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Welcome to the 2013-14 edition of the President's Annual Report

 $\Pi$ ello, and welcome to another edition of the President's Annual Report, an informative piece that documents the previous academic year.

The 2013-2014 year for Cowley was filled with many noteworthy accomplishments, as you'll read about in this issue.

Of course, the year was not without its struggles. However, we are proud of how the college handled the adversity and continued to succeed as an institution of higher education.

Kara Thomas from El Dorado is our 2013-14 Student of the Year. What a smart and driven young woman! The art major was the vice president of the Art and Design Club, was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and served as a Student Ambassador. She was also a member of the Cowley Movie Club, in IMPACT, and was a work-study at the Tiger Deli. Janice Stover, Director of Academic Enrichment, was named the recipient of the Ben LeClair Staff Excellence Award. This report includes many other wonderful highlights from the past year. I invite you to read through it carefully. It is my hope that it will give you a better understanding of what Cowley is all about and the direction we're heading.

As you can see, in the area that counts most, the successes of our students, it was another great year at Cowley. But, we cannot, and will not, take much time to look back. A great deal of work lies ahead

Fortunately, Cowley College has great folks who are continuing to look forward. We are proud of what we have accomplished, and I am excited for a successful 2014-15 academic year.



Sincerely,

Tony Crouch

# Aministration



**Tony Crouch** Interim President/Executive Vice President of Business Services



Paul Erdmann Vice President for Information Technology



Slade Griffiths Vice President of Academic Affairs



Stephani Johns-Hines Associate Vice President for Mulvane and Online Operations



Shane Larson Director for Athletics



Ben Schears Vice President for Institutional Advancement

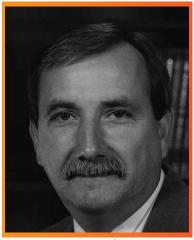


Jason O'Toole Executive Director of Student Affairs



Josh Cobble Executive Director of **Enrollment Management** 

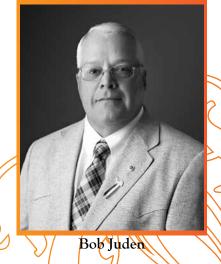
# Board of Trustees

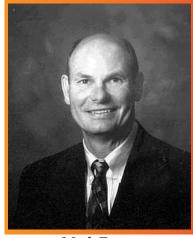


Ron Godsey



Ned Graham





Mark Paton

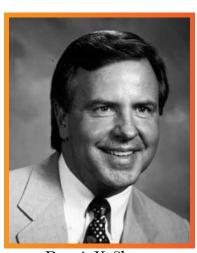




Jim Ramirez



Brian Sanderholm



Dennis K. Shurtz

## **CORE VALUES**

Cowley County Community College and Area Vocational Technical School is dedicated to the continual pursuit of excellence by embracing our Core Values, the fundamental principles that guide our actions.

## People

- \* We emphasize the importance of human relationships, diversity, and a sense of community.
- \* We provide student-centered instruction.
- \* We provide a safe, learning environment where joy, humor, and teamwork are embraced.
- \* We encourage open communication and the sharing of ideas.

## Leadership

- \* We provide a positive atmosphere that fosters personal and professional growth.
- \* We empower students and employees to be innovative and visionary.
- \* We are an ethical leader in the field of education.

## **Integrity**

\* We regard honesty, trust, and respect as essential principles in our academic, personal, and professional standards.

## **Accountability**

- \* Our students will receive a quality education.
- \* The college will provide students the opportunity to take an active role in their success.
- \* All employees are responsible and committed to excellence.
- \* We are accountable to the community to educate students and to sustain and improve society.

### MISSION STATEMENT

Cowley College and Area Vocational-Technical School is committed to learning excellence and personal enrichment in an open access environment.

## STATEMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL PURPOSE

We are committed to maintaining a quality institution by meeting and exceeding the expectations of customers through the following:

### Academic and Personal Enrichment:

The college will provide accessible curricula in an environment that promotes individual growth and personal enrichment.

### **Support Services:**

The college will facilitate academic growth and the development of life skills.

## Community Development:

The college will foster development of the community through public service programs and partnerships with business and industry.

### Fiscal Soundness:

The college will secure financial support from various resources and maintain a financially stable institution.

