

**GO
AHEAD**



achievements.

SUCCESS STORY  **page 2**

Tim Flavin's "Heart of Gold" gets Latinos to college

GROW. BUILD. CREATE. FOCUS. CARE. **SUCCEED.**

PARKLAND COLLEGE
GO AHEAD



**LET'S GO AHEAD,
TOGETHER**

Dean's Letter

Dear District 505 Residents,

While I am indeed proud of the students who make my Dean's List every semester, I admire even more those students who persist and earn their degrees despite the odds stacked against them.

Whether you're a mom with two jobs who studies at night to earn a nursing degree or a newly unemployed laborer who's now the oldest student in all his courses, you are the student who knows what has to be done and does it. You face the struggles and challenges head-on.

Please know that, as your dean of students, I'm here to support your growth and development during your time at Parkland College. My office works to engage you in civic, scholarly, and social experiences, so that you GO AHEAD at our campus and in life, no matter what your background or challenge. Feel free to stop by U243 and say hi.

Marietta Turner
Dean of Students





Kenia Gonzales

read ahead.

2

ALUMNI PHILANTHROPY:

Putting “Community” in College Access

Tim Flavin’s “Heart of Gold” gets Latinos to college

3

PARKLAND ATHLETICS:

The Cobra Strikes Again

Regional, national headlines for sports teams

4

PARKLAND PARTNERS:

Radiologic Technology

Carle donates high-tech X-ray equipment

FAST TRACK TO COLLEGE:

Early Transfer Academy gives high schoolers a head start

5

PROGRAM EXCELLENCE:

Automotive Technology

National SkillsUSA winner sets sights for WorldSkills in Russia

CAREER SPOTLIGHT PROGRAMS:

Precision Ag Technology, Automotive Motorsport, Entertainment Technology

6

FACULTY-STAFF EXCELLENCE:

State, national award winners

8

PARKLAND BLOG WRAP-UP:

Late summer offers real world XPs for science students

9

PLAN AHEAD:

Upcoming events

Go ahead is a biannual publication for the residents of Parkland College District 505.

EDITOR
Hilary Valentine

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Rebecca Grosser

WRITER
Ruthie Counter

PRESIDENT
Dr. Thomas R. Ramage

PHOTOGRAPHER
Brad Leeb

PARKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dana Trimble
(NEWMAN)

Bianca Green
(CHAMPAIGN)

Gregory Knott
(ST. JOSEPH)

Jonathan Westfield
(SAVOY)

James L. Ayers
(MONTICELLO)

Timothy Johnson
(URBANA)

Jim Voyles
(TUSCOLA)

STUDENT TRUSTEE
Shahad Alsayyad

THE MISSION OF PARKLAND COLLEGE IS TO ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY IN LEARNING.

2017 Parkland College.
All rights reserved.

ALUMNI PHILANTHROPY: PUTTING “COMMUNITY” IN COLLEGE ACCESS



**“PARKLAND’S A TREMENDOUS ASSET
TO THIS COMMUNITY.”**

TIM FLAVIN
Director, Mi Raza

Tim Flavin’s “Heart of Gold” gets Latinos to college

Oldest of eight praised for work with Arcola youth

Some bright Latino students who never thought they could go to college met Parkland College alum Tim Flavin and found out the impossible was possible. Years later, Flavin’s work would pay off, in more ways than one.

It was 2010. Flavin (77, Agriculture), volunteer director of the Mi Raza Community Center in Arcola, had gathered a small group of Douglas County area high school students into what he called “Project You.” He led the group in organizing a “College is Possible” event for the students and their families that brought in career and education experts with information on how to attend and finance college.

Flavin, his wife Debbie, a high school Spanish teacher, and city and public health officials had started Mi Raza in 2004 to assist the growing number of Hispanic families in the area assimilate to their

new country. Project You member Kenia Gonzalez from Arcola High School remembers the impact that “College is Possible”—and Tim Flavin—had on the group.

“We had a really good turnout; it was a huge success,” she said. “Tim used a whole lot of connections and invited great resources to come down and share with us. Putting that event on gave me more knowledge about opportunities I never knew were out there.”

Success meant more than a great event turnout, however. By spring 2017, four Mi Raza students were graduating from Illinois colleges: Eastern Illinois University, Olivet Nazarene University, and Parkland College. Transferring to EIU after Parkland College, Gonzalez earned her bachelor’s degree in marketing.

