Age of Social Media

TAYLOR MCCLOURE
STAFF WRITER

Students are all over Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, and multiple social media sites every day, hour, minute and now Paris Junior College has jumped on the bandwagon.

Paris Junior College has been a part of the Twitter and Flickr community for a while, and has now joined Facebook. Anyone with a Facebook account can go “like” the Paris Junior College Facebook page to receive updates on current events, look at photos from sports games and activities around the college, and even give a review of what you think of the college with a 1 to 5 star rating.

“We started talking to this consulting firm; it’s helping me brand the college and as they looked at what we do. That’s one of the things we decided to use to market the college to younger, future students,” said the president of the college, Dr. Pam Anglin, while explaining the purpose for Paris Junior College joining Facebook.

Facebook was created ten years ago for college students, so why is Paris Junior College just now joining the social media community?

“We haven’t had the manpower to monitor it and keep it going every day,” Anglin said. “We’re having it professionally managed now to help us make sure that we are getting the right message out.”

PJC isn’t just reaching out to the Facebook community, but also to the Instagram community. People who have Instagram accounts can “follow” Paris Junior College on Instagram to see pictures of student and sporting events, and announcements of upcoming events.

The college already posts photos of campus sports events and student activities to Flickr, another photo sharing social medium. You can find some of the college’s pictures by searching “Paris Junior College” on the Flickr website.

“We send them (consulting firm) material; we send them our calendar, and what’s happening on campus. Things like that,” said Anglin.

If you want current up-to-date information you can “follow” Paris Junior College on Twitter @ParisJC. It gives daily updates on each activity that involves PJC campuses.

Paris Junior College has now entered the age of social media. Students are using social media sites to communicate with one another, and now they’ll be able to have more access to information about Paris Junior College.

The launch of Paris Junior College’s Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter is just the beginning. PJC also wants to engage current and future students with contests that will take place on social media sites. Dr. Anglin is also starting her own project.

“Down the road, they (consulting firm) are having me write a blog, so I will be doing that in the near future,” Anglin said. “I’m looking forward to it.”

Instagram Challenge!
Share Your Life!

Post your pictures of life around campus on Instagram with the hashtag #ParisJC.

Your picture could be posted on the PJC Instagram.
PJC commemorates Black History

BO PRUITT
EDITOR

Paris Junior College hosted a number of events to celebrate Black History Month, from poetry, reading, singing, and dancing. On Wednesday, February 19, in the foyer of the James Rheudasil Building, visitors, students, and faculty read aloud from prestigious black authors during an African American Read-In.

“We all need to look into our heritage,” said Teri Zamora, Vice-president of Business Services, who gave the welcome.

In a dimly lit setting the program proceeded with a Proclamation from President Barack Obama read by Derick Waugh, SGA president, followed by a tribute to Dr. Carter G. Woodson presented by Lisa Johnson, history instructor. Woodson is known as the father of Black History Week, which later became Black History Month.

Dr. Marian Ellis, teacher education and developmental studies instructor, read Sojourner Truth’s “Ain’t I a Woman” followed by a few pages read by Andrew Bothwell, student, from Frederick Douglass’s book “The Meaning of July Fourth for the Negro.”


As the program continued, more students entered the foyer after their classes to attend the African American Read-In. With the foyer at the entrance of the library, students who passed through also had the opportunity to witness presentations presented during the program.

Christi Timberlake, Director of Upward Bound, read “Dream” a poem by Langston Hughes. Donovan Mims, secretary of SGA, also read from Langston Hughes, “Thank You M’am”, which had listeners tickled as Mims got into character to help the audience envision the story as he read.

Joan Mathis, English instructor, had the audience’s attention during her reenactment of James Weldon Johnson’s “The Creation” as she used expressions to act, just as in a play.

“I’m so thankful to be a part of this moment, right now,” said Mathis. “To see how times have changed to have Anglos listening and reading about African Americans and to sit in a room where we are all mixed.”

“Go forth and be proud of yourselves. Are you proud of yourself?” said Mathis during her demonstrations.

The program concluded with Dr. Curtis O. Hill, vice-president of Student Services, thanking all the visitors and students for participating and attending PJC’s first African American Read-In.

