Applications for board election accepted through Feb. 15

KC will host three regular elections Saturday, May 4, for expiring board terms. Applications to run for the KC Board of Trustees will be accepted through Friday, Feb. 15 (excluding weekends).

The regular election will include three expiring board terms:
- Voting Unit No. 1, Place 7, South Zone (currently held by Janice Bagley)
- Voting Unit No. 2, Place 8, North Zone (currently held by Joe Carrington)
- Voting Unit No. 3, Place 9, Central Zone (currently held by Brian Nutt)

Forms to apply for a place on the ballot can be picked up in the Assistant to the President’s Office on the first floor of the McLaurin Administration Building on the Kilgore campus.

Office hours are 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, and 7:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. on Fridays. To receive forms by mail, call 903-983-8101. For more information, visit www.kilgore.edu/board.

Texas Tribune founder/CEO will speak Feb. 19 at Longview, Kilgore campuses

Acclaimed journalist Evan Smith, CEO and founder of the Texas Tribune, will speak at the Kilgore and Longview campuses Feb. 19 at the first-ever Freedom of Speech Seminar.

The seminar, hosted by The Flare, is one of several upcoming lecture series that will be held on campus.

Smith will speak at KC-Longview at 11:30 a.m. in the Longview North Building and will speak at 6:30 p.m. in Dodson Auditorium. The events are free and open to the public.

He will discuss the importance of the freedom of speech in America and “fake news,” among other topics.

Smith cofounded the Texas Tribune, described on its website as a pioneering nonprofit, nonpartisan digital news organization whose deep coverage of Texas politics and public policy can be found at its website, texastribune.org, and in newspapers and on TV and radio stations across the state.

Since 2010, Smith has hosted “Overheard with Evan Smith,” a weekly interview program produced by KLRU that airs on PBS stations nationally.
As promised during the speech that I delivered during convocation, my newsletters for the remainder of the year will provide you with an update on KC’s progress on institutionalizing the Odessa College model. Our ongoing resolve to evolve!

Due to the fact that the tagline, “Institutionalizing the Odessa model for student success;” just doesn’t have the oomph necessary to play well on billboards or in hashtags, a new tagline has emerged courtesy of Marketing/Merlyn Holmes! “Focus to Finish!” (F2F!) has emerged to become our official new tagline.

The F2F! Leadership Team is evolving and currently meeting on a regular basis. Meetings are typically held on Mondays at 11 a.m. and are hosted in the R.E. Sonny Spradlin Executive Boardroom.

Current members of the F2F! Leadership Team include: Mike Jenkins, D’Wayne Shaw, Pam Gatton, Sandra Carroll, Staci Martin, William Stowe, Fred Gore, Mike Turpin, Becky Johnson, Chris Gore, Manny Almanza, Reggie Brazzle, John Colville, Richard Crutcher, Nancy Law and myself.

Minutes from each leadership team meeting, compliments of Nancy Law, will be distributed college-wide in order to keep everyone in the “know.” Please make a note that these are not closed meetings—any KC faculty or staff member who would like to attend and hear about the progress being accomplished first-hand is welcome.

The next meeting date is Monday, Feb. 4. Future meetings dates may vary, so please check with Nancy Law.

Also starting in February, our Caffeine and Conversation sessions will return and a myriad of topics are showing up on the F2F! team agenda during each meeting. Currently, the team is working on compiling a representative list of who will make up the 16-member team headed to Odessa’s Leadership Institute scheduled for April 10-12.

Other topics of focus include:

- All things related to the “how” of course development/redesign including such topics as professional development, course shells, etc.
- A compilation of policies/procedures/processes that need to be visited or revisited to promote student success and provide for a smooth segue into all things eight-week
- Student Development processes including registration, financial aid, payment plans, etc.
- Marketing/Communication needs for students and internal/external KC constituents.

Keep that resolve to evolve momentum going!

Until next month,

Dr. Brenda Kays  
KC president

Welcome New Full-Time Employees!

Jessica Bickham – Professional Support Assistant – TRIO  
Latoya Bradley – Professional Support Assistant – WDCE  
Elizabeth Buckner – Cashier  
Tristan Caudle – Police Officer  
Shannon Charvis – Police Officer  
Lacey Crawford – Instructor, Pharmacy Technology  
Ron Doss – Lead Process Technology Instructor  
Becky Hamilton – Professional Support Assistant, Arts & Mathematical Sciences  
Kristina Hamilton – Payroll Manager  
Cori Holden – Sociology Instructor

Adrienne Jackson – Support Specialist, KC-Longview  
Tracy Kaan – eLearning Student Support Coordinator  
Elizabeth Leamon – CDL Instructor  
Jobeth Morris – Support Specialist, Registrar’s Office  
Chanda Parker – Campus Nurse  
Chrissy Patterson – International Admissions Specialist  
Stephanie Peters – Support Specialist – Purchasing  
Mary Shaw – Biology Instructor  
Genero Tovar-Murillo – Admissions Counselor  
Michael Willbanks – I&E Instructor

FACULTY & STAFF REPORTS

Richard Crutcher was appointed in January as the interim dean of Business and Information Technology. KC will post a job announcement for the dean’s position and anticipates the position to be filled by summer.

