



Wharton County
Junior College

President's
Report to the
Community

2015 - 2016



WCJC

1946 - 2016

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*Current 2016-17



Betty A. McCrohan
WCJC President

Message from the President

Celebrations were a recurring theme at Wharton County Junior College during the 2015-16 academic year, many of which are highlighted in this report. The biggest celebration was our 70th anniversary as we honored our past and looked to the future.

April 6, 2016, officially marked 70 years since Wharton voters created the Wharton County Junior College District and elected the college's first board of trustees. During our year-long celebration, we honored the outstanding leaders and former students who have built and grown the strong legacy of WCJC.

Celebrations also took place as our programs, students and staff were honored at the highest levels. Having the Aspen Institute College Education Program recognize WCJC as one of the nation's top 150 community colleges for the second consecutive year was a tribute to the tireless work of our faculty and staff, who are deeply committed to student success.

Many of WCJC's programs and pathways that lead our students to successful careers would not be possible without the generous financial gifts from our supporters. That's one reason it was so good to see The Wharton County Junior College Foundation revitalized with new members and officers this year. Simultaneously, numerous college employees worked to prepare for the Fall 2016 introduction of three initiatives to help students earn their degrees in a more timely and cost-effective manner.

Thank you to all who have invested, and continue to invest, your time and financial resources in WCJC. Our students are our future. Your investment in them is what improves their lives and the lives of all those they touch.

Sincerely,

Betty A. McCrohan

CONTENTS

2
Celebrating
70 Years

4
Celebrating
Our Programs
& People

6
Celebrating
Our Supporters

8
Celebrating the
Commitment
to Our Mission

10
Celebrating
Athletic
Accomplishments

12
Financial
Overview

13
WCJC at
a Glance



Celebrating 70 Years



REACH celebrated alumni who made noteworthy or unique accomplishments in their lives and careers.

REACH – a Celebration of WCJC Alumni

As part of the year-long celebration to mark its 70th anniversary, WCJC featured former students – nominated by faculty, staff and the general public – who have made noteworthy or unique accomplishments in their lives and careers. These individuals were showcased in college marketing materials and highlighted in a keepsake booklet distributed at the 70-year anniversary gala in November 2016.

Below: President Betty McCrohan, right, unveiled the "Wall of WCJC Presidents." She was assisted by Suzanne Armour, the daughter of former WCJC President Ted Nicksick, Jr., and WCJC Board of Trustees Chairman Danny Gertson.

Wall of Presidents

A "Wall of WCJC Presidents" that included six plaques with the names and administration dates for each president who has served the college since its founding in 1946, was unveiled in February 2016. College officials, faculty, alumni, students and WCJC Trustees attended. Six presidents have served WCJC since the college's founding in 1946: John M. Hodges (1946-1962), Travis M. McKenzie (1962-1966), Theodore Nicksick, Jr. (1966-1984), Elbert C. Hutchins (1984-1994), Frank Robert Virelo (1994-2001) and Betty McCrohan, who was named the college's president in 2001.



Above: Surrounding Dr. Wheelan, in brown gown, are WCJC Vice President of Instruction Leigh Ann Collins, WCJC Board of Trustees Chair Danny Gertson, WCJC Board of Trustees Secretary Monty Merecka, WCJC President Betty McCrohan; former WCJC Trustee Lloyd Nelson and Vice President of Student Services Dave Leenhouts.

Special Graduation Speaker

In honor of WCJC's 70th anniversary, Dr. Belle Wheelan, president of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, delivered the commencement address to May graduates. She compared technology, entertainment, politics and civil

rights in the 1970s with today's advancements. Wheelan also shared with graduates what she considers critical components of success: hard work, innovation and a desire to make a mark on history.



Anniversary Memorabilia

WCJC baseball fans who cheered the Pioneers to a victory against Alvin College during a 2016 home game enjoyed free food and 70th anniversary memorabilia as part of a Wharton Chamber of Commerce special event that coincided with the game. The Chamber mixer was hosted by the Wharton Chamber of Commerce, the Wharton Babe Ruth League and WCJC.

WCJC outfielder Jared Lira got struck with the ball while attempting to bunt during the Pioneers' game against Alvin College that also included the Chamber mixer.



"By starting my higher education at WCJC, I was able to take my first steps into college while helping to clarify what field of learning I wanted to focus on. I feel WCJC is a great start."

John Ramirez
General Manager/New Store Coordinator
Banana Republic

Right: The WCJC Automotive technology program received reaccreditation from the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation.

Below: Jennifer Mauch received the 2016 WCJC Award for Excellence in Teaching.



