

# AC Plugged In

Faculty & Staff NEWSLETTER

Volume IV

Spring 2012

## Fire Doused! Nobody Hurt! Prieto Praised!

As she called her class to order on the morning of March 22, Elizabeth Sharp, instructor of vocational nursing, had no way of knowing that a fire raged in the motorcycle storage room in the opposite end of Building B.

Not, that is, until Olga Prieto, a day custodian on the West Campus, barged in and frantically delivered the news.

Prieto discovered the fire just before starting her morning rounds. Her swift response—she notified AC authorities and alerted Sharp’s class—not only helped save the building from total loss, it possibly helped avert injuries, too.

“She came in yelling ‘fire!’ and it took a minute to register,” Sharp said, “but when it did, we got out. It made all the difference in the world.”

That’s why AC President Paul Matney has since honored Prieto with a President’s Special Achievement Award, the first of its kind at AC.

“Olga’s quick response could well have saved the entire building,” Matney said. “Her actions were swift, decisive, and clearly warrant special recognition.”

Deputy Fire Marshall John Woodward clearly agrees.



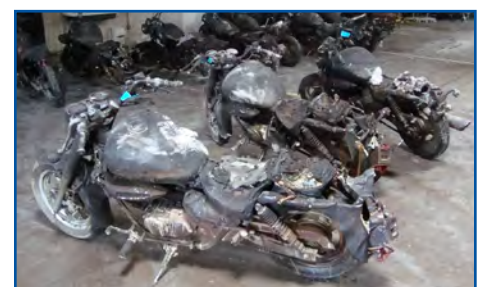
*Dr. Paul Matney congratulates Olga Prieto for her quick action in response to the fire on the West Campus, March 22, 2012.*

“That fire easily might have gotten into the ceiling and been on top of those students without warning,” he said. “I think Olga played a vital role.”

The fire did take a toll. Twenty motorcycles were destroyed and smoke damage was widespread, but it obviously could have been worse.

The modest Prieto, who received a plaque along with a monetary token of presidential appreciation, typically said she was just doing her job.

“It was a big fire, so I called it in and went through the halls to make sure everybody was out,” she said. “I just think that’s what I’m supposed to do.”



*Twenty motorcycles were destroyed in the fire.*

# Reach Milestones, Meet Challenges: It's What We Do

By Dr. Paul Matney  
Amarillo College President



We find ourselves at the end of another academic year at AC and preparing to honor our graduates and their families with another commencement ceremony. The graduates will depart the ceremony with knowledge and skills imparted by our outstanding faculty which has prepared them for a bright future.

In the last several weeks, we honored our “best and brightest” at the Honors Convocation, where our 2012 Distinguished AC Alumnus, Rep. John Smithee, challenged our students with his heartfelt congratulations and inspirational remarks.

Recently, former Sciences and Engineering chair Therese Jones was named Professor Emeritus by the Board of Regents, the highest honor bestowed on a former faculty member by a college. At commencement, the John F. Mead Excellence in Teaching Award will be conferred.

All of these meaningful events signal important milestones in the life of Amarillo College and our students, faculty, and staff.

This time of year also brings the challenging task of budget preparation. Budget managers submitted budget requests in late March. The Cabinet has been meeting to develop a balanced budget to present to the Board during a workshop in June. The Board of Regents will officially adopt the 2012-2013 budget and set the tax rate at the August meeting.

## New Collaboration Stations Provide Team Workspaces

Students at Amarillo College who are assigned class projects, especially those for which computers prove indispensable, now have an ideal destination—Lynn Library.

That's where the hard-working folks from Information Technology set up five new Collaboration Stations in late March. Already the new multi-user workstations on the first floor of the library are proving to be quite popular.

Administered by AC's Center for Teaching and Learning, the stations are designed so each participant can plug in and simultaneously participate in projects on a shared big screen.

