



## To Fight or Not to Fight

SIC Student Government hosted a “Pizza and Politics” event this semester. The event was meant to highlight the opportunity students have to be involved in the Democratic Process.

“The broad goal of the event was to inspire our students to get more involved in public service,” sponsor Matt Lees said. “It is also an opportunity to illustrate what is possible for our students.”

The event gave students the opportunity to hear former Illinois Senator, N. Duane Noland and SIC alumni, Dana Hooven speak. Hooven’s speech highlighted the choice people face when dealing with difficulties.

Hooven spoke with a soft comforting voice, but told a story full of hardships. She graduated high school in 1995. She was involved in athletics as well as other extra-curricular activities, having a special passion for debate. This is an image with which many students can connect. Years later, things changed drastically.

Hooven was diagnosed with a golf ball size brain tumor in 2007. The news forced her family to make fast paced decisions and caused her to rethink many aspects of her life. When faced with this reality, she had one big choice.

“I could either give up, or I could fight,” Hooven said. “We set out a plan to fight.”

After undergoing treatments, having to shave her head and dealing with all of the anger and questions that were thrown into her lap, Dana’s golf ball size tumor retreated to the size of a diamond. With a fresh look on life and a feeling of urgency, Dana decided to return to school with what she described as, “Something else pulling at me.”

Dana attended SIC from 2014 to 2017. Although she enrolled in the vet technician program, she changed her major to political science. She became involved in Model Illinois Government and served as Student Government President.

“I had finally found what I was meant to do,” Hooven said.

She spoke on issues facing the younger generation and gave words that were inspirational and encouraging, as well as reminders of deeper truths that one can forget in the rush of life. Hooven had one piece of advice which she gave throughout her discussion.

“Don’t take yourself so seriously,” Hooven said.

This seems to contrast with the common sense of being successful. As students, many of us are told to work ahead, stay focused, and stay scheduled. Understanding her statement as a contradiction to this was a misunderstanding.

Hooven explained that we can only work towards the goals that are set before us. When we fail, we must not take ourselves so seriously.

“Jump in there and get involved,” Hooven said.

This is not always easy. One can look a fool when trying to attempt something new. However, if we are unwilling to be viewed as a fool, perhaps we will never learn.

We all have the ability to achieve great things, but rarely without a cost. This means trying things that may not work. For some, it is studying in a field only to find themselves returning to study another. Things of this sort are not set in stone and we must understand that we have little to nothing figured out before we work to find answers.

When Hooven spoke of not taking ourselves so seriously, she was also referring to the idea that we should not allow ourselves to gain our knowledge in vain. We should not get so caught up in our studies that we forget that we will never cease to learn.

Just because we receive a paper that dubs us the right to practice our duties in a specific field, does not mean we have crossed the finish line. Nor does this mean we are limited to only practicing in the field of study printed on such a paper. We have work to do, responsibilities to carry out and questions to answer.

However, it is also important to remember that failures do not lead into an abyss. That age is no limit to knowledge and wisdom, and regardless of whether one finds their passion for life at the age of eighteen or sixty-five, we are given the opportunity to develop such a calling and watch it manifest itself in the world around us. As Winston Churchill stated, “Success is not final, failure is not fatal; It is the courage to continue that counts.”

Hooven issued a challenge to continue as she has done. To remember that we are only human. This means we will fail at times. Additionally, it means we have the choice to fight for progress or to lie down and give up. We should all follow Dana’s example and “set out a plan to fight.”

*Article by Aly Mott*



Retired Assistant Majority Leader N. Duane Noland, Matt Lees Chair of the Social Sciences Division, SIC Alumna Dana Hooven, Legislative Aide

## SIC Archery Shoots for Strong Season

SIC's Archery program saw a successful season in the Fall semester. SIC has two competitive archery teams. The 3D Outdoor team competes in the fall semester, while the Indoor Archery team competes in the Spring semester.

This fall, the 3D Indoor team listed several large achievements. These include 4 SIC archers who placed in the Top 10 at the 3D United States Intercollegiate Archery Championship. Additionally, The Flacon Archery team took home 4 gold medals at the USA Archery Collegiate 3D Championships, bringing home the highest gold medal count at the tournament.

On top of the success this fall, the Falcon Archers are working with a new head coach. Alli Armstrong is filling the role as head coach for the first time. However, Armstrong is no stranger to competitive archery, or Southeastern.

"When I was a student at SIC, I was a member of the 3D archery team, where I won two gold medals, one silver medal, and one bronze medal in varsity Division I competition," Armstrong said. "I hold two All-American titles and an Academic All-American title."

Armstrong's deep roots with the team bring a desire for sustaining the program's success. And with the outdoor season drawing to a close, she hopes that the indoor season will bring about similar esteem.

"The remainder of our season consists of indoor archery," Armstrong said. "We hope to find success at our first indoor regional shoot which will be held at Madisonville, KY in January. If our archers make the top 8 in their division, they will travel to Las Vegas in February for indoor nationals."

