	2,517	85,117
FY13		2,406	80,308
FY14			
FY15			

[KEY / FY68 = 1967-68, et al]
Enrollment figures include Corrections
* Full-Time Equivalency thru FY94 based on total credit hours divided by 30; FY95 based on Fall + Spring hours only ÷ 30

**RLC Graduates
DEGREES / CERTIFICATES AWARDED, 1967-2015**

Year	DEGREES						CERTIFICATES				Total
	AA	AS	AAS	ADN	Other	Subtotal	Occ.	PN	Subtotal		
1967-68	80	-	-	-	-	80	-	24	24	104	
1968-69	89	-	-	-	-	89	-	30	30	119	
1969-70	106	-	14	-	-	120	-	21	21	141	
1970-71	137	-	28	-	-	165	12	34	46	211	
1971-72	133	-	34	-	-	167	29	31	60	227	
1972-73	141	-	39	-	-	180	43	33	76	256	
1973-74	140	-	33	-	-	173	39	41	80	253	
1974-75	154	-	49	-	-	203	52	41	93	296	
1975-76	138	-	69	-	-	207	49	47	96	303	
1976-77	136	-	81	11	-	228	72	46	118	346	
1977-78	139	-	134	12	1	286	67	58	125	411	
1978-79	110	-	140	11	1	262	37	59	96	358	
1979-80	129	-	150	25	2	306	52	51	103	409	
1980-81	114	-	156	22	-	292	145	55	200	492	
1981-82	121	-	156	34	-	311	112	52	164	475	
1982-83	99	36	109	38	-	282	78	59	137	419	
1983-84	86	71	92	54	-	303	34	66	100	403	
1984-85	42	73	77	35	-	227	32	67	99	326	
1985-86	54	68	89	34	-	245	52	65	117	362	
1986-87	65	91	111	36	-	303	16	66	82	385	
1987-88	80	76	120	45	-	321	85	57	142	463	
1988-89	84	90	105	45	-	324	24	63	87	411	
1989-90	77	110	110	45	-	342	30	64	94	436	
1990-91	100	116	112	56	-	384	44	73	117	501	
1991-92	94	91	113	55	-	353	51	63	114	467	
1992-93	96	88	172	52	-	408	58	97	155	563	
1993-94	113	87	124	53	-	377	37	65	102	479	
1994-95	114	81	107	61	-	363	28	102	130	493	
1995-96 *	124	63	138	55	-	380	170	50	220	600	
1996-97 *	160	76	142	39	-	417	179	55	234	651	
1997-98 *	141	95	124	40	-	400	136	38	174	574	
1998-99 *	157	75	129	27	-	388	148	41	189	577	
'99-2000 *	132	54	114	38	-	338	109	66	175	513	
2000-01 *	152	62	102	33	-	349	108	26	134	483	
2001-02 *	159	81	125	47	-	412	182	28	210	622	
2002-03 *	183	106	157	24	1	471	312	2	314	785	
2003-04 *	237	140	126	41	2	546	527	87	614	1,160	
2004-05 *	257	157	144	35	1	594	528	33	561	1,155	
2005-06 *	235	161	117	42	2	557	527	69	596	1,153	
2006-07 *	232	155	136	49	6	578	499	66	565	1,143	
2007-08 *	261	187	129	47	4	628	563	7	570	1,198	
2008-09 *	248	191	228	50	10	727	788	48	836	1,563	
2009-10 *	273	208	144	60	13	698	805	86	891	1,589	
2010-11 *	221	156	182	70	5	634	775	63	838	1,472	
2011-12 *	221	148	191	59	16	635	859	45	904	1,539	
2012-13 *	247	187	212	60	9	715	830	45	875	1,590	
2013-14 *	203	144	139	65	9	560	645	54	699	1,259	
2014-15 *	223	180	200	52	3	658	734		734	1,392	
	7,037	3,704	5,503	1,657	85	17,986	10,702	2,439	13,141	31,127	

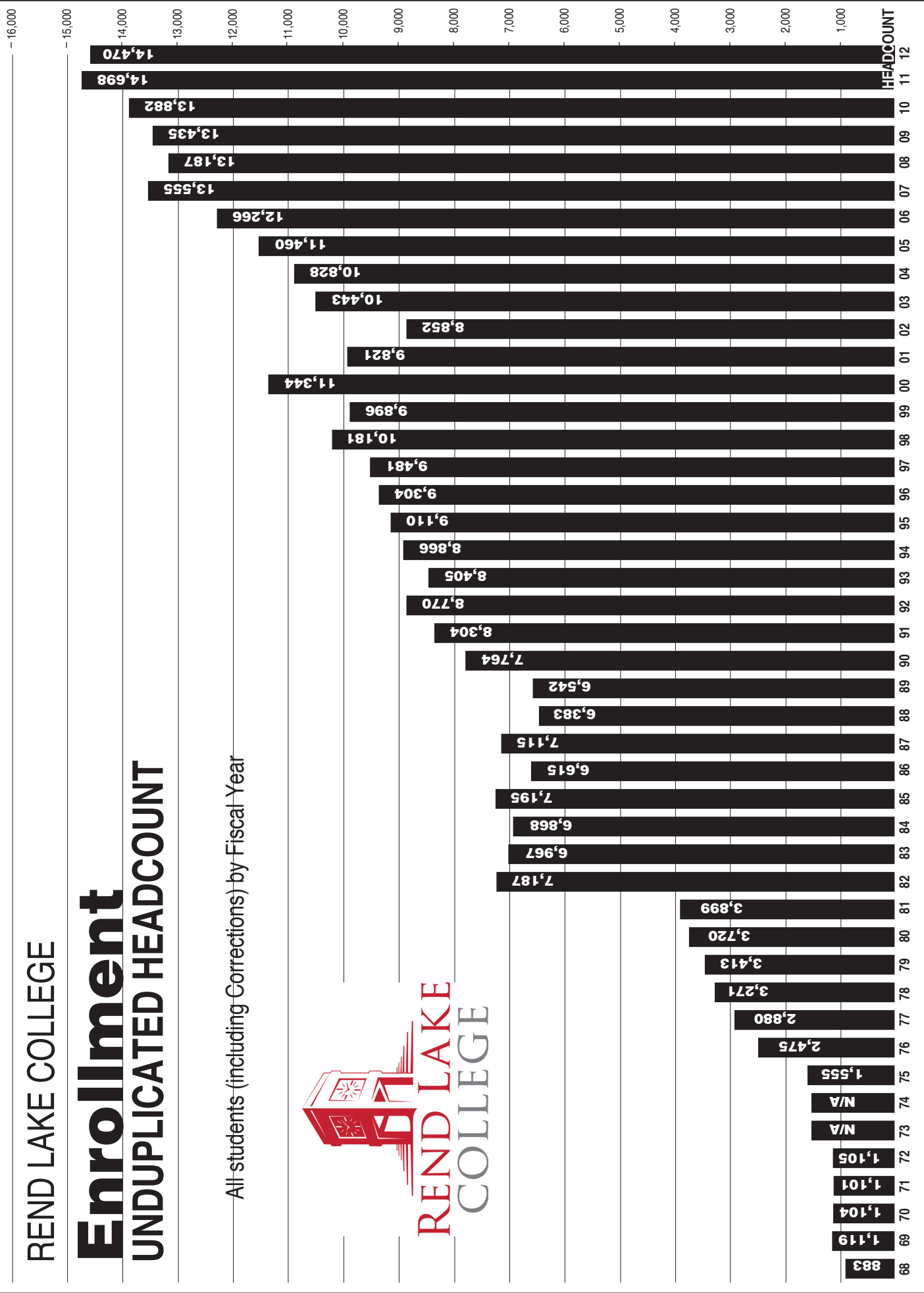
- Associate in General Studies Degree
1980 - 2 1979 - 1 1978 - 1
- Associate in Engineering Science Degree
2012 - 3 2011 - 5 2010 - 7 2008 - 3 2007 - 4 2006 - 2 2005 - 1 2004 - 1
- Associate in Fine Arts Degree
2012 - 4 2008 - 4 2007 - 2 2004 - 1 2003 - 1
- Associate in Arts in Teaching Degrees
2012 - 9 2010 - 6

* Number of Degrees / Certificates awarded, according to Rend Lake College SAS Reporting System. Prior years based on Commencement programs and not on actual, audited number awarded.

REND LAKE COLLEGE

Enrollment UNDUPLICATED HEADCOUNT

All students (including Corrections) by Fiscal Year



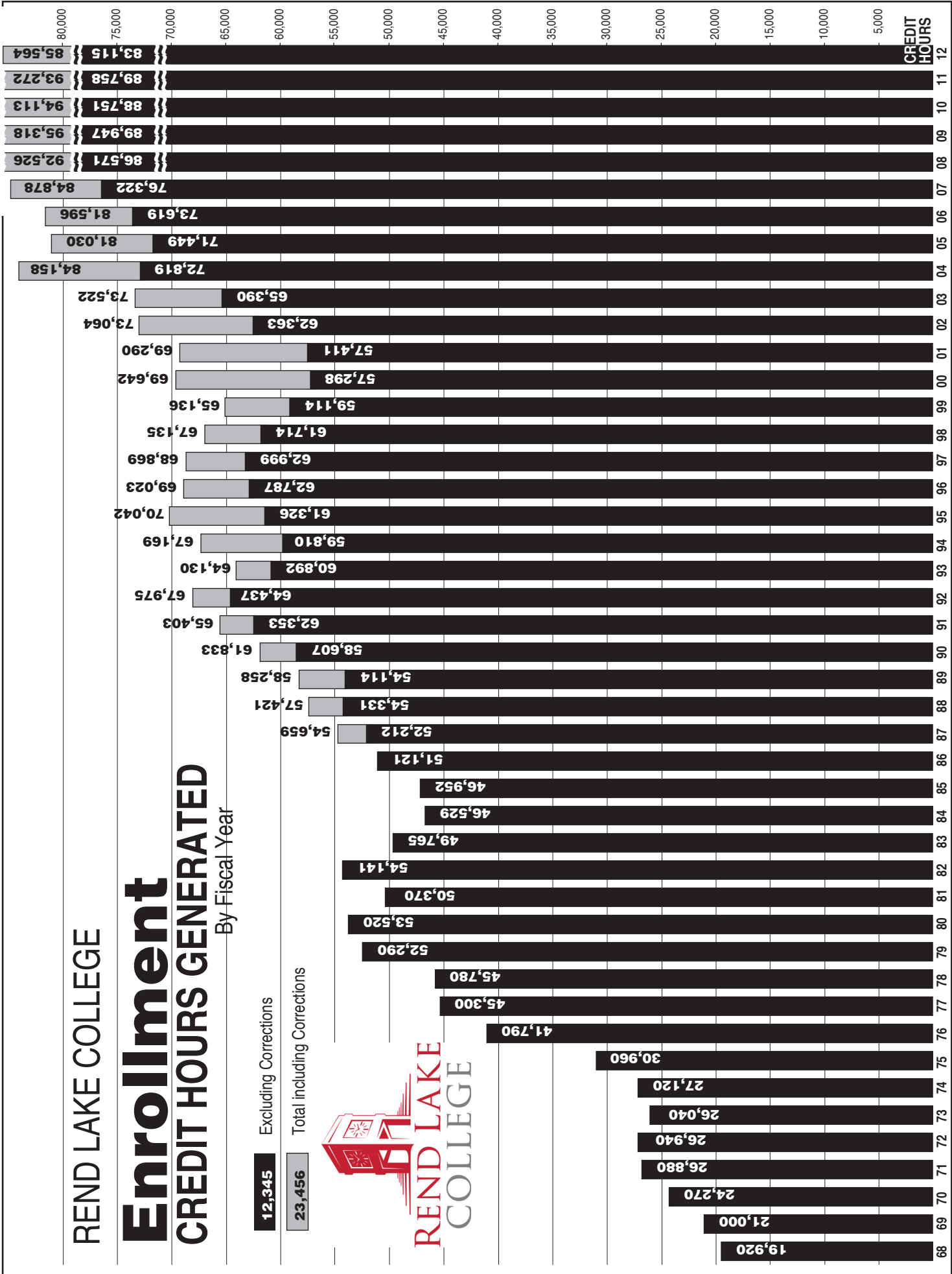
REND LAKE COLLEGE

Enrollment CREDIT HOURS GENERATED

By Fiscal Year

12,345 Excluding Corrections

23,456 Total including Corrections



REND LAKE COLLEGE

F.T.E.

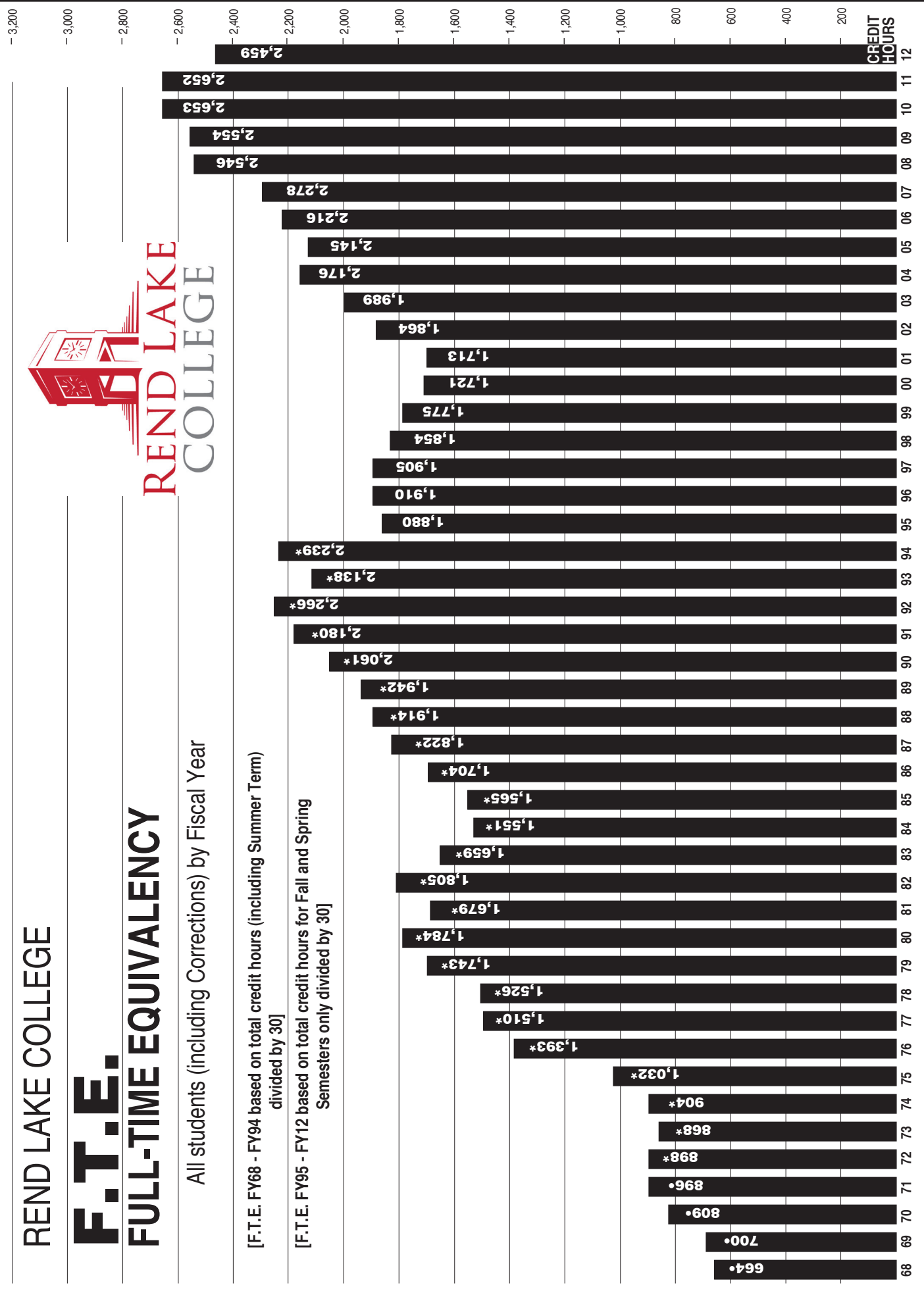
FULL-TIME EQUIVALENCY

All students (including Corrections) by Fiscal Year



[F.T.E. FY68 - FY94 based on total credit hours (including Summer Term) divided by 30]

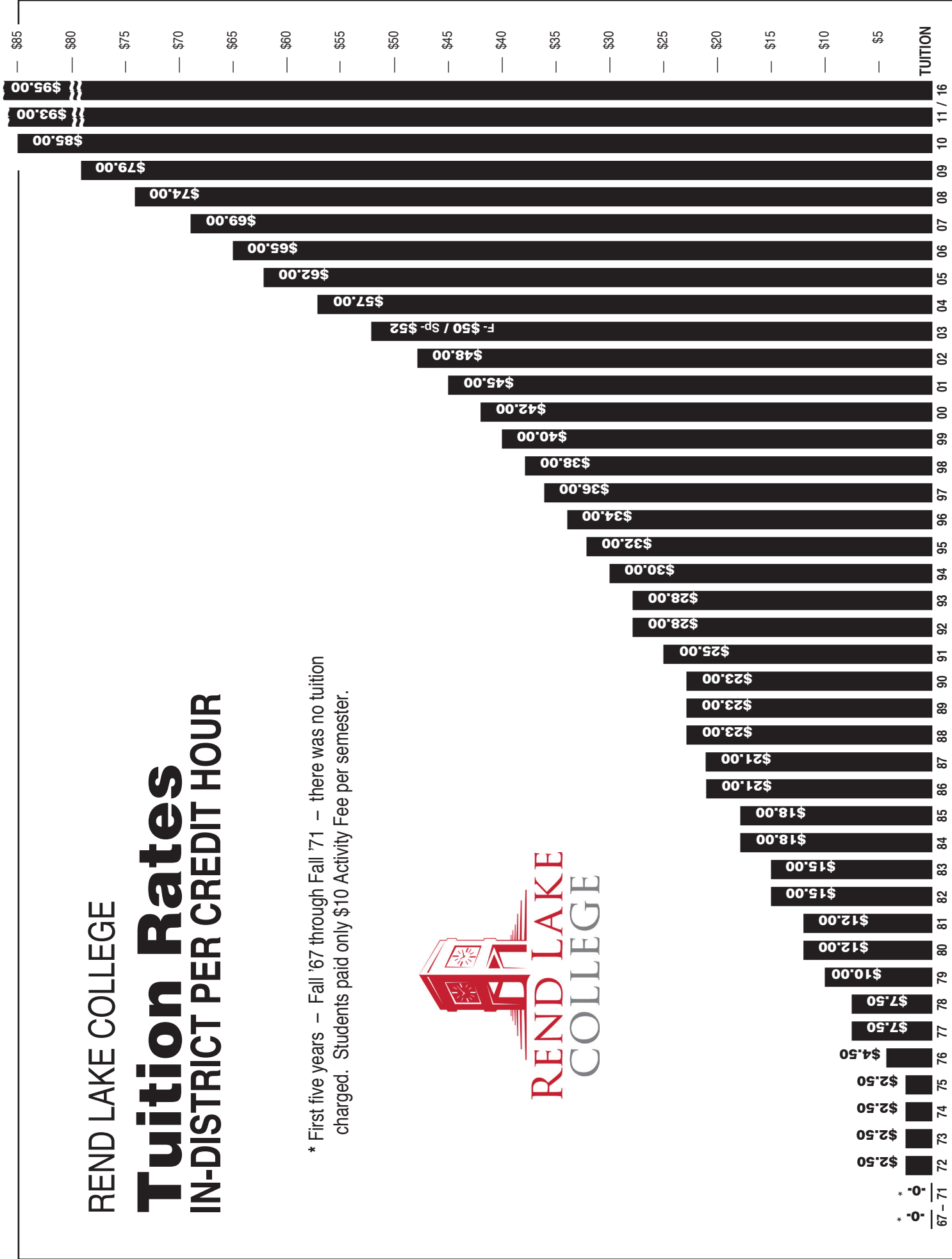
[F.T.E. FY95 - FY12 based on total credit hours for Fall and Spring Semesters only divided by 30]



REND LAKE COLLEGE

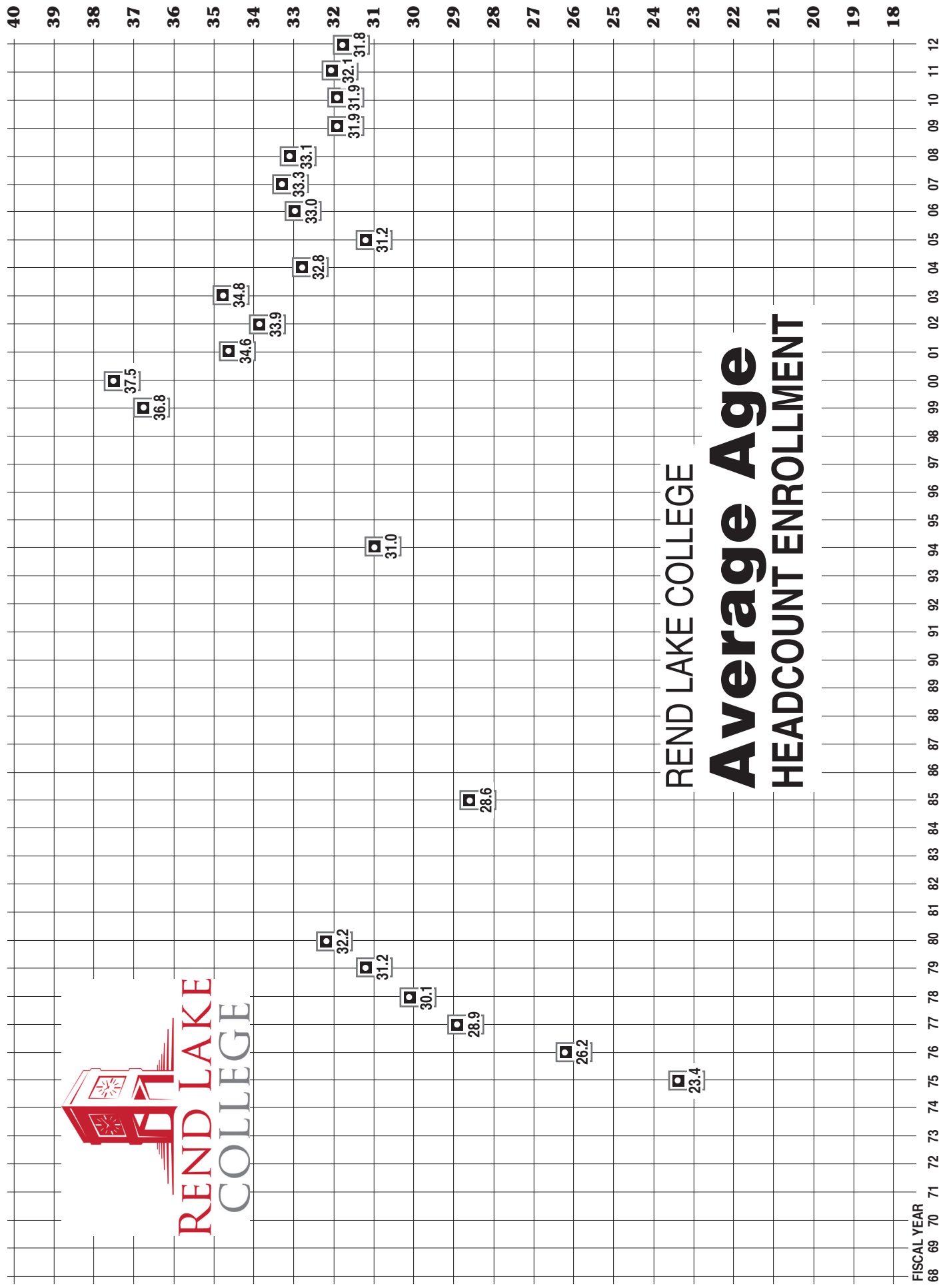
Tuition Rates IN-DISTRICT PER CREDIT HOUR

* First five years – Fall '67 through Fall '71 – there was no tuition charged. Students paid only \$10 Activity Fee per semester.





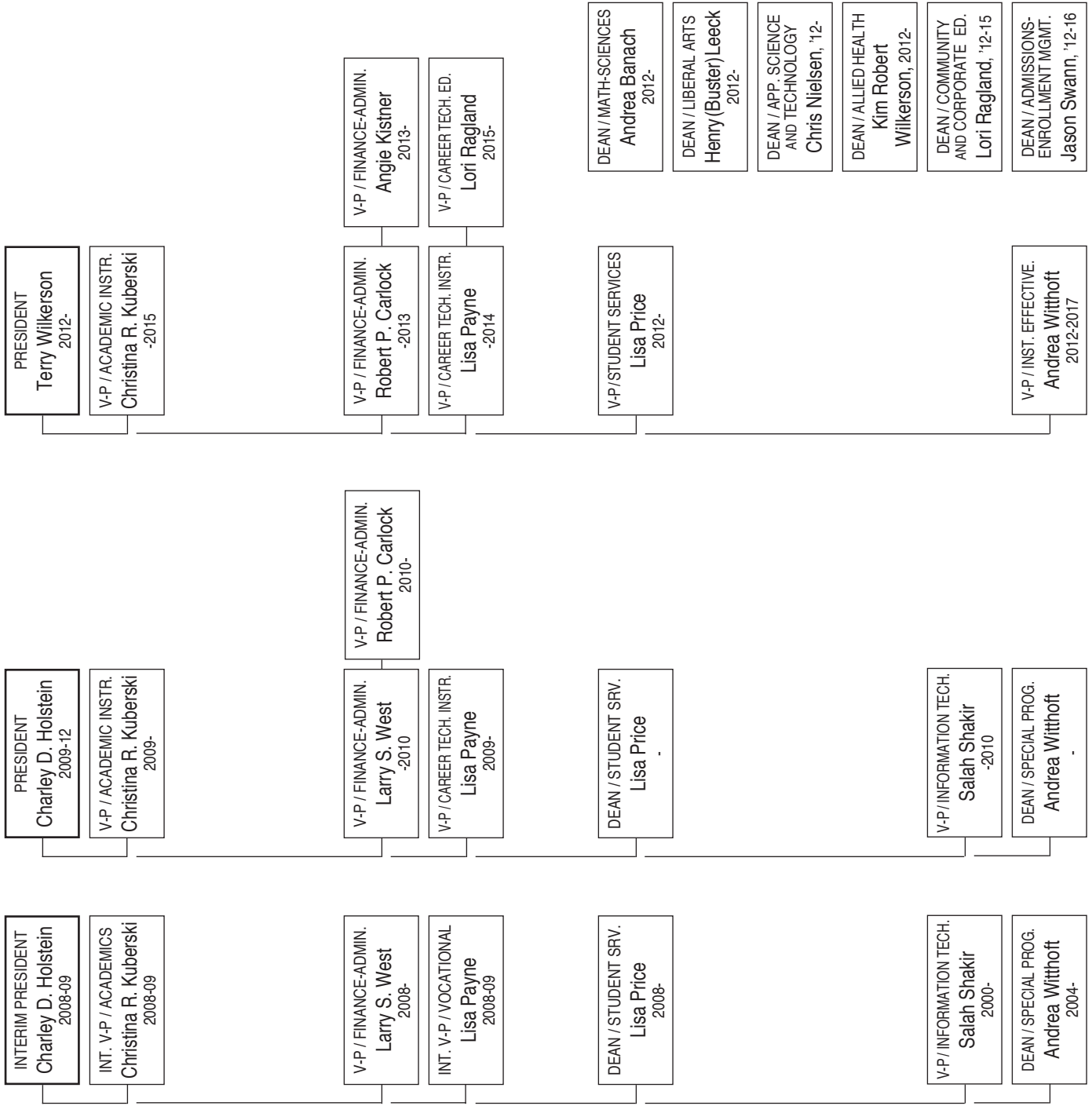
REND LAKE COLLEGE
Average Age
HEADCOUNT ENROLLMENT



REND LAKE COLLEGE ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM 2008-16



**Turning
the page
on a new era
of administration
at RLC . . .**



CURRICULUM

Year in which Associate in Applied Science Degree/Occupational Certificate Programs first approved/offered

- 1967-68
Practical Nursing (Certificate)
Secretarial Science (A.A. / AAS)
- 1968-69
Agricultural Business (AAS)
Agricultural Mechanics (AAS)
Mechanical Technology (AAS)
Mechanical Technology - Machine Design (Certificate)
- 1969-70
Cosmetology (AAS / Certificate)
 [Discontinued at end of 1982-83 academic year]
- 1970-71
Agricultural Production / Management (AAS / Certificate)
Automotive Mechanics Tech (AAS / Certificate)
Beauty Culture (AAS / Certificate)
Operating Room Technician (ORT) (Cert.)
 [Terminated effective June 1980]
Secretarial Science (Certificate)
- 1971-72
Aviation (Evenings / Certificate)
- 1972-73
Architectural Technology (AAS / Certificate)
Beauty Culture Teacher Training (AAS)
- 1973-74
Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) (AAS)
General Drafting (Certificate)
- 1974-75
Agricultural Mechanics (Certificate)
Corrections and Law Enforcement (Cert.)
Mining Technology / Repair (AAS / Certificate)
- 1975-76
Business Management (AAS)
Secretarial - 1-Year Certificate
Business Machines Operator (Certificate)
Clerk Typist (Certificate)
Receptionist (Certificate)
Records Management (Filing Clerk) (Cert.)
Stenographer (Certificate)
Transcribing Machine Operator (Certificate)
- 1976-78
Accounting (AAS / Certificate)
Commercial Art (AAS / Certificate)
Construction Management Tech (AAS / Cert.)
Engineering Technology
Industrial Service Technology (AAS)
Interior Design (AAS / Certificate)
Law Enforcement (AAS)
Secretarial - 2-Year Certificate
Executive Secretary (Certificate)
Legal Secretary (Certificate)
Medical Secretary (Certificate)
- 1978-80
Marketing Management (AAS)
Welding Technology (Certificate)
- 1979-80
Automotive Body Repair (Certificate)
- 1980-81
Pipe Welding (Certificate)
Surveying (Certificate)
- 1981-82
Medical Laboratory Technology (Certificate)
- 1982-84
Cosmetology (AAS)
Industrial Service Technology (Certificate)
- 1984-86
Criminal Justice (AAS / Certificate)
 [Replaces Law Enforcement]
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) - Paramedic (Certificate)
Industrial Electronics (Certificate)
Secretarial Science - Word Processing (Cert.)
Secretarial Science - Basic Secretary (Cert.)
- 1985-86
Industrial Electronics (AAS)
- 1986-88
Culinary Arts (AAS / Certificate)
Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (Certificate)
- 1987-88
Child Care (Certificate)
- 1988-90
Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) (Certificate)
Computer-Aided Drafting (CAD) (Certificate)
Industrial Service Technology - Building Maintenance and Custodial Service (Certificate)
Fluid Power Specialization (Certificate)
Medical Records Technology (AAS)
Small Business Management (Certificate)
- 1990-92
Automotive Body Repair (Certificate)
Building Maintenance (Certificate)
Heating, A.C. and Refrigeration (AAS)
 [Discontinued at end of 2000-01 academic year]
- 1992-94
Building Maintenance and Custodial Services (Certificate)
Secretarial Science - Document Processing (AAS)
Legal Assistant (AAS)
Medical Administrative Assistant (AAS)
Administrative Assistant (Certificate)
- 1993-94
Horticulture (Certificate)
Medical Lab Technician / SICCM (AAS)
- 1994-96
Occupational Therapy Asst. / SICCM (AAS)
Office Systems Technology - Administrative Assistant (AAS)
Health Information Assistant (AAS)
Information Processing Assistant (AAS)
Legal Assistant (AAS)
Office Assistant (Certificate)
- 1995-96
Child Development (AAS / Certificate)
Manufacturing Technology (AAS)
- 1996-98
Automotive Technology (AAS / Certificate)
Business (AAS)
Collision Repair Technology (AAS / Certificate)
 [Discontinued at end of 2000-01 academic year]
Health Information Technology / SICCM (AAS)
Nurse Assistant (CNA) (Certificate)
- 1998-2000
Computer Repair Technician (AAS)
Culinary Arts Management (AAS / Certificate)
Fire Science (AAS)
Basic Fire Fighter (Certificate)
Fire Officer I (Certificate)
Horticulture (AAS)
Horticulture Technician (Certificate)
Turf Management (Certificate)
Office Systems Technology - Microcomputer Support Specialist (AAS)
- 1999-2000
Computer Networking Specialist (AAS / Cert.)
Cisco Routing and Switching (Certificate)
Novell Networking (Certificate)
Windows NT (Certificate)
A+ Certificate (Certificate)
Engineering Technician (AAS)
Graphic Design (AAS / Certificate)
Surgical Technology / SICCM (Certificate)
- 2000-01
Business Accounting Specialization (AAS)
Business Management Specialization (AAS)
Business Marketing Specialization (AAS)
Criminal Justice - Corrections (AAS)
Criminal Justice - Police Science (AAS)
Heavy Equipment Technology (AAS)
Industrial Electronics - Industrial Electronics Emphasis (AAS)
Industrial Electronics - Computer Maintenance Emphasis (AAS)
Industrial Maintenance Tech (AAS / Cert.)
Therapeutic Massage (Certificate)
- 2001-02
Child Care Director - Illinois Director Credential Level I (Certificate)
Computer Networking Specialist - Cisco Networking Associate (Certificate)
Cisco Networking Professional (Certificate)
Computer Programming (AAS)
Criminal Justice - Police Science (Certificate)
Criminal Justice - Corrections (Certificate)
Microcomputer Information Technology Support Specialist (AAS)
Webmaster (Certificate)
Welding - Shielded Metal Arc Welding (Certificate)
Gas Metal and Tungsten Welding (Cert.)
Welding Technical Support (Certificate)

CURRICULUM (CONT.)

- 2002-03
 - Automated Processes Technician** (AAS / Cert.)
 - Automotive Technician -**
 - Automotive Transmission** (Certificate)
 - Automotive Electrical** (Certificate)
 - Automotive Brake** (Certificate)
 - Automotive Suspension / Steering** (Cert.)
 - Automotive Air Conditioning** (Certificate)
 - Automotive Engine Repair** (Certificate)
 - Criminal Justice - Private Protection** (Cert.)
 - Diesel Technology** (AAS)
 - Office Systems Technology -**
 - Med. Transcription Associate/Clerk** (Cert.)
 - Medical Transcriptionist** (Certificate)
 - Teacher's Aide** (Certificate)
- 2003-04
 - Corrections -**
 - Correctional Officer / Youth Supervisor** (AAS)
 - Corrections Parole Officer** (AAS)
 - Diesel Technology** (Certificate)
 - Emergency Medical Technician -**
 - Paramedical Services (EMT)** (AAS / Cert.)
 - IT Systems Assistant** (AAS)
 - IT Systems Specialist** (AAS / Certificate)
 - ITS - Windows** (Certificate)
 - ITS - Programming w/ Visual Basic** (Cert.)
 - Surveying Technology** (AAS)
 - Teacher's Assistant** (Certificate)
 - Welding - Welding Fundamentals** (Certificate)
 - Welding - Adv. Welding Techniques** (Cert.)
- 2004-05
 - Business Management** (Certificate)
 - Cosmetology** (Certificate)
 - Cosmetology Teacher** (Certificate)
 - Early Childhood Education** (AAS / Certificate)
 - Early Childhood Education -**
 - Assistant / Nanny / Supervisor** (Certificates)
 - Hospitality Management** (AAS)
 - IT Systems Assistant** (Certificate)
 - ITS - Microsoft User Certificate** (Certificate)
 - ITS - Cisco Networking Professional** (Cert.)
 - Paraprofessional Education -**
 - Teacher's Assistant** (AAS / Certificate)
 - Retail Management** (AAS)
- 2005-06
 - Basic Machining** (Certificate)
 - Illinois Law Enforcement Academy** (Certificate)
 - Industrial Electronics**
 - and Maintenance Technician** (AAS)
 - Industrial Maintenance Technology** (Cert.)
 - PLC Certificate** (Certificate)
 - Welding - Advanced Metalworking** (Certificate)
 - Wireless Communications Technology** (AAS)
- 2006-07
 - Early Childhood Education -**
 - Infant / Toddler Credential** (Certificate)
 - Industrial Electronics / Maintenance Tech -**
 - Basic Machining Certificate** (Certificate)
 - PLC Certificate** (Certificate)
 - ITS Specialist - PC Maintenance** (Certificate)
- 2007-08
 - Radiologic Technology** (AAS)
- 2008-09
 - Disaster Communications** (AAS)
 - Enology (Winemaking)** (AAS / Certificate)
 - Mining Technology -**
 - Advanced Mining Certificate** (Certificate)
 - Mine Electricity Certificate** (Certificate)
 - Mine Mechanics Certificate** (Certificate)
 - Mine Operations Certificate** (Certificate)
 - Mine Supervisory Certificate** (Certificate)
 - Veterinary Technology / SICCM** (AAS)
 - Viticulture (Grape Growing)** (AAS / Certificate)
 - Welding Technology** (AAS)
- 2009-10
 - Athletic Training** (AAS / Certificate)
 - Radiologic Technology** (Certificate)
 - Wireless Communications Technology -**
 - Electronics for Wireless Comm.** (Certificate)
 - Land-Based Comm. Systems** (Certificate)
- 2010-11
 - Early Childhood Education - Level II** (Cert.)
 - Early Childhood Education - Level III** (Cert.)
- 2011-12
 - Culinary Arts - Baking/Pastry Art** (Certificate)
 - Early Childhood Assistant** (Certificate)
 - Radiologic Technology -**
 - Computed Tomography** (Certificate)
- 2012-13
 - Automotive Technology -**
 - Ford Maintenance / Light Repair** (Certificate)
 - Graphic Web Design** (Certificate)
 - Green Facilities Management** (Certificate)
 - Manufacturing Technology** (AAS / Certificate)
 - Phlebotomy** (Certificate)
 - Radiologic Technology - MRI** (Certificate)
 - Sustainable Design** (Certificate)
 - Truck Driver Training** (Certificate)
 - Truck Dr. - Heavy Equip. Transportation** (Cert.)
- 2013-14
 - Computer Programming - Visual Basic** (Cert.)
 - Cosmetology - Nail Technology** (Certificate)
 - IT Systems Specialist - Linux Networking** (Cert.)
 - Medical Coding** (Certificate)
- 2014-15
 - Barber** (AAS / Certificate)
 - Certified Medical Assistant** (AAS / Certificate)
 - Cosmetology** (AAS)
 - Cyber Forensics Specialist** (Certificate)
 - Emergency Medical Tech Basic** (Certificate)
 - Health Care Coach** (Certificate)
 - Home Health Aide** (Certificate)
 - Oil / Natural Gas Technician** (AAS / Certificate)
 - Personal Care Aide** (Certificate)
- 2015-16
 - Biomedical Electronics** (AAS)
 - Certified Production Technician** (Certificate)
 - Cyber Security Specialist** (Certificate)
 - Esthetics** (Certificate)
 - Pharmacy Technician** (Certificate)
 - Unmanned Aircraft Systems** (Certificate)
- 2016-17
 - Office Systems Technology Specialist** (AAS)
 - Office Technologies Assistant** (Certificate)
 - Robots and Automation** (Certificate)

DEGREES

- 1967-68 / **Associate in Arts Degree**
- 1970-71 / **Assoc. in Applied Science Degree**
- 1977-78
 - Associate Degree in General Studies**
 - AAS Degree in Nursing**
- 1981-82 / **Associate in Science Degree**
- 2002-03 / **Associate in Fine Arts Degree**
- 2003-04
 - Associate in Engineering Science Degree**
- 2004-05
 - Associate in Arts Degree in Teaching -**
 - Secondary Math / Secondary Science**
- 2006-07
 - A.A. Degree in Teaching - Special Education**
- 2007-08
 - A.A. Degree in Teaching - Early Childhood Ed.**

*[Some Academic Years are approximate . . .
Many program listings based on first time in Catalog]*

■ OTHER DEGREE PROGRAMS

- ASSOCIATE IN ARTS**
- ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE**
- ASSOCIATE IN ARTS IN TEACHING**
- ASSOCIATE IN ENGINEERING SCIENCE**
- ASSOCIATE IN FINE ARTS**
- Agriculture** (A.S.)
- Art** (A.A.)
- Art** (AFA)
- Biological Sciences** (A.S.)
- Business** (A.S.)
- Chemistry** (A.S.)
- Communications** (A.A.)
- Computer Science - Business Option** (A.S.)
- Computer Science-Science Option** (A.S.)
- Criminal Justice** (A.A.)
- Early Childhood Education** (AAT)
- Education - Elementary** (A.A.)
- Education - Secondary Education** (A.A.)
- Education -**
 - Teaching Early Childhood Ed.** (AAT) / '07
- Teaching Secondary Mathematics** (AAT)
- Teaching Secondary Science** (AAT)
- Teaching Special Education** (AAT) /
- Elementary Education** (A.A.)
- Engineering Science** (AES)
- Engineering Technology** (A.S.)
- English** (A.A.)
- History** (A.A.)
- Industrial Technology** (A.S.)
- Mathematics** (A.S.)
- Music Performance - Instrumental** (AFA) / '09
- Music Performance - Vocal** (AFA) / '09
- Pharmacy** (A.S.)
- Plant and Soil Science** (A.S.)
- Political Science** (A.A.)
- Pre-Law** (A.S.)
- Pre-Medicine, Pre-Dentistry,**
- Pre-Veterinary Medicine** (A.S.)
- Psychology** (A.A.)
- Social Work** (A.A.)
- Sociology** (A.A.)

COMMENCEMENT DATES AND SPEAKERS

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

- 1st ~ June 9, 1968 – **Kenneth Skaggs**
Coordinator of Service Projects,
American Association of Junior Colleges
- 2nd Annual ~ June 8, 1969 – **Arthur A. Samford**
American History Instructor, Rend Lake College
- 3rd Annual ~ June 7, 1970 – **Glenn L. Dare**
Chairman, Rend Lake College Social Science Dept.
- 4th Annual ~ June 6, 1971 – **Dr. Eugene Estes**
Biology Instructor, Rend Lake College
- 5th Annual ~ June 4, 1972 – **Dr. Howard E. Rawlinson**
Dean of Rend Lake College
- 6th Annual ~ June 3, 1973 – **Dr. David R. Derge**
President, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale
- 7th Annual ~ June 2, 1974 – **Mark S. Kern**
Ag and Industrial Technologies Chair, RLC
- 8th Annual ~ May 18, 1975 – **The Honorable Paul Simon**
U.S. Representative, Congressional District 24
- 9th Annual ~ May 16, 1976 – **The Honorable Terry L. Bruce**
State Senator
- 10th Annual ~ May 15, 1977 – **Dr. Warren W. Brandt**
President, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale
- 11th Annual ~ May 14, 1978 – **H.J. Haberaecker**
Interim President, Rend Lake College
- 12th Annual ~ May 27, 1979 – **Eleanor Hall**
Sociology Instructor, Rend Lake College
- 13th Annual ~ June 1, 1980 – **Harold W. "Hank" Hannah**
President, Rend Lake College Foundation
- 14th Annual ~ May 17, 1981 – **Anthony Chavez**
Kay Eubanks
Maria Franscavitch
Rend Lake College Students
- 15th Annual ~ May 16, 1982 – **Dr. David R. Pierce**
Executive Director, Illinois Community College Board

FRIDAY EVENING

- 16th Annual ~ May 13, 1983 – **Dr. Evelyn Claxton**
Department Chair, RLC Arts and Communications
- 17th Annual ~ May 11, 1984 – **Attorney Michael McHaney (RLC Class of '77)**
Associate of Giamanco and Wexsten Law Offices
- 18th Annual ~ May 10, 1985 – **Vincent Cain**
Sociology Instructor, Rend Lake College
- 19th Annual ~ May 9, 1986 – **Robert Brown (MVCC Class of '66)**
Counselor, Mt. Vernon Township High School
1983 RLCF "Outstanding Alumnus of Year"
- 20th Annual ~ May 15, 1987 – **The Honorable Glenn Poshard**
Senator, 59th District
- 21st Annual ~ May 13, 1988 – **The Honorable James F. "Jim" Rea**
Representative, 59th District
- 22nd Annual ~ May 12, 1989 – **Virginia Telford**
V-P of Nursing Services, St. Mary's Hospital
- 23rd Annual ~ May 11, 1990 – **Wayne Arnold**
Instructor Emeritus, Rend Lake College
- 24th Annual ~ May 10, 1991 – **The Honorable Glenn Poshard**
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
- 25th Annual ~ May 15, 1992 – **Recognition of 25-Year Staff Members**
Gela Goin / Georgine Hawley / Shirley McHaney
Dr. Barbara Luchsinger / James E. Waugh

- 26th Annual ~ May 14, 1993 – **Jeanne Simon**
Wife of Former U.S. Senator Paul Simon
- 27th Annual ~ May 13, 1994 – **State Sen. Brad Burzynski (RLC Class of '75)**
1993 RLCF "Outstanding Alumnus of Year"
- 28th Annual ~ May 12, 1995 – **Dr. Kirby Browning**
Member, Rend Lake College Board of Trustees
- 29th Annual ~ May 10, 1996 – **Jack Hartwig**
Warden, Big Muddy River Correctional Center
- 30th Annual ~ May 16, 1997 – **Brent Manning**
Director, Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- 31st Annual ~ May 15, 1998 – **Cinda Chullen (RLC Class of '79)**
Technical Manager, NASA Johnson Space Center
1992 RLCF "Outstanding Alumna of Year"
- 32nd Annual ~ May 14, 1999 – **Mark E. Michalic (RLC Class of '79)**
Special Agent, U.S. Dept. of the Treasury,
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms
1998 RLCF "Outstanding Alumnus of Year"
1999 ICCTA "Co-Distinguished Alumnus Award"
- 33rd Annual ~ May 12, 2000 – **Dr. Susan Santoro Tomlin**
Anthropology / Sociology Professor, RLC
- 34th Annual ~ May 11, 2001 – **Edward T. Duffy**
Chair, Illinois Community College Board
- 35th Annual ~ May 10, 2002 – **Sen. William L. "Bill" O'Daniel**
State Senator, 54th Legislative District
- 36th Annual ~ May 16, 2003 – **Colonel (Sel.) Robert J. Mahoney**
United States Air Force
- 37th Annual ~ May 14, 2004 – **Guy Alongi**
Chairman, Illinois Community College Board
- 38th Annual ~ May 13, 2005 – **The Honorable Kurt M. Granberg**
Assistant Majority Leader (D-107), Illinois House
- 39th Annual ~ May 12, 2006 – **Dr. Keith Sanders**
Former Executive Director, IL Board of Higher Ed
Current Southern Illinois University Trustee
- 40th Annual ~ May 11, 2007 – **Hank Eisenga**
V-P of Manufacturing, Continental Tire of N. America
- 41st Annual ~ May 9, 2008 – **Christopher Johnson (RLC Class of '98)**
Distribution Center Manager, Walgreens / Mt. Vernon
2006 RLCF "Outstanding Alumnus of Year"
- 42nd Annual ~ May 15, 2009 – **The Honorable John Shimkus**
Congressman, 19th District of Illinois
- 43rd Annual ~ May 14, 2010 – **Clint Eilerts (RLC Class of '99)**
Co-Owner / Creative Director, The Arthur Agency
- 44th Annual ~ May 13, 2011 – **Guy Alongi**
Chairman, Illinois Community College Board

SATURDAY MORNING and AFTERNOON

- 45th Annual ~ May 12, 2012 – **Attorney Bryan A. Drew (RLC Class of '95)**
Drew & Drew P.C. in Benton
Chairman, Rend Lake College Board of Trustees
- 46th Annual ~ May 18, 2013 – **Dr. Jeannie Mitchell**
Psychology Professor, Rend Lake College
- 47th Annual ~ May 17, 2014 – **Andrea Beaty (RLC Class of '81)**
New York Times best-selling author
- 48th Annual ~ May 16, 2015 – **Jim "Hummer" Waugh**
Retired Instructor/A.D./Coach, Rend Lake College
- 49th Annual ~ May 14, 2016 – **Adam Nagreski (RLC Class of '05)**
Nagreski Law, LLC

FACULTY / STAFF RECOGNITION AWARDS

Full-Time 25-Year, 30-Year and 35-Year Service Recipients

▲ SPRING 1992

25-Year Service Award

- GELA GOIN
Secretarial Science Instructor
- GEORGINE HAWLEY
English Instructor
- Dr. BARBARA LUCHSINGER
English Instructor
- SHIRLEY McHANEY
Allied Health Department Chair
- JIM WAUGH
Health and Physical Ed. Instructor / A.D.

▲ SPRING 1993

25-Year Service Award

- ROSEMARY CARNES
Business Office Assistant
- DAVID PATTON
Learning Resource Center Director

▲ SPRING 1994

25-Year Service Award

- WAYNE ARNOLD (27 yrs.)
Health Ed., P.E. and Recreation Instructor
- MARK S. KERN
President
- DAVID SCOTT
Ag, Automotive and Architecture Dept. Chair

▲ SPRING 1995

25-Year Service Award

- CARROLL TURNER
Dean of Vocational-Technical Education

▲ SPRING 1996

25-Year Service Award

- JERRI RUEMMLER
Vocational-Technical Ed. Administrative Asst.

▲ SPRING 1997

30-Year Service Award

- GEORGINE HAWLEY
English Instructor
- Dr. BARBARA LUCHSINGER
English Instructor

▲ SPRING 1998

30-Year Service Award

- DAVID PATTON
Learning Resource Center Director

25-Year Service Award

- ROGER TREECE
Shipping and Receiving Clerk

▲ SPRING 1999

30-Year Service Award

- MARK S. KERN
President

▲ SPRING 2000

25-Year Service Award

- TERRY CLARK
Dean of Vocational-Technical Education
- GARY WADE
Electricity / Electronics Professor

▲ SPRING 2001

30-Year Service Award

- JERRI RUEMMLER
Community Development Administrative Asst.
- 25-Year Service Award*
- MAURICE KIRSCH
Agriculture / Auto Technology Professor

▲ SPRING 2002

25-Year Service Award

- ED HEISCHMIDT
Criminal Justice Professor

▲ SPRING 2003

30-Year Service Award

- ROGER TREECE
Shipping and Receiving Clerk

▲ SPRING 2004

35-Year Service Award

- MARK S. KERN
President
- 25-Year Service Award*
- D.J. JOHNSON
Industrial Health and Safety Professor
 - BOB KELLEY
Director of Marketing
 - DON LYNCH
Industrial Maintenance Tech Professor
 - BOB VARIS
Electronics Professor

▲ SPRING 2005

25-Year Service Award

- Dr. SHARON BEASLEY
Allied Health Division Chair
- DOUG CARLSON
Financial Aid Director
- KIMBERLY DAVIS
Circulation Specialist
- JANICE DILLON
Records Specialist
- MICHAEL P. MULLEN
English and Journalism Professor

▲ SPRING 2006

30-Year Service Award

- MAURICE KIRSCH
Agriculture / Auto Technology Professor

25-Year Service Award

- PHYLLIS DAVIS
Physical Plant Administrative Assistant
- MARY ANN LEWIS
Records Officer
- LINDA ODLE
Technology Specialist
- DAVID SMITH
Welding Professor
- LARRY WILLIAMS
Zoology Professor

▲ SPRING 2007

30-Year Service Award

- ED HEISCHMIDT
Criminal Justice Professor

▲ SPRING 2008

25-Year Service Award

- CATHY CROSS
Liberal Arts Division Administrative Assistant

▲ SPRING 2009

25-Year Service Award

- DIANE METZGER
Mathematics Professor
- ED RUFFINO
STARS Director
- Dr. SUE TOMLIN
Anthropology and Sociology Professor

▲ SPRING 2010

30-Year Service Award

- DOUG CARLSON
Financial Aid Director
 - KIMBERLY DAVIS
Circulation Specialist
 - JANICE DILLON
Records Specialist
- 25-Year Service Award*
- LISA PAYNE
V-P of Career Technical Instruction

▲ SPRING 2011

30-Year Service Award

- LARRY WILLIAMS
Zoology Professor

▲ SPRING 2013

30-Year Service Award

- CATHY CROSS
Liberal Arts Division Administrative Assistant
- 25-Year Service Award*
- BOB CARLOCK
Vice President of Finance and Administration
 - Dr. LINDA DENTON
Physics / Physical Science Professor
 - MARTHA McCREERY
Computer Networking Professor
 - PAULA MYERS
Community / Corporate Education Specialist
 - DAVE WARNER
Land of Lincoln/Southern 7 AmeriCorps Director

▲ SPRING 2014

30-Year Service Award

- DIANE METZGER
Mathematics Professor
- 25-Year Service Award*
- CINDY CORN
Health / Physical Education Professor
 - JEAN HUIE
Exec. Asst. to V-P of Academic Instruction
 - CHRISTINA KUBERSKI
Vice President of Academic Instruction

▲ SPRING 2015

25-Year Service Award

- LYNDA LANINGHAM
Mathematics Professor

▲ SPRING 2016

25-Year Service Award

- TINA GROUNDS
Early Childhood Education Professor

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ATTENDING REND LAKE COLLEGE

Percentage of In-District Seniors who choose to enroll the following Fall

	MVCC ▲ 1957-67*	▲ 1967-68**	▲ 1968-69**	▲ 1969-70**	▲ 1970-71	▲ 1971-72
	2400 / 11013 = 22%					
TOTAL IN-DISTRICT	240 / 1101 = 22%	479 / 1164 = 41%	533 / 1213 = 44%	X / 1182 = X%	X / X = X%	X / X = X%

* Actual full-time Freshman enrollments for Mt. Vernon Community College, both 10-year total and average, according to President's Annual Report, 1969-70.

** Actual full-time Freshman enrollments, according to President's Annual Report, 1969-70. Campus - Mt. Vernon Township High School.

High School	▲ 1972-73	▲ 1973-74	▲ 1981-82	▲ 1982-83	▲ 1983-84	▲ 1984-85
Benton	53 /	52 /	58 / 151 = 38%	54 / 178 = 30%	57 / 167 = 34%	63 / 187 = 34%
Christopher	16 /	15 /	18 / 95 = 19%	8 / 58 = 14%	13 / 54 = 24%	12 / 62 = 21%
Dahlgren	9 /					
Enfield	7 /	6 /	2 / 22 = 9%	5 / 17 = 29%	3 / 16 = 19%	6 / 23 = 26%
McLeansboro	32 /	25 /	30 / 103 = 29%	26 / 97 = 27%	33 / 94 = 35%	43 / 104 = 41%
Mt. Vernon	112 /	98 /	111 / 376 = 30%	75 / 387 = 19%	80 / 317 = 25%	71 / 368 = 19%
Pinckneyville	15 /	15 /	27 / 129 = 21%	22 / 137 = 16%	24 / 134 = 18%	21 / 125 = 17%
Sesser-Valier	12 /	22 /	22 / 68 = 32%	25 / 68 = 36%	18 / 59 = 31%	28 / 75 = 37%
Tamaroa ¹	5 /	7 /	9 / 27 = 33%	7 / 23 = 30%	9 / 19 = 47%	6 / 32 = 18%
Thompsonville	5 /	9 /	3 / 17 = 18%	6 / 26 = 23%	7 / 15 = 47%	8 / 29 = 27%
Waltonville	15 /	9 /	15 / 33 = 45%	8 / 38 = 21%	11 / 33 = 33%	14 / 35 = 40%
Wayne City	8 /	8 /	7 / 67 = 10%	4 / 68 = 6%	9 / 67 = 13%	12 / 66 = 18%
Webber Twp.	7 /	4 /	12 / 38 = 32%	10 / 33 = 30%	10 / 41 = 24%	6 / 44 = 14%
Woodlawn ²	0 /	8 /	10 / 40 = 25%	9 / 52 = 17%	20 / 50 = 40%	9 / 44 = 20%
Zeigler-Royalton	7 /	21 /	7 / 52 = 13%	12 / 66 = 18%	11 / 66 = 17%	6 / 60 = 10%
TOTAL IN-DISTRICT	303 /	299 /	331 / 1218 = 27%	271 / 1248 = 22%	309 / 1132 = 27%	306 / 1254 = 24%

High School	▲ 1987-88	▲ 1988-89	▲ 1989-90	▲ 1990-91	▲ 1991-92	▲ 1992-93
Benton	72 / 163 = 44%	70 / 159 = 44%	48 / 131 = 37%	43 / 137 = 31%	51 / 149 = 34%	60 / 142 = 42%
Christopher	28 / 82 = 34%	29 / 65 = 45%	23 / 72 = 32%	27 / 61 = 44%	24 / 61 = 39%	22 / 58 = 38%
McLeansboro	30 / 103 = 29%	32 / 97 = 33%	45 / 89 = 51%	43 / 89 = 48%	39 / 77 = 51%	53 / 96 = 55%
Mt. Vernon	83 / 340 = 24%	98 / 342 = 29%	84 / 325 = 26%	96 / 276 = 35%	89 / 314 = 28%	112 / 271 = 41%
NC-O-Enfield ³	5 / 55 = 9%	1 /	0 /	1 / 53 = 2%	1 /	2 / 20 = 10%
Pinckneyville	24 / 133 = 18%	32 / 124 = 26%	46 / 134 = 34%	51 / 127 = 40%	46 / 114 = 40%	42 / 115 = 37%
Sesser-Valier	29 / 62 = 47%	25 / 57 = 44%	27 / 68 = 40%	27 / 60 = 45%	22 / 56 = 39%	32 / 74 = 43%
Tamaroa ¹	11 / 23 = 48%					
Thompsonville	9 / 26 = 35%	10 / 19 = 53%	9 / 23 = 39%	13 / 29 = 45%	5 / 17 = 29%	9 / 19 = 47%
Waltonville	16 / 30 = 53%	15 / 34 = 44%	15 / 33 = 45%	19 / 30 = 63%	14 / 31 = 45%	7 / 22 = 32%
Wayne City	15 / 52 = 29%	15 / 62 = 24%	4 / 53 = 8%	8 / 42 = 19%	13 / 52 = 25%	20 / 49 = 41%
Webber Twp.	6 / 37 = 16%	11 / 32 = 34%	16 / 28 = 57%	6 / 31 = 19%	14 / 33 = 42%	20 / 43 = 47%
Woodlawn ²	6 / 42 = 14%	13 / 39 = 33%	2 / 30 = 7%	9 / 36 = 25%	15 / 37 = 41%	10 / 29 = 34%
Zeigler-Royalton	6 / 48 = 13%	7 / 58 = 12%	7 / 48 = 15%	12 / 48 = 25%	12 / 41 = 29%	5 / 40 = 13%
TOTAL IN-DISTRICT *	335 / 1141 = 29%	357 / 1088 = 33%	326 / 1034 = 32%	354 / 966 = 37%	344 / 982 = 35%	392 / 958 = 41%

High School	▲ 1993-94	▲ 1994-95	▲ 1995-96	▲ 1996-97	▲ 1997-98	▲ 1998-99
Benton	43 / 120 = 36%	54 / 129 = 42%	N / A	60 / 122 = 49%	68 / 141 = 48%	38 / 126 = 30%
Christopher	21 / 59 = 36%	19 / 61 = 31%	N / A	28 / 57 = 49%	26 / 64 = 41%	20 / 62 = 32%
McLeansboro	31 / 82 = 38%	32 / 70 = 46%	N / A	44 / 97 = 45%	35 / 100 = 35%	52 / 96 = 54%
Mt. Vernon	79 / 301 = 26%	125 / 331 = 38%	N / A	119 / 265 = 45%	148 / 289 = 51%	102 / 301 = 34%
NC-O-Enfield ³	1 /	3 /	N / A	1 / 59 = 2%	4 / 45 = 9%	1 / 45 = 2%
Pinckneyville	22 / 120 = 18%	27 / 142 = 19%	N / A	30 / 108 = 28%	38 / 109 = 35%	27 / 109 = 25%
Sesser-Valier	15 / 55 = 27%	25 / 57 = 44%	N / A	25 / 58 = 43%	37 / 52 = 71%	18 / 52 = 35%
Thompsonville	8 / 18 = 44%	7 / 29 = 24%	N / A	13 / 20 = 65%	9 / 21 = 43%	8 / 23 = 35%
Waltonville	9 / 29 = 31%	7 / 27 = 26%	N / A	13 / 35 = 37%	15 / 28 = 54%	18 / 31 = 58%
Wayne City	9 / 46 = 20%	23 / 52 = 44%	N / A	18 / 47 = 38%	17 / 38 = 45%	16 / 39 = 41%
Webber Twp.	6 / 32 = 19%	14 / 46 = 30%	N / A	23 / 41 = 56%	16 / 47 = 34%	17 / 47 = 36%
Woodlawn ²	3 / 30 = 10%	18 / 34 = 53%	N / A	8 / 33 = 24%	11 / 35 = 31%	8 / 38 = 21%
Zeigler-Royalton	7 / 49 = 14%	6 / 57 = 11%	N / A	10 / 48 = 21%	11 / 39 = 28%	8 / 42 = 19%
TOTAL IN-DISTRICT *	253 / 941 = 27%	357 / 1035 = 34%	N / A	391 / 931 = 42%	431 / 963 = 45%	332 / 966 = 34%

¹ Consolidated with Pinckneyville

² Approximately one-third of students in another district

³ Large majority of students in another district

KEY: 431 / 963 = 45% represents percentage of high school grads attending RLC in fall (431) from senior class total (963) previous year.
* NCOE figures not included in In-District Totals.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ATTENDING REND LAKE COLLEGE (CONT.)

High School	▲ 1999-2000	▲ 2000-01	▲ 2001-02	▲ 2002-03	▲ 2003-04	▲ 2004-05
Benton	N/A	65 / 119 = 55%	66 / 136 = 49%	66 / 128 = 52%	66 / 140 = 47%	68 / 122 = 56%
Christopher	N/A	36 / 62 = 58%	15 / 42 = 36%	21 / 56 = 38%	23 / 50 = 46%	23 / 50 = 46%
Hamilton County	N/A	51 / 96 = 53%	45 / 124 = 36%	59 / 119 = 50%	41 / 90 = 46%	33 / 93 = 35%
Mt. Vernon	N/A	123 / 291 = 42%	103 / 324 = 32%	122 / 305 = 40%	108 / 276 = 39%	107 / 280 = 38%
NC-O-Enfield ³					13 / 63 = 21%	3 / 43 = 7%
Pinckneyville	N/A	49 / 120 = 41%	34 / 89 = 38%	34 / 95 = 36%	49 / 113 = 43%	27 / 93 = 29%
Sesser-Valier	N/A	22 / 52 = 42%	31 / 58 = 53%	16 / 45 = 36%	23 / 52 = 44%	14 / 36 = 39%
Thompsonville	N/A	4 / 21 = 19%	5 / 20 = 25%	8 / 18 = 44%	5 / 22 = 23%	7 / 24 = 29%
Waltonville	N/A	2 / 16 = 13%	8 / 19 = 42%	14 / 28 = 50%	12 / 24 = 50%	8 / 20 = 40%
Wayne City	N/A	19 / 50 = 38%	10 / 49 = 20%	25 / 56 = 45%	19 / 43 = 44%	17 / 46 = 37%
Webber Twp.	N/A	11 / 28 = 39%	22 / 47 = 47%	24 / 48 = 50%	13 / 38 = 34%	16 / 28 = 57%
Woodlawn ²	N/A	12 / 57 = 21%	9 / 33 = 27%	6 / 32 = 19%	14 / 52 = 27%	17 / 37 = 46%
Zeigler-Royalton	N/A	6 / 28 = 21%	12 / 38 = 32%	17 / 47 = 36%	7 / 37 = 19%	11 / 46 = 24%
TOTAL IN-DISTRICT *	N/A	400 / 940 = 43%	360 / 979 = 37%	412 / 977 = 42%	380 / 937 = 41%	348 / 875 = 40%

High School	▲ 2005-06	▲ 2006-07	▲ 2007-08	▲ 2008-09	▲ 2009-10	▲ 2010-11
Benton	58 / 129 = 45%	49 / 127 = 39%	60 / 127 = 47%	56 / 121 = 46%	65 / 111 = 59%	47 / 110 = 43%
Christopher	25 / 49 = 51%	27 / 55 = 49%	12 / 49 = 24%	30 / 51 = 59%	33 / 55 = 60%	15 / 49 = 30%
Hamilton County	43 / 92 = 47%	46 / 92 = 50%	47 / 92 = 51%	46 / 77 = 60%	53 / 84 = 63%	39 / 91 = 43%
Mt. Vernon	92 / 246 = 37%	101 / 263 = 38%	114 / 294 = 39%	135 / 298 = 45%	152 / 321 = 47%	79 / 240 = 33%
NC-O-Enfield ³	7 / 61 = 11%	6 / 51 = 12%	8 / 55 = 15%	7 / 49 = 14%	9 / 61 = 15%	1 / 33 = 3%
Pinckneyville	33 / 99 = 33%	35 / 108 = 32%	46 / 111 = 41%	32 / 104 = 31%	71 / 119 = 60%	32 / 92 = 35%
Sesser-Valier	16 / 45 = 36%	27 / 51 = 53%	22 / 49 = 45%	33 / 62 = 53%	38 / 53 = 72%	20 / 43 = 46%
Thompsonville	7 / 22 = 32%	9 / 21 = 43%	2 / 20 = 10%	11 / 20 = 55%	6 / 21 = 29%	9 / 19 = 46%
Waltonville	14 / 27 = 52%	13 / 26 = 50%	7 / 20 = 35%	10 / 17 = 59%	23 / 34 = 68%	13 / 24 = 54%
Wayne City	13 / 44 = 30%	15 / 46 = 33%	13 / 47 = 28%	14 / 43 = 33%	20 / 40 = 50%	13 / 35 = 37%
Webber Twp.	18 / 48 = 38%	15 / 50 = 30%	18 / 54 = 33%	12 / 39 = 31%	16 / 30 = 53%	18 / 38 = 48%
Woodlawn ²	6 / 41 = 15%	18 / 54 = 33%	7 / 49 = 14%	23 / 48 = 48%	29 / 52 = 56%	17 / 34 = 50%
Zeigler-Royalton	4 / 26 = 15%	9 / 40 = 23%	6 / 44 = 14%	14 / 49 = 29%	19 / 49 = 39%	8 / 39 = 21%
TOTAL IN-DISTRICT *	329 / 868 = 38%	364 / 933 = 39%	354 / 956 = 37%	416 / 929 = 45%	525 / 969 = 54%	310 / 814 = 38%

High School	▲ 2011-12	▲ 2012-13	▲ 2013-14	▲ 2014-15	▲ 2015-16
Benton	50 / 110 = 45%	44 / 129 = 34%	48 / 119 = 40%	N/A / 104 = N/A%	N/A / 158 = N/A%
Christopher	19 / 55 = 35%	14 / 52 = 27%	13 / 49 = 27%	N/A / 42 = N/A%	N/A / 53 = N/A%
Hamilton County	35 / 69 = 51%	34 / 75 = 45%	25 / 71 = 35%	N/A / 85 = N/A%	N/A / 65 = N/A%
Mt. Vernon	97 / 262 = 37%	87 / 270 = 32%	86 / 295 = 29%	N/A / 243 = N/A%	N/A / 226 = N/A%
NC-O-Enfield ³	3 / 40 = 8%	7 / 52 = 13%	8 / 54 = 15%	N/A / 46 = N/A%	N/A / 48 = N/A%
Pinckneyville	33 / 87 = 38%	36 / 90 = 40%	33 / 78 = 42%	N/A / 94 = N/A%	N/A / 96 = N/A%
Sesser-Valier	26 / 56 = 46%	18 / 45 = 40%	22 / 46 = 48%	N/A / 46 = N/A%	N/A / 43 = N/A%
Thompsonville	12 / 22 = 54%	10 / 20 = 50%	8 / 25 = 32%	N/A / 25 = N/A%	N/A / 12 = N/A%
Waltonville	7 / 24 = 29%	11 / 27 = 40%	9 / 17 = 53%	N/A / 23 = N/A%	N/A / 19 = N/A%
Wayne City	11 / 34 = 32%	16 / 30 = 54%	10 / 31 = 32%	N/A / 31 = N/A%	N/A / 35 = N/A%
Webber Twp.	6 / 28 = 21%	12 / 25 = 48%	4 / 27 = 15%	N/A / 30 = N/A%	N/A / 31 = N/A%
Woodlawn ²	12 / 43 = 28%	13 / 37 = 35%	18 / 44 = 41%	N/A / 31 = N/A%	N/A / 45 = N/A%
Zeigler-Royalton	12 / 32 = 37%	1 / 19 = 5%	12 / 38 = 32%	N/A / 34 = N/A%	N/A / 26 = N/A%
TOTAL IN-DISTRICT *	320 / 822 = 39%	296 / 819 = 36%	288 / 840 = 34%	N/A / 834 = N/A%	N/A / 857 = N/A%

1981-82 – 2010-14 (1985-86, 1986-87, 1995-96 and 1999-2000 not available)

31-YEAR TOTALS * – 10,191 Spring in-district graduates attending RLC in the Fall / 28,516 total graduates within district = 35.7%

¹ Consolidated with Pinckneyville

² Approximately one-third of students in another district

³ Large majority of students in another district

* Norris City-Omaha-Enfield (NCOE) figures not included in In-District Totals because percentage of students residing in RLC District very small

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID COMPARISON

Fiscal Years 1981 thru 2015

▲ 2014-15

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,207	\$4,025,662
State	499	664,907
Institutional	814	1,787,544
Other		
Total	2,520	\$6,478,113

▲ 2013-14

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,494	\$4,354,946
State	1,851	750,000
Institutional	924	1,638,435
Other	-	-
Total	4,269	\$6,743,381

▲ 2012-13

	Students	Amount
Federal	2,530	\$8,200,184
State	1,699	793,479
Institutional	840	1,438,754
Other	-	-
Total	5,069	\$10,432,417

▲ 2011-12

	Students	Amount
Federal	3,129	\$9,335,754
State	2,211	943,411
Institutional	536	1,077,664
Other	-	-
Total	5,876	\$11,356,829

▲ 2010-11

	Students	Amount
Federal	2,916	\$9,845,551
State	1,999	1,113,031
Institutional	723	1,296,084
Other	341	225,211
Total	5,979	\$12,479,877

▲ 2009-10

	Students	Amount
Federal	2,701	\$8,519,054
State	2,351	1,431,216
Institutional	757	1,602,274
Other	303	220,077
Total	6,112	\$11,772,621

▲ 2008-09

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,879	\$4,204,984
State	2,352	2,710,446
Institutional	762	1,479,776
Other	311	258,350
Total	5,304	\$8,653,556

▲ 2007-08

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,492	\$3,065,868
State	2,578	3,902,135
Institutional	744	1,274,288
Other	313	192,856
Total	5,127	\$8,435,147

▲ 2006-07

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,384	\$2,604,921
State	2,529	3,234,269
Institutional	731	911,089
Other	418	274,000
Total	5,062	\$7,024,279

▲ 2005-06

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,450	\$2,696,873
State	2,371	2,616,438
Institutional	699	976,614
Other	411	242,784
Total	4,931	\$6,532,709

▲ 2004-05

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,441	\$2,618,717
State	2,448	2,477,249
Institutional	662	804,036
Other	329	178,522
Total	4,880	\$6,078,524

▲ 2003-04

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,618	\$3,039,143
State	2,184	2,069,964
Institutional	470	666,776
Other	488	309,884
Total	4,760	\$6,085,767

▲ 2002-03

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,173	\$2,889,764
State	2,016	2,029,374
Institutional	590	573,967
Other	473	247,173
Total	4,252	\$5,740,278

▲ 2001-02

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,384	\$2,414,755
State	2,408	1,965,793
Institutional	482	519,579
Other	466	256,466
Total	4,740	\$5,156,593

▲ 2000-01

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,187	\$1,881,075
State	1,963	1,630,991
Institutional	522	525,121
Other	400	223,289
Total	4,072	\$4,260,476

▲ 1999-2000

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,140	\$1,742,153
State	2,061	1,441,109
Institutional	1,155	543,172
Other	541	208,919
Total	4,897	\$3,935,353

▲ 1998-99

	Students	Amount
Pell	992	\$1,623,256
State	1,845	827,891
Institutional	401	249,829
Stu. Loans	186	428,105
Total	3,283	\$3,936,233

▲ 1997-98

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,242	\$1,661,198
State	1,867	1,409,773
Institutional	957	417,468
Other	725	27,550
Total	4,791	\$3,515,989

▲ 1996-97

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,352	\$1,712,724
State	1,862	1,391,346
Institutional	803	420,388
Other	550	20,000
Total	4,567	\$3,544,458

▲ 1995-96

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,305	\$1,687,416
State	1,709	1,432,644
Institutional	973	306,300
Other	900	28,800
Total	4,887	\$3,455,160

▲ 1994-95

	Students	Amount
Pell	1,299	\$1,771,264
ISAC	953	569,523
FWS	77	82,832
SEOG	84	45,900
GSL	189	356,066
Total	2,602	\$2,825,585

▲ 1993-94

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,543	\$1,919,271
State	1,655	1,073,919
Institutional	592	261,847
Other	600	15,000
Total	4,390	\$3,270,037

▲ 1992-93

	Students	Amount
Federal	1,476	\$1,638,748
State	1,551	1,124,356
Institutional	720	436,138
Other	600	15,000
Total	4,347	\$3,214,242

▲ 1991-92

	Students	Amount
Federal	N/A	N/A
State	N/A	N/A
Institutional	N/A	N/A
Other	N/A	N/A
Total	N/A	N/A

▲ 1990-91

	Students	Amount
Federal	N/A	N/A
State	N/A	N/A
Institutional	N/A	N/A
Other	N/A	N/A
Total	N/A	N/A

▲ 1989-90

	Students	Amount
Pell	1,110	\$1,279,561
ISSC	913	438,007
CWS	83	72,901
SEOG	45	10,105
GSL	340	517,594
Total	2,491	\$2,318,168

▲ 1988-89

	Students	Amount
Pell	967	\$1,057,177
ISSC	711	308,946
CWS	91	70,887
SEOG	35	8,655
GSL	287	533,118
Total	2,091	\$1,978,783

▲ 1987-88

	Students	Amount
Pell	836	\$835,500
ISSC	612	261,051
CWS	84	73,623
SEOG	32	6,900
GSL	242	440,430
Total	1,806	\$1,617,504

ASSESSED VALUATION Community College District 521

Fiscal Year	Assessed Valuation	FTE	Assessed Valuation / FTE
■ 2015	\$ 893,757,772		
■ 2014	\$ 846,478,346		
■ 2013	\$ 803,262,180		
■ 2012	\$ 782,563,897	2,459	\$ 318,245
■ 2011	\$ 773,164,929	2,652	\$ 291,540
■ 2010	\$ 872,030,576	2,653	\$ 328,696
■ 2009	\$ 753,288,351	2,554	\$ 294,945
■ 2008	\$ 712,697,870	2,546	\$ 279,928
■ 2007	\$ 668,565,470	2,278	\$ 293,488
■ 2006	\$ 638,872,081	2,216	\$ 288,300
■ 2005	\$ 614,812,467	2,145	\$ 286,626
■ 2004	\$ 627,468,616	2,176	\$ 288,359
■ 2003	\$ 602,778,460	1,989	\$ 303,056
■ 2002	\$ 564,168,216	1,864	\$ 302,665
■ 2001	\$ 548,586,599	1,713	\$ 320,249
■ 2000	\$ 527,276,202	1,721	\$ 306,379
■ 1999	\$ 510,865,517	1,775	\$ 287,812
■ 1998	\$ 494,534,533	1,854	\$ 266,739
■ 1997	\$ 481,584,361	1,905	\$ 252,800
■ 1996	\$ 452,788,633	1,910	\$ 237,062
■ 1995	\$ 425,729,632	1,880	\$ 226,452
■ 1994	\$ 401,134,987	2,239	\$ 179,158
■ 1993	\$ 387,620,644	2,138	\$ 181,301
■ 1992	\$ 377,846,708	2,266	\$ 166,746
■ 1991	\$ 377,964,159 <i>est.</i>	2,180	\$ 173,378
■ 1990	\$ 378,953,671	2,061	\$ 183,869
■ 1989	\$ 407,330,976 <i>est.</i>	1,942	\$ 209,748
■ 1988	\$ 423,031,894	1,914	\$ 221,020
■ 1987	\$ 416,249,742	1,822	\$ 228,458
■ 1986	\$ 447,599,398	1,704	\$ 262,676
■ 1985	\$ 441,649,492	1,565	\$ 282,204

■ 1984	\$ 472,846,264	1,551	\$ 304,865
■ 1983	\$ 481,743,057	1,659	\$ 290,382
■ 1982	N/A	1,805	
■ 1981	\$ 413,719,182	1,679	\$ 246,408
■ 1980	N/A	1,784	
■ 1979	\$ 386,892,888	1,715	\$ 225,594
■ 1978	\$ 359,588,106	1,520	\$ 236,571
■ 1977	\$ 316,497,278	1,510	\$ 209,601
■ 1976	\$ 263,974,075	1,364	\$ 193,529
■ 1975	\$ 242,803,975	1,032	\$ 235,275
■ 1974	\$ 227,811,692	904	\$ 252,004
■ 1973	\$ 226,221,337	898	\$ 251,917
■ 1972	\$ 248,908,368	897	\$ 277,490
■ 1971	\$ 217,763,307	989	\$ 220,185
■ 1970	\$ 236,876,084	955	\$ 248,038
■ 1969	\$ 233,010,393	883	\$ 263,884
■ 1968	\$ 235,213,381	777	\$ 302,719

Mt. Vernon Community College

■ 1967	\$ 59,534,755	718	\$ 82,917
■ 1966	\$ 58,916,280	659	\$ 89,403
■ 1965	\$ 58,833,820	578	\$ 101,789
■ 1964	\$ 60,747,075	394	\$ 154,180
■ 1963	\$ 61,520,890	309	\$ 199,097
■ 1962	\$ 60,742,820	291	\$ 208,738
■ 1961	\$ 60,508,785	255	\$ 237,289
■ 1960	\$ 60,815,030	222	\$ 273,942
■ 1959	\$ 60,259,225	171	\$ 352,393
■ 1958	\$ 60,564,545	206	\$ 294,003
■ 1957	\$ 55,874,146	148	\$ 377,528
■ 1956	\$ 54,569,638	125	\$ 436,557

The Assessed Valuation is given for the year previous to the school year because taxes are levied in one year to be collected the following year.
FTE figures for the first few years are estimated but are very close to the actual figure, according to **The First Fifteen Years** by Howard Rawlinson.

FINANCIAL AID COMPARISON (CONT.)

▲ 1986-87

	Students	Amount
Pell	671	\$687,782
ISSC	493	210,307
CWS	92	71,643
SEOG	38	7,000
GSL	261	480,962
Total	1,555	\$1,457,694

▲ 1985-86

	Students	Amount
Pell	619	\$618,283
ISSC	455	175,703
CWS	101	66,859
SEOG	40	9,800
GSL	223	432,520
Total	1,438	\$1,303,165

▲ 1984-85

	Students	Amount
Pell	572	\$461,200
ISSC	367	116,385
CWS	80	71,410
SEOG	29	6,544
GSL	211	462,479
Total	1,259	\$1,118,018

▲ 1983-84

	Students	Amount
Pell	514	\$343,752
ISSC	337	109,839
CWS	82	66,727
SEOG	37	8,370
GSL	153	301,313
Total	1,123	\$830,001

▲ 1982-83

	Students	Amount
Pell	459	\$302,000
ISSC	300	99,441
CWS	78	70,000
SEOG	32	6,234
GSL	111	200,356
Total	980	\$678,031

▲ 1981-82

	Students	Amount
Pell	427	\$250,623
ISSC	194	51,993
CWS	85	68,882
SEOG	33	7,750
GSL	124	244,796
Total	863	\$624,044

▲ 1980-81

	Students	Amount
Pell	451	\$274,737
ISSC	221	71,323
CWS	65	52,495
SEOG	42	9,736
GSL	78	162,059
Total	857	\$570,350

NOTE: No. of recipients is a duplicated number. [Student may receive financial assistance from more than one source.]
Federal – Pell / SEOG / Federal Work-Study
State – MAP / ISAC-Stafford Loans / Co-op Work-Study / IIA / JTPA (WIA) / National Guard-Veterans / DORS
Institutional – Academic and Athletic Talent Waivers / Student Employment / Staff Tuition Waivers / Other Waivers
Other – Other Scholarships, Grants and Fellowships / Employer Reimbursed Tuition

REND LAKE COLLEGE FOUNDATION 2006 ANNUAL DINNER
 '40 Years of Celebrating Rend Lake College Excellence'

40 Years of Changes, Growth

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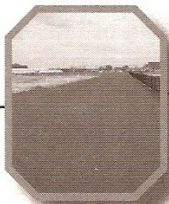
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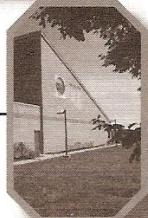


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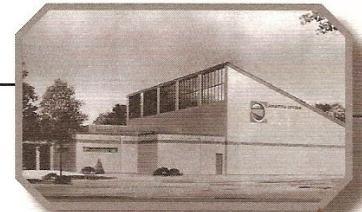
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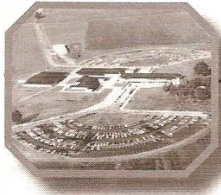
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July, 1968: Agriculture is approved as first new vocational program.

March 27, 1969: Groundbreaking ceremonies for Phase I construction are held. The Phase I five buildings – Academic, Science, Gymnasium, South Oasis and Maintenance – were complete and ready for occupancy by August, 1970.

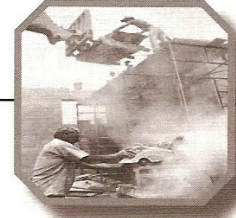


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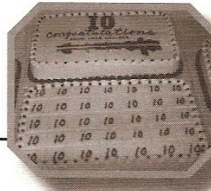


Spring, 1971: Permitted to combine Phase II and Phase III plans, college officials go ahead with the construction of five more buildings – Administration, Vocational, North Oasis, Student Center and Learning Resource Center.

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1983: Business Resource and Assistance Center started.

1985: Total number of credit students served = 7,419.



1988: College receives maximum 10-year accreditation from North Central Association.



(1) July, 1991: College awarded four-year, \$1.5 million "Strengthening Institutions" Title III Grant from federal government to improve Management Information System (MIS), computerize Skills Center curricula and bolster outside fund-raising capabilities. **(2) Sept. 3, 1991:** Mark S. Kern named fifth full-time President of RLC.



1990: New satellite dish allows RLC to offer live teleconferences.

1989: A new automotive wing is added to the Vocational Building.

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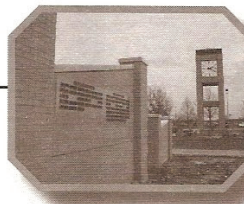
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More to come!

REND LAKE COLLEGE SELF-STUDY REPORT 2008

A Comprehensive Analysis of College Operations

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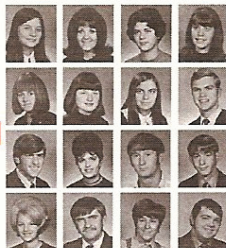
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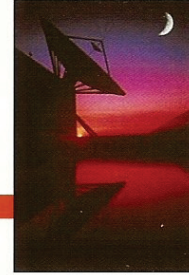


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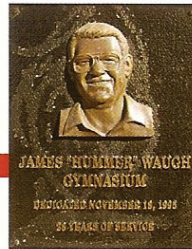
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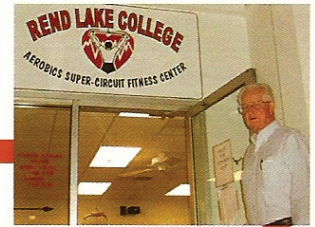
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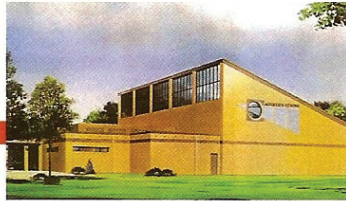
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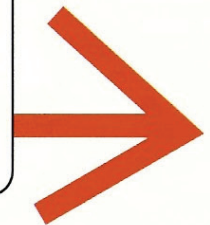
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February, 2007: Those honored to be part of the Employee Leadership Institute at Rend Lake College wrap up a nine-month series of meetings. The ELI was created to improve the effectiveness of current managers and prepare employees for future management roles.



July, 2007: (1) State-of-the-art Radiologic Technology facility completed in the Advanced Technology Center on the RLC campus.

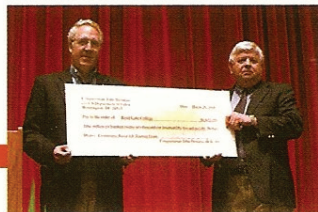
(2) Continental Tire North America, together with Rend Lake College and Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, offers employees at the Mt. Vernon plant an on-site opportunity to obtain a bachelor's degree in technical resource management.



September, 2007: Officials from Rend Lake College joined ambassadors of the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce and local business leaders to open the new Early Childhood Center at the RLC MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon.



April, 2008: State Rep. Kurt Granberg presented Mark Kern and retired Vice President of Finance and Administration Bob Carlock a \$1.07 million grant to construct a new mining technology training center on the college's main campus.



March, 2008: US Rep. John Shimkus presented a \$1.6 million energy grant to Rend Lake College for coal mining training.



December, 2007: Rend Lake College joined the VESTA (Viticulture and Enology Science and Technology Alliance), receiving nearly \$500,000 in grant funding aimed at training a workforce for the grape and wine industry.



July, 2008: The Board of Trustees

appoint Charley Holstein as Interim President, Lisa Payne as Interim VP of Vocational Instruction, and Chris Kuberski as Interim VP of Academic Instruction.



MORE TO COME!



POPULATION OF IN-DISTRICT COMMUNITIES BY ZIP CODE

	2010	2000	1990	1980	1970	1960
FRANKLIN COUNTY						
Benton (62812)	11,410	11,460				
Buckner (62819)	432	503				
Christopher (62822)	2,454	4,105				
Ewing (62836)	699	1,189				
Mulkeytown (62865)	2,137	1,618				
Royalton (62983)	1,838	1,615				
Sesser (62884)	3,061	2,990				
Thompsonville (62890)	2,527	2,645				
Whittington (62897)	492	216				
Zeigler (62999)	1,755	1,647				
FRANKLIN COUNTY IN-DISTRICT	26,805	27,988				
FRANKLIN COUNTY TOTAL	39,561	39,018	40,319	43,201	38,329	39,281
<i>[Not in RLC District: West Frankfort (8,177 in 2010)]</i>						
HAMILTON COUNTY						
Broughton (62817)	602	721				
Dahlgren (62828)	1,491	1,570				
Dale (62829)	576	558				
McLeansboro (62859)	4,421	4,623				
Macedonia (62860)	1,477	1,030				
HAMILTON COUNTY IN-DISTRICT	8,567	8,502				
HAMILTON COUNTY TOTAL	8,457	8,621	8,499	9,172	8,665	10,010
JEFFERSON COUNTY						
Belle Rive (62810)	1,283	1,579				
Bluford (62814)	2,148	2,648				
Bonnie (62816)	1,412	1,229				
Dix (62830)	1,363	1,548				
Ina (62846)	2,706	801				
Mt. Vernon (62864)	23,653	24,896				
Nason (62866)	13	266				
Opdyke (62872)	739	484				
Scheller (62883)	642	671				
Texico (62889)	916	1,316				
Waltonville (62894)	1,109	2,002				
Woodlawn (62898)	2,639	1,895				
JEFFERSON COUNTY IN-DISTRICT	38,623	39,335				
JEFFERSON COUNTY TOTAL	38,827	40,045	37,020	36,552	31,446	32,315
PERRY COUNTY						
Pinckneyville (62274)	8,711	7,275				
Tamaroa (62888)	1,842	1,864				
PERRY COUNTY IN-DISTRICT	10,553	9,139				
PERRY COUNTY TOTAL	22,350	23,094	21,412	21,714	19,757	19,184
<i>[Not in RLC District: DuQuoin (6,109 in 2010)]</i>						
WAYNE COUNTY						
Keenes (62851)	805	911				
Sims (62886)	698	841				
Wayne City (62895)	1,731	1,496				
WAYNE COUNTY IN-DISTRICT	3,234	3,248				
WAYNE COUNTY TOTAL	16,760	17,151	17,241	18,059	17,004	19,008
<i>[Not in RLC District: Fairfield (5,154 in 2010) and majority of county]</i>						
WHITE COUNTY						
Enfield (62835)	1,036	1,105				
Springerton (62887)	420	699				
WHITE COUNTY IN-DISTRICT	1,456	1,804				
WHITE COUNTY TOTAL	14,665	15,371	16,522	17,864	17,312	19,373
<i>[Not in RLC District: Carmi (5,229 in 2010) and majority of county]</i>						
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT 521 POPULATION						
	2010	2000	1990	1980	1970	1960
	89,238	90,016	87,300	89,399		



ICCB Summary profile 2010

Illinois C.C. Districts > 39
Community Colleges > 48

REND LAKE COLLEGE / C.C. DISTRICT 521 RANK

- Population** **90,394**
6th LOWEST, ahead of only Highland - Freeport (89,350), Danville Area (87,438), Spoon River - Canton (71,697), Shawnee - Ullin (59,403) and South-eastern Illinois - Harrisburg (52,378). Highest [single], College of DuPage - Glen Ellyn (1,039,772).
- Square Miles** **1,850**
14th LARGEST, behind only Lincoln Land - Springfield (4,115); Lake Land - Mattoon (3,961); Illinois Eastern / Olney Central, Wabash Valley, Lincoln Trail and Frontier (3,066); Parkland - Champaign (2,908); Carl Sandburg - Galesburg (2,834); John Wood - Quincy (2,363); Illinois Central - Peoria (2,322); Black Hawk - Moline (2,240); Kaskaskia - Centralia (2,231); Illinois Valley - Oglesby (2,058); Southwestern Illinois - Belleville (2,054); Lewis & Clark - Godfrey (2,044); Heartland - Bloomington (1,863).
- Tax Base Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV)** **\$773,164,929**
3rd LOWEST, ahead of Southeastern Illinois (\$453,935,863) and Shawnee (\$558,891,943). Only one of five statewide less than \$1 billion. Highest [single], DuPage (\$45,330,911,551)
- Headcount / Fall '11** **4,512**
27th HIGHEST. Smallest, Spoon River (1,966). Largest [single], DuPage (26,209).
- Full-Time Equivalency (FTE) / FY11** **3,399**
28th HIGHEST. Smallest, Spoon River (1,230). Largest [single], DuPage (19,134).
- Tuition / Fees** **\$2,880**
9th LOWEST, two others tied. Least expensive, Illinois Valley (\$2,506)

Data Book

on Illinois Higher Education

Highlights from the
17th Annual (1990)
& 37th Annual (2010)
IBHE publications

Some facts of interest gleaned from the 17th Annual **Data Book on Illinois Higher Education** published by the State of Illinois Board of Higher Education, Richard D. Wagner, Executive Director.

A comparative look at the 37th Annual IBHE **Data Book on Illinois Higher Education**, Donald Sevener, Interim Executive Director (and The RLC Fact Book 2010).

- ✓ 47.8% of all college students in Illinois in Fall '89 were enrolled in community colleges (341,733)
- ✓ 42.0% of all college students in Illinois in Fall '09 were enrolled in community colleges (383,960)

STATEWIDE ENROLLMENT TRENDS

Year	No. of C.C. Students	% of Total College Enrollment
1951	13,352	10.5%
1955 °	18,360	12.0%
1967 •	83,246	22.9%
1970 +	142,486	30.7%
1981	* 388,369	52.0%
1982	387,822	* 52.1%
1989	341,733	47.8%
1999	339,673	46.2%
2009	383,960	42.0%

° - Mt. Vernon Community College established
• - Rend Lake College established
+ - RLC moves to Ina campus

* Record highs



- ✓ In the decade from 2000-09, no other community college in the state experienced a greater increase in headcount enrollment than Rend Lake College (2,739 to 5,871 / 114.3%). [2. Kaskaskia, 99.4%; 3. Shawnee, 50.7%.]
- ✓ From 1995-2009, RLC ranked No. 4 (3,438 to 5,871 / 70.8%) behind Wabash Valley (137.8%), Kaskaskia (83.0%) and Heartland (71.4%).

R.L.C. ENROLLMENT TRENDS

Year	Headcount
1970 +	1,104
1975	1,555
1980	3,114
1985	2,878
1989	3,293
1995	3,438
2000	2,739
2005	4,913
2009	* 5,871

* Record high

+ - RLC moves to Ina campus



- ✓ 28% of all full-time college students in Illinois in Fall '89 attend community colleges (103,114)
- ✓ 27.8% of all full-time college students in Illinois in Fall '09 attend community colleges (150,390 of 541,638)
- ✓ 62.6% of all part-time college students in Illinois in Fall '09 attend community colleges (233,570 of 373,125)
- ✓ 27.3% of all college students in Illinois in Fall '89 were enrolled in 12 public universities
- ✓ 22.4% of all college students in Illinois in Fall '09 were enrolled in 12 public universities (204,781)



- ✓ 24.9% of all college students in Illinois in Fall '89 were enrolled in private institutions . . . there are 55 multiple-purpose private institutions in the state, 51 limited purpose private institutions and 23 proprietary institutions
- ✓ 35.6% of all college students in Illinois in Fall '09 were enrolled in independent not-for-profit institutions (230,437 / 25.2%), independent for-profit institutions (84,845 / 9.3%) and out-of-state institutions (10,740 / 1.2%), a total of 326,022 students



- ✓ Illinois community college students in Fall '89 by age . . .
 - 50.9% of students between 18 and 24
 - 25.4% are between 25-34
 - 21.2% are over 34
 - Mean age - 27.4
- ✓ Illinois community college students in Fall '09 by age . . .
 - N/A% are between 18 and 24
 - N/A% are between 25-34
 - N/A% are over 34
 - Mean age - N/A



- ✓ The average age of Continuing Education students in Fall '89 . . .
 - 26.9% are between 18-24
 - 27.5% are between 25-34
 - 42.2% are over 34
 - Mean age - 34.4
- ✓ The average age of Continuing Education students in Fall '09 . . .
 - 29.1% (81) between 16-18
 - 37.4% (104) between 19-24
 - 25.5% (71) between 25-34
 - 6.5% (18) between 45-59
 - 1.4% (4) are 60-plus



- ✓ The average age in Fall '89 for RLC students is 26.3, compared to 27.2 for the total public community college average age
- ✓ The average age in Fall '09 for RLC students is 31.9



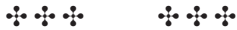
- ✓ In 1985, 39.5% of students enrolled at Illinois community colleges (112,773 of 285,504) are financial aid recipients
- ✓ In 1989, 44.1% of students enrolled at Illinois community colleges (127,725 of 289,500) are financial aid recipients
- ✓ In 2009, 5,304 RLC students (duplicated) are financial aid recipients . . .

Federal	1,879	\$4,204,984
State	2,352	\$2,710,446
Institutional	762	\$1,479,776
Other	311	\$ 258,350



✓ Percentage of freshman students applying who were accepted (Fall '89) at . . .

- University of Illinois – 65%
- SIU-Carbondale – 76.7%
- Eastern Illinois University – 87.8%
- Illinois State University – 47.7%



✓ Typical tuition and required fees for full-time, in-state undergraduate students for '89-90 . . .

School	Tuition	Room/Board
SIU-Carbondale	\$2,167	\$2,636
U. of Illinois	\$2,806	\$3,426
Eastern Illinois U.	\$2,100	\$2,476
Illinois State U.	\$2,238	\$2,573
SIU-Edwardsville	\$1,802	(None)
RLC *	\$ 690	

* Based on 30 credit hours

✓ Typical tuition and required fees for full-time, in-state undergraduate students for '09-10 . . .

School	Tuition	Room/Board
SIU-Carbondale	\$10,411	\$8,082
U. of Illinois	\$12,660	\$9,284
Eastern Illinois U.	\$ 9,429	\$8,078
Illinois State U.	\$10,531	\$7,882
SIU-Edwardsville	\$ 8,336	\$8,470
U. of I.-Springfield	\$ 9,541	\$9,200
RLC *	\$ 2,460	

* Based on 30 credit hours



✓ Number of transfer students Fall '89 from RLC to . . .

- SIU-Carbondale – 121 (second only to John A. Logan's 225)
- Eastern Illinois University – 11
- SIU-Edwardsville – 8
- U. of Illinois and Illinois State – 4 each

✓ Number of transfer students Fall '09 from RLC to . . .

- SIU-Carbondale – 341
- McKendree University – 99
- Eastern Illinois University – 40
- U. of Phoenix (online) – 37
- Greenville College – 20
- University of Illinois – 18
- Southeast Missouri State U. – 15
- Rockford College – 14
- Murray (KY) State University – 13
- U. of Southern Indiana – 13



✓ Number of Degrees and Certificates awarded in '89 . . .

School	Degrees	Certificates
• RLC	309	92
• Frontier	35	24
• John A. Logan	335	106
• Kaskaskia	317	102
• Shawnee	178	144
• Southeastern Illinois	269	534

✓ Degrees conferred in '09 . . .

School	Degrees	Certificates
• RLC	1,265	
• Frontier	291	
• John A. Logan	1,349	
• Kaskaskia	1,014	
• Shawnee	578	
• Southeastern Illinois	537	



RLC students (9,079) in 1999 . . .

✓ Males	5,808	64.0%
Females	3,271	36.0%

RLC students (13,435) in 2009 . . .

✓ Males	6,596	49.1%
Females	6,839	50.9%

✓ By Residency –

In-District	9,561	71.2%
Out-of-District	3,238	24.1%
Correctional Inst.	476	3.5%
Out-of-State	130	1.0%
Foreign Country	30	0.2%

✓ By Ethnic Origin

Asian/Pacific Island.	81	0.6%
Am. Indian/Alaskan	33	0.3%
Black Non-Hispanic	713	5.3%
Hispanic	155	1.2%
White Non-Hispanic	12,440	92.6%
Non-Resident Alien	13	0.1%



✓ Proportion of first-time, full-time Freshmen who completed their degree within 150% of Catalog time, transfer or still enrolled at public community colleges . . .

School	Fall 2004 Cohort			Fall 2005 Cohort			Fall 2006 Cohort		
	Cohort Headcount	State Pct.*	State Rank	Cohort Headcount	State Pct.*	State Rank	Cohort Headcount	State Pct.*	State Rank
RLC	614	74.8%	(9)	836	79.1%	(3)	797	77.0%	(2)
Frontier	15	73.3%		13	100.0%	(1)	14	57.1%	
Kaskaskia	431	72.2%		357	76.5%		313	69.6%	
John A. Logan	378	74.3%		292	70.2%		290	75.2%	
Southeastern Illinois	106	79.2%		89	77.5%		95	64.2%	
Shawnee	125	67.2%		120	68.3%		99	71.7%	
Lincoln Trail	99	81.8%	(1)	144	78.5%		75	81.3%	(1)
Wabash Valley	83	77.1%		136	80.1%	(2)	50	76.0%	

* Percent Graduated, Transferred or Still Enrolled



✓ RLC Faculty Headcount (full-time) for '89 –
32 men + 22 women = 54 total
Average salary – \$33,500

✓ RLC Faculty Headcount FY10 –
26 men + 39 women = 65 total
Avg. salary - \$51,300 • State - \$66,300



✓ State Higher Education Operating Appropriations for Community Colleges . . .

- FY85 – \$167,207,500
- FY90 – \$227,080,200
- FY08 – \$322,932,700
- FY11 – \$314,426,900



✓ Current (FY89) RLC funding expenditures by function . . .

Instruction	\$3,936,800
Public Service	179,000
Academic Support	197,000
Student Support	617,400
Institutional Support	1,086,300
O&M Physical Plant	885,600
Student Assistants	1,119,800
All other	665,500
TOTAL	\$8,687,400

✓ FY09 RLC expenditures . . .

Instruction	\$8,355,852
Public Service	2,174,636
Academic Support	1,508,196
Student Services	2,092,317
Institutional Support	4,137,019
O&M Physical Plant	6,799,753
Student Assistants	9,545,151
All other	49,214
TOTAL	\$34,662,138



REND LAKE COLLEGE

Public, two-year comprehensive community college in Southern Illinois / INA / MT. VERNON / PINCKNEYVILLE

mission statement

Rend Lake College believes in the democratic ideal of providing educational opportunities to all who desire and can benefit from them, in keeping with the specific needs of our community and general expectations of society.

Related principals: The college is primarily a teaching institution, and its success is inseparable from the success of its students. The college will continue to be an active contributor to the economic, cultural and social development of the region. An individual who pursues educational opportunities offered by the college accepts a counterbalancing responsibility to contribute to society.

president's message

Rend Lake College is committed to providing its many assets to help improve the business climate for businesses in the Southern Illinois area. We feel we can provide these resources in an efficient and timely manner. We are very flexible and are not bound by time of day or length of service. We operate under the principle that if we already have the needed service, it can be provided immediately. If we do not already offer the service requested, we feel confident we can develop and present it within 30 days. In addition to services, we have many excellent facilities we will share with businesses within our community.

– President Mark S. Kern

college data

Our goal is to provide a better-trained workforce to enhance the economic development of the area.

Staff

- Full-Time / 223
- Associate Degrees / 186
- Bachelor's Degrees / 149
- Master's Degree / 74 Ph.D. / 4
- Combined Experience / 2,607 yrs.
- Part-Time / 239

Students

- Age Range / 2 to 91
- Average Age / 34
- Credit Headcount / 10,433
- Non-Credit Headcount / 2,997
- 2003 Grads / 471 Degrees
- 2003 Grads / 315 Certificates

College Programs

- Associate Degree Programs / 58
- One- and Two-Year Certificates / 42
- Adult / Developmental Education
- Community Education / Services
- Youth Programs
- Institute for Learning in Retirement

Locations

- REND LAKE COLLEGE / 468 N Ken Gray Pkwy / Ina, IL 62846 (618) 437-5321 1-800-369-5321 (In-District) www.rlc.edu
- Rend Lake College MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon • Rend Lake College Murphy-Wall Pinckneyville Campus
- Courses provided at nine extension sites throughout six-county district, in addition to Internet and Distance Learning sites
- Correctional Education programs at Big Muddy River Correctional Center in Ina and Pinckneyville Correctional Center
- Truck Driver Training programs offered on-campus and in Belleville-Collinsville area

rlc foundation

- Establishes Student Scholarships and Loan Forgiveness programs
- Provides College Tours customized to business interests
- Encourages Community Relations by initiating contact with new and established businesses in area
- Supports campus visits by political leaders and other dignitaries
- Enables business networking opportunities via select membership on RLCF Board and ILR participation For Special Friends . . .
- Enhances Public Relations through recognition at special events and Foundation publications
- Provides recognition through Building Naming Opportunities
- Hosts Employee Appreciation Events, utilizing Aquatics Center, Gym, Sand Volleyball, Bike Trail, Prairie School

special programs

• Center for Business / WorkKeys

The RLC Center for Business Services is dedicated to serving the needs of business and industry within the college district by providing customized training programs, business seminars, consultant services, workplace skills assessment, cooperative education programs and placement services. Rend Lake College is a licensed WorkKeys Service Center. Developed by ACT, an international leader in educational assessment, WorkKeys is used by employers worldwide to identify skills needed by employees to be successful on the job and to determine areas where additional training would prove beneficial.

• Command Spanish ®

Rend Lake College is the only institution in the lower third of the State of Illinois licensed to offer Command Spanish®, which provides language and cross-cultural skills for non-Spanish speakers who need to communicate with Spanish speakers as part of their career. Programs customized to meet individual needs are available to business professionals, office personnel, supervisors of Spanish-speaking employees, international travelers and/or professionals doing business in Latin America.



REND LAKE COLLEGE BUSINESS RÉSUMÉ / EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

BUSINESS / MANAGEMENT RELATED	COMPUTER RELATED	INDUSTRIAL RELATED
Business Communication	C	American Heart Assn. CPR & First Aid
Command Spanish® *	C++	AHA Instructor Training / CPR
Conflict Resolution	Computer-Aided Drafting Courses	Automated External Defibrillator
Cooperative Education / Internships	Computer Maintenance	AHA Instructor Training / AED
Customer Service	Graphic Design	Criminal Justice / Security Training
Employment Placement Services	HTML / Web Page	Electricity
Evaluations	Java	Electronics
Fitness Programs	Linux Desktop	Emergency Medical Services
Grant-Writing Assistance	Linux Server	First Responder
Interviewing	Microsoft (MS) Office Software	Basic EMT
Job Analysis	Access (Database Management)	Intermediate EMT
Leadership	Excel (Spreadsheet)	EMT - Paramedic
Lean Manufacturing	Word (Word Processing)	Ergonomics Training
Management	PowerPoint (Presentation)	Forklift
Manufacturing Management	Publisher (Desktop Publishing)	Hydraulics
Mechanics-Auto/Diesel/Heavy Equip.	Microsoft Operating Systems	Horticulture / Grounds Maintenance
Motivation	Microsoft Networking	Lockout / Tagout
Online Library Research Services	Novell Networking	Mechanics
Operations Management	Switching and Routing	MSHA Training
Personal Performance Improvement	Visual Basic	OSHA Safety Training
Problem-Solving	XML	Pneumatics
Six Sigma		Robotics
Small Business Counseling / Workshops		SLC 500 Stand-Alone / Networked
Supervision		Welding
Team-Building		GMAW
Terminations		MIG / TIG
Theory of Constraints		Oxyacetylene
Time Management		Plasma
Videoconferencing Services		
WorkKeys Skills Assessment		

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE KEY

- ▲ Customized - Developed to meet customer needs
- Workshop - Predetermined to cover select topics
- ✕ Full Semester - Predetermined to cover wide range of topics
- Consulting Services



* Exclusive licensed provider for Southern Illinois

WE WANT TO WORK WITH YOU! CONTACT LISA PAYNE AT (618) 437-5321, EXT. 1335 FOR MORE INFORMATION AND ANY COSTS

COLLEGE BOWL

Scholastic Competition – State / Region / Conference Accomplishments

Co-sponsored by the Illinois Community College Trustees Association (ICCTA) and the Illinois Community College Student Activities Association (ICCSAA) between 1992-93 and 2007-08

■ 2014-15

- 1 – Lincoln Land Community College
- 2 – John A. Logan College

Joe Ervin, RLC Coach

Team members – Capt. Chris Milburn (Mt. Vernon), Jackson Adams (Mt. Vernon), Quentin Overturf (McLeansboro), Blaze Rightnowar (Bluford), Damian Townley (Ewing).

■ 2013-14

No State Tournament held

Joe Ervin, RLC Coach

Team members included Natalie Meadows, Blaze Rightnowar (Bluford), Damian Townley (Ewing) and George Workman. RLC was 2-2 in Region Tournament.

■ 2012-13

- 1 – N/A
- 2 – NA
- 3 – N/A

Joe Ervin, RLC Coach

■ 2011-12

- 1 – N/A
- 2 – N/A
- 3 – N/A

Joe Ervin, RLC Coach

RLC South-East Region Champion went 4-0 in post-season tournament to advance to State Finals. Team members included Bryan Carter, Chalis Flanigan, Brent Macdonald and Colleen Ryterski.

■ 2010-11

- 1 – N/A
- 2 – Frontier Community College
- 3 – Morton College

Joe Ervin, RLC Coach

RLC South-East Region Champion. Team members included Kyle Bean, Brent Macdonald and Colleen Ryterski.

■ 2009-10

- 1 – Moraine Valley Comm. College
- 2 – Oakton Community College
- 3 – **REND LAKE COLLEGE**

Joe Ervin, RLC Coach

Jim Dreas (Ashley) was 4th overall in scoring in state finals at Moraine Valley C.C. in Palos Hills. "I think if he had known he was going to be recognized for that (recipient of a medal), he would not have answered a single question," Coach Joe Ervin joked about his soft-spoken team leader.

Other State Final team members: Bryan Carter (Benton), Captain, Richard Pigg (DuQuoin), James Ledbetter (West Frankfort), Josh Bullock (Royalton) and Zach Cash (Waltonville). RLC finished 2-4 overall in finals, splitting two decisions against Oakton – winning 155-100 and

losing 175-115 – and Morton, which also finished 2-4. RLC lost twice to the 5-1 hosts, the eventual champs, 145-80 and 160-95, but took third overall ahead of Morton based on its aggregate point-total advantage, 720-590.

Advanced as champions from Region Tournament by defeating J.A. Logan, 85-35, and Shawnee, 75-20.

■ 2008-09

- 1 – Moraine Valley Comm. College
- 2 – **REND LAKE COLLEGE**
Oakton Community College
(three-way tie for second)

RLC So. Illinois Collegiate Common Market Champion

Steve Holman, RLC Coach (Fall)
Joe Ervin, RLC Coach (Spring)

Limited schedule found RLC going 3-0 in February meet on Ina campus and 3-0 in Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market (SICCM) finals to earn trip to state tournament. RLC defeated host John A. Logan by correctly answering the last toss-up question in the March 5 finale to maintain its unbeaten status. Team members: Alan Phelps, Captain (Mt. Vernon), Cullen Bond (McLeansboro), Bryan Carter (Benton), Richard Pigg (DuQuoin), Jim Dreas (Ashley), Josh Bullock (Royalton) and Jon Stanhouse (Waltonville). Asst. Coach Sarah Draper.

■ 2007-08

- 1 – Illinois Central College
- 2 – Elgin Community College
- 3 – Shawnee Community College

Steve Holman, RLC Coach

■ 2006-07

- 1 – Joliet Junior College
- 2 – Illinois Central College
- 3 – Elgin Community College

■ 2005-06

- 1 – Joliet Junior College
- 2 – Waubensee Community College
- 3 – Frontier Community College

■ 2004-05

- 1 – John A. Logan College
- 2 – Illinois Central College
- 3 – Moraine Valley C.C.

■ 2003-04

- 1 – Prairie State College
- 2 – Elgin Community College
- 3 – Frontier Community College

■ 2002-03

- 1 – Kaskaskia College
- 2 – Joliet Junior College
- 3 – **REND LAKE COLLEGE**

Mike Mullen, Coach

Alan Phelps (McLeansboro) was 6th overall in scoring in state finals.

Other State Finals team members: Sam Grimes (Iuka), Jennifer Martinek (Mt. Vernon), Josh Perschbacher (Herrin) and Nathan Shelton (Enfield/Norris City-Omaha-Enfield H.S.).

[RLC 16-5 overall, inc. 3Ls to KC; 6-0 in S-E Region, 7-3 SICCM; 3-2 State]

■ 2001-02

- 1 – Morton College
- 2 – Kaskaskia College
- 3 – Oakton Community College
- 4 – **REND LAKE COLLEGE**

Mike Mullen, Coach

Alan Phelps (McLeansboro) All-State after personally accounting for 105 points on toss-up questions. Other contributors included freshmen Jennifer Martinek (Mt. Vernon) and Nathan Shelton (Enfield/Norris City-Omaha-Enfield H.S.)

■ 2000-01

- 1 – Joliet Junior College
- 2 – Oakton Community College
- 3 – Illinois Central College

Mike Mullen, RLC Coach

■ 1999-2000

- 1 – Joliet Junior College
- 2 – **REND LAKE COLLEGE**
Rebecca Biggs, Coach
- 3 – Illinois Central College

All-Star Marshall Mullins (Benton) leading scorer in state finals with 255 toss-up points. Team was 4-1 in finals. RLC won 10th SICCM title in 15 years with 8-1 record; claimed both Fall and Spring South-East Region competitions to advance to finals. Other contributors – Stacy Dagg (Texico), Angie House (Mt. Vernon), Josh Sims (Benton), John Hefner (McLeansboro) and Sara Eubanks (Sesser).

■ 1998-99

- 1 – Joliet Junior College
- 2 – Waubensee Community College
- 3 – Illinois Central College
- 4 – **REND LAKE COLLEGE**
- 5 – Kaskaskia College

Rebecca Biggs, Coach

All-Star Marshall Mullins (Benton) 2nd-leading scorer in state finals with 600 points. Others: Stacy Dagg (Texico), Angela House (Mt. Vernon) and Denny Leathers (Mt. Vernon).

■ 1997-98

- 1 – John A. Logan College
- 2 – Kaskaskia College
- 3 – Joliet Junior College

Steve Kennett, Coach

Team members – Dale Houseworth (Benton), Vera Whiteside (Mt. Vernon), Denny Leathers (Mt. Vernon), Dwayne Nass (Zeigler), Kelley Deichman (Mt. Vernon), Amanda Payne (Benton), Ken Clifford (Zeigler), Jennifer Clark (Mt. Vernon), Darren Hiller (Pinckneyville), Geoff Kaak (Benton).

■ 1996-97

- 1 – John A. Logan College
- 2 – Moraine Valley C.C.
- 3 – College of DuPage

Steve Kennett, Coach

October – Won Bare Bones Scholastic Bowl Tournament in Tullahoma, TN, with 9-0 record, inc. 120-110 o.t. thriller in finale vs. Roane State "B" (TN).

Team members – Leading scorer Vera Whiteside (Mt. Vernon), retired Wayne City H.S. Librarian; Kent Southers (Mt. Vernon), 33-year-old Navy veteran; Captain Brad Long (DuQuoin); Ken Clifford (Zeigler); Darren Hiller (Pinckneyville).

■ 1995-96

- 1 – Illinois Central College
- 2 – Moraine Valley Community College
- 3 – **REND LAKE COLLEGE**
Steve Kennett, Coach

Coach Richard Doherty (Mt. Vernon) competed as player Spring Semester, with assistant serving as head coach. Lost to ICC by 5 points.

All-Stars Doherty, 63, and Derek Steed (Benton), plus Jim Hayes, Vera Whiteside (Mt. Vernon), Dennis Gulley and Jeff Hankla. Surprise winner of S-E Region after going 1-2 in Fall qualifier. Whiteside graciously stepped aside the second semester to allow Doherty to compete (only one person with a postsecondary degree is allowed per team).

