

The Official Community Newsletter for Collin College



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NASA selected 11 Collin College students as Community College Aerospace Scholars. The students participated in a three-day, Mars-exploration project, designed for science and engineering students, at the Johnson Space Center.

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Susan Licker had already earned a master's degree in food science from Cornell University. But when she wanted to broaden her expertise with skills she could use in her job in product development at Frito-Lay Inc. in Plano, she turned to Collin College.

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Student HIGHLIGHTs

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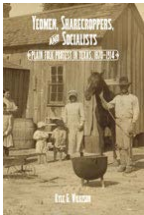
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Prestigious book award for Collin professor

Dr. Kyle G. Wilkison received the 2008 T.R. Fehrenbach Award for his book *Yeomen, Sharecroppers, and Socialists: Plain Folk Protest in Texas, 1870-1914* from the Texas Historical Commission.

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Did you know?

Learn about students attending college during high school, alumni starring on television and nursing excellence.

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Dr. Peggy Brown

As a 22-year teaching veteran, Dr. Peggy Brown's enthusiasm for her profession and students shines through in her efforts to "nurture, inspire, challenge and engage" her students.

The English and humanities professor's idealistic spirit caught the attention of the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation recently, which awarded her the 2009 Piper Professor award for superior teaching at a Texas college or university. Dr. Brown is the fifth current employee at Collin College to win a Piper award, and her win makes back-to-back honorees for Collin College as Dr. Rosemary Karr was named a Piper Professor in 2008.

"We are extremely proud of Dr. Brown's achievement and believe that it is indicative of the quality professors at Collin College," said Dr. J. Robert Collins, chair of the Collin College Board of Trustees. "She is an inspiration and is deserving of this honor."

Supporting her nomination were "beautifully written" letters from students, including a former student who now teaches at Collin College.



"The Piper is a dream that I didn't even dare to have," said Dr. Brown, a mother of four who was a first-generation college student. "I don't think a lot about awards. I just love what I do."

Many of the new programs that Dr. Brown has helped introduce over the years were created out of a need, she said. During her tenure, she introduced an honors English class to the Collin curriculum, started a literary journal that features literature and art from the college community and organized a series of literary coffee houses to showcase local poets

About the Piper

The Piper Professor Award is a program of the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation. Begun in 1958, the award honors outstanding Texas professors from two and four-year colleges and universities, public and private.

Collin College Piper Professors

Dr. Peggy Brown
Dr. Rosemary Karr
Scott Yarbrough
Gary Hodge
Dr. Lynn Jones

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and musical groups. She also chaired a day-long best practices workshop for Collin County middle school and high school English teachers and conducted a workshop for Plano ISD English teachers.

Dr. Peggy Brown earned her bachelor and master of arts degrees from The University of Texas at Dallas (UT-Dallas). In 1990, she completed her doctorate in the arts and humanities with a focus in translation from UT-Dallas.

“We are very proud of this significant accomplishment and all the achievements of our outstanding faculty,” said Collin College president Cary A. Israel. “A hearty CONGRATULATIONS to Dr. Brown.”

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Back row, from left: Mathematics professor Tom Mobley, Jason Wade, Yacob Getachew, Kyle Roberds, Ying Huang, Jeannette Baillie and Michael Stelzenmuller. Front row, from left: Landon Elfenbein, Joseph Coleman, Vincent Nguyen, Alexandria Bradley, Jeremy Jennings and physics professor Greg Sherman.

NASA selected 11 Collin College students as Community College Aerospace Scholars. The students participated in a three-day, Mars exploration project, designed for science and engineering students, at the Johnson Space Center.

With the guidance of Collin College Physics Professor Dr. Greg Sherman and Mathematics Professor Tom Mobley, the student teams formed companies, created robotic drawings, built prototype rover robots, managed budgets and presented their products.

Competing with close to 300 students and mentors from cities across Texas, Mobley and students Yacob Getachew and Kyle Roberds were members of the winning team. While both students were instrumental in robot design, Getachew also created graphic images, and Roberds prepared documentation. Collin College students Jeannette Baillie, Alexandria Bradley, Joseph Coleman, Landon Elfenbein, Ying Huang, Jeremy Jennings, Vincent Nguyen, Michael Stelzenmuller and Jason Wade also participated in the program.

Collin College students had the opportunity to hear first-hand stories from the former Challenger flight director and view Apollo's mission control and Building 9, which houses mock-ups of the international space station, shuttles and prototypes of moon rovers. One highlight of the trip was the opportunity to observe astronauts at work in the neutral buoyancy laboratory which holds 6.2 million gallons of water, "the biggest swimming pool in the world," according to Mobley.

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However in 2006, the former Collin College student graduated No. 1 in his class at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston and became the outstanding student in a class of 175 at one of the country's top medical schools.

Now 32, Lemaire is finishing the third year of a four-year psychiatry residency, and he was recently selected as one of a group of 15 psychiatric residents from across the country to participate in a two-year fellowship with the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry, a prominent think tank that meets twice each year in White Plains, N.Y.



