

College Foundation Presents Faculty/Staff Outstanding Achievement Awards

The Jefferson College Foundation recently presented its annual Outstanding Achievement Awards to honor the exemplary accomplishments of Jefferson College faculty and staff who were nominated from four employee constituent groups.

2020 Outstanding Achievement Award recipients include:

Melanie Gowdy,

Adjunct Faculty - Sociology Instructor

Chris Otto,

Faculty - Associate English Professor

Shannon Schoenky,

*Classified Professional Staff - Senior Administrative Assistant,
Vice President of Student Services Office*

Dr. Joel Vanderheyden,

Faculty - Music Professor

Stacey Wilson,

Certified Professional Staff - Registrar



Jefferson College Foundation President Jennifer Collins Hansen (left) congratulates 2020 Outstanding Faculty/Staff Achievement Award recipients (from left) Dr. Joel Vanderheyden, Stacey Wilson, Shannon Schoenky, and Melanie Gowdy. Not pictured is Chris Otto. Each recipient was selected by their respective constituent group peers.

Jefferson College Foundation President Jennifer Collins Hansen presented the awards. As part of the recognition, each Outstanding Achievement Award recipient also received a \$250 stipend.



Melanie Gowdy

Adjunct Faculty recipient **Melanie Gowdy** defines herself as an eclectic social work practitioner. Specializing in macro community practice, she dedicates herself to empowering communities through agency and the pursuit of social justice. As an adjunct instructor at both Jefferson College and Washington University Brown School of Social Work, she has helped equip the next generation of social justice advocates. She has been an advocate for some of our state's most vulnerable residents as a social worker at Legal Services of Eastern Missouri. As Director of Social Work Services at 1st Choice In-Home Care Services, she empowers individuals to live with dignity. Some of Melanie's accomplishments include being awarded UMSL's Community Building Fellowship and being featured in the St. Louis Business Journal's People on the Move as well as the St. Louis American's Health Profile. A strong believer in being an agent of change, she believes in the capacity of the human spirit to grow, thrive, and shine.



Chris Otto

Faculty recipient **Chris Otto** graduated from Truman State in 1993 with a Bachelor’s degree in English. He earned his Master’s degree in English from Southeast Missouri State University in 1995, and in 2002 finished his Master’s degree in Library and Information Science at Mizzou. Chris is involved and supportive of colleagues through his work with the Faculty Senate, JCNEA and Speaker Series events. He has been active in working with efforts such as Library presentations, community presentations in a variety of topics related to historical events, the Osage Removal, and the German exchange program. He demonstrates an excitement for learning and works to infuse it into his classes. His colleagues commend him for being a positive influence and focusing on the good work he sees in the College and in his students.

Classified Professional Staff recipient **Shannon Schoenky** has had a distinguished career at Jefferson College dedicated to Student Services. She began as an Enrollment Services Receptionist in 1993, and has held positions as Student Support Services Secretary, Records Assistant II, and Secretary to the Registrar. For the past 13 years, she has been the Administrative Assistant to the Vice President of Student Services. Her colleagues commend her for performing her work quickly, efficiently, and always with a smile.



Shannon Schoenky



Dr. Joel Vanderheyden

Faculty recipient **Dr. Joel Vanderheyden** has been part of the Music Department at Jefferson College since the fall of 2010. As a saxophonist, he has performed regularly with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, the Union Avenue Opera, and with jazz and pop music groups at venues around the city like Jazz St. Louis, The Fabulous Fox, and The Sheldon. He has performed overseas at festivals in the Netherlands, France, Switzerland, Scotland, and Croatia, and was named a quarterfinalist for the 2018 GRAMMY Music Educator Award. In addition to his duties at Jefferson College, Vanderheyden serves as the saxophone instructor at Washington University, and he is the past president of the Missouri Association for Jazz Education. Six of his students have been selected for the prestigious Missouri All-Collegiate Jazz Ensemble, including three who were first chair in their sections. Many of Dr. Vanderheyden’s former students are now his colleagues, teaching music in schools around Jefferson County and beyond.

