



Wharton County Junior College



CREATING OPPORTUNITIES

2023-2024 WCJC PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

**WHARTON COUNTY
JUNIOR COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES***

J. Paul Pope
Chair of the Board

Dr. Priscilla Metcalf
Vice Chair

Dr. Bret Macha
Secretary

Ann Hundl

Terry Lynch

Amy Rod

Jay Roussel

Larry Sitka

**Dr. Sue Zanne
Williamson Urbis**

**ADMINISTRATIVE
EXECUTIVE
OFFICERS***

Betty McCrohan
President

Dr. Amanda Allen
Executive Vice President

Danny Bacot
Dean of Workforce

Rachel Bahnsen
Dean of Human Resources

Jerry Martinez
Dean and Registrar

Lindsey McPherson
*Associate Vice President
of Academic Affairs*

Cynthia Ward
*Associate Vice President
of Financial Operations*

Gus Wessels, Jr. CPA
*Dean of Financial and
Business Services*

*Current 2024



J. Paul Pope
Chair



Dr. Priscilla
Metcalf
Vice Chair



Dr. Bret Macha
Secretary



Ann Hundl



Terry Lynch



Amy Rod



Jay Roussel



Larry Sitka



Dr. Sue Zanne
Williamson Urbis

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Leadership and Collaboration Initiatives Opened New Opportunities for Success



From the development of a new Construction Trades program to a complete redesign of the main website, 2023-24 was an important year for Wharton County Junior College. We believe these projects to be crucial to our mission of providing our students with the skills and training they need to be successful academically and in the workforce.

We consider our role to be one of leadership and collaboration, and we continue to seek out ways in which WCJC can provide opportunities for not only our students but the community as a whole. The Access to the Arts Project, for instance, was completed in November through a partnership between the college and the Wharton County Junior College Foundation. This project entailed the construction of a circular drive in front of the Duson-Hansen Fine Arts Building on the Wharton campus to make it easier and safer for visitors to attend dramatic performances, band and choir concerts, and special events held in the Horton Foote Theatre.

Our collaborative efforts include working with other educational institutions, ensuring our graduates have a seamless experience when they move on to a four-year university. In April, the college signed a memorandum of understanding and an articulation agreement with Texas Woman's University to help streamline the transfer process. These efforts benefit students transferring into the university's baccalaureate programs as well as enabling WCJC's Associate Degree Nursing students to co-enroll at TWU to complete a bachelor's degree simultaneously.

WCJC's graduates have made their mark in industry, sports, and education, and we could not be prouder of their achievements. During the 2023-24 academic

year, the college inducted five former athletes into the WCJC Athletic Hall of Fame. These outstanding individuals included two rodeo cowboys, a basketball star, a PGA Tour veteran, and a volleyball player who traveled from Brazil to play with the Pioneers in the mid-1990s. Since its inception in 2021, the WCJC Athletic Hall of Fame has seen 25 former athletes honored for their accomplishments.

In June, the college began offering a carpentry course at the Bay City campus as part of the new Construction Trades program. The initiative included creating a new curriculum, hiring an expert from the construction industry as the lead instructor, and the renovation of 15,000 square feet of unused space at the campus. We want to recognize and thank Senator Joan Huffman and members of the 88th Legislature for securing funding for this program and facility.

One of the most notable accomplishments we completed this year was the redesign of our official college website. This was a massive project, taking more than two years of work by a team of college employees. We believe the end result speaks for itself. Not only is the new website visually impressive and easier to navigate, it provides our current and prospective students with clear and concise content, enhanced accessibility, and the ability to be displayed on multiple devices, including cell phones.

Beyond these projects and initiatives, WCJC's goal remains to provide cost-effective, convenient, and high-quality educational opportunities for each and every student. We are committed to continuing our proud tradition of achievement and excellence in the future.

Sincerely,

Betty A. McCrohan

Betty A. McCrohan

President, Wharton County Junior College

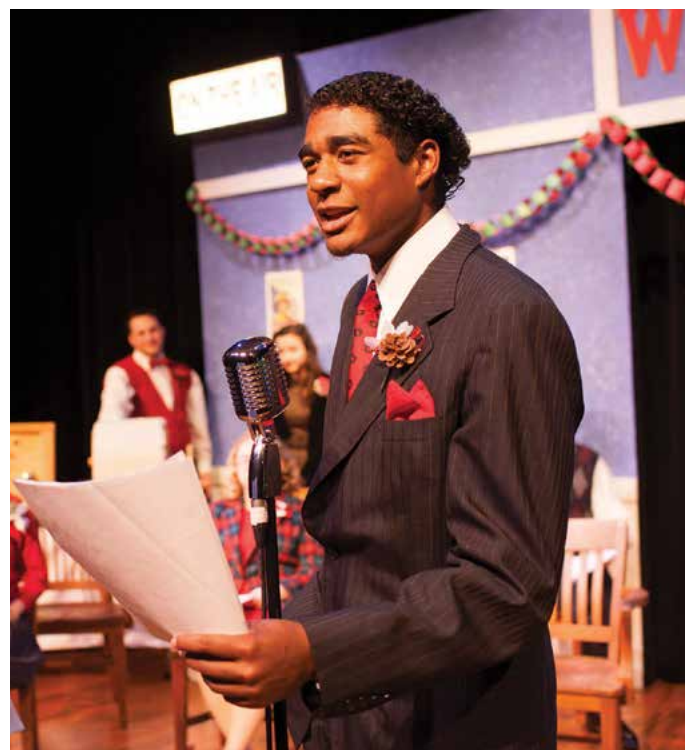


The Wharton County Junior College Foundation, in partnership with Wharton County Junior College, celebrated the completion of the Access to the Arts Project, which added a circular drive in front of the Dusen-Hansen Fine Arts Building on the Wharton campus. Cutting the ribbon are WCJC President Betty McCrohan and foundation President Suzanne Armour, flanked by foundation members, college officials, and WCJC Board of Trustees representatives.

