

New dean offers science update

Two months on the job, new Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences James M. Klein has hit the ground running. Formerly interim dean of the College of Arts, Letters and Sciences at California State University, Stanislaus, Klein has been especially busy with details involving the new Science & Technology Center.

The move from the Hall of Sciences to the new \$28 million building will begin after Thanksgiving and last until about the first week of January, he said.

Target date for the grand opening is February.

Departments moving to the facility are biological and environmental sciences, chemistry, and physics. Also to be located there will be the pre-med and pre-dental preprofessional programs as well as the SMART Program, tutoring center for math and science, computer lab, faculty research labs, student labs, planetarium, coffeeshop and museum store featuring astronomy and science-related pub-

lications and materials, offices, and lounges.

State of the art equipment is being installed throughout the building as well as the planetarium, which offers "all kinds of outreach opportunities," Klein said.

"We will be working with the Northeast Children's Museum and doing cooperative planning," he said.

A Lake Highlands High School graduate who attended band camp at A&M-Commerce when he was about 12 or 13 years old, Klein said one of the reasons he took the dean's job at this university is the large graduate student population, which he sees as a "great opportunity to build on."

Faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences and the administration will be looking at a master's in communication arts in the next few years and opportunities to do more distance education courses.

This fall, the college has seven new tenured track faculty and nine new ad interim faculty, he said.



SPLISH SPLASH — Lionpalooza, a carnival of fun featuring a free music concert with local bands, free food, drinks and prizes at the Morris Recreation Center, was a hit on Sept. 1. Lionpalooza is the culmination of Lions Roar Week, in which students are welcomed back to campus. It also marked the second anniversary of the opening of the rec center.

Exceptional achievement is recognized by Faculty Senate

Dean of Students Joe Webber's work has garnered Faculty Senate recognition.

A 30-year employee of A&M-Commerce, Webber was presented the Faculty Senate's Professional Achievement Award at the Faculty/Staff Meeting kicking off the fall semester.

Sherion Jackson, educational administration and president of the Faculty Senate, presented the award and cited Webber's outstanding service as a teacher, supervisor, and mentor.

A native of Richmond, Va., the dean earned a bachelor's degree Virginia Commonwealth University, a master's from the University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh, and doctor of education degree from A&M-Commerce.

He has worked in student personnel for 38



Dean of Students Joe Webber. The award is for exceptional service as a university employee.

WORK HONORED
— Sherion Jackson (left), educational administration faculty and Faculty Senate president, presents the Faculty Senate Professional Achievement Award to

years, arriving at A&M-Commerce in June 1976 to become the director of Housing, a post he held until August '83. Webber next served as associate dean of Students and was

appointed dean of Students in August 1988. He has also been an adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Counseling, is a past president of the Commerce Lions Club, and recently retired from the United States Marine Corps Reserve after 30 years of service.

Of receiving the Faculty Senate honor, the university employee said it is "both humbling and affirming to be recognized by one's colleagues."

In his work, Webber said he enjoys the "daily challenges and the good feelings realized from having played an active role when positive things happen. Working with young people toward their growth and development as productive and good citizens is priceless."

Extra Credit



FUN LOVING – Patty Scott, administrative secretary in the Memorial Student Center, enjoys the students and her fellow co-workers.

The A&M-Commerce employee of the month is Patty Scott, administrative secretary in the Memorial Student Center.

Years as a University employee: 5 1/2 years

What she enjoys most about her job: “I am blessed with the diversity of working with students, faculty, staff, committees, and a very diverse range of bookwork fulfilling the requests of these various contacts. I truly love the people and the work.”

What she thinks helps to make her successful in her job: Patty takes the minutes for several committees on campus and says “when in a large group I like to listen and watch.” This helps her in her minute taking. She prefers, however, small groups of two to three people and then her attention is on the “matter at hand.”

What boss Connie Mears, coordinator of student organizations, says: “Patty’s strengths are in her ability to relate to people in a warm and professional manner. She is willing to go the extra mile to assist students whenever possible. We are truly fortunate to have Ms. Scott be a part of a great team in the Campus Activities Office.”