Def. Notre Dame, 310-70, in February.

■ 1994-95

- 1 – Southeastern Illinois College
- 2 – John Wood Community College
- 3 – Parkland College

RLC So. Illinois Collegiate Common Market Champion

Dr. Richard Doherty, Coach

In April, RLC won sixth straight SICCM title – the ninth in 10 years – including win over SIC, which had just won South-East Region en route to eventual state crown. (SIC placed 3rd in conference tournament). Team members: Robert Schnicker (Dahlgren/Mt. Vernon), Dayna Hartley (Centralia), Derek Steed (Benton/McLeansboro), Nathan Rowland (McLeansboro), Gene Schuster (Mt. Vernon), Gary Lewis (Bluford), Steve Oliver (Mt. Vernon), John Clements (Benton), Nathan Spreitler (Thompsonville) and Derek Fung.

■ 1993-94

- 1 – Elgin Community College
- 2 – (tie) John A. Logan College
McHenry County College
Parkland College

RLC So. Illinois Collegiate Common Market Champion

Dr. Richard Doherty, Coach

Team members: Glenda Wells (Dahlgren), Robert Schnicker (Dahlgren), Eric Rawls (Dahlgren), Lendell Fullerton (Bluford), James Harris (Mt. Vernon), Jeni Kirby (Bluford), Nathan Rowland (McLeansboro) and Gene Schuster (Mt. Vernon).

COLLEGE BOWL (CONT.)

■ 1992-93

Inaugural "Academic Olympics"

1 – REND LAKE COLLEGE

Dr. Richard Doherty, Coach
All-Stars Glenda Wells (Dahlgren) and Neil Linebaugh (62-year-old part-time student / Mt. Vernon), along with Tim Cripps (Benton) & Robert Schnicker (Dahlgren).

2 – Elgin Community College

3 – College of Lake County

October – Repeated "Bare Bones" Scholastic Bowl Tourney championship, despite playing without leading scorer Wells, in Tullahoma, TN

RLC SICCM Champion

Other team members: Lendell Fullerton (Bluford), Melanie Fullerton (Bluford), Eric Rawls (Dahlgren), Joe Reames (Tamaroa / Pinckneyville H.S.) and Brenda Upchurch (Mt. Vernon).

■ 1991-92

RLC SICCM Champion

Dr. Richard Doherty, Coach

October – Won the Motlow State "Bare Bones" Scholastic Bowl Invitational in Tullahoma, TN

February – 6-1 vs. 4-year rivals at University "College Bowl" in Champaign

Also won both regular-season and post-season conference titles and the Southern Region Tournament. RLC was the post-season SICCM champ for the third year in a row and the sixth time in seven tries overall. The champs finished 12-1 against league foes, capped by a 325-60 rout of John A. Logan in the post-season finale.

Nontraditional student Glenda Wells (Dahlgren) finished with 19 correct responses in 23 attempts as the winners went 5-0 in the in the league's post-season tourney. Eric Rawls (Dahlgren) was next with 11-of-15 credentials, followed by senior citizen Neil Linebaugh (Mt. Vernon) at 9-11 and Tim Cripps (Benton) at 9-22.

"In my mind, there is no doubt about it," said Coach Richard Doherty, "this is the best team we have ever had, because we have more good players than we have ever had on the same team."

Other team members: Terry Bullock (Bluford), Rachel Houchin (Thompsonville), Patrick Morrison (Sesser), Joe Reames (Pinckneyville), Brent O'Daniell (Woodlawn) and John Combs (Thompsonville).

■ 1990-91

RLC SICCM Champion

Dr. Richard Doherty, Coach

Won both regular-season and post-season conference titles. Best-ever runner-up finish in Fifth Annual Two-Year College Bowl Tournament in Rockford. The 14-team tourney attracted entries from Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Michigan. The Warriors advanced to the finals as the only undefeated team but lost to Waubesa, a 310-130 victim earlier in the day, twice in the finals.

Team members: Captain Dwain Lynch

(McLeansboro), son of RLC Instructor Don Lynch; Terry Bullock (Bluford); Ty Johnson (Wayne City); Neil Linebaugh (Mt. Vernon); Mike Beehn (Wayne City); Rebecca Cherry (Sesser); Jeremy Clutter (Sesser); Doug Hargis (Zeigler); Toni Guitart (Barcelona, Spain).

■ 1989-90

RLC SICCM Champion

Dr. Richard Doherty, Coach

Shared first-ever regular-season title and won post-season conference title outright as the first team to go undefeated in SICCM Tourney competition. By winning the inaugural pre-season Southern Region championship and closing with the team's fourth SICCM post-season crown in five years, the Warriors posted an overall record of 26-13. Included was a 7-8 record against four-year foes in a late-season national "College Bowl" tournament in Rome, GA – the Warriors set a school record for points scored in a 335-65 win over Floyd College (GA) and beat an opponent by 300 points for the first time with a 325-20 rout of Bainbridge (GA), but probably gained more respect for two-year schools by losing to eventual champ Dalton (GA) on the final question and bonus points, 220-195, and runner-up Martin Methodist (TN), 185-180.

Regular-season champs were 3-1 in both round-robin matches, tying Southeastern Illinois at 6-2 overall.

Freshmen Ty Johnson (Wayne City) and Dwain Lynch (McLeansboro) were named co-"Most Valuable Players." Other contributors: Terry Vandre (Dix), Travis Pittman (Mt. Vernon), Chris Owens (Tamaroa), Brent Webber (Dahlgren / McLeansboro H.S.), Charles Pool (Sesser), Brad Helm (Salem), Tom Monti (Sesser) and Charles Gaither (Thompsonville). Assistant Coach: Sarah Capps.

■ 1988-89

Shawnee SICCM Champion

Vincent Cain, RLC Coach

Rend Lake College dropped all four matches in both regular-season SICCM round-robin events, yet finished runner-up in a 15-team Elgin state meet which featured several Chicago-area powers. RLC was 4-2 at Elgin, including one win in three matches against champion Lake County. The runner-up squad capped a 4-0 start by defeating Lake County on Terry Vandre's dramatic overtime answer to break at 190-all count. Lake County got the last laugh in the best two-out-of-three finals, retaining its title with 155-130 and 230-45 victories.

Team "MVP" – Terry Vandre (Dix); "Most Consistent" – Tamara Swisher (Mulkeytown); "Most Improved" – Robert Hogue (Woodlawn); Team Co-Captains – Cindy Bauman (Sesser) and Jeff Parsell (Coulterville). Also: Brent Webber (McLeansboro), Tom Monti (Coello), Charles Gaither (Thompsonville), Charles Pool (Sesser) and Rodney Cabaness (Sesser). Assistant Coach Richard Doherty.

■ 1987-88

RLC SICCM Champion

Vincent Cain, Coach

Claimed third league championship in a row after finishing third during regular season. Advanced to finals with 3-1 record, with loss to Paducah (KY) C.C., then beat regular-season champ Paducah in title showdown, 170-130. Jeff Jenkins (Mt. Vernon), 180 toss-up points; Kerry Jay Smith (Benton), 70; Mike Heaton (Benton), 50, and Jeff Parsell (Pinckneyville). Other contributors: Rob Fuller (Woodlawn), Jim Doherty (Mt. Vernon), Cindy Bauman (Sesser), Peggy Davis (Benton), Lenise Hodge (Sesser), Jeff Johnson (Dahlgren), Morris Kinison (Woodlawn) and Angie Trader (Sesser). Assistant Coach Peggy Dommermuth.

■ 1986-87

RLC SICCM Champion

Vincent Cain, Coach

Defeated Shawnee in SICCM post-season finals, 230-115, after finishing third during the regular season to first-place John A. Logan.

The defending champs were drubbed in their post-season SICCM Tourney opener by Shawnee, 190-75, but bounced back with impressive wins over Paducah (KY), 160-95, Logan, 190-55, and Southeastern Illinois, 205-60; the last match was sweet revenge for a team that had lost five of six previous encounters with SIC in 1986-87. RLC was awarded the championship over Shawnee, which also was 3-1, by outscoring SCC, 630-420, in their four matches. Scoring leader Steve Wagner (Scheller / Waltonville H.S.) "MVP." "Most Consistent" – Roger Miller (Dahlgren/McLeansboro H.S.); "Most Improved" – Kevin Wellen (McLeansboro); "Most Enthusiastic" – Steve Langa (Woodlawn). Also, Rebecca Biggs (Sesser), Cary Dodson (Mt. Vernon), Troy Hart (Woodlawn), Mike Heaton (Benton), Morris Kinison (Woodlawn), Sandra Bock (Ashley / Waltonville H.S.) and Roy Kirkpatrick (Sesser). In a late-January Invitational Tournament

hosted by College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, RLC representatives claimed two of the top four spots in a nine-team field. RLC "A," regarded as the stronger of the two entries from Ina, finished fourth after splitting four matches, losing once by 10 points in overtime. That was impressive, but not nearly so much as the second-place showing by the so-called "B" Team. Led by Roy Kirkpatrick and Kevin Wellen, the "B" squad won three matches and lost two, both to undefeated champion Southeastern Illinois. The losses were by 200-150 and 140-125 (in the finals).

■ 1985-86

RLC SICCM Champion

Vincent Cain, Coach

Larry Williams, Coach

Finished 16-8 after knocking off John A. Logan in first-ever Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market league finals, 250-145. Steve Wagner (Scheller / Waltonville H.S.) was team "MVP" and the leading scorer in the finals with points on toss-up questions. The match was conducted on the campus of SIUC Monday, April 28, and televised on a tape-delayed basis Thursday, May 8, at 7:30 p.m. on WSIU-TV Channel 8.

Logan had beaten RLC in three of four previous meetings, including the first qualifying tournament during which the Carterville reps finished 3-1 to gain a spot in the finals. It was a different story this time, however. After falling behind 60-20 four questions into the match, Rend Lake College pulled ahead at 95-75 after the first of three seven-minute periods and never looked back. RLC tied with two others at 2-2 the previous week but earned the other berth by recording 320 points, compared to 290 for Southeastern Illinois and 215 for Shawnee.

Other team members: John Duff (West Frankfort), Gina Easterly (Benton), Steve Langa (Woodlawn), Donna Miller (Thompsonville), Roger Miller (Dahlgren / McLeansboro); Kevin Wellen (Dahlgren / McLeansboro); Rose Mohr (Pinckneyville), Doug Schurtz (Sesser).

R.L.C. STUDENTS FROM IN-DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOLS

High School	▲ FY68	▲ FY69	▲ Fall 73	▲ Fall 74
Benton	77	134	245	236
Bluford / Webber	18	36	17	19
Christopher	20	45	67	61
Dahlgren	24	29	28	–
Enfield	6	13	14	9
McLeansboro	57	112	83	117
Mt. Vernon	392	529	493	505
Pinckneyville	14	26	77	53
Sesser	29	27	51	72
Tamaroa	7	5	12	23
Thompsonville	7	4	20	16
Waltonville	22	29	29	22
Wayne City	38	37	26	28
Woodlawn	–	–	–	18
Zeigler-Royalton	23	15	22	48
TOTAL IN-DISTRICT	734	1041	1184	1227

Number of RLC students includes both Freshmen and Sophomores

REND LAKE COLLEGE OPERATING FUND

	FY15	FY14	FY13	FY12	FY11	FY10
EDUCATION FUND						
REVENUE						
Local – Property Taxes	\$ 2,275,706	\$ 2,230,677	\$ 2,222,741	\$ 2,151,264	\$ 2,143,745	\$ 1,906,769
Local – Tuition and Fees	8,475,448	8,959,564	9,192,798	10,074,019	10,334,443	9,618,863
State Government	6,027,763	6,292,786	6,442,079	5,774,436	6,022,481	6,959,471
Other	839,342	674,478	1,076,041	278,648	441,221	904,295
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 17,618,259	\$ 18,157,505	\$ 18,933,659	\$ 18,278,367	\$ 18,941,890	\$ 19,389,398
EXPENDITURES						
Salaries	\$ 9,007,155	\$ 9,498,905	\$ 9,092,399	\$ 8,761,062	\$ 8,465,807	\$ 8,627,367
Employee Benefits	1,737,189	1,731,283	1,571,271	1,610,537	1,559,011	1,604,389
Contractual Services	974,444	941,157	837,752	939,137	650,018	648,972
Materials and Supplies	1,017,071	968,121	864,261	789,281	965,444	966,792
Travel and Meetings	204,542	246,990	224,931	177,021	106,491	130,922
Fixed Charges	-0-	-0-	67,958	162,385	210,347	212,632
Utilities	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Capital Outlay	105,210	5,413	6,025	10,045	5,378	-0-
Other	3,751,039	3,830,551	3,712,882	3,953,847	4,312,021	4,490,742
Less Tuition Chargebacks			(27,765)	(3,287)	(5,955)	(31,482)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 16,796,650	\$ 17,222,420	\$ 16,349,714	\$ 16,400,028	\$ 16,268,562	\$ 16,650,334
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FUND						
REVENUE						
Local – Property Taxes	\$ 395,901	\$ 391,866	\$ 396,669	\$ 386,525	\$ 369,170	\$ 347,566
Local – Tuition and Fees	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
State Government	2,600,000	2,533,865	2,201,365	2,433,957	2,678,410	1,712,064
Other	147,283	160,142	186,120	155,519	125,567	231,305
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 3,143,184	\$ 3,085,873	\$ 2,784,154	\$ 2,976,001	\$ 3,173,147	\$ 2,290,935
EXPENDITURES						
Salaries	\$ 1,217,962	\$ 1,185,348	\$ 1,050,850	\$ 1,082,935	\$ 1,016,572	\$ 943,779
Employee Benefits	155,340	150,240	164,438	196,381	215,728	157,305
Contractual Services	213,238	186,835	207,045	183,348	126,353	126,958
Materials and Supplies	582,596	519,032	550,820	417,476	346,955	228,831
Travel and Meetings	11,876	12,393	9,210	5,600	2,197	1,290
Fixed Charges	3,600	9,050	9,050	14,500	75,235	76,490
Utilities	686,916	711,183	712,968	719,028	692,278	615,794
Capital Outlay	303,856	176,627	76,074	85,829	42,951	323,862
Other	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 3,175,384	\$ 2,950,708	\$ 2,780,455	\$ 2,705,097	\$ 2,518,269	\$ 2,474,309
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 20,761,443	\$ 21,243,378	\$ 21,717,813	\$ 21,254,368	\$ 22,115,037	\$ 21,680,333
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 19,972,034	\$ 20,173,128	\$ 19,130,169	\$ 19,105,125	\$ 18,786,831	\$ 19,124,643
OPERATING BALANCE	\$ 789,409	\$ 1,070,250	\$ 2,587,644	\$ 2,149,243	\$ 3,328,206	\$ 2,555,690

REND LAKE COLLEGE OPERATING FUND

	FY09	FY08	FY07	FY06	FY05	FY04
EDUCATION FUND						
REVENUE						
Local – Property Taxes	\$ 1,546,083	\$ 1,312,198	\$ 1,297,274	\$ 1,244,622	\$ 1,225,729	\$ 1,184,272
Local – Tuition and Fees	9,000,352	8,325,736	7,328,711	6,450,938	6,002,666	5,324,618
State Government	5,514,322	5,470,914	4,921,571	4,982,497	4,787,121	4,970,080
Other	433,775	476,501	509,463	448,914	412,412	437,816
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 16,494,532	\$ 15,585,349	\$ 14,057,019	\$ 13,126,971	\$ 12,427,928	\$ 11,916,786
EXPENDITURES						
Salaries	\$ 8,203,368	\$ 8,231,532	\$ 7,743,028	\$ 7,237,297	\$ 6,881,950	\$ 6,933,816
Employee Benefits	1,429,919	1,181,998	1,185,383	1,038,106	782,162	685,070
Contractual Services	700,081	753,121	595,494	628,446	482,203	363,591
Materials and Supplies	1,130,067	1,066,847	776,451	1,195,015	1,073,574	950,479
Travel and Meetings	209,281	280,514	269,406	229,814	185,824	159,288
Fixed Charges	298,641	186,571	150,966	114,792	116,533	68,200
Utilities	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	16,341	-0-
Capital Outlay	78,016	-0-	-0-	-0-	19,487	-0-
Other	3,985,783	3,610,423	3,166,812	2,870,178	2,529,447	2,054,446
Less Tuition Chargebacks	(29,539)					
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 16,005,617	\$ 15,311,006	\$ 13,887,540	\$ 13,313,648	\$ 12,087,521	\$ 11,214,890
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FUND						
REVENUE						
Local – Property Taxes	\$ 334,447	\$ 312,762	\$ 316,637	\$ 311,155	\$ 306,432	\$ 293,538
Local – Tuition and Fees	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
State Government	2,097,872	1,941,546	2,046,827	1,969,828	1,647,859	1,440,887
Other	142,068	99,559	174,058	116,877	104,615	122,280
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 2,574,387	\$ 2,353,867	\$ 2,537,522	\$ 2,397,860	\$ 2,058,906	\$ 1,856,705
EXPENDITURES						
Salaries	\$ 973,761	\$ 944,239	\$ 888,397	\$ 765,684	\$ 662,172	\$ 620,163
Employee Benefits	155,696	156,481	143,583	118,458	117,203	104,506
Contractual Services	78,044	83,711	107,773	58,689	49,704	66,822
Materials and Supplies	315,218	255,218	233,981	335,075	239,880	198,000
Travel and Meetings	1,115	7,269	3,038	1,380	2,198	942
Fixed Charges	119,036	127,432	339,967	219,134	209,425	58,905
Utilities	688,958	674,346	587,678	630,860	529,225	585,545
Capital Outlay	536,830	166,396	199,550	249,679	309,943	82,439
Other	-0-	-0-	-0-	60,208	-0-	-0-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 2,868,658	\$ 2,415,092	\$ 2,503,967	\$ 2,439,167	\$ 2,119,750	\$ 1,717,322
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 19,068,919	\$ 17,939,216	\$ 16,594,541	\$ 15,524,831	\$ 14,486,834	\$ 13,773,491
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 18,874,275	\$ 17,726,098	\$ 16,391,507	\$ 15,752,815	\$ 14,207,271	\$ 12,932,212
OPERATING BALANCE	\$ 194,644	\$ 213,118	\$ 203,034	(\$ 227,984)	\$ 279,563	\$ 841,279

REND LAKE COLLEGE OPERATING FUND (CONT.)

	FY03	FY02	FY01	FY00	FY99	FY98
EDUCATION FUND						
REVENUE						
Local – Property Taxes	\$ 1,188,990	\$ 1,086,954	\$ 1,090,654	\$ 1,058,841	\$ 974,973	\$ 944,439
Local – Tuition and Fees	4,577,932	4,543,096	3,438,051	3,362,787	3,090,710	2,715,263
State Government	5,544,760	5,319,593	5,427,830	5,237,218	4,907,857	4,781,996
Other	421,734	518,859	506,684	530,987	523,142	442,822
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 11,732,516	\$ 11,468,502	\$ 10,463,219	\$ 10,189,833	\$ 9,496,682	\$ 8,884,520
EXPENDITURES						
Salaries	\$ 6,680,259	\$ 6,638,404	\$ 6,207,055	\$ 5,939,034	\$ 5,643,162	\$ 5,747,780
Employee Benefits	1,538,516	1,636,275	1,340,308	401,256	377,976	331,407
Contractual Services	323,847	430,073	495,117	512,225	641,934	410,717
Materials and Supplies	767,425	717,082	717,611	690,077	592,243	489,257
Travel and Meetings	200,176	167,411	165,356	125,198	116,182	101,865
Fixed Charges	18,000	18,000	38,580	30,855	33,617	7,132
Utilities	-0-	-0-	15,424	-0-	-0-	-0-
Capital Outlay	80,592	125,738	129,021	51,699	54,153	126,733
Other	1,607,759	1,719,231	1,022,479	1,922,473	1,789,012	1,454,935
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 11,216,574	\$ 11,452,214	\$ 10,130,951	\$ 9,672,817	\$ 9,248,279	\$ 8,669,826
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FUND						
REVENUE						
Local – Property Taxes	\$ 294,706	\$ 269,199	\$ 272,659	\$ 259,632	\$ 243,743	\$ 236,110
Local – Tuition and Fees	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
State Government	1,220,805	1,227,784	1,131,973	1,221,748	1,327,932	976,360
Other	150,633	128,535	96,380	134,598	87,629	44,680
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 1,666,144	\$ 1,625,519	\$ 1,501,012	\$ 1,615,978	\$ 1,659,304	\$ 1,257,150
EXPENDITURES						
Salaries	\$ 655,160	\$ 713,626	\$ 679,827	\$ 608,651	\$ 579,264	\$ 524,392
Employee Benefits	94,339	79,549	76,207	69,643	69,972	58,046
Contractual Services	90,668	75,432	62,398	47,745	37,578	60,336
Materials and Supplies	162,719	162,060	117,038	116,475	102,864	98,091
Travel and Meetings	5,324	2,144	2,432	1,743	607	1,778
Fixed Charges	57,417	35,311	40,702	28,368	25,439	27,511
Utilities	627,962	512,376	580,018	444,404	457,803	492,766
Capital Outlay	201,749	333,499	196,491	156,637	181,133	116,100
Other	-0-	-0-	43,043	38,598	31,318	31,354
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,895,338	\$ 1,913,997	\$ 1,798,156	\$ 1,512,264	\$ 1,485,978	\$ 1,410,374
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 13,398,660	\$ 13,094,020	\$ 11,964,231	\$ 11,805,811	\$ 11,155,986	\$ 10,141,670
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 13,111,912	\$ 13,366,211	\$ 11,929,107	\$ 11,185,081	\$ 10,734,257	\$ 10,080,200
OPERATING BALANCE	\$ 286,748	(\$ 272,191)	\$ 35,124	\$ 620,730	\$ 421,729	\$ 61,470

REND LAKE COLLEGE OPERATING FUND

	FY97	FY96	FY95	FY94	FY93	FY92
EDUCATION FUND						
REVENUE						
Local – Property Taxes	\$ 894,974	\$ 817,464	\$ 782,254	\$ 774,924	\$ 756,253	\$ 816,577
Local – Tuition and Fees	2,715,263	1,875,225	1,853,021	1,614,090	1,691,712	1,679,847
State Government	4,311,102	3,660,163	3,355,952	3,443,746	3,228,796	3,087,304
Other	442,822	358,068	490,134	362,658	318,392	253,045
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 8,230,418	\$ 6,710,920	\$ 6,481,361	\$ 6,195,418	\$ 5,995,153	\$ 5,836,773
EXPENDITURES						
Salaries	\$ 5,495,639	\$ 5,435,992	\$ 4,978,923	\$ 4,940,057	\$ 4,606,481	\$ 4,454,907
Employee Benefits	300,312	271,157	228,858	231,305	245,813	223,598
Contractual Services	352,346	326,369	476,105	348,190	406,831	352,588
Materials and Supplies	405,921	403,015	362,057	341,048	323,099	316,770
Travel and Meetings	101,865	98,555	77,527	83,335	85,438	79,113
Fixed Charges	16,818	20,039	-0-	-0-	60	56
Utilities	-0-	-0-	-0-	2,013	23,378	33,102
Capital Outlay	74,929	136,933	74,279	43,416	48,772	32,321
Other	1,311,671	70,133	414,909	227,743	194,766	255,834
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 8,056,191	\$ 6,753,792	\$ 6,612,658	\$ 6,217,107	\$ 5,934,638	\$ 5,748,289
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FUND						
REVENUE						
Local – Property Taxes	\$ 223,221	\$ 204,307	\$ 195,283	\$ 193,693	\$ 187,928	\$ 170,087
Local – Tuition and Fees	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
State Government	844,686	772,016	889,422	742,504	877,346	894,124
Other	44,680	42,979	188,127	195,796	180,672	141,515
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 1,110,886	\$ 1,015,483	\$ 1,272,832	\$ 1,131,993	\$ 1,245,946	\$ 1,205,726
EXPENDITURES						
Salaries	\$ 509,616	\$ 503,159	\$ 534,752	\$ 531,652	\$ 561,483	\$ 522,145
Employee Benefits	58,046	53,234	40,947	41,579	43,227	41,015
Contractual Services	55,184	56,023	65,900	57,378	51,969	45,727
Materials and Supplies	98,091	70,097	84,686	95,249	78,619	78,338
Travel and Meetings	2,000	2,121	3,555	6,213	3,574	3,799
Fixed Charges	20,572	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Utilities	453,869	455,325	362,675	391,575	355,299	342,586
Capital Outlay	119,615	88,961	98,610	58,667	61,037	68,143
Contingency	13,919	38,993	11,251	2,487	-0-	945
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,318,601	\$ 1,263,168	\$ 1,202,376	\$ 1,184,800	\$ 1,155,208	\$ 1,102,698
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 9,341,304	\$ 7,726,403	\$ 7,754,193	\$ 7,327,411	\$ 7,241,099	\$ 7,042,499
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 9,374,792	\$ 8,016,960	\$ 7,815,034	\$ 7,401,907	\$ 7,089,846	\$ 6,850,987
OPERATING BALANCE	(\$ 33,488)	(\$ 290,557)	(\$ 60,841)	(\$ 74,496)	\$ 151,253	\$ 191,512

REND LAKE COLLEGE OPERATING FUND

	FY91	FY90	FY89	FY88	FY87	FY86
EDUCATION FUND						
REVENUE						
Local – Property Taxes	\$ 768,093	\$ 816,044	\$ 844,755	\$ 862,561	\$ 900,855	\$ 912,787
Local – Tuition and Fees	1,419,606	1,348,054	1,268,480	1,249,881	1,056,109	915,715
State Government	2,809,988	2,669,965	1,907,524	1,761,737	1,664,482	1,446,552
Other	318,392	253,045	379,962	414,556	289,475	360,534
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 5,368,765	\$ 5,188,655	\$ 4,400,721	\$ 4,288,735	\$ 3,910,921	\$ 3,635,588
EXPENDITURES						
Salaries	\$ 4,177,477	\$ 3,673,870	\$ 3,389,062	\$ 3,138,395	\$ 2,984,249	\$ 2,795,728
Employee Benefits	221,280	184,091	151,169	107,656	91,074	83,138
Contractual Services	252,026	257,832	244,662	239,869	172,928	204,371
Materials and Supplies	275,646	242,506	270,603	256,756	241,232	196,110
Travel and Meetings	90,134	84,348	61,582	65,832	51,862	50,669
Fixed Charges	10,462	10,948	10,595	10,053	10,635	1,757
Utilities	10,661	11,226	8,449	10,789	6,460	6,887
Capital Outlay	135,105	206,868	156,179	109,138	68,517	132,168
Other	391,736	451,363	184,932	149,999	178,131	146,931
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 5,564,527	\$ 5,123,052	\$ 4,477,233	\$ 4,088,487	\$ 3,805,088	\$ 3,617,759
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FUND						
REVENUE						
Local – Property Taxes	\$ 191,404	\$ 202,453	\$ 210,615	\$ 213,855	\$ 223,952	\$ 224,651
Local – Tuition and Fees	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
State Government	900,988	999,748	1,109,524	649,738	713,957	663,370
Other	128,815	105,315	42,264	32,773	36,614	49,623
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 1,221,207	\$ 1,307,516	\$ 1,362,403	\$ 896,366	\$ 974,523	\$ 937,644
EXPENDITURES						
Salaries	\$ 505,583	\$ 463,423	\$ 406,307	\$ 373,981	\$ 373,847	\$ 324,598
Employee Benefits	41,197	36,436	26,949	20,063	17,249	15,719
Contractual Services	54,078	46,034	36,813	29,202	23,462	28,863
Materials and Supplies	88,064	86,220	70,511	58,136	67,867	46,035
Travel and Meetings	5,353	5,140	4,585	2,084	2,678	528
Fixed Charges	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	45,666	50,158
Utilities	350,206	348,207	340,427	395,837	389,098	398,263
Capital Outlay	17,155	17,639	-0-	2,000	4,488	5,399
Other	291,102	218,500	315,020	180,140	8,318	-0-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,352,738	\$ 1,221,599	\$ 1,200,612	\$ 1,061,443	\$ 932,673	\$ 869,563
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 6,589,972	\$ 6,496,171	\$ 5,763,124	\$ 5,185,101	\$ 4,885,444	\$ 4,573,232
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 6,917,265	\$ 6,344,651	\$ 5,677,845	\$ 5,149,930	\$ 4,737,761	\$ 4,487,322
OPERATING BALANCE	(\$ 327,293)	\$ 151,520	\$ 85,279	\$ 35,171	\$ 147,683	\$ 85,910

REND LAKE COLLEGE OPERATING FUND (CONT.)

	FY85	FY84	FY83	FY82	FY81	FY80
EDUCATION FUND						
REVENUE						
Local – Property Taxes	\$ 924,841	\$ 1,071,243	\$ 1,195,131	\$ 1,100,099	\$ 1,050,322	\$ 909,452
Local – Tuition and Fees	816,694	760,140	749,901	708,399	560,839	527,034
State Government	1,307,876	1,466,669	1,355,897	1,779,697	1,960,785	1,476,668
Other	364,182	292,874	280,761	232,745	131,157	56,369
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 3,413,593	\$ 3,590,926	\$ 3,581,690	\$ 3,820,940	\$ 3,703,103	\$ 2,969,523
EXPENDITURES						
Salaries	\$ 2,579,306	\$ 2,863,186	\$ 2,885,805	\$ 2,617,809	\$ 2,402,487	\$ 2,129,376
Employee Benefits	85,214	129,533	130,981	333,188	177,389	75,445
Contractual Services	180,896	161,858	177,228	200,190	173,199	159,373
Materials and Supplies	190,932	202,041	218,301	200,876	194,852	189,124
Travel and Meetings	44,594	68,406	82,801	92,608	89,765	81,985
Fixed Charges	3,111	12,542	18,854	185,815	185,815	-0-
Utilities	4,296	4,843	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Capital Outlay	84,105	80,091	129,817	134,343	105,039	157,084
Other	209,330	106,002	119,117	98,913	88,273	156,265
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 3,381,784	\$ 3,628,502	\$ 3,762,904	\$ 3,863,742	\$ 3,416,819	\$ 2,948,652
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FUND						
REVENUE						
Local – Property Taxes	\$ 228,981	\$ 246,482	\$ 248,439	\$ 208,471	\$ 208,716	\$ 222,562
Local – Tuition and Fees	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	108,061	124,877
State Government	536,172	432,434	407,296	406,077	460,298	366,667
Other	48,576	42,992	29,067	31,590	27,349	18,034
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 813,729	\$ 721,908	\$ 684,802	\$ 646,138	\$ 804,424	\$ 732,140
EXPENDITURES						
Salaries	\$ 310,629	\$ 302,999	\$ 282,637	\$ 273,404	\$ 267,540	\$ 253,776
Employee Benefits	16,678	14,033	11,918	-0-	-0-	-0-
Contractual Services	10,846	14,689	18,720	24,958	49,767	53,804
Materials and Supplies	44,073	41,040	43,981	43,114	50,812	61,762
Travel and Meetings	1,127	1,035	689	384	1,933	4,480
Fixed Charges	31,611	32,194	33,657	42,425	33,058	22,748
Utilities	348,631	326,164	306,169	312,769	248,958	226,335
Capital Outlay	11,583	13,057	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Other	21,718	-0-	-0-	1,879	22,954	130,489
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 796,896	\$ 745,211	\$ 697,771	\$ 698,933	\$ 675,022	\$ 753,394
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 4,227,322	\$ 4,312,834	\$ 4,266,492	\$ 4,467,078	\$ 4,507,527	\$ 3,701,663
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 4,178,680	\$ 4,373,713	\$ 4,460,675	\$ 4,562,675	\$ 4,091,841	\$ 3,702,046
OPERATING BALANCE	\$ 48,642	(\$ 60,879)	(\$ 194,183)	(\$ 95,597)	\$ 415,686	(\$ 383)

REND LAKE COLLEGE OPERATING FUND (CONT.)

	FY79	FY78	FY77	FY76	FY75	FY74
EDUCATION FUND						
REVENUE						
Local Government	\$ 828,850	\$ 771,253		\$ 603,172	\$ 523,204	\$ 506,905
Local – Tuition and Fees	453,393	381,611		204,446	90,703	82,650
State Government	1,370,184	1,268,644		765,249	654,958	551,890
Other	50,334	25,274		41,308	40,472.93	10,528
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 2,702,761	\$ 2,446,782		\$ 1,614,175	\$ 1,309,338	\$ 1,151,973
EXPENDITURES						
Salaries	\$ 1,975,510	\$ 1,821,093		\$ 1,300,329	\$ 1,079,430	\$ 989,773
Employee Benefits	55,925	56,558		28,640	23,125	22,727
Contractual Services	116,959	111,849		72,276	31,778	29,610
Materials and Supplies	144,464	127,109		90,126	80,736	72,692
Travel and Meetings	69,097	48,082		27,982	19,856	13,802
Fixed Charges	-0-	-0-		-0-	-0-	-0-
Utilities	-0-	-0-		-0-	-0-	-0-
Capital Outlay	42,224	185,857		18,337	19,586	30,231
Other	113,663	109,700		116,903	79,120	72,467
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 2,517,842	\$ 2,460,248		\$ 1,654,593	\$ 1,333,631	\$ 1,231,302
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FUND						
REVENUE						
Local – Property Taxes	\$ 194,846	\$ 185,433		\$ 129,024	\$ 116,384	\$ 107,072
Local – Tuition and Fees	106,454	77,418		-0-	-0-	-0-
State Government	338,853	308,595		190,223	153,270	121,728
Other	19,945	10,828		14,295	17,017	5,361
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 660,098	\$ 582,274		\$ 333,542	\$ 286,671	\$ 234,161
EXPENDITURES						
Salaries	\$ 235,763	\$ 203,172		\$ 146,624	\$ 129,776	\$ 96,559
Employee Benefits	-0-	-0-		-0-	-0-	-0-
Contractual Services	44,591	21,625		9,248	7,931	9,839
Materials and Supplies	55,363	42,514		25,206	30,650	29,215
Travel and Meetings	5,023	4,702		2,902	1,208	1,286
Fixed Charges	35,519	25,616		30,672	22,199	24,088
Utilities	252,767	222,516		154,603	139,729	86,435
Capital Outlay	-0-	930		3,808	515	1,925
Other	36,653	853		3,233	-0-	10,522
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 665,679	\$ 521,928		\$ 376,296	\$ 332,008	\$ 259,870
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 3,362,859	\$ 3,029,056	\$ 2,613,915	\$ 1,947,717	\$ 1,596,009	\$ 1,386,134
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 3,183,521	\$ 2,982,176	\$ 2,432,200	\$ 2,030,889	\$ 1,665,639	\$ 1,491,172
OPERATING BALANCE	\$ 179,338	\$ 46,880	\$ 181,715	(\$ 83,172)	(\$ 69,630)	(\$ 105,038)

REND LAKE COLLEGE OPERATING FUND (CONT.)

	FY73	FY72	FY71	FY70	FY69	FY68
EDUCATIONAL FUND						
REVENUE						
Local Government	\$ 499,467	\$ 512,922	\$ 429,294	\$ 419,207	\$ 419,419	N/A
Local – Tuition and Fees	70,333	11,710	18,948	11,876	11,126	N/A
State Government	490,148	616,041	484,161	488,618	319,788	N/A
Other	35,747	40,121	63,549	152,117	151,868	N/A
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 1,095,695	\$ 1,180,794	\$ 995,953	\$ 1,071,818	\$ 902,201	N/A
EXPENDITURES						
Academic Salaries	\$ 743,552	\$ 782,883	\$ 591,419.02	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Academic Salaries	231,607	239,842	296,631.49	N/A	N/A	N/A
Employee Benefits	22,436	22,764	–	N/A	N/A	N/A
Contractual Services	32,794	15,533	–	N/A	N/A	N/A
Materials and Supplies	41,986	39,956	–	N/A	N/A	N/A
Travel and Meetings	16,154	13,973	–	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fixed Charges	–	–	–	N/A	N/A	N/A
Utilities	–	–	–	N/A	N/A	N/A
Capital Outlay	40,928	19,645	116,247	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other	44,903	34,289	–	N/A	N/A	N/A
Benefits / Cont. Services / Misc.	–	–	69,334.50	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,174,361	\$ 1,168,886	\$ 1,073,632	\$ 1,050,137	\$ 823,311	N/A
BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE FUND						
REVENUE						
Local – Property Taxes	\$ 106,544	\$ 115,699	\$ 97,993	\$ 104,797	\$ 104,945	N/A
Local – Tuition and Fees	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
State Government	107,573	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Other	6,604	8,679	8,544	2,915	1,377	N/A
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 220,721	\$ 124,378	\$ 106,537	\$ 107,712	\$ 106,322	N/A
EXPENDITURES						
Non-Academic Salaries	\$ 75,957	-0-	-0-	3,300	2,711	N/A
Employee Benefits	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	N/A
Contractual Services	8,474	2,176	12,445	13,118	11,135	N/A
Materials and Supplies	17,728	13,352	20,010	788	1,396	N/A
Travel and Meetings	722	658	571	-0-	-0-	N/A
Fixed Charges	29,314	27,145	24,162	61,026	50,542	N/A
Utilities	59,151	54,199	42,307	5,244	1,980	N/A
Capital Outlay	8,756	13,958	15,873	1,282	525	N/A
Other	-0-	-0-	1,550	-0-	-0-	N/A
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 200,101	\$ 111,488	\$ 116,918	\$ 84,758	\$ 68,289	N/A
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 1,316,416	\$ 1,305,172	\$ 1,102,490	\$ 1,179,530	\$ 1,008,523	\$ 918,875
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,374,462	\$ 1,280,374	\$ 1,190,550	\$ 1,134,895	\$ 891,600	\$ 587,904
OPERATING BALANCE	(\$ 58,046)	\$ 24,798	(\$ 88,060)	\$ 44,635	\$ 116,923	\$ 330,971

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 73 ▶
THE COLLEGE TRANSFER PROGRAM

The letter refers to some 4,288 transfer students coming from all 47 Illinois public two-year institutions, eight private Illinois colleges and a number of out-of-state schools. To be ranked second among these, in terms of academic performance, for the second consecutive year is gratifying indeed.



Southern Illinois
University at Carbondale
Carbondale, Illinois 62901

@WTV · W2U^ ZtZ _dR_U CVT cUd

July 16, 1973

Dr. James M. Snyder, President
Rend Lake College
Rural Route #1
Ina, Illinois 62846

Dear Dr. Snyder:

Under separate cover you should soon receive a report summarizing the scholastic achievements of your former students who attended Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. We especially wanted you to know that the students who have transferred to us from your institution have done quite well in comparison to students representing other Illinois community colleges. Your institution ranked 2 based on the mean grade-point. The comparison was made with schools who had 35 or more former students enrolled here during 1972-73.

In the near future we plan to prepare a statewide news release concerning the performance of community college students at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. Before this release is made public, we wanted to share it with you and your associates.

I would recommend that prior to making any generalizations or reaching any conclusions about the results of this report that you thoroughly understand the elements and procedures followed in preparing it. Inasmuch as many of your former students may have had personal contact with members of your student personnel division, we are also making it a point to forward a copy of this report to them.

You and your staff have reason to be proud of this achievement as it indicates excellent preparation and training at your college. We highly appreciate receiving this caliber of student and hope you continue to "send us more." Thank you and I hope you have a continuing interest in Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas E. McGinnis, Coordinator
School/College Relations

TEM:sim



Editor's note:

SIUC continued to provide reports indicating Rend Lake College transfer students outperformed "native" students who started at the four-year institution as freshmen, but within a few years stopped revealing where community colleges rated in comparison with one another due to requests from schools which did not rank high.

Seven have filled President's post in 49 years

Snyder (1967-75), Braun (1978-89), Kern (1991-2008) account for much of leadership

When the youthful-looking fellow who goes by the very informal-sounding formal name of Charley was about to be appointed as only the sixth full-time President in the 40-plus-year history of Rend Lake College, the obvious question was posed:

Will former Army Officer Charley D. Holstein, at age 45, become the youngest individual to hold the title as RLC Commander-in-Chief?

It certainly seemed a reasonable enough question, considering the natural aging process generally accepted and the experience required before most college Presidencies are filled.

The answer: Hardly.

Looks, like ages, can be deceiving. More of Holstein's predecessors – three – were younger when they took office. Only Founding President James M. Snyder, 52, and the President with the longest tenure, Mark S. Kern, 47 when he started and 64 when he retired, were older appointees.

Jonathan M. Astroth still might have passed for an Academic All-America collegian or a professional baseball player, both of which he had been in his younger days, when he moved into the office at age 38.

And even Astroth was not the youngest. That distinction would belong to Harry J. Braun, President No. 3 in chronological order, who was 37 years of age when he was selected in 1978. He stayed 11 years, longer than anyone save for Kern.

Another "youngster," home-grown product Terry Wilkerson (RLC Class of 1992), was 39 when named the seventh President of Rend Lake College, effective July 1, 2012.

W. Travis Martin Jr. was 42 when he succeeded the only President Rend Lake College had known, Snyder, in 1975.

Conversely, behind Kern, Snyder was 60 when he decided to retire a few months shy of his running contract expiration date.

Snyder is the lone President to date to boast similar experience on his résumé prior to his arrival. He had served previously as the first President of Daytona Beach (FL) Community College and as President of Muskegon (MI) C.C. and Vice President for Maricopa County C.C. in Tempe, AZ.

(Following the resignation of Braun, Kern was named Interim President of Rend Lake

College. He filled that role for four months, between March and June, 1989, prior to the hiring of Astroth.)

Dr. Curt Parker, Dr. Allen Y. Baker and their colleagues on the original Community College District 521 Board of Trustees tabbed Snyder from a field of 64 applicants.

By the time Snyder was through performing his magic – his reputation was that of a campus-builder, and RLC was the first public two-year college in the state to complete its facilities Master Plan – there were 128 applicants to succeed him.

"This shows," noted one of three members comprising the outside Search Committee, "many candidates would like to come to Rend Lake College and be your President."

Said another member, "I knew this to be one of the best colleges in Illinois." He called Rend Lake College in 1975 "the showplace of junior colleges in Southern Illinois."

It apparently has remained so. Braun was the chosen one from 94 applicants, Astroth joined the lineup after beating out 100 other candidates and homegrown Kern was picked from a field of 71.

Ironically, at the time of his retirement in 2008, Kern had been serving in that capacity longer than any other current President in the Illinois Community College System with the exception of one person . . . Astroth. The latter had left Rend Lake College after two years for a return to his "roots" to help start Heartland Community College in Bloomington.

Astroth retired from Heartland C.C. in 2010, then served two more years as President on an interim basis at Lincoln College.

Braun left Rend Lake College for Danville Area Community College in 1989. A Technology Center on the DACC campus was named in honor of its former President on the occasion of his retirement in 1999.

★★★ ★★★★★

Three others, in addition to Kern, have held the title of Interim President.

- The first was outsider H.J. Haberaecker, an extremely effective, stabilizing head of state when he was asked to fill in for 4 1/2 months beginning April 1, 1978, following the early exit of Martin and leading up to the arrival of Braun. The President Emeritus of Belleville Area College was 64.

* - * - *

Teen Wilkerson 'curious what it would do for me'

HOMEROOM: THE OFFICIAL BLOG OF THE U.S. DEPT. OF EDUCATION / BACK TO SCHOOL TOUR 2012

As a teen growing up on his 1,000-acre family farm in Southeastern Illinois, Terry Wilkerson had no plans to go to college.

"At that point in my life, I didn't see the value of an education. I just needed to get to farming and making a living," said Wilkerson, recently named the President of Rend Lake College in Ina, IL, site of Special Assistant for Community College Sue Liu's September 19 visit during the Department's Back-to-School bus tour.

However, he never completely closed his mind to the possibilities of higher education. After much hounding by friends and family, Wilkerson registered for classes at RLC. "I got curious to see what it would do for me," he said. "The college was close to home and the class times were flexible. I could still farm."

For the first time, Wilkerson found himself in a room full of people who were really interested in developing a deeper understanding of agriculture, and he realized he wanted that, too. It was a good fit: He went on to earn an Associate Degree in Applied Science at RLC; followed by a Bachelor's Degree in Plant and Soil Science and a Master's Degree in Agronomy, both from nearby Southern Illinois University.

He continued to farm as he pursued his college education, and successfully used knowledge he gained in school to improve his farming practices. Wilkerson soon realized he

(Continued on next page)

“If it’s time to plant corn, it’s time to plant corn. You can’t be stagnant and do nothing,” said Wilkerson, who still farms. “Education is like that. If you stand still, you fall behind.”

President Terry Wilkerson



Wilkerson curious (cont.)

wanted to help other farmers and future farmers to also thrive in the changing agricultural industry. He had stayed in contact with RLC staff members, and soon landed a faculty position in the Ag program. “Teaching is a lot like farming. Every year there’s a new crop, and you help it grow,” said Wilkerson. “I enjoyed bringing practical lessons I learned on the farm to the classroom.”

After teaching for 11 years and then serving four years as RLC’s Chair of the Applied Science and Technology Division, Wilkerson was selected by the college’s Board to serve as its President, beginning this past July. While he had never dreamed of achieving his current position as a teen, he has found the same fundamental lessons learned from a lifetime of farming help him in his role as the top executive of Rend Lake College.

“If it’s time to plant corn, it’s time to plant corn. You can’t be stagnant and do nothing,” said Wilkerson, who still farms. “Education is like that. If you stand still, you fall behind.”

Julie Ewart is Director of Communications and Outreach in ED’s Chicago Regional Office.

- Keith R. Lape, Dean of Instruction / Vice President for approximately four years under three different Presidents, was designated Interim President for two months, from July 1 to August 31 in 1991 between the tenures of Astroth and Kern.

- Just six months after his January 2008 employment as Vice President of Student Services, 20-year U.S. Army Veteran Holstein succeeded Kern as Interim President on July 8. It was no joke when he almost as rapidly ascended to the rank of full-time President on April Fool’s Day 2009.

- Vice President Steve Tietz was responsible for “supervising all operations” in November 1996 during the absence of Kern for medical reasons, but the “Interim” tag was never officially applied by the Board.



Seven members of the Board of Trustees, elected now for six-year terms and joined annually since 1973 by a representative of the student body, provide the ultimate leadership, of course, with the College President hired by and reporting directly to the Board. That individual is charged with overseeing the everyday operation of the institution, including fiscal operations, under the guidance of the Trustees.

However, administrative leadership occurs throughout the Organizational Chart. It starts with the President’s Cabinet – comprised of Vice Presidents and Deans, as well as the President – and relies heavily on the activation by many Directors and educational Division Chairs, among others.

Leaders highlighted herein include . . .

- The first seven Presidents – Dr. James M. Snyder, 1967-75; Dr. W. Travis Martin, 1975-78; Dr. Harry J. Braun, 1978-89; Dr. Jonathan M. Astroth, 1989-91; Mark S. Kern, 1991-2008; Charley D. Holstein, 2008-12, and Terry Wilkerson, 2012-and counting.

- “The Dean,” “Mr. Rend Lake College,” the beloved Dr. Howard E. Rawlinson. Then-Illinois Governor Otto Kerner noted he “guided Mt. Vernon Community College through its formative years. A man of courage and dedication, he holds the esteem of all who have had the honor of knowing him.”

A local school administrator commented,

“He is probably one of the half-dozen most knowledgeable men in the Junior College movement in the United States.”

“The man who built a college,” said yet another admirer.

- Interim President Haberaecker, who proved to be just what the doctor ordered to begin the healing process during a time of definite turmoil on the Ina campus.

- Vice President of Finance and Administration Robert P. Carlock, who was Kern’s right-hand man throughout his term, 1991-2008. When beckoned, he even came out of retirement to replace his replacement from 2010-13.

His creative financial management during 20 years in the No. 2 position made possible many opportunities for growth that otherwise would not have been available. He made a positive impact throughout a 25-year stay which began with stints heading the Business Resource and Assistance Center and the RLC Foundation.



Presidentially speaking . . .

- It would be safe to say, none of the first six cared for Rend Lake College as much as local product Mark S. Kern.

The Ewing (more precisely, Snowflake) native and resident drove only a very few miles of country roads each morning to get to work and a labor of love, beginning with Year 2 in 1968.

Kern started his collegiate instructional career at Wabash Valley College in Mt. Carmel the previous year, and the son of a farmer-educator ended the college portion of his own dual career having contributed 40 years of his working life to the Illinois Community College System – longer than any employee in the history of the system, according to the Illinois Community College Trustees Association.

Not bad for a graduate of Benton Consolidated High School, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and the University of Illinois.

He also was the parent of four boys and a girl, all but one of whom is a Rend Lake College graduate. Four of his offsprings participated as student-athletes on-cam-

Dr. JAMES M. SNYDER
First President takes reins
July 1, 1967

PRESIDENTIAL TIMELINE



pus, headed by two-sport Distinguished Academic All-America honoree and former professional baseball pitcher, Dr. Brian Kern.

Kern truly cared about the quality of education received by his children and the children of his neighbors and friends, as well as the neighbors and friends themselves who returned to school with the hope of improving or redirecting their own careers.

The former Agriculture Instructor, Department Chair, Dean of Community Service and Dean of Instruction is proud of programs and innovations he helped introduce along the way. He also takes great pride in the upkeep and facilities upgrades that occurred under his watch.

But perhaps his greatest accomplishments have been entwined in learning how to benefit from contacts at the state level (i.e., learning how important politics can be for the good of the college and how to effectively “play” the political game), how critical the role of a thriving Foundation is in this day and age in terms of outside resource development and a willingness to look beyond the norm, outside the box.

Developing friends in “high places” and taking chances were what Kern and sidekick Bob Carlock did so well in tandem.

- Case in point: The \$2.6 million Aquatics Center, RLC Foundation Children’s Center, the totally renovated Dr. Allen Y. Baker Administrative Building which doubled in size and a Staff Clock Tower which serves as the campus centerpiece, all at no added expense to the district’s tax-paying citizens.

- Case in point: The Rend Lake College Murphy-Wall Pinckneyville Center, which became a reality because two politicians of opposite parties were willing to combine forces for the good of the Perry County community, with plenty of extra help from Murphy-Wall banking friends, the City of Pinckneyville and many others.

- Case in point: Studio RLC, the Paul Mitchell Partner School which was the first in the nation affiliated with a public community college.

- Case in point: The one-of-a-kind RLC MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon, which transformed a dying outdoor mall into a workable mix of retail stores (including the cornerstone RLC Golf Outlet) and a popular restaurant; educational training facilities for such programs as Cosmetology, Therapeutic Massage and Nurse Assistant; classrooms and computer labs; Small Business Development Center; the Kumon Center to

support young learners who want more; rental space for the Child Care Resource and Referral Center, the statewide Project: CHILD grant program and the One-Stop Center for a variety of related state agencies, and meeting facilities.

- Case in point: Dual Credit opportunities which have become overwhelmingly popular with high school students desiring to get a head start on college credits and saved in-district parents millions of dollars.

- Case in point: Innovative programs, including Title III Grant-funded Wireless Communications, Radiologic Technology, Heavy Equipment Technology and expanded Culinary Arts Management facilities.

- Case in point: The Hitting Zone, Sports Center and state-of-the art Track and Field complex to support a National Championship program.

- Case in point: The two latest additions to the Ina layout, the 22,300-square-foot Mark S. Kern Applied Science Center, and a 20,000-square-foot Coal Mining Training Building, which opened in Fall 2009 thanks to \$2.7 million in federal and state aid to design and construct the facility, equip it and provide training in anticipation of a resurgence in coal mining in Southern Illinois.

Need we say more?

- The right man for the right job? That would have to be the veteran Dr. James M. Snyder, who added to his reputation by building a college faster than any other President in the formative years of Illinois Community Colleges, starting in the late 1960s and early ‘70s.

And he did it with the same philosophy that has prevailed throughout the history of Rend Lake College. “Anything worth doing is worth doing well.”

Things worked so well in the early days, even before Phase I construction was completed state officials agreed Phases II and III could be combined and those plans were well underway.

The Board, Dr. Snyder, Dr. Howard E. Rawlinson & Co. learned of the college’s initial accreditation moments before driving to the soon-to-be Ina campus for groundbreaking ceremonies on a cold, damp March day in 1969.

Snyder earned the respect of those he worked with, albeit that is not to say everyone agreed with every decision he made.

The original building program complete (in 1975) and Rend Lake College on solid footing as a highly regarded educational



Rend Lake College Presidential salaries

YEAR ESTABLISHED	STATE AVG.	RLC SALARY
Dr. JAMES M. SNYDER		
1967*	▶	\$22,000
1968	▶	\$23,500
1969	▶	\$26,000
1970	\$29,792 ▶	\$28,000
1972	▶	\$29,540
1974	▶	\$32,203
Dr. TRAVIS MARTIN		
1975*	▶	\$32,000
Dr. HARRY J. BRAUN		
1978*	▶	\$32,500
1982	▶	\$50,700
1983	▶	\$53,033
1986	▶	\$61,861
Dr. JONATHAN ASTROTH		
1989*	▶	\$65,000
1990	▶	\$70,000
MARK S. KERN		
1991*	▶	\$70,000
1993	▶	\$73,150
1994	▶	\$77,500
1995	▶	\$82,000
1996	▶	\$92,000
<i>(No longer provide automobile)</i>		
1997	▶	\$94,500
1998	▶	\$98,500
'99	\$126,291 ▶	\$105,000
'00	\$130,165 ▶	\$115,000
'01	\$132,427 ▶	\$120,175
'02	\$138,980 ▶	\$120,175
'03	\$145,925 ▶	\$128,109
'04	\$151,826 ▶	\$128,109
'05	\$157,828 ▶	\$153,730
'06	\$164,031 ▶	\$159,264
'07	\$170,088 ▶	\$165,953
'08	\$179,636 ▶	\$165,953
CHARLEY D. HOLSTEIN		
'09*	\$186,269 ▶	\$140,000
'10	\$187,907 ▶	\$140,000
TERRY WILKERSON		
'11*	\$194,849 ▶	\$143,850
'12	\$192,895 ▶	\$155,000
'13	\$197,963 ▶	\$165,000
'14	\$205,508 ▶	\$169,950
'15	\$. ▶	\$.
'16	\$. ▶	\$.

* Salary set at time of employment
• SOURCE: ICCB Salary Reports



Board extends gratitude to MVTHS's Eltis Henson

RLC BOARD MINUTES MAY 16, 1967

Holland Simmons moved and Forrest Stewart seconded that the following resolution be adopted:

The Board of Education for Junior College District 521 has received invaluable service from Eltis Henson during the five months the Board has been active. He has offered the Board the advantage of his experience and able counsel. In addition, Mr. Henson took an active part in organization of the district and did a major share of the work that led to our highly successful election in the district.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board for Junior College District #521 extend its gratitude to Mr. Henson and wish him the best in his new responsibilities as President of the Knox-Warren Junior College at Galesburg.

Mr. Henson then expressed his thanks to the Board for their expression of appreciation and extended his best wishes to the Board and to the new President who will be selected. He stated that a few years ago he recommended to the Board of Township High School District 201 that they work toward the development of an area district, and that it had now become a reality with the formation of Rend Lake College District. He expressed his interest in seeing it become a superior community college.

institution, surrounded by a skilled faculty, administrative team and staff, Snyder decided his work was done and bid a somewhat earlier than expected farewell at age 60 rather than continue to be frustrated by what he perceived as an ever-increasing flow of red-tape and more and more requirements jumping through hoops to get things done at the state level.

The building specialist had taken a college of about 700 students, inherited in part from Mt. Vernon Community College with Mt. Vernon-area students, to a district-wide student body comprised of about 1,600 students at the time of his departure for Arizona and retirement.

■ The right man for the right job? Perhaps the same could be said for Dr. Harry J. Braun, a transplanted Midwesterner who was found in Central Arizona and brought back to provide a calming influence on a campus where the previous President had tried to sue 10 faculty members after the Academic Council had asked the Board to remove him from office.

A devout Christian who was instrumental in establishing Christian Fellowship Church in Mt. Vernon, Braun spent his first years calming the radical waters, installing a new administrative team and making sure quality education of students remained the college's primary goal.

Cooperation with business and industry likewise became a college trademark during the 11-year Braun era, as evidenced by Rend Lake College's prestigious national award as one of three recipients of the first Media Systems Business-College Partnership Awards recognizing "exemplary cooperation" with business and industry through creative responses to productivity needs. Rend Lake College took center stage at the 62nd Annual Convention of the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges (AACJC) in St. Louis in April 1982. The college was cited for its work with two area coal companies, Old Ben and Inland Steel.

That same year, 1981-82, RLC was cited for its "forward-thinking posture" in a very positive evaluation which resulted in a seven-year accreditation from the North

Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Among other accomplishments, Braun also is credited with rejuvenating the RLC Foundation, established in name only at the time the college was first started, in 1979.

■ Dr. Jonathan M. Astroth and Rend Lake College were made for each other as well. Astroth "was Presidential material," according to his former boss, and Rend Lake College had just earned its first maximum 10-year accreditation in January 1989 prior to his arrival July 1. "It is quite probable that the college is even better than the community or some college personnel realize," the report noted. "You are a great college," added the Chairman of the evaluation team.

Astroth inherited a budget and financial situation conducive to a successful two-year tenure, and he was equally good for the college. The first of three Title III "Strengthening Institutions" Grants was awarded to Rend Lake College soon after his stay.

Few would find fault with his decision to return home and start a college.

■ The Duke-educated Dr. W. Travis Martin, who came highly recommended but for whatever reasons (take your pick, depending on who you ask), was never accepted by many of the faculty and staff.

His support deteriorated to the point a vote by the faculty revealed 54 who showed "no confidence" in his leadership, compared to four who did. There were three abstentions. Martin left before his original three-year pact expired.

■ All Charley Holstein did was go from first-time Vice President (of Student Services) to Interim President, taking over for someone who had served for 17 years, to becoming the sixth full-time President in a matter of 15 months.

To earn that kind of respect and confidence in such a brief time speaks volumes.

■ For No. 7, Rend Lake College returned to its "roots" once again and showed great confidence in its own "Emerging Leaders Institute" initiative by tabbing a well-known and very highly regarded Alumnus, Professor and Division Chair. I.e., Rend Lake College, nearing 50, finds itself once again in very capable hands with Terry Wilkerson.

● **ICCB RECOGNIZES PRESIDENTS COUNCIL**
On March 12, 1971 the ICCB officially recognized the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents, created in 1968, as the advisory representatives for Chancellors and Presidents. / March 1971

1970 - 1971

1971 - 1972

1972 - 1973

PRESIDENT / 1967 - 1975

Snyder builds reputation 'worth doing ... worth doing well'

THE FIRST FIFTEEN YEARS BY HOWARD RAWLINSON

Excerpts from Chapter VI – THE OVERSEERS in the book, **The First Fifteen Years**, by College Dean Dr. Howard Rawlinson. The publication covers the formative years and history of Mt. Vernon Community College (1955-67), along with the earliest history of Rend Lake College through 1972 . . .

"One of the first acts of the Rend Lake College Board, after its election in 1966, had been to make an agreement with the Board of District #201 to operate the new college until June 30, 1967, while they set about selecting a President for the new college. After examining a great many applications, they finally chose, in May 1967, Dr. James M. Snyder of the Maricopa County Junior College District in Phoenix, AZ. Dr. Snyder was to assume his duties as of July 1, 1967.

"Dr. Snyder, who earned his Ed.D. at the University of Cincinnati, had begun his higher education at Sinclair Junior College (OH), an institution of which he later became Vice President. He moved from Sinclair to become the first President of Daytona Beach (FL) Junior College. Later, he became President of the junior college in Muskegon, MI (Muskegon Community College), and then moved to the three-campus junior college district of Maricopa County, AZ, where he was instrumental in planning and revising new campuses.

"While employed at that institution, he became a member of a 64-man group of educators who took an airborne tour of several junior and senior colleges throughout the United States. The tour was jointly sponsored by Stanford University and the Ford Foundation."

The 52-year-old Snyder was one of 64 applicants for the position.

THE PRESSING TIMES SEPTEMBER 6, 1972

The Welcome Message from President James M. Snyder to students in Fall 1972 provides considerable insight into the RLC leader and his educational philosophy . . .

"During my undergraduate days at Ohio State University, I was privileged to study under the greatest teacher I have ever known. It was difficult to get into his classes because of the great number of students he attracted. His classes were basically lecture courses, and they usually had 300 to 400 people in them. This man, Dr. Boyd

H. Bode, is now deceased and even though he became internationally recognized during his lifetime, the name would probably mean nothing to most of you today. I doubt that Dr. Bode was particularly interested in having his name recorded in history. I am certain that he was far more interested in helping others to open up and broaden their vision to the greatness of life and how to better cope with themselves and others in this great universe.

"Dr. Bode was responsible for opening up a whole new philosophy of life for me, and even though I now have the greater portion of my life behind me, I feel that I am just beginning to scratch the surface, so to speak, in regard to that philosophy that this man implanted with me. That concept of which I speak is that of having ONE philosophy which ties together all one's thinking into a UNIFIED whole. For example, I cannot think of religion, economics, politics, etc., as separate entities. My views in regard to religion must coincide with my views regarding politics, and my views on dealing with people must coincide with my views on religion, economics, etc. This may sound complicated, and I suppose it is, but I believe there is something important in this concept or idea.

"At least, I have learned that there are no simple solutions to the many problems that face all of us today. The unrest, frustrations, etc. that we have experienced in recent years, I believe, results to a large degree from the fact that too many people are looking for simple solutions to their problems, and the problems that confront all of us. Again, there are no simple solutions.

"Our world is a very complex one, and each of us as individuals are quite complex in our own individual makeup. The process of trying to understand and to cope with all these complexities, in my opinion, is what we call education. It is a self-perpetuating and never-ending process throughout life.

"I would hope that in 30-40 years from now each of you might be able to point to someone on the faculty or staff at Rend Lake College and say that individual was the greatest teacher I ever knew. That teacher helped me get started on this self-perpetuating lifelong process known as education. This is our goal – to have the greatest teach-



REND LAKE COLLEGE PRESIDENT

* - * - *

Snyder awarded 3-year pact; starts at \$22,000

BOARD MINUTES JUNE 20, 1967

Holland Simmons moved and Dr. Allen Baker seconded Dr. James M. Snyder of Phoenix, AZ, be elected President of Illinois Junior College District No. 521 for a term of three years at an annual salary of \$22,000. The vote was unanimous in favor (Dr. Curt Parker was absent).

The original screening of applicants was done by Dr. E.A. Lichty of Illinois State University, Dr. Lowell Fisher of the University of Illinois and Dr. Ralph Belknap of Northern Illinois University.

Also at the same meeting, a Faculty Salary Schedule was approved, with \$6,000 for a first-year instructor with a Bachelor's Degree up to a Doctorate and 22 years of experience at \$9,600.



RLC training ground for would-be Presidents

■ Dr. Philip G. Ward, RLC College Dean who succeeded longtime Dean Dr. Howard Rawlinson from 1972-76, was named President of Glen Oaks Community College in Centreville, MI. He retired in 1998 after 22 years. Ward also served as President of the Michigan Association of Community Colleges.

■ Dr. Kenneth LaSalle, RLC Dean of Instruction during the turbulent years of 1977-78, left to become President of Fulton-Montgomery Community College, part of the State Universities of New York (SUNY) system in Johnstown. LaSalle was at Fulton-Montgomery C.C. from May 1978-April 1980.

■ Dr. Homer L. Cissell Jr., RLC Dean of Instruction in 2000-02, left to become President at Lassen Community College in Susanville, CA. He resigned in Summer 2007.

■ Dr. Robert Spuhler, Dean of Administrative and Student Services between 1980-84, spent the last six years of his educational career as President of Colorado Mountain College, retiring in 2008.

■ Three other administrators turned out to be "homegrown" Rend Lake College Presidents, beginning with Snowflake native and Instructor-turned Department Chair-turned Dean Mark S. Kern and Dahlgren product Terry Wilkerson, who did Kern one better by starting his journey as a student and graduate, then Instructor-Division Chair. In between, Charley Holstein was elevated

(Continued at far right on next page)

President Snyder (cont.)

ers and the greatest educational institution that our resources can provide.

"On this basis, I say welcome to each of you, and if there is any way I can be of help to any of you, please be assured you are always welcome to come and see me. There is nothing I would rather do than to learn to know each of you individually and personally. Again, welcome."

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 1967-68

"Takes" from Dr. James M. Snyder's first comprehensive report of all major issues, events and developments of Year One . . .

■ "There seems to have been one basic theme that has been dominant throughout the lifetime of the college. That dominant theme is "quality." There are many indications of this theme having been in effect throughout the years and certainly it is uppermost in the thinking of the present Board members, administrative staff and instructional personnel. The policy manual developed and officially approved this past year provides many indications of the concern for quality. Along with this concern for quality is the strong basic concept that we must plan well and provide a good solid foundation for everything we do, and then move forward on a firm and confident basis. We desire and strive to serve the people of our district well, within the confines of generally accepted community college philosophy, and within the limits of our economic resources. In keeping with that thought, whenever we need to choose between quality and quantity, we will choose quality."

■ "It is anticipated the overall growth pattern for the next few years in the day program will be much the same as it has been in the past. However, as the development of the entire Rend Lake complex takes place and the economic base of the area improves, new industry is certain to be attracted and population will increase. Consequently, new programs will need to be added and more people will be served.

Considerable expansion of our adult education and community services is being planned . . . it is becoming imperative the

college become more concerned in providing services in these areas, particularly for communities in the district other than Mt. Vernon. As the college moves forward in adult education offerings and community services, participants will increase significantly. Inasmuch as these activities take place primarily in the late afternoon and evening, we look forward to our evening enrollment eventually being at least equivalent to that of the daytime enrollment."

■ "As of July 1, 1967, the college had a newly appointed President. The Dean (Dr. Howard Rawlinson) who had been with the college since it was started in 1956, and who, incidentally, has performed magnificently, was retained; the Registrar (Jim Yates) who had been with the college the previous three years was also retained. These people along with 29 faculty members constituted the total administrative and instructional staff as of the opening of Rend Lake College."

■ "Planning during the year for next year's program, and with a long-range view in mind, it was decided the teaching faculty should be increased to approximately 39 full-time individuals or equivalent thereof to properly handle the projected instructional program. This, incidentally, has been achieved as of the date of this report."

■ "Our program is small comparatively speaking, but the quality is high . . . One doesn't need to be around Rend Lake College long to 'sense' this attribute. We truly have an unusually close relationship between students and faculty members - a claim often made in behalf of community colleges . . . Cohesiveness of our faculty is another achievement of which we are proud. Our faculty members, I believe, without exception have the highest of professional respect for other faculty members. We have none of the dualism among our faculty that often exists between faculty members in the so-called academic, transfer or liberal arts offerings and those in the so-called vocational, technical or terminal offerings."

■ "Sincerity, I believe, is a common thread and dominant factor found among all our instructional personnel. Time and again I have seen students and faculty

PRESIDENTIAL TIMELINE

Dr. JAMES M. SNYDER
Announces resignation
February 1975, effective
September 15, 1975

Dr. W. TRAVIS MARTIN JR.
Hired as Second President
July 21, effective
September 1975

1973 - 1974

1974 - 1975

1975 - 1976

members stop and talk together informally on campus, in lounge areas and in faculty offices. Alumni come back to see and talk with their former instructors. Often the instructors bring these alumni to my office and the praise I hear from these people for our faculty is more than gratifying."

■ "The curriculum over the years has been rather heavily oriented toward the Liberal Arts transfer-type offerings which follow the traditional pattern. In the more recent years, however, we have increasingly added programs of a vocational nature such as Practical Nursing, Business Education and Drafting. We have also committed ourselves quite heavily in the areas of Agriculture and Mechanical Technology for next year. Our goals for curricular distribution are as follows: 40% University Parallel, 34% Occupational and 26% General Studies. This breakdown is based on actual conditions in our district as they are now."

■ "Approximately 20 architectural firms had expressed interest in being chosen to plan the new Rend Lake Campus when the President of the college started to work on July 1, 1967. A set of guidelines was drawn up by the President and approved by the Board to be used in the interviewing process. By use of these guidelines, the President reduced the number of architectural applicants to two. The governing Board interviewed each of the four firms and the final selection of Caudill, Rowlett and Scott, along with the local firm of Fields, Goldman and Magee, was made September 18, 1967.

"In a feasibility study conducted the year previously, it had been determined that the new campus ought to be near the geographic and population center of the district, which would place it somewhere in the Ina Peninsula area. With that background, it became relatively easy to determine a specific site and selection was made within about a month after the selection of architects. An option was taken on the site chosen (a 300-acre rectangle) which will be exercised as soon as the bonds are sold. The site is bounded on the east by Interstate 57 (the main route between Chicago and New Orleans) and surrounded on the remaining three sides by the Conservancy District which will become a state park.

■ "In summary, I believe we understand the philosophical basis upon which this district was created; the interest and willingness of the people of this district to support the program, and the limitations

that we must live within. Further, I believe we have planned adequately for reasonable expansion. Finally, from all observable indications, the general public seems to have placed their confidence in us, which, of course, is one of the final tests we must face.

"It has been a good year. Remarkable progress has been achieved, and we all look forward optimistically."

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 1968-69

It was "completely coincidental" the two biggest newsmakers regarding Rend Lake College in Year Two occurred on the same spring day. Actually, within one hour of each other.

March 27, 1969, was a miserable day, by any good weatherman's report. Cold, damp and overcast.

Let the record show March 27, 1969, was a warming day, bright and sunny, in the eyes of a few hundred supporters who stood in the mud on farmland just off I-57 in Ina, IL.

■ It was ground-breaking time on what previously was the farm home of Byford Jones. Rend Lake College Board members, administrators, faculty and staff, students, other dignitaries and friends were "outstanding in their field" as they gathered at the site of the future home of permanent facilities for the public, comprehensive two-year community college.

■ "About an hour before the actual ceremony, a telephone call was received from the office of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools indicating that we had been granted full accreditation," related Dr. James M. Snyder in his official end-of-year report.

"This information was announced in the President's remarks at the ground-breaking ceremony and, naturally, made the occasion a doubly joyful one."

Continued Snyder: "The ground-breaking, like the accreditation, was the culmination point of a lot of effort, vision and hard work on the part of a lot of people. During November of the preceding year the residents of our college district approved a bond issue for our local share of financing for acquisition of a campus site, new construction and new equipment. That vote was one of overwhelming approval, which is only one of many indications the people of this area truly believe in education and have developed confidence in what we are doing."

The President admitted, "This past year was another good year for Rend Lake Col-



RLC head invited to join study re: equalization

BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 1969

In a letter from Sherwood Dees, Director of the Board of Vocational Education and Rehabilitation, Dr. James M. Snyder was invited to serve on an ad hoc committee of community college Presidents. The committee's purpose is to study and recommend a formula to be used as a weighted factor on the relative ability-to-pay of community colleges statewide.

Snyder asked for the Board's reaction to this request. There was unanimous agreement that if it was within Snyder's time abilities, it would be in the best interest of the college if he would consider serving and helping play a role in those decisions.

BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 1969

A letter from Dees informed President Snyder Rend Lake College had been designated as an Area Post-Secondary Vocational-Technical Center as of August 21, 1969.



Training ground (cont.)

from V-P of Student Services to Interim President after just 14 months on the scene.

■ Dr. Keith R. Lape, RLC Dean of Instruction under Dr. Harry J. Braun and retitled Vice President under both Dr. Jon Astroth and Mark S. Kern, took early retirement in 1992. He returned to MacMurray College as Assistant to the President and eventually was awarded Vice President for Graduate and Continued Studies Emeritus status.

■ Dr. James R. Hull, RLC V-P of Instruction in 2002-08, left to become Vice President for Academic Services at Lake Land College in Mattoon, effective July 1, 2008.



Air Rend Lake College a reality briefly in '69

BOARD MEETING MINUTES 1969

Did you realize Rend Lake College was part-owner of an airplane . . . briefly?

At the recommendation of President James Snyder, who noted the many meetings he is expected to attend in Chicago and upstate Illinois and the amount of time he spends out of his office due to travel, Trustees voted in April 1969 to purchase a one-fourth interest in the 1954 Beechcraft Bonanza plane at a cost of between \$2,600-\$2,700.

Snyder, a pilot, will purchase one-quarter interest as well, with Mt. Vernon Civil Engineer Harold Roffmann retaining a one-half interest.

By the November 1969 Board meeting, Snyder returned with a recommendation to sell the airplane. "There is no question in my mind but that the plan outlined in that proposal (dated April 3) would have saved the college considerable money over a period of two or three years. However, there appear to be some things in dealing with a publicly supported institution that tend to create some unfavorable opinion, regardless of how practical the matter may be from a dollar-and-cent point of view. It is my opinion, at this time, that the part ownership the college has in an airplane falls in that category. With the further belief that this issue does not fall in the category of justifying public debate, I propose that

(Continued at far right on next page)

President Snyder (cont.)

lege. Accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools was probably the most significant announcement made during the year" and "it was completely coincidental that the ground-breaking ceremony and information regarding our accreditation came together."

"Even though accreditation was formally granted in the Spring of 1969, credit for this mark in history must rightly go to all those who over the years were in any way responsible for the creation and continuous strengthening of this institution. It would be dangerous indeed to attempt to give credit to any one individual or group of individuals for the steady flow of progress that enabled us to obtain accreditation this past year, because so many people have been involved and have made worthy contributions. That in itself is significant and, in fact, was considered by both the visiting team from the State Department and the examiners from North Central to be one of our greatest strengths. Let us not forget this fact! Since it is presently a major strength, let us all strive toward continued cooperative effort in order that our present strength may be maintained and, also, further strengthening of our college will be continued."

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 1969-70

Planned, steady growth in programs and instructional staff highlighted Year 3 of RLC under the guidance of President Snyder.

Mt. Vernon Community College was oriented primarily toward preparing students for transfer to a senior institution. Of seven curricula listed in the original catalog, only Secretarial Science was occupationally oriented, and even this program was designed primarily to train Business teachers for high school. In 1962, the School of Practical Nursing was established as part of the high school Adult Education program; it was soon transferred to the college, about the same time the Secretarial curriculum became more occupationally oriented.

During the first year of operation for Rend Lake College, programs in Agriculture

and Mechanical Technology were organized and a Dean of Vocational-Technical Education was employed in June 1968. Curricula in Ag Business, Ag Mechanics and Ag Production were initiated in 1968.

Cosmetology and Automotive Mechanics were added in 1969. "Meanwhile, a number of other promising curricula were explored," Snyder wrote. "The beginning of a curriculum in aeronautics was initiated, and the possibility of expanding courses in the health areas was explored. This year we shall be offering short programs for training of Nurse Aides, Operating Room Technicians and Geriatric Nursing.

"The transfer program also underwent a change, not so much in the addition of new curricula, but in the dropping and adding of courses. Foreign Language, which had almost been dropped from the offerings, was added in 1967 and a strong curriculum in Music Education was developed." The Education program was modified when requirements for a Teacher's Certificate increased from two to four years of college.

Economic pressure limits program expansion to a certain extent. State support for junior colleges at the present time has fallen behind the 50 percent support proposed in the state's Master Plan for Higher Education. New tax laws have reduced the assessed valuation of the college district. There are indications, Snyder noted, this economic pressure will be relieved somewhat in the future.

"Some programs now under consideration include restaurant and motel management, conservation and recreation, drafting technology and transportation. We shall probably also develop more of the one-year certificate programs as these seem to be meeting a definite need. Rather than new curricula, the baccalaureate-oriented program needs the addition of a few offerings such as Anthropology, Philosophy, Physical Science and advanced levels of some of the courses now being offered. With the addition of a full-time Dean of Adult Education and Community Service, we have a good opportunity to experiment with courses

BOARD MEETINGS RE: MARTIN OUSTER REQUEST

Special sessions to consider and/or act on Academic Council petition to have President Martin censured and removed from office. / March 15 & 22, 1977

Dr. W. TRAVIS MARTIN JR.
Relieved of duties / March 21, 1978

H. J. HABERAECKER
Interim President / March-July 1978

Dr. HARRY J. BRAUN
Hired as Third President
July 1978

MARK S. KERN
Promotion to
Dean of Instruction
August 15, 1978

PRESIDENTIAL TIMELINE

1976 - 1977

1977 - 1978

1978 - 1979

which might lead to the development of additional curricula and the creation of certificate programs to serve adult needs."

Regarding faculty competency, Snyder said, "With the establishment in 1967 of a salary schedule which rewarded teachers for professional development and with the raising of the base level of the salary schedule, the level of faculty training also rose. It appears that there will be no one in the transfer program this year with less than a Master's Degree. The number on the instructional faculty with a Doctorate Degree is four; also, we have two Doctorates on the Administrative staff, making a total of six Doctorates in our total organization."

From 20 part-time instructors (at MVCC) in 1956 and a faculty of 29 full-time and eight part-time employees the first year of Rend Lake College, 1967-68, "we have grown to a full-time faculty in 1970 composed of 46 instructors, six administrators, two librarians and three counselors, making a total of 57. In addition, our part-time faculty will probably exceed 30 persons.

"We can, therefore, without exaggeration," Snyder concludes, "say our staff has improved considerably both in quantity and quality; that our course offerings have expanded greatly, and that in every other way we have shown dramatic growth in the service rendered to the community we serve."

ACCOMPLISHMENTS ▶ **With move to new campus in 1970, two remaining phases move ahead**

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORTS 1969-70 AND 1970-71

Physical facilities took center stage in Fall 1970, when Rend Lake College moved to its new home in Ina.

President Snyder, who was hired in large part due to previous, successful experience in overseeing the building of new campuses, recalled at the close of the 1969-70 academic year, "Architects were employed in the fall of 1967. With their help and assistance, a 300-acre site was selected for the new campus. A bond issue for \$3.1 million was approved by the voters for the local share of financing new construction. All drawings were completed; all approvals were obtained, and the state share of financing was authorized. Contracts were awarded in November of 1968 for Phase I of construction and, of course, we will be occupying those facilities this fall. The architects, contractors and everyone concerned have

worked together quite well in spite of some rather difficult problems, thus resulting in the fine facility we now have on Interstate 57 midway between Mt. Vernon and Benton."

Phase I consisted of five buildings – Academic, Science, Gymnasium, South Oasis and Maintenance – and was ready by the start of Fall classes (August) in 1970.

"All approvals have been obtained for Phase II of our construction," Snyder continued in his 1969-70 Report. "In fact, the State Junior College Board and the Board of Higher Education have approved combining what had originally been planned as Phase II and III into one phase, namely Phase II. Working drawings are nearing completion now for that work and, hopefully, we will be able to get IBA approval to go to bid about December. This, of course, depends on the Governor releasing funds already appropriated by the legislature. If this happens, it is anticipated construction on Phase II can be started in Spring 1971. It should take a little over a year for that construction. Consequently, we hope to have our campus fairly complete and ready for complete occupancy by the fall of 1972."

Phase II will add five more buildings to the rural campus – Administration, Vocational, North Oasis, Student Center and Learning Resource Center.

Fast forward to the President's Report one year later. Snyder writes: "In regard to physical facilities, the college year 1970-71 was another of which we can all be proud. In spite of water problems, road problems, sewerage problems and a few others, we did as we said we would do back in July of 1967, namely, move onto our new campus in the fall of 1970. Obtaining approval of a bond issue, selection of architects, selection of site, developing plans for new buildings, obtaining approvals from all the state-level approval agencies, etc. has unfolded like a dream. It is doubtful that any other college in the state moved along with such constant, steady and continuous progress in its building program as did Rend Lake College.

"While the major portion of our programs, students and faculty moved onto the new campus last fall, some of our programs, students and faculty had to remain in temporary facilities in other locations. The Practical Nursing program remained in facilities owned by the Mt. Vernon Township High School Board. The Mechanical Technology program remained in the old Emerson Hotel in Mt. Vernon. The Ag programs remained

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Air RLC (cont.)

the college dispose of its one-fourth share of ownership through a public sale in which sealed bids will be opened at a specified time and place.

"In order to assure the Board and the public that it will suffer no loss of money through this transaction, I personally will submit a sealed bid at least in the amount the college has invested in it, which is \$2,873.93. I believe this procedure, as suggested by the Board's legal counsel, will also assure no collusion or personal gain on my part, as well as assuring the Board and the public that the college has endeavored to obtain the best price for its part ownership in the plane."

Following considerable discussion, Dr. Baker moved to accept Dr. Snyder's recommendation for the college to dispose of its one-fourth interest in an airplane and that the Board advertise for bids to be opened at the next meeting. Mr. Irwin seconded the motion. The vote being three Ayes (Baker, Irwin, Parker) and three Nays (Cross, Farlow, Simmons), the Chairman declared the vote tied and the motion unapproved.

Dr. Baker made a substitute motion that the item be tabled 30 days to give the Board members present the opportunity to talk with constituents of their area, and brought up for a decision at the next meeting. Mr. Cross seconded the motion. All voted yes.

In December 1969, the Board agreed unanimously to sell the airplane, and on January 20, 1970, Trustees accepted Snyder's offer of \$2,873.93 to purchase the college's one-fourth interest. No other bids were received.



Founding President quick to earn confidence, respect

BOARD MINUTES FEBRUARY 1968

"It was the opinion of the Personnel Committee during the eight months Dr. Snyder has served as President, he has earned the confidence and respect of the Trustees, faculty and public. He has ably demonstrated his ability to serve as an administrator. It is recommended his contract be extended to June 30, 1972."

BOARD MINUTES MAY 1969

"Under his original contract, (Dr. Snyder) commanded a salary of \$25,000 at the beginning of the third year. Dr. Parker stated the Board simply felt that to meet that obligation without showing their gratitude for the tremendously smooth leadership he has shown would be meeting the faith of the agreement. Therefore, it was approved at \$26,000."

BOARD MINUTES OCTOBER 1968

"Dr. Snyder's contract was extended through a six-year period, from July 1, 1970, through June 30, 1976, at which time the full student body should be on-campus and accreditation fully granted."



After earning \$22,000 in Year One, \$23,500 in Year Two and \$26,000 in Year Three, Snyder received \$28,000 as of July 1970, the first year of his six-year contract. In determining his salary, Trustees looked at the state average for Presidents – \$29,792 – as well as other heads of Southern Illinois Jucos – Kaskaskia, \$30,000; Illinois Eastern colleges and John A. Logan, \$29,000; Shawnee, \$27,000, and SIC, \$24,000.

President Snyder (cont.)

in the old grade school facilities at Bonnie. Automotive and Cosmetology remained in rented facilities at Benton.

"When Phase II of our building program is completed, all present programs will be housed on the new campus, except the Automotive and Cosmetology programs. There are no plans presently for housing these programs on the new campus."

"The working drawings for Phase II of our construction program are completed and have been for some time," added Snyder. "Approvals have also been obtained from all the state-level approving agencies. As soon as the funds (already appropriated by the legislature) are released by the Governor, Rend Lake College will be ready to advertise for bids for new construction. At present, we have no indication as to when that may occur. Political and economic factors will probably be the primary determinates of that occurrence."

[Editor's Note: Administration and Vocational buildings were not finished until September 1973, with the remaining three not completed until 1975. Nevertheless, Rend Lake College still became the first community college in the state to complete its entire facilities master plan.]

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 1970-71

Finances were becoming a concern for the first time during the 1971 calendar year.

"Without substantial additional income, this will present a major problem," admitted Dr. James M. Snyder in his report to the people at the close of the 1970-71 academic year. "It is a problem that many colleges have faced prior to now. Consequently, we will not be in a unique situation peculiar only to Rend Lake College. We will merely be facing problems new to us."

He continued: "The reason this problem is now just coming to the forefront is that the increased tax base obtained through enlargement of the district in 1967 provided the college with an income for a few years that was greater than the required expenditures. We have now consumed the "slack" to the

point that without adequate foresight and planning, expenditures could very easily and unintentionally exceed or extend beyond all possible income.

"The state legislature in its last session approved legislation increasing state aid from \$15.50 per student credit hour to \$19 and, also, an equalization formula that provided, in our case, another \$3.53 per student credit hour. These measures would have enabled Rend Lake College to continue its present level of program operation at least through 1972-73. However, the Governor vetoed the increase from \$15.50 to \$19. The best information available at this time indicates that the equalization will remain.

"In view of these factors, it appears to the writer the College Board of Trustees will need to make some policy decisions soon in order to allow for proper and adequate administrative planning for 1972-73. Alternatives among which the Board has to choose are visualized as: 1) establishment of a tuition fee, 2) curtailment of expenditures or 3) some combination of the two. There could be a possibility of greater state aid by 1972-73 as a result of "pressures" on the Governor to approve a higher level of funding, but this would be strictly speculative and cannot be considered at this time."

[Editor's Note: To date, RLC students had paid no tuition, only a \$10 activity fee per semester. But after five years without any tuition charges, the Board established a \$2.50 tuition fee per credit hour for the 1971-72 academic year.]

FAREWELL MESSAGE ▶ Positive correlation: Environment created, learning that takes place

REND LAKE COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1974-75

We will let the first half of Dr. Snyder's final President's Message, as well as other excerpts, summarize his tenure as the founding President of Rend Lake College, in his own words . . .

"This report is directed to the Board of Trustees of Rend Lake College, all appointed personnel of the college, students and the thousands of fine citizens who have supported the college so faithfully since its

1979 - 1980

1980 - 1981

1981 - 1982

inception. Inasmuch as I announced my retirement last February to be effective the middle of August, this final report in a sense will tend to cover the total eight years that I have been privileged to serve you.

"I have developed a philosophy over the years which can be summarized by a few words: 'Anything worth doing is worth doing well.' A short time spent on campus, I believe, will provide considerable evidence that this philosophy is accepted and practiced quite consistently by most of the personnel of Rend Lake College.

"I am extremely proud of the many achievements that we have made together during this period of time. One outstanding achievement is the fact that even though we were the twenty-first community college district to be approved in the state, we are the first of 49 public community college campuses to have our total facilities completed in accordance with the original master plan as required by the state level approving agencies. In addition to being the first to have our total campus completed, the facilities are such visitors to the campus invariably marvel about the aesthetic qualities, simplicity and practicality of design. All classrooms are fully carpeted; practically all windows have draperies, and the color coordination throughout campus is unbelievable. Further, the cost of our facilities is among the lowest of any in the state.

"Personally, I am convinced that there is a strong positive correlation between the environment which is created and the learning that takes place. I am also convinced that there is a strong positive correlation between the environment which is created and the manner in which people take care of those facilities. Then, too, I am convinced that there is a strong positive correlation between the environment that is created and the general attitude or relationship among people who use those facilities. Again, I believe a short time spent on campus will provide considerable evidence in regard to the validity of these three suppositions.

"The very best of facilities, however, are of very little value unless we have good instruction. In this respect, too, I am extremely proud. With very few exceptions, I believe that we have a truly outstanding, sincere and dedicated faculty. The great majority of our instructional personnel are genuinely dedicated to teaching. This means they are not only extremely competent in their respective subject matter areas, but they are

equally concerned with the human element in dealing with their students. The rapport between the learners and the instructors is tremendous. The same fine rapport exists among practically all personnel on campus. We have the finest group of secretarial, clerical, maintenance, custodial, administrative and general support personnel that I have ever known anywhere. This trait is truly outstanding and in my opinion is probably the one factor that has contributed most to making Rend Lake College the truly great institution of higher education that we have today. The citizens of the Rend Lake College District can justifiably be proud of the overwhelming majority of our personnel at Rend Lake College.

"Our student body is comprised of a serious and extremely wholesome group of individuals. Incidentally, the age bracket of our student body runs from about 18 to 60 or 70. Rather than for me to elaborate on the student body, I would like to quote from the report of the North Central Association Committee that visited our campus in the spring of 1974. I believe this states my feelings far better than I could possibly state it.

"The student body must be one of the strongest assets of the school. Student morale is extremely high. Complete cooperation is manifested among the teaching faculty, administration and the maintenance and custodial staffs. A togetherness of purpose exists at Rend Lake College seldom witnessed at commuter colleges. Team members met two hours with the Student Senate and only received positive statements from the entire group. Their comments were sincere and very well articulated, leaving no doubt about the positive attitude of the students regarding all phases of Rend Lake College.'

"Financially, the college is in excellent overall condition. We have never issued anticipation warrants or borrowed money from any outside sources. While we were still renting facilities from Mt. Vernon Township High School we anticipated that, once we moved into the new facilities on the new campus, our costs would be increased considerably. We also knew that it would take a minimum of several years to determine how comprehensive a program we could afford. With these thoughts in mind, we developed some reserve funds to help us through that period of time. I am pleased to report that



ICCB established to serve Community College System

www.iccb.org

In 1965, the Illinois General Assembly established the Illinois Community College Board to create a system of public community colleges that would be within easy reach of every resident. The Illinois Community College System now covers the entire state with 48 colleges and one multi-community college center in 39 districts. Community colleges serve nearly one million Illinois residents each year in credit and non-credit courses and many more through public service programs.

Community colleges are similar to each other and yet each is unique. This may appear to be a contradiction, but it is not. Illinois community colleges share a common mission. They prepare people for college, for transfer to other colleges or universities and for good paying jobs that demand high skills. Community colleges also provide adult, literacy and continuing education and services.

What makes each college unique is how it responds to the communities it serves. The ICCB is comprised of citizens appointed by the Governor. Locally elected Boards of Trustees set policies that guide their colleges in achieving local and statewide goals. Within the System, organized groups represent students, faculty, trustees, staff, administrators and presidents, and each group is involved in the decision-making process. Colleges meet both local and statewide needs for education and workforce development through high-quality, affordable, accessible and cost-effective programs and services.



Accrediting rep suggests Deficit Budget for FY68

RLC BOARD MINUTES AUGUST 15, 1967

Dr. Snyder presented to the Board the tentative proposal for the 1967-68 budget. He suggested they should consider various factors in the adoption of the budget – (1) the State Board of Junior Colleges pointed out several areas in which we should strengthen our program; (2) also the letter from Dr. William Atkinson of the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities recommended we seriously consider operating on a deficit basis this next year in order to expand and enrich our program. The primary reason for a deficit budget in 1967-68 is that we will this year collect tax funds only from the Mt. Vernon District, but will be serving the entire larger district. The next year tax funds will be collected from the total district.

[A Budget for \$511,758 was approved in September.]



Honor Concert at RLC salutes retiring President

PRESSING TIMES MAY 1975

Retiring RLC President Dr. James M. Snyder will be honored Monday, May 12, in the Theatre when a "Presidential Honor Concert" will be presented by the Concert Band, Stage Band, Collegiate Choir and Community Chorus. It is being staged in recognition of Snyder's "outstanding support of fine arts activities." Music will include classical, pop and a barbershop quartet.

President Snyder (cont.)

unless there might be something less than full funding from the state level, it appears at this point in time that we will come close to balancing the budget this year. If not this year, certainly it should be a reality next year.

"A reference was made earlier in regard to scope or comprehensiveness of program. One of the missions of the public community colleges which is broadly accepted by the general public is that the program of educational offerings should be comprehensive in nature. We have attempted to make our program as comprehensive as possible. There have been two limiting factors in our situation, namely, sparse population and a relatively low tax base. In the past few years we have been able to obtain additional state funds through the establishment of an equalization formula which helps to alleviate the problem of a low tax base. In time, I feel confident that the population of our area will also grow to the point where it will no longer serve as a major limiting factor in determining comprehensiveness of program. Realizing we have had these two limiting factors with which to reckon, I feel we have done exceedingly well in developing comprehensiveness into our program.

"For example, we have one of the finest music programs that can be found in any public community college anywhere. In the area of drama, we recently staged a production of 'Brigadoon,' which filled the Little Theatre three consecutive evenings. The art program recently sponsored a quilting show which brought approximately 500 keenly interested participants to the campus.

"Our agricultural program is truly outstanding in every way. We have had nothing but high praise from the farmers and farm equipment people of the area in regard to this program. One indication of the quality of this program is that we have placed every graduate in a profitable employment situation. The mining program which we started several years ago is another extremely outstanding and unique program which has the full and complete support of the mining industry.

"Our academic program, too, has been excellent over the years. Our graduates in the academic program who go on to senior colleges and universities invariably make outstanding grade-point averages. Our athletic program, although very limited, has ranked well. These few examples, I believe, provide considerable evidence our program is quite comprehensive and what we do, we do well."



Recalling a time earlier when it appeared the professional instructional staff might attempt to organize through the Illinois Education Association, Snyder voiced his belief, "If this trend would have continued, it would have placed the instructional personnel in an adversary position with both the administration and the Board.

". . . It would appear at present that the great majority of our professional personnel have chosen to act on a partnership basis rather than in an adversary role . . . as a means of voicing opinions in governance matters. In fact, an Academic Council Constitution developed by the academic personnel was presented to and approved by the Board of Trustees at the April 1975 meeting. This represented a culmination of effort over an eight-year period. I personally believe this was a very good move in that it should provide a base for continuation of the good working relationship which has been established through practice the last few years."

Snyder also expressed some concern, as did the North Central Association in its evaluation report, pertaining possible "over-involvement" of Board members in internal affairs. But he noted, "Overall, we have had a good working relationship within the local Board ever since the district was formed.

"The original Board, particularly, was a very outstanding Board. In my opinion, the direction given by this original Board has been a primary factor in the great achievements which have been made on all fronts."

Another perceived problem, Snyder indicated, is an increase in governance control at the state level.

"I feel very strongly there are many

1982 - 1983

1983 - 1984

1984 - 1985

things we can do far better at the local level than can be done for us at either the state or federal level. The whole philosophy of the local public community college is based on this concept. Our achievements during the last eight years show we have done exceedingly well. However, it is becoming more and more difficult to administer this program in accordance with local needs because of the greatly increased controls and uniformities being forced upon us by the numerous agencies, particularly at the state level.

"I would therefore urge our local Board to alert itself to this rapid change that has been taking place in recent years and take whatever steps necessary to at least check the rate at which this shift in control is taking place, and hopefully reverse the trend to the point that there can be the necessary coordination at the state level but also with reasonable control at the local level."

And, "In summary, I wish to say that it has been a genuine privilege to have served as the first President of Rend Lake College and to have continued with you these past eight years. I am extremely proud of almost everything we have at Rend Lake College. I believe all of us within the college district can be justifiably proud of what we have here. We can all be proud because what we have is the result of a lot of work on the part of a lot of people. To all of you, I say, 'Thank you and very best personal wishes to all!'"

EARLY RETIREMENT ▶ 'Too much monkey business ... tired of fighting it' at state level

SOUTHERN ILLINOISAN SUNDAY MAGAZINE JUNE 29, 1975
BY GARY SOSNIECKI

James Snyder says he's tired.

Snyder, 60, President of Rend Lake College at Ina since 1967, says he's tired of tangling with the growing red tape that has become a part of running a community college today.

"There are too many bureaucracies, and there is too much monkey business – particularly at the state level," he says. "I'm just tired of fighting it."

So on September 15, following a month's accumulated vacation, Snyder will retire – even though his current six-year contract runs through June of next year.

"My personal philosophy has been for years that for my sake and for the good of the institution, too, you get out of these things when your health is still good and

you're not a drag on the institution," he says.

But Snyder concedes that the main reason he is retiring is his unwillingness to continue the bureaucratic struggle.

Eight years ago when he came to Rend Lake College, the state Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Junior (now Community) College Board both had essentially one-man staffs, he recalls.

"When I needed help from their offices, I called or went up, and I got the answers." Now, he says, each office has between 40 and 50 staff members, and it can take a week to have a phone call returned.

"There is the Capital Development Board, Board of Higher Education, Community College Board, Board of Vocational Education and R & E (Department of Registration and Education). Everything we do now, we have to go through all of these agencies – and you just spin wheels," he says.

"That type of thing is probably responsible for me retiring a little bit early. There are no sour grapes or anything – I'm just tired of fighting bureaucracies. It's at the point I just feel I can't do the job here."

There is no question Snyder did his job, however, when it came to the college's \$9 million campus on the east shore of Rend Lake. The community college was the first in the state to finish construction of a permanent campus.

Snyder credits his experience with community college building programs in three other states as a key to Rend Lake College's head start. "For a period of four or five years, most people didn't know what I was doing."

But he is equally proud of the college's instructional program. "Buildings facilitate instruction," he says, "but unless you have good instruction, the buildings aren't really meaningful."

Snyder points to the Music curriculum – which has been approved for transfer of credit to senior institutions – as one of the college's top programs. Another is Coal Mining Technology. "This is a truly outstanding program, and we're doing what the people in the industry need," he says.

He is not proud of one program, however, and that is the Associate Degree Nursing curriculum run in conjunction with the Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market (SICCM) and four other colleges.

Snyder says the joint program was created when the state told Southern Illinois colleges several years ago no new Registered Nursing programs would be approved on



Rend Lake College Organizational Chart

JANUARY 2013

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- ▶ Seven elected Trustees (Six-year terms)
- ▶ One Student Trustee (Student Body rep, 1 yr.)

PRESIDENT

- ▶▶ V-P OF ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION
 - ▶ Liberal Arts
 - ▶ Math and Sciences
 - ▶ Adult Education / Alternative Education
 - ▶ Murphy-Wall Pinckneyville Campus
- ▶▶ V-P OF CAREER TECH. INSTRUCTION
 - ▶ Allied Health
 - ▶ Applied Science and Technology
 - ▶ Center for Community / Corporate Education
- ▶▶ V-P FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
 - ▶ Auxiliary Services
 - ▶ Business Office
 - ▶ Human Resources
- ▶▶ V-P OF STUDENT SERVICES
 - ▶ Admissions and Enrollment Mgmt.
 - ▶ Athletics
 - ▶ Counseling
 - ▶ Children's Center
 - ▶ Child Care Resource and Referral
- ▶▶ V-P OF INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS
 - ▶ Information Technology
 - ▶ Learning Resource Ctr.
 - ▶ Resource Development
- ▶▶ Executive Assistant to the President
- ▶▶ Marketing / Public Information
- ▶▶ Physical Plant
- ▶▶ Security / Safety



RLC Organization (cont.)

- ▶▶ ADMISSIONS AND ENROLLMENT MGMT.
 - ▶ Financial Aid
 - ▶ Institutional Research
 - ▶ Recruitment
 - ▶ Retention
 - ▶ Student Records
- ▶▶ ADULT EDUCATION
 - ▶ GED / Job Skills
 - ▶ Volunteer Literacy
- ▶▶ AUXILIARY SERVICES
 - ▶ Aquatics Center
 - ▶ Food Service
 - ▶ RLC Golf Outlet
 - ▶ RLC MarketPlace
 - ▶ Textbook/Retail Store
 - ▶ Vending
- ▶▶ CENTER FOR COMMUNITY/ CORPORATE EDUCATION
 - ▶ American Heart Assn. / Emergency Medical Tech
 - ▶ AmeriCorps
 - ▶ Business / Training
 - ▶ Cooperative Education
 - ▶ Community Education
 - ▶ Cosmetology
 - ▶ Culinary Arts
 - ▶ Lifelong Learning
 - ▶ Perkins
 - ▶ Small Business Develop.
 - ▶ Truck Driver Training
 - ▶ Volunteerism
- ▶▶ COUNSELING
 - ▶ ADA Special Needs
 - ▶ Career Resource Center
 - ▶ Dual Credit
 - ▶ Learning Enhancement
 - ▶ Mentoring
 - ▶ TRIO Grant Programs
 - ▶ Tutoring
- ▶▶ INFORMATION TECH
 - ▶ Instructional / A-V
 - ▶ Help Desk
 - ▶ Storage Management
 - ▶ Telephone / ERP
- ▶▶ ALLIED HEALTH
- ▶▶ APPLIED SCIENCE
- ▶▶ LIBERAL ARTS
- ▶▶ MATH AND SCIENCES
 - ▶ Inc. Fitness Centers

President Snyder (cont.)

an individual college basis. "We've tried our best to set up a consortium," he says, "and the darn thing just isn't working, and nurses aren't getting the training they need."

Because each school can have just 12 students enrolled in the program at one time, Snyder says the college must pay \$40,000 to \$50,000 annually to send other nursing students to Kaskaskia College for training.

He feels the Nursing program could be offered by any one Southern Illinois college – and available to all area students – at less cost than at present.

Rend Lake College is the sixth college campus with which Snyder has been associated. A native of Dayton, OH, he attended a YMCA college there now known as Sinclair Community College, and then received Bachelor and Master's Degrees from Ohio State University.

Snyder taught vocational courses at two high schools and at the University of Cincinnati, then returned to Sinclair as Vice President. After earning his doctorate at Cincinnati in 1957, he became the first President of Daytona Beach (FL) Junior College.

Although basically a warm weather person, Snyder says he didn't fit in with his "Yankee" background. "That was one of the most frustrating experiences of my life, and probably the most valuable. Frankly, if I had not left when I did, I would have been fired."

From 1960 to 1964, Snyder headed a junior college program in the Muskegon, MI, high school district. During his administration, the college was separated from the high school, and he began a building program.

He came to Rend Lake College from Maricopa Junior College (AZ), where he was Vice President. While there, he spearheaded the beginning of a drive that eventually saw the complete renovation of Phoenix College and the addition of two new campuses.

During Snyder's tenure, RLC has grown from a 700-student college serving students in the Mt. Vernon Township High School District, to one serving 1,600 students from an eight-county area.

His presidency has not been without problems, however. One he recalls vividly occurred several years ago when college faculty held a 6 a.m. strike vote on the first day of classes. "It was a matter of faculty involvement – how much they should be involved in finance matters, governance matters," he says. Although the vote failed, "it was a little tense around here."

Snyder discounts the notion two highly publicized matters – the dismissal of three faculty members a year ago and recent budget deficits – were serious problems.

Snyder assesses his own best strength as coming in the area of planning. "I think the job of the President basically is to look down the road two, three years, and plan ahead."

Among the concerns he sees his successor facing in coming years are collective bargaining for faculty members on a local level, and the continuing issue of faculty-shared governance. "How much of a voice should they have?" he asks.

But otherwise, the new President should have little trouble, he says. "This is as good of a situation for a new President as you will find anywhere."

When he leaves Rend Lake College, Snyder and his wife will return to Arizona, where one of their two sons lives.

He smiles when asked about his retirement plans. "For the first 150 years, I'm going to take it easy."

[Dr. James M. Snyder died October 20, 1997, in Tempe, AZ, his retirement home. Snyder, 83, was deeply involved in the grass-roots movement of community colleges throughout an illustrious career in education.

"Jim Snyder was a specialist in building college campuses. He truly loved to do that," recalled Mark S. Kern, the fifth full-time President who was hired as an Ag Instructor during Snyder's tenure and later promoted to Department Chair and Dean.

"He was the ideal President for that time," Kern added. "He probably was the most instrumental person in terms of the physical establishment of the campus, including the selection of the architects, the campus design and location. That was his specialty."]

COLLEGE DEAN / MVCC 1955-67 / RLC 1967 - 1972

Ironic? Dr. Rawlinson one of most far-sighted founders

According to the book he wrote, **The First Fifteen Years . . .**

"In July 1967, Dr. Howard Rawlinson, who had been Dean of Mt. Vernon Community College since its inception, was named Dean of Rend Lake College.

"Rawlinson, a native of Crossville, IL, in White County, had been a teacher in both Mt. Vernon elementary schools and in the Mt. Vernon Township High School, where he became Guidance Director shortly before being named Dean of the college."

The Dean-turned-author also taught Brazilian soldiers during World War II for the U.S. Military.

Rawlinson earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from McKendree College, a Master of Arts Degree from the University of Illinois and his Ph.D. in Education from Southern Illinois University. He completed his Doctorate in 1963, his dissertation dealing with evaluating how well a junior college is able to serve the needs of its community.

Dean Rawlinson was a highly respected, scholarly individual, a deep-thinker and poet who did not permit a personal challenge – he was legally blind – to prevent him from spending a lifetime learning. Part of the duties of his secretary would be to read him his mail and other correspondence during Rawlinson's tenure at Mt. Vernon Community College and Rend Lake College.

WE GET LETTERS ▶

Gov. Kerner calls Dr. Rawlinson 'a man of courage and dedication'

MAY 16, 1967

"I was sorry to learn that Mount Vernon Community College will go out of existence on July 1.

"During the 11 years it has served the community, Mount Vernon Community College became known for its academic excellence and also as a training ground for many of the area's citizens who have risen to responsible positions in private business and government.

"It can be said that Mount Vernon Community College was part of an experiment which led to the creation of a statewide system of junior colleges. While the college will cease to exist on July 1, it will be replaced by a new Class I school, Rend Lake Junior College.

"Special recognition should be extended to Dr. Howard Rawlinson who has guided Mount Vernon Community College through its formative years. A man of courage and dedication, he holds the esteem of all who have had the honor of knowing him.

"I want to extend my warmest best wishes for success to the Class of 1967 and to the far-sighted individuals who saw the need for Mount Vernon Community College.

"Sincerely, Otto Kerner, Governor."

STUDENT EDITORIAL ▶

'Thank You, Dr. Rawlinson'

PYRAMID TIMES EDITORIAL MAY 24, 1967

[The final edition of the publication by Mt. Vernon Community College students – "a bi-weekly miracle," according to the masthead of the *Pyramid Times* – was distributed for the first time as an insert in the *Mt. Vernon Register-News*. This Editorial by Student Editor-in-Chief Mike Aaron was written prior to Dr. Rawlinson being named to the same position by Rend Lake College.]

On July 1, 1967, Mt. Vernon Community College will come to an end. For the past 11 years it has served this community well. For this entire period the dean of the college has been Dr. Howard E. Rawlinson.

During his tenure as dean, Dr. Rawlinson has served not only his school, but, indirectly though not insubstantially, his community to the very best of his tremendous ability. Day in and day out, he has been and has made much of the fine reputation of Mt. Vernon Community College. But, how many of his students and his fellow citizens realize as they should the achievements and contributions of Dr. Rawlinson.

He has been responsible in large part for creating one of the finest junior college faculties in Illinois. In 1956, the entire faculty consisted of part-time instructors. Through his selection, year after year, of consistently outstanding new faculty members he has built up a body of instructors of which Mt. Vernon not only can but should be proud.

In 1960 Dr. Rawlinson created the Advisory Council, a body of seven instructors elected by the faculty as their representatives to the administration. The Advisory Council is unique in that it allows a free



REND LAKE COLLEGE DEAN



Rawlinson announcement receives standing ovation

PRESSING TIMES DECEMBER 1967

The college variety show was acclaimed by all, but it was Dr. Howard E. Rawlinson who received the most applause.

At the end of the show, the Dean was called up on the stage to announce that the Rend Lake College Bond Issue had passed by a large majority. Dean Rawlinson received a standing ovation when he delivered that news.

Master of Ceremonies Stu Chase then announced that the "Alma Mater" written especially for the show was to be dedicated to Dr. Rawlinson.

The cast could have picked no one more deserving to whom to dedicate the show. Dean Rawlinson worked many long hours to help the bond pass. He has seen the college through crises large and small. We of this staff know how much he has done to help the college grow.

The applause and dedication that Dr. Rawlinson received is indicative of the cooperation and feeling between students and administration.

– Diana Ferguson



Dean's belief: 'I think you are all pretty special, too'

THE PRESSING TIMES FALL 1971

The RLC Rho Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa made a special presentation to Dean of the College Dr. Howard E. Rawlinson in Fall 1971. The recognition was announced by Terri Bagwell on behalf of PTK and the Rend Lake College student body.

"We all think you are a very special person," Bagwell told Rawlinson during the awards ceremony.

"I think you are all pretty special, too," Rawlinson replied.



IJCAA appoints Rawlinson Deans of Instruction Chair

THE PRESSING TIMES FEBRUARY 1968

The Illinois Junior College Administrators Association has appointed Dr. Howard E. Rawlinson Chairman of the Deans of Instruction program. On March 22-23, Rawlinson will attend a meeting of the Illinois Association of Community and Junior Colleges at the Palmer House in Chicago.

Rawlinson has written the administrators of other junior colleges to investigate the various problems and projects of junior colleges throughout the state. His committee will form groups to study these developments and report on them to the group. The whole group is expected to respond with various solutions to problems of administrators.

Dean Rawlinson (cont.)

give and take between the faculty and the administration; and the teaching staff has a substantial voice in the affairs of the college. In many institutions the administration rules supreme, without regard for the opinions of anyone, least of all the faculty.

In 1956, MVCC was brand new. That Dr. Rawlinson has shaped it into an institution where a student can get a quality education is shown by the ease with which credits earned here can be transferred. The student can go from this school to almost any university in the country, no questions asked. Without the leadership of our dean and his direction in building the outstanding curriculum and faculty of our college, MVCC could well have become second rate, unaccredited and unrecognized.

Few of the students comprehend the continuous pressures Dr. Rawlinson must work under. An administrator faces criticism from every direction. The student who complains about dress restrictions; the instructor who has problems with a student; the parent who is concerned with his Johnny or Jane, all of these people come to Dr. Rawlinson. More times than can be recalled here, when anyone has had a problem, he has gone to Dr. Rawlinson for a solution.

As far as the new college is concerned, from the beginning, the dean has pleaded for the area college. The fact of the matter is that without his long and inspired leadership, there might not have been a new area college July 1. But, Dr. Rawlinson has chosen to stay as far in the background as possible and has taken virtually no credit in public for his work in bringing the area college into fruition. Those who have worked with him, though, are well aware of his untiring efforts for it.

Far and above all this, and yet in a way due to all of it, is the tremendous debt the students owe Dr. Rawlinson. In every school, there are a few students who despise whoever the dean is; a few who think the dean is not attuned enough to what is right for them, and a few who couldn't care less who the dean is or what he does. But Dr.

Rawlinson is one of a kind. To many of his students he is tops. Period.

No greater compliment can be paid to a dean, on top of acknowledgment of his fine work and amazing ability from so many others, than for his students to say he is the best there is. Everyone has faults. But many of his students who know him could ask for no one better than he. The student who has a problem can always go to the dean for help. And, if you go to the dean, ask his advice, and listen, as I have many times, the continued soundness of what he says is amazing.

Anyone can gripe about anything the dean does, but if you ask him why he has done what he did and try to see his reasoning, he is right more times than many care to admit. From time to time, some may disagree with his actions, but we cannot forget that everything he does is done for the students. The difference is that, whether we students like to admit it or not, he is much more mature and much more experienced than we are. It will just take us a few years to realize completely how right he was.

THE FIRST YEAR Dean Reflects: Community needs must be met by centering on people

PYRAMID TIMES FEBRUARY 1968

A reflection written during the first year of Rend Lake College by Dean Rawlinson for the student paper, *The Pyramid Times* . . .

"We live in the most dynamic transition period of our history. No longer do oceans isolate us from the rest of the world. The growth of business and industry, and the development of mass media – television, newspapers, increased production of books and magazines – have created the necessity for the individual to fit into the world as a whole or be lost.

"We have only to read of the sacrifices of our young men in Vietnam to realize the problems of this world. Our college shares the pride and the grief of the families. While we pray for the end of such sacrifices, we must prepare for a peacetime world.

"Here, one of the crucial concerns is un-

Dr. HARRY J. BRAUN
Resigns / March 1989

MARK S. KERN
Interim President
March-June 1989

Dr. JONATHAN M. ASTROTH
Named Fourth President
May 23, 1989, effective
July 1, 1989

PRESIDENTIAL TIMELINE

Dr. JON ASTROTH
Submits resignation
April 23, 1991,
effective June 1991

1988 - 1989

1989 - 1990

1990 - 1991

employment. Conant calls our unemployed youth "social dynamite." Relief rolls bulge with the hard core of unemployed, uneducated and untrained – some of them third-generation members.

"At the root of the unemployment crisis are problems brought about by a changing economy. In agriculture we have shifted from an economic society that was primarily centered in the small farm to an economy based on larger agricultural units.

"As workers have moved to the city and factory, home and family ties have stretched and weakened. A changing world is reflected in social unrest. Divorce and unwise marriages sow the seeds of emotional problems. The welfare of our people makes it imperative colleges equip every group in every section of our country for the day-to-day problems of living and earning a living.

"In short, if a comprehensive community college is to serve its people, it must (1) meet needs in all areas of community living; (2) center on people and their universal, social, community and individual needs; (3) be guided by the welfare of the whole community rather than by the special interests in the community; (4) practice preventive education to the community in addition to remedial education in the school; (5) aid in assessing the needs of the community and alerting the people to the findings; (6) use its educational tools to change both the individual and his culture; (7) create an awareness in the community of all the possible ways that needs may be met.

"The effective community college is, thus, concerned with what is desirable as well as what exists, and it faces the unsettled and the controversial along with the settled and the factual."

DEAN'S MESSAGE 1969 ♦ **College needs your ideals and idealism; your vision; your future contributions**

1969 TARN YEARBOOK DEAN'S MESSAGE

"A rich man's son deserts his family to sit under a tree and ponder the world's problems. A young girl cuts off her hair, dons male clothing, and goes to live with a group of men. A teenager chides bankers for their greed. A theology student defies the authority of his church. A youth incites his people to rebel against their oppressors.

"Sound familiar? Headlines from yesterday's newspaper? Not at all! The rich man's son was Gautama Buddha; the girl, Joan of Arc; the teenager, Christ, and the

theology student, Martin Luther. The leader of the revolt was Tecumseh. He was trying to save his people. He brought about their destruction.

"Youth has always been a time for idealism, a time for reaction against the established order of things. Yet, successful reform depends upon the manner in which a problem is attacked. Results seem to depend upon proper identification of the causes, upon the methods used, and upon the clarity of vision.

"There always has been, there always will be, an established order. Among others, warriors, philosophers, priests, and merchants have controlled this order. The person who proposes a change in the Establishment should think well about the establishment that will supplant the old.

"Like Tecumseh, many who have sought to change things for the better have changed them for the worse. Just as there have always been those who would improve man's lot, there have also been the nihilists whose sole aim has been to destroy existing authority. Those who slay the dragon often sow the dragon's teeth.

