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Dr. Dean VanTrease

Dr. Dean VanTrease served as President of the Community College of the Air Force for 12 years, and came to the post after serving as President of Hofstra University and Vice President of the Higher Education Council of Presidents. He has served as Chair of the Higher Education Council of Presidents and as the Chair of Community College Presidents. Nationally, he has served as Board Chair for the American Council on International/Extension Education and on the Commission for the American Association of Community Colleges.
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Demand for public higher education in the Tulsa metroplex is increasing at incredible rates. Double digit enrollment is occurring at several of our institutions. Yet, the Tulsa metroplex trails Oklahoma City in per capita students attending college by nearly 20,000. The reason for this difference is elementary: Tulsa started much later.

Until 1970, Tulsa had no institution of public higher education and the state had not chartered a new public higher education institution for 50 years. With the formation of Tulsa Community College (TCC), the pent up demand for more affordable higher education was partially met. The addition in the late 70s of Langston University in Tulsa and in the early 80s the University Center at Tulsa allowed Tulsans for the first time to receive bachelor's degrees from public universities while living at home. Today Oklahoma State University-Tulsa (OSU-Tulsa) and The University of Oklahoma-Tulsa (OU-Tulsa), Langston University at Tulsa, Northeastern State University at Broken Arrow and Rogers State University along with TCC serve the public higher education needs in the Tulsa metroplex.

This Spring, TCC has added nearly 2,000 students. Total credit enrollment stands at 21,000. That represents a single semester growth that is larger than the total enrollment of many small colleges in the United States.

In 1998, TCC offered its first online courses. Several hundred students enrolled. Today, 3,000 TCC students are taking internet courses from their home or office and another 4,000 are receiving education via telecourses. Online education is expected to continue to grow at dramatic rates because of its quality, its convenience, and the ability it affords individuals to combine work, family and education.

TCC has the largest first-time freshman class of any public higher education institution in the state for the second straight year. Why? It took very little time for Tulsans to understand the additional public higher education options provided to them by the Governor and Oklahoma Legislature. But we are still underserving our community in public higher education.

If you add all of the students who attend Tulsa area public colleges and universities, the total is approximately 28,000 students as compared to more than 62,000 students in the Oklahoma City area. If you account for population differences, Tulsa should be serving not 28,000 but 12,000 students in public higher education today.

What if we don't reach our potential? What if the Oklahoma City metroplex continues to outpace the Tulsa metroplex in student enrollment and education? The answers are obvious. For us, this means reduced quality of life - less personal enrichment and growth and a very different Tulsa in the 21st Century.

Tulsa deserves more. Decreasing state revenue and increasing costs for higher education decrease budgets pose a challenging environment for institutions and demands our citizens have for higher education. Students must have to be turned away. It is critical that we are aware of the funding opportunities that do exist and demand Tulsa's share of the revenue pool. We start behind. It will take incredible resources to catch up and improve our community through higher education.

Tulsans want to go to college. They have voted with their feet. The numbers cannot be denied. Each of us, if we care about the community in which we work and live, should speak up and work to ensure that Tulsa receives adequate resources to provide higher education for our citizens and prepare for a better life in the 21st Century.

Sincerely,

Dean P. VanTrease
President and CEO

Dean P. VanTrease
President and CEO
Erik Markert said he “wanted a daily sense of reward” when he gave up a ten-year career as an environmental engineer to enroll in medical school. In June, Markert will complete his fourth year at the OSU Center for Health Sciences and become Doctor Markert. In the decade he spent working as an engineer, he said “it often took years to see the results of my work.”

Like many things in life, Markert’s path to OSU’s medical school resulted from apparently unrelated events. A Tulsa Community College graduate, Markert had received his associate degree prior to earning an environmental engineering degree from the University of Oklahoma. While still an engineer, he again enrolled in a chemistry course at TCC in order to “sharpen” his skills. Also, he needed to keep busy while his wife Barbara was doing a clinical rotation in Harlingen, Texas as part of a Certification Program.

During this time, Markert began to consider a career in medicine. Scaling back his working hours, he took courses at TCC which would meet his pre-med requirements. Eventually, he would become a full-time medical student in August, 1998.

One of the ironies of Markert’s decision to go to medical school after ten years as an environmental engineer is that his father is a 72-year-old practicing physician.

The TCC courses and his instructors provided a solid foundation for the challenge of medical school. “I was able to get almost all of my prerequisites at TCC,” he said. Markert felt that the level of instruction at TCC fully prepared him for his new challenges. “I never really changed my study habits after entering medical school.

“I had some great instructors,” he said. “Craig Baker who taught anatomy was great and his class was every bit on par with those at OSU. And Marvita McGuire who taught microbiology was a cut above the usual.”

Once he graduates, Markert faces four more years as a resident at an area hospital. He said, “I’m looking at adult internal medicine and pediatrics. It’s kind of an oddball residency. Not a lot of people do it.”