The new indoor archery range will aid in the effort to claim some hardware. The facility opened on campus in October. The range is open to the public as well as serving the archery team for a training facility.

"This indoor archery center has opened up many new doors for our team and each archer," Armstrong said. "The new range gives them an excellent, convenient place to practice. This allows our team to compete in a completely new category of archery."

The range also opens opportunities for local tournaments. The indoor archery team travels to competitions where local support is an inconvenience. Although a major outdoor tournament is held in Carrier Mills, this is held in the fall semester.

"Once our indoor season starts, there will be tournaments held at SIC's new indoor archery range," Armstrong said. The dates for such tournaments have not yet been determined.

*Article by Bailey Drone*

## SIC Archery Team Wins Gold Medal Count in Alabama

HARRISBURG, Ill. (November 15, 2017) -- After a disappointing start to the 2017 collegiate archery season in early October, the Southeastern Illinois College Archery Falcons finished the month with a vengeance by capturing four gold medals at the USA Archery Collegiate 3D Championships in Foley, Alabama. Emmanuel College in Georgia finished in second place with three gold medals, while Hocking College in Ohio and Mississippi College tied for third with two gold medals each.

Division I varsity teams as far away as Texas, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Mississippi, Michigan, and West Virginia competed over a grueling two-day period in the hunt for individual and team medals in various divisions, including bow hunter, compound, Olympic recurve, and bare bow. In addition to its four gold medals, Southeastern won a silver and a bronze.

Eli Bond from Thompsonville, Illinois won gold medalist honors in the men's bow hunter division, ranking him #1 in the nation in USA Archery 3D collegiate competition. Stephani Poe from Arthur, Illinois captured the gold medal in the women's compound division, securing her #1 national collegiate ranking.

Rounding out SIC's gold medal count were the men's bow hunter team of Eli Bond, Hunter Chowning from Covington, Indiana, and Matt Horton from Thompsonville and the men's compound team of John and Tristan Whalen from Boonville, Indiana and Stephani Poe, who qualified to shoot on the men's team under USA Archery rules.

The mixed compound team of John Whalen and Stephani Poe won a silver medal, while Whalen finished in third place in men's compound for the bronze. *Continued...*



### 2017 Gold Medal Archery Team

SIC's gold medal archery team at 2017 USA Archery 3D Collegiate National Championships in Foley, Alabama, included (l-r) Matt Horton, Thompsonville; Eli Bond, Thompsonville; Hunter Chowning, Covington, Indiana; Will Taylor, Covington, Indiana; Stephani Poe, Arthur, Illinois; John Whalen, Boonville, Indiana; and Tristan, Whalen, Boonville, Indiana.

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SIC head archery coach Alli Armstrong was elated. "I think the US Collegiate Archery (USCA) national tournament earlier in the month was a wakeup call for our shooters," said Armstrong. "We knew we could compete at a high level against the best college teams in the country, and we did just that at the USA Archery Nationals in Foley."

Especially satisfying to the Falcons, and in particular to Eli Bond, was that he defeated the #1 ranked USCA bow hunter in the nation, James Childress from Hocking College. Bond finished with a score of 410 to Childress' 390.

Southeastern's president, Dr. Jonah Rice, had similar accolades for the team.

"We are so proud of the amazing accomplishments of our championship archery team. As a national leader in collegiate archery, our team and coaches consistently defy the odds in bringing home the gold. They are a legacy in the making," said Rice.

Armstrong noted that Norris City's Bradford Sauls, who won the gold medal in men's compound for Mississippi College, is a past member of Southeastern's archery team, as is Emmanuel's gold medalist in women's bow hunter, Katie Davies from Marion, Kentucky.

Universities and colleges competing in this year's USA Archery 3D Collegiate Nationals included Alfred State College (New York); Mississippi College; Georgia Institute of Technology; Hocking College (Ohio); Emmanuel College (Georgia); Appalachian State University (North Carolina); Pennsylvania College of Technology; Michigan State University; West Virginia University; Lamar University (Texas); James Madison University (Virginia); and Augusta University (Georgia).

USA Archery is the national governing body for the Olympic sport of archery and is the organization recognized by the U.S. Olympic Committee for the purpose of selecting and training men's and women's teams to represent the U.S. in the Olympic, Paralympic, and Pan American Games. USA Archery also selects teams for World Championships, World Cups, and other international competitions annually.

**SIC Presents "Miracle on 34th Street"**

'Twas the season for Christmas trees, cookies, cards and of course, Christmas music. The Christmas season would not be complete without a musical. This year, SIC presented *Miracle on 34th Street*.

The musical, based on the movie by the same name, follows the story of Doris, a single mother who does not want her daughter, Susan, to have a head full of romantic notions. Their neighbor, Fred, attempts to woo Doris by charming Susan.

