



*Wharton County
Junior College*



President's Report
to the Community
2005–2006



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(From top left) Gerald R. Donaldson, Phyllip W. Stephenson, P. D. “Danny” Gertson, III, Chair, Lloyd M. Nelson, Oliver W. Kunkel, Jr., Gary P. Trochta, Georgia Krenek, Jack C. Moses, Secretary, Rick Davis, Vice-Chair

Wharton County Junior College

Wharton County Junior College is a public, two-year, comprehensive community college offering a wide range of postsecondary educational programs and services including associate degrees, certificates, continuing education courses, cultural affairs, and leisure-time activities for the benefit of the community and a population of students that varies in age, background, and ability.

The college affords opportunities for individual growth and expression and promotes the development of the total person through scholarly and creative activity and the application of knowledge for the good of society. Its curricular and co-curricular activities lay a foundation for lifelong learning and involved citizenship and encourage the pursuit of knowledge, innovation, experimentation, and excellence in human endeavor. It prepares students for entry-level positions, for advancement in various occupations and professions, for a broad understanding of the liberal arts and sciences, and for transfer to baccalaureate-granting institutions.

Wharton County Junior College is an institution that emphasizes personal attention to students, innovation, and flexibility in its credit and noncredit offerings, and responsiveness to the diversity of communities it serves. The college is dedicated to providing an educational environment that recognizes individuality, stresses the importance of human relationships, and reflects the democratic values of society.



Betty A. McCrohan
WCJC President

It is an honor to present this report as Wharton County Junior College continues to make significant contributions to the quality of life and economic well-being of the communities that comprise our six-county service area.

To say that this past year was busy would be an understatement. Commendations go to the college's staff for its dedication in helping with projects related to the strategic plan. A master plan committee worked diligently to create a plan to improve our facilities. The quality enhancement plan committee was charged with optimizing the overall institutional quality and effectiveness of WCJC through the planning, development, and implementation of a plan that focuses on improving student outcomes. The compliance committee compiled numerous reports on core requirements, comprehensive requirements, and federal requirements, as part of the college's self-study to gain renewal of its accreditation by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. All these committees worked tirelessly with staff at each campus to accomplish their goals.

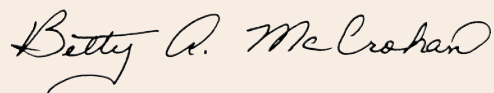
Wharton County Junior College also embarked on a new outreach project in support of Achieving the Dream, a national initiative designed to help more community college students succeed. In support of WCJC's commitment to the initiative, The Houston Endowment awarded the college a \$50,000 planning grant. In 2007, WCJC will submit a proposal to the endowment for a four-year, \$400,000 implementation grant.

The college continued its outreach plans and entered into an Interlocal Cooperation Contract with The University of Houston–Victoria to implement the Letting Education Achieve Dreams (LEAD) program to increase educational attainment levels in the service area. The program targets students ranging from pre-kindergarten to high school, as well as parents, for the purpose of emphasizing the importance of a college education.

A highlight of the year was when WCJC student Matt Prichard was named the National Champion Tie Down Roper and the men's rodeo team was named the National Reserve Champions at the 2006 College National Finals Rodeo. We are so proud of these young men's accomplishments and the national recognition they brought to WCJC.

We invite you to visit our campuses soon and discover the opportunities and successes occurring at Wharton County Junior College every day.

Sincerely,



Betty A. McCrohan
President



Matt Prichard was named the 2006 National Champion Tie Down Roper during closing ceremonies on June 17 at the College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming. The Victoria native out-tied his nearest competitor by 3.3 seconds, amassing 290 points during the week-long go-rounds to help lead the WCJC Men's Rodeo Team to second in the nation.

This is the second consecutive year a WCJC student has brought home an individual national championship. The team's second place finish is the highest ranking, to date, under rodeo coach Sean Amestoy.

Along with Prichard, other contributors to WCJC's national reserve championship title were Justin Hendrick, John Klier and Keith Hobizal of Needville, Casey Halderman of Shiner, and Devon Porter of Manitoba, Canada. In team roping, Klier placed 14th, followed by Porter at 23rd, and both Halderman and Hendrick at 26th. Halderman and Hendrick won the first round with a 5.5 second run. Klier and his teammate from another college won the third round with a 5.8 second run.