#### Ethics:

The college will emphasize a sense of fairness, citizenship, and tolerance for the views of others.



# Crouch named interim president at Cowley College

ony Crouch, executive vice president of business services, was named interim president at Cowley College, effective April 11, 2014.

The decision was made by Cowley College's Board of Trustees following the resignation of former President N. Clark Williams.

Crouch has been employed at the college since 1994 and previously served as interim president at the school from Jan. 1, 2013 to July 7, 2013.

"I am honored to assist the college through this transition," Crouch said.

## **Shurtz named Board Chairman**

he Cowley College Board of Trustees elected Dennis K. Shurtz to fill the role as Chairman of the Board for the 2014-2015 vear.

Shurtz was elected to the board in 2009 and reelected in 2013. His current term expires in July 2017. Shurtz also served as Board Chairman when he was a member of the Board from 1991 to 1999. Other officers elected and board appointments for the upcoming year were as follows: Mark Paton, Vice-Chairman: Bob Juden, Voting Delegate to the Kansas Association of Community Colleges Trustees (KACCT); Ron Godsey, Voting Delegate to the Association of Community Colleges Trustees (ACCT); Brian Sanderholm,

Trustee Representative for Professional Negotiations: Ned Graham, Trustee Representative to Receive Open Bids; and Dennis K. Shurtz, Trustee Representative to the Cowley College Endowment Association.

The Board also appointed Libby Moore as clerk of the Board, Tony Crouch as treasurer of the Board, and David Andreas as Board attorney.

# Cowley finishes 12th in standings

ontinuing to demonstrate tremendous success in athletics, Cowley College finished 12th during the 2013-14 season in the NATYCAA (National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators) Cup standings, which recognizes excellence in two-year college athletics.

The NATYCAA Cup program was begun in 2004 and was previously sponsored by Pepsi. This program recognizes excellence in two-year college athletics based on success in championship competition. Points for the NATYCAA Cup are calculated based on each colleges finish at NJCAA Tournaments. Each first place finish is worth 20 points, second place 19, third 18, and so on. Total scores for both men's and women's programs are combined for their total score. Nearly 400 community colleges registered

points in the standings. Iowa Western

won the scholarship division of the NATYCAA Cup, while Cowley finished as the top Jayhawk Conference school in the standings.

The 12th place finish marks the eighth straight year that Cowley athletics have placed in the top-12 of the NATYCAA Cup standings.

"This speaks volumes to the quality of work our coaches do on a day-to-day basis," Cowley athletic director Shane Larson said.

In the fall of 2013 the Lady Tiger volleyball team went 35-4 and finished as the national champion for the second time in three years. While, the Cowley men's cross country team placed 22nd nationally.

This spring, Cowley's tennis teams had extremely successful seasons as the men's and women's teams each placed fourth nationally. The Lady Tiger softball team also did well as they won 44 games and placed seventh in the nation. Also, the

Tiger men's indoor track and field team placed 16th at the national meet, while the women finished 19th. Cowley's men and women's outdoor track and field teams placed 19th and 22nd, respectively. The Tiger women's basketball team (22-9) and Cowley baseball team (38-17) also had strong seasons but came up just short of qualifying for nationals.



# **Outstanding Student of Ark City**

One month after being named Cowley College's March Student of the Month, sophomore Allison Anderson garnered an even bigger honor as she was named the Outstanding Student of Arkansas City for 2014 during a banquet held Monday, April 28 in the Earle N. Wright Community Room.

Anderson was chosen out of a group of

finalists from Cowley College, Arkansas City High School and Arkansas City Middle School.

Other finalists included runner-up Kristen Boxman of Arkansas City High School, and second runner-up Elizabeth Walker of Arkansas City Middle School. At Cowley, Anderson was a member of Cowley College's ACES organization and was involved in Phi Theta Kappa,

IMPACT, and was a student ambassador. Along with her campus involvement, Anderson maintained a 3.62 GPA and was named to the Dean's Honor Roll. The social work major conducted several hundreds of community service hours. "Allison is a great kid," James Fry, Coordinator of the ACES Program said. "She studies hard, works hard, and attended all of the college's activities."

