

WCJC President's Report to the Community

2016-2017



*Wharton County
Junior College*

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Junior College
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Message from the President

During the 2016-17 academic year, we began our WCJC Strategic Plan Refresh 2016-2020. This is viewable at wcjc.edu. The four major goals in this plan are:

- 1. Ensure Student Success**
- 2. Align Educational Program**
- 3. Invest in Facilities and Organization Development**
- 4. Increase Enrollment and Retention**

For Goal 1, we created and increased the visibility of clear pathways to employment and transfer opportunities at four-year universities. This aligns with the Texas Pathway Project, a statewide initiative that encourages community colleges to design and implement structured academic and career pathways for all students so that 60 percent of 25- to 34-year-old Texans will hold a quality certificate or degree by 2030. More information is on page 10.

In support of these Major Pathways, WCJC added block scheduling, beginning in Fall 2016, to increase the predictability of future course schedules. Full-time students were given an additional incentive to complete their degree or certification: no additional charges for tuition and fees when enrolled in more than 13 academic hours per semester.


Additionally, more advising, tutoring and other resources, including an online chat for academic advising, are available than ever before to promote student success. We are particularly mindful of supporting first-generation and low-income students. We are doing this through the TRiO Student Support Services Grant Program, a federal outreach program.

For Goal 3, we made significant strides in 2016-17 with a renovation and expansion project at our Richmond campus. Details begin on page 6. Major planning also occurred for the expansion and renovation of our Johnson Health Occupations Center that will be underway during the 2017-18 academic year.

While space does not permit me to elaborate on every goal, I hope this report gives you a glimpse into the important work we are doing at WCJC. We are committed to ensuring each WCJC student has the opportunity to achieve the pinnacle of his or her educational dreams.

Thank you to our trustees, faculty, staff, advisory board members, business and industry partners, taxpayers, elected officials, donors and friends who support WCJC in so many ways. Together, we are preparing our students for a bright future that exceeds their dreams.

Sincerely,



Betty A. McCrohan



WCJC President Betty A. McCrohan with President's Award recipient Johnathan Klotz of Wallis.