Prichard's national title brought him \$2,500 in scholarships, \$2,800 in cash, plus a saddle, buckle, and ring. The team's win earned WCJC a \$10,000 scholarship for rodeo students.

While in Casper, college rodeo coaches tried unsuccessfully to recruit Prichard to their schools. The champion was firm in his admiration for WCJC saying, "Sean has helped me a bunch. The teachers understand you. I don't want to go to a college that doesn't appreciate and support its rodeo team. If I'm going to continue college rodeoing, Wharton is the only college I want to rodeo for."



Men's Rodeo Team National Reserve Champions



Matt Prichard
2006 National Tie Down Roper



2006 National Reserve Champion Men's Rodeo Team

(from top left) **Devon Porter, Justin Hendrick, Keith Hobizal, Coach Sean Amestoy, John Klier, Matt Prichard, and Casey Halderman**



Jennifer Jeffery and Sharon Prince want to make a difference in students' lives. That commitment earned them the inaugural WCJC Award for Excellence in Teaching during the college's commencement exercises on May 19.

Prince, a 20-year educator, is department head and instructor of English at the Fort Bend Technical Center. She was inspired to teach by her own teachers who served as surrogate parents. Prince purposefully chose to work with community college students, saying "Teaching at a community college is particularly rewarding because we provide access to education to students who would not have access otherwise, due to finances, family commitments, or jobs."

Jeffery joined WCJC in 1999. She teaches general biology, serves as the biology lab coordinator for three campuses, and is preparing to teach environmental science in spring 2007. She has enjoyed serving as faculty sponsor of the Biology Club since helping to reorganize it in 2002, saying, "I strongly believe that what we do outside the classroom is just as important, if not more so, in the mentoring of our students."

The new award, funded through an anonymous endowed gift of \$200,000, will be presented annually to at least two full-time instructors who embodies WCJC's mission to build dreams and transform lives by making a difference inside and outside the classroom. Honorees will be selected from applicants who are nominated by division chairs or by the vice president of workforce development, continuing education, and distance learning. A \$5,000 cash award accompanies the honor.





Jennifer Jeffery
WCJC Award for Excellence in Teaching Recipient



Sharon Prince
WCJC Award for Excellence in Teaching Recipient

President's Lecture Series Celebrates Cultures

They've counseled and spoken with presidents, generals, and other dignitaries. They're immigrants and native born. They've lived, worked, and taught in the U.S. and abroad. They're authors, philanthropists, public servants, community activists, musicians, humorists, and more. Their common bond is that they've shared their cultures and knowledge as the featured presenters of the WCJC President's Lecture Series.

Begun in 2003, the lectures are designed to enhance the intellectual life of the community, according to founder and WCJC Speech Instructor Mary Austin Newman.

In its first three years, the lectures have hosted 20 speakers presenting a wide range of topics. Among them are stories of the Holocaust, insights into U.S. government policies and programs, and a greater awareness of the contributions made by Hispanics, Czechs, Native Americans, Africans, Texas farmers, and others.

Championed by WCJC President Betty McCrohan, all lectures are free and open to the public. Newman scouts out speakers with assistance from McCrohan. WCJC Director of Marketing and Communications Zina Carter manages the lecture series, helping to select and book speakers when needed. Her greatest responsibility is promoting the series on and off campus and making sure all the pieces are in place for successful lectures.