“I think everybody in our small group attended a college at some point after high school,” she said. Flavin beamed as he talked about attending their May graduations.

“It was an emotional week for me,” he said. “I’m so proud of them.”

Mi Raza students at Parkland are among the most active in student government and the Latino Club, according to education professor and club advisor Charles Larenas.

“Tim has sacrificed a lot in order to enhance the quality of life of others, and he does not ask for anything in return,” Larenas said. “The students he worked with here have really appreciated the importance of graduating with a degree.” In addition to helping Latino youth prepare for college, Mi Raza has helped more than 300 Latino residents improve their lives through ESL classes and citizenship exam preparation.

In recognition of his philanthropic work at Mi Raza, Flavin won a 2017 Hearts of Gold Award from the Community Foundation of East Central Illinois this summer. Larenas nominated him for the award. A year earlier, the cities of Champaign and Urbana also recognized Mi Raza with an award for immigrant hospitality.

Flavin remains humbled by the recognition. “I’m just a farm kid from Ivesdale,” he said. “What I did was basically what I was taught, that you treat everyone the same.”

He was also taught to share resources to acquire higher education. The oldest of eight, Flavin and all his siblings attended Parkland College in the 1970s and 1980s. Most went on to earn bachelor’s or master’s degrees.

“We helped each other go to school, sharing apartments, food, whatever we had,” he said. “My dad was a very big fan of Parkland.” So is Tim. Soon to begin work toward his PhD at Benedictine University in Springfield, Tim credits Parkland with getting him—and so many others—off to a great educational start.



PARKLAND ATHLETICS: The Cobra Strikes Again

Regional, national headlines for sports teams

What a year! Parkland College Cobras enjoyed unprecedented success during the 2016–2017 academic year. One team saw back-to-back national titles, while seven of eight teams won their Mid-West Athletic Conference titles for the second straight year. Seven teams won Region 24 titles, advancing to the NJCAA national championships. Performance at the national level was unparalleled in Parkland Athletics’ history:

- Parkland Volleyball did it again, winning back-to-back national titles. They are No. 1 in the nation.
- Baseball was 3rd in the nation at the D-II World Series
- Men’s Basketball was 5th place in the nation D-II
- Women’s Soccer was 5th place in the nation D-I
- Men’s Soccer was 6th in the nation D-I
- Women’s Basketball placed 8th in the nation D-II
- Golf placed 10th in the nation

Even more impressively, five of our athletic teams were nominated for NJCAA All-Academic Team recognition, which means the team had a cumulative GPA in college-level course work of at least 3.0 for the entire school year. The nominated teams were:

- Men’s Golf 3.58
- Softball 3.39
- Women’s Basketball 3.31
- Women’s Soccer 3.17
- Volleyball 3.12

Congratulations to Athletic Director Rod Lovett, Athletics Assistant Mickey Cler, and the coaches and student athletes who so well represent this college and community.

GO COBRAS!

PARKLAND PARTNERS: RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY

Carle Donates High-Tech X-ray Equipment



Parkland College Radiologic Technology students will learn and practice on upgraded X-ray machines that closely mirror what they can expect to use with patients after graduation. Carle recently donated the equipment as part of its ongoing collaboration with Parkland to develop skilled, caring health professionals who can assist patients in any healthcare setting.

When Carle opened its new Orthopedic and Sports Medicine facility earlier this year, it installed new X-ray equipment, prompting the donation of its 2006 and 2008 General Electric Healthcare Definium 8000 models to Parkland.

Updating Parkland's radiology equipment from cassette to digital means more power and less radiation exposure, explained Kelly Oppe, Carle director of Radiology.

"It's really important for radiology students to use technology that's as up-to-date as fiscally possible," she said, adding that new equipment costs, conservatively, around \$250,000.

This donation bolsters the longstanding partnership between Carle and Parkland College, one that includes real-world, onsite clinical training for students, according to Bobbi Scholze, dean of Parkland College's Career and Technical Education division (formerly of Health Professions).

FAST TRACK TO COLLEGE: PARKLAND INTRODUCES THE EARLY TRANSFER ACADEMY

High school students and their families can learn more about a new Parkland College program that could reduce by half the time it takes to earn an associate's or bachelor's degree after high school.

As participants in the new Early Transfer Academy, high school juniors and seniors will take a set of early morning or late afternoon classes at Parkland that meet the State of Illinois' General Education Core Curriculum. The completed GECC "package" of courses will then transfer as lower-division, gen ed requirements at public colleges and universities across the state, as law dictates (Illinois Articulation Initiative Act).