AASU welcomed a speaker to their meetings for Black History Month and heard testimonials from local trailblazers.

Thomas Burton, Paris resident, the first black postman in Paris, spoke about giving to get, and having the right attitude.

“You have to give up something to get something,” said Burton. Remembering growing up in Paris, Burton told stories of his life as a mailman and as a citizen. Burton recalled all the black businesses on the east side of Paris, and the families that operated them.

“One thing we all have in common is a 24 hour day, what are you doing with your 24?”

After delivering his speech, McGuire asked the audience if they were wondering about the handcuffs.

“If you are wondering, it’s the same as being prejudiced. Learn to know an individual before passing judgement, because he/she can be a decent person,” he said.

During the program, poems and singing were also included to commemorate Black History Month.

Monique Dickerson sings “His Eye is on the Sparrow” during the AASU Black History Month program.

Rev. Shannon McGuire, Black History Month program guest speaker, holds a huge frying pan while wearing handcuffs as props during his speech.
President discusses concerns

BO PRUITT
EDITOR

More than 70 PJC students gathered in the Math & Science building Feb. 18, to have the opportunity to have questions answered by Dr. Pam Anglin, PJC president. Similar round tables have been held at the Greenville and Sulphur Springs campuses in recent weeks.

Students voiced their concerns to Anglin, who answered questions and took notes of the meeting as subjects arose.

Anglin said she traveled to Austin to try and get year-round Pell checks back to PJC. “Hopefully before 2015 you should see that happen,” Anglin said.

A student asked Anglin if in the future, would PJC be offering more technical programs? Anglin said, “Yes, we are going to be adding more technical programs to continue to grow that part of the college.”

By 2018 about 85% of the jobs are going to require some training above that high school diploma,” Anglin said. “In order for us to have a workforce in the future we have to add to the workforce programs, and we are looking at, in a few years, having all the building trades, such as electricians, plumbers, HVAC, welders (which we have), but we need to move on to brick masonry and finish carpenters.”

Welding students participated in the Q&A by informing Anglin of ventilation issues and non-working equipment. Anglin said, “In welding, the number of students that have been enrolling in the past will now be limited come Fall 2014. That way, the equipment and the ventilation issues can be addressed.” She said she will be looking into the concerns the students have now.

Anglin was asked if PJC was looking at becoming a four-year college? She quickly replied, “NO! PJC will never be a four-year college, because we have A&M Commerce 38 miles down the road and the state would not allow it.”

Students asked Anglin about opening the recreation center seven days a week. In return, Anglin asked, “How many of you would pay $75 a semester to have the recreation center open?” No more than 10 students raised their hands.

A student enquired about auto mechanics. Anglin said, “I’m exploring to partner with Snap-on in automotive technology, which should happen in a couple of years.”

Students have concerns of the visitation hours within the dorms, and Anglin responded to the question by letting the students know, while they’re here at PJC, she is responsible for them and she will assure their safety.

‘Macbeth’ portrayed by PJC

JACK BRYANT
STAFF WRITER

Shakespeare comes to PJC from Feb. 27 to March 2 in the Ray Karrer Theater when the PJC Drama Department performs “Macbeth” Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.

The play is free to all PJC students and faculty with ID, and tickets are for sale to any others at the door. For information or ticket reservations, please call 903-782-0488 or email drama@parisjc.edu.

Actors/actresses such as Kaytlyn Zimmer, whose part calls for her to wear contacts for the first time, show dedication to their parts. Each actor has a lot of preparation for his or her character which includes: costume, makeup, accessory items, not to mention the hours of preparation learning the character’s behavior and lines.

Actors and actresses have been practicing every week night, and haven’t been using scripts for two weeks.

With this production we’re pushing the mysticism and magic,” says “Macbeth” director, William Walker. “The kids are having a blast with their parts.”

