Thiel’s Commitment to Students

by David DeFrio

The value of experience is meant to give people hope, and with years of experience professionals in any field can provide hope to people seeking real world knowledge.

With 30 years of professing and just about the same amount of years in the manufacturing field, Professor Angelo Giannini has built a resume full of hands on experience. So when asked, viewed about how this institution specifically is preparing their students for the real world, he was able to say that in many ways it was difficult to keep up.

Giannini first talked about how he feels students should be taking advantage of the Career Development Center and the professors who are in the course of knowing of experiences and lessons learned while in the workforce.

Also he talked about how important it is that this institution focuses on the completion of the resume and a practice interview before graduating.

“Thiel College students are truly lucky that they are required to go through a practice objective analysis interview. That means at the conclusion of the interview, the student knows what they did right and what they need to improve during his or her next interview,” Professor Angelo Giannini said. [cont. on pg. 3]

100 Day Countdown Dinner continues senior tradition

by David Dye, ddye@thiel.edu

In honor of the senior graduating class of 2016, a dinner was held in the Lutheran Heritage Room on Jan. 28 entitled “Thiel College Days to Graduation Dinner.”

First, Lori Kay, the President of the Class of 2016, delivered the welcome speech and announced the people who will be working on the committee that will determine the senior class gift to Thiel College. Troy D. VanAllen, Ph.D., then delivered the presidential greeting, which included asking students to remain connected and involved with Thiel even after graduating. He informed the audience that last year roughly 96.4 percent of Thiel graduates and either a job relevant to their major or were attending graduate school within six months of graduation.

Following the invocation delivered by student Erik Patt, campus minister, were served salad, broccoli, cheese ravioli primavera, chicken parmesan, and penne arrabbiata, as well as cake for dessert.

The keynote speaker for the dinner was Andrea Rattay, former Thiel student who graduated in 2012. Rattay is currently employed as the Assistant Vice President and Director of Admissions at a Farmers National Bank.

“Never forget the relationships that have helped you get to this moment right here, right now,” Rattay said.

The Class of 2016 all gathered in the Lutheran Heritage Room for a traditional dinner.

Photo credit: David Dye

Shakespeare Festival attracts students for third year

by Tina Kramer, tkramer@thiel.edu

On January 21, 2016, Thiel held its third annual Shakespeare Festival. High schools from all over, including one from Maryland and also a group of home-schooled students, came to showcase 20 min. of their chosen Shakespeare scene or scenes.

This tradition was started years ago by Paul Miller at Greenville High School, but has become the responsibility of theater director Peter Rydberg. The current Shakespeare Festival serves to spark young adults’ interest in Shakespeare’s plays and grant students the opportunity to receive critiques on their own acting abilities.

The students are also shown acting techniques, such as fighting, during a small combat workshop titled, “Less Yakkin’, More Wokin’.” Participating high schools were trained to appear to stab and stungle their classmates on stage to improve their acting scenes which include these different techniques.

Students are also permitted to add their own creative spin on classical Shakespearean plays. This year, one performance incorporated an original Shakespeare scene followed by the group’s interpretation of the scene, presenting it in a modern way.

Application for the event was open to all students interested in participating. Other groups included students to Star Wars, hashtagnets, and other modern day trends in their scenes.

For me, the highlight of this year’s Shakespeare Festival was the interludes. The Greenville Area High School Association performed a series of scenes from Jan Dooonscher’s William Shakespeare’s Star Wars during the breaks between performances of Shakespeare’s plays. They were thoroughly impressed with the group’s use of costuming, lightsaber fight choreography, and use of comic timing,” theater student Jared Johnson said.

Judges reviewed the performances and gave awards specifically based on the groups’ acts. This year even featured a “Best Death Scene Award.”

High school students present had the opportunity to meet other people that share their interest for theater, both on the high school and college level. During breaks students were told of ways to apply to Thiel and the positive aspects of the school. Rydberg also advertised the theater program here at Thiel and, specifically, the Thiel Players.

The Festival ended with the distribution of awards and general comments from the judges about effective and ineffective acting observed during performances. One of the judges, Allan Morrill, believes the festival is more than the scoring and awarding schools for their acting.

“I’ve done it [judged the Shakespeare Festival] for three years and it’s always a joy to see kids doing Shakespeare. It’s just fun. It’s also a great way to attract new students to Thiel College,” Morrill said.

New Professor Dane Claussen heads up Communication

by Claud Anderson, canderson@thiel.edu

As the 2015 fall semester began, so did Dane Claussen’s new role as the James Pedas Professor from the University of Georgia. Claussen’s education only began to show his qualifications.

