

# Meet Dr. Meents

## New Dean of Instruction welcomed to campus



**Dr. JULIE K. MEENTS**  
Dean of Instruction

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 Thursday by the Rend Lake College 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 at 1:30 p.m.

She is planning to start work Tuesday, 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.

(Continued on Page 4)

*Be creative!*

**RLCF Children's Center logo**

Art students (and anyone else on campus who would like to) have been asked to submit entries for a contest to design the new logo for the RLC Foundation Children's Center.

(Continued on Page 7)

**REND  
LAKE  
COLLEGE**



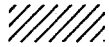
SUMMER '98 / Vol. 27 / No. 3

**JULY 6-19, 1998**

## /// F.Y.I. Personals ///

Talk about dedication to the job! Accounts Payable/Purchasing Specialist **Glenna Maxwell** became a first-time mother in the early morning hours of Wednesday, July 1, less than 10 hours after working until 4:15 the previous afternoon and having contractions on the way home.

Glenna and her husband, Chris, are the proud parents of 8-pound 7.4-ounce **Adrianna Claire Maxwell**, born at 2:10 a.m. at Carbondale Memorial Hospital. **Adrianna** was 20 inches long and is now happy at home and doing well in Macedonia.



Congratulations, also, to Practical Nursing Associate Professor **Dana Tabor**, who added two new grandchildren this spring to bring her total to seven.

Daughter **Lori Carlson** gave birth to **Sylvia Grace Carlson** June 24 in **Glen Ellyn**. The 9-pound 7-ounce girl has two sisters, **Katy**, 7, and **Abby**, 5 1/2, and a brother, **Miles**, 3. The proud dad is **Dan Carlson**.

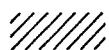
Son **Craig** and his wife, **Gail**, welcomed daughter **Corinna Jayne Tabor** April 21. The family, which also includes 5-year-old **Olivia** and 2-year-old **Chloe**, lives in **Carol Stream**.



Congratulations to Dean of Instruction Executive Assistant **Becky Williamson**. Her daughter, **Michele**, and **Brad Goodley** of **Eldorado** will be married July 31 at the Star General Baptist Church, two miles north of **Eldorado**.

The bride-to-be has attended **Rend Lake College** in the past and plans to continue her education at Southeastern Illinois this fall.

The prospective groom is a teacher and coach at **Eldorado High School**. He graduated from **Eastern Illinois University** in 1993.



**Nicholas Lemay**, son of RLC Teen Parent Services Case Manager **Sharon Richardson**, recently claimed the 4-H Grand Champion ribbon in the "Original Works" class for his presentation of a radio/TV newscast which included national, state and local items. **Nicholas** is a member of the **Texico Stars 4-H Club**.



**Howard L. Payne**, a member of the RLC Foundation Board of Directors and longtime supporter of **Rend Lake College** and its students, has been re-elected chairman of the Southern Illinois Workforce Development Board.

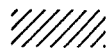
SIWDB serves residents of **Franklin, Jefferson, Perry, Jackson** and **Williamson** counties providing oversight of federal job training programs and welfare-to-work programs.



Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. **Leroy Spotanski**, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 26.

**Leroy** was Director of the Physical Plant at RLC before his retirement. His wife, the former **Elaine Harmon**, was the deputy circuit clerk for **Franklin County**.

Their family - including two sons, a daughter, their spouses, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren - gave them a trip to **Las Vegas** for their anniversary.



**Dr. Curtis A. Parker**, one of the founding Trustees of **Rend Lake College**, is coming out of retirement.

According to recent advertisements, "I am returning to *proVision Eyecare* in **Mt. Vernon** and **Centralia** for an indefinite time (short we hope) to care for patients. If you have need for my care, please phone **Mt. Vernon (244-0508)** or **Centralia (532-8112)** for appointments."

## THANK-YOU! THANK-YOU! THANK-YOU!

*"We would like to extend our sincere thanks to **Dave Wicks** for all of his help in the development of our Internet classes for Fall '98.*

*"He has spent hours with each of us teaching us not only the essentials in this process, but also has guided us patiently through the many frustrations often involved.*

**"Thanks Dave!"**

*Stephen A. Kennett  
Barb Davenport  
Ro Hoar  
Rob Little*

## /// Birthdays ///

- **Dorothy Feira (7/9)**
- **Sandra Cox (7/10)**
- **Roger Treece (7/11)**
- **Dr. Sue Tomlin (7/12)**
- **George Dawe (7/16)**
- **Rebecca Biggs (7/18)**
- **Cary Marshall (7/20)**
- **Gary Otey (7/21)**
- **Sherry Somers (7/22)**
- **Ed Billingsley (7/23)**
- **Pat Dietrich (7/25)**
- **Connie Sample (7/25)**
- **Bob Ross (7/26)**
- **Glenda Atkins (7/27)**
- **Ron Somers (7/27)**
- **Tammy Bigler (7/28)**
- **Carolyn Manker (7/28)**
- **Jody Johnson (7/30)**
- **William Roberts (8/3)**
- **Phyllis Rice (8/5)**
- **Brent King (8/6)**
- **Tim March (8/6)**
- **Dr. Walt Montgomery (8/6)**
- **Mike Sevenski (8/9)**

# Pinckneyville survey favorable to RLC

Contrary to rumors, Pinckneyville students who attend Rend Lake College before transferring to a four-year institution fare quite well, thank you.