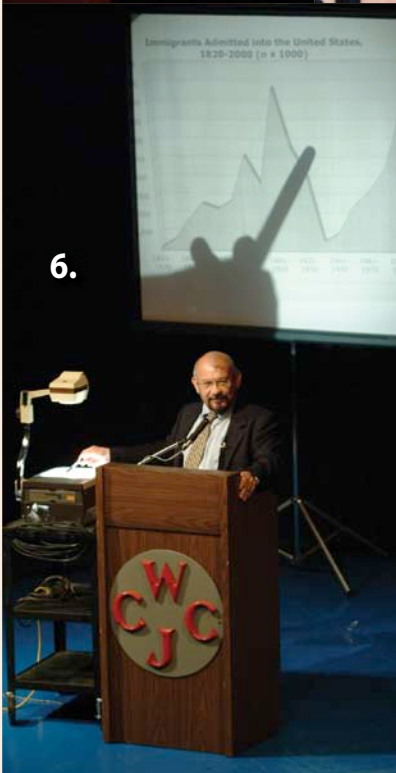
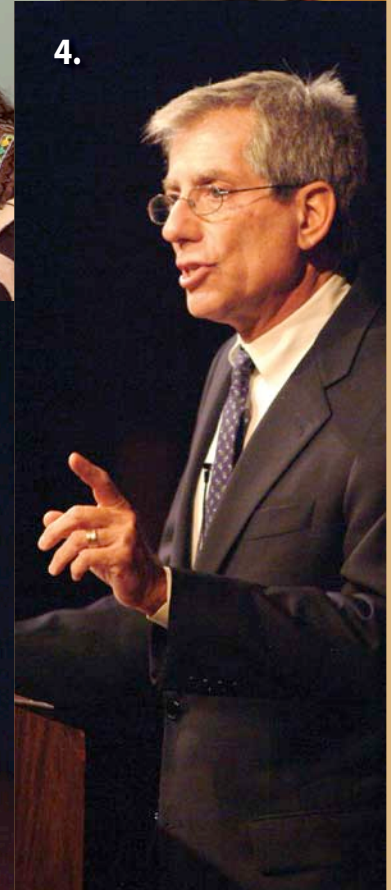
McCrohan is a staunch advocate of the lecture series because attendees "always take away new insights that lead to increased understandings among various cultures." She has a particular interest in hosting Holocaust speakers to "make sure this awful event is never forgotten and, most importantly, that it never happens again."



2005-2006 President's Lecture Series Topics, Speakers, and Photo Legend for Page 9

1. *The Mythological Legacy of the American West*
Presented by **Bobby Bridger**, recording artist, author, and playwright
2. *Identity Development in a Diverse Environment*
Presented by **Dr. T. John Alexander** and **Dr. S. R. Wilson**, instructors of sociology at Houston Baptist University
3. *A Journey from Africa to Texas*
Presented by **Matthew Momoh** and **Judith Lahai-Momoh**, co-founders of Saving Lives Through Alternate Options
(Pictured is Judith Lahai-Momoh, right, with WCJC Speech Instructor Dr. Mary Newman. Inset: Matthew Momoh)
4. *From Wharton to Washington*
Presented by **Fred S. Zeidman**, chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council
5. *Embracing Culture and Diversity for Business Success*
Presented by **Nghi T. Ho**, Alief ISD trustee and business owner
6. *The Pros and Cons of the New Immigration Proposal: Does the United States Need a Guest Worker Program?*
Presented by **Dr. Nestor Rodriguez**, director of the Center for Immigration Research and chair of the department of sociology at the University of Houston

2005-2006 President's Lecture Series Speakers



WCJC Joins National “Achieving the Dream” Initiative

WCJC was among 10 colleges in the Houston/Gulf Coast region selected to be part of Achieving the Dream (AtD), a national initiative designed to help more community college students succeed, particularly those who have faced significant barriers (such as being low-income students and/or students of color).

The Houston Endowment awarded WCJC a \$50,000 planning grant to fund preliminary research. This will lead to the submission of a multi-year implementation grant application in spring 2007. According to Dr. Dan Jones, the college’s director of institutional effectiveness who is overseeing the initiative, “This research will show where we are with student performance and student success, or lack thereof, and it will help identify strategies to improve student outcomes.”

The grant required WCJC representatives to attend a kick-off institute in Denver in mid-July, where they learned about the planning process and how all decision making is grounded in student outcomes. Team members included Jones, President McCrohan, Dr. Ty Pate, Patricia Rehak, Dale Pinson, Dr. Wayne Taylor, Pamela Youngblood, and Leigh Ann Collins. They were led by their AtD-assigned consultants – Ed Moranta, data facilitator, and Charlotte Biggerstaff, program coach.

