2018-2019 WCJC President's Report to the Community









**OUTSTANDING MUSICIANS** 

# Four students were selected for All-State honors

One band member and three choir members earned places in the Texas Two-Year College All-State Band and All-State Choir.

Angel Ramos from Orchard was recognized by the All-State Band. Choir members selected for the All-State Choir were Alexis Nieves of Rosenberg, Nicholas Paoletti of Richmond and Catching Valentinis-Dee of Katy.



LONG-RANGE VISION

# College-wide growth was focus of Board Planning Retreat

At a retreat in early 2019, the Wharton County Junior College Board of Trustees developed a Strategic Planning Vision and established priorities for the next five to 10 years.

The vision statement developed by the board says that the college "will meet the demand for quality academic-transfer instruction, high-impact vocational training and exceptional student support across all counties within our rapidly expanding service area, while preserving our commitment to the original vision of the institution as a rural-serving college."

The board noted that the college's employees deserved recognition for helping the college maintain high levels of service while serving the area's residents.

"We thank our employees for the value they bring

to the community, our students and the reputation of the college," said Danny Gertson, board chairman.

Gertson further credited WCJC President Betty
McCrohan as being instrumental in charting a successful
course for the college. McCrohan's leadership has
led to the completion of several significant projects,
including the renovation and expansion of the Johnson
Health Occupations Center on the Wharton campus,
the expansion of the Richmond campus and the
construction of a new ballpark on the Wharton campus.

Priorities set by the board for each campus included the following:

- Wharton: Continue to enhance student support through the construction of a new Student Welcome Center.
- Richmond: Develop a state-of-the-art Center for Allied Health and expand vocational program offerings.
- Sugar Land: Secure a WCJC building on the existing University of Houston Sugar Land campus as a means of expanding university-parallel programmatic offerings.
- Bay City: Explore the potential for additional industry partners in Matagorda and the surrounding areas.



TO THE STARS AND BEYOND

# WCJC student visited NASA as part of on-site experience

Duaa Qamar, a student at Wharton County Junior College's Sugar Land campus, was selected to travel to NASA's Kennedy Space Center to participate in the NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars (NCAS) on-site experience. Qamar was one of 403 community college students from across the United States selected for the program.

The summer program included a five-week online segment and a four-day on-site event at Kennedy Space Center in Florida. The on-site portion enabled students to interact with NASA engineers and others as they learned more about careers in science and engineering. During their time at NASA, students formed teams and established fictional companies interested in Mars exploration. Each team was responsible for developing and testing a prototype rover, forming a company infrastructure, managing a budget and developing communications and outreach.



### GAME CHANGER

# New ballpark named for the man who made it possible

It's out with the old, in with the new for the Wharton County Junior College Pioneers baseball team.



Thanks to a generous donation from Houston resident and local landowner Duncan Corbett, the college broke ground on a new ballpark during the year. The \$1.7 million project includes a new field, underground irrigation

system, dugouts, lighting, air-conditioned press box, batting cage, scoreboard and bleachers for more than 440 spectators.

WCJC Baseball Coach Keith Case said the project is a dream-come-true for his team. "It's a very positive improvement for the baseball program as well as our college and the fans from the surrounding area. It's going to be a game changer for us."

"We are very appreciative to Mr. Corbett, WCJC President Betty McCrohan, the WCJC Board of Trustees and the college's staff for stepping up to the plate and hitting a grand slam," he said. "This ballpark will serve as a legacy for the Corbett family for generations to come."

# Celebration for the renovated and expanded Johnson Building

Wharton County Junior College officially celebrated the completion of a large-scale renovation project that has transformed the Johnson Health Occupations Center. A formal ribbon-cutting in March included an audience of about 200 employees, students, community members and dignitaries.

The \$6.5 million project included the construction of a new 18,000-square-foot addition on the facility's north side in addition to major renovations for the existing 34,000-square-foot building.