In fact, all but one of those responding to a recent survey indicated they would recommend Rend Lake College "as a good place to start a four-year degree."

"We kept hearing comments made by some people that credits from Rend Lake College wouldn't transfer," said Ed Ruffino, a longtime counselor and former Pinckneyville resident.

"We knew there was no truth to those rumors, of course, but we weren't sure how to combat them."

So a survey was born. It was mailed in the spring to 35 recent RLC students from the Pinckneyville area enrolled at that time at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, with 15 returning the questionnaire.

Among the many positive findings:

Only one student experienced any problems with the transfer of RLC courses to SIUC.

"Do you feel your experience at Rend Lake College adequately prepared you for transfer to a senior institution?" - 86 per cent of those replying to the question said "Yes."

Noted one former student, "Everyone (at Rend Lake College) always treated me in a professional manner, and I really never had any problems. I moved from RLC to SIUC and it went very smoothly."

Ironically, the respondents included 14 different majors. Only two  
(Continued on Page 7)

**DON'T FORGET . . .**  
The RLC Cafeteria is open Monday-Thursday during the summer serving a variety of hot and cold sandwiches, salad bar, desserts & more!!!

## HELP WANTED

**Rend Lake College**  
is seeking three full-time professional



### Head Teachers

for the RLC Foundation Children's Center scheduled to open on-campus in August . . .

- Head Teacher - Infant Classroom
- Head Teacher - Toddler Classroom
- Head Teacher - Preschool Classroom

Each teacher will be responsible for development of weekly curriculum and developmentally appropriate activities for young children in his/her classroom. Teachers will assist in: setting up the classroom; developing curriculum; maintaining licensing standards for DCFS and other agencies; meeting NAEYC accrediting standards; coordinating daily programs with the Child Development instructional program; maintaining records; developing parent-involvement program, and maintaining a clean, organized, safe classroom.

#### QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education or related field required from an accredited institution
- Experience teaching young children
- Meet DCFS director qualification
- Good communication skills

#### SALARY and BENEFITS

- \$21-23,000 annually
- Retirement plan
- 20 paid Vacation Days
- 12 paid Holidays
- Pleasant, challenging work environment
- Excellent Health/Life Insurance coverage
- Free Tuition for employee, spouse and dependents

#### THE APPLICATION PROCESS

- Tentative start date is August 1 (or as negotiated)
- Application Deadline is Tuesday, July 7, 4 pm
- For an application packet, contact:

Cindy Minor, Assistant  
c/o REND LAKE COLLEGE  
468 N Ken Gray Pkwy • Ina, IL 62846  
(618) 437-5321, Ext. 228

or e-mail request to - minor@rlc.cc.il.us

**REND LAKE COLLEGE**

Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Educator and Employer

**Rend Lake College**  
is seeking a Business/Social Science



### Department Chair

The Business and Social Science Department Chairperson is responsible for the areas of Business, Office Systems Technology, Computer Science, Criminal Justice, Culinary Arts Management and Social Sciences.

#### QUALIFICATIONS

- Master's Degree in Business or related field required.
- Community college experience preferred.
- Instructional experience strongly preferred.

#### SALARY and BENEFITS

- \$52,000-\$55,000 range
- Retirement Plan
- 20 paid Vacation Days
- 12 paid Holidays
- Pleasant, challenging work environment
- Excellent Health/Life Insurance coverage
- Free Tuition for employee, spouse & dependents

#### THE APPLICATION PROCESS

- Submit a letter addressing qualifications, a résumé of educational and professional accomplishments; transcripts; official RLC application form and other relevant materials
- Tentative start date is August 17 (or as negotiated)
- Application Deadline is Friday, July 10, 4 pm
- For an application packet, contact:

President's Office  
c/o REND LAKE COLLEGE  
468 N Ken Gray Pkwy  
Ina, IL 62846

(618) 437-5321, Ext. 228

or e-mail request to - minor@rlc.cc.il.us

**REND LAKE COLLEGE**

Rend Lake College is one of the 40 public community colleges in the state of Illinois and is located in rural Southern Illinois, between the largest in-district communities of Mt. Vernon and Benton, approximately 100 miles east of St. Louis, MO.

Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Educator and Employer

## MORE ABOUT >> *New Dean arrives full-time July 15*

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 at Las Cruces 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 that 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 of Instruction explains in her Teaching Philosophy.

"There certainly is a role for the traditional lecture . . . but I have

### Meet the staff

DEAN of INSTRUCTION (7/15/98)

#### *Dr. Julie K. Meents*

B.S. in Zoology – U. of Nebraska  
Ph.D. in Animal Ecology/Plant Ecology – New Mexico St. U.  
Post-Graduate Studies –  
Statistics, Arizona State U.  
Comp. Science, New Mexico St.