# Student of the Year at Cowley

Kara Thomas, a sophomore art major with a 4.0 GPA, was presented with the Student of the Year award at Cowley College's annual Honors and Awards ceremony held April 15 in the Earle N. Wright Community Room.

Thomas, along with the school's other Student of the Month selections, were up for the prestigious honor of Student of the Year.

Thomas is the daughter of Rodney and Ronda Thomas. Grandparents are Pat and Roy Thomas of El Dorado and Larry and Marie Shelinbarger of Bel Aire, KS. She has one sister, Jessica, and a brother, Rodney. At Cowley, Thomas was involved in Phi Theta Kappa, was the vice president of Art and Design Club, and was a Cowley Student Ambassador. She was also a member of the Cowley Movie Club, in IMPACT, and was a work-study at the Tiger Deli.

All the while, Thomas was named to the President's Honor Roll each semester. "She is a fantastic young lady who has a heart of gold," Cowley vice president for institutional advancement Ben Schears said.

Tony Crouch, interim president, was proud of the work done by the students. "This is one of my favorite nights of the year where we get to celebrate what the

students have done and honor their work for the year," Crouch said.

Thomas, a talented artist, chose to attend Cowley College after receiving a tuition scholarship for her work shown at the Scholastic Art Show in Wichita, and received a books scholarship from Cowley College for a portfolio she had on display at the school's Fine Arts Day. During the Honors and Awards ceremony, a representative from each department at Cowley College honored students that have excelled during the 2013-14 academic year.

Kristi Shaw, director of student life, organized the event, while Great Western Dining provided the meal.



Ben Schears, vice president for institutional advancement, congratulates Kara Thomas, for being named Student of the Year.

## **NJCAA All-Academic Teams**

Known for its tremendous success on the playing fields as demonstrated by its 12th place finish in the NATYCAA (National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators) Cup standings, Cowley College student athletes proved they strive for the same excellence in the

classroom as eight Tiger sports teams made the list of 2013-2014 NJCAA All-Academic Teams.

A 3.0 grade point average or higher was required to make the list of NJCAA All-Academic Teams.

Leading the way was the Lady Tiger volleyball program with a 3.44 GPA. The women's basketball program finished with

a 3.30 team GPA, while women's soccer (3.23 GPA) and the Lady Tiger softball program (3.22 GPA) were close behind. Other Cowley sports programs to make the list were men's cross country (3.11 GPA), men's tennis (3.09 GPA), women's cross country (3.07 GPA), and baseball (3.06 GPA).

# **Board presented with Campus Plan**

Darron R. Ammon, RLA, LEED AP of Bartlett & West, along with John Freshnock of Williams, Spurgeon, Kuhl, & Freshnock Architects, INC, presented Cowley College's Board of Trustees with the final Facilities Master Plan for review during the annual Board Meeting held Monday, Nov. 17 in the McAtee Dining Center.

Architect David Herlocker from Winfield accompanied Ammon and Freshnock at the meeting.

Ammon and Freshnock discussed the various phases of the Master Plan, consisting of the immediate future (next five years), all the way to 30 years from now.

"This is nine plus months of meetings and research to put together this Master Plan," Ammon said. "We very much appreciate the opportunity to work with you. It is a team effort."

The Facilities Master Plan presented came out of initial thoughts on schematic design, a refined concept, and a preferred campus concept.

"I consider this the beginning of the conversation," Cowley interim president Tony Crouch said. "I love the vision and am tickled with the work done on the Facilities Master Plan over the last few months."

# Students of the Month



Paige Traffas
September 2013



Ashley Blossom January 2014



Kara Thomas October 2013



Chelsey Bruce February 2014



**Taylor Best**November 2013



Allison Anderson March 2014



Clayton Bringer
December 2013



**Tania Garcia** April 2014

# Hargroves named recipients of Outstanding Tiger Alumni Award

Having brought recognition and pride to the Cowley College community through their achievements in their chosen profession and in their service to the community, Ed and Linda Hargrove were named recipients of the Outstanding Tiger Alumni Award by the Cowley College Endowment Association.

Each year the Cowley College Endowment Association selects an Outstanding Tiger Alumnus to bring honor to alumni who have led successful careers after Cowley and who have given financial support to further the mission of the Endowment Association.