Certified Professional Staff recipient **Stacey Wilson** holds a Bachelor’s degree in Administration of Justice from UMSL and has been an employee at Jefferson College since 2008. She began her career at the College as an Employment Specialist and laid the foundation for the Employment Services Office. She transitioned to an academic advisor role in 2010, and then into the registrar’s role after earning her Master’s Degree in Higher Education from UMSL in 2016. In each position, she has served students, faculty and staff with exceptional care and devotion. In the past three years, Missouri’s system of transfer and articulation has changed tremendously, and Stacey has maintained and projected a quiet professional competence for her peers. Her colleagues recognize her for her positive, upbeat demeanor and dedication. She has met the ongoing demands of overseeing commencement, transfer/articulation issues, working on Higher Learning Commission issues, veterans’ issues, and much more with unflinching optimism and energy.



Stacey Wilson

Since 1991, the Jefferson College Foundation has actively encouraged private contributions to assist the college in areas such as capital projects, program development, and providing financial support to students that traditional funding alone often does not support.

In Memoriam – Dr. Wayne H. Watts



Dr. Wayne Howard Watts, who served as President of Jefferson College from 2006-2009, recently passed away at age 73.

“Dr. Watts was extraordinarily proud of Jefferson College,” said current President Dr. Dena McCaffrey. “He firmly believed that the College changes the lives of the students we serve and he worked tirelessly to enable and support student success as one of his highest priorities. I join our Board of Trustees, administration, and faculty and staff in appreciation of his strong leadership.”

Watts was a senior college administrator for 27 years, including 17 years at Jefferson College where he initially served as Vice President of Finance and Administration. He retired in 2009 as sixth president of the College, initiating a variety of projects to streamline operation and efficiency. Among the most significant institutional accomplishments under his leadership were

the purchase of land on Highway 30 for future development, the creation of an Advising and Retention Center to improve student success and support, the construction of an \$8 million state-of-the-art education center in Arnold, the participation of College employees in civic and community organizations throughout Jefferson County, the expansion of academic programs and business partnerships, the renovation of campus facilities and classrooms, and the growth of enrollment to record levels.

In addition to his experience in higher education, he had experience in private enterprise and government and served as a consultant to the American Council on Education in Washington, D.C. He was also active in numerous community and civic functions and was a recipient of the prestigious “Jeffersonian Award” presented by the Jefferson County Growth Association.

He earned an Associate of Arts degree from Anne Arundel Community College in Maryland, a Bachelor of Science degree and MBA from the University of Baltimore, and a Ph.D. from the American University in Washington, D.C.

Watts served in the U.S. Army from 1964-1967. A decorated paratrooper, he was a combat medic in the 1965 Dominican Republic Rebellion with the 82nd Airborne Division and was a combat medic in 1966 and 1967 in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division.

He is survived by his wife, Beth (retired Director of Student Support Services at Jefferson College), four sons, a sister, and 10 grandchildren.

The family has asked that donations be made to the **Dr. Wayne H. Watts Scholarship Fund**, Jefferson College, 1000 Viking Drive, Hillsboro MO 63050 or by contacting the Jefferson College Foundation at (636) 797-3000, extension 3105.



College Retirees and Employees Recognized for Years of Service

A group of 45 Jefferson College employees was recently recognized during a virtual ceremony for their years of service to the College, students, and the surrounding community.

“Every day our community and region benefits from the hard work of these employees, and I am proud to honor them for their dedication,” said Jefferson College President Dr. Dena McCaffrey. “I am extremely proud to recognize their tremendous contributions to those we serve.”