The project enables the college to offer cuttingedge training needed for successful employment in the competitive healthcare field. The Johnson Health Occupations Center contains the bulk of the college's Allied Health programs, including Associate Degree Nursing, Dental Hygiene, Health Information Technology, Human Services, Physical Therapist Assistant, Radiologic Technology, Vocational Nursing and Pre-baccalaureate Nursing. In addition, the Emergency Medical Services program was relocated to the facility.

"We could not be more excited about the completion of this beautiful, state-of-the-art facility," said WCJC President Betty McCrohan. "Through this project, we will continue to be able to provide our students with the skills and education needed for employment in the competitive healthcare industry."

McCrohan credited the Johnson Foundation and Gulf Coast Medical Foundation for providing funding.

"They made all of this happen through their generous support," she said.

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PROUD LEGACY

## New facility named in honor of longtime athletic director and coach

More than 250 friends, family, students, co-workers and former athletes gathered on Wharton County Junior College's Wharton campus in April for the dedication of the Gene Bahnsen Gymnasium, named in honor of longtime Athletic Director and Coach Gene Bahnsen.

The gym was transformed into a reception hall accented with displays of vintage photographs chronicling Bahnsen's 60-year career, antique jerseys



and equipment and trophies won by the teams he coached or oversaw during his tenure at WCJC. The highlight of the event was the unveiling of a plaque and photograph of Bahnsen that will be permanently installed in the facility.

"Coach Bahnsen has been there for all of us and coached some excellent teams. He was totally loyal and dedicated," said WCJC President Betty McCrohan, who assisted with the unveiling. Looking around at the crowded gym, she added, "This room is full of love for you."

"I cannot express the feelings I have," Bahnsen said. "We've had tremendous athletes and tremendous students and tremendous ex-students and I'm so happy to see them coming back. I appreciate all of this."

Bahnsen arrived at WCJC in 1959, after a three-year stint as a lieutenant with the United States Air Force. Initially hired as a basketball coach, assistant football coach and physical education instructor, Bahnsen went on to coach track and field and tennis and oversee the athletic dormitory. He was named athletic director in 1965. The National Junior College Athletic Association's Men's Basketball Coaches Association named him to its Hall of Fame in 2012.

Two of Bahnsen's former players shared remarks during the gymnasium naming ceremony. Will Parker, who played 11 seasons in the National Football League and was WCJC football's Most Valuable Player in 1968, noted that Bahnsen became something of a "big brother" through his leadership and guidance. "He's been instrumental in my life."

Danny Hauser, the Most Valuable Player on the 1969 basketball team played at the University of Houston before pursuing a career as a banker. He described his former coach as determined, competitive, smart and cunning. Hauser said his time at WCJC set the tone for the remainder of his life. "I owe this school and this man everything."

Hauser also announced the formation of the Gene Bahnsen Endowed Scholarship that will provide financial assistance to future WCJC students. Hauser, who originated the concept of the scholarship, established the fund with its initial \$10,000 contribution.





# Commencement ceremonies honored 269 new graduates

Wharton County Junior College held its 73rd Annual Commencement Exercises in May for graduates receiving either an associate of arts degree, an associate of applied science degree or the associate of arts in teaching degree. In total,



269 graduates participated in two separate ceremonies held at the Wharton campus. Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Glenn Hegar was the commencement speaker for both ceremonies.

Two high school students – Adrian Mora and Ja'Lea Quintero-Brooks – participated in the morning ceremony as part of the Realizing Our Academic Reward (ROAR) Academy, a collaboration between WCJC and Wharton ISD that enables a select group of students to earn as many as 60 college-level credit

hours while still in high school. Both students completed enough credit hours to earn their associate degree.

Among WCJC students and faculty recognized during the event was Elena Perez of Eagle Lake, winner of the President's Award. Perez, Makayla Hobbs of Boling, Amnah Minhas of Sugar Land and Binh Thai Nguyen of Palacios received High Grade Point Average Awards.

