Dear friends!

As members of the Alumni Leadership Council, we have the unique privilege to represent you – and more than 60,000 other Kirkwood Community College alumni and friends. Our backgrounds and professional paths are quite diverse, yet perhaps like us, you trace your success to Kirkwood.

The Kirkwood Alumni & Friends program, directed by the Kirkwood Foundation, is guided by a leadership council comprised of 24 individuals. Each representative shares his or her professional expertise and leadership skills to help the past, present and future alumni form meaningful and lasting connections to the college and with one another.

We are each excited to be a part of the college and the many initiatives that continue to fuel Kirkwood’s success. We encourage you to attend future alumni events and reconnect with the friends and faculty that made a difference in your life. Have you visited Kirkwood’s new teaching hotel, explored the innovative healthcare simulation center, or simply roamed the campus on your own? Regardless of where you visit, what you learn, or the things you see, you’ll share our pride – we know it is contagious.

Today, more than 25,000 students follow in your footsteps each year as they seek instruction at multiple locations in 125+ credit programs and 1,000+ continuing education courses. Poised to succeed, they too have discovered a powerful, community resource – Kirkwood Community College. Please join us as we strengthen connections and ensure future success by sharing our time, talents and treasures.

We sincerely thank you.

Brenda Moore, Chair  
Retired Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, University of Iowa Health Care

Chad Bosch, Past Chair  
Vice President, Bosch Financial, Inc

Mary Schneekloth, Chair Elect  
Trust Officer, Guaranty Bank  
Adjunct Instructor, Kirkwood Community College

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Vice President, Bosch Financial, Inc

Mary Schneekloth, Chair Elect
Trust Officer, Guaranty Bank
Adjunct Instructor, Kirkwood Community College
ALUMNI scrapbook

1. Open House at The Kirkwood Center
2. Open House at The Kirkwood Center
3. Alumni softball game
4. Alumni baseball game
5. Alumni softball game
6. Open House at The Kirkwood Center
7. Alumni softball game
8. Family Day
9. Open House at The Kirkwood Center
10. Open House at The Kirkwood Center
11. Family Day
12. Open House at The Kirkwood Center
13. Open House at The Kirkwood Center
14. Open House at The Kirkwood Center
When was the last time someone saw in you what you could never see in yourself?

In Doug Gustafson’s classroom, it happens every day.

“Teaching is about removing barriers to students’ success,” Gustafson said. “They can do so much more than they think they can do, and I’m here to help them figure that out about themselves.”

For 27 years, Gustafson has implemented that philosophy in his teaching, but has also experienced it first-hand.

“Over all these years, Kirkwood has given me the freedom to reinvent myself. I’ve had opportunities not just to teach, but also to lead,” he said. “Kirkwood has always seen more in me than I did.”

After earning his Engineering degree from the University of Illinois, Gustafson spent five years at Rockwell Collins. He then taught for 17 years in Kirkwood’s Electronic Engineering Technology program and at the same time earned his masters in Adult Education and Community College Administration from the University of Iowa. After a one year sabbatical back at Rockwell, Gustafson spent five years teaching computer networking for Kirkwood’s Business department. Then the opportunity to head to Kirkwood’s Iowa City Campus and teach math came, and Gustafson has been there ever since.

“I love it there,” Gustafson said. “Kirkwood is just a great place to work.”

Teaching math is no easy task, however.

“Teaching is hard work if you do it right,” he said. “The great reward is the students. The best thing is when former students contact me to let me know they got good jobs or somehow improved their lifestyles. Then I know it was worth it.”
The only Dental Technology program in the Midwest. The first fully-integrated, multidisciplinary health care simulation center in Iowa. Students who continually perform above expectation across programs.

These are just a few of the remarkable aspects of Kirkwood’s Allied Health and Nursing departments. As the demand for health care professionals rises, so does the demand for top quality training programs.

Kirkwood’s programs keep pace with technological advances and changes in health care. Our close affiliation with major health care institutions offers excellent clinical training in all areas of specialization. All of our programs are taught by health care professionals and include clinical and/or practicum experience.

One of the main points of pride is the Kirkwood Healthcare Simulation Center, which opened in 2009, on the Cedar Rapids campus. A 12,000 square foot facility on the west end of Linn Hall, the Healthcare Simulation Center serves students in the college’s 20 credit and non-credit nursing and Allied Health programs, as well as area hospitals, EMS agencies, medical facilities and individual health care providers.

With seven high-fidelity medical simulators, a state-of-the-art audio/visual system and a six-room, seven-bed simulated hospital environment, the Kirkwood Healthcare Simulation Center is the first fully integrated, multidisciplinary health care simulation center in Iowa.