Despite the demands of medical school, Markert finds time to spend with his wife and two sons – Conrad, age two and George, six-months. “Friday nights are our family time,” he said. Since his wife is a full-time nurse anesthetist at St. John’s Hospital, these Friday nights when they can be together as a family are very important to both of them.

Markert’s schedule is a textbook study of time management. While in medical school, some other students convinced him to enlist in the Oklahoma Army National Guard where he serves as a Lieutenant in the Medical Corps.
In June, he will become Doctor Erik Markert, a Tulsa Community College graduate who spent ten years as an Environmental Engineer. Markert returned to TCC to take classes prior to applying for medical school.

After graduating from medical school and becoming a doctor, the Army will promote him to Captain.

In addition to medical school, fatherhood, and the Army Guard, Markert is a musician with a recording studio in his basement. He likes to work in the studio in the "early hours of the morning to take away stress."

Markert’s educational path again shows how Tulsa Community College can provide a solid foundation for people who want to achieve their goals and are willing to work toward them.
Counseling Centers Open

Counselors Provide Direction and Sometimes a Shoulder to Cry On

"I set my alarm clock one night, got up and just came to the Southeast campus. I had no idea what to do."

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Lucille Griffin, an academic advisor at the Southeast Campus is representative of the people who work to make the student's transition to college as easy as possible. Griffin is seen as more of a friend than an advisor to the students in her five years at TCC. Students are drawn to her and her reassuring manner. "I like to stay on top of my kids," said Lucille. "When they come in here, I give them enough time so they know all the answers to their questions."

Griffin will even give them her home phone number in case of any problems or concerns which arise outside of normal working hours. However, she tells them, "don't call me after nine and I won't call you before six."

For many, that number is a lifeline they use more than once. The simple act of kindness and genuine concern for her "kids" goes a long way toward creating self-esteem in those students who drifted out of the educational system and are now trying to return.

student's level of proficiency in three academic areas: reading comprehension, sentence structure, and math. Carole Brown, an administrative assistant in the Southeast Campus Counseling Center, said, "Even if you've never used a computer in your life, you can take the CPT."

The results of the CPT are immediately available to the counselors. In this way, students are enrolled in the appropriate level courses without delays. The CPT also indicates if "building block" courses are necessary. Conversely, some students opt to take the CPT to override a low SAT score in order to avoid taking the building block courses.

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Persisting Pays Off
With Teaching Degree for Jessica Wisdom

Jessica Wisdom's name may not be familiar, but anyone who has picked up a Spring 2002 class schedule has seen her. Jessica, along with her mother Kathleen McElwaine, and sister Abbey McElwaine were all on the cover, illustrating TCC's role as a family College.

Jessica, 22, is a 1999 TCC graduate, while Abbey is a second-year student at the College. Kathleen, who is an accomplished artist, continues to take classes on the Southeast Campus.

In December, Jessica realized her goal of graduating with a teaching degree with an emphasis in special education from Northeastern State University. She is now teaching high school in Broken Arrow. Since she teaches at the junior and senior level, many of her students are only a few years younger than she is. However, she had proved herself while student teaching at the Alternative Learning Academy in Broken Arrow.

Graduating from NSU is particularly rewarding for Jessica and her family. Four years earlier, this energetic woman, who always seems to be laughing, came to TCC with a young son and no high school diploma.

She had gotten married while still in high school and followed her husband who was in the Air Force to New Mexico. Life didn't work out as planned, so Jessica found herself back home and making the decision to be a good student, but more importantly a good mom, she said.

"I always knew I wanted to go to college," said Jessica. And she proved it by working full-time while attending college. Fortunately, her mother and father provided help with her son Bradley and Jessica studied nights after he went to bed. Her persistence and determination paid off with honors from both TCC and NSU.

"It's been really difficult, but getting the degree was important. I really felt I was ready for college."

As graduation approached at NSU, Jessica sent announcements to former high school teachers letting them know she had met their expectations. "No one who knows me well doubted I'd graduate," said Jessica. "I just hope I'll be able to influence kids myself.

"Tulsa Community College is an amazing school."

Tonya Kimble, a counselor on the Southeast Campus talks with Melvin Morris, a TCC student, about his plans to pursue an engineering career. The staff members of the Counseling and Assessment Centers on each campus provide students the information and tools to reach their goals.
"TCC instructors understood my goals and provided immense help."

ONEOK
Path to Corporate Success Began With
“One Class at a Time”

Ginny Creveling was an impressive person as well as an impressive student,” said Jim Wadley, Assistant Professor of Economics at Metro. “She was one of the best students I ever had the pleasure to teach in 30 years. She did as much for me as I did for her.”

Creveling, a TCC graduate, whose organizational skills and analytical mind have put her on the boards of many Tulsa businesses and non-profit agencies, would be the last person to tout her achievements, but the sizable number of honors and awards that line the shelves in her office speaks volumes.

