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BCCC

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FOR NATIONAL
AND
COMMUNITY
 SERVICE

October 9, 2002

Veldon Law, President
Barton County Community College
245 N.E. 30th Road
Great Bend, KS 67503-9283

Dear Veldon:

Thank you for taking the time to meet with Mary Lou Warren and I on September 12th to discuss the Retired and Senior Volunteer Project Barton County Community College sponsors. I enjoyed hearing about all the activities you are involved in with the College and community. I also enjoyed the opportunity to share with you the latest information from the Corporation for National Service.

As you know, on September 12th I conducted a compliance review on the Barton County Community College Retired and Senior Volunteer Project. Ms. Warren, RSVP Project Director and her staff were available to me and provided me with all the information I requested and answered all the questions I had. I especially enjoyed the opportunity to discuss programmatic ideas and get updates on the different activities RSVP is engaged in.

The below noted components were reviewed:

Program Requirements/Compliance - Based on my review the project fully meets the programmatic requirements. The largest placement by emphasis area is Home Delivered Meals with 19.2% of the total active RSVP volunteers engaged in volunteer activities. All volunteer files reviewed reflected that all volunteers met the age requirement.

Under item A.8 in this section, a random review of station files revealed that one station did not have a current signed MoU in the station file. The station is After School Homework. The Project Director needs to obtain a current signed MoU and insert into the station file.

Under item A.9 a review of station files did reveal that four stations, (Central KS Library System, Habitat for Humanity, Jefferson Elementary and Washington Early Childhood Center) did not identify a volunteer supervisor. The Project Director needs to follow up and obtain the volunteer supervisor's name for each station and insert into the station file.

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Getting Things Done.
AmeriCorps, National Service
Learn and Serve America
National Senior Service Corps

Government Performance and Results Act Verification – Based on my review the project fully meets the programmatic requirements. Five element Programming for Impact statements are on file and accomplishments have been reported for this budget period. Of the nine hundred and twenty three active RSVP volunteers, two hundred and sixty one volunteers (28.2%) are serving under PFI statements. Based on this information and discussions with the Project Director, the project is doing a good job with PFI. The national goal for RSVP in Programming for Impact was to have 40% of the Retired and Senior Volunteer program volunteers serving under PFI statements as of 9/30/01.

Ms. Warren and her staff are doing a fine job with the RSVP Project. The staff is dedicated to the volunteers and interested in “Getting Things Done” for the communities they serve.

Thank you again for your time and interest in the RSVP program.

Sincerely,


Gayle Schladale,
CNS State Office

Cc: Mary Lou Warren, RSVP Project Director
P. Conrad, RSVP Advisory Council Co-Chair
J. Cavanaugh, RSVP Advisory Council Co-chair

JERRY MORAN
FIRST DISTRICT
KANSAS

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC

November 5, 2002

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Dr. Veldon L. Law
Office of the President
Barton County Community College
245 NE 30th Road
Great Bend, Kansas 67530-9283

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PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
BCCC

Dear Dr. Law:

Thank you for including me in the October 31, 2002 grant announcement for Barton County Community College (BCCC).

The cooperative effort of USDA Rural Development, BCCC, and area school districts will result in access to vital telecommunication services for hundreds of central Kansas students. Thanks to your leadership, a quality education is now available in more rural communities.

Congratulations and best wishes for continued success. Please let me know when I can be of service.

Very truly yours,

Jerry Moran

Jerry Moran

JM:mz

**BARTON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
GRANT APPLICATION REQUEST
(Funding range under \$10,000)**

Grant	RSVP
Funding Agency	Golden Belt Community Foundation
Summary	The funding will purchase yarn, books and information to put into bags that are taken to the hospitals for new mothers to promote reading. We wrote a letter of inquiry and received a letter back indicating that we would receive \$300.00.
Possible Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home bound volunteers will crochet or knit baby caps • Volunteers will prepare the bags for new mothers to promote reading to infants • Information from the Department of Education which will encourage early reading will be requested or purchased
Target Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers age 55+ •
Funding Range (Approximate)	\$300.00
Indirect Cost Reimbursement	
Funding Period	1 year
Institutional Obligation	None
Cash	
In-Kind	
Personnel Required	1
Existing	1
New	
Application Deadline	Nov. 14, 2002 we will receive a check

Presidential Review

I have reviewed this request and it is in concert with the mission and vision of Barton County Community College. I support the request and authorize the College to proceed with the preparation of the grant application, as authorized by the Board of Trustees.

