

# REND LAKE COLLEGE TIMES

March 1999

By the students, for the students.

## NCA Awards 10 Year Accreditation

**Sarah Roberts**  
*Staff Writer*  
Rend Lake College has received a 10 year accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The evaluation team, Dr. David Buettner (North Iowa Area Community College, Iowa), Dr. James Branscum (Rose State College, Oklahoma),

Carolyn Fitzmorris (Hutchinson Community College, Kansas), and Dr. Harriet Friedstein (Southern State Community College, Ohio) completed their three day visit to the campus on March 24. The committee held an exit interview in the theater, led by Buettner, to announce the team's evaluation results and

give their opinions and advice to the college.

Buettner cited various departments and organizations to be "strengths" of the college, such as the addition of the Child Care Center and Aquatics Center, the college's ability to secure grants and other sources to supplement its traditional resources, the college setting, provided by the physical plant, and the co-op and job placement programs.

Rex Duncan, director of the co-op and job placement department is pleased with the committee's positive evaluation of his department.

"They made very

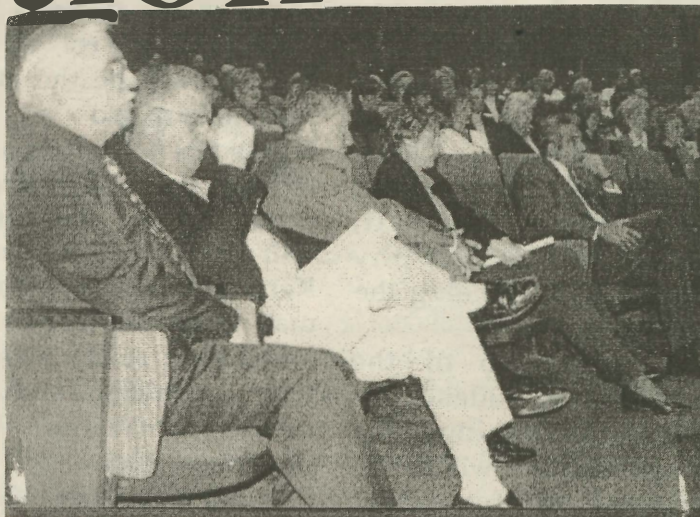
positive comments," said Duncan, "which I feel we were earned and deserved. We're very happy."

Jason Thrash, director of the Aquatics Center is also very happy with the team's response.

"We knew when we started this program that it was going to be very positive. We're pleased with the team's response," said Thrash.

Ro Hoar, who served as the Self Study co-

*Cont. on pg. 4*



*The audience listens attentively.*



*Barb Bauerfeind and Ro Hoar show their relief after the announcement.*



*President Kern speaks to audience during the NCA exit interview.*

# Leadership Course to be Offered This Fall

**Sarah Roberts**  
*Staff Writer*

Do you have your own style of leadership? Are you aware of the moral and ethical responsibilities of leadership? Do you even know what leadership means? If you answered no to any or all of these questions, than this fall you will have the opportunity to change all that. Phi Theta Kappa Leadership Development Studies (LEAD 1101-01) provides emerging and existing leaders the opportunity to explore the concept of leadership and to develop and improve their leadership skills.

Mark Kern, RLC president, who along with Steve Kennett, associate philosophy professor, is teaching the course.

"I think two of the main things students can get from taking this course are they will get an impression for what leadership really is and how being a leader differs from being a manager," said Kern, "and what leadership styles they have and learn to appreciate those styles."

According to information provided by Kennett, some of the course objectives for the

class are to allow students to work with human diversity, explore individual values based on leadership studies, and identify the elements of effective team building.

The course can benefit all students, not just those who are entering politics or other higher power jobs.

"The course will be good for any student," Kern said. "Anybody who is going on to college probably during their lifetime will be thrown into a leadership role, whether it be a school board or city council."

According to Kern, Kennett will be the main instructor so as to maintain "good continuity" for every class session. The units will be divided between Kern and Kennett. Some may even be taught by both, Kern said. Due to time constraints and his responsibilities as president, Kern said he may not always be able to attend. He added that they are considering sending up to three more teachers to training by next fall to learn how to teach this course.

Throughout the semester, students will participate in various activities to further their knowledge of leadership

including a "Shadow a Leader Project". This project gives students the opportunity to watch a leader in their role and learn to recognize various features of their leadership style.

Kern said he had seen literature on this course for several years. He added he had heard good things about it.

