

Imprint

Johnson County Community College

Winter 2009

**JCCC's KSBDC
partners to
launch Hispanic
business**



Welcome

to Imprint, a new magazine that replaces the former This Month at JCCC. As part of JCCC's sustainability initiative, Imprint will be primarily accessible online with limited print copies available. Imprint can accommodate more stories and photographs in each edition. Publication dates will be September/October, November/December, February/March, April/May. Imprint is located at <http://www.jccc.edu/Imprint>.

Imprint

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Editor: Peggy Graham • **Photographer:** Bret Gustafson • **Designer:** Randy Breeden

When planning your estate, remember Johnson County Community College. For more information, call the JCCC Foundation at 913-469-3835.

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The Kansas Studies Institute inaugurates its first Kansas Lecture Series with Dr. Wes Jackson, president, The Land Institute, presenting *What We Need to Know to Meet the Sustainability Challenges of the Next Half-Century*.



KSBDC partners to launch Hispanic businesses

Richard Zarate (left) and Whitney Davison, information services manager, Johnson County Library, assist Antonia Perez in his research.

Richard Zarate, director of business and economic growth for the Hispanic Economic Development Corporation, promotes economic development in the Hispanic community every Monday night on his 30-minute segment, *El Momento Empresarial*, on radio station La Super X 1250 AM. The English tagline is “The more you listen, the more you learn.”

Fourteen students followed up on Zarate’s enthusiasm and their own entrepreneurial spirit by enrolling in the first-ever Primer Paso FastTrac program in Johnson County. Sponsored by the JCCC Kansas Small Business Development Center, HEDC and Johnson County Library, the program met Wednesday nights Aug. 19-Nov. 4 at the Oak Park Library. Three men and 11 women, ranging in age from 25 to 49, were in the program with enterprising ideas from restaurants to recycling.

Taught by a certified team of bilingual facilitators, Primer Paso FastTrac in Johnson County is a 36-hour business training course that is designed to introduce business concepts to current and aspiring entrepreneurs who have little or no business experience. The 12-week course focuses on students’ completion of a feasibility/business plan for a business concept.

“You can feel the energy in the room,” Zarate said of students. “When people come to class with so much passion and so much desire to learn, it is very exciting. Our students come here after a full day of work and apply themselves to their assignments. We appreciate the hard work they are doing.”

Student Gustavo Hernandez said, “I decided to take the class because I need to learn more in order to open my own business. I am learning something new every time I come to class.”

Luz Diaz and Lucy Oropeza, certified teachers, enrolled in the class together in order to start a bilingual early childhood education business.

“We know about teaching, but we need knowledge about bookkeeping and license requirements and those types of things so we can maintain our business at a level of high quality for a long time.”

This is the second class of the Primer Paso FastTrac program offered by the JCCC KSBDC and HEDC. The first one was in Wyandotte County at Donnelly College in spring 2009, graduating 13 Hispanic entrepreneurs. Malinda Bryan-Smith, regional director, JCCC KSBDC, says the Center plans to continue two Primer Paso FastTrac courses per year – one

in Johnson County, one in Wyandotte County.

“The JCCC KSBDC got involved in the program because we want to serve a segment of our customer base that we had not served before,” Bryan-Smith said. “By partnering with the HEDC and the Johnson County Library, we are able to tie into the college’s initiative to ensure that diversity, equity and inclusion are key components in all JCCC programs.”

The KSBDC is also part of the Workforce, Community and Economic Development division’s Latino Institute, which was organized in an effort to make sure the needs of the Hispanic population are being met. Primer Paso FastTrac is a product developed by the Kansas City-based Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.

“It is easy for a person to start a business, but it not so easy to succeed,” Bryan-Smith said. “We want to be there in the beginning to help folks so they have the skills and knowledge they need to grow their businesses and create jobs.”

Primer Paso FastTrac concludes with a graduation where students present feasibility/business plans and talk about why their plans are good ventures as part of an “executive summary presentation.” The JCCC KSBDC and HEDC will continue to support new graduates in their business ventures.

The JCCC KSBDC provides free, confidential, one-on-one consulting to current and prospective small business owners in Johnson, Miami and Wyandotte counties. The JCCC KSBDC is part of a statewide network of eight regional centers and nine outreach centers in Kansas and is a grant-funded program under the U.S. Small Business Administration, Kansas Department of Commerce and JCCC.

