

PRESIDENT'S —Update—

Jefferson College
April 2023



Happy Birthday to Jefferson College...April 2 marked the 60th anniversary of the College's establishment by voters in 1963, where a razor-thin margin of only 58 votes made the difference between success and defeat. Thank you for the enthusiasm, passion, and dedication each of you continue to show in keeping Jefferson College going strong 60 years later. Your work to fulfill the mission of the College is appreciated!

The final Employee Connect gathering for the academic year is scheduled for Tuesday morning, April 25, from 8:30-9:30 in the ASI east lobby. I hope you'll join Dean Kershaw and me for complimentary donuts and refreshments while connecting with fellow employees.

We will also have the virtual Town Hall and Retirees/Employee Years of Service Recognition on Monday, May 1, beginning at 1:30 p.m. as we honor 50 individuals this year. You may [submit Town Hall question\(s\)](#) anonymously no later than 4:30 p.m. on April 20. For those not able to attend, a link will be shared afterward for viewing at any time. Check your email for additional details sent recently.

#CCMonth Campaign Underscores Why Community Colleges Matter

From affordability to access to education locally and online, and the availability of career-preparing certificate and degree programs, community colleges are an integral part of higher education. That's why we join other institutions across the nation during April to

celebrate national Community College Month and shine the light on why community colleges matter.

Without community colleges, many American students would not be able to access higher education at all. That is why it is important to acknowledge community colleges nationwide, and how they benefit communities locally. As part of the College's #CCMonth awareness campaign and celebration of Jefferson College's 60th anniversary, which includes social and other media highlights, we're sharing the reasons why attending a community college makes sense then and now.

Foundation Virtual Auction Now Underway – Bidding Closes April 22



Committed to student and program success...thanks to everyone who helped organize or contribute to a basket for the annual Jefferson College Foundation spring auction. Bidding is open and there are more than 150 great auction items available plus three raffle items. View the entire auction catalog at <https://bit.ly/JC-Auction-2023> and check it out.

Tickets are also available for the closing reception and live auction this Saturday in the Student Center from 5-8 p.m. where guests will enjoy appetizers, drinks from Villa Antonio Winery, an exclusive raffle for attendees only, and the excitement of a live auction. Tickets are only \$40 each.

Bidding closes on Saturday night beginning at 6:15 p.m. Items may be picked up on Sunday, April 23, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., or by arrangement the week of April 24.

Distinguished Alum to Deliver Commencement Address

In connection with the College's 60th anniversary and this year's graduation ceremonies on May 20 (10 a.m. and 1 p.m.), I am delighted to announce that 2009 Alumnus of the Year and current Jefferson College Foundation board member Rick Francis will deliver our commencement address. He is Market President for First State Community Bank and his family's support of the College and Foundation over the years has been a testament to their belief in higher education for our community.



Commencement Info

Making a Difference

Congratulations to Student-Athlete Success Coordinator Meredith Buschmann on receiving the Peggy Clinton Memorial Service Award from her Missouri Association for College Admissions Counseling (MOACAC) peers. The award is bestowed upon an admissions professional who exemplifies the qualities that made Peggy Clinton so special, which include being detail-focused and caring for the well-being of the students they serve.



Thank you to Jefferson College Arnold staff team for collecting over 145 items during the recent Spring Cleaning Drive. Pictured (left to right) are Holly Lincoln, Anthony Foster, Shirley Thomas, Shannon Wells, Frank Allen, and Shannon VonderHaar. The items were donated to the

Vikings' Vault Food Pantry for students.

Kudos to our Music Department faculty for hosting the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) East Central District large ensemble festival for area bands and choirs. Nearly 3,000 high school students were on campus making wonderful music as part of the event earlier this month.

Great job to Area Technical School Metal Fabrication Professor Rob Rodden and his students for an enthusiastic and informative presentation during this month's Board of Trustees meeting regarding the deconstruction of the building that housed the former Sheriff's Office substation in preparation for future construction of a Vet Tech facility.



Congratulations to Retention Services Coordinator Brenna Young, COMTREA on Campus Counselor Heather Bond, and our Care Team on receiving recognition at this year's Meeting of the Minds Conference. Brenna and Heather were honored as Outstanding Professionals of the Year and the Care Team received Outstanding Program of the Year.



Yesterday, Jefferson College and Mineral Area College Leadership Academy participants and respective presidents visited the state capitol to meet with representatives and senators from our region. The Academy (held every other year) is designed to retain stable and effective leaders to improve the quality of each institution. A total of 10 participants were selected from Jefferson College this session. Throughout the year-long experience, individuals learn about many topics including community college policies, governance, finances, and state/federal legislative issues.

Pat-On-The-Back Recipients Announced for Third Quarter

The Pat-on-the-Back (POB) program is an employee-recognition initiative sponsored by the Employee Support Committee. When an employee goes above-and-beyond, a co-worker, supervisor, student, or community member can fill out a card to give them a "pat-on-the-back" in recognition.

POB nomination forms are [available online](#). [View the latest POB nominees](#) and quarterly prize winner.

Barnes & Noble Bookstore Transition Update

Contract language has been finalized with Barnes & Noble and a transition plan with Follett has been worked out. Follett will manage the Bookstore through summer session, and Barnes & Noble will take over for the fall semester with the "Viking Ready" Equitable

Access program. Transition meetings have started with Barnes & Noble and various College teams. June 29 is the anticipated opening date for B&N.

I Want to Know: Anonymous Q&A Submission

In advance of the virtual Town Hall on May 1, the following question was asked since my last newsletter:

Q: While searching for directions on Google forms, I happened to notice that it not only shows directions to Jefferson College's various buildings, but it also shows the floorplans for each buildings - right down to where the water fountains are located. Each office, classroom, and lecture hall (and the room numbers) are posted for anyone to see. I'm not sure how up to date it is, but is this something we should consider a security risk?

A: Buildings and Grounds works with Graphics to ensure that floorplans and maps are kept up to date for all three campuses. However, we also understand that the level of detail on the floorplans distributed publicly could create a security concern. As a result, floorplans posted in physical locations throughout the various campus buildings and shared internally will continue to show office locations and details such as the shortest and safest evacuation routes as well as the location of fire pulls and extinguishers, first aid kits, eye wash stations, AED locations, and emergency throw bags. In addition, they will identify areas of refuge and assembly outside the building in the event of an earthquake or a fire. For external information sources, however, we will remove the floorplans from the website and include more general campus maps that do not contain the increased level of detail.



As always, I am a phone call or email away.
I look forward to our collective success.
- Dena

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