WCJC joins 58 colleges in nine states that are part of the two-year-old AtD initiative. The AtD model emphasizes the use of data in all decision making—from setting educational strategies and allocating resources to scheduling classes and organizing student services.

The AtD initiative directly addresses student participation and student success goals of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board as outlined in “Closing the Gaps by 2015.”

To learn more about the AtD initiative, visit www.achievingthedream.org.



LEAD Promotes College Attainment to Students/Parents

Wharton County Junior College and The University of Houston–Victoria (UHV) entered into a partnership to implement the Letting Education Achieve Dreams (LEAD) program in WCJC’s service region. This comprehensive campaign, begun by UHV in 1999, is designed to increase educational attainment levels of all residents by creating a mindset that encourages students to work towards the completion of associate and/or bachelor degrees.

Johnnie Svatek is WCJC’s senior program coordinator for LEAD. After setting up offices at WCJC in July, Svatek forged new partnerships with Wharton and El Campo ISDs to build program awareness and set dates for program delivery in the districts’ schools. He met with all superintendents and principals, attended in-service teacher trainings, trained WCJC student ambassadors, and made presentations to parents and local civic organizations.

The LEAD program connects with students and parents to emphasize the importance of a college education and to facilitate the transition from high school to college and technical school. LEAD ambassadors are a key component of the program as they share personal perspectives on college life and what they wish they had known before entering college. Ambassadors deliver puppet presentations to prekindergarten through third graders and they host older students for on-campus visits that include tours, career exploration, and interactive games that drive home the message, “The more you learn, the more you earn.” Ambassadors also visit students at their home campuses and mentor them on the steps they need to take to get into college.

The LEAD initiative directly addresses increased student participation as outlined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in “Closing the Gaps by 2015.”



Kathylee Barbee
Coordinator Assistant

Johnnie Svatek
LEAD Senior Project Coordinator

WCJC Foundation Board

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Bay City

Tom Uher
Bay City

Larry Wadler
Wharton

Wanda White
Wharton

The Wharton County Junior College Foundation had a busy year as it worked to increase community awareness of the college and provide financial support to enhance its educational programs. In October 2005, the Foundation kicked off its "Have A Seat" campaign to fund 300 new theatre seats for the Horton Foote Theatre. The vintage 1967 seats were original to the theatre and parts were no longer available for repair. As of August 31, 2006, a total of 125 seats had been purchased in memory of loved ones and as tributes to the living.

Due to the theatre renovations, the Foundation's annual July gala moved to the Wharton Civic Center. A sold-out audience laughed until they cried with nationally acclaimed classical guitarist and humorist Mike Rayburn, who presented his hit show, "Classically Trained, Comically Derailed." The event raised about \$24,000 to fund student scholarships, faculty development, and academic programs at WCJC.

Jeanene Dittman Merka, Foundation president, said more and more people understand the vital difference these fundraisers and private gifts make at WCJC. "We are educating the future leaders of this community. Despite growing enrollments, state funding has dropped from a high of 60 percent about 20 years ago to roughly 30 percent today. These private gifts allow WCJC to provide a margin of excellence for our students that cannot be accomplished with state funding alone."

Theatre seats may still be purchased at \$200 each, which includes a three-line engraved name plate with the donor's wording. For additional information, call (979)-532-6322 or (800)-561-9252, ext. 6322.

2006 Summer Gala Fundraiser



Foundation President Jeanene Dittman Merka



Joel and Debbie Williams, left, with Sylvan and Betty Miori



Rumor Hazzit Barbershop Quartet



Performer Mike Rayburn

During 2005–2006, Wharton County Junior College was awarded and/or expended grants from foundations, governmental agencies, and individuals totaling approximately \$1.1 million, plus approximately \$1.2 million in formula awards from federal, state, and local governmental agencies for the Adult Basic Education Program, the Carl Perkins Program, and the Senior Citizens Program. The College was designated as an “eligible institution” for the U.S. Department of Education’s Title III Program for 2005–2006. This designation waives the matching-funds requirement for several major federal financial aid programs and saves WCJC approximately \$25,000 per year.