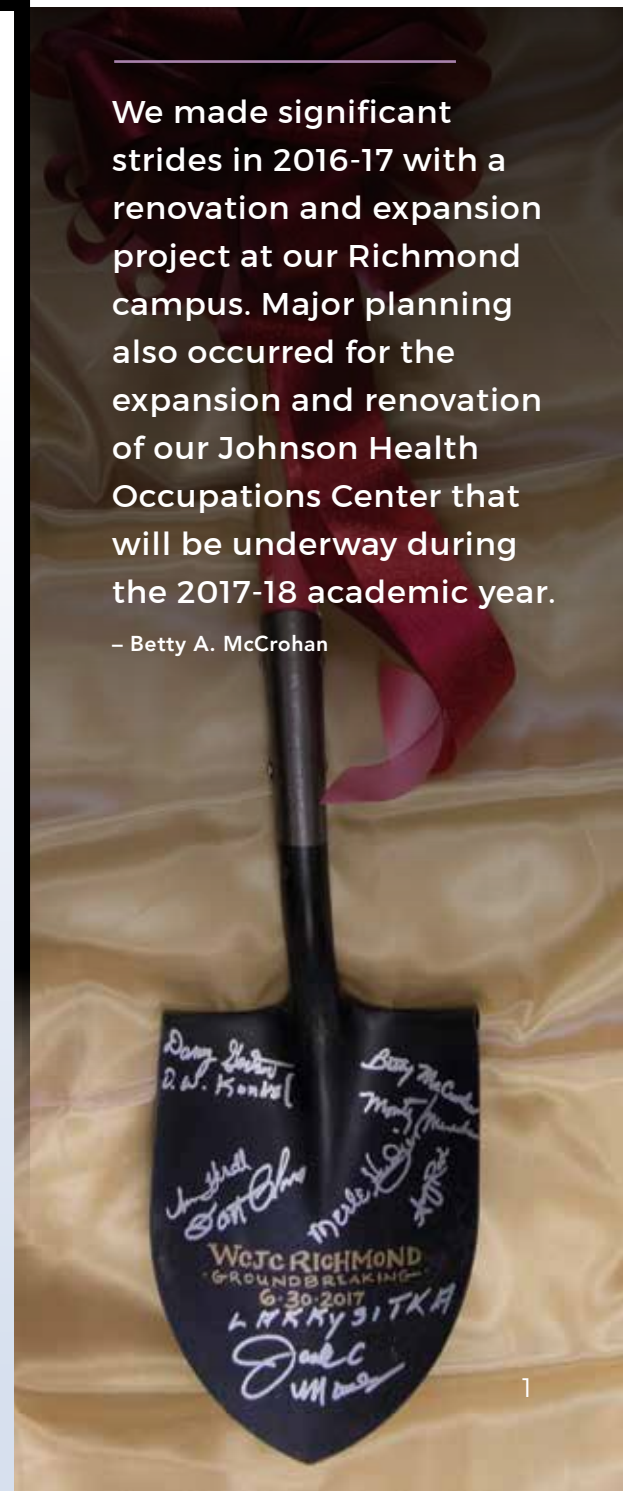


TOP ROW

Ann Hundl, Scott Glass,
Monty Merecka, Merle
Hudgins, Jack Moses

BOTTOM ROW

Larry Sitka, Amy Rod,
Oliver Kunkel, Jr.,
P.D. "Danny" Gertson III



**We made significant
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- Betty A. McCrohan

70 Years Celebrated

WCJC's 70th anniversary culminated with an appetizer reception and celebration concert, featuring five-time Grammy Award winner BJ Thomas, on Saturday, Nov. 5, at the Wharton Civic Center. Around 600 guests, including 20 elected officials, enjoyed a rousing performance from the musical icon as he joked between renditions of classic favorites such as "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head" and "Don't Worry Baby."

WCJC President Betty McCrohan and WCJC Board of Trustees Chair Danny Gertson presented Thomas with an honorary associate degree in music. Thomas, who graduated from Lamar Consolidated High School in Rosenberg, attended WCJC from 1961 to 1963.

Obviously touched by the gesture, Thomas later joked to the audience that he would now like to be addressed as "Doc," referring to entertainers who receive honorary doctorate degrees.

President McCrohan also thanked the WCJC faculty, staff and the community for their commitment to the college over the past seven decades. WCJC was created on April 6, 1946, and welcomed its first students the following fall. Around 200 students were part of the inaugural class, which met in temporary buildings at the Wharton County Fairground.

Over the years, the college has grown dramatically, serving upwards of 7,000 students in an area encompassing all of Wharton, Matagorda and Colorado counties, as well as portions of Jackson, Austin and Fort Bend counties. WCJC operates four campuses at Wharton, Sugar Land, Richmond and Bay City.



WCJC was created on April 6, 1946, and welcomed its first students the following fall.



WCJC President Betty McCrohan and Board of Trustees Chair Danny Gertson presented BJ Thomas, far left, with an honorary degree.

Dan and Patti Lawlor enjoyed the evening's festivities.

WCJC's 70th anniversary culminated with an appetizer reception and celebration concert featuring five-time Grammy Award winner BJ Thomas (left).



ANNIVERSARY

A Good Foundation

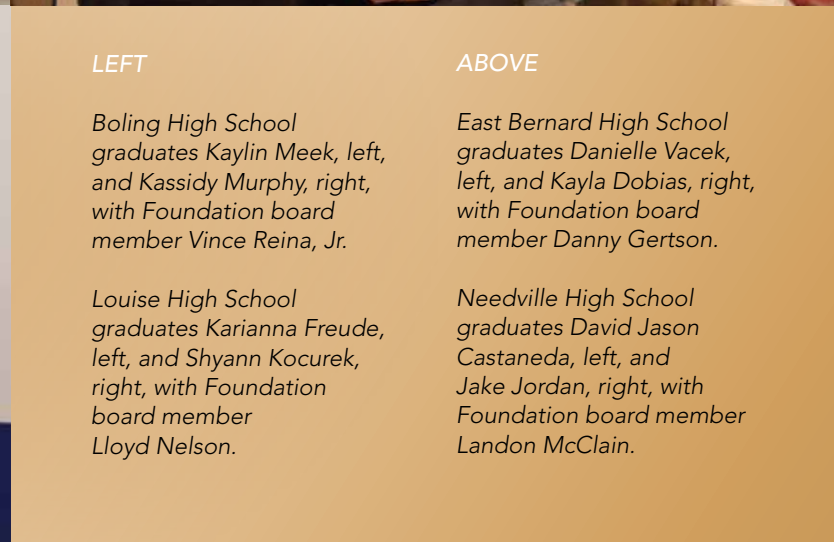
Foundation Provided Area Graduates with Scholarships to Attend WCJC

Twelve high school seniors from six area school districts were the first high schoolers to receive scholarships to attend WCJC from The Wharton County Junior College Foundation. The scholarships, valued at \$4,000 each, were presented to students in Wharton, Boling, East Bernard, Needville, El Campo and Louise ISDs by Foundation board members.

