

May 3, 2021

Greetings!

I was so pleased that more than 150 graduates joined us yesterday for the May 2021 Drive-Thru Graduation Celebration. Overall, the college had 455 students petition for graduation.

The successful completion of a college credential is an amazing accomplishment – even in the best of times. I told our graduates, faculty members, staff and guests assembled in person, on the radio and online that we were proud of their accomplishments and certain that past performance pointed to continued success for them. The celebration was carried live on AM 1360 and Public Media Network. Information about how to access the recorded program is listed below.

Now, as we finalize and submit student grades and other related end-of-semester work, please find time to take a “breather,” catch your breath and celebrate your accomplishments from this semester and from this past year.

While many of us are preparing to welcome summer semester students on May 10, we all can reflect on our work together in support of our students’ successes. Well done and thank you!

Please continue to encourage others to become fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (Coronavirus). The scientific evidence is overwhelming that COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective in preventing COVID-19 infection and related serious outcomes. We appreciate the many students, faculty members and staff who have already received their vaccinations. If you have general questions about the vaccines, please visit the [CDC](#) website and the [FDA](#) website for more information.

Last week, I told you about the college’s partnership with the Family Health Center and Bronson Hospital to provide two COVID-19 vaccination clinics - one at the Texas Township Campus and one at the Arcadia Commons Campus. While these clinics are open, first to college students, faculty members and staff, the public is also invited to attend. For more information or to make an appointment, please visit www.kvcc.edu/coronavirus.

I continue to be thankful for all you are doing to be more than champions during these challenging times. I appreciate your willingness to embrace and bring life to our mission.

Sincerely,



L. Marshall Washington, Ph.D.
President



Congratulations Graduates!

More than 150 students were recognized yesterday at the Drive-Thru Commencement Celebration held in the Texas Township Campus parking lot. April/August/December 2020 graduates and petitioned May 2021 students were invited to participate. Remarks were made by President L. Marshall Washington, Provost Paige Eagan and Board of Trustees Chairperson Lucinda Stinson. Thank you to everyone who helped plan the event. Commencement was broadcast live on Public Media Network and on AM 1360. [Watch](#) the event on PMN and check out more photos of the celebration on the college's [Flickr account](#).



An Arbor Day ceremony was held at noon on April 30 at the Texas Township Campus memorial garden. The event included the planting of two trees – one to memorialize the lives lost and to acknowledge the many losses we as a community have suffered during the pandemic and a second tree as a symbol of hope for the future. Students, staff and faculty members were welcome to acknowledge the loss of a loved one, friend, or colleague. The ceremony was live-streamed on [Facebook](#).



Staff & Faculty Development

Below are staff and faculty development events for the month of May. Register [here](#).

Canvas Accessibility

With Dave Zokvic

Description

Creating accessible content is an essential part of all course development. Join Dave Zokvic as he covers the Canvas tools available to help instructors create accessible content. You'll learn

about using features like heading styles, making accessible tables, adding alt-text to images, and more!

Location

<https://zoom.us/my/dave.zokvic>

Date & Time

Wednesday, May 5, 2021 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

End of Semester Courses Open Lab and Gradebook Submission Help

With Molly Pfaff, David Kobb

Description

David and Molly from the Faculty Success Center will hold an end of the semester "open lab" in which they will be available to answer your end of the semester questions. Do you have questions about course copies? Maybe you are worried about submitting your gradebook. David and Molly can answer those questions and more during this open lab.

Location

<https://zoom.us/j/6164225098>

Date & Time

Thursday, May 6, 2021 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Keepin' Up With Joe - Walking Club

Cynthia Schauer

Description

The "Keepin' Up With Joe' Walking Club" will meet for a walk on Saturday, May 8 at 9 am at the Portage trail at the southwest corner of Kilgore and Lovers Lane (across from Loy Norrix). Husbands, wives, kids and dogs welcome! Call or text Cynthia Schauer with any questions on May 8 at 269.501.6005. [Email](#) questions prior to 5/8.