The following grants were received and/or expended (or partially expended) during 2005–2006:

Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education, \$197,088

- Purpose: Computer laboratories, curriculum development centers, and information technology infrastructure improvements

George Foundation, \$50,000

- Purpose: Student scholarships

Gulf Coast Medical Foundation, \$140,000

- Purpose: \$125,000 for purchase of instructional equipment for Allied Health Programs
- Purpose: \$15,000 for Senior Citizen Program

Houston-Galveston Area Council, \$205,566

- Purpose: \$124,961 for Senior Citizen Program/Wharton County (reimbursement for services provided to seniors)
- Purpose: \$80,605 for Senior Citizen Program/Colorado County (reimbursement for services provided to seniors)

Johnson Foundation, \$500,000

- Purpose: \$300,000 for Chemistry Department
- Purpose: \$100,000 for Allied Health Programs
- Purpose: \$100,000 for scholarship endowment

Swalm Foundation, \$84,000

- Purpose: \$34,000 for purchase of two vans for Senior Citizen Program/Colorado County
- Purpose: \$50,000 for Senior Citizen Program/Colorado County

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, \$68,295

- Purpose: Implementation of Graphic Communications Program

Texas Guaranty Association, \$94,000

- Purpose: Implementation of a joint WCJC-University of Houston LEAD Program

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, \$222,482

- Purpose: Vocational Support Services (Carl Perkins Award)

Trull Foundation: \$5,000

- Purpose: Senior Citizen Program

U.S. Department of Education, \$25,000

- Waiver of required matching funds

Wal-Mart Foundation, \$1,250

- Purpose: Student scholarships

Wootan Scholarship Program, \$10,000

- Purpose: Student scholarships

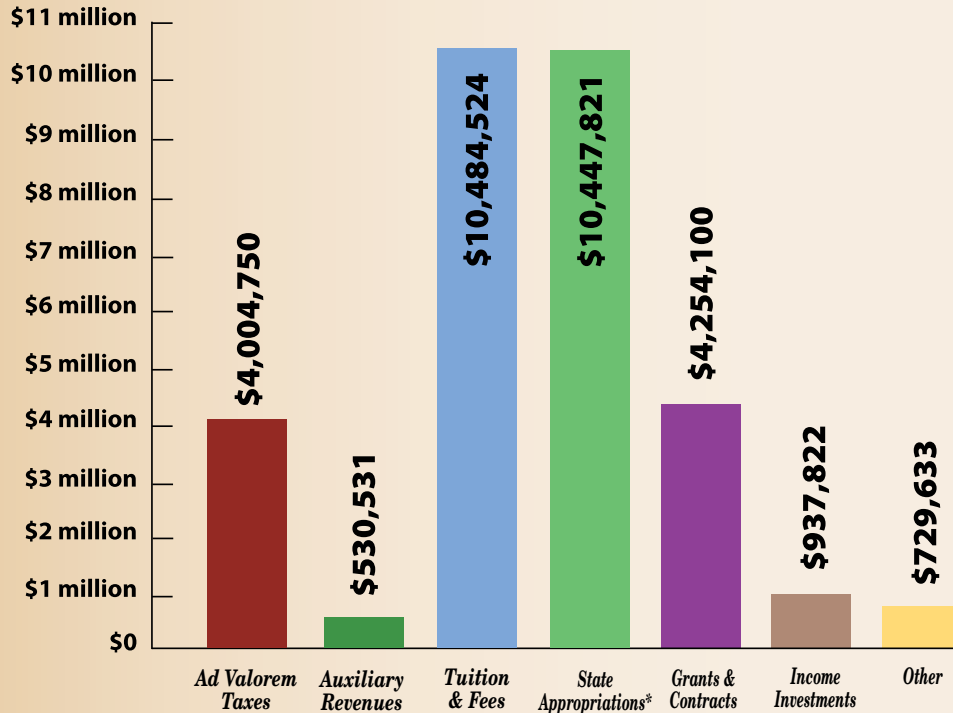
WCJC Adult Basic Education Program, \$725,649

- Sources of funding included various federal and state grants, plus a Corrections and Institutionalized Grant, a Federal Professional Development Grant, a 21st Century Grant, and a Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Grant.