Publications

John H. Humphreys, marketing and management, with others, “Emotional Structure and Commitment: Implications for Health Care Management,” *Journal of Health Organization and Management*, Summer 2005.

Also “Transformational Leadership and Support for E-Commerce: The Moderating Effects of Leader Practical Intelligence,” in *Advances in E-Business and Psychology*, Vol. 1, Author House, Summer 2005.

Sherion H. Jackson, educational administration, “Projecting Community in Web-based Courses: What To Say and How To Say What You Mean,” *Texas Journal of Distance Education*, Fall 2005.

Robert Rich and Jackson, educational administration, “Building the Reflective Capacity of Practicing Principals,” *AASA Journal of Scholarship and Practice*, Winter 2005.

Ed Manton, Don English, and Robert Vinaja, business administration and MIS, “Evaluating Knowledge and Critical Thinking in International Business Courses,” *Journal for Global Business Education*, International Society for Business Education, Vol. 5, May 2005.

Tara Tietjen-Smith, health and human performance, “Effects of Exercise on Strength and Mobility in Residents of Assisted Living

Communities: Pilot Study Trends,” *Texas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance Journal*, Summer 2005.

Presentations

Sandy Kimbrough, health and human performance, “FUNctional Fitness,” Baylor University Student Life Center, Aug. 20, 2005.

Kudos

Terry Pankratz, business and administration, has graduated from the College Business Management Institute where he completed three years of study. CBMI is sponsored by the University of Kentucky and Southern Association of College and University Business Officers.

Career development

Fred Stewart, journalism, has been named to the Passing Score Panel of the State Board for Educator Certification for the new Texas Examinations of Educator Standards (TEXES) Journalism.

This group will meet to recommend a minimum passing score for the new TEXES Journalism 8-12.

Stewart was also named to the District Education Improvement Committee for the Rockwall Independent School District.

Polish grant writing skills at seminar

The Texas A&M University System’s Office of Research and Federal Relations, in partnership with the Texas A&M University’s Office of the Vice President for Research and Office of Proposal Development, is sponsoring a one-day Craft of Grant Writing Seminar.

The goal is to help researchers enhance their grant writing skills.

The seminar will be held at A&M-Commerce on Thursday, Sept. 29, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

During the seminar, participants will learn how to develop a compelling and competitive idea; identify appropriate funding opportunities; analyze funding agencies and their programmatic priorities; evaluate a request for application to ensure full compliance with application instructions; approach and interact

with program officers to promote advocacy for their proposed project; establish a realistic timeline to draft, review, and revise a grant application.

They will also learn how to prepare all sections of a typical grant application; vet, edit, and proofread the application; and gain insight into the grant review process.

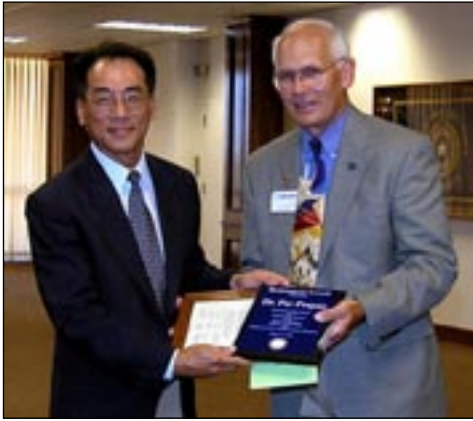
Because space is limited, those interested in participating in the seminar are encouraged to register now.

Registration for the seminar will close on Friday, Sept. 23.

Onsite registration will not be available.

If you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Libby Childress at 979-845-1811 or email her at libby@tamu.edu.

Fast facts



PAT PRAPAN RETIRES — Dean of Students Joe Webber (right), presents a plaque to Dr. Pat Prapan for serving six years as director of Student Health Services. Prapan retired from full-time service as university physician on Aug. 31. It was a short retirement as he started working part time for Student Health Services on Sept. 1. A native of Thailand and resident of Commerce for 26 years, Prapan and his wife Noi, have two grown children – daughter Nida, and her family of Waco and son Nara, a resident at Georgetown University Hospital. Noi is director of the International Student Services Office at A&M-Commerce.

