



Wharton County Junior College



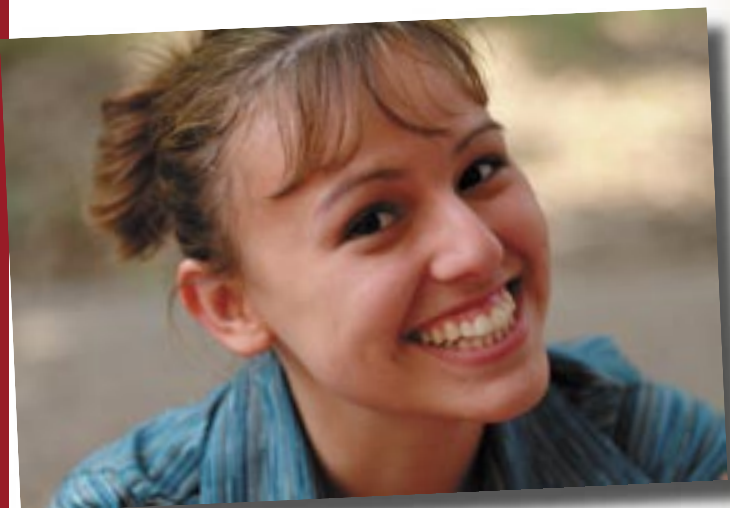
**PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY
2002-2004**

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.



Wharton County Junior College was founded in 1946 by the Post World War II Planning Board, launching what would become a Texas milestone - one of the state's first endeavors at utilizing the community college concept.

The college's main campus in Wharton occupies a 72-acre lot that includes 15 traditional and contemporary buildings, including a health occupations center, a gymnasium and fitness center, a greenhouse, a student center, a fine arts building with drama theatre, a distance education center, and a technology center. The college also operates a 200-acre farm.

Over the decades, enrollment grew and college officials opted for an opportunity to expand by offering day classes at a high school in Richmond, Texas, in 1980. Three years later, the college purchased prefabricated buildings and established its own campus in Richmond, approximately 35 miles northeast of Wharton.

In 1990, Wharton County Junior College opened its third campus in Sugar Land to meet the educational needs of rapidly growing Fort Bend County. The Sugar Land campus is located in a business complex about 45 miles northeast of the Wharton campus.

Recognizing the need to help improve the employment opportunities in the Texas gulf coast area through a training center for high-tech, high-demand fields, the college opened the WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center in Richmond in fall 2001. The technical center offers a unique opportunity to its students through a partnership between Wharton County Junior College and Texas State Technical College for the provision of technical programs to meet the employment needs of Fort Bend County and the surrounding region. The establishment of the WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center allowed the college to close the college's original Richmond campus in the summer of 2003.

In addition to the college's three campuses, training is also offered at extension centers in El Campo, Palacios, and Bay City.



State Representative Charlie Howard, WCJC President Betty McCrohan, WCJC Trustee Oliver Kunkel, Jr., and WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center Director Scott Glass at the grand opening of the WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center.

Board of Trustees

THE WCJC BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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"When members of the Post World War II Planning Board helped establish Wharton County Junior College in 1946, they had no idea of the positive influence their ideas would have on generations to come. We are grateful for their vision and proudly aspire to continue to build upon the dream to offer the best education possible to our students."

*- P. D. "Danny" Gertson, III
Chair, Board of Trustees*

The last two years presented many challenges. These challenges were overcome thanks to the commitment of our fine faculty and staff and the leadership of our board of trustees. Despite significant state budget cuts in 2003 and 2004, Wharton County Junior College forged ahead to increase student enrollments and expand its offerings to students and the community. During fall 2003, we served 6,104 students, the highest enrollment in our college history.

A milestone for the last two years was the successful implementation of a new management information system (MIS). This new system is already working to help us enhance our customer service to students by streamlining campus wide operations, particularly those in our business office, registration office, and financial aid office. For the first time in the college's history, students can now register online. The success of the MIS project was accomplished through employee teamwork and the Office of Information Technology. Our employees are to be commended for their unwavering dedication and working long, hard hours to make the implementation a success.

Two years ago, we were pleased to initiate a new service to the community through the *President's Lecture Series*. The first season featured lectures titled *African Women Writers: Three Joys, Three Sorrows*; *Captain John H. Rogers, Texas Ranger*; and *U.S. Secret Service Protection from 1865 to Now*. These lectures provided programs of interest to the community and student body that might otherwise had not been available. The lectures were offered free of charge to anyone interested in attending. The series was so successful it continues today.

The college secured a \$94,543 grant from the Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund Board for the purpose of enhancing the college's Distance Learning Program. The grant will fund the training and certification of 16 distance learning instructors, the purchase of computers, interactive television equipment, and software for the new curriculum development center.

Our enrollment growth at the WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center continued to soar with 1,596 students enrolled at that campus in the fall of 2003 compared to 793 students in the fall of 2001. We are happy to report that Texas State Technical College's programs housed at the technical center have also enjoyed impressive growth since the center opened its doors.

All of us at Wharton County Junior College take seriously our commitment to helping our students. Whether our students enroll in a single course or enter a program to help them prepare for a career or for transfer to a university, we are here to help them succeed and improve their lives.

We are pleased to share this report with the community to thank you, the taxpayers, contributors, community, parents, and students who help fund this great institution. Please read more about what makes Wharton County Junior College special and how your contributions are a wonderful investment in the futures of more than 11,000 students per year.

I hope to see you on campus.

Sincerely,



Betty A. McCrohan
President



Betty McCrohan, WCJC President



Student Government Association Held Ceremonies to Commemorate 9/11

The WCJC Student Government Association held simultaneous 9/11 dedications and memorial ceremonies at the Wharton, Sugar Land, and Richmond campuses. The ceremonies featured the unveiling of commemorative plaques and the dedication of American Savannah holly trees in memory of the lost lives of 9/11.

Pioneer Rodeo Team Captured Championship

The WCJC Men's Pioneer Rodeo Team captured a team championship while competing at the Northeast Texas Community College NIRA Rodeo in October in Pleasant, Texas. The team was led by the efforts of bull rider Jake Mann of Needville, bareback rider Jeremy Biscoe of Granbury, bareback rider David Smith of Bellville, and saddle bronc rider Cody Smith of Palmer.

Lingo Won All-Around and Breakaway Roping Rodeo Titles

WCJC Women's Pioneer Rodeo Team member Nicole Lingo, a Boling native, garnered the *2003 National Women's Rodeo Rookie of the Year* award at the College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming. Earlier, in fall 2002, she also garnered both the *Breakaway Title* and the *All-Around Title* at the McNeese State University NIRA Rodeo.

Bareback Rider Won Men's Championship at Stephen F. Austin

Beaumont native and WCJC Men's Rodeo Team member Zach Dishman took home the *Bareback Riding Championship* at the Stephen F. Austin NIRA Rodeo in fall 2002.

Congressman Visited the Wharton Campus

Congressman Ron Paul visited the Wharton campus and spoke to students and the community about significant issues facing Texas and the nation.

Ramirez Walked 20 Miles for the American Heart Association

WCJC Fitness Center Manager Rebecca Ramirez committed to the American Heart Association to walk 20 miles to raise funds and did so in honor of family members who had recently passed away. Ramirez's participation in the *American Heart Walk* raised \$3,500.

Blood Center Received Continued Support from WCJC Student Government Association

The WCJC Student Government Association continued its annual support of blood drive efforts by hosting a total of 13 blood drives at the college's three campuses. The drives resulted in 417 donations (pints of blood) for the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center.

WCJC Helped to Kick Off State's College for Texans Campaign Initiative to Close the Gaps

WCJC President Betty McCrohan participated in a news conference in Victoria alongside other area college presidents to help promote the state's *College for Texans Campaign*. The campaign's goal is to increase enrollments of the underserved by the year 2015.

Special Awards Were Presented at Commencement Exercises

During the 57th Commencement exercises, WCJC awarded special recognition to Kalen Malone-Flagg, *President's Award* and *2003 Sealock Award* recipient; Stephen Skinner, Ashley Farrell, and Ann Johnson Holder, *Academic Excellence Dean's Award* recipients; and Betty Lange, *Outstanding Service Award* recipient.