The new workstations were acquired at a cost of approximately \$100,000 with funding provided by a Perkins

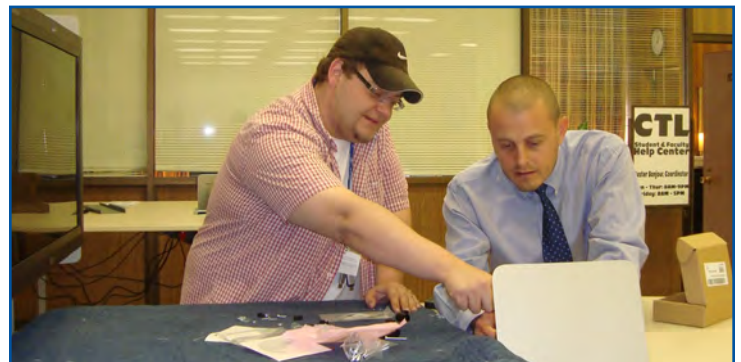
## Message from the President

The Texas Association of Community Colleges, our professional organization in Austin, is predicting that the 83rd Legislative Session which begins in January 2013, will be even more difficult than the last session. Major issues include public school financing, state Medicaid payments, and funding for higher education and other state agencies.

Our primary challenge in developing next year's AC budget is raising revenue to offset significant state appropriation reductions. AC received \$6.1 million less this biennium than we received for the 2009 – 2011 biennium. The required new practice of reallocating state appropriations each year based on the previous year's contact hours will mean even less state funding for AC next year.

Priorities for next year's budget include increasing revenue to offset state reductions, as well as finding ways to be more cost efficient. The Board has already authorized a 10-percent increase in tuition and fees, and we will propose an ad valorem tax increase. Other priorities are funding for employee raises, several new positions in growth areas, student success initiatives, and our SACS Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) to develop a First-Year Seminar course. We're also committed to continuing technological upgrades in our classrooms.

These are challenging times for all institutions of higher education in Texas, but I know we are up to the challenge in finding ways to continue providing outstanding educational opportunities for our students at an affordable cost. AC will continue changing lives and creating futures as we all aspire “to be the right person for a student” each day.



Cory Welch of IT, left, and Buster Bonjour of professional development, team up to assemble a Collaboration Station.

Basic State Grant and a Title V project grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Adding at the same time to the library's new ambience are the addition of about 10 comfortable Reno lounge chairs.

# Emmy-Award Winning Filmmaker Visits KACV

By Ellen Green

Chief of Communication & Marketing

It's been said that more Americans get their history from Ken Burns than any other source. Burns' partnership with PBS spans more than 30 years and includes outstanding films such as: *The Civil War*; *Baseball*; *Jazz*; *The National Parks*; *Prohibition*; and coming soon, a story we here in the Panhandle consider our own, *The Dust Bowl*.

Burns and his film crew spent three years researching, gathering archives and photos, interviewing survivors and editing the four-hour, two-part series that will premiere nationally on PBS this Nov. 18 & 19.

During the last few years, it has become fairly common here at KACV to receive emails, phone calls and even occasional visits from Burns' film crew traveling through the area. Producers or cinematographers might need our help in locating people or artifacts from the 1930s and we were happy to help. But in April, when Burns himself walked into our Amarillo College studio, it was a bit like welcoming Julia Childs into our kitchen.

For his work, Burns has been honored with a dozen Emmy Awards, two Oscar nominations, and when he was only 55—a lifetime achievement award from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. He is the master.



Ellen Green interviews award-winning filmmaker Ken Burns in the KVII studio.

During a conversation we taped with Burns in April (it is scheduled to be broadcast on KACV this summer), he said that in many ways he's made the same film over and over again, continuously asking the same, simple question: "Who are we?"

His refers to his work as "emotional archeology," digging for what's really important to Americans.

"What divides us is so superficial compared to what unites us," Burns contends. "Our shared history provides a kind of kinship, and the memory of one who lived the story is never a then ... but is now."