What has this to do with you – a Rend Lake College student? You are a part of a changing world – a part of a changing college. When an organism stops growing, it begins to die. The college needs your ideas; it needs your idealism; it needs your vision. The reputation of the college rests on the contributions of the students who have preceded you. Their desire for change was responsible, among other things, for shaping this publication, the newspaper, and the dramatic program. More important still, their accomplishments have shaped the reputation of the college in the district, in the state, and in the nation.

"How will you affect the reputation? What has been your contribution? What will be your contribution in the future?"

THE SAVAGE

Still panting from the climb, he leaned against the wall, surveying the cave with one swift glance, and said,

"Why do men waste their time with digging up the dead?
Why don't they sink a spade in search of ore, or swing the maul to build a bridge? What has this cave man left that we can use – that pile of bones they say was once a wolf? A pottery shard? some bits of wood to blackness charred? Those drawings on the wall? Why, any child could do as well. Or better."

Continued on next page

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Snyder on Rawlinson: 'Dean one of finest ever'

BOARD MINUTES FEBRUARY 20, 1968

In recommending a \$1,000 per year raise for College Dean Dr. Howard Rawlinson – to put him in line closer with the state average for his position – Dr. James Snyder stated the college "wants the finest personnel possible," and in his opinion Rawlinson is one of the finest Deans he has ever worked with or that the college could possibly have.

* - * - *

Dean tenders resignation nine months prior to date

BOARD MINUTES NOVEMBER 1971

Dr. Rawlinson announced he wished to tender his resignation, effective August 1972, as he intends to pursue a new career, that of being an author.

Dr. Rawlinson indicated he had given considerable thought to possible retirement either at the end of this year or next and he had concluded to retire at the end of this year. In view of the fact his present contract ends June 30, but the retirement ends August 31, he would like to request the extension of his present contract for the two additional months.

Commendation for his work was given by members of the board, administration and faculty.

Mr. Farlow moved the resignation of Dr. Rawlinson reluctantly be accepted, as of August 31, 1972. Mr. Cross seconded. All voted yes.

Dean Rawlinson (cont.)

THE SAVAGE (cont.)

He turned and bent his gaze beyond the verdant valley
to where the city lay enshrouded in a pall of smoke
fumed from the chimneys of his factories.
The pines were green. The brooks ran clear. He could not see
from where he stood the leprous leaves, the rotting wood
by acid smoke devoured. He could not see the yellow stain
of waters soured by wastes disgorged into the stream.

Half crouched, upon the ledge he stood. The sun was bright
and in my slitted vision, his silhouette against his light
showed sloping brow and slanted chin and thin hard line of lips.
I saw in him his predecessor who had stood
on that same ledge to guard his cave a million years ago.
I wondered if a million years from now some future archeologist
would find among the ruins of his factories,
in triplicate, phylacteries, or other artifacts to tell
that he had served mankind as well as he who first forced fire
to do his bidding, made the wolf companion on the hunt,
and saw the secret of the wheel.

Howard Rawlinson



Motion for Vice President dies from lack of a second

BOARD MEETING JANUARY 18, 1972
On First Reading, by a vote of 3-2, Trustees approved a title change for Dean Howard Rawlinson to Vice President. Voting for the change were Dr. Allen Baker, Melvin Farlow and Marie Simmons; against, Huel Cross and Albert Gulley.

BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 15, 1972
A title change from Dean to Vice President was recommended by Consultant Eldon Lichty, who said it would help attract more qualified candidates to succeed the retiring Dr. Rawlinson. On Second Reading, Farlow moved for approval. The motion died from lack of a second.

COVER STORY

Dr. Rawlinson: Heavy Poet, Great Dean

THE PRESSING TIMES NOVEMBER 25, 1970

Dr. Rawlinson is dean of Rend Lake College. Ask any student. He can tell you who Dr. Rawlinson is because the man is known around campus. Unlike many of his contemporaries on other college campuses, Dr. Rawlinson is not up in an ivory tower of administration, but here on the earth with his students. Talking with the man gives one a feeling of intellectual equality.

Of course, his name is not a new one around RLC. He has been Dean of the school since its creation in 1956. Prior to that, he taught in elementary schools in Mt. Vernon and from 1938-42, he taught various subjects at Mt. Vernon Township High School. During World War II, he spent time in Brazil teaching meteorology to the Brazilian Air Cadets. He then returned to MVTHS, where he was Director of Guidance until he was appointed Dean of the College in 1956.

He attended McKendree College where he received his Bachelor's Degree, then on to the University of Illinois for his Master's

Degree. He finished his doctorate at Southern Illinois University. When asked if there was as much concern over student unrest in his college days, he replied, "Well, many of the parents were concerned over the length of the girls' skirts then, also." It seems many of them wore them above their knees and insisted on rolling their hose down below their knees.

But he can recall the discussions his schoolmates and he had on various subjects. A group would get together and talk about the problems facing them and the world, much as students do today. Then the big problem was liquor instead of drug use. Dr. Rawlinson feels people are basically the same, but customs have changed rapidly. Most people change slowly and therefore drastic change usually reverts back to more moderate ways.

Dr. Rawlinson sees a great future for RLC but he hopes the school will never have a four-year set-up. "We need a place to serve people. I don't want this school to become concerned with liberal arts programs. People attending here aren't all interested in going on to school. Not all of them are going to be doctors or lawyers. I want RLC to maintain an atmosphere of intellectual curiosity - encourage people to learn the what, why and how. For those going on to work after leaving here, a junior college is an excellent place to receive an education. There is dignity in any work if you do it well."

Thank you, Dr. Rawlinson, for adding dignity to RLC. Thank you for doing your job well.
- Debbie Aldridge

DEAN'S MESSAGE 1970 It is the road that is important - That, and that choice ... will be mine

1970 TARN YEARBOOK A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

the road

Since the beginning there has been the road.
Those who set me on it told of signs to point the path.
And warn of hidden hazards; and at the end, they said
I'd find a golden city wherein contentment lay -
and peace.
Theirs not the fault if I have missed a turning;
Theirs not to choose once I was on my way.

Dr. KEITH R. LAPE
Interim President
July 1-August 31, 1991

MARK S. KERN
Named Fifth President
August 28, effective September 3, 1991

PRESIDENTIAL TIMELINE

1991 - 1992

1992 - 1993

1993 - 1994

No time had I for thoughts of journey's ending
 For there were wines to taste and songs to sing.
 And in my blood pulsed youth – and immortality.
 Ahead of me the highway ploughed straight furrow
 That climbed a hill and cut a gap through trees
 That reached tall fingers toward the sky.
 My feet were eager for the path and moved so fast
 I hardly knew
 The scent of honeysuckle in the hedges or
 marked the hawk
 That braced dark omens on the blue.

I swiftly climbed to reach the crested summit,
 For something deep within me said, "Beyond the
 brow lies Camelot!"
 But when I reached the top – no shining city
 but just another hill,
 And on beyond another, and another, each
 new crown climbing higher still.
 And I could see the road no longer ran unbending
 But forked to right or left, and I must choose
 Which turn to take; and on the signs that stood
 like stern schoolmasters
 Not always were the legends clear. Sometimes
 they pointed two directions;
 Some sang of cities fairer still.

And there were often byways, green, untraveled,
 To lure me from the path to unmarked trails
 Where banks of blossoms bloomed in bright
 profusion,
 Or grasses rustled in a fairy glen. Sometimes
 they led me into swampland
 Or into thickets where the thorns tore tender flesh.
 Yet not a one but had its leaf of laurel
 And none that brimmed my eyes with vain regret.

Sometimes the fairest road dead-ended
 And I must choose to go or left or right, and now
 I find myself atop another hill, and in the distance
 Still another left to climb. This daunts me not.
 It is the road that is important –
 That, and that choice has been, and will be, mine."
 Howard Rawlinson

STAFF, STUDENT REACTION ▶ Exceptional man ... 'No one else has such concern for students'

THE PRESSING TIMES DECEMBER 15, 1971

Since 1956 Dr. Howard Rawlinson has been Dean of Rend Lake College. As reported in the November 23 issue of *The Pressing Times*, he will be leaving the school August 31, 1972, after submitting his resignation to the Board on November 16.

As he leaves the life of a school administrator he will be entering a new life, that of a writer. Writing is not new to Dr. Rawlinson. He has been writing for quite awhile. He

has written many poems and a novel.

What has been the reaction of the faculty and students to Dr. Rawlinson resigning? Some of the students and members of the faculty who have known Dr. Rawlinson had these feelings . . .

Eleanor Hall, speaking as a member of the faculty: "We are going to miss him very much. He has been a real source of unity in the college. Looking from an unselfish point of view, I'm happy because he will be doing what he wants."

Student Tim Auton: "I hate to see him go. His feelings are usually the same as the students."

Instructor Art Samford: "He has the atmosphere of the permanency of any of the buildings we have. I'm unable to think of anyone who could adequately replace him."

Student Larry Books: "Who is going to replace him?"

Student Dorothy Calloni: "If he hasn't reached retirement age, I'm sorry because it will be a loss to the school, but I'm glad he is going to do what he is interested in."

Student Mark Gifford: "As an incoming freshman and new resident, I'm aware of Mr. Rawlinson's job and the work he must do. The vacancy which he leaves will be hard to fill with a man of equal caliber."

Student Rebecca Bondi: "I think it is a great loss for the school. He is the one that made the school spirit, but we cannot be selfish about our loss. I'm happy that he is going toward new horizons in the literary field and I wish him luck and great success."

Student Ron Henson: "He is an exceptional man for an exceptional job in exceptional times. His job is not the kind where one can say this is right – this is wrong – there are many things to consider. It is much safer to be a student than the Dean. I will miss him very much."

Student Jim Steed: "I hate to see him go. He has great care and compassion for students. He has high ideals."

Student Don Dewitt: "It will be the college's loss and journalism's gain."

Student Myla Parks: "I wish he would be here longer so I might know him better."

Student Wanda Bagwell: "He'll be missed. Some things he does, no one else will do. If you have a problem you can go to him and he'll do the best to help. No one else has such concern for students."

Student Bob Bigham: "I don't think he should have resigned. In my opinion, he is a very great man."



Rend Lake College Organization

▶▶ ALLIED HEALTH DIVISION

- ▶ Associate Degree Nursing
- ▶ CNA
- ▶ Massage Therapy
- ▶ Practical Nursing
- ▶ Phlebotomy
- ▶ Radiology
- SICCM Programs
- ▶ Health Information Tech
- ▶ Medical Lab Technician
- ▶ Occupational Therapy Assistant
- ▶ Surgical Technology
- ▶ Veterinary Technology

▶▶ APPLIED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

- ▶ Agriculture
- ▶ Architecture
- ▶ Automotive Technology
- ▶ Computer Science
- ▶ Criminal Justice
- ▶ Diesel Technology
- ▶ Fire Science
- ▶ Graphic Design
- ▶ Heavy Equipment
- ▶ Horticulture
- ▶ Industrial Electronics / Maintenance
- ▶ IT Systems Programs
- ▶ Mining Technology
- ▶ Office Systems Tech.
- ▶ Special Projects
- ▶ Surveying Technology
- ▶ Welding Technology
- ▶ Wireless Communications
- ▶ Land Lab

▶▶ LIBERAL ARTS DIVISION

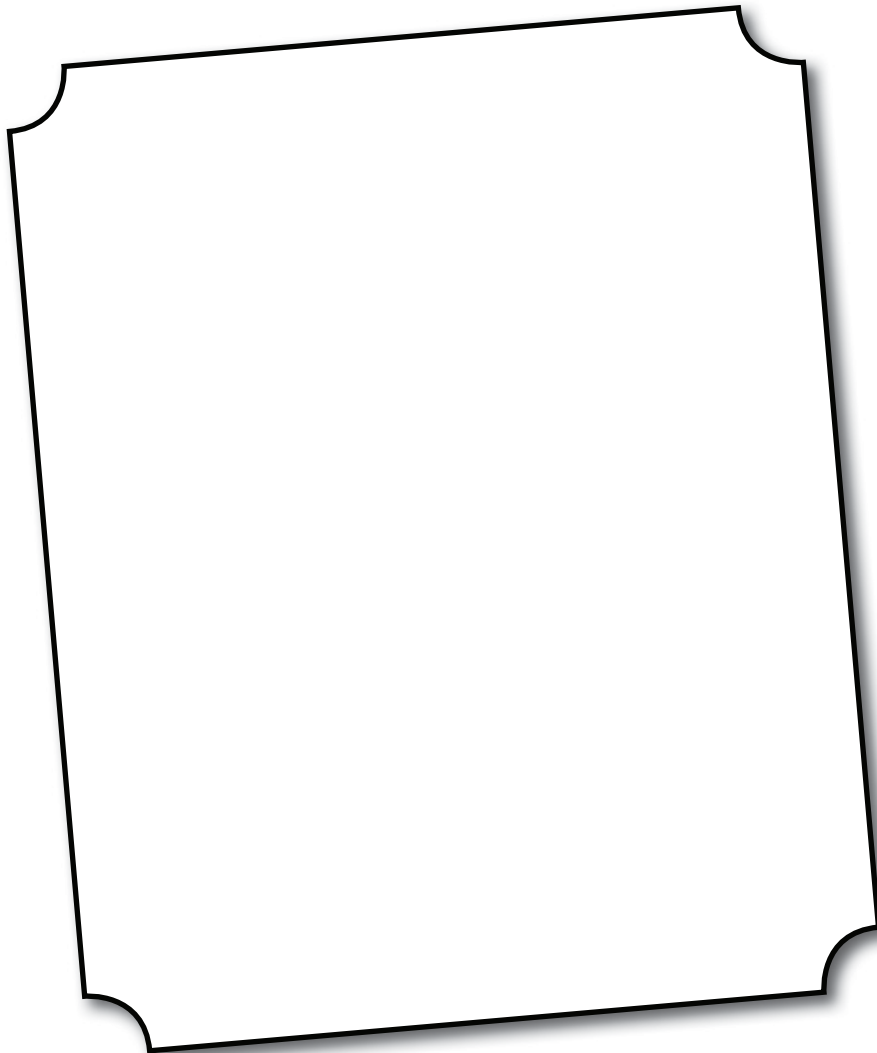
- ▶ Art
- ▶ College Prep
- ▶ Communications
- ▶ Humanities
- ▶ Music
- ▶ Social Science
- ▶ Theatre

▶▶ MATH AND SCIENCES DIVISION

- ▶ Biological Sciences
- ▶ Business
- ▶ Early Childhood Ed.
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Health / Physical Ed.
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Physical Science
- ▶ Fitness Center

Dean Rawlinson (cont.)

Instructor Judson Dewitt: "We are all sorry to see him go. He has been most understanding and sympathetic with students



* - * - *

Rawlinson remembered

A portrait of longtime Dean of the College Dr. Howard E. Rawlinson, painted by local artist (and frequent RLC Art Student) Sue Stotlar in 1974 hung in the East End of the Learning Resource Center for nearly 40 years, along with a plaque inscribed with the above message.

and faculty. He is Mr. Rend Lake, one of the original founders. We'll miss him a great deal. He relates to students extremely well."

Former Student Gary Sweetin (now Dean of Students at the University of Cincinnati): "I have great affection for Dr. Rawlinson, he took a lot of interest in me. I'm in school administration because of his influence."

[Editor's Note: Sweetin, Mt. Vernon Community College Class of 1960, was honored as "Outstanding Alumnus of the Year" in 1986.]

Student Bryan Wilt: "It is our loss."
Student Mike Thomason: "I hate it. I like him and wish him well."

Student Cathy Kirkpatrick: "I think he is a great guy. It is RLC's loss."

Other feelings . . .

~ "His presence on campus will be sorely missed by us all. However, I know very few men who see one dream become a reality and then have the time and energy to set out on a new conquest. I can hardly wait to read his novels."

~ "He's a warm, understanding American."

~ "I'm happy for him. I've worked with him for many years."

~ The college is losing a fine man but in his second life he may be going on to achieve things that are far greater and better."

Whether you met Dr. Rawlinson as you walked to classes, or had a conference with him about your schedule, I'm sure you realized some of these same feelings. I also would wish he would stay longer so I might know him better. In this short time I have appreciated his warm sincere personality. He is a sensitive man, readily available to help a student or teacher.

Dr. Barbara Luchsinger was a recent dinner guest in the home of a principal of one of the largest high schools in the area (not Mt. Vernon). As she was leaving, her host said of Dr. Rawlinson, "He is probably one of the half-dozen most knowledgeable men in the Junior College movement in the United States.

"Say 'hello' to the man who built a college." The Dean . . . Howard Rawlinson . . . Rend Lake College. — Jean Bondi

SHAPE OF THINGS COLUMN ▶

Rawlinson won race for Doctorate: Got degree, knowing sight was fading

THE REGISTER-NEWS AUGUST 18, 1992
BY FENTON HARRIS

It was a nip-and-tuck battle against time.

In fact, when he finished his work for a Doctoral Degree, Howard Rawlinson of Mt. Vernon could see no more than two letters in a word.

When he went for his Doctorate, Rawlin-

1994 - 1995

1995 - 1996

1996 - 1997

son knew that he was losing his sight from degeneration of the retina, a condition that had plagued his mother and other members of his family.

He earned the high degree and, despite the handicap, continued to work for approximately another 20 years as a college administrator responsible for such things as drafting curriculum plans, reviewing faculty reports and studying performance records.

He always liked to write and continues to do so, lack of eyes be darned. It's really a "sight" what he has done without being able to see barely more than shades and shapes.

To sit in his living room, and have a casual conversation with Rawlinson, is to hear nothing about his handicap. It has always been that way. You have to pry and pull it out of him to get the story. The truth of the matter is he "doesn't feel like I'm much handicapped." He'd really prefer not to talk about it.

When it comes out, he gives credit where credit is due, to "talking books," a special service through which he has obtained most any piece of literature wanted. They are tapes, many of them narrated by well-known performers who donate their time.

Rawlinson is best known locally for having been administrative Dean of Mt. Vernon Community College and College Dean of Rend Lake College.

He has taught from primary school to college. He also put in a stint as instructor of Meteorology to Brazilian air cadets.

When he graduated from McKendree College with a Bachelor of Arts in Education, the nation was in the midst of the economic depression of the 1930s. Teaching jobs were hard to come by, so Howard worked for a year in another capacity before catching on with Franklin School in Mt. Vernon.

Later he went to Lincoln, another elementary school in the Mt. Vernon system.

His wife, Betty, has heard some of those early pupils tell Howard that "if it wasn't for you, I don't think I would ever have learned to read." Several of today's best-known residents of the community are among those pupils of his first classes.

Rawlinson grew up in Crossville in White County in a family of teachers. His parents, Edgar and Ethel, both taught school. So did his aunt, Mary Rawlinson.

He always knew he was going to go to college.

Rawlinson's mother and father encouraged him to set a goal on higher education.

His Aunt Mary was a special source of inspiration. It hasn't been too long ago that he came upon books on mythology and astronomy that his aunt had given him when he was still a grade schooler.

His aunt was with him when he received his Doctorate at Southern Illinois University. When a special observance of her 80th birthday was held, he was in a meeting at Carbondale and she told her friends her nephew could not be there. About that time he strolled in, having virtually broken his neck to make it. She died a short time later.

In the public schools of his home, where he graduated in 1927, Howard was an achiever in academics and athletics. He took part in football, basketball, track and field.

At McKendree also he was studious and was a pole vaulter. He once vaulted 13 feet 6 inches, which at that time of stiff bamboo poles was 4 inches under the world record. At first Rawlinson thought he wanted to be an Aeronautics Engineer. Then he became McKendree's first Physics major before going into Education.

During high school or college undergraduate work, he "learned there was such a thing as a Master's Degree." Rawlinson assumed he could master that, so after teaching for a while, Rawlinson enrolled at the University of Illinois for the Master's Degree he obtained in 1936.

During World War II, Rawlinson tried to enlist in the Navy but vision problems were already apparent and he was turned down. He turned to another tact that would help the war effort: instructing Army Air Force cadets of Chanute Field at Rantoul just north of Champaign.

From there he went to South America to teach Meteorology to Brazilian air cadets. The course was taught in Portuguese. He recalls an occasion when one of the cadets "predicted within five minutes the arrival of a fast-moving weather front." Particularly at that time, long before radar, such accuracy was phenomenal.

After the war Howard joined the Mt. Vernon Township High School staff. He was Guidance Director for a time, then became Administrative Dean of the school's Community College when the institution was established in the mid-1950s.

Rawlinson was with the Community College when he realized that his sight was deteriorating to the point that it was then or never if he was to obtain the Doctorate he cherished.



Ward wore many hats ... also Broadcaster, Coach

WINTER 1975-76

When John Callarman broadcast Warrior basketball games during the 1975-76 season for WMIX Radio in Mt. Vernon, he was joined by color analyst Dr. Philip Ward, College Dean.

Ward recognized Rend Lake College's need for more exposure soon after his arrival on campus in July 1972; as a result, he was allotted time for Public Service Announcements by WMIX Radio to promote Rend Lake College and college activities. The weekly Saturday morning broadcasts were about five minutes in length.

It was only natural Callarman would think of the sports-minded Ward when he began his search for a sidekick to do Warrior games with him.

WINTER 1972-73

Ward's season-long role as sports commentator may have paled in comparison to his two-game, Walter Mitty stint in late January/early February in 1973.

When Assistant Coach Mike McClure replaced an ailing Head Coach Jim Waugh for two key Southern Illinois College Conference games, College Dean Ward became Interim Assistant Coach Ward to fill a void.

Let the record show: The McClure-Ward coaching combo led the Warriors to a pair of victories en route to a then-school-record 20-6 campaign overall, 7-1 league mark and the first SICC championship season in school history.

SONG OF SIXTIES

This is a song of the Sixties –
A decade disastrous with strife,
With wantonness, waste, repression,
Rebellion rampant and rife.
This is a saga of courage,
Of cattle prod, pistol and knife –
Of heroes, militants, martyrs
Who fought for a new way of life.

Gone were the dropouts and beatniks.
Silence was shoved from her throne.
The new generation, quite vocal,
Strove for a name of its own.
Strident, defiant, daring,
With customs that made parents groan,
They tore at the roots of tradition
'Til soil with their new seed was sown.

Repulsed by the rude revelation
Of difference between morals heard
And those that were practiced by parents,
The Young were soon shouting the word,
“Hypocrites! Dealers with devils!
Repent of your actions absurd,
We once thought you sages of wisdom,
We now think your vision is blurred.”

They marched the truth, these outraged youth –
The youth by the Sixties spawned;
They tore the veil from the long travail
Of blacks in the land where freedom dawns.
Ripped aside their parents' pride
As they tore at truths that had long lain hid,
And their elders quailed while faces paled
As they looked at the deeds their children did.

Forced to face their own disgrace
As day by day the wonder grew,
Some saw the right of their children's fight
And pledged themselves to the struggle anew.
As they steeled from the rock of one fierce shock,
Another was sure to come.
And the children said in the fight they led,
“We march to the beat of a different drum.”

SONG OF THE SIXTIES II

So ends my song of the Sixties,
With frontiers broadened in scope.
A decade taut tightened with tension
Gives birth to a new age of hope.

A hope that all hate and violence
Will grow less as mankind matures,
That fighting will fade from our planet,
That cancer and war will find cures.

The Aquarian Age is upon us –
An age to which key word is friend,
A word which, interpreted rightly,
Could bring hate and fear to an end.

The Seventies' youth will differ
From the young that the Sixties knew.
We can hope they inherit the courage
Which out of the Sixties grew.

Will still refuse to be children,
Claim a stake in the nation's affairs,
Will – if they keep Sixties' spirit
Bring an answer to hopes and to prayers.

Thus ends my saga of courage,
Of will and resistance to wrong
With a toast to the youth of the Sixties
And the torch that they're passing along.

There is hope that the Seventies' youth,
Through the speed of their drum beat increase,
Will work for renewed dedication,
Make way for the coming of peace.

No longer mute, grown resolute,
The Sixties's youth made the nation think,
Though sometimes bawd, fought every fraud,
Forced the nation back from atomic brink.

Made angry souls assess their goals
Pass moral codes through discerning sieve,
To find the cost of their ethics lost,
Assess once more the way to live.

Toss a flaming torch that was sure to scorch
Into hands of the waiting youth to come,
With fervent shout to them cried out,
“March to the beat of your different drum.”

Dean Rawlinson (cont.)

First he talked with people at the University of Illinois but could not work out residency requirements. So he turned to SIU, where he was able to qualify by renting a hotel room three nights a week. As his sphere of sight narrowed, he studied at night, went to classes during the mornings and rushed back to Mt. Vernon for his administrative work at the college each afternoon.

He was active in helping to set up the Rend Lake College district when legislation was adopted to make possible today's system of junior colleges in Illinois. He was RLC's College Dean until retiring in 1972.

In 1977, Mary Margaret, his first wife, died. Betty's husband died in the same time frame, and Rawlinson and Betty later married.

There is seldom a time when he isn't in to some literature. If it is special research, there is a “talking book” library in Cartersville that is prompt. Novels come from regular sources of the special service; so do magazines such as *Harpers* and *National Geographic*.

In other words, he always has his eye on something informative, interesting or educational.

Betty says what he does “is amazing.”

Ask Rawlinson about his life and he comes up with a different twist. “I have been a Cub fan for 75 years, since boyhood,” he smilingly remarked.

[Dr. Rawlinson was 90 years old (April 7, 1910-December 30, 2000) when he died as a resident of Creal Springs Nursing Home. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Mary Margaret Thompson Rawlinson. Survivors included Betty Howe Edmison Rawlinson, whom he married March 25, 1978, son Kim Thompson Rawlinson of Egan, MN, and two grandchildren. He was a member of First United Methodist Church in Mt. Vernon.]

Bookends to SONG OF THE SIXTIES, a book of 22 poems by Howard Rawlinson, Ph.D. recalling an era which led to such titles as “From England With Love” (the Beatles); “The Sit-Ins,” “The Freedom Rides,” “Revolt Against Vietnam,” “The Burning of Watts,” “Avatar,” “The Campus Revolt” (Berkeley / Columbia / Cornell), “Martin Luther King” and “Chicago.”

He acknowledged, “I owe much to students and graduates of Rend Lake College who either participated in or witnessed some of the events portrayed in these poems. Their frank discussions and evaluations of the events helped to give me a broader view of the whole scene.” 1977

PRESIDENT / 1975 - 1978

Duke-educated Martin choice from 128 national applicants

MT. VERNON REGISTER-NEWS JUNE 10, 1975

The Rend Lake College Board met last night to review its field of candidates for the college presidency.

Dr. L.H. Horton, Executive Secretary of the Illinois Community College Trustees Association and a member of the college's three-man search committee, told the Board that 128 applications had been received from 38 states. "This shows," he said, "that many candidates would like to come to Rend Lake College and be your President."

Horton said his committee had narrowed the field to 16 candidates. The college Board voted to accept the report of the search committee.

Another search team member, Dr. Eldon Lichty, Professor Emeritus at Illinois State University, said he had welcomed the opportunity to come out of retirement to assist the college. "I knew this to be one of the best colleges in Illinois," Dr. Lichty said, and he called Rend Lake "the showplace of junior colleges in the State of Illinois."

Dr. Lichty said the Board was conducting its search "very democratically" by allowing students and faculty to participate in the selection process.

After the Board has narrowed the field further, student and faculty representatives will have the opportunity to interview the final candidates and make recommendations, Board President Carleton Apple said.

However, Apple said, it was necessary that all names of prospects be kept confidential for the time being.

HIRING ▶

'Abilities, experience, enthusiasm, motivation to be top administrator'

MT. VERNON REGISTER-NEWS JULY 22, 1975
STEVE KORRIS, REGISTER-NEWS STAFF WRITER

Dr. W. Travis Martin Jr., 42, of Waterloo, IA, was named last night as the second President of Rend Lake College. The college's board voted 7-0 to give Martin a three-year contract with a starting salary of \$32,000.

Martin's selection closed a three-month search by the college. The search began when Dr. James M. Snyder, the only President in the college's history, announced his retirement [February 18].

Martin has been the chief administrator (Superintendent) of the Hawkeye Institute

of Technology at Waterloo for the last nine years. [Martin was the founding chief administrator at Hawkeye Institute.]

Board member Dr. Allen Baker of Pinckneyville said last night he went to Waterloo earlier this month and spoke with members of the board, administration and faculty of the institute.

Baker told the board that all comments on Martin were "very complimentary" and "very, very favorable."

Martin is a native of Corpus Christi, TX, and grew up in North Carolina. He received his B.S. and M.A. degrees in Science and Guidance/Psychology, respectively, from East Carolina University in Greenville, NC.

He served as a high school science teacher in Virginia from 1958 to 1960, then became Associate Director and later Dean of Instruction at Wayne Technical Institute in Goldsboro, NC.

In 1966 he received his Ed.D. Degree from Duke University, with a major in Educational Administration and minors in Psychology and Sociology, and accepted the position of superintendent at the new Hawkeye Institute in Iowa. He has been that school's only chief administrator.

Martin is a member of a number of civic and professional organizations, including Phi Delta Kappa and Kappi Delta Pi educational fraternities, and is a lifetime member of Rotary International. He was an elder in the Westminster Presbyterian Church at Waterloo.

He and his wife, Yvonne, and their three daughters - Cindy, Mimi and Laura Lynn - plan to make their home in Mt. Vernon some time in early fall. [Martin and family, according to other sources, were welcomed to campus September 21, 1975.]

His interests and hobbies include tennis, music, flying, tropical fish, gardening, dramatics, football, travel, automobiles, photography and art. He is a Captain in the U.S. Air Force Reserve and is an instrument rated commercial pilot.

The college board released a statement at last night's meeting, saying, "We believe we have diligently searched, interviewed and found the man with the abilities, experience, enthusiasm and motivation to be the chief administrative officer of Rend Lake College."



REND LAKE COLLEGE PRESIDENT



Message from the President

CATALOG 1976-1978

The role and philosophy of the community college demands constant change and adaptation. In many ways we are a reflection of the communities we serve and the people living in them.

New jobs require new types of education. Rend Lake College is committed to providing the education and standards demanded for today's society. The variety of students at Rend Lake College remind us all that our society must be served by a diversity of skills and knowledge.

For some we provide education of a highly technical nature, for others we provide an opportunity to learn new methods and perfect their skills.

Our students come from a variety of backgrounds. They are recent high school graduates taking on a new educational challenge; they are workers continuing to update their skills; they are veterans seeking a new role in society; they are housewives

(Continued on next page)



Henson goes from MVCC to Galesburg Presidency

THE PYRAMID TIMES MAY 24, 1967

Eltis Henson, President of Mt. Vernon Community College (also Superintendent of Mt. Vernon Township High School), has resigned, effective the end of this semester. The resignation was announced by Mike Chaney, head of the high school board, on May 12.

Henson will become President of Know-Warren Junior College at Galesburg, one of the new two-year Class I institutions created under the same law that made the Rend Lake junior college possible.

The MVCC President will assume his new duties in Galesburg in July, at which time he will begin to help plan a new campus for the college.



Message (cont.)

learning in their spare time.

We are dedicated to meeting the needs of the people. The ongoing search for knowledge at Rend Lake College is beneficial to each individual student and the community as a whole. The college is a part of the community which it serves. Our friendly staff provides a comfortable atmosphere for our students.

We are here to provide opportunity to those who seek it. We can help you achieve your personal goals as we have helped many in past years. We are eager to serve you.

Best wishes for a better tomorrow!

~ Travis Martin

President Martin (cont.)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Martin's draft of organizational plan stands time test, with modifications

Credit Dr. W. Travis Martin with drafting a new organizational plan in 1976 which has stood the test of time for Rend Lake College, with modifications.

His proposal created a cabinet with three Deans – Instruction, Community Services and Student Services – placed along with a Business Manager in equal positions directly subordinate to the President. A fourth Dean's position – overseeing Vocational-Technical Education – would be directly responsible to the Dean of Instruction.

A Public Information Officer would be directly responsible to the President.

Martin's organizational plan also called for a consolidation of academic departments, downsizing to four – Arts and Communications; Mining, Agricultural Mechanics and Civil Technology; Health, Science and Physical Education; Business, Mathematics and Social Science.



In addition to administrative restructuring which included the hiring of a new Dean of Instruction (Dr. Kenneth LaSalle) and finding three replacements for Board members, the Year 1976 at Rend Lake College was noteworthy for many other reasons . . .

- It was the first year in the last five in which the Board approved a balanced operating budget.

- The total number of students enrolled jumped approximately 30 percent. The overall increase Spring 1976 was 44 percent (11 percent in full-time students).

A majority of full-time students were enrolled in occupational courses, continuing a trend toward an emphasis on vocational-technical education.

- Tuition was increased from \$4.50 per credit hour to \$7.50.

- A Mining Technology Building, which doubled the available space for that program, was constructed at a cost of \$240,000.

- A major landscaping project was start-

ed in September for the 350-acre campus, at a cost of \$31,682. It resulted in the planting of around 400 shade and protective trees and shrubs, both for aesthetic reasons and in hopes of subduing strong winds which sweep across campus in fall and winter.

THE FINAL DAYS

Martin did not want to continue; Board agrees 'for good of college'

Amidst months of controversy and turmoil, Dr. W. Travis Martin Jr. let Trustees know he did not wish to be considered for re-employment as the President of Rend Lake College when his initial three-year contract expires at the conclusion of the 1977-78 academic year.

As required by Board policy – by January 1 of the year a contract is scheduled to expire – the RLC Board in December unanimously passed a resolution notifying Martin "his services as President will not be required as of the expiration of his contract."

But he did not make it that far.

A second resolution, two weeks after confronted by a no-confidence vote of 54-3 by the Rend Lake College faculty, signalled the end of the Martin era immediately following a lengthy, late-night special session of the Board on March 29, 1978.

"In the public interest and for the good of this college," according to the Trustees resolution, Martin was relieved of all duties and placed upon a leave of absence.

Martin was made aware of what the Board's plans were and was given the opportunity to seek his own leave of absence, but chose not to do so. The resolution was passed by a 4-2 vote, with the Rev. Dr. Clyde Funkhouser, Board Chair, Joe McClure, Everett Thompson and Dr. Richard Simpson voting in favor. Dr. Allen Y. Baker and Carleton Apple, the only Trustees who remain on the Board from Martin's hiring in 1975, cast the dissenting votes. B.B. Connaway was not in attendance.

Officially, Martin remained an employee of the college, at full salary, insurance and welfare benefits, per his contract until the original expiration date (minus use of an automobile).

INTERIM PRESIDENT / 1978

Haberaecker, former BAC chief, brings 34 years experience

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE MARCH 23, 1978

H.J. Haberaecker, President Emeritus of Belleville Area College, began his duties as Interim President of Rend Lake College Thursday morning. Haberaecker was appointed to the position [at a salary of \$3,000 per month] after Dr. W. Travis Martin was relieved of his duties by the college Board of Trustees Tuesday night.

Haberaecker began his educational career at the age of 21 when he was appointed a high school Principal. The following year he became a Superintendent of Schools and has served as the chief administrative officer of school systems since that time, with the exception of time spent in service during World War II.

During his educational career, he has gained national recognition in the fields of curriculum development, human relations and adult education. He has been involved in more than \$28 million of new school construction and has never been connected to any bond issue which was defeated.

During World War II he entered service as a Private and was discharged as a Colonel. He served 30 months overseas as a bomber pilot in the European and Pacific theaters. He was awarded the Air Medal three times, Distinguished Flying Cross twice, five battle stars, the Bronze Star, Presidential Unit Citation and other combat awards.

He received a Bachelor's Degree from Wartburg College (IA), and in 1956 was named the school's "Outstanding Alumnus of the Year." He received his Master's Degree in Administration and Supervision from the University of Illinois and has completed his course work for the earned doctorate at Yale University.

Before becoming College President, Haberaecker served as Superintendent of Belleville Township High School and Junior College District No. 201. He was appointed as the first President of Belleville Area College when it became a Class I Junior College District under the Junior College Act.

His record as an administrator is well known. He is a champion of quality education and human relations and a disciple of sound school financing. Under his leadership, Belleville Area College developed from an institution of 200 students to an enrollment of over 10,000. The college district expanded in size from

650 to 2,116 square miles. Its assessed valuation increased from approximately \$300 million to over \$1.4 billion.

His 34 years of top administrative experience, 14 years of which was in Higher Education, gives him a sound background to be of service to Rend Lake College.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

A formal set of procedures and criteria, recommended by a 15-member Search Committee, was adopted in February by the RLC Board of Trustees, beginning the selection process for a new president at the two-year college located in Southern Illinois.

The vacancy was created when Dr. W. Travis Martin, who has served at the college since 1975, announced in December he did not wish to have his three-year contract renewed.

The selection criteria requires applicants to hold "advanced academic degrees, earned doctorates preferred," and "provide evidence of managerial competence and business acumen in higher education or business; have an awareness of and a commitment to the community college's role in higher education, and demonstrate an ability to work effectively with campus personnel and the community in setting goals and developing programs and policies to realize them."

ENDORSEMENT ▶

In less than five months, Haberaecker earns standing ovation from Trustees

MT. VERNON REGISTER-NEWS EDITORIAL AUGUST 18, 1978

When H.J. Haberaecker, Interim President of Rend Lake College, said farewell to the school this week he received a standing ovation from the Board of Trustees and the audience.

It was a well-deserved salute to a man who, in the past five months, has done a great job for the school in a tough situation — as the Board worked to find, and hire, a new President.

We add our salute to that of the Board, and we welcome Dr. Harry Braun, who has assumed his duties as the new President.

But, more important, we wish to thank Mr. Haberaecker for the thorough final report he made to the Board and the thoughtful advice he gave to make Rend Lake a better school.



R.L.C. INTERIM PRESIDENT

* - * - *

Interim's difficult situation: 'I'd call it worse than that'

SOUTHERN ILLINOISAN VIEWPOINT

H.J. Haberaecker has taken over temporarily at Rend Lake College and he has walked into a lions' den . . .

"A difficult situation?" he said. "I'd call it a lot worse than that."

What Haberaecker has done is walk onto a college campus that has been torn by conflict, a place where people often whispered for fear of who was listening. It has been a place the administrators often could not administer, because they found whatever they told the board was not accepted and their judgments were reversed.

Rend Lake College is recovering from a horrible time in its history. Most people had taken sides in the conflict, either for or against the president, W. Travis Martin Jr. Martin was embattled for nearly his entire time at the college, and was all but run off the campus by the board and those opposing him.

It wasn't all Martin's fault. He had a difficult board and a suspicious faculty; he simply didn't have the know-how and talents to overcome the problems . . .

— Merrill Perlman



Interim proposes tuition bump, better management

RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION JULY 1978

Interim President H.J. Haberaecker proposed a tuition increase in July 1978 from \$7.50 to \$10 per credit hour. The first increase since 1975, he indicated [actually, since 1976], would generate an estimated \$120,875 increase during 1978-79 and would still be well below the state average of \$13 per credit hour.

"There is only one way to have a balanced budget," he explained, "... increase tuition and better management."



Challenges and problems: Interim thrives on them

RLC PRESSING TIMES APRIL 1978

In the words of Interim President H.J. Haberaecker, as told to a reporter for the *Pressing Times* in the April 10, 1978 issue, "I thrive on challenges and problems."



ICCB's members, Chair appointed by Governor

www.iccb.org

The Illinois Community College Board consists of 11 members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate for six-year terms. One student member is selected by the ICCB Student Advisory Committee for a one-year term. The Board Chair is selected by the Governor. Board meetings are held six times per year (January, March, May, June, September, and November). July and December meetings are scheduled if needed.

Haberaecker (cont.)

If his advice is followed, and we have every reason to believe it will under the guidance of Dr. Braun, we believe it will give the young people of this area a better opportunity for quality education.

It makes sense to us that courses beginning with only a handful of students be canceled, and scheduling should be improved to avoid unnecessary duplications.

Mr. Haberaecker said he feels the entire curriculum of the college needs to be re-evaluated and that courses which fail to meet minimal enrollments should be phased out.

He advocated faculty retraining to make teaching more versatile.

These are just a few of the many words of advice the departing Interim President gave.

We hope the Board gives careful consideration to the recommendations of Mr. Haberaecker. And we wish him the best of luck in any future endeavors, and a happy life.

THE INTERIM PRESIDENT'S REPORT / APRIL 1 - AUGUST 15, 1978

Among college accomplishments during the 4 1/2-month stay of Interim President H.J. Haberaecker . . .

- Within a matter of days of his arrival, Haberaecker and other Rend Lake College representatives met with the North Central Association Reviewing Committee in Chicago to resolve an accreditation problem.

"We believe the Association is sympathetic to some of the problems this college has faced and will be pleased to see the progress made in the Board of Trustees handling of the affairs of the college and the spirit of cooperation which has existed between the Board of Trustees, its Administrators and Staff," wrote the Interim President in his exit report. "We do not see this as a problem anymore."

- "In April, we began working on a series of problems with the Illinois Department of Labor which involved claims of discrimination in one form or another. We are pleased to report that these were worked out in an out-of-court settlement. We believe that we have placed our house in order so to speak and hope to avoid similar problems in the future."

- The required one- and five-year plan for occupational programs, a "very comprehensive report," was approved by the proper authorities in Springfield.

Of the Resource Allocation and Management Plan (RAMP) document submitted to the Illinois State Junior College Board and Board of Higher Education, Haberaecker noted, "I cannot say enough about the fine cooperation we had from everyone involved on this project. The report was complete, factual and presented 'on time.'"

- The STIP I program was staffed and became operational.

- Drawings were completed, bids were let and work is nearing completion on a remodeling project in the Mining Building.

- Preliminary work required has been finalized and a banking facility is scheduled to be in operation on-campus by October.

- A Travel Policy for reimbursement for evening / off-campus classes was approved, following months of study and discussion.

- The FY1979 Budget was completed, with \$400,000 in departmental requests cut.

Suggestions "to avoid future deficit financing and eventual financial chaos" . . .

- ~ Master scheduling is a must to avoid small enrollment sections and unnecessary duplications; low-enrollment sections must be canceled.

- ~ Faculty must be better utilized to avoid excessive use of part-time faculty.

- ~ The entire curriculum must be re-evaluated, phasing out course offerings and curricula that consistently fails to meet minimal enrollments.

- ~ The costs of individual programs must be carefully scrutinized, as well as the probability for employment of graduates.

- ~ Facility usage should be studied.

- ~ Capital outlays should be scrutinized.

- ~ Faculty members in areas of low enrollment must be retrained in other areas.

- ~ To avoid RIFs, careful consideration should be given when replacing staff.

[H.J. Haberaecker, 82, died January 23, 1996, at his home in Sun City, AZ. He had been in failing health for some time.]

PRESIDENT / 1978 - 1989

Significant strides in 11 years under St. Louis native Braun

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE JULY 1978

Harry J. Braun, 37, a native of St. Louis, was named last night as the new President of Rend Lake College by the two-year institution's Board of Trustees.

Braun (pronounced Brown) has served as Dean at Central Arizona College in Coolidge, AZ, since 1976. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology from Southwest Missouri State College in 1963, a Master's Degree in Educational Administration from the University of Missouri in 1966 and a Doctorate in Educational Administration from Missouri in 1971.

Prior to becoming a Dean at Central Arizona College, Braun served as an elementary school Principal at St. Paul's Lutheran School in St. Louis, 1966-67; Assistant to the Director of Educational Placement, University of Missouri, 1969-70; Assistant to the Dean of Student Affairs, University of Missouri, 1970-71, and Dean of Continuing Education, Illinois Valley Community College, 1971-74.

Braun also has had several years of teaching experience at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, 1977; University of Missouri, 1971, and Central High School in Chesterfield, MO, 1967-69.

During his service as Dean of Central Arizona College, his major responsibilities included budget development and management; long- and short-range planning; program management; internal and external college relations, and evaluation of the college's overall operation.

Central Arizona College served 5,500 students Spring Semester 1977, an enrollment comparable to Rend Lake College.

As a student at Southwest Missouri College, Braun lettered in football for four years. He has traveled extensively in the United States and abroad in such places as Jamaica, Luxemborg, Austria, Germany and Switzerland. He enjoys photography, model railroading and physical exercise.

Braun was a member of the Rotary International Board of Directors in 1977 and served as President of the Congregation at Trinity Lutheran Church in Casa Grande from 1976-77.

He and his wife, Alna, and their children, Sarah, 10, and Matthew, 8, are expected to arrive in Southern Illinois in a few weeks.

H.J. Haberaecker, Acting President of Rend Lake College since March, said he feels the Board of Trustees and all those involved in the presidential search process have made an excellent choice. "I sincerely feel Dr. Braun will be of great benefit to the college and community," he commented.

The Board employed Braun at an annual salary of \$32,500.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS ▶ Braun appoints Kern to No. 2 position; Management decision-making upgraded

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT SEPTEMBER 1979

Year One of the Dr. Harry J. Braun Era brought many challenges – not unexpected, considering almost three years of campus turmoil which preceded his arrival (minus five months under the temporary leadership of an Interim President) – and successes, as addressed in his first report to the Board and the public concerning major events at Rend Lake College . . .

- "Many things have transpired since my arrival a little over a year ago. A new Dean of Instruction had to be selected immediately."

Ag Instructor-turned-AAA Department Chair-turned-Dean of Community Services Mark S. Kern was selected to fill that role. The position Kern vacated was later filled by Cheryl Foley. Another former Ag Instructor-turned-Department Chair, Carroll Turner, was named Dean of Vocational-Technical Education in Fall 1979.

- "Eighteen faculty members expressed dissatisfaction with their contracts for the current year."

A Salary Schedule was developed, with procedures for the placement of faculty on that schedule, which helped eliminate much of the conflict between various factions of the faculty.

- "Preparation had to begin for a Special Focus Visitation by the North Central Association to evaluate the college's management decision-making process."

Goals and objectives were developed for each instructional and service area and a responsible person identified in each area, with realization of a budget surplus at the end of the fiscal year due to a larger enrollment than expected plus improved management of staff and class scheduling.



REND LAKE COLLEGE PRESIDENT



Braun judged best from 96 applicants, six finalists

RLC NEWS RELEASE JUNE 7, 1978

The Rend Lake College Board of Trustees announced the six finalists for the position of President at a special meeting Tuesday, June 6.

Each of the six candidates will be interviewed by college staff members, administrators and Trustees between June 12 and June 21.

After the interview process is completed, each of the candidates will be evaluated and college Trustees will make their final choice. Interim President H.J. Haberaecker said the new President is expected to be hired by July 1.

The six finalists chosen for interviews are Dr. Norman Kent Myers, Pratt, KS; Dr. Paul Ricard Heath, Quincy; Dr. Walter J. Bishop, DeKalb; Dr. Harry J. Braun, Casa Grande, AZ; Dr. Edward Ray Searby, Freeport, and Dr. James L. Becker, Muscatine, IA.

[Editor's Note: The Presidential Search Committee was comprised of 16 individuals – three Trustees, administrators, staff and students. There were a total of 96 applicants.]



20th Anniversary message from RLC President Braun

FOUNDATION ANNUAL DINNER 1986

Welcome to the Rend Lake College Foundation Annual Meeting!

We are here this evening not only for the Annual Meeting of the Foundation but also to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Rend Lake College. This evening we want to honor our original Board of Trustees, faculty and staff for their foresight, dedication and perseverance which has resulted in Rend Lake College becoming one of Illinois' finest community colleges.

Rend Lake College today prepares students to transfer to senior colleges and universities throughout the United States; prepares students for employment; assists area business and industry in assessing and meeting their training needs, and provides Adult and Continuing Education opportunities to the residents throughout the district.

Rend Lake College was founded in December 1966. Since then, many changes have occurred. Our full-time equivalent enrollment has grown from 729 in 1967 to 1,566 in 1985. An all-time high was achieved in 1982 with 1,804 full-time equivalent students. The total number of students served last year was 7,419. Countless new programs, degree areas and Occupational Certificates have been added to our curriculum. With well-deserved pride, we can count the thousands of
(Continued at far right on next page)

President Braun (cont.)

• "It became apparent repairs to the Phase II Heating and Chilled Mechanical System had to be initiated or a serious break could result, causing half the school to be shut down."

The college, with the help of an aggressive Board of Trustees and support from legislators, obtained inclusion in a bill that is now before the Governor [and later signed] which would provide 100 percent funding of repairs to the Phase II Heating and Chilled Mechanical System.

"... Growth definitely is in our planning for the approaching year. Allied Health, Mining and Agriculture represent some of the Occupational programs designated as growth areas. A public events series designed to bring performing artists before the public at Rend Lake College is planned. Remedial and developmental education needs will be emphasized through the establishment of a basic skills learning center. Another goal for the coming year is to involve the community more in its college through the establishment of a Foundation.

"Along with our optimism, we must exercise caution in evaluating all growth potential. Particular attention will be given to the evaluation of instructional and service programs in order to phase out those programs no longer productive or alter those programs needing modifications to keep up with the changing times.

"Our efforts this past year have focused upon providing quality programs aimed at helping people. Whether it is through programs which prepare students for vocations, programs which prepare students for transfer to senior institutions, programs to help individuals develop areas of personal interest or programs to help students achieve a high school equivalency certificate, quality is the underlying principle we strive for at Rend Lake College.

"In closing, let me point out that when I visited the area as a candidate for the Presidency of Rend Lake College and spent time discussing the college, the community and the future, I discovered a very enthusiastic

supportive group of people committed to Rend Lake College and what it could provide the area. After having been here a year, I find that support and interest exist on an even greater scale than I first imagined. It is truly a privilege to be among the fine people of Southern Illinois."

THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 1979-80

The following goals were identified and achieved during Dr. Harry J. Braun's second year at the RLC helm . . .

- To develop a system of program evaluation in order to judge program effectiveness, student accomplishments, staffing needs and other related factors.
- To identify the special learning and development needs of district residents.
- To pay particular attention to the development of faculty and staff; providing a wide range of development activities.
- To maintain an open and positive communication flow with all segments of the college community.
- To improve the collection and use of institutional data.
- To replace or repair the Heating and Chilled Mechanical System in Phase II construction. [As the 1979-80 school year came to a close, the college was still awaiting funding from state resources and meetings with area legislators were planned in hopes of speeding up this process.]
- To initiate a preventive maintenance program to identify problem areas and establish replacement schedules.
- To conduct follow-up studies of students in order to determine student satisfaction with their experiences at RLC.

In addition, the President and Joe McClure, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, began meeting on a regular basis with Illinois politicians through a "Legislative Advocacy" project developed cooperatively by the Illinois Community College Trustees Association and the Presidents Council.

Braun and Mining Department Chair Gary Wade were among individuals representing the coal industry and educational institutions who met in December with Vice President of the United States Walter Mondale.

PRESIDENTIAL TIMELINE

MARK S. KERN
Retires as Fifth President
June 30, 2008

CHARLEY HOLSTEIN
Interim President
July 8, 2008-
March 31, 2009

CHARLEY HOLSTEIN
Named Sixth President
Full-time appointment,
effective April 1, 2009

2006 - 2007

2007 - 2008

2008 - 2009

College officials were still awaiting word on a \$5.2 million grant submitted for the construction of a simulated mine area above ground and additional facilities.

ANNUAL REPORT 1980-81

“... We have seen our enrollment grow steadily since the college opened its doors. As you would expect, some programs have grown or are continuing to grow faster than others. Since 1976, enrollment in Occupational programs has increased 41 percent, with the overall enrollment increasing 20 percent,” according to President Harry J. Braun in his letter to the residents of Community College District No. 521.

“Immediate projections and longer term projections indicate our Occupational-Vocational programs will continue to expand. That’s good news! The bad news is that laboratory space and classroom space necessary for the expansion of these programs is not there. It should be obvious to anyone who has attempted to find a meeting room or classroom during mid-morning or in the evening that these available spaces are often times not to be found. Many of our technical laboratories are used to capacity. Approximately 13,000 people, representing community agencies, organizations, business and industry used our facilities during the past year.”

1981-82 ANNUAL REPORT

To Residents of Community College District 521,

“I am extremely pleased to report that we had an exceptional year,” wrote Rend Lake College President Dr. Harry J. Braun. “Our enrollment climbed to an all-time high, enabling Rend Lake College to serve more students than ever before through new and expanded programs. From July 1981 through June 1982, 36 courses were added to the curriculum. The Associate Degree Nursing program was expanded by providing space for 12 new full-time students and a part-time program was instituted accommodating 18 new students over a two-year period. Several courses were offered via home television and videotape in public libraries. A Math Lab was initiated and off-campus classes were introduced at Waltonville, Tamaroa and Bonnie. Through cooperation with superintendents of area high school and elementary districts, we were able to expand off-campus services at 14 locations.

“We continued to maintain a strong com-

mitment to providing services to industry and business. Specialized training and educational opportunities were offered in concert with the expressed needs of business and industry. This included industrial safety, management training, electrical and maintenance training, performance appraisal and a special course in machine calibration, to mention several.

“I am proud to report that we were selected as one of three community colleges in the United States providing exemplary service to business and industry by the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges at its annual convention. A tribute to the entire college community!

“The college evaluated its mission, goals and objectives through both an internal and an external evaluation process. Evaluation teams from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and the Illinois Community College Board visited the college in October 1981 and reviewed the findings of an institutional Self-Study in which the faculty, Board of Trustees, administration, staff and students participated. The institution received a seven-year accreditation from the North Central Association and continued recognition through the ICCB.

“Obviously, a major disappointment was the failure of the bond referendum to provide additional laboratory and classroom space... Space that continues and will continue to be critical to our ability to provide quality instruction to our district residents.”

THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 1982-83

“The challenges facing education continue to grow from year to year, and 1982-83 certainly was no exception. Never has Rend Lake College been confronted with greater challenges, in terms of financial restraints in difficult economic times and a stabilizing enrollment following several years of very rapid growth.

“Yet our mission remains unchallenged: A commitment to excellence in all that we strive to do at Rend Lake College. Meeting the needs of the district we serve has always been our No. 1 priority and will remain so. Every decision, every action is guided by that desire and commitment for excellence.”

“... Of special interest in the Annual Report to citizens of Community College District No. 521, please note the emphasis placed on maintaining a balanced budget as state dollars were shrinking, the establishment of a Business Resource and Assistance



20th Anniversary (cont.)

students ranging from 16 to 90 years of age, whose lives have benefited from attending Rend Lake College.

Continuing the basic tenets established for the founding of this institution, the Board of Trustees, administration, faculty and staff remain dedicated to the concept of serving the total community.

No progress is ever achieved without direction and leadership. Direction was provided by the Steering/Planning Committee, the original Board of Trustees. Leadership was, in turn, provided by Founding President Dr. James M. Snyder and the original faculty and staff. The result was a low-cost, community-based college was established in this area of Southern Illinois and that vision is as valid today as it was 20 years ago. It will always be this vision that insures the college will remain an integral part of Southern Illinois for many years to come.

Our heartfelt thanks to all who worked so hard to make Rend Lake College a reality and the success that it is today. One example of this recognition came when the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges in April 1982 recognized Rend Lake College as one of three leaders in the nation in working with business and industry. At its annual convention, the AACJC presented the college with its [first-ever] Community College and Business/Industry Award for Exemplary Cooperation with Inland Steel Company and Old Ben Coal Company.

Tonight, we recognize those who served the district so well in 1966-67.

Harry J. Braun
President



Trustees praise Braun as 'right man at right time'

BOARD MINUTES JANUARY 17, 1989

Dr. Allan Patton read a letter of resignation from President Harry J. Braun effective February 28, 1989. With great reluctance, Dr. Patton called for a motion to accept the resignation.

Dr. (Richard) Simpson made a motion to accept Dr. Braun's resignation effective February 28, 1989. Mr. (David) Hurley seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted "Yes."

Dr. (Kirby) Browning stated he felt Dr. Braun's tenure at the college had been good for the institution and the college and community could be proud of what had been accomplished.

Dr. Simpson stated that Dr. Braun came to the college as President at a very difficult time in 1978 and that he had been the right man at the right time. He said he had enjoyed working with Dr. Braun.

Mr. (Everett) Thompson said he endorsed Dr. Simpson's statement and it had been a pleasure to work with Dr. Braun.

Dr. Patton said Dr. Braun was leaving with one of the best records in Southern Illinois and he appreciated very much his contributions to the college.

Dr. Braun stated a person can develop a love for a place and a love for a community and that was how he felt; however, he felt accepting the Danville Area presidency was a good opportunity. He thanked the Board for its support for 10 1/2 years. He indicated his appreciation of each Board member and the Deans.

President Braun (cont.)

Center in an effort to maintain the college's role as a leader within the community and a shift in those programs which concentrate on the business and industrial sector of our district and computer needs."

"... The increasing burden to find external resources falls on the RLC Foundation, comprised of some of the most dedicated individuals within a district filled with many such caring, concerned citizens.

"Our students never seem to let us down. They are, of course, our prized products, the best representatives any institution of higher learning could have. Eight RLC graduates were awarded special transfer scholarships to attend Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, a figure believed to be the most ever from one community college. We increased our scholarship offerings with the advent of Welding and Automotive contests to go along with those already being awarded in Engineering, Math and Science, an English essay contest and the President's Scholarship program for high school graduates in the top 10 percent of their class..."

"It is a difficult task keeping ahead of those students, but it is just as obvious our faculty and staff manage to do so. Their never-ending commitment to excellence resulted, among other things, in an administrator and an instructor earning doctorate degrees the past year – Dean of Administrative and Student Services Dr. Robert Spuhler and Science Instructor Dr. Richard Heaton – and three other faculty members receiving recognition as 'Master' teachers."

MORE HIGHLIGHTS ▶

President's Scholarships originated, original debt ends during early days

■ April 6, 1979 / A Founders Day Recognition Dinner was held for those key individuals who assembled in the mud 10 years before and dared to dream as a "dedicated group starting something that will become a legacy."

The dinner honored over 30 of the attendees, who represented the many civic-minded citizens who served as members

of the College Steering Committee and/or the Board of Trustees from 1967 to 1978, and their guests.

College President Dr. Harry J. Braun opened festivities by telling those assembled, "Your dreams and hard work made Rend Lake College a reality 12 years ago and shaped it into what it is today." He indicated the dinner was intended to honor all those who, through their hard work and perseverance, made the college a reality.

Featured speakers were Dr. J.L. Buford (Mt. Vernon), a nationally recognized educator, retired Superintendent of the Mt. Vernon elementary school system and college advocate who was a key member on the Steering Committee; Dr. Howard E. Rawlinson, highly respected College Dean for both Mt. Vernon Community College and Rend Lake College, and founding Board of Trustees members Melvin Farlow (McLeansboro) and Dr. Curtis Parker (Mt. Vernon).

■ August 15, 1979 / When the Ina State Bank opened its facilities on the Rend Lake College campus, it was unique to say the least. The branch office located in the Student Center is the first of its kind in the State of Illinois and very possibly the nation.

The facility intends to offer all of the banking services provided by the Ina State Bank's main office in downtown Ina.

■ 1979-80 / Awarding of the first "President's Scholarships" to 19 scholars among the top 10 percent of recent high school graduating classes throughout the district.

■ A 2 1/2-foot tall traveling trophy will be on display during the coming year in the Administration Building thanks to Director of the Physical Plant Bob Webb and his staff.

Rend Lake College was presented the award for having the best waste water treatment plant in the state for similar institutions.

■ February 1981 / District residents are no longer in debt for Rend Lake College. The 13-year-old bonds which represented a \$3.1 million investment – the local share of the \$9.5 million total cost of building the original college facilities – were ceremoniously burned prior to the Board of Trustees

PRESIDENTIAL TIMELINE

CHARLEY HOLSTEIN
Requests December 13, 2011
contract not be renewed
after June 30, 2012

2009 - 2010

2010 - 2011

2011 - 2012

meeting. Taxpayers, many of whom were responsible for deciding by an overwhelming vote of 5,263-901 on November 18, 1967 to establish the multi-purpose community college, will receive a reduction in property tax assessed valuations.

■ July 1981 / An Honorary Degree from Rend Lake College was awarded to the United Nations Ambassador on "Jeane Jordan Kirkpatrick Day" in her hometown of Mt. Vernon.

■ 1982-83 / A concentrated effort to keep pace with modern times transformed the Mining Technology Department into the Mining and Industrial Technology Department. Programs in Industrial Electronics and Industrial Service Technology were either added to the curriculum or initiated during the past year. In addition, many specialty courses, particularly in Welding, were started to meet specific needs of the area labor force.

■ Spring 1983 / Eight graduates of Rend Lake College, Class of 1983, are recipients of tuition scholarships for outstanding academic achievement from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. Eight awards to students from one college is believed to be the most ever, considering a maximum of 63 scholarships are given out statewide to top achievers among all transfer students planning to enroll at SIUC.

■ 1983 / The RLC Business Resource and Assistance Center (BRAC) was established on-campus. A \$15,000 grant in January from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs enabled college officials to create the center "to provide training and educational programs for businesses and industries within our district," according to Dean of Vocational-Technical Education Carroll Turner. "We are hoping to expand what we already are doing with the coal industry to other businesses and industries within the district."

■ 1984-85 / Tuition increased from \$15 to \$18 per semester hour of credit.

■ December 1986 / A 20th Anniversary celebration was made part of the RLC Foundation Annual Dinner. Earlier in the year, a unique sculpture was commissioned and placed on the lawn in front of the Student Center.

■ 1986-87 / Rend Lake College entered into Correctional Education for the first time by offering classes to inmates at Menard Correctional Center in Chester after being requested to do so by state officials.

Occupational, transfer and developmental classes are available under a contract with the Illinois Department of Corrections to approximately 2,000 residents in the maximum-security facility.

■ 1988-89 / Rend Lake College receives the maximum 10-year accreditation from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. It marks the first time in its history the college has been awarded the maximum accreditation possible.

BRAUN'S LEGACY ▶ **Accreditation: 'You are a great college ... better than the community realizes'**

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE JANUARY 1989

Rend Lake College recently received the maximum 10-year accreditation that could be awarded. The comprehensive community college was cited, among many other things, for providing "excellent educational opportunities for the communities it serves.

"It is quite probable that the college is even better than the community or some college personnel realize," the report noted.

"You are a great college," added the Chairman of the evaluation team upon his departure.

Such is the legacy to be left behind by Dr. Harry J. Braun, President of the Ina-based campus since 1978. He was appointed this week to a similar position at Danville Area Community College, effective March 1.

The Rend Lake College Board of Trustees is expected to act on his resignation at its regular monthly meeting scheduled for Tuesday night (January 17).

Under Braun's direction, Rend Lake College was one of the first three institutions nationwide to be recognized in 1982 for "Exemplary Cooperation with Business and Industry" at the annual convention of the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges.

Redirection of vocational programs into more appropriate high-tech curricula helped produce a record enrollment last year, culminating with the renovation and creation of new lab facilities in recent months and the glowing, 10-year accreditation recommendation by North Central Association representatives.

"When I came here, the college had just gone through some difficult times. But with the support of a solid Board and a faculty and staff that was committed to addressing some tough issues, we made some key



'Riding wave of successes,' RLC picks regional search

NEWS RELEASE JANUARY 27, 1989

The Rend Lake College Board of Trustees will conduct a regional search and would like to have a new college President on-campus by July 1, according to Chair Allan Patton.

Following Tuesday's closed session, Dr. Patton called for a special Board meeting to be conducted February 2 at 7 p.m.

Dr. Harry J. Braun recently submitted his resignation, effective February 28, to assume the presidency of Danville Area College.

"At the present time, Rend Lake College is on top. We are riding a wave of successes," noted Patton, explaining why Trustees opted for a regional search - Illinois and surrounding states - "instead of a full-blown national search."

Tentative plans call for a search to begin after the February 21 meeting. A committee of 12-15 persons will screen applicants. Two Board members will be appointed to the screening committee, with the majority comprised of faculty and staff. "We wanted them to have a major input in this, because they are the ones who are going to be working closest with the individual we hire," Patton said. "The one thing we did not want to do is hire a replacement without a search."



Perfection: Wilkerson rewarded for 4.0 GPA

F.Y.I. BRIEF APRIL 13, 1992

RLC Ag Production student Terry Wilkerson has won a one-year scholarship to SIUC. Thanks to a 4.0 GPA, he was recipient of a \$2,500 award for the highest grade-point average among Agriculture transfers at the February 15 College Guest Day.



Kern Interim President between Braun, Astroth

NEWS RELEASE FEBRUARY 3, 1989

The Rend Lake College Board of Trustees Thursday night (February 2) named Mark S. Kern Interim President and designated a 16-member Screening Committee in its search for a successor to RLC President Harry J. Braun, who assumes a similar position at Danville Area Community College March 1.

Kern, a Ewing native, is a member of the college faculty. The 45-year-old Agriculture Instructor joined the RLC staff in 1968 – Year Two – and has served previously as College Dean and as Dean of Community Services.

Trustees Joe Scrivner and David Hurley were appointed to the committee during the special session. Non-voting Student Board Representative Chris Stubblefield also was selected to the search group, along with five faculty members, four administrators, two Academic Support staff representatives and individuals from both the Classified and Physical Plant staffs.

Chosen were: Janette Aaron, Pam Allen, Ron Appuhn, William Dill, Dr. Eugene Estes, Martha McCreery, Shirley McHaney, Diane Metzger, Mike Mullen, David Patton, Jim Peeples, Robert Ross and Ron Tremmel. President's Secretary Jean Estes will serve in a similar capacity.

The Board hopes to begin a regional search following its February 21 meeting and have the position filled by July 1.

President Braun (cont.)

personnel decisions that enabled us to move forward," Braun said.

Braun came to Rend Lake College in August 1978 from Central Arizona College, where he served as Dean of Instruction the first two years and College Dean the last two years between 1974-78. Prior to that, he was Dean of Continuing Education at Illinois Valley College from 1971-74.

He has held the position of Rend Lake College President longer than either of two full-time predecessors, Dr. James M. Snyder (1967-75) and Dr. W. Travis Martin (1975-77).

Braun is an Elder in the Christian Fellowship Church he helped start in Mt. Vernon, and is on the Board of the Jefferson County United Way, having served as Chair one year. He also served on the YMCA Board.

Statewide, he has been Chairman of the Council of Presidents and for that group's Collective Bargaining Committee.

"This has been a tremendous place to be the past 11 years," Braun commented.

"The quality of our faculty and staff is super, and the support I have had from our Board has been tremendous. I have really appreciated the support and guidance I have received from the Board members. There is a good relationship that exists between our Board and staff. Over the years, we have been able to achieve one accomplishment after another.

"I have nothing but the best to say about Rend Lake College and about the City of Mt. Vernon and the other communities within the college district," he added. "We will take with us a lot of fond memories. This is where our children prospered. They received the educational background and opportunities that will enable them to succeed in later life."

During Braun's tenure, Rend Lake College received a seven-year accreditation in 1981 – its longest-ever at that time – and the first of three consecutive (and counting) maximum 10-year awards in 1988.

Young, elementary school students when the family moved to Mt. Vernon, both children of Harry and Alna Braun are

now in college. Daughter Sarah is a junior at Bradley University majoring in Theater, while son Matt is on the wrestling team as a freshman at Eastern Illinois University.

Danville Area Community College boasts a student enrollment of approximately 4,000 students. It is situated within a community of 39,000-plus population and a district of nearly 100,000.

Braun was one of 75 nationwide applicants to replace Ronald Lingle, who left Danville Area this summer for the presidency of a North Carolina Community College.

"The Danville position attracted my interest for a number of reasons," Braun indicated. "The college is located right in the community of Danville and is very visible and involved in the economic development of the area. It provides customized training for business and industry and has a commitment to a broad, comprehensive curricula.

"Of particular interest is the location and the role within the community the college plays. I felt it was the right time in my career to pursue those challenges."

[Editor's Note: The Harry J. Braun Technology Center on the campus of Danville Area Community College was named in honor of the former DACC President on the occasion of his retirement in 1999. The original building was constructed in the early 1970s and has been expanded several times since then. A new office block and Information Systems classrooms and computer labs were added to the north and west sides in 1990. This building is home for the Technology and Information Systems Division (Manufacturing, Electronics, Drafting/Computer-Aided Design, Golf Course Equipment and Welding), Computer and Cisco Network Services and the Industrial Training Center.]

[Editor's Note: Harry J. Braun III died unexpectedly January 1, 2016 at age 74 in Findlay, OH. Following his retirement from DACC, he accepted the position of Vice President of Winebrenner Theological Seminary in Findlay and also served on the staff of New Life Assembly of God Church as Life Group Director. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Alna, his daughter and son and their families, including seven grandchildren.]

TERRY WILKERSON
Named Seventh President
Appointed April 10, 2012,
effective July 1, 2012

PRESIDENTIAL TIMELINE

2012 – 2013

2013 – 2014

2014 – 2015

PRESIDENT / 1989 - 91

Ex-pro player Astroth a hit in two 'seasons' at top of lineup

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE MAY 1989

The search for a new President for Rend Lake College ended Tuesday night (May 23) when Trustees tabbed Dr. Jonathan M. Astroth, currently Vice President of Student Services at Lincoln Land Community College, at a special Board meeting on the Ina campus.

Astroth, 38, was one of three finalists for the position from an original field of 101 applicants. His appointment becomes effective July 1.

Trustees unanimously approved a one-year contract at an annual salary of \$65,000. They met in closed session for almost 2 1/2 hours, with much of that time apparently spent waiting to confirm the appointment with Astroth, who was involved with a board meeting of his own in Springfield.

Dr. Allan Patton, chairman of the RLC Board, praised Astroth's credentials and alluded to the "gut feeling" Trustees had for his candidacy. An on-site visit last week by Board representatives confirmed those feelings.

"We were impressed with the visit, and all of the individuals we had occasion to visit with gave him outstanding recommendations," Patton said. "They endorsed his enthusiasm, ability and industriousness.

"Probably his highest recommendation came from William Law, his President there. He indicated he (Astroth) was presidential material and that he would be a President somewhere, whether he took this job or not. He felt that he (Astroth) was that talented of an individual."

Added Patton, "The Board is of the opinion we have a bright, articulate, talented young individual who should have the energy and vitality to lead this campus."

An Academic All-America selection while attending Southern Methodist University on a baseball scholarship, Astroth earned his Doctorate in Educational Administration from Illinois State University in 1981 and has been a senior-level administrator in the Illinois Community College system the past six years.

He was Dean of Instructional Services at John Wood Community College in Quincy before accepting the Lincoln Land post three years ago.

Astroth currently chairs the National

Association of Developmental Education Research Committee and last summer presented a research paper regarding basic skills assessment and course placement at the League for Innovation national conference.

The new Rend Lake College President has taught college-transfer, occupational and developmental courses.

In his present position, Astroth is responsible for counseling and advisement, assessment testing, financial aid, admissions and records, health services, placement, athletics, student activities, security and safety.

The Springfield Chapter of Professional Secretaries International honored him as the "Executive of the Year" for 1988-89.

At John Wood, between 1980 and 1986, Astroth was an English Instructor and served as Administrative Assistant to the President, Director of Baccalaureate Programs and Assistant to the Dean of Instructional Services, as well as College Dean. He also headed that school's North Central Association Self-Study Committee.

He was an English Teacher and Coach at Dwight Township High School and a member of the part-time faculty at Joliet Junior College - the oldest public, two-year college in the nation - from 1977-79, and before that spent four seasons as a professional baseball player (catcher) in the Texas Rangers organization.

Athletics always has been a big part of his life. Astroth earned eight varsity letters at Glenbard West High School, receiving all-conference acclaim in both baseball and basketball and quarterbacking an undefeated football team.

At SMU, he earned All-America playing honors, in addition to Academic All-America distinction as an English major. He was a member of Phi Eta Sigma scholastic honorary fraternity and his Bachelor's Degree was conferred with honors.

Astroth received his Master's Degree in Educational Administration from Illinois State in 1977 and his Doctorate four years later, with a concentration in Higher Education and Community Colleges.

During his time at ISU, Astroth served as the first Editor of the statewide publication, "The Community Collegian."



REND LAKE COLLEGE PRESIDENT



Fourth Presidential search down to three candidates

NEWS RELEASE MAY 3, 1989

The search for a new President for Rend Lake College has been narrowed to three candidates, according to an announcement following Tuesday's special meeting of the Board of Trustees by Dr. Allan Patton, Chairman.

Finalists who will be invited to the Ina campus May 9-11 for interviews are:

- Dr. Jonathan Astroth, Vice President for Student Services at Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield;
- Dr. Lawrence Dukes, Provost of Itasca Community College in Grand Rapids, MN;
- Dr. Barry Gowin, President of Shawnee College in Ullin.

Patton indicated RLC representatives will visit the campus of the leading candidate(s) following interviews.

"We had a great number of applicants, many of whom were very strong, very worthy candidates," Patton said. "The Board is well-pleased with our final candidates. The quality of the applicants reflects well on the reputation of the college."



Family Bond-ing: Table talk includes Ag futures

NEWS RELEASE AUGUST 8, 2007

When the Bonds sit down to dinner, after a long day on the job, they like to talk about work. In fact, they find insight and inspiration for their jobs in nightly dinner conversation.

He – Dr. Jason Bond – is a Plant Pathologist at Southern Illinois University’s School of Agriculture in Carbondale. He holds a Doctorate in Plant Health from Louisiana State University and specializes in soybean pathogens.

She – Dr. Sarah Bond – is the Applied Science and Technology Division Chair at Rend Lake College. Her Doctorate is from SIUC and her specialty is in Workforce Education and Development, specifically Ag Education.

The two talked about their labor and love for the field while collaborating roles for the recent Syngenta Learning Center Field Day at RLC. The event welcomed growers, producers, retailers, chemical consultants and distribution representatives to learn about trends and advancements in chemicals, seed technology and application.

She coordinated the event with Syngenta and was on-hand to ensure it went smoothly for the roughly 150 guests in attendance. He was there to talk about university trials over the past couple of years that deal with diseases affecting soybeans in Southern Illinois.

(Continued at far right on next page)

President Astroth (cont.)

The new RLC Chief is a member of the Illinois Council of Community College Administrators, National Association of Student Personnel Administrators and the Illinois Association of Personalized Learning Programs.

Volunteer community service activities Astroth has been involved with include the annual Martin Luther King Recruitment Fair and American Cancer Society fundraiser. He is a member of the National Arbor Foundation, Church Session and the Sister Cities International Site Selection Committee. His interests include sports, golf, hunting, conservation and antiques.

Astroth is the fourth full-time President of the comprehensive community college since its inception in 1967, succeeding Dr. James M. Snyder, Dr. W. Travis Martin and Dr. Harry J. Braun.

Braun, who held the position the past 10 1/2 years, submitted his resignation in January to accept a similar position at Danville Area College. RLC Instructor Mark S. Kern, a former College Dean, is serving as Interim President until Astroth’s anticipated arrival July 1.

ANNUAL REPORT ▶ Approaching (.)400 (days) – RLC a hit in first season under new manager

REND LAKE COLLEGE F.Y.I. AUGUST 1990

If the past 13 months in the life of Rend Lake College is any indication, the ex-ballplayer is a hit as a College President.

Dr. Jonathan M. Astroth, former collegiate All-America baseball player and major-league prospect as a catcher in the Texas Rangers organization, assumed the RLC leadership position on July 1, 1989.

The annual Board Workshop, conducted Saturday, August 4, 1990, was the second under his direction and just happened to fall on the 400th day of his tenure at the comprehensive community college.

And what a first year-plus it has been!

A lineup of the college’s recent accomplishments includes:

✓ A record enrollment with 61,833 credit hours generated and full-time equivalency (FTE) topping the 2,000 barrier for the first time at 2,061.

✓ The first RLC operating budget in excess of \$6 million and total expenditures in excess of \$10 million, another first.

✓ Financial aid to RLC students expected to top \$2 million after reaching \$1,978,783 at last report (1988-89).

✓ A banner College Bowl season, including a fourth Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market title in five tries.

✓ National recognition for the *RLC Times*, the student newspaper which claimed first-place honors from the American Scholastic Press Association.

✓ Co-hosting of a National Ridge Till Conference in Davenport, IA with Central Community College (NE).

✓ Tremendous growth in the newly established JTPA (Job Training Partnership Act) Client Service Center on-campus.

✓ Creation of “Project First Class,” to help improve recruitment of minority students.

✓ Reorganization of the Center for Business and Community Services to better serve district needs.

✓ Completion of a new Televideo Receiving and Distribution Center (satellite system).

✓ Further advancement into the high-tech world of computers, with such recent purchases as software for the use of interactive videodiscs to teach Chemistry lab courses; computers for freshman Rhetoric and Composition courses; establishment of a new computer lab for other courses, and networking to improve Cooperative Education and Job Placement functions.

✓ The most successful “Career Day” and “RLC Day at the Mall” in the college’s history.

✓ Statewide recognition of the college’s “Ready for Reading Partnership” and Coordinator Barbara Bauernfeind.

ADMINISTRATIVE TIMELINE

Dr. HOWARD RAWLINSON
College Dean
1967 - August 31, 1972

PAUL M. FITCH
Business Manager
[P-T Treasurer '67] 1968 - 1973

JAMES R. MCGHEE
Dean of Adult Education
and Community Services
July 1, 1969 -

ARDELL W. KIMMEL
Dean of Vocational-Technical
Education
October 1970 -

JAMES F. YATES
Dean of Student Services
1967 - May 1976

RONALD C. KRUPPA
Dean of Vocational-Technical
September 1968 - August 1970

1967 - 1968 1968 - 1969 1969 - 1970 1970 - 1971

✓ Statewide recognition for RLC students Mark Caldwell, first in Basic Electricity competition; Kevin R. Przygoda, first in Post-Secondary Diesel Equipment Mechanics competition, and six art exhibitors at the Illinois Community College Juried Art Exhibition in Kankakee.

✓ Improved internal communications – the North Central Association visitation team cited a need in this area – with the advent of **Rend Lake College F.Y.I.**, a weekly publication during the academic year.

DEPARTURE ▶

Astroth leaves after two years to build Heartland C.C. in Bloomington-Normal

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 1991

Dr. Jonathan M. Astroth, the fourth full-time President in the 24-year history of Rend Lake College, will help build the newest institution of higher education in Illinois, Heartland Community College.

Astroth recently informed RLC Board members he has accepted a similar position with the two-year college created to serve the Bloomington-Normal area, effective July 1.

Official announcement of the appointment is expected to be made today (April 8) by a Heartland Board elected last fall. His letter of resignation will be submitted for consideration at the regularly scheduled April 23 RLC Board of Trustees meeting.

A special, closed session of the RLC Board has been called for Tuesday evening, presumably to discuss the direction Trustees will take in filling the presidency.

Astroth became President of Rend Lake College July 1, 1989. Predecessors were Dr. James M. Snyder (1967-75), Dr. W. Travis Martin (1975-78) and Dr. Harry J. Braun (1978-89).

The new Heartland President is familiar with Central Illinois, having served as a Vice President at Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield before coming to RLC and at John Wood C.C. in Quincy.

Word of Astroth's departure leaked to area media last week and caught many area residents, including Rend Lake College students and staff, by surprise.

"Rend Lake College has been very satisfying and enjoyable to me, professionally and personally," the 40-year-old Astroth was quoted as saying in the *Mt. Vernon Register-News*. He complimented the Board and staff for their efforts. "They won't miss a beat without me," he added.

Astroth cited the challenge of helping to build a college from the ground up as incentive for accepting the position. He reportedly was pursued by the Heartland Board for the post.

"We are going to have to feel our way along. For this fall, the Board already has contracted with two adjacent colleges to provide instruction," Astroth told *The Southern Illinoisan*.

RLC Trustee Dr. Allan Patton told *The Southern Illinoisan*, "We are sorry to see him go, but at the same time we are glad to see him have the opportunity to build a community college from the ground up. Jon Astroth is a very bright young man, and while he was with Rend Lake College we think he showed great leadership ability."

The *Benton Evening News* quoted Patton as saying, "He did an outstanding job. He was energetic, articulate and was a well-informed young man."

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Astroth later informed RLC Trustees at their June 18 meeting, "I want the Board to know, I definitely will miss this place."

The following day, he added, "It has been a good two years from my standpoint, also. I have really enjoyed my two years at Rend Lake. (The Heartland position) is the only job in Illinois I would have left this institution for. But the opportunity to start a college from scratch is not one that comes along every day."

The Rend Lake College F.Y.I. for June 24-July 8, 1991, implied Astroth "was practically 'driven' out of town." The avid golfer was presented with a graphite driver by members of the RLC Board of Trustees at a reception in his honor at the Rend Lake Golf Course Restaurant.

Astroth and his wife, Kim, also received a painting of an old Southern Illinois barn done by RLC student Joyce Hails of Bluford and cash from the staff.

[**Editor's Note:** Founded in 1990, Heartland Community College today boasts campuses located in Normal – the main campus opened in 2000 – Pontiac and Lincoln – and a population base of 190,000-plus district resident. Heartland's first and only President, Dr. Jonathan M. Astroth, heads a fully accredited community college with an FY2008 enrollment of 8,800 credit students and 6,215 noncredit students; there are 745 total employees, including 244 faculty / staff and 184 adjunct faculty members.]

* - * - *

Family Bond-ing (cont.)

"We provide unbiased research data to producers who are here," he said.

"This Learning Center Field Day is a wonderful opportunity for them," she said. "University, community college, businesses and industry experts are all in one location, so producers see how the whole process works together. It's nice to see it come full circle."

He said not only do they talk about agriculture at the dinner table, but they probably talk about it too much. "It's nice to have someone who, when we talk about a particular issue or when something really great happens, we don't have to start with all the background information," he said.

"We have such a good baseline knowledge of what each other does. It is really nice and refreshing to be able to bounce ideas off of a partner. There have been several times when we have been able to generate some ideas that we take from each other and springboard in our own individual workplaces," she said. "It's been wonderful."

"One thing we were discussing at the dinner table last night is that we need to make sure there are properly trained agriculturists for the future of all the companies," she said. "Whether it is future leaders in business or agronomics, how can the community college and the university address what companies need? So, batting ideas around between us helps us see how we can help."

Their jobs aren't work at all, they explained. Ironically, work is saved for weekends at home. "We really enjoy what we do," he said. "The long hours and miles we put in traveling, recruiting or things of that nature is really time well spent."



Estes works 15 years with three Presidents and Board

NOVEMBER 1993

Jean Estes, a loyal employee who has kept the top office running efficiently and effectively through the tenure of three College Presidents and two interim situations, in addition to serving as Secretary to the Board of Trustees for 15 years, has submitted her resignation.

The Board is expected to act on her request November 9, effective April 30, 1994.

In thanking the Board, faculty, administrators, academic and office support and physical plant staffs, she said the experience "has been professionally rewarding and personally enjoyable. I hope I have contributed to the smooth functioning of the President's Office and development of the college over the past 15 years."

She added, "The support and understanding of the Board and staff during the past two years (following the unexpected death of her husband, Wayne, August 8, 1991) has reinforced my feeling people at RLC are caring and helpful."

Estes was hired as Executive Secretary in April 1979 by Dr. Harry J. Braun. She would serve in a similar capacity under Dr. Jonathan Astroth and Mark S. Kern and interims Kern and Dr. Keith R. Lape.

While at RLC, she returned to school part-time and earned an Associate Degree and then a Bachelor's Degree from SIUC. In October 1991, she also was named Title III Director, overseeing a \$5 million federal grant.

President Astroth (cont.)

[Editor's Note: Astroth retired as Heartland C.C. President after 19 years in August 2010. Earlier that year, in May, Dedication Ceremonies were conducted for the Astroth Community Education Center and Challenger Learning Center.

He did not stay "retired" long. Lincoln College announced Astroth as its 20th President on August 16, 2010. He accepted on an

interim basis and was elated to hand over the reins to John Blackburn two years later; the 21st President had been a member of the Lincoln College Board of Trustees while guiding Country Financial as CEO since 2001 to Fortune 1000 Company status.]

[Editor's Note: Jon Astroth's father, Lavere L. "Liz" Astroth, served as Executive Director of the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) from 1978-1991. He was an Assistant Executive Director from 1967-78.]



A Gold Mine of knowledge next door

ILLINOIS COUNTRY LIVING JULY 2004
ILLINOIS COMMENTARY / GARY DAVIS, ICCTA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Twenty-five years ago, Americans could make a good living by combining initiative with a high school diploma. Today, however, 85 percent of the jobs that support a middle-class lifestyle require more than a high school education.

That's why Illinois has a love affair with its 48 community colleges. Located within easy driving distance of every resident, Illinois community colleges provide an affordable path to employment in the new millennium.

More than 100 years ago, visionaries at Joliet Junior College (JJC) foresaw the need for affordable postsecondary education in Illinois. When they opened JJC they started a movement that has led to the creation of more than 1,200 community and technical colleges throughout the United States.

Today, every high school district is attached to one or more public community college. The colleges offer the first two years of a Baccalaureate Degree. They also offer programs that prepare students to enter the workforce after only a few months or a year or two of training.

The economic impact of Illinois Community Colleges is nothing short of startling. Each year the colleges add more than \$30 billion to the state's economy. Community college students earn an average of 23 percent on the time and money they invest in their classes. In their lifetimes, community college graduates earn \$345,000 more than

if they had never attended college.

Because community college alumni get better jobs, they pay more taxes. Those additional tax revenues more than match what taxpayers originally pay to operate the college. In fact, taxpayers get their community college investment back at the rate of 13 percent per year.

Because they are located where we live, community colleges give us a chance to return to school whatever our age might be. The average Illinois community college student is 31 and many of us are on the far side of 50. My last community college class was in PowerPoint. It was affordable, convenient and it was offered at a time that fit my schedule. Moreover, my instructor gave me her name and number and when I had a follow-up question last week, she helped me get the answer I needed. Now that's service!

In addition to offering pre-baccalaureate and vocational courses, community colleges prepare students to study at the college level. They offer "enrichment" courses that improve the quality of life of persons who don't happen to live in a university town. By teaching English as a Second Language, community colleges move immigrants into productive jobs.

Community colleges hire only the professors they will need; as a result, their productivity is unmatched in American higher education. Many community college professors also work in the profession they teach; i.e., community college students study law from practicing attorneys.

Dr. PHILIP G. WARD
Academic Dean
July 1, 1972 -
August 1976

B. J. "SKIP" WITUNSKI
Business Manager
1973 - 1981
[Assistant Bus. Mgr. 1970-73]

ADMINISTRATIVE TIMELINE

1971 - 1972

1972 - 1973

1973 - 1974

1974 - 1975

PRESIDENT / 1991 - 2008

Homegrown product Kern accomplishes much in 17 years

REND LAKE COLLEGE F.Y.I. SEPTEMBER 3-8, 1991

A new era dawns today (Tuesday, September 3) as Rend Lake College's Silver Anniversary celebration takes on special meaning for longtime Instructor and Administrator Mark S. Kern.

Kern becomes the fifth full-time President in the 25-year history of Rend Lake College when he officially assumes command. He meets with the President's Council around 2:45 p.m. today after being named to the top administrative post by the RLC Board of Trustees this past Wednesday.

"I am very excited and pleased," about the opportunity ahead, Kern told WCEE-TV Channel 13 Reporter Ken Thurmond in a television interview Friday afternoon.

"I grew up in this area and that makes it even more special. I really believe this college has been a wonderful asset for this area. To be in a leadership role at the college is a great opportunity.

"Probably the biggest thing the college does for this area is provide a quality college education within driving distance of home for most of our students. Some people, if they weren't able to attend college here, would not be able to go (to college) otherwise." He also cited the cost factor.

Asked his opinion of why RLC enrollment has climbed steadily in recent years, Kern noted a greater public awareness of college offerings and the fact "our staff has done an excellent job of recruiting students in the various programs.

"We also have a reputation of being a quality institution," added Kern, "and, to be quite honest, the economy has had a lot to do with that, too. Many people who are without work have taken advantage of the opportunity to return to school and get an education in another field."

He indicated one of his first priorities as President will be implementation of the Title III Grant recently awarded to the college. "That will be one of the first things to get my attention," he said.

First-year funding of the anticipated four-year grant will be worth \$346,731, effective October 1. The proposed four-year project, if funded as expected, would be worth nearly \$1.5 million.

The grant funded under the U.S. Department of Education's "Strengthening Institutions Program" will result in an improved,

campus-wide management information system (MIS), a computer-assisted basic skills program and eventual expansion and diversification of the college's financial base during a time of rising costs and declining resources.

Kern admitted he is eager to begin his new job.

"There are a lot of good people here to work with. I am looking forward to working with them and the challenges ahead," Kern told the TV reporter.

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE AUGUST 1991

Mark S. Kern will reap the rewards of approximately 23 years of service to Rend Lake College when he assumes the presidency next week.

Following a 1 1/2-hour closed session Wednesday night (August 28), the RLC Board of Trustees capped a four-month search by appointing Kern as the fifth full-time President in the 25-year history of the Ina-based community college.

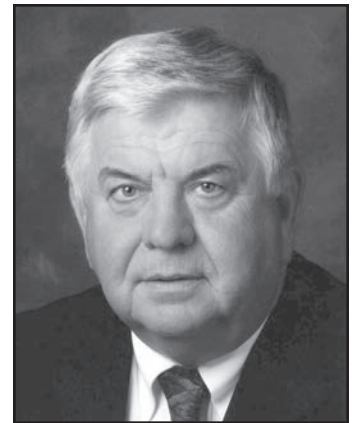
The 47-year-old Kern, a lifelong Franklin County resident with a Ewing rural route address (Snowflake), has served in a variety of capacities since he was hired as an Agriculture Instructor the year after the college was formed.

In reality, he succeeds the man who replaced him. Kern was appointed Interim President in March 1989, prior to the arrival of Dr. Jonathan Astroth that July. Astroth submitted his resignation after two years to become the founding President of Heartland Community College in Bloomington.

Most recently, Kern has been the Department Chair for Agriculture, Architecture and Automotive since 1990. He served previously as the AAA Department head from 1970-74 before being promoted to Dean of Community Services from 1974-78 and Dean of Instruction / College Dean between 1978 and 1987.

He taught Agri-Business classes for one year at Wabash Valley College in Mt. Carmel before coming to RLC, and for three years prior to that worked in the loan area for Farmers Home Administration and Benton Community Bank.

The new Rend Lake College President is a graduate of both Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Industries



REND LAKE COLLEGE PRESIDENT



Through the years . . .

- ◆ 1968 - 1970
Agriculture Instructor
- ◆ 1970 - 1974
AAA Department Chair
- ◆ 1974 - 1978
Dean of Community Services
- ◆ 1978 - 1987
Dean of Instruction/College
- ◆ 1988 - 1990
Agriculture Instructor
- ◆ 1989 / March - June
Interim President
- ◆ 1990 - 1991
AAA Department Chair
- ◆ 1991 - 2008
Rend Lake College President



Kern joining Benton Area Community Development

F.Y.I. JANUARY 1992

RLC President Mark S. Kern is one of 12 prominent individuals named to the newly created Benton Area Community Development Committee by Mayor Gale Dawson. The Benton City Council opted to drop out of the Rend Lake Economic Development Association, at an annual savings of \$10,000, and establish its own group to seek industry and business development.



Student evaluation: From Plow to President

THE PRESSING TIMES MAY 1997

I've been a student at Rend Lake College for two years now, and until a few days ago, I didn't know who the President of RLC was, let alone his duties. I know I'm not the only one with questions on this subject, so I decided to talk to the man himself, and hopefully get some insight into some of these questions.

Mark Kern, of Benton (Ewing), has been the President of the college for 5 1/2 years. Although he has only been President for a few years, he has been employed by the college since 1968. Considering RLC opened its doors in 1967, Kern has pretty well been involved with the school during its whole existence.

RLC did not have an Agriculture Department prior to his hiring, and with that in the minds of school officials, he was to be (one of the men) to start it. After teaching Ag classes for two years, he became department head, a title he held for four years.

"I looked at it as a great challenge to help start the Ag program," Kern said. "My Dad (a local educator and farmer) told me I was crazy, but I did it anyway. It turned out to be the best move I ever made."

Under his job title, theoretically Kern is in charge of all of the school, but as we all know, that deed would be impossible. Kern himself, though, states his two major responsibilities are keeping the school budget

(Continued at far right on next page)

President Kern (cont.)

(1966), and the University of Illinois, with a Master of Science Degree in Agricultural Economics (1968).

During his tenure with the college he will now oversee, Kern played a major part in such accomplishments as a seven-year accreditation from North Central Association; recognition from the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges as one of the first three institutions honored nationally for Outstanding Service to Industry; establishment of a Community Coordinator system; the cooperative efforts between Franklin and Jefferson County 4-H programs and the Rend Lake Conservancy District in building shared facilities on campus, and the addition of many educational programs.

Kern farmed in partnership with his father, Frank, for many years and presently owns and operates a 660-acre farm with 100 head of beef cows.

In cooperation with the Federal Soil Conservation Service, he has established one of the few plots in Illinois of warm season grass, which is being evaluated to determine its value as a summer pasture for cattle and has attracted widespread attention.

Kern has been honored previously as the Franklin County 4-H "Outstanding Alumnus" and Franklin County Soil Conservation "Farmer of the Year" and was one of three Illinoisans selected for the Cooperative Extension Cow Tour in 1987.

He also is a past Vice President and Secretary of the Illinois Council of Community College Administrators, a past member of the Benton Consolidated High School Board of Education and a past member of the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee and Administrative Board at First United Methodist Church in Benton.

He and his wife, Lana, are the parents of five children – Frank, a commercial pilot; Eric, a senior Business major at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale; Brian, a senior at Benton Consolidated High School; Jason, a BCHS freshman, and Megan, who is in kindergarten.

Kern's predecessors include Dr. James

M. Snyder, the first Rend Lake College President who served from 1967-75; Dr. W. Travis Martin, 1975-78; Dr. Harry J. Braun, 1978-89, and Astroth, 1989-91.

Dr. Keith R. Lape, the college's Vice President, has been serving as Interim President since the departure of Astroth.

Kern was selected from an original list of 71 candidates. He will be paid an annual salary of \$70,000.

Dr. Allan Patton, a college Trustee since 1979, was among the candidates before withdrawing from consideration.

Although the motion was to make the appointment effective "next week," it is presumed Kern officially will begin his presidency September 3, when classes resume following the Labor Day holiday weekend.

Rend Lake College is celebrating its Silver Anniversary year throughout the 1991-92 academic year.



✓ In May 2004, Kern became the first person to be recognized for 35 years of full-time service to Rend Lake College. He already had served as President longer than any of his predecessors. In fact, he had served 22 of his 35 years in one of the top two administrative positions.

When he went to college, he did so with the intentions of going into agricultural banking. Following graduation, however, he noticed Wabash Valley College had an opening for an Ag Instructor and, although it was not in his original plans, he decided he might enjoy teaching.

He came to Rend Lake College one year later, eventually being promoted to AAA Department Chair, Dean of Community Services, Dean of Instruction and President.

"I consider myself a very lucky person," said Kern. "You have to be a little bit lucky to be a college President, especially in your home area."

✓ The Southern Illinois farmer-turned-RLC President was recipient of the 2001 Statewide Commercial Producers Award.

✓ Hired in Year 2 to help start the RLC Agriculture program, he has played a major part in enrollment growth – from 765 students in 1968-69 to a Fall 2003 record

ROBERT L. GRAHAM
Dean of Student Services
1975 - 1980

Dr. KENNETH J. LASALLE
Dean of Instruction
January 6, 1977 - 1978

CHERYL FOLEY
Dean of Community Service
Fall 1978 -

1975 - 1976

1976 - 1977

1977 - 1978

1978 - 1979

enrollment of 5,283. The Ag program even had to survive a tornado which destroyed its original facilities in Bonnie Grade School.

✓ He was responsible for initiating the first Advisory Council – comprised of community leaders actively involved in various fields of agriculture who provided valuable input for college staff and programs – and Cooperative Education (on-job training) programs, both of which are still in existence for almost all career-technical programs.

✓ Introduced the Community Service / Community Education concept as Dean of Community Services.

✓ During Kern's tenure as President, the college's Operating Fund Balance increased from \$600,000 to over \$2 million by 2004.

✓ Three different Federal Title III "Strengthening Institutions" Grants netted the college approximately \$5 million and brought drastic improvements in many areas, including fund-raising through the RLC Foundation, campus-wide computerization and the Wireless Communications program.

✓ RLC Foundation assets have grown from \$120,000 in 1991 to \$3.4 million in 2004 and \$5 million by 2008. Approximately 65 endowed scholarships are awarded annually.

✓ The college received the maximum 10-year accreditation awarded from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools in Spring 1999 and was well-prepared to match that accomplishment in Fall 2008.

✓ Campus additions which were built at no additional expense to taxpayers include:

- The Aquatics Center, a \$2.6 million facility which features a six-lane, 75-foot pool with access for the physically challenged, therapy pool, whirlpool, shower and locker rooms and an outdoor patio / entertainment area.

- RLC Foundation Children's Center, which provides practical lab experiences for students in the Early Childhood Education program and child care for infants, toddlers and preschoolers of students, faculty and staff, as well as other district residents.

- Staff Clock Tower, a showpiece in the center of campus funded by donations from faculty, staff and former employees.

- RLC Sports Center, which includes The Hitting Zone, a baseball/softball training complex for area youth plus college teams, and indoor facilities for Warrior / Lady Warrior volleyball, tennis and wrestling.

- Outdoor track and field complex.

- The Mark S. Kern Applied Science Cen-

ter, a 22,300-square-foot facility named at the time of his retirement. It houses the Ag Business, Ag Production and Management, Ag Mechanics, Heavy Equipment Technology and Diesel Technology programs.

- And the newest addition to the campus at the time of his retirement, the Mining Technology Center as Rend Lake College prepared to re-invent itself for a second venture as a Midwest educational and training leader for the coal-mining industry.

✓ Major off-campus additions include:

- The Rend Lake College MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon, which combines college classrooms and programs – Studio RLC Paul Mitchell Partner School (Cosmetology); Therapeutic Massage; Certified Nurse Assistant; Child Care Resource and Referral; Kumon Center – retail stores, two of which are operated by the college, including the RLC Golf Outlet, and One-Stop State of Illinois service agencies which rent space.

- RLC Murphy-Wall Pinckneyville Center, serving the needs of Perry County students and industry.

✓ Major improvements to the physical plant include a complete remodeling of the Dr. Allen Y. Baker Administration Building, more than doubling it in size; renovation of the RLC Theatre, and the addition of a North Road, which was in original campus plans.

Also, renovation of all roofs, parking lots and heating and plumbing systems.

✓ Among numerous programs implemented under a Kern presidency: Studio RLC, the first Paul Mitchell Partner School affiliated with a public college anywhere in the United States; Therapeutic Massage; first-rate kitchen production facilities as part of the Culinary Arts program; Wireless Communications Technology; Heavy Equipment Technology; Graphic Design; Radiologic Technology, and Horticulture.

✓ Record-high enrollments at various times throughout 17 years, in particular five of the last six years.

SUMMARIZING FOUR YEARS ▶ **With retirement looming for Kern, life at RLC kept getting better and better**

President Mark S. Kern frequently would take advantage of an annual spring dinner to remind Trustees, faculty and staff of just how busy the Rend Lake College family had been the previous 12 months, to the benefit of a quality, deserving student body.

Consider the following excerpts from



Plow to President (cont.)

balanced and keeping good public relations with area legislators and the community. "If I leave the school and it's in the red (in debt), I'd consider myself a failure," Kern said.

Public relations has turned out to be one of Kern's strong points. The RLC Foundation had \$120,000 in its purse at the beginning of his presidency and now has over \$1.2 million. In that first year, the school offered 50 scholarships per year to students, and now it offers well over 100 . . .

. . . Throughout his tenure, Kern has had extra incentives to help get things accomplished on campus; not in the form of money, but in children. At the end of this semester, Kern will have had three of his children graduate from RLC.

"The fact I have had kids going to this college has motivated me greatly," Kern said. "It makes me work harder to know that what I do at work will have an immediate effect on my kids. I also get a good report on what's happening with the students first hand."

Kern hopes to continue his Presidency for a few more years, and from there, what he does is up in the air. "I might try to become the head of a fund-raising organization after I am done at Rend Lake College because of the experience and success in raising money I have been through here," Kern said. "I might do that, or move away to another state, or I might just stay here on our family farm."

As for his current happiness at RLC, he sums it up pretty clearly.

"I honestly would rather be the President here than at Harvard University," Kern said.

– Brett O'Daniell



Sweet 16: Kern proudest of facilities, no stoppages

THE PRESSING TIMES MAY 1998

When asked what RLC President Mark Kern is most proud of as far as his presidency, he breaks the answer down into two categories.

The first category is the facilities. He points out that two major accomplishments are the Aquatics Center and the upcoming Child Care facility. The two buildings together cost \$3 million, without any increase in local taxes.

RLC was the first community college in the state to complete its Master Plan. Phase I was completed in 1970; Phase II was completed in 1972.

"That was wonderful," said Kern, "but it also had a liability with it, and that it is if all of your buildings are built within a two-year span, they all wear out at the same time. So we've done major repairs during my administration to the existing facilities. Practically every building has been re-roofed. We've spent over \$400,000 on plumbing. We've resurfaced all the parking lots."

Another accomplishment President Kern is proud of is that during 16 years of top-level administration, he has had only one grievance filed against him. RLC has never had a problem negotiating with the union and has never had work halted due to a strike . . .

. . . The Child Care facility will be located on the northwest end of the RLC Campus, making it accessible to parents, yet far enough away

(Continued at far right on next page)

President Kern (cont.)

his last four Board-Faculty-Staff Dinners, during which Kern summarized some of the more noteworthy achievements of a typical year in the life of an innovative, highly successful, comprehensive community college.

2004-05

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE MAY 2005

Prior to the awards presentation at the annual Board-Faculty-Staff Dinner, President Mark S. Kern provided the 314 in attendance with highlights from the past year:

- "We have always tried to recruit some of the better students in the district. This year, we have 35 High Achievers attending Rend Lake College," Kern said. High Achievers are students who scored 27 or better on the ACT test. RLC covers tuition, fees and books for two years for these students.

- In January, the Culinary Arts program moved into a renovated kitchen featuring all new equipment. Kern said he believes it is the finest of its kind in Southern Illinois.

- The new Applied Science Center is scheduled to be completed this summer. This facility will allow for the expansion of several programs.

- Kern also mentioned the \$1.8 million Federal Title III Grant which the college was awarded late last year and includes a matching, 1-for-1 Endowment Option totaling \$365,000 (20 percent), which could increase Foundation funds by \$1 million in 20 years if the college is able to raise \$73,000 annually during the grant's five-year duration. Kern said in six months \$192,000 (53 percent) of the total already has been raised.

- Kern also noted that in January, the college agreed to do most of the employee training for Continental Tire in Mt. Vernon, the largest employer in the college district.

- Rend Lake College waived almost \$363,000 in tuition and fees through the dual credit program, which allows in-district high school students to earn college credit for classes they take during a normal school day. These classes are offered tuition-free and at a reduced textbook rental rate.

- The college distributed more than

\$300,000 in scholarships this year.

- A new Fitness Center opened at Mt. Vernon Township High School. Rend Lake College installed the equipment and more than 1,200 credit hours have been generated at the facility to date.

2005-06

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE MAY 2006

RLC President Mark S. Kern highlighted some of the college's accomplishments over the last year as part of the annual Board-Faculty-Staff Dinner. He noted the new Applied Science Center has been operational since Fall Semester 2005. This facility has allowed for the expansion of several programs, including Heavy Equipment, Diesel Technology and Agricultural Mechanics.

This building played a major part in the implementation of the Heavy Equipment Technician program, which is a partnership with Fabick Caterpillar aimed at training technicians for their dealerships and others.

Other highlights noted by Kern include:

- The creation of the Illinois Law Enforcement Academy at RLC, a program which allows pre-service officers to complete their Police Training Institute requirements prior to being hired by a law enforcement agency.

- Savings of more than \$484,000 by parents of high school students in the district through various dual-credit offerings.

- The Wireless Communications Technology program is a reality, with about 20 students expected in the program in the fall.

- The donation of a 246-acre farm by the late Dr. Barbara Luchsinger, an English professor who worked for 50 years to educate the students of Mt. Vernon Community College and Rend Lake College.

- The training program at Continental Tire North America's Mt. Vernon facility is in its second year. Employees can undergo different forms of training, and a second-year Business Degree is available on-site.

- The purchase of a tract of land south of the RLC MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon, which could be used for future expansion.

- The creation of two classrooms and a laboratory at the RLC MarketPlace for the Certified Nurse Assistant program.

CARROLL TURNER
Dean of Vocational-Technical
Education
1979 - August 10, 1996

Dr. ROBERT H. SPUHLER
Dean of Student Services
July 1980 - 84
Dean of Administrative Srv.
1981 - 84

ADMINISTRATIVE TIMELINE

1979 - 1980

1980 - 1981

1981 - 1982

1982 - 1983

- The Kumon Learning Center has been created at the MarketPlace. This after-school educational program not only benefits area students but also can act as an economic development tool, helping entice industries and professionals to locate in the area.

- Three overflow crowds came out to see the Spring Musical, "Beauty and the Beast."

2006-07 ▶

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE MAY 2007

At this year's Board-Faculty-Staff Dinner, RLC President Mark S. Kern offered many points of progress the college has realized in the past year alone.

The list included everything from a partnership with Fabick Caterpillar in the Heavy Equipment Technology program to the first students to graduate from Wireless Communications Technology.

Kern talked about the establishment of a Kumon Learning Center, an internationally known supplemental educational program for grades K-12, at the RLC MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon. It is one of only two Kumon Learning Centers in the country affiliated with a community college and already is helping 70 young students.

He also spoke proudly of the RLC Foundation partially funding class trips to New York City and Jamaica; several Academic All-America student-athletes; the Practical Nursing program reaching the Foundation's Silver Seal status by raising more than \$40,000 in scholarship funding; the establishment of an Employee Leadership Institute; the construction of an Olympic-configured running track, and a new Miner Training program in the Applied Science and Technology Division.

He mentioned the RLC Foundation Challenge Grant reaching \$1.2 million in generated support; Benton resident Margot McAfoos being named by the Illinois Community College Trustees Association as a Lifelong Learning Award Winner; top-notch speakers Tim Elmore and Sam Glenn giving on-campus presentations; Mt. Vernon Walgreen's Plant Manager Chris Johnson being named "Alumnus of the Year"; the creation of four-year dual-credit math sequence programs at Christopher High School and Webber Township High School; doubling the size of the Hitting Zone with the addition of the indoor RLC Sports Center training facility; the first-time Forensics Team; establishment of valuable internships at Continental Tire North America and American Coal, and

four staff members who reached beyond the \$10,000 level of giving to the Foundation.

The RLC Foundation's fund balance reached \$4.3 million in February. Kern said only 150 out of 1,200 community colleges nationwide have assets of \$1 million or more.

The Men's Cross-Country team grabbed its fourth national championship, but it was the first time the program was competing at the NJCAA Division I level. Also, the Laker Girls Dance Team won a national championship and the RLC Cheerleading squad won division and overall honors in its competitive debut in Indianapolis.

Kern said the efforts by Division Chairs at the college through dual-credit partnerships with area high schools helped students and their families realize a savings of more than \$480,000 in college tuition.

Last, but certainly not least, he added the nationwide publication, *Community College Week*, named Rend Lake College the fastest growing community college of its size in the United States.

A final point of emphasis, "I have spent 38 years at the college and started my career here in the Vocational program," Kern commented. "I have never seen the employment opportunities in selected two-year vocational and certificate programs be as good as they are right now in Southern Illinois."

2007-08 ▶

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE MAY 2008

Mark S. Kern spoke about the changes and growth the college has experienced in the past year during his final Board-Faculty-Staff Dinner as RLC President.

His list included the creation of a Radiologic Technology program; expanding Associate Degree Nursing to serve 80 students; Practical Nursing graduates achieving a 100 percent pass rate on state licensure examinations; becoming a long-term partner with global agriculture leader Syngenta; renovating Culinary Arts facilities for the second time in four years to serve more students in a second teaching lab, turning the former retail store space into a meeting and dining facility for Culinary Arts training; renovating the Learning Resource Center and North Oasis; creating a Pre-K Center at the RLC MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon; building a short-range golf facility on campus; renovating the RLC Theatre, with four-night sellouts of both "Grease" and "Cinderella" productions; the addition of new Vice Presidents Charley Holstein (Stu-



Sweet 16: Kern (cont.)

from the traffic of the college to keep the children out of harm's way. The capacity will be about 40 children at a time. But that isn't the only purpose it will provide. "A portion of the building is designed as a classroom," said Kern. "It has a one-way mirror for instructional purposes. The primary purpose it will provide is for our own Child Care program." Kern realizes many people will say with a campus of over 2,000 students, handling just 40 children at a time is just the tip of the iceberg.

"We have a lot of students," said Kern, "who only have Tuesday-Thursday classes – or Monday-Wednesday-Friday classes – or only morning or afternoon classes. We really feel we can take care of probably 200-plus students who have a need for child care services, but only 40 at a time."

"We've known about the need for about 15 years. We literally have had to send out memos to get people to stop bringing their children to class. Here we have some people wanting to go to college and they don't have any place to leave their children, so they bring them along and you hate to tell them not to do it. But on the other hand, you have a responsibility to the other students in class if these young children are interrupting somebody else's education; we've got to do something about it."

Added Kern: "We've have the need for a long time. If I had an apology to make to anyone, it is 'Why has it taken so long?' The reason is we didn't feel we could pull \$400,000 out of our educational fund to pay for a Child Care Center. Finally, we were able to raise it through private donations."

– Travis Donoho



RLC President named State Cattleman of Year

BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 2002

Gentleman Farmer Mark Kern, better known as the President of Rend Lake College, was named Illinois Cattleman of the Year after being awarded the 2001 Commercial Producer Award from the Illinois Beef Association.



'You can always count on Rend Lake College'

BOARD MEETING MARCH 2003

In a "Thank-you" letter from Charlie Morris to President Mark S. Kern and Foundation CEO Pat Mitchell, the writer referred to an "excellent presentation" to the Mt. Vernon Rotary Club March 18:

"The presentations were the best we have had in a long time," the program coordinator indicated. "Rotarians were impressed and appreciative. Also, thank you for responding on very short notice. As I said in your introduction, 'Rend Lake College always comes through. You can always count on Rend Lake College.' "Thanks to the Foundation for sponsoring the STRIVE Scholarship. It has a positive impact on the lives of students."



Presidents, ICCB in Ina

OCTOBER 1973

Rend Lake College hosted the Council of College Presidents and Illinois Community College Board for their regular monthly meetings in October 1973.

The Presidents Council toured the new Ina facilities.

President Kern (cont.)

dent Services) and Larry West (Finance and Administration); \$1.072 million in state coal development funds for a Mining Technology Training Center, and \$1.6 million in federal community job-based training grants for the education of a mining workforce.

He noted 5,000 students enrolled in 12,700 tuition-free hours of dual-credit classes which saved in-district students and families more than \$880,000 in RLC tuition. The college is on track to exceed 80,000 credit hours this year as it has set record enrollments in five of the past six years. The south side of the Advanced Technology Center is undergoing upgrades, and the vantage point to the campus from Interstate 57 has been greatly improved, thanks to major landscaping by RLC Physical Plant personnel and Director Randall Shively.

The new Olympic-size running track most recently received 800 bleacher seats; competition and practice fields are awaiting development to serve the Soccer program in its first season this fall; the men and women's Track and Field teams are national champions; RLC hosted the NJCAA National Cross-Country Championships in November with Warrior representatives winning both the men and women's individual championships, and the Walls of Fame and Honor are in place.

Keep in mind, when Kern was named President, the youngest of his five children, Megan, was a kindergartner. By the time he retired, the former RLC volleyball player, cheerleader and member of the first Laker Girls competitive dance team was completing her college studies at the four-year level.

Oldest son Frank was continuing his career as a successful commercial pilot. Eric, who played baseball at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, was a corporate financial consultant. Brian, who started for the Warriors in both baseball and basketball, rated NJCAA Distinguished Academic All-America honors and went on to pitch for St. Louis University and professionally with the Oakland A's organization, was an orthopaedic surgeon. Jason, who pitched for

a Region XXIV Championship Warrior nine (in 1997) and for Southeast Missouri State University, was in hospital management.

Kern married Rend Lake College Foundation CEO Pat Mitchell in 2006.

REFLECTIONS

Enrollment, 'Community' name change reflect major changes in Kern's world

In his own words, Mark S. Kern expressed his thoughts in his President's Reports, published quarterly in recent years and intended for "Special Friends of Rend Lake College." To wit:

REND LAKE COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT AUGUST 2004

"On July 1, I completed my 35th year of service to Rend Lake College, and I have been asked by some people to discuss changes I have seen take place.

"Of course, the obvious one is growth. The college had 765 students when it first opened its doors in the fall of 1967. By Fall 2003, this number had grown to 5,283 students taking credit courses. Initially, the general public saw the college providing the first two years of a four-year degree, and two-year institutions were referred to as junior colleges. Rend Lake College has excelled in this initial mission; our students have consistently done better at four-year institutions their junior year than 'native' students who started there as freshmen.

"The first major initiative, other than providing the first two years of a four-year degree, was the rapid increase in programs of two years or less with the intent that the person completing the program would enter the workforce. They were referred to at that time as Vocational programs, and the student got an AAS (Associate in Applied Science) Degree or a certificate. The next two major initiatives were the offering of enrichment courses, which were referred to as Community Education courses, and becoming the major providers of Adult Education (ABE and GED) programs. Adult Education was officially taken from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and given to the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) within the last two years.

"Because of these additions, the official

RON APPUHN
Dean / Finance & Admin.
Interim November 1984
F-T February 1985 - June 1991

PAMELA SMITH
Associate Dean / Dean
of Student Services
1985 - February 1994

ADMINISTRATIVE TIMELINE

1983 - 1984 1984 - 1985 1985 - 1986 1986 - 1987

name was changed from that of junior college, which denoted the first two years of a four-year degree, to community college, indicating the college's function was to serve a much broader area of educational needs within the community.

