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Caldwell Attends Dietetics Conferences

Angie Caldwell, BRTC's Vice President of Technical Education, has been busy this fall with conferences in both Arkansas and California concerning dietetics.

Caldwell spoke at the Arkansas Dietary Management Association's fall conference, held September 15-16 in Hot Springs. The topic of her presentation, "How to Avoid Hassel in the Castle," focused on the nutritional requirements for children. She spoke to 80 of Arkansas's dietary managers and administrators. The audience included twelve BRTC faculty, staff and students. "BRTC was well represented in Hot Springs," said Caldwell.

In April, Caldwell received the honor of being named Outstanding Dietitian in Arkansas for 2011. To go along with the honor, she was awarded an all-expenses paid trip to attend the 2011 Food and Nutrition Conference of the



Angie Caldwell (left) with Dr. Nina Roofe, President-Elect of the Arkansas Dietetic Association

American Dietetic Association Sept. 22-27 in San Diego, California.

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Four Honored with AATYC Awards



Brittney Hembrey

Joniece Trammel

Katrina Bozarth

Natasha Rush

Four individuals associated with BRTC were honored at the 2011 Fall Conference of the Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges (AATYC) held October 16-18 in Hot Springs. Receiving awards were Brittney Hembrey, Academic All-Star, Joniece Trammel, Outstanding Faculty, Katrina Bozarth, Outstanding Staff, and Natasha Rush, Outstanding Alumni. Several BRTC faculty and staff also attended the conference.

Hembrey is working on her AA in Gen Ed degree at BRTC and, upon completion, plans to pursue a bachelor's degree and master's degree in nursing with an emphasis on trauma. She is a member of the Beta Delta Phi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. She was among 22 Academic All-Star scholarship recipients honored during a brunch at the AATYC conference with keynote speaker

Shane Broadway, Interim Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education.

As part of the Academic All-Star honor, Hembrey was awarded a \$500 scholarship to complete her associate degree and a full-tuition scholarship to attend her choice of 11 Arkansas public four-year universities or two private to complete her bachelor's degree.

"These scholarships will enable our best and brightest students to reach for their dreams at any of Arkansas' 11 public four-year universities, and now two private universities" said Dr. Ed Franklin, AATYC Executive Director. "Many of these students are studying hard to maintain excellent grades while also working and handling family

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Important Dates

- November 23-25**
Campus Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday
- November 30**
Fun Before Finals
- December 5**
Respiratory Care Pinning Ceremony
- December 6**
RN Pinning Ceremony
- December 13**
PN Pinning Ceremony
- December 15**
BRTC Graduation
- December 16**
MSSPS Auction/Potluck

Induction Ceremony Held for 37 New Members of PTK

BRTC's Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society held a ceremony for 37 inductees on October 13 in the Randolph County Development Center. Requirements for selection include maintaining a 3.5 grade point average or higher while enrolled in at least twelve college credit hours per semester.

Current PTK officers are John Rainwater, president; Chelsea Raddad, vice president of fellowship; Rebeckha Cate, vice president of membership; Jason Moseley, vice president of service; Daniel Nix, vice president of fundraising; Flora Henderson, vice president of fundraising; Michael Marlett, vice president of communications; Karman Matthews, vice president of leadership.

Chapter PTK advisors are Dr. Linda Moss, Phillip Dickson and Ashley Hall.

Those inducted were Ashley Bias, Minae Black, Alisia Capone, Sylvia Clemons, Rosalva Esparza-Dilks, Brandy Franke, Donna Gage, Sasha Gifford, Jesse Gregory, Angela Grooms and Chasity Harmon, Derek Hayes, Paula Hedge, Antonnett Johnson, Lisa Jones, and Savannah Kohler.



Phi Theta Kappa Officers and Inductees with PTK Sponsor, Dr. Linda Moss

Also, Zachary Kemmett, Mikaela Manley, Russell March, Jonathan Milgram, Melissa Miller, Carla Money, Cathlyn Moore, Jamey Niswonger, Sharon Peek, Julie Peek, Rachel Pratt, Kimberly Rasdall, Kimberly Riddle, Brandi Schuler, Penny Sikes,

Haley Slusser, Jeffrey Smith, Jennifer Stewart, Mathew Tyler, Joseph Ward and Michael Westbrook.

For more information about BRTC's Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, contact Dr. Moss at 870-248-4136.