A small woman whose soft voice and friendly mannerisms makes everyone feel welcome, Creveling currently exercises her managerial skills as the Executive Director of the ONEOK Foundation, Inc. In this role, she oversees the ONEOK Community Investment Program in Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and more recently Illinois, Colorado, and Nebraska.

Under Creveling’s guidance, ONEOK annually awards more than $2 million through various programs, including the ONEOK Foundation, Corporate and Civic Contributions, United Way, Employee Matching Grants, and Employee Volunteer Programs.

Born in the Philippines to a father who had survived the Bataan Death March, Creveling came to the United States at age seven. Her father had continued his Army career after the Second World War and eventually was stationed at Fort Sill where Kim finished high school as a “Lawton Wildcat.”

After her children were born, she began taking one college course per semester at Tulsa Junior College. Later when her children began attending school, she increased her course load. After graduating from TJC in 1983 with a degree in nursing, she transferred to the University of Tulsa and graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, R.N. in 1984. While at the University of Tulsa, she was named a “Top Ten Senior” and earned a place in “Who’s Who in American Universities and Colleges.”

Upon graduation, Creveling accepted a job as Director of Public Relations at the Westin Hotel at the Williams Center before assuming the responsibilities of the Administrator of Corporate Responsibility at ONEOK, Inc. in 1983.

Using the educational benefits available through her new employer, Creveling decided to pursue an MBA degree at the Tulsa branch of Oklahoma City University. However, she felt that her earlier degrees had not laid a proper foundation from which to enter the MBA program.

Consequently, she decided to again enter TCC to take fundamental financial courses such as economics. “I had no background, but the courses at TCC were very helpful in that they were...”
As jobs were lost due to a faltering economy and the terrible September 11 tragedy, we realize more than ever the importance of Tulsa Community College’s role in Tulsa.

The College provides an affordable and convenient way for those who’ve lost jobs or need to upgrade skills, to train in new fields. We have four conveniently located campuses and offer on-line or television classes.

Since TCC opened its doors in 1970, more than 350,000 students have taken classes at the College. Workforce training programs have been developed for almost 200 Tulsa-area businesses. TCC provides 700 courses, with certification in more than 300 programs, many in health care and high tech fields.

TCC is dedicated to changing lives and serving our community.

As always, the Tulsa Community College Foundation is dedicated to supporting the College in its mission to develop and provide educational opportunities for our community’s most valuable resource: its people.

Our second annual LEAD dinner raised more than $85,000 to provide faculty innovation grants to enhance classroom learning and support student scholarships, College events, recognition awards, equipment purchases, and cultural studies.

On behalf of the Foundation trustees, we want to express our appreciation for the generosity of friends and foundations who have supported Tulsa Community College through donations to the Foundation.

We are honored to be a part of enabling TCC to fulfill its mission.

Bill Mulder
Chairman, 2000-2001

Kevin Vossen
Chairman, 2001-2002

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Kevin Vossen Seek and Friendship for

Kevin L. Vossen, the 2002 TCC Foundation Chairman smiled when he said “I began at the top with Southwestern Bell Telephone in 1981 and have been going down ever since.” Fortunately for the Foundation, Vossen’s descent includes the highly respected position.

After graduating from Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, Vossen landed a job as a pole climber at Southwestern Bell. In the 21 years since first strapping on a pair of climbing spikes, he has descended from the tops of telephone poles to become Southwestern Bell’s Area Manager for External Affairs in Tulsa.

The unlikely road from a pole-climbing, college graduate majoring in Communications and English to chairing the Foundation can be explained by Vossen’s innate need to volunteer. Ten years ago, he approached TCC President Dr. Dean P. VanTrece to ask if he could volunteer within the College. “VanTrece replied, ‘we can probably come up with something for you to do,’” said Vossen. “And he’s been finding things for me to do for 10 years.”

Vossen’s desire to volunteer has benefited both the College and the Foundation. For example, the creation of the Chairman Associates and the LEAD Dinner were ideas Vossen presented to Dr. VanTrece and other members. Both were quickly adopted and became two of the Foundation’s success stories. The LEAD Dinner alone yielded a net revenue of $137,000 in its first two years.

Like many other Foundation members, Vossen sees the Foundation’s function as being two-fold: to create friendship and friendship. “The Foundation brings value to the College,” said Vossen. “It creates an opportunity for fundraising and networking within the community.”
“Fundship the Foundation

“It's important for our members to communicate the value of TCC and the great things it brings to Tulsa... the students themselves, the quality of a TCC education, the high standards of the staff, and the wonderful facilities,” he said. Vossen's enthusiasm and dedication to the College and to the Foundation is clear from the outset.

“Being chosen as this year's TCC Foundation Chairman is the greatest honor for me, and I consider it the highest achievement among the boards I have served on,” said Vossen. "I believe the reason is the quality of the people and the businesses they represent. They are the best of the best.”