WCJC and WCJC Foundation Celebrated Completion of Circle Drive Campaign

Last fall, the Wharton County Junior College Foundation, in partnership with Wharton County Junior College, celebrated the completion of the Access to the Arts Project, which added a circle drive in front of the Dusen-Hansen Fine Arts Building on the Wharton campus.

The WCJC Foundation initiated the Access to the Arts campaign in 2018 in order to raise funds to enhance the building's entrance through the development of a driveway that connects the building to Horton Foote Drive, allowing visitors safe and easy access to the building in any weather. Many businesses and individuals in the community generously supported the campaign, which concluded in 2023. Construction on the driveway began this past summer. The total cost of the project was \$284,700.



Carpentry Course Began at Bay City Campus

Wharton County Junior College launched construction trades training this past summer at the Bay City Campus. The first courses offered were Construction Materials and Methods I and Introduction to Carpentry.

"We want to recognize and thank Senator Joan Huffman and members of the 88th Legislature for additional funding to create a construction trades training center in Matagorda County at the Bay City campus," said WCJC President Betty McCrohan.

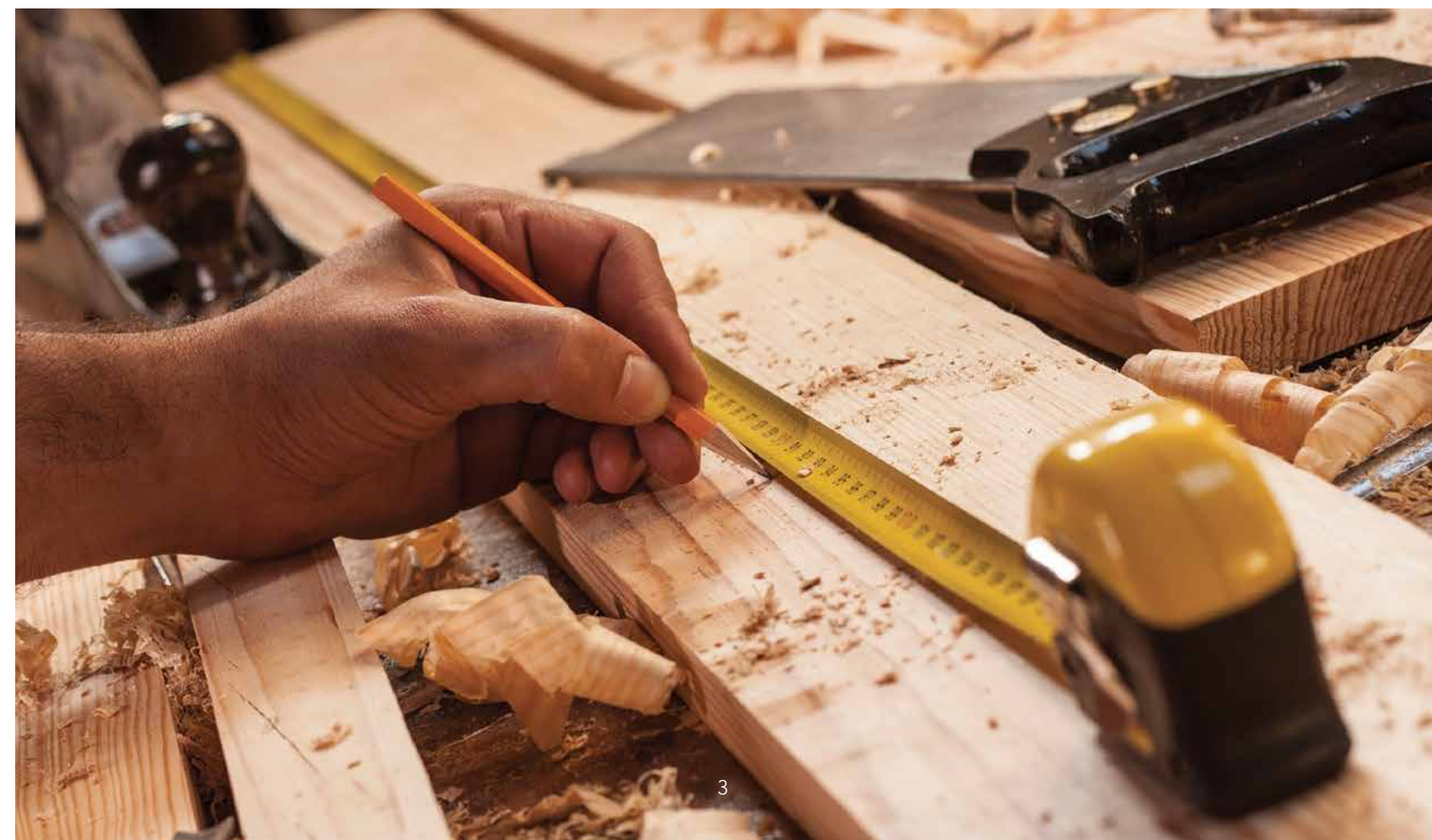
An initial 10,000 square feet of the Bay City campus was renovated to accommodate the construction trades training initiative, with plans to expand to 20,000 square feet as more courses are added. The overall project is valued at roughly \$2 million.

The carpentry program includes four courses including Construction Materials, OSHA 10

(Occupational Safety and Health Administration), Introduction to Carpentry, and Basic Framing.

