

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meet "SimMan" Page 1
 Alcohol/Drug Abuse Awareness Week Page 1
 From the President's Desk Page 2
 Burnett nominated Page 2
 Ed Costello Success Story Page 3
 Police Car used for Training...Page 4
 In the Spotlight Faculty/Staff Page 4

ON THE CALENDAR

August Nursing Program Application Deadline (LPN)	Mar. 5
Save-Life-Tour Presentation	Mar. 7 8:30 a.m.
TRiO Trip to Murray's Dinner Playhouse	Mar. 7 6:00 p.m.
Outlook Workshop, B307	Mar. 9 1:00 p.m.
Alcohol/Drug Abuse Awareness Week Activities	Mar. 12-16
"The Oxygen Project" Presentation, A300	Mar. 12 9:30 a.m.
Advanced Word Workshop, B306	Mar. 13 2:00 p.m.
TRiO—Show Me the Money, Lecture Hall	Mar. 14 11:00 a.m.
Split Second Decision Presentation, A300	Mar. 14 10 & 12:30
Strength Team Assembly Presentation, A300	Mar. 15 12:00
Spring Break	Mar. 19-23
Automation Fair, Lecture Hall	Mar. 27 8A-7:30P
OTC Board Meeting, Board Room	Mar. 27 5:00 p.m.
TRiO—Best Foot Forward, Board Room	Mar. 28 11:00 a.m.
Student Response System Workshop, B307	Mar. 30 1:00 p.m.
Malvern/HSC Chamber TV Auction (OTC & Ch. 13)	April 3 6:00-10:00
AR LPN Association's Spring Competition for students	April 3 & 4

Meet "SimMan" Laerdal Manikin

purchased by The Perkins Foundation by Gerald Songer

Close to 100,000 Americans die each year as a result of medical errors. This is more than the amount of deaths caused each year by motor vehicle accidents (43,458), breast cancer (42,297), and AIDS (16,516) added together, or equivalent to a full jumbo jet crashing each day for over a full year! Several other comparisons can be made, but whatever way the situation is illustrated it is clear that the problem is significant. (*Institute of Medicine in the United States*)

Health care is not as safe as it should be. A substantial body of evidence points to medical errors as a leading cause of death and injury. The errors have a wide range of implications; from nursing errors to physician errors, even to the point of environmental errors. The common initial reaction when an error occurs is to blame someone. However, a single event or errors are due most often to the convergence of multiple contributing factors. Blaming an individual does not change these factors



and the same error is likely to recur. Preventing errors and improving safety for patients requires a system approach in order to modify the conditions that contribute to errors. People working in health care are among the most educated and dedicated workforce in any industry. The problem is not bad people; the problem is that the system needs to be made safer.

A concept that has been around in nursing for many years has a new face to it; it's called SimMan. This portable and a highly advanced patient simulator enables the students to have realistic training and gain

experiences for the practice of teamwork, leadership and communication skills without the injury or death of human life. SimMan provides simulation-based education to challenge and test students' clinical and decision-making skills during realistic patient care scenarios.

Having the nursing students utilize the SimMan, they have the opportunity to put class theory into practicum. Skills such as giving a bath, doing range of motion, giving injections of medication, enema's, insertion of a nasogastric tube, insertion of a Foley catheter, doing wound care, tracheostomy care, oxygen therapy, assessment skills, and vital signs can be performed without the cues and prompts of the instructor, as SimMan can talk to the students!

The SimMan has been educationally effective for learning core clinical, communication and teamwork skills through simulation. Our limitations are ourselves.

OTC observes Alcohol/Drug Abuse Awareness Week

MARCH 12—16: ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE AWARENESS WEEK

Monday, March 12

9:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m. The Oxygen Project — A Collegiate Tobacco Prevention Initiatives program. The program goal is to reduce tobacco use by students, faculty and staff.

Tuesday, March 13

Several table displays from various state and local prevention agencies will be set up in the front foyer and hallway. The OTC SGA will provide lunch and t-shirts to all students, faculty, and staff.

Wednesday, March 14

Table displays continue. T-shirts handed out and lunch will be provided. 10:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Presentation of the Split Second Decision Program, sponsored by the Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission. This program will link the possible spinal cord injuries as consequences of abuse.

Thursday, March 15

12:00 p.m. Presentation of the "Strength Team", tailored for college-age students. Topics include drugs, alcohol, bullying, violence and the importance of education. The Strength Team's Goal is to empower students against abuse.

