

President's Newsletter

President's Message



Greetings—friends, alumni, faculty, staff and students.

Fall is an exhilarating time at St. Philip's, with new beginnings, friends and activities, and an overall feeling of momentum!

Faculty at its post—teaching, writing, presenting, mentoring. Staff and faculty committees are hard at work, already having produced a dynamic Hispanic Heritage Month featuring a debate on the Arizona immigration bill and a salsa cook-off resulting in Culinary Arts scholarships.

Homecoming brought a record number of alumni back to campus for a get-acquainted mixer and a dance.

Every day we grow, and the challenges of doing more with less because of shrinking budgets keep our family working harder than ever. Smarter than ever. And always, BETTER than ever.

This year we have launched a Journey of Excellence. An eighty-five member strategic planning group of faculty, staff and students joined forces to examine our everyday processes and our performance. A strenuous three months of observation and dissection yielded a document archiving our self-examination.

This document became our application for the Award Level (the highest level of competition) in the Education Sector of the Texas Award for Performance Excellence, which is modeled on the national Baldrige criteria for excellence.

It examines all phases of "the way we do business," and it has been a revelation. We knew we were doing good things, we just didn't know how many. We also identified opportunities for improvement.

I thank you and ask for your continued support. As always, I invite you to come see us at St. Philip's College. We are proud of our institution and we enjoy showing it off.

Best regards,

**Dr. Adena Williams Loston
President**

SPC Observes Hispanic Heritage Month, Homecoming

St. Philip's College swung into the Fall semester with five Hispanic Heritage Month events and a Homecoming Celebration October 22, 23 and 24.

Hispanic Heritage month activities kicked off with a September 16 keynote address by local journalist Jessie Degollado, a month long exhibit of photography by Al Rendon and a performance at the Southwest Campus by noted musician Azul.

The celebration continued with an October 7 debate of the Arizona immigration bill. George Rodriguez, a member of the Juan Seguin chapter of the Tea Party, debated in favor of the bill with LULAC legal counsel Luis Vera debating against. The moderator was Express News columnist and long-time television news anchor Victor Landa.

The month capped off with the 2010 Best Tasting Salsa Scholarship Competition, where local high school chefs competed for six SPC scholarships by making the best tasting salsa. Judges were Chef Patrick Costello, SPC faculty; Chef Manny Olivarez, SPC Alumni/Tin Can Tacos; and Chef Xavier Flores, Edible Creationz.

Homecoming Features Alumni Mixer, Blue and White Dance

Keeping October activity at a fast pace, St. Philip's College held a free family-friendly 2010 Homecoming weekend program for alumni, students, and friends of the college October 22–24.

(See HH Month, Homecoming/page 5)



*(Photo on left) Homecoming King and Queen candidates.
(Photo on right) Azul performs at Southwest Campus.*



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Stage Production of *Dinah Was!* Recognized

The St. Philip's College theater company's 2010 spring production of the Oliver Goldstick musical *Dinah Was!* has been recognized for excellence by the Alamo Theatre Arts Council. The formal recognition occurred at the 20th Annual ATAC Globe Awards on October 10.



Michelle Burnett (left) posing with other recipients of a Globe. Photo courtesy of Susan Riley.

Dinah Was! was directed by Theatre Program Coordinator Vincent Hardy, with music arranged by Jake Owen. The production featured signature songs such as *What A Difference A Day Makes*, sung by St. Philip's College Continuing Education employee Michelle Burnett in the role of Dinah. Michelle won an award for "Excellence" as a lead actress.

Women in Technology Program Awards 11 \$1,000 Scholarships

The Electronics and IT Department's Women in Technology Program, sponsored by the Greater Texas Foundation, awarded eleven \$1,000 scholarships to women majoring in Computer Maintenance, Cisco Networking, or Biomedical Equipment Technology for 2010/2011. The program is designed to help women enter high paying occupational fields that have been traditionally dominated by their male counterparts. This is the second year of the program, and the eleven scholarships represent a 300 percent increase over the 2009/2010 school year.