An ETA Open House has been set for Monday, Nov. 13, from 6 to 8 p.m., at Parkland College's Student Union, Room U140. College faculty and administrators will be on hand to discuss the new academy, its benefits to students, the eligibility requirements for participation, and opportunities for financial assistance.

All high school families are welcome; however, parents of current sophomores and juniors will have particular interest in attending, as these students will be the debut participants in the ETA. The first cohort of ETA students is scheduled to begin at Parkland College in the fall 2018 semester.

For questions, contact the Parkland College Dual Credit Office at 217/353-2663.



**GO AHEAD
EXCEL**

STUDENT EXCELLENCE: **AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY**

Auto student earns gold at SkillsUSA; sets sights for Russia

With a national win under his belt, a Parkland College Ford ASSET program student now looks toward competing internationally in automotive service technology excellence.

Jacob Greene, a Litchfield resident, was awarded the gold medal in Automotive Service Technology at the annual SkillsUSA Championships, which is the national-level competition for secondary and post-secondary students enrolled in CTE programs. The competition was held at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville in late June.

With the win, Greene, an automotive technician at Victory Lane Ford in Litchfield, has qualified to compete internationally at WorldSkills in Russia in 2019.

The SkillsUSA Championships is considered the largest single day of corporate volunteerism in America and is valued at more than \$36 million in industry support of donated time, equipment, cash,

and material. All contests are run by and judged by industry using industry standards for employment. Winners receive medallions and frequently receive tools of their trade and or scholarships to further their careers and education.

ABOUT FORD ASSET

Upon graduation from Parkland College, Ford ASSET students have the opportunity to become fully certified as Ford technicians with an associate's degree in automotive technology. As part of the program, students receive hands-on training at sponsoring Ford dealerships.

For more information about the Ford ASSET program, call Agriculture/Engineering Science and Technologies at 217/351-2481.

CAREER SPOTLIGHT PROGRAMS

Did you know? Parkland College is the only two-year college in Illinois to offer these cutting-edge career programs.

Precision Ag Technology: Prepare for a career in soil testing, crop consulting, natural resources, sales, equipment installation/maintenance, and more. Use current technological tools such as GPS, GIS, UAVs, and agriculture apps.

Automotive Motorsport: Prepare for entry-level motorsport industry assembly, fabrication, and team member positions. Enjoy innovative courses and hands-on opportunities as you build on a strong foundation of traditional automotive technology work.

Entertainment Technology: Prepare for technical careers in the entertainment industry in areas such as set construction; production and lighting crew for stage and film; technician work at resorts, restaurants, theme parks, touring companies, and radio/TV studios; and other areas. Gain a wide range of experiences in production behind the scenes.

FACULTY-STAFF EXCELLENCE: STATE, NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS



The quest for excellence at Parkland College is not limited to students. Administrators, faculty, and staff were recognized in 2017 for their innovation, leadership, and advocacy for students.

TOM RAMAGE – 2017 ICCTA ADVOCACY AWARD

President Dr. Thomas Ramage received the 2017 Advocacy Award from the Illinois Community College Trustees Association in June. The award honors its recipient's dedicated leadership in advocating for the needs of students and the Illinois community college system.



PAM LAU – 2017 NCIA EMERGING ACADEMIC LEADER

Vice President for Academic Services Dr. Pamela Lau has won the 2017 Emerging Chief Academic Officer Award from the National Council of Instructional Administrators. The award honors chief administrators of three years or less in their community colleges who have shown outstanding accomplishment in four American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) leadership competencies: organizational strategy, institutional finance, communication, and collaboration.



ROD LOVETT – 2017 TOURISM IMPACT AWARD

Athletics/Student Life Director Rod Lovett won a 2017 Tourism Impact Award from the Champaign County Convention and Visitors Bureau. He was nominated by Joe DeLuce of the Champaign Park District for his willingness to work with various community agencies to provide gym or field space for their events.



JENNI FRIDGEN – AACC MENTOR LINKS, 2017–2019

Agriculture Program Director Jennifer Fridgen will serve as a mentor in the American Association of Community College's MentorLinks: Advancing Technological Education program, supported by the National Science Foundation. She will assist faculty from Ozark Technical Community College in Springfield, Missouri, in a project titled "Advancing Agriculture." MentorLinks has been advancing STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) technician education within the country since 2002.