Location

Portage Trail

Date & Time

Saturday, May 8, 2021 from 9 - 10 a.m.

Online & Blended Teaching Seminar

With Molly Pfaff, Steve Ott, Gail Fredericks, Kathy Kerstetter

Description

Online and Blended Teaching Seminar (asynchronous with optional weekly Zoom meetings). This is not a self-paced course, there are weekly activities with due dates. Questions about the Online and Blended Teaching Seminar? Contact Dr. Gail Fredericks, Faculty Success Center at gfredericks@kvcc.edu.

Location

Online

Date & Time

Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 8 a.m. to Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at 5 p.m.

All About Video Captioning

With Molly Pfaff

Description

Captioning instructor-created videos is not only the pedagogically and ethically right thing to do; it's legally required. This is an ever-evolving topic as technology grows and changes, so join the Faculty Success Center's Molly Pfaff as she covers updated best practices and practical tips regarding video captioning, including how to use Kalamazoo Valley's new(-ish) captioning service!

Location

<https://zoom.us/my/kvccfsc>

Date & Time

Friday, May 14, 2021 from 10 - 11:00 AM

Diversity and Bias in the Search Committee Process

With Trice Batson, Jauwanna Pitts

Description

As a college, we are committed to fostering the continued growth of underrepresented groups within faculty and staff, promoting faculty and staff awareness of diversity and inclusion, and educating and promoting standards of inclusion for equitable treatment of all individuals. This training will help search committee members commit to executing fair and equitable hiring processes which not only reflect the standards of how we treat people but aid in the selection of individuals who will contribute to the achievement of our goals. To register please contact [Trice Batson](#) by 9 a.m. May 19 for Zoom link.

Location

Zoom

Date & Time

Thursday, May 20, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

How Faculty Can Copy Canvas Courses

With David Kobb

Description

Faculty can copy Canvas courses, either in full or by selecting specific activities. Join the Faculty Success Center's David Kobb as he teaches faculty the quick and painless ways in which they can complete their own course copies from semester to semester.

Location

<https://zoom.us/j/6164225098>

Date & Time

Friday, May 21, 2021 from 2 - 2:45 p.m.

Volunteers Needed for Welcome Tables

Summer semester starts May 10 and help is needed to welcome students to campus. All tables will be located outside with tent for shade and rain. Volunteers should expect to dress for the weather including walking shoes to help students find their classes. [Sign up](#) now!



Vaccine Clinics Held at Kalamazoo Valley

Kalamazoo Valley Community College, in partnership with the Family Health Center and Bronson Hospital, will be hosting two COVID-19 vaccination clinics - one at the Texas Township Campus and one at the Arcadia Commons Campus. The Moderna two-dose vaccine will be administered.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Texas Township Campus

First Dose: Tuesday, May 11 from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Second Dose: Tuesday, June 8 from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

This is a drive-thru clinic in the parking lot off of O Ave. Masks are required.

[Register Now](#)

Arcadia Commons Campus

First Dose: Wednesday, May 12 from 3 - 6 p.m.

Second Dose: Wednesday, June 9 from 3 - 6 p.m.

This clinic takes place in the courtyard behind Anna Whitten Hall.

Parking validation will be available. Masks are required.

[Register Now](#)

For additional information, call 269.349.4257, ext. 230.



Employee Assistance Program

Balancing career and family while dealing with everyday issues is a challenge for all of us. There are resources available – many free of charge — to Kalamazoo Valley employees who have health insurance through the college.