Jenny Trevino, scholarship recipient and second-year Biomedical Equipment program student said, "Having the scholarship helps me afford the pricey textbooks."

Two Cessnas Enhance Aviation Technology Instruction

Two Cessna twin-engine aircraft purchased for the ground training of students in the aviation technology program were delivered to the program's hangar at the college's Southwest Campus on August 30.



Photo courtesy of Port San Antonio

The aircraft will be used for training in Federal Aviation Administration competencies that prepare students for employment or advanced training in the commercial and general aviation industry, according to aircraft technology program director Rodney Cotter.

Before students began using the working aircraft as part of their maintenance classes, they were able to meet the former owners of the planes, one of whom is professional bronco and bull rodeo icon turned businessman Larry Mahan. Mahan landed his plane at the airfield at Port San Antonio and was met by aircraft technology instructors and students from the college.

St. Philip's College Conducts Exchange Project with Brazil Educators

This summer several Brazilian educators visited the college's two campuses as part of an exchange project.

Two of the college's instructors visited Brazil in the spring to further a project that explores best practices in teaching and delivering instruction. Welding program coordinator Robert Medina shared his experience with students and educators in the Brazilian city of Pelotas. He also provided a 36-hour course on welding to 25 instructors in Pelotas' Instituto Federal Educacional system.

Repair and Manufacturing Technology Department chairperson Jose Ybarra visited the same community to conduct an introductory robotics class for students at Instituto Federal Sul-rio-grandense.

"It was a long one--the trip going there was 24 hours and the trip coming back was 23," Medina said. "Upon arrival in Brazil, I quickly toured local shipyard facilities and then began the lectures and conducted a workforce education assessment to see what needs to occur for them to supply their region with entry-level welders."

"They will open an education extension in a community that has shipbuilding yards and lacks skilled welders to build new ships in dry-docks.

"Take good care of 'Old Goldie,' the plane that he said "took me from one world to another, both physically and mentally... and helped me become a better competitor."

Larry Mahan, in the San Antonio Express News

Even though it is an older model, Mahan's five-seat 1960 model 310D will serve students because basic engines have remained constant over the years, said Rafael Brisita, chairman of St. Philip's aircraft technology program. The school will add modern instruments, such as global positioning systems and radios.

Many graduates of the aviation technology program at St. Philip's College have found employment maintaining airworthy aircraft for corporate pilot clients such as Mahan. The college's aviation technology program is the leading program in the South Texas region. Employers and partners of the program in San Antonio include Lockheed-Martin, Boeing, Chromalloy, ST Aerospace, Cessna Citation, M-7, Standard Aero, 12th Flying Training Wing of the USAF, and the 433rd Airlift Wing of the USAF Reserve.

Students can earn an associate's degree at St. Philip's and test to earn a Federal Aviation Administration license.



Courtesy Photo

Pelotas has an industry that builds oil rigs, and that industry wants to partner with the institute to hire their welding students directly from school."

Ybarra met faculty and staff from the Robotics Department at Instituto Federal Su-rio-grandense to exchange and learn about expertise in industrial robotics education. "I took a Robix Rascal robot with me to have students assemble and program it as a classroom exercise," he said. "The students were researchers who knew industrial robotics and sensors theories very well."

Several of Ybarra's colleagues from Brazil visited St. Philip's through an exchange program with Brazil conducted by the Alamo Colleges' International Programs Department at Alamo Colleges.

Lowé's Grant Allows SW Campus Students to Renovate Housing

St. Philip's College students are practicing their professional skills more successfully through a \$10,000 grant from Lowé's and a collaboration with the Merced Housing Texas Minor Repair Program Serve Our Seniors Project.



Karen Anderson (left) and Joyce Valle major in non-traditional fields of study at St. Philip's College and contribute to Merced Housing TX Minor Repair Program.

Students, faculty and representatives from Lowé's and Merced attended a ceremonial grant check presentation in September at the college's Southwest Campus.