DAVE LEAKE – 2017 NCRAL AWARD

Staerck Planetarium Director David Leake, who also directs the Champaign-Urbana Astronomical Society, has received the 2017 North Central Region of the Astronomical League Award for his extensive contributions to amateur astronomy.

From top: 
**TOM RAMAGE, PAM LAU, JENNI
FRIDGEN, DAVE LEAKE**



CHARLES LARENAS – 2017 IMMIGRANT WELCOME DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP SERVICE AWARD

Education Professor and First Year Experience Program Director Charles Larenas has received the 2017 Distinguished Leadership Service Award by the Cities of Champaign and Urbana, the CU Immigration Forum, and the Urbana Free Library, as part of their fourth annual Immigrant Welcome Awards.



STEVE RUTLEDGE, ENGLISH – 2017 ICCTA OUTSTANDING FULL-TIME FACULTY AWARD FOR PARKLAND COLLEGE

- Described as cooperative, giving, and energetic associate professor by students and colleagues
- One of the founding and sustaining faculty members of Together We Achieve: A First Year Community for African American Men
- Rewrote the curriculum for English 099
- Is involved with the Workforce Literacy and Numeracy Committee, Developmental Education Council, and the Workforce English 111 Group



MICHAEL RETZER, BIOLOGY – 2017 ICCTA OUTSTANDING PART-TIME FACULTY AWARD FOR PARKLAND COLLEGE

- Recognized as being student-centered in all of his teaching
- Past co-chair for the Sustainable Campus Committee, promoting sustainable practices and establishing a tall grass prairie on campus
- Co-sponsor of the Parkland Science Club, helping students develop service projects on campus and in the community
- Member of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists



ERIN WILDING-MARTIN, MATHEMATICS – 2017 ONLINE TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

- Recognized by her colleagues as a professor who always thinks first of what is best for her students
- Creates interactive exercises that enrich student learning by relating mathematics to the real world
- 2015 Central Region Faculty Member Award, Association of Community College Trustees
- 2015 ICCTA Outstanding Full-Time Faculty Member Award



JASON ROTZOLL, ADMISSIONS AND RECORDS – 2017 OUTSTANDING STAFF GOLD AWARD

- Consistently described by his colleagues as a pleasure to work with, “easy-going, calm, and professional”
- Serves on the Financial Aid Appeals, Scholarship Selection, and Curriculum committees
- Serves on the Student Working Group of the Enrollment Management Team
- Is a PCA representative for confidential staff
- Held various leadership positions in both Illinois Community College Admissions and Records Officers and the Illinois Association of Admissions and Records Officers (IAACRAO)

From top:

CHARLES LARENAS, STEVE RUTLEDGE, MICHAEL RETZER, ERIN WILDING-MARTIN, JASON ROTZOLL

PARKLAND BLOG WRAP-UP:

News Around Campus

More information on the following news features is available at blog.parkland.edu.



STATE, PARKLAND CONDUCT ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL AT ALLERTON

The Illinois State Archaeological Survey (ISAS), part of the Prairie Research Institute at the University of Illinois, and Parkland College conducted an archaeological field school at Allerton Park last July. The field school investigations centered around a village and mound group located on Allerton Park's land, known as Samuel's Mounds.

The mounds were first documented over 50 years ago, but the site has recently been subject to an intensive program of non-invasive documentation involving LIDAR, topographic mapping and remote sensing, as part of a cultural resource management review conducted by ISAS.

Erin Riggs, an instructor for Parkland College, led the field school, while ISAS staff led by Dr. Duane Esarey and Dr. Brian Adams helped guide students in best practices of field archaeology.

PRECS SCIENCE RESEARCH "INVALUABLE" TO STUDENTS

Ten science-focused students from community colleges across Illinois and two other states came to Champaign to participate in the inaugural summer of PRECS (Phenotypic Plasticity Research Experience for Community College Students), a research experience for undergraduates program (REU) funded by the National Science Foundation. PRECS provides community college students with authentic research experiences in the area of phenotypic plasticity, the phenomenon in which a single genotype produces multiple phenotypes depending on environment.