Among those “best of the best,” Vossen lists Dr. VanTrease, along with Lauren Brookey, Vice President for External Affairs, and Dr. Tom McKeon, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. He also praises Foundation Vice-Chairperson Mollie Williford. “You cannot have a better person serving on the Foundation or a better friend than Mollie,” he said.

Vossen's background and current position at Southwestern Bell serves him well as Foundation Chairman. As Manager for External Affairs, he is responsible for customer relations, as well as company contacts with government, media, civic, and business development organizations. Prior to his Tulsa assignment, Vossen held managerial positions in Ponca City, Oklahoma City, and St. Louis.

In addition to chairing the TCC Foundation, Vossen has presided over the Tulsa Press Club, the downtown YMCA, and the Tri-County Council on Aging. Currently, he serves as the president of the Tulsa Education Fund and on several boards including the Tulsa Economic Development Corporation, the Tri-County Council on Aging, and the Greater Tulsa Hispanic Chamber.

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The event raised more than $85,000, bringing total Foundation donations since its inception to $500,599.

As part of the evening, Howard Barnett, chief of staff for Gov. Frank Keating read a proclamation from the governor. Lackey once served as Gov. Keating’s chief of staff before joining the University of Oklahoma as president of OU - Tulsa.

Education champion Ken Lackey was honored by Tulsa Community College at its second annual LEAD dinner held in September. He was presented with the LEAD award that recognizes individual Leadership, Excellence, Achievement and Dedication in the field of education.

The event raised more than $85,000, bringing total Foundation donations since its inception to $2.7 million.

As part of the evening, Howard Barnett, chief of staff for Gov. Frank Keating read a proclamation from the governor. Lackey once served as Gov. Keating’s chief of staff before joining the University of Oklahoma as president of OU - Tulsa.

TCC President and CEO Dr. Dean VanTrease saluted Ken Lackey for his commitment to Tulsa and to his key role in developing a new higher education model for Tulsa. Lackey, as the governor’s Chief of Staff, worked closely with college leaders and legislators who worked to develop Oklahoma State University – Tulsa, University of Oklahoma – Tulsa, and the OU – OSU Research and Graduate Education Center. TCC was designated to provide the first two years of a baccalaureate degree in Tulsa as part of the agreement.
Last year's dinner provided funds for the first Faculty Innovation Grant program to encourage innovative classroom instruction and enhance student learning. This year's dinner will also fund faculty innovation grants as well as help support student scholarships, international study for students and faculty, teaching materials, and equipment.

The evening included a video review of projects funded by the TCC Foundation including the new Faculty Innovation Grants funded with a matching grant from AEP-Public Service Company of Oklahoma. Also featured was a recent trip to Israel by TCC student artists and instructors to Jordan Valley Community College, a sister college to TCC.

Henry and Jane Primeaux, were the LEAD Honorary Chairs, and Southwestern Bell's Kevin Vossen served as chairman with Arvest's Don Walker as co-chair. Bettye L. Knight and Susan Neal both chaired committees.

Dr. Barry Epperley and the TCC Signature Chorale provided entertainment, as well as the TCC - Tulsa Public Schools String Quartet funded by a grant from the Grace and Franklin Bernsen Foundation.

TCC's award-winning forensics department received a grant to add debate to its curriculum. TCC formed its first forensics team just over a year ago. Students competed in five tournaments, taking home 33 medals. They also performed in 13 events including dramatic interpretation, radio broadcasting, and poetry.

Foundation funds will hire someone to teach debate and form a competition team. In addition, the program will use local attorneys as mentors and to assist students with understanding the legal aspects of their debate topics.

Another Foundation grant bought equipment to help faculty members develop an introductory course in molecular biology techniques, using cutting-edge techniques in DNA transformation. The equipment will give students a hands-on learning opportunity to transfer DNA. This course will provide a foundation for students who plan to work in a medical laboratory using the most current techniques.

Art students and faculty members also benefited through the largess of the Foundation and its contributors. Funds provided by the Jewish Federation of Tulsa furnished scholarships for a 10-day travel program. TCC faculty members Bill Derrevere and Dewayne Pass, along with ten students, visited Israel to study its art and culture.

The group returned not only with knowledge of different art techniques, but also with a first-hand understanding of life in that part of the world.

During the trip they visited a kibbutz, Jerusalem, and the Supreme Court. They also strengthened the bond between TCC and its sister college, Jordan Valley Community College, located in Tulsa's sister city, Tiberias.

The Foundation continues its support of the DisABLED Student Resource Center and the Resource Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing with funds used to purchase specialized computers, software, and equipment. The equipment facilitates learning for hundreds of TCC students throughout the year.