## Giuliani's Visit to Benefit AC Honors Program

The AC Honors Program will be among the beneficiaries when former New York Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani visits Amarillo in October.

Underwood Law Firm, the oldest, continuously operating law firm in the city, announced May 4 that it will mark its 100th anniversary by underwriting a VIP dinner for Giuliani Oct. 16 at the Amarillo Civic Center.

The Honors Program, along with Center City of Amarillo, will reap the proceeds.

"This will help make our honors program even stronger than it already is," AC President Paul Matney said. "Underwood Law firm has been a big part of our Honors mentorship program for a long time. We're gratified by their continued support."

Having zeroed in on "Be the Change" as the Institutional Theme for 2012-2013, Amarillo College is perfectly positioned

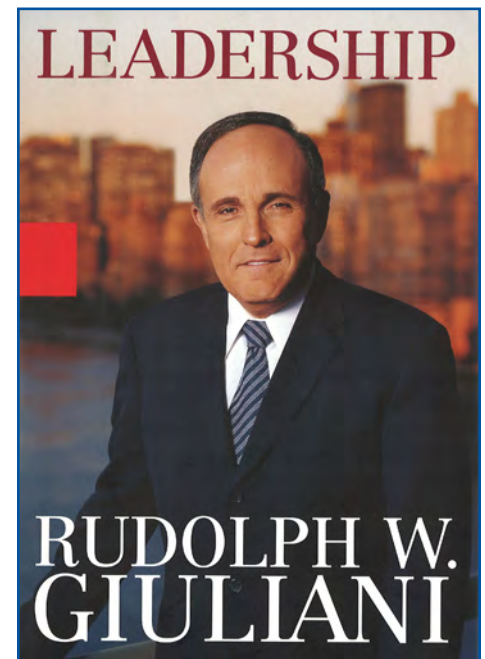
to incorporate Giuliani's message, and possibly some of his writings, into the new theme.

Rudy Giuliani's bestseller *Leadership*, for example, captivated a nationwide audience back in 2002. It is not only an account of his administration, it's also a how-to manual for those in or aspiring to positions of leadership.

Giuliani was mayor of New York from 1994-2002, a period of time that most memorably included the tragic events of 9/11.

"Rudy Giuliani's role as mayor of New York on 9/11 is an important part of our country's history. He is a man who epitomizes our Institutional Theme because 'Be the Change' is all about leadership," Dr. Russell Lowery-Hart, vice president for academic affairs, said.

"We are excited for our Honors Program and for Amarillo that he will be visiting."



Center City of Amarillo (372-6744) is soliciting sponsorships for "An Evening of Leadership and Legacy."

# Kim Hays is Undeniably One of a Kind

You don't have to search far and wide for farmers with master's degrees; they're plentiful enough.

But what if the one you seek also must be a combination master plumber and electrician with a joint doctoral degree from two major universities?

It's an almighty short stack you'll choose from now, and it dwindles to a single soul if you factor in a requirement that he be a Texas-certified welding inspector who sometimes ministers to folks the Church-of-Christ way.

That's downright exclusive company. That's Dr. Kim Hays—the one and the only.

"God broke the mold when He made Kim Hays," Bob Gustin, instructor of machining technology, said. "He pours himself into what he does for Amarillo College, his students, and for just plain folks.

"I hate to say anybody is irreplaceable, but it would take about 10 people to replace Dr. Hays."

Hays, chairman of Manufacturing, counts himself a farmer from Kress who commenced learning to be useful each time hail devastated the family crop.

"I've been hailed out four times, and every time I'd go into town and learn to do something other than just farm," Hays said. "It was those hard times on farms that taught me what I'm teaching today."

Well, that and a couple of associate degrees he picked up at Amarillo College.

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**"...it would take about 10 people to replace Dr. Hays.**

**—Bob Gustin**

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"My associate degrees—electronics and refrigeration—led me where I am today," he said. "That's the foundation for everything I do."