Dr. Chad Lemaire

Lemaire credits a number of extraordinary teachers for his success, starting with his high school chemistry teacher and continuing through Lemaire's 2000-2001 study at Collin College, where he took medical school prerequisite courses.

Lemaire said the quality of the instruction at Collin College was impressive. He recalled that not only were Dr. Fred Jury and Dr. Amina El-Ashmawy great chemistry professors, but the courses prepared him well for a strong showing on the medical school entrance exam.

Dr. El-Ashmawy was not surprised that Lemaire ranked first in his medical school class. She said she was impressed by his level-headedness, work ethic, intellect and caring nature.

Lemaire is a "warm, bright, mature, motivated young man," she wrote in a medical school recommendation letter. "He had his own standards by which he measured himself," she wrote, citing his "tremendous intellectual ability in terms of problem solving and creative thinking, both in lecture and in lab."

At the time he attended Collin College, Lemaire was working full time as a pediatric oncology nurse at Medical City Dallas Hospital. The young patients there were at the heart of his decision to enter medical school. He initially planned to become a pediatric oncologist.

"I really felt inspired on a deep personal level by working with the children, especially the children with cancer," he said. "I give them credit for moving me in such a profound way to want to do something great for people with my own life," Lemaire said.

Initially, the idea of attending medical school was intimidating, Lemaire said, although he became convinced that it was the right way for him to make the best use of his talents and ability to work well with people.

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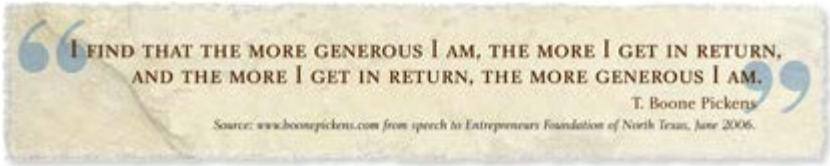
"Not only were Dr. Fred Jury and Dr. Amina El-Ashmawy great chemistry professors, but the courses prepared Lemaire well for a strong showing on the medical school entrance exam."

It was not until the midpoint of medical school that Lemaire decided to pursue psychiatry. "I wanted to spend a lot of time with my patients, learn about their lives, hear them tell their stories and help them in more ways than prescribing medicine," he said. "That is what I loved about being a nurse, the psychosocial part, rather than the medical and technical aspects."

Lemaire is set to finish his psychiatry residency at The Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Baylor College of Medicine, with graduation in June 2010. However, he has not made a firm decision on whether to pursue academics or private practice.

"I have always been curious and like to learn. Becoming a doctor, I have set myself up for a lifetime of learning," he said.

Congratulations, Dr. Lemaire!



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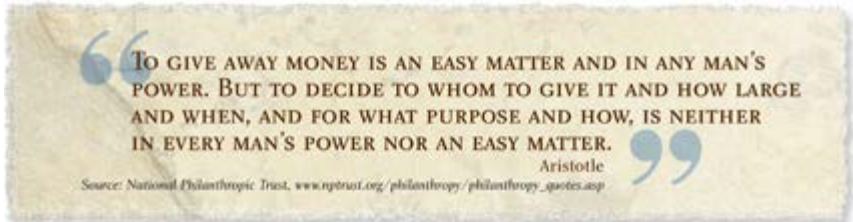
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Hallmark of Opportunity:

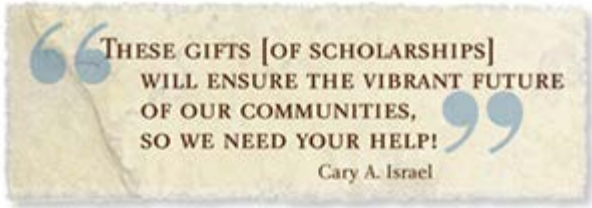
Building the Future Through Naming Opportunities to Support Scholarships

Collin College is announcing an opportunity for patrons to make a high-profile and profound tribute. The college has earmarked a handful of landmark buildings and facilities for permanent naming rights tied to scholarship funds. Unlike most facility endowments, 100% of the donor's contribution will go towards student scholarships, instead of funding construction.

"Whether you want to honor your family name or someone influential in your life, this type of opportunity is very rare," said Cary A. Israel, president of Collin College. "These gifts [of scholarships] will ensure the vibrant future of our communities, so we need your help!"



Some of the buildings in the Hallmark of Opportunity: Building the Future program include the new libraries at Central Park Campus in McKinney and Preston Ridge Campus in Frisco, as well as the Collin Higher Education Center, scheduled to open at the intersection of State Hwy. 121 & U.S. 75 in spring 2010. Selected facilities, labs and classrooms throughout the district will also be available. Contribution levels for the program range from approximately \$25,000 to \$2 million.



According to President Israel, "Your family or company name could be permanently emblazoned on our new campus building at 121 and 75. That is tremendous recognition and an incredible homage to the person whose name it bears."