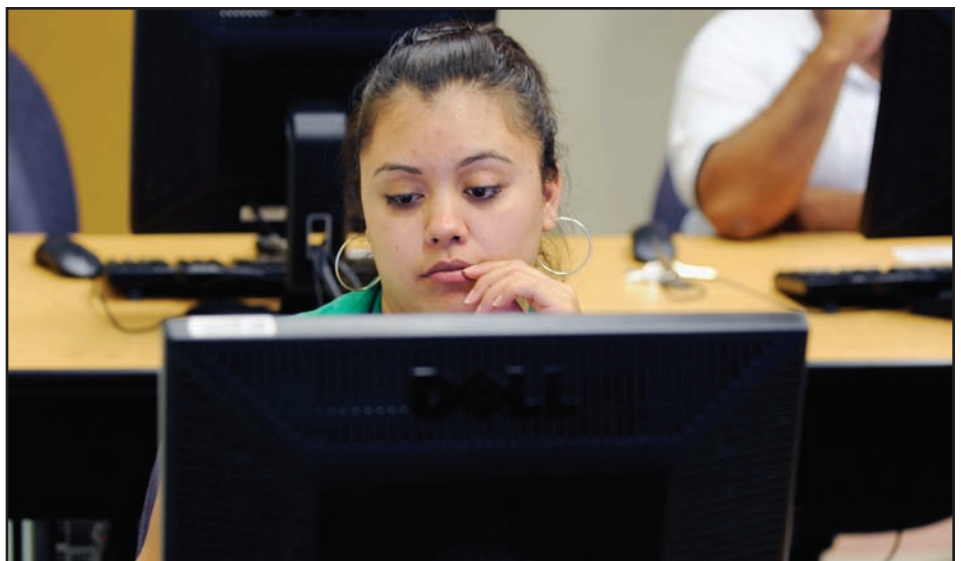
For more information on services available from the JCCC KSBDC, contact 913-469-3878 or ksbdc@jccc.edu or visit the Web site, www.jccc.edu/ksbdc. **Im**



Richard Zarate, director, business and economic growth, HEDC, and Malinda Bryan-Smith, regional director, JCCC KSBDC, talk prior to a Primer Paso FastTrac session.



Gustavo Hernandez says he wants to learn more in order to open his own business.



Sara Ramirez researches business opportunities at the Johnson County Central Resource Library.

Art appreciation “on the go”

Steve Giambrone, associate professor of science, presented the photograph *Drosophila Morgue* by Catherine Wagner through the eyes of a scientist.

Noon at the Nerman is to art what gourmet fast food is to lunch – premium quality, expert preparation, casual atmosphere and gratification in 15 to 30 minutes.

Taking advantage of the nationally acclaimed permanent collection in the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art and throughout campus, Noon at the Nerman offers presentations by JCCC scholars from noon-12:30 p.m. Fridays through Dec. 4 and returns Jan. 29-May 7. Participants meet at the museum information desk.

Initiated by Dr. Allison Smith, associate professor, art history, and Karen Gerety Folk, curator, art education, Nerman Museum, Noon at the Nerman enlists presenters from various disciplines.

“We can use the art on campus for more than teaching students about art – it also teaches us about diversity, creativity, the human psyche, and believe it or not, about science, mathematics, history, politics, etc. This collection is a learning opportunity for the entire campus,” Smith said.

Who knew those fruit flies seen in the photograph *Drosophila Morgue* by Catherine Wagner were so useful in the laboratory because of their short reproduction cycle until it was explained by Steve Giambrone, associate professor of science, the first presenter.

“We can look at how science influences art and vice versa,” Giambrone said.

The next weeks in the museum, Dr. Michael Robertson,

humanities professor, selected Kenneth Ferguson’s platter depicting Adam and Eve for discussion; James Martin, adjunct professor, art history, spoke on utopian architecture and Angelina Gualdoni’s *Slating in Suspension*; and Dr. Timothy Hoare, humanities professor, picked Roger Shimomura’s *Minidoka Revisited* as a reference to discuss Japanese-American internment camps in the U.S. during World War II.

As of this writing, about 30 people have attended each session – more than a third of whom are students.

“I am taking an art history class, *Renaissance-Modern*, and we get extra credit for attending. But I would come to these presentations anyway,” said student Alicia Ashabraner. “These are really entertaining,” student Cassandra Hughes, a student in Larry Thomas’ drawing class, said of Noon at the Nerman.

Tissi Pedersoli, an *Introduction to Humanities* student, says she likes art but isn’t good at interpreting pieces. “The more details the better,” she said after hearing Hoare speak.

“The idea is that this is something people can do over their lunch hour,” Gerety Folk said. “The Noon at the Nerman program will be a more intimate setting than presentations and lectures in the Hudson Auditorium. These will take place in the galleries, hallway or outdoors, creating a more casual environment for small groups to convene and look at a work of art through another person’s eyes.” **lm**

JCCC launches Achieving the Dream



Drs. James Tschechtelin and Ted Wright, JCCC's coaches for Achieving the Dream, brainstorm with Jeff Frost, JCCC dean, mathematics, during an Achieving the Dream session of Fall 2009 Professional Development Days.

Johnson County

Community College is the first and only school in Kansas to join Achieving the Dream: Community Colleges Count, a national initiative to help more community college students succeed, particularly low-income students and students of color.