Prior to starting work at Thiel, Claussen spent time as the Editor of Journalism & Mass Communication Educator, was the Director of Graduate Programs for Fox University’s School of Communication, and wrote four books among countless other articles, book reviews, and papers.

Most recently, however, Claussen spent the last three years in China as the Visiting Professor of International Journalism at Shanghai International Studies University. Before heading over, Claussen did not know any Chinese since it was an expectation of the journalism students to know some English.

"It was hard to get students to participate because of their Chinese," Claussen said.

The time Dr. Claussen spent in China was not the first time he has travelled abroad. Besides China he has travelled to 35 other countries and has visited every state as well. When asked where he would like to return, he chuckled.

“It is a question of where I would like to go back to,” Claussen said. Among his favorite countries he would like to revisit are Canada, Spain, Italy, India, and Germany.

Seeing the potential to increase the number of communications students on campus, Claussen aims to rework the current communications curriculum and introduce new majors.

The new majors would expand the communications department and help students to find new opportunities in different types of communication such as business journalism. As it stands, “not many colleges offer these types of programs, and there is a certain inertia [in the communications field] with the growth in technology,” Claussen said.

Still, Claussen believes receiving an endowed chair like the James Pedas Professor of Communication was a rare opportunity and an amazing honor.

“This is a culmination of my career,” he said.

Radio Training

by Mike Borosyn

Thiel College’s radio station, WXTC, offers students the opportunity to get their voice heard, not only at Thiel college, but for 25 miles through an FM signal.

WXTC has also recently began streaming, so now those who are not able to be in the 25 mile radius can tune into the campus radio station.

“Radio gives students who are not on campus the opportunity to feel like they are not getting an education. It allows them to express themselves in a different format,” Mercédès Quarles said.

“I love listening to the radio because it is so entertaining to hear people I know on air. A usual radio station has speakers that I have never met, but Thiel’s radio station provides students with the chance to form a personal connection with live radio show hosts,” student Tina Kramer said.

However the opportunities do not stop there. Because WXTC is a student run organization, students are given the opportunity to get involved with production and marketing as well. If you are interested in getting involved with WXTC in some way, you can contact the station by coming in during one of the posted office hours.
Thiel Happenings

Styrofile: Friday, Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m.
Styrofile tells the true story of a group of journalists from the Boston Globe who went major with their book about child molestation and the Catholic Church. The story reviles the heart of Boston’s legal, religious, and governmental establishment, resulting in an uproar across the globe.

Creek, Friday, Feb. 14 at 11 a.m. and Saturday, Feb. 15 at 11 a.m.
If you enjoy stimulating and endearing family legends, this is one movie that you will not want to miss. Adena Johnson, the son of legendary Apollo Creek, has another outstanding legacy to add to his Rocky Hall family. This is a story that will leave you breathless.

Want to see a movie? BLY HALL MOVIE PRODUCTION PRESENTS

Opinion

Which one is better: The Office or Parks and Recreation?

by Thomas Michael, love/hate/full/thank you

A brief look at both shows in our society is that they both cause many of our problems. Self-help books by the hundreds, articles in the newspapers, and personal problems are common in our society. In order to combat these issues, we need to watch TV shows.

Photo of the Edition

Balancing love and hate in your lives

by Brian Rogers, '10

In conclusion, I believe that love and hate are more important than birth in our society.

Note for Students from the Editor in Chief

by Thomas Michael, love/hate/full/thank you

If you have a photo you would like to use for the Page 1 of the Edition, please send it to: Editor: Dr. Gerald Cooper

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The Thiesian is Thiel College’s student newspaper.

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**SPORTS AND ACADEMICS**

Friday, February 5, 2016

**TLC honors Royal and Slevin for February Effort Award**

The Learning Commons (TLC) has named Cody Slevin and Olivia Royal the Extraordinary Effort Award recipients for February.

Slevin is a senior Criminal Justice major with an Art minor. Royal, also a senior, is a triple major in Psychology, Sociology, and Criminal Justice. “Cody has been an academic ‘rock star’ since his first semester at Thiel,” said an Academic Advisor in TLC, who nominated Slevin.

“He is a very hard working and motivated student who loves a challenge. During his college career, he has balanced a major and a minor while participating in athletics, and has achieved the Dean’s List numerous times.”

Slevin plays golf, is involved in “many societies,” and likes to draw and paint in his spare time. “It’s an amazing award,” Slevin said. “I feel honored to get it. It’s a guidance through college… They’ve helped me a lot over the years.”