Stay overnight at Berry Hall

Guest housing is available on campus for \$10 per night in Berry Hall.

A number of graduate students who have classes on Friday evening and Saturday morning stay with us on Friday night.

With the increased cost of gas recently, some of our commuters may be looking for somewhere local to stay one or two nights each week.

Space is limited so contact housing early make reservations.

Each guest will need to provide their own linens.

Contact Dustin Fortsonat extension 5785 for more details.

We will proudly brew

Get ready for the Starbucks experience in the library, where the current snack bar will be converted into *We Proudly Brew*, an intimate coffee shop where students can savor fine teas, coffees and light refreshments. The opening may be at Homecoming.

We Proudly Brew will be operated by Sodexho and it's anticipated it will be open into the evenings so those working or studying late can get their coffee fix.

The University first piloted Starbucks in the Memorial Student Center, where sales have been strong.

Wal-Mart donates to wildlife

The Wildlife Excellence Fund at A&M-Commerce has received a \$1,000 donation from the Commerce Wal-Mart store.

“We are very appreciative of all our donors,” said Dr. David Crenshaw, agricultural sciences faculty member and an adviser to the Wildlife and Conservation Science program.

Plans are for 38 acres of university land along Highway 50 about two miles south of the campus to be used for the project.



WORDS OF HELP — Rebecca Anderson, director of admissions-transfer students, talks with Kevin Walters of Royse City (right), who had been attending Tulane prior to Hurricane Katrina. A junior who had been at Tulane for two years, Walters is among 13 undergraduate students and a graduate student displaced by the hurricane who are attending A&M-Commerce this semester, according to Director of Admissions-Freshman Students Randy McDonald.



AVIATION PIONEER — Jeana Yeager will speak at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4, in the ballrooms of the Memorial Student Center. Breakout Entertainment is sponsoring this free event, and the university community and the public are invited. A Commerce High School graduate, Yeager and fellow aviator Dick Rutan are known for their achievements with the *Voyager* flight. In December 1986, they became the first people to circumvent the world, nonstop, without refueling their plane. Yeager will receive an honorary doctoral degree from A&M-Commerce at Commencement in December. Yeager is tentatively scheduled to sign books at Gee Library the afternoon of Oct. 4



FRIENDLY LION — Everyone is invited to join the tailgate party at each of the Lions' home football games. Students' relatives are invited to campus for the annual Family Day on Saturday, Sept. 24. Check-in time will be available at 9 a.m. in the Main Hallway, second floor of the Memorial Student Center. By getting a name tag, a family member can get a \$6 ticket for the football game. The Greek Council presentation will be at 11 a.m. in the University Auditorium with the President's Reception sponsored by Sodexho Campus Dining Service at noon. In women's volleyball, A&M-Commerce will take on Southwest Oklahoma State at 2 p.m. in the Field House. There will be a Pre-Game Tailgate Party on the West Lawn starting at 4 p.m. The Lions will play East Central Oklahoma in football at 6 p.m. in Memorial Stadium. For more fun during the day, students and families are invited to the Bois d'Arc Bash in downtown Commerce.

115 Outstanding alumni sought

A&M-Commerce has accepted nominations of individuals to honor as outstanding alumni of the College of Education and Human Services, at a luncheon on Friday, Oct. 21.

“We are honoring one alumni for each of the 115 years that educators have graduated from the university,” says Dr. Frank Ashley, dean of the college. “Our 115 Outstanding Alumni will be people of character who have contributed to education and their community.”

The 115 Outstanding Alumni will be people who have achieved extraordinary distinction in his or her chosen business, profession, life's work, or other worthy endeavor.

They will be people of integrity, stature, and demonstrated ability that inspires others.

Ken Woodall remembered

Ken Woodall, the deceased former facilities director, was honored in a memorial service in the Heritage Gardens on Friday, Sept. 2.