Merced has performed minor home repairs for more than 300 low-income elderly residents in San Antonio since 2002. SPC students initiated a repair job when a grant for construction materials became available from Lowé's, said Dave Weaver, aircraft technology assistant professor and vice president of the SkillsUSA Texas board of directors.

Students Rudy Sanchez, Marco Gonzales, Dantre Brunns and George Siller led the project this past summer with up to 30 students working on Saturdays from September to November.

“SkillsUSA obtained the \$10,000 grant from Lowé's and our college sought the relationship with Merced to support our core mission of student success through service learning.”

David Weaver

The Lowé's store supporting this grant is in the college's service area at Interstate 35 and S. Zarzamora St.

SkillsUSA is a part of an international organization for teachers and high school and college students getting ready for work in trade, technical, and skilled service jobs that include health care. Current students at the college are rated by this organization as the nation's best and the state's best in their respective skills in 2010.



For Salvador Meneses-Lopez, SPC student from South America, contributing to this project has sentimental value. It reminds him of working on his mother's house back home.

SPC Respiratory Therapy Students are Undefeated Champions in 2010 State Knowledge Competition

A team of four St. Philip's College students placed first in the state's Sputum Bowl, the premiere knowledge competition for therapists who care for patients with lung disorders.

Respiratory Care Technology program students Jessica Gamboa, Ioan Muresan, Shawn DeLeon and Kristi Hagood emerged undefeated and ranked number one in Texas for the 2010–2011 season. Each member of this 8–0 championship team received a \$500 stipend to compete in the national level at the

2010 American Association for Respiratory Care convention in Las Vegas in December.

The college's students began by defeating 15 student teams, and ended by defeating a team of respiratory therapy practitioners in the Texas finals.

The contest was a long day of visual and verbal medical questions that ran from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Each contestant held an electronic hand switch. An indicator system showed which

of two teams wanted to answer the question first. A timing device timed the responses of 10 seconds for initial answers, and 10 seconds when the same question was given to the opposing team. The top team in each event had the most points at the end of each 20-minute match.

“We played perfectly, and we beat them all.”

team captain Gamboa



“We ended the student games with our hands on our faces in amazement at going undefeated, and our classmates screaming in support. It was startling to play the practitioners, and we did our best,” she said.

The respiratory care program at St. Philip's is rated exemplary by the state of Texas. It offers classroom, laboratory, and clinical experiences leading to an associate of applied science degree and preparation for the registered respiratory therapist credential.

Photo: (from left to right) Jessica Gamboa, Kristi Hagood, Ioan Muresan and Shawn De Leon care for SIM-baby in competition.

Hispanic Heritage MONTH



Kick-off performance by Azul at Southwest Campus



Keynote speaker Jessie Degollado

The Great Debate (Left to right) Dr. Adena Loston; George Rodriguez, Tea Party member; Victor Landa, Express News columnist and debate moderator; Luis Vera, LULAC legal counsel; and Erika Ruiz, SPC Student Government Association President.



Sabrina Ramirez, SPC employee and member of Las Coronelas — an all-female mariachi under the direction of Vanessa Del Sierro — plays trumpet at Hispanic Heritage Month kickoff.

3rd Annual Best Tasting Salsa Cook-Off
Winners — Burbank High School





St. Philip's College
Homecoming
2010

Homecoming (from page 1)

The 2010 Get Re-Acquainted Mixer on October 22 launched the activities. The College's alumni association was presented in a formal program, and the event featured line dance lessons.

The 2010 Blue and White Dance featuring the Joe Posada Jazz Trio was held October 23 in the E. L. Turbon Student Center building. Homecoming King Walter Perry and Queen Jennifer Lute-Moise were crowned at the event.

Homecoming concluded on Sunday, October 24 with a service and reception at the founding church of the 112-year-old college, St. Philip's Episcopal Church.