His thirst for education was hardly quenched there, though. Hays joined the AC faculty in 1993. He earned bachelor and master's degrees at West Texas A&M, the latter in engineering technology in 1996.

Four years after that he was the recipient (in 2000) of AC's highest faculty honor, the John F. Mead Faculty Excellence Award.

The farmer from Kress—he still runs a few cattle down there—next pursued a doctoral degree in agricultural education. He picked up that little gem in 2006 as a member of the first class in Texas to complete a unique collaborative program linking Texas A&M and Texas Tech universities.



The dividends from all his studies have been plentiful and have gone almost exclusively to AC and a multitude of students.

"Not only does the man build everything and save us no telling how many thousands of dollars," Dr. Shawn Fouts, dean of Career and Technical Education said, "but I have never seen a faculty member so passionate about helping his students succeed and about the academic preparation and integrity of his programs.

"He's amazing and easily one of our greatest assets of any kind."

As department chair, Hays has an overflowing plate that includes oversight of multiple technical programs, facilities, budgets, and internships. He incubates new programs, works with external industry, and serves on advisory committees.

And he continues to teach everything from Special Topics in Welding to Motor Controls, from Metallurgy Lab to Electromechanical Systems.

"He is everything a successful professor ought to be," Ed Nolte, who chairs Aviation, Aerospace and Fire Protection, said. "He gives you nothing but the subject at hand: no politics, no agenda.

"I've seen him working with students after class past midnight because they wanted to learn. Kim doesn't look at his watch when it comes to students. He's a rock-steady advocate for student learning, and he's as reliable as the sunrise."

Those who know him best say Hays is a problem-solving engineer of the first order and that his loyalty runs deep:



*Dr. Kim Hays relishes the notion of preparing his students so they will have plenty of professional options.*

Please see HAYS, page 5

# Faculty & Staff Accolades

AC's KACV-TV won the 2012 Media Partnership Award April 17 at the AISD Partners in Education Awards Banquet for the American Graduate Project. American Graduate is a community engagement effort from KACV to help Texas Panhandle youth stay in school. At right, **Beau Waldrop**, **Cullen Lutz** and **Linda Pitner**, general manager, accept the award.

When mass communication students picked up 15 Texas Intercollegiate Press Association awards March 31 in Corpus Christi, it reflected the efforts of faculty advisors for *The Ranger*, *acranger.com* and *AC Current*. **Mike Haynes** and **Jill Gibson**; and the advisors for *The AC Report*: **Gibson** and **Brian Frank**.



**Dr. Richard Pullen**, professor of nursing and **Marcia Julian**, instructor of nursing, had a manuscript accepted for publication in the peer reviewed journal *Nursing Made Incredibly Easy* titled "Caring for a Patient with Inflammatory Bowel Disease." The manuscript will appear as a continuing-education feature in the journal this July.

In what has become a habit within the Criminal Justice Program, AC's spring graduates of the Panhandle Regional Law Enforcement Academy, 21 of them in all, achieved a 100-percent pass rate on state's Basic Peace Officer exam. The credit, according to program director **Toni Gray**, goes to **Alex Chancia**, outgoing coordinator of law enforcement programs, and **Sibbie Sams**, senior staff assistant. Their dedication, Gray says, has led to a 100-percent pass rate on the state exam each of the past five Academies.

**Lee Colaw**, chief information officer, is featured in a video at the Datatel website in which he discusses the instant return on investment of Datatel MOX mobile access—a testimonial on behalf of AC.



**Dr. Kathryn Wetzel**, chair of the department of mathematics, sciences and engineering, was presented with a Career Achievement Award March 8 by the Amarillo Women's Network. She was singled out for having received the Outstanding Community College Professor of the Year Award from the Carnegie Foundation. Also, AC's Math Outreach Center, which Wetzel established in 2005, was the winning entry in the National Council of Instructional Administrator's Exemplary Initiative. **Edie Carter**, professor of mathematics, accepted the award for AC April 11 in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.



