

Student News

Sauk Valley
Community College

volume 1 • issue 1

SAUK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE • student newspaper • SEPTEMBER • 2016

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Goal: Enhance Education

Welcome to the inaugural issue of Sauk Valley Community College's student newspaper. President Harry Truman said, "You can never get all the facts from just one newspaper, and unless you have all the facts, you cannot make proper judgements about what is going on." Making proper judgments is important to us at Sauk. I am pleased Professor Tom Irish has taken the lead to launch the college's student newspaper, and I am pleased Judy Bell and The Sauk Valley Sun are partnering with us for its publication.



David Hellmich
SVCC President

The goal of this newspaper is to add facts and opinions to the public discourse as viewed

through the eyes of Sauk's students, faculty and staff. This view often will be consistent with mainstream community views as the college's students, faculty, and staff are our neighbors. At times, however, this view will challenge conventional thought as critical inquiry is a cornerstone of Sauk's collegiate experience.

Another goal for this student newspaper, as with all student newspapers, is to enhance the educational experience for the student editors and writers by giving them the opportunity to create a real newspaper. Learning about journalism is not the

same as being a journalist. At Sauk, we are always looking to make education as real and relevant to our students as possible.

Will everyone agree with all facts and opinions presented in this student publication? No. Will I agree with all facts and opinions presented in this student publication? Not likely. Even so, this newspaper will reflect Sauk's value that education is the single best means of improving the quality of people's lives, and in so doing, this newspaper will respect the worth and dignity of all people.

Name Our Student Newspaper; Win Prizes And Honor Legacy

Tom Irish
Faculty Advisor

The next Sauk Valley Community College newspaper will be published next month with a new name and logo designed, possibly, by you!

A contest to create the logo and name is open to faculty, staff and students of SVCC. The design should be tasteful and represent the college in a positive and professional manner.

Design entries must be emailed to Tom Irish at studentpaper@svcc.edu before Sept. 15. Submissions should be a high-resolution .jpg or a vector file such as an .eps file in full color, with an approximate 4:1 size ratio. Please name the e-mail "newspaper contest."

The winning entry will be selected by a majority vote of the faculty advisor and student newspaper staff members shortly after the close of the contest. The new logo will appear on the October issue along with the announcement of the contest prize winner. First prize for the name is a \$50 Applebee's gift certificate. Second place gets a \$25 gift certificate. Prizes for first and second place for the logo are a \$50 and a \$25 Applebee's gift certificate, respectively.

Interested students are also encouraged to participate in the production of the paper as writers, page designers, editors, photographers, administration, etc. The newspaper will be produced entirely by SVCC students and staff advisors.

The student newspaper will be published monthly through a special arrangement with the Sauk Valley Sun and distributed free throughout the campus and the Sauk Valley. The new SVCC newspaper will also appear as an insert in the standard edition of the Sauk Valley Sun, giving the SVCC newspaper a circulation of approximately 28,000. This makes it one of the largest circulations of student-produced newspapers in Illinois.

Address any questions about the paper or the contest to the newspaper's advisor, Tom Irish, at the studentpaper@svcc.edu.

SVCC Facts You May Want To Know

Sauk Valley Community College celebrated its 50th anniversary last year. Here are some facts about the college:

SVCC offers approximately 64 associate degrees and 55 certificates.

SVCC employs 46 full-time faculty and 114 adjunct faculty and enjoys a 21:1 student/faculty ratio.

During the fall and spring semesters, SVCC has approximately 2500 students enrolled in classes.

Full-time students comprise about 55 percent of the total.



About 68 percent of students are under 24 years of age.

The youngest full-time student is 16 years old.

The oldest full-time student is 87 years old.

The ethnicity profile reflects 82 percent white, 12 percent

Hispanic, 4 percent black and 2 percent undeclared.

More facts in next month's issue ...

Faculty Advisor: Student Newspaper Is A Milestone And Opportunity

Tom Irish
Faculty Advisor

As most of you probably know, journalism has had a turbulent history over the past 100 years, to say the least. We no longer live in a world of yellow journalism, scratchy radio broadcasts and pre-teen newspaper carriers.

Sauk's journalistic history has changed a lot in the 50 years since the college was founded, as well. The previous versions of our stu-

dent newspaper, the Voyager and the Redtail, served a number of purposes during their respective times here, and they are remembered fondly by all.

This inaugural edition of the latest version of the Sauk student newspaper is not only a milestone in Sauk history, but also an opportunity. A good newspaper with passionate readers and staff can serve to unite us as a school, and help bring the community to a better understanding of who we are and what we do at Sauk.

Read Professor Tom Irish's Biography ... page SVCC-2

If we want the best from this newspaper, we will need readers. Read the paper regularly, both in the print versions that will be available for free on campus and in the Sauk Valley Sun, and online (coming soon). Also, please recommend the paper to your family and friends so they can get a sense of what's going on here at Sauk.

