



*Wharton County
Junior College*

Back to a NEW NORMAL



2020-2021 WCJC President's Report to the Community



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Amy Rod



Ann Hundl



Mary Ellen Meyer



P.D. "Danny"
Gertson, III



Dr. Bret Macha



Dr. Priscilla Metcalf



J. Paul Pope



Larry Sitka



Dr. Sue Zanne
Williamson Urbis

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JUNIOR COLLEGE
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*Current 2022



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



WCJC ADAPTS TO A NEW NORMAL

This past year I was honored to work alongside our Pioneer family and witness the astonishing resilience of our employees and students. Together we worked through challenges, provided services to students, and watched as our students completed and achieved their goals to graduate with a certificate or a degree or transfer to a university.

The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way most institutions and companies do business, and Wharton County Junior College was no exception. College faculty and staff spent the 2020-2021 academic year monitoring and adjusting to a host of wide-scale changes based on the recommendations of healthcare and emergency response agencies.

WCJC's successful adaption to those alterations – while maintaining the college's primary goal of providing an affordable, quality education to area students – was a testament to the dedication of college employees.

Our WCJC Reopen Plan, a series of health and safety protocols developed to mitigate risk for students, faculty and staff, entailed three phases that covered everything from new instructional guidelines to campus sanitization to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). These protocols along with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, allowed us to safely reopen our doors to students by January of 2021.

The challenges of the last year serve a purpose of lessons learned for all of us. Together we made progress and are stronger in our knowledge, something we will each take with us for the rest of our lives.

My deepest gratitude is extended to everyone who has helped to make Wharton County Junior College a great place to study, work, and achieve.

Warm regards,

Betty A. McCrohan
President, Wharton County Junior College

The challenges of the last year serve a purpose of lessons learned for all of us. Together we made progress and are stronger in our knowledge, something we will each take with us for the rest of our lives.



Pictured standing in the facility's foyer are, from left, WCJC Board of Trustees member Larry Sitka, U.S. Rep. Michael Cloud, WCJC President Betty McCrohan and WCJC Board of Trustees member Danny Gertson.

U.S. REP. CLOUD VISITS WCJC'S JOHNSON HEALTH OCCUPATIONS CENTER

U.S. Rep. Michael Cloud, who represents Texas' 27th Congressional District, visited Wharton County Junior College's Wharton campus in the Fall of 2020 for a first-hand look at the recently renovated Johnson Health Occupations Center.

FUND YOUR FUTURE

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Wharton County Junior College offered a host of financial aid opportunities, including scholarships and tuition discounts through the Fund Your Future initiative. Students needing financial resources were encouraged to visit the college's website and access the WCJC – Fund Your Future link.

"Our highest goal here at the college was to provide our students with all the resources they needed to be successful," said WCJC President Betty McCrohan. "WCJC offers a wide array of assistance that makes college more affordable for all of our students."

Assistance included:

- Johnson Foundation Scholarships
- Federal Pell Grants
- Financial Aid Special Condition Request
- Tuition Installment Plans
- More Than 13 Hours of Academic Transfer Courses Free Plan
- Pioneer Restart Debt Forgiveness Program
- CARES Welcome-Back-To-WCJC Scholarship
- First Time in College Scholarship
- CRRSAA Grant Funds for Students Directly Impacted by COVID-19
- Other Federal Funds



WCJC BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS BEGIN TERMS

Wharton County Junior College Board of Trustees members Ann Hundl of El Campo, center, and Amy Rod of El Campo, right, were officially sworn in for new terms by Wharton County Judge Phillip Spenrath at WCJC's Wharton campus. An attorney with Paul Webb PC., Rod was first appointed to Position 4 on the board in 2013 as a replacement for outgoing board member Phil Stephenson and then elected in 2014. She serves as the board's chairman. Hundl, a financial advisor, was appointed to Position 3 on the board in February of 2014 and then elected in May of that same year. She serves as the board's vice-chairman.