JCCC is one of 102 institutions – 98 colleges and four universities – in 22 states to participate in Achieving the Dream, which helps participating colleges implement strategies designed to help more students earn degrees, complete certificates or transfer to other institutions to continue their studies. The initiative emphasizes building a culture of evidence, in which colleges use data to identify effective practices, improve student success rates and close achievement gaps.

The Lumina Foundation for Education, which funds Achieving the Dream, has a goal to raise the proportion of the U.S. adult population who earn high-quality college degrees to 60 percent by the year 2025, an increase of 23 million graduates above current rates, according to Dr. Marilyn Rhinehart, executive vice president, Instruction, JCCC. Currently, approximately 39 percent of American adults complete a two- or four-year degree. Each college makes a two-year commitment to focus its efforts on closing performance gaps among students in targeted populations.

“The analogy I like to give comes from my high school band teacher, who said the band is only as good as its fourth-chair clarinet player,” said Jeff Frost, dean, mathematics, and

Achieving the Dream core team leader. “If you can make the fourth-chair clarinet better, the whole band sounds better. This program is not for the first-chair trumpet player. This program is for the fourth-chair clarinet players.”

Core team members are Rhinehart; Frost; Rick Moehring, dean, Learner Engagement; Dr. Ralph Juhnke, director, Institutional Research; Paul Kyle, dean, Student Services; Pam Vassar, assistant dean, Student Life and Leadership Development; and Wendy Farwell, counselor. JCCC has been assigned two team coaches – one to assist with data and a former community college president to assist with implementing a plan.

JCCC's first step is to gather data to determine which student groups are less successful than others and which high-enrollment courses have the lowest success rates.

“Achieving the Dream really requires us to use data to focus on measurable outcomes and be open and forthright about current performance,” Juhnke said.

While Achieving the Dream is about data, Rhinehart says that every number represents a person.

“Every piece of data has a story that can help us understand how we can make the greatest difference to a student. We need to learn how we can take down barriers to student success and give students the courage and confidence to succeed,” Rhinehart said. **Im**

Students reclaim watering holes



COM 319 A/B is due to come alive with student activities in the near future.

JCCC is involved in distinguished initiatives this academic year – Achieving the Dream, reduction of our carbon footprint, a new set of strategic goals, a visit from the Higher Learning Commission and foosball.

Yes, foosball. Foosball, ping-pong tables, computer games and chess boards. This fall, JCCC is engaging students on all fronts, and the remodel of 319 Commons to a student lounge and meeting area offers two more points of contact – student-to-student and student-to-college.

“Dedicating the third floor of the Commons building to students is part of a plan to make JCCC more interactive for students,” said Rick Moehring, dean, Learner Engagement.

Plans calls for an informal student lounge and study area in 319A COM; a student meeting room in 319B that can be used for small group presentations, workshops, discussions, club meetings and faculty-student mentoring; and an expansion of the Center for Student Involvement (CSI) housing student clubs and organizations. The areas will have Wi-fi accessibility, computer outlets, televisions, writeable wall

surfaces and vending machines with healthy snacks.

In its current location for one year, the CSI is hitting its stride, attracting students to clubs and organizations – everything from anime to veterans clubs.

“Students have an obvious hunger to be involved in something; that’s an important part of their college education,” said Pam Vassar, assistant dean, Student Life and Leadership Development. “We feel that combining the recreational lounge, meeting area and Center for Student Involvement will provide a nice synergy for students.”

With the new spaces, third-floor student art gallery and nearby 2.5-level Campus Ledger and ECAV offices, JCCC students are reclaiming space allotted to them when the campus first opened in 1972. With burgeoning enrollment, student hangouts were given over to classroom and offices. Ironically this fall, with enrollment at an all-time high of 20,401 and space at a premium, the college has made learner engagement, and therefore, student engagement a priority. According to Moehring, 20 percent of students say student involvement is critical to their college success.



Rick Moehring, dean, Learner Engagement; Holly Stayton, Student Life coordinator; Mary Jean Billingsley, program director, Learner Engagement; and Pam Vassar, assistant dean, Student Life and Leadership Development, stand in the current Center for Student Involvement surrounded by students.

“We can’t keep singing the sad song that this is a commuter school where students just take classes and go home,” Moehring said. “We want students to create a community here. We want them to see JCCC as ‘their school,’ not just a place to get credits and transfer as fast as possible.”

Remodel of the 5,500-square-foot 319 COM A/B (including the corridor revisions and equipment check-out room) is due to begin late fall. Pending the total revamp, new modern furniture will be moved into 319A COM, slated to become an open casual place.

Because students have a tolerance for chaos, Vassar and Moehring hope there are six to eight activities going on simultaneously in both the meeting and

lounge areas. The name and function of 319A/B will be defined by students, just as the design had their input.