Honorees and their respective years of service include:

2020 Retirees

Dr. Raymond Cummiskey – President, 11 years of service

Terry Friedmeyer – Maintenance Technician IV, 8 years of service

Barbara Haynes – Associate Professor – Nursing, 6 years of service

Bryan Herrick – Director of Business and Community Development, 26.75 years of service

David McNair – Professor – Computer Information Systems, 17 years of service

Sandy Nappier – Coordinator – Workforce Development, 15.75 years of service

Tammy Patterson – Financial Aid Representative I, 20.5 years of service

Nancy Wright – Account Clerk, 8.75 years of service



25 Years of Service

Kari Alford – User Resource Coordinator

Shirley Leonard - Library Assistant



20 Years of Service

Cindy Draper – Accounting Coordinator

Dr. Rebecca Ellison – Communication and Theatre Professor

Tammy Gillam – Enrollment Services Specialist

Debbie Maples – Sr. Administrative Specialist-Athletics Director

Connie Marshall – Financial Aid Specialist

C. J. Rodgers – Lead Information Technology Analyst

Mark Smreker – Information Technology Manager

Marialana Speidel – Biology Professor



15 Years of Service

Lisa Alter – ATS Accounting Specialist
Dr. Chris DeGeare – Acting Vice President of Instruction
Lynda Ferguson – Sr. Administrative Specialist-Registrar
Martha Hayes – Enrollment Services Assistant
Dana Nevois – Director of Veterinary Technology
Charlie Roberts – Veterinary Technology Professor
Dan Smith – Sr. Information Technology Analyst



10 Years of Service

Daniel Boyer – Information Technology Analyst
Amy Call – English Associate Professor
Joe Candela – Welding Professor
William Kaune – HVAC Associate Professor
Dr. Joel Vanderheyden – Music Professor
Christina Van Gels Boyer – Information Technology Assistant



5 Years of Service

Miranda Birch – Sr. Facilities Associate
Don Bolin – Sr. Facilities Associate
Erin Bova – Sr. Communication Specialist
Matthew Bunch – ATS Biomedical Science Associate Professor
Justin Dean – Sr. Facilities Associate
James Dixon – Senior Information Technology Technician
Tricia Fromm – Enrollment Services Assistant I
Denise Hawkins – Off-Campus Sr. Administrative Specialist
Bruce Korbesmeyer – Economics Assistant Professor
Tony Loretta – Campus Police Officer
Garrett Miller – ATS Culinary Arts Assistant Professor
Lance Nevois – Sr. Maintenance Technician
Josh Wesemen – Maintenance Technician
Matt West – Computer Integrated Manufacturing Assistant Professor
Brenna Young – Enrollment Services Specialist
Sheryl Zysk – Nursing Associate Professor



Each honoree received a token of appreciation signifying their number of years served. The recognition program was underwritten in part by the Jefferson College Foundation.

Law Enforcement Academy Grad Saves Life of Man Involved in Severe Crash

Officer Nidal Blagajcevic of the Creve Coeur Police Department (a graduate of the Jefferson College Law Enforcement Academy 015 POST class) recently witnessed a vehicle crash on I-64 while off duty and stopped to render aid. He, along with a couple of other motorists, broke the window of the truck cab and pulled the driver to safety before the cab became engulfed in flames. Apparently, the truck lost control, struck the median then crossed the road and ended up in a ditch where it caught fire.

Although the driver of the truck suffered injuries, he was conscious prior to Nidal leaving the scene. Thanks to Officer Nidal's quick response, the man's life was saved.

"Pretty incredible work from Nidal! You guys sure turn out some talent!" wrote Creve Coeur Chief of Police Glenn Eidman in an email to Diane Scanga, the College's Public Safety Programs Director. Nidal's heroic action is indicative of the excellence the Jefferson College LEA staff instills in every student. Who says heroes today don't exist?



Miriam Helms Receives Dr. B. Ray Henry Award



Vice President of Student Services Dr. Kimberly Harvey-Manus (left) proudly presents the Dr. B. Ray Henry Service/Innovation Award to Miriam Helms.

Miriam Helms, Senior Administrative Assistant to the Vice President of Instruction, was recently awarded the Dr. B. Ray Henry Service/Innovation Award during the annual Opening Week meeting of faculty, staff, and administrators.