Kasey Guardado of Needville won the Outstanding Services Award, recognizing a student who best exemplifies the spirit of service to the college and the community.

Speech Instructor Jim Bob Conner was presented with an Award of Teaching Excellence.

Capacity crowds at the Wharton campus saw 269 graduates receive their degrees.

NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS RECIPIENTS

# Instructors cited for commitment and contributions

Nine Wharton County Junior College instructors were recognized for their dedication and commitment to their fields of study by the National Institute of Staff and Organizational Development with NISOD Excellence Awards for 2018-2019. The nine were presented with pewter medallions at the International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence held in May 2019 in Austin.

"I want to congratulate these instructors on their achievement," said WCJC President Betty McCrohan. "They have gone the extra mile to provide their students with the education and resources needed to be successful." The honorees were:

- Jim Bob Conner Speech
- Kenneth Grubb History
- Ava Humme English
- Pat Korenek Nursing
- Stephen Lyford Computer Science
- Kim Raun Biology
- Tracey Simmons-Willis Chemistry
- Grady Smith Law Enforcement
- Paul Spellman History



WHO'S WHO

## WCJC's Waldrop named to online community college list

Wharton County Junior College Band Instructor Joe Waldrop was named to the "Who's Who in Community College Academia" list.

Compiled by Academic Keys, an online publication that provides higher education resources, the list singles out "outstanding faculty and administrators in higher education" from across the country. A member of WCJC's faculty for the past 15 years, Waltrip previously taught music at the high school level as well as in church.

"It is always an honor to be recognized in your life's field of work," Waldrop said. "It's a great thrill to share something you love to do with others and to, hopefully, light a spark in them that they will pass on down the road."

Waldrop, who grew up in East Texas, was influenced by a musical family. He has been nominated twice for a Grammy in Music Education and selected as a member of the "Who's Who in Music Education."



FIELD OF HONOR

# WCJC recognized student athletes at annual event

Wharton County Junior College's student athletes were honored for success in competition and in the classroom during the 56th Annual Athletic Banquet at the Pioneer Student Center on the Wharton campus. Athletes from the baseball, volleyball and rodeo teams were introduced and recognized for both athletic and educational achievements.

Baseball player Brock Brandl of El Campo won the 2019 Johnnie Frankie Award. Established in honor of the late WCJC coach and presented by his daughter, Jenny Banker, the award is reserved for WCJC athletes who embody high character and singular abilities. The Dr. Ty Pate Academic Award, established in memory of the late WCJC administrator and former athlete, went to rodeo team member Kirby Evelo of Boling. Leigh Ann Collins, WCJC's vice president of instruction, presented the award, noting that Evelo, who earned a 3.59 grade point average, will continue her education at Texas A&M.

The volleyball team's Most Valuable Player award went to Needville resident Olivia Aprea, a past Johnnie Frankie Award winner. The rodeo team MVP went to Kolton Mazoch of El Campo.

Academic All-Conference Awards were presented to students who had at least a 3.25 GPA, had been enrolled at the college for at least three semesters and had taken at least 36 hours of course work.

#### Winners were:

- Grant Griffin (baseball), Richmond
- Jason Jaekel (baseball), League City
- Ryan Jennings (baseball), New Braunfels
- Caleb Maly (baseball), Pearland
- Sabrina Show (volleyball), East Bernard



TEE TIME

## 6th Annual golf tournament netted funds for WCJC Foundation scholarships

The Wharton County Junior College Foundation hosted its 6th Annual Golf Classic in November 2018 at the El Campo Country Club, earning \$25,000 for student scholarships. The winning team, sponsored by Exelon Generation, included, as pictured above Chris Bockholt, Linda Gonzalez, John Wayne Bockholt, and Petey Lara. WCJC President Betty McCrohan is pictured second from the left.