Moehring sees the dedicated space as having the capacity to make fundamental changes in a JCCC student’s college experience, which isn’t just about earning credit hours, but also about reflecting one’s own life and affecting others’. Hanging out with classmates is basic to the college experience. **Im**

DegreeCheck keeps students on track

Nancy Hager and Linda Benevides, graduation analysts, tested the accuracy of DegreeCheck in September.

DegreeCheck, a Web-based product from SunGardHE, will allow JCCC students and counselors to complete an automated degree or certificate evaluation to determine whether students are on track for graduation. The program is being piloted at JCCC by counselors in fall 2009 with full implementation in fall 2010.

DegreeCheck matches a student's academic progress against degree requirements in the college catalog and then generates a report indicating which requirements have been fulfilled and which remain toward completion of a goal or certificate.

DegreeCheck has two other ingenious features – a “planner” so students and counselors can plot future class enrollment and a “what if” scenario so students can see how credits may apply to various degrees or certificates in case they want to change majors.

“This should be a useful tool that gives students and counselors good, accurate information,” said Debbie Young, degree audit coordinator. “And one of the biggest benefits is that students can do the audit themselves.”

Behind the scenes from May to August 2009, Young “scribed” requirements for JCCC's 112 certificates and 55 degrees, using Banner's programming language and syntax. New certificate programs and classes will require continued modification. In September, Young and graduation analysts Linda Benevides and Nancy Hager tested DegreeCheck for accuracy and consistency, and 14 counselors began using the system with students in October.

“DegreeCheck will save counselors a huge amount of time,” said Amy Warner, counselor on the DegreeCheck implementation team.

In the past counselors filled out forms by hand, marking which classes were completed and which were still needed. In some cases where one class can count toward several

categories, the process was particularly time consuming.

“The software is intuitive and knows where to place classes. It saves us time,” Warner said.

The SunGardHE brand name for its product is DegreeWorks, but JCCC gave it the more descriptive name DegreeCheck. For students, DegreeCheck will:

- Provide real-time advice; information is refreshed each night so any changes about grades or classes added or dropped will appear the next day.
- Allow direct access to multiple related services and advice through hyperlinks to catalog information, class schedules, transcripts and FAQs.
- Promise a secured site. Counselors, the registrar and graduation analysts will have varying levels of access to an account.
- Provide a snapshot of academic history, courses in progress and those planned.

DegreeCheck is not an official audit. Students will still need to fill out an application for graduation.

“Implementing DegreeCheck has been a large collaborative project involving records, information services, enrollment management and counseling services that will ultimately benefit the student,” said Marge Shelley, assistant dean, enrollment management. **Im**



Debbie Young, degree audit coordinator, “scribed” requirements for JCCC's 112 certificates and 55 degrees into Banner's program.



Boyle to speak on women and politics, 1880-1920

Dr. Sarah Boyle, associate professor, history, will talk about women and politics, 1880-1920, and the WCTU in November.

Dr. Sarah Boyle

wrote her doctoral dissertation on the Woman's Christian

Temperance Union and women's use of political power in the late 19th century. The JCCC associate professor of history will share her expertise in two lectures of wide appeal, especially to Midwesterners, as part of the JCCC College Scholars Program:

- *Making the Whole World Home-like: Women and Politics, 1880-1920* will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18, in the Hudson Auditorium, the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art. A reception precedes the lecture at 6:30 p.m. in the Atrium.
- *A Feast of Fat Things: The Debate over Partisanship in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, 1880-1892* will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 19, in Craig Community Auditorium, second floor of the General Education Building.


Boyle's research into women's political activism explores the ways in which middle-class white women became an important force for change during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Her particular focus is on Midwestern politics and the ways in which the Midwest provided fruitful ground for these activists to advance a program of political, religious and gender reform. Very often women's political history during the post-Civil War period has focused on the suffragists – a very small fraction of politically active women. Instead, Boyle says the majority of female activists at this time were either missionaries or members of the WCTU. By studying those groups of women, scholars can gain a better

understanding of women's political culture both now and then and women's use of religion and church affiliations to build movements and shape reform agendas.

In her evening lecture, Boyle will look at how the United States began its transformation from an agrarian society into an industrial world power after the Civil War and how women reformers styled themselves as wives and mothers to create a public sphere that was responsive first to the needs of the family and second to the needs of big business. The result of what Boyle terms the "maternalization of politics" transformed Americans' relationship to their government and contributed to the rise of the welfare state.

The scholar's daytime lecture looks at the two factions of the WCTU – Frances Willard, the WCTU's national president, who worked to align the WCTU with third-party politics, v. J. Ellen Foster, president of the Iowa WCTU, who contended that the WCTU should remain nonpartisan and work within the systems for change.

Boyle earned her bachelor's degree from American University, Washington, D.C., and her master's degree and PhD from Binghamton University, New York. Before entering graduate school, she worked for two years at the National Archives researching and writing a traveling exhibit on women's petitions to the government for 1776-1920.

