KC kicks off new year full of changes, upgrades

With excitement in the air, Kilgore College kicked off the new semester Aug. 19 at convocation by introducing 35 new employees to campus.

As McKinstry crews continue to make structural and mechanical improvements to campus, KC is also kicking off the new eight-week term model to improve student success, making changes to business processes to improve efficiency and closely following the Strategic Plan, the calculated framework for institutional planning and success.

AT LEFT: Students join hands and dance during the “Meet the Rangers” event Aug. 29 on the Kilgore campus. Photo by Jamie Maldonado/KC

KC announce most outstanding faculty, staff

KC honored Most Outstanding Employees at convocation Aug. 19. Each year, KC employees vote for peers who they think are “most outstanding” at what they do. Categories include Executive/Management/Supervisory; Professional/Technical/Support; Administrative/Office Support; and Faculty.

Dawn Jones

“During opening week while we were doing final registration, I was stationed with Dawn Jones. She was AMAZING. She would walk students where they needed to go if they wandered into the wrong place. If she didn’t have an answer for them right then, she found it before they left. She made sure the students were able to get their books and wouldn’t be dropped if there were circumstances outside of their control. She was really great to work with that day, and displayed the most radical hospitality I witnessed that day.”

- Cori Holden, Psychology Instructor

Barbara Prater

“As well as being the Student Development Executive Admin, she is the administrator of the KC food pantry and the emergency fund. No matter how busy she may be, she will always take time to stop and help a student in need. Barbara is always very kind and caring to the students who come to her for assistance. Sometimes she becomes an informal counselor for those who need some wise advice or just a listening ear. One day, she drove to the Walmart gas station to help a student who needed gas in their car. I definitely believe that Barbara is the poster child for Radical Hospitality!”

- Heath Cariker, KCPD Chief of Police

Black named library director

Congratulations to Susan Black for being named the next director of the Randolph C. Watson Library. Black has a very dedicated staff with which to work, and they look forward to supporting and promoting student success through the library’s resources and services. Also, please remember to visit the library at 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 5, for a retirement celebration for Kathy Fair who worked at KC for 20 years.
Innovation Grants, Part Deux!

During fall convocation, I announced that the KC Board of Trustees had once again approved a set-aside of $10,000 to foster innovation and innovative ideas at KC!

The only "catch" associated with the grant is that interested faculty/staff must complete a grant application to apply.

The Innovation Grant application is fairly simple to complete and may be found by clicking here.

Now is your chance to receive some “seed money” to fund your great idea, benefit students and continue to move us forward as a college!

Awards granted may go to one or multiple applicants. There is no application minimum or maximum, but we will not award in excess of $10,000. Preference will be given to applications which meet one or more goals/objectives of the Strategic Plan.

The application deadline is Sept. 30. Funds will be made available on or prior to Nov. 1 and must be expended during the college’s fiscal year ending Aug. 31, 2020.

Awardees may also be asked to do a short oral presentation during the January 2020 Convocation.

Grants awarded last year included:
• Funds to purchase a Sony Cyber-shot DSC-RX100 VI video camera for use in expanding video marketing on social media.
• Funds for KC to become an NCCER Accredited Training Sponsor to benefit dual credit, corrosion technology, industrial technology and continuing education students.
• Funds to host a spring gaming tournament, launch the concept of a KC e-Sports team and familiarize students with new CIT curriculum options that provide students with programming and application/game development skills.
• Funds to establish a HackLab for experiential training and exploration of network systems benefiting networking, cyber security and programming students.
• Funds for steel pan drums to add a new vibe to our sound and benefitting the Ranger Band and all of us who have the pleasure of listening to them during performances.
• Funds for DocuSign software benefitting all employees who sign paperwork for HR.

Contact me with any questions. I hope that your semester is off to a great start and I look forward to reading about your innovative ideas.

The Innovation Committee will help me select the recipients of these grant dollars. Don’t wait, apply now!

Until next month,
Can you name our new employees?

The first KC employee to email Chris Craddock with the correct names and spellings of ALL of the above KC employees will receive a $20 gift card to the KC Brew!

The winner of the contest will be announced in the October newsletter.