More importantly, he said, the lasting impact of the gift is even

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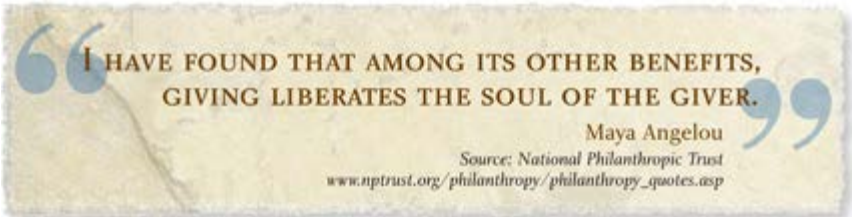
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more profound because of the scholarships provided to students in perpetuity. "A college education is a remarkable gift not only to the students themselves but to their future employers, the workforce and the community.



As Andrew Carnegie once said, wealth is 'a sacred trust which its possessor is bound to administer in his lifetime for the good of the community.'"

For more information on the Hallmark of Opportunity: Building the Future campaign, call Mary Frazier at 972.599.3143.

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Licker's goal was obtaining a certificate from the Research Chefs Association, a professional organization for those in food research and product development.

"It's a nice way to differentiate myself in a sea of food scientists," said Licker, who completed the courses required for the college's culinary arts certificate to qualify for the Research Chefs Association certificate.

At Collin College, beginning students learn skills necessary for a variety of food preparation positions and experienced professionals take classes needed for career advancement or to add to their existing skills. Students can obtain an Associate of Applied Science degree in culinary arts or pastry arts, or earn certificates in those studies.

Licker credits the college's hands-on culinary courses for providing the training she needed to score well on the Research Chefs Association's certification exam. And the evening and weekend classes were perfect for someone who had a full-time job but wanted to take the "hard core" culinary courses, Licker said. There's no substitute for the experience gained by preparing a variety of dishes and presenting them to a chef for review, she added.

"It opened up my eyes to the art of food," which included learning how to meld different flavors, for example. Licker said it is a different strategy than that of food scientists, who create a formula for a food product and the process to manufacture it and get it onto the store shelves.

"That helps me in my job, which is about innovation," she said. She found two courses particularly helpful in that endeavor, American Regional Cuisine and International Cuisine. Product developers at Frito-Lay look for tastes that represent a particular region, say spicy flavors for those who live in the Southwest, and for flavors that appeal to those who live in different countries since the company operates in a global marketplace, she said.

Licker is not the only certified culinary scientist at the company, and Stephen Kalil, executive research chef of the culinary innovation center at Frito-Lay, is immediate past-president of the Research Chefs Association.

Collin College has expanded the Culinary Arts program with a new and larger facility at the Preston Ridge Campus in Frisco. The new facility, available for fall 2009 classes, will provide growing room in the form of two kitchen classrooms and space for a third.



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According to Karen Musa, who chairs the hospitality and food service management program, the program will be able to add new options in the facility. For example, the program plans to apply for accreditation from the Research Chefs Association, along with its partner school Texas Woman’s University,

“We expect a 50 percent increase in classes and a good enrollment,” Musa said.

For more information on this program, contact Musa at kmusa@collin.edu.

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SCIENCE JOURNAL

Based on gene sequence research performed at Collin College, former student **Helen Zhu** and **Dr. Chris Doumen**, Collin College anatomy and physiology professor, published the article titled "Identification of a cytoplasmic Manganese Superoxidase Dismutase (cMnSOD) in the Red Swamp Crawfish, *Procambarus clarkii*: cDNA Cloning and Tissue Expression" in the April 2009 issue of the international journal *Zoological Science*. With Dr. Doumen's guidance, Zhu, who took both art and science classes at the college, created artwork which was selected from numerous entries for the journal's cover.



TEXAS ALL-ACADEMIC TEAM

Mahsa Kashkooly, **Chloe Longstreet** and **Dale Mott** were named to the Texas All-Academic Team and recognized at a ceremony in Austin on March 31.

NEWSWEEK PHOTO

Newsweek magazine published a photo by photography student **Eleonore McCorkle** in the Feb. 9 issue for the story "A Vast and Sudden Sadness."

SMITHSONIAN PHOTO

Brian Rickards, Collin College student, was one of the top 10 finalists in the *Smithsonian* magazine's sixth annual photo contest in the "Americana" category. Rickards' photograph of "Route 66 Restaurant at Night" was one of 17,000 entries worldwide.

WINNING POET

The National Career Development Association has awarded Collin graduate **Paula Lipnick** first prize in poetry as part of the National Career Development Month program.

INTERNATIONAL & TEXAS HONORS

Collin College's Alpha Mu Tau chapter of **Phi Theta Kappa** honor society won several awards at the society's international and Texas regional conventions. **Daniel Sanabria** was named a Distinguished Officer, one of only 30 in the entire society. The chapter received the Service Hallmark Award as well as the Beta Alpha Continued Excellence Award. There are approximately 1,200 chapters of Phi Theta Kappa so these awards were extremely competitive. Also, **Bethany Allen**, president of Collin's chapter, was inducted into the Texas Hall of Honor for Members.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT, REGIONAL VP

At the Texas Junior College Student Government Association (TJCSGA) convention in April, Collin College was named the Vice President School for Region II, one of six TJCSGA regions in the state. The Collin College chapter also won awards for its "Style Glamour Attitude" fashion show and essay, which was written by **Renzo Thomilson** and **Tara Faustmann** and conceived by **Adeel Tasnim** and **Priscilla Krishnamoorthy**.