Friday, March 16

8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. American Red Cross Blood Drive (mobile unit in front of campus)

Ouachita Technical College will hold its annual Alcohol/Drug Awareness program during the week of March 12—16. This date is most significant in that OTC's spring break follows one week later, March 19—28. The program is held in hopes that the students will learn more about consequences and develop positive attitudes relevant to abuse. All activities are scheduled during the week of March 12—16 with one exception. The Save Life Tour is scheduled for Wednesday, March 7. Information about this program will be posted at various locations on campus.

If you are interested in learning more about the program or the week's activities, contact Vaughn Kesterson at 501-337-5000, ext. 1117.

From the President's Desk



"...A majority of new OTC students are, on average, 28-year-old young adults with children and jobs."

One of the biggest disappointments our faculty and staff have is learning that one of our students has had to drop out before graduating and achieving his or her dream. The College is now doing a lot of extra things that help students stay in school until graduation.

One of the biggest reason students do not succeed is that they are not prepared for college work when they start. College students right out of high school who have completed the new Next Step high school curriculum are more prepared for college than ever before. However, a majority of new OTC students are, on average, 28-year-old young adults with children and jobs. They have been out of school for ten years or more and have forgotten how to read, write, compute, and study. Eighty percent of new students have to take developmental math

and over fifty percent have to take developmental reading, grammar, and writing. Almost two-thirds have to take both developmental math and literacy courses. And, the biggest challenge is this - new students who have to take two or more developmental courses seldom succeed in any college unless they become fully engaged in several student success activities.

The student engagement activities that are proven to help students succeed in college are mostly things students do outside the classroom. The student engagement activities that are proven to help students succeed include:

1. Tutoring and other supplemental instruction,
2. Being a member of a "First Year Interest Group" or other type of learning community that meets once or twice a week for at least an hour a week,
3. Participates in a study group with "study buddies" to work on

assignments, homework and test preparation together, 4. Sees a faculty advisor at least monthly and has frequent contact with their teachers outside of class, 5. Firms up an appropriate career choice consistent with their interests, skills and personality (OTC offers free career assessments and counseling), 6. Has very good class attendance, completes homework without fail, and asks teachers for help when it is needed, and 7. Visits with teachers or counselors whenever they get discouraged and begin to think about dropping out.

All of these student engagement services and resources are available at no cost by a very caring and professional faculty and staff.

Burnett nominated to TRiO Hall of Fame

Tonia Burnett, a student at Ouachita Technical College,



Tonia Burnett

was recently nominated into the TRiO Hall of Fame. Tonia was presented her award on February 24th during state TRiO Day at Pulaski Technical College. Tonia will graduate

from OTC in May and plans to transfer to UAMS or UALR.

Tonia was hesitant to return to school; however, she wanted to be an educational role model for her young sons. Because of her age, Tonia had learning environment insecurities, but says, "thanks to TRiO, I am pursuing my dream. The services TRiO provides gave me confidence in myself. I've found writing abilities I never knew I had. I learned to survive and even do well in college algebra, and I'm now a math tutor. Some

day I hope to get a Master's degree in psychology and be a motivational counselor."

During the award ceremony, Tonia was given a certificate and medallion. Her biography and picture will be shown in Washington, DC when TRiO directors meet with Congress on March 13th.

OTC Served as Springboard for Costello

After receiving his Technical Certificate in Nursing from Ouachita Technical College in 1989, Ed Costello continued on to receive his Associate Degree in Nursing from Regents College of the University of the State of New York, Bachelor of Arts Degree from Excelsior College of New York, and Ed ultimately became a graduate of the physician assistant program at the University of North Dakota, School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

He practiced as an LPN for 4 years, then as an RN for 10 years as an Emergency department nurse and nurse educator. During that time he was very active with the American Heart Association as an instructor and instructor trainer. After

completing the Physician Assistant program, he was licensed by the Arkansas State Medical Board as a physician assistant and entered practice with Drs.

Shane Higginbotham and Ab Tilley at Pinnacle Physician's Group. He is currently practicing family medicine. He also maintains licensure as a Registered Nurse.

While attending Ouachita Technical College in 1989, Ed was awarded the Outstanding Student Award, and received scholarships from Hot Spring Co. Medical Center Auxiliary, and the Daughters of The American Revolution.

OTC Graduate and Physician Assistant Ed Costello



Ed is an usher, as well as a Sunday School teacher and a youth group leader at Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in

Malvern.

