



Stephens helps courses

As a graduate of Washburn Law School with a master's degree in anthropology, undergraduate degrees in anthropology and Spanish, and two years of additional course work to earn a high school teaching certificate, Linda Davis-Stephens is one of the most qualified instructors in higher education.

Davis-Stephens, who teaches anthropology and criminal justice courses at Colby Community College, is also one of the many instructors at Colby, Barton County, Garden City, Dodge City, Seward County and Pratt Community Colleges who teach courses for EduKan.

EduKan, the online consortium of the six community colleges, began offering courses in the fall of 1999. Dr. Dennis Franz is the executive director of the organization.

"One of our most outstanding instructors is Linda Davis-Stephens," said Dr. Franz.

"She teaches anthropology during the regular sessions and then teaches a three-week intersession version.

She is also translating our one-hour Orientation Course to Spanish and will be teaching it online."

"This course will help the student who is a native Spanish speaker navigate the EduKan courses," said Davis-Stephens. "It will facilitate the process of helping students become comfortable and familiar with English-based EduKan courses."

EduKan may also offer additional courses in Spanish if sufficient demand is identified.

"The decision to offer this course in Spanish actually came from the presidents of the six colleges who wanted to test the demand for such courses," said Dr. Franz. "The ability to offer some courses to native Spanish speakers will certainly make EduKan unique."

Davis-Stephens was a visiting scholar for the Jennings school system for several years.

She taught Spanish and criminal justice courses for high school students and was an adjunct faculty member for the college.

"There are some challenges and differences between teaching in a classroom and in an online environment," said Davis-Stephens.



DEBBIE SCHWANKE/Colby Community College

Linda Davis-Stephens with history instructor Tom Moorhous.

"I incorporate a great deal of hands-on activities in the regular classroom. The students are able to touch and see artifacts and other items.

"As part of online learning, I require students to complete service-learning projects.

They go out into the community and experience different cultures. Students are then required to discuss their experiences in online chats or threaded discussions."

Although the majority of contact with students is online, Davis-Stephens encourages students to call her on the telephone for additional help.

"Being an instructor for EduKan

has been a rewarding experience," said Davis-Stephens.

"I am also serving as a mentor for EduKan history instructor Tom Moorhous who will be teaching American History to 1865 during the spring session."

Moorhous began teaching part-time at CCC in 1998. He accepted a full-time position in 2000.

"Linda has been very helpful as I begin teaching in an online environment," said Moorhous.

"I became interested in teaching for EduKan in order to learn how to create courses to be offered online and as hybrid classes for Colby College."

EduKan has experienced significant

growth since 1999.

"During the last three years we have averaged approximately an 18 percent yearly enrollment increase," said Franz. "For the fall 2005 session, enrollments were 17 percent higher than last year. In the previous three years, EduKan has literally doubled in enrollments."

EduKan will offer 71 credit hours in three sessions for spring 2006.

Sessions will begin Jan. 16, Feb. 13 and March 13.

All three will finish on May 5. Additional information regarding EduKan is available at www.edukan.org.

College scholars to include two Colby students

Two Colby Community College students will be among more than three dozen outstanding community college scholars honored for their academic accomplishments Feb. 14 in Topeka.

Representing the state's 19 community colleges, these scholars have been named to the 2006 All-Kansas Academic Team sponsored by the international headquarters of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees and the Kansas Council of Community College Presidents.

The group will be recognized in an annual award ceremony that also draws educators and lawmakers each year.

Sophomores Andrea Sis (Atwood) and Amber Lorentz (Oberlin) will be representing Colby College at the event.

Sis is Student Senate President and serves as a tutor in the Comprehensive Learning Center. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and performs with the Colby College Rockin' Pep Band. She is also active in intramurals at the college and serves as a lab assistant in the chemistry department. A biology major, Sis was selected to Who's Who Among American Junior College Students and the National Scholars Honor Society. She plans to transfer to Kansas State University for



A. Sis

A. Lorentz

the fall 2006 semester.

Lorentz, a Presidential Scholar at Colby College, is a member of Phi Beta Lambda and Phi Theta Kappa. She serves as a tutor in the Comprehensive Learning Center and performs with the Community Band. Lorentz was selected to Who's Who Among American Junior Colleges, the National Dean's List, and is a recipient of the prestigious Hamilton Science Scholarship.

She plans to transfer to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln where she will major in biology and pre-dentistry.

Each scholar was selected by his or her own community college for the annual statewide academic team, and each also is a nominee for the 2006 All-USA Academic Team, sponsored by the newspaper USA Today, Phi Theta Kappa and the American Association of Community Colleges.

College considers new accreditation

The Colby Community College business department is striving to join an elite group of colleges that are accredited by the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP).

