From the President

Welcome back for the 2014-15 academic year. The laid back days of summer are nice but there is something great about getting back into a routine. This year at Methodist College will prove to be a very exciting and productive one with our continued focus on strong academics as well as increased student activities, spirit and integration with the college, and student focused education. This year you will be introduced to the student responsibility statement. This statement reminds students in essence that you are responsible for you education. Being prepared for classes, actively participating in class, labs and clinicals, getting materials in on time, getting to class on time are examples of being responsible for one’s education as are responsible behaviors around registration, adding or dropping classes as per college policy and being knowledgeable about your financial aid. Learning and practicing these behaviors will assist you as you move and grow in your life.

There will be many opportunities for student involvement in the college from attending co-curricular and other programming to involvement in clubs and organizations. Methodist College has a very active Student Government Association (SGA) and would welcome your involvement as would the Stu.

Methodist College Mascot, Ollie, Attended the Peoria Chiefs Games!

All ages found a friend in Ollie, the Methodist College Mascot, at the Peoria Chiefs games this summer. Ollie represented Methodist College weekly at the games, handing out trinkets and getting photo bombed!

Academic Advising for First Year Methodist College Students

Abby Reel has joined the Methodist College family as the first ever Director of Academic Advising. Her primary responsibilities are advising students in their first year at Methodist College, and running the New Student Orientation programs each semester. She will work with faculty for transitioning students from first year advising to faculty mentoring and advising.

Abby is very qualified for this role. She worked at ICC before coming to Methodist College where she was a counselor, advisor, and professor in the Social Science Department, and was the coordinator of the transfer center. Prior to that, at Illinois State, she was the transfer advisor.

Abby started her career in higher education at Illinois Wesleyan in admissions.

All first year Methodist College students will need to meet with Abby prior to the next semester for course planning.

Fall 2014 Graduation is December 20th!
Saturday, December 20, 2014, at the Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center in East Peoria. Processional starts at 10:00 AM, pictures at 9:00 AM, robing at 8:30 AM.
Methodist College Poetry Contest Winners Announced

Methodist College sponsored the first ever poetry contest over the summer. The winners were announced from ten entries received. Judging was based upon creativity, theme and language. You will find that the three winning poems are wonderfully relatable to our students, staff and faculty. The winning poem, “Russell,” which painted such a beautiful, yet painful depiction of watching a loved one die, is especially impressive. The second place winner was a sensory depiction of remembering lost love, and the third place poem was about a young girl’s heart’s desire with a surprising twist.

The opening stanza of the winning poem, Russell, by Heather Morrow, is as follows:

“Time starts to slip
Days begin to run together
Today is Sunday, or possibly Monday
What year?
A question that can no longer be answered
Memories start to become eclipsed
Hidden, in a place that is no longer
No longer reachable, accessible, but entombed.“

The winning poems can be seen and read on the SGA bulletin board, located on the lobby level near the lounge and the student bulletin board outside of room 102.

The other poetry contest winners are:
Brett Keith, un-named poem, and Christan Fields, “Desire Of My Heart”

Safety Tips:
- If you lose your student ID, which allows you entry into the building, report that loss immediately. Never give your ID to another person.
- In the residence halls or in your classroom be aware of emergency exits. If a fire alarm sounds exit the building immediately. In case of a tornado warning take shelter in the basement. Take all alarms and warnings seriously.
Methodist College has a week of activities planned to welcome students into the fall semester. Then, all semester, there will be many fun, entertaining, and educational events for students and families. There will also be awareness movies (such as *Wag the Dog*) in conjunction with our co-curricular activities. There are two co-curricular learning opportunities planned in the fall term. Each event will prove to be political, philosophical, and pedagogical!

**The Funny Bone**
*Your daily dose of laughter*

I told my nurse that I broke my leg in two places. She told me to quit going to those places.

**Want to see something printed in The Buzz?**

Have a story, event, joke, recipe, or any interesting tidbit you want printed in *The Buzz*?

Send your submissions to:

Dr. Keith W. Branham
kbranham@methodistcol.edu
August 18: Float into Fall Semester (root beer floats)
August 19: Activities Fair
August 20: Dodge Ball
August 21: Kick-Off Cookout
August 27: Spirit Squad
August 27: Chief’s Game
September 8-12: Suicide Prevention Week
September 17-October 1: Voter Registration Drive
September 23: Spirit Squad
September 24: Alumni Nursing Roundtable Series
September 29: Open Mic Night
October 7: OkSOBERfest
October 20: Wag the Dog movie
October 21: Resume Reviews by the Alumni Association
October 21: Political Candidate Debate
October 27: Spirit Squad
October 29: Career Fair
October 30: Trick or Treat for Cans
November 2: EDGE Run
November 12: Self Defense Class
November 18: ‘Tis the Season: A Celebration of Culture & Religion
November 19: Spirit Squad
December 9: Brain Foods