Fred takes Susan to see Santa at Macy's where Doris works. As it turns out, the store Santa is the real Kris Kringle. His presence causes a wave of love across New York City that can melt even the most cynical hearts.

"It's everyone's favorite holiday story," Director Allan Kimball said. "It's just about believing in things that we can't necessarily see, it's all about faith."

The musical score by Meredith Wilson, composer of the classic *The Music Man*, includes some Christmas favorites. Songs include "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas," "Pinecones and Hollyberries," and "My State, My Kansas."

The show stars SIC students Callie Smith as Doris Walker and Jordan Richey as Fred Gaily. Other leading roles include Rosie Robinson as Susan Walker, Alex McRoy as Kris Kringle, Bryce Wiley as Marvin Shellhammer, and John Suh as R.H. Macy.

"I'm super excited about the performance," Smith said. "This was my first major role, so it was exciting to showcase all of our talent."

*Article by Carson Brim*



2017 Men's Compound Champions:

SIC's gold medal men's compound team, flanked by Mississippi College on the left and Hocking College on the right, consisted of (l-r) Tristan Whalen of Boonville, Indiana; John Whalen of Boonville, Indiana; and Stephani Poe from Arthur, Illinois. Poe also won the individual gold in women's compound, making her USA Archery #1 ranked collegiate compound shooter in the nation.

### SIC Foundation Recognizes Port as Chair and “Dream Maker”

The Southeastern Illinois College Foundation Board of Directors held its annual holiday meeting at Morello's Restaurant in Harrisburg on Nov. 16, where they accepted numerous gifts, heard updates, elected officers, and recognized an end of service to their long-time chairperson, David Port.

Port, formerly of Carmi, has served as chair of the SIC Foundation since 2013 and has been a director for over ten years. He is a Falcon Society Lifetime Member, a Dream Maker Society Member, and an Alumni and Friends Lifetime Member.

"David Port is the consummate gentleman scholar, a servant leaders, and a true philanthropist," said Dr. Jonah Rice, President of SIC. "He has helped steer the Foundation into some of the most exciting and prosperous times in our history, including the single largest gift to SIC in the history of the Foundation."

Port was recognized for his service and philanthropy, and awarded a plaque to honor him as a Dream Maker.

"It's going to be a loss for us that Mr. Port will no longer be serving as an active Foundation director, but rather than looking at it as a loss, we realize that we are fortunate he was willing to serve Southeastern Illinois College with his time, effort and financial support," said Dr. Frank Barbre, Vice-Chair of the SIC Board of Trustees. "We are very thankful for the time he spent with us and the college certainly benefitted from his presence here."

The board not only accepted Port's Dream Maker gift, but it also accepted an estate gift from another donor of nearly \$35,000, and another private industry gift of \$5,000 for the welding program.

The board also heard of minor updates to the Graves Scholarship, a \$40,000 per year scholarship for Harrisburg and Carrier Mills seniors who elect to attend SIC and then transfer to a senior institution of their choice.



SIC President Dr. Jonah Rice presents outgoing Chair of the SIC Foundation, Mr. David Port, with the Dream Maker Award during the November meeting.

"Gordon and Linda Graves established this scholarship nearly three years ago and it has been a 'life changer' for students," said Rice.

Rice noted that philanthropy such as presented that night exemplifies the visionary leadership of friends of the college and those who invest in southern Illinois.

"We are grateful for all our wonderful donors who know the value of what we offer our regional students," said Rice.

The Coyle Scholarship matching gift of \$8,000 was also presented, a scholarship that helps students in select majors from our region. Updates on the Ella Elizabeth Hise Museum of Regional Art and subsequent endowment were provided. Architectural plans are near full completion.

Foundation directors heard of many reports and updates regarding the use of recent gifts to the College, including the use of the Sutton Funds to purchase comfortable seating for the Visual and Performing Arts Lobby for special events, updates to the Nursing/Anatomy and Physiology lab, and new equipment for the fitness center, per the estate gift guidelines.

Anyone interested in similar giving is encouraged to contact Angela Wilson or Allie Armstrong at (618) 252-5400.

Upcoming events were highlighted, including the sold-out holiday dinner and silent auction in December, Giving Tuesday, and the February "Friendly Feud" dinner and auction in Harrisburg. The February event is a joint fundraiser with Harrisburg Medical Center.

Officers for next year include: Brian Surprenant, Chair; Ella York, Secretary; Rosemary Harlow, Treasurer; and Lance Barbre, member-at-large.



Pictured are (front row, l-r) Rhonda Oglesby of Galatia; Julia Pfeiffer-Scherrer of Marion; Brian Surprenant of Herrin, incoming Chair; Ella York of Marion, Secretary; and Rosemary Harlow of Norris City, Treasurer. Back row is (l-r) Bruce Tolley of Harrisburg; Tim Scates of Carmi; Travis DeNeal of Harrisburg; Jeff Stunson of Elizabethtown; Clinton Wolff of Carmi; and David Port, formerly of Carmi, outgoing Chair.