For more information about the JCCC College Scholars program, contact Karen Martley, director, Staff and Organizational Development, 913-469-8500, ext. 3467. 

JCCC offers services to veterans

Roger Patterson and Tara Moseman, work-study students, visit with Kena Zumalt, Veterans Administration adviser.

JCCC was recently named

to the 2010 list of Military Friendly

Schools by GI Jobs, a magazine for military transition. The list honors the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools that are doing the most to serve America's veterans.

To this end, JCCC has in place a network to assist veterans, starting with the Veterans Services office, staffed full time since July 2008 by Kena Zumalt, Veterans Administration adviser. Zumalt serves as JCCC's point of contact for veterans (which includes all active, reserve and retired military as well as dependents). As the VA certifying official, Zumalt's primary responsibility is to administrate the enrollment certification process of veterans to the Veterans Administration; she is assisted by two work-study students who are veterans. Almost all JCCC programs are approved for GI Bill certification, including some certificate programs in Continuing Education.

JCCC is a member of the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges, a consortium of colleges and universities accredited for service members and their adult dependent family members. The college is committed to evaluating and awarding academic credit for military training and experience, transfer course work from other institutions and awarding credit for nationally recognized testing programs. That is where Paula Costello, Testing Center specialist, comes into the network, helping veterans with evaluation of prior military transcripts. Two counselors, Randall Dawson and Phyllis Goldberg, are designated to work with veterans, and Carolyn Foster, counselor, Career Services, assists with career goals.

Paul Kyle, dean of Student Services, heads a veterans advisory team comprised of faculty and staff campuswide.

"This team is in its infancy," Kyle said. "We want to do even more to respond to the needs of veterans."

Keeping abreast of new initiatives and benefits is sometimes complicated for service members as they make the transition from active to veteran status. JCCC is serving as a pilot in a new search engine, VetLink, which will allow veterans to enter their era of service and ZIP code in order to obtain a list of services in their area – including education.

"This is an exciting time to be serving veterans because there is so much we can do to assist this group of Americans," Zumalt said.

The newest education benefit is the Post-9/11 GI Bill, effective Aug. 1 and designed for service members and veterans who have qualifying active duty service since Sept. 11, 2001. Billed "as the most comprehensive education benefit package since the original GI Bill of 1944," the Post-9/11 GI Bill can pay the cost of tuition and fees, not to exceed the most expensive in-state undergraduate tuition at a public institution, monthly housing allowance and a book stipend of up to \$1,000 per year.

Zumalt says veterans have to decide which benefits are most advantageous to use first if they have eligibility for more than one benefit. It may be they want to save the Post-9/11 GI Bill benefit to further their education at a more expensive institution. Zumalt can assist with that decision as well as a new tool on the Veterans Administration Web site, "Which Benefit is Best for Me?"

This semester, the college has awarded 30 JCCC Veterans



Tara Moseman, specialist, National Guard, and Roger Patterson, former U.S. Marine, work-study students in the Veterans Services office, say having earned their education benefits by serving in the military makes them appreciate the opportunity to obtain an education.

Scholarships, given to eligible veterans who attend JCCC within six months of discharge.

"I admire our military students. They deserve excellence in return for their service to our country," Zumalt said. "These are people with integrity."

In honor of JCCC faculty, staff and students who have served in the military at any time, the veterans advisory team has planned a week of events around Veterans Day.

- **Monday, Nov. 9** – Free drink coupons for JCCC Dining Services will be distributed to veterans and active military members at the Veterans Services office, Student Success Center and Student Information Desk.
- **Tuesday, Nov. 10** – Student veterans reception from 12:30-1:30 p.m. in the Corner Lounge of the Commons Building.
- **Wednesday, Nov. 11** – Dr. Joe Law, an expert in post-traumatic stress disorder and Army combat veteran, will speak at 10-11:30 a.m. in the Hudson Auditorium, Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art. The event is free and open to the public.

There will be a luncheon for JCCC faculty and staff veterans at noon in the Capitol Federal Conference Center.