The award is given in recognition of superior, innovative participation by an employee in the shared governance of the College, primarily through work on or with an institutional committee or subcommittee. It is named in honor of the College's second president during a period of substantial growth and community impact.

Helms serves many different roles at the College when it comes to committee work. She is creative, supportive, and always looking for ways to foster positive morale. Through the Employee Support Committee and the Council of Institutional Committee Chairs, she has been an integral part of the process of defining and promoting shared governance at the College.

Miriam has been extensively involved in the Holiday Party, Staff Appreciation Picnics, Pat-on-the-Back, and served as the driver of an Acronyms List as part of an onboarding initiative. She has also served on several search/screening committees, facilitated numerous Strengths Quest trainings across the College and led several meetings of administrative professional staff to share ideas and solutions, and answer questions about division processes and procedures. She also volunteers at Jazz & Jeans, the Vikings' Vault, and during Welcome Week.

During the pandemic, Helms helped create several processes that are key to successfully working remotely, including spearheading the creation of the Trello Shared Task Board, which has become a model to help other institutions across the state.

Faculty and Staff Recognized for Assessment Excellence

Area Technical School Early Childhood Assistant Professor Dr. Leigh Ann Cornman and Marketing/Public Relations Director Roger Barrentine recently received the Linda K. Johnston Excellence in Assessment Award for their efforts to use assessment in their respective roles.

Recipients of the annual award communicate a positive attitude about assessment, help to foster the concept of assessment at the College, use a variety of assessment measures and techniques, and use results of assessment to impact the curriculum and/or student learning.



Dr. Leigh Ann Cornman (left) and Marketing/Public Relations Director Roger Barrentine (center) are awarded the Linda K. Johnston Excellence in Assessment Award by Assessment Committee Co-Chair Anastasia Luettecke.



Dr. Leigh Ann Cornman

Faculty recipient **Dr. Leigh Ann Cornman** goes above and beyond to help make sure her students have gained information by composing written and oral assessments covering a variety of instructional methods: drawings, essays, hands on activities, peer assessments, posters, mock interviews, computer-based assessments, and more. Dr. Cornman always presents a rubric for her students so they are aware of the types of information needed for every assessment. She is a great mentor and is always challenging others to develop additional assessment tools for students, and she is always willing to share ideas and assessments with her colleagues. She thinks outside of the box and her students appreciate her outstanding dedication and love for them.

Staff recipient **Roger Barrentine** always has a positive attitude about assessment. A significant portion of his work focuses on marketing the College and attracting new students ahead of the instruction/learning process. He is continually assessing communication trends and strategies that are most appealing to prospective students and their families. As part of his assessment-centered approach, Barrentine implemented an annual Student Media Preferences survey to learn more about students' attitudes, opinions, and media consumption habits. He has served on the Strategic Enrollment Management and Retention (SEMR) Committee and SEM Plan subcommittee for many years, providing monthly updates on current marketing campaigns and the types of platforms that are being used.



Roger Barrentine

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS:

Jennifer Collins Hansen
President

Julia C. Hampton
Vice President

Steve L. Albart
Treasurer

Joe M. Svoboda
Secretary

Richard B. Francis
Past President

Ronald J. Scaggs
Trustee Liaison

MEMBERS:

Amanda Brittingham
Thomas R. Dixon
Robert W. Francis
Ronald L. Holland
Dennis J. Kehm
Michael G. Kumpf
Steven A. Markus
Lt. Col. Steve Meinberg
Glenda M. Potts
Andrew T. Runzi
Jack C. Stewart
Richard S. Vest

JEFFERSON COLLEGE

Dr. Dena McCaffrey
President

Daryl Gehbauer
*Vice President of Finance
and Administration*

Laura Villmer
Development Assistant



Jefferson College Foundation 33rd Annual Viking Classic Golf Tournament September 14

The Jefferson College Foundation and presenting sponsor Home Service Oil Company invite golfers and businesses to support local higher education by participating in the 33rd annual Viking Classic Golf Tournament on Monday, September 14, at Oak Valley Golf Course and Resort in Pevely.