The Board of Regents in April approved promotions for the several members of the faculty. Promoted to assistant professor:

**Susan Burgoon**, biology; **Becky Burton**, radiography; **Rebecca Easton**, English; **Debbie Hall**, ADN; **Tiffany Lamb**, biology; **Camille Nies**, music; **Kelly Savage**, nursing; **René West**, photography; **Amanda Wheeler**, math, science and engineering; **Karen White**, mathematics; and **Kim Wright**, ADN. Promoted to associate professor: **Susan Burks**, management. Promoted to professor: **LaVon Barrett**, LVN; **Dr. Nichol Dolby**, biology; and **Dr. Dan Ferguson**, English.



## HAYS: continued from Page 4

Hays has maintained friendships and still communicates with many former AC students, including those in his very first cohort. His wealth of expertise has led many an employer to try and lure him away from AC, but he is firm in his desire to stay right here.

He is also man of faith who admits to occasional preaching when called, but he brushes off credit for anything he does like he might a pesky fly.

"I've tried to help where I could. I've worked with various congregations, but I'm just an old teacher who became one because of hail, because we've run out of water," Hays said.

"I like to think I'm setting up students with options, with a universal education so they will have the ability to apply what they've learned in a lot of areas, so they won't be stuck on a narrow path."

Jerry Moller, dean of Arts and Sciences, says this about Hays: "This is one sharp hombre. Where I come from there's no higher praise than to say 'he's a good old boy.' Kim Hays is without a doubt a very good old boy."

## Wheeler Challenge

A new faculty/student grass roots movement called Finishers is building momentum and challenging students to achieve their dreams. The belief is that a change of attitude that creates confidence and hope can transform the lives of students.

Students drop out of AC and give up on their dreams for various reasons, among which are unforeseen life events and academic frustration. The Finishers movement believes that a change in attitude can keep students working towards their dreams.

This summer the members of Finishers will be taking the Wheeler Peak Challenge. Together students and faculty will be hiking up the tallest peak in New Mexico. Everyone is welcome to take the Wheeler Peak Challenge. For more information call Dr. Mike Bellah at (806) 371-5173.

—contributed by Dr. Claudie Biggers

# Smithee Named AC's Distinguished Alum

John Smithee, one-time editor of AC's student newspaper, is best known today as a member of the Texas House of Representatives. Also an Amarillo attorney, he has been selected to receive the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award.



John Smithee served as editor of *The Ranger* in 1971.

He will be feted Nov. 14 at a luncheon in his honor, and he will be invited to speak at December Commencement.

"Representative Smithee is an outstanding selection as our Distinguished Alumnus for 2012," Dr. Paul Matney said. "He has long been a great advocate of the College,

not just here in the Texas Panhandle, but in the halls of state government."

Smithee, who received an associate degree from AC in 1971, is a partner in the Amarillo law firm of Templeton Smithee Hayes Heinrich & Russell. He has served District 86 in the Texas House of Representatives since 1984.

A graduate of Tascosa High School, Smithee received a partial tennis scholarship when he enrolled at AC, then dabbled in journalism.

"The quality of the programs was excellent, the same as they are right now," Smithee said. "We developed personal relationships with our professors, who really impacted our lives and cared a great deal whether or not we learned.

"We were no less prepared than anyone at the university level," he said.

And he should know, because law school was Smithee's ultimate ambition. He transferred his AC credits and went on to obtain a bachelor's degree in business from West Texas State University and a law degree from Texas Tech's School of Law.



# ADN Program Granted Continuing Accreditation

The Associate Degree of Nursing Program at Amarillo College has been awarded unconditional continuing accreditation by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) for the next eight years.

Eight years is the maximum the NLNAC can award accreditation. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for the fall 2019.

