

# Director of choral activities eager to make Winfield home

By JC Fuentes  
Staff reporter



Aaron Knodle

Aaron Knodle, director of choral activities and voice, has joined the faculty at Southwestern College. Originally from Wisconsin, Knodle has taught at the University of Iowa and Luther College where he fell in love with teaching.

He is working to complete his doctoral of musical arts from the University of Cincinnati by December 2019. Knodle moved to Winfield the moment he was offered the position.

“I need to get acquainted not just with the SC community, but

the Winfield community as well,” said Knodle. “I want to get to know as much about this community as possible.”

One thing Knodle admires about the college is how big of an interest it has in serving and teaching veterans. This strikes as important to Knodle since he has family who are serving.

Besides being the director of choral activities and voice, Knodle instructs the A Capella Choir and SC Singers group. In addition to this, he teaches a Conducting and Choral Methods course and

provides private voice lessons.

Knodle believes that SC could eventually become his home during his time teaching here. Some of Knodle’s hobbies include running, water skiing, cooking and grilling. He hopes to one day own his own cabin on a lake.

Kaela Massey, musical theater performance and education junior, is in the A Capella Choir and Choral Methods class taught by Knodle.

“It is a loosely structured class and allows us to have a lot of creative freedom,” said Massey, describing the course.

Massey thinks highly of Knodle and the way he teaches.

“He is very organized, friendly, approachable, goofy and has everything already thought out,” said Massey. “He knows that we, as students, have a lot of input and is willing to listen to that. He also has a wide range of musical knowledge, which allows us to experience different styles of music. I think he is a great fit for Southwestern College.”

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## Business veteran leads with know-how

By Grant Olander  
Staff reporter



David Youland

David Youland, assistant professor of business, has a total of 35 years of experience in business.

Kurt Keiser, business division chair, said, “David stood out from other candidates by his vast experience in the business world spanning over 30 years, great teaching experience, friendly down-to-earth nature and his affinity for SC.”

Youland was born in Iowa and lived in St. Paul, Minn., for most of his life. He lived in Tennessee for 12 years before moving to Winfield. He went

to the University of Minnesota and earned a bachelor of science and a master of business administration in both business and marketing.

“Southwestern’s campus and traditions are very nice,” said Youland. “Students seem to be very active in school and a variety of other activities which makes them well-rounded.”

Youland’s hobbies include golf and downhill skiing. He also enjoys reading.

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## Former Ball State professor brings MBA experience

By Mallory Graves  
Staff reporter



Nick Bartkoski

Nick Bartkoski, assistant professor of business, came to Southwestern College from Ball State University, where he was an assistant professor of management and taught business strategy at the undergraduate and MBA levels.

Kurt Keiser, chairperson for the business division, said, “When we were hiring for Nick’s position, he stood out from the other candidates by his excellent teaching experience and scholar activity, his friendly nature and his affinity for the values of SC.”

David Youland, assistant professor of business, said, “Nick’s area of emphasis in management and organizational behavior.”

While Youland hasn’t been here

all that long, he came to know Bartkoski because they are both in the business department.

Bartkoski had worked in both television production and marketing, but he decided that higher education was what he wanted to do. This is because of the relationships he built while getting his MBA at the University of Kansas. While there, a professor suggested that he be a teacher as well, and Bartkoski took it into consideration.

Bartkoski grew up in the Kansas City region. Even though Bartkoski has not lived in Winfield very long, his favorite place is Island Park.

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## eSports from page 4

meeting, where the year-long issues and the vending machine vandalism were discussed. The division decided the eSports students were in violation of their contracts with the college. New regulations were put in place.

“The regulations should be viewed as positive opportunities for eSports to demonstrate accountability, growth and leadership,” said Knowles in an email to the organization’s members.

Despite its efforts, eSports has yet to find a new location – though options are being discussed among faculty and administration. Knowles said that the school’s record enrollment brings an issue of available space for the organization, an issue many groups on campus are feeling.

Fuentes said he spent his summer thinking about ways to improve eSports – something, he said, is difficult to do without a location.

“I had it planned that things were going to change in the lounge with leadership and rules,” said Fuentes. “Now that we don’t have a lounge, it puts me in a hard place. It’s going to take a while before we find a space.”

Looking forward, Fuentes hopes to have the organization’s video game teams be taken more seriously. He said he would like to add two new teams to the organization’s line-up, adding to their existing “League of Legends,” “Smash Bros.” and “Smite” teams.

“I want to get people who are involved and more active in the organization,” said Fuentes.

“This is a semester of restructuring,” said Knowles. “I think we can become a better team if we become proactive rather than reactive. We’re academics first, but I would hope we could work together to make a better organization.”

While the organization does not have a current location, they met on Sept. 5 in Mossman 101. Knowles and Fuentes discussed with the organization their attempts and struggles at finding a new location.

“We’re here to help the officers of eSports,” said Knowles. “My goal is to help them get back on their feet.”

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