

Sauk Valley Community College
April 27, 2026

Agenda Item 3.1.4

Topic: Spring 2026 Retirees

Mission: Sauk Valley Community College is dedicated to teaching and scholarship while engaging the community in lifelong learning, public service, and economic development.

Presented By: Dr. David Hellmich, Dr. Jon Mandrell, Dr. Patrice Hess, and Pam Eubanks

Presentation:

The College fulfills its mission through the faculty and staff who dedicate their professional lives to being Sauk educators. The following retirees have been among the College's most dedicated staff.

Dianna Brevitt

Dianna Brevitt began working at Sauk in 2003 as a Radiologic Technology Instructor/Clinical Coordinator. She was brought in as an Assistant Professor of Radiologic Technology and promoted to an Associate Professor in 2006. In 2023, she was promoted to Professor. Dianna is an invaluable asset to both the Radiology Department and the College. She consistently demonstrates a positive attitude, channeling her energy into growth across her classroom, the department, and the institution as a whole. She prioritizes continuing education, not only for herself, but also by creating opportunities for students and local practitioners. Sauk extends its sincere thanks to Dianna for her dedicated service to SVCC and the community.

Kimberly Cole

Kimberly Cole started working at Sauk in May of 2014. Kim has become an essential part of the nursing and health professions departments. She is widely recognized for her strong presence on campus, serving as both a dedicated faculty leader and a supportive mentor to students, particularly MSN students. Kim consistently goes above and beyond, assisting colleagues and ensuring that simulation labs are well-organized, fully equipped, and ready for effective instruction. Her dedication to student success is evident in her ongoing enhancement of clinical simulations, which encourage critical thinking and promote the delivery of safe, high-quality patient care. Sauk gratefully thanks Kimberly for her commitment and service to SVCC and the surrounding community.

Amanda Eichman

Amanda Eichman began her journey at Sauk in 1999 as a temporary humanities instructor. In 2000, she became an adjunct English instructor. In 2002, she became a full-time English and Education professor. Amanda is a dedicated faculty leader and educator who provides an exceptional learning experience while maintaining high academic standards. She balances rigor with warmth, humor, and genuine enthusiasm, earning the respect of both her students and colleagues and standing out as a valuable asset to Sauk. Sauk expresses its deep appreciation to Amanda for her valuable contributions and dedicated service to SVCC and the community.

Richard Eichman

Richard Eichman has been a part of Sauk Valley Community College since June, 2000. Richard has been one of the most versatile professors on campus. He is qualified to teach History, Geography, English, and French, and he holds an FAA license to operate and instruct in the use of drones. His willingness and ability to teach a wide range of courses have been invaluable to the College, and his flexibility is deeply appreciated. As a faculty leader in the social sciences, Richard has been a tremendous support to the administration. He is a highly respected and valued member of the SVCC community. We extend our sincere gratitude to Richard for his years of service and dedication to SVCC students, faculty, and the broader community.

Peggy Eshleman

Since joining Sauk Valley Community College in August 2011, Peggy Eshleman has been much more than a staff member, she has been the steady heartbeat of our institution. Her journey through Sauk is a testament to her versatility and the deep trust she earned across every department she touched. Peggy began her career in Recruitment, helping bring new faces to our campus, before transitioning to Human Resources in 2012 to care for the people already here. By 2015, her expertise led her to a position as assistant to the Vice President of Academics and Student Services, and her natural leadership saw her promoted to Executive Assistant in 2018. Ultimately, in 2021, she stepped into her most vital role yet – Executive Assistant to the President and the Board of Trustees. She is an exemplary professional who is highly skilled, dependable, and always does her best. Nothing more can be hoped for in a professional colleague.

Jennie Frias

Jennie Frias started with Sauk Valley Community College in 2014 as an adjunct nursing instructor and became a full-time nursing instructor in 2020. Jennie has become an invaluable asset to both students and faculty. Students consistently feel comfortable approaching her, as she listens attentively and treats every question with genuine care. She often responds thoughtfully, encouraging deeper thinking and reasoning by posing insightful follow-up questions. Jennie is an outstanding assistant professor who has made a meaningful and positive impact on the Nursing Program and the College as a whole. Sauk extends its sincere thanks to Jennie for her dedicated service to SVCC and the community.

Dr. Patricia Fulfs

Dr. Patricia Fulfs joined Sauk Valley Community College in 2007, serving as an adjunct instructor before transitioning to a full-time role in 2015. Her impact was immediate; she rose through the ranks with remarkable speed, achieving the status of Professor by 2018 and, most recently, Professor II in 2025. Throughout her career, Patty has been a steadfast advocate for the Communication Studies curriculum, ensuring her students are equipped with the essential skills to thrive at four-year institutions and in diverse professional fields. We sincerely thank Patty for her unwavering dedication, her service, and the lasting positive impact she has made on the SVCC community.

Dr. David Hellmich

Sauk Valley Community College sincerely thanks Dr. David Hellmich for his unwavering commitment, his visionary service, and the profound, positive impact he has made on this institution and the surrounding community. Through his leadership, programs like IMPACT have rewritten the future for countless families in our valley. He has navigated seasons of change with a steady hand and a servant's heart, always keeping the student, faculty, and staff experience at the center of every decision. Because of Dave's eleven years of leadership, *our* lives have been changed for the better. We wish Dave a retirement filled with the same joy and purpose he brought to these halls every single day.