**Background** – New Mexico St. University-Alamogordo, '84-98 (Professor of Biology, '95-98; Acting Div. Head / Math, Science, Technology, '97; Campus Evening Administrator, '95) • Business Mgr., Tularosa Clinics, '89-98 • Moi U., Kenya, E. Africa, '96-97 (Visiting Prof. / Wildlife Ecology) • Research Biologist/Consultant – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Institute for Water Resources;

Nature Conserv./New Mexico; White Sands Missile Range; New Mexico Game and Fish; Spellenberg Botanical Consult.; Chihuahuan Desert Institute; Arizona St. and New Mexico St.; Hazleton Environ. Sciences; Bureau of Land Management  
• Native of Lincoln, Nebraska

Temporary Residence – Rend Lake Manor, Whittington

Fiancé – Ronald Offley (New Mexico St. Chemistry Professor will be joining her in December)

Interests – Hiking • Scuba diving  
• Conservation issues • Travel  
• Gardening

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."

Meents also talks about the relationship between "real-world issues" and "providing students with access to information." "I believe a diversity of teaching styles and strategies needs to be encouraged and fostered

in all faculty," she concludes. "This means a commitment to professional development, recognition of need for resources, flexibility and support from administration and fellow faculty members."

She lists integrity ("a leader must be someone you can trust") and her ability to communicate as two of her chief assets as an administrator, as well as being a "team player."

In her position, she promises to "be deeply and personally committed to the goals and missions of the institution and the welfare and success of the people involved in the institution."

"I envision my function as a colleague and manager rather than a director. My role is to share information and power, to act as a facilitator and to delegate when appropriate. My goal is to support strong individualism amidst a strong sense of community . . . High-quality solutions are found when a team of people view problems from different perspectives, expertise and styles."

## Minor achieves rating of CPS, top 100 acclaim

Cindy Minor, Assistant to the President at Rend Lake College, recently achieved the rating of Certified Professional Secretary (CPS) by Professional Secretaries International – The Association for Office Professionals.

The rating is obtained following completion and verification of educational and secretarial employment experience requirements and by successfully passing a one-day, three-part examination covering finance and business law, office systems and administration and management.

In the office systems and administration section, she scored in the 99th percentile of all those taking the exam.

In addition, Minor was notified this week she finished as one of the top 100 participants in the National Typing Contest conducted by the OPAC (Office Proficiency Assessment and Certification) System conducted during Professional Secretaries Week in April.

She was credited with typing 101 words per minute on computerized OPAC skills testing.

Minor has been employed by Rend Lake College the past four years. Along with her responsibilities as Assistant to the President, she is the recording secretary for the Rend Lake College Board of Trustees, oversees the 32-person Office Support Staff at the Ina-based community college and serves as Title III Coordinator for a five-year, \$1.6 million "Strengthening Institutions" federal grant project.

A resident of Herrin, she earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Teacher Education from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. Dr. Brenda Erickson, CPS and Professor of Business at John A. Logan College, helped Minor prepare for the recent examination through individualized instruction.

# More AmeriCorps

## *Illinois ChildCorps, AmeriCorps in S.I. renewed*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senators Carol Moseley-Braun and Dick Durbin announced Tuesday 18 Illinois organizations will receive over \$4 million in AmeriCorps grants from the Corporation for National Service.

The only organization in the state receiving two awards ... Rend Lake College.

According to the announcement, Rend Lake College will receive \$225,000 for administering the Illinois ChildCorps network of child care resource and referral programs and \$224,967 for AmeriCorps in Southern Illinois, which encompasses all of the community colleges in the deep south and Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

The AmeriCorps in Southern Illinois program provides "member" tutors for at-risk students in area elementary and junior high schools.

According to Rend Lake College's Rex Duncan, who helped write the original AmeriCorps in S.I. grant project five years ago, the total amount of money awarded is deceiving. Of the announced figure, \$191,170 will go directly to 40 AmeriCorps in S.I. members for living allowances and benefits. But another \$94,500, not included in the total, is on reserve and guaranteed for scholarship awards to the participants upon completion.

"The AmeriCorps in Southern Illinois" project alone has generated about \$400,000 in college scholarships the last 4-5 years," Duncan said.

AmeriCorps is the national service program introduced by President Bill Clinton that allows young people between the ages of 18 and 24 to earn money to help finance their education in exchange for a year of service to the community. It was dubbed the domestic "Peace Corps" at the time of its inception.

"I support all efforts to encourage and promote volunteerism," said

Moseley-Braun. "Whether planting a tree, cleaning up neighborhood graffiti or mentoring at-risk youths, these experiences will help our young people develop a life-long commitment to helping others."

"Dollars invested in community service have a high yield that goes beyond their cash value," said Durbin. "These young people work hard to help communities and families."

Ten of the 40 AmeriCorps in S.I. members are Rend Lake College students assigned to Mt. Vernon area schools – four at Casey Middle School, four at Hall 6th-Grade Center and two at Bethel Grade School.

Other two-year colleges that share in the funding are Kaskaskia in Centralia, John A. Logan in Carterville, Shawnee in Ullin and Southeastern Illinois in Harrisburg.

The statewide Illinois ChildCorps project is housed in the "Project CHILD" Child Care Resource and Referral offices in Mt. Vernon.

As with the AmeriCorps in S.I. program, money beyond the \$250,000 award is on reserve for scholarships for Illinois ChildCorps members.