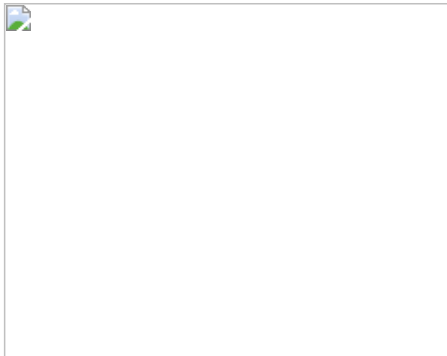
The WorkLifeMatters Employee Assistance Program (EAP), through Integrated Behavioral Health, provides employees and their family members with confidential, personal and web-based support on a wide variety of topics to help encourage well-being — from stress management, dependent/elder care, nutrition and fitness — to legal and financial issues.

“We’re pleased to be able to offer these services to employees,” said Vice President for Human Resources Aaron Hilliard. “There’s no need to struggle when there are so many great resources available.”

Employee program highlights include:

- Referrals to local counselors with up to three sessions at no charge
- Unlimited telephone support with an EAP counselor
- A state-of-the-art website featuring planning tools
- A complimentary consultation with financial and legal professionals — plus discounts on legal services

Support and guidance is available for assistance with family and personal issues [online](#) and by phone at 1.800.386.7055. Access support through the website with the username “Matters” and the password wlm70101. Connect to a counselor for free support services by email at eapcounselor@ibhcorp.com.



Call for Proposals for Fall 2021 Summit

It’s time to submit proposals for presentations to be conducted during the Fall 2021 Summit for faculty and staff. The event will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 1 and Thursday, Sept. 2. Faculty and staff will participate on Wednesday. Thursday’s schedule is for faculty. At this time, a virtual event is being planned. However, some portions of the summit may include face-to-face participation. Presenters who prefer to offer a pre-recorded or live Zoom session will have the option to do so.

There are multiple ways to present at summit: Live virtual, pre-recorded, pre-recorded with live discussion/Q&A and in a round-table format. As always, co-presenting with your colleagues is an option. If you are interested in presenting but would like to try a different type of presentation or would like some extra support in developing a presentation, please consider reaching out to [Gail](#)

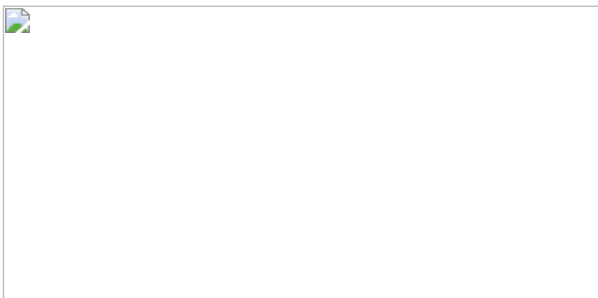
[Fredericks](#) (faculty) or [Amy Schmidt](#) (staff) to discuss options.

The theme of the Fall Summit will be the college's values of:

- Caring and Respect
- Integrity
- Excellence and Quality
- Humor and Well-Being
- Teamwork and Stewardship

When you submit your proposal, please explain how your presentation will relate to these [values](#). Submit your proposal [here](#) by May 14.

If you have any questions, please contact [Amy Schmidt](#).



Cougar Café Updates

The Cougar Cafe at the Texas Township has a new website. Check out the main site, [here](#). For information about Subway, click [here](#). To pre-order for pick-up, click [here](#).

HOURS IN MAY

Week of May 3

Monday - 7:45 a.m to 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday - Closed

Wednesday - Closed

Thursday - Closed

Friday - Closed

Week of May 10

Monday - 7:45 a.m to 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday - 7:45 a.m to 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday - 7:45 a.m to 1:30 p.m.

Thursday - 7:45 a.m to 1:30 p.m.