The couple, who have been married since 1970, have demonstrated outstanding leadership during their time at the school. Ed, who recently retired after coaching the Cowley softball team since 1985, is the school's all-time winningest coach, while Linda achieved the most wins in the history of the Lady Tiger basketball program.

"Ed and Linda have both individually had outstanding careers," Ben Schears, vice president for institutional advancement said. "They love the college and it's not often we have a married alumni couple who have reached their level of achievements. The contributions they have made throughout their respective careers in support of the college made them a clear choice for this year's award." Linda is a 1970 graduate of Cowley College. She is the only Cowley coach to take basketball and volleyball teams to the national tournament. She compiled a record of 292 wins and 115 losses in 10 seasons as the school's head volleyball coach, while going 316-112 in 17 seasons as the head women's basketball coach. Linda earned National Coach of the Year honors in 1987, was named Region VI Coach of the Year four times, and coached several All-Americans in basketball and volleyball.

"I loved every minute I coached at Cowley," Linda said. "I think our success was due to recruiting really good players/ people who were competitive and wanted to win as bad as I did."

Along with coaching at Cowley, she also served as the Director of Admissions and the Region 6 Director. Linda was also an outstanding athlete at Cowley and started Cowley's track team.

"I was running at a national level in high school and AAU but there were few opportunities for girls in sports back in the late 60s," Linda said. "My dad said that I would go to Cowley and if I wanted to continue to compete then I could start a track team. I talked with Dr. Nelson, president, and he was so supportive. He even drove some of us to track meets. Later he asked me to come back and start the women's basketball program and I was really excited to do this in 1972." She went on to have a successful stint as the head women's basketball coach



at Wichita State University and is the second all-time winningest coach in the history of that program.

She later served as the general manager and head coach of the Portland Fire of the Women's National Basketball Association. And went on to become the general manager for the Washington Mystics and an advisor for the WNBA's Tulsa Shock.

"I loved coaching at Wichita State and then in the pros," Hargrove said. "Working with really motivated players and staffs was especially rewarding. As GM, I really enjoyed evaluating talent and negotiating trades, managing the cap and leading the staff. The worst part was waiving really good hardworking players." She was inducted into the initial class of the Cowley Tiger Athletic Hall of Fame in 2000, and is a member of the Southwestern College Hall of Fame, NJCAA Hall of Fame, and the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame.

Linda was humbled to learn she and Ed were recipients of this year's Outstanding Tiger Alumni Award.

"Cowley meant so much to me for so many years and this just makes me feel really special," Hargrove said. Ed Hargrove spent the past 30 years as the head softball coach at Cowley and his 1,142 wins ranked first in the nation on the National Junior College Athletic Association wins list prior to his retirement.

The Lady Tigers won eight of the past 12 Jayhawk East championships and placed in the top-seven at the national tournament each of the past three seasons. For his efforts, he was named the 2013 Jayhawk East Coach of the Year. While, he and then assistant coach, Jenny Hoyt, were named the National Fastpitch Coaches Association NJCAA Division II National Coaching Staff of the Year in 2013.

Prior to becoming the head softball coach at Cowley College, he attended Cowley on a football scholarship. Known as an outstanding athlete, he played football for the Tigers during the 1965 and 1966 seasons and graduated from the school in 1967. He was an all-conference right tackle for the Tiger football team. He was named the Jayhawk Conference Eastern Division Coach of the Year eight times and was inducted into the NJCAA Softball Hall of Fame in 2007 and the Cowley Tiger Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009.

He also received the Greater Wichita Area Sports Commission "Outstanding Achievement Award" and was the recipient of the Pride of Kansas Award from the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame in recognition of his years of dedication and commitment to the youth of Kansas in his role as head coach of one of the most successful softball programs over the past 30 years.

Hargrove, a 1967 graduate of Cowley College, has received numerous athletic awards through the years, but this award has extra significance.

"I know many of the previous Outstanding Tiger Alumni recipients, so to now be in that group is somewhat overwhelming," Hargrove said. This is the first award that the Hargroves have received together.