Maybe most importantly, get involved. Take journalism classes

if you can. If not, join the student organization to write, edit and be a member of the newspaper staff.

If you're not a writer, talk to us. Send us your comments, questions, story ideas and feedback on our work. This newspaper is as new to most of us on the staff as it will be to you, so help us to know what you want or need from your newspaper.

As the faculty advisor of this publication, my door is always open. I will be happy to talk during my office hours (available on the Sauk website), and emails sent to

me with the subject line "about the newspaper" will get my immediate attention.

Officially, I'd like to thank the Sauk Valley Sun for partnering with us. I'd also like to acknowledge the contributions of Sauk's President David Hellmich and Vice President Jonathan Mandrell.

We hope you look forward to reading the newspaper as much as we look forward to producing it.

Tom Irish is the advisor for the newspaper. Email studentpaper@svcc.edu.

CONGRATULATIONS
Sauk Valley Community College
on the newest edition of your newspaper!



FDIC



PROF. TOM IRISH

Profile: Tom Irish, English Professor

Tom Irish, professor of English and recently appointed faculty advisor of the new SVCC student newspaper recalls, "When I began teaching at SVCC in 2005, a student newspaper existed but never endured more than a few years at a time. Yet giving the students an opportunity to voice their opinion and develop the skills of producing a newspaper is a tremendous learning asset. I was delighted with the administration's recent commitment to establish a permanent newspaper and look forward to being part of this important project."

Tom was born and raised in the Quad Cities. He graduated from Moline High School before attending Illinois State University, where he earned a bachelor of arts with a major in English and a minor in writing. He earned his master's degree in English from Western Illinois University in 2001.

At SVCC Tom has taught composition, developmental writing, introduction to fiction and creative writing. He has been the advisor of the student arts publication, "The Works."

Tom lives in Davenport, Iowa, is married and has a daughter and a son in grade school. His hobbies include writing and reading fiction and poetry, playing games, and spending time with extended family and friends inside and outside the Quad Cities area.



This map represents the current campus as well as spaces envisioned for the future.

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Students: Take Advantage of College Services

Sauk Valley Community College is committed to providing students with effective support systems to facilitate their success and empower their learning. These systems and services provide the links to a successful educational experience.

Student Services

The Student Services Center provides a one-stop location for the services most frequented by students, including admission, registration, academic advising and financial assistance. Located on the main floor near the West Mall entrance, the center provides comprehensive information to help students with college processes, planning and decision-making to aid in their success. The dedicated staff in the center can help you:

- Apply for admission and financial aid
- Seek academic support
- Utilize self-service tools
- Make a tuition payment

Advisors

Academic Advisors are available to answer questions or aid in course selection. Contact 815-835-6354 for more information or to make an appointment with a counselor.

For Veterans

Veterans can apply for educational benefits and financial aid. Veterans needing information about which benefits to apply for or assistance with the application process should see the Veterans Certifying Official in the Office of Financial Assistance, room 1G12.

TRIO

TRIO is a federally funded, student-oriented program that offers supportive services to help enrolled participants achieve success. Eligibility for the program requires meeting one of the following criteria:

- First-generation college

student (meaning neither parent has a bachelor's degree)

- Low income – eligible for financial aid
- Student with a disability

Each TRIO participant is assigned an academic coach (advisor) who offers students the kind of support necessary to take them from enrollment through graduation/transfer. Coaches are dedicated to providing individualized assistance that will enhance the academic, professional and personal potential of the students in the TRIO program.

TRIO services are located in room 1D5, under the auspices of Dr. Lori A. Cortez, program director. Call 815-835-6268 for further information.

Learning Commons

The Learning Commons, located in 3L01 and administered by Jane E. Verbout, coordinator, provides tutoring, instructional materials and other academic resources.

The goal of Learning Commons Tutoring is to help meet the academic needs of students by supplementing their classroom instruction with tutoring, instructional materials and equipment.

Normal hours are Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tutoring is regularly available in the following academic areas: mathematics, accounting, biology, chemistry, CIS, statistics, physics, psychology and economics. One-on-one assistance in study skills is also available. Tutoring schedules are available in the Learning Commons. The tutoring service is free, and no appointment is necessary. For more information, call 815-835-6293 or email lac@svcc.edu.

Business/ Career Services

Business Services/Career Services, located in room 3K14, can help in developing skills to market your

education by providing the following services at no cost to all SVCC students:

- Resume writing and reviewing your resume
- Cover letter and follow-up letter writing
- Assisting in interviewing techniques
- Soft skills enhancement
- Job applications and essentials, with resources for job possibilities
- Marketing your skills to potential employers

Career Placement Services has a wide variety of resources to assist with identifying career opportunities for full-time jobs, part-time jobs and internships. Methods to find up-to-date information on the latest job market trends, to acquire work experience and to develop job search skills are offered to ease the school-to-work transition.

For more information call Anita Carney, Employer Services coordinator, at 815-835-6294 or email her at anita.j.carney@svcc.edu.