In addition to these grants and equipment projects, the Foundation acts as the primary resource for student talentship awards in art, music, theatre, and honors. These awards, along with excellence awards for TCC faculty and staff, totaled more than $18,000 last year.
TCC Responds To Rural Health Care Shortage

Solutions Developed by Northeast Area Health Education Center
he popular television show "Northern Exposure" took place in the remote town of Sicily, Alaska. The town didn't have a doctor, so the residents provided a scholarship to a New York City medical student in return for his promise to practice medicine in their town. Although the fictional residents were quirky and prone to satirical situations, the shortage of health care professionals in rural areas is anything but humorous.

Today, many rural areas of Oklahoma are experiencing this shortage. In an effort to reduce disparities in access to health care between Oklahoma's rural and urban populations, the Northeast Oklahoma Area Health Education Center (AHEC) has stepped forward. Patricia Fitzgerald, M.A., the Center's coordinator, said that AHEC's role is to "improve the access to health care by improving the quality, distribution, and supply of primary care providers in rural and underserved areas.

Working out of offices at Tulsa Community College's Northeast Campus, the Northeast AHEC covers an 18 county region with a staff of four. Fitzgerald supervises three Health Education Specialists: Dianne M. Bostic, M.Ed.; Wanda Holmes, M.Ed.; and Gene Johnson, M.A.

Dianne Bostic puts a lot of miles on her car meeting with community members in the 18-county northeast region. Her duties include facilitating the placement of health care professionals such as interns, nurses, and doctors in rural and underserved areas. "Part of my job is to expose these students to the rich quality of life in these smaller communities," she said.

She also sets up seminars and workshops for health care professionals. Recently, she organized an alternative medicine workshop in collaboration with TCC's health program at the Metro Campus. In her role as an education specialist, Bostic continues to build a strong working relationship with the OSU Health Sciences Center.

Wanda Holmes' responsibilities place her in contact with potential health care providers ranging from kindergarten to college students and those already in medical school. Holmes works the same 18-county area as Dianne Bostic. "I track the students until they get in college or medical school," she said.

She talks with and advises junior and high school students as well as young adults about the potential of a health care career. She is primarily responsible for "creating awareness of the benefits and rewards available to those who enter medical professions.

Many of the students Holmes counsels are able to handle the academics but need some help with building people skills. Since the medical professions require people to be able to deal with any number of individuals and situations, she organizes leadership training, teaches organizational skills, and even offers assertiveness training.

Holmes ensures students are given the opportunity to shadow health care professionals in order to gain insight into the demands as well as the rewards of the job. She arranges for individuals to spend time with optometrists and doctors. She also makes it possible for groups of students to visit hospitals to see up close what roles the doctors and other health professionals play in the care of patients.

Gene Johnson's role in the AHEC program focuses on violence prevention and career exploration. Working mostly in North Tulsa, Johnson seeks to educate elementary, middle, and high school students in ways to avoid volatile situations that can escalate into violence. Apparently, his message has had an impact. "Information that I've received from school counselors is that there are less fights and visits to the counselor's office because of students using the alternative way to deal with potential problem situations," he said.

Johnson also focuses on providing interaction with role models for the children. He has brought Monroe Middle School students to the Northeast Campus to meet with health care professionals who share their experiences and answer questions about careers in health care. They exchange ideas with the students while giving them advice on how to handle some of the "hurdles in pursuing an education in medicine," said Johnson.

Although the shortage of health care professionals in rural areas is still prevalent, the staff at the Oklahoma Area Health Education Center hope that their work will inspire students to seek a medical career in some of the smaller towns and communities in the state.
Aviation Maintenance, Airport Management, and Pilot Training Programs Rated Excellent by Students

Beginning with the Second World War, Tulsa has been a city closely linked to the aviation industry. Any time an aircraft lifts off the ground, it represents hundreds of hours of work by skilled mechanics, avionics technicians, ground crews, airport support personnel, and pilots. And for many of these people, the training they received resulted from a unique alliance between Tulsa Community College, Tulsa Technology Center, Oklahoma State University, and the OSU Center for Health Sciences.

The alliance offers students the opportunity to begin their aviation training through Tulsa Technology Center while they earn an associate degree from Tulsa Community College. Those who choose may make the seamless transition to OSU for a bachelor or masters degree. Students entering the program have the choice of three areas of concentration: aircraft maintenance, management, and the professional pilot option.

Laile Neal, a 22 year-old TCC graduate who is now in the OSU professional pilot program, is on track toward an airline pilot career. "TCC is an excellent school. The ground classes have been extremely valuable," he said. Neal earned his private and commercial certificates, including the multi-engine rating while in the two-year program.

"I had looked at other schools and universities, but TCC gave the greatest value for the dollar," said Neal. "The flow through is excellent. It's geared toward OSU and a bachelor of science degree."

Tulsa Community College entered the alliance in September 1992 under the supervision of Dr. Jack Sellers, Assistant Professor of Aviation Sciences Technology. Sellers, who looks as though he could be a fighter squadron commander, had retired as an engineer prior to taking charge of TCC's aviation program.