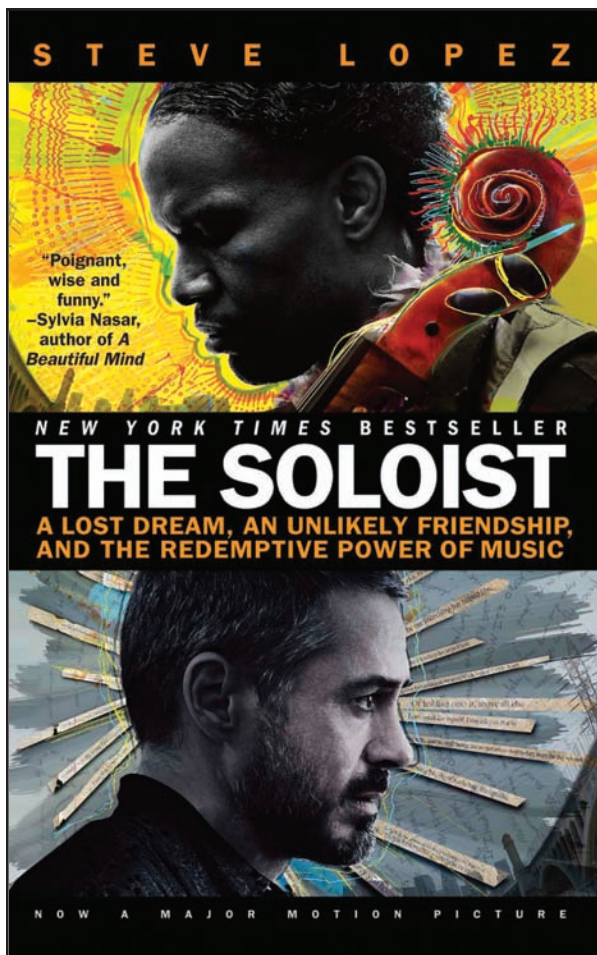
Taps will be played at 11:11 a.m. on the hill in the Commons Courtyard.

Law will also do a presentation from 1:30-4:30 p.m. in the Capitol Federal Conference Center for faculty and administrators who work with veterans.

- **Thursday, Nov. 12** – Continuous showing of documentary filmmaker Larry Cappetto's *Lest They Be Forgotten* series, as seen on PBS, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Craig Community Auditorium. Documentaries are free and open to the public.
- **Friday, Nov. 13** – The JCCC jazz ensemble will perform swing band music from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the north side of the Commons dining room.

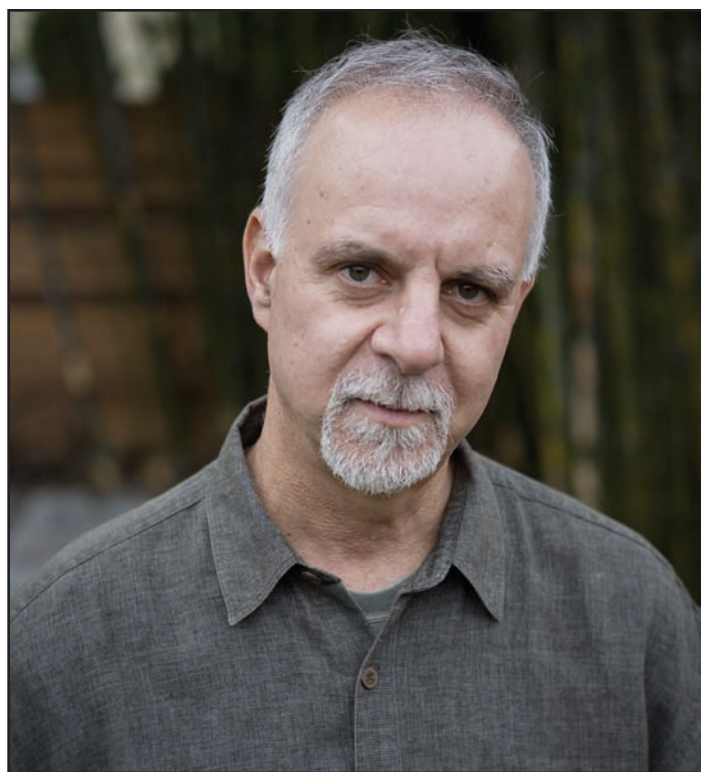
For more information regarding Veterans Services or veteran week events, call 913-469-8500, ext. 3924. **Im**





Scholar in residence

Author of 'The Soloist' to speak



Steve Lopez

Steve Lopez, author of *The Soloist*, will speak at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 5, in Polsky Theatre as part of the JCCC scholar in residence program. The presentation is free and open to the public.

Lopez, a columnist for the Los Angeles Times, chronicled the life of Nathaniel Anthony Ayers, a homeless Juilliard-trained musician with schizophrenia who sleeps each night on one of skid row's most dangerous streets, in a series of newspaper columns. The columns subsequently became a nonfiction book and later a movie released this summer starring Jamie Foxx and Robert Downey Jr.

Lopez joined the staff of the Los Angeles Times in May 2001 after four years at Time Inc., where he wrote for Time, Sports Illustrated, Life and Entertainment Weekly.

Prior to Time Inc., Lopez was a columnist at the Philadelphia Inquirer, San Jose Mercury News and Oakland Tribune. His work has won numerous national journalism awards for column writing and magazine reporting. In addition to his nonfiction book, Lopez is the author of three novels.

The Soloist is the selection for the 2009 community-wide initiative United We Read, sponsored by the Kansas City Library and Information Network. In addition, approximately 20-25 faculty in the JCCC English and Journalism division have assigned the book in composition and other classes during fall 2009.