A plaque in memory of Woodall's comprehensive contribution to the university was erected between two benches that Woodall installed in the gardens.

It is said to have been his favorite spot on the A&M-Commerce campus.

Listen to KETR 88.9 fm streaming live

Public radio station KETR 88.9 FM is now streaming audio live 24 hours a day through the Web. This means listeners can catch the news and games live.

Just visit www.ketr.org, and look for the link on the front page, or listen to Lion football live from the link on the athletics page at www.lionsathletics.com.

"No matter where they are, our listeners can come back home by catching all of KETR's programming from anywhere in the world through the Web," says Kevin Jefferies, KETR news director at A&M-Commerce.

"We always wanted to do this, but there were some roadblocks to overcome."

Cost was a factor. Getting streaming rights to wire news services is expensive, as is the hardware.

KETR, which recently signed program-

ming agreements with National Public Radio and American Public Media, was newly able to stream their feed as part of the package but did not have the hardware required.

It was at this point that A&M-Commerce's athletics department stepped in to provide the equipment that makes the streaming possible.

"We pushed hard to get the games on air for the season," Jefferies says. "We are in the testing phase, working out all the bugs, and are still tweaking it to become a prime audio feed over the Internet, but people can still catch all the games if out of town."

Jefferies provides color commentary for the Commerce High School Tigers football games.

"They are always fun to watch," he says. "It's high school football in Texas on a Friday night. It's hard to beat."

Fall fun at pumpkin patch



FALL FUN — Youngsters at the Children's Learning Center get ready for the Pumpkin Patch Fund Raiser. Seated from left are Landon Fry, Bailey Abell, and Gus Kilgore. Holding the sign from left are Maria Celeste House, Lane Blackwell, and Timmy Norman. The Pumpkin Patch sale will be throughout October.

In October, the Children's Learning Center will be sponsoring the Pumpkin Patch Fund-Raiser. There will be a large selection of pumpkins for sale and festive fall decorations at the patch on the big parking lot in front of Sikes Hall and close to the west service road of Highway 50.

The patch will open at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 1, and run throughout the month. Hours will be 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays and 2 to 6 p.m. Sundays.

Profits from sales will benefit the children at the center.

Pumpkins will vary in cost according to size. There will be a bounce house available on Saturday, Oct. 15, and Oct. 29 at a cost of \$2 for five minutes of bounce time.

Photographs will be taken on Saturday, Oct. 8, 15, 22, and 29. The cost will be \$5 for a 4 x 6-inch photo in a festive color paper frame.

For more information about the patch, contact Heather Kilgore at extension 5052.

September

- 21 – Lions soccer against Midwestern State, 7 p.m., in Wichita Falls.
- 23 – No refund for a withdrawal from all classes after this date.
Lions volleyball against St. Edwards University, 7 p.m., Field House.
Commerce Bois d'Arc Bash, downtown Commerce. Also Sept. 24.
- 24 – Family Day.
- 27 – Lions soccer against Dallas Baptist, 4 p.m., in Commerce.
Lions volleyball against Henderson State, 7 p.m., in Arkadelphia, Ark.
- 29 – Lions volleyball against Texas Woman's University, 7 p.m., Field House.
- 30 – Deadline for December graduation applications. Student teaching applications due for field-based interns and residents for Spring 2006.
Lions soccer against Metro State, 4:30 p.m., in Denver, Colo.

October

- 1 – Lions football against East Central, 6 p.m., in Ada, Okla.
Lions volleyball against Midwestern State, 2 p.m., Field House.
Men and women's cross country, North Texas Invitational, 8 a.m., in Denton.
- 2 – Women's golf, Hilltopper Invitational, St. Edwards University, Bastrop. Continues through Oct. 4.
Lions soccer against Regis, 1 p.m., in Denver, Colo.
- 3 – Academic advising begins for Spring 2006.

NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of *A&M-Commerce Today* is Wednesday, Oct. 5. Copy deadline for the issue is Wednesday, Sept. 28. Please send your news to mary_hazal@tamu-commerce.edu or by fax to 5522.

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