Honorees were awarded \$2,000 for the 2017-18 academic year and \$2,000 for the 2018-19 year, based on compliance with scholarship requirements.

Honorees, by high school, were:

- **Boling High School**
Kassidy Murphy and Kalin Meek
- **East Bernard High School**
Danielle Vacek and Kayla Dobias
- **El Campo High School**
Richard Lormand and Jae Avendano
- **Louise High School**
Shyann Kocurek and Karianna Treude
- **Needville High School**
Jake Jordan and David Jason Castaneda
- **Wharton High School**
Dez'Aræ Harrison and Kayla Gaona



LEFT

Boling High School graduates Kaylin Meek, left, and Kassidy Murphy, right, with Foundation board member Vince Reina, Jr.

Louise High School graduates Karianna Freude, left, and Shyann Kocurek, right, with Foundation board member Lloyd Nelson.

ABOVE

East Bernard High School graduates Danielle Vacek, left, and Kayla Dobias, right, with Foundation board member Danny Gertson.

Needville High School graduates David Jason Castaneda, left, and Jake Jordan, right, with Foundation board member Landon McClain.



To qualify for the scholarships, students had to be 2017 graduation-approved from one of the six high schools in the college's service area and submit a scholarship application. Priority was given to students who demonstrated, in their application essay, how a scholarship would enable them to overcome limited resources and financial constraints to attend WCJC.

ABOVE

El Campo High School graduates Richard Lormand, left, and Jae Avendano, right, with Foundation board member Melba Clapp.

Wharton High School graduates Dez'Aræ Harrison, left, and Kayla Gaona, right, with Foundation board president Larry Wadler.

Friends of WCJC Honored

Area businesses, foundations and individual patrons were recognized for funding scholarships, equipment and programs at a Friends of the College Appreciation Dinner, held on April 27, 2017, on the Wharton campus. Currently, more than 60 scholarships are available that change lives by enabling students to pursue higher education.

In addition to remarks from WCJC President Betty McCrohan, WCJC Board of Trustees Vice-Chair Amy Rod and The Wharton County Junior College Foundation Vice President Suzanne Armour, guests heard from four students about the importance of their scholarships.



WCJC student Crystal Muro told guests that receiving the Johnson Health Occupations Scholarship enabled her to overcome financial obstacles and stay in the Allied Health program.

WCJC student Harley Braun told guests that receiving the Johnson Health Occupations Scholarship has been a great boon to her college career.



An Investment in Facilities

As one component of a comprehensive facilities improvement project, WCJC broke ground on a \$1.75 million renovation and expansion project at the Richmond campus on June 30, 2017. WCJC President Betty McCrohan thanked the large crowd in attendance, which included elected officials, school district representatives, WCJC trustees, college employees, students and media representatives.

The Richmond campus project, which was completed for the Fall 2017 semester, included a 9,000-square-foot renovation and a 3,600-square-foot addition to add a Cosmetology program for up to 60 students and expand the Process Technology program. The project

added, among other things, a turbine generator, and established an area that will eventually house distillation and neutralization skids to provide additional training for Process Technology students. It also allowed the program to accommodate more students.

“The Richmond campus renovation and expansion project is only the first stage of a revitalization plan on this campus,” McCrohan said. “The college’s master plan also includes a new health professions building, a student pavilion and refurbishment of the original building. This project offers another opportunity for us to serve the community.”

State Rep. John Zerwas, WCJC President Betty McCrohan, State Rep. Phil Stephenson and Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Richmond Barry Beard moved dirt at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Richmond campus renovation and expansion.

The college’s master plan for the Richmond campus also includes a new health professions building, a student pavilion and refurbishment of the original building.

RICHMOND



ABOVE

A rendering of the expansion of the Richmond campus showcased new areas for Cosmetology and Process Technology programs.

LEFT

WCJC Board of Trustees Chair Danny Gertson and State Rep. John Zerwas spoke at the groundbreaking ceremony.



State Reps. Phil Stephenson and John Zerwas, District Judge Randy Clapp, WCJC President Betty McCrohan and WCJC Board of Trustees Chair Danny Gertson visited at the dinner.