"That we get to share this award makes this award that much more special," Ed

Hargrove said.
Linda echoed those sentiments.
"I think it is only right that we are recognized together," Linda said. "Cowley has meant so much to both of us over the years and also our kids and extended family. Cowley was definitely a family affair for the Hargroves."

# **Quality Matters and Cowley Online**

Having been a subscriber to Quality Matters (QM) for several years, Cowley College recently made the decision to become fully committed to the entire QM process.

Quality Matters (QM) is a nationally recognized, faculty-centered, peer review process designed to certify the quality of online courses and online components. Colleges and universities across and beyond the U.S. use the tools in developing, maintaining, and reviewing their online courses and training their faculty. The QM Process for continuous improvement is the framework for quality assurance efforts in online and distance learning.

"As in all things Cowley College does, we want to be at the very top of the game," Cowley College interim president Tony Crouch said.

In February 2014, the Cowley Online Department began an initiative to train all 200+ full and part-time faculty teaching online, face-to-face, and hybrid courses in Quality Matters to promote continuous improvement and development of high-quality online courses and programs.

"Our impressive level of participation has been recognized by Quality Matters and we are poised to provide continuous improvement in online education and student learning," associate vice president for Mulvane and online operations Stephani Johns-Hines said.

Professional Development opportunities, specifically Quality Matters' Applying the Quality Matters Rubric (APPQMR) workshop, were offered earlier this year to all faculty prior to the launch of a major migration to Blackboard Learn, a new Learning Management System (LMS).

Currently, more than 225 Cowley faculty have participated in exploring the basics of applying the Quality Matters Rubric to online course design. In addition, Cowley has nine certified Peer Reviewers, one certified Master Reviewer, one certified Face-to-Face Facilitator and one certified Online Facilitator. The certified peer reviewers have served on eight official course reviews at a national level.

"Quality Matters is the recognized standard for quality and consistency in online and hybrid education, and I am proud of all our faculty members for their time and dedication to our students and to the concepts of Quality Matters," Crouch said. "It is a clear signal of Cowley College's determination to remain at the forefront of higher education."



# Cowley employees honored

owley College took time to recognize the stellar work done by its employees during the All College Meeting held in the Earle N. Wright Community Room. Art instructor Mark Flickinger and criminal justice instructor Frank Owens were named recipients of the Cowley College Master Teacher awards. "We are honored to have these two as faculty members at the college," Slade Griffiths, vice president of academic affairs said. "Frank cares about his students and does everything needed to produce a quality program. While, Mark's classes are ones where you don't even know you are in class because of how much he engages the students." Flickinger has been at Cowley College since 2001 as an instructor of Art History, Painting, and Drawing. "To be in the company of the previous

"To be in the company of the previous master teachers is a real honor," Flickinger said.

After serving 17 years as a member of the Winfield Police Department, the last five of which were as lieutenant of investigations, Owens returned to work at his alma mater in August 2011. "I have had so much support from everyone at Cowley," Owens said. "This is a tremendous honor considering all the wonderful instructors we have here." Owens was also recognized as the recipient of the Grassroots Recruitment Award. The award was presented to Owens in honor of his dedication to the recruitment of outstanding students. Custodian Gary Hale and technical director of theatre Jamison Rhoads were recipients of Grassroots Appreciation Certificates presented by admissions director Helen Nakos.

Exhibiting excellence in the four core values of Cowley College, Janice Stover was named the recipient of the Ben LeClair Staff Excellence Award. "I could not be more excited to present this award than I was to present it to Janice," Cowley College interim president Tony Crouch said. "I have worked with Janice since my first day here and I know no one who is more passionate about Cowley than she. The award is given based on the four categories of People, Accountability, Integrity, and Leadership. Janice clearly exemplifies all of these and is very deserving of the award. I was pleased to call her name as this year's

recipient of the Ben LeClair Award, but I'm more pleased to call her friend." Benny Joe "Ben" LeClair was a long time employee of Cowley College, who died February 7, 2011. He was a valuable staff member who was dedicated to the continual pursuit of excellence by embracing the four Core Values of Cowley College. He performed his daily duties with integrity, a smile, and led by example.

"I had the privilege to work with Ben LeClair a number of years, and I can say he was a really great guy and dedicated employee," Stover said. "Although I might not go about my work as quietly as Ben, I share that same commitment to excellence and devotion to serving the needs of Cowley College."

