New this week

Board notes

The following items are highlighted from the board of trustees agenda, Sept. 13, 2010.

The board approved the budget for fiscal year 2011.

The board approved plans to provide tuition waivers to high school seniors who participate in COMPASS placement testing through KCC's college readiness initiative as juniors. Waiving tuition for one KCC course provides an incentive for students who are ready for college-level work to enroll at KCC. This is the third year that the program has been in place.

The board approved a recommendation to accept the Renewable Energy Technician Program grant, $400,000 from the U.S. Department of Education. The funds are to purchase and install instructional equipment for solar photovoltaic, solar thermal, and wind energy technology.

The board approved the recommendations for chargebacks and tuition reimbursements, and approved the award of bids for carpet in the atrium and a backup generator.

Dates announced for Campus Bytes and President's Address sessions

Submitted by Dr. John Avendano

Campus Bytes

Last year we instituted Campus Bytes as a format to provide feedback, share ideas and address concerns.
will continue with this forum this year. The dates and times for Campus Bytes at the Hammes Café are:

- Wednesday, Sept. 29 -- 10:30 a.m.
- Wednesday, Sept. 29 -- 3:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 21 -- 8:30 a.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 21 -- 4:30 p.m.

Digital Grounds at the Hammes Café provides coffee, smoothies, teas and snack items. I hope that many of you will take the time to join me.

**President's Addresses**

In addition, I am beginning quarterly President's Addresses.

The purpose of the President's Address session is to provide the college community with updates on big picture issues (facility matters, college/state finances, etc.).

I have scheduled two separate dates with two times on each to give each employee the opportunity to attend one session. The sessions will be in the Auditorium as follows:

- Monday, Nov. 1 -- 9:30-10:30 a.m.
- Monday, Nov. 1 -- 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 2 -- 8-9 a.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 2 -- 2:30-3:30 p.m.

I encourage you to attend one of the President's Address sessions as your schedules permit.

If neither of these formats--Campus Bytes nor President's Address sessions--fit into your schedule, you may avail yourselves of the [Candid Comment submission form](#). It is a link in every Update, and is on the website. You can enter contact information or remain anonymous.

I am always open to receiving constructive criticism, and I really like it when there's a proposed solution that may be considered for any problem that is identified.

I would like to thank each person who has provided feedback to me by using the Candid Comment form. I would also like to extend a personal apology for the delay you have experienced and the time spent waiting for a reply for those of you who provided an inquiry and your contact information. I have learned there was a technical glitch that delayed the delivery of comments to me. It has been corrected. I will reply to the comments in the next few weeks when I have the information that will answer the inquiries and concerns.

Thanks again to everyone for the care and support your dedication provides to our students. I am proud to serve as your president.

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**Flu info and immunizations offered: October**

**Information sessions: learn about the flu and vaccinations**

Information sessions regarding the flu will be offered by KCC Nursing Professor Barb Darling, who also is an infection control nurse, at the following
Immunization dates

Flu shots will be offered at KCC for all employees and students--including full-and part-time faculty and staff.

The date is Friday, Oct. 29, 9 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. in Room D151.

To participate, you must register by Oct 19. To register, for a flu shot, see Linda Antons or Judy Spence at the first floor receptionist desk.

The cost is $25, payable when you receive the shot. KCC's insurance policy does not include flu shots. The program is being offered through the Wellness Committee and Health Careers Division.

Any questions should be directed to Jane Clark at ext. 8146 or Sheri Sikma at ext. 8826.

United Way campaign is off to a great start

Submitted by Dr. John Avendano, president

Last Thursday, KCC kicked off the 2010-11 internal United Way campaign.

Fifty-eight faculty and staff stopped by the Cavalier Room and pledged donations totaling $8,550. We are off to a great start in accomplishing our goal of raising $18,500!

Last year, we raised $16,821 and were recognized as the 13th top employer giver. This year, we would like to increase that number by 10 percent. Remember, no one rises to low expectations.

I want to congratulate the following lucky winners who will be parking in my former space in the Prairie Lot beginning in January:

January, Mendy Corbett; February, Oshunda Carpenter Williams; March, Michelle Driscoll; April, Sharon Hoogstraat; May, Eric Springer; June, Linda Chouinard; July, Kellee Hayes; August, Doris Benjamin; September, Kim Harpin; October, Brenda Dressler; November, Barb Arseneau; and December, Meredith Purcell.

Everyone who made a pledge at the kickoff received a door prize.

A special thank you goes out to Mary Posing, David Cagle, Janet Fager, Vicki Gardner and Penny Dickerson for "Giving more than a Little Bit" of their time and efforts to make this event so successful.

If you were unable to attend the kickoff, there is still time to pledge your support. We won't be closing out our campaign until the day before Thanksgiving.

In addition to making a donation or pledge, you still can assist our fund-raising efforts in two other ways:
2. Purchase easy-to-prepare meals, snacks, and desserts from Schwan's Home Service to KCC. We have two more days scheduled, Sept. 30, and Oct. 13 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. If purchases exceed $1,000 each day, KCC's United Way campaign will receive a 20 percent commission. Last Thursday's kickoff generated $1,455 in sales, resulting in a $291 donation to our UW campaign. Thanks to all who purchased quality food items from Schwan's!
   As always, thank you for your generous support of this agency. To quote the lyrics of Supertramp, "Give a Little Bit."