"The 1990s saw a tremendous increase in short-term and long-term training of employed people trying to upgrade skills or displaced workers looking for a new career. Industry and government officials quickly discovered community colleges were very flexible and provided a rapid response. Rend Lake College has a motto we tell industry: 'If we have it, you can have it immediately in whatever format you want it. If we don't have it, we will get it for you in 30 days.' We have provided training to industry around the clock on three shifts. We are not bound by the traditional semester and can provide training in any length desired.

"As I look to the future, I would predict retraining will remain an extremely important part of the college's function. I recently attended a workshop where the speaker indicated 43 million workers will need to be retrained between now and the year 2020. Also, the student of the future will be very computer literate and very competent and comfortable with the Internet. Concerns of time and location will become extremely important in providing training and college credit courses. Although college degrees will remain important, I predict certification and certificates will grow in importance.

"Rend Lake College has met every challenge it has faced since 1967, and I am sure we will continue to do likewise in the future."

REND LAKE COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT JUNE 2008

"This will be my final President's Report as I am retiring June 30 of this year. I have had a very rewarding career. You have to be fortunate to become a community college President, and becoming one in the area in which you grew up is even more special. I have been able to watch the college benefit people and the children of people I have known all my life.

"I really believe the community college system has been the most exciting and most productive area of education during the last 40-plus years. I have been fortunate to have spent 40 years in that system. I won't miss the night meetings or the trips to Springfield or Chicago. I have made friends with many fine people, including staff, Board members, Foundation Board members and other key people in the community. I will miss spend-

ing time with these people.

"Thank you very much for the support you have given me, my family and Rend Lake College. Please keep providing that support to one of the finest educational institutions in the State of Illinois."

[The same publication featured a record-shattering enrollment of 86,848 credit hours (as of April 18, 2008), more than 10,500 credits over the previous all-time high set in 2007, with the rebirth of Coal Mining Technology yet to come.]

JOINS BAKER, WAUGH ▶ **Mark S. Kern Applied Science Center appreciated by humble retiring chief**

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE JUNE 2008

Moving. The word means different things to different people at different times.

For Rend Lake College recently, it describes moving upward – the institution's record-setting growth into one of the nation's stars in community college enrollment. Moving forward – the change RLC will experience when 17-year President Mark S. Kern retires June 30.

For Kern, it is the one-word summary of the unveiling of the Mark S. Kern Applied Science Center Friday night (June 13) in the company of friends, family and fellow educators. The RLC Board's tribute to Kern's service, which wrenched tears from the stoic eyes of the local educational leader, was simply moving.

"Thank you very much," Kern said. "This comes as quite a surprise. It is greatly appreciated. I did not expect to have a building named after me . . . I am very humbled and very appreciative."

Kern is one of only three individuals to have a college building dedicated to him. The others are the Dr. Allen Y. Baker Administration Building after the founding Board of Trustees member, Pinckneyville optometrist and pillar of community service; and the James "Hummer" Waugh Gymnasium after the longtime coach, instructor and supporter of everything Rend Lake College.

Board Chair Bill Simpson made the announcement at a retirement party for Kern, the longest-serving employee in the history of the Illinois Community College System.

The evening included skits from RLC employees who took visitors back through Kern's 39 years with the college – complete with wigs, tie-dye and a parody to the Beverly Hillbillies theme song. There were gifts from colleagues and comrades, like laser

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Résumé: Fund Balance \$600,000 to \$1.9M

PERSONAL RESUME 2004

In a résumé prepared in 2004, Rend Lake College President Mark S. Kern noted, "During tenure as President, the college has:

- 1). Increased its Fund Balance from \$600,000 to \$1.9 million.
 - 2). Renovated all roofs, parking lots and the heating and plumbing system.
 - 3). Added a North Road, Aquatics Center, Child Care Center, Intake Center (expanded Administration Building), Pinckneyville Center, Rend Lake College MarketPlace (combination of classrooms/state service offices/retail stores).
 - 4). Received a 10-year North Central Accreditation (longest possible).
 - 5). Increased RLC Foundation assets from \$120,000 to \$3.4 million.
 - 6). Implemented Massage Therapy program and Paul Mitchell Partner School Cosmetology program.
 - 7). Opened new athletic facility, "The Hitting Zone."
 - 8). Broken ground on a new, 18,100-square-foot facility to house Agriculture, Diesel Technology and Heavy Equipment programs.
 - 9). Experienced record-high enrollments the past two years.
- Activities include having served as Past Vice President and Secretary of the Illinois Council of Community College Administrators
- Honors – "Outstanding Franklin County 4-H Alumnus," Franklin County Soil Conservation "Farmer of the Year" and 2001 Commercial Producers Award.
- Degrees – SIUC, B.S. in Agricultural Industries and U. of I., M.S. in Agricultural Economics.



Retired Kern first recipient of IMI Leadership Award

NEWS RELEASE OCTOBER 6, 2008

Recently retired Rend Lake College President Mark S. Kern received the Illinois Mining Institute's inaugural Special Leadership Award during its 116th Annual Meeting in Springfield.

The award was created for leadership in a specific area that has a major impact on mineral industries. The impact Kern is being recognized for is the 20,000 square-foot Coal Mining Training Center in the early stages of construction on the Ina campus.

Kern served as President of RLC for 17 years before retiring in July. At the time, he was the longest-serving employee in the history of the Illinois community college system with 40 years, only one of which was spent at another college.

The RLC Mining Technology program boomed in the 1970s and into the early '80s. A quarter of the college's faculty was dedicated to miner training and the program marshalled a 97 percent job-placement rate for its graduates. During this time, he was promoted from Agricultural, Automotive and Architectural Department Chairman to Dean of Instruction. On September 3, 1991, he became RLC's fifth full-time President.

He is largely responsible for the revitalization of the college's miner training program – an intended by-product of the reported resurgence in

(Continued at far right on next page)

President Kern (cont.)

range-finder binoculars from college administrators, the "I Can't Believe I worked at RLC for 39 years and all I got was this lousy" T-shirt from All Stars-N-Stitches owner Dave Severin, and a miniature golden John Deere tractor from the Academic Council.

The RLC Foundation Board of Directors, of which Kern was recently named an Emeritus Member, presented him a guided trout fishing trip of his choice, more than likely a trip to the Ozarks.

Although they were all great gifts in their own right, none moved Kern like the RLC Board of Trustees placing his name on the Applied Science Center. The facility, opened in September 2005, houses the Agricultural Mechanics program. With his career at RLC beginning as an Agriculture Instructor and leading two years later to AAA Department Chair, a better campus landmark could not have been chosen. Kern is one of three individuals who started the Ag program.

"... You could not have picked one more important to me," he explained. "I started teaching here in the Agriculture Science lab, in the old Bonnie Grade School, in a gymnasium with a wooden floor. Our offices were in an old coat room... The fellow on the end had to get up to let the person on the inside out. I am glad we were able to accomplish putting the Ag and Heavy Equipment programs in a building such as this."

RLC Foundation Chair Hunt Bonan presented Kern the fishing package and mentioned the Board naming him an Emeritus Member in honor of his service to the RLCF.

"There has been no one more instrumental in the growth of the Foundation than Mark Kern," Bonan said. "When he became President, I think the Foundation had approximately \$100,000 in assets. Today, we are proud to say, the Foundation has over \$5 million in assets. That is a big number. But, more important is that last year the Foundation gave out over \$300,000 in scholarships. That assists students in the district with coming to Rend Lake College; however in some cases, it meant the difference in whether a student would go to college or

not. I think that is an amazing statement and the work Mark has done with the Foundation – his dedication and absolute tenacity in demanding the very best – has been so important for our growth... We hope he keeps promoting the Foundation because he is our best promoter in the community."

Kern recognized a number of individuals who came to his party and thanked them for their roles in RLC's accomplishments.

"I want to say that I appreciate everyone who came," he said. "It is very humbling to look out and see this many people."

CAREER BEGAN IN 1967 Kern's 40-year career in statewide system longest of any employee

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE JUNE 2008

Mark S. Kern spent his last day as President of Rend Lake College on Monday, June 30.

The fifth, full-time head of Rend Lake College served 17 years as President and four decades in his overall tenure in the community college system. Counting one year at Wabash Valley College, he served the Illinois Community College System for 40 years – the longest of any employee in the system's history, according to the Illinois Community College Trustees Association.

Joining RLC as an Agriculture Instructor in 1968, Kern moved up to Agriculture, Automotive and Architecture Department Chair two years later and became Dean of Community Services in 1974 and Dean of Instruction in August 1978. He was named RLC's fifth President on September 3, 1991.

At a ceremony earlier this year, held to recognize new employees, Kern joked, "When I started here, I thought I would work at RLC until I was about 35. But, I liked it so much, I decided to stay until I was 45."

The 64-year-old Franklin County native served the longest term of any of his RLC presidential predecessors. Kern has the third-longest tenure of current presidents in the Illinois Community College System. His 17 years falls just behind Heartland Community College President Jon Astroth – whom he succeeded at RLC – and Moraine Valley C.C. President Vernon Crawley.

Most recently, the Board of Trustees

Dr. KEITH R. LAPE
Dean of Instruction / V-P
July 1, 1988 - May 1992

ADMINISTRATIVE TIMELINE

1987 - 1988

1988 - 1989

1989 - 1990

1990 - 1991

recognized Kern's service by renaming the Applied Science Center, which houses Agriculture and Heavy Equipment programs, the Mark S. Kern Applied Science Center.

In his early years at RLC, Kern helped create the college's Community Services program and Agriculture Department, which he chaired in 1970. Under his boundless leadership and direction, there have been countless advancements to the facilities and programs at RLC, in addition to a multitude of told and untold achievements by students, staff and faculty at the college.

Rend Lake became the nation's fastest growing community college of comparable student population in 2006, according to *Community College Week*. The institution has continued to experience record-setting enrollment growth five of the past six years.

"I have had a very rewarding career," Kern said. "Being a president of a community college is rewarding, but being one in your home community is especially so."

He said he will miss his college constituents but will not miss what he calls the "ceremonial" season.

"I don't know how many board meetings, night meetings and trips to Springfield I have been involved with. I may never go to Chicago again. I won't miss those things. I will miss working with the Board, staff, faculty, Foundation Board and other community leaders."

He pointed out working with a Foundation and its Board of Directors has been particularly pleasing. The sentiment is apparently returned since the RLCF Board recently named Kern an Emeritus member and expressed hope he will continue to be an active promoter of its projects.

"Working with the Foundation has been very enjoyable," he said. "I have had the privilege of working with some outstanding people and community leaders. It has been a real pleasure to watch them take on projects, such as the children's center on campus, which was totally paid for with Foundation funds; the Aquatics Center, which they made the required state funding match, and the children's center at the MarketPlace."

Kern also noted the Foundation's ability to raise funding for scholarships and capital projects. He pointed out donors provided more than \$300,000 in scholarships each year and Foundation assets have increased from a little more than \$100,000 when it was first established to more than \$5 million now.

When he first arrived at Rend Lake

College in 1968, Kern was one of three individuals to spearhead a new Agriculture program. It began in the old Bonnie Grade School, which was a far cry from the 23,000 square-foot Mark S. Kern Applied Science Center where it is housed on-campus today.

Aside from Nursing clinicals, Agriculture was the first program to require that students complete cooperative work-study. From Ag Instructor to President, his roles at the college have included instructor, Department/Division Chair of Applied Science (twice), Dean of Community Service, Dean of Instruction, College Dean, Interim President and President.

While serving as Dean of Community Service, the evening and off-campus offerings were greatly expanded and the Community Coordinator system was established.

Regional programming, such as Culinary Arts and Wireless Communications Technology, was established during his presidential tenure and student activities have been broadened, bolstering student recruitment and retention. The college has built five new buildings and purchased a former shopping mall in Mt. Vernon, called the Rend Lake College MarketPlace. This has been done without increasing tax rates.

The RLC MarketPlace offers off-campus classes/programs and houses programs of various four-year universities among many other things. Rent paid by state agencies and retail stores at the MarketPlace helps the RLC auxiliary fund.

The other satellite campus, the Murphy-Wall Pinckneyville Center, has been offering educational opportunities to residents in the Perry County area for five years now.

Construction of the RLC Sports Center, Hitting Zone and Aquatics Center on the main campus in Ina have made the college a recreational hot spot and provide safety training and health activities for all ages, from preschool to senior citizens.

"I think all buildings on campus, with the exception of half of the Science Building, have been renovated," Kern noted. "New roofs have been added and the roadways and parking lots have been improved."

From September 1996 to the present, a list of more than 200 projects – from minor improvements to major renovation and construction – has continued to grow. Some recent major projects include a private dining room/lab in the Student Center, a second Culinary Arts kitchen/classroom, a short-range golf practice course, a radiology



Leadership Award (cont.)

the Illinois coal mining industry. Close to the conclusion of his Presidency, Kern and colleagues aligned a competitive grant proposal with emerging industry needs and the college's ability to train highly skilled workers. That proposal went before the U.S. Department of Labor and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

In late March, the college learned its proposal was one of 69 chosen from among 341 competitive grant applications for funding from the President's Community-Based Jobs Training grant initiative administered by the USDL. He accepted the \$1,622,155 for equipping a facility, staffing, raising awareness and training hundreds of coal miners, welders and electricians.

Less than two weeks later, he accepted a check to the college for \$1.07 million from the Illinois DCEO to construct a Coal Mining Training Center just north of the Mark S. Kern Applied Science Center. RLC officials held ground-breaking ceremonies in August.

The IMI is an industry-run organization which promotes mineral industries in Illinois. Southern Illinois University-Carbondale has been its home for the last 10 years. IMI Secretary Y. Paul Chugh told the *Saluki Times* the institute's purpose is threefold: advance the mining industry by encouraging and promoting investigations of mining problems; encourage education in practical and scientific mining, and disseminate mining-related information and utilize resources that benefit its members.

Illness kept Kern from attending the IMI meeting to accept his award.



V-P Shakir appointed to Global Wireless post

PRESIDENT'S REPORT OCTOBER 2006

The appointment of Rend Lake College Administrator Salah Shakir to a national wireless consortium is keeping RLC in the know regarding the rapidly changing field of global wireless technology.

Shakir, Vice President of Information Technology and Student Services, has been appointed to the nation's Global Wireless Educational Consortium. GWEC is governed by Directors with varied backgrounds in education and industry pertaining to global wireless and cellular technology. The organization provides resources regarding educational aspects of a Wireless Communications Technology Degree and the wireless industry itself, contact with educational and industry leaders and information about the Federal Communications Commission's spectrum policy related to wireless technology. GWEC was created to raise the bar on wireless technology curriculum being provided.

According to Shakir, students should be interested in pursuing a degree in Wireless Communications Technology because there is a demand for trained technicians, the pay is good and individuals can continue with their educations in the field.

The two-year program covers working with cellular towers, troubleshooting, monitoring switches, managing radio frequency issues and adding new cellular towers. On-the-job training also is required.

President Kern (cont.)

lab, a complete renovation of the Learning Resource Center's top floor, renovation to the first floor of the LRC and construction of the MarketPlace Pre-K Center.

The latest renovation, a \$282,000 upgrade to the RLC Theatre, was unveiled February 28. Other improvements to the campus include the RLC Staff Clock Tower, track and field complex and soccer field.

"The clock tower is unique in that it was paid for by the staff and faculty purchasing bricks used in its construction," he said.

Kern was influential in the establishment of a training center inside Continental Tire North America in Mt. Vernon. This endeavor received an upgrade in 2007 when it became Continental University through the partnership of RLC, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and CTNA officials. In addition to training, workers have the ability to earn Associate and Bachelor degrees inside the plant. RLC provides computers, distance learning and an on-site coordinator. A similar center will soon start at Walgreens' flagship Distribution Center in Mt. Vernon.

Perhaps most notable under Kern's leadership has been the college's success in enrollment. A large part of the escalating enrollment has been the establishment of dual-credit and dual-enrollment opportunities for high school students to earn college credit through RLC. The college has become a statewide leader in this since modeling the program after a similar west-coast program Kern saw featured in educational news.

Tuition-free for in-district students, dual-credit this year alone generated nearly 13,000 college credit hours and more than \$880,000 in savings for area high school students and their families. That figure is much higher when compared to tuition rates at four-year universities, and dual-credit numbers are consistently on the rise.

The college has experienced a 30-plus percent increase in overall enrollment over the past six years and topped 80,000 credit hours in the 2007-08 school year.

"A 30 percent increase over the last six years is something to be proud of, especially

in an area that is not experiencing a growth in population," he said.

In addition to the 35-Year Service Award he accepted at the 2004 Board-Faculty-Staff Annual Dinner, Kern has received various other honors, including being named the Franklin County 4-H "Outstanding Alumnus" and Franklin County Soil Conservation "Farmer of the Year" and receiving the 2001 Commercial Producers Award. He was recipient of a Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Service to the Illinois Association of Community College Agriculture Instructors and he helped obtain the present location of the Franklin-Jefferson County 4-H shows on land leased by RLC.

Kern was awarded the Honorary State FFA Degree at the 78th Annual Illinois FFA Convention June 13-15 at the Prairie Capital Convention Center in Springfield.

He has served as Vice President and Secretary of the Illinois Council of Community College Administrators and was recently honored by the Education Council of 100 at Southern Illinois University.

He was inducted into the RLC Sports Hall of Fame this year; Warrior/Lady Warrior athletics increased threefold while Kern was president.

In the last few months, Kern was busy with his part in securing funding for RLC's reemerging Mining Technology program.

Although these milestones were reached while Kern was President, he is the first to admit it has been due to more than one man.

"I took the 'I' out of my vocabulary a long time ago. It's not about me," he said. "It's about Rend Lake College. Rend Lake College is bigger than me. It's bigger than anyone here in this room. And it is in good hands. This is a great institution and it will continue to be a great institution."

ADMINISTRATIVE TIMELINE

ROBERT P. CARLOCK
Dean / V-P of Finance
and Administration
July 1, 1991 - January 31, 2008

Dr. STEPHEN B. TIETZ
Vice President
July 1, 1992 -
1998

SUE WELLS
Dean of Student Services
January 3, 1994 -
October 23, 1996 (Disability)

1991 - 1992

1992 - 1993

1993 - 1994

1994 - 1995

V-P OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION / 1991-2008 • 2010-13

Financial guru Carlock leaves \$20M budget, big shoes to fill

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE FEBRUARY 1, 2008

Thursday (January 31) was the last official day in Bob Carlock's distinguished career as Vice President of Finance and Administration at Rend Lake College.

Carlock, a veteran of creative finance and marketing for the college, has retired after serving 22 significant years at RLC. As V-P of Finance and Administration for the past 17 years, his responsibilities have included accounting for a \$20-million annual budget, managing both the college health and property casualty insurance, overseeing management of the RLC MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon and supervising various departments such as the Business Office, Bookstore, Marketing and Public Information, Security, Physical Plant, Small Business Development Center and Fitness Centers.

His successor is Larry West, a Pinckneyville native and former Dean of Budget and Finance at a branch campus of the University of South Carolina.

Carlock's creative, "outside-the-box" method of managing brought about a number of initiatives which contributed greatly to the momentum RLC thrives on today. *Community College Week* – a journal targeted at community, technical and junior colleges across the nation – named RLC the fastest-growing community college of its size in the nation for 2006. The college has continued to realize consecutive semesters of record enrollment.

"The one thing I thought this administration brought to the college was that we set a very aggressive tone to build new buildings and increase enrollment," Carlock said.

He pioneered the college's Textbook Rental program, which made a large portion of textbooks available to students for \$28 each rather than the purchase price of \$75 to \$100 for the same book. This endeavor – largely considered to be counter-productive for educational institutions – has been highly successful at Rend Lake College and is a model for the refashioning of textbook systems at other colleges.

He worked with college administrators to purchase the former Jent Outlet Mall and transform it into the RLC MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon. What was once a declining outlet mall on the verge of becoming a severe eyesore in the RLC district's largest community

is now a thriving community all its own, which soon could be adding hundreds of thousands of dollars each year into the college's coffers – meaning RLC will be able to fund projects a college its size normally would not be able to handle.

"The MarketPlace . . . of all the things we've done, I'm most proud of it," he said.

The revenue generated from rent paid by various state agencies, grant programs and individual businesses at the MarketPlace will be able to be added to the regular revenue stream for the college in less than a decade. This could mean \$600,000 or more each year for the college.

A number of new and expanded educational programs were made possible by the creation of the MarketPlace. One of these programs, the Studio RLC Paul Mitchell Partner School, made Rend Lake College the first public community college in the nation to be affiliated with Paul Mitchell Systems. Carlock and Vice President of Instruction Dr. Jim Hull played key roles in making this partnership possible.

He also made RLC the first community college in Illinois to establish a supplemental loan program for students who had difficulty finding short-term money for college needs.

Carlock developed the establishment of a \$5 million insurance reserve fund which allows RLC to have available insurance coverage in the event of a liability that goes beyond the general insurance coverage. In addition, the fund provides interest of \$150,000 per year for tort liability purposes. This fund provided \$1.3 million for the addition and renovation of the Administration Building on RLC's main campus.

He established the Section 125 Cafeteria Employee Benefit Plan, which allows employees to take advantage of pre-taxable benefits for medical and day care expenses.

And he initiated the Illinois Community College Insurance Consortium where a partially self-insured health insurance program formed by RLC and seven other community colleges works efficiently and economically with a premium raise of 6.5 percent in 2006.

In 2006, he received the Bronze Major Gift Award for contributing more than \$10,000 to the Rend Lake College Foundation. Before becoming Dean for Finance and Administra-



RLC VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE



Hold onto hat ... Carlock adds Finance Dean post

Very few people at Rend Lake College have ever been busier than Bob Carlock during one brief stretch in his career . . .

REND LAKE COLLEGE F.Y.I. JUNE 1991

Robert P. Carlock, who already filled the dual role of heading the college's Center for Business and Community Services and serving as Executive Director for the RLC Foundation, will begin wearing yet another hat July 1. He has been named Interim Dean for Finance and Administration.

Ron Appuhn will vacate that position at the end of the month to become Vice President of Business Services for Sauk Valley Community College in Dixon. Appuhn's resignation was accepted and Carlock's appointment was announced at a special Board meeting May 30.

Carlock will receive an additional \$1,000 per month to fill the role of Interim Dean, with his duties to be identified at the June 18 Board meeting.

RLC already was seeking a replacement for Dr. Jon Astroth, President. V-P Dr. Keith R. Lape is Interim President.



Both Kern, Carlock resign well in advance of leaving

BOARD MINUTES DECEMBER 14, 2004

Both President Mark S. Kern and his right-hand man, Vice President of Finance and Administration Bob Carlock, submitted resignations to the Board of Trustees on the same night. However, each gave plenty of advance notice by doing so.

Kern's resignation, which was approved, is not effective until June 30, 2007. Carlock will stick around a little longer . . . his accepted resignation will go into effect December 31, 2007.

Their salaries for the coming year were determined to be \$153,730 for Kern and \$124,324 for Carlock.

Earlier in the same meeting, to ensure even more continuity at the top, Trustees approved administrative rationale to extend five-year contracts to Vice President of Information Technology and Student Services Salah Shakir, Director of Physical Plant Randall Shively and Rend Lake College Foundation CEO Pat Mitchell.

[In June 2005, the Board approved two-year contracts for Vice President of Instruction Jim Hull and Dean of Instruction Lisa Payne. Also, Trustees extended the contracts of Shakir, Shively and Mitchell to six years.]

V-P Carlock (cont.)

tion (later renamed Vice President), he was Director of the RLC Foundation from 1988-1991. He served as Director of the Center for Business and Community Services at RLC from 1986-1991; in this capacity, he was responsible for providing business services to the local community, developing business plans, assisting with economic development and presenting at local community business seminars.

With a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing and Finance and a Master in Business Administration (MBA) Degree from Eastern Illinois University under his belt, Carlock's work experience before RLC was in-line with a transition to college financial officer. An early ingredient in his management style was created at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. As a personnel specialist with the U.S. Army, he interviewed incoming recruits to determine their job classification.

He was an Adjunct Instructor in Marketing, Management and Finance at McKendree College from 1978 to 1983 before taking a role as Division Chairman for Business and Social Science at Tarkio (MO) College from 1984-86. While at both colleges, Carlock owned and managed Carlock Distributing Company, based in his hometown of Hillsboro. The wholesale specialty food firm sold to retail grocers and honed his skills in marketing, inventory purchase and control, forecasting market trends and budgeting.

In addition to recognition for his efforts at RLC, Bob Carlock became a name in local, state and national community service and development. He associated himself with various civic organizations, including the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce, of which he is a former President; Franklin County Chamber of Commerce; former President for two years of a statewide Community College organization of Chief Financial Officers; the Illinois Community College Board Economic Development Association; National Council for Resource Development, and the Jefferson County Certified Cities Program on which he served

as Chairman, among others.

Carlock said he will be enjoying retirement while weighing any options for future endeavors. One thing is for certain, the avid golfer will be frequenting the links once golf season is in full swing.

"I'll miss all the people I've worked with and the challenges of the job," he said. "I want to emphasize any accomplishments during my tenure were the result of the Rend Lake College team and not just myself."

His absence from that team will surely be felt by the college, those employees who reported to him and administrators who worked side-by-side with him. His are most definitely some big shoes to fill.

CURTAIN CALL In retirement, Carlock acknowledged for role in latest Mining Tech grants

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 2008

Bob Carlock retired from Rend Lake College January 31, closing a 17-year career as Vice President of Finance and Administration. He left one project on the table. Last Monday, Carlock got his curtain call.

He joined RLC President Mark S. Kern and State Rep. Kurt M. Granberg (D-Carlyle) in announcing the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity had awarded a \$1.073 million grant for the construction of a Mining Technology Training Center on the Ina campus.

Backed by words of optimism from Granberg at the RLC Foundation's Annual Dinner in December, Carlock and co-workers continued to diligently drudge for state funding. The announcement last week meant their vision, which they pushed for nearly two years to realize, had finally become reality.

That may have been enough for Carlock. However, Granberg went one step further and presented the Hillsboro native with House Resolution 1106 - legislation congratulating Carlock on his retirement.

HR 1106 passed on April 1 and covers many achievements Carlock made for the college in his 22 years there. Some of those are . . .

ADMINISTRATIVE TIMELINE

TERRY CLARK
Dean of Vocational-Technical
Education
July 1, 1996 - 2002

Dr. JULIE K. MEENTS
Dean of Instruction
July 14, 1998 - 1999

1995 - 1996

1996 - 1997

1997 - 1998

1998 - 1999

- The establishment of a \$5 million RLC insurance reserve fund;

- The co-founding of an insurance consortium in which, with some umbrella policies, community colleges can collect premiums and insure themselves for health coverage;

- Pioneering RLC's textbook rental program, one of a few in the State of Illinois,

- The acquisition and renovation of an outlet mall that is now the RLC MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon.

- With Carlock at the helm of marketing, the college has grown five out of the last six years and has set record enrollments during those five years, according to HR 1106.

"The faculty, staff and students of Rend Lake College, as well as the citizens of this State, owe Bob Carlock a debt of gratitude for the services he has rendered to Rend Lake College and the State at large," the Resolution reads.

"... We congratulate Bob Carlock on the occasion of his retirement and wish him many happy and healthy retirement years."

Carlock thanked Granberg for the resolution the Assistant House Majority Leader sponsored. However, most of Carlock's brief acceptance speech turned the spotlight back on the college and coal mining technology.

"Just to show you what a cyclical economy we have, when I started at the college in 1986, we were making the move to switch from the Mining Technology program to Industrial Technology," he said. "Here, 23 years later, Rend Lake College is able to be accomplished in the Industrial Technology area and is venturing back to being a leader in Mining Technology."

Granberg joked that perhaps Carlock's retirement means he will stop lobbying Granberg for capitol development projects. It is a testament to Carlock's tenacity and progressive thinking.

"If it were not for Kurt, we would have never been able to get this done," Carlock said of Granberg's role in securing Illinois Coal Development funding for the training center. "Kurt has brought a lot to this area. I don't know if people know just how much."

BRONZE AWARD-WINNER ▶ **In addition to varied responsibilities, Carlock has been busy giving back**

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE DECEMBER 2006

Twenty-year RLC veteran Bob Carlock has received the Bronze Gift Award for

more than \$10,000 in contributions to the Rend Lake College Foundation. Carlock is a former director of the RLCF.

Carlock, the RLC Vice President of Finance and Administration, has been with the comprehensive community college since May 27, 1986. In addition to generous donations to the Foundation, he has been responsible for spearheading several major initiatives at RLC:

- The establishment of a \$5 million insurance reserve fund which allows Rend Lake College available insurance coverage in the event of a liability that goes beyond the general insurance coverage. In addition, the fund provides interest of \$150,000 per year for tort liability purposes. The fund provided \$1.3 million for the addition and renovation of the Administration Building.

- Pioneered the college's textbook rental program, which made a large portion of textbooks available to students for \$28 each rather than the purchase price of \$75 to \$100 for the same book.

- Established the Section 125 Cafeteria Employee Benefit Plan, which allows employees to take advantage of pre-taxable benefits for medical and day care expenses.

- Initiated the Illinois Community College Insurance Consortium. Along with seven other community colleges, a partially self-insured health insurance program was formed that works efficiently and economically with a premium raise of only 6.5% in 2006.

- Made Rend Lake College the first community college in Illinois to establish a supplemental loan program for students who had difficulty finding short term money for college needs.

- Worked with the college administration to purchase and renovate the Rend Lake College MarketPlace.

According to Pat Kern, Chief Executive Officer of the RLC Foundation, it was Carlock who really got the Foundation active when he was the Director, and back then, it was just a part-time position. Carlock said the Foundation could greatly benefit from a full-time director, the position in existence today.

At Rend Lake College, Carlock has served as the Director of the Business Resource and Assistance Center, Director of the Center for Business and Community Services and Director of the Small Business Development Center. He was appointed Interim Dean of Finance and Administra-

* - * - *

Mississippi Valley Review Creator Tietz a Cover Boy

NEWS RELEASE OCTOBER 1984

Dr. Steve Tietz is a Cover Boy.

A likeness of the Rend Lake College Arts and Communications Department Chair adorns the cover of the September issue of *The Western News*, a publication for alumni, parents and friends of Western Illinois University.

Featured inside is a story praising WIU's literary journal, *The Mississippi Valley Review*, which was started by Tietz 13 years ago and "has done more than survive" as the headline emphasizes.

The Review's "real crowning achievement, according to Author William Ridenour, "is its growing reputation for excellence. In 13 years the magazine has published poetry and fiction by writers from all over the world, building and maintaining a standard of quality that has been recognized with 15 Illinois Arts Council Awards for individual works."

The author points out the first issue of MVR listed Stephen B. Tietz as Editor and Forrest Robinson as Poetry Editor.

"Tietz, with some help from Robinson, paid the printer from his own pocket" for Volume I Number 1 of *The Mississippi Valley Review*. Their intent was to "provide a much needed outlet for good poems and short stories that suffer neglect in a crowded literary market . . . indicate that the creation of literary art will persist (despite discouraging actions of the state legislature) . . . and continue to promote cultural enrichment beyond its classroom function."

Robinson today is Editor of the MVR, the only member of the original staff remaining.

(Continued on next page)



Creator Tietz (cont.)

Tietz, who shared an office with Robinson, taught English at Western Illinois University in Macomb from 1970-74. Before coming to Rend Lake College in 1979, Tietz also was an instructor from 1974-78 at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. He has served as the Department Chair the past 1 1/2 years.

Contributions from Tietz have appeared once or twice a year in MVR since his departure.

"Little magazines," Ridenour writes, "are seldom produced for financial gain. They're usually founded for reasons that sound suspiciously unworldly, driven into print by such motives as love of literature and concern for its advancement. Such inspiration only rarely goes had in hand with shrewd business sense."

Since that humble beginning, The Mississippi Valley Review has survived thanks to sales, subscriptions, donations and, perhaps most importantly, a financial commitment from the university.

Robinson says the publication began with "energy and initiative" 13 years ago.

Adds Author Ridenour: "Founding Editor Stephen Tietz no longer teaches at Western, but he must be proud of what he began."

He is. Do not be deceived by that serious look on the cover of The Western News.

V-P Carlock (cont.)

tion before being permanently appointed to the position (now titled Vice President) in 1992. He also served as Director of the Rend Lake College Foundation for several years.

Carlock has a long history with higher education, having served initially as an adjunct instructor at McKendree College in Lebanon and later as Chairman of the Business and Social Services Division at Tarkio College in Missouri, where he also was an instructor. He was part-owner and manager of Carlock Distributing Company in Hillsboro and earlier worked as a marketing and sales representative.

No stranger to community service and development, Carlock has been associated with various organizations, including the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce (of which he is a former president), Franklin County Chamber of Commerce, Illinois Community College Board Economic Development Association, National Council for Resource Development and the Jefferson County Certified Cities Program (chairman).

ENCORE ▶ Call for help goes out, Carlock comes out of retirement in time of uncertainty

SUMMER 2010

He's ba-a-a-ck!

With the financial status of the college in possible dire straits due to the uncertainty of state funding, both in consistently late payments and anticipated reductions, and a void in administrative personnel, President Charley Holstein and the RLC Board of Trustees turned to an old friend for help.

They called on Bob Carlock, who was not as enamored with a life of playing golf and the horses full-time as he thought he would be in retirement.

About 2 1/2 years after his January 2008 retirement, Carlock agreed to return to Rend Lake College as Interim Vice President of Finance and Administration. He replaced

his successor, Larry West, whose contract was not renewed.

Carlock's hiring on a part-time basis was not for any specified length of time.

REND LAKE COLLEGE BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 14, 2010

The Rend Lake College Board of Trustees appointed Bob Carlock as Vice President of Finance and Administration on a one-year, non-tenure contract, effective January 1.

Carlock, who served in that position at RLC for 17 years before retiring in 2008, returned to the college this past summer to serve in the position on an interim basis.

REND LAKE COLLEGE BOARD HIGHLIGHTS JUNE 11, 2013

Bob Carlock, Vice President of Finance and Administration, gave a report on the college's Facilities Master Plan, which is intended to help guide the college in the use and development of its facilities. He asked Board members to look over the materials and provide their input.

After providing his report, Carlock, who is retiring this month, was recognized for his years of service. He came out of retirement three years ago when the college was in need of a CFO and has helped guide the institution through a tough economic climate. The Board presented Carlock, an avid golfer, with a new rangefinder, a golf travel bag and several boxes of golf balls.

RLC President Terry Wilkerson said of Carlock, "You have been an anchor out here. I would challenge anybody to: No. 1, come back, and No. 2, to come back and keep working hard. It has been a pleasure, Bob, both personally and professionally."

MARY ROE

Interim Dean / Dean
/ V-P of Student Services
[July 1999] 2000 - 2004

SALAH SHAKIR

Interim Dean / Dean / V-P
of Information Technology
[July 1999] 2000 - 2010
V-P of Student Services
2004 -

Dr. HOMER CISSELL

Dean of Instruction
December 16, 1999
- Summer 2002

ADMINISTRATIVE TIMELINE

LISA PAYNE

Associate Dean
of Special Programs
2002 - 2003
Dean of Instruction
2003 - 2008
V-P of Vocational Education
May 2009 -

Dr. JAMES R. HULL

Assoc. Dean / Vice President
of Instruction
October 2002 - 2008

1999 - 2000

2000 - 2001

2001 - 2002

2002 - 2003

INTERIM PRESIDENT / 2008-09 • PRESIDENT / 2009-12

Salute ... Retired Army Officer Holstein assumes command

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 1, 2009

Charley D. Holstein officially is the sixth President of Rend Lake College.

A unanimous vote by the Board of Trustees during a special meeting Wednesday night ushers in new leadership at the comprehensive two-year college, located on the east shore of scenic Rend Lake in Southern Illinois. As President, Holstein is in charge of approximately 600 employees, 13,500 students, three campuses and a budget of roughly \$38 million.

The 45-year-old retired Army officer had been serving since July 8, 2008, as Interim President, longer than any of the three previous "acting" administrative chiefs.

Board Chair Bill Simpson congratulated Holstein and expressed great confidence in the Board's decision.

"Charley brings many great leadership skills and other strengths to the college," Simpson said. "We have seen these at work over the past nine months he has served as Interim President and we have witnessed other strengths emerge as he took on the role with enthusiasm and integrity."

"I am extremely excited about this opportunity," Holstein said. "I want to thank the Trustees for their support and confidence in my abilities to lead this great team and I want to thank the faculty, staff and administration for their overwhelming support, not only during the period I have served as Interim President, but also throughout the application and interview process."

Holstein has been a key part of many accomplishments over the past year at the college. Some of these include Rend Lake College being awarded the maximum 10-year accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools; successfully negotiating a multi-year faculty contract; breaking ground on a new 20,000-square-foot Coal Mining Training Center; guiding creative finance opportunities to help offset funding shortages for a new state-of-the-art welding laboratory, and helping secure \$100,000 in donations from local industry for the Coal Mining Training Center.

As Interim President, he also welcomed the governing Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) to the Ina campus for a previously scheduled visit.

He also has reached out beyond the college's borders by initiating a peer-to-peer process where upper-level administrative members of his cabinet visit their counterparts at neighboring colleges, and vice versa, to identify best practices and determine if they could be used at RLC.

When talking about Holstein's strengths, Simpson pointed to the new President's knack for creating and fostering working relationships with partners in the community, as well as those on campus.

"As a visible, proactive leader, he has demonstrated an ability to bridge communication across campus as well as create and maintain dialogue between the college and the community," Simpson said.

Simpson cited a few examples. He said in meeting with members of Congress in Springfield and governmental agencies, Holstein has demonstrated he knows how to speak their language and can serve as the college's voice on legislative matters. Together, they recently met with the Assistant Warden at Big Muddy River Correctional Center, where Holstein played a big part in a positive meeting leading to a good working relationship with RLC's neighbor.

His biggest strength, according to Simpson, is his rapport with the faculty, staff and administrators he works with daily.

"While serving as the Interim President for the past nine months, I believe I have proven my competence and capabilities to productively serve Rend Lake College as its next President," said Holstein. "I have drawn from the institution's strengths, helped to overcome challenges and obstacles and have set realistic goals – all with the help of a smart and innovative team truly committed to our students. I think we are all ready to continue moving the college forward."

Groups made up of instructors, staff and administrators were asked by the Board to take part in the selection process by interviewing each candidate and returning their recommendations to the Board.

"The response was unanimous," said Simpson. "Each group came back with Charley as its choice."

"One thing I hope I have brought to this campus is a sense of fairness and equality," said Holstein. "My door is always open and



REND LAKE COLLEGE PRESIDENT



Senior Commissioned Officer / U.S. Army

<https://www.linkedin.com/pub/>

February 1984 –
November 2007 (23 yrs 10 mo.)

Served the United States Army as a Commissioned Officer in a variety of leadership positions all across the United States and overseas to include Germany, South Korea, Iraq and Afghanistan. Succeeded in a variety of leadership positions concentrating on continuous improvement by increasing efficiencies and reducing waste. Recognized on numerous occasions for cost savings and process improvements. Managed resources in excess of \$300 million and led groups in excess of 400 employees operating in numerous locations both in the United States and abroad. Always rated within the top 5% of my peer group.



Holstein's last assignment before his military retirement from the Army after more than 20 years (Fall 2007) was at McGill Air Force Base in Florida. He worked briefly for Smith Barney in Evansville before his move to Southern Illinois (Fairfield).



McKendree University's Bornheimer earns Ph.D.

2013

A former Rend Lake College faculty member and administrator became Dr. Mary Bornheimer in 2010 when she earned her Ph.D. in Business Administration and Computer Science from Northcentral University (AZ).

Dr. Bornheimer is Vice President for Research, Planning and Technology for McKendree University in Lebanon.

She left RLC for McKendree in 2007 when she was Dean of Student Services. Prior to that, she was Director of Institutional Research and a member of the Computer Science Faculty.

As part of her doctoral work through Northcentral, she published a case study re: "The Influence of Leadership Development Programs on the Community College Leadership Shortage." She was instrumental in introducing the RLC Emerging Leaders Institute.

Mary E. Rountree graduated from Rend Lake College in 1989 with an Associate in Science Degree in Business. Her husband, Robert Bornheimer, still serves on the RLC Foundation Board of Directors even though the couple moved from the district due to his job several years ago.

The Bornheimers fund an annual scholarship in recognition of her mother, the Sue Rountree Memorial Scholarship, thanks in part by a matching gift from his employer, State Farm Insurance.

President Holstein (cont.)

I am excited to see what our outstanding college can become when we all work together to accomplish the mission."

Holstein holds dual Master's Degrees in Management and Human Resources from Webster University in St. Louis, a Bachelor's Degree in Pre-Law and Administration of Justice from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and is pursuing his Ph.D.

A graduate of the Army's prestigious Command and General Staff College – and a first-in-class, distinguished military graduate of the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) at SIUC – he led troops in Alaska, South Korea, New Mexico and for two years of combat in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Bronze Star recipient retired from the Army in 2007 after 20-plus years. He lives in Fairfield with his wife, Michelle, and their three children, Emily, Eric and Nathan.

The Board began its search for Kern's successor prior to his retirement in July. Two nationwide searches produced hundreds of applicants and numerous interviews.

"I realize there were many highly qualified candidates, but I truly believe I am the best fit for the culture and organizational structure here at RLC," Holstein said.

Simpson agreed, saying, "Our extensive search has allowed the Board to be very deliberate in our quest for the best possible President. I can speak for all of us when I say we take our responsibility as the governing board of Rend Lake College very seriously. We are all here for the betterment of RLC students. From planning the initial search more than a year ago to reinstating it this January, we aimed to identify who is the best fit as this institution's next President. We feel we have done that tonight."

"The college's history of quality, affordability, responsibility and accessibility is worthy of our continued best efforts. I will give my full attention to keeping Rend Lake College a close partner with the communities we serve and a champion of student learning in Southern Illinois," Holstein said.

The sixth President arrived on the Rend Lake College campus in January 2008 as

Vice President of Student Services. In that capacity, he was responsible for overseeing the Academic Counseling Center, Financial Aid, Student Records, Registrar, Learning Resource Center, Special Programs, Child Care Resource and Referral, Security, educational programming at Big Muddy River and Pinckneyville Correctional Centers, the on-campus RLC Foundation Children's Center and the RLC MarketPlace Early Childhood Center. He also handled student discipline and grievance procedures.

Holstein viewed his job as Interim President as that of a facilitator to faculty and staff while serving as a line of communication between the college and the Board during the presidential search process.

"This college abounds with highly experienced, hard-working and dedicated professionals whose daily efforts are truly the reason RLC continues to enjoy such a great reputation," he said at that time.

FIRST 'OFFICIAL' REPORT Recently named President Holstein reflects: nine months of challenges

REND LAKE COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT JUNE 2009

As I sit here writing my first "official" President's Report as the newly appointed President of Rend Lake College, I can't help but think back over the last nine months I have served as Interim President.

The challenges have seemed to be many, but the solutions we have found working together have proven to be sound and ultimately in the best interest of the college. It has been a very rewarding nine months and I enthusiastically look forward to many years to come as part of the Rend Lake College team. I want to tank the entire faculty and staff for their words of support throughout the interview / selection process, and of course to the Board of Trustees for its unanimous vote of confidence in me.

The college continues to move forward. We are nearing completion on the construction of the Coal Mining Training Center (CMTC) and are preparing for instruction to begin this fall. We have submitted a grant proposal to the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

ANDREA WITTHOFT
Dean of Special Programs
August 2003 -

MARY BORNHEIMER
Dean of Student Services
2004 - 2008

ADMINISTRATIVE TIMELINE

2003 - 2004 2004 - 2005 2005 - 2006 2006 - 2007

to construct a mine rescue training facility as part of the CMTC. The new addition will allow us to complete our offering of a state-of-the-art mine training facility and will establish a regional location for miners to come to complete mine rescue training.

Spring Semester began with another record-breaking enrollment – our 12th straight semester! Not ones to sit on our laurels, we are actively looking forward, with new ideas for offerings and a complete review of all programs. We are undertaking an environmental review of our district to make sure we are meeting the needs of our communities as well as looking hard at each program to ensure the college is operating as efficiently as possible – ensuring we are good stewards of the people’s money.

The Board of Trustees recently approved several organizational changes. The changes solidified the interim positions as well as aligned “like” functions. Not a major overhaul, but rather just a little tweaking.

We recently completed a renovation of the Welding Lab and are underway on renovating one of our Science Labs. Additionally, work is underway to install a geothermal heating/air conditioning system at The Hitting Zone, a great “green” opportunity that will significantly reduce operating costs. We are enthusiastically researching new “greening” opportunities for the college as well. We recently established an Energy Taskforce to follow through on new energy efforts, as well as to help determine projects and resources available. Several greening projects are planned . . .

The Dual Credit program continues to grow; this year, it eclipsed \$1 million in college savings for district high school students and their parents . . .

I am happy to report the college is doing well. We have many new projects underway, have written for several new grant opportunities and are re-engaging with our students and communities. With dedicated faculty and staff who care about students, I am truly optimistic about RLC’s future.

HOLSTEIN: NO RENEWAL ▶ **Leaving to pursue other opportunities, more time with children, complete PhD**

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE DECEMBER 13, 2011

Rend Lake College President Charley D. Holstein announced Tuesday night (December 13) at the Board of Trustees monthly meeting he will not seek to renew his contract as President when it expires June 30.

Holstein said he is leaving to pursue other professional opportunities, spend more time with his three children – the youngest of whom is 6 – and focus on completing his PhD. He will have served RLC for more than four years when he leaves the office at the end of June.

“I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here at Rend Lake College,” said Holstein. “The years have gone by very quickly and I want everyone to know I will continue to work hard at moving Rend Lake College forward until my last day.”

RLC Board of Trustees Chairman Bryan Drew said the Board holds great respect for the leadership Holstein has shown during his tenure as president.

“Charley is definitely leaving Rend Lake College better than he found it and, for that, the Board offers its gratitude and good wishes,” said Drew. “Thanks to the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, Foundation and administration at Rend Lake College, we are better off now than four years ago.”

Drew acknowledged the Board’s commitment to the college and said it will soon begin establishing a time frame and process for the recruitment and selection of Holstein’s successor.

Holstein, 47, first came to the college in 2008. Prior to that, he worked for a large private sector investment firm after retiring from the U.S. Army as a decorated combat officer.

As the college’s chief administrator for nearly four years now, Holstein has guided RLC in numerous advancements while battling tumultuous times in state funding.

- Some major milestones the college realized over the past four years include a maximum 10-year accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission in 2008 and inclusion on the Aspen Institute’s list of the Top 10 percent of two-year public colleges in the nation with the best graduation rates. HLC officials recently gave RLC a glowing review of the only follow-up report it requested of the college in the accreditation process.

- Rend Lake College is in the process of undergoing what is arguably the most significant campus-wide technology upgrade in its history. This upgrade, which will streamline all college functions and provide internet-based services for RLC students, is anticipated to be complete in 2013.

- RLC has enjoyed record enrollment and has had a record number of students



Shakir discovers, returns keepsake script to owner

NEWS RELEASE FEBRUARY 15, 2008

A local woman was reunited with her unique and cherished keepsake today, thanks to the goodwill of a Rend Lake College administrator.

According to 72-year-old Jean Bishop of Benton, her purse was allegedly stolen from her shopping cart at the Benton Wal-Mart. It ended up on a Highway 37 shoulder five miles south of RLC, where it apparently was thrown from a moving vehicle by the alleged purse-snatcher. That is where Salah Shakir comes along.

The RLC Vice President of Information Technology was heading home Thursday and noticed the black purse on the side of the road, highly visible in the snow. He turned his car around and picked it up.

“I thought somebody left it on the back of their car and it fell off,” he said. “I thought I could get it back to the owner.”

Shakir had no idea until today what his selfless deed meant to Bishop. When she came to campus Friday, she explained that inside the purse was one of her most prized possessions. Tucked in a velvet jewelry box was a \$5 piece of script, more than 100 years old, issued by the Coal and Lumber Co. of Sterns, KY.

Scripts were used to pay coal miners. The employer would issue scripts as wages to miners, who would trade them for goods and services in a mining community. The coin-like keepsake was given to her in 1972 by her late husband. She plans to pass it down to her daughter, a mine inspector.

The script – once worth \$5 – is now much more valuable, particularly to collectors of exonumia. “I’ve already been offered \$5,000,” Bishop said.



State funds untimeliness = overwhelming burden

PRESIDENT'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2009

In his second progress report to in-district residents after the "Interim" tag was removed, President Charley Holstein explained one challenge state colleges have faced on a regular basis in current times.

"... On a less positive note, the state's budget woes hit the college hard this summer as we struggled to maintain sufficient working cash balances to meet our obligations. The State of Illinois is approximately two- to four-months behind in payments and it looks like it may get worse before it gets better.

"For an institute of higher learning like RLC, which relies heavily on state funding to keep the doors open, the untimeliness of state payments puts an overwhelming burden on the college. It looks as if the untimely payments may continue through the rest of the fiscal year and will require us to look at our operations and programs very closely.

"No matter the problems with state reimbursements, the college continues to provide excellent services to our students and the citizens of our communities. I have traveled the district extensively over the past six months, meeting our constituents and speaking at different local events. I have logged more than 6,000 miles and have spoken to approximately 25 different groups, telling the story of RLC and making sure everyone knows how important RLC is to the economic development of our district."

President Holstein (cont.)

graduate each year.

• In 2009, the decision was made to disaffiliate the Studio RLC cosmetology program from Paul Mitchell Cosmetology Schools. With complete continuity in the curriculum – but now available to students at half the cost – enrollment soared, eventually exceeding capacity and triggering the startup of an evening program.

• The college ramped up efforts toward offering its first online degree, became one of two colleges statewide to offer all four Associate of Arts in teaching degrees recognized by the Illinois Community College Board and joined a partnership to offer the first online hybrid Associate of Science in nursing program in college history. Overall online and hybrid course offerings continue to rise, as credit hours from these classes have more than doubled since 2008.

• The campus landscape changed dramatically. RLC resurrected its coal mining program with the construction of a 20,000-square-foot training center in 2009 and later complemented the curriculum with a facility for mine rescue and fire safety training.

The college was unable to financially support a project that began in 2010 to expand its satellite campus in Pinckneyville. Instead of tabling the expansion, college leaders and the RLC Foundation worked together. The Foundation raised money and contributed its own funds.

In August of 2011, the doors were opened to a major science lab and computer center addition at the Murphy-Wall Pinckneyville Campus that enables students to earn a complete Associate Degree without having to travel to Ina. The expansion was completely funded by the Foundation and donations from residents in the Pinckneyville area.

• In 2009, one of four planned science lab overhauls was completed on-campus and workers recently put the finishing touches on a \$278,000 renovation to the welding lab in time for student use there this semester.

• Over the past few years, the college has abounded financially, despite operating in arguably the most alarming state funding

predicament in its 44-year history.

"We find ourselves in the best financial position we have enjoyed in more than 10 years," said Holstein. "That is something everyone on this campus and our Board should be extremely proud of. Considering the financial difficulties we have faced over the past several years with state funding, it's a testament to the creativity and sacrifices everyone has been willing to make to shore up our financial position.

"We were able to strengthen our financial position considerably without ever having to make personnel cuts, layoffs or furloughs, and that is something I am extremely proud of."

The recent audit of RLC's financial operations shows the college to be in a very stable financial position, especially considering the recent lag in uncollected revenue from the state for fiscal year 2011.

"As a team, we have accomplished a lot of things in the past several years – all of which I am extremely proud to have been a part of," he added.

"We developed a functional strategic plan, created a Facilities Master Plan, established a participative environment across the institution and worked hard to improve services and offerings to our constituents.

"Performance indicators are up at RLC and I feel comfortable the college is in a great position to continue to move forward. Rend Lake College abounds with high-quality professionals who are dedicated to our students and our communities. I see nothing but great things on the horizon for this college and I will enjoy watching it grow."

MT. VERNON REGISTER-NEWS DECEMBER 14, 2011

In his story related to the resignation of RLC President Charley Holstein, *Register-News* Reporter Rorye O'Connor quoted Board of Trustees Chair Bryan Drew . . .

"Charley's done a really great job. He's going to move in a different direction, and so is the college. It's not an easy job. The President has to protect the district's tax dollars, maintain and run the whole campus. It's a budget of millions of dollars and hundreds of employees."

ADMINISTRATIVE TIMELINE



PRESIDENT / 2012-

Second 'home-grown' product Wilkerson the 'clear choice'

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 10, 2012

Terry Wilkerson, a Rend Lake College professor and administrator of nearly 15 years, was named Rend Lake College President during Tuesday's meeting of the Board of Trustees.

The Dahlgren native was selected by Trustees from an outstanding field of applicants through a process involving interviews by the Board as well as by various employee committees. Wilkerson officially assumes the position July 1.

"The RLC Board of Trustees spent two months assessing applicants and interviewing a group of highly qualified individuals for the position of Rend Lake College President," said RLC Board Chair Bryan Drew. "In the community college setting, it is common for the Board of Trustees to receive input from faculty, staff and current administration in the search for a new President. In this case, it was a clear choice by everyone involved as to the best person to lead Rend Lake College into the future."

"I would like to thank the Board of Trustees and the campus for the confidence they have placed in me to continue our work of providing quality education and building relationships throughout our district," Wilkerson said.

"Terry Wilkerson is a proven leader who has the rare ability to be as comfortable in a meeting with local politicians and business leaders as he is with students and faculty," Drew said. "President Wilkerson has demonstrated a deep desire to develop policies for the betterment of the students at Rend Lake College, and the Board of Trustees looks forward to the President's continued success in implementing these policies to make Rend Lake College the best educational experience it can be for our students and community."

Wilkerson, 39, is a homegrown leader. He earned an Associate in Applied Science Degree from RLC in 1992, and followed that with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Plant and Soil Science in 1994 and a Master of Science Degree in Agronomy in 1995, both from Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

[Terrence M. Wilkerson earned his AAS Degree in Ag Production and Management.]

The valedictorian of his graduating class at Hamilton County Senior High School,

Wilkerson maintained a 4.0 grade-point average throughout his college career.

He continued his relationship with RLC when he began teaching full-time in the Agriculture program in 1997. In 2006, Wilkerson was invited to participate in RLC's Emerging Leaders Institute, designed to identify and develop potential future campus leaders. He continued his teaching duties through 2008, when he was named Interim Chair of the Applied Science and Technology Division, an appointment which was subsequently made permanent. In this capacity, Wilkerson supervises faculty, staff and students; manages budgets and facilities; evaluates curricula, and develops new programs based on the training needs of area industry.

"We have an outstanding faculty and staff at Rend Lake College," Wilkerson said. "I look forward to working with the familiar faces on campus as we continue the good work of the college."

As President, Wilkerson said he will work to focus the college more on student service and satisfaction. "We will continue to put the students first as the cornerstone of our mission, and we will actively strive to strengthen our relationships with area business and industry partners as well as other educational institutions."

Wilkerson contributed heavily to the successful Higher Learning Commission Self-Study and the subsequent reaccreditation visit in 2008, and also was a contributing author to the Career Technical Education Assessment follow-up report in 2011.

In addition to his duties at the college, Wilkerson is owner/operator of Wilkerson Farms in Hamilton County and was one of 10 national finalists for the Outstanding Farmers of America Fraternity's four "Outstanding Young Farmer" Award-winners in 2009. He was named an honorary member of Phi Theta Kappa in 2009. Wilkerson is involved in various community activities and sits on the Hamilton County Farm Service Agency Board.

Wilkerson takes over for President Charley D. Holstein, who opted not to pursue renewal of his contract when it expires June 30 in order to pursue other professional opportunities and focus on completing his Doctorate Degree.



REND LAKE COLLEGE PRESIDENT



Ex-Valedictorian, Student of Year attention-worthy

Terry Wilkerson has had a knack for getting people's attention at Rend Lake College since the day he arrived on-campus as the Valedictorian of his Hamilton County Senior High School Class of 1990.

Two years later, he departed with a degree in Ag Business and Management and the distinction as co-winner of the prestigious "Outstanding Ag Student of the Year" Award for 1991-92. He shared honors with Belle Rive's Jason Newell, who had spent his sophomore year as the non-voting Student Representative on the Rend Lake College Board of Trustees, elected by his peers.

Following the death of one of his mentors, Doug Leeck, Wilkerson was hired March 18, 1997 as a AAA Instructor on a temporary basis. Full-time status followed that August.

He was appointed to the Academic Council for 1997-98, and for two years after that was elected Academic Council Chair, as he was again for five straight years beginning with 2003-04 through 2007-08.

(Continued on next page)



Attention-worthy (cont.)

After Dr. Sarah Bond resigned as Applied Science Division Chair in September 2008, she was succeeded as Interim Chair by Wilkerson. The Interim label was dropped the following May. Wilkerson later assumed the expanded role of Applied Science and Technology Division Chair.

Wife Julie Wilkerson taught Music full-time for RLC from 1998-2004. She resigned prior to being named Assistant Warden at Big Muddy River Correctional Center.



Board highlights ... Title changes, multi-year pacts

MAY 27, 2003

Trustees acted on recommendations by the administration, changing individual position titles from "Deans" to "Vice Presidents" and academic groupings from "Departments" to "Divisions."

JUNE 10, 2003

Multi-year (five-year) contracts were awarded to President Mark S. Kern, Vice President of Finance and Administration Bob Carlock, Vice President of Information Technology Salah Shakir, RLC Foundation CEO Pat Mitchell and Director of Physical Plant Randall Shively.

DECEMBER 14, 2004

Two-year contracts were extended to Vice President of Instruction Jim Hull and Dean of Instruction Lisa Payne.

President Wilkerson (cont.)

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME ▶ 'We want you. We want to help you get to where you're going. Never doubt it.'

REND LAKE COLLEGE CATALOG 2013-14

There are many possible reasons you have decided Rend Lake College is for you. Whether it is reputation, location, affordability or convenience, we are glad you are here.

Our job is simple: to serve you to the best of our ability. Whatever your discipline, we have the experts to help you through every aspect of your time at RLC, from registration through graduation. In your academic classes you will be taught by faculty educated and practiced in their fields, and in our career technical programs you will receive training from experts with real-world experience.

If you plan to transfer to a university to earn a Bachelor's Degree or higher, it's a fact RLC students perform better academically than students who go directly to a four-year institution. Just as importantly, you can get those first two years completed here for a fraction of the cost of a university.

We also serve as a great avenue to get you directly into the workforce with one- or two-year career technical programs. From computers to nursing, ag mechanics to graphic design, we offer a varied slate of training to develop skills for the working world.

At RLC, small class sizes mean you'll be more than just one person among hundreds in a giant lecture hall. Even so, the layout of our main campus still gives you that university feel. We also offer classes at two satellite centers, the RLC Murphy-Wall Pinckneyville Campus and the RLC MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon, as well as at other locations throughout our district.

We believe education should be available to everyone. Many students receive financial aid in some form, whether it is grants, scholarships or loans, and our tuition rates remain low compared to universities, all in an effort to keep costs as low as possible.

Today, community colleges are appreciated for what they are: the smart choice. We offer the same high quality instruction of a university, closer to home, without the university price tag. You're not a number to us. We want you here. We want to help you get to where you're going. Never doubt it.

REND LAKE COLLEGE CATALOG 2015-16

Rend Lake College is the place thousands of people turn to each year to lay the foundation for their future, whether that means continuing on to a four-year university or getting out into the working world. We're here to make sure your journey starts well.

We are the most affordable path to a higher education when compared to the larger institutions around us, and that is by design. Community colleges were created to be "commuter colleges," institutions of higher learning within driving distance of home. Rend Lake College continues to uphold its goal of providing affordable, accessible higher education to in-district residents.

We have made strides in making higher education more accessible with the continued development of online and hybrid courses, better suited to students needing flexible class schedules. Our satellite campuses in Mt. Vernon and Pinckneyville offer additional options for residents of those areas. Most of our students receive financial aid in some form as well, whether it is grants, scholarships or loans.

It's proven a community college education is both an investment and a savings for those who earn a degree or certificate. The rate of return on that investment is well worth it. Graduates enjoy greater lifetime earnings, and RLC students perform better academically than students who go directly to a four-year institution.

If the idea of enrolling in college seems a little intimidating, don't worry. We have the staff and faculty to help you along the way, and you are likely to find a friend in much the same circumstances as you, whether you are a young person taking your first steps after high school or a non-traditional student looking for a fresh start. Your journey starts here.

ANDREA BANACH

Dean / Math and Sciences

HENRY "BUSTER" LEECK

Dean / Liberal Arts

CHRIS NIELSEN

Dean / Applied Science and Technology 2012

LORI RAGLAND

Dean / Community-Corporate

KIM ROBERT

Dean / Allied Health

JASON SWANN

Dean / Admissions-Enrollment

ANGIE KISTNER

Vice President of Finance and Administration
March 1, 2013

LORI RAGLAND

Vice President of Career Technical Education
July 1, 2015

2011 - 2012

2012 - 2013

2013 - 2014

2014 - 2015

JOB PREPAREDNESS ▶

Wilkerson: From Emerging Leaders, The Chair Academy into Presidency

Terry Wilkerson, the one-time reluctant Rend Lake College student (see Sidebar, Page 1, **EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP**), underwent a total makeover between the time he first stuck his foot in the door to sample a taste of higher education and Fall 2012, when he was the one standing at the door and welcoming a new generation to their futures in his well-deserved capacity as President Terry Wilkerson (sans the typical presidential coat-and-tie, no doubt).

But do not think for a second that he did not come well-prepared to the position . . .

✱ Hamilton County Senior High School Valedictorian, Class of 1990.

✱ Member of select group of student Agri-Achievers to represent Ag program.

✱ Co-“Outstanding Agriculture Student of the Year,” 1991-92.

✱ AAS Degree from Rend Lake College. B.S. and M.S. Degrees from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

✱ Appointed to Academic Council for 1997-98, his first full year as an Ag Instructor for his Juco alma mater (Class of '92).

✱ Academic Council Chair seven of 10 years, beginning with 1998-99.

✱ Hand-picked by administration for the first RLC Emerging Leaders Institute, designed to identify and develop potential future campus leaders, 2006.

✱ Interim Chair, Applied Science and Technology Division, 2008. (“Interim” tag dropped within the first year.)

✱ Participant, along with another RLC up-and-comer, Henry “Buster” Leeck, and 51 others, at the Midwest Leadership Academy June 14-19, 2009 and June 13-18, 2010 hosted by Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, KS.

The Midwest Leadership Academy is a product of Arizona-based The Chair Academy, “Worldwide Leadership Training for Post-Secondary Leaders.”

“The Chair Academy, a department of Mesa Community College and the Maricopa County Community College District, is dedicated to delivering exemplary leadership development,” according to its website. “The Academy has offered world-class, competency-based, leadership development programs for college and university leaders since 1992.

“Leadership programs are offered at the organizational, state, regional, national and international level. The Annual International Leadership Conference attracts leaders from around the world to experience distinguished keynote speakers and presentations. The Academy’s refereed journal is respected as a source of inspiration and best practices in leadership.

“Programs are competency-based and include either six or 10 days of onsite training over an 18 month period. They are designed with an applied practicum experience in which participants select a mentor, are assigned an Academy Coach and conduct the art of reflective practice and journaling. They are designed to develop transformational leaders by broadening the participant’s knowledge of leadership theories and principles, as well as developing management and leadership skills.”

✱ - ✱ - ✱

Presidential search: looking for way to spend ‘spare’ time

Not enough to do? President Terry Wilkerson also serves:

■ Carl Perkins representative on Southern Illinois Workforce Investment Board, comprised of 33 partners representing business, labor, education and other entities who are committed to directing workforce development efforts in Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson, Perry and Williamson counties.

■ Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market, comprised of RLC, J.A. Logan, Kaskaskia, Shawnee, Southeastern Illinois, SIUC and SIUE.

REND LAKE COLLEGE PRESIDENTS

▲ 1967 - 1975

(July 1, 1967 - September 15, 1975)

Dr. James M. Snyder

▲ 1975 - 1978

(July 1975 - June 1978)

Dr. W. Travis Martin

▲ 1978

(Interim ~ April 1978 - August 1978)

H.J. Haberaecker

▲ 1978 - 1989

(August 1978 - February 28, 1989)

Dr. Harry J. Braun

▲ 1989

(Interim ~ March-June 1989)

Mark S. Kern

▲ 1989 - 1991

(July 1, 1989 - June 1991)

Dr. Jonathan M. Astroth

▲ 1991

(Interim ~ July 1 - September 2, 1991)

Dr. Keith R. Lape

▲ 1991 - 2008

(September 3, 1991 - June 30, 2008)

Mark S. Kern

▲ 2008 - 2012

(Interim July 8, 2008 - March 31, 2009)

(April 1, 2009 - June 30, 2012)

Charley D. Holstein

▲ 2012 - Present

(July 1, 2012 - Present)

Terry Wilkerson

THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET

Vice Presidents, Deans critical members of leadership team

RON APPUHN

■ *Dean for Finance and Administration / 1984-91*

The Business Office Comptroller when hired by Rend Lake College in 1981, he was tabbed Interim Dean in November 1984 and Dean for Finance and Administration the following February.

Appuhn was a DuQuoin resident at the time he was named Comptroller and held a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the University of California at Berkeley.

- Departed on the 10th anniversary of his arrival date at RLC, at the end of June 1991, to become Vice President of Business Services for Sauk Valley Community College in upstate Dixon. His responsibilities there will be similar to those at RLC, but with even more exposure to personnel matters.

A farewell party for Appuhn was held at the same time as that for Dr. Jon Astroth, RLC President. The announcement of Appuhn's resignation in the internal Rend Lake College FYI newsletter stated, "The player/coach of RLC's basketball version of the 'Over-the-Hill Gang' is about to bite the dust." His enthusiasm for the sport led him to become the ringleader behind staff participation in regular after-hour pick-up games, following in much the same manner as his Business Officer predecessor, Bob Spuhler.

- Update: Appuhn met and eventually married SVCC Vice President of Planning and Development Karen Wentz, with the couple moving to Tennessee in 1996.

Appuhn served as Maryville (TN) College Vice President and Treasurer from 1996-2000. He later became Director of Business Service for the Webb School of Knoxville but was asked to return to Maryville in February 2007 to manage its \$20 million Campus Improvement Plan (CIP). Within one year, 70 percent of the project had been implemented as a result of new construction, renovation, repairs and equipment purchases.

Together, Appuhn and Wentz have six adult children between them, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

She has been very active in Rotary work for many years. Wentz received the Rotary Foundation "Citation for Meritorious Service" Award in 2012 and was named to the Board of Directors for 2015-17 for Rotary International.

Appuhn likewise is a community activist with his involvement in Rotary

since 2005, serving as Maryville-Alcoa Club President in 2011-12. He recently was presented the prestigious Rotary International "Service Above Self" Award, considered that group's highest honor. He was the club's primary advocate behind the Heart to Heart Partnerships program which has been the recipient of six Rotary Foundation grants totalling \$673,000 for 131 water-tank systems for schools in Mexico and kidney transplants for 100-plus young adults in that country.

He also has been a board member for Second Harvest Food Bank and worked with Habitat for Humanity and United Way, among others.

ANDREA BANACH

■ *Dean of Math and Sciences / 2012-*

One of Rend Lake College's newest Deans took the road well-traveled getting from nearby Waltonville, where she was a Math Teacher starting in 1995, to a full-time position on the Ina campus in 2012.

So what was she doing inbetween?

Granted, she was a part-time Math Instructor for the college as early as 2001.

But from 2004-12, she was employed by Rend Lake College off-campus as the College Coordinator/Director of Correctional Education at Pinckneyville Correctional Center.

In 2012, she returned to her Math roots and became Dean of Math and Sciences.

Banach earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and her Master's Degree in Educational Administration from Eastern Illinois University.

MARY BORNHEIMER

■ *Interim Dean of Student Services / 2006-08*

Mary Bornheimer has been a valued employee since she was first hired in 1999 as a Computer Trainer and Computer Information Systems Instructor for the RLC Times Square Campus. She was listed as an Advanced Technology Center Computer Science Instructor in the 2001-02 catalog, Director of Institutional Research by 2002-03 and Interim Dean of Student Services in the 2006-07 catalog.

Perhaps Bornheimer's legacy in her brief time as Interim Dean of Student Services will be her creation and development of a nine-month training program for select faculty and staff, the RLC Emerging Leaders Institute (ELI). The program, which graduated a second class of participants in 2008, has become

a model for other colleges and businesses nationwide.

A Rend Lake College graduate with an AAS Degree, Bornheimer earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and a M.S. Degree from the University of Phoenix.

During her time at Rend Lake College, the Bornheimers established a scholarship in memory of her mother, the Sue Rountree Memorial Scholarship, since renamed as an endowed gift as the Bornheimer-Rountree Endowment Scholarship.

- Not long after her husband, RLC Foundation Board member Robert Bornheimer, was promoted by his company and transferred to the St. Louis area, the Interim Dean accepted the position of Director of Institutional Research and Planning with McKendree University in Lebanon. By 2012, she had completed her Ph.D. Degree from North Central University and was Vice President for Research, Planning and Technology at McKendree.

Dr. HOMER L. CISSELL

■ *Dean of Instruction / 1999-2002*

Dr. Homer L. Cissell will become Dean of Instruction at Rend Lake College, effective December 16, following his appointment during a special Board of Trustees meeting conducted via teleconference Monday, November 22, 1999, at noon.

Cissell has been Campus Dean and Chief Academic Officer for the Lincoln College campus in Normal since 1995. He is in his second stint with Lincoln College, having been there from 1980-91 as Dean of Institutional Advancement before returning to his native Southern Illinois to serve as Resource Development Consultant for Shawnee Community College between 1991 and '95.

The new Dean is a graduate of Century High School in downstate Ullin and holds Bachelor, Master and Doctorate degrees from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. His undergraduate degree was in Biological Sciences, and he has 20 years of experience as an instructor in Biology and Anatomy/Physiology.

In addition to Lincoln College and Shawnee, he also has taught for South-eastern Illinois College and SIUC.

The nationwide search for a position that has been filled by Interim Dean Barbara Bauernfeind attracted 89 applicants. Four candidates were interviewed. Cissell will be offered an initial contract 18 months in length, through the 2000-01 academic year.

Since Cissell accepted his present position four years ago, Lincoln College has gone from an institution with declining enrollment to a campus which has averaged around 16 percent growth each year. The campus now has more full-time students than part-time students for the first time in its history. Along with that growth, the average pre-entrance ACT scores of incoming freshmen has increased 11.4 percent as well.

Cissell also has been instrumental in campus-wide technological improvements. All full-time faculty members have fully networked personal computers to aid them in the instructional process as well as serving students through advising and registration.

Described as a "team-player," the new Dean commented in his application, "I believe my understanding of current issues in education, and in particular the specific needs of rural community colleges, will enable me to be an important asset to the institution and the administrative team."

Cissell received both his M.S. and Ph.D degrees in Education. He has had articles published regarding "Strategic planning behaviors of Illinois community college program administrators" in the *Community College Journal of Research and Practice* and "Cutting administrative costs without cutting personnel" in *The Community College Times*.

He has been honored with the "Outstanding Service Award" from the Shawnee Community College Alumni Association; the "Community Service Award" in Lincoln, and the "Viola Stott Award - Encouraging Growth and Excellence in the Work Place."

Additional highlights during his most recent tenure at Lincoln College-Normal: Overseeing the \$1 million Midwest College of Cosmetology facility constructed in 1998, with enrollment already over 75 percent capacity in Cosmetology, Massage Therapy and Esthetics; development of a computerized textbook rental system; implementation of a service learning component, "Volunteering for Credit"; greater emphasis on writing and the fine arts, and a four-day academic week which positively impacted enrollment.

During four-plus years at SCC, he monitored all grant applications, including a successful \$2.5 million Title III "Strengthening Institutions" Grant, and was responsible for soliciting a donation of \$750,000 in equipment from Electric Energy, Inc. He also trained staff and faculty in Resource Development; coordinated training programs for area industries; coordinated an Endowment Campaign for the SCC Foundation; developed and coordinated

the College Alumni Association, and actively solicited external support for under-funded programs.

• Cissell left in Summer 2002 to accept the Presidency of Lassen Community College in Susanville, CA.

TERRY CLARK

■ *Dean of Vocational-Technical Education / 1996 - 2002*

Vocational veteran Terry Clark has been tabbed to succeed the retiring Carroll Turner as one of Rend Lake College's top-level administrators.

The newly named Dean of Vocational-Technical Education technically is not scheduled to assume command until July 1, 1996, but he will begin learning the ropes alongside Turner beginning May 13.

Clark, a resident of West Frankfort, joined the full-time faculty as an Agriculture Instructor in 1975 and has been a Department Chair since 1991, when he succeeded current President Mark S. Kern in the Agriculture, Automotive and Architecture Department.

He also has headed the Industrial Technology Department, serving in a dual capacity for over a year recently, with responsibility for 11 programs.

Six internal applicants were interviewed for the position, which reports to the Vice President. Clark's appointment is contingent upon him having a Master's Degree by the starting date; he is scheduled to receive his M.S. in Education next month from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. In addition to RLC and SIUC, where he earned a B.S. Degree in Animal Industries, Clark has attended the University of Kentucky and U. of Illinois.

A member of the RLC Federation of Teachers negotiating team in both 1986 and '88, Clark served as its President in 1990. He presently is a member of the Prairie and Insurance committees on campus and previously served on the Academic Council (1989-91) as well as the following committees - Curriculum, Student Retention (Chair), Educational Computer, Presidential Screening (Chair, 1991), MIS Technical and Maintenance Advisory.

In terms of professional leadership, Clark initiated the District V Future Farmers of America Computer Contest in 1986 - a first in the state in what has since become a national competition - and conducted the first District V FFA Sales Contest in 1990; he introduced and taught computer classes for Ag students, making it a requirement for graduation, and he assisted in curriculum development and grant funding for the computer-based Illinois Agricom Program.

He also started the Manufacturing Technology program approved last year and headed the AAA Department when it received NATEF recognition in 1994 for the Automotive program.

Most recently, he was instrumental in the procurement and relocation of a one-room school house on campus as part of the native prairie restoration project.

The new Dean is active as a lay leader for Trinity United Methodist Church, is Secretary-Treasurer of the West Frankfort Music Parents Association and has served previously in various roles for the Franklin County 4-H Council and 4-H Fair.

Clark was a Special Agent in Military Intelligence for the U.S. Army and has been a self-employed farmer in production agriculture since 1969. Prior to that, he worked on the family farm for 10 years.

• For many years after his departure from Rend Lake College, Clark worked closely with college personnel involved with the Tech Prep and Illinois/Regional Programs of Study Partnership programs in his part-time position with the Franklin-Williamson Regional Superintendent of Schools Office.

PAUL M. FITCH

■ *Business Manager / 1968-73*

The former Treasurer for Mt. Vernon Township High School and part-time Mt. Vernon Community College and RLC employee accepted a full-time position with the college in 1968. *The Pyramid Times* student newspaper called Fitch "one of the foremost authorities on school finances and business procedures in Southern Illinois."

A native of Salem, Fitch had been named Treasurer of the Rend Lake College Board at its original organizational meeting. As such, he was considered the first employee to be hired by Rend Lake College . . . December 21, 1966. He also had been a member of the Board of Education for MVTTHS prior to becoming Treasurer.

• Fitch died August 19, 1973. "So long an integral part of Rend Lake College (and MVCC), Mr. Fitch will be missed by those who knew him," the *Pressing Times* noted. "The college itself stands as a continuing memorial to Mr. Fitch and his work." A plaque in recognition of Fitch is displayed on a wall in the RLC Business Office.

CHERYL FOLEY

■ *Dean of Community Services / 1978-83*

The outgoing Instructor taught Speech Communication classes and directed theater productions for Rend Lake College for 10 years before being named Dean of Community Services in December 1978. The 33-year-old Foley was selected from 105 applicants.

Foley received her Bachelor's Degree in Speech and Theatre from Moorhead (MN) State University and a Master's Degree in Speech Communication from Northern Illinois University. She also taught at NIU one year.

In her role as Dean of Community Services, Foley was responsible for all Adult and Continuing Education programs. She continually expanded the number of both credit and non-credit offerings off-campus, evening and Saturday classes on-campus and initiated several new programs, including college-sponsored seminars, workshops and trips to cultural events and performances in the Midwest.

The former Cheryl Merkens and Myron Foley, Business, Math and Social Sciences Department Chair from 1976-81, married while employed at Rend Lake College. Both joined the faculty in 1968.

- They have both been associated with M.G. Foley, Inc. Real Estate, one of the most successful agencies in Mt. Vernon, since leaving the college. Cheryl Foley is active in numerous civic organizations; she was the first female President of the Mt. Vernon Noon Rotary Club.

ROBERT L. GRAHAM

■ *Dean of Student Services / 1975-80*

Prior to accepting the administrative position at Rend Lake College in May 1975, Graham was Director of Student Services for Olney Central College from 1966-75.

He taught for two years at Marshall High School, entered the guidance field during his one year stay at Lanark High School and then returned to Marshall, where he established a Guidance Department and worked for five years before joining the college ranks.

Popular with the students he served, Graham had earned both his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from Eastern Illinois University.

"Student Services plays an important part in our College Mission, and we will miss Bob's participation," RLC President Harry J. Braun said at the time of Graham's departure. "We wish Bob and his family the very best in this new challenge."

- Graham left Rend Lake College in 1980 to go into private business after purchasing the Side Door Lounge in Mt. Vernon. He died October 24, 1989, at the age of 55 in Nashville, TN.

Dr. JAMES R. HULL

■ *Vice President of Instruction / 2002-08*

When he was named Associate Dean of Instruction in mid-October 2002, Hull claimed victory over 134 other applicants

from a nationwide search. Nine individuals were interviewed.

Hull was Dean of Technology and Corrections at Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg prior to his arrival at RLC. In that role, he was responsible for strategic planning and management of all vocational programs on-campus and off-campus Job Corps sites at four Illinois Department of Corrections facilities.

He also served as SIC's Title III Coordinator and as a member of the Adjunct Faculty, Director of Education-to-Careers and Director of Workforce Development during his seven-year tenure. Prior to that, he spent 4 1/2 years in the Regional Office of Education as a Child Find Coordinator.

Priorities within one month of starting included the development and implementation of a Cosmetology program, review and revision of all assessment plans for all instructional programs and getting to know students, faculty and staff and becoming an active part of the institution.

Hull said he recognized Rend Lake College as "a little different" than most traditional community colleges. "It is a very progressive institution, especially with the MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon," he stated. "It makes for a very positive atmosphere when you have so many innovative things going on."

Asked about the greatest challenges facing educators today, Hull cited the current state of affairs in Illinois with regard to the enormous budget shortfalls. Of immediate concern monetarily are continued program funding, keeping pace with employee salaries and maintaining affordable tuition. He expects balancing those priorities will be quite a task.

Hull was four classes shy of completing coursework leading to a Ph.D. in Workforce Education and Development from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale at the time of his arrival. The program's focus is on community colleges, their relationship with the diverse workforce and education/training issues to keep the population up-to-date with ever-changing technological advances.

He already holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) Degree from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marketing from SIU-Carbondale and an Associate Degree from Southeastern Illinois College.

"I think we will always have the traditional model of education, but with the population increasing and with the economy as it is, we have to explore new ways to make education available to both traditional and nontraditional students, not bound by place or time," he said.

Hull indicated he is excited to be at RLC,

noting the "professional, well-trained faculty and staff" who contribute to the high-quality education the college has provided for over 35 years.

But he also knows there will be many challenges ahead. In particular, he cited the current state of affairs in Illinois regarding enormous budget shortfalls. Of immediate concern are continued program funding and keeping pace with employee salaries, while at the same time maintaining affordable tuition. "Balancing those priorities will be quite a task," he admitted.

- Hull left to become Vice President for Academic Services at Lake Land College in Mattoon in July 2008.

In May 2014, the Southeastern Illinois Community Foundation Board of Directors appointed Hull to a three-year term on the Mattoon Area Community Foundation Advisory Board.

ARDELL W. KIMMEL

■ *Dean of Vocational-Technical / 1970-79*

The Chairman of the Agriculture Department, ArdeLL W. Kimmel, was named Dean of Vocational-Technical Education in October 1970 following the resignation of Ronald Kruppa in August.

A native of Murphysboro, Kimmel taught Agriculture in several Illinois high schools for 18 years and "had established a reputation with other instructors and with the State Board of Vocational Education," according to Dr. Howard E. Rawlinson in **The First Fifteen Years**. He also had served as Supervisor of Student Teaching for Southern Illinois University.

Kimmel held both a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture and a Master's Degree in Education from the University of Illinois.

Prior to his promotion, the new Dean assisted his predecessor in the development and implementation of the Agriculture program, Automotive Mechanics and Beauty Culture, as well as a Medical Technology course in Nursing.

Kimmel also served in the late '70s as President of the Illinois Council of Local Administrators, comprised of Illinois Vocational Education leaders and Advisory Council members. The special plaque he received at the organization's Annual Meeting in Springfield as Outgoing President was designed by vocational students at Bloomington High School.

Ardell and Wilma Kimmel are the parents of three children, Donna, Beckie and Phillip.

- Kimmel was in charge of Cooperative Education and Career Placement his last two years before retiring from Rend Lake College in 1981.

He died December 24, 2011, at age 86.

ANGIE KISTNER

■ *Vice President of Finance and Administration / 2013-*

Rend Lake College graduate (Angela Christy Trader, A.S. Degree, Class of 1989), joined the full-time staff as Business Office Registration Assistant in 1992, later Finance Assistant.

In 2003, she was promoted to Controller effective January 1, 2004, serving as the No. 2 person in the Business Office to Dean for Finance and Administration Bob Carlock.

When Carlock retired for the second time in 2013, Kistner was named to replace him, effective March 1.

Kistner was one of three recipients of the 2011 Rend Lake College Foundation "Outstanding Staff" Award. She was nominated by the Staff of the RLCF Children's Center.

Her letter of recommendation indicated Kistner "daily exceeds expectations and . . . continuously strives to help us brainstorm ideas to improve budget and manage finances."

Both Anna and Tony, the children of Angie and Scheller Farmer Scott Kistner, attended the Children's Center.

"It's nice to be recognized for simply doing a job that you love to do," she said.

Kistner served on the Children's Center Parent Advisory Council, as well as the college's Online Degree Committee and the Policies and Procedures Committee.

RONALD C. KRUPPA

■ *Dean of Vocational-Technical / 1968-70*

The first director of the RLC vocational program, Ronald C. Kruppa, "had helped plan" the Southern Nevada Vocational-Technical Center in Las Vegas . . . "Mr. Kruppa had also been employed by Triton Junior College in Illinois," according to **The First Fifteen Years** by Dr. Howard E. Rawlinson.

He was the fourth member of the RLC administrative team to be hired in September 1968 and will be working with Mary Ksycki, Coordinator of the School of Nursing, and Ardell Kimmel, Coordinator of the Agriculture program.

Kruppa, 35 at the time of his hiring, earned his Bachelor of Science Degree from California State College and his Master of Science Degree in Education from Duquesne University (PA). He and his wife, Betty, are the parents of a son, Dan, 12.

• Kruppa resigned as the Vocational-Technical Dean in August 1970.

CHRISTINA KUBERSKI

■ *V-P of Academic Instruction / 2008-18*

The Board of Trustees chose to fill the

vacant Vice President of Instruction position in July 2008 with two employees who combine a wealth of talent and ability. Splitting the V-P of Instruction position into Vocational Instruction and Academic Instruction will allow for Lisa Payne and Chris Kuberski to use their expertise and experience in their new roles.

Kuberski served as Interim Vice President of Academic Instruction for just shy of a year before the Interim tag was removed in May 2009.

"I am humbled and excited about this appointment," she said. "I am excited about this incredible opportunity to serve the institution and contribute to its continued growth and success. I am humbled by all of the kind words I have received and the faith entrusted to me."

She has worked full-time with the college since August 1989. The 46-year-old Chair of the RLC Liberal Arts Division came aboard as an Adjunct Instructor before taking a permanent position teaching English nearly 20 years ago. Nine years later, Kuberski was promoted to Division Chair of Arts and Communication, which became the Liberal Arts Division when Social Science was added in 1999.

"Chris Kuberski has served as the Liberal Arts Division Chair and brings a wealth of academic knowledge and experience with her as she serves as the Interim V-P of Academic Instruction," Holstein said then. "Her tenure as a faculty member and then Division Chair gives her an abundance of experience and ensures she is a great fit for this important position."

"As I see it, my job is to ensure RLC offers quality instruction by providing the resources, support and development opportunities needed by the faculty," Kuberski explained. "Currently, my priority is to be the administrative resource for the HLC Steering Committee. I see this as a position of service . . . service to faculty, students, the community and RLC."

Along with another Division Chair, Barb Davenport, Kuberski has been instrumental in the fantastic growth and success of the Dual Credit program embraced by area high schools and their students in recent years, which has resulted in millions of dollars in savings for in-district parents and students.

She lives on what was her grandparents' farm in Tamaroa with her husband of 22 years, Paul Jr. He farms approximately 700 acres. The couple has three children – 16-year-old twins Joshua and Zachary, who will be juniors at Pinckneyville Community High School, and 11-year-old Mara, a sixth-grader-to-be at St. Bruno.

• Kuberski's resignation was accepted in June 2015 by the Board, effective July 3.

Dr. KEITH R. LAPE

■ *Dean of Instruction • Vice President / 1988-92*

Dr. Keith R. Lape was hired Tuesday night (April 19, 1988) as the new Dean of Instruction at Rend Lake College, effective July 1.

Lape, who has been the Vice President for Continuing Education at MacMurray College in Jacksonville the past four years, also boasts considerable experience as a former administrator for both the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

The RLC Board of Trustees approved the appointment of Lape at its regular monthly meeting. His annual salary will be \$53,500.

Dr. Harry Braun, RLC President, noted that he and the screening committee, "as well as the various groups that met with the candidate, observed Dr. Lape as having an extraordinary degree of personal integrity and strong interpersonal communications skills.

"He comes across as firm, yet very open to the ideas of those he is working with," continued Braun. "It is my opinion Keith possesses the personal and professional skills that are right for Rend Lake College at this time.

"In addition to the development and refinement of instructional programs, the college needs to fine tune many of the components connected with its instructional and student services programs. Keith, I believe, has the capabilities and the leadership qualities to effectively lead the institution in these areas."

Nine individuals were interviewed from an original file of 213 applicants following a national search. The position has been vacant since the September 30 resignation of former College Dean Mark Kern.

Lape earned a Doctor of Philosophy Degree from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and his Bachelor and Master's degrees in Education from Eastern Illinois University.

He has taught classes at Eastern Illinois University and Northern Illinois University and in public school systems in Mattoon and Galesburg.

From 1967-79, Lape served as Manager of the Adult and Continuing Education Section for the ISBE in Springfield.

He became Director of Programs for the ICCB between 1979 and '83 before accepting a promotion as Assistant to the Executive Director of the ICCB, a position he held until leaving in 1984 for MacMurray College, a private, church-affiliated four-year institution.

Lape and his wife, Dr. Phyllis N. Lape,

also an educator, are the parents of two daughters.

• After serving under three Presidents – as Dean of Instruction under Dr. Harry J. Braun from 1988-89 and as Vice President under Dr. Jon Astroth from 1989-91 and Mark S. Kern from 1991-92 – Lape asked for and received early retirement at the May 1992 Board of Trustees meeting.

Lape served as RLC Interim President during Summer 1991 (July 1 through unofficially September 2), following the departure of Astroth to become the first President of Heartland Community College and the appointment of Kern.

In November 1992, Lape returned to MacMurray College as Assistant to the President. He was hired to help coordinate long-range planning efforts and gift solicitation for the restoration of Jane Hall, a historic residence facility.

Lape retired from MacMurray in 2002 as Vice President for Graduate and Continuing Education. After joining the Rotary Club for the first time during his stay in Mt. Vernon, the Fayette County native would become a Paul Harris Fellow and Benefactor of the Permanent Fund of Rotary International (along with his wife) and served as District 6460 Governor for the Springfield area for 2005-06.

Dr. KENNETH J. LASALLE

■ *Dean of Instruction / 1977-78*

Dr. Kenneth J. LaSalle, 38, of Chicopee, MA, was named as the new Dean of Instruction at Rend Lake College December 21, 1976. The College Board of Trustees voted unanimously to award the Dean's position to LaSalle during its regular monthly meeting, ending an extensive five-month search to fill the position left vacant when Dr. Phillip G. Ward resigned in order to become President at Glen Oaks Community College in Michigan.

LaSalle has served as a Professor and Division Chair for the past seven years at Holyoke (MA) College.

Dr. Travis Martin, RLC President, indicated he expects LaSalle to start work around January 6. He has been hired at a salary of \$24,000 per year.

"The Search Committee has done an outstanding job in selecting the Dean from a list of candidates which consisted of more than 250 applicants," Martin said. "Dr. LaSalle is a very qualified candidate and will be able to further the educational goals of Rend Lake College."

The new Dean is a native of Paterson, NJ, and received his B.S. Degree from Bryant College (RI) and a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Rhode Island. In 1968, he earned his Doctorate in Education from Boston Uni-

versity, where his studies included fundraising for institutional development with the Polaroid Corporation; systems design and analysis; long-range educational planning; human relations, and a minor in Public Relations. He also completed some post-doctoral study at the University of Massachusetts from 1974-76.

A former high school instructor, he was an Assistant Professor at University of Rhode Island, 1967-69; Voluntary Professor at the Martin Luther King Center in Providence, RI, 1968-69, and Assistant Professor at Rhode Island Junior College, 1966-69.

When he started at Holyoke College, there were three Business programs, 10 faculty members and 295 students. Presently, there are 15 programs, 30 full- and part-time instructors and over 1,300 students.

In addition, the former U.S. Army Sergeant has served as a business consultant for such firms as John H. Breck, Inc. (Breck Shampoo), American Cyanamid, Scott Paper Company and TRW-Holyoke Wire and Cable Corp.

He and his wife, Lynn, have traveled extensively in Canada and Europe. They are the parents of three children. His interests include hiking, sailing, scouting and travel.

Despite their considerable difference in locations, "Holyoke was not much different than Rend Lake College, and as a matter of fact was really quite similar," LaSalle commented following his arrival in Mt. Vernon and Ina. "Our aim was to place a strong emphasis on serving our college community, and Rend Lake's emphasis is the same.

A major difference: the community college system in Massachusetts is governed by a statewide Board of Trustees, whereas RLC has a local Board. "I happen to like the local system of governance much more," he said, "because it enables the college to better serve the needs of its district. Not only is this evident in the academic area, but also in the kinds of social services offered by the college."

• LaSalle left to become President of Fulton-Montgomery C.C. in New York.

He died November 12, 2010, at age 72 in Grand Blanc, MI.

HENRY "BUSTER" LEECK

■ *Dean of Liberal Arts / 2012-*

The personable young educator had a tough act to follow but has more than proven himself on his own fast-track to success.

A tuition waiver to attend Rend Lake College was established for "Buster" as a high school underclassman following

the untimely death of his father, Doug Leeck, 45, who was the RLC Agriculture, Automotive and Architectural (AAA) Department Chair. The elder Leeck taught in the Ag program from 1975-96 until his promotion less than a year before his heart attack jolted the college community.

The son accepted the generous offer from RLC Trustees and graduated from his father's alma mater in 2000. He went on to earn Bachelor (History) and Master (Education) degrees from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale before teaching part-time at Rend Lake College Spring 2004.

A History Instructor by trade, Henry "Buster" Leeck taught full-time for the college from 2004-08 and was named Liberal Arts Division Chair in 2008 when Chris Kuberski was named Interim Vice President of Academics.

The title "Dean" was added in 2012, along with five others – Andrea Banach in Math and Sciences; Chris Nielsen in Applied Science and Technology; Kim Robert in Allied Health; Lori Ragland in Community and Corporate Education, and Jason Swann in Admissions and Enrollment Management.

Outside recognition came his way in April 2008. According to excerpts from the news release . . .

"The personal touch Rend Lake College History Instructor Henry Leeck puts on his work with the college's Institute for Lifelong Learning is just one reason he has been named the Illinois Lifelong Learning Coalition's Instructor of the Year.

"The kid from Opdyke, known most of his life as 'Buster,' is now a college History Instructor who typically teaches 18 hours each semester with nearly 200 students. That does not include his 'above and beyond' service with the Institute and many other events, committees and organizations. He has been teaching students of the Institute since 2006.

"Buster was a Program Technician for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (before joining the college faculty). He also has been a substitute teacher at Bluford Grade School and still serves as a substitute school bus driver for BGS.

"Each year, he takes RLC students on an adventure in New York City, dipping them in American culture and history . . .

"Lifelong Learning students enjoy the excitement Buster brings to the classroom, as well as the unique and intriguing historical stories he shares with his students,' it is stated in his nomination letter. 'Buster is a great instructor who uses his humor, wit and presentation style to bridge a chasm of age and bring Lifelong students to a historical place in time with him.'

"Said Kuberski, 'He does not wait for others to offer the opportunities; he seeks them out and often creates them himself. He is known for his enthusiasm and willingness to contribute his time and talents for a good cause.'"

JAMES R. MCGHEE

■ *Dean of Adult Education and Community Service / 1969-73*

Jim McGhee taught both Art and Engineering for Rend Lake College prior to his appointment as Dean July 1, 1969.

The position of Dean of Adult Education and Community Services was established because of a new state law which required junior colleges to provide two-year degree programs, two-year vocational-technology programs and make available adult education courses and other community services to people within the district.

McGhee, who was born in Ripley County, MO, was a retired Full Colonel of the U.S. Army. He entered the Army in 1942 and proudly served his country in both World War II and the Korean Conflict, receiving numerous medals of commendation. He later was Commander of the 434th Artillery Group, which controlled all reserve artilleries in Illinois and Missouri, giving up command in 1968 – to concentrate on graduate studies – but remaining in the Army Reserves until 1975.

McGhee earned an M.S. Degree in Education from Southern Illinois University, majoring in Technical and Industrial Education while minoring in Administration and Supervision.

McGhee was the published author of **Golden Acorn Memories**, his account of WWII through his experiences.

While working for McDonnell-Douglas Aircraft, he worked on the Mercury and Gemini space projects. He also worked for Ford Motor Company.

McGhee was extremely interested in genealogy and spent much of his retirement pursuing that part-time. A book of McGhee genealogy was pending publication at the time of his death

• McGhee died July 7, 2003 at home (Mt. Vernon) at the age of 83. Among survivors were his wife of 60 years, Wilma, two sons, four daughters, 16 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Dr. JULIE K. MEENTS

■ *Dean of Instruction / 1998-99*

A national search that swept across the cornfields of Nebraska, found its way briefly to remote areas of Kenya, East Africa and eventually ended in culturally diverse Alamogordo, NM, brings Dr. Julie

K. Meents to the rural Southern Illinois campus of Rend Lake College as its new Dean of Instruction.

Meents was appointed to the position July 3 by the RLC Board of Trustees during a special meeting at noon on the Ina campus. The new Dean heard the good news in person and then met faculty and staff during a welcoming reception that afternoon.

She is planning to start work July 14. In a restructuring of administrative duties, she replaces Dr. Steve Tietz, the retiring Vice President who will be leaving at the end of the month.

Meents has been a Professor of Biology for New Mexico State University's branch campus and comprehensive community college in Alamogordo for the past 14 years. She recently completed a six-month tenure as Acting Division Head of Mathematics/Science/Technologies, served previously as an Evening Campus Coordinator and has been involved in an Administrative Mentorship program at the college.

A native of the Cornhusker state, she graduated from high school in South Dakota before returning to attend Nebraska Wesleyan University and eventually earn her Bachelor of Science Degree in Zoology from the University of Nebraska. Meents later received a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Animal/Plant Ecology from New Mexico State University and has done postgraduate study at Arizona State University (Statistics) and New Mexico State (Computer Science).

Meents spent the 1996-97 academic year on professional leave in order to serve as a Visiting Professor at Moi University in Kenya in a program to improve teaching in third-world environments. She was a consultant with the Departments of Wildlife Management, Zoology, Chemistry and Environmental Health to improve quality and relevance of instruction.

She has written or coauthored numerous articles in a variety of publications and boasts considerable professional experience, including time spent as a research biologist for projects involving threatened and endangered species, vegetation studies, environmental impact studies on the White Sands Missile Range, Avian ecology of the Colorado River and fire ecology of the Chihuahuan Desert.

Since 1989, in addition to her university-related responsibilities, Meents has been the Business Manager for Tularosa Clinics, Inc., a busy primary medical care practice and clinical laboratory.

"Through my involvement with programs such as 'Writing Across the Curriculum' and 'Critical Thinking,' I have

realized students learn not by being exposed to knowledge, but by exploring, analyzing, discussing and evaluating information and then incorporating conclusions into a personal knowledge-base," the new Dean explains in her Teaching Philosophy.

"There certainly is a role for the traditional lecture . . . but I have found teaching based solely on the traditional lecture critically limits student involvement and benefits. Ultimately, feeding information to students through textbooks, lecture and exams results in their amassing a set of independent 'facts' and only ephemeral retention of important principles. When students are more involved in the learning process, they actively incorporate concepts and, given the skills, can become independent, lifelong learners."

She added, "It also is clear people learn in different ways. By incorporating verbal, visual, textural and tactile components, and using both individual and group approaches, the greatest range of student learning styles can be stimulated. Awareness of cultural differences is important."

• Dr. Julie K. Estabrooks, née Meents, became a member of the administrative staff at Columbia (MO) College in 2000 as Director of Academic Excellence, now called the Writing and Math Centers.

The following year, she was responsible for writing the institution's first Student Support Services Grant, which provided academic support for low-income, first-generation and disabled students. "One of my proudest achievements," she was quoted in a college profile. "The program has become a tremendous asset for our campus."

She became part of the faculty in 2002, teaching General Biology, Ecology and Evolution courses, and has served as Science Department Chair. On the Columbia College website, she is listed as an Assistant Professor of Biology and Academic Grants Coordinator for the Physical and Biological Sciences Department.

According to her Faculty Profile, Julie and her husband, Chip Estabrooks, have two adult children and "care for a variety of domestic and wild plants and animals" on their 90-acre ranch 12 miles outside of Columbia.

CHRIS NIELSEN

■ *Dean of Applied Science / Technology / 2012-18*

When one mine opening closed on Chris Nielsen, the doors to Rend Lake College's Mining Technology program opened wide to welcome him. It was 1991 when he was laid off by Old Ben Coal,

but within a short time the educational institution and its students were blessed with a part-time instructor with big-time experience to share.

Within a year Nielsen was employed full-time once again, this time by RLC, and things could not have turned out better. So good, in fact, the 2010 "Outstanding Faculty" Award-winner was in his 23rd year with the Ina-based community college – three years after his promotion to Dean of Applied Science and Technology – when he announced intentions to retire July 1, 2018.

RLC President Terry Wilkerson has followed Nielsen's career since the beginning in Electrical Retraining. He likes what he sees, as evidenced by the fact Nielsen was chosen to succeed Wilkerson as Applied Science and Technology Division Chair when the latter moved into the top spot.

Ironically, Instructor Nielsen likewise replaced "Wilk" as Rend Lake Federation of Teachers Local No. 3708 President, a position both held for a number of years.

In a letter nominating Nielsen for the Faculty Award, Chairman Wilkerson stressed consistent leadership, dedication and work ethic.

"Chris has an uncanny ability to reach his students on a level that not only facilitates learning, but also a sense of accomplishment," Wilkerson stated. "His sense of duty and loyalty to his students and the education they receive is unparalleled on campus."

Things have changed since his early days on-campus. Most of the Instructors he looked up to have retired. Programs merged. The Coal Mining program that was once RLC's biggest vocational program went away. Nielsen took the reins of Industrial Maintenance, which now houses three certificate programs and two degree programs, all the while thinking the college would still benefit from some mining courses.

"I always thought it would be great if we could offer Ventilation classes and Roof Control classes," he said. "Now, we are doing just that."

The once-displaced miner who became a teacher has come full circle. Nielsen, Wilkerson and Mining Technology Instructor Dave Colombo work as a team to make the college's revitalized Coal Mining program a success.

With grants and additional support from local industry, RLC's Coal Mining Technology program has a new 20,000-square-foot home with a unique indoor mock mine. The program uses state-of-the-art equipment to train students, like a continuous miner from Joy Mining Machinery, a power center pur-

chased with Department of Labor funding, cutting-edge welding booths and a mine rescue safety training facility.

"I think we've turned out to be a pretty good team," Nielsen said. "Everybody plays their part and does their thing."

According to Wilkerson, Nielsen has been a key member of the Applied Science and Technology faculty, and was like his "right hand" when Wilkerson took over Division Chair duties in 2008.

"Chris has been nothing but supportive and truly a team leader when many others might have created obstacles rather than work to move the division forward," Wilkerson stated.

One of his biggest strengths is recruiting, he said. Nielsen visits area high school campuses on a regular basis and sponsors an annual contest in which local high school students visit the college and use their technical knowledge to compete for scholarships to RLC.

LISA PAYNE

■ *Dean of Special Programs / 2002-04*

■ *Dean of Instruction / 2004-08*

■ *V-P of Vocational Education / 2008-14*

Lisa Payne had been with RLC for 23-plus years – more than five years as its Dean of Instruction – when she was named Interim Vice President of Vocational Education in 2008. (The Interim title was removed in May 2009.)

Her path at RLC shows a natural progression to the recent appointment. She started as Coordinator of Community Services and has held titles like Coordinator of the Center for Business Services, Director of the RLC Small Business Development Center and Associate Dean of Special Programs. She was promoted to Dean of Special Programs before becoming Dean of Instruction in 2002.

"Lisa is one of the most experienced administrators in all facets of vocational training," President Charley Holstein said. "She manages a majority of the vocational programs already for the college in her role as Dean of Instruction, and is the perfect fit to pick up the remaining vocational programs previously managed by the V-P of Instruction, as well as perform many of the administrative and support functions of Instruction."

As Dean, she was responsible for the Community Education program, the RLC Center for Business Services, AmeriCorps, Perkins Grant, the Workforce Investment Act, Truck Driver Training and Technical Preparation for high school students, as well as for the Architectural Technology, Office Systems Technology, Graphic Design, Business Education, Criminal Justice and Surveying Technology programs.

"I am so happy to be able to step in and help with the responsibilities of the Vice President of Instruction," she said. "I feel my background, education and experience have prepared me well for this."

The 49-year-old Wayne City resident credited an "excellent faculty and staff" for aiding a smooth transition at RLC and "making the services and education RLC provides second to none."

• Payne retired in June 2014 after 29 years with Rend Lake College, almost all of those at the administrative level.

LISA PRICE

■ *Dean of Student Services / 2008*

■ *Vice President of Student Srv. / 2008-*

The former Executive Director of Academic Counseling was promoted to Dean of Student Services effective January 9, 2008. She will assist newly named Vice President of Student Services Charley Holstein with the operation of Student Services programs.

Price has worn many hats at Rend Lake College, rising steadily through the ranks since starting as a Teen Parent Services grant-funded case worker in October 1994. She then became coordinator of the Future Focus abstinence education program, and later was named Director of K-12 Programs before assuming her most recent role as Director of Academic Counseling.

Price was honored by her peers last May when she received the 2007 RLC Foundation "Outstanding Staff" Award during the annual Board / Faculty / Staff Dinner.

"She is a wonderful leader who is admired and respected by her colleagues," the nomination letter reads.

". . . She is just a great person to work with. She is a great ambassador for Rend Lake College . . . She is very involved in activities of her children and community."

Lisa Bauer was a student-worker in the RLC Bookstore while attending college; much later, as a valued full-time employee, Lisa Price was invited to join the Emerging Leaders Institute.

Price holds an Associate in Arts Degree from RLC and Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Education degrees from SIU-Carbondale.

She has served in elected positions on both the Ewing Grade School Board of Education and, most recently, the Benton High School District 103 Board (through 2015). She also has been voted Franklin County Northern Township Clerk through 2017.

LORI RAGLAND

■ *Dean, Community/Corporate Ed / '12-15*

■ *V-P, Career-Technical Education / 2015-*
Hired initially in 2000 as the Adminis-

trative Assistant for the RLC Foundation, Ragland gained experience working with RLCF Board members and financial supporters. She was involved with all aspects of the not-for-profit, fund-raising organization, including working closely with the Institute for Learning in Retirement.

Rather than losing her to a potential career change – she was considering a teaching position – the administration elevated her to RLCF Assistant Director in October 2001. “She is the right-hand person in the Foundation Office,” according to rationale provided. “The standard Lori sets in the office is very high. She works very well with people.”

Four years later, in June 2004, she was transferred to the newly created position of Community Education Assistant Director due to a consolidation of programming. The highly successful ILR program, which provides educational and cultural opportunities for senior adults, accompanied her in the move.

Yet another four years later, Ragland succeeded the retiring Dawn Gibson as Director. And in a recurring theme, four more years after that, by then 2012, she was elevated to the position of Dean of Community and Corporate Education.

The most recent career advancement came even quicker . . . to Vice President of Career Technical Education at the June 2015 Board Meeting, effective July 1. She succeeds Lisa Payne, who retired in 2014.

According to administrative rationale, “She has proven herself with her work experience and background in career technical programs and industry trainings, and possesses the skills to succeed.”

The mother of two RLCF Children’s Center “graduates” was the 2003 as recipient of the “Outstanding Staff” Award.

Ragland received her Bachelor of Science Degree from Greenville College and a Master of Arts in Education Degree from McKendree University.

MARY ROE

■ V-P of Student Services / 2000-04

The Director of the highly successful Title IV Student Transfer and Retention Support (STARS) project was named Interim Dean of Student Services in July 1999. Her Interim status was removed the following year.

In her new role, Roe will supervise Admissions and Records, Counseling, Financial Aid, STARS, Special Populations, Tutoring, the new “Upward Bound” Grant and student organizations.

She will be responsible, in particular, for designing and implementing systems for student retention and recruitment activities which will emphasize student out-

reach and student matriculation through academic planning, advising, counseling, orientation and career development.

Roe is a Past President of the Pinckneyville Community High School Board of Education and was serving on the RLC Foundation Board of Directors at the time she was hired full-time in 1988 to coordinate the Vocational Special Needs program. For two years prior to her promotion to the Dean’s position, Roe was responsible for establishing and directing the highly successful STARS grant project.

After transferring from Saint Louis University following her freshman year to Southern Illinois University, she earned B.A. and M.S.Ed. degrees from SIUC and has remained active the last 30-plus years through a variety of organizations, including the SIU Alumni Association Board of Directors, the Southern Illinois Workforce Investment Board, the Morris Library Campaign Committee and the SIU Friends of Morris Library Board of Visitors. She is a former President and active Board member of the Southern Illinois Case Coordination Services (SICCS).

According to a feature story in the SIU Alumni Association magazine, “Her altruism begins at home as she has been giving of her time to the Pinckneyville Community High School Board of Education, St. Bruno’s Church (Trustee), the Shagbark Girl Scout Council, Man-Tra-Con (an employment facilitator) and a myriad of other community organizations.

In 2005 Mary and husband Bill were named “Outstanding Persons of the Year” by the Pinckneyville Chamber of Commerce. The Roes are parents of three children – David is a medical doctor in Michigan; Sarah is an Attorney in St. Louis, and Julie, Director of Student Athlete Reinstatement with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

• Roe retired from Rend Lake College in 2004 after 16 years of service. In recent years, she has been Chair for the S.I. Workforce Investment Board and a Director on the Pinckneyville Public Library Board.

Both Roes are listed among Sustaining Charter Members of the Foundation for Pinckneyville, formed in 2008 as a catalyst for implementation of a long-term Vision Statement for the community and surrounding areas of Perry County. According to the Foundation’s Mission: “Our goal is to make Pinckneyville a destination – a community with quality education, state-of-the-art healthcare and economic stability.”

SALAH SHAKIR

■ V-P of Information Tech / 1999-2010

■ V-P of Student Services / 2004-06

Hired originally in December 1995 to direct the college’s Management Information System (MIS) as Information Services Director on a part-time basis (full-time in August 1996) and serving in recent months in a dual capacity as Interim Dean of Student Services, he was named to the newly created position of Dean (since changed to Vice President) of Information Technology at the July 1999 Board of Trustees meeting.

He will continue to head the MIS program as well as oversee the Learning Resource Center, the Faculty Development Center and Distance Learning.

It was more of the same in December 2006, when Shakir was presented a Bronze Major Gift Award by the RLC Foundation in recognition of \$10,000 or more in contributions. By then he was Vice President of Information Technology and Student Services (the latter added in July 2004). He also was serving as Chair of the Advanced Technology Division.

A native of Iraq, Shakir was appointed to GWEC – the nation’s Global Wireless Educational Consortium. GWEC is governed by a list of directors with varied backgrounds in education and industry pertaining to global wireless and cellular technology. The organization provides vast resources regarding the educational aspects of a wireless technology degree and the wireless industry itself.

Among his many accomplishments are creation of the first Associate in Applied Science Degree in Cellular and Communications Technology in the nation; the design and development of a college-wide administrative system (School Administrative System or SAS) that took five years to develop and has saved RLC more than \$1.5 million; introducing the college to nationally recognized speakers Tim Elmore and Sam Glenn; starting the National Society of Leadership and Success – Sigma Alpha Pi chapter for students, which provides them leadership training and exposes them to accomplished individuals such as Stephen Cover and Jack Canfield, among others; the installation of the first college Voice Over IP (VoIP) system in Illinois; the development and implementation of the first Student Orientation Program at RLC, which has helped improve traditional-student retention by 10 percent, and automation of all federal, state and college reporting.

In 2006, Shakir’s efforts to obtain a key cellular network component for the Wireless Communications program paid off when Verizon Wireless agreed to donate the component – a switch valued at an estimated \$1 million. It is the largest gift the RLC Foundation has ever received.

Shakir was the Director of Information Technology at Shawnee Community College for five years before joining Rend Lake College part-time in 1994 as a computer consultant. He also worked for seven years as Statistical Analyst/Project Engineer/System Analyst with the Maytag Corporation in Herrin.

Shakir graduated from Southeastern Illinois College with an Associate in Applied Science Degree and holds another AAS Degree, as well as Bachelor Degrees in both Advanced Technical Studies and Computer Science from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. He also holds a Master's Degree in Education from Western Governors University and is working on a doctorate.

Shakir left his native country in 1976 to study in England, then moved to the United States in 1980. Several close family members still live in Iraq.

- Shakir resigned in 2010. He joined the Midway (KY) College administrative staff soon thereafter. Midway is a private liberal arts college near Lexington.

As a speaker at the Learning Impact Leadership Institute held May 4-8, 2015, at the Grand Hyatt Atlanta Buckhead, he addressed the topic, "Enforcing Principle of Accreditation for Online Education Using Xproctor."

Shakir's bio at the LILI 2015 appearance, according to xproctor.com: "Dr. Salah Shakir, Chief Information Officer of Midway College and highly accomplished, results-driven Technology Executive with a proven record of success in directing technology operations, projects and initiatives. Salah has a degree in Computer Science from SIUC, Master in Education Technology from WKU, Doctorate from NCU (Northcentral University) and Diploma from Harvard.

"Salah is the founder of Xproctor service (2014) for authentication and proctoring for online education.

"Expert in Baldrige Performance Excellence Program, System Analysis, Software Architecture, evaluating and implementing new technologies to facilitate process improvement. Strong business development that includes operational management and process improvement."

PAMELA SMITH

■ *Dean of Student Services / 1985-94*

A part-time GED Instructor for the college for six years, she was named GED Coordinator in 1978 and was hired full-time in 1979 as Director of the Developmental Skills Center. She was promoted to head the Student Services division in February 1985 as Associate Dean and then as Dean of Student Services.

Areas reporting to Smith included the Counseling Center, Financial Aid, the School Nurse and Affirmative Action Officer, the Early School Leaver program, grant-funded "Project First Class," the Child Care Resource and Referral program and student activities.

As Dean, Smith ultimately was responsible for organizing the college's student recruitment and retention efforts, responding to student grievances, student discipline, student activities, student assessment and development, counseling and advisement, financial aid, budgeting and grants pertaining to student services.

Both her B.A. and M.Ed. degrees were from the University of Illinois. Pamela Archer was a Charleston High School senior when future Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar was a sophomore.

Smith taught two years at a military-base high school in Ft. Knox, KY, and spent another year teaching adults in Germany. Prior to moving to Mt. Vernon, she also taught four years at the high school level in Champaign.

- Smith submitted her resignation in October 1993, effective the following February. Her plans at the time were still tentative. (She would later become an Investment Broker in the Carbondale area for A.G. Edwards.)

Smith's husband, Ron, was killed in a hang-gliding accident the previous fall.

"I will miss working with the students as well as working with and for such a supportive and caring administration, faculty and all support staff. I appreciate the challenges and opportunities afforded me. I know I will not find a better organization with which to work; however, I am looking forward to a career change," she commented. "Thank you for helping make the past 20 years good ones."

Dr. ROBERT H. SPUHLER

■ *Dean of Student Services / 1980-84*

■ *Dean of Administrative Srv. / 1981-84*

Robert Spuhler, who arrived in July 1980 from Indiana University's Richmond campus, was named Dean of Student Services. The 33-year-old Spuhler spent the previous two years as Director of Advising and Student Development at IU-East.

Prior to that, he was Associate Director for the University of Southern California's Washington (D.C.) Education Center.

He assumed the dual role of RLC Dean of Administrative and Student Services in 1981, less than a year after his arrival. He previously headed the Student Services division only, before assuming responsibility for business functions – formerly under the supervision of the Business Manager – as well.

Spuhler (pronounced Spool-er) boasted Master's Degrees in Counseling and Management from Pepperdine University (CA) and Central Michigan University and an Educational Specialist Degree from New Mexico State University. He earned his doctorate degree from USC in 1983.