1. ____________________  11. ____________________  21. ____________________
2. ____________________  12. ____________________  22. ____________________
3. ____________________  13. ____________________  23. ____________________
4. ____________________  14. ____________________  24. ____________________
5. ____________________  15. ____________________  25. ____________________
6. ____________________  16. ____________________  26. ____________________
7. ____________________  17. ____________________  27. ____________________
8. ____________________  18. ____________________  28. ____________________
9. ____________________  19. ____________________  29. ____________________
10. ____________________ 20. ____________________  30. ____________________

NOT Pictured: Kimberly Ellgass, Susan Hughes and Melissa Clayton.
On-Campus Calendar

SEPTEMBER

2, Labor Day Holiday (campuses closed)
5, Citizen Response/Active Attack event, Ballroom, 8 a.m.
   Retirement Celebration - Kathy Fair, Watson Library, 2 p.m.
7, Softball Round Robin, Ballpark at KC Commons, 11 a.m., 3/5 p.m.
9, KC Board of Trustees Meeting, McLaurin Building, 6:30 p.m.
10, KC Foundation Resource Dev. Mtg., Devall Room, Noon
12, Dual Credit Librarians Meeting, Watson Library, 9 a.m.
   All-Campus Burger Cookout, Lee Mall/Mike Miller Plaza, 11 a.m.
14, Band/Twirler Day, Parks Fitness Center, Noon
   ACT Testing, Old Main, 8 a.m.
   Tri-C 60th Anniversary Open House, Tri-C Building, Noon
   Softball Round Robin, The Ballpark at KC Commons, 4:15 & 6 p.m.
16, Freedom of Speech Panel Discussion, KC-Longview, 11:30 a.m.
   Freedom of Speech Panel Discussion, Devall Ballroom, 6:30 p.m.
24, TAMU-Commerce Recruiter, Devall Hallway, 8:30 a.m.
   Service Area Counselors Luncheon, Devall Ballroom, 11 a.m.
25, Softball vs. Hill College, The Ballpark at KC Commons, 2 & 4 p.m.
28, 'Rette High School Recruitment Event, Multiple Areas, 8 a.m.
   KC Athletics Hall of Fame Banquet, Devall Ballroom, 11:30 a.m.
   Football vs. Texas A&T, R.E. St. John Memorial Stadium, 5 p.m.
30, Capital Connect, (Kilgore Chamber), Devall Ballroom, 11 a.m.

FACULTY & STAFF reports

Congratulations to Toni Perry, Mail Technician. Perry works part-time at Walmart in Kilgore and was named by Walmart as the “10-Foot Rule Champion” for always greeting, praying for and hugging customers with a smile.

Richard Crutcher, Interim Dean of Business & Information Technology, is pleased to announce Jana Campbell as the Professional Support Assistant for the Business and Information Technology Division. She worked previously in the Business Office and began her new duties at KC-Longview on Aug. 19.

The Office of Institutional Planning welcomes Natalie Bryant as the new Coordinator of Institutional Research. Natalie replaces Jane Lewis. Bryant has experience working in institutional research at East Texas Baptist University, as well as in software training and support, both in the corporate world and at Baylor University. Her position will have a somewhat different focus than Lewis’ position, as she will focus more on data analysis instead of creating reports for departments. The report writing function has been shifted to the Information Technology department. Bryant’s e-mail address is nbryant@kilgore.edu and her phone extension is 8620.

Rangerette Assistant Director Shelley Wayne is featured in this month’s Texas Highways Magazine. The article, “My Hometown: A True-Blue Rangerette Explains Why There’s More to Kilgore Than Oil and the Drill Team,” is a nice feature on the city of Kilgore.

Dr. Sandra Carroll, Dean of Science & Health Sciences, is pleased to announce Courtney Jenkins as Chair of the Kinesiology Department. Jenkins and Carroll will work closely together to oversee the activities of the Kinesiology Department during the fall semester while Jenkins maintains her athletic trainer responsibilities. She will then take over full-time faculty/chair duties at the beginning of the spring semester.

Will Massey, Enrollment Advisor at KC-Longview, was elected the Region Chair for the East Region of TEXAAN (Texas Academic Advising Network). Learn more about the TEXAAN.

Michael Ferguson, Criminal Justice Instructor and Department Chair of Public Services, served this summer as the chairman of the legal update curriculum committee for TCOLE, helping write the legislatively mandated legal update course. The curriculum will be taught to law enforcement administrators, peace officers, judges and prosecuting attorneys in Texas to get up-to-date vis-à-vis the laws from the 86th Legislature. One of the committee members and Ferguson will present a train-the-trainer session at the TCOLE Conference in Corpus Christi later this year.

DATA: Did you know?

Degrees & Certificates Awarded in 2018-19:

- AA, AS, AAT Degrees: 444
- AAS Degrees: 288
- Certificates: 288
- Total: 1,020

Data provided by the KC Office of and Institutional Planning

Meet the Rangers:

Kilgore College hosted the inaugural “Meet the Rangers” in the Lee Mall/Mike Miller Plaza Aug. 29. The event was a community-wide pep rally to introduce the student-athletes, performance organizations and coaches associated with this year’s athletic teams.

Photo by Jamie Maldonado/KC