Brian Rickards' photograph of "Route 66 Restaurant at Night"

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Matthew Garza's "I Lead" essay also won second place.

MOCK TRIALS

Collin College's **Mock Trial team** was the only community college team to qualify for national competition. In the opening round of the championship series, the team completed four rounds against The University of Texas at Dallas, Southwestern University, University of Arizona and Tufts University. This is the first time in the 25 year history of this event that a community college advanced so far in the tournament. Government student Austin McBride, of Plano, was honored with an All-Regional Witness Award.

AT THE UNITED NATIONS

The Collin College **Model United Nations Team** traveled to the United Nations in New York City for the national Model UN conference, where the group received one of 15 honorable mentions for its performance serving on eight committees. The Collin College team, which represented the country of Bahrain, was one of 130 colleges and universities in attendance from 29 countries.

CULINARY MEDALS

Michele Brown, pastry arts professor and culinary arts student **Olga Mead** won silver and bronze medals, respectively, at the Ben E. Keith Culinary Salon for their cake designs. Mead's "Sphinx" cake and Brown's "Easter Egg and Basket" cake and sugar box were in a competition with 128 designs by area students and professionals in April.

NATIONAL ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

A student organization known as **Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE)** took home the Rookie of the Year award at the group's national championship. The chapter also placed second in its league at national competition.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Wil Wilbur, culinary arts student, received a \$5,000 scholarship from the Greater Dallas Restaurant Association. Also, Cisco student **Richard Sprouse** has been awarded the John Morgridge Scholarship by the Cisco Learning Institute. The scholarship is awarded to one person per state based on commitment to networking technology and community service.



SIFE member Paula Lipnick (center) with Meadows Elementary fourth graders.



Ashley Parivar, Miss Texas-United States

MISS TEXAS-UNITED STATES

Collin student **Ashley Parivar** was recently named Miss Texas-United States.

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AWARDS

National Psychology Award, Jennifer O'Loughlin-Brooks

Jennifer O'Loughlin-Brooks, professor of psychology, has been named the 2009 recipient of the prestigious "Wayne Weiten Teaching Excellence Award" from the American Psychological Association's Society for the Teaching of Psychology. The national award recognizes Professor O'Loughlin-Brooks' instructional effectiveness by bolstering student learning and advancing psychology as an applied science.



Jennifer O'Loughlin-Brooks

Woman of the Year, Debra Lamb

Debra Lamb, academic advisor, was selected "Woman of the Year" by the Business and Professional Women of Dallas Inc.

Basketball Coach of the Year, Jim Sigona

For the fourth time in his career, Collin College men's basketball coach Jim Sigona has been named "Coach of the Year" by the North Texas Junior College Athletic Conference.



Jim Sigona

Tennis Coach of the Year, Marty Berryman

Tennis Coach Marty Berryman was selected by the National Junior College Athletic Association as Region 5 Coach of the Year.



Marty Berryman

At the invitation of the U.S. Embassy, **Sabine Madriguera**, professor of Music/Guitar Studies, and Enric Madriguera, participated as musicians and representatives of the United States in the annual International Guitar Festival in Lima, Peru. Duo Madriguera also performed and taught master classes at the Instituto Cultural Peruano Norteamericano located in Arequipa, Cusco and Ayacucho, Peru.



Dr. Sabine Madriguera

Young Children's 2009 Trainer of the Year, Glenda Strange

Child Development Lab Coordinator Glenda Strange has been selected as the Collin County Association for the Education of Young Children's 2009 Trainer of the Year

Phi Theta Kappa Honor, Angela Putman

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Angela Putman, professor of speech communication, Honors chair and 2008-2009 chapter advisor for Collin College's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, was awarded the Paragon Award for faculty advisors, which was given to the top 30 advisors in the international society. This is the second time Professor Putman has won this award. She also received the Hall of Honor award and was inducted into the Texas Hall of Honor for Advisors.



Angela Putman

IN LEADERSHIP

National Nursing Policy Leader Dr. Nell Ard, director of nursing, has been appointed to the National League for Nursing's Public Policy Committee for 2009-2012.



Dr. Nell Ard

President, National Association for Developmental Education Dr. Rosemary Karr, professor of developmental mathematics, just completed a term as president of the National Association for Developmental Education.



Dr. Rosemary Karr

Chemistry Conference Leader Dr. Amina El-Ashmawy, professor of chemistry, is serving as the technical program chair for the 21st Biennial Conference on Chemical Education, which will be held Aug. 1-5 at the University of North Texas in Denton.



Dr. Amina El-Ashmawy

President, Texas College Counseling Counselor Amy Lenhart has been selected as chair of the Community College Taskforce for the American College Counseling Association for the upcoming year. She currently serves as President for the Texas College Counseling Association.