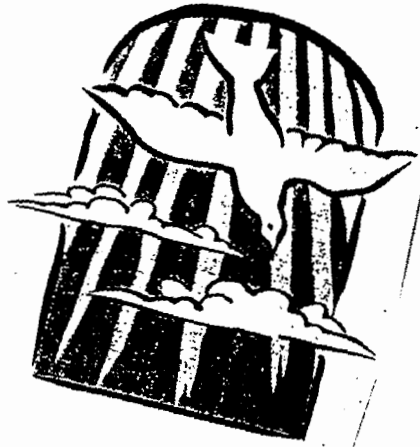
This is the second round of AmeriCorps grants for Illinois for 1998. Previously, the EcoWatch project which utilizes RLC to house part of its staff also was funded again.

Among the 18 programs funded this time, in addition to RLC's two:

The Mental Health Center of Champaign County will use the money to provide outreach to homeless people, the developmentally disabled and people with AIDS.

Family Rescue Incorporated of Chicago will use the money to give assistance to battered women and their children.

AmeriCorps members at SIUE will tutor, mentor and provide recreational activities for the children of East St. Louis.



In Loving Memory  
Jimmie Ray Ross

*Your Thoughtfulness  
is Appreciated*

*Lee Rose*

*Tanya + Fred  
"D.C." + Linda  
Aly + Rita*

Miss Heather Lynn Head  
and  
Mr. Jason Christopher Sample  
request the honour of your presence  
at their marriage  
on Saturday, August eighth  
nineteen hundred and ninety-eight  
at two o'clock in the afternoon  
St. John's United Church of Christ  
20 South Hickory Street  
DuQuoin, Illinois

Reception following ceremony

*Heather is the part-time Financial Assistant with  
Project CHILD; Jason is the son of Student Services  
Executive Assistant Connie Sample*

MORE ABOUT >>

## Children's Center logo

In a memo to RLC Art Instructors Sarah Capps and Therese Howard, RLC Foundation Executive Director Pat Mitchell indicated the winner would receive a \$100 cash award and be invited to have dinner with the Foundation Board.

"There are no specific rules for the design," Mitchell noted. "Please feel free to be as creative as you would like."

She added, "When thinking of the Children's Center logo, I think of the college, the Rend Lake College Foundation and of an innovative child care program that will provide a model for all other child care centers."

Now the bad news. Because deadlines are tight for the project, entries must be submitted to the RLC Foundation Office in the Administration Building by Monday, July 13, at 4 p.m.

The framework of the building was up just prior to the Fourth of July holidays and the roof was being installed early this week, with everything still targeted for a fall opening.

MORE ABOUT >>

## Pinckneyville survey says . . .

had taken advantage of the "2+2 Program" which guarantees transferability of all credits from the community college to SIUC.

Only two in three students had declared a specific major during their freshman year. And while the majority had sought help from a Rend Lake College counselor, faculty advisor or department chair, as emphasized, three admitted they had been self-advised in their courses of study.

RLC "is a good middle stop between high school and a four-year university," one responded.

"I have children and consider Rend Lake College a credible, economical alternative to a four-year university," replied another.

Two other comments addressed similar subjects. "It provided more one-on-one contact with teachers and counselors," wrote one. Said another, "The campus is small and the instructors are better teachers . . . they are more willing to help their students succeed."

"It helped me get all the general studies done, so I could focus on my electives and major."

### HELP WANTED

**Rend Lake College**  
is seeking a professional



## Network Specialist

*in Information Services. This individual will: maintain hardware, software and the computer network; administer Novell and Windows NT Network; train faculty and staff, and set up programs on computers.*

// Full-time, nontenured position.

#### QUALIFICATIONS

- Associate's Degree from an accredited institution required; Bachelor's Degree preferred
- Knowledge of DOS, Windows 3.11, Windows 95 and either Novell or Windows NT required; CNA or MSC preferred
- Ability to diagnose network problems

#### SALARY and BENEFITS

- \$25-35,000 starting range
- 20 paid Vacation Days
- Retirement plan
- 12 paid Holidays
- Pleasant, challenging work environment
- Excellent Health/Life Insurance coverage
- Free Tuition for employee, spouse and dependents

#### THE APPLICATION PROCESS

- Tentative start date is August 1 (or as negotiated)
- Application Deadline is Monday, July 13, 10 am
- For an application packet, contact:

Cindy Minor, Assistant  
c/o REND LAKE COLLEGE  
468 N Ken Gray Pkwy  
Ina, IL 62846  
(618) 437-5321, Ext. 228  
or e-mail request to - minor@rlc.cc.il.us

**REND LAKE COLLEGE**

Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Educator and Employer

Let us  
help  
pay  
for your



## Vocational Train-

1-Year Certificate Programs / 2-Year Degree Programs

**IF** ... You would like to enroll for Fall '98 classes at **REND LAKE COLLEGE**



... You meet income guidelines or other financial assistance criteria

... or You are a dislocated worker

OUR JTPA STAFF IS ANXIOUS TO TALK TO YOU!!!

Call . . . (618) 437-5321, Ext. 380, or In-District 1-800-369-5321  
Local from Benton/Franklin County ~ 435-2817 or 435-2918

Sponsored by the Southern Illinois Workforce Development Board, SDA 25, administered by Management, Training and Consulting Corporation (Man-Tra-Con). Serving Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson, Perry and Williamson counties.