Students will receive a certificate of completion for each course they complete. If they complete all four, they qualify to take the National Center for Construction Education & Research (NCCER) examination to earn their NCCER national certification. Registration for the Introduction to Carpentry course can occur at any time up to three days before the classes begin. Enrollment is limited.

WCJC's Dean of Workforce Danny Bacot says the construction trades are a fast growing industry, with the state of Texas possessing a higher rate of construction than the rest of the nation. Median pay for carpenters is \$51,390 annually, according to the 2022 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook.





2023 WCJC ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Five former Wharton County Junior College athletes were inducted into the WCJC Athletic Hall of Fame last fall. Inductees included Roberta Lima, volleyball, class of 1996; Doug Duncan, rodeo, class of 2009; Hank Allen, basketball, class of 1959; Mike Booker, golf, class of 1975; and Cade Goodman, rodeo, class of 2015.

A ceremony was held in the Pioneer Student Center on the Wharton campus, with each inductee receiving a plaque, a medallion, and permanent recognition on a display located in the Gene Bahnsen Gymnasium. A committee comprised of faculty members and athletic department staff

selected the recipients. The WCJC Athletic Hall of Fame was created in 2021 to recognize outstanding former WCJC athletes and friends of the college.

Named to the 2023 Athletic Hall of Fame were:

★ **Hank Allen**

Allen played basketball for the Pioneers from 1957 through 1959, playing forward under Coach Johnnie Frankie. From WCJC, Allen headed to Texas A&I in Kingsville, serving as co-captain for the Javelinas basketball team.

★ **Mike Booker**

Booker headed to Texas from California in 1973 to play golf for WCJC. At WCJC, Booker and

his teammates made their mark against conference foes and nationwide opponents alike. With a solid foundation in place, Booker headed to the University of Houston and later turned professional, playing on the PGA Tour and being inducted into the Texas Golf Hall of Fame of 2019.

★ **Doug Duncan**

Duncan was the 2007 National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) Southern Region Bull Riding champion and a College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR) qualifier. He began competing professionally in 2008 and was named the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) Rookie-of-the-Year. He made the Professional Bull Riders (PBR) World Finals in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015.

★ **Cade Goodman**

Goodman competed in the steer wrestling and tie-

down roping events for WCJC, earning the 2014 College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR) Steer Wrestling Championship as well as the Southern Regional Reserve Champion Steer Wrestler. After WCJC, Goodman transferred to Texas A&M University. Goodman was named the PRCA Texas Circuit Champion Steer Wrestler in 2022 and qualified for the 2023 NFR Open.

★ **Roberta Lima**

A native of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Lima was recruited by former WCJC volleyball coach Harold Shilk and earned First Team All-American honors in 1994, making the All-Region team for the southeast region in 1996 and earning Second Team All-American honors in 1997. She continued her athletic career at St. Edwards University.

WCJC Instructor Received Excellence in Welding Award

Wharton County Junior College Welding Instructor Sean Franco received the 2023 Excellence in Welding Award (Veteran category) from the American Welding Society (AWS).

Franco, a full-time welding instructor for WCJC, was chosen for the award by AWS's Welding Equipment Manufacturers Committee (WEMCO). Franco was honored at the Excellence in Welding Awards ceremony, held in Chicago, IL. He was chosen as the 2023 recipient in the veteran category.

Franco was a Staff Sergeant in the United States Army, stationed at Fort Hood in Texas for eight

years. He did two tours in Iraq (2007-2009 and 2010-2011) and was medically discharged after being injured by a roadside bomb in 2011. He received a Purple Heart for his injuries.

Franco is a WCJC alumni, graduating from the Welding Program in 2015. After working in industry, he returned to the college in 2017 as a part-time instructor under Welding Program Director Aaron Dittmar. Franco later obtained the necessary certifications to become a full-time instructor.

Franco says he enjoys mentoring his students and guiding them to become successful in their chosen career.

"Seeing any student graduate and start a new career in welding for themselves or for their family makes being an instructor here at WCJC all worth it," he said. "Every student that goes through this program helps me become a better instructor for all future students."

Dittmar credits Franco with putting in the time and effort required to ensure his students succeed.

"Sean is constantly working to improve his craft for the benefit of making the students better welders upon graduation," Dittmar said.

Wharton County Junior College Instructor of Welding Sean Franco, left, receives the 2023 Excellence in Welding Award (Veteran Category) from Bob Ranc, President of the Welding Equipment Manufacturers Committee (WEMCO).



WCJC's Pioneer Homestead Established to Provide Groceries and Toiletries for Students

Wharton County Junior College has always been committed to helping students achieve their educational goals – and one of the ways the college assists students is by providing food, toiletries, and clothes to those in need.

The Pioneer Homestead pantry provides requesting students a prepackaged bag containing everything from clothing detergent to toothpaste to food, while supplies last. Pantries are located at all four of the college's campuses – Wharton, Bay City, Richmond, and Sugar Land. The Pioneer Homestead opened in June of 2023 and gave out 119 bags the first month.

"Each month we hand out just shy of 200 bags across the four campuses," said WCJC's Director of Counseling and Disability Services Amber Barbee.

Barbee serves as lead on managing the pantry for the benefit of students at the college's four campuses. She said the pantry developed after the counseling department noticed some students were wearing the same clothes week after week. When asked about this, the students said these were their only clothes – and they also could not afford to wash them.

"We found that they had access to washers and dryers but did not have money for detergent," she said. "This led us to learning more information about them not having snacks, lunches and basic toiletries."

WCJC Counselor Shannon Glardon said the pantry takes a proactive approach to helping students.