Friday - Closed

Week of May 17 (Summer Hours Begin)

Monday - 7:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday - 7:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday - 7:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m.
Thursday - 7:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m.
Friday - Closed

Week of May 24

Monday - 7:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday - 7:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday - 7:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m.
Thursday - 7:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m.
Friday - Closed

Week of May 31st

Monday - Closed (Holiday)
Tuesday - 7:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday - 7:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m.
Thursday - 7:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m.
Friday - Closed



Center for New Media's May Art Show Features Work by ANM and ART Students

The Center for New Media will host the Student Art Show during the month of May. The exhibit will premiere during the May 7 Art Hop event. It will feature works by ANM and ART students. The virtual event will also feature animations and short videos that were collaborated on by students from instructor Julie Stotz-Ghosh's creative writing class and Jeremy Strait's web development, video production and multi-media classes as a part of the annual Poetry in Motion project. Images will be posted on the Center for New Media's [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts.

The Center for New Media will not be open for Art Hop on Friday, May 7.



Tickets for Virtual Baking Show Fundraising Available Now

Cory Barrett, co-director of Kalamazoo Valley Community College's culinary arts program and the Spring 2019 Food Network Spring Baking Champion will team up with college President L. Marshall Washington, Ph.D., to present a baking demonstration to help raise funds for student scholarships on Thursday, May 13, 2021.

PNC Bank has been announced as a presenting sponsor for this professionally produced, engaging program which will feature the two hosts creating a delicious chocolate, sweet potato tart. The program will also include messages from past college scholarship recipients and remarks from KVCC Foundation Board Chairperson Travis Grimwood, from Development Committee members Matt Rzepka, Stacie Ferschweiler and Vice Chairperson of the of the KVCC Foundation Board Michelle Eldridge.

The program will be streamed beginning at 7 p.m. on May 13. See a full list of the event sponsors and purchase your virtual ticket to watch the program by clicking on the May 13 OFE Event button. Ticket purchasers will receive a confirmation followed by program access details. Buy tickets [now](#).



Fall 2021 Early Registration

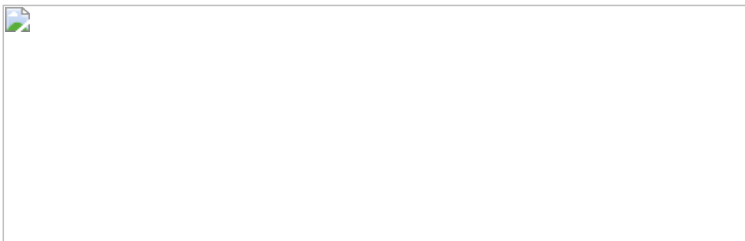
Employee registration for the Fall 2021 semester will be May 14 - 16, 2021. Full and part-time employees may request access to online registration for themselves and/or their dependents through 4 p.m. on Friday, May 14.

To request access:

1. Forward this message from your Kalamazoo Valley employee account to arr@kvcc.edu. You may also send a new message with "Employee Registration" as the subject. It must be from a "@kvcc.edu" address.
2. List the name and Valley Number or birth date for each admitted person who will be registering.
3. We will add an access code to each person's record and reply to confirm.
4. Beginning May 14, each individual assigned a code may log into My Valley, select Register or Drop Classes from My Links and register.

If you miss this opportunity, you may still register following the standard registration schedule for all students beginning Monday, May 17.

Payment for Fall 2021 must be submitted by 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 13, 2021. Please e-mail the Admissions, Registration and Records office at arr@kvcc.edu, or call 269.488.4281, if you have questions.



Volunteers Needed for Valley Food Share

Valley Food Share is an initiative designed to meet the immediate food needs of Kalamazoo Valley students. Through the program, currently enrolled students can pick up a bag, or a "share" which includes food grown locally and sourced through our own Food Innovation Center as well as nonperishable items from Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes, to take home.

Valley Food Share distribution is currently a drive-thru service on Thursdays from 2 - 4 p.m. alternating between the Food Innovation Center and the Texas Township Campus. Volunteers are needed to help distribute shares to students who have indicated that they are in need. Please [sign up](#), if you are able. For more information, email foodshare@kvcc.edu.