Other funding for the WCJC Senior Citizen Program, \$81,773

- Sources of funding: Wharton County Commissioners Court, Colorado County Commissioners Court, program income, church and private donations, program income, and special fund-raising events

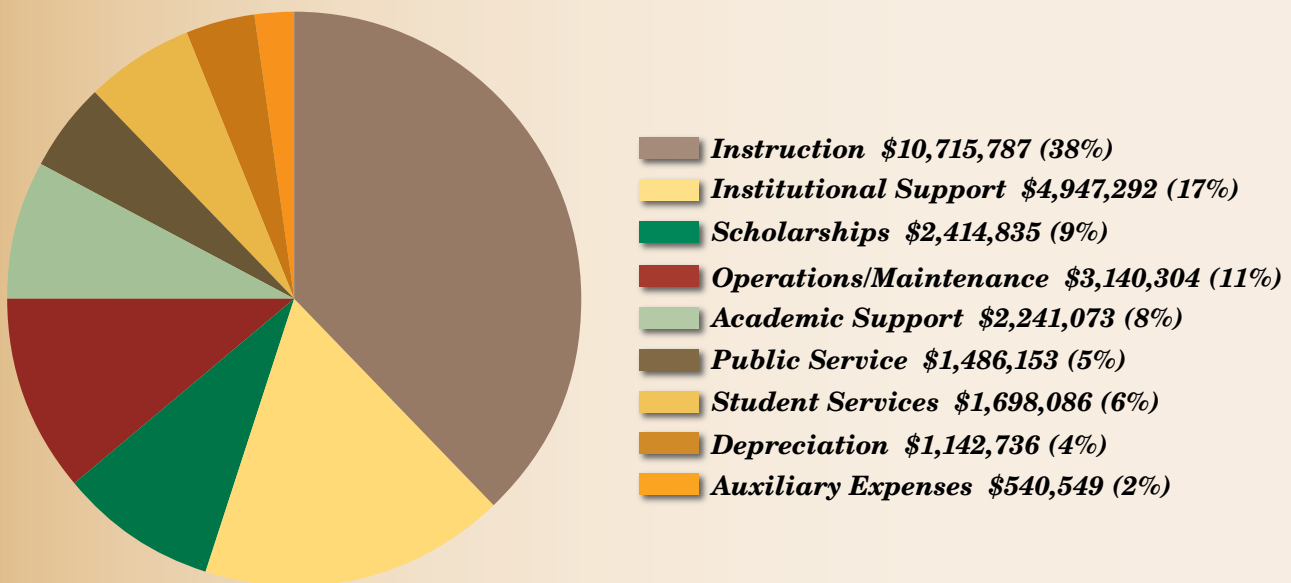
2005-2006 Revenue Sources



*Includes employee benefits and formula funding.



2005-2006 Budget Expenditures





Fall 2005 Student Population Statistics

By Ethnicity

White/non-Hispanic	59%
Hispanic.....	24%
Black/non-Hispanic	9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4%
Other	4%

By Age

Under 20..... (2,800)	47%
20-24	(1,941)32%
25-29	(492)8%
30-39	(438)7%
40-over.....	(358)6%

