

STEM Central Title III Newsletter

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Title III Year 3 Objectives

Our grant team will begin year three in October 2023:

1. By Fall 2024, at least 95% of faculty and staff participating in Year 3 professional development will demonstrate at least 90% of competencies measured at least 90% of competencies measured by content review.
2. By Fall 2023, at least 12 students will enroll in each of the following: Cybersecurity Program Year 2, Robotics Program Year 1, Crop Production Technology Program Year 1, STEM Online Courses Phase 2, STEM Summer Program Year 3, STEM Tutoring Program Phase 2.
3. By Fall 2024, at least 75% of pilot participants will express satisfaction with each of the following: Cybersecurity Program Year 2, Robotics Program Year 1, Crop Production Technology Program Year 1, STEM Online Courses Phase 2, STEM Summer Program Year 3, STEM Tutoring Program Phase 2.

Our grant year runs from October 1st-September 30th.



GCCC President Ruda Elected to Serve as President of Two State Organizations

Garden City Community College President Dr. Ryan Ruda has been elected to serve as President of the System Council of Presidents (SCOPs) through the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) and as President of the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference (KJCCC).

Dr. Ruda was elected to serve in each role by other presidents of Kansas community colleges in the respective organizations. This is the first time in over 20 years that GCCC has had an elected official in either role.

Click [here](#) for the full article.



Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Information

In October 2021 Garden City Community College was awarded a five year, \$5 million Title III Hispanic Serving Institute (HSI) STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Grant.

Garden City Community College is ONE of only three Hispanic Serving Institutions in the state of Kansas.

In Fall 2020, about **4.2 million** students were enrolled at **Hispanic-serving institutions (HSIs)**.



2,044,530 Hispanic students enrolled at HSIs



451 Hispanic-serving institutions



Located in 24 states and Puerto Rico

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), Spring 2021, Fall Enrollment component; and Office of Postsecondary Education, 2021 Eligibility Matrix, retrieved December 2, 2021, from <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/idaes/eligibility.html>.



For more information on HSIs, [click here](#).

What is an HSI or Hispanic Serving Institution?

An HSI is defined as an institution of higher education that—

- is an eligible institution; and
- has an enrollment of undergraduate full-time equivalent students that is at least 25 percent Hispanic students at the end of the award year immediately preceding the date of application.

What is the purpose of an HSI STEM Grant?

The purpose of the HSI STEM Grant is to:

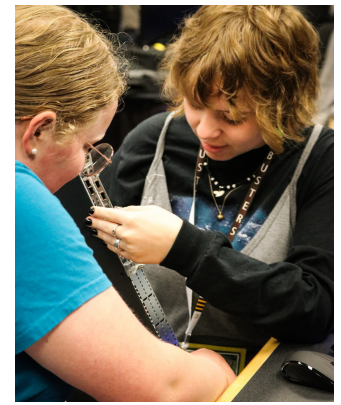
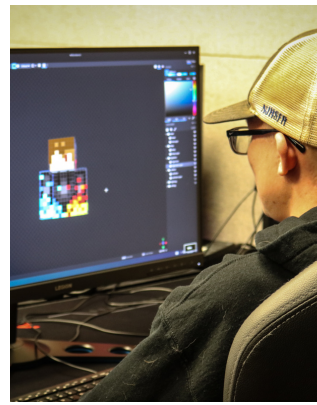
- increase the number of Hispanic and other low-income students attaining degrees in the fields of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics; and
- to develop model transfer and articulation agreements between two-year and four-year institutions in such fields.

STEM Summer Camp

The 2023 STEM Summer Camp, organized by GCCC and FHSU, took place from June 13-15 and targeted high school juniors, seniors, and first-year GCCC students. The camp focused on computer networking, cybersecurity, and programming using Minecraft as a platform.

Participants received instruction on computer networking and setting up secure client-server systems on the first day. On the second day, they learned Redstone and Python programming to construct structures in Minecraft. The final day involved further building and the creation of customized player skins. The camp concluded with a competition, with awards and a \$1000 scholarship from Pioneer Communications going to Perla Torres from Garden City High School.

Special thanks to FHSU Assistant Professor Jason Zeller and Associate Professor Kevin Schaffer for their valuable partnership in running the camp.



Third Annual SW Kansas Sports Medicine Skills Camp

The GCCC Sports Medicine program and Centura Health hosted their successful third annual Southwest Kansas Sports Medicine Skills Camp. With 39 participants and a team of certified athletic trainers, attendees had the opportunity to enhance their skills in sports medicine through activities such as wound care, taping/bracing, equipment fitting, and emergency care. The camp also offered the option to obtain First Aid and CPR certification. Open to high school students, college students, coaches, and sports medicine enthusiasts.