"We want to focus on preventative care and meeting basic needs," Glardon said.

Items are provided by donations from entities such as the Wharton Rotary Club, the Wharton Lions Club, and several local churches. A Dobson Foundation grant was secured, as well. Clothing vouchers are provided by St. Thomas' Thrift Shop in Wharton.

Barbee said WCJC faculty and staff also regularly support the pantry to keep the shelves filled.

"This resource is a perfect example of how several divisions and departments have come together to work for the best interests of our students," she said.



Grant Provides WCJC Geology Students with Cutting-Edge Learning Opportunities

A National Science Foundation grant will enable Wharton County Junior College students to get a whole new look at science. From utilizing drones for geological mapping to participating in a six-day field trip to New Mexico, students will take their geology learning out of the classroom and into the field.

"It's an advanced learning experience," said WCJC Geology Instructor Peter Anderson. "We will teach through practice, taking the students out into the field and letting them perform data collection, analysis and synthesis. This is the kind of science that professionals would be doing."

Anderson said WCJC teamed up with the University of Houston in applying for the grant, which is part of a national funding effort to improve undergraduate STEM education for Hispanic-Serving Institutions. He said roughly 25 percent of submitted proposals were funded.

"Our partnership with UH outcompeted many other universities from around the nation," he said.

The overall concept is to boost students' learning

opportunities through the Enhanced Field Trip Experience (EFE), which includes hands-on experiences like flying drones, using ground penetrating radar, potentially using Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR), and participating in an intensive field trip.

Data from the program will determine how such experiences benefit students' attitudes and motivations towards geoscience. Through the grant, approximately 160 UH students and 40 WCJC students will have a chance to participate over a four-year period. Grant funding will enable WCJC to purchase equipment that will provide students with cutting-edge learning opportunities. These include computer software that renders a three-dimensional virtual field experience and flying drones that assist with aerial mapping.

"This will provide our students with an experience they otherwise never could afford or find before they commit to a four-year program of study," Anderson said. "Our geology majors can see what they would be doing at a four-year university and also connect with future mentors in the discipline."

Agreement to Aid Students in Transferring to Texas Woman's University

Wharton County Junior College and Texas Woman's University (TWU) are collaborating to aid students who wish to continue their educational career at a four-year university. A memorandum of understanding and an articulation agreement were recently signed by both institutions to help streamline the transfer process.

"It's a great opportunity for our students in transferring to a university," said WCJC President Betty McCrohan. "Any collaboration between us and a university helps ensure that the students get their transfer credits as they move forward."

Texas Woman's University Vice Provost of Curriculum and Strategic Initiatives Dr. Jorge Figueroa said it was a "big deal" to be able to collaborate with WCJC in this fashion.

"Creating transfer opportunities for students is one of our main goals," he said.

WCJC and TWU representatives met at WCJC's

Richmond campus last spring to sign two documents: a memorandum of understanding for transferring into the university's baccalaureate programs and an articulation agreement for a Blended Nursing Program.

"The memorandum addresses students who wish to transfer to TWU after completing their associate of arts degree at WCJC," said WCJC's Director of Dual Credit and University Transfer Natalie Stavinoha.

The memorandum further enables students who transfer to TWU before completing their associate's degree to have courses transferred back to WCJC to apply towards completion of that degree.

"This is referred to as a reverse transfer," Stavinoha said.

The Blended Nursing Program enables students enrolled in WCJC's Associate Degree Nursing program to co-enroll at TWU so that they can finish their ADN and a Bachelor of Science degree simultaneously.

Wharton County Junior College and Texas Woman's University signed a memorandum of understanding and an articulation agreement that will enable WCJC students to more easily transfer to the four-year university. Seated at the table, from left to right, are Dr. Javier Flores, TWU's Vice President of Enrollment Management; Dr. Jorge Figueroa, TWU's Vice Provost of Curriculum and Strategic Initiatives; WCJC President Betty McCrohan and WCJC Vice President of Instruction Leigh Ann Collins. Standing, left to right, are Dr. Maria Peterson-Ahmad, TWU's Associate Dean for Research, Inclusion, and Innovation from the College of Professional Education, and Associate Professor-Teacher Education; Dr. Dewayna Horn, TWU's Associate Dean for Accreditation, College of Business (Houston Campus), and Professor-Management; Dr. Sandra Cesario, TWU's Interim Associate Dean, College of Nursing (Houston Campus), and Professor; Natalie Stavinoha, WCJC's Director of Dual Credit and University Transfer; Dr. Amanda Allen, WCJC's Vice President of Strategy, Enrollment Management, and Technology; and Bryce Kocian, WCJC's Vice President of Administrative Services.



WCJC Students Selected for Summer Research Project

Two Wharton County Junior College science students spent their summer conducting high-level research at Rice University. Through the BioNetworks Research Experiences for Undergrads (REU) Program, WCJC students Gabriela Medina of Richmond and Philip Salinas of Wallis will spend 10 weeks on research projects involving developmental biology and gene networks under Rice University professors.

It's a unique opportunity that could have far-reaching benefits, says WCJC's Biology Department Chair Jennifer Mahlmann.

"This can be a golden key to future opportunities," she said.

Upon invitation from WCJC Instructor of Biology

Dr. Archna Bhasin, Dr. Natasha Kirienko of Rice University gave an informational presentation earlier this year on Rice REUs for WCJC science students. Medina and Salinas applied for the BioNetworks REU – a highly competitive program – and were both chosen.

"Jennifer and I are so happy that Gabby and Philip got into the program," Bhasin said. "REUs are a life-changing experience."

Bhasin participated in an REU program at the University of Texas in Austin as an undergraduate and used the experience as a launch pad for obtaining her Ph.D. in Biochemistry.