Foundation officers included President Gordon Sorrel of El Campo, Vice President Suzanne Armour of Wharton and Treasurer Johnny Veselka of El Campo. Board members were Melba Clapp of El Campo, Landon McClain of Wharton, Gus Mullins of Boling, Vince Reina Jr. of Wharton, Lloyd Nelson of Louise, Dr. Stewart Morris of Houston, WCJC Board Trustee Amy Rod of El Campo and WCJC President Betty McCrohan.

## History instructor publishes first novel

Wharton County Junior College History Instructor Brady Lee Hutchison had three goals when he was a youngster growing up in Port Arthur: become a firefighter, obtain a history degree and write a book.

He checked off the first two objectives earlier in life during a decade as a firefighter and arson investigator while simultaneously obtaining a master's degree in history. He has taught history at WCJC since 2013, first in a part-time capacity and now as a full-time instructor.

Hutchison's accomplished his third goal of writing a book with the publication of his first novel, "So Others May Live," under the pen name of Lee Hutch. Set in World War II, the book covers a topic Hutchison knows well – firefighting.

"My academic interest, as a historian, concerns the challenges faced by fire departments in coping with wartime conditions," Hutchison explained. "What eventually became a novel actually started as research I conducted while getting my master's degree. As time passed, I realized a more effective way to tell the story would be through fiction."

"So Others May Live" presents a unique viewpoint of the Second World War as it follows the lives of both a British bomber pilot as well as a German firefighter who is tasked with keeping Berlin from burning to the ground during the nightly Allied bombing raids.





# WCJC events recognize lawmakers for support of education

In October, Wharton County Junior College thanked elected officials for their support of higher education at two special receptions at the Richmond and Bay City Campuses. Local officials

and representatives for the area's congressmen and state legislators shared brief remarks detailing the importance of education and the role that WCJC has played in enhancing the workforce and economy.

Top photo, left to right, at the Richmond Campus Legislative Reception are Tori Macfarlan, Senior Field Representative for U.S. Rep. Pete Olson; Paula Gibson, District Director for State Senator Lois Kolkhorst; State Rep. Phil Stephenson; WCJC President Betty McCrohan; U.S. Rep. Michael Cloud; Austin Arceneaux, District Director for State Senator Joan Huffman; and Matthew Conner, Deputy Regional Director of Southeast Texas for U.S. Senator John Cornyn.

Bottom photo, left to right, at the Bay City Elected Officials Reception, speakers included, U.S. Rep. Michael Cloud, WCJC President Betty McCrohan, Matagorda County Judge Nate McDonald, and Nancy Wollam representing State Rep. Dennis Bonnen. Speakers not pictured included Matthew Conner representing U.S. Senator John Cornyn and Paula Gibson representing State Senator Lois Kolkhorst.





BEST OF THE BEST

## WCJC Human Services program recognized for excellence

Wharton County Junior College's Human Services Program was recognized as one of the top two-year programs in the nation.

HumanServicesEDU.org, an on-line resource for those interested in pursuing education and careers in the Human Services field, listed WCJC's program as one of the Top 10 schools in the nation for obtaining a high-quality and cost-affordable associate degree in human services.

"We assessed hundreds of schools around the

nation to find Human Services programs that we are excited to list as the best of the best," said Kelly Simpson, HumanServicesEDU.org's managing editor. "We created this list to help potential students find objective information about each program and bring recognition to top-quality programs."

WCJC's program was singled out for providing "outstanding" services like online and face-to-face tutoring, a 96 percent student retention rate, a 100 percent graduate success rate and an affordable cost.

Victoria Schultz, director of WCJC's Human Services
Program, said the program is the only one in Texas to
be nationally accredited through the Council for the
Standards of Human Service Education. According
to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board,
WCJC's Human Services Program has a 100 percent
employment rate within two years of graduation – a feat
many other community colleges in the state have been
unable to match.



DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS

# WCJC Foundation awarded 12 scholarships for 2019

The Wharton County Junior College Foundation awarded 12 scholarships to provide financial assistance for students who might otherwise be unable to afford higher education.

The students, who are from the Wharton, Boling, East Bernard, Needville, El Campo and Louise school districts, each received a \$4,000 scholarship. They are:

- Boling High School:
   Ernest Calhoun and Stephanie Garcia
- East Bernard High School:
   Arli Hercules and Madelin Perez
- El Campo High School:
   Da'Veijan Melendez and Jacquelyn Mijares

- Louise High School:Kyli Kostelnik
- Needville High School:
   Wesley Gaubatz and Taylor Amos
- Wharton High School:
   Michaela Guevara, Nathan Gurecky and
   Ybette Vazquez

To qualify for the scholarships, applicants were required to have graduated in 2019 from one of the six schools in the college's service area. They also submitted a scholarship application and essay. Priority was given to students who demonstrated how a scholarship would enable them to overcome limited resources and financial constraints in order to attend WCJC.

# Grant Funding 2018-2019

WCJC received grants from foundations, governmental agencies, and individuals totaling approximately \$3,508,735 for the year ending August 31, 2019. These awards are used to support WCJC's academic and vocational training programs as well as for financial support for students.

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION / ENGLISH AS	MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY		
A SECOND LANGUAGE	Tenaris S.A		
Adult Education and Family Literacy			
Act/Workforce Invest Act \$750,000	STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES		
COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS	U.S. Department of Education, TRIO/SSS Program \$241,332		
Senior Citizen Programs in Wharton	(per year for 5 years, 4th year of project)		
<ul> <li>County and Colorado County</li></ul>	U.S. Department of Education 2018 Emergency Assistance for Institutions of Higher Education Program \$500,000		
FINANCIAL AID / SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS	U.S. Department of Education 2018 Defraying the Costs of Enrolling Displaced Students Program \$56,619		
Carl Perkins Act	of Emoling Displaced Students Program \$50,017		
Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo \$50,000 Henderson-Wessendorf Foundation \$25,000	Texas Higher Education Foundation  Emergency Assistance Mini Grant		
ALLIED HEALTH	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		
Johnson Foundation	Waiver of Matching Funds \$55,262		
Reduction Program	WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT/ CONTINUING EDUCATION		
NUCLEAR POWER TECHNOLOGY			
Texas A&M University/Texas Engineering Experiment Station and Nuclear	Texas Workforce Commission FY18 Skills for Small Business		
Power Institute	Texas Workforce Commission WCJC in partnership with Environmental		
PROCESS TECHNOLOGY	Development Partners, LLC \$373,340		
Texas Workforce Commission Jobs and			

Education for Texans Grant (JET) PTAC .... \$279,300

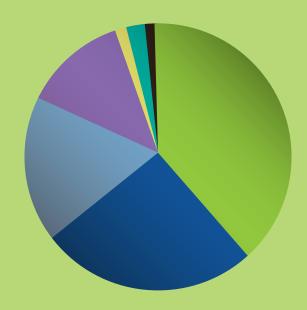
# Financial Everview

### **2018-19 REVENUE SOURCES**

Total Revenue	\$52,315,568	
Tuition & Fees	\$19,100,874	36%
State Appropriations	\$12,720,005	249
Grants & Contracts	\$9,386,115	18%
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$7,267,859	14%
Income Investments	\$1,063,337	2%
Other	\$1,946,683	4%
Auxiliary	\$830,695	2%

Source: Wharton County Junior College District Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2019

