Did you know that IMPACT has updated and added several more laptops that are waiting to be checked out and used regularly by IMPACT students? We listened to students who wanted to check out a laptop for the whole semester. Come to the IMPACT office and check out a laptop for a semester at a time, with the realization that if we have a waiting list you will be contacted to bring your computer back, and be put on the waiting list for the next available laptop. Your account will be charged $500.00 if you do not return our laptops at the time we designate on your contract. During your January break, our team increased memory, installed Microsoft Office 2007, and updated current Adobe reader and flash player. We now have a total of 35 laptops for check out.

Cowley College has wireless internet service, and it just so happens that our laptops are wireless compatible! You can now go online at the Nelson Student Center, the Renn Library, and the Wright Room @ the Brown Center. Hurry before they all run out! Attention theatre students: You can do homework on the laptop while waiting for your turn to rehearse. Type your lines on the processor over and over to help with memorizing lines. Athletes can take them on away games. What are you waiting for?

Be an opportunist and take advantage of this offer for IMPACT students only!

Laptops available for checkout

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Special points of interest:

- Check your ANGEL e-mail regularly for specific information regarding IMPACT events. Check out the new C-Mail system which allows you to take advantage of many great services such as Microsoft Ultimate Steal Deal and discount student flights.
- A Christmas card was received from the Habitat House owner thanking us for our help on their home.
- Graphing Calculators are available for check out through the IMPACT Office.
- Remember to Tell it to the President located on the Cowley web page if you have a concern or an idea.
- Supplemental Grant Aid begins new this semester. Last semester 33 students earned $471.97.
- Don’t forget! You must attend monthly meetings with your IMPACT advisor beginning this month. Don’t wait until the last week.
Grammar brings my grade down. What help is available for me?

Are your participles dangling? Do you agree with your pronoun? My words are misplaced! My infinitives keep splitting! What do you mean when you say my sentences are redundant and repetitive and I write recurring and boring sentences that shift tense and have mismatched subjects and predicates that don’t match up just to get three or more pages for an essay that I don’t even want to write in the first place?! How do I even know how to solve these grammar issues if I don’t even know what you are talking about?

If this is how you respond to composition, essays, paragraphs, sentences, words, and letters; then you will be delighted to know that Dianne, our English specialist, has discovered a couple of possibilities for you to get the extra knowledge that you need to learn rapidly, use grammar correctly, and have a high retention rate that is effective and fun! One possibility is to show you how to set up a more in-depth grammar-style check, which emphasizes the rules and gives examples as to why the sentence is wrong, and how you can fix it. Premier Tools—Talking Word Processor is also available on campus computers, which will assist with spelling and will read aloud your writing as you listen and catch errors that you may not visually catch. If you show interest, Dianne will show you how to use these helpful tools. You can also e-mail your papers to flickingerd@cowley.edu, and she will help edit with comments electronically, and return them to you in a timely manner.

Money Management & Student Loans

Be on the lookout for a new money management and student loan workshop on February 25 from 11-noon. We will meet at the McAtee Dining Hall for a pizza lunch. Representatives will be here to educate you on the pros and cons of loans, and how to live on a college budget. Experts will educate you on all you wanted to know but were afraid to ask. Bring an appetite and questions. Mrs. Flickinger’s Composition I students are required to attend this session in place of class.

This session may lead to future meetings for those who are interested.

IMPACT - Your Underground Connection

We would love to hear from you!

Jason O’Toole
Director
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441-5253

We are on the web!
http://www.cowley.edu/academics/impact/

We have a new look with current information, spring activities, and newsletter archives.

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IMPACT Info

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IMPACT Survey Results

Last semester, 45 students responded to our end of the semester evaluation with many positive results. Everyone agreed that they would recommend IMPACT to others. Most students attended the Fall play—“High School Musical”. Thirty-two students participated in the University Transfer visits, 29 went to the dinner and movie in Ponca City, 23 went to the overnight zoo trip with the apes and Exploration Place in Wichita, 15 took advantage of a career preview, 13 came to the breakfast of champions and study night for finals, nine volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, and six students went to the John McCutcheon concert and Oxfam.

Students made the following positive comments: IMPACT staff is flexible and supportive, nice and very helpful. The monthly meeting helped me learn a lot about myself. IMPACT is a wonderful support group even when you are a non-traditional student. IMPACT advisors are so encouraging and supportive of us and our dreams. It is great that IMPACT provides graphing calculators, help in straightening messes, and providing job shadows in a career that I am interested in. IMPACT is always here to help me sort things and not stress out. Overall, IMPACT is a helpful and beneficial program for students, and we had a great semester.