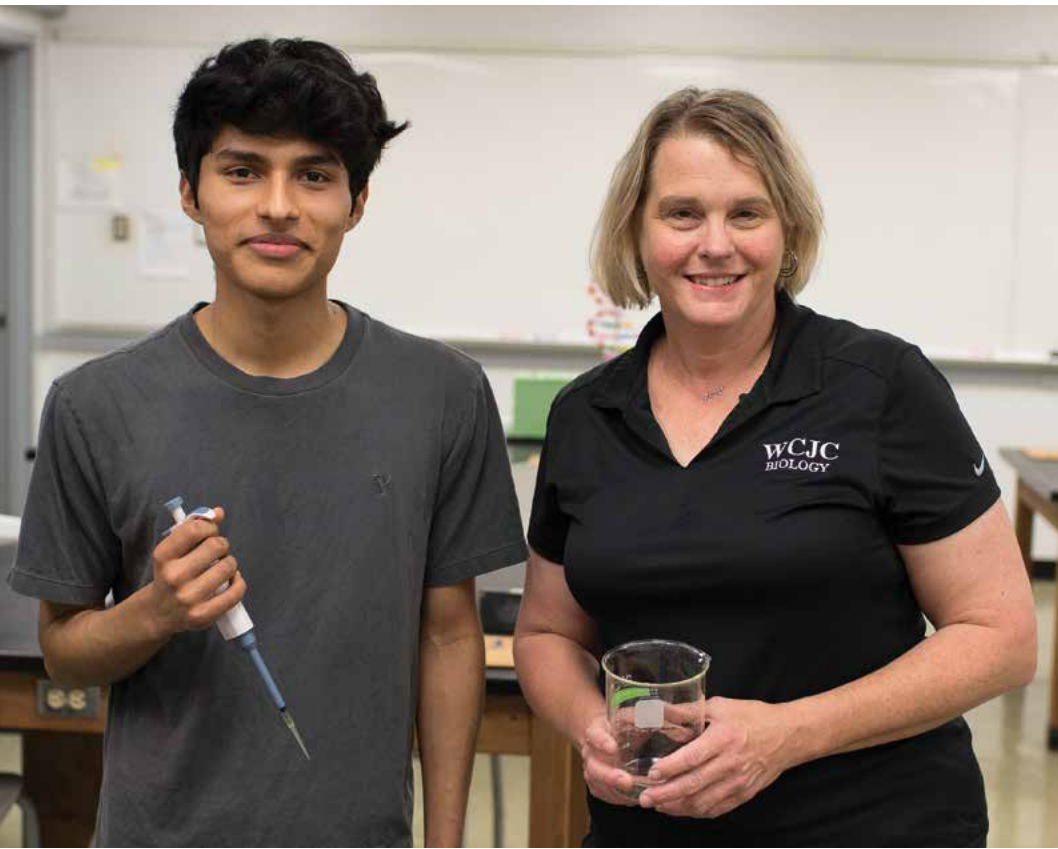
"The degree of learning that happens in a full-time research experiences is leaps and bounds above what we can do in a classroom setting," she explained.

The Rice REU program begins on May 28. Medina and Salinas will live on the Rice Campus during the program and earn a stipend. Both are first-generation college students and are thankful for such a unique opportunity.

"I'm really excited," said Medina, who hopes to become a marine biologist. "I've really wanted to learn more about research."

Salinas is a biology major and in his second semester at WCJC.

"I'm looking forward to learning more about viruses and diseases," he said.



Wharton County Junior College students Philip Salinas of Wallis and Gabriela Medina of Richmond will spend part of this summer conducting scientific research at Rice University. Pictured, from left, are Salinas and WCJC Biology Department Chair Jennifer Mahlmann.



WCJC Display Highlights Career Opportunities of a Process Technology Degree

A new display at Wharton County Junior College's Bay City campus showcases LyondellBasell employees and highlights the career opportunities associated with a Process Technology degree. Pictured, from left, are LyondellBasell Lab Technician Ashley Garza, LyondellBasell Matagorda Complex

Site Manager Tim Carnell, LyondellBasell Process Specialist Wyatt George, WCJC President Betty McCrohan, LyondellBasell HR Manager April Dibbern, LyondellBasell Matagorda Complex Operations Manager Ron Price, and LyondellBasell Operations Technician Nick Pittman.



Dental Hygiene Program Hosted a Reunion

Members of Wharton County Junior College's Dental Hygiene Class of 1973 gathered last summer on the Wharton campus for a 50-year reunion. The attendees were impressed by the changes the college has made to the dental hygiene department and the Johnson Building. One of the highlights of the reunion was the observation of the college's EMS Field Day, which was occurring

simultaneously. Pictured, left to right, are Debbie Brown of Friendswood, Cathy Bost of Killeen, Vickie Carroll of Baytown, Pam Bland of Richmond, Ann Pavliska of Alleyton, Diane Lanier of The Woodlands, Shannon Johnson of League City, WCJC's Director of Dental Hygiene Carol Derkowski of Chappell Hill, Janet Folschinsky of Tomball, Betty Lowe of Angleton, and Arleta Hurr of Liberty.



Wharton County Junior College Athletic Director Keith Case is joined by former athletes, WCJC President Betty McCrohan, and benefactor Duncan Corbett during the "Keith Case Day" event at Corbett Park in Wharton.