Equal Opportunity Employer / Program auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

## Capps' work part of traveling art exhibition

Three watercolor paintings by Rend Lake College Art Professor Sarah Capps are included in a new traveling exhibition which is making its debut through September 6 at the Freeport Arts Center.

The contributors to "The Midwestern Landscape: Eight Women's Perspectives" are from Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Indiana and Michigan. After its run in Freeport, the exhibit will be on display in three other Midwest communities, including the RLC campus in Ina March 2-26. Paris and Springfield are the stops in between.

Curator Richard Boschulte, a landscape artist in Bloomington and Freeport native, indicated he "hopes to impart to all who see this show a heightened sense of value for the land and a renewed appreciation for the beauty of the landscape that surrounds us. I believe the eight artists I have selected present an excellent survey of contemporary trends in Midwestern landscape painting.

"They present a variety of painting styles, from the crisp realism of works by Capps, Susan Koch (Freeport) and Ellen Wegener (Dewitt, IA), to the heightened luminance of Julie Kiefer-Bell (DeKalb), the richly complex colorism of Audrey

Ushenko (Ft. Wayne, IN), the expressive brush work and surfaces of *plein-air* painters Diane Canfield-Bywaters (Stevens Point, WI) and Melanie Parke (Kaleva, MI) and the intuitive abstractions of Susan Maakestad (Wellman, IA)."

Added the curator: "These artists share a personal connection to the landscape; they live where they paint, and they paint where they live."

Capps' contribution to the exhibition includes "Bridge," depicting a fall scene with fallen tree limbs across a large rock; "Pure Gold," an award-winning painting of a creek bottom featuring the fall colors of gold and yellow, and "Sunflowers II," featuring a scene near Frisco of a field of sunflowers surrounding an old barn. This is the first time her work has been part of a traveling show.

Capps, notes Boschulte, "paints scenes of creek bottoms near her home in Southern Illinois, capturing the contemplative quietude of the waters bathed in the light filtering through canopies of sycamores and oaks."

Wegener "drives the backroads surrounding her hometown, at sunrise or sunset, in search of subtle nuances that transform the ordinary into something aesthetically distinct and

special." Koch, says Boschulte, "with the deftness of an illustrator's touch, resurrects our interest in places often overlooked and under-appreciated." Kiefer-Bell's subjects "are taken from suburban park settings," while Ushenko paints views "from her own backyard, rooftop or living room window, building intricately complex and vibrant coloristic space."

Both Canfield-Bywaters and Parke work *en plein air*, meaning in the open air at the site. "They immerse themselves in the environments of their subjects so as to gain a more direct understanding of the landscape; their works have bold coloration and expressive brush work." Maakestad, meanwhile, "shows us the landscape as if through a filter; her images are recognizable but abstract, simple yet sustaining, suggestive of a more psychological, contemplative experience."

The Freeport Arts Center is open Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Wednesday-Sunday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Admission is \$1 for adults, 50 cents for seniors and students.

To complement the exhibition, storyteller Dianne Walters-Butler of Rockford will perform "The Woman Who Wanted to Fly" in the galleries at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, August 20.

## LRC part of Southern Illinois information network

The Learning Resource Center at Rend Lake College was among 40 libraries to receive a Charter Participant Award from the Southern Illinois Regional Information Network (SIRIN) at a special meeting last month at Mascoutah Public Library.

The award recognizes the RLC Learning Resource Center's participation in web-page development training and in the development of a web-page for the library.

Libraries recognized represent the 32 southern-most counties of Illinois. They were saluted for their efforts to

help establish a regional information network.

"The staff and boards of the participating libraries realize the library is even more vital to their communities in this age of information technology and the Internet. This technology allows the local library to be even more effective as an information center," commented Joe Harris of the Shawnee Library System's Information Services.

"These libraries also can be helpful in their communities to help non-profit groups build their own web

sites to provide information and interactivity within their communities and the region."

When fully developed, the Southern Illinois Regional Information Network will provide an index to information on individual communities and the region as a whole and on such topics as business/industry, government, health services, cultural activities, churches, travel/recreation, schools, colleges, universities, libraries and museums.

The SIRIN home page may be found at <http://www.sirin.lib.il.us>.



# RLC to host Food Sanitation state seminar

Rend Lake College will be one of three sites statewide for annual Food Service Sanitation Manager Certification (FSSMC) Instructor's Seminars to be offered during the month of July.

The seminar to be hosted on the Ina campus by the RLCCulinary Arts program will be Thursday, July 9 - the first of the three covering the entire state.

The Food Service Sanitation Code requires attendance of at least five hours of continuing education every 2 1/2 years to maintain active certification. The seminar qualifies as five continuing education hours (CEUs) for instructors of the Illinois FSSMC course.

Topics to be covered will emphasize teaching techniques and proposed rule changes affecting the FSSMC program. It also will include a discussion of current food and safety issues.

Other scheduled seminars will be at St. John's Hospital in Springfield July 17 and College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn July 29.

The FSSMC program is coordinated by the Division of Food, Drugs and Dairies, Illinois Department of Public Health.

## F.Y.I. Personals

Health, Physical Education and Recreation Department Chair Wayne Arnold took part once again July 4 in the 29th Peachtree Road Race in Atlanta.

