STAY CONNECTED:

- Sen. John Cornyn visits Blinn’s Ag Complex
- Memorial Scholarship honors Blinn, Texas A&M graduate
- Vet Tech students ace national exam
- Bryan resident helps bring Star of the Republic Museum to life

Sen. John Cornyn praises Blinn’s role in educating Texans
FROM THE TOP

This month we inducted five new members to the Blinn College Hall of Honor – Charles Moser, Henry Boehm, Sr., Mike Hopkins, Sr., Sadie Stark and Walter Thielmann. We met their families, heard stories about their many accomplishments and the lives they touched, and laughed about the good old days.

In Charles Moser, we recognized the man who guided the Bremen Banner-Press for 40 years, who told a community’s stories and helped give it a sense of pride for four full decades. Henry Boehm, Sr. spent 43 years as an educator, including 44 at Blinn, where he wrote a variety of lists – teacher, coach, registrar, bookkeeper, dean-registrar and academic dean. Mike Hopkins, Sr. began a successful company in Bremen and was active in numerous community organizations. Sadie Stark was the first woman to serve on the Blinn Board of Trustees, joining the board in 1991 and continuing to serve until 2004. Walter Thielmann was a World War II veteran and business owner who has been a longstanding community leader.

These are just five of the 61 members who now belong to the Blinn Hall of Honor, and they demonstrate the diversity of experience and expertise that make our College and its community so special. It’s possible, maybe even probable, that a future Hall of Honor inductee is enrolled on one of our campuses, gaining the skills that will help them make their own unique difference in the lives around them. Their college experience has been made better, in many ways, by our Hall of Honor inductees, and in the years to come, they too will make a difference for those who follow in their footsteps.

That history of service and dedication is why we are so proud of Blinn’s 131-year history – it’s not the passing of the days on the calendar, but the generations of leaders who have come before, paving the way for us to serve the next generation of students. Our students certainly have a rich history of leadership and service to live up to, and we are committed to instilling the values and skills they need to meet that challenge.

Sincerely,

Harold Nolte, Ed.D.
District President

THE BLINN COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Douglas Borchardt - President, Arwood Kenjura - Vice President, David Sommer - Secretary Carolyn D. Miller, C.P.A., Teddy Boehm, Leon Toubin, Richard Powell

Blinn Connection is a newsletter for the faculty and staff of Blinn College published monthly by the Office of Blinn College Marketing and Communications.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS
Jeff Tiley, Richard Bray
Charlie Kele, Jeanelle Monia
Layla Barrett, Brooke Coron

To submit information, contact the Office of Marketing and Communications
Bryan campus
phone: 979-209-7265
email: richard.bray@blinn.edu

Mission Statement
Blinn College is a comprehensive community college committed to educational excellence and to individual and community enhancement.

Vision Statement
Blinn College will be the leading educational, cultural and economic resource for our stakeholders.

Accreditation
Blinn College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (www.sacscoc.org) to award associate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia, 30033-4097; or telephone 404-679-4500; or Web site www.sacscoc.org for questions about the accreditation of Blinn College.

Blinn College seeks to provide equal education without regard to race, color, sex, age, national origin, religion, disability or any other constitutionally or statutorily impermissible cause. This policy extends to all programs and activities supported by the college.

ON THE COVER

Sen. John Cornyn praises Blinn’s role in educating Texans
Former dance team captain joins Dallas Mavericks Dancers
Memorial scholarship honors Blinn, Texas A&M graduate
Child Development Program helps student advocate for autistic son
Bryan resident helps bring Star of the Republic Museum to life

As part of its commitment to student success, Blinn is implementing its Quality Enhancement Plan titled, “Destination Success: First-Year Focus,” which utilizes learning communities to support first-year college students. Find out more at www.blinn.edu/QEP.

FOCUS
FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS. Find out more at www.blinn.edu/QEP.

AROUND THE CAMPUSES
• New anthropology lab offers cultural and educational leadership to new administrative position
• Sealy campus awards scholarships to three deserving students
• Professor named president of national honor society in psychology

AROUND THE CAMPUSES
• Counseling Services promotes self-confidence with “#lovemyselfie” event
• Election forecasters expect GOP to pick up five seats apiece in U.S. Senate, House

ATHLETICS
• Dallas Mavericks Dancers featured in Texas A&M’s Republic Museum to life
• Gore Tech students ace national, state exams with 100 percent pass rate

ATHLETICS
• Senior point guards lead Buccaneer women seek third consecutive trip to nationals

PERSONAL NOTES
Don’t get left in the dark… Sign up for Blinn Alerts today!

STAY CONNECTED:
• Blinn Alerts
• Facebook
• Twitter
• Instagram
• LinkedIn
• Blinn College Foundation


Don’t get left in the dark… Sign up for Blinn Alerts today!

Sign up now at: my.BLINN.edu

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2

OCTOBER 2014
Brenham, Bryan, Schulenburg, Sealy

3

OCTOBER 2014
Brenham, Bryan, Schulenburg, Sealy

BLINN CONNECTION

OCTOBER 2014
Brenham, Bryan, Schulenburg, Sealy

BLINN CONNECTION

OCTOBER 2014
Brenham, Bryan, Schulenburg, Sealy
Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas) praised the role Blinn College plays in educating Texans during a visit to the College’s W.J. “Bill” Rankin Agricultural Complex.

“The faculty and leadership at Blinn College are doing remarkable work preparing students and encouraging them to pursue their four-year degree,” Cornyn said. “I enjoyed my tour of the Rankin Ag Complex, where students are receiving a top-notch education in and beyond the classroom.”