Hardage is Awarded Grainger Scholarship

Seth Hardage, a 2008 graduate of Pocahontas High School, has been awarded the 2011 Grainger Tools for Tomorrow Scholarship. The \$1,000 scholarship is for two consecutive semesters and is awarded to second year students in a technical program. Hardage is working towards an Associate of Applied Science in Aviation Maintenance degree.



Seth Hardage

Grainger is a distributor of facilities maintenance supplies and has been serving businesses for more than 80 years, providing supplies and equipment needed to keep their facilities running. In 2006, the scholarship program was launched in conjunction with the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). BRTC is the only community college in Arkansas partnered with Grainger in the scholarship program.

The program is designed to help students in the skilled trades curriculum realize their educational and career goals. The program awards outstanding students at 75 selected AACC member colleges across the country with a \$2,000 scholarship and, upon completion of the student's technical program, the customized Westward toolkit valued at more than \$1,000.

To qualify for the scholarship, students must be in their second year of college and working towards an Associate's degree or certification in specified industrial trades and have demonstrated drive, commitment and leadership. Recipients are chosen in a two-step process involving both BRTC and Grainger, with Grainger making the final decision.

Hardage is the son of Raymond Hardage and Kellee Hardage of Pocahontas. He and his fiancé Andrea have a two-year-old daughter, Olivia.

For more information, contact Natasha Rush, at 870-248-4000, ext. 4019.

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responsibilities, which makes their accomplishments even more impressive. These students deserve our recognition, and these scholarships are a fine way to help them achieve their goals."

Each of the 22 public two-year colleges names one student as an "Academic All-Star." These students maintain a cumulative grade point average of no less than 3.25 out of a possible 4.0 and have completed a minimum of 24 credit hours in pursuit of an associate degree.

Trammel began her career at BRTC in 2003 as Recruiter, but soon became a music instructor, Director of BRTC's Kimbrough Choir and Concurrent Credit Coordinator. Under her leadership, the concurrent credit program continued to grow and BRTC became one of the first Arkansas colleges to be accredited by NACEP (National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships).

Bozarth joined the BRTC staff in 2010 as Administrative Specialist for the Paragould campus. She graduated from BRTC in 2008 with an AAS in Business Technology degree. She enrolled at BRTC after becoming a dislocated worker with the closing of Rector Sportswear where she had worked for 25 years. The BRTC faculty and staff voted for Bozarth because of her hard work and wonderful attitude.

Natasha Rush is a 2003 AAS graduate of BRTC. She also holds a BS in Business Administration and an MS in College Student Personnel. Rush now serves as a Financial Aid Specialist for BRTC where she has been since 2008. She also serves as Vice-Chair of the Arkansas Single Parent Scholarship Fund for Randolph County.

REACH Celebration Draws a Large Number of Visitors

The recent three-day celebration of the completion of the Rice-Upshaw House and the Looney Tavern drew large numbers of people from the community, from area schools, and from seven states. The restoration project, called REACH, or Researching Early Arkansas Cultural Heritage, is a project of historic preservation undertaken by Black River Technical College. More than 1,000 people attended one or more of the activities.

The project began almost ten years ago and included extensive historical, archeological, and architectural research and study; it culminated with the restoration of the territorial-era structures near Dalton in northern Randolph County built by Reuben Rice (ca. 1828), and William Looney (ca. 1833). Also restored were two similarly aged out-buildings, a smoke house and a granary at the Rice site. New construction included a pavilion and stacked rail fencing at the Rice-Upshaw site. The project was funded with four grants from Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council.

Highlights of the event included demonstrations of pioneer life with Gerry and Maria Barker and Jake Yost and their oxen, as well as a return visit by the craftsmen and other professionals who were involved in the project. These included Eric Sam-

mons and crew from Mountain Home, James Parker of Jonesboro, Kathy Candy of the Arkansas Archeological Survey, Tommy Jameson, architect, of Little Rock, and Joan Gould, Historic Preservation Consultant of Preservation Matters of Fayetteville.

Also a highlight was an evening concert with David Bowlin and Wil Maring, along with the St. Louis Metro Singers, BRTC performers Joniece Trammel, Rachel Wise, and Dr. Gary Buxton, and Angel Gibson of Walnut Ridge and Marilyn Hogan of Pocahontas.

Other performers or participants included Marilyn's Clogging Company, The Kimbrough Singers, and demonstrations of soap making and quilting.