Achieving continuing accreditation by the NLNAC involves a rigorous four-step process that begins with the submission of a program self-study report. It involves an onsite visit by a team of program evaluators, followed by a peer review by a panel of evaluators appointed by the NLNAC.

The final step in the process includes deliberations by the NLNAC Board of Commissioners, which reached its final decision on AC's accreditation process at its meeting March 1-2 in San Diego. AC received official notice of this decision in late March.

"We are extremely gratified by this official affirmation of what we do from our national accrediting agency, especially in that it was granted without any conditions," AC Nursing Department Chair Sheryl Mueller said. "Meeting the high standards of the NLNAC demonstrates the excellence of our faculty and our commitment to excellence."

AC's ADN Program was established in 1968 and was granted National League for Nursing accreditation in April 1971. The program has enjoyed continuous accreditation since that time.

## Nursing Supports Military

The Nursing Department has joined a nationwide effort led by First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden to help ensure that future nurses recognize and care for veterans impacted by post-traumatic stress disorder and other combat-related issues.

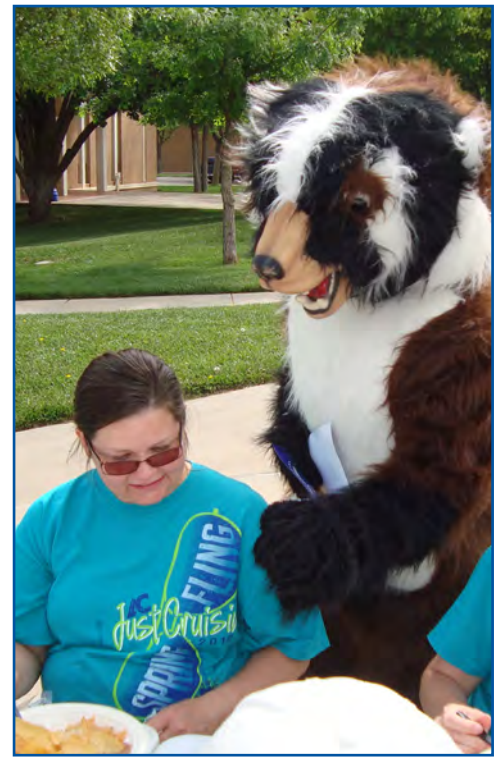
AC's is one of more than 525 nursing schools that thus far have embraced the initiative dubbed "Joining Forces: Taking Action to Serve America's Military Families."

The initiative is led by the American Nurses Association, American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, American Association of Colleges of Nursing, and the National League for Nursing—in coordination with the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Defense.

Since 2000, more than 44,000 U.S. troops have suffered at least a moderate-grade traumatic brain injury.

Schools of nursing that join the initiative agree by 2014 to, among other things:

- Enrich nursing education to ensure that current and future nurses are trained in the unique clinical challenges and best practices associated with caring for military service members, veterans, and their families; and
- Integrate content that addresses the unique health and wellness challenges of our nation's service members, veterans, and their families into nursing curricula.



**Spring Fever**

Food, fun and fellowship prevailed April 26 at Spring Fling, the annual end-of-semester play day for students, faculty and staff at the West Campus.



# Renovations Complete at Allied Health Building

Applications to AC's Nuclear Medicine Program are on the rise, and program director Mark Rowh knows why: a factory-fresh gamma camera valued at close to a quarter-million dollars is the lure.

The state-of-the-art nuclear medicine gamma camera arrived on the West Campus in conjunction with the recently completed \$2.2 million makeover of the Allied Health Building.

Renovations were wrapped up in February, right on schedule (and a tad under budget), and many programs within the Division of Health Sciences are already reaping the benefits—nuclear medicine, for one.

“Potential students who are looking for a good program in nuclear medicine do their homework,” Rowh said. “They look at websites, and when they look at ours they go ‘oh boy!’ because they realize we actually have a brand new camera just like the ones they will use when they start their careers.

“This is a first for us at AC, and you better believe it’s a draw.”