Line-dance instruction at Homecoming Mixer



Blue and White Dance

Student choir performs St. Philip's Episcopal Church



Joe Posada Jazz Trio performs at B&W Dance



Dr. Sharon Crockett-Bell and the 2010 SPC Cheer Team



2010-11 Homecoming King Walter Perry and Queen Jennifer Lute-Moise

SPC Students Shine at Skills USA Competition in Kansas City

St. Philip's College students were among the highest achievers in this summer's SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Kansas City, Mo.

The national conference is a skills contest in select fields. Many of the college's students returned from Kansas City with newfound status as state leaders, or competitors of state, national, or global rank.

St. Philip's College students were appointed to terms as SkillsUSA student officers at the state level. The state-level appointees are welding students Angel Botello, president; Austin Dicks, secretary; and Kyle Wiedenfeld, reporter alternate, and aircraft program student Bernardo Ainslie, reporter. The officers serve from June 2010 to June 2011. Botello is only the second student at the college to hold the title of president, and he will travel to a 2010 leadership training institute to meet with members of the U.S. Congress in Washington, D.C.

Rudolfo Guerra, who competed statewide in welding, ranks number seven nationally among the top 10 in his category, qualifying him to go through an intensive seven-month SkillsUSA World Team elimination welding competition that will be judged using international performance standards.



Bernardo Ainslie ranks number two in America and number one in Texas at the secondary level in aviation maintenance. The 2010 graduate of the college's aircraft structural mechanic program arrived at the top of the national ratings chart in his field after ranking number four in the U.S. and number one in Texas in the 2009 version of the eight-hour-long event.

St. Philip's College aircraft program student Bernardo Ainslie celebrates after successfully ranking number two in America and number one in Texas at the secondary level in the aviation maintenance technology hands-on skills contest. (Courtesy photo)



John Hoyt's sculpture—a mixed media work inspired National POW-MIA graphic—ranked first in Texas at 2010 SkillsUSA National Leadership Conference.

St. Philip's Supports A.A.M.E.N. Victory Gardens



Willie J. Clark of BCOIC, Dr. Adena Loston and Yolanda Oden from Councilwoman Ivy Taylor's office cut the ribbon at Victory Gardens.

St. Philips College has entered into an agreement to support Bexar County Opportunities Industrialization Center's (BCOIC) African American, Asian American, Mexican American, European American, and Native American Community Garden located at 1122 S. W.W. White Road.

The community garden, under the direction of Willie J. Clark, Executive Director of BCOIC, is an educational program designed to provide supervised, meaningful after-school learning opportunities for our local youth on the importance of good nutrition and food production. Also, it provides an opportunity for senior citizens to work side-by-side with youth to reinforce classroom knowledge and

skills about basic gardening and the value of organically produced vegetables.

St. Philips will assist with the curriculum development for integration in the high schools and Bexar County OIC programs.

“We see this program serving as a tremendous opportunity to promote service learning for our middle, high school and college students.”

SPC President Dr. Adena Loston

St. Philip's College Officially Designated Military Friendly School

G.I. Jobs magazine recognized St. Philip's College on its newly released 2011 list of Military Friendly Schools. The magazine's list directs veterans to the top 15 percent of colleges that serve veterans. The college was also on the magazine's 2010 list of excellent schools.

Between 900 and 1,000 veterans or eligible family members attend the college in fall and spring semesters and approximately 750 during summer terms.

The 112-year-old college has a campus near Fort Sam Houston, sites on Lackland Air Force Base and Randolph Air Force Base, and is active worldwide with the military via

internet classes. The Veterans Affairs Office is staffed with four full-time personnel. The college also manages the state program titled the Hazelwood Act Exemption Program for veterans who exhausted their VA benefits.

In 2008, the veteran-owned G.I. Jobs magazine researched thousands of schools based on methodology developed in part by administrators and educators in order to determine its "Military Friendly" designations. The magazine operates the site militaryfriendlyschools.com to help veterans choose such schools as St. Philip's College.