WCJC Athletic Director Keith Case Honored for Service to College

Wharton County Junior College honored outgoing Athletic Director Keith Case with a special "Keith Case Day" event at Corbett Park in Wharton. Case threw out the first pitch after receiving a special baseball bat presented by Betty McCrohan, WCJC President, and Duncan Corbett, benefactor of Corbett Park. Some of

Case's former players attended the special event, gathering together for a photograph before the game. Case arrived at WCJC from Mississippi in 2014, initially hired as head baseball coach. He was later named Athletic Director, replacing long-time AD Gene Bahnsen. Case will retire this summer.

WCJC Awarded Scholarships to Top Finishers at UIL Event

Students from 22 area schools participated in a recent University Interscholastic League competition held at Wharton County Junior College's Wharton campus. WCJC committed nearly \$100,000 worth of scholarships to the top finishers.

"We are pleased to offer financial assistance to these students as a way of helping them achieve their educational goals," said WCJC President Betty McCrohan.

Each first place finisher received a \$1,000 scholarship to WCJC. Second place finishers earned a \$750 scholarship. A total of 114 scholarships were awarded. WCJC's Dean of Student Success Lindsey McPherson said the scholarships will be utilized when the recipients enroll full-time at WCJC following high school graduation.



Wharton County Junior College hosted a University Interscholastic League event at the Wharton campus. East Bernard students Naya Hercules, left, and Jerry Corner, were among the competitors. Twenty-two schools participated.



Wharton Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Ron Sanders gets ready for the Wharton Chamber Day at Corbett Park in Wharton.

Wharton Chamber Day at Corbett Park

Former Wharton Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Ron Sanders initiated the Wharton Chamber Day at Corbett Park event last spring.

Chad Faucett and Edward Jones provided underwriting for the event, which showcased the ballpark.

WCJC Hosts District 85 State Representative Stan Kitzman



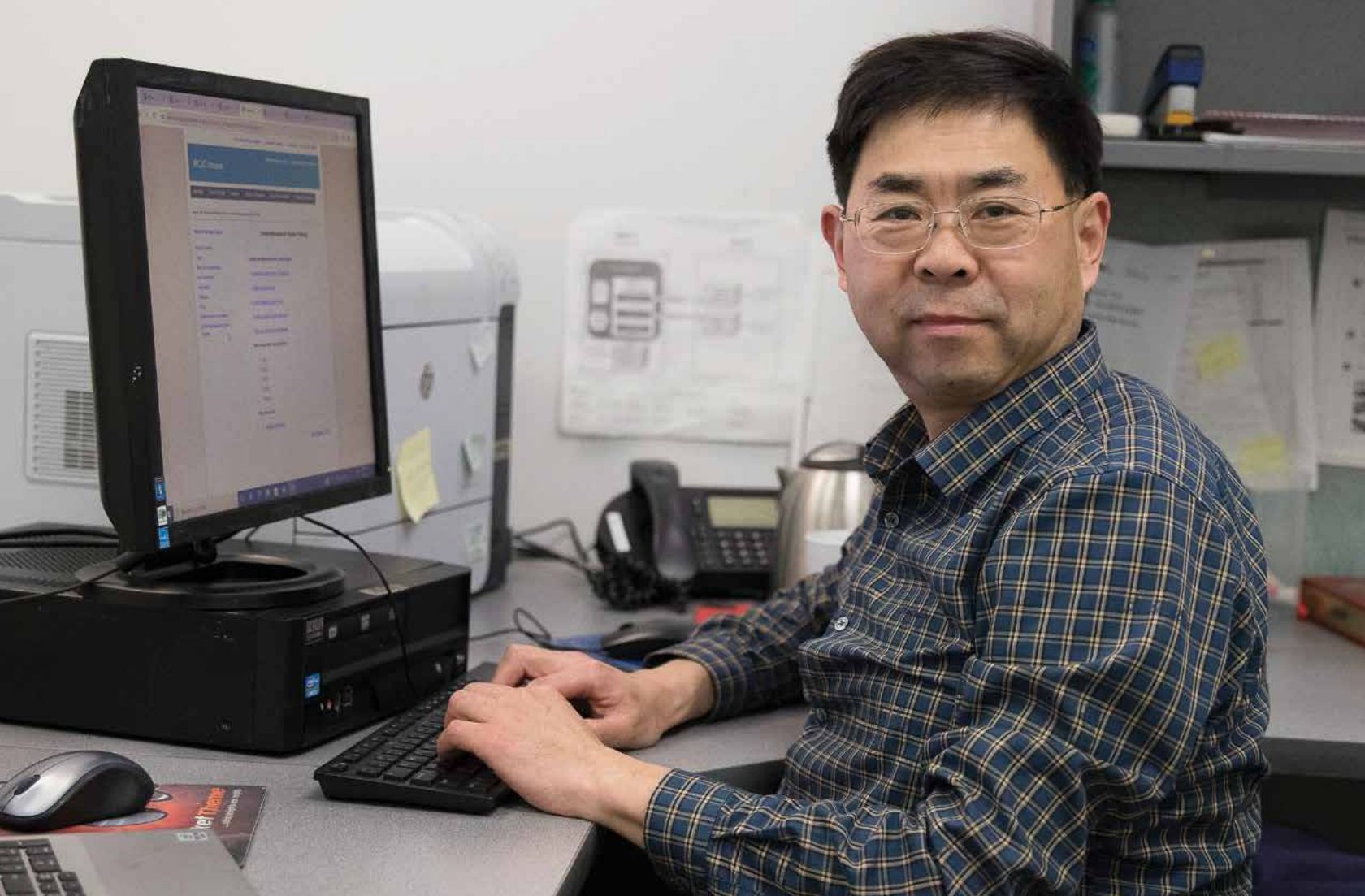
Wharton County Junior College hosted District 85 State Representative Stan Kitzman last summer for a tour and luncheon on the Wharton campus. Representatives from the WCJC Board of Trustees, the WCJC Foundation, and the college's administration were on hand for the visit, which included an up-close look at the college's Emergency Medical Services, Nursing, and Dental Hygiene programs. Seated above are members of the WCJC Foundation Board of Directors. From left are president Suzanne Armour, member Becky Cook,