By Gender

Female.....	58%
Male.....	42%

By Residency

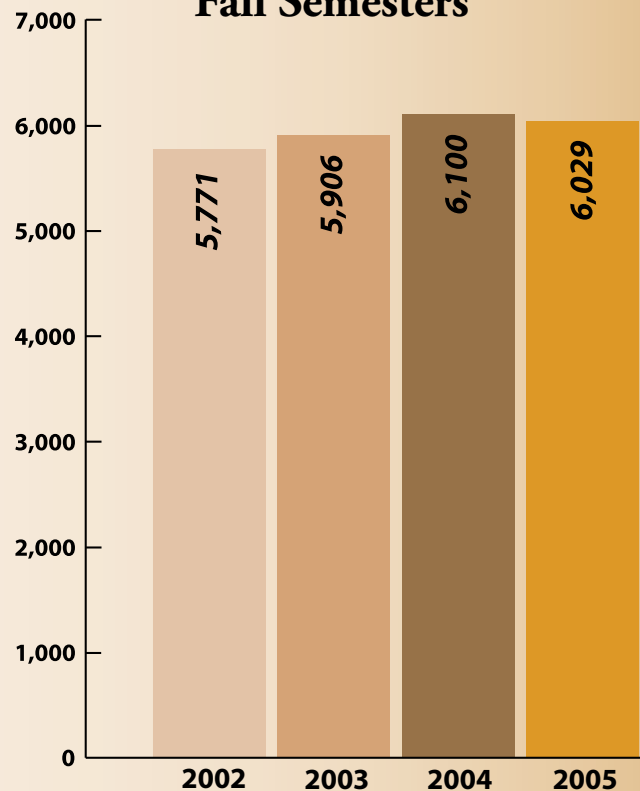
Texas Residents	98%
In-District Residents.....	24%
Out-of-District	74%
Outside Texas/Foreign	2%

Enrollment by Campus and Extension Center Fall 2005

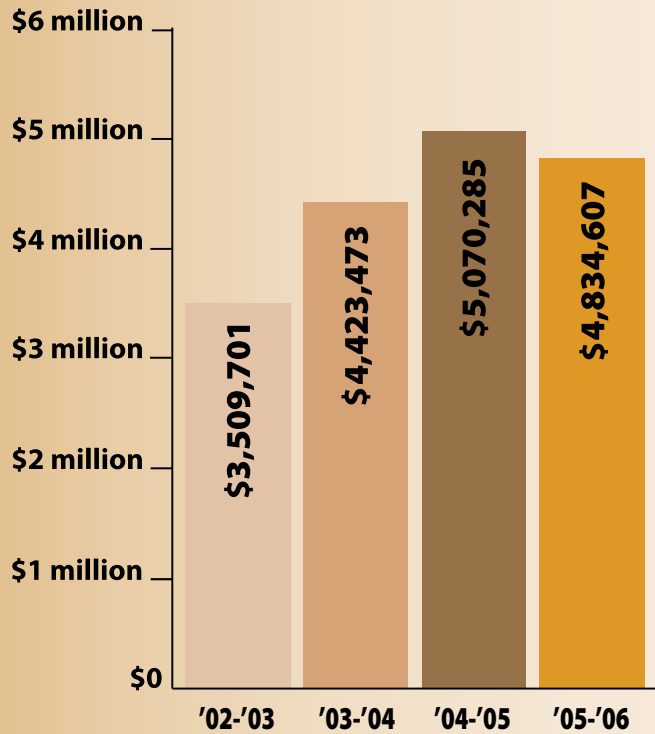
Wharton Campus	1,875
Sugar Land Campus.....	2,110
WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center	1,506
Bay City Extension Center.....	52
El Campo Extension Center.....	5
Richmond Ext. Center (Oakbend Medical Center)	36
Dual Credit & Concurrent Enrollment.....	683
Distance Education (Internet/ITV)	757

Note: The Sugar Land campus and Wharton campus enrollments no longer include distance education, dual credit, and concurrent enrollment students due to an upgrade in the computer systems.