Johnson Foundation and Gulf Coast Medical Foundation Showed Support with Grants

The M.G. and Lillie A. Johnson Foundation awarded WCJC a \$250,000 grant and the Gulf Coast Medical Foundation awarded the college a \$200,000 grant in support of the college's new management information system.



*Rookie of the Year,
Nicole Lingo*

WCJC Took Adult Basic Education Program to Juveniles

WCJC expanded its Adult Basic Education Program to include teens in the Fort Bend Juvenile Probation Program, making it the only program of its kind in the state.

Growth Seen in Distance Learning for Job Enhancement and Job Readiness Training Programs

A grant from the Texas Telecommunications Infrastructure (TIF) allowed the college to add interactive television capabilities at the Northside Center in El Campo. Approximately 1,000 students are now enrolled system wide in distance learning courses.

College Increased it's Marketing Presence by Launching New Website

WCJC launched a new and improved website in December 2002, thanks to a college wide effort to make more information about the college available to the public.



Students register online

WCJC Initiated Web Registration

The college's new management information system allowed students to register online in July of 2003 for the first time in our college history.

Carter Named Chair of Gulf Coast Consortium of Community College Public Information Professionals

WCJC Director of Marketing and Communications Zina Carter served as chair of the Gulf Coast Consortium of Community Colleges Public Information Professionals for the 2002-2003 academic year.

President's Lecture Series Established

WCJC President Betty McCrohan established a *President's Lecture Series* in spring 2003 to add a new dimension to campus life for students, faculty/staff, and the community. The series featured lectures by WCJC English and Drama Instructor Katherine Kendall, Ph.D. on the topic of *African Women Writers: Three Joys, Three Sorrows*; WCJC History Instructor and Division Chair Paul Spellman, Ph.D., on the topic of *Captain John H. Rodgers, Texas Ranger*; and WCJC History Instructor Robert Rosebush on the topic of *The Evolution of the U.S. Secret Service Protection from 1865 to Now*.

TEA Selected WCJC to Train GED Teachers

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) contracted with WCJC's Adult Basic Education Program to serve as GED 2002-2003 trainers. The college worked with TEA to train GED teachers in southern and eastern Texas.

Education Fair Offered One-Stop Way to Learn More About College

An *Education Fair* offered at the WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center offered participants a way to learn more about financial aid, college programs, entrance exams, registration, transfer programs, career counseling, and other college-related information.

Wharton SGA Participated In Region IV Leadership

The Wharton Chapter Student Government Association served as Region IV Secretary/Treasurer during 2002-2003.



New Student and Family Orientation Programs Helped Students to Ease into College Life

A new student orientation program called *College Success-Yes!* was established by the Office of Student Services as a way for students to learn more about college expectations, meet new people, receive tips on study skills, and hear more about student services and activities. The office also established a *Family Orientation Program* geared towards providing information about college to the entire family. Topics covered included general information about WCJC, its environment, financial aid, and the financial aspects of attending college. Participants were invited to ask questions and also learned more about the important role community colleges play in the community.

Speak Out! Highlighted Area History and Speech Students

WCJC Speech Instructor Mary Austin Newman, Ph.D., established an innovative oratory program in 2001 to highlight area history and the college's speech students. Each fall and spring semester since, students from speech classes have visited the local historical museum to educate themselves about a county, person, event, place, or artifact to present at *Speak Out!*.

Marketing Staff Received National and Regional Awards

The WCJC Marketing and Communications department received awards from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) for *video advertisement/PSA series* for the college's television commercials titled *Futures Begin Here*. Previously, the NCMPR awarded the staff with a regional award for the series, along with a regional award for the *video advertisement/PSA*, for the college's Spanish language television commercial. The awards recognized Zina Carter, director of marketing and communications, Kevin Farley, senior public relations specialist, and Cheryl Machicek, public relations specialist.

Adult Basic Education Programs Received Increased Funding

The WCJC Adult Basic Education Program received an increase of \$125,000 as part of the State/Correctional/ Professional Development Grant. The grant totaled \$650,211.

Senior Citizen Program Provided Thousands of Meals to Area Seniors

During the 2002-2003 year, the WCJC Senior Citizen Program served 461 meals to seniors at its Wharton campus center and 176 meals at its Columbus center. Additionally, the program provided 43,945 delivered meals to seniors at their homes.

HGAC Grant Benefits Students and Senior Citizen Program

A grant program established by the Houston-Galveston Area Council reimbursed students for tuition, fees, and books in two nurse aide classes offered in Wharton and Columbus. To be eligible for the program, the students were required to volunteer in the college's Senior Citizen Program to provide respite care services.

Columbus Opry Hosted Fund Drive for Senior Citizen Program

The Columbus Opry hosted a fund drive performance to benefit the WCJC Senior Citizen Program. The event raised \$2,663.

SGA Supported Troops

The Student Government Association collected supplies for *Operation Show Box* and forwarded them to United States military stationed in Iraq.

Hundreds of WCJC Students Transferred to the University of Houston

Through articulation agreements between Wharton County Junior College and the University of Houston, about 548 students who had attended Wharton County Junior College went on to transfer college credits each year from WCJC to the University of Houston in fall 2002 to continue their education and pursue a four-year degree.

WCJC Hosted Association of Technology Educators Meeting

Wharton County Junior College and Texas State Technical College hosted the second annual meeting of the Association of Technology Educators. The WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center was host to more than 200 high school students and their teachers.

Retirement Ceremonies Were Held For Flag Flown Over Iraq

Wharton County Junior College hosted flag retirement ceremonies at each of its campuses in February. The ceremonies highlighted a WCJC flag that was sent to Iraq at the request of 1st Lt. Timothy David Gray. The flag, which was flown in Iraq, was presented to P.D. (Danny) Gertson, III, chair of the WCJC Board of Trustees. The WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center ceremonies included special guests and Texas State Representatives Glenn Hegar, Dora Olivo, and Charlie Howard.

Many Learned Valuable College Information at Education Fair

The WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center hosted a WCJC *Education Fair* open house. More than 200 attendees received information about financial aid, academic programs, and career counseling.

WCJC Hosted *Bike-the-Bend* Event

The WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center hosted *Bike-the-Bend*, an event sponsored by the Literacy Council of Fort Bend County. Sugar Land Campus Director Robert Wolter served as chair for the literacy committee that organized the event.

Kielman Received Masters Degree

Senior coordinator of Vocational Support Services Diane Kielman received her master of education in counseling degree from the University of Houston-Victoria in December 2003.

Kocian Held Positions with Local and State Groups

Cindy Kocian, special population advisor for the Perkin's Grant, served as the chairman of the Wharton County Youth Advisory Committee and served on the steering committee of the Gulf Coast Chapter of the Texas Counselors Network.

Counselor Served on Houston Association

Counselor Patti Lawlor served as secretary for the Houston Licensed Professional Counselors Association for the 2003-2004 term.

SGA Held Regional Meeting

A Region IV Texas Junior College Student Government Association meeting was held at Wharton County Junior College in November 2003. The meeting included a proclamation by Wharton Mayor Bryce Kocian, team building activities, and a key-note address by U.S. Congressman Ron Paul.

Online Training Held for Employees

The Human Resources Department initiated online training for college employees. One of the first training programs made available included "Preventing Sexual Harrassment."

WCJC Participated with Virtual College

Wharton County Junior College enlisted in the Virtual College of Texas (VCT) as a provider college.

Instructors Certified for Internet Course Delivery

The Center for Distance Learning Research at Texas A&M University provided training for the certification of WCJC instructors. Eight instructors were certified for interactive television course delivery and eight instructors were certified for Internet course delivery.



Curriculum Development Center Opened

The college opened a Curriculum Development Center in April at the Wharton campus. Housed in the J.M. Hodges Learning Center, the center provides for training resources for the use of technology in the classroom, computer hardware, and presentation development software for developing new distance learning materials.

Faculty Received SCORM Training

In June, the Office of Distance Learning hosted SCORM training for 15 faculty members. The shareable module training is designed to assist faculty in curriculum development for technology-mediated course delivery. The training was provided by Carnegie Mellon University at WCJC's Curriculum Development Center.