Ed credits his entry level nursing education at Ouachita Technical College as the springboard that led to his successful healthcare career. He often encourages others, men and women, young and old, to seek their entry level nursing education at OTC and other 2-year institutions.

Ed ... encourages others, men and women, young and old, to seek their entry level nursing education at OTC.

OUACHITA TECHNICAL COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Pete Paladino.....Chair
 Don Tackett..... Vice-Chair
 Ray OllarSecretary
 Dale Jenkins
 Jimmy Lea
 Kristi Norris
 Bill Stilwell

OUACHITA TECHNICAL COLLEGE FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Floyd Parker.....Chair
 Kinney Black.....Vice-Chair
 Dee Edie
 Joe Keith
 Pete Paladino
 Tom Poston
 Fred Smith
 Bill Stilwell
 Darrel Teeter
 Don Walsh

OUACHITA TECHNICAL COLLEGE FOUNDATION GIFT FORM

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____
 E-mail Address _____ Today's Date _____

GIFT DESIGNATION:

I would like my gift to be designated for:

Unrestricted—Please use where the need is greatest
 Instructional Technology Center
 Scholarship Endowment (Matched dollar for dollar by Title III grant funds)

My total tax-deductible one-time gift **OR** five-year pledge for the Major Gifts Campaign in support of the Ouachita Technical College Foundation is \$ _____.

I choose to fulfill my gift/pledge:

In full with a payment of \$ _____. My check made payable to OTC Foundation **OR** cash is enclosed **OR** I wish to donate via credit card. I would like to use my:
 VISA MasterCard Discover Card # _____
 Expiration Date _____ Signature _____

\$ _____ per year for the next five years for a total \$ _____ five-year pledge.
 Signature _____

The College understands that you reserve the right to alter this commitment due to unforeseen causes.

OUACHITA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

One College Circle

Malvern, AR 72104

Phone: 501-337-5000

Fax: 501-337-9382

E-mail: info@otcweb.edu



Changing Lives...Building Futures!



Police Car used for Training & Security

On the list of required material for the new Ouachita Area Career Center Criminal Justice Program was a retired police vehicle to be used for training purposes. After purchasing a 1998 Crown Victoria, Criminal Justice instructor, Mike Dinger, wanted to simulate as authentic a vehicle as possible and solicited blue lights, a siren/PA system and a police radio as donations from area police agencies. The vehicle's main use is to simulate traffic stops as required by the Criminal Justice curriculum. In addition, the car is also used in the evenings by the night security on-campus officer as he performs his duties in keeping the college's faculty, staff, and students safe while walking to their vehicles in the evenings.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

CLARK D. ALLEN "CORKY"

PHYSICAL PLANT MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR



Started at OTC in April 1990—full time.

My job responsibilities include physical plant maintenance, supervise part-time workers, over custodial.

My family includes Robert-38, Thomas-36, James-34, Heather-32, Josh-29, Joanna-23, Amanda-21, and spouse Lacea Allen.

The last book I read was Louis L'Amour.

One thing that people might not know about me is when I came to OTC I was a high school drop out and I got my GED at age 40.

As a child, I wanted to be (I'm still waiting to grow up) when I grew up.

My favorite thing about OTC is that it is one large family.

My dream vacation would be to take my wife back to Japan where we met.

My first vehicle was a 1937 Chevrolet.

My favorite food is pinto beans and cornbread.

My favorite thing to do in my spare time is camp.

The farthest I have traveled is Australia.

My biggest pet peeve is someone not doing their job or giving 100%.

With one hour of free time I would take a nap in my recliner.

My favorite thing to do on a Saturday is fishing and camping.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

MARVIN SCHULTZ

INSTRUCTOR OF HISTORY



Started at OTC in August 1994

My job responsibilities include teaching courses in civilization, American history, and Arkansas history.

My family includes Shelia and her family and my brother Pete and his family.

The last book I read was *Forrest Gump*.

My dream vacation would be Tahiti.

My favorite food is Mexican Dinner at Fuentes Café in San Angelo, Texas.

One thing that people might not know about me is as a child I lived in Hawaii and Germany.

As a child, I wanted to be a fire truck when I grew up.

My favorite thing to do in my spare time is work in the garden.

My first vehicle was a 1949 Dodge.

With one hour of free time I would hike the Gulpha Gorge trail.

The furthest I have traveled is Portland, Oregon.

My favorite thing to do on a Saturday watch the Horned Frogs and the Razorbacks play and, I hope, win.

My favorite thing about OTC is graduation.

My biggest pet peeve is unsafe and inconsiderate drivers.