Other BRTC staffers who performed included Kelly Grooms and his son Walter Grooms, who along with Thom Fielder presented "Reuben, Hiram and William," and Cindy Robinett, Rice family descendant, who presented an overview of family histories.

The ribbon-cutting ceremonies included recogni-



Eric Sammons (far left), log craftsman, speaks to Pocahontas FFA students and instructor Wendell Hogan

tion of descendants of Reuben Rice and William Looney, as well as Downey family descendants and African American descendants of the Looney homestead.

"We greatly appreciate the efforts of all the many community volunteers—individuals and organizations, many of whom are not named here—who helped us in this event," said Dr. Jan Ziegler, Vice President for Development. "We could not have done this without their help."

Instructors Speak at ASU Symposium

Three Black River Technical College instructors had the opportunity to speak last month at the 10th Anniversary Symposium, Heritage Studies Ph.D. Program at ASU. Dr. Sandy Davis-Baltz, Dr. Gary Buxton and Dr. Derek Clements are graduates of the program.

Baltz was the first graduate of the Heritage Studies program in 2005. "I talked about my first impressions of the program, the first course we took and my practicum at the St. Louis Art Museum," stated Baltz. "I also discussed what I do today with my art and history students that relates to heritage."

Buxton completed his degree in 2007. He talked about how he emphasizes heritage in his Creative Writing and Heritage classes. As a member of the Missouri Folklore Society, he discussed continued plans for the BRTC Oral Archives. "Presently, we have over 300 interviews, and my hope is to have all of them on our website making research on these topics or crafts much more acces-



Dr. Derek Clements, Dr. Sandy Davis-Baltz and Dr. Gary Buxton

sible and practical."

As the thirteenth graduate from the program Dr. Derek Clements finished his degree in 2010. "The skills learned in my coursework have been incredibly valuable as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas Historical Association and the Board of Directors of the Arkansas Humanities Council," noted Clements. He also mentioned his continued work reviewing books for various journals and writing occasional entries for The Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture.

Clevenger Returns to BRTC

Bert Clevenger has returned to BRTC to assume the position of Coordinator for Continuing Education and Business Outreach on the Paragould Campus.

Clevenger previously worked at BRTC as a business instructor from 1999-2007 before taking the position of Workforce Training Specialist at National Park Community College in Hot Springs.

From 1992-1999, Clevenger worked for Arkansas Department of Workforce Education as Industrial Training Coordinator.

He holds a BA in Human Resource Management from Harding University and a MS in Vocational Technical Administration from Arkansas State University.



Bert Clevenger



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BRTC Mission Statement

*Blending tradition, technology and innovation
to educate today's diverse students
for tomorrow's changing world.*

Campus Commentary



*Dr. Wayne Hatcher
President*

With the beginning of the fall semester, I decided to modify the role and scope of the BRTC Student Ambassadors to better match our mission and vision statements that we revised during our self-study process. Over the next couple of years, this select student group will focus more on learning, developing and practicing leadership skills. As a result, the Student Ambassadors are now the President's Leadership Council (PLC).

In keeping with this emphasis, the group

will be reading texts from leadership experts and discussing their findings. Additionally, activities will be implemented and evolve to where the organization coordinates and collaborates with other BRTC groups and local entities. Examples of these initial efforts include the "Paint BRTC Pink" breast cancer awareness activity held in October and the diabetes awareness/education event to be held in late November.

PLC members work as a group and decide among themselves what activities they will produce and/or collaborate on, who does what, when, how, set a budget, etc., and are totally responsible for all of the details--including its success or failure. PLC looks for students who possess at least some of the

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The conference consisted of around 10,000 members of the American Dietetic Association. The opening keynote speaker was Nancy Brinker, founder of Susan G Kolman Race for the Cure Foundation. "She talked about how this disease has brought all women together no matter what culture or religion," Caldwell said. "Her insight on leadership was inspiring!"

Caldwell noted that the big announcement during the conference was that in January 2012, the American Dietetic Association will change its name to The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

following: integrity, honesty, independent thought, intelligence, ability to maintain strong relationships, positive attitude, and perseverance. They must also question the status quo, strive for excellence, and want to make a difference. I expect and demand a lot from PLC, so I am not interested in someone who won't work, and work hard. If you know of students who exhibit some of these leadership traits please contact me or Laura Kueter-Woods.



BRTC Faculty, Staff, and Students wore pink for "Paint BRTC Pink" day organized by members of PLC