During his visit, Cornyn spoke to faculty and students about Blinn’s nationally-recognized Agricultural Sciences Program, which enrolls approximately 800 students – making it roughly four times the size of any other two-year agricultural program in the state. Blinn offers agricultural science classes on all its campuses, with the W.J. “Bill” Rankin Agricultural Complex in Brenham serving as the program’s hub.

Built in 2011, Blinn’s 20,200-square-foot, $3 million agricultural complex houses classrooms, laboratories, offices, an ag shop, a livestock show arena and a fully-automated greenhouse. The facility was named after W.J. “Bill” Rankin, a lifelong resident of Washington County and the chief financial officer at Blue Bell Creameries. Rankin’s grandfather, Albert Stone, was a state senator in the 1930s and was instrumental in the legislation that enabled Blinn to become the first county-owned junior college.

In addition to its excellence in the classroom, Blinn offers extracurricular educational activities in the areas of livestock judging, agriculture club, wildlife, agriculture mechanics, horticulture and agriculture sciences.

Last year, Blinn’s Ag Club totaled about 3,700 hours of community service at 127 events. The club partnered with organizations such as 4-H, Future Farmers of America, Coastal Conservation Association of Texas and Texas Parks & Wildlife in organizing and staffing events, and also volunteered at livestock shows, ag mechanics shows and county fairs.

“We teach our students honesty, character, integrity and work,” Agricultural Sciences Professor Douglas Pierce said. “That’s what we’re all about here at Blinn College. That’s what built Blinn College.”

Cornyn serves on the Finance and Judiciary Committees and is the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee’s Immigration, Refugees and Border Security subcommittee. He served previously as Texas attorney general, Texas Supreme Court justice and Bexar County district judge.

“Our community colleges play a key role in teaching skills for practical life application and good jobs, and Blinn College is an important place for students to begin their college career and transfer to a place like Texas A&M,” Cornyn said.

Douglas Pierce, Blinn College Agricultural Sciences professor, shows Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas) the trophy case displaying the Blinn livestock judging team’s championship trophies during a tour of the College’s W.J. “Bill” Rankin Agricultural Complex during a visit to Brenham.

Sen. Cornyn praised Blinn’s role in educating Texans during a visit to the College’s W.J. “Bill” Rankin Agricultural Complex.

---

Former dance team captain joins Dallas Mavericks Dancers

Hayley Webb says Blinn prepared her for success in dance, academics

Blinn College alumna Hayley Webb may have discovered her talent for dance before she knew her multiplication tables, but she credits her time at Blinn College for helping her turn her passion into a career.

Webb was drawn to the Blinn College – Brenham campus in 2011 for its award-winning Treasures dance team. After her freshman year, Webb was named captain in 2012. Blinn placed second at the annual National Dance Alliance (NDA) College Nationals in Daytona. Her and both her freshman and sophomore years.

“I loved the dance team at Blinn College,” Webb said. “It was a really great two years to grow as a dancer and as a student, too. When you’re involved with athletics you have to always be on your ‘A’ game. Our coaches and instructors made sure we had access to tutoring and that we stayed on top of assignments.”

A dancer since the third grade, Webb said Blinn opened her eyes to a different kind of competitive dance. In high school, her dance team would feature eight routines during competitions, but at Blinn, the team only had one shot to take home a victory.

“We learned one routine and practiced it for six or seven months,” Webb said. “It was hard, but I loved it. It’s kind of like trying to win one game for a national championship. Everyone was giving it their all.”

After two years at Blinn, Webb transferred to the University of Louisville, where she joined the Ladybirds dance team and studied exercise science. She then transferred to the University of Texas at Arlington to be closer to home. She expects to earn her bachelor’s degree in exercise science in May 2015.

This summer, Webb auditioned and was selected for the Dallas Mavericks Dancers. After more than a week of the grueling tryout process, including a freestyle routine, several new routines and an interview process, Webb was chosen to the team of 20 dancers from 300 women who auditioned.

“I was extremely nervous,” Webb said. “I tried to keep to myself and just stay focused. I’ve watched the Dallas Mavericks since I was little and have always admired the dancers. I can’t wait to be one of them. I am so thankful for my dance coach at Blinn, Sarah Barland, for always inspiring me and pushing me to become a better dancer. She’s been a blessing to me and my dance career.”

Barland said Webb was a great motivator, a hard worker and a beautiful dancer.

“She made practice fun, but also knew when it was time to work,” Barland said. “I had a great two years with Hayley and I know she’s going to make a wonderful Mavericks dancer.”

Blinn’s online calendar works for you to draw attendance to your event, day and night, weekends, even during holidays. It’s your tool to use and your first step to host an event with a terrific turnout. Check it out. It’s easy to use and the price is right for you (FREE). See you decide how many or how little detail you want to add!

Promote your events online for FREE, 24x7

Blinn’s online calendar works for you to draw attendance to your event, day and night, weekends, even during holidays. It’s your tool to use and your first step to host an event with a terrific turnout. Check it out. It’s easy to use and the price is right for you (FREE). See you decide how many or how little detail you want to add!

Blinn’s online calendar works for you to draw attendance to your event, day and night, weekends, even during holidays. It’s your tool to use and your first step to host an event with a terrific turnout. Check it out. It’s easy to use and the price is right for you (FREE). See you decide how many or how little detail you want to add!

Blinn’s online calendar works for you to draw attendance to your event, day and night, weekends, even during holidays. It’s your tool to use and your first step to host an event with a terrific turnout. Check it out. It’s easy to use and the price is right for you (FREE). See you decide how many or how little detail you want to add!