Left, Kaytlyn Zimmer, puts in contacts for the first time. The grotesque contacts are part of her costume as sister (witch) #3 in the Shakespearean play “Macbeth.” Many actors like Zimmer have to use drastic costumes, makeup, and/or contacts.
TIJT connects over food and raffle

JACK BRYANT
STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday, Feb. 12 the Texas Institute for Jewelry Technologies (TIJT) student association officers organized a luncheon for jewelry students that fed approximately 60 students and seven instructors.

The luncheon was open to all TIJT students, faculty, and staff. It was a very informal meeting where all classes could get to see and meet each other. Many students are far from their families and even in a completely new culture, so the department is their new “family.”

“We conduct a student-run luncheon so new students can meet everyone in their new jewelry ‘family’ and ‘life,’” says Shannon Calloway, TIJT instructor. “It also provides all students with what there is in town; answers questions about classes, tools, and plans for the future; and they have a chance to win some much needed tools in our raffle.”

Every semester the officers of the TIJT Student Association organize the luncheon that is a time for students to have plenty of food, and a chance to win a raffle for jewelry tools for each class within the program, that is very beneficial to the students.

Music carries PJC students to All State Choir

JACK BRYANT
STAFF WRITER

Three students, Katharine Wiebe of Brookston, Selena Johnson of Paris, and Tyaisha Allen of Mesquite performed with the 2014 Texas Two-Year All State Choir in San Antonio Feb. 14 to 16.

Each year, the Texas Two-Year College Choral Directors Association provides a large ensemble choral performance opportunity under the direction of a nationally recognized conductor for students enrolled in two-year college music programs in Texas.

“The choir was beyond exceptional and these young musicians proved it. It was a delight and an event to be cherished. They made PJC proud and I’m so very proud of them,” said PJC music instructor and director of choirs Philip Briggs.

New Art League sells to support students and community involvement

JACK BRYANT
STAFF WRITER

PJC’s newly formed Art League displays donated art for auction in the McLemore Student Center room 205 from March 3-7.

The silent auction is a culmination of donated work to help raise awareness and funds for the newly founded PJC Art League. The Art League is taking contributions for auction until Feb. 28 and they can be any type of art: paintings, sculptures, photographs, glass work, wood work, bags, even dolls, and more.

Anyone wishing to place a bid may fill out a bidding sheet in the Student Center or visit the Visual Arts building at any time to cast their bid with one of the instructors or an Art League officer. The winners of the pieces will be contacted personally by information left on the bidding sheet.

Any further questions can be directed to Susan Moore via email: smoore@Parisjc.edu

The Art League was founded this semester through cooperation of Candra Wyatt, President, and Susan Moore, Advisor. An organization dedicated to students majoring in the visual arts by assisting student artists showcase their work, supporting educational travel to major museums, and community involvement such as beautifying the Trail de Paris, public murals and more.
Time management is a major issue for everyone on college campuses. Students have to juggle classes, grades, sleep, and extra curricular activities. Each person handles stress and pressure in a different way: some work out, others study or prioritize, and some just take a nap.

“When I’m stressed to the point where I need to clear my head, I go on a long run,” said women’s assistant soccer coach Lauren Hatch. Workouts are some people’s consistent answer for stress as it’s an easy way to get out of your thoughts and focus on developing yourself physically. Other people relax by getting a movie and just lying in bed. There are many ways to relax the brain, but only certain techniques work for certain people.

One of the main stressors for students is studying and passing their classes.

Make a list to help prioritize schoolwork.

“Do your best not to procrastinate,” said director of admissions Amie Cato who teaches Learning Frameworks. “The least amount of time you allow yourself can allow more opportunities for Murphy’s Law to affect you or the outcome.”

Ten tips that have been suggested and approved by Mrs. Cato are:

- Always be prepared for tomorrow, meaning don’t just blow off homework and studying to go do other things.
- Create study groups if you study better with a group of people or if you need to be quizzed when you think you have the material down.
- Establish a routine for yourself, making time management possible.
- Find a quiet space that you can focus on studying in. If you try to study in an environment that has a television going, people dancing or blasting music in the background, nothing you study will stick.
- Have a back up plan. If one method of studying isn’t working, then students need to have another way to study that works for them.
- Keep a master calendar to stay organized and manage time.
- Stay positive while reviewing and working over papers. Negativity makes it become extremely difficult to stay motivated and focused.
- Take a break when studying. Working on a computer or piece of paper for too long can make studying pointless.
- Make sure to use a checklist because being able to cross off an assignment or topic for studying can help students stay positive and motivated to finish.