Educational Career Day Held

The Office of Adult Basic Education sponsored an *Educational Career Day* in May to bridge the gap between adult basic education programs and enrolling in college. More than 80 students attended the event and learned more about financial aid, counseling, continuing education programs, workforce development programs, and the college in general.

Kieler Represented WCJC at Various Meetings

Resource Development Officer Bruce Kieler represented Wharton County Junior College on the Wharton County Immunization Coalition, Wharton Emergency Preparedness Team, and the East Texas Community Planning Group.

Kasala Awarded Scholarship

Physical Therapist Assistant student Sandy Kasala received the *Texas Alliance of Physical Therapist Assistants Educators Transitional Scholarship*. The alliance awards only five of these scholarships per year.

PTK Conducted Community Service Activities

Phi Theta Kappa, an international honor society, participated in numerous community service activities including the collection of more than 500 pounds of cola tabs for Ronald McDonald House of Houston and more than 2,000 Yoplait yogurt lids for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

EMS Program Received Ambulance and Stretcher

Thanks to a generous donation from Sweeney EMS, WCJC's Emergency Medical Service program received a fully operational ambulance. Additionally, Quality Elite EMS of Needville donated a stretcher to the program.

Students Participated with NASA on Research Project

Robotics course students attended NASA's Community College Aerospace Scholars (CAS) program. CAS brought together students from each Texas community college district who were interested in computer science, engineering, mathematics, and science to spend two days at the Johnson Space Center in Clear Lake City, Texas.

58th Commencement Exercises Were Held

During the 58th Commencement exercises, WCJC awarded special recognition to Savannah Pustejovsky, *President's Award*; Dorothy Vogler and Paula Kalisek, *Academic Excellence Dean's Award* recipients; Karen Gill, *2004 Sealock Award* recipient; and Amanda Oballe, *Outstanding Service Award* recipient.

Faculty Achievements

Faculty Council Presented *Faculty of the Year* Awards

The WCJC Faculty Council Association awarded 2002-2003 *Faculty of the Year* awards to J.B. Groves, computer science instructor; Bob Rosebush, history instructor; and Douglas Walker, biology instructor. The award recognizes outstanding faculty contributions to the college, its faculty, and its students.



Dr. Sue Poor

Poor Garnered NISOD Award and Other Distinctions

Dr. Sue Poor, instructor of English, was named a 2003 National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) award recipient for her outstanding teaching and leadership. Poor also served as a member of the Texas Community College Teachers Association (TCCTA) State Nominating Committee, chair of the Scholarship Committee for the Gulf Coast Consortium Committee on International Education, and area supervisor for the Japanese Exchange Student Secondary Education Program.

Knox Honored for Service to Fort Bend I.S.D.

Cynthia Knox, instructor of speech, was honored by the Fort Bend Independent School District for eight years of service as a member of its Board of Trustees.

English Instructor Became Published Author

Instructor of English Marsha Anderson's book, *How to Have a Good Day Every Day*, was published in August 2003.

McCulley Presented to Society of Early Americans

Sue Lane McCulley, Ph.D., instructor of English, presented a paper on Sarah Gill's spiritual journal, a previously unpublished diary of an eighteenth century woman from Boston, to the Society of Early Americans.

Partlow Worked with TCCTA

Instructor of Biology Nancy Partlow was appointed to the Legislative Affairs Committee for TCCTA.

Iyer Provided Volunteer Support in Many Areas

Rupa Iyer, Ph.D., instructor of biology, reviewed advanced technological grants for the National Science Foundation, conducted science lessons as a volunteer for Colony Meadows Elementary School, published a new edition of the microbiology manual, and helped coordinate the 36th Annual Southeast Texas (Committee) on Undergraduate Education in the Biological Sciences (TUEBS) Conference held at the WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center.



Dr. Rupa Iyer

Maretka Served as President of the Association of Computer Educators of Texas

WCJC Instructor of Computer Science and Information Technology Amelia Maretka served as president of the Association of Computer Educators of Texas for 2002-2003.



Faculty Achievements

Iyer Received Faculty of the Year Award and Worked with NASA

Dr. Rupa Iyer, instructor of biology, was the recipient of the WCJC Faculty Council 2003-2004 *Faculty of the Year* award. Dr. Iyer also developed biotechnology and microbiology modules for NASA's curriculum improvement program award grant.

Heierman Participated at Sapphire Symposium

Math Instructor William Heierman was a speaker at a Sapphire Symposium held in June 2004 at Montana Tech of The University of Montana. The symposium was held in conjunction with a special exhibition of worldwide ruby and sapphire specimens at the Montana Tech Mineral Museum. The one-year exhibit includes about 300 specimens from Heierman's collection.

University of Tennessee Press Published Book by McCulley

English Instructor Dr. Sue Lane McCulley co-authored *The Soft and Silent Communion*, with Dr. Dorothy Z. Baker of the University of Houston. The book is an analysis of two mid-18th century American women's spiritual narratives and was published by the University of Tennessee Press.

ACET Named Maretka President

Computer Science and Information Technology Instructor Amelia Maretka was named 2004-2005 president of the Association for Computer Educators in Texas.

Groves Presented at Two Conferences

Computer Science Instructor J.B. Groves made a presentation on Robotics Program Implementation for Texas Community Colleges at the Association for Computer Educators in Texas Conference and a presentation on Chaos in the Classroom at the American Creativity Association Conference.

WCJC Hosted an Early Childhood Conference

Led by Division Chair of Technology and Business Patricia Rehak the college co-hosted an Early Childhood Conference along with The Texas Cooperative Extension Program, Prairie View A & M University, and the Texas Cooperative Extension Agencies of Fort Bend, Matagorda, and Wharton counties.

Four Instructors were Named to Who's Who Among American Teachers

Named to Who's Who Among American Teachers were Pramila Gurralla, Nancy Partlow, Kim Raun, and Patricia Rehak.

McClelland Served as Panelist for LEADS

Instructor of Business and Office Administration Mary McClelland was an invited panelist for the Letting Education Achieve Dreams (LEAD) program at the University of Houston-Victoria.

Division Received Approval for Charter for Honor Society

The WCJC Division of Technology and Business received a charter and approval from the National Technical Honor Society to begin a chapter.

Hahn Received National Award

Dental Hygiene Instructor Dale Hahn received the American Dental Hygienists' Association Distinguished Service Award.

International Journal of African Historical Studies Published Article

An article written by English Instructor Kathryn Kendall, Ph.D., titled *Everything Must Come to Light* was published in the *International Journal of African Historical Studies*, Vol. 36, No.2.

First Fort Bend County Speak Out! Held

Speech Instructor Mary Alexander hosted the first Fort Bend County *Speak Out!* at the WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center. Public speaking students presented speeches to guests about persons and events of interest related to area history.

Derkowski Received Proctor & Gamble Award

Dental Hygiene Instructor Carol Derkowski received the Proctor & Gamble Texas Teacher Excellence Award. Only one outstanding dental hygiene instructor in Texas is recognized per year with the award.

Bauer Named Teacher of the Year

Adult Basic Education Instructor Paula Bauer was named *Teacher of the Year* by the Texas Association for Literacy and Adult Education.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS IN *2002-2003* *Technology*



Banner Year!



WCJC Webmaster Eric Li

New Technology Enables Students to Conduct Business via the Internet

Wharton County Junior College launched a new computer technology system, SCT Banner, throughout the 2002-2003 academic year that allows students to electronically register for classes, check grades, and conduct an array of other activities.

Besides registering for and changing classes online, students can access a degree audit to see what courses they need to graduate. If they decide to change degree plans, the new software highlights which of their existing credits apply to the new degree. Since students' original degree plans are stored electronically, they will not need to keep a hard copy.

The software also allows students to check various statuses online including admissions, financial aid, grades, transcript requests, and tax information, and to communicate with college representatives by e-mail regarding these issues. Both credit and noncredit students can make electronic payments with the new software.

"We are eager to provide the services that we need for our students on the Web," said WCJC President Betty McCrohan.