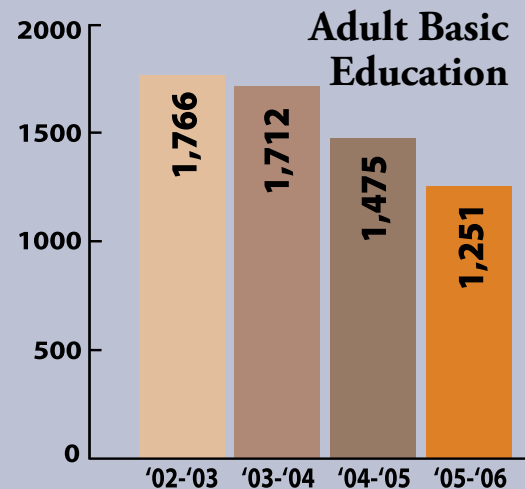
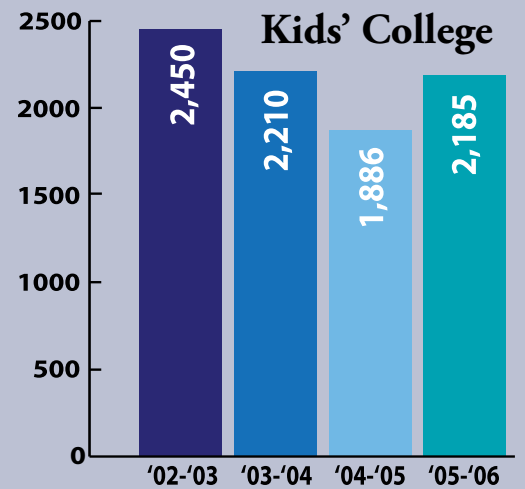
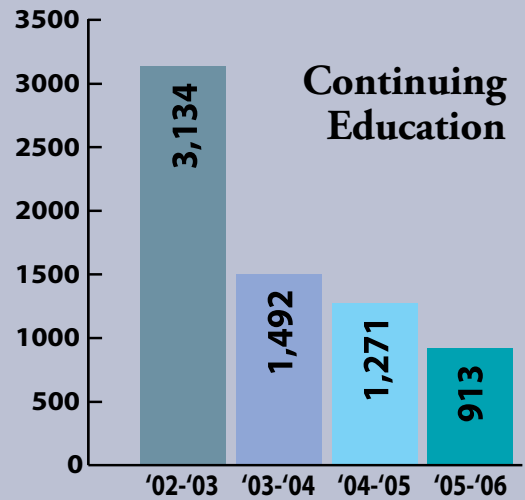
Credit Enrollment History Fall Semesters



State and Federal Financial Aid Disbursement Per Academic Year



Non-Credit Enrollment History Headcounts



Full-Time Employees Fall Semesters

	2002	2003	2004	2005
Faculty	137	139	135	136
Administrators	36	40	40	35
Support Staff	133	119	119	114

Educational Programs Offered by WCJC

Associate of Arts Degree

The Associate of Arts degree is offered in general studies for students planning to pursue four-year degrees. It enables students to enter four-year institutions as juniors. The degree offers emphasis of study in:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Agriculture | English |
| Art | General Studies |
| Behavioral Science (Psychology/Sociology) | Kinesiology |
| Biology | Mathematics |
| Business Administration | Music |
| Chemistry | Nursing (Pre-Baccalaureate) |
| Computer Science | Physics |
| Criminal Justice | Social Science |
| Drama | (History, Geography, Government) |
| Engineering | Speech |

Associate of Arts in Teaching Degree

- Grades Early Childhood-4, Plan A
- Grades 4-8, Plan B
- Grades 8-12, Plan C

Associate of Applied Science Degrees and Certificate Programs

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Architectural Design | Health Information Technology |
| Automotive Technology | Heating, Air Conditioning, Refrigeration |
| Computer Aided Drafting | Human Services |
| Computer Science: | Law Enforcement |
| • Engineering Technology (CISCO) | Nursing: |
| • Computer Programming | • Associate Degree |
| • PC Technical Support | • LVN-ADN Transition Program |
| • Network Administration | • Vocational Nursing |
| Cosmetology | Office Administration |
| Dental Hygiene | Paralegal Studies |
| Early Childhood | Physical Therapist Assistant |
| Electronics Technology | Police Academy |
| Emergency Medical Services | Process Technology |
| Engineering Design | Radiologic Technology |
| Fire Academy | Surgical Technology |







**President's Report to the Community
2005–2006**

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MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

WRITER AND EDITOR:
Zina L. Carter

ART DIRECTION AND DESIGN:
Kevin Farley

CONTRIBUTOR:
John L. Dettling, Jr.



***Wharton County
Junior College***

Wharton • Sugar Land • Richmond
Bay City • Palacios • El Campo

For more information, call or write to:

Wharton County Junior College
Office of the President
911 Boling Highway
Wharton, Texas 77488

**1-800-561-WCJC
www.wcjc.edu**