Amy Lenhart

President, Texas Financial Aid Carolyn Jones, coordinator of Financial Aid/Veteran Affairs, has been elected as president-elect for the Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. She will serve as president-elect until October 31, 2009, at which time she will become president.



Carolyn Jones

PUBLISHED

Dr. Nell Ard, director of nursing, recently published an article titled "Summary of the Survey on Clinical Education in Nursing" in Nursing Education Perspectives, the official

journal of the National League for Nursing.

Elaine Wilkinson, professor and child development department chair, and **Sharon Hirschy**, professor of child development, had their textbook, "Protecting Our Children: Understanding and Preventing Abuse and Neglect in Early Childhood," published by Wadsworth, Cengage Learning.



Sharon Hirschy, Elaine Wilkinson

Elizabeth Mellott, professor of photography, published an article about Collin College's photo club titled, "The Obscura Camera Club Does FotoFest," in Teaching Photo.com's online newsletter.



Elizabeth Mellott

Dr. Nelson Rich, professor of biology and director of the Center for Advanced Studies in Mathematics and Natural Sciences, co-authored an article titled, "Soil Ingestion May Be an Important Route for the Uptake of Contaminants by Some Reptiles," which was published in the peer-reviewed journal *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*.



Dr. Nelson Rich

Tony Howard, professor of English, published a pamphlet *St. Clement of Alexandria and Universal Salvation* for St. Alban Press.

An article titled, "Behavior Analytic Grounding of Sociological Social Constructionism," by **Dr. John Glass**, professor of sociology, has been published in *Behavior Analyst Today* magazine.

Kris Berg, professor of music and director of Jazz Studies, authored a six-page article titled, "Arranging for Jazz Combo," that was published in *The Instrumentalist* magazine.



Kris Berg

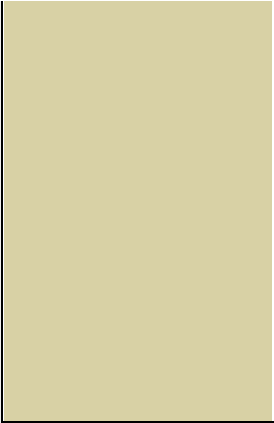
Debbie Hurd, professor of nursing, co-authored the article, "Using a Wiki in Nursing Education and Research," in the *International Journal of Nursing Education Scholarship*.



Debbie Hurd

E.J. Hanford, professor of environmental science, recently published an online article titled, "Communicating Future Water Needs to an At-Risk Population: Lessons Learned Following Defeat of the Applewhite Dam and Reservoir Project in San Antonio, Texas" for Springer Science+Business Media LLC 2008.

Dr. Levi Bryant, professor of philosophy, published a book titled, *Difference and Givenness, Deleuze's Transcendental Empiricism and the Ontology of Immanence*. He also published an article, "New



Universes of Discourse: Zizek and the Discourse of the Capitalist," in the *Journal of Zizek Studies*, Winter 2009.



Dr. Levi Bryant

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Prestigious book award for Collin professor

Dr. Kyle G. Wilkison received the 2008 T.R. Fehrenbach Award for his book *Yeomen, Sharecroppers, and Socialists: Plain Folk Protest in Texas, 1870-1914*. Sponsored by the Texas Historical Commission, the award honors original research and publications that preserve records and recount the prehistory and history of Texas.

This is the second Collin College professor to garner this prominent award. In 2006, Dr. Michael Phillips received the award for his book *White Metropolis: Race, Ethnicity, and Religion in Dallas 1841-2001*.



Dr. Kyle G. Wilkison

Dr. Wilkison asserts that he had little choice about becoming an historian. His father spent his boyhood with his great grandmother, Mary Elizabeth Stribling. She filled his mind with stories from the 19th century such as how her husband, after being injured in the Civil War, rode by horse from Mississippi to Texas to claim his future bride.

"While the adults were working in the fields, this ancient lady and little boy were companions. I got story after story from my dad about rural life in the late 19th century south. He knew how to plow with a mule. He was born in 1925, but it could have been 1885 because the rural south was undercapitalized, so it froze the culture in place," Dr. Wilkison said.

Childhood memories of abandoned sharecroppers' shacks with cotton rows planted clear up to the door are indelibly ingrained in Dr. Wilkison's mind, but the actual genesis of his book originated 20 years ago from his first research paper at East Texas State University (now Texas A&M University-Commerce) and continued with his dissertation at Vanderbilt. He has spent the last 10 years refining his historical account. The day Dr. Wilkison learned that farmers were voting for members of the Socialist party he was hooked.

"Socialists came in second for Texas governor in 1910 and 1912. These were the people I thought I knew. They made homemade beer, went fishing, had hound dogs, attended Baptist, Methodist or Presbyterian churches. These people were voting socialist! Really?!" Dr. Wilkison said.

Dr. Wilkison uses both statistics and oral history to prove the inverse relationship between tenants planting cotton and the self-sufficient practices of planting sweet potatoes, raising milk cows and hogs. He also provides statistical evidence that the rich got richer and the poor got poorer, "Over a forty year period...the poorest lost the most ...61.8 percent share of wealth."