"The implementation of the new system has put tremendous strain on all the staff because they had to do everything they've always done along with the implementation tasks," said McCrohan. "Our staff deserves tremendous credit for their efforts in making the implementation of the new system a success."

McCrohan foresees tremendous time savings and new efficiencies for WCJC personnel with the hi-tech software. Instructors can download class rolls and post grades electronically. Administrators can access reports on a server the day they are completed, rather than waiting for a hard copy. The state-of-the-art integrated system has one database that includes students, vendors, and employees, rather than multiple databases. It is these types of efficiencies that McCrohan said, "will free us to work with students and to provide them the one-on-one services they need."

Redesigned Website Launched

Wharton County Junior College launched the redesign of its website in December 2002 after a three-month creation by Webmaster Eric Li. The site features easy navigation, appealing graphics, and a helpful search function. The site also was interfaced with software that allows students to register for classes, make payments, view grades, check financial aid status, and conduct other school-related business online.

Li is proud of the navigability of the site. "You never have to go more than three levels to get to the information you need," he said. "On the new site you will never get lost."



The WCJC Banner Implementation Team, left to right, Rosemary Fulton, Albert Barnes, Judy Jones, Bryan Ngo, Richard Hyde, Conrad Kieler, Dennis Barnes, and Gus Wessels.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2003-2004 *Technology*



Wharton County Junior College opened a Curriculum Development Center in 2004. The center serves as a valuable tool for faculty training and the development of distance learning programs. Pictured above, (left to right), WCJC Circulations Technician Cynthia Huddleston, WCJC Curriculum Development Assistant Barbara Watson, and WCJC Director of Library Services Jerry Hoke.

New Curriculum Development Center Benefits Distance Learning Programs

Wharton County Junior College opened a Curriculum Development Center in 2004 to further position the college as a preferred choice for distance learning programs and in turn increase its marketing presence. The center serves as a resource for training faculty in the area of distance learning material development and is located in the J.M. Hodges Learning Center at the Wharton campus.

The college currently offers distance learning programs via the Internet, interactive television, and videocassettes. The center helps the college enhance its current distance learning programs by increasing the number of courses in its inventory, standardizing criterion for curriculum, and providing state-of-the-art technology for its faculty. Additionally, the center allows the college the opportunity to work with the Virtual College of Texas (VCT), a collaborative of Texas' 50 community college districts and the Texas State Technical College System. Through VCT, students may register at their local colleges to take credit and non-credit distance learning courses from other colleges throughout Texas.

The Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund Board provided \$94,543 for the Distance Learning Program. A portion of the funding was used to purchase technical equipment for the center, including five Macintosh computers, four personal computers with Wacom tablets, two plasma televisions, one Nikon scanner, one electric projector screen, one video conferencing system for interactive televisions, and technical software. The funds also paid for other furnishings in the center.



Wharton County Junior College

FORT BEND COUNTY OPERATIONS AND PARTNERSHIP WITH



Texas State Technical College



Wharton County Junior College and Texas State Technical College held a Third Year Anniversary Celebration for the WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center in the fall 2003. Special guests included, left to right, Texas State Technical College Chancellor Dr. Bill Segura, Lamar Consolidated Independent School District Superintendent Dr. Thomas Randle, Wharton County Junior College President Betty McCrohan, Texas State Senator Kenneth Armbrister, and Texas State Representative Glenn Hegar.



OUR FORT BEND COUNTY

Locations

ENROLLMENT STATUS	2002-2003	2003-2004
Full-time	29.02%	22.85%
Part-time	70.98%	77.15%

GENDER	2002-2003	2003-2004
Female	59.90%	58.45%
Male	40.10%	41.55%

BY AGE	2002-2003	2003-2004
Under 20	37.55%	30.92%
20-24	35.61%	43.31%
25-29	8.40%	8.77%
30-34	5.73%	5.31%
35-39	3.99%	3.61%
40-44	3.74%	3.81%
45-49	2.40%	2.57%
50 plus	2.58%	1.70%

ENROLLMENT BY ETHNICITY	2002-2003	2003-2004
White, non-Hispanic	58.51%	57.38%
Hispanic	20.81%	22.09%
Black, non-Hispanic	10.69%	9.42%
Asian/Pacific Islander	8.63%	8.62%
Indian/Alaskan Native	0.29%	0.27%
International	0.17%	1.53%
Unknown	0.90%	0.69%

ENROLLMENTS	2002-2003	2003-2004
Sugar Land Campus	4,115	4,203
Ft. Bend Tech Center	2,396	2,881
Richmond Ext. Center (FM 3155)	188	Closed
Richmond Ext. Center (OakBend Medical Center)	37	35
Rosenberg Ext. Center (Cosmetology)	18	Closed
TOTAL	6,754*	7,119*

*Students are counted at each campus they are attending.

NON-CREDIT ENROLLMENTS	2002-2003	2003-2004
Continuing Education (Adult) Headcount	2,437	832
Kids' College Headcount	2,251	1,995

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION ENROLLMENTS	2002-2003	2003-2004
August	794	823

DUAL CREDIT & CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PARTICIPATING HIGH SCHOOLS

- B.F. Terry High School
- Clements High School
- Foster High School
- Lamar Consolidated High School
- Needville High School

DISTANCE LEARNING

- Interactive Television
- Internet Courses
- Interactive Video

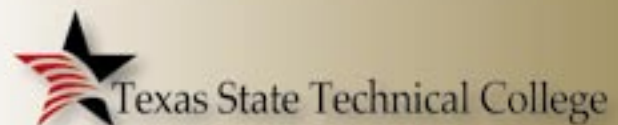
DEVELOPMENTAL COURSES

Developmental courses are designed to prepare students for college level courses, and include:

- Preparatory English
- Effective Reading
- Pre-Algebra
- Beginning Algebra
- Intermediate Algebra

Percentage of students attending classes in Fort Bend County who took at least one developmental course:

	2002	2003
	(1,050) 17.5%	(827) 13.64%



TSTC enrollment at the WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center has seen impressive growth since the center opened its doors in the fall of 2001.



36th Annual Southeast Texas TUEBS Conference Held at the WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center

The WCJC Departments of Biology and Geology hosted the 36th Annual Southeast Texas (Committee) on Undergraduate Education in the Biological Sciences (TUEBS) Conference in fall 2002. The two-day conference attracted participants from across the nation.



“Fort Bend County and the surrounding area have greatly benefitted from the WCJC/TSTC partnership by having a valuable training resource available for the community and local employers.”

Betty A. McCrohan, President



Texas State Technical College Waco and Wharton County Junior College have enjoyed a partnership that has grown over the years. From the initial partnership in 1993 at the Texas State Marine Education Center in Palacios to the WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center, TSTC Waco and WCJC have enjoyed a working relationship that is often used as a model by other institutions of higher education.

TSTC Waco currently offers associate’s degrees or certificates of completion in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration, Diesel Equipment, Machining, and Mechanical Engineering Technology at the center. Richmond and Rosenberg area industry and community leaders specifically identified these instructional programs.

TSTC enrollment at the WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center has seen impressive growth since the center opened its doors in the fall of 2001. Continuing its statewide mission and goal of providing courses of study in technical education, TSTC Waco is committed to continuing to grow and develop its partnership with WCJC.