Foundation Director Jonathan Jeter, treasurer Johnny Veselka, and president-elect Gary Gillen. Standing, from left, are WCJC Executive Vice President Dr. Amanda Allen, WCJC Board of Trustees member Larry Sitka, WCJC Vice President of Instruction Leigh Ann Collins, WCJC President Betty McCrohan, District 85 State Rep. Stan Kitzman, WCJC Board of Trustees chair J. Paul Pope, WCJC Board of Trustees member Dr. Sue Zanne Williamson Urbis, and District 85 liaison Matthew Benavidez.

Pope, Lynch, and Roussel Elected to WCJC Board of Trustees



Elected members of the Wharton County Junior College Board of Trustees were officially sworn in last year. Members included Terry Lynch, elected to Position 7, Jay Roussel, elected to Position 5, and J. Paul Pope, re-elected to Position 6. All three were sworn in by State District Judge Randy Clapp.



Wharton County Junior College Webmaster Eric Li was tasked with overseeing the development of a new mobile friendly college website.

New Website Launched

More than two years of work by a team of college employees resulted in a newly designed website for Wharton County Junior College. The new mobile friendly site — wcjc.edu — made its debut in early spring of 2024.

The college contracted with Boston-based iFactory for the redesign. A Website Redesign Core Team, comprised of WCJC employees, took an active role in the redesign and its implementation. WCJC Webmaster Eric Li and WCJC Director of Marketing, Communications, and Advancement Zina Carter took the lead on the project.

Components of the new site included topic-driven navigation, clear and concise content, fresh images, and enhanced accessibility. The site was specifically designed to be displayed on multiple devices, to

include a progressive calendar, a searchable employee directory, and a modern design.

Other redesign goals included:

- ★ Improve and optimize user experience
- ★ Analysis of the current website performance
- ★ Development of a more student-oriented site
- ★ Improvement of content quality, style and organization
- ★ Compliance with ADA guidelines

Core team members met weekly with iFactory as well as content management system firm Modern Campus during the two-year process. Li was tasked with overseeing the massive data transfer process and working to ensure all the functional and technical components of the site were operational.

WHARTON COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE Summary of Resource Development Activities by Program/Discipline

WCJC was awarded grants from foundations, governmental agencies, and individuals totaling approximately \$16,691,272 for the period September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024. These awards are used to support WCJC’s academic and vocational training programs and to provide financial support for students.

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION/ ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

**Adult Education and Family Literacy
Act/Workforce Invest Act \$943,322**
*Purpose: Adult Basic Education
Program with support from federal
funds, state funds, University of Houston,
and Temporary Assistance for Needy
Families Program*

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

**Senior Citizen Programs in Wharton
County and Colorado County \$430,657**
*(Grant Period Oct. 1, 2023–Sept. 30, 2024)
Sources of funding: federal and state
funds, Wharton County Commissioners
Court, church donations, private
donations, program income, and special
fundraising events.
Purpose: Nutrition, medical, and social
support services for senior citizens*
+ Wharton County Program \$282,347
+ Colorado County Program \$148,310

FINANCIAL AID/SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS

(All qualified students are eligible to apply.)
Carl Perkins Act. \$208,986
*Purpose: Technical training program for
underserved populations. Funding used for
instructional equipment, educational materials,
professional development, student scholarships,
and tutoring services for students*
Chevron Phillips \$6,000
*Purpose: Scholarships for students enrolled in
Process Technology program*
Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo \$49,550
*Purpose: Scholarships for students enrolled in
vocational programs*
Johnson Foundation \$500,000
*Purpose: Scholarships for students in allied
health programs*
LyondellBasell \$10,000
Purpose: Process Technology scholarships

Continued on page 18

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024

PROGRAM EQUIPMENT

Tenaris \$20,000
Purpose: Provide instructional equipment and supplies for the Manufacturing Technology program

The Texas Reskilling and Upskilling through Education (TRUE) 2023 Grant Program. \$250,000
Purpose: Create an immersive environment for student educational experiences at the Wharton Campus

The Texas Reskilling and Upskilling through Education (TRUE) 2023 Grant Program Total: \$500,000
. WCJC: \$147,462
Purpose: Consortium grant with San Antonio College, Southwest Texas Junior College, and Wharton County Junior College with a focus to increase the number of healthcare workers

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Greater Texas Foundation Emergency Aid Grant \$150,000
Purpose: Provide emergency aid funding for students combined with technical assistance to establish or improve an emergency aid program at the institution

National Science Foundation Grant \$41,636
Purpose: This is a four-year grant (currently in year 1) in collaboration with University of Houston to study the impact of an enhanced-field-trip experience on students over the course of four years

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES (CONT'D)

U.S. Department of Education, TRIO/SSS Program \$271,459
per year for 5 years (4th year of project)
Purpose: Identify qualified individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, prepare them for a program in post-secondary education, and provide support services for them

U.S. Department of Education, Title V Developing Hispanic Serving Institutions Program \$600,000
per year for 5 years (4th year of project)
Purpose: Expand educational opportunities for and improve the attainment of Hispanic students

COVID-19 RELIEF FUNDING

U.S. Department of Education Institutional Portion of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund . . \$11,819,764
Purpose: Provide institutional support for expenses related to COVID-19