 President's Signature

 Date

Note: These article appeared on the Hutchinson News website.

BCCC student receives first 'XF' grade for cheating

By Susan Thacker

GREAT BEND - A Barton County Community College student caught cheating on a class paper this semester received the college's first "XF" grade.

The "XF" designation was created in May after several instances of academic dishonesty last year, said Karen Clos, dean of learning and instruction.

Instructors can assign the grade instead of a regular "F" to students who cheat. The grade appears on transcripts with a note explaining that academic dishonesty was involved.

"It's kind of like an "F" to the second power," Clos said. It's intended as a deterrent to cheating.

One of Clos' freshman English students received BCCC's first "XF."
"How ironic is that?" she said.

Clos had assigned a five-paragraph essay on favorite television shows. One student turned in a seven-paragraph essay that didn't fit the assignment.

"It was vibrant, it was humorous, it veritably sparkled," she said. "The writing was so good, I went over it with the student to untangle the problems, but he didn't say a word."

That weekend, Clos got to thinking about the paper, and one phrase stuck in her mind.

The student had called his favorite TV show "joyously absurd." Clos got on the Internet and typed the phrase into a search engine. "Up came the very essay, word for word," she said.

"I sat at the computer and cried."

Under the new college policy, Clos had the choice of flunking the student or giving him the "XF" grade. She chose the latter after meeting with the student.

Barton economics instructor Bob Dunavan also discovered a case of plagiarism, but his student was allowed to rewrite the paper.

In that case, the student had limited English-speaking proficiency and thought he was fulfilling the assignment by finding research on federalism.

"There was enough question in my mind that I didn't feel like I could absolutely say he had intentionally plagiarized it," Dunavan said. For the new paper, Dunavan had the student bring in a draft, and they went over how to use footnotes and give proper credit for quotations.

Teaching students the importance of academic integrity and the difference between citing research and stealing others' work is part of the new policy's focus.

"The whole idea of this policy is not to be vindictive, but to find justice," Clos said. "If the student understands and never does it again, that's great. That's the point of the policy."

Several incidents prompted BCCC's policy change last year. Students turned in essays off the Internet as their own or cheated on tests. A test was stolen from a teacher's office.

The problem of cheating on college campuses is widespread, said Donald McCabe, founder of the Center for Academic Integrity at Duke University. In campus surveys, anywhere from one-quarter to two-thirds of all students have admitted to cheating one or more times in the past year.

More and more instructors are turning to the Internet to catch cheaters, using search engines such as [Google](#) or sites developed for educators.

"A significant number tend to look away unless they have hard evidence," McCabe said.

BCCC is one of the first community colleges in the nation to use the "XF" grade as a deterrent. Clos said the idea came from a policy at Kansas State University. Students who get "XF" grades at K-State can attend a class on academic integrity to get the grade expunged.

Barton is still refining its policy, Clos said. The college plans to launch research on campus cheating this semester and explore whether the policy should include options for clemency.

For now, "XF" grades are permanent.

Reporter Susan Thacker can be reached at sthacker@hutchnews.com or at (620) 792-3088.

Caught in the act

Barton dean hands out first XF grade for cheating

Up to two-thirds of the nation's college students, even at Kansas schools, admit to cheating sometime in the last year, according to campus surveys.

But one student at Barton County Community College didn't get away with it.

Last spring, after faculty caught students cheating on tests and lifting essays off the Internet, they developed a new grade: XF. The mark indicates failure because of academic dishonesty. And it remains a part of the student's permanent record.

Karen Clos, Barton County's dean of learning and instruction, called it "an 'F' to the highest power."

Clos also teaches freshman English. This fall, she asked students to write short essays about their favorite television shows. One essay stood out.

While the assignment called for five paragraphs, this student rhapsodized for seven. Although the teacher considered the writing excellent, the paper wasn't exactly what she'd wanted.

Clos met with the student to review his essay, but when she suggested changes, he showed no interest. That made Clos suspicious.

The teacher entered one phrase the student used in the paper into an Internet search engine. That helped her find the same essay, written by someone else.

Barton County's new cheating policy gave Clos the choice of flunking the student or giving him an "XF." After meeting with him one more time, she chose the "XF."

The school doesn't want to punish cheaters, Clos said; it hopes to encourage honesty.

By now, at least one Barton County student understands the "XF" policy. Others probably do, too.

Cheating doesn't pay off, at least not at Barton County Community College.