A fresh allure prevails throughout the divisional headquarters.

The most emphatic renovations were made in the building's original portion, the west side, which was constructed in 1974. Big winners there are Medical Laboratory Technology, Pharmacy Technician, Radiography, Respiratory Care and Sonography.

Valerie Hansen, director of Respiratory Care, says she became “misty-eyed” when she first walked into her new simulation lab.

“It’s like night and day,” she said. “We always had to adapt in the past to set up our lab because we simply had no extra space. And the equipment was antiquated—ventilators from the 1970s and 80s.

“I got so tired of telling students that our equipment was not really like the equipment they would use when they go to work in the field. We don’t have to worry about that now.”

Expanded quarters were made possible, in part, when AC's Dental Clinic was relocated to Jones Hall. The original building (west side) was basically gutted and reconfigured to give each program more space—three smart classrooms were even added. The newest program, Sonography, finally has a permanent home, and even a divisional partisan, Early Childhood Development, has acquired space in the refurbished digs.

The eastern side of the Allied Health Building was added on in 1996 and is home to the Nuclear Medicine, Occupational Therapy, Paramedicine, Physical Therapy and Surgical Technician programs. Most space therein received updating—paint and carpeting, at the least.



*The new atrium sparkles and serves as a gathering place for students.*



*Mark Rowh points out features of the new gamma camera.*



*Becky Byrd, director of clinical education, demonstrates new equipment in the Respiratory Care simulation lab.*

Bruce Cotgreave, director of the Physical Plant, said the entire building is now ADA accessible and has new electrical wiring throughout, video security, and an ID-card-access system.

“Everyone is just delighted with all that’s been done,” Bill Crawford, dean of health sciences said. “It may have been a long time coming, but most agree that it was worth the wait.”



*AC Regent Dr. David Woodburn and his wife Alicia flank Dr. Jehan Sadat at the Distinguished Lecture reception.*

## Evening With Sadat

Dr. Jehan Sadat, wife of the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, was the featured speaker March 1 at the 2012 installment of the Distinguished Lecture Series.

Sadat, first lady of Egypt from 1970-1981, attended a meet-and-greet reception and spoke to an enthusiastic audience at the Globe-News Center for the Performing Arts. A longtime social activist, she spoke about efforts and hopes for spreading peace in the Middle East and around the world.

Sadat is no stranger to the U.S. as she presently serves as a senior fellow at the University of Maryland, where The Anwar Sadat Chair for Peace and Development is endowed.

She has spent much of her life challenging traditional Muslim women's roles in society.

She signed copies of one of her books after the lecture.

## First-Year Seminar: Launching Pad for Student Success

*By Jill Gibson*  
**QEP Committee**

If AC could find a proven method to ensure student success, would the College pursue it? Naturally the answer is 'yes', which is why AC has begun a new pilot course called the First-Year Seminar or FYS. The First-Year Seminar helps students develop practical strategies to meet personal goals, maximize success at AC, transfer to a university and advance in their chosen careers.

Developed as the key initiative of the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) required in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools reaccreditation process, the FYS gives entering students the personal touch they need to build a solid educational foundation.

"I learned about what is expected, and I feel myself being able to apply the things I learned to the classes I am taking now," said Keith York, sports and exercise sciences major and participant in the pilot FYS course in Fall 2011. "It really is a great step for those entering the 'real world'. It got me in the right mindset of what it takes to be successful in a college setting," he said.

Nationwide, both two-year and four-year colleges and universities are establishing the FYS as a best practice. According to the Center for Community College Student Engagement, "Research indicates that students who complete an FYS course are more likely to complete other courses, earn better grades, have higher overall GPAs, and obtain degrees."

General studies major Taylor Ishmael said, "It helped me learn about AC, it helped me realize why I am here ... why I

chose my major. I've done stuff in that class that I probably wouldn't have done if I didn't take it."