Student Profile: Jalen Hooper

Kalamazoo Valley Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) student Jalen Hooper admits that school wasn't always his top priority. He attended Loy Norrix High School in Kalamazoo before transferring to Portage Community Education Center's high school. "High school for me started out really rough," he said. "When I went to Portage Community Education Center (PCEC), it got through my thick skull that I needed to do well in school." With individualized instruction through PCEC, he brought up his grades and set a plan for his future.

That led the 23-year-old to Kalamazoo Valley's HVAC program, where he's completing his second year of classes. Because he's working full time at local door manufacturer, Elias Corporation, Hooper takes two classes per semester. He's enjoying his training and has urged his friends to consider a career in the skilled trades.

"I recommend that anyone my age get into the skilled trades," he said. "There's going to be an open market because all of the people who've been in the field for 40 years are getting ready to retire. Getting into a trade is the best way to go, especially if you're a hands-on learner who doesn't want a conventional college education."

Hooper received a scholarship from the KVCC Foundation and Federal CARES Act funding. "I pay for my classes out of pocket and the scholarship helped me get my tool bag and everything I needed for class. The Foundation money was a big help to me," he said. "I was also lucky enough to get \$500 in CARES Act funding."

Juggling work and school is a challenge for Hooper. "I'm tired 99 percent of the time," he said. "My girlfriend is supportive. It's difficult, but I know what I'm fighting for and the payout is going to be worth it."

Hooper said he is enjoying HVAC work so much that he considers it more fun than work. "When you're doing something you love, it no longer feels like you're working," he explained.

Hooper is happy to share his views with anyone who will listen. "I'm a hardworking individual who likes to get stuff done," he said. "And I might not look approachable, but I'm a big teddy bear."



Kalamazoo Valley Libraries: Help Your Students Spring into the New Semester!

Spring is here and so is a new semester! Kalamazoo Valley Libraries are here to help.

- The Libraries can help with your students' hardware needs. Students can fill out an application for a [loaner laptop](#) or a [mobile wi-fi hotspot](#). All hardware loans are for the entire semester.
- Take advantage of our informative [library instruction](#) (both synchronous and asynchronous), to aid your students with research and projects.
- We are available to create a custom research guide to assist your class. See our guide [homepage](#) for examples. Be sure to take a look at our online Citation [LibGuide](#), which can be included in your Canvas course.
- Worried your students won't have access to the course materials they need? We can help with that too! Email us and we can arrange to make a copy of your course materials available on [Reserve](#) in the Library. Your students will be able to request printed copies, which can be picked up.
- Library staff are standing by online and in person to help answer any questions your students have and connect them to the resources they need over the phone, email, or Zoom. Through our 24/7 chat service, research and citation help are available at any hour.

Virtual Assistance:

Visit us [online](#)

Call 269.488.4380 (TTC)

Email libraries@kvcc.edu

Zoom by appointment, please email

Virtual Hours:

Monday, May 3 – Friday, May 14

Monday - Thursday | 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Friday | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

[Chat](#) with a college librarian 24/7

Library Open Hours:

Monday, May 3 – Friday, May 14

Texas Township Campus Library (TTC)

Monday- Friday | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.*

Arcadia Commons Campus Library (ACC)

(located in Anna Whitten Hall, Room 321)

Monday - Friday | 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.*

Curbside Assistance:

Texas Township Campus Library (TTC)

Monday - Friday | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.*

** The libraries will be closed on Tuesdays from 8 - 9 a.m. for staff training.*



[Kalamazoo Valley Celebrates Graduates](#)

[Mason Gets New K-9 Unit](#)

[See the 'Super Pink Moon' Tonight, But Don't Expect It to Look Much Different | WWMT](#)

[Kalamazoo Area Sends 16 to 2021 Associated Press Boys Hoops All-State Teams - mlive.com](#)

[Connecting Chords Earth Day Concert To Feature Dede Alder And Josh Holcomb | WMUK](#)



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