Sellers feels that students who enter the aviation training programs are making a wise career choice. "The
opportunity in the aviation field is significant," he said. "Although September 11 slowed it down a little, most people feel it's a temporary situation.

"The next few years look good," said Sellers. "The future remains positive because of aviation's role in the health of our nation and the economy. With the safety and security measures being implemented, confidence is building in aviation."

Located at the R.L. Jones Airport, the Tulsa Technology Center Riverside Campus for Applied Science, Technology, and Research opened in 1998. The state-of-the-art facility south of Tulsa represents a commitment to providing the highest standards of training.

The campus architecture features towering, airy, and well-lit corridors between the classrooms. Large photos of military and civilian aircraft line the walls. The impression is that the architects envisioned a future home for an aircraft museum and designated space to suspend aircraft from the ceilings. The cleanliness of the facility is impressive both inside and out.

The main building with its classrooms is attached directly to a large hangar housing various types of aircraft used in training the students. Walking though the hanger reveals the extent to which the schools have gone to provide practical training for their students. In addition to the many small aircraft used for pilot and maintenance training, there's a Boeing 727, four twin engine Army Mohawk aircraft, a retired Navy A-6 fighter, and a Saberliner.

"The opportunity in the aviation field is significant now," he (Sellers) said. "Although September 11 slowed it down a little, most people feel it's a temporary situation."

Directly off the hangar deck is a large room where aircraft are dismantled down to their frames and reassembled as part of the periodic inspection schedules. Tulsa Technology Center uses these aircraft to train students enrolled in the Aircraft Maintenance Technology (AMT) program.

Students entering the AMT program receive their technical training through Tulsa Technology Center. If they already have this training from another educational institution, they can enroll at Tulsa Community College and earn an associate degree after successful completion of the general education requirements.

The backgrounds of people entering the AMT program represent a broad diversity of experience and age. A newly formed class might have students fresh out of high school, military veterans, individuals already in the aviation field, and people seeking a new career. Completion of the program qualifies the student to be FAA certified for an Airframe and Powerplant (A & P) Certificate.

A number of area high school students have taken advantage of this training. Beginning as juniors, students can complete these courses while earning their high school diplomas. Successful completion also gives the student 30 credit hours toward an applied science degree at Tulsa Community College in addition to the A & P Certificate. Sellers sees this as important to the student. "An associate degree means a lot to many employers who want someone with reading and writing skills," he said.

The Management option has been designed for the student seeking to enter the areas of aviation management or airport operations. The program stresses the human side of management, computer knowledge, critical thinking and communication skills. Other courses include science and technology based training. Sellers said "the management option covers any position in aviation other than maintenance or the professional pilot. It provides an entry into the general aviation industry."

A student entering the program under the professional pilot option will have the chance to earn a private and commercial pilots certificate during the first two years. Continuing on for a baccalaureate degree at OSU results in other ratings which enable the student to qualify for an instructor rating. As an instructor, the graduate can continue to accumulate flight hours for additional experience. Those are the hours necessary for eventual employment as an airline pilot.

Regardless of the option a student chooses to pursue, the aviation alliance offers a sound example from the highest standard of training at an affordable cost.

Leilee Neel, a TCC graduate who is now in the OSU professional pilot program, discusses procedures with Dr. Jack Sellers, Assistant Professor Aviation Sciences, Technology.

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TCC welcomes Early Head Start

Emphasis on the Children as Well as Helping Parents Succeed

The Early Head Start Program, which is now part of the Child Development Center at West Campus, provides student-parents the opportunity to take classes while their children are in one of the premier care facilities in the region. Sharon Jordan, lead teacher at CDC, is shown here discussing a child's progress report with Brian Gardner whose son is in the program.

"A dollar spent today will save seven dollars in the future," according to Edith Wilkes, Coordinator of the Child Development Center at West Campus.

That's the economic argument for ensuring preschool children are given every opportunity to "academically and socially advance with others their age." The human side of the argument is that "every child deserves a chance," said Wilkes.

Tulsa Community College, through its Child Development Center (CDC) at the West Campus has joined with the United Community Action Program, Inc. to provide an Early Head Start Program for preschool children at the CDC. In August, the CDC enrolled eight preschool children, some as young as six-weeks, in the Center's childcare program.

Many of the children's parents are taking classes at TCC, so having their childcare needs met onsite at the campus allows them to focus on school while their children receive the best
Children Into Premier Program

possible care. "We wanted to support
the people who were furthering their
education," said Wilkes. "About two-
thirds of the parents are students."

Recently, Brian Gardner picked up
his two boys, Joshua, one-year, and
Jack, two and a half, from the CDC.
Since enrolling his children in the Early
Head Start Program, Gardner has been
able to return to TCC as a full-time
student. The children are enrolled at the
Center for a half-day, four days a week.
The schedule fits his college schedule
as well as his wife's, who works
full-time.