Dr. Lana Jackson, QEP director, led the development and the implementation of pilot classes.

"Our pilot FYS courses in Fall 2011 confirmed what the research has been telling us: Students who learn and apply effective self-management, critical and creative thinking, and goal-setting skills while developing an understanding of personal learning styles and study strategies will experience greater success across courses and semesters, regardless of academic aptitude or preparation," she said.

FYS classes are taught by faculty from a wide variety of disciplines. Training will be offered this summer to prepare prospective instructors to teach the course, which is primarily offered in a hybrid format to help students gain comfort in both online and traditional educational environments.

### Goals of the FYS

- Help students increase self-awareness, maximize motivation and take charge of their lives.
- Teach students to apply specific techniques to ensure success in classes (i.e. Cornell note taking, individualized study skills, peer study groups, research skills, etc.)
- Ensure students become active, engaged members of their home, college, and work communities and connect with the appropriate AC personnel for assistance.
- Provide students with money management and financial literacy skills.
- Assist students in mastering information and computer literacy skills.
- Guide students to develop an integrated college and career pathway.

# Fund-Raisers Give AC Home-Field Advantage

By *Claudie Biggers*  
Associate Professor of Biology

It is a known fact that the presence of fans can have a profound impact on how a team performs. If the presence of fans can improve the performance for an entire team; then why can't the presence of fans have the same impact on students in a classroom?

Helping a student get an education can be as inspiring and motivating as watching a winning team achieve victory. While faculty are on the field with the students, there are many fans standing by to cheer, support and encourage student success. These fans are not limited to members of AC's employee groups. They are leaders, doctors, business owners and parents within our own community, which creates our own home-field advantage. These individuals believe in education and volunteer their time and efforts with a strong sense of pride for the College and the community.

This home-field advantage is made possible by the Amarillo College Foundation, which is comprised of Sharon Oeschger, Mark White, Beth Marsh, Terry Berg, Stanley Adelman, Michele Agostini, Susan Atkins, Claudie Biggers, Julie Bivins,

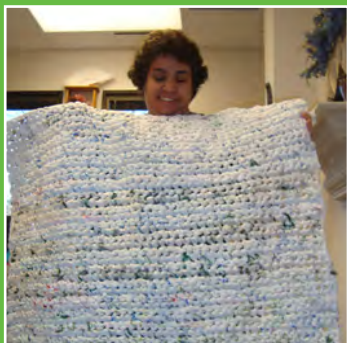
## AC Foundation

Derek Davis, Claudette Dove, Beth Duke, Michele Fortunato, Jim Marcum, Paul Matney, Gerry McKay, Fay Moore, Don Nicholson, Cory Ramsey, Billie Faye Schumacher, Terry Sheldon, Ron Urrutia, Pat Ware, Greg Welch, Ben Whittenburg, Nancy Williams, and David Woodburn.

These individuals work tirelessly to raise funds that support students, faculty and College needs. They meet monthly, manage investments, brainstorm fundraising ideas, host events, personally donate and represent the College within the community. These committed individuals continue to volunteer despite the fact most will never meet the students who benefit from their dedication. Their passion for education generates the same enthusiasm as a stadium full of fans cheering for their winning team.

Members of the Amarillo College Foundation want to invite you to get involved because they know the larger the fan base the greater the impact.

## Plugged In Spring Photo(s)



### Bags for Beds

Cynthia Urbina is willing to crochet until she has bags under her guys—guys who have nothing else to sleep on, that is.

An accountant for grants in the business office, Cynthia uses her spare time turning discarded plastic shopping bags into sturdy, comfortable sleeping mats.

She even has her friends in the Order of the Eastern Star helping out. It takes about 400 bags per mat, and Cynthia has already gifted 10 of them to places like Faith City Mission, and even to folks she's seen on the street.

If you want to get rid of some plastic bags, keeping them out of the landfill for a good cause, Cynthia wants them. Give her a call at Ext. 5010.