Under Spuhler's direction, financial aid to RLC students more than doubled, business and registration functions were computerized, the counseling program was strengthened and "our auxiliary services have continued to reflect innovation and improvements in the way they serve students and faculty," according to RLC President Harry Braun.

Spuhler "was given the opportunity to head up two areas of responsibility which he had apparent strengths to work in, and both areas improved dramatically under his leadership. Bob has made many fine contributions to Rend Lake College while having to face numerous challenges associated with the positions."

- After leaving RLC for a position as Dean of Finance and Administrative Services with Thomas Nelson Community College in Hampton, VA, he spent the last 20 years of his educational career at Colorado Mountain College, where Dr. Spuhler served as Vice President and the last six years as President. He retired in 2008. CMC, a two-year college, includes 20,000 students and campuses in nine counties, including such communities as Glenwood Springs, Steamboat and Aspen.

JASON SWANN

■ *Dean of Admissions and Enrollment Management / 2012-16*

Hired as the College Recruiter in May 2005, Jason Swann was appointed seven years later (August 14) to fill the newly created position of Dean of Admissions and Enrollment Management.

The position is intended to streamline and strengthen the college's recruitment, marketing, enrollment and retention efforts, placing critical components of these efforts under one umbrella. I.e.:

- Provide strategic direction and leadership for the offices of Admissions/Recruitment, Marketing and Public Information, Registrar/Student Records, Financial Aid, Institutional Research, Enrollment Management and Athletics.

- Develop strategies to meet the college's admissions and enrollment goals.

- Develop and implement a strategic enrollment management plan.

- Supervise budgets and personnel for all departments and programs reporting to the Dean of Admissions Office; ensure compliance with legal requirements pertaining to student records.

- Oversee Warrior and Lady Warrior athletic programs.

- Continue to develop and implement college recruitment and retention efforts.

As College Recruiter/Coordinator of Recruitment/Dual Credit Academic Advisor from 2005-12, he developed, implemented and maintained RLC's overall recruiting program. He did so by working with Division Chairs to promote their programs; developing relationships with high school counselors, teachers and administrators to "promote Rend Lake College as their institution of higher learning," and working closely with Marketing and Public Information to produce informational and promotional materials.

Swann took his college diploma right to the Illinois Supreme Court in 2000. That is, he worked for three years as a Legal Researcher and Library Assistant for the Illinois Supreme Court before returning to his undergrad alma mater as Admissions Counselor for Blackburn College. At BC he was responsible for the recruitment and selection of qualified applicants for admission through extensive travel, telemarketing and presentations; his concentration was in the City of Chicago and other Northern Illinois territories.

The former college football player earned a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from Blackburn College and his Master of Arts Degree in Education from McKendree University. He presently is a Doctor of Philosophy candidate through Fort Wayne-based Indiana Institute of Technology and its Global Leadership program, with an Academic Administration Specialization.

Dr. STEPHEN B. TIETZ

■ *Vice President / 1992-98*

The Department Chairman who co-chaired a Self-Study Steering Committee which netted a 10-year accreditation for Rend Lake College has been promoted to the position of Vice President.

Dr. Stephen B. Tietz was appointed to the position, effective July 1, at the June 16 regular monthly meeting of the RLC Board of Trustees. He replaces Dr. Keith R. Lape, who retired last month.

Tietz was named Vice President the day before his 49th birthday.

He was one of three applicants for the position that was advertised internally only. Two candidates were interviewed.

The new Vice President was hired at an annual salary of \$62,150.

He joined the Rend Lake College faculty as an English Instructor in 1979 and was named head of the Arts and Communications Department four years later.

During his tenure as Department Chair,

programs in the Art, Speech and Journalism curricula have won state and national recognition, "and I take a great deal of pride in the accomplishments of the faculty of my department," Tietz added.

From 1986-88, he served as Co-Chair of the Self-Study Steering Committee in preparation for an evaluation visit by North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, the widely recognized Midwest accreditation agency.

The resulting 10-year accreditation was the maximum possible.

In his rationale to the Board, Kern indicated he was recommending Tietz because he is "knowledgeable concerning the college's strengths, areas of improvement needed, administrative procedures and personnel; he has experience working with the North Central Association and also program evaluation as required by the Illinois Community College Board, and he has good knowledge of computers and computerized instruction, an area of increasing importance at the college."

In his present capacity, Tietz maintains a teaching course load of three hours per semester while overseeing seven full-time and approximately 15 part-time instructors in art, English, music, speech, theater, journalism and foreign languages.

He has taught both basic Composition courses, Creative Writing, Classical Literature, Modern Literature and Short Story.

Between 1981 and '86, he also served on the Board of Directors of Illinois Writers Incorporated.

Tietz earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in English, with a minor in Biology, in 1967 from Wabash College (IN). An M.A. from Indiana University followed three years later, and he completed his Ph.D. from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale in 1978, concentrating on "American Literature Since 1965."

Tietz was a Teaching Assistant and then a Lecturer at SIUC from 1974-78, and before that was an Instructor at Western Illinois University for almost four years.

His poetry has been published in a variety of books, magazines and other publications. He likewise has authored fiction pieces and three chapbooks. In May, he was named Assistant Editor of a new journal on American Short Fiction being published by Eureka College.

Tietz also takes pride in the fact he was a founding Editor between 1970 and '74 of **The Mississippi Valley Review**, now in its 22nd year of publication at WIU.

- When Tietz retired in April 1998, along with longtime Director of Learning Resources Dave Patton, Arts and Communications Department colleague (and softball buddy) Dr. John Homan Jr. and

Electronics Professor Charles Dickens (a favorite of the two English Professors, no doubt), the following was reported in the Rend Lake College F.Y.I. following a salute to the quartet . . .

Dr. Tietz (has been) a colleague of President Mark S. Kern since 1979 but a close friend since the two attended a workshop in Boston together in '92 and Tietz introduced him to wombats.

Despite many differences, the unlikely friends also have similarities, Kern noted – both are only children; they are the same age; each has allergies, and even though Kern graduated from downstate Benton H.S. and Tietz from upstate Crystal Lake, both had the same Algebra Instructor "who retired shortly after that," according to Kern.

"Steve is quicker-witted than I am, but I can fix a lawnmower and he can't," Kern admitted.

Kern recalled Tietz, earlier in their careers, quitting the Curriculum Committee after the Dean of Instruction (Kern) forced through a course. "If I told you all of our professional careers everything had been smooth, I'd be telling you a lie," Kern said.

"But he (Tietz) has always been there for me when I needed him. If I weighed all the negatives and positives, it would come up 10-to-nothing in favor of the positives.

"I'm not losing a friend," Kern said of the pending retirement in the office next to his, "but I am losing the every-day quick wit, humor and friendship I am really going to miss."

CARROLL TURNER

■ *Dean of Vocational-Technical / 1979-96*

R.L.C. F.Y.I. RETIREMENT STORY MARCH 1996

For 26 years, Carroll Turner has been there when Rend Lake College needed him. That is not going to change.

"If I can be of assistance in the future, don't hesitate to call," he says. Better yet, "leave a message at the pro shop."

Turner, RLC Dean of Vocational-Technical Education since 1979 and aspiring senior golf tour pro, is still willing to help, but he may not be as easy to locate, at least on campus. He is retiring as of this summer. His resignation was accepted "with deep regret" at the March 19, 1996, Board meeting, effective August 10.

"I have always been proud to be associated with Rend Lake College. It has been a real privilege to have worked with so many great people," Turner stated.

"As you well know," he said in his letter of resignation to longtime colleague Mark S. Kern, who is now the college President, "it is a long way from Bonnie in 1968 to Ina in 1996."

Trustees expressed their "appreciation

for Turner's 26 years of exemplary service to Rend Lake College."

Primary responsibilities for Turner's successor will include supervision of all vocational programs, the JTPA Client Service Center and the Center for Business and Industry. The Vocational-Technical Dean reports to the Vice President.

Turner and Kern were both hired as Instructors July 1, 1968, to start the Agriculture program. The program, which started that fall, was housed in the old Bonnie Grade School before that building was destroyed by a tornado and it was forced to move to the Ina campus before permanent facilities had been completed.

Turner served as the AAA Department Chair for two years when Kern was named Dean of Community Services, beginning with the 1974-75 academic year, and even left the college for two years after that. He worked for Riverside Farms in Zeigler for a year and at Franklin Grain and Supply one year before returning to RLC as Dean of Vocational-Technical Education at the age of 38. He was one of 61 applicants.

Helping establish an Ag program that "structurally has stayed about the same since it was started" is considered by Turner to be his major accomplishment. "We had to know a little bit about what we were doing for it to still be an effective program," he said. The Ag program utilized on-job-training as part of its curriculum long before most others.

During his tenure as Dean, Turner has witnessed a major conversion in one area, with the Mining Department emerging into a more diversified Industrial Technology Department due to a changing industry locally.

He has been responsible for providing direction for numerous grant programs over the years, including JTPA and its forerunner, Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA); Child Care Resource and Referral (Project: CHILD); Early School Leaver; Sex Equity; Teen Parent and Correctional Education programs.

Turner received both his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Education degrees from the University of Illinois. He taught four years at Hillsboro High School before coming to the college.

Both of Turner's daughters are graduates of Rend Lake College. Debbie was a Student Representative on the RLC Board of Trustees for a year before graduating in the Practical Nursing and Associate Degree Nursing programs; Beckie received her Associate in Arts Degree three years later, in 1988.

Turner and his wife, Jerilyn, have lived in Zeigler since 1977. For about half the time he has been with the college, Turner

also has farmed on a part-time basis.

[P.S. At an April retirement reception, Turner informed a large gathering, "I certainly am enjoying hearing about how good I used to be . . . I love all of you. It has been a great experience being here, and I'm looking forward to retirement."]

Dr. PHILIP G. WARD

■ College Dean / 1972-76

Dr. Philip G. Ward is the new Academic Dean at Rend Lake College, filling the vacancy left with the retirement of Dr. Howard Rawlinson. Ward comes to RLC from Cleveland State University, where he was Director of the Division of Academic Centers.

Prior to that, Ward was Assistant to the President at Montcalm Community College in Sidney, MI, and an Associate Professor and Assistant Chairman of the Department of Social Science at Macomb Community College in Warren, MI.

His work background includes experience as a teacher and an administrator in Ohio and Michigan. Ward graduated from East Detroit High School, where he later returned to teach History. He taught Western Civilization at Macomb C.C.

The new College Dean holds a B.A. Degree from Eastern Michigan University and two Master's Degrees, one in History and the other in Education, from the same institution. His Ph.D. was earned in the field of Higher Education and Administration from Michigan State University.

Ward was officially hired at a Special Board Meeting May 8, 1972. Six candidates were interviewed from an original applicant pool of 130-plus. His effective start date: July 1, 1972.

When *Pressing Times* Reporter Suzi Woolley interviewed Ward in November, she was obviously impressed. The lead on her story . . . "His eyes sparkled with enthusiasm and his vivacious smile welcomed me into his office. I was immediately charmed by Dr. Ward's vitality as he sat in the chair next to me, deserting his large official desk."

Ward informed Woolley he had been "impressed by the friendliness of the people here" and had run into little or no difficulties in taking over the position.

The College Dean makes himself available between 11 a.m. and noon each Friday, along with Student Senate President Kurt Strothmann, "to answer any questions students might have," according to the P.T. article.

"Dr. Ward feels these 'Know your Dean' sessions will aid the communications from students to administration. He also has what he calls an 'open-door policy' and welcomes students into his office at any

time. Dr. Ward also stresses that any student having difficulties in meeting tuition costs should look into student loans and scholarships available."

• Ward submitted his resignation in August 1976 for the opportunity to return to Michigan as President of Glen Oaks College, a state-supported junior college founded in 1968 with an enrollment around 1,500. It is located in Centreville, in the south-central part of the state.

"We have truly enjoyed Rend Lake College and Mt. Vernon, and have felt it is one of the most progressive communities in the nation," Ward said. "While here, we saw and helped in the growth of the school from 1,100 students to over 3,000. We took particular pleasure in seeing the addition of such new programs as Mining Technology, expansion of Nursing, Law Enforcement and Community Services."

During his four years in Southern Illinois, Ward was a member of the advisory committee to desegregate Mt. Vernon District 80 Schools and was an active community participant in the Kiwanis Club (scheduled to become President-Elect as of October 1, 1976), Sweetcorn and Watermelon Festival, United Fund, Mt. Vernon Council for the Arts and Humanities, King City Dinner Club and YMCA. Ward, wife Isabel and their three children also were active at First United Methodist Church.

SUE UPCHURCH WELLS

■ Dean of Student Services / 1994-96

Students and faculty are not the only ones welcoming a new challenge with the start of Spring Semester 1994 classes.

Student Services at Rend Lake College have been under the direction of newly named Dean Sue Wells since campus offices reopened January 3, 1994.

For awhile, at least, Wells will assume her new role in addition to continue serving in her former capacity as Director of Admissions and Records.

Areas reporting to the Dean of Student Services include Advising and Student Development (Counseling Center), Financial Aid, Nurse, Affirmative Action, Early School Leaver, Child Care Resource and Referral and "Project First Class."

Wells first came to RLC in 1976 as Secretary to the Dean of Instruction and Secretary for the Board of Trustees. The following year she was promoted to Assistant Registrar, with more recent title changes to Registrar and her current position, Director of Admissions and Records.

Since joining the staff, Wells earned an Associate in Arts Degree from RLC in 1983, a B.S. Degree from the Southern Illinois University-Carbondale College of Education and her M.S. in Educational

Administration and Higher Education from SIUC in 1989.

In his rationale to Board members, President Mark S. Kern noted, "The three major areas reporting to the Dean of Student Services are Counseling, Financial Aid and Admissions and Records. Mrs. Wells has provided outstanding leadership in the area of Admissions and Records over the last several years. She also has outstanding leadership in the development of the Management Information System (MIS) under difficult circumstances."

Wells was the Activity I MIS Director under the Title III "Strengthening Institutions" federal grant.

Active in many state and national organizations, Wells served as State President in 1992-93 for the Illinois Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (IACRAO). She also made an evaluation trip to Mexico to evaluate student educational exchange opportunities through the Illinois Consortium for International Studies Programs.

She was one of four internal candidates considered to succeed her former supervisor, Pam Smith.

• In a move that caught most of her co-workers by surprise, Wells bid a teary farewell to Rend Lake College on October 23, 1996. She announced to her staff and colleagues that morning she was taking a medical leave of absence on the advice of her doctor. By late afternoon, she was gone, leaving behind a 20-year career that began as a Secretary and took her to one of the top five administrative positions.

She officially retired December 1, 2004.

LARRY S. WEST

■ *V-P of Finance-Administration / 2008-*

Rend Lake College searched the nation for someone to succeed retiring Vice President of Finance and Administration Bob Carlock. Advertisements appeared in local newspapers as well as national publications, and recruitment was televised and cast on the World Wide Web. RLC was looking for the perfect candidate to fill some big shoes. The right person wound up being a Pinckneyville native working in South Carolina.

Larry West will return to his roots when he starts his new job January 14, 2008. The RLC Board of Trustees approved West for a \$95,000 annual salary and a 2 1/2-year contract during its December meeting.

"I am extremely honored to become a part of Rend Lake College," he stated. "Being part of one of the fastest growing community colleges in the nation is exciting and reflects the top-of-the-line personnel who make up the college."

West, 51, was born in Pinckneyville and

is a member of the PCHS Class of 1974. He currently is Assistant Dean and Dean of Budget and Finance at the University of South Carolina's Salkehatchie campus, which was established in 1965 as a regional center of USC. He has worked there since 1999 and is responsible for budgeting, current accounts, purchasing, campus security, physical plant management and performance funding. He also is the Athletic Director responsible for six NJCAA Region X athletic programs. Before he became A.D. in 2004, USC-Salkehatchie only had one athletic program. He also teaches two Economics courses each semester.

He holds a Master's Degree in Economics from Southern Illinois University - Carbondale, a B.S. in Finance from SIUC graduating Magna Cum Laude and is an Economics Doctorate applicant at SIUC.

His background instructing students in economics, finance, marketing, mathematics, accounting and advanced monetary theory fits well with his new position. West has been an instructor at Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College (SC), John A. Logan College and SIUC.

He is the primary Business Student Advisor for USC-Salkehatchie and served on the Faculty Budget Committee, along with being a Career Development mentor. He is responsible for a \$12 million-plus budget, all aspects of financial aid and all functions related to the financial management of the college while supervising more than 20 individuals. He was involved with a major curriculum improvement in the college of business at USC's main campus in Columbia and supervises an Opportunity Scholars Program for first-generation, low-income college students. Although USC-Salkehatchie is primarily a two-year campus, West was instrumental in designing a program that allows Business students to stay there for three years.

He sees value in easing students' financial burden for quality education and in student recruitment and retention. West stated one of his proudest moments as an administrator at USC-Salkehatchie was writing a report that showed a 50 percent increase in enrollment at one USC campus. The hike came as a result of a year-long retention and enrollment project he spearheaded, according to West.

He has experience writing grants and has served on various civic organizations aimed at economic development.

Even his 13 years as a Heavy Equipment Mechanic at the Consolidation Coal Company site in Desoto will relate to his new role at Rend Lake College. Many RLC students are displaced workers who are retraining for a new career after losing jobs because of factory and mine closings.

West lost his job at Consol when the mine shut down in 1989.

KIM ROBERT WILKERSON

■ *Dean of Allied Health / 2012-*

Kim Robert was employed full-time by RLC in May 2007 to fill the new role of Radiologic Technology Program Director (and Instructor) and was named Interim Allied Health Division Chair in May 2011.

The titles of six administrators were upgraded to Dean in 2012 to better reflect their expanded responsibilities.

When tenure was awarded in February 2012, effective Fall Semester, highlights from the Board Meeting stated the Radiologic Technology Instructor and (Interim) Allied Health Division Chair . . . has been instrumental in the development and expansion of the Radiologic Technology program.

"In the past year, she assumed the duties of Division Chair while continuing to teach. Her leadership skills were described by administrators as exemplary, both as an administrator and as a faculty member.

"She was key in preparing and submitting the documentation for the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology, which gave the Radiologic Technology program the maximum accreditation. Robert also was instrumental in developing the evening Radiology program and adding the Computed Tomography and Magnetic Resonance Imaging Occupational Certificates."

Robert holds Bachelor and Master's degrees from Webster University in St. Louis and is a 1995 graduate of Kaskaskia College's Radiology program. Her training includes previous work with grant writing and the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP), which allows an already-accredited institution like RLC to maintain its accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission. She also is trained in the practices of the Joint Review Committee on the Education of Radiologic Technologists (JRCERT).

Kelli Lewis, her predecessor as RLC Allied Health Division Chair, said Robert and (Clinical Coordinator Joan) Laughunn's "dedication to excellence" and "commitment to quality" set them apart from other applicants. Both will be a key component in effectively serving the needs of Radiologic Tech students as well as expanding the program and continuing educational opportunities for health care professionals in the area, Lewis said.

Robert and Laughunn both worked for many years in the Radiology program at Kaskaskia - Robert as an Assistant Professor.

In April 2013, Robert was named to another term on the American Society of Radiologic Technologists Committee on R.T. Advocacy. The ASRT mission is to foster professional growth of radiologic technologists through education, research and analysis and leadership development.

She will serve a two-year term (2013-2015) for the ASRT starting in June. Her previous roles with ASRT include Advocacy Committee (2005-10), Committee on Nominations (2007-09), Leadership Academy (2007) and advocating in Washington D.C. (2004-09).

ASRT Committee on R.T. Advocacy members are appointed by the ASRT Board of Directors as representatives for nine geographical regions. It is the highest volunteer position under the ASRT Board. Robert represents Region 5.

- Kim Robert became Kim Wilkerson in 2015 when she married Rend Lake College President Terry Wilkerson.

ANDREA WITTHOFT

- *Dean of Special Programs / 2003-*

- *V-P, Institutional Effectiveness / 2012-17*

Andrea Witthoft has enjoyed a steady climb up the career ladder since joining the community college ranks as a specialist in 1990.

She arrived at Rend Lake College in January 1999 as the Distance Learning and Media Technology Specialist and within six months was promoted to Interim Director of the Learning Resource Center and Instructional Technology.

The "Interim" label was dropped two months later. She remained Director of the LRC and I.T. four years, adding Affirmative Action Officer responsibilities.

In August 2003, she was promoted to Dean of Special Programs. Among a lengthy list of duties . . .

- Supervising the LRC and I.T.; Child Care Resource and Referral; Correctional Education programs at Big Muddy River C.C. and Pinckneyville C.C.; Adult Education, and Family Literacy.

- Leading strategic planning activities for Special Programs.

- Coordinating Title III Strengthening Institutions Program grant activities.

- Coordinating all Tech Prep activities.

- Participating in the work of the Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Steering Committee.

- Coordinating Program Review activities with all academic divisions and preparing the annual report.

Witthoft has extensive grant writing and management experience, including Illinois Community College Board (Tech Prep, Adult Ed and Family Literacy); Illinois State Board of Education (Even Start);

Illinois Secretary of State / Illinois State Library (LSTA, Volunteer and Family Literacy); Illinois Board of Higher Education (Distance Learning); U.S. Department of Education (Title III), and U.S. Department of Agriculture (D.L. and Telemedicine).

She became a member of the Shawnee Library System Board of Directors in 2009 and is a Past President of the Southern Illinois Learning Resource Commission (SILRC) and was Chair of the Illinois Council of Community College Administrators Learning Resources Commission, 2004-06, and ICCCA Secretary, 2005-06.

Witthoft was an Agency Manager and Travel Consultant for 13 years before going to work full-time at Shawnee Community College in 1990. While working toward her A.A. Degree and then a four-year degree, she served as the Executive Secretary first for Student Support Services, then Title III Project Management and finally the Learning Resource Center and Distance Learning Technology.

She was promoted by Shawnee to Adjunct Faculty status in Career Development in Fall 1998 after obtaining her B.S. Degree before leaving for RLC.

A community college product herself (Shawnee), Witthoft graduated Magna Cum Laude with a B.S. Degree in Workforce Education and Development from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and her M.S. Degree in Library and Information Science from University of Illinois.

The RLC Administrator also has held both Treasurer and Secretary positions for Trinity Lutheran Church in Anna.

B.J. "SKIP" WITUNSKI

- *Business Manager / 1973-81*

In December 1970, Bernard J. Witunski was employed as Assistant Business Manager under Paul Fitch. He succeeded his mentor as Business Manager following Fitch's death in 1973.

Before joining the college staff, "Skip" Witunski had served one year as Operations Manager for Montgomery Ward and as Administrative Accountant for Southern Illinois University until 1970.

Witunski received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Finance, with a specialization in Financial Management, from SIU in 1968.

A lifelong resident of West Frankfort, Witunski was elected in 1971 as that community's Finance Commissioner. Several times in the four years that followed in his role as Commissioner, he served as West Frankfort's Acting Mayor in the absence of the elected Mayor.

- The well-liked Witunski resigned from his position at RLC in 1981 in order to go into private business in Florida.

JAMES F. YATES

- *Dean of Student Personnel Services / 1967-76*

A Business Education Teacher at Mt. Vernon Township High School, Yates began the relationship when Mt. Vernon Community College opened in 1956 and he taught Business classes on a part-time basis evenings.

He became the full-time Registrar for MVCC in 1965 and was then named Dean of Student Personnel Services when Rend Lake College came into existence with Class I status in 1967. Yates was the third administrator named, following the appointments of Dr. James M. Snyder and Dr. Howard E. Rawlinson, President and College Dean, respectively.

Yates boasted a Bachelor's Degree from Southern Illinois University, a Master's Degree from the University of Illinois and sufficient hours beyond to qualify as a Specialist in Guidance.

He assumed the Director of Admissions and Registrar position in 1972.

"I've enjoyed it," Yates told the *Mt. Vernon Register-News* at the time of his retirement. "I've enjoyed my association with the faculty and administrators, and I've enjoyed my work with the students.

"I can remember when we had smaller enrollments . . . under 200. I felt then as if I knew every student personally," he recalls. "It's over 3,000 now. There has been a tremendous growth in student population, especially the past three years."

Yates taught at Progress, Cobden High School for six years – where he also served as basketball coach for the famed Appleknockers – and five years at McLeansboro H.S. prior to his arrival at MVTHS in 1950.

He is a member of the Mt. Vernon Lions Club and he and his wife, Marjorie, have been active at First United Methodist Church in Mt. Vernon for 26 years (as of 1976). Son Roger Yates and daughter Peggy Yates are both educators. Mt. Vernon Community College graduate Peggy was Editor of the Pyramid Yearbook. Former Murray (KY) State University cager Roger served as a Lady Warrior Assistant Basketball Coach under Coach Jim Waugh for three seasons, between 1992 and 1995.

- Yates was Director of Admissions and Records and Registrar when he ended a 20-year association with the local community college by retiring at the conclusion of the 1975-76 academic year.

President James M. Snyder, Rend Lake College

, James M. Snyder has served as President of Rend Lake College since 1967, and

, Dr. Snyder has been instrumental in the establishment of the current campus of Rend Lake College, and

, Dr. Snyder has given freely of his time and energy to the development of Rend Lake College and the public community college system, and

, he has distinguished himself as a concerned and dedicated administrator in the Illinois community college system, and

, as President of Rend Lake College he has gained the respect of the members of the Board and administrative staff, and

, the Illinois Community College Trustees Association has benefited from his contributions of counsel and friendship, and

, Dr. Snyder has had a distinguished lifelong career in educational leadership,

that the members of the Illinois Community College Trustees Association express to Dr. Snyder their sincere appreciation for his dedication and service to the community colleges in Illinois and invite him to become a member of the ICCTA Advisory Committee,

that this Board commends James M. Snyder for his competence and integrity, reaffirms its personal and professional respect and affection for him, and wishes him success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Dr. Allen Y. Baker, Rend Lake College Trustee, made a surprise presentation from the Illinois Community College Trustees Association to Retiring President Dr. James M. Snyder at the March 18, 1975 Board Meeting. The plaque included the above resolution.

The resolution is signed by the President and the Secretary of the ICCTA.

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY / OBJECTIVES / FUNCTIONS

(1967-1975)

We believe that any philosophy must apply to both the immediate population served by our individual college and society as a whole. We believe that we should offer opportunities for economic, cultural and social growth and that such opportunities should be based upon the capabilities and interest of the individual and upon the needs of both the individual and society. We believe that the individual

who accepts such opportunities accepts an obligation to become economically, socially and culturally a contributor to the society of which he is a part. We further believe that the individual who avails himself of these opportunities and accepts these responsibilities will come to a better self-understanding and, therefore, to a more enlightened system of values.

OBJECTIVES

With the above Statement of Philosophy in mind, the following 10 objectives have been selected. Although the stress naturally varies among the curricula, each student should acquire –

1. An understanding of the basic principles of the society of which he is a part, of the privileges that the society offers him and of his obligations to the society.
2. A sufficient command of his language to convey his thoughts to others and to interpret spoken and written thoughts of others.
3. Acquisition of skills and knowledge which will lead to employment, to further training or to upgrading of his capabilities.
4. Sufficient computational skill to meet his daily needs.
5. An understanding of broad principles of science which affect his daily life.
6. A sufficient understanding of the principles of health to enable him to maintain a healthy mind in a healthy body.
7. A sufficient development of his aesthetic senses to appreciate the beautiful in whatever form he encounters it.
8. A development of a personal system of moral and ethical values.
9. An understanding of the value of time and the benefits that accrue from wise usage thereof.
10. An appreciation of the values which lead to wholesome family life.

FUNCTIONS

In the light of the Objectives listed above and of the college Philosophy, the functions of the college are –

1. To provide university-parallel instruction for students wishing to pursue curricula requiring professional training beyond the Associate Degree level.
2. To provide occupational training for direct entry into the labor market.
3. To provide opportunities for adult and continuing education.
4. To provide community service through faculty and facilities.
5. To provide an opportunity for growth and development for those students whose educational background does not qualify them for immediate entry into other curricula.
6. To provide an opportunity for personal, educational and vocational counseling.

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY / OBJECTIVES / FUNCTIONS

(1975-1976)

The Philosophy and Functions remain unchanged. Only the Objectives have been updated . . .

OBJECTIVES

With the above Statement of Philosophy in mind, the following nine objectives have been selected. Although the stress naturally varies among the curricula, each student should acquire –

1. An understanding of the basic principles of the society of which he is a part, of the privileges that the society offers him and of his obligations to the society.
2. A sufficient command of his language to convey his thoughts to others and to interpret spoken and written thoughts of others.
3. The development of skills and knowledge to lead to his employment, further training or the upgrading of his capabilities.
4. Sufficient mathematical skill to meet his daily needs.
5. An understanding of broad principles of science which affect his daily life.
6. A sufficient understanding of the principles of health to enable him to maintain a healthy mind in a healthy body.
7. A sufficient development of his aesthetic senses to appreciate the beautiful, wherever it lies.
8. A foundation for his own personal system of moral and ethical values.
9. An understanding of the gains derived from a wise use of time.

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY / OBJECTIVES / FUNCTIONS

(1976-1982)

The Philosophy and Functions remain unchanged. Only the Objectives have been updated . . .

OBJECTIVES

With the above Statement of Philosophy in mind, the following 10 objectives have been selected:

1. The administration and Board of Trustees will maintain the facilities and support necessary to have the quality and scope of the curricula and services advocated in the settlement of philosophy and objectives.
2. The college will maintain admission policies that are flexible enough to provide educational opportunities for the college community.
3. The college will provide a total program of student services in the areas of career and life planning, placement, financial assistance, testing records and student activities.
4. The college will provide curriculums of instruction in the areas of baccalaureate-transfer, occupational education, continuing education and basic education.
5. The college will offer to the community the service of the faculty and the facilities.
6. The student will demonstrate self-discipline by scheduling the use of available college resources to accomplish individual goals.
7. The student will be able to use the basic principles of communication, mathematics and science.
8. The student will be able to identify the basic principles of healthful living and will be able to construct personal objectives for lifelong maintenance of health.
9. The student should be able to identify the elements and components of aesthetic beauty.
10. The student should be able to identify personal, moral and ethical values in relation to other moral and ethical values encountered.

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY / OBJECTIVES

(1982-1988)

The Illinois Public Community College Act (Illinois Revised Statutes, 1973; Chapter 122, Sections 101-1 to 108-2) defines a community college as one which offers a program that includes 1) courses in liberal arts and sciences and general education; 2) adult education courses, and 3) courses in occupational, semi-technical or technical fields leading directly to employment. At least 15 percent of all courses taught must be in fields leading directly to

employment, with at least one-half of those courses to be in fields other than business education.

Within the framework of this statutory definition, each local community college district functions under the policies and regulations established by the Illinois Community College Board and the Board of Higher Education.

The following Statement of Philosophy has been adopted by the Rend Lake College Board of Trustees:

We believe that any philosophy must apply to both the immediate population served by our individual college and to society as a whole. We believe that we should offer opportunities for economic, cultural and social growth and that such opportunities should be based upon the capabilities and interest of the society. We believe that the individual who accepts such opportunities accepts an obligation to become economically, socially and culturally a contributor to the society of which he or she is a part. We further believe that the individual who avails himself or herself of these opportunities and accepts these responsibilities will come to a better self-understanding and, therefore, to a more enlightened system of values.

OBJECTIVES

Objectives derived from the official Rend Lake College Statement of Philosophy are:

1. The administration and Board of Trustees will provide the facilities, instructional staff and support staff necessary for the quality and scope of the curricula and services advocated in the Statement of Philosophy.
2. The college will maintain policies which will make admission to the college accessible to a wide range of students.
3. The college will provide a program of student services in the areas of advising, career and life planning, placement, financial assistance, testing, records and student activities.
4. The college will provide quality curricula in the areas of baccalaureate-transfer, occupational education, developmental education and adult continuing education.
5. The college will encourage the use of its facilities, staff and resources by the community.
6. The college will cooperate with other agencies, institutions and groups to achieve educational goals.
7. The college will seek to enhance the employability of its students through an active Placement Service and Cooperative Education program. (Added in 1986.)

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY / OBJECTIVES

(1988-1992)

The Illinois Public Community College Act (Illinois Revised Statutes, 1973; Chapter 122, Sections 101-1 to 108-2) defines a community college as one which offers a program that includes 1) courses in liberal arts and sciences and general education; 2) adult education courses, and 3) courses in occupational, semi-technical or technical fields leading directly to employment.

Within the framework of this statutory definition, each local community college district functions under the policies and regulations established by the Illinois Community College Board and the Board of Higher Education.

The following Statement of Philosophy has been adopted by the Rend Lake College Board of Trustees:

We believe that any philosophy must apply to both the immediate population served by our individual college and to society as a whole. We believe that we should offer opportunities for economic, cultural and social growth and that such opportunities should be based upon the capabilities and interest of the society. We believe that the individual who accepts such opportunities accepts an obligation to become economically, socially and culturally a contributor to the society of which he or she is a part. We further believe that the individual who avails himself or herself of these opportunities and accepts these responsibilities will come to a better self-understanding and, therefore, to a more enlightened system of values.

OBJECTIVES

Objectives derived from the official Rend Lake College Statement of Philosophy are:

1. The administration and Board of Trustees will provide the facilities, instructional staff and support staff necessary for the quality and scope of the curricula and services advocated in the Statement of Philosophy.
2. The college will maintain an open admission policy while establishing standards for entry into selected courses and programs.
3. The college will provide a program of student services consisting of assessment and testing, advising, course placement, financial assistance, career counseling, student activities and job placement.
4. The college will provide quality curricula in the areas of baccalaureate-transfer, occupational and technical education, developmental education and adult and continuing education.
5. The college will encourage the use of its facilities, staff and resources by the community.
6. The college will formulate partnerships with and cooperate with other institutions and agencies in order to achieve its educational goals.
7. The college will contribute to the economic development of Southern Illinois by being responsive to community needs and providing a full spectrum of short- and long-term training and retraining programs.

MISSION STATEMENT

(1992-1998)

The Illinois Public Community College Act (Illinois Revised Statutes, 1973; Chapter 122, Sections 101-1 to 108-2) defines a community college as one which offers a program that includes 1) courses in liberal arts and sciences and general education; 2) adult education courses, and 3) courses in occupational, semi-technical or technical fields leading directly to employment.

Within the framework of this statutory definition, each local community college district functions under the policies and regulations established by the Illinois Community College Board and the Board of Higher Education.

The following Statement of Philosophy and Mission have been adopted by the Rend Lake College Board of Trustees:

PHILOSOPHY

Rend Lake College believes . . .

- . . . In the democratic ideal of providing educational opportunities to all who can benefit from them, in keeping with the needs of society.
- . . . The college should actively contribute to the economic, cultural and social development of the region.
- . . . An individual who pursues the educational opportunities offered by the college accepts a counterbalancing responsibility to contribute to society.
- . . . The college is primarily a teaching institution, and that its success is inseparable from the success of its students.

MISSION

The college will . . .

- . . . Maintain an open admissions policy while establishing standards for entry into selected courses and programs.
- . . . Provide quality curricula in baccalaureate-transfer education, occupational-technical education, developmental education and continuing education.
- . . . Provide comprehensive student services, including academic, financial and personal support necessary to student success.
- . . . Foster global awareness and understanding through its curricula, faculty / staff development and community outreach programs.
- . . . Contribute freely to the economic development of Southern Illinois by responding to community needs and providing short- and long-term training and retraining programs.
- . . . Encourage the use of its facilities, staff and resources by the community.
- . . . Formulate partnerships with other institutions and agencies to achieve its educational goals.

MISSION STATEMENT

(1998-2005)

The Illinois Public Community College Act (Illinois Revised Statutes, 1973; Chapter 122, Sections 101-1 to 108-2) defines a community college as one which offers a program that includes 1) courses in liberal arts and sciences and general education; 2) adult education courses, and 3) courses in occupational, semi-technical or technical fields leading directly to employment.

Within the framework of this statutory definition, each local community college district functions under the policies and regulations established by the Illinois Community College Board and the Board of Higher Education.

The following Statement of Mission and Related Principles has been adopted by the Rend Lake College Board of Trustees:

MISSION

Rend Lake College believes in the democratic ideal of providing educational opportunities to all who desire and can benefit from them, in keeping with the specific needs of our community and general expectations of society.

RELATED PRINCIPLES

The college is primarily a teaching institution, and its success is inseparable from the success of its students.

The college will continue to be an active contributor to the economic, cultural and social development of the region.

An individual who pursues educational opportunities offered by the college accepts a counterbalancing responsibility to contribute to society.

To fulfill its Mission and uphold its Related Principles, the college will:

1. Maintain an open admissions policy while establishing standards for entry into selected courses and programs.
2. Provide quality curricula in baccalaureate-transfer education, occupational-technical education, developmental education and continuing education. [The following explanation was added to No. 2 in 2001.]

Furthermore, through the commitment of the necessary resources, the college will:

- Develop in students the effective use of the English language and insure each is capable of reading and listening critically and writing and speaking with thoughtfulness, clarity, coherence and persuasiveness.
 - Expand students' understanding and appreciation for themselves and the world around them, through study and discourse, and discover, describe, explain and appreciate the diversity of human behaviors and social systems, within the context of the humanities and fine arts.
 - Enhance students' understanding of fundamental mathematical concepts as they relate to the establishment of a basis for future problem-solving and decision-making.
 - Develop and enhance students' understanding of the principles and laboratory procedures associated with the life and physical sciences and cultivate their abilities to apply the empirical methods of scientific inquiry.
 - Provide for students desiring a career-oriented course of studies the necessary knowledge, skills and self-confidence to enter the work force fully prepared to demonstrate competence and productivity.
 - Provide for all academically under-prepared students a college preparatory program of studies that facilitates the transition to college-level academic and/or career-oriented course work.
3. Provide student services, including academic, financial and personal support necessary to student success.
 4. Promote cultural diversity and foster understanding of its importance through its curricula, faculty / staff development and community outreach programs.

5. Contribute freely to the economic development of Southern Illinois and improve the quality of the region's labor force by providing short- and long-term training programs and offering job placement assistance.
6. Encourage the use of its facilities, staff and resources by the community.
7. Formulate partnerships with other institutions and agencies to achieve its educational goals.

ASSESSMENT STATEMENT

(Added in 2000)

Rend Lake College is committed to assessing its students and programs to assure continuous improvement and success

STATEMENT OF GENERAL EDUCATION

General Education is one way in which students prepare to function in a diverse and changing world. Upon graduation, students will be expected to demonstrate the competencies required in their vocational or academic area as well as the following:

1. KNOWLEDGE

It is important for students to have a knowledge base from a variety of disciplines. Graduating students will exhibit knowledge of the social, scientific, mathematical, aesthetic and professional worlds.

2. SKILLS

With a broad-based knowledge, students should have specific skills. Students will demonstrate effective oral and written communication; problem-solving; modes of inquiry; the discovery, analysis, integration and application of information; critical thinking; decision-making; teamwork, and the appropriate use of technology.

3. VALUES

In an evolving global society, students will benefit from the ability to formulate their own values while remaining open-minded to the views of others. Students will demonstrate an awareness of a wide range of perspectives; opportunities to appreciate and understand the fine arts, and opportunities to explore individual values in a multi-cultural world.

MISSION STATEMENT

(2005-2008)

The Illinois Public Community College Act (Illinois Revised Statutes, 1973; Chapter 122, Sections 101-1 to 108-2) defines a community college as one which offers a program that includes 1) courses in liberal arts and sciences and general education; 2) adult education courses, and 3) courses in occupational, semi-technical or technical fields leading directly to employment.

Within the framework of this statutory definition, each local community college district functions under the policies and regulations established by the Illinois Community College Board and the Board of Higher Education.

The following Statement of Mission and Related Principles has been adopted by the Rend Lake College Board of Trustees:

MISSION

Rend Lake College believes in the democratic ideal of providing educational opportunities to all who desire and can benefit from them, in keeping with the specific needs of our community and general expectations of society. The college sees its success as inseparable from the success of its students. Through its community service programs and the process of instructing and training students in the fundamental skills of its baccalaureate and vocational programs, the college endeavors to be an active leader in the economic, cultural and social development of the region.

GOALS

In order to succeed in its Mission, Rend Lake College has set forth the following goals:

COMMUNITY

1. Maintain fiscal responsibility by exercising sound fiscal management practices.
2. Maintain an open admissions policy while establishing standards for entry into course programs. When student abilities fall below those standards, the institution will provide a college preparatory program of study that facilitates success in college-level academic and/or career-oriented class work.
3. Provide student services that ensure student success, including academic, financial and personal support programs.
4. Formulate partnerships with other institutions and agencies to ensure student success in achieving the college's baccalaureate and vocational goals.

5. Contribute freely to the economic development of Southern Illinois and improve the quality of the region's labor force by providing short- and long-term training programs and offering job placement assistance.

BACCALAUREATE

1. Develop in students solid communication and critical thinking skills. The college expects graduating sophomores to meet the minimum expectations of writing and speaking with clarity and coherence, as well as thinking and reading critically.
2. Increase awareness and understanding of the social, philosophical, historical and artistic concepts which shape our society.
3. Develop and enhance students' understanding of fundamental mathematical concepts.
4. Develop and enhance students' understanding of the life and physical sciences.

VOCATIONAL

1. Ensure that students seeking occupational certificates complete the program with the technical knowledge and skills required of entry-level positions within their chosen occupational fields.
2. Ensure that students seeking Associate in Applied Science Degrees complete their programs of study with the requisite technical knowledge and skills as well as the academic foundation necessary for successful entry and continued advancement in their chosen occupational fields.
3. Provide access to real-life situations and training that yield immediately transferable on-the-job applications for all occupational students.

IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES

The following Immediate Objectives come directly from the Strategic Planning process implemented campus-wide. They reflect concerns on which the college will focus in the near future as a means of successfully reaching the college's goals.

1. Revise existing curriculum and develop new programs of instruction to meet changing needs and technological developments.
2. Add regional and/or state programs to the college curriculum.
3. Expand use of nontraditional instruction techniques such as distance learning, volunteerism, service learning and cooperative education.
4. Increase educational services to the in-district K-12 population.
5. Provide short-term training needs of businesses and citizens of the area through seminars, contract training, CEUs, consulting and certification programs, with emphasis on computer certification area.
6. Provide cultural and enrichment activities for citizens of the district.
7. Strengthen and expand student support services.
8. Enhance image of the college as a quality educational institution.
9. Maintain and expand college facilities, with an emphasis on improving the grounds.
10. Exercise sound fiscal management procedures.

ASSESSMENT STATEMENT

Rend Lake College is committed to assessing its students and programs to assure continuous improvement and success.

STATEMENT OF GENERAL EDUCATION

General Education is one way in which students prepare to function in a diverse and changing world. Upon graduation, students will be expected to demonstrate the competencies required in their vocational or academic area as well as the following:

1. KNOWLEDGE

It is important for students to have a knowledge base from a variety of disciplines. Graduating students will exhibit knowledge of the social, scientific, mathematical, aesthetic and professional worlds.

2. SKILLS

With a broad-based knowledge, students should have specific skills. Students will demonstrate effective oral and written communication; problem-solving; modes of inquiry; the discovery, analysis, integration and application of information; critical thinking; decision-making; teamwork, and the appropriate use of technology.

3. VALUES

In an evolving global society, students will benefit from the ability to formulate their own values while remaining open-minded to the views of others. Students will demonstrate an awareness of a wide range of perspectives; opportunities to appreciate and understand the fine arts, and opportunities to explore individual values in a multi-cultural world.

COLLEGE MISSION

(2008-Present)

PHILOSOPHY

Rend Lake College's Philosophy outlines the manner in which the college fulfills its mission:

The college is committed to offering programs and services of the highest quality that are affordable to its constituents. The college will maintain a student-friendly atmosphere, making its services as accessible as possible. Courses and programs offered by the college will be transferable or lead to attractive employment opportunities. The college will provide these programs and services in an effective manner while maintaining financial responsibility.

MISSION

The Mission Statement is the essential purpose of the college from which all college activities originate:

Rend Lake College provides educational opportunities across cultural and economic boundaries to the diverse student population that we serve. In addition to our commitment to fulfill all our education and community-focused program objectives, we are committed to every degree-completing student demonstrating the fundamental skills of effective critical thinking, problem-solving, oral communication and written communication. In fulfilling its mission, Rend Lake College will be an active leader in our region's development. Our students' success is our own success.

INSTITUTIONAL OUTCOMES

Rend Lake College has adopted four essential learner outcomes, fundamental learning objectives embedded in every program of study, that all degree-completing students should be able to demonstrate. They are as follows:

CRITICAL THINKING

Demonstrate the ability to think in a self-directed, reflective manner when understanding, evaluating and problem-solving.

PROBLEM-SOLVING

Demonstrate the ability to resolve computational problems.

ORAL COMMUNICATION

Demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly, concisely and effectively through verbal and nonverbal language.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

Demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly, concisely and effectively through written language.

STATEMENT ON GENERAL EDUCATION

To be educated and worthy of a diploma is not only a mastery of one discipline area or technical skill, but also includes learning a broad range of knowledge and skill sets. General Education is one way in which students prepare to function in a diverse and changing world. Upon graduation, a degree-completing student will be expected to demonstrate the competencies outlined in the college's Mission and by the student's respective program outcomes as well as the following:

1. KNOWLEDGE

It is important for students to have a knowledge base from a variety of disciplines. In addition to demonstrating an understanding of the fundamental concepts vocabulary of their specific programs, degree-completing students will demonstrate basic and broad knowledge of science, social science, math and the arts.

2. SKILLS

With a broad-based knowledge, students should have specific skills. In addition to the institutional outcomes of effective oral and written communication, problem-solving and critical thinking skills, degree-completing students will demonstrate an understanding of the modes of discovery, cooperate as a member of a team to complete assignments and use applicable technology proficiently.

3. VALUES

In an evolving global society, students will benefit from the ability to formulate their own values while remaining open-minded to the views of others. Degree-completing students will demonstrate an awareness of a wide range of perspectives as well as have opportunities to appreciate and understand the fine arts and to explore individual values in a multi-cultural world.

WHO WE ARE

The college history and other background documents define the college from the perspective of organization and assets; however, the personnel that operate within the college systems and manage those assets are the primary element for successful education. Administrative, community outreach, student service and physical plant personnel all support the student learning process. More than 60 full-time, 200 part-time and 60 dual-credit instructors are primary points of contact with the Rend Lake College educational experience. These educators are generally organized into five divisions: Allied Health; Applied Science and Technology; Health and Physical Education; Liberal Arts, and Math, Science and Education. Whether in a supporting role or as a direct point of contact, each college employee draws upon professional expertise and academic accomplishment in the hope of success for every student.

WHO WE SERVE

Student-centered colleges are best defined by who they serve. An understanding of the distinctiveness of our college's student population allows us to effectively meet the goals of our programs and succeed in our mission.

DIVERSITY OF CULTURE

Traditionally, Rend Lake College can be characterized as serving a relatively homogenous rural, small-town culture. This population's cultural distinctiveness was centered on age and socioeconomic status more than diverse ethnic origin. As Rend Lake College has broadened its programs and the mobility of Americans has diversified the ethnic origin of district students, the college recognizes that many cultural distinctions are found in our student population:

- Age
- Race/ethnicity
- Gender
- Socioeconomic status
- Disability

DIVERSITY OF PURPOSE

Rend Lake College provides general education to traditional and nontraditional students who will transfer to universities after their first two years. We provide training to those wishing to learn a skill or trade that will ensure gainful employment and economic success. We also serve those wishing to find personal fulfillment and growth by taking Community and General Education classes at Rend Lake College. Often, a student's purpose for attending is a combination of all of these:

- General Education, Transfer
- Career-Technical Transfer, Certification and Retraining
- Community Education
- Personal Growth

DIVERSITY OF ORIGIN

The majority of the student population we serve is comprised of in-district, on-campus traditional and nontraditional students; however, reciprocal agreements, statewide educational programs, expansion of our dual-credit high school classes and international recruitment in our athletic programs have increased the scope of origin of our students:

- In-District High School Dual Credit
- Out-of-District
- International
- Traditional
- Prisoner and Other Special Populations

COMMON OUTCOME

Regardless of the diverse cultural backgrounds, purposes and origins of our students, Rend Lake College serves each student equally with its open admission policy and an equal opportunity for success. Furthermore, the shared commitment by student, faculty and staff to meet all the expected institutional, general education and program objectives unifies all those that Rend Lake College serves.

ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM (ICCS) HISTORY

Author: Ivan Lach, 1998

Illinois is prominently identified with the early history of the community and junior college movement in the United States. Joliet Junior College, established in 1901, is the first public junior college in the nation. Illinois adopted its first junior college legislation in 1931, which permitted the Board of Education of Chicago to establish, manage, and provide for the maintenance of one junior college offering two years of college work beyond the high school level as part of the public school system of the city.

The first Junior College Act became law on July 1, 1937, and provided for the development of the junior college system as a part of the public school system. It made no provision for the charging of tuition, nor did it stipulate educational opportunities available through the junior colleges would be provided without charge to students. Other provisions of the law allowed establishment of junior colleges by board resolution in districts with a population between 25,000 and 250,000, establishment of junior colleges in smaller districts by referendum, and validation of all operating districts established prior to 1937.

In 1943 legislation was adopted to hold referenda to set separate tax rates for both education and building funds to support junior college operations. State funding for junior colleges, however, was not established until 1955. Seven new public junior colleges were established in Illinois between 1955 and 1962, bringing the total to 18. Rock Island, Moline, and East Moline joined to form Black Hawk College in 1961, the first junior college created separate from a common school district.

In 1951 the Illinois General Assembly enacted legislation setting forth standards and procedures for establishing junior colleges. This action repealed the legislation that allowed establishment of junior colleges in districts with population in excess of 25,000 by action of a resolution of the board of education. In 1959 separate junior college districts were authorized by allowing any compact and contiguous

territory to be organized as a junior college district with an elected board of education with authority to maintain and operate the college and levy taxes for its operation. State funding for junior college operations was first appropriated in 1955.

As a result of recommendations of the Commission of Higher Education, legislation was adopted in 1961 creating the Illinois Board of Higher Education. According to the legislation, the Illinois Board of Higher Education had responsibility for conducting comprehensive studies on higher education needs; development of information systems; approval of new units of instruction, research, or public service in all public colleges and universities; budget review of public colleges and universities, with recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly; approval of all capital improvements; surveys and evaluation of higher education; and preparation of "a master plan for the development, expansion, integration, coordination, and efficient utilization of the facilities, curricula, and standards of higher education in the areas of teaching, research, and public service." Although junior colleges were legally under the jurisdiction of the superintendent of public instruction at this time, a section of the enabling legislation for the Illinois Board of Higher Education contained the following statement concerning junior colleges:

In the formulation of a master plan of higher education and in the discharge of its duties under this act, the board shall give consideration to the problems and attitudes of junior colleges . . . as they relate to the overall policies and problems of higher education.

In July 1964 the final draft of the higher education master plan was published. As a result, the Junior College Act of 1965, the foundation for today's system of public community colleges in Illinois, was adopted. The act contained the following key provisions:

Provided that junior colleges come under the jurisdiction of the Illinois Board of Higher Education rather

than remaining part of the common school system.

Provided for establishment of a system of locally initiated and administered comprehensive Class I junior college districts.

Mandated that on August 1, 1965, all junior colleges operating in school districts where separate educational and building fund tax levies had been established for the college become separate junior colleges, classified as Class II districts.

Provided that school districts operating a junior college without a separate tax could continue to maintain the program as grades 13 and 14.

Set forth procedures for converting Class II districts to Class I districts.

Created a legal base for the establishment of public comprehensive districts with locally elected boards in a system coordinated and regulated by a State Junior College Board, which in turn related to the Illinois Board of Higher Education, as did the governing boards of the other public colleges and universities.

Set forth the powers and duties of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, the Illinois Junior College Board, and the boards of the local junior college districts as individual entities and in relation to each other. Included provisions for local-state sharing of capital funding, acquisition of sites, operational funding, and annexations and disconnections of territory.

Made local and state financial support for junior college attendance applicable to all Illinois residents, whether they resided within the boundaries of a junior college or not.

On July 15, 1965, the Junior College Act became effective; and on August 1 the school boards of districts operating junior colleges with separate educational and building rates became the boards of the newly constituted Class II districts. Also in August 1965 Governor Kerner appointed nine members of the first Illinois Junior College Board. In 1973, the term "junior" was changed to "community" in statute.

Can't have one without the other

FACULTY EXCELLENCE A MUST TO ATTRACT/PRODUCE QUALITY STUDENTS

The question begs of an age-old answer, much like the chicken-or-egg debate. Which comes first? Quality students or a first-rate faculty? A high-caliber instructional staff or bright, eager-to-learn minds which belong to teenagers and adults of all ages?

Forget the debate.

As Frank Sinatra told us about "Love and Marriage" many years ago, thanks to songwriters Sammy Cahn and Jimmy VanHeusen . . .

This I tell ya, brother, you can't have one without the other.

The two have gone hand-in-hand since the inception of Rend Lake College in 1967. Love at first sight – RLC students and staff. The perfect marriage – RLC's competent faculty and classrooms full of eager learners.

You can't have one without the other.

"Faculty Excellence" has been recognized by the RLC Foundation with an annual award since Spring 1980. [Prior to that, Phi Theta Kappa presented a "Distinguished Educator" Award annually.]

When the first 36 recipients of the RLC Foundation "Faculty Excellence" Award are considered, with one exception, most college departments/divisions have been well-represented.

But we would be remiss if we did not admit there are no-telling-how-many more outstanding instructors there are not on the list, or not yet on the list, or not on the list because they preceded the award, or for some unknown reason never nominated, or . . . well, you get the point. The rewards for many other deserving instructors are realized in diversified ways.

Persistent reorganization of programs into different departments/divisions over the years muddies the results . . .

- Math and Science-related instructors have accounted for seven winners, starting with Dr. Eugene Estes (Biology/Botany) in 1982 and most recently with Larry Williams (Zoology) in 2006 and Tina Grounds (Early Childhood Education) in 2013. In-between are John Fisher (Chemistry) in 1996, Linda Denton (Physics/Physical Science) in 1998, Sandra Cox (Mathematics) in 2000 and Diane Metzger (Mathematics) in 2003.

- A half-dozen representatives from Arts and Communications-turned Liberal Arts,

from Dr. Barbara Luchsinger (English) in 1985 to Sarah Capps (Art) in 1987, Dr. John Homan Jr. (English) in 1988, Joseph H. Rust (Speech/Theatre) in 1993, Mike Mullen (English/Journalism) in 1994 and, after a lengthy gap, Rob Little (English) in 2009.

- Six "Outstanding" designations have been earned by Allied Health Instructors/Professors, with an 18-year drought between early honorees Shirley Yeargin (Practical Nursing) in 1984 and Sandra VanCleve (Practical Nursing) in 1986 and a trio who dominated a recent five-year stretch, Trish Bennett-Minor (Practical Nursing) in 2004, Debbie Benns (now Hamplemann) (Associate Degree Nursing) in 2007 and Bonnie Tolbert (Practical Nursing) in 2008. Barbara Crouse (Practical Nursing) joined the ranks in 2014.

- Four Mining and Industrial Technology award-winners have been well spaced from Gary Wade (Welding) in 1983 and William Dill (Mining Technology) in 1992 to D.J. Johnson (Industrial Health and Safety) in 2005 and Chris Nielsen (Industrial Technology/Mining) in 2010.

- More recently, back-to-back Applied Science and Technology reps Ricky Robinson (Computer Networking) and Shari Carpenter (Computer Science) in 2015-16.

- Four others would swell the Liberal Arts ranks today but were Business and Social Science Department members at the time they were saluted – honorees No. 1 Eleanor Hall (Anthropology/Sociology) in 1980 and No. 2 Vincent Cain (Social Sciences) in 1981, Dr. Susan Santoro Tomlin (Anthropology/Sociology) in 1995 and Carolyn Stewart (Psychology) in 1997.

- Business Professors Janet Miller (Secretarial Science) and Larry Sidwell (Accounting/Economics) followed in 2001 and 2002, respectively.

- Two Health and Physical Education Instructors had set a similar precedence a decade earlier – best friends Wayne Arnold in 1989 and Jim "Hummer" Waugh in 1991.

- Believe it or not, David "Father" Scott (Agriculture) was the only member of the AAA faculty – Agriculture, Automotive and Architecture – to be chosen, although several other candidates over the years were on fast-tracks to administrative positions.

* - * - *

Experience stretches beyond classroom for most instructors

An instructor's experience is not limited to his/her number of years spent in the classroom. Not by any stretch of the imagination.

Take Vince Cain, for example. Cain was hired as a History Instructor in 1970 and remained one of the college's best and most popular instructors until retiring in 1990.

Teaching was a second career for Cain, who spent 17 years in the Army as part, at various times, of the Infantry, the Airborne, Special Forces, the Green Beret and two Armored Divisions. He also spent three years in the Navy.

Cain witnessed history when he experienced an atom-bomb explosion in Nevada in 1953 and his section was chosen to demonstrate an Honest John Rocket for the Greek Armed Forces in Greece in 1959. While stationed in Northern Italy, he raced sports cars.

A classroom? A piece of cake, no doubt, by comparison. And he was recognized as somewhat of a flamboyant dresser, considering he tailor-made many of his own coats and shirts, "mod" suits and jackets.

[Cain died October 30, 2015, at age 89.]

Example No. 2: Try English Instructor William Brammeier (1969-74).

The majority of his days in the Navy were spent in the United States. But he did spend six weeks in Iceland as a Naval Hospital Corpsman. On one occasion, along with just one other corpsman, Brammeier drew blood from 5,000 Marines at Camp Lejeune, NC.



Tenure awarded first time in 1968 to 18 individuals

BOARD MINUTES JUNE 18, 1968

Tenure was granted for the first time by Rend Lake College to 18 individuals . . .

Health and Physical Education Instructor Wayne Arnold; Librarian Imogene Book; Western Civilization Instructor Max Brandon; History Instructor / Department Head Glenn Dare; Psychology Instructor Judson DeWitt; Botany Instructor Eugene Estes; Chemistry Instructor / Department Head Ed Kownacki; Nursing Instructor / Coordinator Mary E. Ksycki, and English Instructor / Department Head Dr. Barbara Luchsinger.

Also, Art and Engineering Instructor Jim McGhee; Mathematics Instructor / Department Head William Myers; Mathematics Instructor Richard Perrachione; Health and P.E. Instructor Becky Pettitt; Secretarial Science Instructor / Department Head Gela Riley; History Instructor Art Samford; Nursing Instructor June Thompson; English Instructor Jack Traver, and Counselor Betty Ann Ward.

BOARD MINUTES MAY 1969

Tenure was granted to English Instructor Georgine Monken and Business and Accounting Instructor Bill Younghusband.

BOARD MINUTES APRIL 21, 1970

Tenure was granted to Health and P.E. Instructor Jim Waugh.

BOARD MINUTES APRIL 20, 1971

Tenure was granted to French Instructor Carolann DeSelms, Sociology Instructor Eleanor Hall, Ag Instructor/Department Chair Mark Kern, Mathematics Instructor Julien Levesque, Nursing Instructor Shirley McHaney and Ag Instructor Carroll Turner.

BOARD MINUTES JUNE 20, 1972

Tenure was granted to Zoology Instructor Dr. Julius Swayne.

And '83 winner Wade later joined the department.

Architectural Technology Professor Kevin Weston emerged from the Applied Science and Technology Division when he stepped into the spotlight in 2012.

• The much smaller Developmental Skills Staff was well-represented in 1999 by Ro Hoar (Preparatory English).

Just coincidence, or does subject matter play a role?

One of the most popular, and competent, instructors of her day was Eleanor Hall (1967-84). One of the most competent, and popular, instructors of her day was Sue Tomlin (1984-2010).

Notice how those dates match up, without overlapping? The former is Spring 1984; the latter Fall 1984.

Fact is, the very first person to receive the coveted "Faculty Excellence" Award when it was introduced in 1980 by the RLC Foundation was Mrs. Bill Hall, the mother of two former Rend Lake College students. She was succeeded by Dr. Susan Santoro Tomlin, the wife of part-time RLC Physics Instructor Bob Tomlin, who spends his daytime teaching science at Mt. Vernon Township High School, and the daughter of Institute for Learning in Retirement Super Student Ann Santoro.

The first 43 years of Rend Lake College. Two Anthropology/Sociology instructors. Hall (17 years) and Tomlin (26 years).

Hall was named "Outstanding Educator" at Rend Lake College in 1967 – coincidentally the first year of its existence – by the Rho Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and was saluted as "Teacher of the Year" again for 1970. In 1972, she earned an "Outstanding Educator" National Award. Me thinks she was really liked.

But you know what she really dug?

Archeology. She merited a National Foundation for the Humanities Grant, led a local dig in 1972 that also involved 80 RLC students and in 1974, with Waltonville lay expert Jerry Elliston, co-produced the only written account of an archeological investigation (dig) in Jefferson County ever published.

The versatile Tomlin, whose doctorate specialization was in "Deviance," could justifiably enter into discussions with expertise in "Brazilian Correctional Facilities" or "Palm Reading: Just for Fun" as well as "The Stigma of Illiteracy: A Family Affair," "Stigma and Incest Survivors" and/or good, old-fashioned "Fudge-Making."

What the Advisor for the Human Services Club and part-time Big Muddy River Correctional Center instructor may have enjoyed as much as anything, however, were annual Study Abroad excursions each summer with colleague Carolyn Stewart and a collection of both traditional and nontraditional students – some of whom were even multiple repeaters, right Dorothy Feira DeAngelo?

Both extremely well versed in their subject matter. Both very personable and likable. Both with a mix of serious demeanor and sense of humor, with perfect timing. Both leaders among leaders. Both eager to go that extra mile, or any number of miles it might take, to help the students they adored and who adored them.

Perhaps they actually were quite similar to many of their peers. But clones of one another. Who could have imagined?

We could go on and on, but undoubtedly there would be some – many – deserving souls slip through the cracks.

This much we can be certain . . . not a single Instructor/Professor among the Rend Lake College Faculty ranks is in it for the awards or individual accolades. Their reward, to a man or a woman, comes in reaching out to eager minds and playing a critical role in each student's life journey to a better world.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS ▶ Founding Faculty Fab Five: Goin, Hawley, Luchsinger, McHaney, Waugh

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE JUNE 1992

■ GELA GOIN

For Secretarial Science Instructor Gela Goin, teaching half-time for both Mt. Vernon Community College and Mt. Vernon Township High School for two years before making the move full-time to Rend Lake College in its inaugural year was not enough.

She even married a member of the college's original Steering Committee. Husband Jasper Goin is a businessman and the Mayor of Dahlgren. And son David currently attends Rend Lake College, majoring in business.

"As an educator," a colleague describes Goin, "she is very concerned with her students – their learning and achievement, as well as their personal problems. Over the years she has given money, clothing and bedding to needy students.

"She also has taught many of the Rend Lake College secretaries, several of whom

have indicated that without Gela and her constant encouragement they would not have been successful."

Added the co-worker: "She is a good friend to students and to colleagues and is an asset to Rend Lake College."

Goin's roots are in Western Kentucky, where she was born and raised. Both her B.S. and M.A. degrees are from Murray State University.

While attending college, she worked as a secretary to the College Church of Christ. She then taught at Marissa High School for seven years before coming to MVCC and MVTHS.

Her 2 1/2 decades at RLC includes several years spent as the Department Chair.

Away from campus, the long-standing employee remains very active in church-related work. She spends her summers preparing for and working at the Little Egypt Christian Youth Camp, filling such duties as organizer, author of all camp literature, teacher, cook and counselor. She likewise organizes the Belle Rive Church of Christ "Monday School," a one-day-a-week preschool.

Goin's peer appreciates her humor, too. "She has handled some very unusual problems in the secretarial department," recalled the friend.

"She was able to rid the lab of an unwanted visitor one day. The creature was a snake which caused total panic in our lab.

"Gela charmed the snake into the hall, placed a heavy rug on top of it and stomped it to death. I might note, the men in our department and in maintenance would have no part in assisting her."

■ GEORGINE HAWLEY

English Instructor Georgine Hawley had just graduated from Eastern Illinois University and was preparing for her first teaching assignment when she joined the Mt. Vernon Community College faculty for the 1966-67 academic year.

Seven of 29 full-time faculty members were new that year, including Hawley, Jim Waugh and Sandra VanCleve.

Twelve months later, the Centralia resident who taught rhetoric classes helped open the doors to Rend Lake College.

"The college and I have weathered transitions and transformations, yet we're still here!" she noted in a recent mini-biography.

Her recollections include teaching for Mt. Vernon C.C. during the transition year "and working to pass the bond issue to develop a district college yet unnamed.

"More importantly, I had extremely professional associates and administrators, among them Dean Howard Rawlinson and Dr. Barbara Luchsinger, Chairperson of the English Department. At this juncture, some of the members of the college faculty also were teaching for Mt. Vernon Township High School; soon after the bond issue passed, the situation changed.

"The importance of teaching was foremost among the college community," she continued. "My time was primarily occupied with developmental instruction, with some transfer English courses taught as well. I gained satisfaction knowing the Developmental English classes were taught in a meaningful learning atmosphere, often a one-on-one teaching/learning lab situation for these students.

"Academic freedom as well as administrative attitudes permitted some relatively innovative concepts to become reality at the new Rend Lake College campus."

Hawley continued, "Not only were developmental classes serving students, but also a Writing Lab primarily staffed by Dr. Luchsinger and me was established. Staffing the lab was one of the most rewarding of my teaching experiences.

"It was apparent that a Reading Lab was required to supplement teaching/learning situations throughout the college; a reading specialist was added to the department and the Reading Lab was soon in operation for all students. As a result, students requiring a developmental approach to reading and writing were taught by faculty who wanted to teach in this area of English education. With reorganization and administrative changes and decisions came alterations: developmental courses evolved into another



After 15 years, 'original' cast includes 15 holdovers

MAY 1982

Fifteen members of the faculty and staff were singled out at the annual Board-Faculty-Staff recognition dinner for 15 years of service to Rend Lake College, or since its inception in 1967.

Service Awards went to Wayne Arnold, Health, Physical Education and Recreation Instructor; Imogene Book, Librarian; E. Judson DeWitt, Psychology Instructor; Paula Dulaney, Library Assistant; Dr. Eugene Estes, Science Instructor; Gela Goin, Secretarial Science Instructor, and Eleanor Hall, Sociology and Anthropology Instructor.

Also, Georgine Hawley, English Instructor; Ed Kownacki, Math and Science Instructor; Dr. Barbara Luchsinger, English Instructor; Shirley McHaney, Allied Health Department Chair; Richard Perrachione, Math Instructor; Betty Ann Ward, Math Instructor and Counselor; Jim Waugh, Health and Physical Education Instructor, and William Young-husband, Business Instructor.



Board grants ownership to faculty re: web courses

BOARD MINUTES MARCH 13, 2001

Approved a side letter to the 2001-02 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Rend Lake College Federation of Teachers Local No. 3708 AFT/IFT AFL/CIO to establish ownership and reimbursement for faculty members who develop web-based courses.

FACULTY EXCELLENCE

ART SAMFORD
PTK "Distinguished Educator" Award · 1968
History

WILLIAM HAZELBAUER
PTK "Distinguished Educator" Award · 1969
Music

ELEANOR HALL
PTK "Distinguished Educator" Award · 1970
Anthropology / Sociology

Dr. EUGENE ESTES
PTK "Distinguished Educator" Award · 1971
Science

Dr. EVELYN CLAXTON
PTK "Distinguished Educator" Award · 1972
English

1967 - 1968 1968 - 1969 1969 - 1970 1970 - 1971 1971 - 1972



Distinguished Educator Award from PTK to Estes

PRESSING TIMES JUNE 1, 1971

Dr. Eugene T. Estes, longtime member of the Rend Lake College faculty, has been awarded the Phi Theta Kappa Distinguished Educator Award. This honor is conferred annually upon a deserving instructor.

Dr. Estes has taught for 11 years at Rend Lake, which was at one time Mt. Vernon Community College. He now teaches Botany, but has taught other biological sciences as well. A quiet, warm and friendly man, Dr. Estes is well liked among the faculty and student body.

For his doctoral work, Estes spent five years doing an analysis of trees in a six-state area covering Illinois, Arkansas, Missouri, Kentucky, Indiana and Tennessee. This dissertation was published in the *Ecological Monographs*, a scientific journal published by Duke University.

Estes' study was the first comprehensive study done in the Midwest since the 1930s and was processed at the University of Arizona and at SIU. His family helped in much of the work (one of his daughters was paid a penny a sheet to help prepare the charts).

The PTK Award is given to an instructor who exhibits the highest of professional qualities in his work, and whom is thought of by the PTK members as an outstanding example of what a faculty member should be. It is perhaps the highest honor a faculty member can receive from members of the student body.

Dr. Estes exemplifies the qualities represented by the award and greatly deserves such an honor. His hard work and dedication to the campus and to the ideals of higher education are an example to all instructors and students alike.

division and no longer involved the department."

In 26 years, Hawley has taught two Developmental English courses, the Writing Lab, Modern Literature and both Rhetoric and Composition courses.

"However, the Oral Communications and Written Communications courses Dr. Luchsinger and I developed and taught were challenging as they were developed especially for the vocational-technical students.

"The combinations of students," Hawley added, "made teaching a lively, enlightening interval."

■ Dr. BARBARA LUCHSINGER

Twenty-five years represents only a portion of the time Dr. Barbara Luchsinger has spent helping educate Southern Illinois residents.

In reality, she comes close to having helped start two different colleges.

She arrived at Mt. Vernon Community College the second year of its existence and, except for time off for good behavior (to pursue a doctorate degree from the University of Iowa), has been a mainstay ever since.

Dr. Luchsinger began her teaching career at the high school level in Princeton. "My second year there, I had an offer to teach in the Mt. Vernon High School. The Princeton seniors had petitioned for me to sponsor their class. I stayed at Princeton for them," she recalled recently.

"By doing so, I missed being at the Mt. Vernon Community College its first year."

The following year she made the move. "Margaret Ann Cummings, the Chairman who structured the first college English Department, was another miracle: she was, in fact, President of the Illinois Association of Teachers of English.

"Those first years we were determined to make the college 'go.' To get teaching load down, we both taught classes for nothing. Others did the same."

"Rend Lake College did not spring full grown from an oak tree," Dr. Luchsinger continued. "The Mt. Vernon Community College never intended to be a permanent institution. Always it was to be absorbed into an area college, although the area was not defined."

Many founding fathers remain in the area.

"You cannot mention one without thinking of all," commented Dr. Luchsinger. But two names now and forever more are at the foundation of Rend Lake College.

"The first, Howard Rawlinson, whose brilliance, vision, creativity and knowledge of people make him, for many of us, 'the man who built a college.'

"The second, the first President, James M. Snyder, a man who through the years I remember as a leader of integrity and fairness, who over and over kept a level head in times of stress."

The memories continue . . .

"Since I've been around longer than the college, much of my life reflects the history. I won't 'heave my heart into my mouth' to recap the early days. Often I was on campus from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. I'm thankful for the part I was allowed to play."

Dr. Luchsinger over the years has taught a wide selection of rhetoric and literature classes. She also served for many years as sponsor of the student newspaper and has served on numerous college committees. Most recently, she has been the advisor for the Rho Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the national community college scholastic honor fraternity.

"One source of pride for many of us – this certainly includes Georgine Hawley – are the writing and reading programs. When I left Iowa to come here as Instructor/Chairman, I had one stipulation only that had to be guaranteed: the support to build reading and writing laboratories. The Writing Lab received acclaim in a California system. We also introduced skills testing; this at a time when testing wasn't widespread.

"Today I look at an irony. Although my area treatise of abstractions, I'm seeing concretes: An Ag Chairman (Mark S. Kern) who became a College President; former students who were shining lights in my classes and who teach at RLC today, including the man (William Dill) who received this year's 'Faculty Excellence Award.'

"As is true of all of us, I see my former students in grade and high schools throughout the district. Christmas cards come from everywhere.

"There are some real treasures. An autographed baseball from a 'jock' now turned professional; a plaque from nursing students; a thermometer to measure temperature at the face of a coal mine.

"And just a few weeks ago, a recovering alcoholic shared a blessed moment . . . an award for the first year of being dried out. The quotation on the award is from Shakespeare: 'To thine own self be true.' That's where it is at!"

Dr. Luchsinger is proof "oak trees" can grow from humble starts.

Her own background includes six years at Dix Grade School and two years "in a wonderful county school named 'Woods.' There were four boys and four girls. When the boys sat on one end of the teeter-totter and girls on the other, we balanced exactly."

"I think of my education in terms of people," she added. "Miss Gladys at Dix and Woods was a miracle and would go on to win honors in teaching. We had no electricity, but we had a battery radio, a school newspaper and on cold days (thanks to the mothers) hot lunches. Miss Gladys insisted that we each had our own cup to drink out of the water bucket.

"It was Depression time on Southern Illinois clay dirt, but it was good.

"My life was largely with my parents. We lived on a dirt road, but we had books, books, books. Both my parents were for a time grade school teachers, and one of my earliest recollections is sitting on my Daddy's lap and hearing him read, "The Song of Hiawatha."

From there, she went on to graduate from Mt. Vernon Township High School and Lindenwood College in St. Louis. Both of her graduate degrees are from Iowa, with some work at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and a workshop in Economics from Northwestern University.

When the RLC Foundation began handing out its "Faculty Excellence Award," Dr. Luchsinger was the sixth person so honored.

Concluded Dr. Luchsinger: "Thirty years have been great. May the greatness of Rend Lake College be just beginning."

■ SHIRLEY McHANEY

The reputation of her department speaks volumes for Allied Health Chairperson Shirley McHaney.

Each year, Rend Lake College nursing graduates far surpass state and national averages when sitting for board exams.

A handful of area students go elsewhere to enter nursing programs, but only because there almost always is a waiting list to get into the highly regarded RLC program and

no wait to enroll most everywhere else.

Rend Lake College Nursing programs have been cited statewide as model programs.

"Rend Lake College strives for excellence in all that we do," President Mark S. Kern reminded those in attendance at 25th annual Commencement exercises last month.

"The Nursing program at Rend Lake College is a shining example of this."

McHaney had seven years of experience as a staff nurse and Emergency Room Supervisor at Wabash General Hospital in Mt. Carmel before entering the teaching profession.

After one year at Wabash Valley College, the Registered Nurse came to Mt. Vernon Community College as a part-time instructor in September 1966, and the following year was promoted to full-time status about the same time Rend Lake College was welcoming students for the first time.

McHaney was named Acting Coordinator in May 1975, and in April 1981, after 14 years as an instructor in the Practical Nursing School, she was named Allied Health Department Chair.

Her initial R.N. Degree came from Missouri Baptist Hospital School of Nursing in St. Louis in 1956.

It was not until 1965 she decided to earn her Student Teaching certification, and it was five more years before she received a B.S. Degree in Vocational Education from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. Her M.S. in Health Education also came from SIUC and was earned while working full-time.

Perhaps her proudest moment at Rend Lake College was that spring evening in 1984, when her son, Attorney Michael McHaney, provided an inspiring message to RLC graduates during graduation. Many considered it to be the college's best commencement address ever.

Mike is the son of Shirley and her husband, retired educational administrator Lon McHaney. The McHaney's are avid golfers when not occupied by two grandchildren.

Shirley also finds time to practice what she preaches by sharing her compassion and



Ten veteran instructors add up to 300 years of experience

MAY 1987

Members of the original Rend Lake College faculty, "representing every department that existed 20 years ago," were honored at the annual Board-Faculty-Staff Dinner. The 10 instructors were presented engraved, pen-clock desk sets.

"These 10 people have had an impact on the college that multiplies many times the 10," said College Dean Mark Kern while acknowledging Wayne Arnold, Health, P.E. and Recreation; Dr. Eugene Estes, Science; Gela Goin, Secretarial Science; Georgine Hawley, English; Dr. Barbara Luchsinger, English; Shirley McHaney, Allied Health; Richard Perrachione, Math; Betty Ann Ward, Math and Education; Jim Waugh, Health /P.E., and William Younghusband, Accounting/Business.

"The faculty," added Academic Council President Mike Mullen, "is our greatest strength, because it has the greatest role in the college's everyday mission.

"The founding faculty deserve our honor and respect for two very important reasons. First, because they have been doing the job longer than anyone else present. Second, because new instructors continue to benefit from their experience. Their efforts have made the road easier for the rest of us to travel."

The 10 represent 300 years of experience. Fifty-two full-time instructors today boast 850 years in the classroom, over 500 at RLC. Included: four doctoral degrees and 35 instructors with at least Master's Degrees earned from 42 universities.

<p>Dr. EUGENE ESTES SEA "Outstanding Educator" Award • 1973 Science</p>	<p>CHERYL FOLEY PTK "Distinguished Educator" Award • 1973 Speech</p>	<p>KEITH E. DRAYTON PTK "Distinguished Educator" Award • 1975 Music</p>	<p>Dr. RICHARD DOHERTY PTK "Distinguished Educator" Award • 1976 Social Science</p>	<p>MAX BRANDON PTK "Distinguished Educator" Award • 1977 Social Science</p>					
1972 - 1973		1973 - 1974		1974 - 1975		1975 - 1976		1976 - 1977	



'Grass-Roots Advocacy' cites Radiologic's Robert

JUNE 2008

Radiologic Technology Director Kim Robert was recipient of the 2008 Award for "Outstanding Grass-Roots Advocacy" presented by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists. The ASRT honors one individual nationwide at its Annual Governance and House of Delegates Meeting, June 15 in Albuquerque, NM. The group is comprised of volunteers willing to contact and/or meet with legislators.

Robert "has been a loud voice for legislation affecting the field of radiologic technology," noted her letter of nomination. "She has attended meetings with (then Presidential candidate and U.S. Senator) Barack Obama, Senator Dick Durbin and every Illinois Congressman over the last four years."



BMRCC's Knoblett lends expertise to Hayes House

OCTOBER 1995

Big Muddy River Correctional Center Horticulture Instructor Pam Knoblett was responsible for planning, renovation and overseeing work on grounds of the DuQuoin Hayes House, home to the Illinois Governor during the DuQuoin State Fair. In a letter to RLC President Mark Kern, Gov. Jim Edgar wrote, "Your staff did a tremendous job with this project. The grounds have been transformed and are in beautiful condition . . . We are impressed with the work that has been done. We are grateful to you and your staff for the knowledge, expertise and resources provided. Once again, Rend Lake College has exhibited an exceptional willingness to help the community and the State of Illinois."

understanding with nursing home residents evenings after work.

■ JIM WAUGH

Very few individuals are so well-known they are easily recognizable by one name.

Meet "Hummer," who goes by the alias of James E. Waugh only long enough for strangers to get to know him.

After initial introductions, it does not take long for most people to warm up to "The Hummer."

How did he get the name in the first place? Waugh arrived at Mt. Vernon Community College as a Health Instructor and coach the year before Rend Lake College came into existence.

Former Baseball Coach Mike McClure insists Waugh was constantly chattering to his pitchers from the dugout, "Hum, baby, hum," and he hung the name on him.

Another longtime friend and colleague, Wayne Arnold, referred to "Mr. Clean" when the college saluted "Hummer" with its "Faculty Excellence Award" a year ago.

Arnold praised Waugh as "a gentleman on and off the court" and cited his devotion to family. "He's a big teddy bear," concluded Arnold, perhaps starting a new name for the big, cuddly coach.

Waugh's letter of recommendation for the "Faculty Excellence Award" was signed by 14 peers. In part, it read:

"Jim Waugh has stood for scholars/athletes, not the other way around . . . To know Rend Lake College is to know Coach Waugh. He is more than 'Hummer,' he is Heart. Just the other day, a student who has been in his classes and on his team commented, "His heart is as big as a house. You can always go to Hummer (for help)."

Waugh has come full circle at RLC.

He came to the college in 1966 as a Health Instructor, Athletic Director and Men's Basketball Coach.

In 1981, after 15 years, he gave up the A.D. position when he requested reassignment to women's athletics.

Now he is Athletic Director once again, stepping in when asked to fill a need in the department.

Waugh also serves as the Region XXIV National Junior College Athletic Association Women's Director and is active at First Methodist Church in Mt. Vernon along with his wife, part-time RLC Math Instructor Lila Waugh.

In between, Waugh has guided basketball teams to 402 wins (337 losses). His men's

teams captured Southern Illinois College Conference championships in 1973 and '77, and his women's teams posted records of 22-12, 26-5 and 25-8 in consecutive seasons from 1985-88.

The former Terre Haute, IN, All-America gridder and three-sport standout at hometown Indiana State University has won numerous "Coach of the Year" honors, most recently Great Rivers Athletic Conference acclaim from his peers in 1987. Over 35 of his former scholars/athletes are in the coaching ranks today.

The Waughs are the parents of two daughters, Mrs. Brian (Cathy) Sponsler and Jane Waugh, and proud grandparents of Dakota James Waugh.

Or should that be Dakota "Hummer" Waugh?

FACULTY RANK SYSTEM ▶ Tenure brings Associate Professor title; full Professor after 10 years

A new Board Policy regarding a "Faculty Rank System" was approved on second reading by the Rend Lake College Board of Trustees in April 1996. The idea for a ranking was first proposed following a vote of full-time faculty in February.

Members of the instructional staff henceforth will be classified in one of three categories:

- Instructor – at the time the individual is first hired (includes eight faculty members at the present time).
- Associate Professor – at the time tenure is granted (20 currently).
- Professor – after 10 years of service to Rend Lake College (30 currently).

Only time at Rend Lake College will be recognized in determining faculty rank.

Full-time faculty originally voted 34-15 in favor of requesting the ranking system. Supporters indicated such a system was desirable and could be helpful to them; four-year institutions and some two-year colleges already use similar distinctions.

Rankings are retroactive. They are based "exclusively and entirely" on term of service and will not be used as a basis for making financial differentiations among faculty members.

FACULTY UNION ▶ Rend Lake Federation of Teachers created in '77 by 20 charter members

Twenty members of the Rend Lake College faculty met in Mt. Vernon in January

1977 to organize and charter a local chapter of the American Federation of Teachers, to be known as the Rend Lake Federation of Teachers.

Temporary officers elected: Social Science Instructor Dr. Richard Doherty, Chairman; Agriculture Instructor David Scott, Vice Chairman; Speech Instructor Cheryl Foley, Treasurer, and Mining Technology Instructor Lee Wilson, Secretary.

"The faculty of Rend Lake College is a very professional group of persons with more expertise in many areas of education than any other campus group," Doherty commented. "The Rend Lake Federation of Teachers represents a majority of the full-time teaching faculty. It is part of the democratic process to have some say in the conditions that affect you. As a majority of the faculty, we want to be part of that democratic process."

Approximately 65 percent of eligible members joined soon thereafter, it was reported, and by year's end the petition was signed by 41 of 60 full-time faculty members when the Faculty Union formally presented its request for recognition to the Rend Lake College Board of Trustees.

Trustees elected only to take the request under advisement.

BOB VARIS DREAMS ▶ Industrial Technology Instructor describes 'The College I'd Build'

ESSENCE '81 ~ REND LAKE COLLEGE LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

The article that follows was submitted by Mining and Industrial Technology Instructor Bob Varis for inclusion in the 1980-81 RLC Literary Supplement, Essence '81 . . .

The college I'd build would be one without the traditional constraints that hamper the educational efforts in colleges today.

As with any government-funded and controlled institution, colleges are bound within a structured system that was implemented in the early part of this century to provide for the educational needs of that period's students and society.

In today's technologically rapidly advancing society, I believe that this old system is on its way to self-destruction through anti-

quation. An example of this would be in the vocational areas of postsecondary schools; here industry is approaching the schools for a greater supply of technically trained persons to bring into their work force than the schools can supply under the present system of structured time requirements.

In my proposed college, I would first set up an open-entry open-exit program to increase not only the speed of the educational process but to give the slower student time to master the concepts and principles of tasks where he/she may be having difficulties. This type of school structure would also increase the motivation of the more advanced student to either further his/her education or enter the work force after finishing the initial program.

In my college one would find the utopia of education.

MORE CULTURAL EXPOSURE ▶ Course internationalization starts with Japan trip for eight instructors

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE MAY 2000

A greater international awareness is the ultimate goal of a Federal Title VI grant Rend Lake College has been awarded from the Department of Education.

The two-year project will result in the internationalization of as many as 12 community college courses and work-related trips to Japan in Summer 2001 for eight RLC instructors.

According to the grant synopsis, the project "is a grass roots movement by the Rend Lake College faculty to improve undergraduate instruction by increasing international awareness among RLC faculty, students and community members. Because of recent changes in our business community, Japan is our target culture."

Two of the largest employers in the college district – Continental General Tire in Mt. Vernon and Matsushita Universal Media Services (MUMS) in Pinckneyville – have entered into partnership agreements with Japanese companies.

"It has come to the attention of faculty



'Correctional Ed' honors for Computer Tech's Otey

APRIL 1996

Computer Technology Instructor Gary Otey was recognized by the Illinois Department of Corrections as the "Correctional Education Employee of the Year" for Big Muddy River Correctional Center.

One of the first three instructors hired by Director David Vinyard in April 1993, Otey was recognized by Superintendent John Castro for his "commitment to excellence in delivery of programs to inmates at Big Muddy River Correctional Center, which is exemplary.

"We would specifically like to thank you for your able assistance in developing your curriculum into a series of competency-based units and for your involvement and assistance in providing in-service training to institutional staff in the use of the LAN system software packages."

Otey, Vinyard said, "is there early every day and stays late." He volunteers his time supervising the center's publication, "The Current," and was instrumental in helping put together a new Desktop Publishing curriculum for the state. "Any time anyone needs a poster or a flyer or some kind of graphic, he is willing. If the business office has a problem with a spreadsheet, they give Gary a call. It is as if he is an institutional consultant . . . the 'answer man' for computer problems."

Otey was working at the Robinson C.C. before starting the program at BMRCC.

FACULTY EXCELLENCE

VINCENT CAIN
PTK "Distinguished Educator" Award · 1979
History / Geography

WAYNE ARNOLD
1980 Student Senate
"Teacher of Year" Award
Health / P.E. / Recreation

ELEANOR HALL
1980 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Sociology / Anthropology

VINCENT CAIN
1981 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
History / Geography

Dr. EUGENE ESTES
1982 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Biology / Botany

1977 - 1978

1978 - 1979

1979 - 1980

1980 - 1981

1981 - 1982



Faculty Advisory Committee thanks Mullen for four years

LETTER APRIL 22, 2003

Dear President Kern:

With Mike Mullen completing a four-year term on the Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) to the Illinois Board of Higher Education, I write to express appreciation and a heartfelt thank you for his extensive service. We are greatly appreciative of the actions of your college in supporting his participation and in hosting two sessions of the FAC. Mike has represented your institution, his discipline and the community colleges of Illinois very effectively. Given the quality of his service, Mike's three-year term on the FAC was extended for a fourth year at the request of the IBHE liaison to provide continuity in community college representation.

Throughout the three years of my service on the FAC, Mike has been a diligent member of the Budget Committee, at times its only member from community colleges, thus able to represent their interests. While not the most vocal participant in general discussions, his timely comments always add to the substance of discussions on a range of topics. I must add my personal word of appreciation for his unfailing good humor, positive approach to the work of the Council and his faithful participation. We all recognize the extent of travel required for Mike to participate in meetings in Northern Illinois.

. . . Mike should be justifiably proud of his contributions and what was accomplished on behalf of our institutions and efforts to enhance Illinois higher education during his term.

Sincerely,
Kenneth E. Anderson, Chair
Faculty Advisory Comm./IBHE
U. of I. Professor Emeritus

through the years many students are under-prepared for some of the work tasks required in our increasingly shrinking world, like interacting in cultures not typical of Southern Illinois," the grant writers explained. "For the first time, many of our district residents are being exposed to another culture. Our goal is to make this change a positive and productive intercultural opportunity for our students and community members."

Dr. Sue Tomlin, RLC Sociology Professor who has traveled and studied abroad considerably for several years, was most responsible for submission of the grant, along with Bob Ross, Director of Resource Development.

Tomlin says the grant "provides an opportunity to do something very positive for the school and the community.

"Unlike a 'tour' of a foreign country, in this project we will be interacting with parents and children directly as teachers of English. This interaction should give us much more insight into daily life in Japan than other experiences would. Each faculty member also will be challenged with planning his or her own intellectual course of study while in Japan."

Faculty members were encouraged to submit proposals on how they would internationalize curriculum if funded.

Chris Kuberski, Chair of the Liberal Arts Department, also played a key role in the development of the successful grant proposal. She has taught previously at Southern Illinois University's Japanese campus. Psychology Instructor Carolyn Stewart and Tomlin have led RLC Study Abroad classes each of the last seven years.

Dr. Kenneth Holland, an East Asia scholar from the University of Tennessee, will serve as a consultant for the group, helping plan the best way to meet individual learning needs.

"With such a diverse group of teaching areas represented, this sojourn will offer an opportunity for us to learn from each other's areas as well as our own," Tomlin added.

During a five-week stay in Nakajo, Japan, RLC faculty will teach English to selected Japanese teen and pre-teen students. The goal is to provide experiences with both spoken and written English in a relaxed, after-school setting. Each teacher will be responsible for a group of six students, all of whom must have at least one year of English language to be eligible.

Rend Lake College participants likewise

will attend approximately five hours per week of classroom instruction concerning Japanese culture and language. Time in Tokyo is planned as well.

Other initiatives during the next two years that will help faculty in the internationalization of curricula include: three on-campus lectures annually, which will be conducted by SIU international faculty and exchange students from the SIU-Nigata Campus, regarding various aspects of Japanese culture; a two-day "Hello Japan" retreat open to all RLC faculty and staff, exchange students, SIU faculty and Japanese employees of General Tire and MUMS; introduction of an ongoing course, "Japanese for Business Travelers," taught by adjunct RLC faculty, that combines language and culture with an emphasis on the spoken word, and follow-up symposiums and speaking engagements on Japanese culture to be presented by participants.

Target audiences for the Japanese Cultural Lecture Series will include students, faculty, community members and participants in the RLC Foundation-sponsored Institute for Learning in Retirement.

Core international courses that could be affected by resulting curricula changes include Child Psychology, Educational Psychology, Management, Introduction to Business, Community Health and Nursing, Psychiatric Nursing, World Religion, Non-Western Philosophy, Architecture, Architecture History, Sociology and Marriage and Family.

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE SEPTEMBER 2001

Black hard-boiled eggs. A Buddhist statue that resembles Ross Perot. Everything is 100 Yen. Juice boxes filled with sake.

Those are just some of the things eight Rend Lake College faculty members experienced during their month-long summer sojourn to Japan.

"The purpose of the trip," according to Dr. Sue Tomlin, RLC Sociology Professor, "was to learn about Japanese culture, so we can teach our students more about it."

"Over the next month," explained English Professor Rob Little in the group's daily journal introduction, "we hope to become fully immersed in Japan to better understand its people, language and culture. We will then take that knowledge home with us to better serve the students of our district, especially those of foreign nationality and background."

The trip was funded by a Federal Title VI Grant awarded by the Department of Education.

Japan was selected because of Southern Illinois industry connections with Matsushita Universal Media Services LLC of America (MUMS) in Pinckneyville and Continental General Tire in Mt. Vernon. Both companies, two of the largest employers in the college district, have entered into partnership agreements with Japanese companies.

Before the real work of teaching "English as a Second Language" began, the Rend Lake College contingent enjoyed a few days of sight-seeing in Tokyo, including the Imperial Palace, the Tokyo National Museum and a Buddhist temple.

In fact, it was in Tokyo they visited Shioon, an enormous statue of a holy man from a Buddhist sect who was exiled for his religious beliefs but managed to swim back to the mainland. A huge statue was erected at the site of his return. It was Little who jokingly made the comparison to former presidential candidate Perot.

For homesick tourists, Japan offers its version of discount shopping in the form of "Everything is 100 Yen," where bargains abound for the travelers and locals alike. At Homac, a discount department store similar to Wal-Mart, one can find anything from juice boxes filled with the Japanese spirit known as sake to Hello Kitty bathroom slippers to everyday necessities.

While on a day trip to Hakone National Park, Rend Lake College colleagues experienced the local sights and smells. The area contained sulphurous vapor eruptions, a popular attraction of the park. At the highest point on the mountain trail, a concession stand sells hard-boiled eggs. The eggs are black from being boiled in the hot, sulphur-smelling water. Visitors stand around eating the "delicacy," which the Japanese believe to be beneficial to their health. Admitted one RLC instructor, "Those of us who hiked the path chose not to participate in that culinary experience."

In between all the fun and games, the group had more serious objectives, such as helping teach ESL classes on the sister campus of Southern Illinois University-

Carbondale in Nakajo, Japan. Each of the instructors was paired with a full-time ESL instructor.

In addition to teaching, the RLC instructors became students. During the stay, they learned some basic Japanese words and characters. Generally, the students were quite overwhelmed, except for Little. According to Tomlin, Little "enjoyed being drilled on Japanese characters for some perverse reason."

Bonnie Tolbert, an Allied Health Instructor, described Mrs. Yamada-san, their teacher, as "a dear and patient lady who doesn't cut them any slack." As Tomlin quipped in the group diary, "Who says teachers make the worst students?"

Japanese tradition and culture were emphasized throughout the stay. Activities included a tea ceremony, oriental cooking classes and flower arranging. The college delegation also traveled to Murakami and Kyoto, visiting various attractions.

Faculty members joining Tomlin, Little and Tolbert were Debbie Bennis (Allied Health), Linda Cox (Adult Education), Steve Kennett (Philosophy), Rick Marlow (Architectural Technology) and Dr. Sue Trammell (Science).

With their days in Japan numbered, Cox noted in her journal entry, "Everywhere we go in Japan, we meet friendly, warm people who genuinely want to help us learn about their customs and culture so that we might take the information back to our students and to fellow teachers. We are constantly amazed by their courtesy and willingness to try their best to answer our questions."

Agreed Rick-san (Marlow): "We have found the Japanese to be extremely gracious and endearing people. Several conversations have been initiated on the trains, despite the language barriers. They even seem interested in the pictures of my grandchildren. The largest cities seem safe and hospitable, even the taxi drivers, who typically maintain extremely clean vehicles and wear suits and white gloves. At the Tokyo Station, despite rushing throngs of people scurrying to their destinations, we have typically found the Japanese will take



Allied Heath Prof. Lipe contributor to NCLEX

DECEMBER 1997

RLC Allied Health Professor Sandra Lipe was selected as one of 10 nationwide contributors to the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX), the standardized test for nursing board certification. She was recommended for the prestigious honor by the Illinois Board of Nursing on the basis of her background and nursing experiences. Her nomination as an item writer led to Lipe's participation on a NCLEX Item Development Panel conducted in the fall in Princeton, NJ, which created many of the questions used as part of the exam.

The National Council is responsible for developing and administering the NCLEX for all nurses in the U.S. and five territories. The licensure exam identifies those candidates who demonstrate the competence needed to practice nursing at an entry level.



Full-time instructors lead 63% of all FY90 classes

F.Y.I. JULY 17, 1990

According to a Credit Hour Generation Report by Dr. Keith Lape, 63 percent of classes in FY1990 were taught by full-time faculty, 37 percent by part-time instructors.

This represents a 4 percent increase in reliance on part-time instructors over the previous year, which can be attributed to an increase in enrollment. Lape estimated the statewide average is closer to 50-50.

GARY WADE
1983 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Welding / Mining Tech

SHIRLEY YEARGIN
1984 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Nursing

Dr. BARBARA LUCHSINGER
1985 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
English

SANDRA VAN CLEVE
1986 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Nursing

SARAH CAPPS
1987 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Art

1982 - 1983

1983 - 1984

1984 - 1985

1985 - 1986

1986 - 1987



Endowed Teaching Chair honors U.N.'s Kirkpatrick

REND LAKE COLLEGE F.Y.I. FALL 1990

The Jeane Jordan Kirkpatrick Endowed Teaching Chair for International Understanding has been established at Rend Lake College.

The endowment will make it possible for one faculty member annually to receive a stipend to internationalize a course (or section) he or she teaches.

The award through the Rend Lake College Foundation is named for the former United Nations Ambassador, a Mt. Vernon Township High School graduate who was presented with an Honorary Degree from Rend Lake College in 1981.

"I am enthusiastic about the recognition of excellence in teaching and firmly believe in the importance of international studies in a liberal arts education," Kirkpatrick wrote in her letter granting permission to use her name as part of the prestigious endowment.

"My ties to the Midwest, and to Illinois in particular, remain strong and I would be happy to continue my association with Rend Lake College."

[Editor's Note – Kirkpatrick, the first woman to serve as United States Ambassador to the U.N., won the appointment to the United Nations, with rank of Cabinet Member, when Ronald Reagan assumed the Presidency in 1981, resigning in early 1985. Her tenure was the longest of any U.S. Ambassador in 20 years, and only three others had served longer. After her resignation, she returned to Georgetown University to teach while enjoying considerable interest as a guest speaker and an occasional newspaper columnist.]

time to help you locate your train departure platform or assist with other questions.

"This seems to have carried through to the 'Immersion Eight,' who, despite a hectic schedule, are still a close-knit and amicable group. If laughter is indeed the best medicine, we have added years to our lives while in Japan. We are savoring the experiences, knowing we may never have another such opportunity."

Rend Lake College offers an evening class entitled, "Japanese for Business Travelers." The course is intended to equip the business traveler with a working knowledge of Japanese language and culture. It counts as three hours of elective credit.

CAMPUS-WIDE LOSS ▶ Welding Instructor, upbeat RLC leader Fertaly inspired all in spite of illness

REND LAKE COLLEGE F.Y.I. MARCH 6-12, 1995

A major contributor to the quality of life for the entire Rend Lake College community, students and staff alike, lost his personal battle Friday night (March 3).

John Fertaly, 45, died in his hometown of Westville following a lengthy illness.

Cancer may have ended his life, but Fertaly never let the terminal disease get the best of him while he was alive. He remained upbeat throughout recent treatments and an inspiration to all who were fortunate enough to be around him.

A Vietnam veteran with distinguished honors, Fertaly joined the RLC family as a Welding Instructor in September 1980. He has been a member on various committees since that time and most recently served as President of the faculty union, having resigned that position last fall for health reasons.

Fertaly likewise had found it necessary to resign his teaching position due to his health.

In spite of those concerns, he agreed to co-chair the family portion of the "Generations of Excellence" capital campaign. Ninety-eight percent of Rend Lake College's full-time faculty and staff contributed.

Fighting back his emotions, Fertaly told an In-Service audience of his peers, "A group of people working together can accomplish a whole lot more than talented individuals working alone," he said then. Outsiders "need to know we are interested in making an investment in ourselves. It is very important that we show that solidarity, that commitment."



Funeral services for Fertaly will be conducted Tuesday, March 7, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Westville, near Danville.

Among survivors are his daughters, Jennifer, 11, and Kaitlin, 9.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Carle Hospice, Hospice of Southern Illinois or the American Cancer Society, according to Fertaly's close friend and former RLC employee Dana Hils.

A.A.A. DEPARTMENT CHAIR ▶ No joke: RLC will not be the same without one-of-a-kind Doug Leeck

REND LAKE COLLEGE F.Y.I. MARCH 17-23, 1997

There won't be any fearless forecasts from the magnificent soothsayer at this year's Ag Banquet.

He will no longer have the ear of the college President and the boldness to tell it like it is. No more "President's House" signs posted in front of the old, transplanted one-room schoolhouse prior to remodeling.

Friend and foe alike are not going to feel the zing of his biting sense of humor.

And the number of jokes told on campus will no doubt be reduced significantly.

I.e., things just are not going to be the same around here without Doug Leeck, who died Thursday morning, March 6, at age 45.

Leeck had served as Chair of the Agriculture, Automotive and Architecture (AAA) Department less than one year (Acting Chair and Coordinator prior to that), but he had been a full-time employee of Rend Lake College longer than all but a half-dozen or so of his colleagues.

He will not be forgotten, either.

That was made rather obvious by the number of townspeople, coworkers, family and friends who paid their respect to Leeck . . . estimated at over 1,200 people by funeral home personnel.

Most noticeable among those who shared in the family's grief – and that of the RLC family – were the many students past and present among the visitation guests.

Several proudly wore their blue Agri-Achiever jackets.

Nobody made them come. Their beloved instructor was not going to mark them absent. There was no extra-credit attached to this field trip.

But their presence spoke volumes for the impact Doug Leeck had made on their lives. Farm families, in particular, are like

that, and his students looked up to Leeck as a fun-loving friend and as a father figure who likewise earned their respect.

They always knew they could count on Doug Leeck.

Safe to say, no department on campus is any closer than those individuals who comprise the AAA Department. Leeck was a big reason for that.

Think we will miss him?

There are many, many groups and organizations that will miss him, also, including the Mt. Vernon Township High School Board; Jefferson County Fire Protection District Board, the Masons, Shriners and several other fraternal organizations, and such groups as the Association of Diesel Specialists and the Southern Illinois University Alumni Association (lifetime member), all of which he was an active participant.

Fans and rivals of tractor-pull events in the Midwest are left to mourn one of their biggest boosters and top performers.

And do not forget his wife, Cindy, college-age daughter Roz, teenage son Henry David "Buster," his mother, Jane Leeck, and other family members. Their loss can not be measured, except in memories.

Doug Leeck never missed an opportunity to rip a buddy or make a wisecrack, but only when the timing was right and it was appropriate. He knew perfectly well when it was time to be serious, too. When to be the perfect gentleman, a true professional in every sense of the word.

One close friend, who preferred not to face reality for the moment, wished this were just another of Leeck's stunts.

Sure, he had told friends he had not been feeling well in recent days. He even had a stress test scheduled on Friday. But every prank needs the perfect set-up, we could only hope.

You know . . . just when you are finally convinced he is telling you the truth and you and you fall for it, you just as suddenly realize how gullible you are and he gets the last laugh. Again. And again.

It would be nice to think this time he

had pulled off the ultimate joke. Suddenly, Leeck is back on campus among friends and the joke is on all of us. Just like always.

That is not going to happen, though.

Seriously, Doug, a lot of people – especially your students – are really going to miss you.

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Classes and planned activities in the AAA Department were canceled Friday, March 7, by President Mark S. Kern, one of Leeck's former instructors and a close personal friend.

The Opdyke resident graduated with an Associate of Arts Degree from RLC in 1972. He earned a B.S. in Ag Education from SIUC and returned to Rend Lake College to teach Welding and Hydraulics from 1975-78. He joined the AAA faculty as an Ag Mechanics and Ag Occupations Instructor in 1978. He also was responsible for overseeing students involved in Supervised Occupational Experience classes.

Leeck assumed the AAA Department Chair position July 1, 1996, administering six programs and specialized Country Companies training.

In addition to his involvement with the college, he was co-owner and manager of D and L Farms in Valmeyer; owner-operator of Leeck Farms, Opdyke; owner-manager of Leeck Equipment, and a sales representative for Pioneer Hi-bred International seed. He was secretary-treasurer for the Opdyke Cemetery Association and vice president of Dodds Pendleton Coal Association.

OBITUARY ▶ Ag Student Charles Nadolski

In a twist of fate too cruel to fathom, Rend Lake College student Charles M. Nadolski, 20, of Beaucoup, died at 6:10 p.m. Thursday, March 6, from injuries suffered in an accident on Route 15.

Nadolski reportedly was riding a four-wheeler while helping with chores associated with the family farm at the time he was struck by another vehicle.

Nadolski was an Agriculture major. He was home earlier than usual due to the death of one of his instructors, Doug Leeck.

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Mullen to softball pal: 'Can't believe we're both employed'

REND LAKE COLLEGE F.Y.I. MAY 1994

Dr. Steve Tietz, RLC Vice President, introduced previously announced "Faculty Excellence" Award-winning English/Journalism Instructor Mike Mullen at the annual Board-Faculty-Staff Dinner. They are longtime friends and colleagues.

Tietz recalled the time in 1980, a year after his arrival, that his former Southern Illinois University-Carbondale classmate and frequent softball teammate joined him at Rend Lake College. Mullen had recently been hired by then Department Chair Dr. Evelyn Claxton.

"He looked at me with all sincerity," Tietz remembered, "and said, 'I can't believe we're both employed.'"

Mullen was the 15th annual recipient of the "Faculty Excellence" Award sponsored by the RLC Foundation.

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Estes redirects award money to benefit church member

BOARD MINUTES MARCH 21, 1979

Dr. Harry Braun read portions of a letter from Dr. Eugene Estes regarding the \$150 stipend he had been awarded as Chairperson of the North Central Self-Study Committee. The letter stated Dr. Estes' desire to place this money in a restricted account for the benefit of a young man from his church who will be attending Rend Lake College this fall.

FACULTY EXCELLENCE

Dr. JOHN HOMAN JR.
1988 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
English

WAYNE ARNOLD
1989 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Health / P.E. / Recreation

DAVID SCOTT
1990 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Agriculture

JIM WAUGH
1991 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Health / Physical Education

WILLIAM DILL
1992 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Industrial Technology

1987 - 1988

1988 - 1989

1989 - 1990

1990 - 1991

1991 - 1992



'Learn / Serve' mini-grants for Bennis, Fisher, Stewart

MARCH 1998

Three of 14 statewide "Learn and Serve America: Higher Education" mini-grants were awarded to Rend Lake College applicants. The mini-grants, ranging from \$1,000-\$2,000 each, involve college students helping to enlighten younger students throughout the district. Funding was from the Corporation for National Service through the Illinois Campus Compact Office.

Projects funded:

- "Smoke Free with Rend Lake College," awarded to Allied Health Associate Professor Debbie Bennis. The mini-grant will allow Associate Degree Nursing students to go on the road throughout the college district taking a "Smoke-Free" message to young students.

- "CHEM-unity Service," awarded to Chemistry Professor John Fisher and Lab Assistant/Project Facilitator Steve Holman. Real-life chemistry reactions will be demonstrated by about 65 first- and second-year RLC Chemistry students to approximately 600 area students, including 250 participants in Project First Class.

- "Think It Over," awarded to Psychology Associate Professor Carolyn Stewart. She expects the project to benefit at least 500 students in grades 7-12. Thanks to "Think It Over" teaching tools (realistic doll babies) donated by the RLC Foundation and almost \$1,500 in ICCCS funds, Educational Psychology students will make presentations throughout the district in an attempt to make teenage participants more aware of the responsibilities and burdens of teen parenting.

AUTO ACCIDENT

March 6 a day full of tragedies

Two Benton Consolidated High School students were seriously injured in a head-on collision near Benton Camp Road on State Route 37 around 9:30 a.m. Thursday, March 6, as they headed to Rend Lake College for activities sponsored by the AAA Department.

David McCain and George Bozonelos apparently were late getting out of one class at BCHS and had missed the bus to campus. They were attempting to pass another vehicle in their pickup when the accident occurred.

Both students received emergency treatment at Franklin County Hospital before McCain was airlifted to St. Francis Medical Center in Cape Girardeau and Bozonelos was flown by helicopter to St. Louis University Hospital.

As if three tragic incidents weren't enough for one department to handle, there was more. The mother of Automotive Instructor Nigel Thompson, Jennie Ruth Thompson, 62, of Opdyke died Tuesday morning, March 11.

Doug Leeck's death at age 45 comes two years – to the week – after the death of Welding Instructor and Faculty Union President John Fertaly.

COGNITIVE SKILLS

Nursing colleagues Lipe, Beasley collaborate on innovative textbook

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE JANUARY 2004

Longtime Rend Lake College Allied Health colleagues Sandra Lipe, Associate Degree Nursing Professor, and Dr. Sharon Beasley, Division Chair, have collaborated on an innovative textbook called **Critical Thinking in Nursing: A Cognitive Skills Workbook**.

According to Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins, the firm which published the book, it introduces "the thought processes and problem-solving strategies essential for a successful career in nursing."

The book bridges the gap between theory and application by emphasizing real-world subjects such as critical thinking, problem solving, decision making and priority setting. The text emphasizes practical skills, including the process for discussing care with a physician, delegating care and providing care when assigned multiple patients.

Lipe, who has been a Nursing Professor

at Rend Lake College for 25 years, realized changes in nursing state board examinations (NCLEX) would require increased emphasis on critical thinking skills. She looked for a book that would meet students' needs but, unable to find one, decided to write her own.

Lipe always has emphasized the importance of using real-world situations in nursing education. She formulated a text that blends nursing theory with case scenarios. Students can evaluate their abilities to use the highlighted cognitive skills through skill checklists which have been developed for the text.

Beasley co-authored the book. She was a Nursing Professor at Rend Lake College for 22 years before assuming the position of Allied Health Division Chair. Beasley has been a reviewer for several nursing textbooks. In addition, she is a facilitator of a curriculum development course for the University of Phoenix Online in its Master's Degree in Nursing program.

In the past, both authors have written questions for use on the NCLEX state board examinations.

"Sandra and I spent a tremendous number of evenings and weekends working on the text, researching, writing and obtaining necessary permissions," Beasley said.

According to Beasley, the book is now being used in Rend Lake College's Practical Nursing and Associate Degree Nursing programs. She said directors of other nursing programs in the area also have expressed interest in using the text.

Numerous colleagues and friends contributed to the exercises included in the book. Among those individuals – Rend Lake College faculty members Trish Bennett-Minor, Barbara Crouse, Dorothy Donoho, Bonnie Tolbert and Mike Adamson; Lynn Lenker and Virginia Telford, Chief Nursing Officers of St. Mary's / Good Samaritan, Inc.; Kaskaskia College Nursing Instructor Mary Kuhl, as well as Pricella Edwards, Rhonda Edwards and Dale Allen.

The recently published book has been well-received in nursing education. Its highly interactive style has proven to be quite user-friendly for nursing students. The book may be obtained at the Rend Lake College Bookstore, B. Dalton Books at Mt. Vernon Times Square Mall or by contacting Lippincott publishers at LWW.com.

FIRST FACULTY RETIREE ► Dare to admit, Instructor never saw 'day I didn't really want to go to school'

THE PRESSING TIMES MAY 29, 1970

(Front-page lead story by Kathie Estes, daughter of Dr. Eugene Estes, RLC Science Instructor)

A local newspaper recently told the biographical story of Glenn Dare's life. It recognized him as the first Rend Lake College faculty member to retire and acclaimed his 44 years of service to education, telling of his scholastic honors, his social activities and a bit of his family tree.

Yet this coverage was unable to give an insight into the person – the man and his ideas.

In interviewing Mr. Dare, it was hard to get started. Laughingly, he said it best, "I just don't know what to say. This is the first time I've ever retired." Breaking the ice, this comment led into a delightful conversation with a warm and thoughtful man.

"I don't believe I've ever seen the day I didn't really want to go to school," Mr. Dare spoke with a nod. "Oh, sure," he admitted, "there have been days I didn't desire to attend, but everybody feels that way. For the most part, though, I never dreaded it."

I was curious about what his solution was to the problem of teaching positions becoming more scarce. After a moment's thought he said assuredly, "The best ones will survive." Continuing, Mr. Dare sincerely remarked, "Junior college instruction in Illinois is such a wonderful, wonderful thing, and the prospects of a happy professional life for young folks who want to teach are there. It's very important to get the Master's Degree, though, because 95 percent of junior college instructors have their Master's Degree."

The conversation then switched from the graduated student to the present ones, and Mr. Dare showed concern stating, "All junior college students should listen to counselors because so many students don't know what to do and what courses to pursue. It is imperative that everyone learns to do something."

"If you don't know how to communicate and appreciate the thoughts and feelings

of others, you're dead," he replied after I had asked him what he thought about the Generation Gap. Without hesitation, he remarked with conviction, "There is too little compassion. You've got to have it for people and their problems – especially students. You've got to learn to get along with everybody." Continuing in his thought about a "key to success," Mr. Dare stated, "Punctuality is so important. Also, one should try to be on the job every day. And don't forget," he added with expressed importance, "if you are the type of personality to inconvenience people, you need to try to eliminate as much of this trait as possible."

As the conversation turned to a lighter tone, Mr. Dare unashamedly confided that when he retires he will get to read the morning newspaper, something he has never been able to do. "My whole life has been regimented by the clock, the calendar and the telephone. Hopefully, this will change somewhat," he added wistfully.

As our conversation came to a close, Mr. Dare made one final comment that I had to agree with, because its wisdom and depth is so true. "Find out what the necessary controls are for desired conduct, then live it," he said, "and then, you are educated."

The Pressing Times asked an administrator and various faculty members (concentrating on the Social Science Department) if they would give their comments concerning Mr. Glenn Dare as a man, teacher, co-worker and friend. The following are (some of) their responses:

Dr. Howard Rawlinson
Dean of the College

In his autobiography, Henry Adams said, "A teacher affects eternity. He can never tell where his influence stops."

Glenn Dare has taught for 40 years in elementary schools, high school and junior college. Mr. Dare has touched the lives of thousands of students. One can imagine his influence like radioactive particles, penetrating future generations as far as the mind can conceive.

Mrs. Imogene Book
Librarian

During the years when the college (Mt.

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ISBE Standards teams include Fisher and Rust

APRIL 1998

Two Rend Lake College instructors have been named to the Illinois State Board of Education Performance Standards and Assessment Advisory Team by State Superintendent of Education Joseph A. Spagnolo.

- Chemistry Professor John Fisher appointed to the Learning Standards Team for Science.

- Speech Communications Professor Joseph Henry Rust, a member since 1980, was appointed once again to the English Language Arts Advisory Team. In November 1993, Rust was honored as only the fifth recipient of the "Community College Outstanding Educator Award" from the Speech Communications Association during its 79th annual meeting in Miami Beach.