Elton E. Stuckly Jr., President
 Texas State Technical College Waco



OUR FORT BEND COUNTY Programs

WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center, 5333 FM 1640, in Richmond

- Administrative Assistant
- Computer-Aided Drafting (CAD)
- Cosmetology
- Early Childhood/Childhood Development
- Engineering Design/Tech Prep Program
- Engineering Technology/
CISCO Router Networking
- Fire Academy (Basic)
- Law Enforcement
- Legal Assistant/Paralegal
- Local Area Network Operator
- Microcomputer Operator
- Microcomputer Support Technician
- Network Administrator
- Office Administration
- Police Academy



Texas State Technical College, in partnership with WCJC, also offers these programs at the WCJC Fort Bend Technical Center:

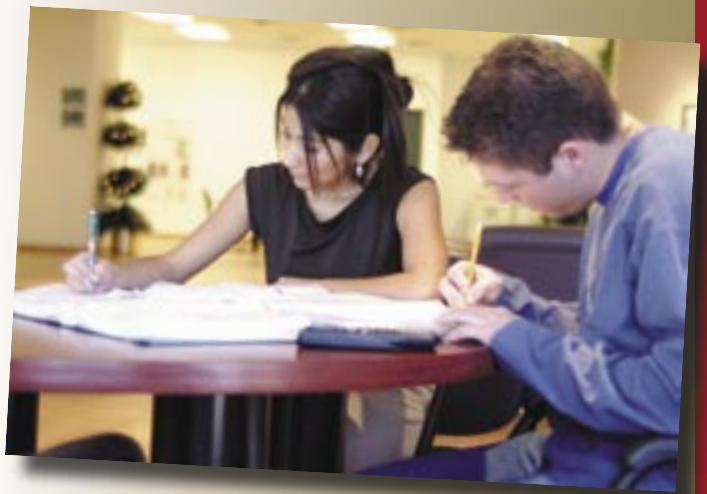
- A/C & Refrigeration Technology
- Diesel Equipment Technology
(Heavy Truck Specialization)
- Air Conditioning Service
- Machining (CNC Operation)
- Mechanical Engineering

WCJC Sugar Land Campus, 550 Julie Rivers Drive, in Sugar Land

- Academic Transfer Programs

WCJC Richmond Extension Center at OakBend Medical Center

- Licensed Vocational Nursing



WCJC FORT BEND TECHNICAL CENTER LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Roland Adamson
Herb Appel
Barkley Peschel
Karl Baumgartner
Ed deZevallos
Glen Gilmore
Jim Gonzales

Joe Gurecky
Charlie Howard
Richard Hunton, Jr.
Dan Ives
Dee Koch
John Knox
John Lainhart

Dean Leaman
Curtis Lucas
Hilmar Moore
Jack Myska
Les Newton
Dora Olivo
Thomas Randle

Gene Reed
David Rowe
Dorothy Ryan
Cliff Terrell
Sharon Wallingford
Lane Ward

Highlights



2002-2004 Fine Arts Series Events

The Departments of Art, Drama, Music, and Speech provide cultural enrichment and entertainment for the communities served by the college. Students enrolled in these programs are given opportunities to practice and improve their skills as artists. During 2002-2004, the Fine Arts Department presented the following Fine Arts Series Events:



Something Old, Something New

Speak Out!

The Servant of Two Masters

Annual Choral Dinner

Fall Concert



Annual Holy Days Concert

No Exit

Fine Arts Showcase

Spring Concert

Annual Holy Week Concert



The Fantastiks

Student Directed Play "The Crucible"

Poetry Slam

Inherit the Wind

Highlights

Our Athletic Successes for 2002-2003

Baseball

The WCJC Baseball Team ended a successful season with an overall record of 29-21 and a conference record of 19-17. The team also qualified for the regional tournament for the second consecutive year. Cassidy Dresch was named *Most Valuable Player* at the WCJC Booster Club's Athletic Banquet.

Rodeo

The Men's Rodeo Team qualified for the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association championship finals held in Casper, Wyoming. At nationals, Zach Dishman finished fourth in bareback, while Jake Mann was sixth in bull riding. Nicole Lingo, a freshman, ended the season sixth in the nation in the breakaway event and was named *Rookie of the Year* at the NIRA championship finals. Zach Dishman was named *Most Valuable Player* at the WCJC Booster Club's Athletic Banquet.

Volleyball

The WCJC Volleyball Team qualified for the regional tournament. In addition to its success on the court, the volleyball team included five Academic All-Americans. The team's cumulative grade point average was 3.33. WCJC was represented on the 2002 All-Region XIV District I Volleyball Team by Anyanna Benjamin and Ashley Burnside. Kristine Landrum was named *Most Valuable Player* and Ashley Burnside received the prestigious *Johnnie Frankie Award* at the WCJC Booster Club's Athletic Banquet.



Highlights

Our Athletic Successes for 2003-2004

Baseball

The WCJC Baseball Team ended a successful season with an overall record of 36-14 and named Region XVI South Zone Champions. The team ranked 15th nationally in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I poll. Coach Robert Nottebart was named Region XIV Athletic Conference South Zone Division I *Coach of the Year*. Scott Moore was named *Most Valuable Player* at the WCJC Booster Club's Athletic Banquet.



Rodeo

The WCJC Men's Rodeo Team completed the season as the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association Southern Rodeo Reserve Regional Champions while the WCJC Women's Rodeo Team completed the season as NIRA Southern Region Regional Champions. Both teams qualified for the National CNFR in Casper, Wyoming. Levi Hapeny was named *Most Valuable Player* and Nicole Lingo received the Johnnie Frankie Award at the WCJC Booster Club's Athletic Banquet.



Volleyball

The WCJC Volleyball Team closed out the season winning nine of 19 tournaments. The team placed second at the Central Texas Tournament. Two members of the team went on to play volleyball at senior institutions. Kristen Lozano was offered the opportunity to play volleyball at St. Edward's University and Kayla Bittner received a volleyball scholarship from Lamar University. Jennifer Smidovic was named *Most Valuable Player* at the WCJC Booster Club's Athletic Banquet.





OUR ECONOMIC IMPACT

On the Community

“By giving just one person the opportunity to be successful, we will see benefits to our community for years to come.”

Betty A. McCrohan, President

A study released in 2002 by the Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC) showed that Wharton County taxpayers see significant returns on their investments due to the existence of Wharton County Junior College. The economic impact study titled *The Socioeconomic Benefits Generated by 50 Community College Districts in Texas* was conducted by CCBenefits, Inc. It showed the colleges' positive impact on the economy, increased earnings for students/graduates, improved health, reduced crime, reduced welfare/unemployment, and taxpayer investment. The study was conducted for all 50 community college districts in the state to show the role community colleges play in the statewide economy.

According to the study, for every \$1 a student invests in WCJC, he or she will receive a cumulative \$7.71 in higher future earnings over the next 30 years. For every credit completed at WCJC, students will, on average, earn \$119 more per year every year they are in the workforce. Alternatively, for every full-time year they attend they will earn an additional \$4,027 per year.

The study also revealed the positive impact WCJC has on society in the areas of improved health, reduced crime, and reduced welfare/unemployment. According to the study, Wharton County area employers saw health-related absenteeism decline by 3,481 days per year, with corresponding annual dollar savings of \$.3 million. The state will benefit from the health-related savings of 170 fewer smokers and 40 fewer alcohol abusers.

The study also showed there will be 23 fewer people on welfare, and 38 fewer drawing unemployment benefits per year, respectively, saving the State of Texas some \$86,628 and \$290,091 per year.

Education Increases Lifetime Earnings

- The average annual earnings of persons holding a one-year certificate is \$24,151, or 81.3% more than someone without a high school diploma or certificate and 16.1% more than a student with just a high school diploma.
- The average earnings of someone with an associate degree is \$28,415 or 113% more than a person with just a high school diploma or GED.
- After leaving college, the average WCJC student will spend 39 years over an average lifetime in the workforce. The student who leaves with a two-year degree will earn \$297,122 more than someone with just a high school diploma or GED.
- Business sales in Wharton County are \$191.3 million larger and labor income is \$76.1 million larger due to past and present operations of WCJC.

WCJC Foundation Board Members

Jeanene Dittman Merka
President

John Roades
Vice-President

Janette McDonald
Secretary/Treasurer

Bill Bell

Donald N. Bendy

Jeffrey D. Blair

Clem W. Boettcher

Danny Gertson
Ex Officio Member

Rick Higgins

Shirley Irvin

Dean Leaman

Jimmie Leslie

Betty McCrohan
Ex Officio Member

R. D. Moses

Rita Radley

Gordon Sorrel

Chris Stein

Guy F. Stovall, III

Linda Joy Stovall

Johnnie Svatek

Larry Wadler

Clinton White

FOUNDATION BOARD

The Wharton County Junior College Foundation raised more than \$35,116 through special events during the 2002-2004 academic years. Proceeds from the events funded the foundation's endowment, which supports student scholarships, faculty development, and academic programs. Highlights of the events include:

- *Blast from the Past*, the summer 2003 fundraiser, netted \$16,848. The lively musical event, held in July at the Horton Foote Theatre, featured a gourmet reception followed by musical hits from the 1950s and 1960s by First Praise of First United Methodist Church of Houston.
- The Foundation sponsored a performance of Truman Capote's one act play *A Christmas Memory* in December 2003. Originally staged at Houston's Alley Theater in 1982, the production was later moved to Christ Church Cathedral. The 2003 season marked the 20th anniversary and last performance of the production. The event raised \$1,106.
- *From Sea to Shining Sea, an American Revue*, the summer 2004 fundraiser netted \$17,162. The event included an elegant dinner and musical performance by college faculty and special guests. More than 250 people attended the event.