This year's event attracted a record 55,000 participants, 5,000 more than the previous high. The Peachtree Road Race claims to be the world's largest 10-kilometer race.

Arnold, for the record, did not win the \$25,000 first prize. That went to No. 1 seed Khalid Khannouchi of Morocco. He won the event in a time of 27 minutes 47 seconds. Kenya's Hellen Kimaiyo-Kipkoskei, also the No. 1 seed, claimed women's honors in 31:52.

Arnold, entered for the fifth time, did not even get to the starting line until 42 minutes after the race had begun (and 15 minutes after Khannouchi had finished). Temperatures were in the mid-70s.

## F.Y.I. Briefs

With pleasant thoughts of England still fresh in their minds, RLC International Travel instructors Sue Tomlin and Carolyn Stewart already are busy stirring up interest in an educational trip to Mexico in 1999.

The tentative departure date for the nine-day adventure is May 21.

Anyone signing up by paying the \$100 deposit fee during the month of July (only) will receive a \$30 discount on the total package cost of \$1,959, according to Stewart.

Participants will stay four nights in Mexico City, one in Taxco and three in Acapulco. Highlights will include tours of all three cities, the Pyramids of the Sun and Moon, Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Floating Gardens of Xochimilco, Ballet Folklorico and an Acapulco Bay cruise.

The cost includes round-trip transportation to St. Louis Lambert Airport from campus; twin accommodations; breakfasts daily and eight dinners; a full-time bilingual tour director, and college tuition.

The American Association for Women in Community Colleges (AAWCC) will hold its 1998 Region V Conference Sunday and Monday, October 4-5 in East Peoria. The conference will examine both change and challenge as it affects community colleges.

The RLC Foundation will be hosting two special groups this month.

Friday, July 10, Mildred Fitzgerald will be recognized during a surprise noon luncheon in her honor in the Student Center Private Dining Area.

On Tuesday, July 14, students in the two "Arthritis Aquatics" classes will enjoy breakfast after their workout in the Aquatics Center lobby.

Former RLC Warrior baseball-basketball player Shaun Watson of Brighton was recently featured in an article in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Watson, who signed with the New York Mets organization and played professionally for four years, is now 26 years of age and plays slow-pitch softball on a grand scale for the Wood River Phone Masters team. Watson is 6 feet 6, 275 pounds.

### HELP WANTED

**Rend Lake College** is seeking a professional, part-time



## Coordinator

for its Family Literacy program based out of Christopher Elementary School. This person will: develop and implement family reading programs; recruit families; develop and facilitate parenting curriculum; develop/coordinate parent-child activities; establish regular family contacts, and network with staff and local social service agencies.

// 24 hours per week.

#### QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's Degree required; Elementary Education or Social Service major preferred

#### SALARY and BENEFITS

- \$15,000 for 40 weeks
- Pleasant, challenging work environment

#### THE APPLICATION PROCESS

- Tentative start date is August 3 (or as negotiated)
- Application Deadline is Tuesday, July 21, 4 pm
- For an application packet, contact:

Cindy Minor, Assistant  
 c/o REND LAKE COLLEGE  
 468 N Ken Gray Pkwy  
 Ina, IL 62846  
 (618) 437-5321, Ext. 228  
 or e-mail request to - minor@rlc.cc.il.us

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# Should community college tuition be eliminated?

*Proposal in North Carolina reflects a broad debate about how best to attract students and use limited state dollars*

By MARY OWEN

North Carolina's community-college system is considered a model for states that want their two-year institutions to play a central role in driving economic growth. The colleges have large enrollments, work closely with companies in shaping curricula, and help feed the appetite of businesses for highly skilled workers.

The best way to insure the state's 58 community colleges continue to fill that vital function, says Lieut. Gov. Dennis Wicker, is to eliminate one major barrier for students: tuition.

Mr. Wicker has proposed that the state raise its spending on the colleges by as much as \$6-million in 1999, and up to \$12-million a year thereafter, to insure that any full-time student who has graduated from high school can immediately enroll in a two-year college free.

"This is a very cheap price to pay for the huge dividends that we're going to receive on our investment," says Mr. Wicker, a Democrat, who heads the state community-college governing board and is expected to run for Governor in 2000. "As prosperous a state as we are, we should be able to make this commitment."

President Clinton's 1996 promise to "make the 13th and 14th years of education as universal to all Americans as the first 12 are today," and last year's enactment of a \$1,500 federal tax credit for tuition costs, focused attention on insuring that as many people as possible go to college, and to community college in particular.

Many states have contemplated creating similar tax breaks and scholarship programs. Mr. Wicker is among a small but growing group of state legislators or policymakers — others are in California, Massachusetts, and Minnesota — who favor a more-direct approach to achieving Mr. Clinton's goal of expanding ac-

cess to community colleges.

Tax credits require students to pay, up front, tuition money they may not have, Mr. Wicker says. What's more, he adds, ending tuition outright is a strong statement to encourage youngsters by assuring them money will not be a barrier to a college education.

Appealing as the idea may seem, however, many lawmakers and educators think it's wrong-headed. Some, like North Carolina House majority leader N. Leo Daughtry, find more sense in channeling state support only to students who truly need it.