According to Gardner, both the staff
and the program has made a difference
in his future as well as his sons. "Jack
has a little speech problem that
improved since he's been coming the
Center," said Gardner. "And he also had
problems interacting with other
children because he was the youngest.
Now kids let him play and he has learned
aggression and habits. Here the kids are
supervised and are in with other kids in
the same age groups," he said. "It's been
really good for Jack."

Brian, the younger son, has also
benefited by his time at the Center. "It
has the chance to play with educational
toys. He's exposed to different colors,
music, and textures in the learning
process. And he gets a lot of one-on-one
attention from the teachers," said
Gardner.

The normal day for an Early Head
Start child at the Center is 8:30 a.m. to
12:30 p.m. Since nutrition is so very
important to a child's physical and
mental development, breakfast and
lunch are prepared by the Center's staff.

Throughout their day at the Center,
the teachers engage the children in
activities designed to stimulate and
encourage mental and physical
development. Gardner said that they
ensure the children's safety through
experiences and activities that
enhance development. They like to
favorably interact with teachers to ensure
that the best care is received by each
can and prepare them for transition and
transition.

Gardner also noted that the Human
Services and Early Head Start director,
assistant to the Director, is working very
close with Wilkes and the Early Head
Start Community Action Program staff.
Early Head Start also provides services
on the CDC two days a week which
monitor the children's health, nutrition,
communications, learning, and physical
and developmental needs by following
the Federal government in addition to
Brothers, referring any child to the
appropriate agency. Brothers noted how
physical or academic needs take priority
to get them to Early Head Start."

Furthermore, children for
enrollment in the program involved
distributing and informing about Early
Head Start to students parents who were
receiving a PELL grant. However, the
program is much more than day care for
students.

"The families are also provided
extra attention," Wilkes said. "There's a
strong emphasis on parent involvement.

We strongly urge the parents to become
involved in a parent group. Parents of
the children enrolled at the Child
Development Center meet monthly
to discuss their children's progress and
provide input into the CDC and Early
Head Start Program.

And from the Early Head Start
program, we're very pleased with the
benefit of being a part of an Early
Head Start. We've seen that Early
Head Start is working very well
with the children. It's been great to see
more of the children today to be out on
the streets and make progress in their
learning environment.

Wilkes also mentioned that
community is important because it
involves the children with their
parents as well as their friends and
teachers and even the community
caregivers. "And Wilkes is beginning
to think that of them and they are
learning about the community system.

Not only are the Early Head Start
children and their parents learning
from the program, but the CDC staff
and the teaching the program.

Wilkes said, "One of the
improvements in my leadership and the
teaching schedules. We're getting
together an experienced, committed
qualified staff of teachers. In addition
a "career ladder" has been developed
to reward teachers for their experience
work and experience.

As for the impact of the Early
Head Start program at the Child
Development Center, "Empowering
families can make a dramatic, positive
correction to move a population to self-sufficiency," said Ronda Brothers.
VISTEON AND TCC'S ON-SITE CLASSES

"If It's Quitting Time, I Must Be a Student"

Overtime and unexpected or rotational shift changes are something which the professors deal with when bringing the College to the students. "We have to work with them and we're flexible," said Stauuss. Allowing students to take a test during their lunch period is not uncommon for the instructors, but it’s necessary to ensure people are confident they can complete a course once they start. "We cannot operate as a conventional college," Stauuss said.

Having a classroom on-site makes access to computers and instructors convenient for the students. Randy Weatherford, a Visteon employee taking his fourth class, recently sat at a computer terminal in the LRC during his lunch break. When asked why he was taking classes, he said "You can't learn to drive unless someone gives you directions."

Another Visteon employee, Brenda Pelletier, was using the computer next to Weatherford. Last May, she earned
In 1996, the UAW-Ford joint governing body chose the program as a recipient of the "Annual Rise Award" (Recognition of Innovation Support and Excellence) from over 50 plants with educational programs. A check for $5000 came with the award and was used to purchase additional computer equipment.

TCC's presence at Visteon represents one of the successful and innovative partnerships the College has achieved with local business. The benefits are shared not only by the employees and the company but further enhances TCC's role in the community and field of education.  

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David Beaven's job is close enough to the TCC Learning Resource Center that he is able to work on assignments during his lunch break.

her Computer User Certificate and is currently taking an introductory psychology course. "It's a great opportunity," she said. "And it allows me to keep up with the grandkids."

The eight-year-old program continues to be popular with Visteon's employees and is considered a success by the company. In 1996, the UAW-Ford joint governing body chose the program as a recipient of the "Annual Rise Award" (Recognition of Innovation Support and Excellence) from over 50 plants with educational programs. A check for $5000 came with the award and was used to purchase additional computer equipment.