Dr. Wilkison's book focuses on the plain folk culture, changing concentration of wealth and the political dissent that followed. He recounts predatory tales of 89 percent interest rates and shows that for many the expectation that a man owns his land became a fairy tale. Dr. Wilkison takes great pains to expose, warts and all, each side of the eastern Texas plain folk who worked the land.

"Texas has a radical history, and it has been forgotten. There were elements of the poor

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rural majority who were willing to engage in critical analysis of culture and economy and make forward-looking decisions. There was a picture of people in the south as passive, ignorant and racist. They were not passive and ignorant, and there were a few who denounced racism, capitalism and war," Dr. Wilkison said.

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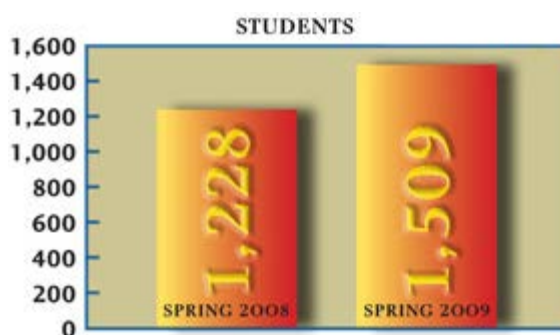
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Did you know?

College during High School

The number of area students taking advantage of Collin College classes during high school increased by **23%** in spring 2009.



Nursing Excellence

100% Pass Rate: All students graduating in December 2008 successfully completed their NCLEX RN exam on first attempt. This gives Collin College a 100% pass rate for these registered nursing students.

Leading Graduation Rate: Collin College's nursing program has one of the highest three-year graduation rates of any institution in the state.



Television Stars

Former Collin College student **Scott Michael Foster** stars on the ABC Family show *Greek* and former student **Michael Urie** stars on the Golden Globe-winning TV series *Ugly Betty*.



Scott Michael Foster



Michael Urie

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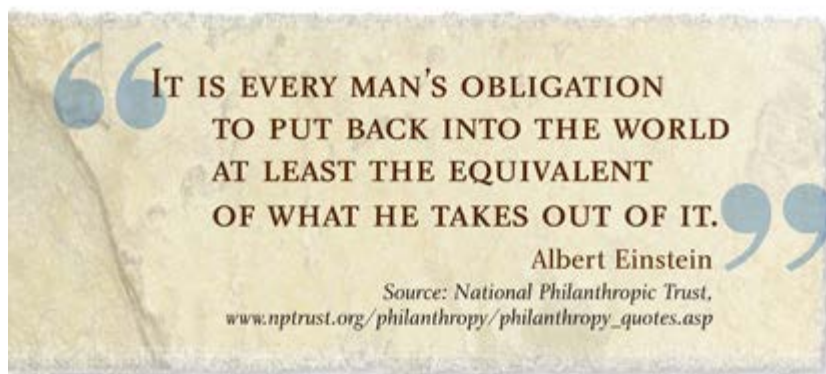
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Auteur Film Series explores (In)Justice in cinema

As always, the Auteur Film Series is free and open to the public.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Fall registration continues; payment deadline looms for early registration

Classes begin Monday, Aug. 23. Get registered and paid up.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Campus Dates

August is a time for those back-to-school sales and a tasty schedule of upcoming events.

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Quick Facts

Financial aid: The need is always growing.

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Top six in-demand careers

Getting started in the top in-demand careers while at Collin College.

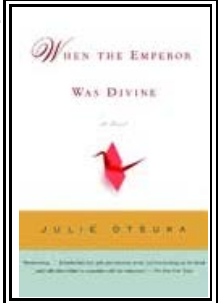
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Book Review: 'When The Emperor Was Divine'

A review of this year's Book-in-Common.

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Collin Cougar scholarship drives keeps on

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A newsletter for the students, faculty and staff of the Collin College. Published semi-monthly. For information or submissions, call 972.599.3142. *Cougar News* welcomes student and faculty submissions. Next deadline: Aug. 15. All submissions are due by 5 p.m. on the due date. Photos cannot be returned. Text should be e-mailed to mrobinson@collin.edu or sent on disk. Submit copy that is proofed, edited and saved in Word format. *Cougar News* staff: *Lisa Vasquez, director; Mark Robinson, editor; Marcy Cadena-Smith, contributor; Justin Jones, contributor; Heather Darrow, contributor; Nick Young, photography and layout.*

keeping on

These folks have given. Have you? A fundraiser where \$1 goes a long way. [\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Cougar Links

Send in your favorite things on the Internet and share with the class. [\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



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Special accolades given to some of our faculty, facilities and departments. [\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



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Collin Cougar seeks help in scholarship endeavor

Give \$1. Give \$5. Give \$20. With Collin Cougar, there's no such thing as a small gift.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Registration for fall classes is ongoing

Register today. If you don't, you might miss out on that class you need. And that would just be a shame.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

College News

Visuals from the recent nursing and robotics camp at Collin College.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Jazz camp to feature nightly concerts

The 16th annual Collin College Texas All-Star Jazz Camp brings best, brightest of young musicians with a who's who of instructors.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Learning Communities announced for fall 2010

Space is limited for these unique learning opportunities.