Blinn’s online calendar works for you to draw attendance to your event, day and night, weekends, even during holidays. It’s your tool to use and your first step to host an event with a terrific turnout. Check it out. It’s easy to use and the price is right for you (FREE).
Memorial scholarship honors Blinn, Texas A&M graduate

$25,000 endowed scholarship will support Blinn transfer students

Hank Wiederhold ’76 knew firsthand that a generous act could yield lifelong rewards. When he was transferring from Blinn College to Texas A&M University in 1973, Hank met a young banker who co-signed his student loan. This stranger’s act of generosity allowed him to fulfill his dream of becoming an agricultural engineer. After graduating, he worked more than 30 years for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) before retiring in 2013. Unfortunately, Hank passed away suddenly in May.

To honor his memory, his wife Angela Wiederhold established a $25,000 endowed scholarship in his name in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering. The Hank Wiederhold Fightin’ Texas Aggie Class of 1976 Memorial Scholarship will support Blinn transfer students in the department who are specializing in water conservation and wetland habitat creation. Students from Dallas, Travis, Montgomery, Nacogdoches and Lee counties will be given preference.

“My husband always shared everything, including his time, expertise and financial rewards,” Angela said. “Texas A&M gave Hank the opportunity to have a wonderful education and provide for our family and for others. We want to give back in a meaningful way that will honor Hank’s values of learning, loving and sharing.”

Hank’s career with the NRCS resulted in countless benefits for Texans. He led hundreds of wetland restoration projects and was recognized by both the City of Port Arthur and the NRCS for his exceptional work as its lead engineer on watershed protection after Hurricane Rita in 2005. He was presented in 2006 with the Texas Section of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers’ “Engineer of the Year” award. Wiederhold was also instrumental in implementing the Emergency Watershed Protection Program in East Texas.

“Family, integrity, excellence, a love of all things Texas A&M, and an unparalleled ability to work with people—such is the legacy of Hank Wiederhold,” said John Mueller, state conservation engineer at NRCS. “Hank received approximately a dozen agency awards during his career for a wide range of areas recognizing excellence in training, leadership, and outstanding performance of his duties.”

Hank’s passion for helping people extended to his family—which includes two sons and two adopted sons—and to his many friends and total strangers.

“Hank was the life of the party and had a great sense of humor,” Angela said. “It’s truly humbling how many people have reached out to us following his passing. Hank had done something thoughtful for so many.”

Child Development Program helps student advocate for autistic son

Shelina Washington-Jordan says program paid huge dividends for her family

When Shelina Washington-Jordan learned she was pregnant with her son, she promised to be the best mother she could be. When Billy Jordan was diagnosed with autism, her vow took on a new meaning. Washington enrolled in the Blinn College Child Development Program to obtain the tools to better understand and raise her son.

“I wanted to learn more about his development and how I could collaborate with the school system in implementing his individualized education program,” Washington said. “Blinn gave me exactly what I needed to be a better mom to my son.”

Blinn’s Child Development Program prepares students for an exciting and fulfilling career working with young children. Students can choose from three courses that set them on the path to earning an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree, a Child Development Associate Credential, a Child Care Worker Certificate or a Marketable Skills Achievement Award in early childhood education.

Though Washington-Jordan wasn’t preparing for a career in childcare—she currently works as a sales manager for a successful insurance company—her experience has paid dividends for her family. It even inspired her to establish Building Big People Outreach, a nonprofit that empowers parents in Hempstead and beyond to advocate for children with disabilities.

“I want to be able to help anybody I feel I can help—it doesn’t matter where I live,” Washington-Jordan said. “I want to share with parents and people in the community what has worked for me and what they can do to make sure their child’s needs are met within the school system.”

Students working toward their Child Care Worker Certificate or associate’s degree will undergo the program’s capstone course, Practicum/Field Experience, where they are observed by their instructor in a work environment. Students prepare lesson plans and interact with children. Faculty provide one-on-one mentoring in return.

Lidia Hawryluk, Child Development instructor, worked with Washington-Jordan in the capstone course.

“She brought a richness and a depth of understanding to the classroom with her personal experiences,” Hawryluk said. “She’s a very committed, accepting individual. When she has a goal, she pursues it.”

In addition to earning her associate’s degree from Blinn in May 2013, Washington-Jordan received her Real Estate Salesperson License from Blinn’s Real Estate Program and she is currently enrolled in the College’s Paralegal Program.

“I want to learn all I can to be the best I can be and set an example for my family,” Washington-Jordan said. “Blinn helps me do that.”

Story, photo courtesy the Texas A&M Foundation

Professor featured in Texas A&M’s Wright Gallery

Ernie Sherow’s “Spoiled & Unspoiled” raises awareness of violence against women

Blinn College art instructor Ernie Sherow is raising awareness of violence against women with a new exhibit on display at Texas A&M University’s Wright Gallery.

The exhibit, “Spoiled & Unspoiled,” will feature paintings, pastels, mirror-reflecting paintings and conceptual work to express the horrors of violence against women and femicide. It will be open through Nov. 3.

“I want to inspire dialogue so the community will look at violence against women as a serious crime, and not minimize the issue,” Sherow said. “It’s also a form of empowerment for women who have been victimized.”

Sherow created the exhibit as part of her dissertation as a doctoral candidate in the Department of Teaching, Learning and Culture in Texas A&M’s College of Education.

“I am extremely excited about the exhibit,” Sherow said. “First, because it creates an awareness about the situation in communities everywhere. That is more important than anything. The exhibition itself doesn’t matter—it’s the awareness it causes of the heinous crime.”