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Howard, Mullen receive two of seven state grants

OCTOBER 1998

Two more "Learn and Serve" Scholarships of Engagement mini-grants were awarded to Rend Lake College applicants by the Illinois Campus Compact for Community Service. Funds were provided from the Corporation for National Service for seven projects statewide for support to integrate community engagements/services into one aspect of the recipient's professional development. Winner's included:

- Art Instructor Therese Howard
- English/Journalism Professor Mike Mullen

JOSEPH HENRY RUST
1993 RLCF "Faculty
Excellence" Award
Speech

MICHAEL P. MULLEN
1994 RLCF "Faculty
Excellence" Award
English / Journalism

Dr. SUE S. TOMLIN
1995 RLCF "Faculty
Excellence" Award
Sociology / Anthropology

JOHN HOWARD FISHER
1996 RLCF "Faculty
Excellence" Award
Chemistry

CAROLYN STEWART
1997 RLCF "Faculty
Excellence" Award
Psychology

1992 - 1993

1993 - 1994

1994 - 1995

1995 - 1996

1996 - 1997



Metzger, Grounds, Hart merit Service Learning

JANUARY 1999

Rend Lake College representatives continue to garner more than their share of Service Learning mini-grant awards. One of 20 colleges eligible, RLC has claimed 28.6 percent of the mini-grants the last three times awards were announced, including three of seven this time. The 1999 Illinois Campus Compact for Scholarship of Engagement Service Learning Grants for \$1,000 each to integrate service learning into courses that will combine classroom instruction with experiential education through service were claimed by:

- Mathematics Professor Diane Metzger for "Contemporary College Math."
- Child Development Instructor Tina Grounds for "The Exceptional Child" course.
- Part-time Instructor Mary Hart for "The Teacher's Role in Education."



Busy Professor Weston not resting on his laurels

2011

Typical? Talk about a busy guy. Architectural Technology Professor Kevin Weston should receive his 20-Year Service Award in Spring 2012. But he is so much more than that . . . He is Chair of the Rend Lake College Academic Council. He is Southern Region Coordinator and Past-President of the Illinois Community College Faculty Association. He is President-Elect of the Illinois Drafting Educators Association. He is Advisor to the RLC Skills USA-VICA team that is competitive each year in state and national vocational contests.

Vernon Community College) was developing, we thought of Dr. Howard Rawlins as "Mr. Junior College," because we turned to him. But if anyone put into practice what we talked about, it was and is Mr. Dare. He has always kept our junior college foremost in his mind in that he wanted the college, he wanted it to grow and he wanted it to serve the community. Everything Mr. Dare did, he always had his mind on this. He and I worked on the early committees setting up early policies. If anyone – he has lived the philosophy of Mt. Vernon Community College. I have a great deal of respect for the prestige he has brought to the college through his efforts.

Arthur A. Samford

History

Although Glenn Dare will not have a physical presence on the Rend Lake College campus for the remainder of the 20th Century, his influence will be felt in the college all of the 21st Century.

Mrs. Eleanor Hall

Sociology

When I went to high school at Mt. Vernon Township High, Mr. Dare was teaching American History, but I was in another class and never really got acquainted with him there. It was a lot of years later when I unexpectedly found myself teaching Sociology at RLC that we really became acquainted. Mr. Dare was head of the Social Science Department, and so began a pleasant professional relationship that still persists.

This year, Mr. Dare and I have shared an office which overlooks the new high school football field, and we have enjoyed supervising the construction frequently as "spectator engineers." So if that field ever gets built, you will know who to thank!

Seriously, I feel Mr. Dare helped ease my transition into a job at which I had no previous experience. He has been patient and understanding at some of my more notorious goof-ups and has in general been very encouraging to me.

Miss Betty Ann Ward

Guidance

Mr. Dare has been a friend of mine for many years (22 to be exact). He has been a tremendous opponent at the bridge table where he is a real master. He will pick up his hand and say, "Isn't it amazing that every hand is different. Such a challenge!" And then he proceeds to play the hand and win the game, much to my chagrin.

I have always admired his enthusiasm

for whatever he is doing. It would be great if we could all, "get the point."

Robert G. Smith

Western Civilization

I have gained much this past year from my professional association with Mr. Glenn Dare. He has been very helpful in my first year of college teaching, particularly on matters peculiar to the junior college program. RLC is indeed fortunate that it is not losing his services entirely in future years when the complications of expansion and growth will recommend that the college utilize the advice and assistance of its closest friends.

Miss Barbara Luchsinger

English

My first word has to be about a 9 a.m. high school Social Studies class September 3, 1944. It was the first day of high school, Glenn (Mr.) Dare was the teacher, and I was a freshman. I'm sure concessions were made to us because we were freshmen, but we didn't know it. We were responsible for learning the governmental structure of the high school, for the Seven Cardinal Principles of Education, for the concepts behind the Mercantile Theory of Trade, for information on labor negotiations.

There was more to it than that. We could request teachers, and the Senior American History classes looked a lot like the Freshman classes.

My last word is from Matthew Arnold, "We shall not reach the signal tree tonight." No one – in one year or 40 – reaches the goal. No school does. But I say "Thank you" to the guides I have received from Glenn (Mr. Dare) from that fall of 1944 to this spring of 1970. (While I was writing this, a high school teacher – another of Mr. Dare's students – said, "Put in it that I still know a lot about naturalism.") And so, thanks!

2009 JOHN DEERE AWARD ▸ Wilkersons among 10 national families ranked 'Outstanding Young Farmers'

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE MARCH 2009

EUGENE, Oreg. – Hard work and a passion for farming have earned Terry Wilkerson the right to call himself one of the nation's most outstanding young farmers of 2009.

Wilkerson and his wife, Julie, were among 10 families considered for the National Outstanding Young Farmers Award by the Outstanding Farmers of America Fraternity at their 53rd Annual Awards Congress, February 12-15, in Oregon. They

were the only nominees from Illinois.

The Wilkersons are a farming family from Dahlgren. They operate a 1,137-acre farm of corn, soybeans and wheat. That's a nearly 30-fold growth from the first 40 acres he bought back in 1993. It is a testament to the family philosophy of owning the land they farm in order to truly appreciate the hard work and long days in and out of the fields. He thanks his parents for passing that mind-set and work ethic down to him.

After graduating valedictorian of the McLeansboro High School Class of 1990, Wilkerson moved on to earn an Associate Degree from the Agriculture program at RLC – the same program he would eventually become a full-time instructor of in 1997. He holds dual master's degrees from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, graduating summa cum laude in both. In October, he was selected by college officials as the Interim Chair of the Applied Science and Technology Division at RLC.

Sponsored by John Deere, the Outstanding Farmers of America Fraternity is made up of past nominees of the Outstanding Young Farmer Program. The purpose of the program is to bring about a greater interest in the farmer, to foster better urban-rural relationships through the understanding of farmers' problems, to develop an appreciation for their contributions and achievements and to inform the agribusiness community of the growing urban awareness of farmers' importance and impact on the American economy. National winners are determined based on progress in agricultural careers, extent of soil and water conservation practices, and contributions to the well-being of the community, state and nation.

A true class act both in and out of the classroom, Wilkerson's knowledge and progressive practices are interchangeable as a member of the faculty at RLC and a face in the local farming community. He is quick to adopt new technologies as they come online, such as GMO technology which he was one of the first in the region to incorporate into

his cropping practices. He offers his land to University and extension representatives for research in analyzing zinc in high-yield corn, manganese in soybeans, magnesium in wheat, and nitrogen and sulfur in double-crop soybeans.

Soil and water conservation is a cornerstone to their operation. Waterways and filter strips are used to manage water flow through fields, effectively minimizing soil loss and protecting water sources. Nearly 20 years of continuous no-till farming have conserved fuel consumption and planting time as well as preserving moisture and limiting erosion.

With site's once set on expansion, Wilkerson now sees himself farming past retirement and preserving their farm for future generations. His career at the college has presented opportunities for Wilkerson to reach out and connect the college with farming organizations and leaders in the area. RLC serves as the annual site for the District 5 FFA Science Fair and 4-H facilities are located just southwest of the campus. Wilkerson has presented at local high schools about career opportunities in agriculture, serves as a 4-H judge, is active on the FSA county committee and Farm Bureau, and holds a position on the county coal association board.

His wife operates her own production company in communications and media, helps keep crop and financial records for the farm and participates in major decision making.

INTENSE HALL . . .
. . . 'knows how to relate to students and loves the subject she teaches'

COMBINING THE PRESSING TIMES FEATURE STORIES . . .
 MAY 1970 (BY NANCY DILLEY) • SEPTEMBER 1981 (BY BEV MOONEY)

"I wanted to change the world, just like a lot of the kids today, but in a different way," explained the recipient of the 1970 Phi Theta Kappa "Distinguished Educator Award."

But Eleanor Hall's first response to the question, "Why did you choose Sociology as a major?" is only half the story.

In reality, she began her college career as a Music major on the viola at Illinois



Mini-Grants to Perrachione, VanCleve, Muench, Arnold

SEPTEMBER 1979

Four instructors were recipients of Rend Lake College Mini-Grants, funds which were set aside as incentive for those with innovative projects to improve the teaching and learning environment.

Sandra VanCleve and Karen Muench spent part of their summer making movies as a result of a \$500 mini-grant. The pair, with the help of Director of Learning Resources and Media David Patton and an assistant, produced videotapes on "Nursing Laboratory Procedures." They noted the advantages in live-action film strips when compared to "stills" normally received, at a cost of nearly \$300 each. Videotapes covered bedmaking, complete bedbath, setting up sterile fields and changing a sterile dressing.

Math Teacher Richard Perrachione received construction money for his "Dancing Curves," models of conic sections used in Analytic Geometry to demonstrate "math is fun," according to Perrachione.

Wayne Arnold of the Physical Education Department used his grant to help pay travel expenses incurred over Spring break while touring Aerobic Centers in Dallas, TX, and Tulsa, OK. Arnold spent the time talking with persons who developed the program and touring facilities in use related to the new course he introduced this summer, "Aerobics: An Individualized Fitness Program. Projects awarded mini-grants were determined by the Faculty Development Committee.

FACULTY EXCELLENCE

LINDA DENTON
 1998 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
 Physics / Physical Science

RO HOAR
 1999 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
 Developmental English

SANDRA COX
 2000 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
 Mathematics

JANET MILLER
 2001 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
 Computer / Secretarial

LARRY SIDWELL
 2002 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
 Accounting / Business

1997 - 1998 1998 - 1999 1999 - 2000 2000 - 2001 2001 - 2002



RLC mini-grant recipients: Tietz, Heischmidt, Foster

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1979-80

Three Rend Lake College instructors were awarded mini-grants by the Faculty Development Committee. The second annual awards are made possible through funds set aside by the institution as an incentive for members of the faculty and staff with innovative projects to improve the teaching and learning environment.

Dr. Stephen Tietz used his mini-grant to produce an experimental text for English 1102, the second semester of the standard composition sequence. The object in producing the text, Tietz explained, was to accumulate in one volume a collection of materials – poetry, fiction, drama, non-fiction – which members of the department had found to be particularly useful over the years. His text was used in seven sections of ENGL 1101 during Spring Semester and received favorable reviews.

Law Enforcement Instructor Ed Heischmidt developed a manual to be used in death (homicide, suicide, etc.) investigation seminars and college courses entitled, "Death Investigation for Police." The manual was accompanied by slides which also should prove beneficial in such classes as Criminalistics, Criminal Investigation and Police Patrol.

Chuck Foster, Coordinator of Electricity for the Mining Department, developed a "Repairman Trainee Electrical Program," a formal and personalized curricula for such courses as Electricity 1230, 2236 and 2237, as they apply to coal mine repair trainees in accordance with government regulations. This program had never been put in writing previously.

Wesleyan University in Bloomington. "I had a scholarship to attend Wesleyan," she recalled. "I wasn't there very long, however, before I discovered I was in the wrong course of study.

"I think it was after my first recital, and the audience agreed I was in the wrong place."

Hall transferred the following year to the University of Illinois in the School of Liberal Arts and Science. "At the time, I wasn't sure of a major, but I was interested in human beings and the way they act. I was particularly interested in psychology," she commented.

"Over a period of time, I settled on Sociology as a major. It had the aspects of psychology and the social part of the human group which interested me very much. I kind of liked to argue, and that went right along with sociology – bringing up issues of modern life and that sort of thing."

She graduated from U. of I. with honors, majoring in Sociology with a Psychology minor.

Hall applied for criminal justice work with the St. Louis Police Department, but because women were not yet accepted into this line of work, she was turned down.

She went to work briefly for a newspaper in St. Louis; then married and began to raise a family.

"A few years later," Hall remembered, "I went back to work. I waited until all three of our sons were in school full-time before getting temporary jobs around the area."

She began as a substitute teacher in Mt. Vernon. She also taught a mentally retarded class at Edison Grade School and later adult classes on welfare at the eighth-grade level.

The award-winning college instructor-to-be was asked in 1965 to fill in for a Mt. Vernon Community College teacher who had quit in the middle of the semester. She was allowed to continue with the understanding she would start working on her Master's Degree.

"At that time I was holding down a full-time job and going to SIU. I finally received my Master's Degree in 1971," she said.

"At first I was only assigned to teach Intro to Sociology, and for quite awhile I taught five sections of the same thing, which can really get pretty boring after awhile. The new department head, Dr. (Richard) Doherty, encouraged me to branch out into Anthropology," Hall said.

She applied for and received a National Science Foundation Grant to study An-

thropology one summer at the University of Colorado. It was a course designed for two-year college teachers who were teaching the subject but had only a little formal training in it.

"So I went out there and it was a marvelous summer of listening to a famous Anthropologist and learning a great deal about it.

"Then I branched out into teaching Anthropology. I also began teaching a Social Problems course which I have done for several years. For two semesters, I taught a Philosophy course in Death and Dying; it was not my 'cup of tea.' I enjoyed it in some ways, but not in others."

Hall continued: "One of my interests in Sociology has been in Criminology, which is a study of the punishment system. I have been interested in prisons and what they do to criminals.

"In my Social Problems classes, I have developed field trips. My students and I have visited all of the prisons in this part of the state, including the federal penitentiary in Marion. I have exchanged visits with prisoners from the minimum security prison at Vienna. They allow their prisoners to come up and speak to my classes on occasion.

"I also developed a special interest in archeology, which is a basic part of anthropology. I am particularly interested in the archeology of Southern Illinois and the Indian groups who lived here in past prehistoric times, as well as historic times. I was very lucky to receive grants to study archeology in Southern Illinois."

Hall received a \$2,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to study Southern Illinois archeology. She spent the summer on the shores of Rend Lake, working on materials from a dig she and her students gathered while working under the supervision of a professional archeologist. They worked two seasons – Spring and Fall 1972 – doing the dig and got a considerable amount of information about prehistoric people in the area.

"With my grant, I was able to write and publish a booklet about the dig we did, what we found and the materials recovered. It was co-authored by the gentleman who supervised the dig and who taught a course in Indian cultures for RLC," she said.

Hall received another grant to study anthropology at the University of California at Santa Cruz. This was a seminar course about women's roles in society.

"My work in Santa Cruz last summer included studying the role of women in European societies like New Harmony and the Shakers – all those societies where everything was supposed to be perfect. I would like very much to pursue that. I would like to do more into women's roles in society, particularly those kinds of societies and how the women are treated in them."

In the 1981 interview, Hall allowed herself to reminisce . . .

"I started teaching in the 1960s. It was a rather turbulent period; the Vietnam War was going on. I really think, as I look back, students were a little different then.

"I am not saying it was good or bad," she added, "but I think students were a little more argumentative and more apt to ask questions and challenge instructors and their ideas. One class that I remember, I would not dare to go in there without having everything that I was going to say documented, because they would question where I had gotten it.

"I think students today are more polite and are easier to get along with. In a way, it is more relaxing, but in other ways I kind of miss that challenge. I sometimes wish they would ask me where I got my information.

"It is a lot easier on a teacher when a student doesn't do that, but it is more exciting when they do. Some of the most exciting classes I have had were not easy to teach . . . the students would challenge you and ask you a lot of questions."

"I think each era has its own characteristics," Hall concluded, "probably because of what is going on in the larger society. I have enjoyed my teaching experience. One other thing about my experience at RLC has been my involvement in faculty politics."

Hall has served as President of the RLC Faculty and on the Academic Council. She was active on the Salary Negotiation Committee as well as the teacher's union. She has been President of that union and is now a member of the local chapter of the Illinois Education Association.

Her justification? "I feel teachers and instructors who teach the kinds of things I do have some kind of obligation to be actively involved in campus politics," she said.

Hall describes herself as "a rather intense person. Anything that I do I go at with quite a bit of energy and interest. I think I put a lot of time and energy into my work. I have some very strong beliefs, I think I am able to listen to other people's arguments, but I realize I have very strong opinions."

The intense instructor admits to being "interested in archeology and intellectual things, but I also have outside interests and pursuits." Knitting qualifies as one of those relaxing pursuits.

A student of Hall who also is a member of Phi Theta Kappa praised the instructor's willingness to help any student, regardless of the extra time required.

"She knows how to relate to students and loves the subject she teaches," according to the student, also citing the wide variety of teaching methods Hall utilizes to keep the subject matter interesting, including knowledgeable guest speakers, visual aids and her own experiences through in-depth summer opportunities, in addition to lectures.

"Lecture is one way of teaching, but I believe a student will learn more if a variety of resources is used," she explained.

Added Hall, "I like teaching. I have always enjoyed teaching. I find it very demanding sometimes, but most of the time I find it very interesting and I like to do it.

"As for the future, I would really like to arrange some kind of research that I could get absorbed in. Maybe I could even do it full-time. Then I'd like to write about it, maybe even publish."

"Life" experiences for the daughter of a construction worker and a native of Niantic, included 35 different homes she had lived in when interviewed in 1970. Those houses were in the Illinois communities of Niantic, Havana, Versailles, Ottawa, Champaign, Bloomington and Mt. Vernon; Texas towns of Fort Arthur, Conroe, Abilene and Big Spring; Hobbs, NM, and Breaux Bridge, LA.

JOSEPH RUST

Speech Communication Association awards fifth 'Outstanding Educator'

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE NOVEMBER 1993

Instructor Joseph Henry Rust has once



Innovative mining methods cited for Dill, Lynch, Wade

JUNE 1983

Three RLC Mining Technology Instructors were cited recently for innovative methods in meeting the needs of today's community college students.

William Dill and Donald Lynch participated in the four-day "Conference on Teaching Excellence" at the University of Texas-Austin. It was sponsored by the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development. Gary Wade was chosen but was unable to attend.

Dill, a full-time instructor since 1977 who spent 5 1/2 years as an underground miner, was recognized for developing a comprehensive maintenance training program covering electricity, hydraulics, mechanics and welding for Inland Steel Coal Co. Dill coordinates the 29-week program he calls, "Linkages Between Industry and Education for Industrial Training."

"Around the Clock Teaching" was the nomination by Lynch. The Mechanics/Hydraulics Instructor, a former Caterpillar employee, was responsible for designing short-term classes to meet the immediate needs of maintenance personnel at General Tire and Rubber Co.

Wade was accepted on the basis of "COAL – College Opportunity Attuned Learning," which addresses the problem of low college enrollment and potential high school dropouts. Wade taught 13 years in public junior high and high schools. He has created classes which challenge students known as low achievers or having discipline/attendance problems.

DIANE METZGER
2003 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Mathematics

TRISH BENNETT-MINOR
2004 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Allied Health

D.J. JOHNSON
2005 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Industrial Health / Safety

LARRY WILLIAMS
2006 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Zoology

DEBBIE BENNS
2007 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Allied Health

2002 – 2003

2003 – 2004

2004 – 2005

2005 – 2006

2006 – 2007



Longtime Instructor, Chair Heaton honored by plaque

JULY 1986

A plaque in honor of Dr. Elmo Richard Heaton, former Science Instructor and Department Chair, has been placed in the Science Building at Rend Lake College. The memorial, according to college officials, is meant "to show appreciation for the many years of fine service and dedication Dr. Heaton gave to the school."

Family members present for the announcement and unveiling were Heaton's wife, Doris; his mother, Mrs. Elmo (Geneva) Heaton; son, Mike, who will be an incoming freshman at Rend Lake College, and daughter Diane. Another daughter, Barbara, was not able to attend. Presentation of the plaque was made by College Dean Mark Kern.

Heaton taught Physics, Physical Science, Geology and Math at Rend Lake College from 1971 until his death on-campus earlier this year. He also served as Acting Department Chair in Science, Math and Education between 1979-81 and again from 1984 until his death. A resident of Benton, he earned his Ph.D. Degree in higher education from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale in 1983.

Heaton was known as a friend of students and was an avid supporter of Warrior athletics as well as the Benton Ranger Booster Club.

again done Rend Lake College proud.

Attention at a national level was focused on the Ina-based community college, in general, and Rust, in particular, when he was selected as only the fifth recipient worthy of the "Community College Outstanding Educator" Award presented by the Speech Communication Association.

The announcement was made during the organization's 79th annual meeting at the Fontainebleau Hilton Resort and Spa in Miami Beach, FL, November 18-21. It did not come as a total surprise; he was aware of his nomination.

The award has been presented just five times in the 10 years since it was first introduced, only once since 1989 prior to this year. Rather than being awarded on a regular basis, it is given only when a nominee is deemed worthy of the honor.

Rust was nominated by Dr. John Homan Jr., RLC Arts and Communications Department Chair, with letters of recommendation from President Mark S. Kern, Vice President Dr. Steve Tietz and student/co-worker Therese Howard, as well as from the Illinois Speech and Theatre Association and the Illinois Consortium for International Studies and Programs.

The nationally recognized instructor is a Past-President of the Illinois Speech and Theatre Association and received the Rend Lake College Foundation "Faculty Excellence" Award this past spring.

The handbook he authored and uses in his "Principles of Effective Speaking" classes has been published and sold by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, and he has served on editorial review boards for several publications in recent years.

More than 3,500 members attended the SCA's national convention in Miami Beach. Although dominated by representatives of senior institutions, it encompasses educators from kindergarten through graduate school.

Rust, who joined in 1978, is one of approximately 1,000 members of the Community College Section and 12,000 members in all. He chaired the Community College Section in 1991 and presently serves on the Speech Communication Association's Legislative Council as a result of his appointment as one of three representatives on the Central States Communication Association.

"Career-wise, I would have to say this is the highest honor I have ever received," Rust admitted. "Any time your national organization recognizes you, it is pretty out-

standing, particularly when you consider the competition in your field."

Rust is the first "Community College Outstanding Educator" recipient from Illinois. Ironically, the individual recognized this year for outstanding contributions in grades K-12 is Adrian Frana of Rich East High School in suburban Chicago.

Nominees must have a minimum of five years experience teaching at a community college and must be teaching at that level at the time of the nomination. Support materials accompanying the nomination are expected to provide "demonstrable evidence of excellence in teaching, scholarship and service to the profession."

Rust is in his 14th academic year at Rend Lake College. In addition to Speech classes, he teaches or has taught Theatre, Small-Group Communications and Play Production and coordinates the college's participation in International Studies, with classes offered regularly in Canterbury, England, and Salzburg, Austria. He also has served at one time or another on almost every standing committee, as well as Presidential Search committees.

A native of Cheyenne, WY, Rust is enrolled in the doctoral program at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale in Speech Communication. He holds a Master's Degree from New York University and his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Wyoming.

Recent acknowledgments for review contributions appear in the just-published book, **The Principles of Public Presentation**, by Isa N. Engleberg, a past winner of the same award, and the third edition of **The Speaker's Handbook**, by Jo Sprague and Douglas Stuart.

He is a member of the editorial review boards for the "SCA Speech Communication Teacher" and the "Journal of the Illinois Speech and Theatre Association."

His own book, **Principles of Effective Speaking: Student Objective Handbook**, is in its first year of availability to other speech instructors.

In the summer of 1987, Rust served as Program Director of the Illinois Consortium for International Studies in London. In 1991, he was selected as a participant in the "C-SPAN Seminar for Professors" in Washington, D.C.

This past summer, RLC's program was presented as a national model when he was solicited as the sole presenter on

"International Education: More Than Just Internationalizing the Curriculum" at the Second Annual International Conference for Community College Chairs and Deans in Phoenix, AZ.

He also has been a Hotline Volunteer since 1988 for the "St. Louis Effort for AIDS."

Homan cited Rust's "vision, vigor, planning and industry" while establishing and maintaining the International Studies program. "Joe," Homan commented, "is well-respected by students and staff alike. He has high academic standards, yet is balanced and humane."

Kern, who as Dean of Instruction in 1980, recommended Rust's hiring, noted, "Since that time, I have seen Mr. Rust grow from a young, novice faculty member into a strong academic leader.

"The honor this award brings is very well deserved. I recommend him without reservation," Kern added.

Tietz, Arts and Communications Department Chair before his promotion, says Rust is "innovative and creative in the classroom, he works tirelessly and selflessly to support the college and several professional organizations and he has a strong professional identity."

The RLC Vice President described Rust as "a constant pioneer in the adaptation of new technology to teaching." "He (Rust) is capable of placing the needs of the institution ahead of the needs of his department or even his own interests. He will do what is necessary to make his programs work . . . because doing the job right is more important to him than being recognized.

"He does not weigh ahead of time the amount of hard work the job will cost him against the rewards he will gain, but against what his students will gain."

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY ▸ Former RLC Speech Instructor Tick named Dean of College of Fine Arts

LEXINGTON (KY) HERALD-LEADER MAY 8, 2010
BY RICH COPLEY

The University of Kentucky has named

Michael Tick, Chair of the Department of Theater at Louisiana State University, as the new Dean of the College of Fine Arts.

Tick is also the Producing Artistic Director of Swine Palace, a not-for-profit professional theater company connected to LSU that serves Baton Rouge.

He has been at LSU since 1999. Before that, he was in Southeastern Virginia, where he was instrumental in founding the state's Governor's School for the Arts and served on the faculty at Old Dominion University. Tick has also taught at, among others, the University of Rhode Island, Northwestern University and Harvard. He has a Master's Degree from Northwestern and a Doctorate from New York University.

Outside of academia, he has worked with Trinity Repertory Company, the Newport Music Festival, Newport Jazz Festival and produced several shows that have toured nationally and internationally.

Tick, who will begin work at UK in July, succeeds Robert Shay, who has served as Dean since 1998.

"Although I leave behind two daughters at LSU, I will have no problem 'seeing blue!'" Tick said in a UK news release. "It's truly a privilege and an honor to be in this position, and I greatly appreciate the tremendous vote of confidence. My wife, Cathy, and I, along with our 10-year-old daughter, Abbie, look forward to relocating to Lexington."

LEXINGTON (KY) HERALD-LEADER SEPTEMBER 5, 2010
BY RICH COPLEY

When Michael Tick looked at the University of Kentucky's College of Fine Arts, he was impressed by what he saw, particularly considering what he did not see.

"You have a first-rate arts faculty at UK," says Tick, who is in his first semester as the new Dean of UK's College of Fine Arts. Right now, Tick thinks the faculty succeeds despite the aging buildings in which they work.

"Their facilities need to be as good as they are," Tick says. "They are excellent teachers and scholars, and they need first-rate buildings to support them. They deserve it."

Tick, who succeeds Robert Shay as Fine Arts Dean, comes to UK from Louisiana



Four RLC reps awarded Distance Learning grants

MARCH 1998

Four instructors from Rend Lake College were notified recently they have been selected to receive Mini-Grants through the Regional Center for Distance Learning and Multi-media Development.

Recipients of mini-grants in the neighborhood of \$1,000 apiece are Chemistry Professor John Fisher and Associate Professors Steve Kennett (Psychology), Rob Little (English) and Dr. Sue Trammell (Biology).

Representatives of 14 Southern Illinois colleges submitted 89 requests for \$85,093.95 in mini-grant funding, an increase of 23 over the previous year.

Fisher, a veteran of several grant proposals which have helped improve Chemistry instruction within the district, proposes the creation of an on-line Chemistry course and laboratory component.

Kennett, who teaches "Introduction to Psychology" to high school students via distance learning, will use his award to construct PowerPoint lectures that can be accessed by video teleconferencing or the web.

Little will use his funding to further develop the "Rhetoric and Composition" course he is preparing for delivery over the Internet starting Fall '98.

Trammell was teaching "Biology for Non-Majors" to 19 students at three different sites when she submitted her application. The grant will enable her to convert lecture notes and lab materials to replace a textbook going out of print.

FACULTY EXCELLENCE

BONNIE TOLBERT
2008 RLCF "Faculty
Excellence" Award
Allied Health

ROB LITTLE
2009 RLCF "Faculty
Excellence" Award
English

CHRIS NIELSEN
2010 RLCF "Faculty
Excellence" Award
Applied Science / Technology

KEVIN WESTON
2012 RLCF "Faculty
Excellence" Award
Architectural Technology

2007 - 2008

2008 - 2009

2009 - 2010

2010 - 2011

2011 - 2012



Kennett attends Humanities workshop re: native tribes

NEWS RELEASE JUNE 2010

Stephen A. Kennett, a Philosophy Professor at Rend Lake College, was one of 50 individuals from 27 states who attended a workshop June 20-25 in Nebraska focusing on the culture and history of three Plains Native American tribes. Central Community College-Columbus served as host for the workshop, which was part of the National Endowment for the Humanities summer program for community college faculty.

Participants explored the culture of the Pawnee, Ponca and Omaha tribes and discovered how their way of life was altered forever by Western expansion. They visited the Pawnee Indian Village Museum in Republic County, KS; the Genoa U.S. Indian School Museum and archaeological sites in Nance County, NE; Joslyn Art Museum and Durham Museum in Omaha; and the Omaha and Winnebago reservations in Nebraska.

Speakers included authors Joe Starita and David Wishart from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and native speakers Judi Gaiashkibos, Executive Director of the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs; Pat Leading Fox, Head Chief of the Pawnee nation's Nasharo Council; Wynema Morris, enrolled member of the Omaha tribe; Gary Robinette, Director of Cultural Affairs for the Ponca tribe of Nebraska, and storyteller Matt Jones.

"The quality of participants was exceptional, and each one expressed enthusiasm to take what they learned back to their respective community colleges," said Dianna Parmley, Dean of Educational Services at CCC-Columbus.

State University. There, he was the Chair of and a Professor in the Department of Theater and was the Producing Artistic Director of Swine Palace, a professional theater affiliated with the LSU Dramatics program.

Before that, he was the founding Chair of the Virginia Governor's School for the Arts, which also had town-and-gown affiliations with Old Dominion University, the Virginia Opera and Virginia Stage Company, all based in Norfolk, VA. He holds a Master's Degree in Performance Studies from Northwestern University and earned his Doctorate at New York University.

UK Provost Kumble Subbaswamy, who hired Tick, says the new Dean stood out from a strong pool of candidates.

"Apart from the usual academic and professional credentials and administrative experience, I was particularly interested in finding a leader who could easily reach beyond his or her own art form and be a credible advocate for the arts and arts education in general," Subbaswamy wrote via e-mail. "Dr. Tick has an unusually broad set of leadership experiences in a variety of educational environments."

When he was considering a job at UK, Tick said, there were numerous things that attracted him in addition to the faculty.

The setting, the flagship public land-grant university in the state, reminded him of Louisiana State.

He was impressed by the university's Arts programs, the beauty of the campus and the hospitality of the people he met.

He said he also was impressed by the integration of the university's arts offerings with Lexington as a whole.

"It seemed like it would be a pleasant place to work," Tick says.

Doing his homework strengthened his regard for the university.

But really, it was a challenge that lured him here.

"The primary reason I was hoping to be offered this position was I knew there was a long list of things to do here," Tick says over lunch at the Bangkok House, right across Euclid Avenue from the Singletary Center for the Arts and the College of Fine Arts. "Buildings, building renovations. Hopefully, I will be here long enough we can build a School of Music. I've had a lot of experience building arts facilities, and I enjoy that aspect of the job a great deal. And I know that's going to be a priority here – and you know that, too, if you've been in the Reynolds Building."

Art professors and students love the large spaces that the 100-year-old Reynolds Building offers. But there is a long list of safety concerns with the building. In March, UK's Vice President of External Affairs, Tom Harris, told the *Herald-Leader* that Reynolds is "probably the worst building in higher education in the state."

Tick says that in the first week of classes, he heard about a highly recruited Art student who told some of the college's faculty that she thought she might have made a mistake in coming to UK after she had attended her first few classes in the Art building.

"I believe it's the facilities that are holding us back in recruiting, especially in the Department of Art," Tick says.

Not that the rest of the Arts buildings are luxury accommodations.

Tick ticks off other deficiencies: a dearth of practice rooms for Music students (18 at UK compared to 70 at LSU, for comparably sized student bodies), the lack of a band hall for the marching band, a needed facelift for the Singletary Center for the Arts and the need for improved office space.

"You have one of the preeminent percussion faculty in the United States in Jim Campbell . . . and Jim Campbell is operating a world-class program out of what looks like a housekeeping closet," Tick says. "That is unacceptable to me, and that is why I really want to work on facilities."

Of course, that takes money, and although UK is a public institution, the cash-strapped state government is not coming to the rescue.

"What got Michael to the interview point was that he had a lot of fund-raising experience and arts-advocacy experience," says Associate Dean Geraldine Maschio, who, with College of Design Dean Michael Speaks, co-chaired the Search Committee that identified Tick.

Maschio says she is impressed that in three weeks, Tick has gotten out to meet a lot of people at the university and in the community.

In addition to buildings, Tick wants to increase resources, including funding for faculty travel.

Tick is aware of the economic downturn and the many demands on the university budget. One of his first moves will be to hire development and communications specialists to help raise awareness of what's going on in the college and raise money.

"Dr. Tick is both very thoughtful and

very personable," Subbaswamy says. "I am confident he will advance all parts of our College of Fine Arts and also be a strong spokesperson for the arts in our community."

Tick is most jazzed by the idea of advancement.

"Being able to work with the faculty to remedy some of these deficiencies is really exciting," Tick says, "or I wouldn't be here. I would have gone somewhere else."

LEXINGTON (KY) HERALD-LEADER APRIL 3, 2011
BY LINDA B. BLACKFORD and CHERYL TRUMAN

Devanathan Sudharshan knows how to make money.

As Dean of the Gatton College of Business and Economics at the University of Kentucky, he operates an MBA program in Athens, Greece, a successful executive MBA program in Lexington and numerous other business programs.

The Gatton School is a model for the revenue production that will be needed by all colleges at UK as the institution faces new lows in state support.

Yet the money Gatton makes on such programs – nearly \$1 million a year – isn't making a dent in the school's needs.

"At this point, it's just to pay for the basics," said Sudharshan, who is retiring as Dean this year. "We're about 50 faculty short of where we need to be . . . to be a Top 20 business school."

Sudharshan is one of 18 Deans using the intellectual capital of his school to produce revenue for UK's nearly \$2.5 billion budget. The \$1 million may be a pittance, but it's a start at a time when President Lee T. Todd Jr. – and whoever replaces him in July – have very few budgetary options.

UK is under a statewide mandate to reach the top tier of public universities at the same time that state funding has decreased from 25 percent to 12.5 percent of the budget.

Student enrollment has grown by 13 percent in 10 years adding more costs and, because of congressional budget arguments, federal research funding could be in jeopardy.

UK has reorganized, retrenched and re-cut to save \$117 million over the past decade.

That's kept the institution from layoffs and other more draconian measures happening at other state schools.

Any additional state funding to help UK reach Top 20 status has been written off by officials; now it's a matter of figuring out how to keep moving forward, however slowly.

Mark Kornbluh, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, is an innovator in digital education, and generated \$2 million last summer offering online courses to UK students eager to fill in the gaps in their credit hours.

"I don't think we've faced this perfect storm of financial challenges," Kornbluh said. "We have to figure out how to balance the costs, continue quality research and give students a quality undergraduate education. We have to look at ways to generate other revenues."

Holding the line

State officials said they're still committed to their own mandate for UK to become a Top 20 university.

"We're going to try the best we can to support higher education funding," said Rep. Rick Rand (D-Bedford), co-Chairman of the House Appropriations and Revenue Committee, which oversees the state budget. "But it's hard to predict at this point with the ongoing recession."

With the advent of higher education reform in 1997, the state sent unprecedented amounts of money to all of Kentucky's universities, much of it received in matching funds to establish endowed chairs and professorships, known as Bucks for Brains. The state also gave some initial funding to Todd's business plan to reach Top 20 status. But state funding has now slowed so much that the net increase over the past decade is zero percent.

UK has been a careful steward of its money, says Budget Director Angie Martin. "We try to maintain sufficient reserves to get us through these periods," she said. "We budget within our needs."

When Todd arrived, he began a series of changes to save money, such as integrating UK HealthCare administrative operations



Stranded? Webb wants Shakespeare, Browning

R.L.C. TIMES MARCH 2001

Tracey Webb is Rend Lake College's Theatre Manager and Director of plays. When asked what three things she would not want to be without if stranded on a deserted island she had this to say . . .

Her main concerns weren't really entertainment, saying that she most would not want to be without things such as Swiss Army knives and survival handbooks, but once we got her on track she said the No. 1 thing she would not want to be without would be the complete works of Shakespeare.

"I never get tired of reading his literature. Each time you read his plays you discover something new," said Webb.

Something else she would not want to be without is Elizabeth Barrett Browning's "Sonnets of the Portuguese." "They are some of the most beautiful love poems ever written and I'm a hopeless romantic," she said.

The last thing she would not want to be without is a book of Dega's "beautiful impressionistic paintings . . . colorful and uplifting. I especially like his ballerinas," said Webb.

"If truly deserted, I'd need a Swiss Army knife, a survival handbook," said Webb, "and I'd probably organize the local primates to perform a play or musical for my entertainment."

Having talked with some of Webb's thespians, they think organizing island primates could be easier than producing some of Rend Lake College's plays. – Venedy Neal

TINA GROUNDS
2013 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Early Childhood Education

BARBARA CROUSE
2014 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Allied Health / Nursing

RICKY ROBINSON
2015 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Computer Networking

SHARI CARPENTER
2016 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award
Computer Science / Designer

2012 – 2013

2013 – 2014

2014 – 2015

2015 – 2016

2016 – 2017



Talented Julie Wilkerson: Singing 'what I love to do'

R.L.C. TIMES SPRING 2003

From the banquet halls of SIUC and Rend Lake College to Governor and Presidential Inaugural Balls, Julie Wilkerson has entertained audiences with her many musical talents.

You may know Wilkerson as an Associate Professor of Music for RLC, but she sang while a student of SIUC at a banquet where former U.S. President Bill Clinton spoke while he was Governor of Arkansas. Julie's Jazz Band has performed at RLC Foundation Dinners, and she has sung at political fundraisers, Gov. Blagojevich's inauguration and at one of President Clinton's Inaugural Balls.

Says Wilkerson, "It's what I love to do. Music is a part of me."

Wilkerson has performed in a variety of classical recitals from pop to country, big band and gospel, but her talent does not stop with her voice. She plays the piano, guitar, trumpet, saxophone, banjo, fiddle and mandolin. With all these gifts and experiences, she retains her sweet disposition and a smile on her face. Wilkerson says these opportunities are "very humbling."

At the Clinton Inaugural, she sang "The Star Spangled Banner," "Illinois" and "God Bless the USA" accompanied by the Lester Lannin Orchestra, which played at the wedding of Prince Charles and Princess Diana.

She also has played instrumentals at the Kentucky Opry, participated in an Easter Seals Telethon on Channel 6 and performed commercial jingles.

Wilkerson has learned how to control nervous energy and let it work in her favor. "Being a little nervous shows respect for what I'm doing and that I want to do the best possible job."

- Ruth Ann Anders

into the rest of the school, which saved \$2 million, and academic restructuring, such as eliminating the College of Human Environmental Sciences, otherwise known as Home Economics, and other academic reorganizations, which he said saved \$16 million.

Todd started other initiatives, such as charging athletics and other quasi-independent groups more for administrative overhead, refinancing debts and reducing benefits for retired faculty. All in all, UK officials estimate, that has saved \$117 million, which has saved major cuts to academic programs, and allowed the school to concentrate on programs such as hiring more academic counselors for students.

Some of the gaps in the general campus budget have been paid through double digit tuition increases. Overall, tuition has risen 130 percent since 2001, a definite tax increase on parents and students in a poor state. Tuition will continue to rise, but officials concede that they can't completely depend on it to make up for state cuts.

But the needs at UK are dire: Faculty and staff members haven't had a raise in three years, at least half a billion dollars is needed to upgrade aging facilities and an increase of \$50 million in scholarships has never been endowed and must come out of the general fund every year.

In addition, UK wants to increase its enrollment even more to get it in line with national peers, but without additional resources the university cannot do that - in large part because it cannot afford to hire more faculty members.

So UK officials have said they will hold the line on spending, and also look to fundraising to help fill budgetary holes. But in the past few years as he assessed his limited options, Todd also turned to his deans, telling them that when they create money-making programs, they can keep a piece of the proceeds.

The 'new normal'

That's been an interesting challenge to Michael Tick, the Dean of the College of Fine Arts.

The Fine Arts are very instructor-intensive, with lessons in such disciplines as voice and instrumental music being largely one-on-one endeavors.

But he has proposed that UK begin offering the nation's first totally online public university degree in Arts Administration.

After an initial investment of \$125,000 to \$175,000, Tick figures, UK could make

at least \$200,000 a year with a class of 33 students. Add the variables of out-of-state tuition or a larger class size, and the profit grows.

But the money would not be going for new programs. Instead, it would pay for basic academic needs that risk going unfunded as state money for higher education continues to shrink.

"It's not going to buy full-time faculty," Tick said. "But it's money that can be used for student travel, to send ensembles around the country and around the world. It's revenue that can be used to hire adjuncts (part-time instructors) . . . It's revenue that can be used to purchase music and music stands."

Fine Arts will get 60 percent of the new revenues, while 40 percent goes back to UK's central administration . . .

'MILLIONAIRE' DALE MASON Rodeo performer, country-western singer and Mining Instructor all rolled into one

REND LAKE COLLEGE TODAY SUMMER 1977

"I wouldn't take a million dollars for my experiences, but I wouldn't give 20 cents to have them over again." That is how Dale Mason, a West Frankfort resident, known to most as a Mining Instructor at Rend Lake College, describes a major portion of his life.

The experiences Mason speaks of include "being on the road" since the age of 14, performing in various rodeos, training race horses, working as a coal miner and spending about 15 years as a country-western singer in various night spots throughout the country.

"I've always enjoyed singing, but I started doing it as a way of raising entry fees for rodeos. It was always the same old thing - sing for \$20, get bucked on my head and work for another \$20 to do it over again," he says.

Even though the rodeo stints were not always very glamorous, Mason has never had any regrets. "I started when I was about 14 years old, and at that time there was no other way for a kid from Belknap, IL, to travel, see so much country and meet so many people."

His rodeo work slowed to a temporary halt in 1960, when he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. During his four years of service, from 1960 through 1964, Mason was stationed at Camp Pendleton, CA; Paris Island, SC; Okinawa, Japan, and various other places in the Far East. "I was overseas

just as the Vietnam situation began getting really hot and spent time teaching special training for combat situations," he adds.

After his discharge, Mason returned to the work he knows best, Brahma bull and bronc riding. He was what he fondly describes as a "cowboy" and might still be one if not for a serious leg injury. "That ended a lot of the cowboy stuff, because I never got back the strength and control of that leg needed to ride," he recalls.

After being away for more than eight years, he returned to his native home in Southern Illinois. In debt and out of work, Mason landed a job in a factory. "It wasn't what I was accustomed to, but it earned my keep for awhile," he claims.

He then started a career which now finds itself at the center of his life. "I got a job in the mines, and through on-the-job training offered by Freeman Coal, worked as a management trainee." After 4 1/2 years, Mason became a foreman and gained expertise in several areas, including production engineering, coal preparation and mine safety.

At first glance the mines may seem a long way from singing for rodeo fees, but Mason doesn't see things that way. "I enjoyed all those things and have never spent much time in things I didn't like. Teaching isn't new to me, either, because 12 years ago I was teaching people how to ride bulls," he says.

The topics have changed but Dale Mason hasn't.

His interests cover a broad spectrum of activities, including training race horses. "That is something I'm real proud of . . . You know, I have had two horses win and one place second in the Buckeye Futurity in Columbus, OH."

"Sure, there have been a lot of hard times, but they all have helped me in one way or another. That's even true in my singing – country songs usually are about broken hearts, trains, trucks, cowboys, soldiers or coal miners. And at some point in my life I've either had one, rode one, driven one or served as one," he says proudly.

Commonly thought of as a "free spirit" by those who know him best, Mason claims

he has never met anyone he would rather trade places with. As for his students, whom he has taught since joining Rend Lake College in 1976, they hope he keeps his word.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT, TOO ▶ Biggs finds Canterbury students better prepared, tried hard for 'A'

APRIL 2004

Rend Lake College routinely sends students to England as part of its Study Abroad program. However, English Professor Rebecca Biggs will soon become the first RLC instructor to teach at Canterbury Christ Church University College.

According to RLC International Studies Coordinator Dr. Sue Tomlin, about 50 students from Illinois go to Canterbury each year, along with two teachers to act as mentors and advisors. These instructors also teach one class, Tomlin said.

Biggs applied for one of the teaching positions last year. When she was not selected, she decided to make herself more marketable to the Illinois Consortium for International Studies by teaching extra classes. She also strengthened her literature skills. "At least they would know I was very interested," Biggs reasoned. Her extra efforts apparently made a difference.

"I'm looking forward to everything," said Biggs, who leaves in January 2005 and will return in April. She will teach American Literature seminar sessions following lectures.

"It will be a great working experience," she admitted. "I will be able to interact with people rather than just being a tourist." She also will have the chance to do quite a bit of sightseeing as she supervises students on educational field trips.

CCCUC is known for the wide diversity of its student population. Biggs will instruct a broad cross-section of them, she indicated. "It will be a nice experience to open my eyes to the ways other students learn and other teachers teach," she commented.

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE OCTOBER 2005

English Professor Rebecca Biggs has taken a huge step in understanding the



Swayne retires to travel, hunt, fish, research plants

R.L.C. TIMES FEBRUARY 1981

Julius Swayne, who has been teaching at RLC since its conception, retired at the end of the 1980 Fall Semester. He taught for 35 years.

First, Swayne taught on the high school level in Chicago, Hillsboro and Herrin; then, on the college level at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and at Rend Lake College.

"I enjoyed teaching," Swayne said, "but I wouldn't recommend it to a young person because of the poor financial rewards." He also said, "I stuck with it so long because it fit in well with my home life."

Swayne attended several universities, including Utah State and Colorado State. But his four degrees were all from SIUC. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Science as well as in Education, a Masters in Zoology and a Doctor of Philosophy in Interdisciplinary Science with a concentration on Botany.

"I plan to vacation and travel," Swayne said, "mainly to art shows and exhibits with my wife, who is an artist." He also plans to do plenty of hunting and fishing. In addition, "I plan to continue my research work in the areas of wild plants and archaeology on land I own located near the Shawnee National Forest. I also want to retain an active interest in the prairie project here at RLC."

Hired to replace Swayne as Zoology Instructor is his 26-year-old son, Mark, who has his Zoology Degree from SIUC and is working on his Master's Degree in Scientific Writing.

Tenure granted for first time by RLC to 18 individuals - June 18, 1968

GLENN DARE first to retire from RLC after 44 years in education - May 1970

FACULTY TIMELINE

1967 - 1968

1968 - 1969

1969 - 1970

1970 - 1971

1971 - 1972



J.J.J. Levesque: Montreal, England, Africa, NYC, et al

R.L.C. TIMES DECEMBER 1980

Mathematics Instructor Julien Levesque is leaving Rend Lake College and going into semi-retirement after 14 years of teaching at RLC. Levesque, one of the original "founders" in 1967, feels he needs to "slow down some" and spend some time working on other projects and perhaps writing.

John Julien Joseph Levesque was born in Massachusetts to French Canadian, naturalized American parents. He attended grade and high school there, and acquired some of his teacher's training in Canada, near Montreal.

From there, Levesque went on to study in England, and then to Africa, where he spent the next 12 years in Uganda and Kenya. After this, Levesque taught in New York and then took a 15-year "sabbatical" from teaching to work in industry as a teacher of communications engineering at Scott Field. Part of the time was spent with the French military, preparing for service in Indochina.

Levesque has training and knowledge in several areas, including English, natural science, physical education, music, geography and math.

Levesque admitted two or three days after handing in his resignation he had "a case of nostalgia flu." He has enjoyed teaching here very much and has "high hopes and confidence" in his future and that of the students he has taught. "I like the spirit the students display," he said. "I see the students and am positive the world is not as badly off as everyone is always saying it is." Plans include doing some private tutoring and continuing his work in the teaching of nuclear safety and civil defense."

way students are taught in other parts of the world. She recently became the first instructor Rend Lake College has sent to teach at Canterbury Christ Church University in England.

Rend Lake College routinely sends students to Canterbury as part of its Study Abroad program, but Biggs was the first RLC professor to teach there. She departed for Canterbury in early January along with a group of 17 students from Southern Illinois and 22 more from the St. Louis area. The group returned in early April.

"The bulk of what I taught was drama," Biggs said. At CCCU, the students were not necessarily smarter, but were much better prepared, she noted. "They were almost immediately able to understand the work."

The grades in Biggs' freshman-level class hinged on three major papers, she said. Ironically, at CCCU, the grades in such preparatory classes actually do not figure into the students' overall grade-point averages, "but they still tried hard for an 'A,'" Biggs noted.

The American students took a "Modern Britain" class at Canterbury. Biggs said the students found it much more challenging than most classes in America, but the class was geared toward American students, with more regular assignments. The class also taught students about the culture, history and government of Great Britain.

In fact, many students subsequently wanted to visit the British Parliament, but organizers were unable to schedule the visit.

The trip also was aimed at cultural enrichment, not just classroom studies. The group was able to visit Stonehenge, Dover Castle, the Tower of London, the Globe Theatre and the home of author Charles Dickens, among other attractions.

In what probably seems an oddity to those accustomed to the variable climate of Southern Illinois, Canterbury and surrounding Kent County were shut down for a time by the first snowstorm in 14 years in Southern England. The university, buses, trains and other industries closed down. The amount of snowfall – roughly two inches.

Biggs was able to find time for some personal travel. In addition to a trip to Paris, she also visited Gibraltar, where Admiral Horatio Nelson's battleship, Victory, was towed after the Battle of Trafalgar.

In England, there are strict standards for an institution of higher learning to be designated as a "university." During Biggs' trip,

the school was granted full university status. The school had been granted "university college" status in 1995.

Biggs had applied for one of the teaching slots at Canterbury two years ago. When she was not selected for the trip, she decided to make herself more marketable to the Illinois Consortium for International Studies and Programs, which oversees the process, by teaching extra classes. She said she also strengthened her literature skills.

"At least they would know I was very interested," said Biggs. Her extra efforts made a difference and she was chosen to fill one of the instructors' slots.

Canterbury Christ Church University is known for the wide diversity of its student population, and Biggs instructed a broad cross-section in her class.

At CCCU, classes generally consist of a lecture followed by a seminar. Biggs was involved in the seminars.

Canterbury, one of England's oldest and most historic cities, is still surrounded in many places by medieval walls. Long an important business and shopping center, Canterbury also features numerous cinemas, museums, libraries, galleries and bookshops.

PEGGY DAVIS ► Newest Canterbury Tale includes RLC English Literature Professor

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE JUNE 17, 2009

In Canterbury Tales, Geoffrey Chaucer had his knight, pardoner, miller, physician, plowman and 21 other storytelling travelers. He did not have a professor.

Maybe he would have, had the 14th-Century author known Peggy Davis, an English Literature Associate Professor at Rend Lake College.

Davis, a resident of Mt. Vernon, will have her own Canterbury Tale when she returns from a 13-week teaching position abroad at Canterbury Christ Church University in England. She will board a plane in September with students from Illinois and Missouri. Two of those on the plane with her will be RLC graduate Michael Bell of Mt. Vernon and sophomore Rebekah Brewer of Pinckneyville. Brewer will take classes on Shakespeare, British Literature, World Religions and Modern Britain.

Davis' tale, she said, hopefully will be filled with stories of students who are able to experience what they would not have been able to experience without this opportunity.

"I hope my story is, more or less, a compilation of their stories," she said. "I look forward to the students coming to me and filling me in on what they have experienced and what they have learned.

"When I found out I could get on a plane without embarrassing myself, I thought, 'Oh! Well, I'm applying!'

"I've never had the opportunity to travel much at all. The only time I have been out of the country was to visit Canada once. I thought this was such a wonderful opportunity. I just couldn't pass."

As a faculty representative, Davis will teach classes and special lectures, coordinate student activities and supervise field trips, assist students with adjustments to living in a new culture, perform administrative duties, advise and counsel students, hold on-campus office hours, and more – many of her same job duties as an instructor at RLC.

At its June meeting, the RLC Board of Trustees approved a sabbatical for Davis' assignment, which means she will continue to receive her regular paycheck just as if she were back on-campus in Ina. In England, a furnished, three-bedroom townhouse will be provided free of charge. Her airfare and transportation also are covered by a state grant through the Illinois Consortium for International Studies and Programs.

Founded in 1986, the ICISP is currently composed of 34 institutions and one consortium. Membership is open to all Illinois public and private two-year colleges and by invitation to four-year colleges and universities in Illinois as well as two- and four-year institutions and consortia in contiguous states.

Davis also will be a student at Christ Church. She is required to attend Modern Britain classes with her students.

"I look forward to being in the class with the students. I think that will be very interesting," Davis admitted.

She will not be in class teaching and studying or holding office hours the whole time. A portion of the agenda is devoted to travel and there is a reading week designed to allow for even more time where students and faculty visitors can virtually travel back

in time by taking in the sites around England and other parts of Europe.

She looks forward to interacting with the people and literature of Canterbury. Most of all, she looks forward to being with the students who are experiencing a new culture for the first time and the trips she will take to broaden her own cultural experiences.

"I hear there is a pretty vibrant writing community in Canterbury. I want to look into that while I'm there and see what activities are going on. I hope to take other trips. The students will have some time to travel and . . . are encouraged to . . . get out and go other places.

"I'm certainly going to make it to France, London and anywhere else I can reach while still covering my obligations. My primary reason to be there is for the students. I can't think of anything that is not going to be exciting about it."

MELISSA MCCLEMENT-ENGLER Art requires love and luck, talent, 'fabulous' advisors, plus dedication

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE MARCH 12, 2014

Rend Lake College's Melissa McClement-Engler is living proof that a talent for art can lead to a successful and exciting career. The Associate Professor said an early love of art and dedication to the craft led her to where she is now.

"I was born an artist, and lucky enough to have parents who went above and beyond to help me learn. My parents got me a private instructor, Therese Melena, when I was 11 years old, and she was fabulous," said McClement-Engler. "I started getting a college art education at such a young age."

The West Frankfort native's first solo show was also held when she was 11 years old, and the good times kept coming. During her high school years, McClement entered into several competitions, winning the Annual Scholastic Show at Mitchell Museum in Mt. Vernon her senior year.

"My winning portfolio went on from there to New York City, and from that experience I received scholarship offers," explained McClement-Engler. "I was also an athlete and received scholarship offers



Former student Cox brings work ethic and enthusiasm

PRESSING TIMES NOVEMBER 1976

A former RLC student, Courtney Cox, has switched seats with former teachers and his alma mater, to fill a new capacity – as Music Instructor. "It's unusual to have former teachers as colleagues now," Cox said.

Transformed from the student to the teacher, Cox believes a lot of work and enthusiasm seem to be the most important requisite to teaching.

Graduated from Rend Lake College, Cox went on to receive his B.A. in Music from Illinois Wesleyan University and his M.A. in Music Theory from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX, where he graduated summa cum laude.

In addition to teaching Music Appreciation, Cox teaches Woodwind, Jazz Band, Orchestra and Community Concert classes. Leslie Ann Cox, the Music Teacher's wife, also joined the staff of RLC this year as Financial Aid Clerk.

Possessing a broad background in music, Cox composes and arranges many songs, and has written everything from pop to "weird" electronic music. In Dallas, Cox played in a rock group, wrote music for a student film and had several concerts of his own compositions. Cox received the Paul A. Funk Foundation Award in Music while at Southern Methodist.

FACULTY TIMELINE

Report by ELEANOR HALL and Jerry Elliston re: Jefferson County archeology dig published - October 1974

WAYNE ARNOLD elected President of Mt. Vernon Twp. H.S. Board of Education - April 1976

RLC FEDERATION OF TEACHERS created by 20 charter members - January 1977

1972 - 1973

1973 - 1974

1974 - 1975

1975 - 1976

1976 - 1977



Archeologists Hall, Elliston print local excavation study

PRESSING TIMES OCTOBER 1974

Mrs. Eleanor Hall, Sociology and Anthropology Instructor at RLC, and Mr. Jerry Elliston, prominent lay archeologist of Waltonville, have recently had a report published of their local archeology work. The book is entitled **An Archeological Excavation at Fry Number One Site (SIUM 22C3-38) Jefferson County, Illinois**, and it is the only account of an archeological investigation in Jefferson County ever to be published.

The report deals with an archeological investigation conducted in Spring and Fall 1972 near the shores of Rend Lake, about a mile west of the college campus. It was done under the supervision of Mr. Frank Rackerby, who was then Curator of North American Archeology at the Southern Illinois University Museum.

Eighty students who were enrolled in Mrs. Hall's Anthropology classes worked at the dig along with several interested faculty members. Members of the Guardians of Archeological Remains, a local archeological society, provided continuous help and supervision for the students. Elliston served as a field supervisor.

In order to date the site, some charcoal fragments found in a pit were carefully removed and sent to a laboratory to be analyzed by the Carbon 14 process. The date determined for the site by this process was 2,100 years before the present, plus or minus 300 years. In Southern Illinois this period has been termed Middle Woodland and the cultural phase is known as Crab Orchard.

The site itself was believed to be a village type of occupa-

(Continued at far right on next page)

for that. I started my college education at Rend Lake College because I played softball, and I received an art scholarship."

After RLC, she attended Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, GA and Kendall College of Art and Design in Grand Rapids, MI. While studying in Michigan, she plunged into the genre of cars, something she knew about from a young age.

"I have always loved shiny, slimy, reflective things, and one of my Illustration instructors at Kendall, Jon McDonald, really helped in pointing me in this direction. Plus, my dad always loved cars," she said. "Cars seemed natural to me. Like big, shiny sculptures."

In addition to working for private collectors, McClement-Engler has completed work for MBNA, Ford, the Kreisman Corporation, FIDER, BOP and Old Cars Weekly. Several years ago, she also completed a portrait for Oceanspray of a car painted with a one-of-a-kind berry color.

McClement-Engler graduated with a Master's Degree from Syracuse University in 1998. She taught at Frontier Community College in Fairfield, and in the junior high and high school systems in Carterville while working as a freelance artist.

One year later, she decided to return to the classrooms at RLC, only this time as an instructor.

"I love working with students and seeing the improvements and growth they undertake," she commented. "Art is a huge part of our everyday lives, and I think most people fail to realize how much art affects them. From the painting on your wall to the chair you sit in, the clothes on your back to the design on the bottom of your favorite tennis shoes."

In her 15 years at Rend Lake College, she has served as the exhibit director and a dual-credit supervisor, as well as on the Cultural Arts Committee, Academic Council, Higher Learning Commission General Education Committee, Program Review Board and Illinois Board of Higher Education.

To her students, McClement-Engler says, "Art and creation are very much alive and well. For anyone to succeed in his or her given career, it takes a lot of work, dedication and believing in oneself. Nothing comes easy, but the recognition of success is measured in exposure to art, the perception of art and the studying of art."

WAYNE ARNOLD ▶ When is retirement really not retirement? When work/students still fun/enjoyable

CHRISTOPHER PROGRESS AUGUST 1991
By DON PRICE, SPORTS EDITOR

The average American man works all his life till about age 65, when he retires. This average man then proceeds to travel, fish, take up a long-awaited hobby and basically enjoy himself. Wayne Arnold, a 1950 graduate of Sesser High School (then Goode-Barren Township High School), is an exception to the norm, on most accounts.

Arnold retired in 1989 following a successful 26-year teaching career at Rend Lake College in Ina. [Including his early days at Mt. Vernon Community College.] That is the same year Arnold went from normal to seemingly crazy.

His retirement has been far from the average, as he has continued working at an accelerated pace. At the beginning of his retirement, he worked part-time at the YMCA in Mt. Vernon. He also was a substitute teacher, and beginning in the 1990-91 school year, returned to RLC, where he is once again teaching Health part-time. He also works in the Admissions Office on occasion. If all that isn't enough, he is also an Assistant Coach for the Lady Warriors under Jim Waugh.

Arnold will disagree with anyone thinking him crazy, however, as he thoroughly enjoys what he does at the college. "I'm generally having fun," commented Arnold Monday afternoon.

Because he is having so much fun with what he does, Arnold is uncertain about future plans with RLC. "It is a big question mark," remarked the old coach. "As long as I stay healthy, I'll stay with it. I really enjoy the students. I may ease off in 2-3 years."

Arnold is particularly proud of one of his accomplishments, the establishment of the RLC Fitness Center in 1986. The center draws people from all over, and he felt it was a good accomplishment convincing the RLC Board to start the center.

One thing that may keep him going is his health. Arnold has taken exceptional care of himself all his life, and continues to work out regularly, not only for health reasons, but also for the enjoyment he receives from it.

Because his interests lie in the physical fitness area, it seems natural that he convey his knowledge of the subject to others. He has ample opportunity to do that, as he regularly works in the fitness center, and has

also taught Health throughout his teaching career.

Arnold has "practiced what he preaches," not just now, but also through his high school years. He played basketball at Sesser and was a super all-around athlete.

When he was growing up, he lived in Bonnie. The towns of Bonnie, Ina and Nason had their own high schools while he was younger, but they were just shutting down when Arnold reached high school age.

Elmer Murray, then the Principal at Sesser, negotiated with the state Board of Education to have the kids in those towns transported to Sesser for their education, and thus Arnold became a Red Devil.

Arnold still recalls his high school days quite vividly. His sophomore year, he recalls starting junior varsity regularly, and then seeing considerable action in the varsity contests.

The experience he gained that sophomore year springboarded Arnold into a starting role his junior and senior years. Although he can't recall his scoring average, he recollects that his high scoring game was 22, and puts his average at around 12-15 points per game.

His junior season, the team went 12-9, a "pretty good ball club," according to Arnold.

The senior season, the team fell on hard times, and finished the year with a disappointing 5-17 record.

Following high school, Arnold worked in Mt. Vernon for a year, then went into the Air Force for a year. He enlisted in April of 1951, and got out in March of '55. He spent his military days in Germany.

Following his military discharge, he attended SIU-Carbondale for the Summer Semester of 1955, then transferred to Centralia Junior College (now Kaskaskia College). He received a degree from Centralia in 1957, which prompted his return to SIU. In 1959, he graduated from SIU with a B.S. in Physical Education.

The four-year degree was not satisfactory to Arnold, as he continued to work toward completing his education. In 1963, he received his Masters from SIU, with major emphasis in Physical Education and

Guidance/Counseling. His final degree was earned in '72, when he earned another Masters in Recreation and Outdoor Recreation.

Arnold's teaching career began at Dahlgren High School, where he taught Physical Education and Driver Education, along with some Freshman Algebra. He was also the basketball, baseball and track coach.

In the fall of 1962, he took a job at Mt. Vernon Township High School, where he taught Health and Driver Training full-time. While in Mt. Vernon, he began teaching at the new Mt. Vernon Community College.

This part-time work eventually led to a full-time position at the school, and he even coached the basketball team from 1963-65. Although he no longer coaches full-time, he has been in and out of coaching two or three times since the '60s, and presently assists Waugh.

Personally, Arnold is married (Ailene Crider) and has a son, who resides in Atlanta, GA. His son graduated from Rend Lake College and now coordinates international flights for airlines at Systems International Travel Association in Atlanta. His major was music, but the change in direction in his son's career doesn't bother Arnold.

"I don't care what career you choose to go into," said the coach, "but whatever you choose, you give 110 percent effort. You've also got to have a sense of humor, and have to enjoy what you do. You've got to enjoy life. But when it comes time to get the job done, do it to the best of your ability."

ENTHUSIASTIC JOHNSON 'They want him back' for safety training as well as U.S. Mine Rescue 'Man of Year'

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE FEBRUARY 1997

The United States Mine Rescue Association has recognized Rend Lake College Professor D.J. Johnson as its "Man of the Year" for a second consecutive time.

Johnson, according to the acknowledgment letter from USMRA Secretary-Treasurer Robert McGee to Rend Lake College Department Chair William Dill, was voted "Man of the Year" by virtue "of the enthusiasm he brings to the safety training area."

"In observing the professional manner



Local excavation (cont.)

tion because of the numerous artifacts recovered which included stone and flint tools and an abundance of pottery remains. Two ancient burials also were discovered, as well as numerous pits which may have been used for storage, cooking or refuse.

Following the fall season of digging in 1972, the waters of Rend Lake rose and prevented any further investigation of the site. Commenting on the significance of the Fry site excavation, Mrs. Hall said, "Although one small dig such as ours may not be extremely important by itself, it is only through the accumulated information from many digs such as this that archeologists can piece together the way of life of a people whose culture ended hundreds of years ago."

Preparation of the Fry site report was made possible through a grant received by Mrs. Hall from the National Endowment for the Humanities in Summer 1973. Publication expenses were assumed by Rend Lake College. Copies of the report are available from the RLC Bookstore, from Mrs. Hall or from Mr. Elliston at a cost of \$1. Mail orders will be filled at a cost of \$1.25.



Faculty votes 32-9 in favor of Academic Council rules

BOARD MEETING APRIL 15, 1975

The RLC Academic Council Constitution and By-Laws were approved by the faculty. Of 51 eligible faculty members, 41 cast ballots and 32 marked "Yes."

GARY TUCKER elected President of Illinois Assn. of Criminal Justice Educators - October 1977

Dr. EUGENE ESTES elected to Executive Board of IL Assn. of C.C. Biologists - February 1980

FACULTY TIMELINE

1977 - 1978

1978 - 1979

1979 - 1980

1980 - 1981

1981 - 1982



Philippines native son DyReyes plans a return

PYRAMID TIMES APRIL 11, 1966

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Felix DyReyes taught only one academic year for Rend Lake College – the first, 1967-68 – but spent the two years before that as a member of the MVCC Faculty.]

Economic Teacher, Mr. Felix DyReyes, has become a familiar personality around Mt. Vernon Community College. A native of the Philippines, Mr. DyReyes has been teaching Economics at MVCC since the beginning of the 1965-66 school year.

Mr. DyReyes was born on the island of Manila. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Commerce there before coming to the United States, where he obtained a Master's Degree in Economics from Southern Illinois University.

His interest in economics stems from the fact his country needs good economists in order to fully develop the country's assets. Upon the conclusion of his American visit, he plans to return to Manila to teach and also to work for the government.

The first boy in a family of nine children, Mr. DyReyes speaks three languages – English, a bit of Spanish and his native Philippine language.

His favorite hobbies include basketball, movies and soccer. He helped organize the college soccer club this year and served as faculty advisor.

Having traveled through San Francisco, Hawaii, Chicago and Kentucky, Mr. DyReyes believes he likes the Midwest best because "Midwestern people accept foreigners without any reservations or prejudices."

Aside from his teaching duties, he has served as sponsor for

(Continued at far right on next page)

in which he conducts himself, we as a group are proud to be associated with him and to bestow this honor. You, as well as his co-workers and Rend Lake College, also are fortunate to be associated with Mr. Johnson," said McGee, who is with the Department of Environmental Protection in Uniontown, PA.

The primary objective of the U.S. Mine Rescue Association is the improvement of mine rescue and emergency response training. With members in 41 of the United States, South Africa, Canada and Australia, the group's goal is to promote awareness of problems related to the subject and recognize individual and company achievements and successes.

"D.J. does an excellent job of presenting important information in an effective way to very diversified groups. It's not unusual for him to have management and union people in the same class," Dill commented.

"He travels thousands of miles each year to provide this training. Because most of what he does is done out of the district, his work often goes unnoticed around here. But he does a great job, he really does."

Dill knows Johnson trains effectively, in part "because he has such a large amount of 'return business.' Once they have had him in, they want him back for their next training session, and the people in those classes want him back."

A majority of Johnson's presentations fall into four categories – the coal industry, both surface and underground; sand and gravel, and Caterpillar.

He is scheduled to be the keynote presenter later this month at the Mine Trainers Conference in Grayslake.

Johnson currently is beginning the second of a three-year term on the USMRA Board of Regents, which is comprised of three officers and three others. Included are Vice President Tommy Joe Steele and Member-at-Large Larry Joe Adams, both affiliated with White County Coal Corporation in Carmi.

He has been a member of the Rend Lake College faculty since 1979.

FIREBIRD 93 A COMBAT HERO ▶ Decorated Vietnam Gunship Pilot can now 'keep things in perspective'

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE JUNE 2, 2010

Dave Ellingsworth and Rend Lake College softball go hand-in-hand. During an interview recently to talk about the 17-year coach's 700th win at RLC, his cell phone

kept going off. "Put me in coach, I'm ready to play!" it would repeatedly sing.

And while, yes, he does eat, sleep and breathe softball, there is much more to this man than battles on the diamond. Dave Ellingsworth fought in a very real war. It was a lifetime ago.

As a U.S. Army Gunship Pilot from 1966-67 – his call sign was "Firebird 93" – Ellingsworth became a decorated war hero. He flew countless missions into enemy territory, earning the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism in aerial combat. He was honored with the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross by Vietnam Premier Nguyen Cao Ky and was presented with the Vietnam Air Service Medal that features 21 oak leaf clusters.

In the July 23, 1967 edition of *The Sunday Ledger-Enquirer* out of Columbus, GA, Staff Writer Charles Black wrote about U.S. forces sinking a North Vietnamese trawler on July 15 off the coast of Chu Lai. It was reportedly carrying enough weapons, ammunition and explosives to refit two regiments and sustain Viet Cong fighting for a year.

Black explained how the trawler was followed by radar for 200 miles and nearly got away. After it was spotted, the Navy's swift boats intercepted the trawler and two destroyers moved in to hem it off, Black stated.

"The desperate voyage of the trawler, all of whose crew escaped except three left behind dead, was ended by a 23-year-old Army Warrant Officer named David A. Ellingsworth . . ." the report reads.

When asked to talk about the war, he will. Go figure he would relate it to softball.

"I know exactly what I'm capable of," Ellingsworth said. "And as far as coaching, I can keep things in perspective. If I make a bad decision on the field, I get someone thrown out at the plate. At that particular time in my life, if I made a bad decision, someone somewhere in the world would lose their most precious possession."

He also received a Purple Heart for being wounded in action.

When his helicopter was taking on enemy fire, an automatic rifle round went through his wrist, glanced off of a metal plate worn by pilots under their uniform and smashed into his instrument panel. The shards from that panel can still be seen under the skin on his face. "I heard a lot of pops before that thing hit," he said.

Another thing he heard – he will never forget it – was radio communication. One of his crew yelled out, “(Expletive deleted) it Davey! Davey’s been hit!” while a fellow aviator who saw the cockpit splattered red when the round hit responded that Davey was dead. At that moment, Ellingsworth said he really did not know. He just started to feel around to see how bad it was.

He survived the attack and his time in Vietnam ended. The rest of his service to his country was spent as a Flight Instructor and Operations Officer at Ft. Walters, TX. In 1969, fresh out of the Army, he went back to school at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale and received a Bachelor’s Degree in Aviation Maintenance Control. He stayed at SIU after graduating and taught in the School of Aviation from 1971 to 1977.

That was the year he accepted a teaching position in the Mining and Industrial Technology departments at RLC. By the mid-1980s, Ellingsworth was on the softball field as a Lady Warrior Assistant Coach under Jim Waugh. He took over head coaching duties in Fall 1993.

This season, Ellingsworth hit the 700-win mark, which places him in the Top 10 among all active junior college softball coaches in the nation.

In 1996, he took the Lady Warriors to the NJCAA National Fast-Pitch Championships. He has not been back since.

“To get to [nationals]: One, you have to be good, and two, you’ve got to get some breaks. We have been really close. Three years ago we were two outs away from winning the region. But we wound up getting beat.”

He got into coaching because of his kids. He was a coach for their traveling baseball and softball teams.

“It is teaching. You are around young people. I have always been a competitor. I never was a really good athlete, but I always liked to compete. This way, I can still compete, teach and help have a positive effect on young people.”

Another way he makes that positive impact is by serving as RLC’s Huddle Coach for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He has been doing that for the past four

years; last year, the organization named him the inaugural recipient of the FCA Scott Tickner Huddle Coach of the Year Award.

When asked about 17 seasons of managing a group of 18 and 19 year olds, Ellingsworth laughed. There have been the usual things that rear their head when it comes to college freshmen and sophomores. There are the tattoos and piercings in Panama City, parties and much more.

“I could write a book, but the names would have to be changed,” he grinned.

But there are also the good times . . . the great times, funny moments and victories he will cherish forever. There have been numerous All-Americans over the years, welcoming new recruits to the team and watching sophomores accept scholarships to four-year universities. There is the 1996 team when it went to nationals and when it was inducted into the RLC Hall of Fame last year.

And there are his Assistant Coach, Dennis Johnson, and Johnson’s wife, Ann. Without their help, he said, none of it would be possible.

Until two years ago, tragedy had never struck his team while he was coach. He remembers talking with his wife about just that.

Two weeks later, he received the news that a player from the previous year, RLC Nursing student Shannon Allen, had died when the vehicle she was riding in became stuck in flood waters and she tried to swim to safety. Allen’s body, along with the body of the driver, was later discovered by authorities.

“I still get sick to my stomach and just about cry when I think about it,” he said.

As a member of the 71st Assault Helicopter Company, Ellingsworth flew in the III Corps Area and I Corps Area out of Ben Hoa, Vietnam and Chu Lai, Vietnam. He offered a couple of comments about U.S. soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“Now, there are a lot of National Guard members serving over there who have careers and families. That is pretty tough. I wish there was some way they could get the job done and come home now. But I



Faculty Report indicates learning credit never ends

BOARD MINUTES FEBRUARY 1970

Dr. Rawlinson reported that based on earned credit by faculty members for the 1967-68 and 1968-69 school years, the Rend Lake College faculty are actively engaged in increasing their professional competency. He stated that of the 39 instructors still on the staff who were on the faculty in 1968-69, 30 had earned college credits during both years and 11 who had not earned credit during 1968-69 had done so during the previous year.

Two of this number had earned their doctoral degrees. In addition to those who actually earned credit, others attended workshops which added to their competency in their teaching areas.

Dr. Rawlinson also indicated 22 members of the present staff (about 45 percent) are under 35 years of age, giving a good balance between youth and experience. Dr. Rawlinson said that with such a staff, we should be able to look forward to quality education for the future.



Philippines native (cont.)

the “Variety A Go-Go,” “Mr. Roberts,” the soccer club and is now assisting on the Spring Formal.

Economics students have found him to be understanding and good-natured and always in good humor. Mr. DyReyes has certainly been an asset to MVCC and to the Mt. Vernon community.

WILLIAM DILL, DON LYNCH and GARY WADE recognized for innovative methods, invited to “Teaching Excellence” Conference at U. of Texas-Austin sponsored by National Institute for Staff Development - June 1983

FACULTY TIMELINE

Dr. RICHARD HEATON, who died earlier in year, remembered with plaque in Science Building - July 1986

JOE RUST serves as Dean of Summer London program for International Studies - Summer 1987

1982 - 1983

1983 - 1984

1984 - 1985

1985 - 1986

1986 - 1987



'Bearing Witness'

BY PEGGY DAVIS

Five-year-old Derick has fallen asleep under the church pew, thumb in his mouth, eyes red from the disappointment of a paper airplane that won't fly.

Down front, his parents, aunts, uncles, grandmas, and cousins, crowd in prayer – a stutter of tongues, dance, tears – raising their hands in a chorus of spastic acceptance, in a letting go of what holds them down, weightlessness somehow tied to acceptance, forgiveness. They call it a "leap of faith," an ecstatic float above logic, "A covenant of levitation" I call it to myself as I sit at the back and, like Derick, feel the sting of grounding.

One of the teenagers is trying to get the Holy Ghost, the circle around her coaxing. I squirm, readjust, the wood underneath the padding an evangelism of the solid. I settle into it. My Aunt Hellen stretched her hand across the television screen one Sunday afternoon in 1965, "I'll do that for Mama" her answer to Oral Roberts' call to prayer and healing, sudden hope folded around despair. I stood in a living room quieted by the grief of Grandma's empty couch and felt a new envy of the adult who could forget the earth, the underneath, the in-between.

Flood waters came up to their front door that year, mounting slowly like the dread of old age. Even the uphill back yard where I went to breathe stood sloppy, hopscotched with pools and mud-slick grass. I imagined I could see a path, lines connecting drier humps of grass, lines horizontal, vertical, diagonal – at once static, upright and falling, a gameboard that gave me comfort, not in the metaphor but in the idea of clean movement up the narrow rectangle of the yard.

I looked down at my white socks and penny loafers, imagined them blurs of determination. I would use the gravity of Sundays, jerk each foot before it had time to lift up dark clots of mud and stamp out a testimony of loss, my only object to make it to the fence clean.

guarantee you they don't want to come home until the job is done."

Ellingsworth knows about being away from family and loved ones while at war. He and his wife of 43 years, Vickie, were married while he was in flight school.

"She would help me study at night. (Being at war) was a lot harder on Vickie than it was on me. She was going back to school and dealing with not knowing how I was. We could not do what they do now and call home on the cell phone. And I was not very good at writing letters or communicating. I mean, what do you say about it? We are having a nice day? The weather is good? I would say everything is OK, but that was a rather intense time in my life. There are a lot of things you don't really want to relive. That must have been someone else. When I look back, that had to have been someone else."

Every two years, however, Ellingsworth comes face-to-face with his past. It is quite a party when the Firebirds hold their biannual reunion. They are getting together at a place in Nashville this May. There is Bill Keller from Florida, Will Hingston from Oregon, Kenny Weigand and Mel Jones from Texas, and more.

"Those guys get as close as family."

Some other members of his family are his daughter, 37-year-old Alicia, who is getting married this fall; his son, 41-year-old Steven, who lives in Paducah with wife Melanie, and two grandchildren, Bailey and McKenzie. David and Vickie Ellingsworth live in Dahlgren.

ASSOCIATE PROF. DAVIS ▶ **Brooks Poetry Contest runner-up a surprise for 'Bearing Witness'**

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE NOVEMBER 2008

Rend Lake College English and Literature Associate Professor Peggy Davis is a second-place finisher in the Gwendolyn Brooks Poetry contest, a section of the Fourth Annual Illinois Emerging Writers Competition organized by Illinois Secretary of State/State Librarian Jesse White.

"I was very surprised and honored," Davis said. "It has been years since I entered a contest. I won a con-

test for undergraduates at SIU when I was there."

Davis has a Master's Degree in Creative Writing from SIUC. She has been published in *Eureka Literary Magazine* and *Poetry Northwest*. She has taught for nearly 16 years.

She started writing fiction, poetry and some playwriting in college. She entered works for publication in journals, but not many contests. It was just a matter of time, however, for the resident of Mt. Vernon.

"I saw the announcement and I had not submitted anything for a good long while. I had recently written two poems; one for my godson and another for my goddaughter. I decided I wanted to enter those and then made the decision to enter the third one, and actually the third one – one I had written a good while ago – was the one that won."

In addition to a \$300 cash prize, her winning poem is up for possible publication in a number of magazines. She wrote the winning entry, "Bearing Witness," years ago.

"It's about particular memories I have," she said of the poem. "What holds all those together is sort of a combination of disappointment and hope . . . the oddity of both of those going on at the same time."

She would not commit to a favorite poet, saying she has never read a poem she did not at least like in some way.

"I can't think of anyone I've read – fiction writer, poet or playwright – who I haven't taken something from or learned something from. I may have liked certain poets more at one point in my life than at another or feel more connected or understand poems more at one time than another. But, I can't think of any I've read that I didn't respect."

She did offer the visiting artists series at RLC as a great event for students to expose themselves to successful poets and fiction writers.

Rather than directing students to particular poets, she encourages them to visit the website poetrydaily.com for an amazing variety of work.

"That website is drawing poetry from those journals. I believe you can access a year of poetry in the archives.

It's for those who aren't really familiar with literary journals and just want to see what's out there."

MAYOR TABS SCIENCE INSTRUCTOR ► City of Mt. Vernon turns to Hollmann to co-chair curbside recycling effort

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE JANUARY 26, 2007

When Greg Hollmann imagines the landfills of the future, he sees the means to make a difference.

Hollmann, a Science Instructor at Rend Lake College, is co-chairing a Recycling Task Force with Mt. Vernon resident Rick Hicks and 10 others. Their goal is to feel-out the feasibility of offering curbside recycling service to residents of the King City.

According to Hollmann, it was Mayor David Keen's idea to form the task force and see what could be done about reducing waste consumption in the city. In the process, Hollmann's name came up as a local promoter of such an effort.

"I've lived in a few communities . . . and they all had curbside recycling," Hollmann said. "When I moved back, it was one of the things on my list that I wanted to see improved here. So, when I was asked to join, I was more than happy to do what I can to see if we can get it going. I think recycling is a good step for Mt. Vernon, but more than that, I think it's a progressive step to get us a little bit more into the 21st Century."

The mission at hand is to find the best way of getting curbside recycling service to the citizens of Mt. Vernon. So he and Hicks went to other communities, such as Evansville, IN, to conduct research. They spoke with the directors of waste management facilities and recycling centers about whether or not the proceeds generated from recycling would offset the cost of an operation. They determined that approximately \$2 per month would have to be charged to each resident, Hollmann said.

A couple of options existed – set up an in-house operation or ask waste management companies to include a curbside cost in their

upcoming bids toward providing service in Mt. Vernon. The city chose the latter. Trash bids coming in will include a cost with curbside service and without, Hollmann said.

Sustainable markets – and by no means lucrative – exist for recycled material such as plastic, paper, aluminum and tin, Hollmann explained. Whether the recycling proceeds would go to the city or the trash company is beyond the arm of the task force, he said. That issue would have to be worked out by city officials, he added.

Two environments, the global and the local, are at stake in Hollmann's mind. Providing a recycling service has a way of making a community more attractive to potential commercial and residential investors from outside the city, he said.

"Maybe we've got a shot to improve the park system and downtown development . . . the kinds of things that make a community attractive to prospective businesses and citizens." Beyond the environmental friendliness of curb-side recycling is the idea of living in a city that offers the option. It is a statement that says officials and residents care about the community and want to keep it clean and attractive, Hollmann said.

Should recycling come to King City curbs, Hollmann said he expects initial participation to be around 60 to 70 percent and taper off through time. The national average of continued participation is 42 percent, he said. There would be a need to keep recycling in the minds and hearts of the citizens of the King City.

"Our hope is to implement an education program to increase interest and participation," he said. "Then we could sustain that level you see at the beginning of the program."

And who knows? Perhaps a recycling surge in Mt. Vernon would inspire residents to cut their carbon footprints down a size or two through other methods of consumption reduction like hybrid vehicles and energy-saving initiatives in the home.

"I think it's very much needed," Holl-



Doctorate ranks increase to seven thanks to Tomlin

MAY 1992

Dr. Sue Tomlin, we presume.

The Sociology Instructor will add the title to her name following graduation ceremonies Sunday, May 17, 1992 at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

"Happy days are here again," said a relieved Tomlin while anticipating a summer of rest and relaxation.

A Rend Lake College employee since 1986, Tomlin has spent many evenings, off-days and summers in her quest for a Ph.D. degree in Sociology.

Her dissertation was entitled, "The Stigma of Illiteracy as It Relates to Family."

"Dee Russell (RLC Literacy Technician) was very helpful finding people for me to talk to for my paper and encouraging them to discuss their situations. I couldn't have done it without her," Tomlin said.

The good doctor boasts a B.S. Degree in Special Education from Illinois State (1977) and her M.S. in Guidance Counseling from SIUC (1981).

The doctorate fulfills a longtime dream. "I always thought about the possibility, but I'm real surprised it actually happened," she admitted.

Other full-time employees on the RLC staff with doctoral degrees are Dr. Richard P. Doherty, Dr. John Homan Jr., Dr. Keith R. Lape, Dr. Barbara Luchsinger, Dr. Steve Tietz and Dr. Sue Trammell.

FACULTY TIMELINE

SARAH CAPPS honored an "Outstanding Alumnus" of Mt. Vernon Twp. H.S. - June 1989

ROBERT VARIS named 1990 "Educator of Year" by Illinois Association of Electricity and Electronics Educators

JEANE J. KIRKPATRICK Endowed Teaching Chair for International Understanding established - Fall 1990

LINDA DENTON appointed to Illinois Coal Development Board by Gov. Jim Edgar - 1991

JOE RUST elected President of Illinois Speech and Theatre Association for 1991

25th Anniversary Salute for Fab Five "Originals" - GELA GOIN GEORGINE HAWLEY BARBARA LUCHSINGER SHIRLEY McHANEY JIM WAUGH - June 1992

1987 - 1988

1988 - 1989

1989 - 1990

1990 - 1991

1991 - 1992



'Walter Mitty' Miksanek Dr. of Creative Writing

AUGUST 1997

What do Anton Chekhov, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Michael Crichton and Anthony Miksanek all have in common?

Chekhov . . . the turn-of-the-century Russian author (1860-1904) . . . Sherlock Holmes creator Doyle . . . the "father of the techno-thriller," Harvard-grad Crichton of Jurassic Park fame . . . and Miksanek, a Chicagoan whose roots long ago spread to Southern Illinois . . .

All received training initially as physicians before making a name for themselves as creative writers. (Crichton paid for medical school by writing thrillers under different pen names but was never a licensed practitioner of medicine.)

What sets Dr. Tony Miksanek apart from the others? He is the only one of the quartet preparing to teach a "Creative Writing" class Fall Semester 1997 for Rend Lake College.

"All of us have a secret Walter Mitty-type life, and I guess writing is mine," said Miksanek, a family physician in Benton since the early '80s. Miksanek taught "The Short Story" class Spring Semester. Dr. John Homan Jr., the Department Chair, called the doctor-turned-author "a very vital and enthusiastic instructor."



FY69-71 faculty salaries mean \$8,986-\$11,208

MAY 1970

The average, or mean, of all faculty salaries for 1968-69 for the regular 36-week term was \$8,986; in 1969-70, it was \$9,585, and in 1970-71, it will be \$11,208.

The highest paid faculty salary in 1968-69 was \$12,040; in 1969-70, it was \$14,400, and in 1970-71, it will be \$16,525.

mann said. "Pick your reason. Whatever it is, recycling is a very good thing. They are doing it successfully in Carbondale and Jackson County. It's a good step for Mt. Vernon . . . a step in the right direction."

REMEDIAL EDUCATION PROJECT ► Metzger one of four Juco professors to help drive CARS Math Expansion

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE NOVEMBER 8, 2011

Diane Metzger, Professor of Mathematics at Rend Lake College, is one of four Illinois community college professors chosen to serve on the CARS (Career and Academic Readiness System) Math Expansion Team. The CARS team is a project to help students better prepare for college.

Metzger has taught developmental and baccalaureate-transfer mathematics courses at the community college level for 30 years.

"Rend Lake College has approximately 70 percent of entering freshmen placing in developmental mathematics courses," said Metzger. "I believe the CARS project is a way that could help prevent students from taking so many of these courses."

CARS is something the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) is using in its effort to enhance existing remedial education curriculum. The online teaching and learning system will provide an interactive and engaging curriculum for students to use to better prepare themselves for their academic studies in higher education, according to the ICCB.

The CARS system will be available for community colleges to supplement their existing remedial education offerings, as well as provide a standalone system for students to use at a distance. It also will be available for adult education providers to help students transition to higher education and for high schools to help their students prepare for college-level coursework.

Directors of the CARS Math Expansion Team are ICCB Senior Director for Education Technology Todd Jorns and Crystal Hack with the Western Illinois University Center for Application of Information Technologies (CAIT).

'GARY GOOD GUY' ► Cute, mischievous Motorcycle Cop evolves into award-winning Teacher

WEST FRANKFORT DAILY AMERICAN OCTOBER 20-29, 2010

Excerpts from the obituary written by Wade's wife, Mary Ann. The former RLC Instructor/Department Chair had been diagnosed with cancer several months

prior to his death at age 71. Wade was a native of the small farming community of Beecher City.

His first-grade teacher recalls Wade "was very mischievous and very cute." By high school, he was an honor student, attended Premier Boys State, performed in three school plays, lettered in track and basketball and was Senior Class President.

Some other things you may not have known about Gary L. Wade . . .

" . . . After high school graduation, Gary became a three and a half year veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and was stationed in San Diego, CA. The military was a fun time for Gary. He enjoyed and excelled in rifle class and marksmanship (he set a very high standard for himself). Gary believed the strict discipline developed self-control. Military chow time was a favorite – all you could eat and 'ice cold' milk.

"Gary's next venture in life was with the Oceanside (CA) Police Department. The City of Oceanside had invested in motorcycles and Gary asked to be assigned to traffic enforcement so he could ride the new motorcycles.

"While on the Oceanside Police Department, Gary distinguished himself as a policeman when he assisted the California Highway Patrol in apprehending a bank robber. For his efforts, Gary received a commendation from the F.B.I. During his four years with the police department, Gary took courses in Police Science at the local junior college.

"Gary's compassion and sympathy for the motorists he stopped earned him the nickname of 'Gary Good Guy.' That nickname has followed him all through his life.

"Gary's life journey then led him to SIU as a full-time student and a member of the Salukis Patrol Police Force. Again, he was an overachiever and closed out his undergraduate career with a perfect straight-A quarter; Gary was on the SIU Dean's List these times as an undergraduate. Gary then began working on his Master's Degree in Educational Administration and Foundation. He completed his Master's in 1972.

"Gary's teaching career led him to Rend Lake College; and, again he was an overachiever. In 1983, the Rend Lake College Foundation presented Gary with the Foundation Faculty Award in recognition of Excellence and Dedicated Service. Gary received the Teacher of the Year recognition in the late '80s.

"In 2004, Gary retired from Rend Lake College to follow another path. Gary was

extremely interested in historical research both of local history and family history. He was an avid reader, which only inspired him to read more and continue his searches.

"Of course, his research did not stop there. He interviewed people; and gained a lot of information in basic conversation with people. Such a wonderful listener, he could entice people to relate their entire life stories if they all had the time.

"Gary had begun to put together a book of his research information of Franklin County and the surrounding areas. He and friends had even put together an audio presentation to present to the public. The presentation included both drawings and photos by Gary in addition to his lecturing (oh, the professor in him). Gary was addicted to knowledge and was always looking for a project or someone to help with a project.

"He always volunteered to assist with any type of project, no matter how time consuming or what the project might entail; he also was extraordinarily creative! The man can take something apart and create something new from the pieces.

"So far you have learned about just a few aspects of Gary – the Educator; the Historian; the Professor. There is a more important side of Gary L. Wade; that is his Gary good-guy personality . . . his spiritual side. Gary's legacy will be in the lives he touched through teaching; many of his former students came to visit often. Gary had an indescribably quick wit and sense of humor; he had a charming personality and made people feel good. Gary and I had God at the center of our relationship. We shared two ministries in our church – the preparation of Communion and funeral dinners.

"Gary was a Mason. He had served on the Frankfort Community Park Board for many years. He served on the Franklin County Tourism Board and the Frankfort Area Genealogy Society, until his illness forced him to resign . . ."

'HEY, COACH' ▶

Welding Prof. Emeritus Smith sails away after 22 winning seasons on links

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS SPORTS CONNECTION JULY 8, 2011
BY NATHAN WHEELER OF REND LAKE COLLEGE

"Hey, Coach!"

That has been Dave Smith's call sign for more than two decades now. In fact, coaching has been so synonymous with Smith that "Hey Coach!" is even the name of his beloved boat.

But after 22 years at the helm of Rend Lake College Warrior Golf, Smith has decided to call it quits as head coach and hand things over to Lucas Cromeenes, one of his former players, who has officially been named his successor after spending two seasons as Smith's assistant.

"Twenty-two years is a long time," said Smith. "It's been a lot of fun. We had some great teams."

Smith built the Warriors golf program into what it is today. He was named NJCAA Region XXIV Coach of the Year seven times, won eight Region championships, coached 13 All-Americans, an individual National Champion and missed taking the Warriors to the national championships only twice in 22 years, with RLC competing as an entire team 14 times on the national stage.

It was hard work. When he took over the team in 1989, he was looking up at regional powerhouses like Lincoln Trail, Danville Area and Lincoln College. The growing pains lasted three years with The Lake finally winning its first tournament in 1992. The Warriors have won at least one tournament every year since and amassed more than a hundred collegiate tournament championships under Smith.

He remembers the tide turning. In Fall 1994, Smith put together his first team that had a bona fide shot at the national title. He was already looking good with recruits Brandon Auld (Nashville) and Jeremy May

Who's Who? Martial Arts Expert Gaines, that's who

NOVEMBER 1984

RLC Karate Instructor James R. Gaines is among those experts honored in the recent publication, **Who's Who in American Martial Arts**.

The Opdyke resident holds a sixth-degree black belt in Okinawan Shorin-Ryu Karate-Do and a master's license in ju-jutsu. More recently, he was awarded a seventh-degree black belt and appointed as Shihanin the Shorei Goju Kempo division of Juko-Kai Kokusei Remmei.

Gaines is one of 1,000 martial arts experts selected from over 40,000 candidates contacted. He also holds black belts in Goju-Ryu and Motobyu Ha Shitoh-Ryu Karate-Do.

The RLC grad began studying martial arts in 1960 and studied under three grand masters in the Marine Corps.

OCTOBER 1994

James Gaines, who has taught Community Ed Karate classes evenings for the past 16 years, has been awarded the highest honor in traditional Japanese Ju-Jutsu. The title of Soke in Tenshin No Shin Nagave Ryo was bestowed on Gaines by the World Head of Family Sokeship Council of Japan.

"Soke" denotes a master of extraordinary ability and is bestowed upon poets, traditional artists and martial artists. Recipients must be 50 with 32 or more years of training. Gaines turned 50 in September.

FACULTY RANK SYSTEM approved by Board after request from instructors; Instructor - at time of hiring / Associate Professor - when tenure granted / Professor - after 10 years - April 1996

GARY OTEY named "Correctional Education Employee of the Year" for Big Muddy River C.C. by the Illinois Dept. of Corrections - April 1996

BARBARA DAVENPORT appointed to the Executive Committee of the Illinois Community College Faculty Association - January 1997

FACULTY TIMELINE

JOE RUST fifth recipient in 10 years of "C.C. Outstanding Educator" Award from Speech Communication Assn. in Miami - November 1993

ROBERT VARIS serving as President of Illinois Assn. of Electricity and Electronics Educators - January 1993

SUE TRAMMELL elected President of Illinois Assn. of C.C. Biologists for '93-94 - October 1993

JAMES GAINES, Karate Instructor, gets Soke master title, highest Japanese Ju-Jutsu honor - October 1994

JOHN FERTALY, former President of Faculty Union, victim of cancer at age 45 - March 3, 1995

D.J. JOHNSON two-time "Man of Year" Award from U.S. Mine Rescue Association - February 1996 / 1997

DOUG LEECK, AAA Dept. Chair for less than a year, dies suddenly at age 45 - March 6, 1997

1992 - 1993

1993 - 1994

1994 - 1995

1995 - 1996

1996 - 1997



Sociology/Anthropology Instructor loves challenge

PRESSING TIMES SEPTEMBER 1981

"I began my college career at Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington. I was a Music major (viola) at the time, and I had a scholarship," Eleanor Hall began. "I wasn't there very long before I discovered I was in the wrong course of study. I think it was after my first recital, and the audience agreed I was in the wrong place."

"I transferred the following year to University of Illinois in the School of Liberal Arts and Science. At the time I wasn't sure of a major, but I was interested in human beings and the way they act. I was particularly interested in Psychology," said Hall.

"Over a period of time, I settle on Sociology. It had aspects of Psychology and the social part of the human group which interested me very much. I kind of liked to argue and that went right along with Sociology – bringing up issues of modern life and that sort of thing."

...Dept. Chair Richard Doherty suggested Anthropology might be added to her résumé; she later developed a special interest in Archeology as well...

"I started teaching in the 1960s and it was a rather turbulent period, the Vietnam War was going on. I really think, as I look back, students were a little bit different then. I am not saying it was good or bad, but I think students were a little bit more argumentative and more apt to ask questions and challenge instructors and their ideas. One class I remember, I would not dare to go in there without having everything that I was going to say documented, because they would question where I had gotten it.

"I think students today are
(Continued at far right on next page)

(Staunton) joining returning sophomores Bryan Drew (Benton) and Spring '94 Nationals qualifier Scott Johnson (Alton). But he was still searching for a fifth man. A phone call right before the start of classes fixed that and improved the season forecast tremendously.

"It was Matt [Armstrong]," said Smith. "He said, 'You know, I think I might come to Rend Lake for a year and see how it goes.'"

Smith relentlessly recruited Armstrong while he was playing at Massac County High in Metropolis, where he won a state title. But he lost him to Florida Southern College. After a year on the peninsula, Southern Illinois and Rend Lake College must have started looking good to Armstrong.

Smith's newfound fifth man immediately took the top spot on the team, winning his first three fall tournaments and leading the Warriors to the 1994 Region XXIV championship over Parkland College. Smith said if he had to name his best team at Rend Lake College, it would be this one.

As a preview to the National Championships that following spring, retired RLC Sports Information Director Bob Kelley wrote, "Rend Lake College was ranked No. 1 in the country early that spring, a tip of the golf hat to their accomplishments the previous fall. Defending champion Tyler (TX) Junior College had displaced its unproven challenger at the top by the time the spring finals rolled around. Tyler entered No. 1, Texas rival Temple Jr. College was No. 2 and the Region XXIV champs from Illinois were No. 3."

Battling the rain and gusts from nearby Hurricane Allison, the Warriors broke out to a four-stroke lead over Tyler after the first round at Nationals. Armstrong and Auld were tied for fifth. Thanks to more favorable playing conditions, RLC shaved 17 strokes off its first-round score to hold on to the lead the second day. Armstrong moved up to second place with a 68 (-4). Tyler took the lead by three strokes in the third round and would go on to finish nine ahead of RLC for the championship. Armstrong placed fourth in the medalist race.

It would take more than a decade for Smith to get that close to a national title again.

The 2004-05 campaign was the year of "The Brit" at RLC. Sophomore John Singleton, a native of Merseyside, England, became the first Warrior to ever lead the national championship after knocking in seven

birdies in the first round. Singleton's 67 (-5) gave him a two-shot lead after 18 holes of the four-day NJCAA Finals and put the Warriors in third. Singleton's bad second and third rounds were supported by Cromeenes – a freshman then – as Rend Lake College fell to seventh and then climbed back to be tied for fourth going into the final round.

Everyone pitched in for the last stand – Singleton with a 70, Cromeenes with a 73, Soph Brian Kuddes (Godfrey) with a 73, Soph Charlie Throgmorton (West Paducah, KY) with a 74 and Freshman R.A. Stolpe (Muskegon, MI) with a 74. With the work done, all that was left to do for the Warriors was wait and watch in the clubhouse while the teams to beat finished their rounds.

Kelley wrote, "[The Warriors] seemed entrenched in fourth until well after their own round had ended, when word began filtering back from the course two teams ahead of them were struggling. When the dust finally settled, the RLC Warriors rubbed their eyes and discovered they had landed in the Promised Land . . . two shots under third-place Tyler."

Though the means were different, the ending was the same. The title had once again eluded Smith. In his career, Smith finished second in the nation twice, third twice, fourth once, fifth twice and sixth twice.

"I could see a few years ago that I was not only going to have to give it every inch of my effort to go win that thing, but I was going to have to get lucky," said Smith. ". . . We nearly did it in '04-05 and that was neat."

Smith did get his first individual National Champion when Leroy David Griffin (Effingham) won the title in a scorecard playoff in 2009.

"That was fun," Smith said. "Griffin won it in a playoff and I sure enjoyed that. I was tickled for him."

Griffin may have been his first champ, but Smith said the best player he ever coached was NJCAA All-American Jace Bugg (Henderson, KY).

Bugg led the Warriors to third at Nationals as a freshman in 1996 and fifth as a sophomore. He was one of the top eight amateurs in the country right out of RLC – losing 5 and 3 to the eventual U.S. Amateur Championship runner-up Joel Kribel of Stanford University in 1997. He was a three-time Nationwide Tour champion. He won the Canadian Tour in 2001 before joining the more prestigious Buy.com Tour where he was ranked seventh midway through the

summer of 2002 and on his way to getting his PGA Tour card since the top 15 automatically qualified.

Kelley wrote, "He had earned \$121,395 [fourth on the money list] and the future could not have seemed much brighter for Bugg and his high school sweetheart, Henderson native and frequent tour caddy, wife Misty. Then a sore wrist developed. Worse, it would not heal completely. He began to struggle on the tour and finally had to take more than a month off toward the end of the season. Instead of relaxing, he developed what he described as severe flu-like symptoms."

"I was sitting in my rocker . . . on a Sunday night in November," Smith recalled. "The phone rang. I picked up. [Bugg] said, 'You ain't gonna believe this coach. I've got leukemia.' It was hard to even speak at that point."

Bugg was diagnosed with acute myelogenous leukemia shortly after the 2002 Nationwide Tour Championship. After a year of chemotherapy treatments and an unsuccessful bone marrow transplant, he suffered a brain hemorrhage early December 4 and died a few hours later at St. Mary's Medical Center in Evansville, IN. He was 27.

Shortly before Bugg passed, Smith traveled to Henderson to see Bugg at his parents' home and present him his plaque for being inducted into the RLC Sports Hall of Fame the month before. Bugg was too sick to make the trip to Ina.

Smith told *GolfWorld Magazine* Columnist Bill Shields that Bugg had his hands on the award for an hour and a half. Shields wrote, "For a little while on Autumn Lane, it was spring again."

"If Jace hadn't gotten sick, he was on the PGA Tour," Smith added. "He shot even par on the nationwide tour championship with leukemia. He was just tough as hell and played through it."

The highlights were thin in Smith's last season at RLC. The Warriors finished second at the 2010 RLC Fall Invitational and Vin-

cennes U. Fall Invite. They won the Illinois State Junior College Championship and the Danville Area Fall Invitational. Although it took second at the 2011 Regional, the team did not qualify for Nationals because of Spoon River dropping out. NJCAA rules allow for only one team to advance from a regional with nine teams competing. [Two teams advance from 10-team Region Tournaments.] Sophomores Matt Walton and Kade Baker and Freshman Zach Holland did advance from Region XXIV to the National Championships as individuals. Walton placed fifth for All-America honors, Baker tied for 45th and Holland withdrew in the final round. Before the Regional, Holland's 65 at the Benedictine Invitational in Springfield broke RLC's 18-hole record that had stood for more than a decade.

Afterward, Holland said of Smith, "He helps us out a lot and we appreciate what he does for us and what he's meant to this program. We are trying as hard as we can to win something for him. He deserves everything he's got."

What he has got is an office packed with golf trophies from the era – each one carrying its own collection of memories and teams long gone, but not forgotten. What he has given is more important.

Smith has meant a lot to the game of golf at the junior college level. He began his membership with the NJCAA Region XXIV Golf Committee in 1993 and chaired that committee from 1997-2006. In 2000, he was elected Vice President of the National Golf Coaches Association and served as its President from 2001-02.

RLC Board of Trustees Chairman Bryan Drew spoke about his former coach at the board's June meeting, where Smith's resignation was formally accepted.

"I played golf for Dave," Drew said. "He was a good coach, but far more than that really. He was more than a coach to a lot of guys. As evidence of that, I've been on a



Loves a challenge (cont.)

more polite and are easier to get along with. In a way, it is more relaxing, but in other ways I kind of miss that challenge. I sometimes wish they would ask me where I got my information. It's a lot easier on a teacher when a student doesn't do that, but it's more exciting when they do. Some of the most exciting classes I have had were not easy to teach; the students would challenge you and ask you a lot of questions."

"I think each era has its own characteristics, probably because of what's going on in the larger society. I have enjoyed my teaching experience. One other thing about my experience at RLC has been my involvement in faculty politics," Hall said. She has served as President of the Faculty and on the Academic Council. She was active on the Salary Negotiation Committee and in the formation of the teacher's union. She was President of the union and is now a member of the local chapter of the Illinois Education Association. "I feel teachers and instructors who teach the kinds of things I do have some kind of obligation to be actively involved in campus politics."

"I would say I am a rather intense person . . . anything I do I get at with quite a bit of energy and interest. I think I put a lot of time and energy into my work. I have some very strong beliefs. I think I am able to listen to other people's arguments, but I realize I have very strong opinions."

– Bev Mooney

Dr. TONY MIKSANEK, Benton Physician, is teaching Creative Writing evenings this Fall after teaching *The Short Story* Spring Semester - Fall 1997

SAUNDRA LIPE one of 10 contributors to National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX), standardized test for Board certification - December 1997

JOHN FISHER and JOE RUST named by State Supt. to Illinois State Board of Educational Performance Standards and Assessment Advisory Team - April 1998

Greater international awareness is the goal of a Federal Title VI Grant from the Dept. of Education which will allow RLC instructors to visit/learn in Japan. Participants:

- DEBBIE BENNS
 - LINDA COX
 - STEVE KENNETT
 - ROB LITTLE
 - RICK MARLOW
 - BONNIE TOLBERT
 - Dr. SUE TOMLIN
 - Dr. SUE TRAMMELL
- Summer 2001

FACULTY TIMELINE

1997 - 1998

1998 - 1999

1999 - 2000

2000 - 2001

2001 - 2002



Mining's King discovered 'teaching was his calling'

MAY 2013

Mining Technology Instructor Jim King was recognized posthumously with an "Outstanding Part-Time Faculty" Award Thursday, May 2.

James V. King, a month shy of his 65th birthday, died April 27, less than a week before the annual Rend Lake College Staff Recognition Ceremony in the Rend Lake Resort and Conference Center Great Room.

His family established the Jim King Memorial Scholarship in his honor and asked for donations in lieu of flowers.

King was employed by Old Ben Coal Company as an Electrical Engineer and by Lafarge Corporation as a Maintenance Engineer before his retirement from the Marion Veterans Administration Medical Center.

A graduate of Mt. Vernon Community College, he began a new career at Rend Lake College, where his obituary stated, "he discovered teaching was his calling. He loved teaching and dearly loved his co-workers at Rend Lake College."

King was a product of Frankfort Community High School. He went on to earn his Electrical Engineering Degree from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and a Master's Degree from the University of Illinois.

He was named a "Life Long Learning Scholar" by the U. of I. College of Education.

King is survived by his wife, Kathy, two sons, one daughter and three grandchildren.

The U.S. Marine Corps veteran was an aerial helicopter gunner with the Purple Foxes during the Viet Nam conflict, earning a Bronze Star among numerous other distinctions.

golf trip or two and it's amazing. You can go just about anywhere in the country and you would be surprised how many Rend Lake College graduates, or guys who came through here playing golf, you'll find at country clubs, resorts and golf courses all over the United States.

"[RLC golf] is something that has really been a good representation of the college and has been very beneficial to us. The college is known in a lot of places because of it and he has done a very good job."

Most know Smith as the RLC Golf Coach. But how many know what his biggest contribution has been at Rend Lake?

He started at the college as a young instructor in 1981 – the better part of a decade before coaching. He is now a Professor Emeritus of Welding Technology and has taught countless students this valuable trade for more than 30 years running.

He may have just finished the back nine on his coaching career, but his playing days with the seniors amateur league are just getting ready to tee off. The 55-year-old said he is working on his stroke, but has other goals on the horizon as well. They have something to do with his wife of 18 years, Wendy, and their new boat.

"I want to spend some time on that . . . boat, on these beautiful weekends, instead of driving to some golf tournament," he said. "I still really like to teach. I like to work with the players. I want to do more teaching, but I don't want to recruit. I don't want to make those calls, answer those e-mails, go to those houses. I don't want to get in my truck and drive to Timbuktu to see somebody play any more. That's for somebody younger. Let them do that. That is one of the reasons I need to turn it over to [Cromeenes]. I think he will do very well."

Smith will continue to teach Welding at RLC. He told Cromeenes he can call him for help whenever he is needed.

"Hey coach!"

CAREER 'AUTO'MATIC ▶ **Mechanic-Service Manager-Instructor Thompson follows in family footsteps**

REND LAKE COLLEGE AUTO-BIOGRAPHIES 1990-91

There is no generation gap in the Thompson family.

Grandfather Ray Thompson started it all back in 1933, when he entered the automotive repair business he stayed with until his retirement in 1977.

Frank Thompson Sr. followed in his

father's footsteps, joining him in the auto repair field in 1953. He is still going strong today as the owner/operator of Thompson Auto Repair, aka Thompson and Sons Garage, in Opdyke.

And Nigel Thompson – Frank's son, Ray's grandson – is a chip off the (engine) block. Since 1971, the third-generation member of the Thompson clan has been just as involved in some aspect of the auto industry.

Nigel actually began working with his father while he was still in grade school. He then went to work for Bean Standard in Mt. Vernon his freshman year at Mt. Vernon Township High School, staying with the service station until the end of his freshman year at Rend Lake College.

Employment at Brehm-Hanna Chevrolet in Mt. Vernon followed in fairly typical order: Thompson's On-Job-Training through Rend Lake College led to a part-time position with the Service Department; a full-time Technician's position was offered upon graduation. He remained with Brehm-Hanna until its closing in 1979.

Nigel, who in the meantime had been continuing his education as a part-time student at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, returned on a full-time basis at that point to earn his Bachelor's Degree in Occupational Education in 1981.

That same year, he began his teaching career in a part-time capacity for Rend Lake College while also working for his father.

In 1985, he went to work for Savanda Motors in Mt. Vernon as an Assistant Service Manager, moved up to Service Manager in less than a year and continued in that role until accepting a similar position with his present employer, Birger Chevrolet-Olds in Carlyle, in the summer of 1990.

[In the same publication, the 33-year-old who graduated from RLC in 1977 – the same year his grandfather retired – indicated his primary responsibilities as a Service Manager included scheduling; assigning work, assistance and training for the Birger technicians, and recording shop productivity.]

Not one to sit by and let modern technology pass him by, Nigel has kept pace with the changing times.

He is a member of the Southern Illinois Service Council, which is comprised of Chevrolet Service Managers throughout the area, serving as President in 1990-91. He graduated from the GM Professional Service Advisor School in 1985 and the GM School of Service Management in 1989.

The RLC Auto Advisory Council has benefited from his expertise and participation since 1978.

He, in turn, is a big booster of the program.

"The technology of today creates a tremendous demand on the knowledge and skill level of our technicians," he says. "To meet this demand, training fills a demanding role. The Auto program at RLC offers area residents the opportunity to continue their education with tuition fees that fit most budgets."

"The Rend Lake College Automotive Technology program," he added, "enables students to utilize a vast accumulation of instructors who will prepare and equip them with the education and training to successfully compete in today's job market."

Even Nigel's leisure-time activities are spent in auto-related ways: He is an avid collector of oil company and service station memorabilia.

[Thompson joined the Full-Time Faculty at Rend Lake College in 1994 and should be recognized with his 20-Year Service Award in Spring 2014.

In addition to his AAS Degree in Automotive Technology from Rend Lake College and both B.S. and M.S.Ed. degrees from SIUC, he likewise is an Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Certified Master Automobile Technician. The Rend Lake College AAS Degree program was one of the first in Southern Illinois to become qualified to support Master Certification standards from the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) and the National Institute for ASE.]

2011 AWARD-WINNERS ▶ Assessment: Carpenter, Hampton share recognition for Recognition

REND LAKE COLLEGE QUARTERLY AUGUST 2011

Recipients of the 2011 RLC Assessment Recognition Award are Barb Hampton and Shari Carpenter.

Hampton, Developmental Reading and English Associate Professor, started at Rend Lake in 2007 and holds a Master's Degree from Vermont College.

Her co-workers said, "Barbara has been instrumental in evaluating assessment data to institute changes for the College Prep areas of English, Reading and Study Skills . . . (She) has invested time and effort to better understand the assessment process and how it can be used to improve student learning."

Carpenter, Professor of Computer Science and an instructional designer, began working at the college in 1995 and holds a Master's Degree from the University of Illinois. She also serves on the RLC Institutional Assessment Committee.

Colleagues said of Carpenter, "Her dedication to improving assessment at Rend Lake College is evident . . . Shari has played an instrumental role in the development of two campus-wide assessment documentation reports . . . A campus-wide effort for more consistent assessment documentation has resulted. Based on assessment results, Shari was able to clearly identify needed improvements not only to (CSCI 1263) course material, but also to the assessment tool."

This was the second year of the Assessment Recognition Award at RLC. It is awarded to faculty members who display a high quality of assessing and documenting student progress from the first day of class to the final exam.

The award also recognizes an individual's commitment to the use of data to improve programs, enhance student learning and development, inform institutional decision-making, planning, budgeting and policy, as well as provide evidence of congruence between the mission, purpose, objectives and outcomes of Rend Lake College programs and activities.

A recipient of this award is given \$500 from the college, along with a plaque. The nominating process begins in March through the Vice President of Academic Instruction.

[Developmental Math Associate Professor Kay Shaw was presented the first Assessment Recognition Award in 2010. The fourth recipient was Dr. Elizabeth Bailey-Smith, Speech Associate Professor, in 2013.]



What you need to know about Charles Dickens ...

APRIL 1998

Isn't it amazing what you can learn about someone the last few days/weeks you work with them that was information you were not privy to for years and years?

Thanks to last week's going away reception for four retirees and personal insights from some of their closest friends on-campus, we now know this about Electronics Professor Charles Dickens . . .

Dickens has always taught a lot of night classes for the college, explained Industrial Technology Department Chair William Dill. "I never figured out why Charlie enjoyed night classes so much; he taught three and four nights a week some semesters."

It was not until Dickens' wife, Joan, explained to Dill the Dickens had nine daughters between them that Dill realized his colleague's plight.