We are aware of items you wanted changed, and we made a point to improve the checkout of laptops; for example, laptops can be checked out for the entire semester rather than on a two week basis.

Tour of Burford Theatre—Arkansas City
College Transfer Fair
The Brown Center at Cowley College
9—11 A.M.

Kansas Colleges and Universities who are invited:
Baker University  Bethany College  Emporia State University  Friends University
Kansan Wesleyan  Newman University  Ottawa University  Pittsburg State University
Southwestern College  Tabor College  University of Kansas  Washburn University
Wichita State University

Oklahoma Colleges and Universities who are invited:
Oklahoma City University  Southwestern Christian University

Career Showcase Presentations
1—1:50 P.M. Session One  2—2:50 P.M. Session Two

Students will be able to hear first-hand accounts from these individuals about their career and what it is like in the real world workplace.

**Fine Arts:** Connie Donatelli and Lindsay Ramirez. Music Educators and professional vocalists; Mike Fell, Art Educator and Professional Artist; J.R. Hurst, writer, director, and performer; Kris Ripley, Graphic Designer.

**Public Service/Education/Counseling:** Dean Hall, Licensed Clinical Marriage and Family Therapist; Brian Grunder, KHP Trooper; Lane Massey, Director of Administration for the City of Arkansas City; Maria Ramirez, Stylist, Salon M&M.

**Healthcare and Medical:** Angela Norton, Registered Pharmacist; Brandon Russell, Assistant Director of Butler County EMS

**Science and Math:** Mary Ayers, Forensic Scientist Sedgwick County Regional Forensic Science Center; Steve McNinch, CEO of Western Plains Energy LLC, an ethanol company.

**Business and Industry:** Fred Hayes, President BG Products; Kim Howard, Store Manager, Carquest; Andy Roberson, PSG 1st Assistant Golf Professional, Flint Hills National Golf Club;
Welcome to a new beginning, new students, new classes, new teachers, new friends, new goals, and new successes.

Congratulations to the 33 eligible students that received Supplemental Grant Aid for completing the IMPACT requirements for the 2008 fall semester. Each student received $471.97. Make sure that if you are eligible (Receiving a Pell Grant and have an unmet need of at least $445) that you complete the requirements to receive this extra money. It is there for you to have. A couple of students had all of the requirements completed but missed a monthly meeting or two. This was costly.

Monthly meetings for the 2009 spring semester will begin in February. Make sure you stop by to set up a time to meet with your IMPACT advisor. This meeting is intended to be a chance for you and your advisor to touch base. February’s meeting will consist of a short inspirational video, SGA contract for those who are eligible, go over “Goals” sheet, discuss C-mail and Angel. Do not wait until the last week though, because sometimes the appointment calendar fills up.

The IMPACT program will be taking an end of the year cultural enrichment trip to Colorado Springs, CO in May. We will be leaving the day after finals for a four day, three night trip that will include a variety of events. The trip is free to IMPACT students and you can sign up for one of 15 slots throughout the semester. If more than 15 IMPACT students sign up, we will have a drawing. No family members, girlfriends, or boyfriends will be allowed to participate. This is for IMPACT students only. There will be more information soon!

Cowley IMPACT staff and students really shine in 2009!

Schedule of Events

• Enter these events into your cell phone calendar and set alarms so you remember.

• You are going to attend at least one academic or cultural event this semester. Choose one or more from the activity calendar that is enclosed, then sign up with Roxanna, our secretary.

• Tickets to events on campus will be available to IMPACT students who ask. It pays to read this newsletter. Be an opportunist!

• You will attend at least one transfer visit or career preview. We will be making visits to OSU, Washburn, and KSU in February. An overnight transfer visit to Newman, Friends, and Fort Hays is scheduled for April 1 & 2.

• IMPACT has added a financial educational opportunity on Feb. 25 from 11-noon, which will count for your transfer/career/financial credit. A career preview can be made with Bev Manuszak anytime during the semester.
1. I am going to each class, each day.

2. **I am going to study more.**

3. I am going to check my student email account regularly for IMPACT news.

4. **I am going to focus on my strengths.**

5. I am going to set priorities and make a daily “to do” list.

6. **I am going to visit the IMPACT Offices when I need help with homework, have questions,** and meet once a month with my IMPACT advisor.

7. I am going to attend one academic/cultural activity this semester.

8. **I am going to maintain a 2.0 GPA.**

9. I am signing up on time for a transfer visit, career preview, and/or a new financial seminar called *Student Loans 101.*

Cut out and place it where you will look at it often.

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**IMPACT - Your Underground Connection**

Cowley College  
125 S. Second  
Arkansas City, KS  67005

We are on the web!  
http://www.cowley.edu/academics/impact/