



# Academic Affairs Report

Technology has kept some classes on track despite the snow days experienced this term. Kristi Hall, full-time business/computer science faculty member states, "The classes in my program are all on track because of Blackboard and Live Classroom. We have been able to stay current and have class anyway. I think this speaks to how important it is we at SSCC continue to embrace technology and make future commitments to further advance our technology."

With the addition of Ben Filla as the new distance education coordinator, it is anticipated many more classes at the college will be able to continue uninterrupted due to inclement weather, as more faculty receive support and training in the use of online technologies and pedagogy.

Of the 18 students who graduated from the Respiratory Care Program in December, 16 have already passed the Certified Respiratory Therapist exam and five have passed the Registered Respiratory Therapist exam. Both exams are nationally recognized. Additionally, 12 have obtained some type of employment in the respiratory field.

Computer science and office information technology students will be utilizing the latest office application technology with the introduction of Microsoft Office 2010 beginning summer quarter 2011 across all four campus locations. This updated version will help prepare students for the ever-changing world of office applications and technology enhancements. Some of the technology changes forthcoming with this new edition will be:

- a. Office tools available on web, desktop, and smartphone assisting with better communication over various platforms;
- b. Unified communications technology across applications;
- c. Improved data visualization techniques;
- d. Dynamic multimedia presentation impacts through utilization of audio and video technologies and actual video editing within applications;
- e. Common toolbar throughout all office applications;
- f. Integration with office web apps to view and edit documents without requiring Microsoft Office;
- g. Presentations easily converted to video file formats that can be distributed on portable media players like iPods; and
- h.

When Weastec was looking at ways to efficiently modify a design on one of their products, they contacted Tom Stroup, associate professor, engineering. Before modifications could take place on the product, Weastec needed to have a few of these prototypes made to test for the bending or twisting of the part. The specifications of the pieces needed were sent to SSCC, and Tom was able to produce the prototypes with the available technology and equipment also utilized to teach the engineering students.

The new nursing curriculum begins in March. According to Dr. Julianne Krebs, nursing program director, "We are excited about the implementation and forecasted improved outcomes. Faculty and staff have put forth a lot of work in revising the curriculum." The PN Program also had 100-percent first-time pass rate. Congratulations to students, faculty and staff.