"To make scholarships available for people who can already pay is not a very smart thing to do," says Mr. Daughtry, who himself is contemplating a gubernatorial run in 2000.

Others see danger in moving to a system in which colleges become even more dependent for their survival on an inconsistent level of government support. Critics also argue that students are more inclined to invest hard work in an endeavor in which they are also investing their own money.

Like many other states, North Carolina desperately needs skilled workers. Last year, about a third of the nearly 58,000 students who graduated from high schools there said they intended to enroll in community college, yet only about 6,100 did.

Mr. Wicker believes many high-school graduates were deterred by finances, even though community-college tuition in the state is about \$560 a year, among the lowest in the country. The national average is \$1,500.

But David Pierce, president of the American Association of Community Colleges, worries that by eliminating tuition, states run the risk of jeopardizing the quality of education. Typically, about 30% of a college's budget comes from tuition. "The state has to be prepared to make up the loss in revenue," he says. "It would be hard to reduce tuition and not make it up."

By forgoing tuition for just a fraction of the system's 800,000 part-time and full-time students, Mr. Wicker's

proposal would not blow a big hole in the system's budget, supporters of the plan say. The state, which is enjoying a budget surplus of more than \$1-billion, allocated \$639.6-million to community colleges last year. The additional cost would be a "drop in the bucket," said an aide to Mr. Wicker.

The projected first-year price tag of Mr. Wicker's plan, which he says would help lure businesses and expand the state's economic base, assumes that 6,100 students — the most recent number of community-college students who just graduated from high school — would qualify for free tuition. He anticipates the number of such students seeking to enroll thereafter would increase by 50% each year, as would the program's cost.

James F. Carlin, chairman of the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education, says no state endeavors are entirely safe when the economy turns sour, but he agrees that providing education is worth the risk. Last August, he proposed eliminating tuition at Massachusetts' 15 community colleges. A panel of legislators is trying to hammer out a compromise between one plan, which would cut tuition for students from low-income families, and another, which would cap community-college tuition at \$500.

In California, a group of nine lawmakers is seeking to go beyond a 5% cut in tuition that legislators made in October 1997 for students in the state's three public-college systems. The bipartisan group believes the state's \$4-billion budget surplus should be used to wipe out tuition at all public colleges, which would cost about \$1.3-billion next year. The lawmakers' plan would put another \$1.3-billion in reserve to pay for the year after that.

State Sen. John Vasconcellos says eliminating tuition would be the smartest way to spend the surplus, and more effective than increasing student aid or scholarships. "I'd rather have the door wide open," he says, "than waste money on paperwork."  
~ *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

# REND LAKE COLLEGE

Summer 1998

**July 20-23  
and July 27-30  
Monday - Thursday  
(total of 8 days)**



**AM ~ 9 a.m.-Noon • PM ~ 12:30-3:30 p.m.**

**Science & Rhythm / Alphabet** • Explore ABCs thru science, rhythms • Grades K-1 • Connie Hutson • AM/PM

**Math Their Way** • Math Manipulatives thru problem-solving, reasoning • Grades K-1 • Angie Dawe • AM/PM

**Ocean Explorers Club** • Expedition into the "great deep" in literature, art, science • K-1 • Julie Moody • AM/PM

**Read & Create** • Awesome books evolve into creative art projects • Grades K-3 • Valerie Fry • AM only

**What Makes Us Tick?** • Discover things about your body you never knew • Grades 1-2 • Natalie Page • AM/PM

**Adventures in Art** • Learn art fundamentals through variety of activities • Rhonda Grimmert • AM (4-7)/PM (1-3)

**Weird Science** • Experiments • 1-3 • Cathy Sanders • AM

**Habla Español?** • Introduction to Spanish language and culture • Grades 1-5 • Julie Lever • AM/PM

**Native American Customs & Crafts** • Study tribes and customs by learning crafts • Grades 1-6 • Valerie Fry • PM

**Cultures of the World** • Read, create and taste different lifestyles • Grades 2-4 • Marilyn Conwell • AM/PM

**You Be the Star!** • Discover the stage at an early age thru performance • Gr. 2-8 • Tracey Brouillette • AM/PM

**Computer Magic** • Learn keyboarding skills, discover fun on the PC • Sandra Patchett • AM (3-5)/PM (6-8)

**Nutritionally Delightful** • Healthy snacks and how to fix them; manners • 3-5 • Teresa Stacey • AM/PM

**Experimentation Celebration** • Life, earth, physical sciences; Starlab field trip • 4-5 • Dede Gouge • AM/PM

**Greek Mythology** • Explore an exciting world, attend a Toga Party! • Grades 4-6 • Deborah Hutson • AM/PM

**Creative Writing** • Gr. 5-8 • Elizabeth Shuler • PM

**Aqua Gladiators** • Fun with stream ecology and the surrounding habitat • Grades 4-6 • EcoWatch staff • AM

**Awesome Math Minds** • Operate small business; pan for gold • Grades 4-6 • Kim Phoenix • AM/PM

**Parlez-Vous Francais?** • Introduction to French language/culture • Grades 5-8 • Elizabeth Shuler • AM

**SWIM Fun** • Watersafety • 6-8 • Jason Thrash • PM

**Computer Graphics/Animation** • Like the movies! • July 27-30 only (\$36) • 5-8 • Jon Davey • AM/PM

**They Did That in S. Illinois?** • Native Americans to '20s gangsters • July 27-30 (\$36) • 6-8 • Sid Milliner • AM

Students and parents are asked to attend orientations in Theatre, Monday, July 20, at 8:30 a.m. or Noon.