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Campus Dates

That noise you hear just ahead in the distance is the fall semester. Already, it's teeming with events.

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Cougar Links

Food for the brain, the belly and the soul.

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Collin Cougar's fundraising efforts continue

Raising \$1,500 for a scholarship.
He could use your help.
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On-campus employment available

Are you looking for a job on campus? Here's how.
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College News

Middle of summer and our students, faculty and staff can not help but remain busy.
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This may come as a surprise, but we are all Africans

Recently, Collin College sociology professor Dr. John Glass shared his findings about humans' native, unified homeland—Africa. If you are thinking, "I'm Irish, Russian, Chinese, Polish, Hispanic or Italian, how can that possibly be true?" keep your mind open and check out the ideas behind his seemingly outlandish premise.
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Quick Facts

What percent of our professors are holding doctorates?
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Campus Dates

These dates are so awesome, they may not be ready for the public.
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Cougar Links

From the arts and sciences, links from the great, vast Internet.
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Collin Cougar wants to make a difference, could use help

Mascot seeks to raise \$1,500 for scholarship.

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Fall registration due to open

Priority registration begins June 22. Open registration begins June 25.

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Dean's List announced for spring

Maybe you made the list. Maybe you didn't. There's only one way to find out.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

College releases President's List for spring 2010

The quest for the vaunted 4.0.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Deadline approaching for SMU pre-admission program

Why wait? Apply now for the SMU pre-admission program to get your transfer scene in order.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



College News

Many are making headlines.

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Campus Dates

Working summer while getting ready for the fall.

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Free HIV testing at Spring Creek Campus June 22

Because awareness, education and an early diagnosis are the best defenses.

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A little bit of everything: Science, food, lifestyle and terraniums.

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High School to College:

Collin College helps area high school students fast-track to college degrees

Can you reduce the time to degree? Where can you turn for help to make sense of the different college options? Kim Rahebi and Christina Shafer found the answers to these questions and more at Collin College where they got a jump start on their college degrees with the dual credit program.

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Students discover asteroid and receive NASA award

Three Collin College students discovered a four-and-a-half-billion-year-old rock that most likely formed at the beginning of the solar system.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Research offers unique opportunities for undergrads at Collin

Whether it is extracting DNA from soil, analyzing the conservation movement or exploring the physics of table tennis, students at Collin College have an opportunity that few undergraduates do—conducting research.

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Student & Alumni Highlights

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Farmersville city manager credits Collin law academy
John Moran compares the makeup of a city to a person. No matter the town's size, the new Farmersville city manager explains, it has its own personality that differentiates it from other cities.
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Did you know?
More than 2,000 local high school students enrolled in dual credit courses from Collin College last fall. Click here to see how many were from your local high school.
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SILVER ANNIVERSARY

CONNECTION

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Collin College celebrates third U.S. Professor of the Year Award winner in nine years

Congratulations to Dr. Tracey McKenzie who was selected as the 2009 U.S. Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. Her honor makes Collin College the only community college in the nation with three U.S. Professors of the Year.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



New university center opens: Baccalaureate, graduate programs now nearby at the Collin Higher Education Center

On January 11, juniors and seniors will step into classrooms at a magnificent, new Collin College campus for the first time, where they will find the finest bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs from area universities.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Where Are They Now?

In honor of the college's silver anniversary, *Where Are They Now* shines the spotlight on three outstanding alumni.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Forging an Era of Fusion:

A reflection on the future of education in Collin County

As the college celebrates its 25th anniversary, President Cary Israel shares insight into higher education trends and America's success in the next 25 years.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Historic Faculty Excellence

With three U.S. Professor of the Year recipients in the past nine years, one Texas Professor of the Year, five Piper Professors and two Fulbright Scholars, the faculty members at Collin College continue to earn state and national acclaim.

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Student & Alumni Highlights

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Collin College offers associate degrees for future hot jobs

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics expects the number individuals employed to increase by 16 million by the year 2016. A direct result of this increase will be the number of high-growth jobs, many of which can be accessed through associate degrees from Collin College.
[Click Here for Full Story]

College moves to new home on the web

Effective Jan. 11, 2010, Collin College will change its web address.
[Click Here for Full Story]



The Official Community Newsletter for Collin College



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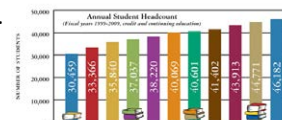
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Collin College Issues Second Report Card

One year ago, Collin College published its first report card. We now present an updated report card to show progress over the past year.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



College unveils partners, programs for university center

In January of 2010, the landscape of higher education in Collin County will change dramatically.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Collin College lowers/freezes costs

The economic crisis has taken a heavy toll on all walks of life. However, students at Collin College will soon see a welcome sight on the horizon as they plan for spring semester—lower fees.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Where are they now?