To honor and remember LeClair's legacy, the college accepted nominations for the Ben LeClair Staff Excellence Award for Cowley College.

"I feel there are many employees that are equally deserving of this award and could be recognized for their work at the college," Stover said. "Receiving this award is an honor and I truly appreciate being recognized by my peers and college administration."



Pictured from left, Cowley College vice president of academic affairs, Slade Griffiths, criminal justice instructor Frank Owens, art instructor Mark Flickinger, interim president/executive vice president of business services Tony Crouch.

## **NATEF** recertification

Cowley College's automobile technician-training program received recertification from the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) after an on-site evaluation.

The areas the program received recertification in are, engine performance, engine repair, brakes, suspension and steering, electrical and electronic systems, heating and air conditioning, manual drive train and axles, and automatic transmissions and transaxles.

To achieve this coveted Master

Accreditation recognition, the school's automotive technology program underwent rigorous evaluation by the NATEF. Nationally accepted standards of excellence in areas such as instruction, facilities, and equipment were used. "We knew our automotive technology program met industry standards though it is always great to have an outside accrediting body confirm it," vice president of academic affairs Slade Griffiths said. "I sincerely appreciate the faculty efforts."

As a result of the quality education provided by Cowley College, the motoring public will benefit due to better repair technicians joining the work force.

"We commend you and your staff for maintaining your program's standards and continuing to meet the industry's requirements," NATEF president, Patricia Serratore said in a letter to the college. NATEF was founded to develop, encourage, and improve automotive technician education. NATEF examines the structure and resources of training programs and evaluates them against nationally accepted standards of quality. NATEF's precise national standards reflect the skills that students must master. The NATEF evaluation process ensures that accredited training programs meet or exceed industry-recognized, uniform standards of excellence.

## New degrees and certificates

Cowley College's academic affairs council approved a new type of education and training program for students. In the future, more short-term programs will be developed to meet community and student needs in curricula of 15 or less credit hours. They will be denoted as a "Certificate of Completion" and a certificate shall be issued by the college. An Information Security Certificate and a Milling Associate Certificate are among the new Certificate of Completion programs Cowley is offering. Others will be developed in the future.

The Information Security Certificate was designed so professionals in the information technology field can update their knowledge on the latest security topics. Students majoring in informational technologies should also realize that security has become a major component in computer systems and networking. It is vital in this changing era of computer attacks that everybody in the computer field have the latest information to help safeguard their organizations' information. This 15 credit hour certificate of completion can be completed in one semester or over a year. Successful completers will be issued a Certificate of Completion from Cowley College.

The Milling Associate Certificate of Completion prepares candidates to work in flour mills as a technician working in many of the areas of the modern mills. The milling classes will be taught by professionals from the International Association of Operative Millers while college faculty will teach the ancillary courses required in the industry. At the conclusion of the courses, candidates will complete an internship at a functioning flour mill.

Cowley is also offering a new Applied Technologies Associate of General Studies degree. This degree was developed for students who have obtained credit hours or contact hours from an accredited vocational-technical school. To be eligible for graduation, students must complete the general education requirements and transfer at least 660 contact hours or 32 technical credit hours to complete the technical requirements of this degree. A minimum 15 credit hours must be completed at Cowley College in order for a degree to be granted.

The academic affairs council also approved a new 1 credit hour course entitled "Focused Seminar: Writing", as well as a new "Community Paramedic/Mobile Integrated Healthcare" course that is 14 credit hours, and "Controlled Force" that is 2 credit hours.

"Controlled Force", a nationally sponsored course, is related to procedures utilized within the criminal justice program.

The "Focused Seminar: Writing" course is designed to encourage in-depth study

of a particular genre of writing. Emphasis is focused on research, presentation, and writing within a specific genre. Genres vary according to student interest and instructor approval. This course should be taken the final semester of study and is required of all Creative Writing majors. Completion of at least two creative writing courses at Cowley College with a grade of B or above (or instructor approval) is required. Students must interview with the instructor prior to enrollment to determine eligibility and approval of genre for the seminar. The "Community Paramedic/Mobile Integrated Healthcare" course will train paramedics to better function more as a physician-extender and will meet a regional global healthcare need. Participants will need to gain paramedic certification prior to attending this

The college will also award course credit for a non-traditional "Evaluation of Life Experience" validated by performance on approved examinations or other appropriate documentation and evaluation. Students will be charged tuition and fees at the current rate for credits awarded for life experience. Credits awarded will be posted on the transcript following payment of tuition and fees and successful completion of at least twelve (12) resident credit hours.