A consultant/evaluator for the organization met with CCC instructors Jan. 9, to review the department's initial application questionnaire requesting accreditation. Instructors in the department include Bob Selby, department chair; Crystal Pounds; Michael Frank; Sue Mardock; Diane Williams and Sue Ann Miller.

"Included in our preliminary visit questionnaire was information on our institutional mission, the academic degrees offered and how

CCC awards credit hours," said Selby. We also provided information documenting faculty qualifications, faculty composition regarding bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees, full- and part-time faculty deployment and faculty load. We had to provide evidence to ACBSP that all of our programs met the professional component, general education component and business major component. Another standard we had to address was outcomes assessment."

There are 160 schools that are currently members of ACBSP. Achieving accreditation is a rigorous process which provides business students the assurance that they are part of a quality program.

Guest speaker to focus on cultural differences

Colby Community College will recognize Black History Month Wednesday, Feb. 8, with a special presentation by historian Angela Bates.

Bates, a native of Nicodemus will be speaking on cultural differences from 9:15-10 a.m. in the Frahm Theater located in the Northwest Kansas Cultural Arts Center. Representatives of the Nicodemus Group from Bogue will be assisting with the presentation.

According to the National Park Service, the Nicodemus National Historic Site preserves, protects and interprets the only remaining western town established by African Americans during the Reconstruction Period following the Civil War.

Nicodemus is symbolic of the pioneer spirit of African-Americans who dared to leave the only region they had been familiar with to seek personal freedom and the opportunity to develop their talents and capabilities.

Bates was born in Kansas and grew up in Pasadena, Calif. Following high school graduation she moved to Kansas where she earned an undergraduate degree in education from Emporia State

University in 1975.

She worked in Washington, D.C. where she held a top secret clearance and became a military weapons and training educational analyst for several research and development firms. She also owned and operated an interior design and advertising firm. In 1989 she moved to the Nicodemus area where she was inspired to organize and become the president of the Nicodemus Historical Society.

As a descendant of the first settlers at Nicodemus, Bates works as an educational consultant, providing materials and programs on Nicodemus and the African American experience in the West. She is the author of many educational materials, books and articles and has been featured on several network television programs. Bates will share some of the prominent aspects of differences between African American and white cultures. She will discuss the roots of these differences by tying them back to specifics during the time when African Americans were enslaved.

The public is invited to attend this event. There is no admission charge.

Livestock judging team remembers 1981

The 100th anniversary of the National Western Stock Show in Denver is also an important anniversary for Colby Community College. Twenty-five years ago the Colby College livestock judging team, under the direction of coach Nick Wells, earned championship honors at the competition.

Members of the 1981 team include Kent McCune of Benton; Scott Jacobs of New Castle, Ind.; Scott Barrows of Ness City; Dennis Landgraf of Scott City; and Gregg Stewart of Washington. Barrows was also named the top individual judge in the contest.

Wells, who left Colby College for several years to continue his career in higher education, returned to Colby in 2003 to accept the job of Endowment Foundation director.

"They were a great team," said Wells. They were undefeated in cattle competition and went on to become national champions."

In recognition of the team's achievement, Wells and the former team members were asked to serve as officials at this year's anniversary competition held Jan. 14-15 in Denver.

"All of the team members were able to make the trip," said Wells. "They have all done very well since graduating from CCC and it was fun to spend a few days with them in Denver."

McCune is the owner of McCune



Members of the 1981 CCC livestock judging team are back: Coach Nick Wells, Kent McCune, Scott Barrows & Gregg Stewart. Front: Scott Jacobs and Dennis Landgraf.

Marketing Services in Texas. He merchandises purebred cattle.

Jacobs is an agriculture teacher and high school livestock judging coach in Indiana. In addition to being honored for his work 25 years ago with the CCC team, Jacobs' high school team won the National Western FFA/4-H competition last weekend in Denver.

Barrows is a ranch manager for Talmo Farms in Talmo, Ga. Landgraf is a farmer/feeder near Scott City. Stewart is the owner and operator of Mid-Continent Farms in

Washington. The farm is one of the leading Club Calf operations in the United States.

This year's livestock judging team, coached by Matt Ellicott, is continuing the tradition of excellence. The team recently placed third overall at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Ky. In addition to their third-place rank, the team placed first in cattle performance, second in cattle, fourth in sheep, seventh in reasons and 11th in swine. Brad Mills of Seibert, Colo.,

was high individual overall in the contest.

The team finished second in sheep, sixth in hogs, seventh in cattle, second in oral reasons and fourth overall at the National Western Jan. 14-15 in Denver.

Jason Johnson (Longmont, Colo.) was fourth high individual. Other team members are Jennifer Albrecht (Tryan, Neb.), Amanda Albrecht (Tryan, Neb.), Brandon Mazanec (Colby), Brad Mills, Julie Saur (Gillette, Wyo.), and Lindsey Zellitti (Durango, Colo.).