He is currently an intern working in juvenile detention at George Junior Republic, an all-boys institution located in Grove City. He hopes to work for three and a half years,” Barb Samson, said, coordinator of the Peer Tutoring program. “She is always highly recommended by her professors. Her approach to tutoring is always professional. She has a great rapport with her students and with the TLC staff. Many students ask for her by name when requesting a tutor,” Samson said. “Olivia is a member of the Sigma Kappa sorority, where she previously held the positions of Vice President of Membership and Recruitment of New Member Education. Royal is also a member of Pi Nu Epsilon, the music honorary society and Les Lauriers, the senior honorary society. In addition to working with the Admissions office, she was once a drum major for the Thiel College Marching Pride and is currently a part of the Spring 2016 Cabaret production.”

“I was really honored [to receive this award]. I’ve never really been one to stand out, so it’s really nice to see people value what I do,” Royal said.

“The TLC has a lot of great resources,” she continued, “you don’t have to be failing to get a tutor, for example, so you should utilize it.”

After graduation, she plans to attend graduate school for clinical mental health counseling. She plans to eventually work in a children’s hospital as a counselor.

**Kochka has late three-pointer in Tomcats’ win**

The Thiel Men’s Basketball team had a stunning victory over Bethany on Jan. 30. Thiel had a rocky first half, having a deficit of 12 points behind Bethany.

Thiel then caught up to the Bison, limiting the deficit to only six points at the end of the first half. After a hard fought second half, Thiel went on to win the game by making a crucial three point shot. Kochka had an excellent game, securing 24 points for the Thiel offense. Kochka made 9 of his 14 shots in the game and on the 6 shots that he took from behind the three point line, he made four. He also secured six rebounds for Thiel.

Leandra Jackson made significant contributions to the teams efforts, scoring 20 points. Jackson also secured eight rebounds for Thiel and stole the ball from Bethany three times.

Jackson fouled Bethany’s Antonio Randolph with four seconds to go, setting up the explosive finish to the game. Randolph missed his second free throw shot, which was secured by Thiel’s Clandell Cutout. Cutout was then fouled, and made two of his three free throw shots, securing Thiel’s victory.

Cutout put 18 points on the board for Thiel as well. He captured 10 rebounds and blocked the ball four times.

Kochka did very well with their shot percentages, making 46.4 percent from the field and scored 46 of their points from the paint.

**Men’s Volleyball falls to 0-4 on the season**

The men’s volleyball came up short in their first four matches of the season, still searching for their first win.

Over the weekend of Jan. 30, Thiel went up against Medaille and Emira Colleges at Stevenson University in Owings Mills, MD.

Thiel was shut out against Medaille with a score of 11-25 in the first match, 19-25 in the second, and 15-25 in the final. In the match against Elmira, Thiel had a much better showing, taking the match to five instead of three.

Thiel won the first 25-22, gave up the second 17-25, evened the match at 25-19 in the third, but lost the final two matches 15-25 and 3-15, respectively.

Junior Thad Paunovich, Cody Patterson, and Nate Roche were the leaders of the two matches, each netting double-digit kills. Patterson led the way with 21 kills. Paunovich had 17 kills, while Roche matched him, netting 14 in the Elmira match.

Jeff Coffy and Zach Rombach, also juniors, made their presence felt with 26 digs for Coffy and 58 assists for Rombach. The duo helped to keep the Tomcats in the matches defensively.

The Tomcats previously played a tournament in Erie, PA the previous weekend

**Women’s Basketball earn second win of the season**

The women’s basketball team won for the second time in their season on Jan. 30, winning out over Bethany 80-69.

Bethany lead Thiel by one point at half time with a score of 36-35. Thiel caught up to Bethany in the third quarter and then went on to score the victory.

Thiel was led by senior Jaclyn Watkins, who gained 15 rebounds and 21 points for the Tomcats. Watkins made 8 out of 13 shots that she took. She did an excellent job at the foul line making five out of seven. She also had eight rebounds defensively and seven shots off of the board.

The freshmen were well represented in the game as well. Jess Vormelker did well in her position as a guard, generating 15 points. Of the 15 points that she scored, nine of those were from beyond the three point line. Vormelker also gained seven rebounds. Alivia Sidley, an additional freshmen guard, made 10 points. Kayla Wely, a senior point guard, gained seven points for Thiel. She was involved in five assists.

Thiel players also had an abundance of three pointers in the game, with players Taylor Kelter, Erin Defalco, and Taylor Duchon all making three point shots.

**SHOW OFF YOUR TOMCAT PRIDE**

- **2/05**
  - Men’s Volleyball vs. Marymount @ 7 p.m.

- **2/06**
  - Wrestling vs. Baldwin Wallace @ 7 p.m.

- **2/06**
  - Women’s Basketball vs. Thomas More @ 7 p.m.

- **2/06**
  - Men’s Basketball vs. Thomas More @ 7 p.m.