New Wharton County Junior College Board of Trustees member Dr. Sue Zanne Williamson Urbis was officially sworn in to begin her six-year term by Wharton County Judge Phillip Spenrath. Williamson Urbis currently calls El Campo home after retiring from nearly four decades of teaching music. Holding a doctorate degree in Music Education from The University of Arizona and a master's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies (Clarinet Performance, Communications and History) from Texas A&M Corpus Christi, Williamson Urbis began her studies at WCJC. She spent 20 years teaching at the University of Texas at Brownsville (now the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley), serving as Chair of the Music, Art and Architecture Departments. Her career also includes working for several school districts in the capacity of band director and choir director. Her husband, pictured at right, is concert pianist and composer Professor Richard Urbis.

SIGNING DAY

WCJC BASEBALL PLAYERS TO PLAY FOR DIVISION 1 SCHOOLS

Two members of the Wharton County Junior College Pioneers baseball team signed in the Fall of 2020 to play Division 1 baseball. Trey Valka, a right-handed pitcher from Spring,

signed to play at Tulane University. Josh Salinas, a left-handed pitcher from Corpus Christi, signed to play at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Pictured, left to right, are WCJC assistant coach Michael Molina, WCJC head baseball coach Trey Porras, Trey Valka, Josh Salinas, WCJC assistant coach John Cannon and WCJC assistant coach Ricky Watkins.





A BIG ACCOMPLISHMENT

WCJC Pioneers baseball team begins Regional Tournament after stellar season

The Wharton County Junior College Pioneers baseball team competed in the 2021 Regional Tournament after wrapping up its regular season in second place, the team's best finish in 16 years. The last time WCJC finished in second was in 2005, though the team did tie for second in 2016.

"I'm proud of our players," said WCJC Head

Coach Trey Porras. "This is the first time since 2005 that WCJC has finished outright in second place. That's a big accomplishment. We are heading in the right direction."

The Pioneers finished second in Region 14 South and were seeded second in the Regional Tournament. The team finished the regular season at 26-25, with a 17-13 conference record.



Pictured from left, are Vice President of Instruction Leigh Ann Collins, award recipient Andrea Shropshire, Director of Dental Hygiene Carol Derkowski, WCJC President Betty McCrohan, Vice President of Administrative Services Bryce Kocian, award recipient Armando Terronez and Director of Facilities Management Mike Feyen.



EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Awards issued to Faculty of the Year and Support Staff of the Year

Wharton County Junior College named its Faculty of the Year and Support Staff of the Year in 2021. Chosen as the Faculty of the Year was Director of the Associate Degree Nursing

Program Dr. Andrea Shropshire. Picked as the Support Staff of the Year was groundskeeper Armando Terronez. Both employees received plaques and \$2,000.

A GREAT ASSET

Federal funds benefit WCJC's Automotive Technology Program

The Carl D. Perkins Grant enabled students in Wharton County Junior College's Automotive Technology program to obtain enhanced training for a better understanding of circuits and electrical systems.

The federal grant helped WCJC purchase a

dozen CL-1919-05 Ohm's Law and DC Circuits Trainers, valued at \$26,673. The equipment was purchased in 2020 and will provide students with a more intricate knowledge of automotive-related electrical systems, said WCJC Instructor of Automotive Technology David Voulgaris.

Pictured are WCJC Instructor of Automotive Technology David Voulgaris and Coordinator of Vocational Support Services Rose Ochoa.



WCJC FOUNDATION AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2020

In late 2020, the Wharton County Junior College Foundation awarded \$4,000 scholarships to 12 graduates from six area school districts: Wharton, Boling, East Bernard, Needville, El Campo and Louise. The purpose of the scholarships was to provide financial assistance for students who might otherwise be unable to afford higher education.

"This is the fourth year we have been able to provide these much-needed scholarships to graduates," WCJC Foundation President Gordon Sorrel said. "Anyone in the community who would like to support a local cause that benefits young people should consider a donation to the foundation's scholarship fund. Any contribution is appreciated."

The 2020 scholarship recipients include:

- Boling High School
Christian Clapp and Cortney Whetstein

- East Bernard High School
Carah Chilek and Jose Cubias
- El Campo High School
Isaiah Miller and Jessika Schulze
- Louise High School
Esmeralda Mendez and Elizabeth Rogers
- Needville High School
Wyatt Jordan and Jesus Ortiz
- Wharton High School
Evelyn Gomez and Chloe Villarreal

The WCJC Foundation Board of Directors currently includes President Gordon Sorrel, Vice President Suzanne Armour, Treasurer Johnny Veselka, Gary Gillen, Bruce Krauskopf, Landon McClain, Gus Mullins, Vince Reina, Jr., Lloyd Nelson, Janette McDonald and Amanda Sitka. Jonathan Jeter serves as director of the foundation.