Make a list to help prioritize schoolwork.

PJC sets talent show

Trevor Wilson, right, vice-president of HARTS (Heating, Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration Technology) awards a $100 Walmart gift card to Paul Chappell (Maintenance) the winner of the annual HARTS drawing.

Jack Bryant
STAFF WRITER

PJC’s Student Government Association hosts a talent show in the Ray Karrer Theater, Thursday, April 3 at 7 p.m. Students from all three campuses are welcome to sign up.

Sign up is in Kenneth Webb’s office inside the Student Center room 208. Students from Greenville and Sulphur Springs campuses may call Webb at (903) 782-0433 to sign up, and must also attend the rehearsal.

The categories will be: Vocal solo (female/male categories), vocal group, Instrumental solo/group, Dance solo, dance group, comedy, and magic. All performers must bring their own props, instruments, and music. Microphones will be provided.

All performances must be clean, in that there can not be any provocative or seductive performances. Rehearsals will be conducted on April 2 starting at 4 p.m.
Sports

Basketball shoots for wins

AMBER CAMPBELL
STAFF WRITER

Coming up to the end of the PJC basketball season, the teams are playing make up games as well as conference games. The women’s team stands at nine wins and seven losses in conference games and the men’s team stands at 14 wins and four losses.

Three games have been played in a span of one week and players must keep up with activities outside of practice and games so they do not have a major risk of burning out.

“[This season] we have a more focused and more disciplined group,” said men’s basketball head coach Chuck Taylor. “I have got to really monitor how long we practice and how much we practice. I have to do a great job of making sure [the players] keep fluids in them, stay off their feet, go to class, and get rested in the evening.”

Both teams have overcome obstacles. The women’s basketball head coach Michael Madrid said they have had to fight through some injuries and a shortage of players at times.

Even after some tough games and obstacles, the basketball teams are prepared for the games that are coming up.

“We have been very competitive throughout the season and that is a direct correlation to the teams work at practice and game preparation,” said Coach Madrid.

PJC men’s basketball team plays defense against the San Jacinto Ravens. Paris came out on top of the game and won with a 3-point lead.

Teams hit off the season

AMBER CAMPBELL
STAFF WRITER

PJC Dragon baseball kicked off the season with six wins and six losses and they start conference play today at 2:30 p.m. Softball kicked off the season with six wins and 10 losses and their conference play starts March 5.

“It’s always nice to get a new season started and find out what you have,” said baseball coach and athletic director Deron Clark. “It will definitely be a challenge.”

Softball’s first scheduled games were cancelled due to inclement weather. Shortly after that, however, the games were made up.

“We have a lot of freshmen that [play],” said softball coach Chelsey Jordan. “[It’s] nerve wracking but exciting.”

There are many changes on both teams. Coach Clark mentions that the majority of the returners are on the mound as pitchers and the youth of the team are in the other positions. Coach Jordan says they have a whole new pitching staff aside from one returner and she also said they have a lot more speed this year.

“The expectations are still there,” said coach Jordan. “Just a different group of girls.”

With conference games just around the corner, athletes and coaches are ready to play.

“[I’m looking forward to] going out and competing,” said softball assistant coach Angel Castro. “It’s always nice to see the girls do well and be successful on what we are teaching here.”
Texas A&M University-Commerce is committed to transfer students who want to complete their undergraduate degrees. Whether you complete your degree to receive a promotion, change careers or to be the first college graduate in your family, any reason is a good reason!

**Transfer scholarships up to $2,000 with 45 transferrable hours.**
$500 housing scholarships also available when credit hours and GPA requirements are met. *Dependent upon GPA

**Phi Theta Kappa members are eligible for scholarships up to $3,000.** *The Phi Theta Kappa scholarship is not stackable with the general transfer scholarship.

tamuc.edu/CompleteYourDegree
DegreeCompletion@tamuc.edu