However, the true measure of our success is our students. Kirkwood’s blend of lecture, lab and extensive clinical experience provides our students with well-rounded skills to be successful in their profession. As proof, from 2005-2010, Allied Health students accomplished first time pass rates on licensure exams that ranged from 60 to 100 percent. These figures are comparable to, and often times higher than, the national average.
From playing in the national tournament at Kirkwood to coaching an NCAA Division I team to its own national tournament, Renee Luers-Gillispie, Kirkwood ’81, has had quite a career in softball.

Luers-Gillispie is currently the head women’s softball coach at the University of Central Florida, where she’s coached the Golden Knights to two conference championships and three NCAA Division I Regional Tournaments.

In her days as an Eagle, Luers-Gillispie was ranked as the ninth-best pitcher in the National Junior College Athletic Association. She transferred and starred at West Texas State (now West Texas A&M), setting nine career records and was later inducted into that school’s athletics hall of fame.

Coaching softball has taken her around the country. She traveled from Joliet Junior College in Illinois, to Bradley University in Illinois, to Texas Tech and finally UCF, where she started the softball program in 2002. In the team’s first year of play, they finished 46-19 with a 21-game winning streak. Luers-Gillispie said she relies on junior college players coming to UCF.

“Even today we recruit tons of junior college players; they’re able to get their start and it helps our program out tremendously,” Luers-Gillispie said, “As a student athlete Kirkwood gave me many benefits and those benefits are the major reason I recruit so many players from the junior college level.”
Today, Tim Hoover, Kirkwood ‘88, is group product manager for Knee & Hip Products at Arthrex, a worldwide industry leader in arthroscopy.

However, 20 years ago, Tim’s life was taking a completely different direction.

Back in 1982, Tim earned a degree in Criminal Justice/Sociology from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. While attempting to gain a position in the Juvenile Corrections field in Minnesota, he was temporarily a night orderly at St. Paul’s Midway Hospital, putting him in direct contact with orthopedic physician’s assistants (OPAs) from surrounding clinics.

“After four years of soul-searching, I decided I wanted to take the leap to a new career,” Tim said. “Thinking about returning to school after four years of undergrad work was difficult to digest, but I was excited about the new challenge.”

But where to go for the best education? “All the OPAs in town said, ‘You have to go to Kirkwood Community College.’ So, I attended Kirkwood’s Orthopedic Physician’s Assisting program and graduated in 1988,” Tim related. After a decade-plus of clinical experience, Tim accepted a position with Arthrex, Inc. of Naples, Fla. “To look back on my Kirkwood days, and to even suggest that I could go from student to head of the second largest revenue generating division of a worldwide industry-leading medical company, would have at the time seemed laughable,” Tim said. “But Kirkwood is all about opportunities and potential; and given the right set of educational tools and support, Kirkwood graduates can literally do anything.”

Even today, Tim is still in awe of the changes in his life. “Now, looking back on my decision, I wouldn’t change a thing and still pinch myself every so often, thinking that my life changed because of an amazing two-year experience at Kirkwood. It’s all about the opportunity and possibilities that Kirkwood brings to its students, and then what you do with it.”
Sheriff Brian Gardner credits Kirkwood for good start

“I don’t believe an education necessarily makes a good cop. But a good cop can always use a good education.”

Linn County Sheriff Brian Gardner’s philosophy on how education reinforces a foundation of common sense and experience propelled him to the top spot at the second largest sheriff’s office in Iowa.

The 1991 Kirkwood grad said a Linn County deputy who lived across the street from him during his youth helped shape his future. “He asked if I wanted to ride with him on shift and of course I did,” Gardner said. “That’s all it took.”

That deputy, a sergeant with the communications division, helped Gardner get his first job as a dispatcher with the department.

In 1982, Gardner completed the mandatory Iowa Law Enforcement Academy, which provided a good overview of police work, but not great depth, he said. “That’s where Kirkwood really helped. It gave me more depth, detail and background,” he noted.

“The flexibility with scheduling was one of the primary reasons I went to Kirkwood,” he explained. “They understood that if you were served a subpoena to appear in court when you were supposed to be in class, you had to abide by the court order.”

It helped start his education in the right direction, Gardner said. “I’d recommend Kirkwood to anyone. They teach you how to get along with people,” he says. “It’s accessible, affordable and you get a quality education that’s transferrable if you want to go on to a four-year school. I wanted to continue on and get my BA.”

He graduated in 1991 with an Associate of Science Degree in law enforcement from Kirkwood. From there, he completed his BA in criminal justice administration at Mount Mercy College in 1995. In 2004, he received his Masters of Public Administration Degree in Criminal Justice from City University in Bellevue, Washington.

Gardner steadily worked his way up through the ranks. When Sheriff Don Zeller retired, Gardner ran and became sheriff in 2009.