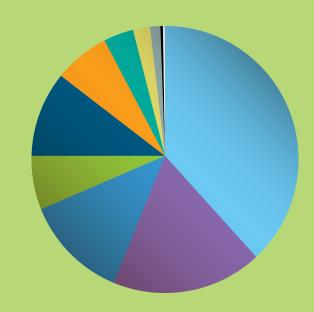
2018-19 Revenue Sources



## **2018-19 BUDGET EXPENDITURES**

Total Expenditures	\$51,092,879	
Instruction	\$20,186,462	40%
Instructional Support	\$8,617,229	17%
Operations/Maintenance	\$5,191,337	10%
Academic Support	\$3,462,555	7%
Scholarships	\$5,543,999	11%
Student Services	\$3,492,858	6%
Public Service	\$1,868,847	4%
Depreciation	\$1,707,019	3%
Auxiliary Expenses	\$949,256	2%
■ Interest	\$45,758	<1%
Other	\$27,559	<1%





Source: Wharton County Junior College District Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2019

## **WCJC Facts & Figures**

All figures for Fall 2018 unless noted

Pell Grant Awards  Academic Year 2018-19  Number of Awards  Value of Awards  Total Unduplicated Credit Students	1,840 96,076 <b>6,768</b>	<b>Student Age</b> Under 20 20-24 25-29 30-39 40+			3,316 2,272 541 425 214	49% 34% 8% 6% 3%
Unduplicated Enrollment by Campus		Student Gender				
Wharton Campus	1,661	Women			3,828	57%
Sugar Land Campus	3,201	Men			2,940	43%
Richmond Campus	1,377					
Bay City Campus	171	Student Residency				
		Texas Residents			6,640	98%
Dual Credit & Concurrent Enrollment	568	In-District Residents	1,277	19%		
		Out-of-District Residents	5,173	76%		
Distance Education (Internet/ITV)	1,656	Tuition Exempt Residents	190	3%		
		Outside Texas/Foreign			128	2%
Approximately 1,662 students attended						
more than one campus.		Faculty Characteristics				
	0.450	Total Faculty			289	
Annual Unduplicated Credit Enrollment	9,478	Full-Time			175	619
Academic Year 2018-19		Part-Time			114	39%
		Average Age			51	240
Other Unduplicated Noncredit Enrolln	nent	Minority Faculty			99	349
Academic Year 2018-19 Youth Activities	1 727	Student: Faculty Ratio			23:1	
	1,737 219	Full-Time Faculty Educational Attainment				
Continuing Education (Workforce)	Z17	Full-Time Faculty Education	onai At	tamm		400
Continuing Education Adult Avacation	530				33	109
Continuing Education Adult Avocation	530	Doctorate			33 105	19%
Adult Education and Literacy		Doctorate Master's			105	60%
Adult Education and Literacy GED	426	Doctorate Master's Bachelor's			105 16	60% 9%
Adult Education and Literacy		Doctorate Master's			105	60%
Adult Education and Literacy GED ESL	426	Doctorate Master's Bachelor's Associate/Certificate		hin <u>a</u> (	105 16 21	60% 9%
Adult Education and Literacy GED ESL  Student Ethnicity	426	Doctorate Master's Bachelor's		hing S	105 16 21	60% 9%
Adult Education and Literacy GED ESL  Student Ethnicity White/Non-Hispanic	426 548	Doctorate Master's Bachelor's Associate/Certificate  Full-Time Faculty Length		hing S	105 16 21 Service	609 99 129
Adult Education and Literacy GED ESL  Student Ethnicity	426 548 31%	Doctorate Master's Bachelor's Associate/Certificate  Full-Time Faculty Length 5 Years or Less		hing S	105 16 21 <b>Service</b> 55	60% 9% 12% 31%
Adult Education and Literacy GED ESL  Student Ethnicity White/Non-Hispanic Hispanic	426 548 31% 44%	Doctorate Master's Bachelor's Associate/Certificate  Full-Time Faculty Length 5 Years or Less 6-10 Years		hing S	105 16 21 <b>Service</b> 55 33	60% 9% 12% 31% 19%



## WHARTON CAMPUS

911 Boling Hwy 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

2018-2019 President's Report to the Community

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