WCJC Foundation Board President
Jeanene Dittman Merka

ALUMNI

WCJC Alumni Association Reunion Raised Much Needed Funds for Student Scholarships and Recognized Outstanding Alumni

The Wharton County Junior College Alumni Association hosted an Alumni Reunion in October 2002 to bring friends of the college on campus, honor alumni for their contributions, and raise funds for student scholarships. Guests enjoyed dinner, a 1950s musical performance by the WCJC Choir, and a silent auction. Alumni honored were Magdalena Rodriguez, Class of 1952, for the *Distinguished Alumnus Award*; Lester Stevens, Class of 1952, for the *Hall of Fame Award*; and Janette McDonald, Class of 1950, *Meritorious Service Award*. The event raised about \$1,800 for student scholarships.



Magdalena Rodriguez received the Distinguished Alumnus Award presented by David Copeland.

GRANTS RECEIVED BY WCJC 2002-2004

Center for Houston's Future (Dunn Foundation), \$23,040

- For nurse faculty salary initiative/ADN Program

Clive Runnells Enterprises, Inc., \$5,000

- For nurse faculty salary initiative/ADN Program

George Foundation, \$100,000

- For scholarships

Gulf Coast Medical Foundation, \$458,420

- \$200,000 for management information system project
- \$133,420 for new initiatives in nursing/ADN Program
- \$125,000 for nurse faculty salary initiative/ADN Program

Houston-Galveston Area Council, \$263,136 (2002-03)

- \$91,966 for senior citizens program/Colorado County
- \$171,170 for senior citizens program/Wharton County

Houston-Galveston Area Council, \$248,080 (2003-04)

- \$102,812 for senior citizens program/Colorado County
- \$145,268 for senior citizens program/Wharton County

Johnson Foundation, \$500,000

- \$250,000 for the management information system project
- \$250,000 for instructional equipment project/Allied Health Division

Smith Foundation, \$50,000

- For Fort Bend Technical Center

Swalm Foundation, \$23,000

- For senior citizens programs in Wharton and Colorado counties

Tech Prep of Texas, \$4,000

- For WCJC tech prep program

Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund Board, \$94,543

- For distance learning program

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, \$171,403 (2002-03)

- \$5,000 for vocational nursing student retention project
- \$166,403 for vocational support services (Carl Perkins Award)

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, \$194,094 (2003-04)

- For vocational support services (Carl Perkins Award)

Triad Hospitals, Inc., \$10,000

- \$5,000 for professional development for nursing faculty
- \$5,000 for nursing student scholarships

U.S. Department of Education, \$50,000

- Waiver of required matching funds for two academic years

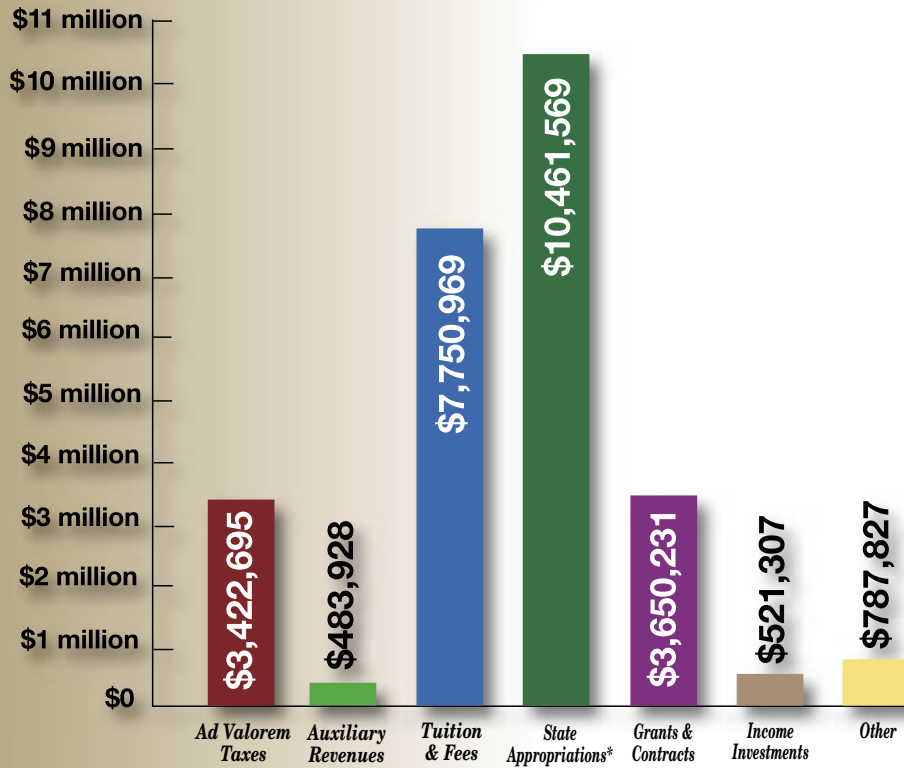
WCJC Adult Basic Education Program, \$650,211 (2002-03)

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

WCJC Adult Basic Education Program, \$738,381 (2003-04)

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

2002-2003 Sources of Revenue

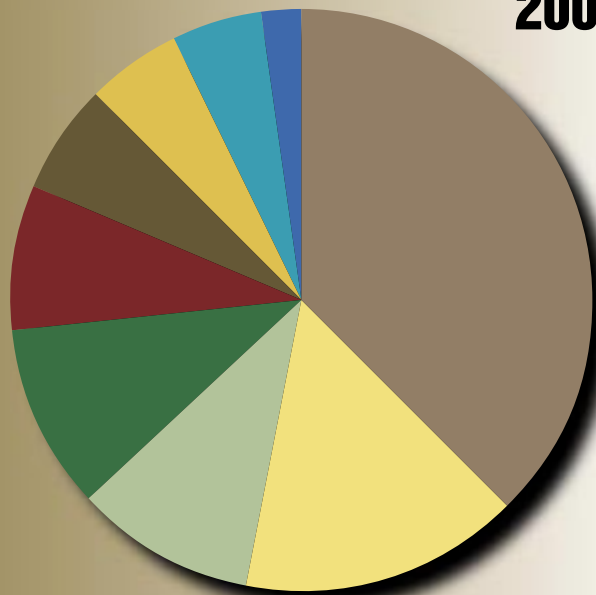


*Includes employee benefits and formula funding.