Celebrating Our Programs & People

Faculty Recognized for Excellence in Teaching

Eight WCJC instructors were recognized for dedication and commitment to their fields of study by the National Institute of Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) during a May conference. Recipients of the NISOD Excellence in Teaching Awards were:

- **Phyllis Appling** – Instructor of Developmental Reading
- **Gary Bonewald** – Instructor of EMS
- **John Dettling** – Instructor of Biology
- **Rebecca McElroy** – Instructor of Psychology
- **Robin Nealy** – Instructor of English
- **Victoria Schultz** – Instructor of Human Services
- **Celine Siewert** – Instructor of Accounting
- **Joe Waldrop** – Instructor of Music/Band Director

During WCJC's May commencement, Jennifer Mauch, instructor of mathematics, received the Award for Excellence in Teaching. The award is presented annually to one or more full-time instructors who embody WCJC's mission to build dreams and transform lives by making a difference inside and outside the classroom.



Above: WCJC's 2016 NISOD award recipients included Phyllis Appling, Joe Waldrop, Victoria Schulz, Celine Siewert, John Dettling, Robin Nealy, Gary Bonewald and Rebecca McElroy.

Below: Graduates of the WCJC Surgical Technology program for the 12-month period ending July 31, 2015, achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) examination and WCJC received a merit award from the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting. The Surgical Technology team includes Instructor Heather Velasco, Department Head Melissa Bruton and Instructor Paulette Perez.



Above: WCJC drama students won 16 awards and an overall "Excellent" rating for their production of The Language Archive at the 2016 Texas Community College Speech and Theatre Association's Play Festival in March.

Nation's Best

The Aspen Institute College Education Program recognized WCJC's exceptional student outcomes by naming it one of the nation's top 150 community colleges. The award recognizes outcomes in four areas: student learning, certificate and degree completion, employment and earnings,

and access and success for minority and low-income students.

This award came on the heels of WCJC's ranking by BestColleges.com as the No. 1 community college in Texas for a second consecutive year.

Marketing Department Took Top Honors

The WCJC Office of Marketing and Communications was honored with a pair of coveted Hermes Creative Awards for its *Generations* documentary. The film, which earned gold and platinum awards, captured the college's early years and ongoing impact through interviews with alumni, faculty and community leaders.

Since 2001, the department has garnered 28 awards for excellence from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR), the Hermes Creative Awards and the AVA Digital Awards. These three

organizations recognize marketing and communications work encompassing print, audio, film and digital media.

In addition, WCJC Director of Marketing and Communications Zina Carter was named NCMPR District 4 Communicator of the Year. District 4 is comprised of 60 community colleges and 289 members in six states. Carter, who oversees a four-person staff, has served as WCJC's marketing and communications leader since 1995.

The WCJC Office of Marketing and Communications has garnered 28 awards of excellence over the past 14 years for a wide range of marketing and communications publications. Staff includes Amanda Heard, internet marketing coordinator; Cheryl Machicek, senior marketing and communications specialist; Zina Carter, director of marketing and communications; Mary Koczanowski, marketing and communications specialist; and Benjamin Sharp, marketing and communications coordinator.



"My WCJC education enabled me to run for public office, meet people and ask for their support...I attribute that successful career to the start given me by WCJC. Success at WCJC readies students for success in life."

Suzanne Saha Kucera
Retired
Matagorda
County
Treasurer



"My WCJC instructors provided me with the skills I needed to be successful professionally and personally. For me, the small campus lifestyle was a good fit."

Llarance Lawsell Turner
President
Kelly Kaluza & Associates, Inc.

Celebrating Our Supporters

Donors Make a Difference

Generous financial gifts from WCJC supporters helps fund student scholarships; instructional materials and equipment, including the latest technology critical to

learning; student support services; curriculum development; capital improvements; and a variety of programs. Thank you to our donors for your support of WCJC!



WCJC President Betty McCrohan presented a plaque of appreciation to Tenaris North America President Germán Curá during the dedication ceremony for the Bay City Technical Training Center.

The Bay City Community Development Corporation's (BCCDC) new Technical Training Center, located at the Center for Energy Development in Bay City and utilized by the WCJC Manufacturing Technology program, was officially dedicated on October 29. The design and construction of the \$1.2 million structure was funded in large part by the BCCDC, while Tenaris – a leading global manufacturer and supplier of steel pipe products and related services for the world's oil and gas industry – contributed \$575,000 for the purchase of specialized equipment. Other groups contributing to the project included LyondellBasell, South Texas Nuclear Project, Celanese Corporation and Oxea Corporation. The new facility will train WCJC students in welding, machining and other aspects of manufacturing technology.