Disability Support

The Disability Support Office, located in room 1F25, provides special services for students with disabilities while attending SVCC. Students requiring accommodations must meet with the coordinator and apply for supportive help.

For general information, call 815-835-6220. To apply for assistance, contact Sandra Geiseman, coordinator of Disability Support, in room 1F27 or at 815-835-6246.

Business Office

The Business Office, located in room 3K10, under the direction of Melissa Dye, dean of business services, administers tuitions and fees and manages accounts payable, payroll and general accounting for the college. Locker rentals are available each semester on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Call 815-835-6295 for information on tuition rates and payment options. The business office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Library

The Library is available to the entire community.

The SVCC Library offers resources and services to students and employees of the college, as well as residents of the Sauk Valley Community College District, for education, information and enjoyment.

All current students and employees have a library account that is activated when the individual obtains a library card. Accounts

are active during academic terms and may be extended between terms at the request of the individual. Students and employees may borrow books, magazines and journals, videos and music from the library; request items through interlibrary loan; and access online resources, such as eBooks and research databases, from off-campus.

All residents of the Sauk Valley Community College District who are at least 16 years old and who hold a valid driver's license or other state-issued I.D. are eligible for a free library card. Cards may be renewed on an annual basis pending proof of continued residence.

The library is open on the following days and times:

- Fall and Spring Semesters: Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Summer Session: Monday through Thursday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

A trained staff is available to help with your inquiry.

815-835-6247
Email lrc@svcc.edu
Melanie Armstrong, Director (ext. 306); melanie.s.armstrong@svcc.edu

Linda Dhaese, Coordinator of Technical Services (ext. 210); linda.s.dhaese@svcc.edu

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Skyhawk Head Coaches and Athletics Director share the well-earned Arrowhead Conference All-Sport Award for the second year in a row last year. Pictured (l-r) are Christopher Davis, baseball; Jay Howell, volleyball; Sarah Kipping, tennis; Russ Damhoff, athletics director and men's basketball; Noel Aponte, softball; Jed Johnson, golf and women's basketball; and Mike Sullivan, cross country.



Sports Expected To Continue To Do Well

Len Michaels
Sauk Valley Sun Liaison

The mythical Skyhawk bird is a strong, fast, driven creature that is fierce yet cooperative with others. This can be said of our athletes, as well. We take pride in our athletics as we offer 10 sports (five men's and five women's) at the highest level of the National Junior

College Athletic Association (NJCAA) competition. Programs are sponsored for baseball, basketball, softball, golf, volleyball and tennis.

President of SVCC, Dr. David Hellmich commented: "The philosophy of Skyhawk Athletics is reflected in the words of long-time Athletics Director, Russ Damhoff, who stresses the importance of values like teamwork, mental tough-

ness, focus and the ability to overcome obstacles.

"The depth of talent displayed by our teams is impressive. But, I am most proud of the important balance our student-athletes strike between work in the classroom and on the fields of play. The athletics staff strives to ensure that the Sauk experience is challenging and rewarding... both athletically and academically.

"In 2015-16, Skyhawk Athletics had one, if not the best year in the college's 50-year history. This will be tough to top, but I have every confidence that the very values I mentioned earlier—teamwork, mental toughness, focus and the ability to overcome obstacles—will carry our student-athletes and Skyhawk Athletics to victory once again."

Athletics Director Russ Damhoff concurred: "After a record-breaking 50th anniversary season in 2015-16 that saw every fall sport send either individuals or teams to the NJCAA Nationals, watch for the Skyhawks to do more of the same in 2016-17.

"It will be exciting watching our Skyhawk athletes and teams give us special performances again this season. As a Skyhawk fan, your ongoing support at our events gives our student-athletes a big advantage over the opposition."

Online Learning System Upgraded As Demand For Online Courses Increases

All online courses at SVCC now employ the Canvas Learning Management System, which replaces the previous Moodle System.

Known for easy navigation and convenient mobile applications, Canvas provides instructors with innovative tools for audio and video integration, discussions, assessment, grading and more. Through open, usable, cloud-based technologies, Canvas enables easy integration of the content, tools and services that teachers need and students want.

Sauk students can utilize both Android and IOS devices, including cell phones and tablets to view courses and grades, view and submit assignments,

participate in course discussions and take quizzes. Course instructors can utilize new audio and video features to make class announcements, deliver instructions about assignments and provide personal, individualized comments regarding student work.

For more information about SVCC's transition to Canvas, contact Greg Noack, 815-835-6434, gregoryrnoack@svcc.edu.

The administration aggressively evaluates evolving teaching technologies such as online courses as important factors in the institution's continuing growth. However, the traditional classroom learning setting will most likely remain the primary learning platform for the foreseeable future.



Construction Continues
... and WHEN did they say this would be finished?

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Student News

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Faculty Editorial Advisor: Tom Irish, Professor of English, SVCC
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