HOW WE SPENT OUR

Budget

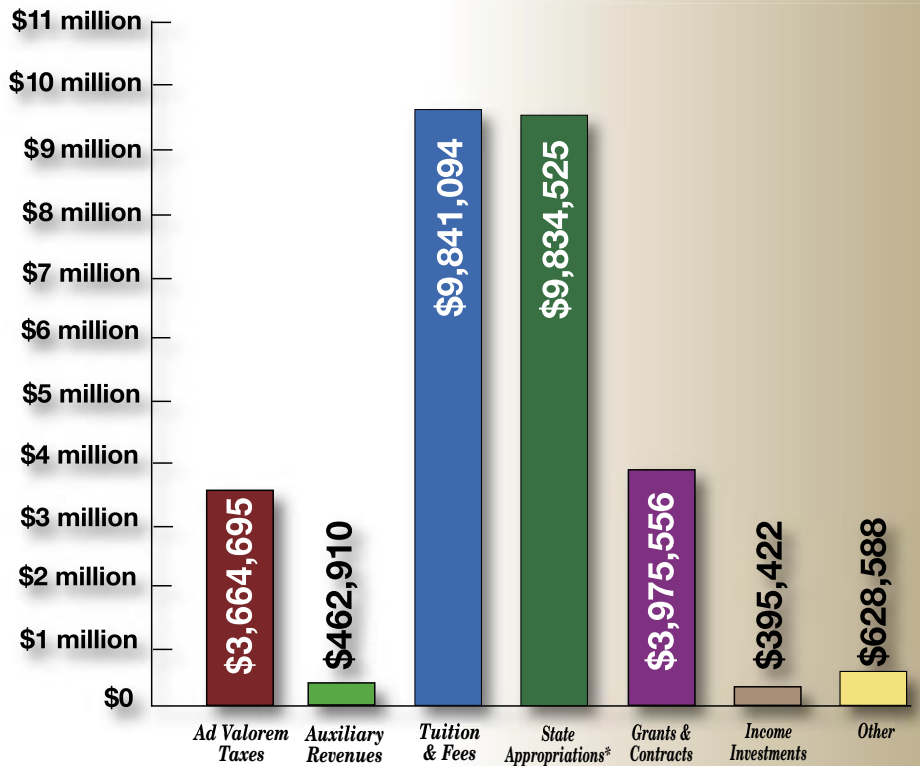
2002-2003



- Instruction** \$9,873,184 (38%)
- Institutional Support** \$4,033,509 (16%)
- Scholarships** \$2,728,524 (11%)
- Operations/Maintenance** \$2,661,066 (10%)
- Academic Support** \$2,094,392 (8%)
- Public Service** \$1,599,227 (6%)
- Student Services** \$1,405,796 (5%)
- Depreciation** \$974,981 (4%)
- Auxiliary Expenses** \$497,293 (2%)

OUR CURRENT FUNDING Resources

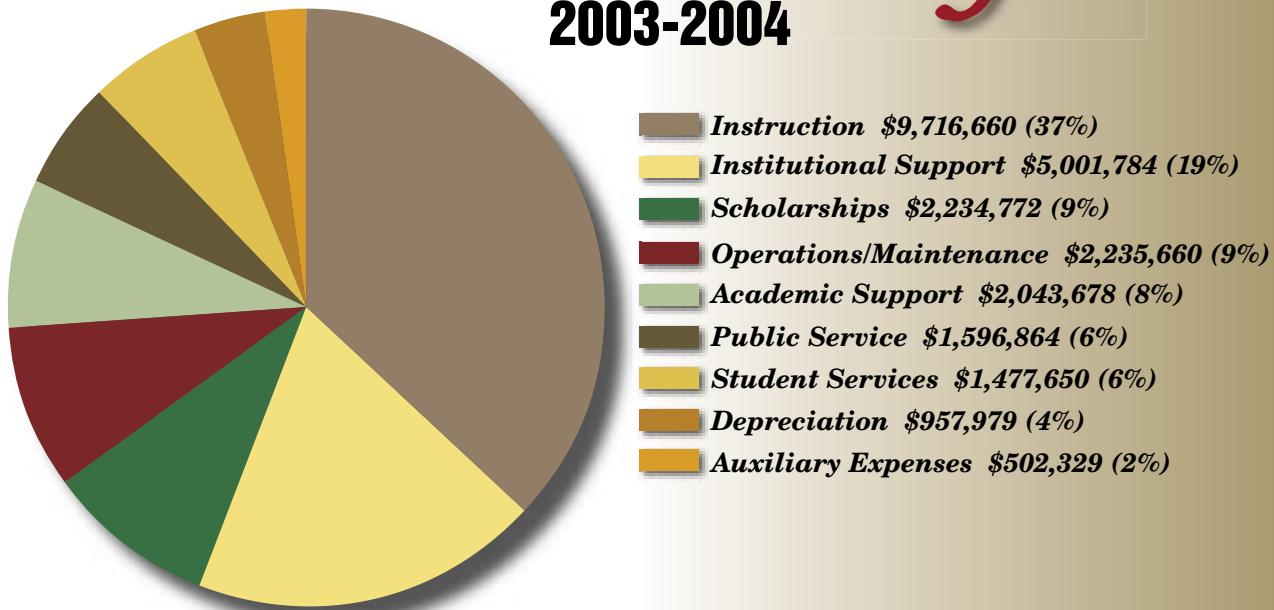
2003-2004 Sources of Revenue



*Includes employee benefits and formula funding.

HOW WE SPENT OUR Budget

2003-2004



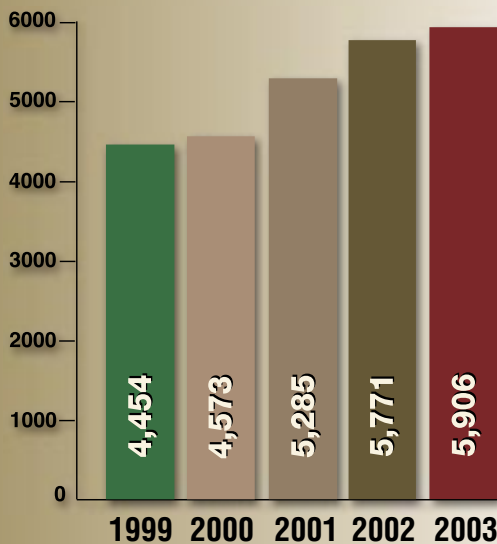
ENROLLMENT BY CAMPUS FALL 2002 & FALL 2003

	2002	2003
Wharton Campus.....	2,211 **	2,059
Sugar Land Campus	2,349 **	2,225
WCJC Ft. Bend Technical Center ..	1,293	1,482
Richmond Ext. Center (FM 3155).....	188	Closed
Richmond Ext. Center (Oakbend Medical Center).....	37	35
Rosenberg Ext. Center (Cosmetology).....	18	Relocated to Wharton
Dual Credit & Concurrent Enrollment..0*		637

*The college's former Legacy computer system assigned dual credit and concurrent enrollment students to the Sugar Land and Wharton campuses.

**2002 Sugar Land and Wharton campus enrollments include dual credit and concurrent enrollment students.

CREDIT ENROLLMENT HISTORY FALL 1999 - FALL 2003



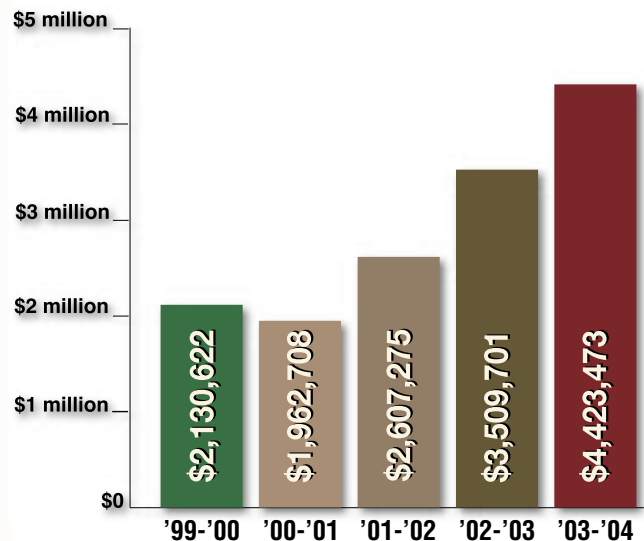
NON-CREDIT ENROLLMENT HISTORY 2002-2004 HEADCOUNTS

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Continuing Education.....	3,134	1,492
Kids' College.....	2,450	2,210
Adult Basic Education.....	1,767	1,633

STUDENT RESIDENCY FALL 2002 & FALL 2003

	2002	2003
In-District Service Area Residents	23%	24%
Out-of-District.....	77%	76%
Texas Residents	98%	98%
Outside Texas/Foreign.....	2%	2%