Ernie Sherow in “Spoiled & Unspoiled,” Art exhibit at Wright Gallery
Bryan resident helps bring Star of the Republic Museum to life

When the flashlights of museum patrons flickered his direction, Jeff Bolich puffed his chest, slipped into his best radio voice and came to life with a sermon in true 1836 Protestant preacher fashion. Until he forgot his lines.

“My brain froze,” Bolich said, laughing as he recalled the moment. “So I opened my Bible where I keep my lines written down and I acted like I was looking for the next verse. Most of the other actors don’t have a prop to use as a cheater.”

Remembering lines is no longer an issue for Bolich, who has played the role of a Protestant preacher at Star of the Republic Museum’s annual Night at the Star of the Republic Museum for the last four years. His wife, Denise Campbell, plays a school teacher.

“[The show] awoken him out of the late 1830s. It brought history to life,” Campbell said. “We absolutely love the park and love the Star of the Republic. This is where Texas started.”

Bolich, Campbell and 13 other period actors will bring the museum to life once again Saturday, Nov. 1 from 7-7 p.m. During the event, museum lights will be turned down and live actors will step forward from exhibits to tell the story of the Texas Republic. Visitors are encouraged to bring flashlights to explore the museum. Admission is $5 for adults, $3 for students and free for children ages 6 and under. Anyone with a current Blinn College ID receives free admission.

Before becoming a Night at the Museum actor, Bolich volunteered for seven years as a demonstration woodworker at Barrington Living History Farm at Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site. Bolich acted in third-person, carving treenware—handcrafted wooden, domestic items—with hand tools, just as it would have been done in the Republic of Texas era. As a museum actor, Bolich uses the first-person perspective, engaging with patrons as if their flashlights have awakened him out of the late 1830s.

“I try to get a reaction from the people coming through,” Bolich said. “When I start talking, I want to capture their attention. When they leave, I want them to think, ‘That was pretty good. Let’s come back again.'”

“We absolutely love the park and love the Star of the Republic. This is where Texas started,” Campbell said.

Bolich and Campbell to become actors five years ago, and they’ve participated every year since.

“It’s a way to give back,” Bolich said. “We absolutely love the park and love the Star of the Republic. This is where Texas started. There’s a whole lot of history and it’s a whole lot of fun living the history and sharing it with others.”

Exhibits will come to life for family fun during Night at the Museum Nov. 1

Vet tech students ace national, state exams with 100 percent pass rate

For the second consecutive year, the Blinn College Veterinary Technology Program posted a 100 percent pass rate on both the state and national board exams.

All 13 students who took the Veterinary Technician National Exam and 12 who took the Texas State Registered Veterinary Technician Exam passed, earning their credentials as Registered Veterinary Technicians from the Texas Veterinary Medical Association. Last year, all six students passed.

“Our program prepares students not only for the exams, but for a lifelong career, and I think that is key to our students’ success,” Program Director David Sessum said. “It’s not enough to give students information—you have to offer hands-on experiences that allow them to put what they have learned into practice.”

Veterinary technology is one of the fastest-growing professions in the nation according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Veterinary technicians assist in diagnosis and surgery, sample collection, sample submission, client communication and research. They provide support to veterinarians in much the same way nurses assist doctors.

Blinn’s program was founded in 2010 and is one of just seven accredited programs in the state that offers vet technician training. The College’s partnership with Texas A&M University’s College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences allows Blinn students to get hands-on training in every aspect of the wide-ranging field.

“The level of education Blinn’s vet tech students receive is unparalleled,” Sessum said. “Our students participate right alongside veterinary medicine students at Texas A&M University and use state-of-the-art equipment you can’t find at other facilities.”

Students are admitted to the program each Fall semester. The program is hosting information sessions for prospective students from 6-7 p.m. Nov. 12 and noon-1 p.m. Dec. 17 in Room CC-11 of the Bryan Workforce Education Campus located at 501 Post Office Street (map). For the second consecutive year, the Blinn College Veterinary Technology Program posted a 100 percent pass rate on both the state and national board exams. All 13 students who took the Veterinary Technician National Exam and 12 who took the Texas State Registered Veterinary Technician Exam passed, earning their credentials as Registered Veterinary Technicians from the Texas Veterinary Medical Association. Last year, all six students passed.

“The level of education Blinn’s vet tech students receive is unparalleled,” Sessum said. “Our students participate right alongside veterinary medicine students at Texas A&M University and use state-of-the-art equipment you can’t find at other facilities.”

Students are admitted to the program each Fall semester. The program is hosting information sessions for prospective students from 6-7 p.m. Nov. 12 and noon-1 p.m. Dec. 17 in Room CC-11 of the Bryan Workforce Education Campus located at 501 Post Office Street (map). For the second consecutive year, the Blinn College Veterinary Technology Program posted a 100 percent pass rate on both the state and national board exams. All 13 students who took the Veterinary Technician National Exam and 12 who took the Texas State Registered Veterinary Technician Exam passed, earning their credentials as Registered Veterinary Technicians from the Texas Veterinary Medical Association. Last year, all six students passed.

Once enrolled, first-year students participate in clinical rotations at five different veterinary clinics for one-week stints. Second-year students perform clinical rotations for eight weeks at Texas A&M. At the clinics, students perform the same tasks as a fully-credentialed veterinary technician, providing valuable real-world experience.

Veterinary technology is one of the fastest-growing professions in the nation according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Veterinary technicians assist in diagnosis and surgery, sample collection, sample submission, client communication and research. They provide support to veterinarians in much the same way nurses assist doctors.

Blinn’s program was founded in 2010 and is one of just seven accredited programs in the state that offers vet technician training. The College’s partnership with Texas A&M University’s College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences allows Blinn students to get hands-on training in every aspect of the wide-ranging field.