Research paper accepted at international conference

A research paper by KCC Professor Sudipta Roy has been accepted for presentation at the International Conference of Education, Research and Innovation conference, to be held in Spain in November.
   The paper is titled, "Is Mandated Homework Really Necessary? Results from a Classroom Experiment."
   Sudipta allowed students in her Summer 2010 Statistics class to "opt-in" or "opt-out" of graded homework. Students could opt out if they were reasonably sure they could determine how many practice problems they needed to work out each day. Students who opted in would work out all odd-numbered problems from each section.
   Sudipta analyzed the test performance of students in the two groups using measures like average test score, and proportion of students obtaining a passing grade. She found no significant difference in test performance between the two groups.
   Sudipta said her findings suggest college-level students can take responsibility for their performance, and mandated homework may not really be necessary.
   To see a list of abstracts accepted for the conference, go to the ICERI conference abstract site. Sudipta is a professor in the Math, Science and Engineering Division.
   Congratulations to Sudipta on this recognition of work.

Professor will present at Illinois Energy Expo

Tim Wilhelm will co-present at a session on Solar Training Capacity and Partnerships during the 2010 Illinois Energy Expo on Oct. 29 in Normal.
   The session will include an overview of national and regional capacity building efforts in solar installer training at a number of organizations, including community colleges. Tim's portion of the presentation will focus on photovoltaic and solar thermal training at KCC.
The co-presenter with Tim will be Nick Hylla, curriculum and instruction director for the Midwest Renewable Energy Association. The conference website is http://www.apec-online.org/2010_expo.html. It is a three-day event, Oct. 28 to 30, which is free and open to the public. There are exhibits and presentations geared toward business and residential audiences. Tim is a professor in the Business and Technology Division.

Mass e-mail policy reminder

A clarified mass e-mail procedure is in effect. Mass e-mails can be sent if all three of the following apply:
1. The information was not available when the last Update came out.
2. Action is needed before the next Update.
3. The information is relevant to the vast majority of employees.

There are a limited number of employees who can send messages to all staff. In order to have an e-mail sent to all staff, contact Kari Sargeant or Ellen Skelly in the marketing office with the information. Before requesting a mass e-mail, all employees are asked to remember that Update is sent weekly, and most communication to all staff should be planned in order to be published in Update. There are always occasional exceptions which can be made when circumstances warrant it.

For more information about the mass e-mail policy, contact Kari, the director of marketing and public relations.

Events this week

Check requests due: 9/20 for 9/23 check run

No accounts payable checks: 9/30
There will not be an accounts payable check run on Sept 30.
Items which need to be paid in the Sept 23 check run need to be turned in to Angela Kunce or the Accounting Office by 4:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 20.
Requests received after Sept. 20 will be paid in the Oct. 7 check run.
The Accounting Office asks everyone to plan accordingly to make sure checks are available when needed.

WKCC interview with Justice Kilbride: 9/20

WKCC will air a special Local Report Monday, Sept. 20, featuring Illinois Supreme Court Justice
Thomas Kilbride.

The Kankakee native was recently named as the high court's next chief justice. The report includes what Kilbride said about his retention campaign, his critics and his new position.

The Local Report on WKCC airs at 6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 5:20 p.m. WKCC is at 91.1 FM and streams online at www.wkccradio.org.

Blood drive: 9/21

The American Red Cross will take blood donations from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 21 in the Iroquois Room.

The Red Cross encourages eligible participants to make a donation. In most cases, the entire donation process takes about one hour. It must be at least 56 days since the participant's last whole blood donation or 112 days since his/her last double red cell donation.

The blood drive is sponsored by KCC's Student Advisory Council. For more information or to set up an appointment, phone ext. 8100. Walk-in donations also will be accepted.

The American Red Cross of Kankakee County has served area residents for more than 90 years.

Enrollment achievement celebration for all employees

Tuesday, Sept. 21 2-4 p.m.
Cavalier Room
Refreshments + Prizes

Brush art event: 9/23

The Student Life office will sponsor an Aloha Brush Art event on Thursday, Sept. 23 in the College Center.

Aloha Brush Art paints custom calligraphy work with tropical designs.
Students and employees can stop by and receive a free customized painting anytime from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### News and information

#### Please make recognition reservations

The 2010 Recognition event will be Friday, Oct. 1 on KCC's front patio.

Anyone who has not responded yet is asked to please reply [online](#) as soon as possible.

For the event, each employee can bring a guest.

Social hour will be at 5 p.m., with the recognition program at 6 p.m.

Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served.

More than 30 KCC employees who are marking their fifth, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th and 35th service anniversary at KCC in 2010 will be honored.

### Green flash sustainability message

**Submitted by Rich Schultz, coordinator of Sustainability Center, sustainability & planning**

Here's a summary of the quantity of various materials which have been collected and recycled on the KCC campus over the past year or so.

We're doing a good job, let's keep it up!

- Cardboard: 20,946 pounds
- Paper: 32,342 pounds
- Plastics: 4,869 pounds
- Glass bottles: 609 pounds
- Aluminum cans: 180 pounds
- Scrap steel: 2,300 pounds
- Pallets: 18,720 pounds
- Batteries: 85 pounds
- Magazines: 265 pounds (one time collection separate from paper)
- Electronic waste: 31,667 pounds (since 2008); 6,277 pounds (2010 only)
- Fluorescent bulbs: 230 4-foot T8s; 132 4-foot T12s
- Ballasts: 28 pounds
- CDs: 1,361
- DVDs: 687
- CD-DVDs: 66
- Other discs 269

Questions? Comments? Contact me at ext. 8243 or Bert Jacobson at ext. 8242.
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