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Art Enclave Offers a Reflection on the Past, Confidence in the Future

The feeling is similar to discovering the little hole-in-the-wall hamburger joints frequented by the locals. Nothing fancy served up, just interesting and enjoyable nourishment for the mind and soul. A similar enclave of serenity can be found on TCC's Southeast Campus in the small art gallery where the works of regional and national artists are displayed.

"The Student Center Gallery at Southeast Campus is a visual statement of TCC's belief in the importance of culture, art and learning in its diverse forms," said Barbara Slagle, Student Activities Director. "It is a user friendly way to introduce students, staff, and community members to art or to cultures other than their own."

Last August, a collection of rare photographs of early Tulsa were displayed in the Gallery. The exhibit represented only a small part of the collection of Beryl Ford, a Tulsa historian who recognized the significance of Tulsa's history in old photographs and newspapers.

Ford offered Slagle the opportunity to display a small part of his collection of 11 tons of vintage newspapers and more than 200,000 photographs of early Tulsa. The exhibit traced Tulsa's history from the days when Oklahoma was the Indian Territory and cattle were driven down the city's streets to the spectacular architectural growth during the 1920's and 1930's.

"We were extremely fortunate to host these important historical materials at the Southeast Campus," said Slagle. "Ford had the vision to collect items others were discarding and hold onto them for view by future generations."

In the past year, the Southeast Campus also hosted a number of traveling exhibits on loan from the Smithsonian Institution's Traveling Exhibition Services.

The photographic exhibit by Barbara Beirne, "Serving Home and Community, Women of Southern Appalachia" told the story of the contributions and changing roles of women in the small towns and quiet valleys of Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, and West Virginia.

The black and white photos, accompanied by Beirne's recorded narratives, related the hardships and struggles of the Appalachian women. "The subjects range from those who survived economic deprivation and devastating personal tragedies to community activists and service providers to doctors, quilters, and teachers," said Slagle.

Last fall the poignant, visual record of the moments and tokens of remembrance left on a chain link barrier at the site of the Alfred P. Murrah Building gave the audience a somber reminder of the human side of the Oklahoma City bombing tragedy, along with the uncertainty of life. The 23 by 27 inch photos, collectively titled "As We See It," featured 31 images exploring the 1995 historic event.

In February, "Vietnam: Journey of the Heart" a photographic collection by Geoffrey Clifford, filled the large glass display cases. A testimony to the beauty and resilience of the land and the Vietnamese people, the photos ranged from ballet students in Hanoi and the mausoleum of North Vietnamese leader Ho Chi Minh to villagers in the rural areas of the country.

The contrast between what many people remember from the time of the Vietnam War and Clifford's present day photographs surfaced in many people. "My mind's images of Vietnam are from Life magazine photographs during the war. Seeing that a country can survive such devastation and once again have beauty is reassuring, especially now in our time," said Judy Leeds, Associate Dean of Communication at Southeast.

Slagle schedules art exhibits for the Southeast Campus Student Center Gallery many months in advance. In April a collection of Native American art, collectively titled "Kindred Spirits," will be on display before being sent to Celle, Germany, Tulsa's newest sister city. The project includes works by three prominent Native American families: the Crumbos, the Stones, and the Tigers.

Then in June and July, "Jazz Age in Paris, 1914-1940," comes to the Gallery. This unique Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibit presents a pictorial view of African-Americans in Paris during a period of musical and intellectual creativity and energy between the two world wars. The presentation also seeks to show the freedom from the climate of racial prejudice in the United States these expatriates found in France.

Although the art displayed in the Gallery may be on Campus for only a short while, hundreds of people will stand reading the words and reflecting on the images. They will get a feeling for the past and the people who have gone on before them... And they will know that the spirit of those people will live on in their lives and the lives of those yet to come.
Focusing on TCC Activities

The Voice, a festival presented by the TCC Departments of Church Music, the Novelle Chorale, and TCC's Children's Choir, celebrates TCC's musical diversity and the importance of music in our lives. Pianist Leonard Bernstein's Chichester Psalms was performed with the TCC Symphony Chamber Orchestra. Dr. John Lingle, TCC Vocal Music Instructor, directed the choir and orchestra.

VanTrease PACE
Community Events

As part of a service learning project, Betty Osara, a TCC student from Ghana, West Africa demonstrates the method of creating a dot painting, a popular art form at Anderson Elementary School. The service learning project is part of an Introductory Sociology course taught by Dr. Damon who spent time in Ghana and other African nations.

The TCC Foundation, students from the College and area schools rode TCC’s bikes in the 2013 Martin Luther King Parade in Tulsa. Dr. D. Christopher Moore, President, along with the message “Reflecting on the Past, Looking Toward the Future,” the TCC Foundation provided the funds to create the cardboard cutout of Dr. King, while American Transfer and Storage donated the base of the brick wall. J.C. Loerts from the VanTrice PACS designed and built the mirror used to frame Christopher during the parade.