STATE AND FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID DISPERSEMENT PER ACADEMIC YEAR










FULL TIME EMPLOYEES FALL 2002 & 2003

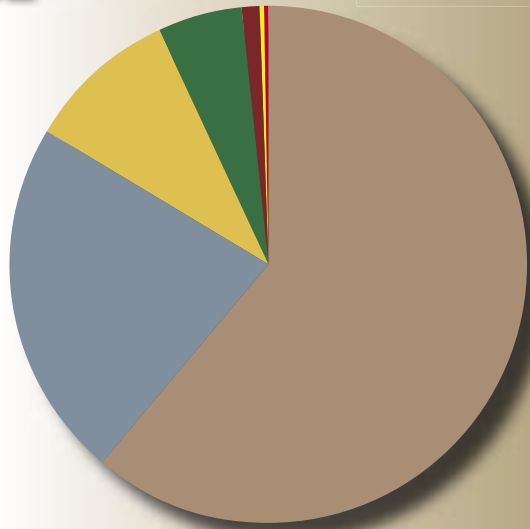
	2002	2003
Faculty	137	139
Administrators.....	36	40
Support Staff.....	133	119

OUR *Students*






BREAKDOWN OF STUDENT POPULATION FALL 2002

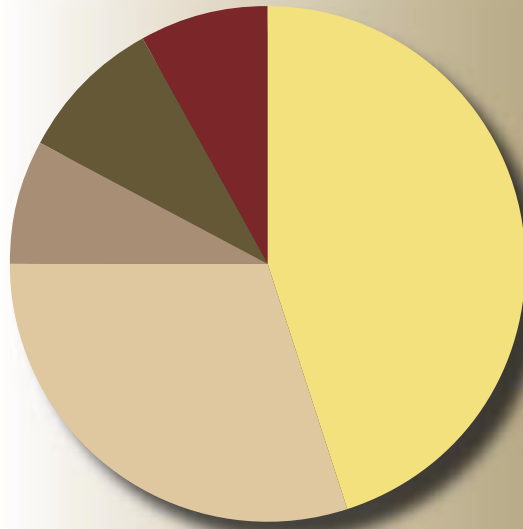
By Ethnicity

	White/non-Hispanic	61.22%
	Hispanic.....	22.49%
	Black/non-Hispanic.....	9.55%
	Asian/Pacific Islander	5.34%
	Unknown	0.93%
	Indian/Alaskan Native....	0.28%
	International.....	0.19%





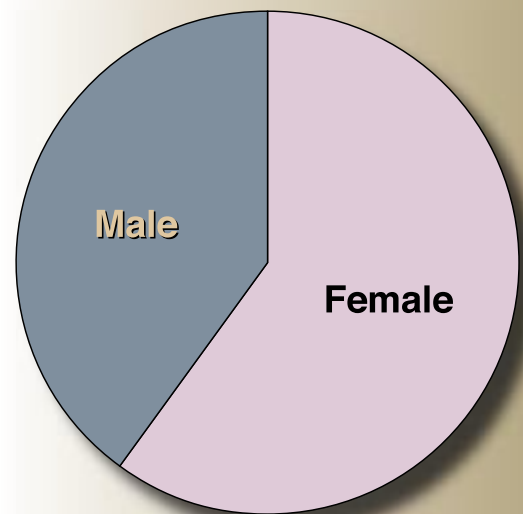
By Age

	Under 20..... (2,599) ...	45.04%
	20-24	(1,754) ... 30.39%
	25-29	(464) 8.04%
	30-39	(543) 9.41%
	40-over	(411) 7.12%



By Gender

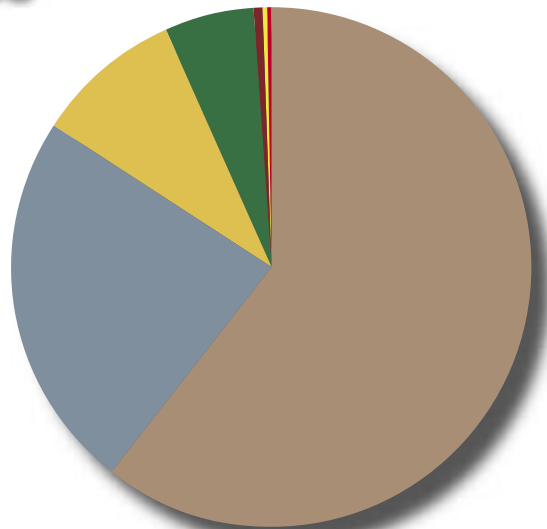
	Female	60%
	Male.....	40%



**BREAKDOWN OF STUDENT POPULATION
FALL 2003**

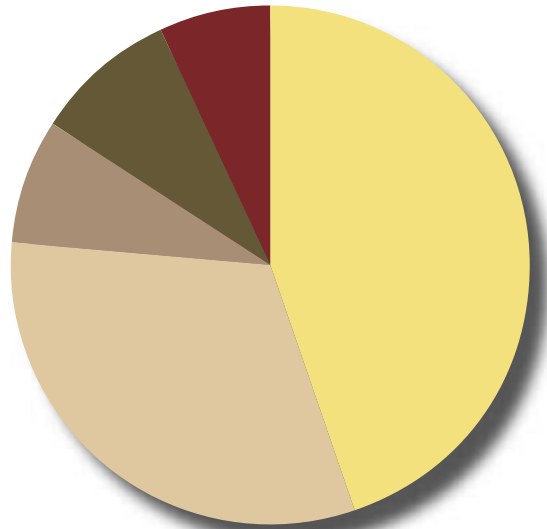
By Ethnicity

	White/non-Hispanic	60.67%
	Hispanic.....	23.77%
	Black/non-Hispanic.....	8.99%
	Asian/Pacific Islander ...	5.70%
	Unknown	0.36%
	International.....	0.27%
	Indian/Alaskan Native....	0.24%



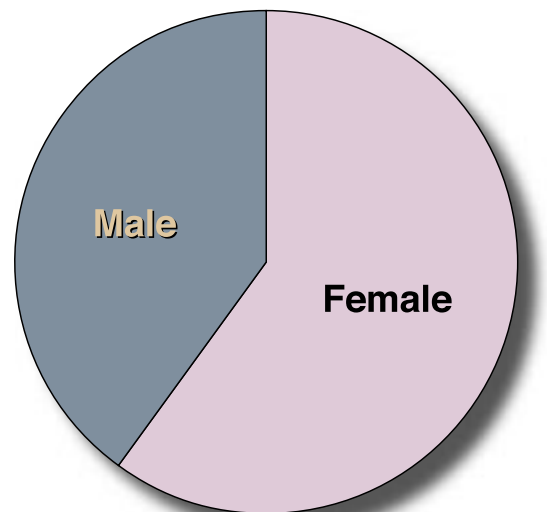
By Age

	Under 20..... (2,651) ...	44.89%
	20-24 (1,866) ...	31.59%
	25-29 (455)	7.70%
	30-39 (532)	9.01%
	40-over (402)	6.81%



By Gender

	Female	59%
	Male.....	41%





OUR Programs

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.

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS IN TEACHING DEGREE

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREES

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Agriculture Technology | Law Enforcement |
| Automotive Technology | Legal Assisting |
| Computer Programming | Microcomputer Support Technician |
| Dental Hygiene | Network Administrator |
| Early Childhood | Nursing: Associate Degree |
| Electronics Technology | Nursing: LVN-ADN Transition Program |
| Emergency Medical Services | Office Administration |
| Engineering Design/Tech Prep Program | Physical Therapist Assistant |
| Health Information Technology
(Medical Records) | Process Technology |
| | Radiologic Technology |

CERTIFICATE/CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

- | | |
|--|---|
| Administrative Assistant | Fire Academy (Basic) |
| Architectural Design | Heating, A/C & Refrigeration Technology |
| Automotive Technology | Legal Assistant/Paralegal |
| Computer-Aided Drafting (CAD) | Local Area Network Operator |
| Cosmetology | Microcomputer Operator |
| Early Childhood/Childhood Development: | Police Academy |
| • Administrative | (Basic Peace Officers Training) |
| • Technical | Surgical Technology |
| Emergency Medical Services Training | Vocational Nursing (LVN Prep) |
| CISCO Router Networking | |
| /Engineering Technology | |





**PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY
2002-2004**

**PRODUCED BY THE
WCJC OFFICE OF
MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS**

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Wharton County Junior College

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Bay City • Palacios • El Campo

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