"I see a real lack in leadership development. We are developing a lot of students with a good knowledge base," said Kern. "But a leader is much more than someone with a lot of knowledge. If we can do anything to produce more leaders, at least students can understand the term leader."

"I think it will be a very enjoyable class for students because it will not be your traditional lecture class. We are not going to sit in the classroom and make students listen to us talk all semester," Kern said. "We know it is imperative to have interaction between students and teachers. We will have movies to watch, role playing, and many other activities. It will be a good class."

The course will meet Tuesday and Thursday in the Academic Building, room 212.

# Bookstore Experiences Changes

**Jessica Luschen**  
*Staff Writer*

This semester, RLC has made some noticeable changes. The one students have noticed the most is the separation of the bookstore.

In the past, the bookstore operated on a self-serve basis, which resulted in many students receiving the wrong textbooks.

In trying to prevent this, the bookstore separated the purchase of textbooks from the purchase of classroom supplies and other miscellaneous items.

"The main reason for our changes is to benefit the students," said Dorothy Fiera, coordinator of textbooks, "We can now serve them better with shorter lines and the correct textbooks."

The bookstore may

now keep more control of their textbooks and be aware of what is in stock.

"Last semester, it was hard to keep track of everything," said Fiera, "Now, I think students will agree that this is the orderly way of doing it."

Besides preventing students from getting the wrong textbooks, these changes have also seemed to eliminate the long lines.

"Last semester, the lines were terrible," said Fiera, "Students had to stand in line for long amounts of time, while holding the textbooks they were wanting to purchase."

Now, the bookstore staff gets all the books students need, which is preventing the long lines and confusion of the past.

# America Reads Needs Tutors

\*Will work with K-4 students in Benton and Mt.

Vernon or with Adult Literacy Programs

\*Applicants must be eligible for the Federal Work Study program

\*15 hours per week at minimum wage

\*Applications are being accepted for fall 1999

\*See Rex Duncan in the South Oasis or at ext. 352 for applications

# Social Science and Arts and Communications Departments Converge

**Heather Cassidy**  
*Student Writer*

With the belief that the humanities programs would be better served, a merger was made between the Social Science and Arts and Communications Departments. The two combined to form one new department, Liberal Arts, whose offices can be found in the North Oasis.

The Social Science

Department previously resided in the South Oasis with the Business Department. The rationale behind the decision for relocation was to allow opportunity for co-teaching, since some areas of humanities are interrelated.


The three full time instructors who made the move are Dr. Sue Tomlin, Carolyn Stewart, and Steve Kennett. There are also 15 other part-time instructors

who belong to the new department.

Chris Kuberski, Department Chair, feels it is "a really good addition to our department."

The Liberal Arts Department consists of offices for Art, Music, Foreign Language, English, Literature, History, Political Science, Philosophy, Psychology, and Sociology.

These offices may be reached by phone extensions 263 and 379.



**RLC TIMES STAFF**

Editor: Gina McClerren  
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# SIERA Scholarship Offered

**Gina McClerren**  
*Student Editor*

Attention all business majors! The Southern Illinois Employee Relations Association (SIERA) is once again offering a \$500 scholarship to a student who demonstrates academic accomplishment, professional commitment, and financial need.

In order to be a qualified applicant, the student must be enrolled as a full time freshman or sophomore at either Rend Lake College, Kaskakia College, Frontier

College, or John A. Logan College.

The student must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

The application materials include a letter of application, a letter of recommendation, a one to two page essay entitled "My Career Choice", and an official transcript.

The deadline for applications is 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 5, 1999.

For more information or to submit an application contact Rex Duncan in the South Oasis or call ext. 352.

# Security Notes

**Clinton Jones**  
*Staff Writer*

The last month on campus has been pretty hectic for the security staff.

About a week before "Meet Me in St. Louis" hit the stage, someone else hit the stage and the crew. A would-be thief posed as maintenance and walked around backstage and the surrounding area. Soon, people noticed personal items missing. The man was confronted and then the suspect fled. He was pursued and brought down. Security was notified and the man was taken into custody. Among the items stolen were, a jacket, and a sum of money.

The man's name would not be revealed. The man's case is pending.

During that same week, search dogs were brought in

to do a random search of the parking lots and buildings. The dogs are capable of sniffing out narcotics and other illegal and dangerous devices. According to Jerry Bate, the search was successful, but he would not disclose the nature of the items found.

Jerry would like it to be known that as always speeding is being monitored closely. Stiff fines are given to speeders and anyone violating laws. Remember that there are also small children around campus and that we are responsible for their safety. Obey all speed limits at all times for everyone's safety.