WCJC RODEO TEAM MEMBERS COMPETE IN WYOMING

Pictured, left to right, are WCJC rodeo team members Logan Moore, Conner Atkinson and Mayce Marek.



Wharton County Junior College rodeo team members garnered national attention at the 2021 College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR). Held in Casper, Wyoming, the CNFR attracted hundreds of competitors from across the nation. Three WCJC rodeo team members qualified for the competition: Conner Atkinson of Needville, Logan Moore of Pleasanton and Mayce Marek of Arp.

Atkinson finished third in the nation in tie-down roping, Moore finished 20th in the nation in team roping and Marek finished 10th in the nation in goat tying.

Marek was further awarded the Walt Garrison Award, an honor bestowed each year upon a sole competitor who displays exceptional commitment, loyalty, perseverance, honesty and leadership. The award is named for former Dallas Cowboys football player and professional cowboy Walt Garrison.

2021 NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Wharton County Junior College instructors were recognized in 2021 for their dedication and commitment to their particular fields of study by the National Institute of Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD). Eight honorees included:

- Pam Armentrout – Instructor of English
- Candy Doriski – Instructor of Biology
- Brady Hutchison – Instructor of History
- Karen Prisner – Instructor of Speech
- Robert Sanchez – Instructor of Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning
- Andrea Shropshire – Instructor of Associate Degree Nursing
- David Woods – Instructor of Computer Science
- Kamile Yagci – Instructor of Physics



Pictured, left to right, are WCJC Vice President of Administrative Services Bryce Kocian, WCJC President Betty McCrohan, Dr. Carol Ashton and WCJC Director of Financial Aid Leslie Kolojaco.

WCJC ANNOUNCES SISTER MARY ALMA PILARSKI NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Started in 2021, the Sister Mary Alma Pilarski Nursing Scholarship began providing one \$4,000 scholarship annually to a Wharton County Junior College Associate Degree Nursing student entering the final year of the two-year program.

Ashton credits Pilarski with being the inspiration for her own successful career as a physician.

“I was fortunate to have Sister Alma in my life,” she said. “She changed the trajectory of my life and never realized the beneficial effect she had on me.”

The late Sister Mary Alma Pilarski’s grand-niece, Dr. Carol M. Ashton, of Blessing, funded the scholarship for the purpose of encouraging students to pursue healthcare-related jobs in rural communities and to spawn careers in nursing education.

“We are thankful for Dr. Ashton’s support,” said WCJC President Betty McCrohan. “The scholarship will help students to make their dreams a reality.”



Born in 1907 in Mount Carmel, Pennsylvania, Pilarski joined the Congregation of Sisters of Saint Felix of Cantalice (the Felicians), a Catholic Franciscan community, in 1921. She entered the nursing profession after serving as an elementary school teacher, earning her bachelor’s degree in nursing education from Catholic University in Washington, D.C., and her master’s degree in education from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Pilarski worked in a hospital in Puerto Rico before transferring to the Blackwell General Hospital in Blackwell, Oklahoma, where she organized and directed the state’s first school of practical nursing in 1948. From there, she went on to serve as director of nursing schools in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. In 1965, she founded and directed an Associate Degree Nursing program for Felician College in Lodi, New Jersey. She passed away in 1980 at the age of 72.

GRADUATION 2021

Wharton County Junior College recognized more than 500 associate degree graduates during the Spring 2021 semester in an online pre-recorded

commencement presentation. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, regular in-person commencement exercises were canceled.



Wharton County Junior College Summary of Resource Development Activities by Program/Discipline

WCJC was awarded grants from foundations, governmental agencies and individuals totaling approximately \$24,816,916 for the period September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021. These awards are used to support WCJC's academic and vocational training programs and to provide financial support for students.

ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-2021

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION/ ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Adult Education and Family Literacy Act/Workforce Invest Act \$801,323
Purpose: Adult Basic Education Program with support from federal funds, state funds, University of Houston and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

Senior Citizen Programs in Wharton County and Colorado County \$423,274
(Grant Period Oct.1, 2020-Sept. 30, 2021)
Sources of funding: federal and state funds, Wharton County Commissioners Court, church donations, private donations, program income, and special fundraising events. Purpose: Nutrition, medical and social support services for senior citizens

Wharton County Program: \$317,953
Colorado County Program: \$105,321

FINANCIAL AID/SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS

(All qualified students are eligible to apply.)

Carl Perkins Act \$208,098
Purpose: Technical training program for under-served populations. Funding used for instructional equipment, educational materials, professional development, student scholarships and tutoring services for students

Chevron Phillips \$6,000
Purpose: Scholarships for students enrolled in Process Technology program

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo \$50,000
Purpose: Scholarships for students enrolled in vocational programs

The Henderson-Wessendorf Foundation \$25,000
Purpose: Scholarships for graduating seniors from Lamar High School and Terry High School

LyondellBasell \$10,000
Purpose: Process Technology scholarships



ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-2021

Texas Reskilling Support Fund Grant Program \$112,500
(Grant Period March 4, 2021-Feb. 15, 2022)
Purpose: Scholarships for reskilling stop-out students

Trull Foundation \$10,000
Purpose: Scholarships for students in a nursing program

ALLIED HEALTH

Johnson Foundation \$350,000
Purpose: Scholarships for students in allied health programs

NIGP – Supporting Clinical Learning to Mitigate Impediments due to COVID-19 \$90,000
(Grant Period Nov. 20, 2020-Nov. 30, 2022)

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

U.S. Department of Education, TRIO/SSS Program \$261,018
per year for 5 years (1st year of project)
Purpose: Identify qualified individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, prepare them for a program in post-secondary education and provide support services for them

U.S. Department of Education, Title V Developing Hispanic Serving Institutions Program \$600,000
per year for 5 years (1st year of project)
Purpose: Expand educational opportunities for and improve the attainment of Hispanic students

COVID-19 RELIEF FUNDING

U.S. Department of Education Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Emergency Aid to Students . . . \$8,692,503
Purpose: Direct financial assistance to students impacted by COVID-19

U.S. Department of Education Institutional Portion of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund . . \$11,819,764
Purpose: Provide institutional support for expenses related to COVID-19

U.S. Department of Education Minority Serving Institution Portion of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund \$1,242,436
Purpose: Provide institutional support for MSIs for expenses related to COVID-19

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT/ CONTINUING EDUCATION

Texas Workforce Commission: FY19 Skills Development Fund COVID-19 Special Initiative for Small Business \$115,000
(Grant Period June 8, 2020-Sept. 30, 2021)
Purpose: Enhance the ability of eligible grantees to respond to industry and work force training needs and to develop incentives for public community and technical colleges.



2020-2021

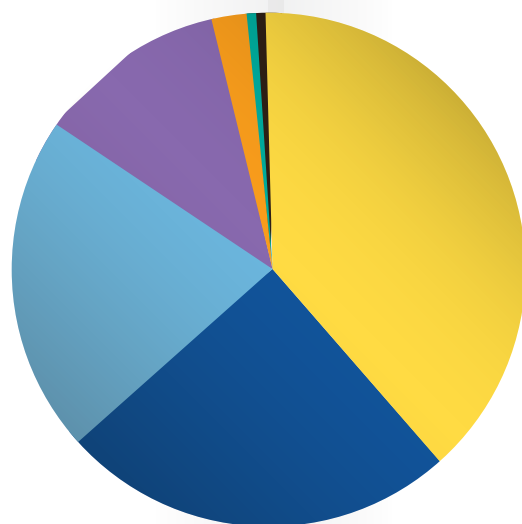
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

2020-2021 REVENUE SOURCES

Total Revenue	\$54,625,978	
Tuition & Fees	\$15,592,458	28%
State Appropriations	\$12,924,599	24%
Grants & Contracts	\$15,102,745	28%
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$7,680,797	14%
Investment Income	\$2,493,913	4%
Other	\$346,065	1%
Auxiliary	\$485,401	1%

Source: Wharton County Junior College District Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2021