Upcoming Events

Fall Semester Begins August 14

Important dates to know:

August 10-13: Residential Life Check-In

August 11: New Student Orientation

August 14: Classes Begin

- Main Session (16 Weeks)
- Session 1 (8 Weeks)

August 28: Classes Begin

- Session 2 (14 Weeks)



46+
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
INCLUDING FULLY
ONLINE PROGRAMS

**DIGITAL BOOKS
INCLUDED
IN STUDENT FEES**

TRANSFER AGREEMENTS
WITH OVER **18**
KANSAS 4-YEAR
UNIVERSITIES

STATE-OF-THE-ART
**STEM SUCCESS
CENTER**

OVER **1.5 MILLION**
IN SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED EACH YEAR

16:1
STUDENT TO FACULTY
RATIO



Construction Update

Windows have been installed and painting has started. Painting will continue through mid July. As of now no delays are expected, and we are on schedule to open for the fall semester.

-Author, Gary Dick, Dick Construction, Inc.

New Instructor Position Available

Crop Production Instructor



Garden City Community College's Technical Education division seeks an experienced agriculture professional who is passionate about helping students further their educational and career goals. This is a full-time 172-day contract position under the direction of the Dean of Technical Education. The primary assignment is to provide instructional services and learning facilitation for students in the Technical Education Division by teaching a variety of agriculture and crop production related courses.

Click [here](#) to apply!

Fire Science Positions Available

Fire Science Faculty

Garden City Community College seeks a skilled and experienced fire science professional who is passionate about helping students further their career and earn certifications in the various disciplines of the fire service industry. This is a full-time faculty position covered by the Negotiated Agreement. The successful applicant will be a part of the college's Technical Education and Workforce Development team, a dedicated group of individuals working in a fast-paced, rapidly changing environment.

Click [here](#) to apply!

Fire Science Adjunct Instructor

Garden City Community College is seeking part-time on-campus Instructors who are passionate about connecting with students and helping them to explore their worlds through learning. The college's values include Bold Innovation with a Student-Centered Focus, and successful candidates will demonstrate a history of these concepts in their teaching.

Click [here](#) to apply!



Allied Health Positions Available

Allied Health Program Coordinator

Garden City Community College's Allied Health program seeks an experienced allied health or medical professional who is passionate about helping students further their educational and career goals. This is a full-time, instructional staff position under the direction of the Dean of Technical Education. The primary assignment is to provide instructional services and learning facilitation for students in the Allied Health program by teaching a variety of allied health and medical assistant related courses.

Click [here](#) to apply!



Global STEM News

Paul McCartney used AI to Complete a new Beatles Song

Sir Paul McCartney has revealed that he utilized artificial intelligence (AI) to create what he calls "the final Beatles record."

McCartney explained that AI was employed to extract John Lennon's voice from an old demo, enabling him to complete the song. While McCartney did not disclose the song's name, it is likely to be "Now and Then," a 1978 Lennon composition.

The demo, received by McCartney from Lennon's widow, Yoko Ono, had been previously considered for the Beatles' Anthology series in 1995, however, it was not finished due to George Harrison's refusal to work on it.

With AI, McCartney was able to extract Lennon's voice and mix it with the demo to create the final Beatles record. McCartney expressed both excitement and concern about AI's potential applications in music.

Click [here](#) for the full article featured on BBC News.



Local STEM News

Can Taurine, found in energy drinks, slow aging?

Taurine deficiency accelerates aging in animals, according to a study led by Columbia researchers.

Taurine supplements have shown to slow down aging and extend healthy lifespan in mice, worms, and monkeys. The study highlights the decline in taurine levels with age in various species, including humans. In mice, taurine supplementation increased average lifespan by 12% for females and 10% for males, while improving multiple health parameters. Similar positive effects were observed in middle-aged rhesus monkeys. However, further research, including randomized clinical trials in humans, is necessary to determine the potential benefits of taurine for human health and longevity. Taurine, naturally produced in the body and obtained from the diet, holds promise as an anti-aging strategy by counteracting age-related decline in taurine levels

Click [here](#) for the full article featured on Science Daily.



Meet Our Staff

Misty Wren

Title III Outreach Coordinator

I am a Southwest Kansas transplant, having spent the majority of my life in the Manhattan area. I currently reside in Hugoton with my husband and our two dogs.

I received my undergrad from KSU in Secondary Education with a concentration in English and Journalism. I have taught high school English for the past 10 years, but am excited to bring awareness to STEM education in this new position.

I love spending time with family and friends, reading, and graphic design.



Cindy VenJohn

AG Instructor

Cindy's agriculture and teaching background are many-faceted. She grew up in the livestock world and continued it into her adult life. Cindy and her husband live on an operation and have been running VenJohn Cattle since 1981. She has served the 4-H and FFA programs for over 30 years. Her educational experience started in 1992. In her 27 years, she has taught both high school and college.

Cindy's love for both agriculture and teaching has become a major goal in her life. She feels that we in the agriculture world have a duty to educate Americans young and old about agriculture. There are many false statements out there and we must spread the true ones.