“The level of education Blinn’s vet tech students receive is unparalleled,” Sessum said. “Our students participate right alongside veterinary medicine students at Texas A&M University and use state-of-the-art equipment you can’t find at other facilities.”

Students are admitted to the program each Fall semester. The program is hosting information sessions for prospective students from 6-7 p.m. Nov. 12 and noon-1 p.m. Dec. 17 in Room CC-11 of the Bryan Workforce Education Campus located at 501 Post Office Street (map). For the second consecutive year, the Blinn College Veterinary Technology Program posted a 100 percent pass rate on both the state and national board exams. All 13 students who took the Veterinary Technician National Exam and 12 who took the Texas State Registered Veterinary Technician Exam passed, earning their credentials as Registered Veterinary Technicians from the Texas Veterinary Medical Association. Last year, all six students passed.

Once enrolled, first-year students participate in clinical rotations at five different veterinary clinics for one-week stints. Second-year students perform clinical rotations for eight weeks at Texas A&M. At the clinics, students perform the same tasks as a fully-credentialed veterinary technician, providing valuable real-world experience.

Graduates earn an average starting salary of $31,000. While most LVTs work in private practices, Blinn graduates also find employment with animal shelters, stables, reproductive facilities, zoos, wildlife facilities, pharmaceutical sales, the military and homeland security, and a 2014 graduate is currently interning at Walt Disney World, where she helps care for the site’s aquatic animals.

The Veterinary Technology Program is part of Blinn’s Division of Health Sciences, which offers programs including dental hygiene, emergency medical services, fire science, health information technology, nursing, associate degree nursing, licensed vocational nursing, physical therapist assistant, radiologic technology and therapeutics manufacturing.
Dr. Jimmy Byrd's research has focused on statistical reform and data-driven leadership to new administrative position

Blinn College has named an expert in education leadership and data-driven decision-making its chief of staff to the president of Brazos County campuses.

Dr. Jimmy Byrd comes to Blinn from the University of North Texas, where he has served as an assistant and associate professor since 2005. Prior to that, he served on the Tarleton State University faculty and was also a high school principal and a deputy superintendent at Richland Springs ISD. As chief of staff, Byrd will consult with Sylvia McMullen, president of Brazos County campuses, on operational and administrative activities and will serve as a point of contact in McMullen's absence. Byrd begins his duties Nov. 3.

"What really excited me about the opportunity to work with Sylvia and Blinn's leadership is the potential Blinn has," he said. "Blinn has tremendous opportunities not only with Texas A&M, but with high schools across the state and local and regional businesses. I believe I can bring some skills to the table that will strengthen those current relationships and help to build new partnerships."

Byrd earned his Bachelor of Science in agriculture education and his Master of Education in educational administration from Tarleton State University, and earned doctorates in educational administration and measurement and statistics from Texas A&M University. His research interests have focused on organizational reform and strategic planning.

"Dr. Byrd's expertise in statistics, measurement and data analysis make him uniquely qualified to help us determine new strategies for identifying and meeting student demand for everything from classes to student services," McMullen said.

Byrd is a member of the University Council of Educational Administration, American Educational Research Association, National Council of Professors of Education Administration, Texas Association of Professors in Educational Administration, Texas Education Leadership Council and National Education Finance Association. He also serves on the Faculty Development Committee and Doctoral Faculty Advisory Committee at UNT.

Sealy campus awards scholarships to three deserving students

The Blinn College – Sealy campus recently awarded two Sealy campus students and a Sealy high school student scholarships for use toward classes at Blinn-Sealy.

First-year students Amanda Coward and Trey Bartholomaus and Sealy High School junior Selest Gonzales were selected to receive funds after submitting a letter of recommendation and a personal statement detailing their educational and professional aspirations. To be eligible, students must not qualify for financial aid.

Students earn more than $3000 of financial assistance

The Blinn College – Sealy campus recently awarded two Sealy campus students and a Sealy high school student scholarships for use toward classes at Blinn-Sealy.

First-year students Amanda Coward and Trey Bartholomaus and Sealy High School junior Selest Gonzales were selected to receive funds after submitting a letter of recommendation and a personal statement detailing their educational and professional aspirations. To be eligible, students must not qualify for financial aid.

"Dr. Byrd's expertise in statistics, measurement and data analysis make him uniquely qualified to help us determine new strategies for identifying and meeting student demand for everything from classes to student services," McMullen said.

Byrd is a member of the University Council of Educational Administration, American Educational Research Association, National Council of Professors of Education Administration, Texas Association of Professors in Educational Administration, Texas Education Leadership Council and National Education Finance Association. He also serves on the Faculty Development Committee and Doctoral Faculty Advisory Committee at UNT.

"Dr. Byrd's expertise in statistics, measurement and data analysis make him uniquely qualified to help us determine new strategies for identifying and meeting student demand for everything from classes to student services," McMullen said.

Byrd is a member of the University Council of Educational Administration, American Educational Research Association, National Council of Professors of Education Administration, Texas Association of Professors in Educational Administration, Texas Education Leadership Council and National Education Finance Association. He also serves on the Faculty Development Committee and Doctoral Faculty Advisory Committee at UNT.

Sealy campus awards scholarships to three deserving students

The Blinn College – Sealy campus recently awarded two Sealy campus students and a Sealy high school student scholarships for use toward classes at Blinn-Sealy.

First-year students Amanda Coward and Trey Bartholomaus and Sealy High School junior Selest Gonzales were selected to receive funds after submitting a letter of recommendation and a personal statement detailing their educational and professional aspirations. To be eligible, students must not qualify for financial aid.

Students earn more than $3000 of financial assistance

The Blinn College – Sealy campus recently awarded two Sealy campus students and a Sealy high school student scholarships for use toward classes at Blinn-Sealy.