## Flickinger named Endowed Chair

Demonstrating his dedication to students, art, the college and the community, Cowley College art instructor Mark Flickinger was named the recipient of the college's Endowed Chair for Teaching Excellence during the All College Meeting held Monday, Aug. 10 in the Earle N. Wright Community Room. Thanks to the generous support of CornerBank, Flickinger will receive \$2,000 a year for each of the next two years. A total of \$500 will be used for professional development, while the other \$1,500 is a cash stipend.

Joyce McArtor, Community Bank President for CornerBank in Arkansas City, was on hand to present Flickinger with the award.

Flickinger, who was humbled to receive the honor, plans to use part of the money to learn the discipline of printmaking. "When I think of who I teach with, it is overwhelming," Flickinger said. "I have learned a lot due to the great teachers I work with. I accept this with honor and responsibility."

Flickinger has been at Cowley College since 2001 as an instructor of Art History, Painting, and Drawing. He has shown his work in many galleries across the country and his paintings are also included in many private public collections across America and abroad.

He is well liked by students and employees of the college.

"Mark truly engages students and is the consummate educator," Cowley College vice president of academic affairs Slade Griffiths said. "He is very deserving of this award."



Joyce McArtor, Community Bank President for CornerBank in Arkansas City, presents Mark Flickinger with the Endowed Chair award.

# Cowley students graduating at higher rate than other institutions

Based on data received from the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, ACT Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP), and the Noel-Levitz student surveys, in almost all student categories, Cowley College students are completing their education at a rate about 10 percent higher than the combined overall percentage for all two-year institutions.

The National Student Clearinghouse Research Center data showed Cowley College's total completion rate based on six-year outcomes and first completion for students who started at Cowley College by enrollment intensity. Cowley had a total completion rate of 49.40 percent, while students at other two-year public institutions had a total completion rate of 39.87 percent.

Cowley also ranked higher than other two-year public institutions in each of the following categories; first completion at same institution; first completion at a different two-year institution; subsequent completion at a four-year school; and total four-year completion rate.

"As evidenced by these national and state performance reports, Cowley College does a great job educating our students and helping them attain their goals," Cowley College interim president Tony Crouch said. "My thanks to the excellent faculty and staff who make students their primary focus each and every day." Another example of Cowley College's student success was shown in a report on

how students from Cowley College that completed the 2014 spring semester at Emporia State University compared to students from other community colleges. "Our students who transfer to Emporia State University do better than their students who start there and those that transfer to them from other community colleges," Slade Griffiths, Cowley College vice president of academic affairs said. Cowley graduates that transferred on to Emporia State earned a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.14, while all other community college graduates attending ESU earned a cumulative GPA of 3.12. The figures also showed all ESU undergraduates earned a cumulative GPA of 3.06.

# Cowley College's theatre program joins with Blue Star Theatres

The theatre program at Cowley County Community College has been named a University Affiliate member of the Blue Star Theatres program, and is introducing discounted and free tickets to active duty and transitioning military personnel, their immediate families, and veterans. The new discounts will be on all four Cowley Theatre shows throughout the year.

Blue Star Theatres is a collaborative effort of Theatre Communications Group and the Washington D.C.-based non-profit Blue Star Families, with leadership support from the MetLife Foundation. The program seeks to connect theatre offerings to military personnel across the country, helping service people and their families seeking integration into the lives of their communities. Each participating Blue Star Theatre agrees to offer discounted or complimentary admission to all military personnel and their families, as well as veterans. The program, which launched in 2012 with twentytwo theatres, has grown to well over one hundred participating organizations across the country. The Cowley theatre program is only the second in Kansas, one of only a handful of participating colleges throughout the country, and is currently the first and only college in the nation to join based specifically around

its student theatre offerings.