Jerry would also like to inform some people of these little devices laying around campus known as TRASH

CANS. These barrels are used to store garbage in, so that the trash is not laying around campus. But, sadly it seems that many do not understand this concept. So, for all of you people out there who are confused with trash cans, trash goes in them, not on the ground.

As spring arrives the weather can do odd things. Jerry wants everyone to know that the weather is always monitored. If situations arise, weather warnings will be issued.

Remember, this is not only the students campus, but the communities campus. Be responsible while on campus. If anyone needs to talk or complain, The security room door is always open.

# "Meet Me in St. Louis" is a Hit

**Greg Hollmann**  
*Student Writer*

Earlier this month at the Rend Lake College Theatre, Tracy Brouillette and her cast lit up the stage in a wonderful performance of "Meet Me in St. Louis." Performing to just under sell out crowds for all four performances, the cast and crew's hard work and dedication certainly shined through during the performances.

Tracy Brouillette, director of the play, was thrilled with the cast and crew's devotion to the play.

"As a director, you are always praying that the people you cast will follow through for you and play their roles convincingly," said Brouillette. "I had a wonderful cast that worked hard and gave me their all."

The cast consisted of students from RLC, members of the community, and staff members of the college. Members of the cast

included David Wicks, Dahlgren, as Mr. Alonso Smith, JoAnn Givens, Mt. Vernon, as Mrs. Anna Smith, Adam Kee, Johnston City, as Lon Smith, assistant director, Robin George, Mt. Vernon, played the role of Rose Smith, Ellie Atwood, Marion, took the role as Ester Smith, Brittany Smith, Mt. Vernon, as Agnus Smith, Lacey Jo Vercellino, Coello, as Tootie, and Nathaniel Cox, Benton, as Warren Sheffield. Other members of the cast were Chad Webb, Sesser, Sara Wilkerson, Benton, Amy Baltzell, Mt. Vernon, Monica Braddy, Mt. Vernon, Tony Jenkins, Mt. Vernon, Chris Donoho, Mt. Vernon, Chris Chaney, Benton, Aaron Webb, Benton, and Jared Osborn, Nason.

Cast member Braddy felt being around the cast of the play made the play great experience.

"Meeting all the cast, getting to know each other, working together,

and becoming like a family," said Braddy, "was the best part of the experience."

The cast put in many painstaking hours towards the preparation of the performance.

"We practiced," Brouillette said, "four times a week, for three hours each night, for six weeks."

She added that the hardest part of the play was the set design.

"Not being a set designer myself," Brouillette said, "I always have to find somebody willing and able to help build the set."

"In the end, the cast not only had to learn their lines and dances, they had to help build the set, too," Brouillette said.

RLC student, Ryan Maurer, Mt. Vernon, thought the set was good.

"The set is really great. It made you feel a part of every scene," said Maurer, "and just pulled you into the atmosphere."

Brouillette wants to add

a special thanks to Teresa Howard and her art class who helped paint the set. She also wishes to thank David Wicks for his assistance with the set.

Brouillette said another challenge she faced was with the selling of the tickets. The tickets were available in Brouillette's office, which made it very difficult to take orders when most of her hours were spent in the theatre.

"Selling tickets," said Brouillette, "is very difficult. Without a box office, they have to call my office. I can't be in both places at once."

One of the best aspects of the play was the orchestra. Julie Wilkerson, the orchestra director, did a wonderful job putting together a very talented group of musicians.

"The music was beautiful," said Phillip Stephenson, Mt. Vernon, who attended Friday night's performance, "it added so much to the play."

"They were so

wonderful," said Brouillette, "and put a big exclamation point on the show."

The director of the play has to put forth many hours and make many sacrifices for the performance in order for it to all come together and be as successful as this performance was.

"Everybody has to have something they serve, whether it be family or their hobby," said Brouillette, "but with me it's theatre. I find it to be very stimulating and fulfilling."

To the entire cast and crew, congratulations on a wonderful and successful performance!

**Required reading for anyone who knows a kid.**

If there's a child you care about, anywhere in your life, then you should care about our public schools. For a free booklet about raising academic standards in your child's school, call 1-800-38-BE SMART.



Education Excellence Partnership

## Textbook Rental Saves Students Money

Jessica Luschen  
Staff Writer

The new textbook rental system is now in its second semester. The main reason for its founding was to save students money.

The rental price is forty-two dollars per book, which includes a twenty dollar deposit fee, which is given back to the students when the book is returned.

"Students like the fact that they get twenty dollars back," said Dorothy Fiera, coordinator of textbooks, "Students may sell their rented books back to us starting the week of finals, and up to three days after finals end."