The book touches on themes of homelessness, mental illness, racism and music. Ayers was trained on the double bass but taught himself to play the violin and has an obsession with the cello.

"In many ways, the most striking thing Mr. Lopez has to offer is his naiveté about 'the system' he found himself suddenly involved with; confronting stereotypes and assumptions regarding mental illness and the homeless and all the human complications that entails are central to his work," said Maureen Fitzpatrick, English professor, one of the sponsors for Lopez's visit.

In conjunction with Lopez's presentation, Student Activities will be showing *The Soloist* (PG-13) at noon and 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 6, in Craig Community Auditorium, and the fall 2009 Ruel Joyce and Jazz series include three recitals featuring bass and cello players (complete schedule at www.jccc.edu/home/site.php/welcome/news/recitals).

JCCC's scholar-in-residence program is designed to bring visiting scholars to students, faculty and the public. Lopez's residency is sponsored by the English and Journalism division, Honors Program, Billington Library and Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. For more information about Lopez's residency, contact Pat Decker, director, Honors Program, at 913-469-8500, ext. 2512, or pdecker5@jccc.edu. **lm**

JCCC hosts 'Public Enemies' author, Bryan Burrough

Best-selling author

Bryan Burrough will present *Public Enemies: The True*

Story at 11 a.m. Monday, Nov. 2, in Craig Community Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public.

Burrough's book *Public Enemies: America's Greatest Crime Wave and the Birth of the FBI, 1933-34* is the definitive account of the 1930s crime wave that brought notorious criminals like Bonnie and Clyde to America's front pages. A major movie based on the book, also named *Public Enemies*, starring Johnny Depp as the legendary bank robber John Dillinger and Christian Bale as his nemesis, FBI agent Melvin Purvis, was released this summer.

The movie *Public Enemies* was shown Friday, Oct. 23, in Craig Community Auditorium.

Burrough is currently a special correspondent at Vanity Fair magazine and the author of five books.

A graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism in 1983, Burrough became a reporter for The Wall Street Journal. From 1983 to 1992, he reported from Dallas, Houston, Pittsburgh and, during the late 1980s, covered the busy mergers and acquisitions beat in New York. He is a three-time winner of the prestigious Gerald Loeb Award for Excellence in Financial Journalism.

In 1990, Burrough and John Helyar co-authored *Barbarians at the Gate*, the story of the fight for control of RJR Nabisco. The No. 1 New York Times best-seller has been hailed as one of the most influential business narratives of all time and was made into an HBO movie in 1993.

Burrough joined Vanity Fair in 1992, where he has reported from Hollywood, Nepal, Moscow, Tokyo and Jerusalem. His subsequent books include *Vendetta: American Express and the Smearing of Edmond Safra* (1992) and *Dragonfly: An Epic Story of Survival in Space* (1998).

Burrough's most recent release, *The Big Rich: The Rise and Fall of the Greatest Texas Oil Fortunes* (2009) enjoyed weeks on the New York Times Best-Seller list and garnered rave reviews. Burrough profiles the Big Four oil dynasties of H.L. Hunt, Roy Cullen, Clint Murchison and Sid Richardson, along with their cronies, rivals and families.



Campus Activities is bringing best-selling author Bryan Burrough to campus Nov. 2.

In addition to consulting work for *60 Minutes* and various Hollywood studios, Burrough has authored numerous book reviews and OpEd articles in The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times and The Washington Post. He has appeared on *TODAY*, *Good Morning America* and in many documentary films.

Burrough now lives in Summit, N.J.

Sponsor for Burrough's talk and the *Public Enemies* movie is JCCC's Campus Activities Board. For more information, call the student activities desk, 913-469-3807. **lm**



Focus Kansas

JCCC launches Kansas Studies Institute

Karin McAdam (right), Prairie Village, visits with Dr. Deborah Williams, assistant professor, science, after her presentation, *Kansas: Exploring Ecology*, the first in the Kansas Studies Series.

The Kansas Studies Institute at JCCC begins this fall with a goal to promote research and teaching on the cultures, history, economics and natural environment of Kansas.

“This is an initiative to more firmly establish Johnson County Community College as part of the Kansas community,” said Dr. Jim Leiker, director, Kansas Studies Institute, and associate professor, history.

The KSI’s first event is a Kansas Studies Series, six continuing education classes taught by JCCC faculty on Kansas topics from September-November, cosponsored by KSI and Community Services.

The Kansas Studies Series features the topics of Kansas ecology, weather, art, dust bowl in literature, ethnic groups and history. Because the series “sold out quickly,” according to Linda Cole, director, Community Services, the same series will be repeated in the spring.

“The series provides a menu to people in the community who want to know more about different aspects of Kansas,” Leiker said. “We’ve assembled top-notch faculty doing research on Kansas subjects like meteorology, ecology and history to teach these classes and reach a public audience.”