Congratulations to Brent Farmer, newly named KC band director. Farmer, a music faculty member, served as assistant band director for Glenn Wells who retired at the end of December.

Kristi Kleing, PTA program director/instructor, is proud to announce that the licensure passing rate from the fall semester for Physical Therapist Assistant graduates was 100 percent.

KC photography instructor O. Rufus Lovett made portraits of acclaimed photographer Keith Carter, which are published in the January issue of Texas Highways magazine celebrating Carter’s retrospective book, “Keith Carter: Fifty Years.” Lovett also juried and curated the “Focus On Photography 2019” for the Longview Museum of Fine Arts. The exhibit is open to the public through Feb. 16 and includes photographs made by artists from across Texas, Chicago, New York and Massachusetts.

Good News:

Congratulations to Jackie Kelley, assistant financial aid director, for the birth of grandson, Josiah Benjamin Wood, on Jan. 14. Josiah weighed 8 lbs., 12 oz. and was 21 inches long. He is the son of Kimberly and Benjamin Wood.

Congratulations to Jeanette Miller, academic advisor, for the birth of her second great-grandson, Alexander Michael Stone, on Jan. 25. Alexander weighed 5 lbs., 12 oz. and was 19 inches long. Proud parents are Jake and Lindsay Stone of Fort Worth. He was welcomed home by his two-year-old big brother, Nickolas Stone.

News & Events:

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation announced Jan. 22 that four KC students have been named as semifinalists for its prestigious Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. Students selected are: Chidubem Ishie, Brandi Brown, Sehoon “Jamie” Hwang and Sara Robinson. This year’s semifinalists were chosen from a pool of nearly 1,500 applicants attending 369 schools in 45 states. MORE INFO
News & Reminders:

Dana Blair awarded lifetime achievement award

Dana Blair, director of the Kilgore College Rangerettes, was honored by the Texas Dance Educators Association with a Lifetime Achievement Award at its annual convention Jan. 12 in Houston.

As a member of the Rangerettes from 1981-83, Blair was both a Rangerette Lieutenant and Swingster. After two years at KC, she attended The University of Texas at Austin where she was a member of the Texas Stars (1984-86) and earned a Bachelor of Science in Education in 1986.

Blair returned to KC in 1986 as the Rangerettes’ assistant director and choreographer under director Deana Bolton Covin. She also taught dance in the KC Fine Arts Department from 1986-94 and attended UT Tyler where she earned a Master of Education in 1991.

She held the position of assistant director until Covin retired in 1993. After Covin’s retirement, Blair was promoted to become only the third director since the organization’s inception in 1940.

Blair taught for NCA Superstar (1980-93), Starmakers Dance and Performance camps and is currently on staff with Encore Creative Productions.

She is a lifetime member of Rangerettes Forever and the director of the Rangerettes summer camps for high school and college students.

Blair was also inducted into the TDEA Hall of Fame in January of 2012.

Upward Bound begins new program in cyber security

The Upward Bound Program at KC will begin a new program taught by Dr. David Hull, assistant computer science professor at UT Tyler. The goal of the six-week course Hull created is to help students learn the essential skills of team-based collaborative learning and the essential knowledge of two topics within the domain of cyber security.

The course, two three-week modules, will focus on cyberbullying and online privacy. The curriculum and lessons are designed according to the principles of problem-based learning. Student teams of four will be tasked with developing a proposed solution to problem where there is no unambiguously correct answer.

After homework with story-based videos, students will collaborate in small teams to develop proposed solutions and formatively assess the proposed solutions for each team.

He lessons will be designed according to the principles of double-loop-learning, whereby the teams’ initial proposals represent divergent thinking and their revised proposals represent convergent thinking.

The lesson will conclude with personal-reflection activities where students will create an essay that describes students’ self-monitoring, assessment and judgment.

In his doctoral studies, Hull tested and validated this model with undergraduates in Hong Kong and with Executive MBA students in Madrid. Director of Upward Bound at KC is Jude DuBois.