First-year students Amanda Coward and Trey Bartholomaus and Sealy High School junior Selest Gonzales were selected to receive funds after submitting a letter of recommendation and a personal statement detailing their educational and professional aspirations. To be eligible, students must not qualify for financial aid.

Students earn more than $3000 of financial assistance

The Blinn College – Sealy campus recently awarded two Sealy campus students and a Sealy high school student scholarships for use toward classes at Blinn-Sealy.

First-year students Amanda Coward and Trey Bartholomaus and Sealy High School junior Selest Gonzales were selected to receive funds after submitting a letter of recommendation and a personal statement detailing their educational and professional aspirations. To be eligible, students must not qualify for financial aid.

The presentation was hosted by Blinn’s Division of Social Sciences, which offers courses in anthropology, criminal justice, geography, government, history, legal assistance, psychology and sociology. Sealy campus awards scholarships to three deserving students

The Blinn College – Sealy campus recently awarded two Sealy campus students and a Sealy high school student scholarships for use toward classes at Blinn-Sealy.

First-year students Amanda Coward and Trey Bartholomaus and Sealy High School junior Selest Gonzales were selected to receive funds after submitting a letter of recommendation and a personal statement detailing their educational and professional aspirations. To be eligible, students must not qualify for financial aid.

Students earn more than $3000 of financial assistance

The Blinn College – Sealy campus recently awarded two Sealy campus students and a Sealy high school student scholarships for use toward classes at Blinn-Sealy.

First-year students Amanda Coward and Trey Bartholomaus and Sealy High School junior Selest Gonzales were selected to receive funds after submitting a letter of recommendation and a personal statement detailing their educational and professional aspirations. To be eligible, students must not qualify for financial aid.

The presentation was hosted by Blinn’s Division of Social Sciences, which offers courses in anthropology, criminal justice, geography, government, history, legal assistance, psychology and sociology.

Sealy campus awards scholarships to three deserving students

The Blinn College – Sealy campus recently awarded two Sealy campus students and a Sealy high school student scholarships for use toward classes at Blinn-Sealy.

First-year students Amanda Coward and Trey Bartholomaus and Sealy High School junior Selest Gonzales were selected to receive funds after submitting a letter of recommendation and a personal statement detailing their educational and professional aspirations. To be eligible, students must not qualify for financial aid.

Students earn more than $3000 of financial assistance

The Blinn College – Sealy campus recently awarded two Sealy campus students and a Sealy high school student scholarships for use toward classes at Blinn-Sealy.

First-year students Amanda Coward and Trey Bartholomaus and Sealy High School junior Selest Gonzales were selected to receive funds after submitting a letter of recommendation and a personal statement detailing their educational and professional aspirations. To be eligible, students must not qualify for financial aid.

The presentation was hosted by Blinn’s Division of Social Sciences, which offers courses in anthropology, criminal justice, geography, government, history, legal assistance, psychology and sociology.
New anthropology lab offers Bryan campus students hands-on opportunities

Students on the Blinn-Bryan campus have a new opportunity to engage in the College’s vibrant student life through intramural sports. More than 476 students expressed interest in the College’s seven intramural sports—flag football, soccer, dodgeball, basketball, volleyball, billiards and ping pong— and another 150 students attended a recent meeting regarding the new additions to student life.

“Students are really excited about the new intramural sports and the new lab,” said Cole Miller, a first-year student from Arlington, enrolled in physical anthropology this semester. Miller selected the course over biology to get a taste of something new, since he will be required to take several biology courses on his way to becoming a veterinarian.

“Students can learn how chemistry, biology and physics are used in the field. They can be introduced to it all without being overwhelmed,” Miller said. “It’s a great course for science students who are non-science or non-math majors.”

Co-author Dr. Cynthia Griffith, vice president for Student Relations, said the new lab will provide students with the tools they need to succeed in their studies.

“Bryan students are interested in learning about anthropology, but they may not know where to start,” Griffith said. “Now they have the opportunity to work with real human remains and learn about the different aspects of the field.”

Hundreds of students participating in Bryan campus intramurals

Approximately 500 intend to participate in one of Bryan campus’s seven intramural sports.

Students on the Blinn-Bryan campus have a new opportunity to engage in the College’s vibrant student life through intramural sports.

More than 476 students expressed interest in the College’s seven intramural sports—flag football, soccer, dodgeball, basketball, volleyball, billiards and ping pong—and another 150 students attended a recent meeting regarding the new additions to student life.

“I didn’t realize how high the demand was until we got it off the ground,” said Student Activities Coordinator Garrett Smith. “It’s great that so many students want to get involved. We want to make them feel like they’re at home here at Blinn.”

More than 214 students signed up for flag football—150 more than participated when the sport launched last Spring.

“We’ve had some more time to get the word out and it’s catching on,” Smith said. “It’s a new, wide open door for students to have fun with friendly competition. It’s also garnering a lot of interest in other student activities and we’re excited that students want to invest in their time here.”

Flag football and soccer will be played this Fall on the intramural sports field located near the parking lot on Villa Maria Road. Basketball and volleyball will begin in the Spring at the College Edge Apartments and ping pong and billiards Spring competitions will take place in the Student Center. Students collect books to promote literacy

Geographic Society partners with Worldwide Book Drive to repurpose unused books

It started out as a simple idea for a fundraiser, but Blinn’s Geographic Society book drive has taken on a different meaning for club president Omri Ortiz.

“I grew up in a low-income home,” said Ortiz. “I really enjoyed learning about the body—studying bones and looking at DNA. It really is an exciting class and a great alternative to the usual science courses.”