Legislative Update Dinner

WCJC trustees, college administrators, local elected officials and community representatives gathered for a legislative update and dinner in November at the El Campo Country Club. Guest speakers State Rep. Phil Stephenson and State Rep. John Zerwas shared information about state funding of community colleges.



I really didn't find this profession; it found me.

– Patrick Ralls

Patrick Ralls Named Educator of the Year

WCJC Instructor of Speech Patrick Ralls was named 2016 Educator of the Year by the Texas Speech Communication Association (TSCA) and honored in October during the organization's annual convention. This is the association's highest honor.

Each of TSCA's 20 districts nominated a candidate for this award and a committee made the final selection. Ralls was nominated by District 2, which is based in Corpus Christi.

Surprised by the recognition, Ralls said it was also humbling because many of his former teachers had won the award.

Ralls, who also chairs WCJC's Division of Communications and Fine Arts, was initially hired by the college in 2010 as a speech instructor. Although teaching was not the profession he aspired to, after taking classes to correct a speech impediment, he discovered his natural affinity for public speaking and the classroom.

Prior to joining WCJC, Ralls taught speech and debate for seven years at Foster High School in Richmond.



The February 14 tornado blew out bricks, shown here, and glass from the Reynolds Building on the Wharton campus.

Natural Disasters Hit WCJC

A February tornado and an August hurricane brought damage to three WCJC campuses and a delayed start of school, respectively. Thankfully, no students or employees were injured in either severe weather event and those who were enrolled received updates via the RAVE emergency alert system.

The February 14 tornado caused power outages, fence damage and overturned a large tree near the Johnson Building on the Wharton campus. Other campus damage included blown-out bricks and glass at the Reynolds Building and roof leaks at the LaDieu Technology Center. Additional leaks were reported on the Bay City campus and the north side of the Richmond campus.

After Hurricane Harvey dropped 40 to 61 inches of rain on southeast Texas from August 26-30, the Wharton area was inundated with floodwaters from the Colorado and San Bernard Rivers, as well as tributaries such as Peach Creek. The Wharton campus narrowly escaped flooding as surrounding roadways and neighborhoods were submerged beneath waist-high water. The fall semester, originally scheduled to start on August 28, was delayed until September 6.

WCJC later began a GoFundMe account to benefit employees whose homes were affected by the floods.

WCJC Held 71st Commencement

WCJC held its 71st Commencement Exercises on May 13, 2017, recognizing more than 240 of the 732 graduates who earned their Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Applied Science (AAS) or Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT) degrees during the 2016-17 academic year.

The commencement address was given by 329th District Court Judge Randy Clapp. Music was provided by the WCJC Choir, under the direction of Choir Director Dr. Kevin Klotz and accompanied by Instructor of Music Debra Lemson.

Special awards presented to outstanding graduates included:

- **President's Award:** Johnathan Klotz, Wallis (see page 1 photo)
- **Outstanding Service Award:** Staci Marie Garcia, Palacios
- **Dean's Awards (highest GPA):** Ala'a Al-Natour, Sugar Land; John Robert Wokoun, Boling; Amber Waldon, Needville

Four instructors received WCJC Excellence in Teaching Awards:

- **John Dettling** – Biology
- **Bob Nottebart** - History
- **Betty Salas** – Physical Therapy
- **Celine Siewert** - Accounting

AWARDS

Ensuring Student Success

WCJC's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), a requirement for Reaffirmation of Accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, focuses on successful student learning outcomes. Initially implemented by the college in Fall 2009, QEP has provided WCJC students with measurable and important skills for success.

During 2016-17, a 10-member committee began designing a new QEP program for implementation in Fall 2018. Destination Bound: *Choose, Connect, Complete* integrates three main goals that were identified through employee and student focus groups, a SWOT survey, committee strategy sessions and multiple initiatives. The three goals that emerged will be integrated into the student experience to develop a culture of educating students about planning, implementing and completing their academic and career goals. This will be accomplished through faculty and professional staff involvement in assisting students to 1) choose a major pathway through career assessment and exploration, 2) connect with college through utilization of appropriate college services and 3) complete a major pathway. These pathways are in the following areas:

- Arts, Humanities & Communication
- Business & Computer Science
- Education
- General Studies
- Healthcare
- Public Service
- Science & Math
- Social & Behavioral Science
- Technical Education

WCJC Pathways help support the statewide Texas Pathway Project, which seeks to have 60 percent of 25- to 34-year-old Texans hold a quality certificate or degree by 2030. WCJC Pathways also support Houston GPS, a collaborative partnership led by the University of Houston, to provide students with a seamless transfer from community college to Houston-area universities.