"He got so desperate, he would adopt (male) animals just so he would have companionship around the house." But even that backfired with a pet cat, "Mikey," who Dickens barely tolerates.

Dill told "how long Charlie has been involved with electronics," starting with cathode tubes in the mid '50s. Dickens worked in the audiovisual area for Southern Illinois University before spending 12 years in the Missouri school system. He is retiring after 19 years at Rend Lake College and moving out West.

MIKE MULLEN completes four years serving on the Illinois Board of Higher Education Faculty Advisory Committee - April 2003

Dr. SHARON BEASLEY and SAUNDRA LIPE collaborate on an innovative textbook, *Critical Thinking in Nursing: A Cognitive Skills Workbook* - January 2004

REBECCA BIGGS first from RLC to teach at Canterbury Christ Church U. College in International Studies program - January-April 2005

GREG HOLLMANN asked to Co-Chair 12-member Recycling Task Force appointed by Mt. Vernon Mayor to reduce waste consumption - January 2007

2002 - 2003

2003 - 2004

2004 - 2005

2005 - 2006

2006 - 2007



Art Professor Howard turns into Theatre star

RLC NEWS RELEASE NOVEMBER 2003
Rend Lake College Associate Art Professor Therese Howard has jumped on her students' bandwagon. As many of them near graduation in the spring, so does she.

Howard should graduate from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale with a Master of Fine Arts Degree in Set Design. Her first Master's Degree was in Community College Education, also from SIUC.

Howard's graduation requirements included working on her thesis show, "The Lady From the Sea," which opened the first week of December at SIUC's McLeod Theater.

Howard said RLC is trying to expand its existing theater program. Currently, students are either in plays or helping out backstage. However, Howard said she hopes to see new courses develop which will allow students to learn how to get a production started.

"There are a lot of processes students don't always know about," she said. Howard has worked with many of RLC's plays in recent years, designing and painting several sets.

Howard hopes she and Theater Instructor Tracey Webb will be able to co-teach new theater classes, such as Theater Tech. "The reason for these new classes would be to teach students this labor. There is more to theater than just acting," said Howard.

Webb said Howard has been a great help with her productions by designing sets and painting. Adding new classes will allow students "to get hands-on experience by working on the set. The future is looking bright."

Howard also was responsible for conducting all the research for "The Lady From the Sea."

BROUWER LOVES WHAT HE DOES Convert insists: History is powerful, meaningful, prophetic (and our future?)

REND LAKE COLLEGE CLOCKTOWER CHRONICLE
NOVEMBER 29, 2012

Nathan Brouwer moved to the area to attend Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. He said he chose SIUC to be close to family and for its Zoology program, as well as for the proximity to the Shawnee National Forest and the great rock climbing, hiking, fishing and other activities offered there.

"My family and I fell in love with the area, and needless to say we haven't left," said Brouwer.

CC: Why did you choose history?

NB: Looking back, I always loved history because both of my parents really liked it and taught me a lot about it. However, I was taught the type of history in school that was all about memorizing names and dates and it really had no coherent meaning or purpose other than to put people to sleep. Then, at SIU I had to take another history course in order to fulfill one of my requirements and it changed my life. I realized history is powerful, meaningful, prophetic and that everyone has a different perspective and interpretation of history and that, while there are certainly wrong interpretations of history, there is no single "right" interpretation.

After that, I was hooked and the rest is history. I also love – and always have loved – researching things. I feel at home in dusty research libraries, whereas most other people avoid them like the plague. Growing up, I always wanted to know WHY everything was the way it was. I'm sure my parents loved the incessant questioning that came along with that.

CC: Why did you choose to teach? And what do you like about teaching?

NB: I chose to teach because I think history gets a bad name because of the way most of us were taught it when we were growing up. If history is taught solely as the memorization of names and dates, as it often is, the importance of history is almost completely erased. I really do think history has a lot to tell us and I wanted to play a role in conveying that to students.

In addition, history has the capability to change one's whole outlook on the world around them and it gives them the power to change the negative aspects of it. And,

of course, getting to spend your days at work watching students experience and digest history, not just as names and dates, but as a living historical process is pretty amazing. I get to watch their perception of history change, which is a very rewarding experience. I am also captivated by the fact there is endless knowledge out there and I love the whole idea/process of education.

Education is our future and I wanted to have a job in which I felt like I was making a difference and contributing to the positive aspects in the world. Watching people, including myself, work to make themselves better people and to give themselves meaning an identity is priceless and what better place to do that than in the classroom?

CC: How can you relate history to what is going on today and what will happen in the future?

NB: History doesn't only relate to today, it has molded today. It is today. We are the sum of our history. Every single aspect of every single person's life is dictated either by our own history and/or the histories of those that lived before us. History, by nature, holds almost all the answers; it is just a matter of sorting through and finding them.

Ultimately, though, it boils down to whether or not we decide to listen to history. Unfortunately, it seems we have done a little too much ignoring. It always seems the people alive at that particular moment in time think they are special, somehow exempt from the current of history. This tendency would almost be funny, except it is not really a laughing matter given that it is a quite destructive mind set.

I do know for sure, though, if everyone thoroughly understood history we would have had a much better past, would be having a much better present and would have a much better future in store for us.

CC: What you do when you are not teaching?

NB: My favorite thing to do is spend time with my wife and daughter, whether that is watching my daughter play the drums, sing, act in a musical/play or just going on a long hike with them. I am so fortunate to have an awesome family! Other than that, I love hanging out with friends and rock climbing, hiking, fishing, canoeing, swimming; pretty much anything in nature. I know this will be shocking coming from a historian, but I also love to read; in fact, we rarely have the TV on in our house. My daughter and I also enjoy writing together.

CC: What you would be doing if you did not teach?

NB: I'd like to think that I would be a professional rock climber or bass fisherman. However, before I was bitten by the history bug all signs were pointing towards being a biologist of some sort, which would have also been fun!

CC: What advice do you have for students?

NB: Don't let anyone else tell you what to do with YOUR life. Be positive and don't surround yourself with negative and cynical people; they will suck the life out of you. Be enthusiastic. Contribute to making the world a better place. Most importantly, find your calling! DO WHAT YOU LOVE. ~ Fernando Jacinto

'MONUMENTS AND MEMORIES' ♦ Williams documents decline of mining in Southern Illinois with photo exhibit

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE APRIL 2004

Coal mining runs in the family of Larry Williams. In fact, he was born in the Miner's Hospital in Christopher. Combining this with an interest in photography, Williams has created a stark reminder of the slow decline of the coal mining industry locally.

"Monuments and Memories: The Legacy of the Coal Industry in Southern Illinois" is a photographic exhibit assembled by Williams and will remain on display in the Learning Resource Center at Rend Lake College through Tuesday, May 11.

Williams, a Professor of Anatomy and Physiology as well as Microbiology at Rend Lake College, became interested in photography after staying late and taking a night course.

There are 18 pictures in his exhibition, and they depict the remains of what was once a powerful force in this region. Enormous slag piles, dilapidated processing stations and a boarded-up union hall are recorded in sepia-toned photographs. Also represented are a miners' cemetery, a monument in Zeigler portraying a miner wielding

a pickaxe and a grid of stone mine pilings bearing an eerie resemblance to tombstones in a cemetery.

Williams said the entire project took about 18 months to complete. He said he was unable to count the number of miles he drove and the rolls of film he used. He had the negatives processed locally, then used the RLC darkroom to develop the photographs himself.

"I'm really happy with the way it turned out," Williams said of the exhibit. Both of his grandfathers were coal miners. His father, Joe Williams, worked as a miner, mine manager and state mine inspector, and his brother, Jon Williams, was a miner and a face boss.

Larry Williams helped pay his way through college by working summers at Consolidation Coal Burning Star No. 2 Mine.

Coal mining has been an industry in Southern Illinois for about 100 years, according to Williams, but the number of working mines and coal miners has declined dramatically in the past few decades. Throughout Southern Illinois are monuments to this vanishing trade, such as abandoned coal tipples and mine buildings, deserted United Mine Workers of America halls and slag piles.

"All of these are stark monuments to the memory of an age that is rapidly vanishing," Williams said. "They evoke memories of the men and women who worked in the mines . . . memories of the social and cultural clubs and organizations and of the good and hard times in the mines."

Part of Williams' exhibit deals with the remnants of what was once one of the biggest mines in the world. In 1904, the digging of the first mine shaft in Franklin County was begun. Joseph Leiter, a wealthy Chicago industrialist, began building the Zeigler No. 1 Mine and also began construction of the present city of Zeigler (which was the middle name of his father), according to Williams' research.

The center of town resembled a circle, with streets running from it like the spokes



Culinary Arts team No. 1 with St. Patty's Irish Stew

R.L.C. NEWS RELEASE MARCH 20, 2007

Whether it was Brian Kalata's beer Buddha lucky charm or the combined 40 years of culinary experience of Kalata and fellow Chef Loughton Smith, a team from Rend Lake College took first-place in the Irish Stew Cook-Off Saturday in Murphysboro.

The team's lamb-based stew left a lasting impression with taste-testers throughout the celebration and grabbed top honors among the 10 entries. (More than likely, credit the savory flavor of the stew itself for the win . . . quite an accomplishment for a rookie team in a 22-year-old competition.)

The winning "Kinkead's Kilt Lifters" (after the maiden name of Kalata's mother) consisted of the RLC Instructors and students Jeff Fairbanks and Susan McKinley, all of whom boast Irish bloodlines. They received medals and cash.

Both Chefs started young . . . Kalata as a 13-year-old bus-boy in his family's small Italian restaurant in New York City, and Smith, washing dishes at 15 in a Pennsylvania dinner theater. However, their decades of work did not prepare them for the St. Patty's Day conditions - 11 hours cooking stew in near-freezing temperatures wearing kilts.

The team also raised enough money to purchase a pediatric pulse oximeter for the E.R. at St. Joseph's Hospital in Murphysboro, thanks to a match by the RLC Culinary Arts Club. An all-student team from RLC placed fourth.

TERRY and JULIE WILKERSON one of 10 families in running for John Deere-sponsored Outstanding Young Farmers Award at 53rd Annual Awards Congress of the Outstanding Farmers of America Fraternity in Oregon; they operate 1,137-acre grain farm - February 2009

FACULTY TIMELINE

● **KIM ROBERT** recipient of "Outstanding Grass-Roots Advocacy" Award presented by American Society of Radiologic Technicians - June 2008

● **PEGGY DAVIS** second in statewide Gwendolyn Brooks Poetry Contest; teaches 13 weeks in International Study Abroad program in London - Nov. '08 / Sept. '09

● **MICHAEL TICK**, former Speech Instructor, named U. of Kentucky's College of Fine Arts Dean - May 2010

● **DIANE METZGER** one of four C.C. Instructors chosen to serve on ICCB Career and Academic Readiness System (CARS) Math Expansion Team - November 2011

2007 - 2008

2008 - 2009

2009 - 2010

2010 - 2011

2011 - 2012



**Rebecca Pettitt or Pettit?
Did anyone bother to ask?**

Former RLC Physical Education Instructor Becky Pettitt deserved better. And we are not even referring to the fact she is one of a dozen or fewer instructors to lose a job due to a reduction in force (RIF). That is a story in itself.

Consider during her tenure at Mt. Vernon C.C. and Rend Lake College – 1960-74 – she lived with the fact she was Rebecca Ann Pettitt about half the time, Rebecca Ann Pettit the other half. Not to mention Miss Pettit on a few occasions.

For example:

Under Faculty listings in Commencement programs, she was Pettit from 1961-63 and Pettitt from 1968-74 (those in-between not available).

In the 1966 Pyramid, the MVCC yearbook, she is Pettit. Along came Tarn, the official yearbook of RLC, and she was Pettitt in 1967-68 but Pettit in '68-69 and '69-70.

Take your pick in the 1970-71 Tarn . . . On Page 34, she was listed with other P.E. teachers as Rebecca Pettitt; advance to Page 57, and the Cheerleader Sponsor is Miss Pettit; two pages later, she is back to Miss Pettitt. Variety followed the next two yearbooks, when she became Miss Rebecca Pettit. By the '73-74 Tarn, she was back to being Miss Pettitt.

In official Catalogs, she was Pettit for two academic years, '68-70, and Pettitt from '70-74. The RIF process and ensuing litigation did not make it any better . . . She went from Pettit in March Board minutes to Pettitt in April. Student petitions signed by 241 supported Pettit; administrative letters with the recommendation were mixed. Finally, the Settlement Agreement in August 1983 was consistent . . . Pettitt throughout.

of a wheel. The company's office building was in the center of the circle. Leiter also built a school, a small hospital and company homes for the miners and their families. Once the mines were worked out and abandoned, the city erected a monument in memory of the miners where the company office building once stood, according to Williams.

Another photograph in Williams' display involves John L. Lewis, who was UMWA President from 1920 to 1960. A giant among American leaders in the first half of the 20th Century, Lewis regularly advised Presidents and challenged the country's corporate leaders. His greatest legacy may have been the creation of the UMWA Welfare and Retirement Fund in a contract with the federal government, according to Williams. This fund provided miners and their families with medical care such as hospitalization, death benefits and treatment options for the disabled.

Lewis also led the campaign for the first Federal Mine Safety Act in 1952. He sent hundreds of UMWA organizers to help establish some of the nation's leading labor unions, including the United Steel Workers of America, the United Auto Workers and the Communications Workers of America.

In the 1940s, the UMWA had about 500,000 members. By the 1990s, membership had declined to 200,000, Williams said.

The public is invited to see the display. Hours at the Learning Resource Center are 7:45 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 7:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fridays and 8 a.m.-noon Saturdays.

**SUSTAINABILITY PROFESSIONAL ►
Illinois Green Economy Network's
April newsletter features Hollmann**

REND LAKE COLLEGE CLOCKTOWER CHRONICLE MAY 2, 2013

The summary of an interview with RLC Associate Professor Greg Hollmann was a key feature in the Illinois Green Economy Network's April newsletter. Here is the IGEN "Sustainability Professional Highlight" below . . .

Greg Hollmann is an Assistant Professor at Rend Lake College who helped form RLC's Greening the Campus Committee in 2007, which really moved forward quickly with IGEN funding assistance and education. Greg has acted as RLC's Sustainability Professional for the past two years; he shared answers to the following questions about greening RLC.

. In your experience as a sustainability professional, what has been the biggest challenge?

Effective delegation is always a challenge Greg has succeeded in engaging others across the campus, but sharing responsibilities and/or effectively delegating has consistently been a challenge. It is sometimes tough to get others to take ownership of the sustainability program. Sharing timely, pertinent information is one key to involving others.

. In your time as a sustainability professional, what has been RLC's greatest success?

Definitely GYC, or Greening Your Curriculum. Greg took the time and effort to create a 2-credit Continuing Education course for faculty professional development, which was approved through both the RLC Curriculum Committee and the Illinois Community College Board. GYC 1101 has been well received since its establishment and this acceptance has helped to disseminate sustainability concepts to departments across campus.

. How have you overcome the challenge of having no paid, full-time sustainability professional on RLC's staff?

RLC has an engaged, helpful Greening the Campus Committee. Greg also was very fortunate to have a stellar student worker last year who contributed extra care and hard work. Greg finds that when he takes the time to teach and explain his passion for sustainability to others, his own perspective and commitment are renewed.

RLC has recently identified a young professional in the Registrar's Office whose Director is willing to allow him to dedicate the required time to become the new IGEN liaison for RLC. The work of the Registrar's Office is somewhat seasonal and the Director sees value in RLC's sustainability program and relationship with IGEN. Greg expects that with the new sustainability professional's help, RLC will be able to take sustainability implementation to the next level.

. Do you have suggestions for successfully engaging students in sustainability programs?

Greg finds taking sustainability programs to students in the classroom is the most successful form of engagement. Hands-on activities for sustainability concepts are popular, such as Greg's wind turbine demonstration, the Energy Bike and Kill A Watt

meters, which students are allowed to borrow to gauge their home energy use.

He finds the student newspaper on campus is a great way to spread the word and get students to events. Engaging students in friendly competitions like their Sustainable Art Fair is another way to spark interest. A recent series of poster contests for Graphic Design students was popular. The poster designs will be on display during Earth Week and students will vote for their favorite, which will then be used to promote the program. Students are also involved in designing signage for the campus recycling program; all fun, hands-on projects.

. What are your future plans for the RLC Sustainability Program?

Rend Lake College will continue its annual events such as the Sustainable Art Fair and Community Electronics Collection Day. The next focus is increasing student engagement, including the formation of a Student Sustainability Club, possibly in conjunction with the existing student Outdoor Club, which has similar interests.

Greg will continue to serve as the Greening the Campus Coordinator and Tyson Ellis will soon be confirmed as the new IGEN liaison and sustainability contact. Ellis will handle coordinating with off-campus groups and Greg will coordinate on-campus.

. Do you have sustainability program suggestions for other colleges to consider?

Greg feels the very best thing about being involved with IGEN is the opportunity to learn about what other Illinois community colleges have done with sustainability initiatives. Sometimes RLC can replicate others' ideas and sometimes not, but it is always inspiring to hear what others are doing. Greg encourages all community college supporters of sustainability to keep in contact with each other and take advantage of the resources IGEN offer; the network has made his job easier.

STATEWIDE ASSOCIATION ▶ Former President Kevin Weston named Drafting Educators 'Teacher of Year'

REND LAKE COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE NOVEMBER 4, 2015

Rend Lake College Architectural Technology Professor Kevin Weston has been named the R. Tim Phillip "Teacher of the Year" for 2015 by the Illinois Drafting Educators Association. The announcement was made at the IDEA Annual Conference October 15 at Illinois State University.

Though Weston was not in attendance to hear the announcement first-hand – a rarity for the former-President of the organization – he did receive a visit last week from Brian Rick, IDEA Vice President and RLC alum. Weston was hosting the Illinois Board of Higher Education Faculty Advisory Committee meeting on the RLC campus the day after the annual conference.

Weston is a 24-year veteran of teaching RLC's Architectural Technology program with his hands in many other professional and collegiate activities. In addition to being an active member of the IDEA and the Faculty Advisory Committee, Weston has helped create the annual Illinois SkillsUSA Architecture and Drafting competition and has served as a contest supervisor for the last 10 years. He also has been the Regional Director for the IDEA Annual Drafting and Design Competition, hosted every spring by Rend Lake College. He was elected IDEA President in 2012.

When asked about the award and his heavy involvement both at RLC and in the professional realm, the 2012 recipient of the RLC Foundation "Faculty Excellence Award" said, "You've got to be involved if you're going to change anything, and to keep up with the changes and your colleagues."

Rick works with local Career and Technical Education programs through the Franklin and Williamson County Regional Office of Education.



Music Faculty members featured in free recitals

NEWS RELEASE OCTOBER 3, 2011

Admission is free to upcoming voice and instrument recitals featuring Rend Lake College Music faculty members. The recitals are at 1 p.m. Wednesday, October 12, and 7 p.m. Thursday, October 13, in the RLC Theatre.

Performances will include:

- Eric McCluskey (baritone), "Mamma, Mamma," from The Most Happy Fella and "Ol' Man River," from Showboat.
- Matt Clark (guitar), "Terminus."
- Joe Palermo (guitar), "Chorus No. 1," by Heitor Villa-Lobos and "Theme and Variations on Folias de Espagna," by Mauro Guilliani.
- Amber Williamson (flute and piccolo), "Zoomtube," by Ian Clarke and "Wake Up!" by Tilmann Dehnhard.
- Andrew Hannon (string bass), "Flight of the Lotus-eater," by Hannon.
- Tiffany Kesler (soprano), "The Girl in 14G," by Jeanine Tesori and Dick Scanlan and "Taylor, the Latte Boy," by Zina Goldrich and Marcy Heisler.
- Sara Alstat and Tiffany Kesler (sopranos), "What is this Feeling," from Wicked.

JIM KING, Mining Technology Instructor, recognized posthumously with "Outstanding Part-Time Faculty" Award - May 2013

DAVE ELLINGSWORTH, retired RLC Mining Tech Instructor and "Firebird 93" Gunship Pilot in Viet Nam, gets 800th coaching win in 22 RLC Softball seasons. - Spring 2015

KEVIN WESTON named recipient of the R. Tim Phillip "Teacher of the Year" Award by the Illinois Drafting Educators Association. - October 2015

FACULTY TIMELINE

2012 - 2013

2013 - 2014

2014 - 2015

2015 - 2016

2016 - 2017

REND LAKE COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

Faculty Accomplishments / Milestones Year-by-Year

1966-67

■ WAYNE ARNOLD

The Health/Physical Education Instructor has been elected Secretary of the Faculty Division of the Illinois Association of Community and Junior Colleges. He was elected May 5 during the IACJC Annual Meeting in Belleville.

Arnold has taught P.E. and Hygiene at the junior college level for four years.

Also attending the meeting were Dr. Howard Rawlinson, Dean; Dr. Curt Parker, President of the new area college Board of Education; Holland Simmons, Carleton Apple and Forrest Stewart, members of the new board; Betty Ann Ward, faculty member, and four students – Mike Aaron, Connie Bancroft, Kay Fowler and Linda Presley.

The IACJC is a new statewide organization of junior colleges made up of students, faculty, administrators and board members. About 400 delegates from throughout the state attended. / May '67

1967-68

■ SABBATICAL LEAVE

A sabbatical leave was granted to Science Instructor Eugene Estes for the second half of the 1967-68 academic year. / Spring '68

■ TENURE

Tenure granted to William Younghusband (Business/Accounting). / May '68

1969-70

■ JIM WAUGH

Dr. James Snyder stated James Waugh is eligible this year for tenure. Waugh has been employed by the college four years [Mt. Vernon Community College during 1966-67] and will enter his fifth year of teaching in Fall 1970. Dr. Howard Rawlinson endorsed a recommendation to grant tenure to Waugh and Snyder stated he concurs and recommends the appointment to tenure. All voted yes. / May '70

■ TENURE, TOO

Also granted tenure to Georgine Monk-en Hawley (English). / May '70

■ GLENN L. DARE

History Instructor becomes the first faculty member to retire from Rend Lake College. / Spring '70

■ Dr. RICHARD DOHERTY

The Social Science Instructor who just completed his fourth year at RLC can add a "Doctor" shingle outside his office after receiving a Ph.D. in Social Science Education from Ball State University. / Spring '70

1970-71

■ Dr. EVELYN CLAXTON

The first-year RLC English Instructor received honors for her doctoral dissertation on "The Novels of Thornton Wilder," a critical, in-depth study and discussion of the main themes from six of his finest works. / January '71

■ WAYNE ARNOLD MAX BRANDON

Dr. BARBARA LUCHSINGER

Three Rend Lake College faculty members decided to run for local school boards during Spring 1971 elections.

- Health and Physical Education Instructor Wayne Arnold was elected to the Mt. Vernon Township High School Board of Education.

- Social Science Instructor Max Brandon ran for the District 80 Grade School Board in Mt. Vernon.

- Dr. Barbara Luchsinger, a lifelong resident of Jefferson County, was bidding to become the first female to serve on the Rome Consolidated School District Board of Education. / Spring '71

■ HALF-DOZEN EARN TENURE

Six individuals were granted tenure: Carolann DeSelms (French Language), Eleanor Hall (Sociology), Mark S. Kern (Agriculture), Julien Levesque (Mathematics), Shirley McHaney (Nursing) and Carroll Turner (Agriculture). / April '71

■ WILLIAM HAZELBAUER

After a seven-year absence, the RLC Music Instructor returned to the stage as a member of the operatic cast for "Dei Fledermaus (The Bat)," a mixed-up tale of romantic comedy in operetta form, by Johann Strauss.

Hazelbauer played the part of Alfred, a vagabond tenor, in the Southern Illinois University-Carbondale College of Communications and Fine Arts production.

He previously has been a soloist with the Portland (OR) Jr. Symphony. / Spring '71

1971-72

■ VOCATIONAL ASSN. CONVENTION

Four individuals from Rend Lake College attended the 43rd Annual Illinois Vocational Association Convention March 9-11 at the Pere Marquette Hotel in Peoria.

Instructors Imogene Kolkhorst and June Thompson both played key roles in presentations. Secretarial Science Instructor Kolkhorst hosted a session on "Emerging Programs in Community and Junior College Business Education." Thompson was hostess for a program focusing on "Developments in Health Occupations."

Also participating were Vocational-Technical Education Dean Ardell Kimmel and Mary Ksycki, School of Practical Nursing Department Chair. / March '72

■ R.I.F. Dr. JANET McREYNOLDS

Trustees approved a Reduction In Force (RIF) by one full-time staff member – Philosophy-English Instructor Dr. Janet McReynolds. / March '72

■ TENURE

Tenure awarded to Julius Swayne (Zoology). / June '72

1972-73

■ R.L.C. STAFF VISITS U. of I.

Several members of the RLC faculty visited the PLATO Computer-Based Instruction Laboratory at the University of Illinois for a demonstration of the system and a discussion with professors and programmers involved with the system. Dean of Instruction Dr. Phil Ward, Dean of Student Services Jim Yates, Learning Resource Director David Patton and Counselor Charles von Schlutter were joined by Instructors Floyd Dressel, Myron Foley, Ed Kownacki and Larry Phifer. The purpose was to explore possible uses of computer-assisted instruction at Rend Lake College and to discuss the feasibility of obtaining terminals for RLC.

■ WILLIAM T. BRAMMEIER ELEANOR HALL

English Instructor (Brammeier) and Anthropology/Sociology Instructor (Hall) both received summer stipend grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The purpose is to enable junior college teachers to undertake studies that will increase their understanding of the subjects they teach and improve their teaching. The fact grants were awarded to two instructors from the same institution "is exemplary of the fine faculty at Rend Lake College," noted President James Snyder.

Hall will use her \$2,000 grant for an archeological study of the prehistoric Indian cultures of Southern Illinois, including the processing, classifying and cataloguing of artifacts found at the Rend Lake College archeological dig and to draw up a report for the Illinois Archeological Survey.

She also will enroll in two classes at SIU – Prehistory of the Southern Illinois Area and Archeological Techniques – and visit/work on archeology dig sites in the Cahokia and Kampsville areas.

Brammeier will attend SIU to study in the field of semantics and the history

of the English language, as well as the ancient Germanic peoples from which modern English eventually derived.

Brammeier has become increasingly interested in this area of communications since working on a language sensitivity session for a class he is taking. / March '73

■ **Dr. EUGENE ESTES**
ELEANOR HALL

The RLC Science Instructor (Estes) and Anthropology/Sociology Instructor (Hall) were named as "Outstanding Community College Instructors in the United States."

■ **QUARTET QUALIFIES FOR TENURE**

Tenure, effective with the start of Fall Semester, was granted to Thomas Burke (English), Cheryl Foley (Speech/Theatre), Myron Foley (Business/Economics) and Lois Mackey (Reading Lab). / May '73

■ **LARRY PHIFER**

The RLC Music Instructor has been elected to a three-year term as State Vice President of Higher Education for the Illinois Music Educators Association. Other Vice Presidents represent Band, Orchestra, Choral and Elementary Music. / Spring '73

1973-74

■ **Dr. EUGENE ESTES**

RLC Science Instructor served as the Midwestern Field Consultant for the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research at the University of Arizona. Dendrochronology – the study of tree rings – was the subject of the doctoral dissertation by Dr. Estes, who has taken more than 2,000 tree-ring records from living trees in the Midwest. His search is ongoing; the oldest ring record Dr. Estes has obtained to date from living trees in the Midwest is from a Southern Illinois White Oak which is more than 300 years old. / Summer '73

■ **IMOGENE KOLKHORST**

Vocational educators from throughout the state met August 15-18 at the Palmer House in Chicago for the 44th Illinois Vocational Association Convention. The RLC Secretarial Science Instructor chaired the reaction session which followed the opening address, entitled "What's Ahead for Business Education," by Dr. Ralph E. Mason of Indiana State University. Other highlights included visits to McDonald's executive offices in Oak Park and to the First National Bank in Chicago Training Center, in addition to a seminar featuring personnel directors from manufacturing, retail and service organizations. / August '73

■ **Dr. JULIUS SWAYNE**

The Zoology Instructor received his doctorate from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale through its interdisciplinary program, which includes Zoology,

Botany, Geology and Outdoor Recreation. His thesis: "Paleocology of Southern Illinois and Pleistocene Glaciation Effect as Indicated by Modern Distribution of Disjunct Species, French's Shooting Star and Cane."

Swayne indicated RLC students were helpful in finding specimens of cane for his research. / October '73

■ **Dr. EVELYN CLAXTON**

RLC English and Journalism Instructor was one of the featured speakers at the 66th Annual Fall Conference of the Illinois Association of Teachers of English, held November 9-10 at the Peoria Hilton. Dr. Claxton led two morning workshops on Psycho-Linguistics, providing insights into the nature of language learning this new discipline has made available to English teachers. / November '73

■ **TRIO TENURED**

Three RLC Instructors qualified for and received tenure (effective with the start of Fall classes) – Imogene Kolkhorst (Secretarial Science), David Scott (Agriculture) and Leavell Swink (Agriculture). / March '74

■ **Dr. EUGENE ESTES**

The RLC Science Instructor was granted a one-week leave of absence to participate April 15-26 in the International Workshop on Dendroclimatology in Tucson, AZ . . . an honor for Estes and the college. / April '74

1974-75

■ **PART-TIME INSTRUCTOR RATE**

Trustees approved an increase in the pay rate for part-time instructors to \$11 per contact hour. / July '74

■ **SIX INSTRUCTORS TENURED**

Tenure, after five years on the scene, was granted to Instructors Vince Cain (History), Dr. Evelyn Claxton (English), Dr. Richard Doherty (Social Science), Larry Phifer (Music) and Shirley Yeargin (Nursing). Floyd Dressel (German / Spanish) automatically received tenure upon completion of his fifth year. / March '75

■ **Dr. RICHARD DOHERTY**

Social Science Instructor recently attended a workshop conference in Springfield entitled, "The Bicentennial in Illinois," sponsored by the Illinois Bicentennial Commission. Doherty is in charge of planning for a Bicentennial Celebration at Rend Lake College Fall 1975. / May '75

■ **RETIREMENT FOR FACULTY MEMBERS**

According to the President's Report, 1974-75, "Three veteran instructors retired in 1975 after leaving their marks on countless students and on their colleagues at Rend Lake College. Reading Instructor Lois Mackey, Automotive Mechanics

Instructor Robert McKemie and Social Science Instructor Arthur Samford ended their careers during the year." / May '75

1975-76

■ **Dr. EUGENE ESTES**

The Science Instructor will represent Rend Lake College as a member of the North Central Association Evaluation Team that will be visiting Eastern Arizona Jr. College February 9-11. The two-year Arizona college offers both baccalaureate and vocational programs. / February '76

■ **TENURE**

Richard Heaton (Physics / Physical Science) and Janet Ray (Nursing). / March '76

■ **WAYNE ARNOLD**

The Rend Lake College Health Education and Physical Education Instructor was elected President of the Mt. Vernon Township High School Board of Education. / April '76

1976-77

■ **SANDRA VANCLEVE**

Sandra VanCleve, RLC instructor, has had an article published in the October issue of *Nursing '76*.

VanCleve, a graduate of Union Hospital School of Nursing in Terre Haute, IN, holds a B.A. Degree from Eastern Illinois University.

The article, directed to nurses caring for cancer patients, speaks of VanCleve's fears of contacting cancer due to a chronic disease she has. Because of her own high-risk possibilities of contacting the disease, VanCleve feels she communicates especially well with cancer patients.

She says her empathy with cancer-afflicted persons enables her to care for them more sympathetically and communicate with them on a highly personal level.

/ Pressing Times by Theresa Piper • November '76

■ **Dr. EVELYN CLAXTON**

English/Journalism Instructor chosen to serve as one of five members on the Awards Selection Committee by the National Council of College Publications, which is comprised of two- and four-year advisors. Each year the NCCPA gives Distinguished Advisor Awards in several categories. Dr. Claxton was awarded a Distinguished Advisor Award in 1973 in the category of Two-Year College Newspapers. / Winter '76

■ **WAYNE ARNOLD**

The RLC Health, Physical Education and Recreation Instructor was serving as Mt. Vernon Township High School Board of Education President March 21, 1977, when the school accepted the architect's conception of the new Career Education Building as presented by Mike Atkinson,

State Capital Development Board Project Manager. It (Building H) is expected to be completed by April 1, 1978. / March '77

■ **JIM MCGHEE**

Art/Engineering Instructor was responsible for designing the cover on the Jefferson County History Book. The winning entry depicted a montage representing the freight car industry, coal mining, the Appellate Courthouse, agriculture and Mitchell Museum in a gold embossment on a hard cover. / May '77

■ **Dr. JULIUS SWAYNE**

RLC Science Instructor selected as a participant in a science workshop held at the University of Illinois May 23-24. It was part of a year-long study involving several science experts in the areas of rare and endangered plants and animals in Illinois conducted by the Natural Land Institute in conjunction with the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory. Dr. Swayne has spent 25 years studying rare species of plants in Southern Illinois. He is widely considered one of the leading authorities in the state on the subject of plant and animal distribution in the area.

Funded by a grant from the Joyce Foundation of Chicago, the workshop study is a detailed collection of data re: the status of 143 animals and 530 plants considered rare and endangered in Illinois. / May '77

1977-78

■ **Dr. EVELYN CLAXTON**

English Instructor elected Vice President of the Illinois Community College Journalism Association. Dr. Claxton has served as RLC's student newspaper advisor for seven years. / July '77

■ **Dr. EUGENE ESTES**

The RLC Instructor received a \$100 research award from the Illinois State Academy of Science to work on a nature study in the Posen Woods Nature Preserve, five miles south of Nashville, IL.

The proposal is based on the study of tree rings in order to determine past climatic conditions of the area, and to help in the management plan of the Washington County natural preserve. The Posen Woods area has been left undisturbed by society. / September '77

■ **NO VOTE RE: BARGAINING AGENT**

At the September 20 Board Meeting, a request was made by the RLC Federation of Teachers Local No. 3708, represented by David Scott, to approve the group as sole bargaining agent for the faculty. Trustees took the motion under advisement but did not take a vote. / September '77

■ **GARY TUCKER**

The second-year Law Enforcement

Instructor has been elected President of the Illinois Association of Criminal Justice Educators, formerly known as the Illinois Law Enforcement Education Association. The purpose of the association is to upgrade education in the criminal justice area, articulate and place students throughout the state, provide opportunity for members to exchange ideas and discuss programs, as well as to work with the criminal justice community to upgrade the entire criminal justice system. / October '77

■ **Dr. RICHARD DOHERTY**

History Instructor appeared as one of the guest speakers at the 10th Annual Conference of the Illinois Social Science Association conducted October 20 at Joliet Junior College.

That spring, he became the first representative of a Southern Illinois school to be selected to the Board of Directors for the organization comprised of History and Social Science teachers in the universities and colleges of Illinois. / October '77 - Spring '78

■ **TENURE**

Due to an oversight, tenure was not granted to Architectural Technology Instructor Fred Bruno until his sixth year at the college. / November '77

■ **TENURE**

Awarded tenure to Sandra VanCleve (Nursing). / March '78

■ **RICHARD HEATON**

Science Instructor attended the annual Spring Conference of the National Science Foundation in Kansas City, MO. While there, he completed a graduate course seminar taught by Dr. Walter Pitman III, an Instructor at Columbia University in New York. The topic: "Geophysics of Plate Tectonics." / Spring '78

1978-79

■ **SUSAN KOLOJESKI**

RLC Art Instructor one of two Southern Illinois nominees for the Governor's Award for the Arts in Illinois. / August '78

■ **GARY TUCKER**

Law Enforcement Instructor elected First Vice President of the Midwestern Association of Criminal Justice Educators, meaning Tucker will assume the presidency of MACJE in 1980. The annual membership meeting was held in Omaha, NE. The organization is composed of law enforcement instructors in colleges, universities and community colleges from 11 Midwestern states. / December '78

■ **E. JUDSON DEWITT**

RLC Psychology Instructor has been selected to be included in the first international edition of *Who's Who in Education*,

scheduled for publication in early 1979. This reference work will be housed in leading public and university libraries of many countries.

DeWitt has been on the RLC faculty since its inception and is completing his 29th year in the teaching profession. Prior to his return to Mt. Vernon, he served as a Psychologist for the American Schools in Germany. / December '78

■ **GARY TUCKER
ED HEISCHMIDT**

The RLC Law Enforcement program was well-represented at the Illinois Association of Criminal Justice Educators held recently in Springfield. Heischmidt was elected Vice President of the statewide organization. Tucker was presented a plaque in recognition of his outstanding leadership the past year as President; he was cited for doubling the group's membership, as well as for providing Illinois input into the National Association of Criminal Justice Educators.

Tucker also was appointed First Vice President for the Midwestern Association of Criminal Justice Educators. / December '78

■ **MYRON FOLEY
Dr. WILLIAM HUDSON**

Two RLC Department Chairs - Foley, who heads Business, Math and Social Science, and Hudson, who oversees Ag, Architecture and Automotive - were recognized at the December Board meeting for their recent involvement on the evaluation team at Belleville Area College. / December '78

■ **WAYNE ARNOLD
JIM WAUGH**

At the December RLC Board of Trustees meeting, President Harry Braun "read a letter from Mr. Richard Haney, Assistant Superintendent of the Illinois Office of Education, thanking Jim Waugh, Wayne Arnold and Russ Eglemann for their excellent cooperation in presenting the Basketball Conference for Women Coaches at Rend Lake College." / December '78

■ **TENURE**

Virginia Fleri (Cosmetology), Susan Kolojeski (Art) and Karen Muench (Nursing) will become tenured faculty members at the start of Fall Semester. / February '79

■ **Dr. EUGENE ESTES
SUSAN KOLOJESKI
Dr. BARBARA LUCHSINGER**

Three RLC Instructors were awarded SICCM Mini-Grants. Estes will use his award for a campus beautification project, with help from his Botany students. Luchsinger, assisted by Librarian Imogene Book, will prepare audiovisual materials which address the use of the library and

how to do research; it is intended for vocational students. Kolojeski will prepare a series of film strips involving area artists for her classroom studio. / March '79

■ REPERTORY THEATRE

Drama Instructor Mike Tick has started a repertory theatre group called, "The Company," which will be seen in its first production on April 28. / April '79

■ Dr. RICHARD DOHERTY

History Instructor spent eight weeks at a summer seminar hosted by Columbia University in New York City following his selection by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Doherty serves on the Board of Directors of the Illinois Social Science Association for College Teachers. / Summer '79

1979-80

■ MOTION TO DISMISS SUSTAINED

The Jefferson County Circuit Court has sustained the Motion to Dismiss suit brought by the Rend Lake College Federation of Teachers against Rend Lake College seeking an injunction to compel the Board of Trustees to recognize RLCFT as bargaining agent for the faculty. / July '79

■ RICHARD HEATON

The Physical Science Instructor and Acting Chair for the Science, Health and Physical Education Department was initiated into the Southern Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa, a professional fraternity in education for graduate-level students who qualify with a high grade-point average. / August '79

■ FIVE GRANTED TENURE

Five Instructors awarded tenure are Terry Clark and Doug Leeck, Agriculture; Fran Lentz, Automotive Technology; Jack Musgrave, Mining Technology, and Gary Tucker, Criminal Justice. / December '79

■ Dr. EUGENE ESTES

RLC Science Instructor elected to the Executive Board of the Illinois Association of Community College Biologists. He will serve as a representative to the Southern Region. Organized in 1971, the IACCB meets twice a year to allow members to exchange new ideas regarding teaching methods, techniques and curriculum offerings. The group recently articulated a guide for biology majors transferring to four-year institutions which is presently being used by the Illinois Community College Board. / February '80

■ INSTRUCTORS-TURNED-JUDGES

Instructors Vince Cain, Dr. Richard Doherty and Eleanor Hall judged History projects at Casey Junior High in Mt. Vernon. Entries were centered around Illinois history. / March '80

■ ELEANOR HALL

Sociology / Anthropology Instructor spent eight weeks between June 23 and August 15 studying at the University of California at Santa Cruz as recipient of a National Endowment for the Humanities Award. Honored three times by various groups on campus as the outstanding instructor of the year, Hall was involved in a look at "Themes in the Historical and Comparative Analysis of the Gender Roles and Race / Class Relations."

Previously, she received a National Science Foundation Grant in Anthropology to study at the University of Colorado in 1971 and a \$2,000 grant from the National Foundation for the Humanities to study Southern Illinois archeology. / Summer '80

1980-81

■ SABBATICAL LEAVE

Sabbatical leaves were granted to Music Instructor Larry Phifer from January 21, 1980 through June 1, 1980 and Librarian Imogene Book from August 25, 1980 through August 24, 1981. / December '79

■ GARY TUCKER

Law Enforcement Instructor who helped start the program has resigned to accept an offer from the United States Department of State. His last day on-campus was Friday, September 26.

The following Monday, he reported to Washington, D.C., where he has been assigned as an investigator to the Agency for International Development. In that capacity, he will investigate criminal activities of those companies that are contractors with the U.S. government and government employees overseas. He has been advised his first assignment will be in African territories.

A former Police Officer in St. Louis, Tucker also taught Political Science classes for RLC, where he served as President of the Academic Council in 1979-80. He is Past-President of both the Illinois and Midwestern Associations of Criminal Justice Educators. / September 29, '80

■ Dr. RICHARD DOHERTY

RLC History Instructor gave a slide presentation on "Cahokia Mounds," which once was the largest Indian city within the United States, at the national meeting of the Community College Social Science Association in Chicago October 9-11.

The site, located between what is now Collinsville and East St. Louis, also was the largest earth mound in the world between 800-1500 A.D. and was inhabited by as many as 50,000 people.

Doherty "has excelled in the classroom and outside. His place on the program is recognition for his outstanding work,"

commented Dr. Jerry Baydo, Executive Secretary of the National Convention for Teachers of Introductory Social Science Courses. / October '80

■ Dr. EUGENE ESTES

Science Instructor elected regional representative for the Southern Region at the Eighth Annual Conference of the Illinois Association of Community College Biologists. /

■ SARAH CAPPS

Part-time Art Instructor co-authored a review in the Fall 1980 issue of *Metal-smith*, a journal devoted to the art of metalwork.

Before returning to Southern Illinois this past summer, Capps was an Art Instructor for seven years at Eastern Kentucky University. While there, she and colleague George Arnott Civey collaborated on the review of Artist Jamie Bennett's enamelwork and drawings on exhibit at EKU. Capps did most of the research and interviewing for the article. / October '80

■ MUSIC INSTRUCTORS + ONE

Performances at three area high schools and a noon concert on the RLC campus enabled five faculty members to display their musicianship while introducing students to a wide range of pop, jazz and classical styles.

A grant from the Higher Education Cooperative Act (HECA) made it possible for Music Instructors Larry Phifer, Bob Luckey, Norma Jean Luckey and Terry Martin, joined by English Instructor Michael Mullen, to present concerts attended by approximately 400 students.

It also provided faculty the opportunity to present the musical program of the college and to answer any questions about the college from their audiences. RLC was one of 16 schools selected to receive one of the HECA grants. / 1980-81

■ THIRTEEN AWARDED TENURE

Tenure, effective with the awarding of 1981-82 contracts in the fall, was given to 13 members of the RLC faculty - Janet Alred, Interior Design; Reuben Hawkins, Architectural Technology; Ed Heischmidt, Criminal Justice; Janet Miller, Secretarial Science, and Larry Sidwell, Accounting; Maurice Kirsch and Sam McCowen, Auto Technology, and James Dare, William Dill, David Ellingsworth, Charles Foster, James Robert Mooneyham and Lee Wilson, Mining Technology. / February '81

■ FRANK FENTON

Welding Instructor had an article published in the *Journal of Studies in Technical Careers*, a spring edition by Southern Illinois University. His feature, Education on

the Job: A Role for Vocational Education, asks how far vocational education goes in meeting the day-to-day needs of the student once he or she begins working. Fenton suggests there is insufficient training in such areas as how to communicate with supervisors, how to advance on the job and how specific departments are organized.

It was Fenton's first attempt submitting an article for publication. He served as program coordinator in Fiberglass Technology at SIU's School of Technical Careers for two years before coming to RLC in Fall 1980. / April '81

■ Dr. STEVE TIETZ

RLC English Instructor was acknowledged on the cover jacket of the book, **Fred E. Myers, Wood-Carver**, for his editing contribution. The book, by George Mavigliano and Photographer Richard A. Lawson and published by Southern Illinois University, honors the late coal miner from West Frankfort, whose carvings are etched into the black walnut stumps typical of Southern Illinois. /

1981-82

■ CHUCK FOSTER

The RLC Mining Technology Instructor has been serving as a member of the National Electric Training Objectives Committee. He is the only representative from an educational institution. The committee is responsible for reviewing course requirements and minimum performance objectives for students. / July '81

■ Dr. ROBERT LUCKEY

The RLC Music Instructor earned his Ph.D. in Ethnomusicology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. / August '81

■ TENURE

Three Mining Technology-related Instructors were awarded tenure – Don Lynch, Gene Mitchell and Gary Wade. / October '81

■ SABBATICAL LEAVE

A sabbatical leave was granted to Science Instructor E. Richard Heaton from January 8, 1982 through May 16, 1982. / October '81

■ JOSEPH HENRY RUST

Speech and Drama Instructor was selected Chair-Elect of the University/College Division to the Illinois Theatre Association, a state affiliate of the American Theatre Association.

"This is a real honor for Mr. Rust, who has been active in the state for such a short time (less than two years)," noted Arts and Communications Department Chair Dr. Evelyn Claxton. "This association with the ITA can be of benefit to our students,

since it gives him a current overview of theatre programs at all the state colleges and universities."

As such, he will be the official representative to the Illinois High School Theatre Festival and will be in charge of the undergraduate school theatre festival. Rust also served as an official adjudicator for the Festival Showcase, judging high school theatre productions throughout Southern Illinois. / February '82

■ TENURE

Tenure as of their 1982-83 contracts was awarded to Counselors Sara Davenport and C.C. Lowery and 10 Instructors – Dwight Dame, Charles Dickens, David Johnson, Carl Jones and Robert Varis, Mining Technology; Brenda Hartley, Cosmetology; Dr. Steve Tietz, English, and Maryetta Kuhl, Sandra Lipe and Dana Tabor, Nursing. / February '82

■ Dr. JOHN HOMAN JR.

The instructor of writing for RLC's Developmental Skills Center (and Director of Resource Development) has had an article published in the quarterly *Community College Review*, a magazine produced by North Carolina State University at Raleigh.

"Poetry and Basic Skills" addresses how instructors can vitalize the teaching of basic writing to adult skills students by using poetry as a focus for the study of grammar, style and idea. "Poetry can generate significant topics for student writing, rather than trivial or banal subjects," according to Homan. / February '82

■ DIANE METZGER

The RLC Developmental Skills Center Math Instructor was one of the featured speakers March 6 during a session on "Preparation of Secondary School Students in Mathematics for Two-Year Colleges" at a conference conducted by the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics / Southern Section in Carbondale.

The conference on the SIU campus was for elementary, middle/junior high, senior high and two-year college instructors. Teachers from throughout the southern half of the state participated. / March '82

■ Dr. RICHARD DOHERTY

History Instructor was invited to address the 14th annual meeting of the Illinois Social Science Association on "The Use of Slides to Teach American History." The meeting is scheduled April 15-16 in Des Plaines. Doherty served previously on the statewide group's Board. / April '82

■ LARRY PHIFER

Music Instructor served as one of six guest conductors for the Illinois Music Educators Association District VI Festival on the Southern Illinois University-

Edwardsville campus. Phifer helped rehearse and prepare for concert a select choir of 268 voices from 38 high schools throughout Southern Illinois. / November '81

■ TERRY MARTIN

Music Instructor presented a unique recital-lecture on French music, performing works by Poulenc, Rameau, Couperin, Debussy and Ravel while lecturing in the French language and then providing the English translation. His innovative, one-man performance was made possible by a mini-grant. Martin is the only performing concert pianist in the college district. /

■ Dr. STEVE TIETZ

English Instructor had a poem accepted for publication in *The Windless Orchard*, a magazine produced by Indiana University-Purdue University at Ft. Wayne. /

■ ELEANOR HALL

Sociology Instructor, who serves on the Faculty Advisory Committee to the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE), was elected Secretary of that organization at its June board meeting. / June '82

1982-83

■ ELEANOR HALL

Sociology Instructor elected Secretary of the Illinois Board of Higher Education Advisory Committee. / August '82

■ TENURE TIMES FIVE

Five more instructors will be tenured when Fall Semester begins – Sharon Beasley, Nursing; Frank Fenton and John Fertaly, Mining Technology; Mike Mullen, English/Journalism, and Dave Smith, Mining Technology. / February '83

■ TENURE

Tenure was granted to Speech Communications Instructor Joseph Henry Rust. / March '83

■ DOCTOR DOCTOR

The number of academic doctors on the Rend Lake College staff has grown by two. The Dean of Student Services is now Dr. Robert Spuhler (University of Southern California); the Physical Science Instructor is Dr. E. Richard Heaton (Southern Illinois University). / March '83

■ JOSEPH HENRY RUST

The RLC Speech Communications Instructor accepted an invitation to become a member of the Illinois Arts Council Theatre Advisory Panel. / March '83

■ TEACHING EXCELLENCE CONFERENCE

Three Instructors in the RLC Mining Technology were cited recently for their innovative methods in meeting the needs of today's community college students.

William Dill and Donald Lynch were among participants in the 1983 Confer-

ence on Teaching Excellence conducted on the University of Texas campus in Austin. The four-day conference was sponsored by the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development.

Gary Wade also was selected to attend but was unable to do so.

Master teachers throughout the country were recognized by their selection to the conference, which focused on solutions to teaching problems that are of national interest and importance. / June '83

1983-84

■ **FRANK FENTON**

The RLC Welding Instructor was one of 28 educators invited to attend the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America (VICA) Club Management Institute which was conducted the last week in August in Washington, D.C. This unique experience was funded by the AMAX Foundation for representatives of schools located near AMAX operations.

The purpose of VICA is to complement the student's skill training with development of the whole person through such personal qualities and attitudes as leadership, good citizenship, self-respect and high standards of craft, skill and ethics.

Participants were exposed to a full school year of club experience condensed into five days. Educators heard high-ranking experts from business, labor and government and had the opportunity to visit with their Senators and Representatives. The institute also prepared participants to instruct other teachers how they might integrate the VICA program into curriculums. / August '83

■ **TENURE**

Larry Williams, Science Instructor, and Early School Leaver Counselors Bob Ross and Kirk Champion. / February '84

■ **TEACHING EXCELLENCE IN MINING**

Mining Technology representatives Frank Fenton, John Fertaly, Dave Smith and Lee Wilson have been selected as program presenters for the 1984 National Conference in Teaching Excellence and Conference of Presidents May 22-25 in Austin, TX. / March '84

■ **DWIGHT DAME**

The retiring Mining and Industrial Technology Instructor was presented a Certificate of Appreciation from the State of Illinois by Brad Evilsizer, Director of the Illinois Department of Mines and Minerals.

Signed by Gov. James Thompson, the certificate was presented to Dame for his work with education and safety in the coal industry. Dame worked in the coal industry until joining the college faculty

in 1979. He also served as coordinator of the college's Practical Mining program.

Members of the department presented a Bible to Dame, who will go into the ministry full-time. / June '84

1984-85

■ **SHARON BEASLEY**

The Nursing Instructor was selected as an item writer for the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses. / July '84

■ **PART-TIME SALARIES**

Salaries for part-time instructors were increased to \$13 per contact hour. However, Trustees granted administrators the flexibility to decrease that rate if there are fewer than 12 students in a class. / August '84

■ **TENURE**

Four Instructors were awarded tenure beginning with their 1985-86 contracts – James Burkhart (Computer Science), Sarah Capps (Art), Barbara Hicks (Nursing) and Paula Lainfiesta (Nursing). / February '85

■ **A.F.T. / I.F.T. CERTIFIED REP**

The American Federation of Teachers / Illinois Federation of Teachers (AFT / IFT) has been certified by the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Board as the exclusive representative for the full-time faculty at Rend Lake College.

As a result of discussions between the AFT / IFT and college administrators, it was recommended and approved the Board grant vertical and horizontal movement on the salary schedule, in accordance with Board policy. / April '85

1985-86

■ **TENURE**

John D. Homan Jr., English Instructor. / February '86

1986-87

■ **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING**

At its August 26 meeting, the Board of Trustees approved a collective bargaining agreement with the Rend Lake College Federation of Teachers Local No. 3708. The agreement had been ratified by faculty members the previous day.

Also, salaries for part-time instructors were increased from \$14 to \$15 per contact hour. / August '86

■ **JOSEPH HENRY RUST**

The local Study Abroad Coordinator was one of 12 individuals selected to participate in two seminars pertaining to international studies.

Rust was the lone Illinois representative for the two presentations – "Study Abroad: The Basics," conducted December 6-8 at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, and "Study Abroad: Major Con-

cerns and Possibilities," held December 8-10 on the North Texas State University campus in Dallas.

The in-service training grant for the seminars was made possible by a grant to the National Association for Foreign Student Affairs (NAFSA) from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Information Agency. / December '86

■ **TENURE**

Instructors Diane Metzger, Mathematics, and Dr. Sue Tomlin, Anthropology and Sociology, along with Counselor Ed Ruffino, were granted tenure effective with their next contract. / February '87

■ **RICHARD PERRACHIONE**

One of the original faculty members when Rend Lake College opened its doors in 1967, the Math Instructor retired in June 1987 after 35 years as a classroom leader.

Fellow Teacher Dr. Eugene Estes described Perrachione as a "conscientious and dedicated teacher. He always had time to help students. His office has often been a 'mini' classroom for those students who needed extra help." In addition, Estes noted, his co-worker "always maintained high academic standards."

Perrachione began his teaching career at Sparta High School in 1952 and also taught in his hometown of Tamaroa before coming to Mt. Vernon Township High School and Mt. Vernon Community College in 1965. / June '87

■ **JOSEPH HENRY RUST**

The RLC Speech Instructor and Study Abroad Coordinator served as the Dean for the first Summer Term of the London program offered through the Illinois Consortium for International Studies.

The consortium of Illinois community colleges and Illinois State University, in association with International Enrichment, is believed to be the first of its kind at the two-year level.

Rust was a member of the group's original site selection committee which toured England last May. As Program Director, he will be responsible for the day-to-day operations of two four-week summer sessions. / Summer '87

1987-88

■ **TENURE**

Paul Evans, Early School Leaver, as well as Instructors John Fisher, Chemistry, and Lynn Nimitz, Developmental Reading / English. / February '88

■ **JOSEPH HENRY RUST**

The Coordinator of the International Studies at Rend Lake College will be the official representative of the 36-member Illinois consortium at the Third Annual

International Conference to be held April 22-24 in Las Vegas.

As the official representative from the state, Rust will explain the unique Illinois studies program offered by 35 community colleges and Illinois State University.

The conference, presented by the International/Intercultural Consortium and the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges (AACJC), immediately precedes the AACJC 68th Annual Convention.

A total of 160 students, including seven from Rend Lake College, and 20 faculty members from the Illinois consortium have taken advantage of the international program in London during the past three semesters. Rust served as the Program Dean for the Summer Term. / April '88

■ CARL JONES

A "proud" member of the coal-mining profession for the last 39 years is retiring as an instructor at Rend Lake College.

A letter of resignation from Jones was accepted with deep regret at the May Board meeting, effective June 30.

In citing Jones' contributions to the coal industry throughout his career, Department Chair Harold Finn said, "Carl Jones is proud to call himself a coal miner."

Jones retired from Consolidated Coal, where he had worked for 30 years in both labor and management. The last nine years have been spent at Rend Lake College. Finn called it "the ultimate compliment . . . to be hired to teach the skills you have learned to others."

The Tamaroa resident is a Certified Illinois Mine Manager - First Class and Mine Examiner, boasts Illinois Surface Mine Certification and is a Mine, Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) Certified Mining Instructor. / May '88

■ JOSEPH HENRY RUST

The RLC Instructor has been chosen from a nationwide search to be a participant at the Speech Communication Association's "Education Conference: Summer '88."

Rust, one of 12 participants selected, will represent speech communication interests at the community college level. The conference will be held on the University of Arizona campus in Flagstaff.

Participants will submit papers on an assigned topic. Results of the conference will then be published as a working document for the Speech Communication Association, with distribution throughout the United States and Canada. / Summer '88

1988-89

■ PART-TIME SALARIES

Salaries for part-time instructors were increased from \$15 to \$16 per contact hour

during a special Board of Trustees meeting August 24. / August '88

■ JOSEPH HENRY RUST

The RLC Speech Instructor is Vice Chair-Elect of the Community College Section for the Speech Communication Association, a national organization with over 6,200 members.

Rust recently learned he was elected in absentia at the 74th annual meeting in New Orleans. In the history of the organization, Rust is the first chair from the community college division to be elected without being in attendance. Approximately two-thirds of the 1,200 community colleges nationwide are members.

His duties will cover a four-year period, commencing with a seat on the Advisory Council at the annual meeting in San Francisco in November. He will be responsible for planning various sessions at the Chicago Convention in 1990 and will be the group's sitting President in 1991 in Atlanta. / February '89

■ WAYNE ARNOLD

The Health Education, Physical Education and Recreation Instructor, who would still be working for the college on a part-time basis when this publication went to print in 2016, officially retires after 22 years at Rend Lake College. He taught previously for Mt. Vernon Community College and was one of the original faculty members when RLC opened its doors in Fall 1967. / Spring '89

■ SARAH CAPPS

The much-decorated Art Instructor, winner of hundreds of awards regionally and nationally for her realism paintings, ceramics, jewelry and other works of art, has added yet another honor to her résumé . . . She will be recognized as an "Outstanding Alumnus" of Mt. Vernon Township High School. / June '89

1989-90

■ ROBERT VARIS

The Mining and Industrial Technology Instructor was recipient of the E.G. Shalkhauser Award as the 1989-90 "Member of the Year" for the Illinois Association of Electricity-Electronics Educators. Varis has served on the Board of Directors for six years and as State Contest Director four years. /

■ Dr. RICHARD DOHERTY

History/Political Science Instructor enjoyed a championship year in 1989-90. Named "College Bowl" coach in September after assisting Vince Cain previously, Doherty guided his charges to pre-season, league and post-season tournament titles. Then he won three individual gold med-

als - Free Throws (a mere formality for him most years), Rope Skipping and Air Rifle (Pellets) - and was runner-up in Air Pistol and Race Walk competition in the Illinois Senior Olympics XIII 55-59 Age Group competition September 21-24 in Springfield.

Commented the Fitness Center devotee: "The Walk Race and Rope Skipping look easy but are very aerobic. There is no way I would have entered them if not for the fitness center." /

■ SUE NIEMEIER-TRAMMELL

The part-time RLC Instructor has been elected Southern Regional Representative for the Association of Community College Biologists. / October '89

■ TENURE

Dolly Nickel, Adult Education Counselor. / October '89

■ JOSEPH HENRY RUST

RLC Instructor contributed to the national booklet, *The Future of Speech Communications Education*, a by-product of the Speech Communications Association's Flagstaff (AZ) Conference. His abstract included, "What are the Unique Articulation Needs of the Community College Speech Department?" Rust was named 1990 Section Officer for the group. /

■ TENURE

Linda Lance-Mobley, Nursing, and Karen Warren, Mathematics. / February '90

■ SUE TOMLIN

Anthropology/Sociology Instructor has received notice her research article on "Stigma and Incest Survivors," which deals with partners of victims abused during childhood, has been accepted for publication by the *Journal of Child Abuse and Neglect*. The monthly publication is an internationally distributed, multidisciplinary journal based in Denver. Tomlin's article represents research for a graduate-level course in "Sociology of Deviance." She has completed course-work for a doctorate degree. / March '90

1990-91

■ PART-TIME SALARIES

Salaries for part-time instructors were increased to \$18 per contact hour at the Trustees meeting August 21. / August '90

■ FRANK FENTON

The RLC Welding Instructor attended his first meeting as a member of the Continuing Education Committee of the American Welding Society (AWS) September 1-2 in Columbus, OH.

One of nine individuals on the national committee, Fenton is the lone representative of public education. Other members

represent private industry in Ohio, Florida, Pennsylvania, Indiana and Maine.

Under Fenton's leadership, RLC will be developing course content and visuals for education materials standards, as well as a new course on weld defects for the American Welding Society. / September '90

■ ENDOWED TEACHING CHAIR

At its regular September 18 meeting, the Rend Lake College Board voted to establish the Jeane Jordan Kirkpatrick Endowed Teaching Chair, in honor of the former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. The Mt. Vernon Township High School graduate (Class of 1944) was presented with an Honorary Degree from Rend Lake College in 1981. / September '90

■ JOSEPH HENRY RUST

RLC Speech Communications Instructor elected President for 1991 (President Elect for 1990-91) of the Illinois Speech and Theatre Association, which is representing 1,800 professionals statewide in its 61st year. Rust also serves as Chair Elect of the Community College Section of the Speech Communications Association and heads the RLC Study Abroad program, with classes in Canterbury, England, Salzburg, Austria, and Mexico. / October '90

■ TENURE

Five RLC employees were approved for tenure – Instructors Martha McCreery, Computer Science, Sandra Cox, Mathematics, and Linda Denton, Physics and Physical Science; Counselor Gloria Oliver, and Early School Leaver Counselor Jim McGuire. / February '91

■ Dr. RICHARD DOHERTY

The RLC Psychology, History and Political Science Instructor was a presenter at the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Program annual meeting June 26-29 in Chicago. His program was on "Body Language" and attracted a large crowd Friday morning. / June '91

1991-92

■ PART-TIME SALARIES

Salaries for part-time instructors were increased to \$19 per contact hour at the Board meeting August 20. / August '91

■ Dr. RICHARD DOHERTY

History/Political Science Instructor claimed his third age-group (55-59) Free Throw Shooting championship in a row at the Senior Olympics State Finals in Springfield. Doherty made 24 of 25 attempts in competition. After converting his last 20 a year ago, he hit 18 straight before missing his only shot for a Senior Olympics State Finals string of 38 free throws without a miss. Jim Jackson of Kaskaskia College was third. Doherty ad-

vanced to the finals by again dominating the Mt. Vernon Senior Olympics Regional in the spring.

The RLC College Bowl team he coaches likewise will be in quest of a "threepeat" in the spring after winning post-season Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market Tournament honors each of the last two years. Doherty's academic aces also tied for regular-season honors in Fall 1989 at 6-2 and won the league outright in Fall 1990 at 7-1. / September '91

■ GEORGINE HAWLEY

The RLC Instructor will be among the featured speakers when Rend Lake College hosts the Southern Illinois Association Teachers of English (SIATE) Fall Breakfast meeting Saturday, October 5.

The theme for the session is "Getting Them Ready for College: Community College, That Is."

The program also will feature speakers who teach English for Logan, Shawnee and Southeastern Illinois. A majority of the organization's membership are high school English teachers. / October '91

■ LINDA DENTON

The Physics/Physical Science Instructor has been appointed to the Illinois Coal Development Board by Gov. Jim Edgar.

[Denton served on the Illinois Coal Development Board through 1997. She was a member of the Administration Committee which was responsible for budget and personnel of the Illinois Clean Air Institute and the Office of Coal Development and Marketing.] / 1991

■ SUE TRAMMELL

The RLC Science Instructor is serving as a member of the Illinois Association of Community College Biologists Executive Board following her election as Secretary-Treasurer for 1991-92. / December '91

■ TENURE

Tenure, effective Fall 1992, was awarded to three Instructors – Cindy Corn, Health and Physical Education; Ro Hoar, Developmental English, and Chris Kuberski, English/Speech. / February '92

■ ED HEISCHMIDT SANDRA VANCLEVE LYNDA FRY

Three members of the RLC faculty are performing in the Centralia Cultural Society's musical comedy, "Ten Nights in a Barroom." The 1890s temperance play, complete with music of the era, was presented this past weekend and is scheduled again April 3-4 as part of a dinner theater production.

Heischmidt (Criminal Justice) and Vancleve (Allied Health) are full-time instruc-

tors; Fry (Skills Center) is part-time.

Sandy plays Mrs. Simon Slade, the innkeeper who cries a lot and laments frequently, "I wish we were back at the old mill." Ed is Squire Romaine, the traveling preacher who opposes alcohol and provides morality lessons; his wife, Jan, is the shoeshine "boy." Dr. Allen Fry, Lynda's husband, is the lead singer in a barbershop quartet. Rather than stay at home alone, Lynda became a member of the women's chorus. / Spring '92

■ FRANK FENTON MARTHA MCCREERY

Two RLC Instructors are among area educators participating in summer practicum work through the Rend Lake College District and Educational Service Center No. 17 in Olney.

Summer VIP Grants allow teachers to receive summer practicum work in a variety of vocational settings, according to a news release from the Service Center. This experience is then put to use in educational settings in area schools.

Industrial Technology and Mining Instructor Fenton has been working with ILL-MO Products in Mt. Vernon. Business /Computer Science Instructor McCreery has worked with both Clothing Connection in Harrisburg and Marleta's Fashions at Rend Lake Plaza in Benton. / Summer '92

1992-93

■ SAUNDRA LIPE

Practical Nursing Instructor recognized for "Outstanding Service" as a traveling nurse the past summer at Brackenridge Hospital in Austin, TX, where she worked in the Medical/Surgical Unit. Boston-based TravCorps initiated the program in 1978 in response to the nursing shortage. Participants select their own temporary assignments from 4-13 weeks in length. / December '92

■ Dr. SUE TOMLIN

One of 44 community college faculty members nominated to serve on one of six of the Illinois Board of Higher Education - Illinois Community College Board Articulation Panels. Tomlin will be concentrating in the area of Social and Behavioral Sciences. The panels also will include 44 university faculty reps and 12 transfer coordinators. / January '93

■ ROBERT VARIS

Industrial Technology and Mining Instructor will serve as President of the Illinois Association of Electricity and Electronics Educators for 1993. Varis was recognized as the organization's "Educator of the Year" in 1990. / January '93

■ JOSEPH HENRY RUST

A workbook developed by the RLC

Speech Instructor and used in his "Principles of Effective Speaking" classes will be published by Harcourt Brace Custom Publishers of Prairie Vallago, KS, for national distribution. **The Principles of Effective Speaking: Student Objective Handbook** can be used as a complementary workbook or as a stand-alone text.

/ February '93

■ TENURE

Four RLC instructors have earned tenure status, effective Fall Semester. They are: Debbie Bennis, Allied Health; Lynda Jones, Mathematics; Tim March, Culinary Arts Management, and David Schuessler, Computer Science. / February '93

■ Dr. SUE TOMLIN

Anthropology/Sociology Instructor chosen to participate in the prestigious Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program entitled, "The History and Culture of Brazil," in conjunction with the U.S. Dept. of Education. / March '93

■ CHRIS KUBERSKI Dr. SUE TRAMMELL

Fourth-year English Instructor (Kuberski) and second-year Science Instructor (Trammell) selected to participate in the 1993-94 short-term Study-Visit Exchange Program with England sponsored by the Illinois Consortium for International Studies and Programs. Over 100 administrators and faculty members have participated in the past five years, including former RLC President Dr. Jon Astroth and Vice President Dr. Keith Lape. / March '93

■ LINDA DENTON SUE TRAMMELL LARRY WILLIAMS

The Rend Lake College trio served as judges for the annual Hamilton County Community District 10 Junior High Science Fair. / April '93

■ ED HEISCHMIDT SANDRA VANCLEVE LYNDA FRY

Encore! Encore! The same Instructors/Actors who participated a year ago (see Spring '92) are once again involved in a musical production by The Little Theatre Players of the Centralia Cultural Society. They are joined by spouses Dr. Allen Fry and Jan Heischmidt. "Lorelei," otherwise known as "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes," will be presented April 22-24 in the Centralia Community arts Building.

Tickets are \$5... "You get what you pay for," rationalized Lynda Fry. / April '93

■ Dr. SUE TOMLIN

The RLC Sociology and Anthropology Instructor recently returned from the Midwest Sociological Society Conference

in Chicago, where she was a presenter for one session and participated in a panel discussion at another.

Tomlin's presentation addressed "Family Management of Stigmatizing Information." The panel discussion she was part of was concerned with the core curriculum in Sociology.

The RLC Instructor received her Ph.D. Degree last spring from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale; her dissertation was entitled, "The Stigma of Illiteracy as It Relates to Family." / April '93

■ SANDRA COX KAREN WARREN

The two RLC Instructors have been Co-Editors the past two years for *The MATH Connection*, the official newsletter of the Illinois Math Association of Community Colleges. / June '93

1993-94

■ Dr. SUE TRAMMELL

RLC Science Instructor took over as President of the Illinois Association of Community College Biologists for the 1993-94 academic year during the annual fall conference at Allerton Park in Monticello. Trammell served as Secretary-Treasurer two years ago and as President-Elect the past year. The IACCB is the oldest (22 years) statewide community college biologist organization in the nation. / October '93

■ CHRIS KUBERSKI

English/Speech Instructor one of presenters during the Illinois Speech and Theater Association's Annual Convention in St. Louis. Her topic: "Great Ideas for Teaching Speech - Reaching Out - Diversity." Presenters were from seven states. / October 14-16, '93

■ LYNDA LANINGHAM

RLC Math Instructor shared some of the innovative, hands-on techniques she uses in her "Topics in Mathematics for Elementary Teachers" class as a featured presenter at the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference in Springfield. / October 22-23, '93

■ JOHN FISHER MARTHA McCREERY

Chemistry Instructor (Fisher) and Computer Instructor (McCreery) invited to make presentation at the 1993 Annual Conference of the League for Innovation in Nashville. The conference theme: "Re-inventing the Community College Using Information Technology... To Do Things Differently... To Do Different Things."

Their presentation is listed under the heading of Forums, Demonstrations and Roundtables - Math and Science and is entitled, "A Cooperative Partnership to Provide Preparatory Chemistry Instruc-

tion Using Interactive Multimedia Chemistry Curriculum."

The Nashville Conference is the 10th in a series on "The Community College and the Computer." / November 14-17, '93

■ GENE MITCHELL

Industrial Technology and Mining Instructor elected to three-year term on the Illinois Association of Electrical and Electronics Educators Board at the annual meeting in Bloomington. / November '93

■ JOSEPH HENRY RUST

The RLC Speech/Theatre Instructor was presented the "Outstanding Educator Award" from the Speech Communications Association during its annual meeting in Miami Beach, FL. / December '93

■ PAMELA KNOBLETT

Horticulture Instructor was named "Employee of the Month" at Big Muddy River Correctional Center. / December '93

■ Dr. SUE TOMLIN

Anthropology/Sociology Instructor had her second magazine article published in *Corrections Today*. "Living Conditions in Selected Brazilian Correctional Facilities" shared some of her findings as a Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad participant the previous July. / January '94

■ TENURE

Three Instructors were granted tenure, effective with the beginning of Fall Semester. Recognized were Dana Tabor, Allied Health (for the second time after returning to a faculty position); Sue Trammell, Biology/Botany, and Carolyn Stewart, Psychology. / February '94

■ JOSEPH HENRY RUST

The RLC Speech/Theatre Instructor was asked to judge one of the final rounds of Impromptu Speaking at the 54th Annual Illinois High School Association (IHSA) State Individual Events Contest held at Peoria Richwoods H.S. / March '94

■ DIANE METZGER

For three years, the RLC Instructor has served on the Board of Directors for the Illinois Math Association of Community Colleges. / May '94

■ Dr. SUE TRAMMELL

The RLC Science Instructor departed May 9 for her visit to Scotland as part of the International Studies "Faculty Exchange Program." Trammell will be staying with her October house guest, Patricia Marson, a Student Tutor/Lecturer at Fife College of Technology in Kirkcaldy. The American visitor will be in Scotland until May 23, when she will route her trip home through London and the surrounding area for additional sightseeing. / May '94

■ PART-TIME PAY RATE

The part-time faculty pay rate was increased from \$310 to \$317 per credit hour by a vote of Trustees June 21. / June '94

1994-95

■ SABBATICAL LEAVE

A sabbatical leave was granted to Allied Health Instructor Sharon Beasley for Fall Semester 1995. / September '94

■ GENE MITCHELL

Mining Instructor Gene Mitchell is President-Elect of the Illinois Association of Electrical and Electronics Educators.

■ JOAN FRANK

Big Muddy River Correctional Center Culinary Arts Instructor was recognized as a statewide "Reachout Award" winner for her volunteer community service work in Coulterville and will be honored at a dessert reception to be hosted October 14 by Illinois First Lady Brenda Edgar at the Governor's Mansion. / September '94

■ RICK MARLOW

Architectural Technology Instructor was selected President of the Southern Illinois Chapter of the American Institute of Architects during 1995. / October '94

■ JOHN FISHER

Veteran RLC Instructor was elected Vice President of the Illinois Chemistry Teachers Association for 1995 at its conference October 21 in Bloomington. / October '94

■ DIANE METZGER

LYNN NIMTZ

Math Instructor (Metzger), Reading Specialist (Nimtz) and Skills Center Director Barbara Bauernfeind (in place of English Instructor Ro Hoar) were among presenters at the National Title III Workshop November 28-December 1 in Washington, D.C. "Developing Computer-Aided Instructional Labs for Basic Skills" described how three years creating Basic Skills labs for reading, writing and math provided satisfaction and frustration for the specialists and, most importantly, success for their students." / December '94

■ TENURE

Effective Fall 1995, tenured Instructors will include Rick Marlow, Architectural Technology; Chris Nielsen, Industrial Technology; Lisa Reed, Science; Kent Sickmeyer, Agriculture; Kevin Weston, Architectural Technology, and Tim Wills, Health and Physical Ed. / February '95

■ Dr. RICHARD DOHERTY

The Instructor-turned-Coach is a perfect 6-for-6 after guiding his charges to RLC's ninth "College Bowl" Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market (SICCM) championship in 10 tries. / Spring '95

■ MIKE MULLEN

English/Journalism Instructor awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to participate in its summer institute entitled, "The Written Text and Human Dialogue." The session will be held June 19-July 14 at Genesee Community College in Batavia, NY. / April '95

■ DOUG LEECK

The Agriculture Instructor competed in the National Farm Machinery Show in Louisville, KY, and placed fifth overall in the "Super Stock" Tractor Pull. /

1995-96

■ MIKE MULLEN

Participation by the English/Journalism Instructor in a National Endowment for the Humanities Institute on "The Written Text and Human Dialogue" was acknowledged in a letter to college administrators from Genesee Community College in Batavia, NY. Mullen was among 30 educators selected from a nationwide group to attend the four-week session. / August '95

■ Dr. JANET McREYNOLDS

The former Philosophy and English Instructor at Rend Lake College, dismissed after one year (1971-72) because of a reduction in force, is an Assistant to the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at SIU-Edwardsville.

"In an unusual move," the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* reported in its September 16 edition, "the faculty union at Belleville Area College announced Friday (September 15) that it is endorsing candidate Janet McReynolds of Belleville in the Board of Trustees election November 7." It is the first time the group has endorsed a candidate in at least 11 years.

McReynolds was on the Board from 1989-92. / September '95

■ RICK MARLOW

For the third year in a row, the Architectural Technology Instructor spent a week of his summer serving as a guide at Royal Family Kids Camp, a highly structured camp for abused children ages 6-11 referred to the camp by the Dept. of Children and Family Services. Marlow was joined as a guide at Camp Hope, located just east of Ewing, by daughter Kelli, an Eastern Illinois University student. The camp is operated by RLC graduate and SIUC Instructor J.R. Schultz and his wife, Ellen, a former RLC employee. / August '95

■ DOUG LEECK

The Ag Instructor and AAA Department Coordinator was appointed by the Jefferson County Board as a Trustee with the Jefferson County Fire Protection District. Board members, according to a news

report in the *Register-News*, "noted there were several qualified applicants for the position." / October '95

■ JOSEPH HENRY RUST

Speech Instructor was recipient of the 18th Edith Harrod Award presented by the Illinois Speech and Theatre Association at a joint meeting with the Iowa Communications Association and the ISTA held in Bettendorf, IA. The award was for distinguished service to the association (minimum five years) and outstanding achievement in the profession at the state, regional and national levels, plus excellence teaching speech communications and/or theater. / October '95

■ TENURE

Tenure was awarded to Instructors Barb Davenport, Anatomy-Physiology and Microbiology, and J. Rob Little, English. / October '95

■ DOUG LEECK

Ag Instructor was elected to a four-year term on the Mt. Vernon Township High School Board of Education. / November '95

■ PAM KNOBLET

Gov. Jim Edgar wrote letters to thank the Big Muddy River Correctional Center Horticulture Instructor and Rend Lake College for landscaping work she performed at the Governor's Mansion on the DuQuoin State Fairgrounds. / November '95

■ JOSEPH HENRY RUST

The Illinois Speech and Theatre Association has appointed the RLC Instructor as its Executive Secretary. / December '95

■ JOAN FRANK

Culinary Arts Instructor was named "Employee of the Month" for January at Big Muddy River Correctional Center. According to Warden Jack Hartwig, "Joan teaches much more than just a 'cooking program.' She instills pride and self-confidence in her students." / January '96

■ TENURE

Richelle Rennegarbe, Practical Nursing Instructor. / February '96

■ Dr. BARBARA LUCHSINGER

In recognition of services "performed above and beyond the call of duty," the RLC English Professor was selected as the 1996 "Humanitarian of the Year" by members of the Human Services Club.

According to Sponsor Sue Tomlin, "Students felt she was deserving of this honor because she goes beyond the normal expectations of the teacher role and cares about students as 'whole' people. Students appreciate the fact she is eager to help any student who comes to her seeking advice - academically or otherwise.

She even took time to call an ailing student at home to wish her well . . . an act the student found quite touching." / May '96

1996-97

■ Dr. SUE TRAMMELL

Biology/Botany Instructor will work this summer at Cypress Creek Natural Wildlife Refuge as a participant in the grant-funded Mid-South Regional Partnership Coalition's "Academic Instructor Practicum" program. One of 173 participants, Trammell will be performing a variety of field work duties related to biology and ecology in order to enhance her background. / July '96

■ SABBATICAL LEAVE

A sabbatical leave was granted to Developmental Reading Instructor Lynn Nimtz for Spring Semester 1997. / August '96

■ TENURE

Therese Howard, Art. / October '96

■ PEGGY DAVIS

Part-time English Instructor has two poems published in the *Eureka Literary Magazine* - "Getting Away With It" and "Skid." The magazine is a joint project between Eureka College and Rend Lake College, with the latter responsible for typesetting and layout. Contributors include Assistant Editor Stephen Tietz and Copy Editor Cathy Cross. / November '96

■ DEBBIE GREATHOUSE

Big Muddy River Correctional Center Electronics Instructor elected at the annual meeting to the 1997 Board of Directors for the Illinois Association of Electricity and Electronics Educators. The organization is for educators at post-secondary and secondary levels. / November '96

■ BARBARA DAVENPORT

The RLC Anatomy/Physiology and Microbiology Associate Professor has been appointed to the Executive Committee of the Illinois Community College Faculty Association, according to ICCFA Representative Bruce L. Conners.

Davenport will be joined by Kevin Northrup of Parkland College. / January '97

■ TENURE

Six employees have been awarded tenure, effective Fall Semester. They are Counselor Richard Cole and Instructors Trish Bennett-Minor, Allied Health; Barbara Crouse, Allied Health; Keith Kendrick, Automotive Technology; Steve Kennett, Psychology, and Nigel Thompson, Automotive Technology. / February '97

■ CHRIS NIELSEN

Industrial Technology Instructor was recipient of a Connections 2000 Award presented by the Connections Project

and the Illinois State Board of Education / Center for Business, Community and Family Partnerships. Nielsen was recognized for the Independent Electrical Contractors Apprenticeship Program (IEC) he started in 1992 that has had an impact on about 20 students. The "effort to recognize innovative educational projects" saluted 51 programs from a total of 130 institutions. / April '97

■ STEVE KENNETT

Psychology/Philosophy Instructor has been selected to attend a five-week National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute on "Southeast Asian Cultures," to be conducted at the University of Hawaii and the East-West Center in Honolulu. / April '97

■ ALLIED HEALTH INSTRUCTORS

Allied Health Professors Sharon Beasley and Sandra Lipe and Instructor Bonnie Tolbert served as Medical Services Volunteers this past weekend (June 28-29) for the annual Prairie State Games hosted by Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville and surrounding communities.

Approximately 6,500 athletes from throughout the state competed. Honorary Chairperson for the Games was U.S. Olympic star Jackie Joyner-Kersey, an East St. Louis native. / June '97

1997-98

■ MIKE MULLEN

The English/Journalism Instructor, who has spent the past 17 years teaching and serving as the Advisor to the RLC student newspaper, served a two-week internship with the *Benton Evening News* under Editor Danny Malkovich. The goal of the "School to Work" program is to help bring relevant workplace skills into classrooms. / July '97

■ PART-TIME PAY RATE

The part-time faculty pay rate was increased from \$19 to \$20 per contact hour and \$317 to \$333 per credit hour as part of a special Board of Trustees meeting September 5. / June '94

■ SANDRA COX

The American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC) has announced the appointment of RLC Professor Cox as one of three Illinois State Delegates to its upcoming annual conference. / November '97

■ TENURE

Vickie Lewis, Office Systems Technology. / February '98

■ BARBARA DAVENPORT

Anatomy/Physiology and Microbiology Instructor, who served the past year as Southern Region Coordinator, takes over

as Vice President of Membership and Delegate Affairs for the Illinois Community College Faculty Association in 1998. The ICCFA represents the common interests of faculty in public community colleges in Illinois, promotes teaching and learning excellence and professional development, provides a faculty presence on the Illinois Community College Board and informs faculty of issues which affect the 48 public community colleges in Illinois. / February '98

■ JOHN FISHER JOSEPH RUST

The RLC Chemistry Professor (Fisher) and Speech Communications Professor (Rust) have been nominated and selected to serve on the Illinois Board of Higher Education's Performance Standards and Assessment Advisory Teams for Science and English Language Arts, respectively.

Based on information provided, Fisher and Rust are believed to be the only persons serving because of their direct involvement at the community college level from 250-300 participants in seven different subject categories.

According to State Superintendent of Education Joseph A. Spagnolo, "Over the next 18 months, the Performance Standards and Assessment Advisory Teams will work with professionals in the ISBE Standards and Assessment Division to develop performance standards and new state assessments that are aligned with the Illinois Learning Standards." / March '98

■ DEBBIE BENNS JOHN FISHER CAROLYN STEWART

Three RLC faculty members have been awarded "Learn and Serve America: Higher Education" mini-grants ranging from \$1,000-\$2,000 for special projects to be conducted within the next few weeks. Each of the projects will involve college students and is designed to enlighten younger students throughout the district.

Only 14 such grants were awarded statewide from the Corporation for National Service through the Illinois Campus Compact office.

Allied Health Associate Professor Benns and her Associate Degree Nursing students will receive approximately \$1,000 to go on the road with their "Smoke Free with RLC" project, in conjunction with the American Lung Association.

"CHEM-unity Service" was written by Chemistry Professor Fisher, but the primary beneficiaries will be Lab Assistant/Project Facilitator Steve Holman, around 65 first- and second-year chemistry students and another 600 elementary students, including 250 minority students involved with another Rend Lake College

grant, "Project First Class."

The "Think It Over" project proposed by Psychology Associate Professor Stewart is expected to benefit at least 500 students in grades 7-12. By utilizing the highly acclaimed "Baby Think It Over" teaching tools donated by the RLC Foundation and almost \$1,500 in ICCCS funds, Educational Psychology students will make presentations throughout the district designed to make teenage participants fully aware of the responsibilities and burdens of teen parenting. / March '98

1998-99

■ Dr. SHARON BEASLEY

Friends, colleagues and former students are invited to join the Nursing faculty in a salute to Practical Nursing Professor Sharon Beasley.

Better make that Dr. Sharon Beasley.

Beasley recently completed her Ph.D. Degree and will be recognized at a reception in her honor Saturday, August 8, from 2-4 p.m. at the new Hampton Inn in Mt. Vernon. / August '98

■ JENNA HENDERSON SMITH

A part-time instructor for Rend Lake College from 1994-96 has been hired to direct student and college relations activities for the Southern Illinois University Alumni Association.

Smith, a Sparta native who taught at RLC while completing her Master's Degree in Speech Communications, joined SIUC's Alumni Services Office as Assistant Director for Student, College and Constituent Relations after having served previously as an Admissions Counselor at the university. / August '98

■ DIANE METZGER Dr. SUE TRAMMELL

Two instructors representing Rend Lake College were invited to make presentations recently for colleagues attending national and regional conferences.

Trammell, who teaches Biology and Botany, spoke at the National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT) Annual Convention in Reno, NV, on November 5 with a program entitled, "Distance Education Biology Courses? It Can Be Done."

The presentation illustrated how General Botany and Biology for non-majors courses can be taught via distance education utilizing laboratory kits and a minimum of equipment.

Trammell also was elected to the Nomination Committee for the Two-Year Colleges Section of NABT.

RLC Math Professor Metzger made her presentation November 17 at the Illinois State Board of Education Southern Regional Education-to-Careers Conference

in Marion. Her program, "Developing Real World Math Problems," focused on curriculum development for Grades 1-14 based on local business/industry needs.

Her topic contained several aspects initiated after representatives from Business/Industry in Southern Illinois presented real-world math problems October 1997 to a group of elementary, high school and college teachers. / November '98

■ CHRIS NIELSEN

The Industrial Technology Associate Professor is elected Recording Secretary for the Illinois Community College Faculty Association. / January '99

■ TENURE FOR TWO

Faculty members Tina Grounds, Child Development, and Bonnie Tolbert, Allied Health, were granted tenure, effective Fall Semester. / February '99

1999-2000

■ Dr. SUE TRAMMELL

RLC Science Associate Professor was elected Secretary-Treasurer for the Two-Year/Community College Section of the National Association of Biology Teachers. / December '99

■ TENURE PRESENTED TO ONE

Tenure has been awarded, effective Fall Semester 2000, to Agriculture Instructor Terry Wilkerson. / February '00

■ Dr. SUE TOMLIN Dr. SUE TRAMMELL

Rend Lake College's very own Dr. Sues! – Sociology/Anthropology Professor Tomlin and Biology Associate Professor Trammell – combined recently for a presentation with SCANDalous outcomes.

More specifically, the Dr. Sues presented a session on "Using SCANS Skills in Student Academic Assessment" at the 10th Anniversary Connections 2000 Conference at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles.

It was one of the sessions showcasing Education-to-Careers innovations and was targeted specifically for instructors at the postsecondary level. / April 2000

2000-01

■ SABBATICAL LEAVE

A sabbatical leave was granted to Science Instructor Linda Denton for the 2000-01 academic year. / October '99

■ Dr. SUE TRAMMELL

The Science Instructor has been elected Treasurer of the Illinois Association of Community College Biologists for 2000-01. / November '00

■ THREE AWARDED TENURE

Effective Fall 2001, three instructors will receive tenure and the title of Associate Professor – Mark Ford, Truck Driver

Training; Ricky Robinson, Computer Maintenance, and Julie Wilkerson, Music. / February '01

■ DIANE METZGER

The Illinois Community College Board has notified the RLC Mathematics Professor she is recipient of a grant to fund her creation of the MATH 2106 course, "Web-Based Finite Mathematics." / March '01

2001-02

■ DIANE METZGER

The RLC Professor was an invited guest at the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics Planning Retreat August 9-11.

Metzger was one of 30 math educators from throughout Illinois who were asked to update the goals and priorities of ICTM and to examine the effectiveness of its current activities. Meetings were conducted at Jumer's Chateau Hotel in Bloomington.

A current board member, Metzger serves as Director for Community Colleges statewide. / August '01

■ ONE APPROVED FOR TENURE

Jeannie Mitchell-Collins will become a Psychology Associate Professor after being granted tenure. / October '01

■ FIVE GRANTED TENURE

Effective Fall Semester 2002, five Instructors will become Associate Professors thanks to the granting of tenure – Rebecca Biggs, English; Russ Clendenin, Truck Driver Training; Peggy Davis, English; Shannon Perkins, Automotive, and Chris Sink, Industrial Technology. / February '02

■ IBHE FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) Faculty Advisory Council meeting April 6 was hosted by Rend Lake College at Rend Lake Resort. The 9 a.m. meeting began with a welcome by Homer Cissell, Academic Dean of the college.

According to meeting minutes: "He (Cissell) stressed the impact of the greatly disparate funding in public schools (\$3,500-\$4,000 for students in Southern Illinois, \$10,000-\$12,000 in northern suburbs) producing an urgent need for remedial instruction for entering college students. This has a heavy cost impact for community colleges such as Rend Lake College with an open admissions policy for all high school graduates."

The report concluded: "The FAC adjourned at 2:30 p.m. with thanks to Mike Mullen, FAC member from Rend Lake College, and to the college." / April '02

■ SAUNDRA LIPE

The Associate Degree Nursing Professor served as a judge for the Illinois Health Occupations Students of America State Conference. / June '02

2002-03

■ TENURE FOR THREE

Three non-faculty Support Staff members received tenure – Counselor Monica Clark, Recruiter Jerry Case and Reference Librarian Beth Mandrell. / October '02

■ JULIE WILKERSON

The RLC Music Instructor accepted an invitation to sing at Induction festivities for Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich. / January '03

■ TRIO AWARDED TENURE

Tenure effective Fall '03 was granted to Instructors Cindy Caldwell, Mathematics, and Shari Carpenter, Computers, as well as Counselor Michelle Garrett. / February '03

■ MIKE MULLEN

The English/Journalism Professor who also serves as the student newspaper advisor was recognized for having completed a four-year appointment on the Faculty Advisory Council to the Illinois Board of Higher Education. / May '03

2003-04

■ COUNSELOR RECEIVES TENURE

Tenure was approved for Counselor Annette Braden. / October '03

■ PART-TIME PAY RATE

A new pay rate for part-time time faculty has been established which rewards experience and longevity. The scale ranges from \$21-\$32, depending on number of semesters the instructor has taught previously for Rend Lake College. The low end of the part-time pay rate is for those with 0-4 semesters; the high end rewards for with 20 or more semesters taught previously. / February '04

■ QUARTET GRANTED TENURE

Tenure, effective the start of Fall Semester, was awarded four Instructors – Michael Adamson, Therapeutic Massage; Diane Catalfamo, Culinary Arts; Brenda Heinzmann, Early Childhood Education, and Steve Holman, Biology. / March '04

■ D.J. JOHNSON

The Industrial Technology Professor who represents Rend Lake College far and wide as an expert in the Mining industry was a featured speaker at the 22nd annual Joint Mine Health and Safety Conference March 29-April 1 in Albuquerque, NM.

Johnson informed and, no doubt, entertained 300-plus at the noon luncheon. "Your speech was the talk of the conference the next day," he was told by Conference Coordinator Tranh Tran. / April '04

■ LINDA DENTON

Dr. Denton, we presume? The Physics/Physical Science Professor earned her Ph.D. Degree in Engineering science from SIU-Carbondale. Her specialization was

in Mechanical Engineering and Energy Processes.

Denton's dissertation, "Simultaneous Production of High Purity Hydrogen and Carbon Dioxide from Syngas," benefitted from grant funding for the study provided by the Department of Energy and performed in collaboration with the General Electric Division of Energy and Environmental Research. / June 2004

2004-05

■ THERESE HOWARD

The Art Professor earned a second Master's Degree – A Master of Fine Arts – in Theater Design from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. Howard already held a BFA and M.S. in Education Degree from SIUC. She has frequently assisted Theatre Director Tracey Webb in set design and construction projects for RLC productions and is hoping to implement a credit course in Theater Design. / August '04

■ TENURE APPROVED

Heavy Equipment Instructor Mike Burreis was granted tenure. / October '04

■ REBECCA BIGGS

The English Associate Professor has been granted a sabbatical in order to join the Britain Illinois Consortium for International Studies and Programs (ICISP) Canterbury Program. She has been selected to teach Spring Semester at Canterbury Christ Church University in England. / Spring '05

■ TENURE FOR TWO

In the fall, Associate Professor status will go to Associate Degree Nursing Instructor Kelli Lewis and Graphic Design Instructor Jennifer Tarantino Linsin, both of whom received tenure. / February '05

2005-06

■ TINA GROUNDS

Early Childhood Education Associate Professor approved for her Level II Credentials by the Illinois Network of Community College Resource and Referral Agencies and the Illinois Director Credential Commission.

The Illinois Director Credential is a voluntary program which validates skills needed to administer high-quality early care and education programs. / September '05

■ TENURE FOR THEATRE INSTRUCTOR

Tracey Brouillette Webb has been awarded tenure. / October '05

■ Dr. JIM HULL

Dr. SARAH OCHS

Applied Science and Technology Division Chair Sarah Ochs attained a noteworthy educational accomplishment in 2005, but she was not able to outshine one of her

Rend Lake College bosses, Vice President of Instruction Jim Hull.

Dr. Sarah Ochs, meet Dr. Jim Hull.

Dr. Jim Hull, meet Dr. Sarah Ochs.

Both Hull and Ochs completed doctorate degrees at the same time through Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. / December '05

■ TENURE INCLUDES EMERITUS RANK

Four individuals granted tenure to become effective Fall '06 include a first . . . previously retired Accounting Professor Emeritus Larry Sidwell received that status for the second time. Others – Leslie Hodge, Allied Health; Kay Shaw, Mathematics; Rodney Summers, Truck Driver Training. / February '06

2006-07

■ ALSTAT TO PLAY 'GLAMOUR CAT'

Sara Alstat, Music Program Coordinator at Rend Lake College, will play the famed "Glamour Cat" Grizabella in the McLeod Summer Playhouse production of *Cats* this July at McLeod Theater at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

Alstat has a Master of Music specializing in Opera/Music Theater from SIUC. She has performed professionally as an actress and singer for Timbers Dinner Theater in Mt. Gretna, PA, and has been seen in several productions for the Marjorie Lawrence Opera Theater, including *Starting Here/Starting Now*, *Cabaret*, *Grand Night For Singing* and *La Rondine*. She said she is excited to be performing on stage again as well as working with her formal voice teacher, Clarence Carter, who will play Old Deuteronomy in *Cats*.

As part of her performance, Alstat will sing "Memory," which is forever engrained as a Broadway hit and has been recorded by more than 150 artists. / July '06

■ FOUR RECIPIENTS OF TENURE

Four instructors were awarded tenure, effective Fall '07 – Brian Kalata, Culinary Arts; Henry Leeck, History; David Schuessler (who previously was tenured in Computer Science), Music, and Kristin Yosanovich, Practical Nursing. / March '07

2007-08

■ TENURE AWARDED TO PAIR

Associate Degree Nursing Instructor Georgia Lambert and Art Instructor Melissa McClement-Engler were approved for tenure. / September '07

■ SEVEN RECEIVE TENURE

Seven individuals were eligible for and received tenure, effective Fall '08 – Elizabeth Bailey-Smith, Communications; Brian Greer, Agriculture; Erin Butler, Cosmetology; Jena Jensik, Counselor; Daphne Mitchell, Cosmetology; Carrie

Ragan, Biological Sciences, and Paul Sandrock, Chemistry. / February '08

■ KIM ROBERT

Radiologic Technology Director was recipient of the 2008 Award for Outstanding Grass-Roots Advocacy presented by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists. Each year, the ASRT honors one individual nationwide during its Annual Governance and House of Delegates Meeting. Robert "has been a loud voice for legislation affecting the field of radiologic technology," according to the letter of nomination on her behalf. "She has attended several meetings with (then Presidential candidate and U.S. Senator) Barack Obama, U.S. Senator Dick Durbin and every Illinois Congressman over the last four years." / June '08

2008-09

■ SARA ALSTAT

The RLC Music Instructor will share the Sesser Opera House spotlight with her students once again. This time, she will play the Save-a-Soul Mission's straight-walking sergeant, Miss Sarah Brown, in "Guys and Dolls."

Alstat, in her second performance at the Sesser Opera House (Ruddigore - 2007), will be performing alongside current RLC students Isaiah Barnfield of Benton, Emily Dixon of Pinckneyville and Eric Wakefield of Benton, as well as RLC graduates Brittanie Graham of Woodlawn and Gretchin Irons of McLeansboro.

The musical – known for the 1955 film version starring Marlon Brando, Frank Sinatra, Jean Simmons and Vivian Blaine – is scheduled October 9-12. / October '08

■ DUO AWARDED TENURE

Two instructors – Brad Helm in Computer Science and Loughton Smith in Culinary Arts, received tenure. / October '08

■ TENURE

Betty Jo Herbert, Allied Health – Certified Nurse Assistant. / February '09

■ PEGGY DAVIS

The English Literature Associate Professor will be England-bound in the fall after she was granted a sabbatical leave by the Board of Trustees. Davis will be a member of the Visiting Faculty at Canterbury Christ Church University. / April '09

■ SARA ALSTAT

The RLC Music Director is once again taking her all-around talents to the historic Sesser Opera House. She will be playing Josephine, the semi-betrothed Captain's daughter, in the June 4-6 production of "HMS Pinafore."

The talented vocalist and musician has appeared in numerous shows in venues

such as Timbers Dinner Theatre in Pennsylvania, McLeod Summer Playhouse and the Sesser Opera House.

"I really enjoy performing at the Sesser Opera House," said Alstat, who also is the Vocal Director. "The City of Sesser really supports this endeavor. I have made many new friends working there, in particular Aisha (Mitchell) and (Sesser Mayor) Ned Mitchell. Aisha is a wonderful director. She works night and day to produce the best performance possible while still making the rehearsals enjoyable for the actors and musicians." / June '09

2009-10

■ TWO INSTRUCTORS LAND TENURE

Tenure was granted to two instructors – Sarah Bilderbeck, Office Systems Technology, and David Colombo, Mining Technology. / October '09

■ TENURE AWARDED TO FIVE

Trustees agreed with administrative recommendations and granted tenure to five instructors, effective Fall 2010. The recipients are: Sara Alstat, Music; Erica Blumenstock, Practical Nursing; Barbara Hampton, Reading/English; Greg Holmann, General and Political Science, and Mark Mueller, Agricultural Mechanics. / February '10

■ Dr. JEANNIE MITCHELL

Yes, that is Dr. Mitchell. The Psychology Associate Professor earned her Educational Doctorate Degree in Educational Leadership from Oakland City (IN) University. / Spring '10

2011-12

■ TENURE GRANTED TO SEVEN

Tenure was awarded seven instructors, effective Summer/Fall 2012 – Nathan Brouwer, History; Kathy Craig, Agriculture; Amber Fann, Practical Nursing; Aurelia Hudgens, Certified Nurse Assistant; Abel Kinser, Biological Sciences; Kim Robert, Radiologic Technology, and Dave Smith, Welding Technology (Emeritus). / February '12

2012-13

■ TENURED FOURSOME

Tenure, effective Fall 2013, was granted to four faculty members – Sarah Draper, Sociology; Mark Jornd, Business; Ronald Meek, Criminal Justice, and Zach Vahlkamp, Heavy Equipment. / February '13

2013-14

■ BRIA ROBINSON TENURED

Radiologic Technology Instructor Bria Robinson was granted tenure, effective Spring 2014. / October '13

■ Dr. ELIZABETH BAILEY-SMITH Dr. LINDA DENTON

Two RLC professors have been announced as the newest members of a group tasked with facilitating the transfer of students among higher education institutions in Illinois. They were named to the General Education Core Curriculum (GECC) Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) Panel, with Speech Associate Professor Bailey-Smith assigned to the Communication Panel and Physics/Physical Science Professor Denton serving on the Physical Sciences Panel.

Bailey-Smith also has been appointed to the Murray State University Alumni Association Board of Governors and re-appointed to the Marion Unit Two School System Foundation Board. / October '13

■ FIVE GRANTED TENURE

Tenure was granted to five Associate Professors – Melisa Berendson, Nursing; Jeff Fairbanks, Culinary Arts; Nicole Haney, Nursing; Ashley Marthaler, Certified Nurse Assistant, and Robert Wilson, Culinary Arts. / February '14

2014-15

■ BELATED TENURE FOR TWO

Two longtime employees were officially granted tenure belatedly, 12 and 10 years after their initial hirings for different positions than what they currently hold. Coordinator of Technical Services and Collection Management Sandy West, who joined the staff in 2003, and Dean of Admissions and Enrollment Jason Swann, who came aboard in 2005, were in tenure-track positions previously, but their recommendations for tenure inadvertently were never brought to the Board of Trustees for approval. / March '15

■ WILLIAM DILL

In retirement (since 2005), former RLC Mining Technology Instructor and Industrial Technology Division Chair is serving as Executive Director for the Franklin County Regional Economic Development Corporation (FREDCO). / March '15

2015-16

■ TENURE TIMES TWO

Biology Instructor Emily Jones and Mining Technology Instructor Charlie Wingo were granted tenure at the February 9 Board of Trustees meeting. / February '16

Faculty ... the lifeblood of higher learning

Nielsen has ‘uncanny ability to reach students,’ ‘unparalleled loyalty’

When Chris Nielsen was laid off by Old Ben Coal Mine in 1991, he did what many like him did. He went back to school at Rend Lake College. Nineteen years later, he is still there.

The 53-year-old Applied Science and Technology Professor has been named the 2010 RLC Faculty Excellence Award winner.

“It was my education,” Nielsen said of being hired as a part-time instructor at RLC in 1991. “I was fortunate enough to have gone to college right out of high school. It was the education I had that allowed me to transition careers and do a lot of what I have had the opportunity to do.” He holds Bachelor and Master degrees from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale.

When he first started teaching Electrical Retraining in the Coal Mining program, many of the faces looking back at him in class were people he worked with. That is not so much the case anymore. But their stories are the same. Just like when he started, his students today look to him for skills they can use in their current job or valuable training they can use toward a new career. What they do with it beyond the classroom is his reward for teaching, he said.

“These students go on to find productive employment in maintenance departments and engineering departments all the way from Continental Tire to Toyota and Caterpillar. They are all over the place,” he said.



FACULTY EXCELLENCE

CHRIS NIELSEN
INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE
/ MINING TECH. PROFESSOR

In a letter nominating Nielsen, Division Chair Terry Wilkerson wrote about consistent leadership, dedication and work ethic. “Chris has an uncanny ability to reach his students on a level that not only facilitates learning, but also a sense of accomplishment,” Wilkerson stated. “His sense of duty and loyalty to his students and the education they receive is unparalleled on campus.”

Some words students used to describe their teacher are “interesting,” “knowledgeable,” even “brilliant.”

“He deserves it,” said Greg Dillon of Walnut Hill. “He’s a good teacher. He’s an excellent teacher, actually. I’m 40 years old and he can still teach me.”

Nielsen said he was shocked upon learning he had been selected as the Faculty Excellence Award-winner. “When you name the people who have received it over the years – Bill Dill, Gary Wade, D.J. Johnson – it’s a big honor to be considered in the same classification as those guys.” They were his mentors when he was the new guy joining the ranks as a part-time instructor in 1991, full-time in 1992.

Things have changed a lot since then. Instructors retired. Programs merged. The Coal Mining program that was once RLC’s biggest vocational program went away. Nielsen took the reins of Industrial Maintenance.

Now the displaced miner-turned-teacher has come full circle. Nielsen, Wilkerson and Instructor Dave Colombo are working as a team to make the college’s revitalized Mining Technology program a success once again.

In addition, Nielsen served as President of the faculty union for a decade. He helped develop a training partnership with Continental Tire North America that helps transition graduates into new careers. He served as a committee member for the Higher Learning Commission’s reaccreditation visit in the ‘90s and took on a much larger role as co-Coordinator of the recent visit, both of which resulted in RLC being awarded a maximum 10-year accreditation.

PHI THETA KAPPA / RHO XI HONORARY MEMBERS

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| ▲ 2014-15
Emily Jones
(Biological Sciences Instructor) | ▲ 2011-12
Dr. Jeannie Mitchell
(Psychology Associate Professor) | ▲ 2008-09
Terry Wilkerson
(Chair, Applied Science / Technology) |
| ▲ 2013-14
Larry Williams
(Zoology Professor) | ▲ 2010-11
Sarah Draper
(Sociology Instructor) | ▲ 2006-07
Greg Hollmann
(General Science Instructor) |
| ▲ 2012-13
Paul Sandrock
(Chemistry Associate Professor) | ▲ 2009-10
Nathan Brouwer
(History Instructor) | ▲ 1999-2000
Mary Roe
(Dean, Student Services) |

ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION

RLC Faculty Award

- ▲ 2016 - Rob Little
(English)
- ▲ 2013 - Dr. Elizabeth Bailey-Smith
(Speech)
- ▲ 2011 - Shari Carpenter
(Computer Science)
- ▲ 2011 - Barb Hampton
(Developmental Reading/English)
- ▲ 2010 - Kay Shaw
(Mathematics)

Caring about students ... Nobody did it better than one-of-a-kind Luchsinger

Dr. Barbara Luchsinger was the sixth recipient of the Rend Lake College Foundation "Faculty Excellence Award" in 1985. It would have surprised no one if she had been the first in 1980 or the first and only repeat winner in 1990 or 1995 or 1999, when she retired as a full-time professor. Perhaps even the first "Outstanding Faculty" recipient as the first to be so honored from the part-time ranks between 2000 and 2005.

To say the least, Dr. Luchsinger truly was one-of-a-kind. She educated students and made friends for Mt. Vernon Community College and Rend Lake College for almost 50 years. A few months after failing health forced her out of the classroom – with a personal assistant/friend needed to get her there and back home in later years – she died November 17, 2005 at age 75.

Barbara Luchsinger joined the faculty of Mt. Vernon Community College in 1957, its second year of existence, and remained a charter member of the Rend Lake College instructional staff. She turned down the initial attempt to hire her to teach at MVCC in 1956, joined the staff on a shared, part-time basis with Mt. Vernon Township High School from 1957-60, then left for advanced studies at the University of Iowa between 1960 and '65. Dr. Luchsinger returned – this time for good – serving as Department Chair from 1965-75.

Among her numerous accomplishments in those early years, according to President Mark S. Kern, she edited the first successful North Central Association of Schools and Colleges Self-Study prior to the accreditation visit, introduced the first vocational English course on campus and fought long and hard for placement testing.

But the characteristic that best defines Dr. Luchsinger, Kern indicated . . . "We have a lot of caring people at Rend Lake College, and if anybody exemplifies that more than Barbara Luchsinger, I don't know who it would be. Her heart is as big as this room."

In addition to playing a major role in the establishment of the college's writing and reading programs, Dr. Luchsinger served as sponsor of the student newspaper and advisor for the Rho Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the national community college scholastic honor fraternity. She also was a patron for many years of the literary magazine published by the Arts and Communications Department. In later years, she was active with the RLC Foundation, working with and presenting special classes for the Institute for Learning in Retirement.

The RLC Human Services Club selected Dr. Luchsinger as its 1996 "Humanitarian of the Year."

According to club sponsor Dr. Sue Tomlin, "The students felt she was deserving of this honor because she goes beyond the normal expectations of the teacher role and cares about students as 'whole' people. Students appreciate the fact she is eager to help any student who comes to her



**Dr. BARBARA
LUCHSINGER**
ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR

seeking advice . . . academic or otherwise. She took time recently to call an ailing student at home to wish her well . . . an act the student found quite touching."

Tomlin told the *RLC Times* student newspaper, "There are not many instructors who take such a personal interest in their students. This is why the students felt she deserved the award . . . for her overall caring attitude toward students."

Dr. Luchsinger carried the "Humanitarian of the Year" plaque with her following its presentation, she confided to a student reporter. The article noted, "She is proud of the award . . . because she is glad students appreciate her efforts to make them feel comfortable and know she genuinely cares about their well-being.

"The tribute said I was receiving the award because I took the time for my students," said Luchsinger. "Not only time to help them with assignments, but personal concerns as well. I believe this is the most important thing we (teachers) can do. It is part of our job. If you don't care about people, you should not be here."

In 1992, Dr. Luchsinger was one of five original faculty members saluted during 25th Anniversary celebrations, along with English colleague and friend, Georgine Hawley; Secretarial Science Instructor Gela Goin; Allied Health Instructor / Department Chair Shirley McHaney and Health Education Instructor / Coach / A.D. Jim Waugh.

A Rend Lake College news release at the time acknowledged, "Twenty-five years represents only a portion of the time Dr. Luchsinger has spent helping educate residents of Southern Illinois. In reality, she comes close to having helped start two different colleges. She arrived at Mt. Vernon Community College the second year and, except for time off for good behavior (to pursue a doctorate from her Master's alma mater), has been a mainstay ever since."

Dr. Luchsinger continued to give of herself after death, choosing to donate parts of her body to science. She also left the family farm, where she continued to live throughout her life in the Dix area, to the RLC Foundation.

In her retirement letter, Dr. Luchsinger wrote, "I have seen the area college, Rend Lake, develop toward its goal of a multipurpose people's college: Transfer (movement toward higher academic or vocational degrees); vocational certificate programs; community service; other." She sang the praises of many peers and administrators, past and present. "We are individuals. Sometimes we get along better than we do others (and I've had my moments), but I doubt I could think of one person in any capacity who, if you needed a cup of hot soup at 2 a.m. Sunday, would not try to get it for you." "May God bless," she concluded. "May the millennium see Rend Lake College the people's college where it has been since its inception at the helm, the forefront of education at the junior college level, leading always to the Beyond."

'Excellence' personified: Crouse develops quality graduates, educators

Her patients and their families knew it years ago, when she worked as a professional Registered Nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital in Breese. In addition to providing loving care, she was teaching those she came in contact with about their illnesses and treatment.

Students and future employers of her graduates discovered how skilled she was sharing her knowledge and expertise soon after her arrival at Rend Lake College in 1994.

Ditto for the many colleagues she mentored over the years as a valued member of the Practical Nursing program and Allied Health Division.

Now – it is about time, on the brink of her pending retirement – everyone should realize Barbara Crouse is "Faculty Excellence" personified.

"In 2011, Barb accepted the challenging role as Director of Nursing," explained her letter of recommendation. "The additional responsibility for supervision of the Practical and Associate Degree Nursing programs is in addition to her role as an educator.

"This has catapulted Barb into her current leadership role. She has used her vast knowledge and experience to lead the Nursing department toward a curriculum revision and the initial steps toward national accreditation.

"She is a born leader and an excellent example of what hard work can achieve. Barb deserves to be the recipient of the Faculty Excellence Award because she is diligent, reliable and displays a high degree of integrity and professionalism. She is an example of what the college should look for when defining excellence."

The letter was signed by nine Allied Health representatives and nine instructors from other disciplines.

The recommendation cites many examples . . .

- "Barb has been instrumental in the success of a program that continues to produce high-quality, professional nurses as evidenced by both strong testing scores and feedback from healthcare facilities."

- "She teaches several courses and is respected by peers for difficult subjects such as Nursing Fundamentals and Pharmacology. She developed and leads the fundamental skill-building for first-year students, making sure skills are demonstrated and evaluated correctly."

- "Students after graduation comment that having had Barb as an instructor made them a better nurse. Comments from employers of these students indicate a high regard for their knowledge and skill, as well as the program that prepared them."



BARBARA CROUSE
PRACTICAL NURSING PROFESSOR,
RN MSN / DIRECTOR OF NURSING

- "When a Nursing Instructor joins Rend Lake College's Nursing program, they are skillful in nursing but (often) a novice as a nurse educator. She is able to share how to be a great instructor because she leads by example. She can do this with ease partly because she is very organized, proficient and talented in nursing education. She possesses the leadership skills necessary to succeed in even the toughest times."

- "Instructing in a program geared toward entry-level nurses in an ever-changing healthcare environment, Barb has been the driving force in re-assessing and revamping the curriculum." She has implemented new courses, developed hybrid courses and revised old courses to keep the P.N. program current and flourishing. She also has organized several professional development retreats for faculty to improve the Nursing curriculum.

- "A new role she has taken on in the last few years is serving as an advisor to future Nursing students. This job is time-consuming, but because of her organization she is able to do it with ease in addition to teaching her assigned classes."

- Crouse is a valued member on the Allied Health Advisory Committee, served a three-year term on the Academic Council from 2010-13 and had been part of numerous other campus-wide committees. Participation "allowed Barb the opportunity to give input to improve the quality of education at Rend Lake College. Because of her knowledge and long-tenure, Barb understands all the protocols and procedures involved in making the Practical Nursing program run smoothly."

Need we say more?

Crouse has been involved in annual fund-raising for the Practical Nursing Endowment Scholarship through the RLC Foundation. These scholarships benefit students by providing tuition reimbursement for the Summer Term.

Her Nomination Form for the 2014 ICCTA Outstanding Faculty Member Award submitted by administrators cited even more reasons: a "willingness to listen to students and spend time outside the classroom to help students achieve their goals," assisting in the development of 16 new ADN courses in a concept-based curriculum, her contributions to "Pathways to Results" with its focus on addressing equity gaps between diverse learners and the fact she serves as the Rend Lake College representative on the Advisory Council for the McKendree University Division of Nursing.

She served for many years as President of the McKendree College Nursing Honor Society.

In her Carlyle community, Crouse has organized and participated in various fund-raisers for area charities. She is an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and a leader in a Bible Study group that meets on a regular basis.

An avid golfer, she plays in a golf league in Nashville.

Crouse earned her Associate Degree in Nursing from Kaskaskia College, a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from McKendree College and a Master's Degree in Nursing from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.

Palm-reading more fun than fudge? Tomlin takes learning outside class

Need someone to talk about "Brazilian Correctional Facilities?" How about an expert on "The Stigma of Illiteracy: A Family Affair" or "Stigma and Incest Survivors."

Maybe you would rather hear about "Palm Reading: Just for Fun." Or perhaps you are just looking for someone "who makes a mean batch of fudge."

Dr. Sue Tomlin to the rescue. The versatile instructor can do it all and then some.