**Registration fee for most courses is \$65.**  
Covers materials, handouts and "College for Kids" T-Shirt.

**REGISTRATION ACCEPTED BY COMMUNITY SERVICES THROUGH TUESDAY, JULY 7**



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Phone / Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

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REND LAKE COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

(Drawing ~ Wednesday, December 2, 1998)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone / Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

# F.Y.I. Week ahead



# JULY

## MONDAY / 6th

- Practical Nurse Pinning, 9 am-9 pm (Theatre) • H.S. Science, 9 am-Noon (ACA 206) • Pyramid Players, 12:30-10 pm (Music Room)
- Assessment Committee, 4-5:30 pm (SC/EBR) • "Health" and "Nutrition" TV Reports, 6-7 pm (ACA 207)
- Orchestra Rehearsal, 7-10 pm (NO) • Airplane Club, 7:30 pm (SC/EBR)

## TUESDAY / 7th

- RLC Foundation Interviews, 8 am-4 pm (SC/EBR) • Pyramid Players, 9 am-11 pm (Theatre; Music) • H.S. Science, 9 am-Noon (ACA 206)
- Children's Center, 10:30-11:30 am (Admin. Bldg.) • MIS, Noon • Girls H.S. Summer League, 6-9 pm (Gym)

## WEDNESDAY / 8th

- Student Services, 8:30-10 am (SC/EBR) • Pyramid Players, 9 am-11 pm (Theatre; Music Room) • H.S. Science, 9 am-Noon (ACA 206)
- Nontraditional Interviews, 10 am-4 pm (SC/EBR) • "Latin American History" TV, Noon-1 pm and 5-6 pm (ACA 106)

## THURSDAY / 9th

- Dept. of Public Health, 7:30 am-4 pm (SCI 110) • Nontraditional Interviews, 8 am-4 pm (SC/EBR) • McKendree, 8:30 am-8:30 pm (ACA 207)
- H.S. Science, 9 am-Noon (ACA 206) • Pyramid Players, Noon-11 pm (Theatre; Music Room) • Lady Warrior Summer League, 6-9 pm (Gym)
- Orchestra Rehearsal, 7-10 pm (NO)

## FRIDAY / 10th

- H.S. Science, 9 am-Noon (ACA 206) • RLC Foundation, 10:30 am-2 pm (SC/PDA) • Pyramid Players, Noon-11 pm (Theatre; Music Room)
- Choate Mental Health, 1-4 pm (SCI 110) • Franklin County 4-H Fair

## WEEKEND / 11th & 12th

- SATURDAY – Pyramid Players, Noon-11 pm (Theatre; Music Room) • Franklin County 4-H Fair
- SUNDAY – Pyramid Players, Noon-2 am (Theatre; Music Room) • Franklin County 4-H Fair

## MONDAY / 13th

- H.S. Science, 9 am-Noon (ACA 206) • Franklin County 4-H Fair • Pyramid Players, Noon-11 pm (Theatre; Music Room)
- "Anthropology" TV Testing, 4-8 pm (ACA 207) • Orchestra Rehearsal, 7-10 pm (N. Oasis)

## TUESDAY / 14th

- H.S. Science, 9 am-Noon (ACA 206) • Transfer Group, 9:30-10:30 am (SCI 115) • Pyramid Players, Noon-11 pm (Theatre; Music Room)
- Franklin County 4-H Fair • "Psychology" TV Testing, 1-2 pm and 6-7 pm (ACA 105) • Girls H.S. Summer League, 6-9 pm (Gym)

## WEDNESDAY / 15th

- Student Services, 8:30-10 am (SC/EBR) • H.S. Science, 9 am-Noon (ACA 206) • Pyramid Players, Noon-11 pm (Theatre; Music Room)
- "Health" and "Nutrition" TV Reports, 10-11 am and 6-7 pm (ACA 108); 1-2 pm (ACA 108) • Franklin County 4-H Fair
- "American Government," Noon-1 pm and 6-7 pm (ACA 102)

## THURSDAY / 16th

- McKendree College, 8:30 am-8:30 pm (ACA 207) • H.S. Science, 9 am-Noon (ACA 206) • "Nutrition" TV, 9-10 am, 1-2 pm and 6-7 pm (ACA 108)
- Security, 10 am-Noon (SC/PDA) • Pyramid Players, Noon-11 pm (Theatre; Music Room) • Lady Warrior Summer League, 6-9 pm (Gym)

## FRIDAY / 17th

- H.S. Science, 9 am-Noon (ACA 206) • "Nutrition" and "Health" TV, 8-9 am, 11 am-Noon (ACA 108)
- Pyramid Players, Noon-11 pm (Theatre; Music Room)

## WEEKEND / 18th & 19th

- SATURDAY – Pyramid Players, Noon-5 pm (Theatre; Music Room)
- SUNDAY – Pyramid Players, Noon-5 pm (Theatre; Music Room) • Jefferson County 4-H Fair