U.S. Department of Education Minority-Serving Institution Portion of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund \$1,242,436
Purpose: Provide institutional support for MSIs for expenses related to COVID-19

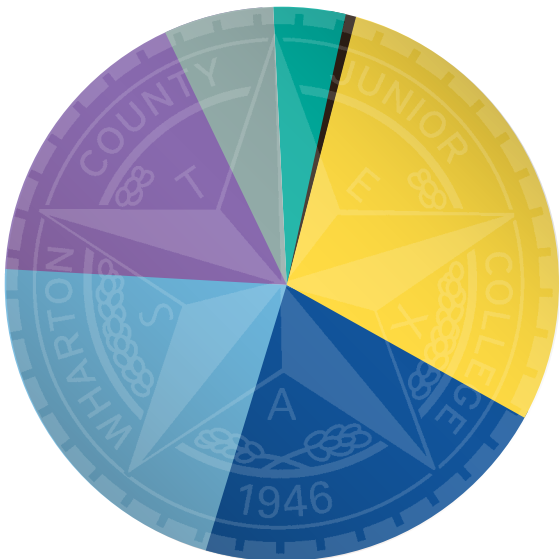
2023-2024
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

2023-2024 REVENUE SOURCES

Total Revenue	\$58,835,304	
Tuition & Fees	\$16,438,364	28%
State Appropriations	\$12,465,212	21%
Grants & Contracts	\$11,679,451	20%
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$10,426,285	18%
Investment Income	\$4,095,417	7%
Other	\$2,876,351	5%
Auxiliary	\$854,224	1%

Source: Wharton County Junior College District Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2024

2023-2024 Revenue Sources

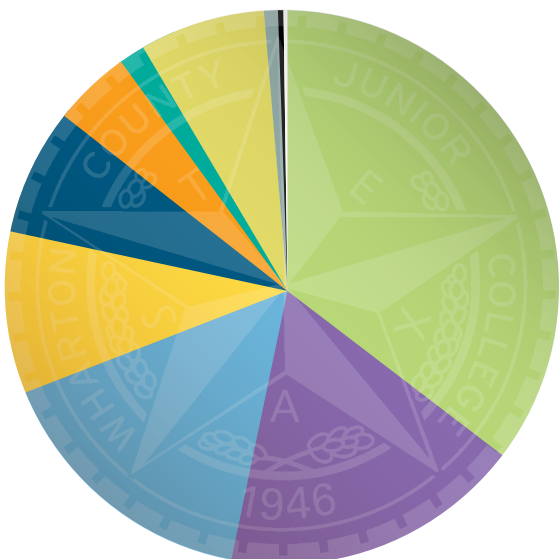


2023-2024 BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Total Expenditures	\$51,843,375	
Instruction	\$19,347,039	37%
Instructional Support	\$7,675,165	15%
Operations/Maintenance	\$3,930,153	7%
Academic Support	\$3,048,175	6%
Scholarships	\$6,378,530	12%
Student Services	\$4,484,521	9%
Public Service	\$1,121,144	2%
Depreciation	\$4,494,625	9%
Auxiliary Expenses	\$1,023,056	2%
Interest	\$314,513	1%
Other	\$26,453	<1%

Source: Wharton County Junior College District Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2024

2023-2024 Budget Expenditures



WCJC Facts and Figures

All figures for Fall 2023 unless noted

Pell Grant Awards

Academic Year 2023-2024

Number of Awards	1,748
Value of Awards	\$8,102,603

Unduplicated Credit Students	5,687
------------------------------	-------

Unduplicated Enrollment by Campus

Wharton Campus	1,362
Sugar Land Campus	1,719
Richmond Campus	1,192
Bay City Campus	141
Dual Credit & Concurrent Enrollment	826
Distance Education (Internet/ITV)	2,213

1,594 students attended more than one campus.

Annual Unduplicated Credit Enrollment	7,352
---------------------------------------	-------

Academic Year 2023-2024

Other Unduplicated Noncredit Enrollment

Academic Year 2023-2024

Continuing Education (Workforce)	361
Continuing Education (Adult Avocation)	213

Student Ethnicity

White/Non-Hispanic	1,517	27%
Hispanic	2,627	46%
Black/Non-Hispanic	668	12%
Asian/Pacific Islander	741	13%
Indian/Alaskan Native	14	<1%
International	0	0%
Unknown	120	2%

Student Age

Under 20	3,035	54%
20-24	1,820	32%
25-29	348	6%
30-39	297	5%
40+	187	3%
Student Average Age	21.3	

Student Gender

Women	3,259	57%
Men	2,428	43%

Student Residency

Texas Residents	5,571	98%
In-District Residents	1,237	22%
Out-of-District Residents	4,242	74%
Tuition-Exempt Residents	92	2%
Outside Texas/International	116	2%

Full-Time Faculty Educational Attainment

Doctorate	32	20%
Master's	93	58%
Bachelor's	17	11%
Associate/Certificate/Other	19	11%

Full-Time Faculty (Fall 2023) Length of Teaching Service

5 Years or Less	70	43%
6-10 Years	34	21%
11-15 Years	23	14%
16-20 Years	20	13%
More than 20 Years	14	9%

Faculty Characteristics

Total Faculty	260	
Full-Time	161	62%
Part-Time	99	38%
Total Minority Faculty	80	31%
Average Faculty Age	52	



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
979.318.7355



WHARTON | SUGAR LAND | RICHMOND | BAY CITY

2023-2024 President's Report to the Community

Produced by the
WCJC Office of Marketing, Communications, and Advancement

For more information, call or write:

Wharton County Junior College
Office of the President
911 Boling Highway
Wharton, Texas 77488
1.800.561.WCJC
wcjc.edu