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo awarded WCJC \$50,000 in scholarship funding for students studying in technical fields such as process technology, welding or engineering design. This gift enabled 10 students to receive scholarships for the Fall 2015 semester.

Southwest Electronic Energy (SWE) partnered with WCJC to provide customized training for 68 new and incumbent employees using a \$198,352 grant from the Texas Workforce Commission Skills Development Fund. The grant is providing SWE production assistants and leads, electronic engineer technicians and warehouse associates with instruction in basic computer skills, drafting standards, soldering and microcontrollers. Upon completion of training, participants will receive average hourly wages of \$26.40.



TWC Commissioner Ronny Congleton presented a \$198,352 Skills Development Fund grant to representatives from WCJC and Southwest Electronic Energy (SWE). Pictured are WCJC Continuing Education Corporate Coordinator Tamara Sealy; Commissioner Congleton; WCJC Director of Continuing Education Alice Atkins; SWE Vice-President of Quality and Reliability Paula White; SWE Controller/HR Manager Beth Rayhill; SWE Vice-President of Administration Bill Kvinta; WCJC President Betty McCrohan; and WCJC Board of Trustees members Amy Rod and Larry Sitka.

WCJC received approximately \$4,725,168 for the year ending August 31, 2016, to fund the following program areas:

Adult Basic Education/English as a Second Language

- Adult Education and Family Literacy Act/ Workforce Invest Act: \$632,900
- Career Pathways Grant: \$10,000
- Distance Learning Grant: \$10,000
- Accelerate Texas Grant: \$25,000

Allied Health

- Johnson Foundation: \$1,300,000 for renovation and expansion of Johnson Health Occupations Center

Education and Early Childhood

- University of Houston/Learning through Informal and Formal Experience (UH-LIFE) Project: \$27,500 (1st year of 5-year project)

Financial Aid/Student Scholarships

- Carl Perkins Act: \$305,241
- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo: \$50,000
- Johnson Foundation: \$340,000

Manufacturing Technology

- Tenaris S.A.: \$128,000
- Tenaris S.A.: \$22,000

Nuclear Power Technology

- Texas A&M University/Texas Engineering Experiment Station and Nuclear Power Institute: \$40,000

Physical Plant/Maintenance

- TASB Risk Management Fund: \$3,000

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Disciplines

- U.S. Department of Education, Title V Hispanic Serving Institutions/STEM Program: \$821,257

Senior Citizens Programs in Wharton and Colorado County (Fiscal Year Oct. 1, 2015-Sept. 30, 2016)

- Federal and state funds; Wharton County Commissioners Court; church, business and individual gifts: \$375,143

Student Support Services

- U.S. Department of Education/TRIO/SSS Program: \$219,269 (1st year of 5-year project)
- U.S. Department of Education: \$58,000 as a waiver of matching funds requirements

Workforce Development/Continuing Education

- Texas Workforce Commission with Southwest Electronic Energy Corp (SWE): \$198,352
- Texas Workforce Commission/Skills for Small Business Program: \$20,000
- Texas Workforce Commission with J-M Manufacturing, Inc.: \$139,506



Celebrating the Commitment to Our Mission

Below: Block scheduling makes registration easier because a student's course selection automatically generates a schedule and enrolls them in all classes at one time.

Elected members of the WCJC Board of Trustees were officially sworn in during the regularly scheduled board meeting on Tuesday, May 17, 2016. All three were elected during the May 7 general election, with Scott Glass winning election to Position 1, incumbent Jack Moses retaining Position 9 and incumbent Larry Sitka retaining Position 2. Pictured are Gloria Crockett, right, a WCJC employee and notary, administering the oath of office to, from left, Glass, Moses and Sitka. Each trustee serves a six-year term.



College Prepared for Three Initiatives to Help Students Complete Degrees

WCJC staff worked on three initiatives, for a Fall 2016 rollout, to help students complete their degrees in a more timely and cost-effective manner. The initiatives included:

- **Block Scheduling:** Increases predictability of students' course schedules by allowing them to register for a group of courses, offered at predictive times, each semester. Block scheduling is offered in select allied health and career and

technology associate degree and certificate programs.

- **Dual Credit Fee Waiver:** Out-of-district fee waivers for dual credit students reduce the cost for each three credit-hour course by more than \$150.
- **Tuition Break for Full-Time Students:** No charge for tuition or fees when taking more than 13 credit hours of academic transfer courses per semester.