Proceeds from the tournament provide scholarships and quality programs that directly benefit student athletes and other students attending Jefferson College. The golf tournament is part of the ongoing mission of the Foundation to raise funds to promote and support all educational programs; to provide state-of-the-art equipment and facilities; and to ensure access through scholarship funds to needy students at Jefferson College.

Information about sponsorship and donation opportunities is available at weblink.donorperfect.com/JCVikingClassic2020.

“We’re thrilled to be able to hold this fun tournament at such a beautiful and well-known venue as Oak Valley,” said Jefferson College President Dr. Dena McCaffrey. “In addition to raising scholarship funds to benefit deserving, hard-working students, the 33rd annual Viking Golf Classic presents an opportunity for participants to enjoy a day of golf while maintaining safe social distancing.”

Registration is \$150 per person (\$600 for teams of four) and includes green and cart fees; skins and mulligans; breakfast snacks; select brand beer, soda, and water during the tournament; and a hot lunch with an awards presentation following.

To register or for additional details, visit weblink.donorperfect.com/JCVikingClassic2020 or call the Jefferson College Foundation at (636) 481-3105. The tournament schedule includes check-in and breakfast snacks at 8 a.m., shotgun start/four-person scramble at 9 a.m., lunch/awards presentation at 2 p.m., and a raffle and 50/50 drawing at 2:15 p.m.

Anyone may support the tournament by participating in a raffle for \$200 in Missouri Lottery Scratchers tickets. Tickets are \$5 each or five tickets for \$20 and can be purchased on the event website or in the Foundation Office located in the Administration Building on the Hillsboro campus.

Supporting Jefferson College students is an investment in the local economy. Most students are area residents, and the vast majority find employment or continue their education in the region after graduating. The College prepares full-time and part-time students to enter the job market, to transfer to four-year colleges and universities, and to achieve their professional and personal goals. Programs and services support the economic growth of the community in response to changing needs.

The Jefferson College Foundation is a separately incorporated 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to increase resources, to raise funds and to cultivate friends and partnerships to support Jefferson College and its mission.



PRESENTING SPONSOR

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Oak Valley Golf Course & Resort in Pevely, MO
\$150 - Individual Golfer / \$600 - 4 Person Team
Includes Skins & Mulligans

FOR REGISTRATION OR SPONSORSHIPS:
www.jeffco.edu/foundation or (636) 481-3105



This tournament raises funds to provide scholarships and quality programs that directly benefit student athletes & other students attending Jefferson College.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

- 8 AM Registration and Breakfast Snacks
- 9 AM Shotgun Start: 4-Person Scramble
- 2 PM Lunch and Awards Presentation
- 2:15 PM Raffle and 50/50 Drawing

Registration includes green and cart fees and select brand beer, soda, and water during the tournament. A cash bar will be available for other drinks throughout the day.

September 2020



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1	2 International Meet and Greet 1 - 3 PM Central Lawn	3	4 JC Navigators Meeting 8 AM, ASI 208 Psychology Club Meeting 12 PM, ASI 415	5
6 ★★★ Jefferson College Observatory Star Party 8 PM Virtual	7	8	9 Club Spirit Day & Resource Fair 9 AM, Virtual Black Student Union Meeting 4 PM, SC-Viking Rm	10 Board of Trustees Meeting 5 PM, LIB 208	11 JC Navigators Meeting 8 AM, ASI 208	12
13	14  Viking Classic Golf Tournament 8 AM, Oak Valley Golf Course	15	16 Legion of Gamers Meeting 3 PM, ASI 115	17 Constitution Day 8 - 11 AM Library West Outdoor Area	18 JC Navigators Meeting 8 AM, ASI 208 SMNEA Club Meeting 12:30 PM SC - Viking Room	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 JC Navigators Meeting 8 AM, ASI 208	26
			30	1	2 JC Navigators Meeting 8 AM, ASI 208 Psychology Club Meeting 12 PM, ASI 415	3