2020-2021 Revenue Sources

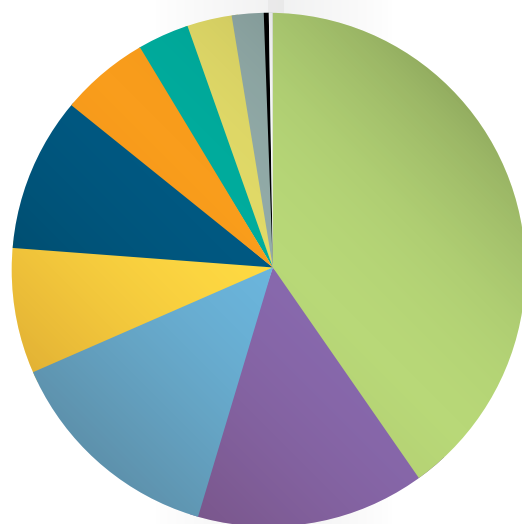


2020-2021 BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Total Expenditures	\$52,185,594	
Instruction	\$21,115,273	40%
Instructional Support	\$7,284,662	14%
Operations/Maintenance	\$4,963,452	10%
Academic Support	\$2,873,371	5%
Scholarships	\$7,897,915	15%
Student Services	\$4,091,748	8%
Public Service	\$1,396,141	3%
Depreciation	\$1,689,388	3%
Auxiliary Expenses	\$820,761	2%
Interest	\$25,871	<1%
Other	\$27,012	<1%

Source: Wharton County Junior College District Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2021

2020-2021 Budget Expenditures



WCJC Facts and Figures

All figures for Fall 2020 unless noted

Pell Grant Awards

Academic Year 2020-2021	
Number of Awards	1,721
Value of Awards	\$6,497,834

Unduplicated Credit Students

6,099

Unduplicated Enrollment by Campus

Wharton Campus	818
Sugar Land Campus	404
Richmond Campus	341
Bay City Campus	107
Dual Credit & Concurrent Enrollment	536
Distance Education (Internet/ITV)	5,129

Approximately 1,126 students attended more than one campus.

Annual Unduplicated Credit Enrollment

8,291

Academic Year 2020-2021

Other Unduplicated Noncredit Enrollment

Academic Year 2020-2021

Continuing Education (Workforce)	243
Continuing Education Adult Avocation	331
Adult Education and Literacy	
GED	260
ESL	161

Student Ethnicity

White/Non-Hispanic	1,831	30%
Hispanic	2,626	44%
Black/Non-Hispanic	686	11%
Asian/Pacific Islander	858	14%
Indian/Alaskan Native	5	<1%
International	3	<1%
Unknown	90	1%

Student Age

Under 20	2,963	49%
20-24	2,128	35%
25-29	453	7%
30-39	375	6%
40+	180	3%
Student Average Age	21.6	

Student Gender

Women	3,580	59%
Men	2,519	41%

Student Residency

Texas Residents	5,997	98%
In-District Residents	1,191	20%
Out-of-District Residents	4,643	75%
Tuition Exempt Residents	163	3%
Outside Texas/Foreign	102	2%

Full-Time Faculty Educational Attainment

Doctorate	37	20%
Master's	107	59%
Bachelor's	17	9%
Associate/Certificate	21	12%

Full-Time Faculty (Fall 2020) Length of Teaching Service

5 Years or Less	55	30%
6-10 Years	42	23%
11-15 Years	28	15%
16-20 Years	34	19%
More than 20 Years	23	12%

Faculty Characteristics

Total Faculty	275	
Full-Time	182	66%
Part-Time	93	34%
Total Minority Faculty	93	34%
Average Age	51	

Student: Faculty Ratio 22:1



WHARTON CAMPUS

911 Boling Hwy
Wharton, TX 77488
979.532.4560



SUGAR LAND CAMPUS

14004 University Blvd.
Sugar Land, TX 77479
281.243.8447



RICHMOND CAMPUS

5333 FM 1640
Richmond, TX 77469
281.239.1500



BAY CITY CAMPUS

4000 Avenue F, Ste. B
Bay City, TX 77414
979.318.7355



WHARTON | SUGAR LAND | RICHMOND | BAY CITY

2020-2021 President's Report to the Community

Produced by the
WCJC Office of Marketing, Communications, and Advancement

For more information, call or write:

Wharton County Junior College
Office of the President
911 Boling Highway
Wharton, Texas 77488
1.800.561.WCJC
wcjc.edu