He currently serves on the executive board of the Iowa State Sheriffs and Deputies Association and is chair person of the Linn County Emergency Management Commission. Sheriff Gardner is also a member of numerous professional organizations and serves on several local boards and committees, including Kirkwood’s Criminal Justice Advisory Committee. This committee helps shape the law enforcement curriculum that impacts today’s young officers.
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- Health
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- Environmental & Industrial Safety
- Transportation
- Life & Leisure

For more information about Kirkwood Continuing Education programs, call 319-398-1022, 1-800-332-8833 or visit www.kirkwood.edu/ce.
HEALTHCARE SIMULATION CENTER OPEN HOUSE
Thursday, April 28, 2011
4 – 6 p.m.

SPRING FLING
May 2 – 4, 2011

COMMENCEMENT
May 14, 2011

DOWNTOWN CEDAR RAPIDS FARMERS MARKET
June 4 & 18, 2011

FREEDOM FESTIVAL ALUMNI WELCOME TENT
June 18, 2011

GRAPE HARVESTING at the KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE VINEYARD
Late August – September

For more information contact
Tom Moore at 319-395-5899 ext. 4010
or tom.moore@kirkwood.edu

FAMILY DAY
October 1, 2011

DID you KNOW?

POWERING THE FUTURE:
Kirkwood plans to erect a 2.5 mega-watt wind turbine at the Cedar Rapids campus. The turbine will not only be used to train students in renewable energy systems, but early estimates indicate it would cut the school’s $1.2 million electric bill by 35 percent, paying for itself in just under 10 years.

BUBBLE GUM BENCHMARK:
Kirkwood currently holds the Guinness World Record for number of people simultaneously blowing bubble gum bubbles. The record was set back in October 2010, at a fundraising event, as 304 individuals blew bubbles… Even CNN reported on our inflating accomplishment.
**MARCH**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Softball vs. Iowa Central</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Iowa Lakes</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Iowa Lakes</td>
<td>12 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Softball vs. Iowa Lakes</td>
<td>12 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Golf at Simpson</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Softball vs. Marshalltown</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
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**APRIL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Golf at Grandview University Invite</td>
<td>12 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Golf at Grandview University Invite</td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Softball vs. North Iowa</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Softball vs. Ellsworth</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kirkwood Performing Arts presents Rabbit Hole</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Golf at Buena Vista University Invite</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Kirkwood Performing Arts presents Rabbit Hole</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Golf at Buena Vista University Invite</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Southeastern</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Kirkwood Performing Arts presents Rabbit Hole</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 – 10</td>
<td>Kirkwood Softball Tournament</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Southeastern</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Kirkwood Performing Arts presents Rabbit Hole</td>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Golf at Ellsworth CC Invite</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Rochester</td>
<td>12 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Vocal Jazz Concert</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Marshalltown</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Golf at Clarke College Invite</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Muscatine</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Softball vs. Southwestern</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Golf at Wartburg</td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Golf at Wartburg</td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Golf at Cedar Rapids College Invite</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Coe JV</td>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Marshalltown</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Softball vs. Southeastern</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Golf at Marshalltown CC Invite</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Baseball vs. DMACC</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Jazz Fest ‘11</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MAY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Baseball vs. DMACC</td>
<td>12 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 – 2</td>
<td>Golf at Region XI Men’s Golf Tournament</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Indian Hills</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kirkwood Concert Band</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Concert Chorale</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 – 20</td>
<td>NJCAA Division II Men’s Golf Tournament</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Welcome back!

As I reflect on each and every one of you, two important words come to mind: thank you. On behalf of our faculty and staff, our Alumni Leadership Council, and our boards, I sincerely thank you for recognizing the value of a Kirkwood educational experience. As the college evolved from Area X to Kirkwood Community College, our mission and focus on student success has remained the same. Because of you, Kirkwood has been able to upgrade facilities, build new buildings, and increase course offerings, all in response to growing enrollments. Kirkwood is proud to be your community’s college and remain an affordable, caring and technologically advanced educational institution.

Each day, as one of Kirkwood’s 63,000 plus graduates, you share your individual skills and talents with workplace cohorts, family and friends, and fellow citizens. You serve as an ambassador and a shining star that fuels our success. Our relationship with you is important - you make us proud.

Please join us on campus for special events, or take advantage of one or more life-long learning opportunities through Continuing Ed. Allow your Kirkwood connection to be a valuable resource, a resource you share with potential students and colleagues.

Yes, you are important to us. Start here, go anywhere, but please come back! You’ll be glad that you did.

Jody Donaldson, Alumni Director

Help us be green! Send us your email for future newsletters to alumni@kirkwood.edu.