Photo: SPC health care vets

Southwest Research Institute® Engineer Speaks at Fall 2010 Science, Technology, Engineering, Math Lecture Series

Edgar Bowles, a seasoned mechanical engineer at the forefront of alternative energy and environmental protection, presented the Fall Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Lecture Series keynote on October 8.



Courtesy Photo of Edgar Bowles, keynote speaker of lecture series

Bowles, a director in the Fluids and Machinery Engineering Department at the Southwest Research Institute, spoke about Ongoing Alternative Energy Research and Development Activities at the Institute®. His diverse department staff serves the oil, gas, solar and wind energy industries with research and development solutions.

His lecture focused on research and development projects that have included reducing the world's

carbon footprint, and designing, testing, and experimentation with the safety control and shutoff valve elements of oil and gas production wells.

He spoke about the process known as carbon sequestration, which involves technologies and breakthroughs in capturing, compressing, transporting and permanently storing the power plant or industrial emissions of carbon dioxide that are currently major culprits in greenhouse gas production.

Approximately 50 high school students from Lee High School and the School of Excellence attended alongside SPC students and employees.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics lectures are presented twice per year by the Presidential Scholars Project within the Mathematics Department at St. Philip's College.

St. Philip's College Announces Its First Mechanical Engineering Degree

St. Philip's College has launched an Associate of Science in Mechanical Engineering program that debuted at the start of the Fall semester.

Our students no longer have to transfer to a four-year college to take costlier lower-level engineering and math courses at the same time. Now they can get both here at a lower cost, before transferring to obtain their professional degree, Herb Pennick, associate professor in the College's Department of Mathematics

Pennick ensured that St. Philip's College became a participating school in the new Voluntary Mechanical Engineering Transfer Compact earlier this year. The compact outlines very clearly how graduates of mechanical engineering programs at 233 community colleges in Texas can transfer their credits to mechanical engineering degree programs at 13 participating four-year universities in the state.

Financial aid is available. For information, contact Pennick at (210) 486-2408.

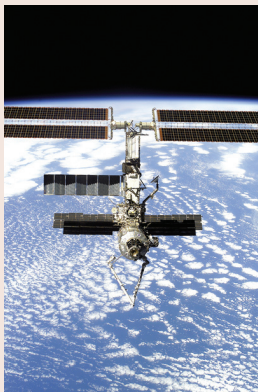


Image courtesy of NASA

SPC Employee Saves a Life



Leopoldo Mancilla, Jr., a Master Plumber in SPC Facilities Services—Maintenance Department, saved Marty Gallegos, a patron of a local restaurant, from choking while eating lunch. As panicked on-lookers watched, Leo

immediately recognized the signs of choking and performed the "upper-thrust movement," a technique learned at a CPR course offered by SPC's Division of Workforce Development and Continuing Education.

"I just want to give thanks to Alamo Colleges for offering CPR classes. Everyone should take it at least once."

Leo Mancilla, Jr.

This isn't the first time he had to save someone from choking at a restaurant. He originally took a CPR course because his father, the late Leopoldo Mancilla, Sr., suffered from TZH, a disease which caused him to constantly choke on his food. Now, Leo, Jr. takes courses annually to stay current.

CPR courses are offered the first Wednesday of every month through the Division of Workforce Development and Continuing Education. Funding for students and employees is available through Financial Aid and Employee Training Assistance Program (ETAP). For more information call (210)486-2287.

SPC Participates in Society of Educators and Scholars Conference

St. Philip's College participated in the 2010 Society of Educators and Scholars Conference October 7-9 in San Antonio, a conference focused on innovation and futuristic thinking in a small, collegial setting.

SPC President Dr. Adena Williams Loston delivered the keynote address. The conference explored the themes of Emerging Trends in Globalization: Innovation, Education, Environment, Ethics, and the Social Sciences. Jonathan P. De Vierville and Dr. Jeanette N. Passty are current St. Philip's College faculty members who presented papers, along with retired faculty member Paul B. Martin.