The club began collecting unused books from students, faculty and staff near the close of the Spring semester with several donation sites across the College’s Bryan campus. Ortiz and other volunteers recently packed more than 75 boxes full of donated books and handed them over to Worldwide Book Drive, a U.S.-based nonprofit that promotes global literacy and education by repurposing every donated book, new and old.

The Worldwide Book Drive will give one dollar to the Geographic Society for each book less than five years from the publish date. Every book older than five years in good condition will be sent to a country where the book will continue to be appreciated for years to come. Out-of-date or poor condition books will be recycled. Since 2005, the nonprofit has salvaged millions of pounds of books from going unused or dumped in landfills.

The Geographic Society recently received a report from Worldwide Book Drive that the group collected 1,135 books. More than 260 books were donated to citizens of Papua New Guinea and another 260 were recycled. The Worldwide Book Drive will keep 597 books, 220 of which were less than five years old, earning Blinn’s Geographic Society $220.

“We knew most of the books were not going to be in the one- to five-year range. So we were not expecting a lot of money,” Ortiz said. “It’s really not about that. We tend to use our books for a little while and then they just sit on a shelf or get thrown away. Why let books go to waste when someone else could use them?”

The proceeds will be used for Geographic Society field trips and for costs associated with regional geography contests. In the Spring three society members, including Ortiz, competed in a regional conference at Texas State University where they tacked six undergraduate teams from universities with their research poster, “Geographic History of Washington-on-the Brazos.”

“It’s amazing to see students get involved,” said Rhonda Reagan, Social Sciences professor and Geographic Society advisor. “We have a really sharp group of students and I’m proud to have them represent our College, not only through their intellect, but with leadership and service.”
Sophomore point guards lead Buccaneer men into 2014-15 season

Blinn College head men’s basketball coach Scott Schumacher knows that to thrive in the rugged Region XIV Conference, you need experienced playmakers and quality ball handling.

Inajan McClound and Lionheart Leslie, Schumacher and the Buccaneers have both.

Leslie, a 5-foot-10 sophomore point guard from Houma, La., and McClound, a 5-foot-11 sophomore point guard from Fort Worth, each emerged as leaders for the Buccaneers in 2013-14 despite splitting time at point guard. McClound was the Buccaneers’ second-leading scorer behind Macari Brooks, averaging 9.3 points and 2.6 assists per game, while Leslie averaged 9.0 points and 3.6 points per game. Together, they helped lead the Buccaneers to an 18-14 record and the conference quarterfinals.

“I pulled those two together in August and told them I already miss them when they leave in May,” Schumacher said. “They’re ready to blossom this year. They’re really good people, really good basketball players and I look for big things from them this year.”

Schumacher said each player’s scoring ability allows him to play McClound and Leslie at the same time, playing off one another and the Buccaneers’ improved size in the paint.

“We’ll look to control the tempo a little bit more than in the past, when we were trying to get out and go every second we had the ball,” Schumacher said.

In addition to McClound and Leslie, the Buccaneers return Cody Everett, a 6-foot-3 guard out of Shapero, Texas.

“He’s really improved as a basketball player,” Schumacher said. “His confidence is at a different level, which translates to the basketball court.”

The Bucs have added a pair of sophomore transfers in guard Tyler Pato (5-foot-3, Fort Aransas) from Florida Atlantic University and forward Vittor Arick (5-foot-6, Dallas) from Texas Southern University.

“The guys bring maturity and leadership because they have been through a college situation,” Schumacher said. “Both are very good shooters who can shoot the three.”

On the recruiting trail, the Buccaneers focused on adding big bodies in the paint. All five recruits that Schumacher brought to campus signed with Blinn.

Ja’Cardo Hawkins, a 6-foot-8, 260-pound forward from Gonzales, La., comes to Blinn as one of the top five recruits out of Louisiana.

“He has the ability to be a high-level player,” Schumacher said. “He can score inside and out and is very athletic.”

Rick Curry, a 6-foot-9, 287-pound center from Gran Prairie, brings even more size to the paint. With a left-handed scoring touch and a nice face-up game, Curry was one of the highest-rated players coming from the Texas high school ranks.

Trey Edwards, a 6-foot-10, 286-pound center forward from Mansfield, Texas, brings agility and superior skill for a man his size.

“He’s quick on his feet and has great footwork,” Schumacher said. “His ceiling will depend on how bad he wants it.”

Kencr Twine, a 6-foot-5, 250-pound forward from Beaumont, Texas, gives the Buccaneers another big man in the paint.

“He’s a physical player in the pain and has really done a good job improving on his skills,” Schumacher said.

Reese Frosch, a 6-foot-5 forward from Canton, Texas, gives the Bucs an inside-out scoring threat.

“He can really shoot it and he’s done a good job for us,” Schumacher said.

Hayden Robinson, a 6-foot guard from Portland, Texas, was the MVP of his high school district. Ja’Corey Colvin, a 6-foot-3 guard from Brenham, has drawn Schumacher’s attention since his junior year.

“He brings a level of athleticism to the program,” Schumacher said. “He’s a quality individual and we’re excited to have him.”

All 12 Buccaneers are from either Texas or Louisiana.

“We’d like to continue to improve on last year,” Schumacher said. “Blinn is a location that can draw talented players from Texas and Louisiana, and their parents can come watch them play.”

Buccaneer women seek third consecutive trip to nationals

Fresh off back-to-back appearances at the NJCAA National Championships, the Blinn College women’s basketball team has high hopes that the third time will prove the charm in 2014-15.