I feel WCJC helped me a lot in becoming a better overall player and person away from the field.

– Spencer Griffin

Spencer Griffin Drafted by the Los Angeles Angels

After two successful seasons with the WCJC Pioneers baseball team, outfielder Spencer Griffin achieved a lifelong goal of playing professional ball when he was drafted by the Los Angeles Angels in the 16th round of the 2017 Major League Baseball Draft.

The Sugar Land native learned baseball basics at age three and started playing at age five. He honed his skills in Little League and perfected his craft playing ball at Kempner High School in Sugar Land and Travis High School in Richmond.

Griffin's freshman year at WCJC turned out to be his most memorable, with the Pioneers making it to the finals of the National Junior College Athletic Association's Region 14 Tournament. Griffin showcased his abilities in the first game of the tournament, going four for five at the plate with a home run, a triple and two singles.

Griffin credits his teammates for their support and the WCJC coaching staff, led by head Coach Keith Case, with providing the skills needed to be a successful outfielder and hitter.

Grant Funding

WCJC received approximately \$2,888,953 for the year ending August 31, 2017, to fund the following program areas:

Adult Basic Education/English as a Second Language

- Adult Education and Family Literacy Act/Workforce Invest Act: \$652,900
- Region 6 Education Service Center: \$8,173

Education and Early Childhood

- University of Houston/Learning through Informal and Formal Experience (UH-LIFE) Project: \$27,500 (2nd year of 5-year project)

Financial Aid/Student Scholarships

- Carl Perkins Act: \$215,595
- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo: \$50,000
- Johnson Foundation: \$600,000

Manufacturing Technology

- Tenaris S.A.: \$125,000

Senior Citizens Programs in Wharton and Colorado Counties

(Fiscal Year Oct.1, 2016-Sept.30, 2017)

- Federal and state funds; Wharton County and Colorado County Commissioners Courts; church, business and individual gifts; and fundraisers: \$436,895

Student Support Services

- U.S. Department of Education/TRiO/SSS Program: \$225,847 (2nd year of 5-year project)
- U.S. Department of Education: \$57,537 as a waiver of matching funds requirements

Workforce Development/Continuing Education

- Texas Workforce Commission with J-M Manufacturing: \$139,506 (Grant Period June 1, 2016-Sept. 30, 2017)
- Texas Workforce Jobs and Education for Texans: \$350,000 (Grant Period Aug. 31, 2016-Dec. 31, 2017)

WCJC received two gifts – one for \$20,000 and another for \$4,000 – from Chevron Phillips for use at the Bay City campus. The \$20,000 gift benefited the Process Technology program, providing a shade covering over the campus's outdoor training skids, while the \$4,000 was for student scholarships. A special presentation and luncheon was held at the Bay City campus. Pictured are Willie Myles, WCJC Department Head of Process Technology; Gloria Crockett, Bay City Campus Specialist; Lauren Rudloff, Chevron Phillips Human Resources Manager; Betty McCrohan, WCJC President; Wayne McDowell, Chevron Phillips Plant Manager; Wendy Irwin, Chevron Phillips Community Relations Liaison; Gary Parsley, Chevron Phillips Technical Manager; and Rudolph Henry, WCJC Department Head of Nuclear Power Technology.



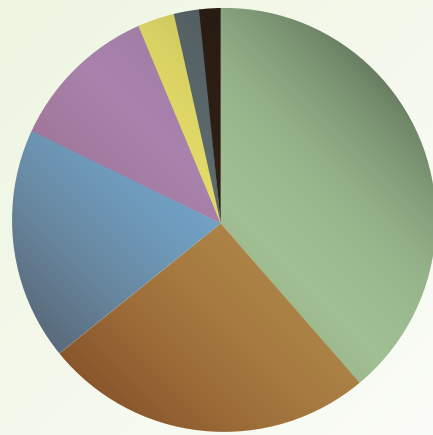


Financial Overview

2016-17 REVENUE SOURCES

Total Revenue	\$48,257,258	
Tuition & Fees	\$19,536,140	40%
State Appropriations	\$12,027,273	25%
Grants & Contracts	\$8,533,101	18%
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$5,920,590	12%
Income Investments	\$1,049,828	2%
Other	\$437,416	1.5%
Auxiliary	\$752,910	1.5%