College Invited Input on Texas Senate Bill 11

In preparation for the August 1, 2017, implementation of Texas Senate Bill 11 (Campus Concealed Carry) at Texas community colleges, WCJC invited community feedback from students, faculty and staff regarding reasonable rules and regulations. Forums and surveys provided the administration with input to make recommendations to the WCJC Board on this issue during the 2016-17 academic year.



Foundation Elected New Members

The Wharton County Junior College Foundation, a not-for-profit corporation established to increase community awareness of the college and provide financial support to enhance its educational programs, elected 10 new members and appointed officers this

year, thereby strengthening its commitment to build relationships with friends of WCJC. The volunteer board of directors works closely with campus leadership to identify opportunities for private support to help fund student scholarships, academic programs and faculty development.

Larry Wadler, President
Wharton, Texas

Suzanne Armour, Vice President
Wharton, Texas

Johnny Veselka, Treasurer
El Campo, Texas

Melba Clapp
El Campo, Texas

Danny Gertson
East Bernard, Texas

Abby King
Wharton, Texas

Susan Lowery
Richmond, Texas

Landon McClain
Wharton, Texas

Betty McCrohan
Glen Flora, Texas

Stewart Morris
Houston, Texas

Gus Mullins
Boling, Texas

Lloyd Nelson
Louise, Texas

Vince Reina, Jr.
Wharton, Texas

Haskell Simon
Bay City, Texas

Gordon Sorrel
El Campo, Texas

Curtis Wilkins
Glen Flora, Texas

MISSION

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 our society.



“As a non-traditional student, it was very scary for me to go to college. The instructors at WCJC made me feel like a student and encouraged and fed my desire to learn and be challenged. Everything I received from WCJC made me a better student at the University of Houston and helped me to gain the confidence I needed to be open to opportunities of leadership and mentoring in my life.”

Katherine Rodriguez
Houston Accountant

Celebrating Athletic Accomplishments

Volleyball Players Earned Regional Honors

The Pioneer volleyball team capped off a stellar season by finishing as co-champions in conference play and garnering regional honors for seven players and Coach of the Year honors for

Brianna Florus. The Pioneers competed in the NJCAA Region XIV Tournament, finishing with one win and two losses under nine-year Head Coach Brianna Florus, who considers Region XIV one of the best around.

Regional honors went to (standing) Becky Blakney, Newcomer of the Year; Emily Flores, 1st Team All-Conference; Shay Mitchell, Conference Most Valuable Player; and Coach Brianna Florus; as well as (seated) Tori Zamora, Heather Henneke and Macy Mitchell, Honorable Mentions; and Kelsey Smith, 2nd Team All-Conference.



Rodeo Team Competed at National Finals

Ty Arnold, Mason Boettcher and Kaine Warnken of the WCJC Men's Rodeo Team finished in the top 12 in the nation at the College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR), held in Wyoming in June. Their impressive finish came in team roping. The trio was joined in team competition by Reid Zapalac and Paden Hurst after the five men qualified for the CNFR following strong finishes in the Southern Region of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association.

Attendees to the CNFR included Assistant Coach Casey Halderman, Reid Zapalac, Paden Hurst, Mason Boettcher, Ty Arnold, Kaine Warnken and Head Coach Sean Amestoy.



WCJC outfielder Spencer Griffin received congratulatory hand slaps after hitting a home run during the Pioneers' game against Angelina College in the NJCAA Region XIV Tournament in Sugar Land. The Pioneers won that game 11-8 and advanced to the championship game before falling to San Jacinto College and just missing out on a trip to the NJCAA World Series.

Baseball Team Just Missed College World Series

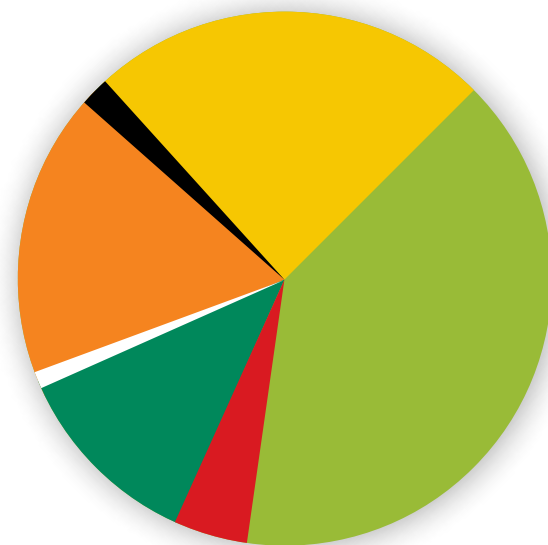
The Pioneer baseball team played with grit in the Region XIV Tournament, enduring a heartbreaking loss to the San Jacinto Gators, the future National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division 1 runner-up.