Former Collin College student goes *Greek*

Last year 1.6 million people watched Scott Michael Foster on television. More than six feet tall with tousled brown hair and piercing blue eyes, Foster plays the fun-loving character Cappie on the hit ABC Family show *Greek*.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Collin College graduate works in U.S. district court

Nicholas Palmer was planning to become a professional musician, but his path from oboe player to lawyer intercepted a particular class at Collin College. After that class, Palmer chose law and never turned back. Today he is an attorney clerking for the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, in the chambers of Judge Jane Boyle.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Texas Top 3: Nursing program earns acclaim

The state of Texas recently honored the Collin College nursing program as one of Texas' best in terms of graduation and licensure rates.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



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Did you know?

Collin College is celebrating its silver anniversary, so in this issue of Did You Know compares statistics from the college's inception to today.

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The Official Community Newsletter for Collin College



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Alumni who protect and serve: will they be here tomorrow?

Imagine an empty fire station, a classroom with no teacher, the vacant police cruiser. Is this an end-of-days scenario? No, it is a crisis averted in 1985 when voters established Collin College.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Core Values lead Collin College

It is challenging to put a face on institutions of higher education because colleges are more than buildings; they are a myriad of diverse, living beings and evolving, intangible ideas. However, it is surprisingly simple to describe Collin College because the professors, students and staff exude its core values.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Q&A with the Mayors

How does Collin College impact your community?



[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Where are they now?

Collin College leads Dr. Sydney Anne Barcus to new career path in industrial psychology.

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Collin College, schedules local town hall meetings.

Collin College is seeking community input for its next strategic plan through a series of town hall meetings scheduled in Plano, Farmersville, Celina, Allen, Frisco and McKinney.
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Did you know?

Collin College is among the largest employers in the area, supporting hundreds of Texas businesses.
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The Community Update from Collin County Community College District

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Collin College releases report card

Accountability is one of the hottest words in higher education. In fact, the State of Texas is considering a report card to compare success measures for colleges and universities. Collin College is so committed to accountability that we are proactively releasing a report card to the community.
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Coming soon: Bachelor's, Master's and Ph.D's

Soon, local residents will not have to leave Collin County for junior and senior-level college classes as well as graduate and doctoral programs. Collin College is finalizing program plans for the new Higher Education Center in which university partners will offer a variety of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees.
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Where are they now?

War-torn dreams lead brothers to become physicians

Read how war-torn dreams led two brothers who are Collin College alumni to become physicians. Dr. Tri Phung is now an anesthesiology resident and Dr. Vu Phung is a family practice resident.
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



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HIGHLIGHTS Faculty & Staff

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Students News

HIGHLIGHTS Student News

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Honor societies emphasize excellence at Collin College

Collin College has six academic honor societies. These organizations promote the college's core value of "Academic Excellence," as students are required to achieve and maintain a minimum grade point average in addition to volunteering.
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College commits to water conservation effort

McKinney, Texas uses 50 percent more water for outdoor irrigation than the national average. That alarming statistic led city officials to develop a water conservation plan, and when Collin College officials began the expansion of Central Park Campus, college leaders worked with the city to adopt an innovative landscaping plan to conserve water.

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She's number one! Collin College professor honored as nation's best

When Collin College students step into class this spring, they may be face-to-face with America's top community college professor as veteran math professor Rosemary Karr donned a new title as the 2007 U.S. Professor of the Year.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Collin College, Austin College enter pre-admission agreement

The distance between Sherman and Collin County just got shorter for local college students.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Collin College President named 'Best in the West'

Dr. Cary A. Israel, president of Collin College, is the recipient of the Chief Executive Officer Award for the Western Region of the Association of Community College Trustees.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

New higher education center to bring 4-year degrees, graduate programs to Collin County

Bachelor's degrees in your backyard. Master's degrees in McKinney. Both will go from headlines to reality in a couple of years as Collin College prepares to welcome university degree programs to a new campus in the heart of Collin County.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Where Are They Now? Two Brians find their personal paths to success

Are you still occasionally reminded of a professional calling you have yet to fulfill? Do you ever wonder how your life might be different if you acted on that longing? Take a look at two former Collin College students who share the first name of Brian but lead very different lives—the lives of their dreams.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Hard hat alert at Collin College campuses

McKinney, Plano and Frisco are undergoing renovations and construction. Come visit us and check out the changes.

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Collin College Foundation to present 2008 Collin Cabaret

Mark your calendar as the Collin College Foundation presents the 2008 Collin Cabaret, An Evening of Entertainment for Education on Feb. 16.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

The Guild of Honor

Dedication to students, love for advanced learning. These are a few factors that drive Collin College faculty to excel in the classroom. Join us as we spotlight some of the professors who have earned remarkable, national honors and brought acclaim to your community college.

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Faculty and Staff News

HIGHLIGHTS
Faculty & Staff

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New CougarAlert text messaging system keeps students, employees safe

Campus safety may be as near as a cell phone text message with the new "CougarAlert" system. Collin College just introduced this new system to add to the convenience and safety of students, faculty and staff.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Collin College one of ten in nation to get 'Encore Careers' grant

Accountants, statisticians and engineers over the age of 50 looking at retirement or a re-career should know they can make a big difference.

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Did you know?

Test your knowledge of community colleges!

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