According to Fiera, not all books are rentable.

"The departments themselves determine which books are rentable," said Fiera, "It's usually a combination of hardback and paperback books."

The book room buys back the nonrentable books the first two weeks of the new semester. These students will receive a full refund. The Buy Back Company will also buy

back books the week of finals through the first week of the new semester.

"As long as the books aren't water damaged or written in, they may be returned," said Fiera, "Rental textbooks can be highlighted in."

The rental system seems to be an excellent idea.

"I believe it has been very well received," said Fiera, "Parents seem to really like it."

Although some students may only be able to rent one or two textbooks, it is saving everyone at least a little money.

"Students can save as much as two hundred dollars per semester," said Fiera, "Older students are wishing they had the chance to use it."

Grant-funded students also benefit from renting books.

"This is a great benefit to grant-funded students, as well as parents purchasing books," said Fiera, "This also makes grants and scholarships go farther to use towards tuition and other fees."

All students who take advantage of the rental system will be able to save at least a little bit of money.

## Americorp is Accepting Applications

Gina McClerren  
Student Editor

The Americorps in Southern Illinois is presently taking applications for positions opening in the fall as tutors and mentors for middle school students in the Mt. Vernon area.

Americorps members work 900 hours in either Casey Middle School, Dr. Andy Hall Sixth Grade Center, or Bethel Grade School, averaging about 25 hour per week over the school year.

Members earn a living allowance of \$4,622, and receive upon completion of service \$2,362.50 in education awards.

Candidates for the program must be at least 17 years of age, have a high school diploma or GED, demonstrate the academic skills necessary to tutor

grades 5-8, and pass a drug and background check.

The Americorps project is administered by Rex Duncan, director of Cooperative Education and Job Placement.

"This is a great way to serve your community while putting money away for college," Duncan said, "Many of our members say they work in the program because of the education award."

The application process is highly competitive and Duncan urges students to apply early.

"We will interview during early summer," Duncan said, "and make our final selections in late June or early July. The new members will have to be ready to start training the first week in August."

Those interested in applying should contact Duncan in the South Oasis at ext. 352.

## Job Fair to be Held

Gina McClerren  
Student Editor

The third annual Rend Lake College Job fair will be held on Wednesday, April 7, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the RLC Gym.

Dozens of area businesses, government agencies, and military organizations will be in attendance to recruit students, graduates, alumni, and district residence for full and part time, as well as seasonal jobs.

Citizen's Bank, The

Carbondale Police Department, Illinois Army National Guard, the Internal Revenue Service, Express Personnel Services, and Parkway Manor are just a few of the many organizations that will be at the job fair.

Those attending are urged to bring resumes and credentials and to dress appropriately.

For more information contact the Cooperative Education and Job Placement Department in the South Oasis or call ext. 351 or 352.

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coordinator, was very enthused about the NCA team's response to the college.

"I feel relieved, elated, euphoric," said Hoar. "The team was definitely on target."

Other areas of the college which the NCA committee found to be of concern were the Learning Resource Center's inadequacies in student access and a lack of updated learning resources.

Buettner stated the college should consider expanding its resources and adding more computers so more students would be able to use the internet. Mark Kern, president of RLC, is surprised at the negative response given by the NCA committee regarding the LRC.

"We have access to various other school's

library systems, including SIU's library, which the committee may have not been aware of," said Kern. "The resources are there and there are other places where students can access the internet other than the LRC."

The NCA team cited other departments who showed a lacking or problem including the counseling department for their lack of timeliness and inaccuracy regarding information provided to the students, a problem with security of student records, and the college's web site.

Overall, Kern is pleased with the NCA team's evaluation of the college.

"We feel very good right now because ten years without a special focus visit is about as good as it can get. We consider this very positive," said Kern. "I was also impressed with

the thoroughness of the team. The concerns and the suggestions they gave us will be very helpful."

"Some of the concerns and some suggestions we may not have expected, but I think they are right," said Kern.

The college committee will have a meeting at a later date to discuss what they will focus on developing or correcting first. The college will be expected to provide a student outcome achievement report by March 1, 2001, explaining how the school plans to use the information obtained from the NCA team's report to plan for future improvements in teaching at RLC.

The report given by the NCA team today is only preliminary, but it seems that RLC has another 10 year accreditation to add to its credentials.

## FREE STUDENT SENATE MAGIC SHOW

- \*Featuring Mitch Williams
- \*Public Dining Area
- \*March 31st at Noon