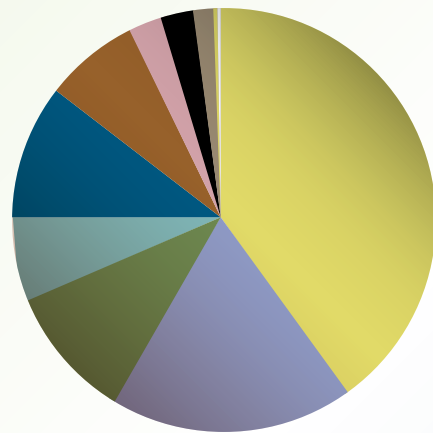
2016-17 Revenue Sources



2016-17 BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Total Expenditures	\$47,002,520	
Instruction	\$19,076,859	41%
Instructional Support	\$7,916,142	17%
Operations/Maintenance	\$4,815,280	10%
Academic Support	\$3,270,873	7%
Scholarships	\$4,822,696	10%
Student Services	\$3,083,206	7%
Public Service	\$1,664,796	3%
Depreciation	\$1,271,133	3%
Auxiliary Expenses	\$842,015	2%
Interest	\$63,358	<1%
Other	\$176,162	<1%

2016-17 Budget Expenditures



Source: Wharton County Junior College District Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2017

AN AFFORDABLE EDUCATION

2017-18 Tuition & Fees

Average based on 15 credit hours in both fall and spring semesters

	In-District/ Resident	Out-of-District	Out-of-State/Non-Resident
WCJC*	\$3,110	\$4,640	\$5,600
Texas Public Universities (AVERAGE)	\$8,875	NA	\$21,444

Source: College For All Texans www.collegeforalltexas.com

*Figures listed are estimates. WCJC reserves the right to change fees in keeping with the acts of the Texas Legislature or the WCJC Board of Trustees.

WCJC AT A GLANCE

All figures for Fall 2016 unless noted

Total Unduplicated Credit Students 7,072

Dual Credit & Concurrent Enrollment 711

Distance Education (Internet/ITV) 1,821

Approximately 1,852 students attended more than one campus.

Annual Unduplicated Credit Enrollment 9,805

Academic Year 2016-17

Other Unduplicated Noncredit Enrollment

Academic Year 2016-17

Youth Activities	1,761
Continuing Education (Workforce)	553
Continuing Education Adult Avocation	480
Adult Education and Literacy	
GED	385
ESL	571

Degrees/Certifications Awarded

Academic Year 2016-17

Associate of Applied Science degrees	268
Associate of Arts degrees	462
Associate of Arts in Teaching degrees	2
Certificates	329
Total	1,061

Pell Grant Awards

Academic Year 2016-17

Number of Awards	1,843
Value of Awards	\$6,216,889

Student Ethnicity

White/Non-Hispanic	35%
Hispanic	39%
Black/Non-Hispanic	12%
Asian/Pacific Islander	12%
Unknown	2%

Student Age

Under 20	3,421	48%
20-24	2,400	34%
25-29	552	8%
30-39	459	6%
40+	240	4%

Student Gender

Women	3,900	55%
Men	3,172	45%

Student Residency

Texas Residents	6,910	98%
In-District Residents	1,310	19%
Out-of-District Residents	5,455	77%
Tuition Exempt Residents	145	2%
Outside Texas/Foreign	162	2%

Faculty Characteristics

Total Faculty	291	
Full-Time	172	59%
Part-Time	119	41%
Average Age	52	
Minority Faculty	87	30%
Student: Faculty Ratio	24:1	

Full-Time Faculty Educational Attainment

Doctorate	28	16%
Master's	108	63%
Bachelor's	16	9%
Associate/Certificate	20	12%

Full-Time Faculty Length of Teaching Service

5 Years or Less	54	32%
6-10 Years	33	19%
11-15 Years	45	26%
16-20 Years	21	12%
More than 20 Years	19	11%



WHARTON CAMPUS

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Wharton, TX 77488
979.532.4560



RICHMOND CAMPUS

5333 FM 1640
Richmond, TX 77469
281.239.1500



SUGAR LAND CAMPUS

14004 University Blvd.
Sugar Land, TX 77479
281.243.8447



BAY CITY CAMPUS

4000 Avenue F, Ste. B
Bay City, TX 77414
979.244.4236



WHARTON | SUGAR LAND | RICHMOND | BAY CITY

2016-2017 President's Report to the Community

Produced by the
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