Softball opens season today on campus

The softball team will open its 2019 season today at The Ballpark at KC Commons. Games are set for 1 and 3 p.m. versus Midland College.

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The softball team will begin its seventh season. The 2017 team has a record of 14-14 in conference play, narrowly missing qualifying for the Region 14 tournament. Last year’s team had six players named to conference, regional and academic softball teams. Assistant coach for the Rangers is Trish Robinson.

The North Zone - Longview: The Longview North Zone Tutoring and Computer Lab is located in the Longview North Building, Room 100. Tutoring is available Mon-Thurs from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays from 8 a.m. to Noon. For more info about Longview services, please contact Ebony Dennis at 903-236-2030 or edennis@kilgore.edu.

Tutoring available for students

Did you know there are tutors available for free to assist your students in various courses?

The Zone - Kilgore: Tutoring and computer services are available in The Zone Tutoring Lab Mon-Thurs from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. in the Student Support Building. For more info, contact Ronda Lee at 903-988-7491 or email her at rlee@kilgore.edu.

The North Zone - Longview: The Longview North Zone Tutoring and Computer Lab is located in the Longview North Building, Room 100. Tutoring is available Mon-Thurs from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays from 8 a.m. to Noon. For more info about Longview services, please contact Ebony Dennis at 903-236-2030 or edennis@kilgore.edu.
On-Campus Calendar

1. Softball vs. Midland, The Ballpark at KC Commons, 1/3 p.m.
2. A Touch of Fame & Fashion (KHS), Dodson Auditorium, 7 p.m.
   Basketball (W) vs. Angelina College, Masters Gym, 2 p.m.
3. Texas Mutual Check Presentation, McLaurin/2nd Floor, 11 a.m.
   SGA Meeting, Devall TV Room, 11:30 a.m.
4. Game Club Meeting, Devall TV Room, 5 p.m.
5. Basketball (M/W) vs. Panola College, Masters Gym, 2/4 p.m.
6. PTK Meeting, Devall TV Room, 5 p.m.
7. Texas A&M-Commerce Recruiter, Devall Hallway, 8:30 a.m.
   SGA Meeting, Devall TV Room, 11:30 a.m.
8. PTK Carnation Sale, Devall Hallway, 11 a.m.
   Game Club Meeting, Devall TV Room, 5 p.m.
9. PTK Carnation Sale, Devall Hallway, 8 a.m.
10. Softball vs. Weatherford College, Ballpark at KC Commons, 1/3 p.m.
    Student Services Staff Planning Day
11. Softball vs. McMennan College, Ballpark at KC Commons, 1/3 p.m.
    Basketball (W) vs. Trinity Valley CC, Masters Gym, 2 p.m.
    SGA Meeting, Devall TV Room, 11:30 a.m.
    Freedom of Speech Event: Evan Smith, Dodson Auditorium, 6:30 p.m.
13. Basketball (M) vs. TJC, Masters Gym, 7 p.m.
    Game Club Meeting, Devall TV Room, 5 p.m.
14. Basketball Pep Rally, Masters Gym, 11:30 a.m.
    Student Karaoke Night, Devall Ballroom, 6:30 p.m.
    Dual Credit Librarians Meeting, Watson Library, 9 a.m.
15. Ranger Preview Day, Dodson Auditorium, 8 a.m.
    Basketball (W) vs. TJC, Masters Gym, 2 p.m.
16. Softball vs. Grayson County College, Ballpark at KC Commons, 1/3 p.m.
    PTK Meeting, Devall TV Room, 5 p.m.
17. KC Student Talent Night auditions, Devall Ballroom, 6:30 p.m.
    SGA Meeting, Devall TV Room, 11:30 a.m.
18. Softball vs. Texas College, Ballpark at KC Commons, 1/3 p.m.
    Game Club Meeting, Devall TV Room, 5 p.m.
19. Basketball (M) vs. Paris Junior College, Masters Gym, 7 p.m.
20. Basketball Pep Rally, Masters Gym, 11:30 a.m.
   Library will host first-ever Dual Credit Librarians Meeting

The Randolph C. Watson Library will host the first-ever Dual Credit Librarians Meeting Feb. 21 for librarians in the KC dual credit service area.

Many KC classes require students to use KC Library resources for their assignments and research projects.

However, the school librarians do not have the ability to get into the electronic resources available through the library web page.

At the meeting, each participant will receive login credentials to access electronic resources on the KC Library website.

Further, the databases available at the various public schools are not all the same as what KC has.

Along with the general list, the library has additional resources purchased by the KC Library for use by KC students, faculty and staff.

Participants at the meeting will learn how to get better search results, which databases to use, how to get help and learn best practices.