Each of the last two years, the Buccaneers have been led by Al-American Fatima Adams, who rewrote the team’s record books with 804 points and 389 rebounds last season, and also set the program’s career marks in points scored (1,292) and rebounds (709). This year, they will attempt to go back to nationals for arguably the best player in program history.

“Each year it’s a new team,” head coach Jeff Jenkins said. “Loosing Fatima and quite a few sophomores, it will be a completely different team and we’re going to play a different style.”

The Buccaneers return four sophomores in Brianna Luton (Houston), Allexus Freeman (Navasota), Shakera Barnes (Shooks) and Moe Bedford (Houston).

They all helped us win a lot of games last year,” Jenkins said. “They may not have played 35 minutes a game like they wanted last year, but they all played good minutes.”

Lufton averaged 3.8 points and 2.6 rebounds per game last season in 430 minutes.

“She’s listed at 5-foot-8 but she’s a strong 5-8,” Jenkins said. “She’s strong enough to defend 5-10 or 5-11 guards on the inside, she handles and shoots the ball better and she gives us defensive versatility because in a bind she can play post.

Freeman averaged 6.1 points and 3.5 rebounds per game in 558 minutes last season.

“Her ball handling was questionable last year and quite a bit better,” Jenkins said. “She’s very strong and a good rebounder for 5-foot-4. She can create her own shot and has a good-looking jump shot.”

Barnes averaged 4.5 points, 3.1 rebounds and 1.7 assists per game in 600 minutes last season, and scored 14 in the Buccaneers’ final game at last year’s NJCAA National Championships.

“She’s strong and she can run,” Jenkins said. “She had the second-fasted 400-meter time in the state in high school, and she has gotten a lot better on the court. She’s an extremely hard worker and she’s fun to coach.”

Bedford averaged nine points per game prior to a torn Achilles tendon that kept her out of action all of last season.

“If she stays healthy, she has a chance to be very good,” Jenkins said. “She’s better now than she was as a freshman.”

In addition to their four returners, the Buccaneers bolstered their veteran leadership with the addition of six transfers. Courtney Dawson, a small forward from South Plains College, is an athletic rebounder with speed, while Alissa Johnson, a point guard from Idaho Lakes Community College, brings strong passing and ball handling skills.

The Buccaneers also added Katelyn Johnson, a forward from Tyler Junior College.

“She shoots well and handles the ball well,” Jenkins said. “She’s one of the most skilled players we’ve had in a while.”

Chant Lewis, a guard from Troy University, will miss the preseason while dealing with a knee injury. She will bring strong ball handling skills after posting consistently twice as many assists as turnovers last season at Troy.

Micarah Malone, a forward from Lamar University, brings athleticism to the post position, while Nancy Worobia, a forward from Howard Community College, is the tallest player on the Buccaneer roster at 6-foot-3.

“She has a chance to be really good,” Jenkins said. “She’s still probably be one of our most highly-recruited players when she leaves.”

Ashley Cherry, a 6-foot-1 freshman from Lake Charles, La., gives the Buccaneers a left-handed post with a nice shooting touch and strong play in the paint.

“She’s a really good freshman pick-up,” Jenkins said.

Perina Faumsi, a 5-foot-11 forward from Honolulu, will be a presence on the boards.

“She’s a lot better than I thought she would be,” Jenkins said. “She moves extremely well and is a phenomenal athlete.”

Jonnelle Jackson, a 5-foot-10 forward from Mansfield, improved quickly throughout the season. Juliah Preston, a guard from Houston, gives the Buccaneers a 3-point shooter with a scorer’s mentality.

“If we can stay healthy we’ve got a chance,” Jenkins said. “We’ve got good guards and bigger posts. It just seems like the difference between 18 and 24 wins each year is just staying healthy.”
PERSONAL NOTES
Dr. Oren Swearingen, clinical dentist for the Dental Hygiene Program, passed away Oct. 4. Swearingen served in the College's dental hygiene clinic in a part-time capacity for over 16 years. He provided patient diagnoses, reviewed medical and dental histories, conducted patient consultations and made referrals when appropriate.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

NOV. 3........... Bryan Writing Center Workshop: Using Words Effectively, noon.
NOV. 3........... Men's Basketball vs. Houston Community College, P.E. Building, 7:30 p.m.
NOV. 5........... Women's Basketball vs. Temple, P.E. Building, 7:30 p.m.
NOV. 7........... New Student Orientation – Brenham Campus
NOV. 10-11 .... Bryan CIRT Sexual Harassment/Rape Prevention Training, 2:30 p.m.
NOV. 14......... Student Vocal Recital, Brenham Schmidt Building, 7 p.m.
NOV. 14......... Men's Basketball vs. Texas Southern Club, P.E. Building, 7:30 p.m.
NOV. 15......... Women's Basketball vs. McLennan, P.E. Building, 2 p.m.
NOV. 18......... Board of Trustees Meeting, Brenham Administration Building, 6:30 p.m.
NOV. 18......... Men's Basketball vs. Victoria College, P.E. Building, 7:30 p.m.
NOV. 22......... Women's Basketball vs. Bossier Parish, P.E. Building, 4 p.m.
NOV. 26-28 .... Holiday
NOV. 29......... Men's Basketball vs. Lone Star – Cy-Fair, P.E. Building, 7:30 p.m.

Baldknobbers Jamboree
Family-Friendly Fun, Music and Comedy

Brenham High School
DEC. 14, 2014 • 3 P.M.

Online Ticket Sales: www.blinn.edu/foundation
or Blinn College Foundation - Mon.-Fri.
979-830-4495
PRESENTED BY THE BLINN COLLEGE FOUNDATION

TICKETS STARTING AT $20

Incsudes A Christmas Special
Tickets Available
Nov. 3