De Vierville is a professor of history, humanities, and interdisciplinary studies at the college, and his paper is entitled *A Mystery in the Ancient Fields: A Conversation on the Global Crop Circle Phenomena*.



Dr. William C. Davis, subject of Dr. Passty's conference paper.

Dr. Passty is an associate professor of English, and her paper is entitled *Sweet Victory: How William C. Davis Invented Ice Cream*. A former biology faculty member at the college, Martin's paper is entitled *Ecological Literacy and Sustainable Livelihoods from Public Schools*.

Established in 1976, the society also publishes *Scholar and Educator* magazine, a refereed journal that blends the work of major, mature scholars, and some celebrated authors, with the contributions of more junior scholars.



Tiger News

The SPC Tiger visits Ms. Alejandra Gonzales' second-grade class at W.W. White Elementary. Ms. Gonzales is an SPC student.



Congratulations

Dr. Paul Machen, formerly assistant to the president, is the new Dean of Student Success at SPC.

Dr. Burton Crow, formerly dean of enrollment management, retired August 31 after 23 years of service to St. Philip's College.

Ana Lisa Garza, director of recruitment, is currently serving as interim director of enrollment management.

Erick Akins, dean of workforce and continuing education & Title III director, was appointed to the UTSA Advisory Board (AB) for the Master of Public Administration (MPA).

Dr. Marie Pannell Thurston, SPC oral history project director, was recently recognized at the Alumni Recognition Gala of the Lynchburg Area Alumni Chapter of Virginia University of Lynchburg.

Tracy Shelton, Candy Berkley, Chef Will Thornton and Mary Kunz (in photo below from left to right) were all recognized for their 25 years of service to Alamo Colleges during the SPC 2010 Employee Development Day.



The St. Philip's College President's Newsletter is published quarterly by the Office of Community and Public Relations:

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THCA Receives Plaque



Photo: (from left to right) Sorangel Ayala, SPC Vice-President Ruth Dalrymple, Chef Will Thornton, Chuck Christian, Art Dietel, Mary Kunz and Yolanda Jones.

The Cowboy Breakfast Foundation recognized SPC's Tourism, Hospitality and Culinary Arts program for its continued community support.

Silver Stars Pay Tribute



St. Philip's College President Dr. Adena Williams Loston received a "Green" basketball at the August 20 Silver Stars game from Russell Warren, Director of Business Operations for the Silver Stars, at the Stars' "Go Green" night.

Impromptu Performance



Members of the SPC administrative team performed in their return engagement for St. Philip's Episcopal Church at the Church's anniversary celebration. The group had performed impromptu during the College's birthday celebration in March.

In Memoriam



Regis Shephard

(1971–2010) was born in the town of Lamesa, Texas and graduated with honors from nearby Seminole High School. He

received his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting from Texas Tech University in 1994. That same year, he received a \$49,000 Minority Teaching Fellowship from ACCD and used his Fellowship to attend the University of Texas at San Antonio, where he received a Master of Fine Arts Degree in Drawing in 1996. He served as an Assistant Professor of Fine Arts at SPC and became program chair for Fine Arts in 2005. A prolific and well known visual artist, he exhibited at the Blue Star Arts Complex, the UTSA Satellite Space, the UTSA Gallery, the Southwest School of Art and Craft and the Carver Cultural Center. Most recently, Regis was included in the New American Talent exhibit at the Texas Fine Arts Association in Austin, Texas.



Leonard Leos MSN, RN,

(1958–2010) was the director of the RN education department at St. Philip's College. His nursing practice focused on

the care of individuals with cardiac disease and the care of individuals at the end of life. While at SPC, his clinical focus was on aggregate health with a specific interest in the provision of culturally competent care in traditionally underserved at-risk populations. He lectured on cultural considerations at the end of life and in nursing education, and on workplace civility. Leos served on a National Advisory Committee for the U.S. Office of Minority Health on the development of a Cultural Competency Program for Nurses. Mr. Leos received his education at the University of Incarnate Word. He worked for St. Philip's College from 2008 till his death on September 14, 2010.