"Cowley has a long-standing tradition of dedication to our armed services," said John Sefel, Cowley's director of theatre Programming. "Between McConnell, Vance, and Reservist centers throughout our area, we wanted to a way to acknowledge and thank the work of those who serve our country, and the very real challenges and sacrifices they and their families are asked to make every day."

According to Sefel, Blue Star Theatres provides just such an opportunity. Eligible audience members will receive 20% off all full-priced tickets for all main and second stage Cowley Theatre performances, as well as free admission to the college's annual Children's Show. The Blue Star discount is available to all active duty or transitioning military personnel, the immediate family members of active duty or transitioning personnel, and to veterans of any branch of the United States Military or Department of Homeland Security. Eligible patrons are asked to identify themselves as a "Blue Star patron" when ordering tickets.

"I come from a military family, was born on a military base, and experienced much of the 'military family' lifestyle," Sefel said. "It can be tough to fit in—it's hard to connect with events in the community, and even harder to afford them. We know this effort doesn't solve those problems but we hope it at least makes things a little easier, and maybe provides one more voice that says 'we care'."

The Blue Star discount is being added just in time for Cowley Theatre's 2014-2015 season, which began with the popular musical Little Shop of Horrors, followed by the children's theatre production of The Velveteen Rabbit. The group will return in the spring with a new adaptation of the classic farce Charley's Aunt, and will end the season with the comedy-drama Leaving Iowa. All performances will be held in the Robert Brown Theatre, located at Cowley College's flagship campus in Arkansas City, Kansas. Tickets are available at the door, or by calling the box office at 620-441-5570.

All four shows feature the work of Cowley students, both onstage and behind the scenes. More information about the season, Cowley's theatre program, and the Blue Star Theatre program may be found via the college's website, through the theatre program's social networking pages, or by contacting Sefel atSefelJ@cowley. edu or 620-441-5318 Local businesses interested in advertising or sponsorship opportunities are encouraged to contact John Sefel for further details.



Members of Cowley College's Theatre Department performed "Little Shop of Horrors" in the fall.

Spring 2014 Semester En	mallmant by lace	tion
Arkansas City		,
Virtual Center		*
Mulvane Bloomenshine		
SSEC		
Winfield		
Mulvane IT		
Wellington		32
Percentage by Gender		
Male		38.85%
Female		61.15%
Percentage by Ethnic Gr		
Black/Non-Hispanic		8.56%
Native American		1.26%
Asian		1.00%
Hispanic		7.90%
Caucasian		67.50%
Other		
Percentage by Age		
Under 18		6.49%
18-21 years old		44.59%
22-29 years old		
30-49 years old		
50 and over		
2013-2014 Enrollment D		
Annual Unduplicated H		4 868
Headcount Fall 2013		
Headcount Spring 2014		
Full-time Equivalent Stud		
FTE Students Spring 201		
International Student Er		
<b>Your</b> R	etur	n
on inv	estm	ent
Expenditures by Source		
2013~2014 (audited)		
Instruction	\$7,184,232	36%
Academic Support	\$867,537	4%
Student Services	\$1,836,813	9%
Athletics	\$1,901,072	10%
Institutional Support	\$3,076,875	16%
Operations &		
Maintenance	\$4,463,047	23%
Grants	\$311,437	1%
Transfers	\$126,439	1%
Total	, -,,	\$19,767,452
		, , , , , ,
Revenues by Source		
2013-2014 (audited)		
Student Sources	\$6,133,675	31%
State Sources	\$7,348,448	37%
Local Sources	\$5,005,569	25%
0.1 6	¢1.205,665	2570

\$1,295,665

7%

\$19,783,357

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ASSETS	
Total Cash and Investments	\$4,997,941
Inventory	\$40,556
Pledges Receivable	\$21,141
Interest in Trust	\$476,789
Capitalized Assets	\$0
Total Assets	\$5,536,427
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS Total Liabilities	\$0
	\$0
Total Liabilities	\$0
Total Liabilities NET ASSETS	\$0 \$2,825,217
Total Liabilities NET ASSETS Restricted	
Total Liabilities NET ASSETS Restricted Expendable	\$2,825,217



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Total

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