In a letter of nomination signed by no less than 25 – three are required – of her co-workers, Susan Santoro Tomlin was highly recommended as the 16th recipient of the coveted RLC Foundation "Faculty Excellence" Award.

After listing some of the many attributes of the 10-year Sociology / Anthropology Instructor, the letter-writers concluded, "While the above merits will hopefully stand on their own, they cannot fully describe the valuable contributions Sue makes to her students, the Business / Social Science Dept., Rend Lake College and the community."

Tomlin, who earned her Ph.D. in Sociology (specialization: "Deviance") from SIU-Carbondale three years ago, was nominated by one of her students last year for **Who's Who Among Community College Teachers** and was a participant the year before that in the Fulbright-Hays Seminar Abroad program to Brazil. She also was recipient of the college's Jeane Jordan Kirkpatrick Endowed Chair for Global Education in 1991. In May, she will be leading (along with Instructor Carolyn Stewart) a class of students and other community participants to Spain and Morocco, similar to the trip she made last spring to Ireland.

She has been a counselor at Hudelson Baptist Children's Home in Centralia (1981) and with Comprehensive Services in Mt. Vernon (1981-86) and has taught classes part-time for Big Muddy River Correctional Center (1993-94).

Tomlin "brings diversity in terms of academic training and instructional experience together..." noted her nominating letter. "She demonstrates her impact on students outside the classroom by arranging field trips to local prisons; she also has several projects for her students involving service to the community, which can be very powerful and educational experiences for many of them."

She serves as Faculty Advisor for the RLC Human Services Club and as a member of the International Studies and Program Review committees, as well as the statewide Illinois Community College Advisory Committee.



Dr. SUE TOMLIN
SOCIOLOGY / ANTHROPOLOGY
INSTRUCTOR

FACULTY EXCELLENCE

Sidwell's Business: spirit, substance ...emotional-intellectual connections

Getting down to business has meant taking homework and tests serious for many Rend Lake College students the past 25 years. Certainly Business majors under Professor Larry Sidwell will attest to that.

"Students say his tests are difficult, but that he is fair. I would consider that a compliment," said the peer who wrote the nomination letter for Sidwell's consideration as the RLC Foundation "Faculty Excellence" Award recipient for 2002. At least 20 other colleagues concur, as evidenced by the signatures on the letter, as did a committee of former award-winners.

Sidwell "has been a conscientious, devoted faculty member for 25 years. I know he is very dependable. I cannot remember a day when he has not been on campus and in classes," continued the letter-writer.

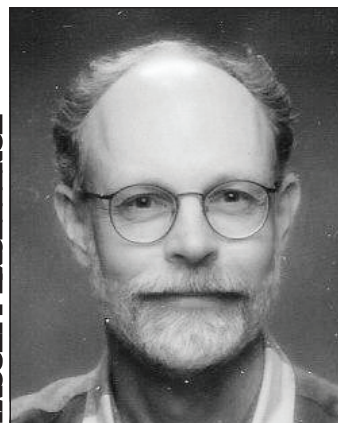
"I can tell his students respect him, because I hear comments from some of my students who are in his classes. Members of the department and other faculty respect him, also, both as a colleague and teacher."

Unfortunately for Business majors or anyone else interested in learning from one of the best, the 50-year-old Sidwell's days on campus are numbered. Smart "business" man that he is, Sidwell began planning for his retirement years ago. He will teach classes part-time for a minimum of six more semesters in order to make an early buyout beneficial to both parties.

"I am consciously aware of the influence I have and the duty to use my position responsibly," he says. Preparing entry-level students for the next level and "covering the material" are crucial, also, as he well knows.

"In reality, effective teaching consists of more than the simple recitation of information. There must be spirit as well as substance . . . an emotional and an intellectual connection. I want them to have confidence in my knowledge, but likewise, I want them to see my passion for the discipline and my sincere belief in their potential," he said.

A former student, now a Certified Public Accountant like her mentor, has been a Sidwell devotee for many years.



LARRY SIDWELL
BUSINESS PROFESSOR

FACULTY EXCELLENCE

"He was undoubtedly the toughest instructor I had as an accounting student at RLC. But it was from him I learned the most," she says. "He challenged me to figure things out on my own, but he was always there if I needed help. He taught what was happening in the real business world, not just what came out of the textbook."

Denton 'without question, best teacher I have encountered,' 'an asset to RLC'

Hired full-time 10 years ago this spring, RLC Associate Professor Linda Denton ascends to the rank of full-fledged Professor status in the fall. But here is another way of describing her in the meantime . . . recipient of the 1998 Rend Lake College Foundation "Faculty Excellence Award."

Denton (who would become Dr. Denton in 2004) teaches Physics and Physical Science.

Many of Denton's students and former students might

call her something entirely different, as did grad Linda Murphy two years ago when she wrote President Mark S. Kern to express her feelings concerning Denton.

"She certainly is an asset to RLC, and I wanted it brought to your attention, noted Murphy, with "over 100 credit hours of both average and challenging classes" behind her. "She is, without ques-



LINDA DENTON
PHYSICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR

tion, the best teacher I have encountered in my schooling." Denton does a tremendous job, according to Murphy. "May I say that the other students and I thoroughly enjoyed Ms. Denton's class . . . science, of all things!

"She runs her class like The Price is Right game show, learning names by calling them out . . . discovering the correct answers she seeks with leading questions, "usually upbeat and just an overall interesting teacher."

Many on campus would be surprised to learn Denton was appointed by Gov. Jim Edgar and served from 1991-97 on the Illinois Coal Development Board; has been a member of the Community Consolidated School District 204 Board in Tamaroa since 1993, and is President of the Coast-to-Coast Hardware Store she owns in Tamaroa with her husband, Roger.

A **Who's Who Among American Teachers** nominee, Denton has served on the Policies and Procedures Committee and others, including North Central Association Student Assessment and Distance Learning Development.

"Linda is a dedicated and knowledgeable instructor with high standards of teaching, indicated her letter of recommendation signed by six colleagues. "She is well-liked and respected by her peers and is always a 'team player' in department activities. She also is well-liked and appreciated by her students."

Encore! Encore! Showman Johnson replaces empty minds with open ones

D.J. Johnson agrees with the philosophy of magazine publisher Malcolm Forbes: "Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one."

It is this attitude, along with a bit of showmanship, that made Johnson, Industrial Health and Safety Professor, the perfect selection for the RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award.

Johnson joined a rapidly expanding Mining Technology Department in 1979. As the coal industry peaked and declined over the years, he created a statewide niche by expanding his safety training and has become renowned in the mining/quarry industries for dynamic presentations.

These days, Johnson travels the length and breadth of the state, carrying his classroom with him, to do eight-hour sessions at different locations each day. He provides mandatory safety training to the heavy equipment, mining and quarry industries throughout the state, delivering high-energy, multimedia presentations to his audiences.

"As a testament to his excellence, he has returned each year to conduct training for some of the same clients for 20 years or more. Few educators can say their students ask them to return as many times as D.J.," said RLC officials.

The definition of ignorance is "the state of being uninformed." Johnson's educational philosophy - to lessen ignorance through learning - may sound simple, but it is a rather bold and risky undertaking. Delivering information which is unknown and sometimes unwanted often can be met with doubt and skepticism, Johnson said.



D.J. JOHNSON
INDUSTRIAL SAFETY PROFESSOR

"A sign of success would be a 'confrontational' debate," Johnson said. "If a teacher can stimulate and facilitate such debates, learning will occur."

Quoting Philosopher / Writer Will Durant, Johnson said, "Education is a progressive discovery of our own ignorance. In 27 years as a teacher, I have never left a class without having learned something.

When the teacher learns something, he or she then has a little more knowledge to share with others."

"A bit of showmanship is necessary, also," Johnson adds.

He has taught over 50,000 students and teaches for 120 mining companies / sites while working with the Office of Mines and Minerals and the Mine Safety and Health Administration state grants.

Johnson is President of the United States Mine Rescue Association and is a member of the Illinois Mining Institute Executive Board.

Math Ace Metzger nets another winner, this one from her peers

Diane Metzger wins frequently at the local level; she is the Southern Illinois Tennis Association's top-ranked tennis player in Southern Illinois for women age 35 and over and has earned the Marian Keifer Award as the top senior player in Southern Illinois the past eight years.

As a tennis coach, she has won at the regional level; her Lady Warriors, after finishing second by a point last season, claimed their first-ever Region XXIV crown this past fall to advance to the National Junior College Athletic Association Championships for the second straight year. They also posted the highest cumulative grade-point average of any RLC athletic team.

And she has won on an even larger stage; her promotion of youth and adult tennis in the area has twice earned her the prestigious U.S. Tennis Association Community Service Award.

But this may be the best of all. She has been acknowledged by her peers. What greater achievement than that?

Metzger has been named the 24th winner of the annual "Faculty Excellence" Award.

The latest honors for the tennis ace are based on what counts most . . . her role for the past 18 years as a full-time Mathematics professor and an educational leader statewide. She spent several years before that as a part-time Math instructor, JTPA tutor and GED instructor.

"Ms. Metzger does not, in any way, let her coaching interfere with being a great teacher. The time and effort she spends on class plans and work accounts for her successful students and should not go unrecognized," noted one of her spring students, Megan Knapp.

"I can verify her teaching abilities and styles are second to none. At any time, she is willing to assist students needing help or explain reasoning."

Metzger says she believes "all students can learn mathematics, given the correct placement, guidance, instruction and encouragement. That is, of course, if students also are willing to put in their time and effort.

"I believe the role of a professor is to provide guidance and encouragement, as well as instruction. To do this,

the professor should strive to make students feel comfortable enough to ask questions and participate in class."

Metzger confided, "I hope my love of math and teaching is conveyed to my students. I feel very fortunate to have a profession I truly enjoy."

She developed and has supervised the Math Lab since 1985.



DIANE METZGER
MATHEMATICS PROFESSOR

Bennett-Minor 'very much a role model of caring, empathetic nurse'

Patricia Bennett-Minor believes much of being a great teacher comes from being a great listener. Now, Bennett-Minor is listening to her colleagues as they honor her with the 2004 RLC Foundation "Faculty Excellence" Award.

Bennett-Minor has two professions – she is a Practical Nursing Professor as well as a registered nurse. According to a colleague, Bennett-Minor "is an invaluable asset to Rend Lake College and its students, the field of education and the health care profession."

Many of Bennett-Minor's students describe her as demanding, fair and fun. A statement often made about her by her students is "nearly everything she presents in class has an obvious and direct application to our jobs," according to one of her recommendation letters.

Bennett-Minor "has always put her students first in her teaching. Her whole demeanor and focus is aimed at making sure students have the best educational experience possible . . . she is very much a role model of the caring and empathetic nurse," the letter reads.

Bennett-Minor herself says, "To teach is to listen, first to listen. Then hearing the needs of those in our service, to teach is to lead others to a stronger and more autonomous place in life."

Outside the classroom, Bennett-Minor is a tireless worker for the college. She has served on the Academic Council and numerous standing and ad hoc committees, and is a "promoter of Rend Lake College and the nursing profession in Southern Illinois."

The single mother has managed to find time and energy to provide outstanding service to her profession, college, students, church and community with "a quiet dignity that all too often goes unnoticed, and yet still makes sure her children have her time, guidance and love."

Successful institutions of any kind have one common thread – "dedicated, tireless, intelligent workers who go about their jobs with a passion . . . people who do not seek the spotlight, who neither want nor expect anything more than the amount they earn to feed the family, success of their institution and the people whom they serve," said one of her peers.

Friends say her sense of humor makes working with her a delight. In a clinical setting, Bennett-Minor has a strong commitment to her patients and her emphasis on quality care makes her a role model. "She epitomizes all that is good about Rend Lake College, higher education and human beings in general," stated a fan.



T. BENNETT-MINOR
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSOR

Curriculum innovator Williams 'exceptional' in classroom, community

Whether Larry Williams is entertaining his students with hair-raising biology stories, volunteering in his community or just paddling down some Southern Illinois waterway in his kayak, he is sure to be making a positive impact on everyone in his path. This quality and others earned him the RLC Foundation "Faculty Excellence" Award.

Williams, a Zoology professor and Mt. Vernon resident, teaches Microbiology and Human Anatomy and Physiology, and he has had a heavy hand in the development of both. When Williams joined the faculty in August 1981, he was responsible for developing and implementing the Microbiology course and for expanding the Anatomy and Physiology curriculum into a two-semester offering, both essential for the growth of nursing and health care programs.

"As a member of the Math, Science and Education Division for the last 25 years, and as a Professor of Biology, we feel he exemplifies the talent, dedication and performance which define faculty excellence," said a nomination letter signed by a host of Williams' colleagues.

"Larry's contributions to Rend Lake College and the community have been many over his career," the letter adds. "He has proven to be an exceptional classroom instructor, active curriculum

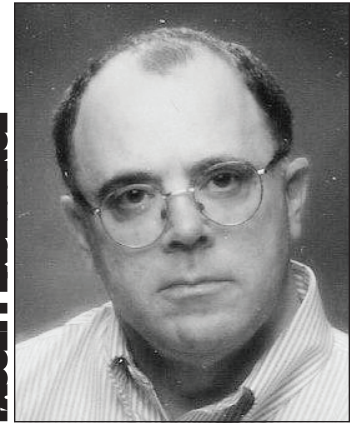
innovator and dedicated community member. Both RLC and the region have benefited from his professionalism and academic expertise and through the expression of his varied interests."

Williams is able to give students real-world examples from his work in area hospitals before joining the RLC faculty. He continues with professional development through seminars and advanced physiology courses and brings even more new ideas into the classroom.

"His students are armed with the proper knowledge and the ability to use that knowledge in their fields of work," said his colleagues. Williams also served as Chair of the former Math, Science, Education, Health and P.E. Department.

Williams enjoys promoting science education and bringing science experiences to younger students. He developed a "Science Saturdays" grant program to encourage grade school students and has been involved in the annual WYSE competition for prep students. He and former Instructor Vincent Cain organized RLC's first Scholar Bowl team in 1986.

Williams also is no stranger to committee work. He has served on the Academic Council and Social Committee, among many, was a mentor for AmeriCorps Illinois RiverWatch and helped refurbish the one-room schoolhouse.



LARRY WILLIAMS
ZOOLOGY PROFESSOR

FACULTY EXCELLENCE

The all-around good guy is heavily involved in the Kiwanis Club, also. He is on the Board of Directors of the Mt. Vernon club, serving as president in 2000, and was named a Kiwanis Fellow for outstanding community service in 2001.

Williams has "developed his fascination with nature and history into projects which enrich the lives of others," add his colleagues. At the forefront: "A History of Coal Mines in Southern Illinois" for the My Journey Home project for WSIU.

Miss Bonnie good example of professionalism: both tough and gentle



BONNIE TOLBERT
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSOR

FACULTY EXCELLENCE

Bonnie Tolbert, an Associate Professor in the Practical Nursing program, is Rend Lake College's nominee for the 2008 ICCTA Faculty Excellence Award.

In their nomination letter, coworkers stated, "Bonnie has dedicated most of her adult life to the education of young men and women who are interested in the health care of others. She is a unique instructor who is, at the same time, tough and gentle with students. . . . Bonnie is the example of professionalism to which we want all of our students to aspire."

One student wrote, "There is a very small number of individuals who have made a tremendous impact on my life . . . Bonnie Tolbert, or Miss Bonnie as many of us affectionately call her, is one of these select people."

Tolbert explained that an unexpected phone call 31 years ago put her on the rewarding journey of helping others to fulfill their dream of becoming a nurse. Since then, she has learned a lot from her coworkers and mentors, she said upon receiving the award from RLC Vice President of Instruction Dr. Jim Hull.

"Thank you for this and especially to my Allied Health nursing team," she said. "They are very special and help me a lot. So, this is for you."

Pre-RLC, Tolbert spent her entire career in various capacities at Pinckneyville Community Hospital, including Operating Room Supervisor, Assistant Director of Nursing, In-Service Director and Cardiopulmonary Rehab. She was a part-time RLC clinical instructor from 1975-92.

Miller commitment, professionalism bring high expectations for students

Computer Science Professor Janet Miller is going out a winner. That should come as no surprise to her colleagues the past 24 years and hundreds of students she has influenced during her tenure as a valued, versatile instructor at Rend Lake College.

Miller is retiring, but not before receiving the Rend Lake College Foundation's "Faculty Excellence" Award determined in large part by her peers. The Mt. Vernon resident who is an advocate of praise as a motivational tool is the first of the 22 faculty members to be so recognized since 1980 to receive the accolades with retirement imminent.

"Janet has served the institution and its students with commitment and professionalism," notes the Illinois Community College Trustees Association statement of adherence to award criteria. "Ms. Miller always has found time for each and every student who requested personal attention, both in and out of the classroom environment. Her ability to teach in both baccalaureate-transfer and career/technical programs has provided an opportunity to fully exhibit her instructional diversity."

But, the justification goes on, her "greatest contribution to fostering academic excellence is her strong belief students are more than capable of meeting high academic expectations if they are provided encouragement, support and true caring. Because of her adherence to this belief, Janet has assisted an untold number of students attain personal and professional goals."

"I have high expectations for my students and usually they meet, if not exceed, my goals (for them)," she said.

"Most students are excited about learning and are willing to attempt to learn if they understand the importance of the lesson. All students can learn if motivated properly. It is the responsibility of the classroom teacher to create a desire for them to learn and to challenge the students. Every semester I use different methods to motivate my students. I attempt to analyze each student individually and prepare a plan for his/her learning style."

Linda Lemon says of her former Office Systems Technology instructor, "Janet has influenced my life as a nontraditional student like no other. She has made me feel very welcome and helped support me in my college life as well as my personal life. I will always remember Janet as a great friend and mentor."

Miller has worked in two departments and served as an Interim Department Chair.



JANET MILLER
COMPUTER SCIENCE PROFESSOR

Honoree Dill 'has had very positive effect on community where he lives'

William Dill, who began his teaching career without a degree 15 years ago and is now working toward a Doctorate in Higher Education with Community College Emphasis, is recipient of the 1992 RLCF "Faculty Excellence" Award.

"One can visit almost any industry in Southern Illinois and find people who have been students in his classes, either in production, maintenance or management.

"Through his classroom work, campus work and work with area industry, William has accomplished something all of us in the community college setting should be striving for . . . He has had a very positive effect on the community in which we live," according to his supporters.

Since joining the RLC faculty in 1977 as a non-degree instructor who taught Mine Mechanics, Dill has earned his AAS Degree in Mining Technology from Rend Lake College; B.S. (Occupational Education) and M.S. (Education) Degrees from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, and half of his coursework toward a Ph.D.

He also has taken specialty courses in Quality Control and Auditing, Effective Management, Computer-Assisted Instruction, Computer-Aided Manufacturing, Production and Inventory Control, Applied Calculus, Pneumatics, Air Logic and Automated (Robotics) Systems.

In addition to teaching such subjects as Robots and Automation, Integrated Systems, Technical Math, Automated Pneumatic Controls, Hydraulics, Electricity, Industrial Mechanics, Technology Literacy, Explosive Substances and MSHA Annual Mandatory Training, Dill coordinated all phases of training and college activities for the Inland Steel Scholarship and Employee Training Programs. He developed many of the classes listed above and was instrumental in the development of the Industrial Service Technology programs.

He also represented RLC in several Industrial/Education joint ventures and has developed specialized training programs for Dowzer Electric, General Tire Company, H.B. Williamson Company, Inland Steel Coal, Joy Manufacturing, Walgreens and Cargill, Inc.

"William is a tireless worker and is constantly updating his courses and teaching methods," noted his peers.

He has presented at the National Conference of Teaching Excellence and participated in the International Faculty Exchange with Southend College of Technology in England.

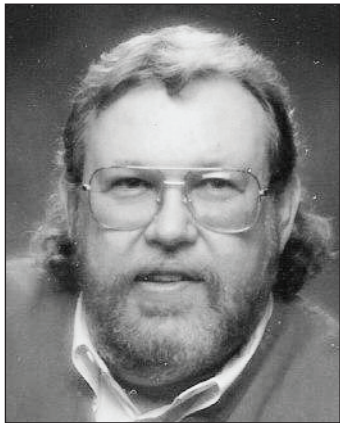


WILLIAM DILL
INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY
INSTRUCTOR

Students find kindhearted Mullen boasts open-door policy, available

He cares enough to volunteer his time to be an academic advisor to the men's basketball team and work at the scorer's table during games. Yet he cares enough to speak out against athletics if he feels there is an overemphasis at the expense of academia.

He remains young by playing computer games with his newspaper staff when deadlines are nowhere near, yet provides serious counsel for young and old alike who need someone to talk to, seek advice from or be a good listener.



MICHAEL P. MULLEN
ENGLISH / JOURNALISM INSTRUCTOR

Big, burly and gruff in appearance, he is in reality a kindhearted gentle giant.

One other thing. Michael P. Mullen, who joined the staff in 1980 a few months after he had received his Master's Degree in English Literature, is recipient of the RLCF 15th annual "Faculty Excellence" Award.

Mullen has taught six English courses, ranging from Developmental

English to Technical Writing to an Honors Composition course he developed himself and Modern Lit; three Journalism courses, including a Mass Media course he created, and Speech; he has served as advisor to an award-winning student newspaper since his arrival, and he has been an outspoken Academic Council member since 1983.

"Mikey," as some of his friends prefer to call him, "stands for what the innovations of the community college environment and Rend Lake College, in particular, are about," according to his letter of nomination signed by the other members of the Arts and Communications Dept.

"He is available, always, for his department; but perhaps even more important, for anyone who needs help. He gives time unstintingly to his students. Seldom is he in his office without a student, and those who come are men and women from all age groups, levels of ability and curricular preferences." Often times outside his office, "a box with 'freebie' books is outside the door" for the taking.

Mullen is a product of the largest community college in the state, College of DuPage in the Chicago suburbs.

A longtime advocate of the "College Bowl" team and former chair of the Learning Resources Committee (1986-89), he also teaches an upper-level literature course for McKendree College on the RLC campus. Mullen was one of the first to step forward with a \$1,000 donation (soon to become \$3,000 thanks to a matching 2-for-1 grant) to the RLC Foundation's "Endowed Challenge" Grant.

He retired in 2007 and died January 16, 2014 at age 65.

RO (HO)AR... Worth shouting out: Award-winner really warm, caring

The sign on her office door offers a forewarning to all who dare approach: "I shout, therefore I am."

During her recent two-year reign of "terror" as a co-chair for the Rend Lake College Self-Study in preparation for a critical accreditation visit, she became better known as one-half of the "Sisters of Thunder."

But the roar that merits all of the attention is merely for show and is not indicative of the real Rosalie Hoar, the award-winning instructor in RLC's Skills Center.

• Just ask Lynn Nimtz, her Skills Center colleague who penned the letter of recommendation for the college's 20th "Faculty Excellence" Award winner. "It is difficult to capture in words the essence of this very complex, very warm and very giving person. Ro has left an indelible mark on the lives of many students, not to mention the impact she has had on co-workers," writes Nimtz. "Many who have crossed her path know that behind the shouting is a person who cares deeply about her students, her co-workers and the college she so honorably serves."

• Just ask any of the 31 other employees, from all walks of campus life, who endorsed Hoar's nomination letter.

• Or check with any of the 13 friends who formed a chorus line, of sorts, immortalized that message and concluded their prose reading / rap session performance at the annual Board-Faculty-Staff Dinner at which Hoar was honored by bring-

ing out party favors and blowing kazoos. It takes true friends and believers to show support as openly as they were willing to do.

And if that is not enough proof, then ask those who got to know her better when she was saluted as one of 35 statewide recipients of "Outstanding Faculty Awards" at the ICCTA Awards Banquet. Only two developmental instructors were honored.

Dr. Julie K. Meents, Dean of Instruction, alluded to the "highest honor a faculty member can receive," recognition from peers. The first-year Dean said it did not take her long on campus to come to appreciate Hoar's "energy, humor and dedication."

"I have spent most of my career dealing with the student who needs extra help," Hoar commented. "If along the way of communication, I happen to stress grammar and good writing skills while exchanging ideas on values and ethics – and even one student is truly successful each semester – I feel I have succeeded."



RO HOAR
DEVELOPMENTAL SKILLS
ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR

Math educator Cox 'most inspirational' with dedication to high standards

Rend Lake College Mathematics Professor Sandra Cox was singled out as the "most inspirational teacher" of an incoming Western Illinois University student last fall in an anonymous survey.

Seven colleagues summarized their feelings when they addressed . . . "dedication to high standards, curriculum



SANDRA COX
MATHEMATICS PROFESSOR

innovation and national and state recognition for Rend Lake College . . . Sandra Cox brings excellence to Rend Lake College."

Cox herself says, "All educators should be held to a high level of standards in all areas of their lives. After all, we are role models for many young adults and children and should act accordingly."

RLC Fall graduate Tri-

cia Damazio would agree wholeheartedly and would tell you Cox certainly adheres to the philosophy she espouses. But Damazio questions one aspect of her former instructor's career. "What I can't believe," she said, "is she has not been 'Teacher of the Year' before, because she was the teacher of the year to me."

Students need not take exception any longer. Cox, a former **Who's Who Among Junior College Students**, is the 21st recipient of the RLCF "Faculty Excellence Award."

"Ms. Cox showed us day in and day out we could succeed in whatever we wanted. She had faith in us and our abilities, which really meant a lot. She was one of those teachers who always went the extra mile for her students," added Damazio. "She was not only a teacher but a friend, a mentor and an advisor . . . which she did not have to be."

Cox "has dedicated her life to education," noted her peers. "She is known as a tough-but-fair teacher."

Membership on five state and national math committees keeps Cox busy outside the classroom. She will serve on the Mathematics Association of America Board of Directors for 2000-03 after having been on the Illinois Community College Math Association Board from 1969-99.

Caring rapport with students, love for her discipline set Stewart apart

Students are more than willing to go the extra mile to sing the praises of Rend Lake College Associate Professor Carolyn Stewart, recipient of the 18th annual "Faculty Excellence" Award presented by the RLC Foundation.

"Carolyn transcends the traditional student-teacher relationship. The rapport she establishes with each individual earns her the respect and admiration of those who have the privilege of having her as an instructor," says former student Jadie O'Dell, who followed Stewart to Spain two years ago (and would later become a lawyer).

"Carolyn's love for the discipline compelled me to continue taking Psychology courses even after I graduated."

Christine Mitchell, another Mt. Vernon product who accompanied Stewart to Spain for the International Studies experience, echoes those thoughts. "It was having her as a teacher that helped me finalize my decision to go on as a Psychology major. Because of Carolyn's talented teaching, I was able to begin my junior year at the University of Illinois with a competitive edge. I never felt behind other students or at a disadvantage because I had transferred from a community college. I often feel at an advantage."

Jeffrey Bradley, also of Mt. Vernon, joined Stewart in Italy last August. She "is worthy of the title 'teacher.' Carolyn goes beyond presenting facts and demanding rote memorization from her students, she actually shows a level of caring for her students that goes beyond her duty . . . Carolyn makes sure her focus is on her students and that is why students appreciate her in the way that we do."

In addition to study abroad trips, the full-time faculty member since 1991 founded the RLC Chapter of Psi Beta,

an honors organization for Psychology majors, and serves as one of two unpaid sponsors of the Human Services Club. The latter has raised money for numerous worthwhile projects, including the purchase of medical supplies for Haitian children, helping an RLC student receive speech therapy and providing bandages for a badly burned child of another student.

Almost all of her student evaluations mention Stewart's thoroughness, enthusiasm and use of humor in teaching.

Stewart has been a member of the Academic Council, President's Advisory Committee and Curriculum Committee, among others, and is a frequent participant in the college Speakers Bureau.

"The Psychology teacher is sought out by students to fulfill a counseling role (which) is not part of her official job description," said a peer.

"When I compare the professors I have had at the university level to Stewart," said Mitchell, "I do see a difference. She never forgot the art of teaching. She gets to know her students by taking the extra step. I am fortunate to have had her as an instructor."



CAROLYN STEWART
PSYCHOLOGY ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Say no more: 'Hummer' stands for scholars/athletes, not reverse

Maybe it takes a highly recognizable nickname to win the "Faculty Excellence" Award at Rend Lake College.

Case in point: Last year's recipient was "Father" Scott, alias David of Agriculture fame.

Envelope, please. Drum roll. The 1991 winner: "Hummer." Say no more. Anyone worth his or her RLC trivia would know who to congratulate. Jim Waugh, who had no gray hairs when he joined forces with Mt. Vernon Community College in 1966, is the "lovable" award-winner.

A Health / Physical Education instructor and coach, Waugh has "stood for scholars / athletes, not the other way around," according to the 14 friends nominating him for this prestigious honor.

As this year's faculty honoree, "Hummer" will be officially recognized at both the annual RLC Board-Faculty-Staff Dinner and at the Illinois Community College Trustees Association annual banquet in Chicago.

"To know Rend Lake College is to know Coach Waugh," admitted his admirers. "He is more than 'Hummer,' he is Heart. Just the other day, a student who has been in his classes and on his team, said, 'His heart is as big as a house. You can always go to 'Hummer.'"

At one time or another, Waugh has taught almost every course available through the Health and Physical Education Department. He is credited with developing the "Basic First Aid" course and the "Substance Use and Abuse" course, as well as many of the P.E. activity courses.

Wrote those who submitted his name for consideration: "A teacher who discusses a student-related problem with Waugh is assured of support, of an immediate look into the difficulty, of a follow-up report that includes Waugh's impartial assessment of the situation and his recommendation for remediation. It is this infallibly predictable procedure that for over 25 years has placed Waugh at the core of college operations."

In the realm of Warrior / Lady Warrior athletics, he has served in a myriad of positions, including Athletic Director, Men (15 years) and Women's (10 years and counting)

Basketball Coach, Softball Coach, Golf Coach, Tennis Coach, Volleyball Coach, Summer Camp Director and Cheerleader Sponsor.

He has won numerous "Coach of the Year" honors, most recently GRAC acclaim in 1987, and over 35 former players are in the coaching ranks.

Waugh is the NJCAA Region XXIV Women's Director.



JIM WAUGH
HEALTH / P.E. INSTRUCTOR

FACULTY EXCELLENCE

Homan's professionalism includes intellect, humor and infinite patience

On the same evening Dr. John Homan Jr. received his five-year RLC service pin, he was recognized as the ninth annual recipient of the "Faculty Excellence Award" during Board-Faculty-Staff Dinner festivities.

The Zeigler resident teaches English classes. Prior to joining the staff full-time, he taught on a part-time basis and served, also part-time, as the first director of the RLC Foundation.

"This is an especially honorable achievement because it is selected by peers," Vocational-Technical Dean Carroll Turner said at the time of the announcement. Full-time faculty must be nominated by at least three colleagues.

"Dr. John Homan Jr. epitomizes professionalism in teaching . . . An inspired instructor, Homan combines intellect, a fine sense of humor and infinite patience into a rare blend," members of the Arts and Communications Department indicated in their letter of recommendation.

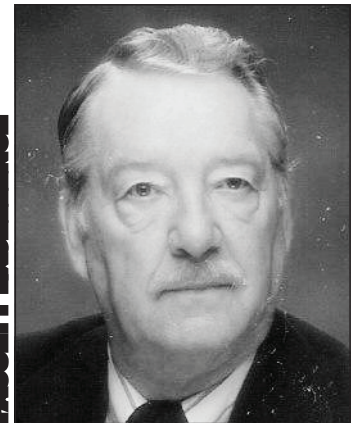
Homan brings over 25 years of teaching experience into the classroom. His Bachelor, Master and Ph.D. degrees are all from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

"He has taught not only honors sections of President's Scholars but also the students who are hardly capable of writing a complete sentence. These extremes and all those in between, Dr. Homan has nurtured with equal skill and professionalism," according to the nomination.

The "Faculty Excellence" recipient has authored many publications in professional journals. An article entitled, "On Teaching Archetypal Patterns," was published in 1969 as part of Robert F. Beauchamp's book, **The Structure of Literature**.

Homan has been Vice Chair of the RLC Academic Council since 1986 and was on the Contract Negotiation team two years ago. He also has served on the Salary Review Placement, Learning Resources and North Central Baccalaureate committees and the Task Force on Communicable Diseases at RLC. "To all these," noted his peers, "Homan has brought the benefit of his experience and wisdom."

Homan likewise has been active in the community. He sponsored the essay contest for senior citizens, "Memories of Southern Illinois," from 1985-87. He has been a volunteer fund-raiser for Easter Seals and a supporter of the Zeigler Youth Program. In addition, he serves as the Zeigler Resident Resource person for high school students needing help with research papers.



Dr. JOHN HOMAN JR.
ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR

FACULTY EXCELLENCE

'Nobody did it better' with more positive, Health-ier attitude than retiring Arnold

Retiring Instructor Wayne Arnold will represent Rend Lake College when 32 outstanding faculty members from throughout the state are honored at the Illinois Community College Trustees Association Annual Convention June 9.

It is only fitting. The theme for the Springfield convention is "Nobody Does It Better." For the first time in the four-year history of the statewide award, no instructor will be singled out; all honored guests will be treated equally by the ICCTA Excellence/Trusteeship Committee for their contributions and commitment to quality education.

Arnold received the 10th Annual "Faculty Excellence" Award presented by the RLC Foundation. He was joined by his wife, Ailene, and their son, RLC graduate Gary.

Longtime colleague and close personal friend Jim Waugh recognized some of Arnold's accomplishments during 30 years in education, the last 26 at Mt. Vernon Community College and Rend Lake College.

Waugh alluded to Arnold's fondness for organization, physical fitness, healthy eating habits and his upbeat approach to life. He praised his cohort for "developing Rend Lake College's Physical Education program."

"His most recent accomplishment is the RLC Aerobic Super-Circuit Fitness Center, which has a reputation as one of the very best fitness centers in the state. I know we have the most organized one. Wayne makes it go."

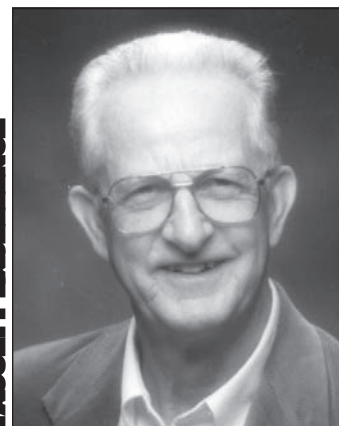
"More important," Waugh added, "is the number of

lives Wayne has touched in 30 years in education . . . He is a 'positive' person, and that attitude carries over to the people around him. That's probably more important than anything else, his cheerfulness and positive attitude.

"Rend Lake College is going to miss you, and I know you are going to miss Rend Lake College."

Arnold, who served as the college's first Faculty Marshal during the 22nd annual Commencement, was described as "one of the most stabilizing factors on campus," by Dr. Keith Lape, Dean of Instruction. "He always tried to do the job in education that would be best for the student."

Arnold conceded all the attention was "very humbling, for sure. It has been a very good 26 years at RLC and 30 in education." "I'm ready for a change, new challenges," he explained. "I have enjoyed tremendously my career at Rend Lake College. "Yeah, I'll miss it."



WAYNE ARNOLD
HEALTH / RECREATION INSTRUCTOR

Fisher extends classroom, helps average student understand Chemistry

It is only fair. A prominent NCAA basketball coach should show up on his campus or for a national TV interview wearing a Rend Lake College hat or a red-and-black Warrior jacket.

After all, this is the time of year, in particular, when Instructor John Fisher touts the exploits of his brother's team. With the Michigan Wolverines sidelined early this post-season, it means Steve Fisher has more time to take pride in his brother's latest accomplishment . . .

John Fisher is recipient of the 17th annual "Faculty Excellence" Award voted on by his peers and presented by the RLC Foundation.

John Fisher is well known on campus for an assortment of outrageous ties. But he is even better known on- and off-campus for a variety of other reasons.

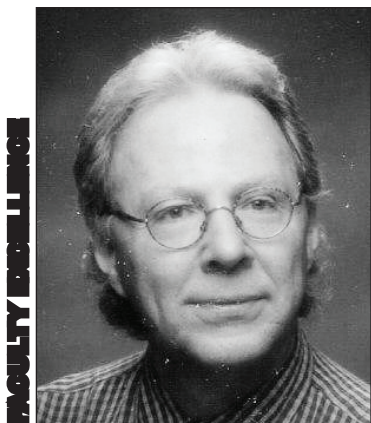
A full-time Chemistry instructor for the college since 1985, Fisher

"has built enrollment in the Chemistry program to an all-time high," according to his recommendation letter signed by 17 colleagues, including five previous winners. "His rapport with students is evidenced by the fact he is rarely seen on campus without students in tow.

"Along with this, he has oriented chemistry labs to relate principles of chemistry to applications understandable to average students. His dedication to teaching extends beyond the classroom to include visits from former students."

RLC was the first community college in the state, thanks to Fisher, to utilize interactive video technology in chemistry labs developed by two U. of Illinois professors. He was asked to make a presentation on its implementation at the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges. He also made a direct impact on 15 feeder high schools the past four years as director of the federally funded Video-Lab Science Grant, which helps strengthen chemistry backgrounds of instructors in local high schools.

Fisher likewise has introduced a lending library of science equipment and collaborations between the SIU School of Medicine's MedPrep program and RLC's "Project First Class" project providing science enrichment for female and minority students in Mt. Vernon. "For 10 years, Fisher has lent the benefit of his teaching experience and knowledge to the greater community. He is a priceless resource to his students, colleagues, college and district," note supporters.



JOHN FISHER
CHEMISTRY INSTRUCTOR

R-E-S-P-E-C-T. VanCleve's students retain classroom theory, hands-on training

Nursing Instructor Sandra VanCleve recently represented Rend Lake College in statewide competition after receiving the seventh annual "Faculty Excellence" Award presented by the RLC Foundation.

Mrs. VanCleve has taught for the last 13-plus years for the Ina-based community college. The presentation was made by Howard L. Payne, RLCF president.

To be considered for the award, faculty members must be nominated by three peers. The final selection is determined by the college's Faculty Development Committee, which considers excellence in the classroom and outstanding service both to the college and the community.

"Sandra VanCleve has that ability to emphasize theory as well as hands-on training," noted one of her admirers, "and she has the respect of those who work around her."

"One of the main reasons for judging her an excellent instructor," added another faculty member, "is her effectiveness in the classroom setting. Her lectures are interesting and imaginative. The students retain a great deal of the material from her lectures, also. This has been demonstrated by the high State Board passage rate (96 per cent last October, compared to the statewide average of 87 per cent and the 90 per cent national average) Rend Lake College students have consistently enjoyed over the years."

Mrs. VanCleve earned her Registered Nurse Degree from Union Hospital, a Bachelor's Degree from Eastern

Illinois University and a Master's Degree from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. She has served in a nursing capacity at hospitals in Centralia, Mt. Vernon and Carbondale.

In addition to her teaching duties, she has been a class sponsor for the RLC Practical Nursing organization and a member of the Academic Council. She served for 10 years on the Board of Directors of the 10th District Illinois Nurses Association and for two years as a Senator for the Illinois Nurses Association.



SANDRA VANCLEVE
NURSING INSTRUCTOR

VanCleve is active in the local Centralia chapter of the Business and Professional Women's (BPW) Club.

The award-winner and husband Charles VanCleve are the parents of three children.

Previous "Faculty Excellence" winners: Eleanor Hall, Eugene Estes, Shirley Yeargin, Vincent Cain, Gary Wade and Barbara Luchsinger.

State, national (and local) speech/communications recognition for Rust

Joseph Henry Rust, recognized statewide and nationally for his work in the field of speech / communications and the person most responsible for Rend Lake College's involvement in International Studies, has not gone unnoticed on the home front.

Rust has been selected as the 14th recipient of the "Faculty Excellence" Award. His letter of nomination was submitted by the other members of the Arts and Communications Department.



JOSEPH H. RUST
SPEECH INSTRUCTOR

Rust served as president of the 1,800-member Illinois Speech and Theatre Association during 1991. The professional organization has served as a structural model for many national and regional speech / communications associations in the world.

He also served as Chair for the Community College Section of the Speech Communication Association.

At the time, Rust noted, "This honor, as others bestowed upon me, has been facilitated by the college's dedication and support to the concept of delivering the best education experience for its students, which in turn means the best professional development for its staff."

Even more recently, he was invited to be the lone presenter on "International Education: More Than Just Internationalizing the Curriculum" at the second annual International Conference for Community College Chairs and Deans. In his speech before 850 educators from the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico and Guam, Rust presented Rend Lake College as a replica model of an integrated approach to internationalizing the community college by making use of existing structures and funding.

Rust served as the first resident Community College Director of the Illinois Consortium International Studies London Program and has helped students study in London and Canterbury, England, Salzburg, Austria, and Querétaro, Mexico. He also has published extensively in his field, including a workbook he uses in his classes which will be published soon by Harcourt Brace Custom Publishing for national distribution.

Rust has judged speech contests at all levels and frequently serves as a consultant for other publications. He likewise is known statewide for his innovative use of video classroom technology in teaching basic speech courses.

Wade first vocational instructor cited

Gary Wade, a Welding Instructor in the Mining Technology Department, was recipient of the fourth annual Rend Lake College Foundation "Faculty Award" in recognition of "excellence and dedicated service."

Wade, a resident of West Frankfort, joined the college faculty in 1975 as a full-time instructor and served as Mining Technology Department Chair from 1979-81.

A former Marine, Wade taught for five years at Frankfort Community H.S. before coming to Rend Lake College. He received his Master's Degree in Occupational Education from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale in 1977.

Wade is the first Vocational-Technical instructor to be so honored since the RLCF initiated the award in 1980.



GARY WADE
MINING INSTRUCTOR

Instructors must be nominated by peers to be considered for the Foundation award, which is accompanied by the offer to attend a summer workshop or seminar.

He later taught Automotive Technology and served as AAA Department Chair before returning to the Industrial Technology Division as an Electricity/Electronics Professor.

Capps keeps trying to better herself

Sarah Capps taught art part-time for two years before beginning full-time duty in 1982. Just five years later, she is the eighth recipient of the Rend Lake College Foundation's "Faculty Excellence" Award.

She is well-known throughout the Midwest as an accomplished artist and metalsmith. Her students continue to win numerous awards in local and Midwest exhibits.

A graduate of Mt. Vernon C.C., she earned Bachelor and Master's Degrees from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. Before returning to her hometown of Belle Rive, she was a lecturer for one year at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee and was an assistant professor for seven years at Eastern Kentucky University.



SARAH CAPPS
ART INSTRUCTOR

"Her philosophy on education," College Dean Mark S. Kern related, "is a variation of a life philosophy... 'In order for me to be happy, I always have to be testing myself. I try to better myself each time I create a painting or a piece of artwork.' As someone once said, 'The only person you have to be better than is you.' This is what she always tries to achieve."

Yeargin devoted to counseling students and community involvement

Shirley Yeargin, a Nursing Instructor for Rend Lake College since 1970, was recognized recently as recipient of the fifth annual RLC Foundation "Faculty Excellence" Award for outstanding and dedicated service. The presentation was made to her by Ruby Webb, RLCF president, at the annual Board-Faculty-Staff Dinner.

A resident of Mt. Vernon, Mrs. Yeargin received her Registered Nursing degree from Jewish Hospital School of Nursing and holds Bachelor and Master's degrees from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

While teaching at Rend Lake College, she has served on various committees, such as Curriculum, Library, Policies and Procedures, Welfare and Insurance and as Interim President of the Academic Council.

The award-winner, according to one of the peers who nominated her, "is involved with her students and their activities and has encouraged many to participate in community activities. She uses much of her personal time for counseling."

She is an active member of the American Red Cross, The Heart Association and the RLC Foundation and has organized patient education in many segments of the com-

munity. In addition, she participates annually in the Health Fair, Sweetcorn-Watermelon Festival and blood pressure, glaucoma and diabetic screenings.

Yeargin is a former president of the SIU Alumni Association in Jefferson County and recently coordinated its annual telefund locally. She also finds time to take a leadership role at St. Mary's Catholic Church.

Previous recipients of the RLC Foundation "Faculty Excellence" Award are Eleanor Hall, Vincent Cain, Dr. Eugene Estes and Gary Wade. The RLC Faculty Development Committee considers nominees based on excellence in the classroom and outstanding service both to the college and the community.



SHIRLEY YEARGIN
NURSING INSTRUCTOR

Compassionate Benns proud of caring nurses who are glad they chose RLC

As far as Associate Degree Nursing Professor Debbie Benns is concerned, it is all about family.

"I really appreciate this," she said after being presented her "Faculty Excellence" Award. "We have a true Rend Lake College Family.

"I am very touched and humbled I was even nominated for the award," she said. "I am dedicated to our nursing program and the production of effective and respectable Registered Nurses. However, we are a team on two different levels, and this award truly belongs to all of us in the department."

A Franklin County native and Lake Benton resident, Benns joined the full-time faculty in 1990 after teaching part-time and acting as a clinical instructor for 12 years.

Benns said her greatest contribution to the ADN program may be her part in its stability and consistency – key aspects that attract respect from local industry leaders.

According to her nomination letter, she was instrumental in creating one of the first Community Service courses at RLC and initiated one of the first hybrid on-line courses for the Allied Health Department and the college. She formulated the first nursing organization for the ADN students at RLC which allows them to share in the planning of curriculum and voice issues or concerns.

"I would like to think the respect we have as a program within the medical community is partly due to my teaching

efforts," she said. "My proudest moments occur when I see successful and caring nurses in the field say how glad they are they chose to attend the RLC Nursing Program."

She has served on the International, Library, Program Review and Strategic Planning Committees, Academic Council and North Central Accreditation team.

Benns holds a B.A. Degree from Western Kentucky University, a B.S. in Nursing from SIU-Carbondale and an M.S. in Nursing from the University of Evansville.

Noted her supporters, "We feel compelled to share with you the qualities which make her most valuable to our students, her peers, our college family and the community at large ... knowledgeable, compassionate and professional while going the extra mile.

"She has been and continues to be a cornerstone in the foundation of the success of the Allied Health Department."



DEBBIE BENNS
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSOR

Father (Timeless) Scott makes area a better place to live for everyone

Longtime Agriculture Instructor David Scott is better known as "Father Scott" by his students and colleagues alike. "Father Timeless" might be more appropriate, and not because the wise, experienced mentor is all that old.

"I am certain Dave Scott seldom looks at a clock as he completes his workday," noted one admirer in his letter of recommendation for Scott as the 1990 recipient of the "Faculty Excellence" Award. "He works until the job is done

regardless of the time needed for completion."

Agreed two other Scott supporters: "Dave is one of the most dedicated instructors now serving RLC. He is not only an excellent instructor, but an excellent friend to his students."

"There is no ending time for a class Mr. Scott teaches as long as the students have needs and are willing to continue to stay and work . . . Dave teaches by example, and in a lab

situation, rolls up his sleeves and works with the students."

"No one is indispensable," says Mark Kern. "But when Dave leaves, it may take two or three good men to do it."

In addition to being an excellent classroom teacher, Scott has been responsible for the initiation of several programs and courses which are now viable parts of the Ag Department and Rend Lake College . . .

- ✓ Successful conversion of the Ag program's land lab from a management unit to a demonstration plot;
- ✓ Establishment of a unique training program for Country Companies Insurance, one of only a few in the U.S.;
- ✓ The cooperative arrangement between Franklin and Jefferson County 4-H facilities on RLC property, obtained in part by an exchange with the Conservancy District;
- ✓ Hosting of the annual Southern Illinois Farm Show for the past six spring breaks on the RLC Ina campus;
- ✓ Hosting of several Future Farmers of America-related activities, including the District V FFA Foundation Award Contest and Ag Mechanics Contests for four sections.

Scott taught Ag at Sesser-Valier H.S. before arriving at RLC in 1969. He was AAA Dept. Chair for nine years before returning to full-time teaching status two years ago.

"Anyone who ever worked with him will tell you the area is a better place to live because of Dave Scott and the things he does to help people," according to County Ag Extension Advisor Richard Swope.



DAVID SCOTT
AGRICULTURE INSTRUCTOR

Example-setting Carpenter ‘worthy’ ... likes to see students learn, reach life goals

The Illinois Community College Trustees Association announced Thursday (May 19) the 28 nominees for its 2016 Outstanding Full-Time Faculty Member Award. Among them – Rend Lake College Professor Shari Carpenter.

“Great teaching comes from the heart, and nominees for ICCTA’s 2016 Outstanding Full-Time Faculty Member Award embody all the attributes of great teachers. Congratulations to our nominees,” the ICCTA release stated.

Dean of Applied Science and Technology Chris Nielsen presented Carpenter with the 2016 RLC “Faculty Excellence” Award earlier this month.

“She sets a good example, worthy of emulating,” said Nielsen. “She can do online instruction . . . credit hour compliance . . . assessment. She can go from one department to the next and talk to everybody. And I think that is well worthy of emulating.”

Carpenter, a resident of Sesser, splits her time for Rend Lake College as a Computer Science Professor and the Title III Instructional Designer. She marked her 21st year with the college on March 6.

She has served in many different positions throughout her two decades on the Ina campus. After being hired as Administrative Assistant for the Non-Traditional Student Support Services Grant – a position that no longer exists – she moved to Title III as an Administrative Assistant.

One day, she recalled, there was a shortage of instructors to teach one-day computer workshops in Mt. Vernon. Ever the volunteer, Carpenter raised her hand and embarked on a teaching career that has spanned the better part of two decades. She was hired the next year to teach part-time and was hired full-time in 2000.

“The most rewarding part of my job is seeing that light bulb in my students’ faces. I like to see students learn. That’s what my job is and I want to help them with their goals in life,” she said. “If they are learning, then I’ve done the job right.”

Currently, Carpenter teaches a number of computer classes, such as Intro to Computers and Microsoft Office classes covering Excel, Access and many others. She also splits her time teaching Instructional Methods and Strategies and providing training for her RLC Faculty peer group.

“My student is whoever is in my class . . . traditional student or faculty member. I love helping people learn, no matter the topic or level,” said Carpenter. “When I found out I won, I was so surprised and totally set back. I had no idea. It’s quite an honor to be nominated by your peers and it means a lot to me.”

Two of Rend Lake College’s finest – Carpenter and Chris Edwards – were honored for exemplary work during 2015-16. Carpenter, the full-time “Outstanding Faculty”



SHARI CARPENTER
COMPUTER SCIENCE PROFESSOR
/ INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGNER

member, and Edwards, the “Outstanding Part-Time Faculty” member, were nominated by their peers.

Ricky Robinson, Computer Networking Professor and 2015 “Faculty Excellence” winner, nominated Carpenter for the honor in an effort to applaud her for everything she does for both students and faculty.

“Students are always in her office needing help, and she helps them anytime they come,” said Robinson. “Anytime we (the faculty) have problems with Blackboard, she is the person we go to. If the reporting system is acting up, we visit Shari. She has taken on multiple jobs and is doing great at each of them.”

This is not Carpenter’s first experience being honored by her co-workers. She was recipient of the “Outstanding Support Staff” Award in 2000 and was cited in 2011 with the Faculty Assessment Award.

Edwards, a resident of Bonnie, has worked part-time at RLC since 2013, but he has been involved in a number of programs and certificates in a short time. Initially involved in helping develop RLC’s curriculum for Illinois Concealed Carry courses, Edwards also sits on the Advisory Committee for the Information Technology and the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) programs.

Most recently, he was involved in designing and developing the Unmanned Aircraft Systems program. In fact, added Nielsen, “Chris was the one who came up with the idea for the Unmanned Aircraft Systems program.” The program began with classes Fall 2015.

“I was told to report to Mrs. Lori Ragland’s [Vice President of Career Technical Instruction] office immediately, and I thought I had done something wrong. As it turns out it was the opposite,” said Edwards. “My initial thought was ‘Wow,’ and then ‘Do they have the right person?’ It is a huge honor and I am very grateful to be part of Rend Lake College.”

Edwards spends most of his time teaching the UAS program, and courses in Computer Forensics, Computer Hardware and Operating Systems, and Wireless Technologies. “The best part to me is seeing a student have that moment where it all comes together,” he said. “It is a great feeling to teach someone a skill set they can use, not only in the classroom, but sometimes apply to daily life.”

Nielsen said if he could only use one word to describe Edwards, it would be “motivated.” “Since I’ve known him, Chris has been busy. He not only teaches part-time, but runs his own business, goes to school full-time at SIU Carbondale, and finds time for his family,” said Nielsen. “Chris is one of the most personable people I know. Sometimes people in IT get labeled as geeks, but not Chris. Although he has very good technical knowledge and skills, he can carry on a conversation with anybody.”



ELEANOR HALL
SOCIOLOGY / ANTHROPOLOGY
INSTRUCTOR

Off-honored Hall first 'Faculty Excellence' winner

Sociology / Anthropology Instructor Eleanor Hall received the first Rend Lake College Foundation "Faculty Excellence" Award presented at the annual Board-Faculty-Staff Dinner May 9, 1980.

The award was created by the RLC Foundation to honor a full-time faculty member who is nominated by his or her peers and then selected by a college committee consisting of representatives from all instructional departments.

A member of the RLC faculty since its inception, Hall holds an A.B. Degree from University of Illinois and an M.A. in Sociology from Southern Illinois U.

She was named "Outstanding Educator" at Rend Lake College in 1967 by the Rho Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and was saluted as "Teacher of the Year" again for 1970. In 1972, she earned the "Outstanding Educator" National Award.

Hall studied Anthropology at the University of Colorado in 1971 through a National Science Foundation Grant, received a \$2,000 grant from the National Foundation for the Humanities to study the archeology of Southern Illinois and will spend Summer 1980 at University of California thanks to a National Endowment for the Humanities award.

Little 'innovative, supportive, diligent, challenging, tireless' and 'lucky'

Rend Lake College English Professor Rob Little has played a big role in educating local students for more than 20 years. He was presented the 2009 RLC Faculty Excellence Award May 8 at the Board-Faculty-Staff Annual Dinner.

The large group that nominated him stated, "As a colleague, Rob is innovative, supportive and diligent. As a teacher, students find him challenging, encouraging and personable. We believe he embodies all the qualities of an excellent faculty member and fully deserves recognition."

"I'm excited and honored they thought of me," said Little, 44. "I'm very pleased."

The Centralia resident graduated with his A.A. Degree from RLC in 1984.

"It was a transition from small town to university; one that certainly worked for me," he recalled. "It allowed me to grow into going to college and was something that made me successful later on." His teachers, particularly in liberal arts, were role models for his career, he added.

He went on to earn a B.A. from Southwest Baptist University and his M.A. from SIU-Carbondale. Combining 16 years as a full-timer since 1993 and seven years as an adjunct, Little has been teaching at RLC for more than two decades. New challenges and new students are what keep him going, he said.

"There are a lot of diverse students. You see all types. That's rewarding."

The mission to help students realize their full potential is a constantly changing challenge, he explained.

"I've been lucky because my job has changed. I had the opportunity to develop special topics classes when I was new. As people retired, I would move into a different class, or the challenge of HLC or technology. I have always had a sort of changing role within the department, and that keeps things fresh."

He has proven to be a great asset outside the classroom as well. Most recently, in preparation for an accreditation visit by the Higher Learning Commission, or HLC, he championed the committee charged with evaluating every aspect of the college in order to create the 240-page Self-Study document used in the visiting evaluation team's study of RLC. Not only did the college receive the maximum 10 years of continued accreditation, more than one member of the HLC team found the document to have significant value as a model for other colleges.

"While the document was a team effort, anyone involved can attest to the fact Rob was the one who was at the college on weekends, and until the wee hours of the morning, perfecting the manuscript," his nomination letter reads. "He brought out the best in others with his tireless efforts, supportive feedback and vision. Indeed, the document was commended by the outside evaluators as extremely well done."

His classes in horror fiction, Japanese film and literature and gender in film and fiction are as diverse as his teaching styles, which include team teaching, dis-

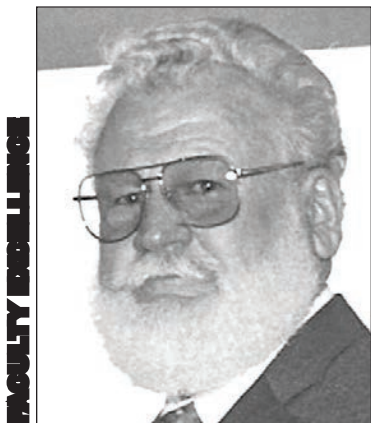


ROB LITTLE
ENGLISH PROFESSOR

tance learning, on-line classes and hybrids. In fact, Little was the first to implement a film course at RLC and was an early proponent of distance learning teaching, for which he was awarded a Technology Innovation Certificate by the Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market and a Distance Learning Innovator Award in 1997. Little also teaches Community Ed classes in "Casablanca," "The Life of Elvis Presley" and "How to Use a Mac Computer." "Rob is an 'idea guy,'" stated those who nominated him.

Evidence of his avant-garde nature can be found as far back as the '80s when he urged using computer labs to teach writing.

Past winner: Enthusiastic Cain creates stimulating learning atmosphere



VINCENT CAIN
HISTORY / GEOGRAPHY INSTRUCTOR

Vincent Cain was honored recently by the Rend Lake College Foundation for "excellence and dedicated service" to the college. Cain, who teaches history and geography, was nominated for the second annual "Faculty Excellence" Award by last year's recipient, Eleanor Hall, and two other members of the Business, Math and Social Science Department.

Cain received his Master's Degree from Austin Peay State University (TN) in 1970 and has taught at Rend Lake College since that time, serving on various academic committees and as the faculty advisor to the yearbook for five years.

In 1978, he was presented the "Distinguished Educator" Award by the student honor society on campus, the Rho Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. The recipient was described then as an instructor

who inspires students both inside and outside the classroom and who finds the time to help students.

Cain, according to Hall, "is tireless in his preparation for his classes, often coming up with new and fresh ideas that cause students to think critically and evaluate their own opinions.

"He generally creates a stimulating, often-times controversial, classroom atmosphere. His enthusiasm for his subject matter can often be heard several classrooms away."

The award-winner retired from the U.S. Army in 1966.

Cain and his wife, Ann, reside in Mt. Vernon and are the parents of two children. RLCF President Hank Hannah made the presentation at the annual Board-Faculty-Staff Dinner.

Faculty recognition not the first for multi-talented Instructor, Dr. Estes

The individual most responsible for preparing the last two Self-Evaluation Studies for the college prior to all-important accreditation visits from the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools has been recognized for his value in the classroom (and Biology / Botany labs) as well.

Dr. Eugene Estes, a highly respected Science Instructor since the college's inception in 1967, was honored by the RLC Foundation for "excellence and dedicated service to the college and community." To be considered for the award, members of the instructional staff must be nominated by at least three peers.

The 1982 award-winner holds both a Master's Degree and his Doctorate from Southern Illinois University.

Estes was honored as "Outstanding Educator" by the Student Education Association in 1973 and served as Faculty President for 1973-74.

He is responsible for development of Biology, Environmental Ecology and Home Gardener (now a TV offering) courses, plus revised Botany and Zoology course outlines in 1973-74, as well as creation of the campus greenhouse.

Estes coordinated the Self-Study in preparation of accreditation visits in 1976 and 1982 and a focus visit in 1979.

That background enabled Estes to serve as a Consultant/Evaluator between 1975 and 1986 for the North Central Association.

On-campus, he was instrumental in the planting of more than 23,000 trees in the forest portion of the outdoor lab and the seeding of 30 acres in prairie grasses.

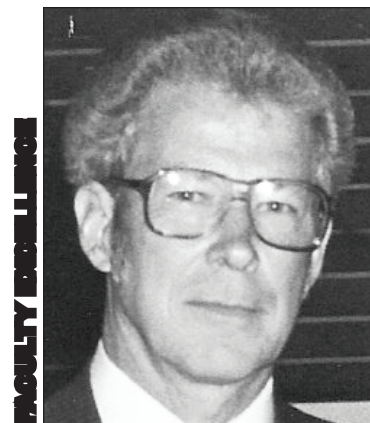
From 1974-79, he presented "Four Seasons of Illinois" to 25 community groups and conducted a Botany Seminar at SIUC, along with other presentations such as "Illinois: Land of Many Faces" and "Three Rings and the Story They Tell."

Honored during the annual Board-Faculty-Staff Dinner in May 1991 at the time of his retirement, Estes commented, "My years of teaching have been a joy to me. Basically, it has been my life."

Estes joined the faculty of Mt. Vernon Community College in Fall 1960.

Considering the fact both of his parents were teachers, his career choice should have come as no surprise. "It's in the Genes," Estes deadpanned.

Teaching runs even deeper in the family. Among those in attendance to help recognize the retiree were his teacher (librarian)/wife, Retta; daughter Kathy Colwell and her husband, Dale, both of whom are educators, and daughter Mary Farmer and husband, Danny. Kathy is an



Dr. EUGENE ESTES
SCIENCE INSTRUCTOR

RLC grad; Mary is a Practical Nursing student.

"It is my great, great privilege," said Dr. Jon Astroth, RLC President, "to recognize in this small way the outstanding career of Dr. Eugene Estes."

His Bachelor's Degree from Asbury College (KY) was in Religious Education and Biology. He is very active in Epworth Methodist Church and is a member of the Board for the United Methodist Children's Home in Mt. Vernon.

Computer Networking's Robinson develops program, varied curricula

Two members of the Applied Science and Technology Division will be honored in 2015 for their dedication and service to the RLC community and students.

Computer Science representatives Ricky Robinson and Eric Knapp have been singled out by their peers.

The Outstanding Faculty Excellence Award winner is Robinson, Computer Networking Professor. The Indiana native helped begin and develop the Computer Networking program. He came to RLC in 1998 from Continental Tire the Americas to work with electronics . . . a career change he never saw coming.

"I never thought I would become an instructor. When I came to Rend Lake, the Computer program was just starting, and it has evolved so much since then," said Robinson. "My favorite part is working with the students on the lab networking equipment. It is very hands-on and gives them lots of experience."

Robinson also has become an integral part of the Criminal Justice program, helping to incorporate computer classes with a Cybercrime Certificate. Each semester he logs five-six courses, seeing hundreds of students weekly.

"I don't feel like I deserve this honor. I think they got the wrong person," joked Robinson. "I do appreciate the nomination and I want to say 'thank you' to those who did nominate me."

Robinson is active in developing curriculum, including helping with a Security Certificate, and teaching a training course called "Refuse to be a Victim" through RLC's Community and Corporate Education Division.

He also volunteered as the administrator for the college's Pearson VUE Testing Center for three years.

Chris Nielsen, Dean of Applied Science and Technology, said Robinson is a very talented instructor who takes a proactive approach when it comes to preparing his students for their future careers.

"A student who sits in Ricky's class will gain a set of skills in which they can expect to be in-demand by employers across the nation," said Nielsen. "Ricky has looked

ahead to see changing technology in information systems and steered the program into the most relevant areas of study. He is a workman who produces quality work consistently and is worthy of the award."

Knapp claimed the Part-Time Teacher Excellence Award. Both will be honored June 5 at the ICCTA Awards Banquet.



RICKY ROBINSON
COMPUTER NETWORKING
PROFESSOR

State contributor Weston's reward: Student development, achievement

RLC Architectural Technology Professor Kevin Weston has been named the 2012 Faculty Excellence Award winner. The 20-year instructor received the award at the Board, Faculty and Staff recognition ceremony.

"Watching students develop, grow and achieve their goals and dreams is why I teach," said Weston, 55. "I love seeing my students . . . developing into their

professional careers as either architects, engineers, surveyors or teachers. It's rewarding."

In addition to teaching, Weston advises students, works on articulation agreements with regional universities and identifies and evaluates cooperative work experiences that provide students hands-on practice in the field. He currently serves as President of the RLC Academic Council and is a member of the Career and Technical Education Assessment Committee, Greening the Campus Committee and President's Policy and Procedure Committee.

His contributions to education extend beyond the RLC campus as a member of the Illinois Articulation Initiative Steering Committee; Illinois Community College Board advisory committees on finance, programming and transfer, and the Illinois Community College Performance Based Funding Committee. Since 2003, Weston has been the college's representative to the Illinois Community College Faculty Association (including President from 2004-06), and as Vice President of Legislative Affairs and Governance from 2006-10. He also serves as the Southern Region Coordinator for the ICCFA Executive Committee.

In 2006, Weston was appointed by Gov. Pat Quinn to a legislative joint task force aimed at reviewing the community college system and making recommendations to state legislators regarding the demands on the system and the role it will play in the future.

Weston formed the first SkillsUSA chapter at RLC in 2001 and has served as IDEA Region No. 18 Competition Director for 11 years. He has presented at numerous ICCB conferences and for the past two years at the New Faculty Workshop: Teaching at a Community College.

In his letter nominating Weston for the statewide award, RLC Board of Trustees Chair Bryan Drew wrote, "Clearly, Mr. Weston's impact on education is far reaching. Mr. Weston has demonstrated an excellent work ethic and dedication to his students. Based upon his accomplishments and commitment to higher education, the



KEVIN WESTON
ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY
PROFESSOR

(Continued at bottom of next page)

Early Childhood Education, RLCF Children's Center both well-Grounds(ed)

Since joining the staff full-time a dozen years ago, the 2013 Rend Lake College Foundation Faculty Excellence Award winner has played major roles in helping establish the Early Childhood Education program and the RLC Foundation Children's Center.

Tina Grounds likewise has served on the Academic Council, Advisory Council and Faculty Union, among others on-campus, as well as serving her community of West Frankfort.

She has been a staunch "proponent of teaching and nurturing the 'whole' child," according to Vice President of Academic Instruction Chris Kuberski. "She also focuses on the 'whole' student . . . how each is maturing and developing at Rend Lake College, just as she does with the 5-year-olds she works with in Childhood Education."

Kuberski credits Grounds with being instrumental in developing Associate in Arts in Teaching Degrees. Rend Lake College is the first community college in the state to boast all four AAT Degrees – in Early Childhood Education, Teaching Secondary Math, Teaching Secondary Science and Teaching Special Education.

The award-winner has been very involved with curriculum development and in gleaning grant funding for college programs.

When Grounds was recognized along with 30 other recipients at the 43rd Annual ICCTA Awards Banquet June 7 in Chicago, she indicated she "hopes my students graduate with a love of learning and teaching."

In 2006, when she was one of five Southern Illinoisans certified as a Professional Development Advisor through Illinois Gateways to Opportunity – along with RLC Child Care Resource and Referral Provider Services Coordinator Paula Burris – the news release explained:

"Professional Development Advisors help represent and mentor those interested in the field of Early Child-



TINA GROUNDS
EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION PROFESSOR

hood Education. Advisors will help these people explore professional goals and objectives, decide which courses and training to take, locate available coursework and professional development opportunities, create professional development plans, understand the difference between college certificates and degrees, meet requirements for degrees in Early Childhood Education, explore financial assistance for coursework and training and help with basic English and math skills or support for learning the English language.

"People in this field often don't understand their options," said Grounds. "We can help make the process easier." She said PDAs can help people follow the Illinois Early Care and Education Career Lattice all the way up to a Master's Degree if that is their goal."

Grounds said more Professional Development Advisors are needed to adequately serve the region.

"I'm excited about this. It was great training for Paula and me. We hope it will bring in more students. It's a good situation for everybody," said Grounds.

"As experienced professionals working in all types of early care and education settings, PDAs also offer assistance to individuals wanting to assemble documents for professional portfolios in order to earn the Illinois Director Credential; mentoring skills, information on trends in higher education, course articulation and ways to develop leadership and communication skills, and up-to-date information to individuals wanting to obtain new credentials as they become available.

"Grounds has worked in the field for more than 26 years and holds a Master's Degree in Education. Her career started in a private school for children with special needs, where she served as a Preschool Teacher. She later taught in an early intervention program where she worked with infants and toddlers and their families. She directed a faith-based center and helped to reconstruct the building.

"Later, Grounds started at Rend Lake College and worked as a Family Literacy administrator. She currently teaches Early Childhood Education and was instrumental in setting up the lab school. She assisted the college in becoming the first entitled institution for the Illinois Director Credential (IDC). Grounds serves on the IDC Commission and has served as program trainer and evaluator for Even Start. She holds a Level II Illinois Director Credential."

Weston (cont.)

Administration and Board of Trustees strongly recommend Mr. Weston for this prestigious award."

Weston has been working with other faculty members to deliver green curriculum to students not only at RLC, but in Illinois and potentially across the country. A \$485,000 federal grant Weston helped secure through the Illinois Green Economy Network is being used to develop coursework in sustainable design and green facilities management.

Weston's peers called him an "exceptional classroom instructor, active curriculum innovator and dedicated college representative." In their letter nominating him for the RLC award, those who work with him wrote, "Both Rend Lake College and the region have benefited from his professionalism and academic expertise."

Both Rick Marlow, who retired in 2006 and was elected to the RLC Board of Trustees in 2009, and Weston joined the faculty prior to Fall 1992.

FULL-TIME FACULTY

Rend Lake College, 1967 - 2016

- ▲ **Michael Adamson**
Therapeutic Massage / 2001-16
- ▲ **Jon Alexander**
PCC Food Service / 2002
- ▲ **Murray Alford**
PCC Food Service / 2003-11
- ▲ **Janet Sue Alred**
Interior Design / 1976-81
- ▲ **Sara Alstat ***
Music / 2007-
- ▲ **Terry Anderson**
Agriculture • Automotive / 1970-71
- ▲ **Imogene Kolkhorst Ansgore**
Secretarial Science / 1969-81
- ▲ **C. Wayne Arnold**
Health • P.E. • Recreation / 1967-89
- ▲ **Elizabeth Bailey-Smith**
Speech Communications / 2005-
- ▲ **Robert G. Bartolotti**
PCC Culinary Arts / 1999-2002
- ▲ **Doris Ann Basler**
Nursing / 1983-86
- ▲ **Bobby Baumgarte**
Truck Driver Training / 2000-03
- ▲ **Dr. Sharon Beasley ***
Nursing / 1980-2003 / 2006
- ▲ **Wilfred H. Beckmeyer**
Music / 1967-68
- ▲ **Barbara Benard**
Secretarial Science / 1967-69
- ▲ **Charles "Chuck" Bender**
Electricity • Electronics / 1976-79
- ▲ **Donald E. Bennett**
CPR - Am. Heart Assoc. / 2002
- ▲ **Patricia "Trish" Bennett-Minor**
Allied Health / 1994-2011
- ▲ **Melisa Lee Berendson ***
Allied Health / 2011-
- ▲ **Melissa Bertschi**
Cosmetology / 2013-
- ▲ **Rebecca L. Biggs ***
English / 1999-
- ▲ **Sarah Bilderbeck ***
Office Systems / 2004-06 / 2007-
- ▲ **Judith G. Binns**
Nursing / 1969-70
- ▲ **Erica Blumenstock**
Allied Health / 2007-
- ▲ **Heinz K. Boeckmann**
German Language / 1968-70
- ▲ **Mary Bornheimer ***
Computers / 1999-2007
- ▲ **Wayne Borrenpohl**
Mining Technology / 1975
- ▲ **William T. Brammeier**
English / 1969-74
- ▲ **Max E. Brandon**
Social Science / 1967-78
- ▲ **Anita Brockett**
Office Systems / 2005
- ▲ **Nathan Brouwer**
History / 2009-
- ▲ **Frederic L. Bruno**
Architectural Technology / 1972-92
- ▲ **Thomas R. Burke ***
English / 1968-89
- ▲ **Charles James Burkhardt**
Computer Science / 1982-88
- ▲ **Mike Burris ***
Heavy Equipment • Ag / 2002-
- ▲ **Erin Florian Butler**
Cosmetology / 2005-
- ▲ **Vincent C. Cain**
History / 1970-90
- ▲ **Cindy Caldwell**
Mathematics / 2000-
- ▲ **Sarah Capps**
Art / 1982-2001
- ▲ **Shari Carpenter ***
Computer Science / 2001-
- ▲ **William "Bill" Carter**
Mathematics / 2000-01
- ▲ **K. Diane Catalfamo**
Culinary Arts / 2001-04
- ▲ **Katherine W. Chen**
Physics • Mathematics / 1969-70
- ▲ **Terry L. Clark ***
Agricultural Technology / 1975-91
- ▲ **Dr. Evelyn E. Claxton ***
English / 1970-1978
- ▲ **Leonard Clendenin**
Menard Construction Mgmt. / 1986-87
- ▲ **Russell Clendenin**
Truck Driver Training / 1999-2015
- ▲ **Jeff Collins**
Heavy Equipment / 2008-10
- ▲ **David P. Colombo**
Mining Technology / 2006-14
- ▲ **Moya Cook**
Allied Health / 2005-07
- ▲ **Eugene Cormier**
Political Science / 1967-69
- ▲ **Cynthia Diane Corn**
Health • P.E. • Fitness / 1989-2017
- ▲ **Courtney Cox**
Music / 1977-79
- ▲ **Sandra Letha Cox**
Mathematics / 1988-2000
- ▲ **Kathryn Craig ***
Agriculture / 2009-
- ▲ **Amanda Creely**
PCC Job Preparedness / 2007-10
- ▲ **Barbara Crouse ***
Allied Health / 1994-2014
- ▲ **Lowell Curry**
Welding Technology / 1979-80
- ▲ **Charles Dwight Dame Sr.**
Practical Mining / 1979-84
- ▲ **Max Damron**
Welding Technology / 1979-80
- ▲ **Glenn L. Dare**
History / 1967-70
- ▲ **James E. Dare**
Mining Technology / 1976-90
- ▲ **Barbara Rich Davenport ***
Science / 1993-98
- ▲ **Peggy Davis**
English / 1999-
- ▲ **Sandra Davis**
Nursing / 1968-69
- ▲ **Lora Delaney**
Nursing / 1975-76
- ▲ **Dr. Linda S. Denton**
Physics • Science / 1988-2014
- ▲ **Mary Carolann DeSelms**
French Language / 1968-73
- ▲ **E. Judson DeWitt**
Psychology / 1967-86
- ▲ **Charles L. Dickens**
Mining Technology / 1979-98
- ▲ **William Dill ***
Mining Technology / 1977-98
- ▲ **Dr. Richard P. Doherty**
Social Science / 1970-94
- ▲ **Susan Donckers**
Nursing / 1977-78
- ▲ **Gary Downen**
BMRCC Horticulture / 2007-10
- ▲ **Sarah Draper**
Sociology / 2010
- ▲ **Violet Draper**
Nursing / 1981-82
- ▲ **Keith E. Drayton**
Music / 1973-78
- ▲ **Floyd J. Dressel**
Languages / 1970-92
- ▲ **Kenita K. Dudley**
Cosmetology / 2003-05
- ▲ **John Duncan**
Menard Welding / 1986-91
BMRCC Building Maint. / 1993-2010
- ▲ **Felix R. DyReyes Jr.**
Business / 1967-68
- ▲ **David Ellingsworth**
Mining Technology / 1976-99
- ▲ **Angela Ellis**
Nursing / 2003-
- ▲ **Joseph Ervin**
English / 2008-
- ▲ **Dr. Eugene T. Estes**
Botany • Science / 1967-91
- ▲ **Jeff Fairbanks**
Culinary Arts / 2011-
- ▲ **Amber Fann**
Allied Health / 2009-
- ▲ **William Lewis Farmer**
English / 1967-69
- ▲ **Frank Fenton**
Mining Technology / 1980-2002
- ▲ **Kelly Fenton ***
BMRCC Business Mgmt. / 1993-97
- ▲ **John M. Fertaly**
Mining Technology / 1980-95
- ▲ **John H. Fisher**
Chemistry / 1985-2005
- ▲ **Virginia Robinson Fleri**
Cosmetology / 1974-83
- ▲ **Cheryl F. Merckens Foley ***
Speech • Theatre / 1968-78
- ▲ **Myron G. Foley ***
Economics • Business / 1968-76
- ▲ **Charles Followell**
BMRCC Food Service / 1998-2011
- ▲ **Mark Ford**
Truck Driver Training / 1998-2003
- ▲ **Charles L. "Chuck" Foster**
Electricity • Electronics / 1976-92
- ▲ **Joan McKinnies Frank**
BMRCC Culinary Arts / 1993-98
- ▲ **Robert C. Franklin**
Ag-Auto Mechanics / 1975-80
- ▲ **Jack Gelso**
Architectural Technology / 1975-76
- ▲ **Frances Giamanco**
Social Science / 1967-69
- ▲ **William R. Gibson**
PCC Culinary Arts / 1998
- ▲ **Gela Riley Goin**
Secretarial Science / 1967-95
- ▲ **Tomi Gravatt**
PCC Job Preparedness / 2007-09
- ▲ **Deborah J. Greathouse**
BMRCC Electronics / 1993-96
- ▲ **Brian Greer**
Agricultural Mechanics / 2004-08
- ▲ **Jack Greer**
Automotive Technology / 1975-77
- ▲ **Tina Grounds ***
Early Childhood Education / 1996-
- ▲ **Linda Guetersloh**
Music / 1994-95
- ▲ **Eleanor J. Hall**
Sociology / 1967-84
- ▲ **Deborah Benns Hampleman**
Nursing / 1983-2009
- ▲ **Abby Hampton**
Allied Health / 2004-07
- ▲ **Barbara Hampton**
Dev. Reading • English / 2007-
- ▲ **Nicole Haney**
Allied Health / 2011-
- ▲ **Brenda Hartley**
Cosmetology / 1978-83
- ▲ **Charles Arthur Harwick ***
Disadvantaged / 1972-75
- ▲ **Jay Mitchell Haskins ***
Health Education / 1992-93
- ▲ **Reuben Hawkins**
Architectural Technology / 1976-93
- ▲ **William J. Hazelbauer**
Music / 1968-71
- ▲ **Dr. Elmo Richard Heaton**
Physical Science / 1971-86
- ▲ **Gary L. Hecht**
Menard Appliance Repair / 1987-95
- ▲ **Brenda H. Heinzmann ***
Early Childhood Ed. / 1998-01 / 2001-
- ▲ **Martin Edward Heischmidt**
Law Enforcement / 1977-2009
- ▲ **Holly Heisner**
Radiologic Technology / 2015-
- ▲ **Trinda Heitmeyer ***
PCC Business Mgmt. / 2000-01
- ▲ **William T. Held**
Menard HACR / 1986-95

FULL-TIME FACULTY (CONT.)

- ▲ **Bradley Helm**
Computer Science / 2006-
- ▲ **Betty Jo Herbert**
Allied Health / 2006-
- ▲ **Barbara D. Hicks**
Nursing / 1982-2004
- ▲ **Rosalie M. Hoar**
Developmental English / 1989-2002
- ▲ **Dr. Richard Holland**
Physical Science / 2015-
- ▲ **Gregory Hollmann**
Science • Political Science / 2006-
- ▲ **Steven Holman**
Biology / 2001-08
- ▲ **Dr. John D. Homan Jr. ***
English / 1983-93
- ▲ **Aurelia Hudgens**
Allied Health CNA / 2010-15
- ▲ **Charlene Hudson**
BMRCC Business Mgmt. / 2000-02
BMRCC Job Preparedness / 2007-09
- ▲ **Dr. Vincent Hustad**
Biology / 2015-16
- ▲ **LeRoy Jack**
BMRCC Electronics / 2003-04
- ▲ **Mason Jackson**
PCC Business / 2002-04
- ▲ **Danny L. Jennings**
Automotive Mechanics / 1971-75
- ▲ **David L. "D.J." Johnson**
Mining • Safety / 1979-2007
- ▲ **Jody A. Johnson ***
BMRCC Business / 1994-2000
- ▲ **Carl C. Jones**
Mining Technology / 1979-88
- ▲ **Emily Bowers Jones**
Biological Sciences / 2013-
- ▲ **Lance J. Jones**
PCC Computer Technology / 1999
- ▲ **Robert L. "Bob" Jones**
History / 1969-74
- ▲ **Michael T. Joplin ***
Welding / 1977-78
PCC Custodial Services / 1999-2008
- ▲ **Mark Jornd**
Business / 2010-
- ▲ **Brian Kalata**
Culinary Arts / 2004-11
- ▲ **James A. Kangles**
Art / 1969-71
- ▲ **Kelvin T. Kempfer**
Menard Office Technology / 1986-88
- ▲ **Keith Kendrick**
Automotive Technology / 1994-99
- ▲ **Stephen Kennett**
Psychology • Philosophy / 1994-2015
- ▲ **Mark S. Kern ***
Agriculture / 1968-1974 / 1988-90
- ▲ **Sami L. Kern**
BMRCC Computers / 2005-06
- ▲ **Ardell W. Kimmel ***
Agricultural Technology / 1968-70
- ▲ **Jeffrey Kindhart**
Horticulture / 2001-04
- ▲ **Abel Kinser**
Biological Sciences / 2009-13
- ▲ **Kevin J. Kirsch**
Architectural Technology / 1992
- ▲ **Maurice Kirsch**
Auto - Ag Mechanics / 1976-2006
- ▲ **Joe Kloeppe**
Heavy Equipment / 2006-07
- ▲ **Earl Knight**
Mining Technology / 1975-76
- ▲ **Pamela Knoblett**
BMRCC Horticulture / 1993-95
- ▲ **Phyllis Kopin**
Nursing - ORT / 1980
- ▲ **Edward P. Kownacki**
Chemistry • Mathematics / 1967-86
- ▲ **Maryann Krewson**
Allied Health / 1995
- ▲ **Mary E. Ksycki**
Nursing / 1967-75
- ▲ **Christina R. Kuberski ***
English • Speech / 1989-99
- ▲ **Maryetta Kuhl**
Nursing / 1979-82
- ▲ **Paula S. Lainfiesta**
Nursing / 1982-2002
- ▲ **Georgia Lambert**
Allied Health / 2004-14
- ▲ **Linda J. Lance-Mobley**
Nursing / 1987-94
- ▲ **Lynda Hurley Jones Laningham**
Mathematics / 1990-
- ▲ **Joan Laughhunn**
Radiologic Technology / 2007-11
- ▲ **Tom A. Lawless**
PCC Horticulture / 1998-2000
- ▲ **H. Douglas Leeck ***
Mining • Agriculture / 1975-96
- ▲ **Henry "Buster" Leeck ***
History / 2004-08
- ▲ **Terry Leiger**
Truck Driver Training / 2002
- ▲ **Francis L. Lentz**
Automotive Technology / 1975-92
- ▲ **Julien J. Levesque**
Mathematics / 1967-80
- ▲ **Kelli Lewis ***
Allied Health / 1997 / 2002-06 / 2009
- ▲ **Vickie Lewis**
Office Systems Tech. / 1995-2001
- ▲ **Jennifer Tarantino Linsin ***
Graphic Design / 2001-
- ▲ **Sandra Lipe**
Nursing / 1978-2004
- ▲ **John R. "Rob" Little**
English / 1993-
- ▲ **Dawn Lively**
Cosmetology / 2007
- ▲ **David J. Lockwood**
Welding Technology / 1976-80
- ▲ **Glenn A. Long**
Menard Construction Mgmt. / 1990-95
- ▲ **Cindy Lord**
Allied Health / 2007-08
- ▲ **Dr. Barbara Luchsinger**
English / 1967-99
- ▲ **Dr. Robert A. Luckey**
Music / 1979-81
- ▲ **Max Lude**
Mining Technology / 1975-76
- ▲ **Linda Luttrell**
Nursing / 1987-93
- ▲ **Donald Lynch**
Mining Technology / 1979-2004
- ▲ **Lois M. Mackey**
Reading / 1968-75
- ▲ **Stephanie Maines**
Allied Health / 2009
- ▲ **Steve A. Mandrell**
PCC Construction Occ. / 1998-2004
- ▲ **Timothy W. March**
Culinary Arts / 1990-2001
- ▲ **Danny J. Marks ***
Menard Construction Occ. / 1987-94
PCC Construction Occ. / 2004
- ▲ **Richard E. "Rick" Marlow**
Architectural Technology / 1992-2006
- ▲ **Ashley Marthaler**
Certified Nurse Assistant / 2011
- ▲ **Alex Martin**
Math Lab / 2014-
- ▲ **Terry Martin**
Music • Languages / 1981-83
- ▲ **Dale Mason ***
Mining Technology / 1976-78
- ▲ **Georgine Monken Hawley May**
English / 1967-99
- ▲ **William "Bill" May**
Allied Health EMT / 2007-09
- ▲ **Donald McBride**
Mining Technology / 2013-
- ▲ **Melissa McClement-Engler**
Art / 2001- / 2004-
- ▲ **Joseph McCloskey**
Menard Small Business / 1987-95
- ▲ **J. Michael McClure ***
Physical Education / 1971-81
- ▲ **Daniel "Sam" McCowen**
Automotive Technology / 1977-2003
- ▲ **Barbara Jean McCoy**
Nursing / 1976
- ▲ **Martha S. McCreery**
Business • Computers / 1988-2014
- ▲ **James R. McGhee ***
Art • Engineering / 1967-69
- ▲ **Bryan McGill**
Culinary Arts / 2002
- ▲ **Shirley McHaney ***
Nursing / 1967-75
- ▲ **Robert E. McKemie**
Automotive Mechanics / 1969-75
- ▲ **Leslie Hodge Harmon McKenzie**
CPR • EMT / 2003-16
- ▲ **John McKinney**
Agriculture / 2013-
- ▲ **Dr. Janet McReynolds**
Philosophy-English / 1971-72
- ▲ **Ronald Meek**
Criminal Justice / 2010-
- ▲ **Therese Howard Melena**
Art / 1994-2017
- ▲ **Angie Merrell**
Allied Health / 2007
- ▲ **Diane Metzger**
Mathematics / 1984-
- ▲ **David Milani**
BMRCC Business / 2002-04
- ▲ **Janet A. Miller ***
Secretarial Science / 1977-2001
- ▲ **Norman C. Miller**
Electricity • Electronics / 1977-80
- ▲ **John Mills**
Mining Technology / 1978-79
- ▲ **Daphne Mitchell**
Cosmetology / 2005-
- ▲ **Gene Mitchell**
Electricity • Electronics / 1977-99
- ▲ **Dr. Jeannie Collins Mitchell ***
Psychology / 2001-
- ▲ **John D. Mitchell Jr.**
Mining • Hydraulics / 1976-80
- ▲ **James Robert Mooneyham**
Mining Technology / 1977-84
- ▲ **Bruce Morgenstern**
PCC Horticulture / 2001-02
- ▲ **Mark Mueller**
Heavy Eq. • Ag Mechanics / 2007-12
- ▲ **Karen Muench**
Nursing / 1970-71 / 1975-80
- ▲ **Michael P. Mullen**
English • Journalism / 1980-2007
- ▲ **Sue Mulvany**
Cosmetology / 2004-05
- ▲ **Pamela Murphy**
BMRCC Horticulture / 1993-2007
- ▲ **Susan Kolojeski Murphy**
Art / 1974-82
- ▲ **Jack L. Musgrave**
Mining Technology / 1975-81
- ▲ **William H. Myers**
Mathematics / 1967-73
- ▲ **Kathleen Nicholson**
Art / 1980-82
- ▲ **Chris Nielsen ***
Industrial Maintenance / 1992-2012
- ▲ **Lynn E. Nimtz**
Developmental Reading / 1985-2007
- ▲ **John Ben Nowak**
BMRCC Horticulture / 2011-12
- ▲ **Richard Nowakowski**
PCC Horticulture / 2003-10
- ▲ **Bonnie O'Neill**
BMRCC Business Mgmt. / 2004
- ▲ **Gary Otey**
BMRCC Computer Tech. / 1993-2005
- ▲ **Melvin R. Partridge**
Mechanical Technology / 1968-72
- ▲ **Wilanna Kiefer Patton ***
Nursing / 1992-94
- ▲ **Shannon Perkins ***
Automotive Technology / 1999-
- ▲ **V. Richard Perrachione**
Mathematics / 1967-87
- ▲ **Rebecca Ann Pettitt**
Health • Physical Education / 1967-74
- ▲ **Larry D. Phifer**
Music / 1970-84
- ▲ **Lora Phillips ***
Medical Coding • HIT / 2013-
- ▲ **Donald Pound**
Computer Programming / 2001-04
- ▲ **Ronald Ray Proffitt**
Physics • Mathematics / 1970-71

FULL-TIME FACULTY (CONT.)

- ▲ **Caroline “Carrie” Ragan**
Science / 2003 / 2005-
- ▲ **Janet L. “Jann” Ray**
Nursing • ORT / 1971-80
- ▲ **Judith Rea**
Communications / 1969
- ▲ **Richelle Rennegarbe**
Allied Health / 1993-96
- ▲ **Kevin Ritter**
Agricultural Technology / 1980-83
- ▲ **Douglas Roark**
BMRCC Automotive / 1993-2002
- ▲ **Bria Robinson**
Radiologic Tech • Tomography / 2011-
- ▲ **Ricky A. Robinson**
Computer Networking / 1998-
- ▲ **Michael B. Rothe**
Languages / 1967-68
- ▲ **William T. Roy**
Political Science / 1967-68
- ▲ **Joseph Henry Rust**
Speech - Theatre / 1980-2004
- ▲ **Arthur A. Samford**
History / 1967-75
- ▲ **Paul Sandrock**
Chemistry / 2005-
- ▲ **Fred J. Schlosser Jr.**
Business / 1967-68
- ▲ **David Schuessler**
Computers • Music / 1990-2009
- ▲ **David L. Scott ***
Agricultural Tech / 1969-78 • 1988-94
- ▲ **Vicki Seeburger**
Allied Health / 2003-05
- ▲ **John W. Sgutt**
Art / 1971-74
- ▲ **Kay Shaw**
Developmental Mathematics / 2003-
- ▲ **Kent Sickmeyer**
Agriculture / 1992-2002
- ▲ **Larry Sidwell**
Accounting • Economics / 1977-2002
Professor Emeritus / 2003-07
- ▲ **Allen Kent Silkwood**
Mining Technology / 1976-79
- ▲ **Christopher E. Sink**
Wireless Comm. • Computers / 1999-
- ▲ **Patrick Sipes**
Mining Technology / 1975-76
- ▲ **Bettye A. Sistler**
Speech • Drama / 1967-68
- ▲ **Jack K. Sistler**
Physics • Mathematics / 1967-69
- ▲ **William Bradley Slankard**
PCC Construction Occ. / 2006-12
- ▲ **Barbara Smith**
Nursing / 1977
- ▲ **David Ross Smith**
Welding / 1980 -2009
Professor Emeritus 2009-
- ▲ **Loughton Smith**
Culinary Arts / 2005-11
- ▲ **Rick Smith**
Fiberglass Open Molding / 1997-98
- ▲ **Robert G. Smith**
History / 1969-70
- ▲ **Roy A. Smith Jr.**
BMRCC Electronics / 1997-2002
- ▲ **Tal Smith**
Music / 1967-68
- ▲ **John Smoot**
Mining Technology / 1978-81
- ▲ **James Spiller**
Mining Technology / 1975-77
- ▲ **Carolyn Reed Stewart**
Psychology / 1991-2000
- ▲ **Patricia Stieren**
SICCM Nursing / 1974-75
- ▲ **David Stoneburner**
Menard Office Repair / 1988-92
- ▲ **Nicholas “Brad” Stout**
Culinary Arts / 2011-15
- ▲ **Rodney A. Summers ***
Truck Driver Training / 2003-
- ▲ **Dr. Julius R. Swayne**
Zoology / 1967-80
- ▲ **Lewis Leavell Swink**
Agriculture / 1970-84
- ▲ **Dana Tabor**
Nursing / 1978-83 • 1991-1998
- ▲ **Oletha Taft ***
BMRCC Business Mgmt. / 2004-05
- ▲ **D. Edward Tandy**
Music / 1971-73
- ▲ **Hollie Taylor ***
BMRCC Business Mgmt. / 2002
- ▲ **Lynndi Tennyson**
Office Systems Tech. / 2008 • 2012
- ▲ **June Thompson**
Nursing / 1967-73
- ▲ **Nigel Thompson**
Automotive Technology / 1994-
- ▲ **Dr. Stephen Tietz ***
English / 1979-83
- ▲ **Michael S. Tick**
Speech • Theatre / 1979-80
- ▲ **Bonnie Tolbert**
Allied Health / 1996-2011
- ▲ **Rusty Tolley**
BMRCC Auto Mechanics / 2003-12
- ▲ **Dr. Susan Santoro Tomlin**
Anthropology • Sociology / 1984-2010
- ▲ **Dr. Sue Niemeier Trammell**
Biology • Botany / 1991-2001
- ▲ **John H. “Jack” Traver**
English / 1967-79
- ▲ **Gary W. Tucker**
Law Enforcement / 1976-80
- ▲ **Carroll R. Turner ***
Agricultural Technology / 1968-77
- ▲ **Zachary Vahlkamp**
Heavy Equipment Technology / 2010-
- ▲ **Sandra R. VanCleve**
Nursing / 1973-94
- ▲ **Robert Varis**
Mining Technology / 1979-2004
- ▲ **Shannon Vincent**
Cosmetology / 2004-06
- ▲ **Lisa Bauer Reed Volk**
Science / 1992-99

- ▲ **Charles E. von Schlutter**
Counselor / 1969-73
- ▲ **Gary L. Wade ***
Electronics / 1975-78 / 1981-
/ 1990-2003
- ▲ **Ruth Walker**
Physics / 1988
- ▲ **Betty Ann Ward ***
Mathematics / 1973-88
- ▲ **Karen J. Warren**
Mathematics / 1987-94
- ▲ **Tim W. Watson**
PCC Business Mgmt. / 1999-2000
- ▲ **James E. Waugh**
Health • Physical Education / 1967-95
- ▲ **Lila Waugh**
BMRCC Developmental Ed / 1994-95
- ▲ **Gene “Tim” Weathers**
Heavy Equipment / 2007
- ▲ **Betty Webb**
Cosmetology / 1969-74
- ▲ **Tracey Brouillette Webb ***
Theatre / 2002-
- ▲ **John Charles Weber**
Physics • Physical Science / 1986-87
- ▲ **Daniell Weinhoffer**
Radiologic Technology / 2011-14
- ▲ **Kevin D. Weston**
Architectural Technology / 1992-
- ▲ **James “Pete” Wilce**
Welding Technology / 2008-
- ▲ **Julie Wilkerson**
Music / 1998-2004
- ▲ **Kim Robert Wilkerson ***
Radiologic Technology / 2007-
- ▲ **Terry Wilkerson ***
Agriculture / 1997-
- ▲ **Larry D. Williams ***
Zoology / 1981-86 • 1998-2014
- ▲ **Tim Wills ***
Health Education / 1992-
- ▲ **Danalyn Wilson**
BMRCC Job Preparedness / 2007-12
- ▲ **Lee R. Wilson**
Mining Technology / 1976-2003
- ▲ **Robert Wilson**
Lead Culinary Arts / 2011-
- ▲ **Charles Wingo**
Mining Technology / 2013-
- ▲ **Judith Wolters**
PCC Business Mgmt. / 2005
- ▲ **Nancy E. Wood**
PCC Computer Tech. / 1999-2010
DuQuoin Ctr. Job Prep. / 2010-12
- ▲ **Glenn Wright**
Reading Lab / 1975
- ▲ **Shirley F. Yeargin**
Nursing / 1970-93
- ▲ **Kristin Yosanovich**
Allied Health / 2004-
- ▲ **William Younghusband**
Accounting / 1967-89
- ▲ **Robin Yucus ***
Developmental English / 2002-03
- ▲ **Craig Zinzilietta ***
Hospitality Management / 2005-06

* Also listed with Administration / Staff in the section, EXCELLENCE IN STAFF

HUMAN RESOURCES

Rend Lake College Faculty

FY	▲ Full-Time		▲ Part-Time		▲ Total
1968	29	78%	8	22%	37
1969	39				
1970	51	63%	30	37%	81
1972	54				
1982	62				
1983	61	34%	120	66%	181
1997	60	33%	120	67%	180
2002	62	31%	137	69%	199
2003	61	31%	135	69%	196
2004	61	25%	180	75%	241
2005	60	25%	180	75%	240
2006	65	27%	173	73%	238
2007	68	28%	176	72%	244
2008	66	24%	204	76%	270
2009	62	24%	192	76%	254
2010	66	22%	233	78%	299
2011	70	25%	214	75%	284
2012	68	31%	152	69%	220
2013	70	32%	152	68%	222
2014	67	29%	162	71%	229
2015	66	31%	149	69%	215
2016					

ACADEMIC COUNCIL / FACULTY COUNCIL

Year-by-Year Chairs / Memberships

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

▲ 2015-16

Chair Elizabeth Bailey-Smith, Erica Blumenstock, Cindy Caldwell, Kathy Craig, Jeff Fairbanks, Barbara Hampton, Nicole Haney, Holly Heisner, Brad Helm, Mark Jornd, Melissa McClement-Engler, Daphne Mitchell, VickieSchulte, Kay Shaw, Jennifer Tarantino-Linsin, Zack Vahlkamp, Kim Wilkerson and Lori Ragland, Jean Huie.

▲ 2014-15

Chair Elizabeth Bailey-Smith, Melisa Berendson, Erica Blumenstock, Cindy Caldwell, Kathy Craig, Susan Cunningham, Barbara Hampton, Nicole Haney, Leslie Harmon-McKenzie, Brad Helm, Mark Jornd, Henry Leeck, Melissa McClement-Engler, Kay Shaw, Jennifer Tarantino-Linsin, Zack Vahlkamp, Robert Wilson and Chris Kuberski, Jean Huie.

▲ 2013-14

President Kevin Weston, Elizabeth Bailey-Smith, Melisa Berendson, Erica Blumenstock, Cindy Caldwell, Kathy Craig, Barbara Hampton, Nicole Haney, Leslie Harmon-McKenzie, Jena Jensik, Melissa McClement-Engler, Ron Meek, Therese Melena, Lori Ragland, Kay Shaw, Jennifer Tarantino-Linsin, Larry Williams, Robert Wilson and Chris Kuberski, Jean Huie.

▲ 2012-13

President Kevin Weston, Andrea Banach, Kathy Craig, Barb Crouse, Linda Denton, Kelly Downes, Sarah Draper, Joe Ervin, Leslie Harmon-McKenzie, Betty Jo Herbert, Abel Kinser, Georgia Lambert, Rob Little, Ron Meek, Therese Melena, Diane Metzger, Daphne Mitchell, Mark Mueller, Kim Robert, Kay Shaw, Jennifer Tarantino-Linsin, Robert Wilson and Chris Kuberski, Jean Huie.

▲ 2011-12

President Kevin Weston, Kathy Craig, Barb Crouse, Linda Denton, Sarah Draper, Joe Ervin, Betty Jo Herbert, Abel Kinser, Georgia Lambert, Rob Little, Ron Meek, Therese Melena, Diane Metzger, Daphne Mitchell, Mark Mueller, Casey Rhine, Kim Robert, Kay Shaw, Jennifer Tarantino-Linsin, Terry Wilkerson and Chris Kuberski, Jean Huie.

▲ 2010-11

President Kevin Weston, Kathy Craig, Barb Crouse, Linda Denton, Sarah Draper, Joe Ervin, Barbara Hampton, Betty Jo Herbert, Christina Hutcheson, Abel Kinser, Georgia Lambert, Henry Leeck, Rob Little, Diane Metzger, Daphne Mitchell, Ricky Robinson, Kim Robert, Kay Shaw, Jennifer Tarantino-Linsin and Chris Kuberski, Jean Huie.

▲ 2009-10

Chair Shari Carpenter, Sarah Bilderbeck, Jeff Collins, Barb Hampton, Chris Kuberski, Melissa McClement-Engler, Daphne Mitchell, Paula Myers, Lisa Payne, Kim Robert, Ricky Robinson, Kay Shaw, Kevin Weston, Terry Wilkerson, Larry Williams, Tim Wills, Kristin Yosanovich.

▲ 2008-09

Sarah Bilderbeck, Shari Carpenter, Jeff Collins, Kathy Craig, Barb Davenport, Barb Hampton, Chris Kuberski, William May, Melissa McClement-Engler, Lori Ragland, Ricky Robinson, Kay Shaw, Kevin Weston, Larry Williams, Tim Wills, Kristin Yosanovich and Chris Kuberski, Jean Huie.

▲ 2007-08

Chair Terry Wilkerson, Sara Alstat, Sarah Bilderbeck, Shari Carpenter, Brenda Heinzmann, Mark Kern, Kelli Lewis, Melissa McClement-Engler, Ricky Robinson, Kay Shaw, Dave Smith, Cindy Sniderwin, Larry Williams, Tim Wills, Kristin Yosanovich and Jim Hull.

▲ 2006-07

Chair Terry Wilkerson, Sarah Alstat, Rebecca Biggs, Shari Carpenter, Cindy Corn, Tiffany Cox, Peggy Davis, Dawn Gibson, Abby Hampton, Brenda Heinzmann, Mark Kern, Diane Metzger, Ricky Robinson, Kay Shaw, Dave Smith and Jim Hull.

▲ 2005-06

Chair Terry Wilkerson, Rebecca Biggs, Annette Braden, Shari Carpenter, Cindy Corn, Peggy Davis, Abby Hampton, Brenda Heinzmann, Chris Kuberski, Mark Kern, Diane Metzger, Ricky Robinson, Kay Shaw, Dave Smith and Jim Hull.

▲ 2004-05

Chair Terry Wilkerson, Rebecca Biggs, Shari Carpenter, Cindy Corn, Barb Davenport, Peggy Davis, Steve Holman, Mark Kern, Jennifer Tarantino Linsin, Diane Metzger, Sarah Ochs, Ricky Robinson, Vicki Seeburger, Bonnie Tolbert and Jim Hull.

▲ 2003-04

Chair Terry Wilkerson, Sharon Beasley, Cindy Caldwell, Shari Carpenter, Cindy Corn, Barb Davenport, Tina Grounds, Steve Holman, Mark Kern, Jennifer Tarantino Linsin, Jeannie Mitchell-Collins, Lisa Price, Ricky Robinson, Bonnie Tolbert, Sue Tomlin and Jim Hull.

▲ 2002-03

Chair Kevin Weston, Cindy Caldwell, Doug Carlson, Cindy Corn, William Dill, Tina Grounds, Steve Holman, Mark Kern, Jennifer Tarantino Linsin, Rob Little, Ricky Robinson, Bonnie Tolbert, Sue Tomlin, Gary Wade, Kevin Weston and Jim Hull.

▲ 2001-02

Chair Kevin Weston, Cindy Caldwell, Doug Carlson, Cindy Corn, William Dill, Tina Grounds, Steve Holman, Mark Kern, Jennifer Tarantino Linsin, Rob Little, Ricky Robinson, Sue Tomlin, Bonnie Tolbert, Gary Wade, Kevin Weston and Homer Cissell.

▲ 2000-01

Chair John Fisher, Trish Bennett-Minor, Ed Billingsley, Barb Davenport, Therese Howard, Maurice Kirsch, Wilanna Kiefer, Sandra Lipe, Don Lynch, Janet Miller, Mike Mullen, Julie Mumbower, Chris Nielsen, Lynn Nimitz, Larry Sidwell, Kevin Weston, Larry Williams, Tim Wills and Homer Cissell, Barbara Waterbury.

▲ 1999-2000

Chair Terry Wilkerson, Trish Bennett-Minor, Barb Davenport, John Fisher, Therese Howard, Maurice Kirsch, Sandra Lipe, Joan Long, Don Lynch, Janet Miller, Mike Mullen, Chris Nielsen, Lynn Nimitz, Larry Sidwell, Larry Williams, Tim Wills and Barbara Bauernfeind / Homer Cissell, Becky Williamson.

▲ 1998-99

Chair Terry Wilkerson, Sharon Beasley, Trish Bennett-Minor, John Fisher, Ro Hoar, Steve Kennett, Maurice Kirsch, Vickie Lewis, Rob Little, Don Lynch, Mike Mullen, Julie Mumbower, Chris Nielsen, Wilanna Patton, Larry Williams, Tim Wills and Julie Meents, Becky Williamson.

▲ 1997-98

Chair Steve Kennett, Sharon Beasley, Cindy Corn, Charles Dickens, John Fisher, Ro Hoar, Therese Howard, Maurice Kirsch, Paula Lainfiesta, Lynda Laningham, Vickie Lewis, Rob Little, Chris Nielsen, Lynn Nimitz, Wilanna Patton, Ed Ruffino, David Schuessler, Terry Wilkerson and Steve Tietz, Becky Williamson.

▲ 1996-97

Chair Rick Marlow, Sharon Beasley, Terry Clark, Cindy Corn, Charles Dickens, John Fisher, Ro Hoar, Therese Howard, Steve Kennett, Maurice Kirsch, Paula Lainfiesta, Lynda Laningham, Vickie Lewis, Rob Little, Joan Long, Chris Nielsen, Wilanna Patton and Steve Tietz, Becky Williamson.

▲ 1995-96

Chair Rick Marlow, Cindy Corn, William Dill, John Fisher, Therese Howard, Steve Kennett, Maurice Kirsch, Paula Lainfiesta, Lynda Laningham, Rob Little, Joan Long, Gene Mitchell, Lynn Nimitz, Wilanna Patton, Richele Rennegarbe, Carolyn Stewart and Steve Tietz, Becky Williamson.

▲ 1994-95

Chair John Fisher, Pam Allen, William Dill, Rob Little, Tim March, Rick Marlow, Mike Mullen, Lynn Nimitz, Wilanna Patton, Richele Rennegarbe, Kent Sickmeyer, Dave Smith, Carolyn Stewart, Dana Tabor, Sue Trammell / Sandra Cox (replaced in February), Tim Wills and Steve Tietz, Becky Williamson.

▲ 1993-94

Chair John Fisher, Vice President Rick Marlow, Pam Allen, Debbie Bennis, Cindy Corn, William Dill, Rob Little, Tim March, Shirley McHaney, Mike Mullen, Lynn Nimitz, Kent Sickmeyer, Dave Smith, Carolyn Stewart, Dana Tabor, Sue Trammell and Steve Tietz, Becky Williamson.

▲ 1992-93

Chair John Fisher. Steve Tietz, Becky Williamson.

▲ 1991-92

Chair John Fisher. Keith Lape, Becky Williamson.

▲ 1990-91

Chair John Fisher. Keith Lape, Becky Williamson.

▲ 1989-90

President John Fisher. Keith Lape.

▲ 1988-89

President Mike Mullen. Keith Lape.

▲ 1987-88

President William Dill. Mark Kern.

▲ 1986-87

Mark Kern.

▲ 1985-86

President D.J. Johnson. Mark Kern.

▲ 1984-85

President D.J. Johnson. Mark Kern.

▲ 1983-84

President D.J. Johnson. Mark Kern.

▲ 1982-83

President D.J. Johnson. Mark Kern.

ACADEMIC / FACULTY COUNCIL / (CONT.)

- ▲ **1981-82**
President Reuben Hawkins. Mark Kern.
- ▲ **1980-81**
Mark Kern.
- ▲ **1979-80**
President Gary Tucker. Mark Kern.
- ▲ **1978-79**
Mark Kern.
- ▲ **1977-78**
Chair Fran Lentz, Charles Bender, Max Brandon, Keith Drayton, Susan Kolojeski, Julius Swayne, Gary Tucker, Lee Wilson and Dr. Kenneth LaSalle.
- ▲ **1976-77**
Chair Carroll Turner, Max Brandon, Keith Drayton, Susan Kolojeski, Doug Leeck, Fran Lentz, Shirley McHaney, Barbara Tomek, Gary Wade, Shirley Yeargin and Kenneth LaSalle.
- ▲ **1975-76**
Philip Ward.
- ▲ **1974-75**
President Art Samford. Philip Ward.
- ▲ **1973-74**
President Eugene T. Estes, Fred Bruno, Georgine Monken, Shirley Yeargin and Philip Ward.
- ▲ **1972-73**
Chair Evelyn Claxton, Thomas Burke, Vincent Cain, Carolann DeSelms, Myron Foley, Larry Phifer, Barbara Tomek, Shirley Yeargin and Philip Ward, Mary Roddy.

FACULTY COUNCIL

- ▲ **1971-72**
President Eleanor Hall, President-Elect Evelyn Claxton, Max Brandon, Thomas Burke, Carolann DeSelms, Myron Foley, Robert Jones, Barbara Tomek and Howard Rawlinson, Mary Drew. Student Rep, Cathy Kirkpatrick.
- ▲ **1970-71**
President Thomas Burke, President-Elect Eleanor Hall, Max Brandon, Myron Foley, Gela Goin, Robert Jones, Edward Kownacki, Barbara Luchsinger and Howard Rawlinson.
- ▲ **1969-70**
President Eugene Estes, President-Elect Thomas Burke, Wayne Arnold, Max Brandon, Gela Goin, Ardell Kimmel, Edward Kownacki, Barbara Luchsinger and Howard Rawlinson, Kathleen Kelley. Student Rep, Vicki Lalumondier.
- ▲ **1968-69**
Chair Barbara Luchsinger, Imogene Book, Eleanor Hall, Max Brandon, Mary Ksycki, William Myers, Betty Ann Ward and Howard Rawlinson.
- ▲ **1967-68**
Chair Wayne Arnold, Imogene Book, Judson DeWitt, Edward Kownacki, Mary Ksycki, Barbara Luchsinger, Betty Ann Ward and Howard Rawlinson.

MT. VERNON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FACULTY COUNCIL

- ▲ **1966-67**
Chairman Wayne Arnold, Imogene Book, Judson DeWitt, Mary Ksycki, Edward Kownacki, Barbara Luchsinger and Betty Ann Ward. Dean Howard Rawlinson, Ex-Officio.
- ▲ **1965-66**
Chairman Wayne Arnold, Imogene Book, Margaret Ann Cummings, Judson DeWitt, Ira Large and Betty Ann Ward. Dean Howard Rawlinson, Ex-Officio.
- ▲ **1964-65**
Chairman Betty Ann Ward, Imogene Book, Margaret Ann Cummings, Ron Wilson and James Yates. Dean Howard Rawlinson, Ex-Officio.
- ▲ **1963-64**
Chairman Glenn Dare, Imogene Book, Margaret Ann Cummings, Charles Wagner, Betty Ann Ward and James Yates. Dean Howard Rawlinson, Ex-Officio.
- ▲ **1962-63**
Chairman Glenn Dare, Imogene Book, Margaret Ann Cummings, Charles Wagner and Betty Ann Ward. Dean Howard Rawlinson, Ex-Officio.
- ▲ **1961-62**
Chairman Glenn Dare, Imogene Book, Margaret Ann Cummings, Charles Wagner and Betty Ann Ward. Dean Howard Rawlinson, Ex-Officio.

FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD

RLCF Outstanding Faculty Recipients

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ 2016 - Shari Carpenter
(Computer Science) ▲ 2015 - Ricky Robinson
(Computer Networking) ▲ 2014 - Barb Crouse
(Allied Health) ▲ 2013 - Tina Grounds
(Early Childhood Education) ▲ 2012 - Kevin Weston
(Architectural Technology) ▲ 2011 - Not named ▲ 2010 - Chris Nielsen
(Industrial Tech / Mining) ▲ 2009 - Rob Little
(English) ▲ 2008 - Bonnie Tolbert
(Allied Health) ▲ 2007 - Debbie Benns
(Allied Health) ▲ 2006 - Larry Williams
(Science / Zoology) ▲ 2005 - D.J. Johnson
(Industrial Health and Safety) ▲ 2004 - Trish Bennett-Minor
(Allied Health) ▲ 2003 - Diane Metzger
(Mathematics) ▲ 2002 - Larry Sidwell
(Accounting / Economics) ▲ 2001 - Janet Miller
(Business / Secretarial Science) ▲ 2000 - Sandra Cox
(Mathematics) ▲ 1999 - Ro Hoar
(College Preparatory) ▲ 1998 - Linda Denton
(Physics / Physical Science) ▲ 1997 - Carolyn Stewart
(Psychology) ▲ 1996 - John Howard Fisher
(Chemistry) ▲ 1995 - Dr. Sue Santoro Tomlin
(Anthropology / Sociology) ▲ 1994 - Michael P. Mullen
(English / Journalism) ▲ 1993 - Joseph Henry Rust
(Speech Communication) ▲ 1992 - William Dill
(Mining Technology) ▲ 1991 - Jim Waugh
(Health Education) ▲ 1990 - David Scott
(Agriculture) ▲ 1989 - Wayne Arnold
(Health Ed. / P.E. / Recreation) ▲ 1988 - Dr. John Homan Jr.
(English) ▲ 1987 - Sarah Capps
(Art) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ 1986 - Sandra VanCleve
(Allied Health) ▲ 1985 - Dr. Barbara Luchsinger
(English) ▲ 1984 - Shirley Yeargin
(Allied Health) ▲ 1983 - Gary Wade
(Mining Technology) ▲ 1982 - Dr. Eugene Estes
(Biology / Botany) ▲ 1981 - Vincent Cain
(Social Sciences) ▲ 1980 - Eleanor Hall
(Anthropology / Sociology) |
|---|---|
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- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>STUDENT SENATE
"TEACHER OF THE YEAR"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ 1980 - Wayne Arnold
(Health, P.E. and Recreation) | <p>P.T.K. "DISTINGUISHED
EDUCATOR" AWARD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ 1979 - Vincent Cain
(History • Geography) ▲ 1978 - ▲ 1977 - Max Brandon
(Social Science) ▲ 1976 - Dr. Richard Doherty
(Social Science) ▲ 1975 - Keith E. Drayton
(Music) ▲ 1974 - ▲ 1973 - Cheryl Foley
(Speech) ▲ 1972 - Dr. Evelyn Claxton
(English) ▲ 1971 - Dr. Eugene Estes
(Science) ▲ 1970 - Eleanor Hall
(Anthropology / Sociology) ▲ 1969 - William J. Hazelbauer
(Music) ▲ 1968 - Art Samford
(History) |
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- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>STUDENT EDUCATION ASSN.
"OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ 1973 - Dr. Eugene Estes
(Science) | <p>R.L.C.F. "OUTSTANDING
PART-TIME FACULTY" AWARD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ 2016 - Chris Edwards
(Computers / Unmanned Aircraft) ▲ 2015 - Eric Knapp
(Computer Science) |
|--|--|