SOLAR ECLIPSE OBSERVED

Staerkel Planetarium Director Dave Leake shared his observations of the recent solar eclipse in his blog post on August 30, "In the Shadow of the Moon." Those of you who experienced a partial eclipse or traveled to southern Illinois for the totality will enjoy this post. Here's an excerpt:

I shouted "first contact" to the group at 11:53 a.m. As the Moon overtook the Sun, everything seemed "weird!" Shadows became sharper and the countryside took on a pale appearance as if it were twilight, but it was everywhere (not just one direction) and the Sun was high in the sky! It got darker and cooler. At the first diamond ring, a roar came from the crowd and there was applause as we bathed in the Moon's shadow. The horizons stayed relatively bright, but the sky overhead darkened and Venus became brilliant. Jupiter was visible east of the Sun. At 2.5 minutes, I yelled, "have your glasses ready!" The second diamond ring was more dramatic than the first. The Sun's brilliant light appeared as a point that grew in size. Given the high ice crystal clouds in the area, the point was surrounded by brilliant colors and the crowd gasped. What an amazing experience!



PLAN AHEAD

FOR THESE LATE FALL/SPRING EVENTS!

PARKLAND BUSINESS TRAINING AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION:

Visit www.parkland.edu/btce/register to register for noncredit classes.

Armchair Travel: Bali and Java

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 1:30–3 pm; BTCE
See fascinating culture on the Indonesian islands. Register by Nov. 13; \$9

Retirement Has Changed. What's Your Next Move?

Thursday, Nov. 30, 6–7:30 pm; BTCE
Learn how to take inventory of current assets and determine how much \$\$ you may need during retirement. Register by Nov. 23; \$15

Home Buyer's Seminar

Thursdays, Dec. 7 and 14, 6–8:30 pm;
Learn about budgeting, prequalification, inspection, closing, more. Register by Nov. 30; \$29

GIERTZ GALLERY EVENTS

2017 State of the Art:

Ceramics Invitational

Monday, Nov. 13–Saturday, Feb. 3, 2018
Curated by Bill Griffith, assistant director, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts

Coffee, Tea, Cups and Dessert Fundraiser

Thursday, Nov. 30, 4–7 pm

Art and Design Student Juried Show

Monday, Apr. 9–Saturday, May 5

MUSIC ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

Parkland Jazz Combo

Monday, Nov. 27, 7 pm, Parkland Second Stage

Wind Ensemble and Chamber Singers

Sunday, Dec. 3, 3 pm, Harold and Jean Miner Theatre

Parkland Pops

Wednesday, Dec. 6, 1 pm, Second Stage Theatre

Guitar Ensemble

Wednesday, Dec. 6, 6 pm, Second Stage Theatre

Concert Band and Orchestra

Sunday, Dec. 10 and Sunday, Mar. 4, 3 pm, Harold and Jean Miner Theatre

Chamber Singers and Wind Ensemble

Sunday, Mar. 11, 3 pm., Harold and Jean Miner Theatre

Natural Sciences Poster Session

Wednesday, Nov. 29, 6 pm, Student Union
Browse through 100+ science projects from physical and life science students.

WORLD OF SCIENCE LECTURES

7pm, Staerkel Planetarium

Friday, Dec. 1

“Rainbows, Halos, and Glories,” Dr. James Kaler, UIUC

Friday, Feb. 2, 2018

“Demystifying the Science of Global Climate Change,” Dr. Eric Snodgrass, UIUC

Friday, Mar. 2

“Using Gene Profiling to Fight Cancer,” Sarah Spinella, UIUC

Friday, Apr. 6

“Extending Plate Tectonics into the Earth's Deep Interior Using Supercomputers,” Dr. Lijun Liu, UIUC

WHY PARKLAND?

Visit campus and find out!

Early Transfer Academy Open House

Nov. 13, 6–8pm

Surveying and Mapping Career Fair

Nov. 16, 5–7pm

Pathway Open House

Feb. 11, 1–3 pm

Campus Visit Days

Feb. 19 and Apr. 2, 10 am and 2 pm

Career Exploration Day

Mar. 9, noon–2 pm

PARKLAND COLLEGE
GO AHEAD





2400 West Bradley Ave., Champaign, IL 61821-1899

www.parkland.edu • 217/351-2200

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Champaign, Illinois
Permit No. 268

**GO AHEAD
GET STARTED**



Registration Open for Spring Semester.

Classes available for both credit and noncredit options.

online at

www.parkland.edu/schedules

or request printed schedules by calling 217/351-2200
or visiting parkland.edu/contactus

Parkland College ensures equal educational opportunities are offered to all students regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, gender expression, disability, sexual orientation, veteran/Vietnam veteran era, age, or religion, and is Section 504/ADA compliant. For additional information or accommodations, call 217/351-2551.

**PARKLAND COLLEGE
GO AHEAD**