In November, the Institute will introduce the inaugural presentation of the Kansas Lecture Series with Wes Jackson, president, The Land Institute (see story opposite page). The Kansas Lecture Series will occur annually with one

presentation in the fall, one in the spring.

The KSI is also producing a 30-minute video on M.T. Liggett, sculptor, Mullinville. The work is being completed by Bob Epp, senior educational technology analyst; Larry Meeker, JCCC Foundation board member; Dr. Allison Smith, associate professor, art history; and Martha Varzaly, adjunct professor, English. While Liggett has been the subject of previous television interviews, including one on the Discovery Channel, this show will focus on the artist and his prairie-populist politics.

Also in the works is a documentary featuring topics from the Kansas Studies Series, filmed and distributed by JCCC’s Video Production department.

JCCC’s regional studies institute is unique among community colleges, according to Leiker. Only Sinclair Community College, Dayton, Ohio, has a similar program with its Appalachian studies.

Leiker says the KSI reaches out to two audiences – Johnson County residents who don’t know much about Kansas beyond the metropolitan area and residents who have moved to the suburbs from rural areas and want to continue a connection to home.

Tentative plans call for a faculty day-long exchange between JCCC and other community colleges in Kansas.

“JCCC is noticeable, visible and big, but perhaps we’ve been too self-contained. The Kansas Studies Institute is an official effort to change that,” Leiker said. **Im**



Wes Jackson to give first address in Kansas Lecture Series

Wes Jackson

The Kansas Studies

Institute inaugurates its first Kansas Lecture Series

with Dr. Wes Jackson, president, The Land Institute, presenting *What We Need to Know to Meet the Sustainability Challenges of the Next Half-Century* at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11, in the Hudson Auditorium of the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art. Jackson's lecture is free and open to the public.

The Land Institute, Salina, was founded in 1976, and has worked for more than 30 years to develop an agricultural system with the ecological stability of the prairie and a grain yield comparable to that from annual crops. Scientists with The Land Institute have researched, published in refereed scientific journals, given hundreds of public presentations and hosted countless intellectuals and scientists. Their strategy now is to collaborate with public institutions in order to direct more research in the direction of natural systems agriculture.

Born on a farm near Topeka, Jackson received a bachelor's degree in biology from Kansas Wesleyan University, a master's degree in botany from the University of Kansas, and a PhD in genetics from North Carolina State University. He was a professor of biology at Kansas Wesleyan and later established the environmental studies program at California State University, Sacramento, where he became a tenured professor. He resigned that position in 1976.

Jackson's writings include both papers and books. His most recent work, *The Virtues of Ignorance: Complexity, Sustainability, and the Limits of Knowledge*, co-edited with William Vitek, was released by University of Kentucky Press in 2008. Other books are *Rooted in the Land: Essays on Community and Place*, also co-edited with Vitek; *Becoming Native to This Place*, sketching his vision for the resettlement of America's rural communities; *Altars of Unbewn Stone; Meeting the Expectations of the Land*, edited with Wendell Berry and Bruce Colman; and *New Roots for Agriculture*, outlining the basis for the agricultural research at The Land Institute.

The work of The Land Institute has been featured extensively in the popular media including The Atlantic Monthly, Audubon, National Geographic, Time Magazine, The MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour and National Public Radio's *All Things Considered*. In the November 2005 issue, Smithsonian named him one of "35 Who Made a Difference" and in March 2009 Jackson was included in Rolling Stone's "100 Agents of Change."



A test plant is pulled to check its root structure at The Land Institute.

Jackson is a recipient of a Pew Conservation Scholars award, MacArthur Fellowship and Right Livelihood Award (Stockholm), known as "Alternative Nobel Prize." He has received four honorary doctorates and in 2007 received the University of Kansas Distinguished Service Award.

The Kansas Lecture Series will continue each spring and fall as part of the Kansas Studies Institute (see story, opposite page). For more information about Jackson's presentation, call Dr. James Leiker, director, KSI, at 913-469-8500, ext. 3673. **Im**

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As of the 20th day of the fall 2009 semester, 20,401 students were enrolled at JCCC, an increase of 7.0 percent from the total of 19,062 in fall 2008. The number of credit hours in which students are enrolled is 173,267, an increase of 7.8 percent from the fall 2008 total of 160,750. These are the highest enrollment figures the college has ever recorded.

Terry A. Calaway, JCCC president, attributes the increase in credit class enrollment to the troubled economy, growth in

area high school graduating classes, and the difference in the cost of tuition between JCCC and the state universities.

"JCCC provides an excellent education for a reasonable cost," Calaway said. "We're seeing more displaced workers in our classes and more high school graduates who are saving money on their first two years of college. They know that at JCCC we do everything we can to support their goals." **lm**