The Pioneers held the game to a 1-1 tie until the ninth inning when the Gators pulled ahead to win, causing the Pioneers to miss qualifying for the NJCAA World Series.

Financial Overview

2015-16 Revenue Sources

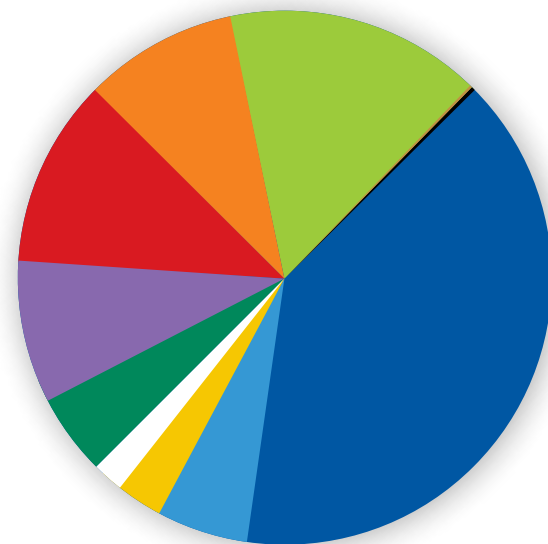
Total Revenue	\$50,072,322	
Tuition & Fees	\$19,442,839	39%
State Appropriations	\$11,993,460	24%
Grants & Contracts	\$9,596,342	20%
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$5,354,611	10%
Income Investments	\$992,490	2%
Other	\$1,883,951	4%
Auxiliary	\$808,629	1%



2015-16 Revenue Sources

2015-16 Budget Expenditures

Total Expenditures	\$46,090,170	
Instruction	\$18,139,138	39%
Instructional Support	\$7,748,180	17%
Operations/Maintenance	\$4,828,264	11%
Academic Support	\$3,888,802	8%
Scholarships	\$4,758,279	10%
Student Services	\$2,929,826	6%
Public Service	\$1,592,177	4%
Depreciation	\$1,277,489	3%
Auxiliary Expenses	\$834,762	2%
Interest	\$69,878	<1%
Other	\$23,375	<1%



2015-16 Expenditures

Source: Wharton County Junior College District Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2016

An Affordable Education

2016-17 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)	\$8,669	NA	\$20,978

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 2015 unless noted



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

Total Unduplicated Credit Students 7,416

Dual Credit & Concurrent Enrollment 1,089

Distance Education (Internet/ITV) 1,815

Approximately 1,781 students attended more than one campus.

Annual Unduplicated Credit Enrollment 10,298

Academic Year 2015-2016

Other Unduplicated Noncredit Enrollment

Academic Year 2015-2016

Youth Activities 1,770

Continuing Education (Workforce) 663

Continuing Education Adult Avocation 99

Adult Education and Literacy

GED 542

ESL 614

Degree/Certifications Awarded

9/1/15 – 8/31/16

Associate of Applied Science degrees 245

Associate of Arts degrees 527

Associate of Arts in Teaching degrees 1

Certificates 267

Total 1040

Pell Grant Awards

Academic Year 2015-2016

Number of Awards 1,779

Value of Awards \$6,120,454

Student Ethnicity

White/Non-Hispanic 37%

Hispanic 37%

Black/Non-Hispanic 12%

Asian/Pacific Islander 12%

Unknown 2%

Student Age

Under 20 3,599 52%

20-24 2,178 31%

25-29 611 8%

30-39 452 6%

40-over 312 3%

Student Gender

Women 3,971 55%

Men 3,181 45%

Student Residency

Texas Residents 7,222 97%

In-District Residents 1,269 17%

Out-of-District Residents 5,801 78%

Residents with Tuition Exemptions 152 2%

Outside Texas/Foreign 194 3%

Faculty Characteristics

Total Faculty 283

Full-Time 168 59%

Part-Time 115 41%

Average Age 51

Minority Faculty 80 28%

Student: Faculty Ratio 26:1

Full-Time Faculty Educational Attainment

Doctorate 24 14%

Master's 109 65%

Bachelor's 16 10%

Associate/Certificate 18 11%

Full-Time Faculty Length of Teaching Service

5 Years or Less 54 32%

6-10 Years 32 19%

11-15 Years 45 27%

16-20 Years 21 12%

More than 20 Years 16 10%



**Wharton County
Junior College**

WHARTON | SUGAR LAND | RICHMOND | BAY CITY

2015-2016 President's Report to the Community

**Produced by the
WCJC Office of Marketing and Communications**

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