

## The Power of "ONE" in Austin

Community College Day really shows the POWER we have!!!



David Young,  
 Tarrant County  
 College -

"I had a great day at  
 the state capital..."



Jerry Martinez, King-  
 wood Community Col-  
 lege-

"This day not only  
 opened the eyes and  
 voices of many students  
 but this day also opened  
 the eyes and ears of our  
 local Representatives  
 and Senators."



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## Thanks to Everyone that attended



Marissa Markey,  
 McLennan Commu-  
 nity College-

"I felt like we all  
 came together on  
 an issue that is  
 very important to  
 each of us and we  
 made that very ap-  
 parent to our legis-  
 lators that day."

"Wow what an  
 experience, one  
 that I will never  
 forget."

- Allan E. Holder,  
 TSTC-Abilene



## WHY SGA?

By Jimmy Pullen (NCTC)

When I decided to run for President of the NCTC student government in the fall of 2004 I had no idea what I was getting myself into. Initially I thought the SGA was going to be a once a week discussion about government and student policy and procedure. I had imagined myself standing up and arguing with fellow students about governmental issues and state policy. This was not what I actually encountered. The idea in my head was much different than the reality of the situation. There were not as many students involved as I had hoped for. Although there were a few very dedicated students, it amazed me how little most students knew about the Student Government. In fact, most students at my campus didn't even know we

had an SGA. They thought this was a new thing that had just started. They had no idea that last year there were several students putting in hundreds of hours of their personal time in order to make our school a better place to be. Although it seems ironic, I was also one of those students who took the work of previous students for granted. I had no idea that every Wednesday of the previous semester students who were selling pizza were doing this as a student service. These students weren't selling food to make a profit, they were selling food in the school because there was no other food option for students on our campus since we didn't have a cafeteria (our campus has close to 5,000 students).

NCTC has been around for 81 years, but the campus which I attend will celebrate its 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday this January. The Campus that has been around has had student leaders but unfortunately with my campus being so young, it has not had the opportunity to have and build student leaders. As a commuter community college with students staying only

a year or two, the campus environment has not been created. So, this brings me to a question. Why should we put our time into something that does not even get recognized by our fellow peers? I have a simple answer and one which we all know consciously or subconsciously. If I choose to do nothing then the situation will never be made better. Yes, it would be easy to take it easy my last semester but what good would I be doing for my campus or the future students at NCTC. So I along with my fellow officers have decided to create change for our campus (we're aiming at increasing our Student Activity Fee), even though we may personally never know the benefits and others after us may not give us credit. They will just assume this is how it has always been (as I never gave credit to that past SGA Officers who came to my campus every week to offer food). So, from one officer to another I encourage you to keep doing the work you do and at times when you don't feel appreciated know there are others out there just like you.

## Executive Board

by Megan Endres (NCTC)

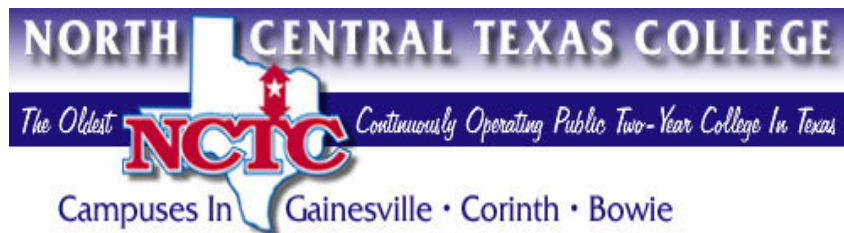
My name is Megan Endres, I'm a freshman at NCTC and I represent Region II as an executive officer. Although this is only my second year participating in the North Central Texas College Student Government Association I have been granted the opportunity to be the representative for the Region II Secretary position. This is an amazing opportunity for me to gain skills for the business world and life. When I first met the Executive Board I wasn't sure what to expect because I had no previous political experience. Although I was nervous, the Executive Board welcomed me by making me feel like part of the team. With their help, I've become more informed and aware of political and economical is-

suues with regards to Community Colleges.

The active Region II schools have been very politically involved, and have hosted various political figures such as Senator Royce West who attended our last Regional conference and gave a moving speech about *his* experiences as a Student leader, or Representative Jerry Madden, who attended the Collin County Community College Luncheon on November 19<sup>th</sup> at the Collin County Spring Creek Campus. This has inspired North Central Texas College to invite various local and state leaders to our General Assemblies to speak about different legislative issues with regard to Community Colleges, and

education in general.

At this point I have one more year at NCTC... yes one of those 3-year SGA Community College students and I hope during this time I can continue to gain skills through SGA. I've enjoyed the political experiences that I have been allowed through SGA and even if after my time at NCTC I choose not to go into politics I know I will always treasure the skills and political knowledge that I gained!



Thank you to Jimmy, Megan, and NCTC!

# Wharton County Junior College - News

By Patti Lawlor

Delegates from Wharton County Junior College, Wharton chapter, were busy during the Fall 2004 semester. Activities included hosting voter registration tables, coordinating Breast Cancer Awareness tables and collecting money for the Wharton County Cancer Relay for Life, participating in the Wharton community holiday parade, collecting Toys for Tots, and decorating the WCJC Christmas tree on the Wharton town square. We

also sponsored the Back to School Blood Drive, which doubled our previous 2 day drive total, with 155 units of blood collected. In conjunction with Student Activities, SGA sponsored Bingo Night, a hypnotist for the evening, and the Holiday Talent Show. For Red Ribbon Week, we tied red ribbons around the trees on main campus, and distributed lollipops with a "Dum-dums do drugs" message and Smarties with a "Smarties don't do drugs" message. Many of this

Fall's SGA delegates were also involved in other college activities including Drama productions, Band and Choir concerts, Biology Club and Impact Student Ministry.



Thanks to WCJC and Patti Lawlor!

## Blinn College - Bryan: Helping the Community

By Brandon Franke

Blinn College Bryan's SGA held a fundraiser for the victims of a deadly gas explosion at the Texas A&M dorms over the summer. The Ejaz family, doctoral students at A&M, were visiting with their family when a gas leak ignited, killing their

four-year-old daughter, and critically burning the girl's mother, who was pregnant and grandparents. A few days after the explosion, the grandmother died from her burns. Since then, the mother has given birth to a baby girl who was named after her sister who died in the explosion.

The Blinn SGA successfully raised \$650 to donate to the medical expenses of the Ejaz family, which to this day continue to mount.



Thanks Blinn College - Bryan and Mr. Franke

### Call For All!!!



Call for all SGA historians and everyone in SGA to find any information concerning TJCSGA that their colleges may have and send it to me at [BFranke@blinn.edu](mailto:BFranke@blinn.edu). Anything related to the association is much desired, things like old plaques, agendas from previous years, awards, honorary members, bulletins, convention brochures, anything is needed to help build the history of TJCSGA. A good place to look for this information is in old yearbooks from their colleges, and their newspapers.



**Bulletin School**

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