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Access and opportunity have been the words used at West Kentucky Community and Technical College during this past year and you will continue to hear them over and over again as we promote the benefits of attending the community college.

We are facing difficult challenges in this deep economic recession and the “ice storm of the century” hit us all at a particularly vulnerable time. I am proud of the way our students, our staff, and our faculty met those challenges and managed to maintain our services and move our students toward the goal of success.

West Kentucky chose to seize many opportunities last year in cultivating new partnerships with donors, businesses and organizations that we feel will move education to the forefront in our communities. We were able to make these initiatives happen through careful scrutiny of our budget and making strategic programming decisions.

We launched the Paducah School of Art because we believe strongly in the role we play in creating a community of the arts and the benefits the arts provide in quality of life and economic development. The Emerging Technology Center is shaping into a showcase facility and the Commonwealth Middle College was formed. These stories and many others show a college that is a full and vibrant partner in so many areas of the community it serves. We hope our words and actions encourage students to come to us now, take advantage of what we offer and be ready for the workforce when the economy brightens.

We have thought strategically, along with our partners, about what our students and the community can gain from new opportunity and increased access.

Dr. Barbara Veazey, President
West Kentucky Community and Technical College
Mission
West Kentucky Community and Technical College is an educational institution that provides excellence in teaching and learning, promotes student success, and supports economic development. The goals for WKCTC are to:

- Promote Excellence in Teaching and Learning
- Increase Student Access and Success
- Expand Diversity and Global Awareness
- Enhance Economic Development
- Enhance the Strategic Organization

Vision
West Kentucky Community and Technical College will be an innovative learning institution committed to empowering individuals to achieve excellence in an environment of respect.

Values
West Kentucky Community and Technical College thrives in a culture of excellence – where there is an expectation of superior effort and quality performance on the part of everyone in the college. We value:

- Learning
- Innovation
- Respect
- Empowerment

Marking in 2008-2009 its five-year anniversary as a consolidated college, West Kentucky Community and Technical College is a comprehensive two-year community and technical college that is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). WKCTC is a smart choice for many students because we:

- Offer lower tuition rates.
- Provide technical degrees for today’s jobs.
- Provide transfer degrees to four-year colleges.
- Deliver job training programs.
- Refresh a student’s basic skills.
- Help a student decide where to start.
- Provide business and industry training.
Technology
Students have access to the latest desktop computers at a variety of computer labs throughout the campus as well as access to e-mail, the Internet, laser printers and technical support.

Financial Assistance
Nearly 75% of WKCTC’s students receive financial assistance in the form of grants, loans, scholarships or work-study jobs.

Employees
WKCTC employs 285 full-time faculty and staff, 121 adjunct instructors, 71 Workforce Solutions instructors, and 32 temporary staff.

Facilities
Despite a massive ice storm that damaged many of the beautiful trees on campus, WKCTC’s physical plant continues to grow. Improvements to facilities totaled more than $658,000 for 28 facility improvement projects in 2008-2009.

Nestled in Paducah’s north side, the college physical plant consists of 239 beautiful acres and includes 17 separate buildings and four leased off-campus facilities totaling more than 659,000 square feet of space. In addition to the main campus on Alben Barkley Drive in Paducah, classes are offered at:

- The Purchase Training Center in Mayfield, Kentucky
- The Mary Ellen Thompson Health Education Center in Paducah
- The Weaks Community Center in Murray, Kentucky
- The Paducah School of Art located in downtown Paducah
- The Workforce Solutions Center in the West Kentucky Industrial Park in Kevil
- The Skilled Craft Training Center in Mayfield

Credentials Awarded
West Kentucky Community and Technical College was ranked 18th in the nation in the 2009 Community College Week Magazine’s list of “Top 100 One-Year Certificate” producers. The analysis examined degrees and certificates awarded during the 2007-2008 academic year based on U.S. Department of Education data.

West Kentucky Community and Technical College offers more than 200 associate degree, diploma, and certificate options in more than 30 academic and technical programs. In 2008, the college conferred:

- 563 associate degrees
- 2,137 certificates and diplomas

Student Profile
Fall 2008
Total Student Enrollment: 6,607
Top student majors: AA/AS, registered nursing, business administration, office systems technology, welding technology, practical nursing, information technology, electrical technology and cosmetology.

Students receiving financial aid: 75%
Part-time students: 68%
Full-time students: 32%
Female: 54%
Male: 46%
Michael C. Cooper enrolled in the Mechatronic Systems program at West Kentucky Community and Technical College in order to enhance his apprenticeship as an industrial mechanic at NewPage in Wickliffe.

Cooper, 37, a 1990 Ballard Memorial High School graduate, never expected to make history, but in July he and fellow student Larry E. Wallace of Kevil became the first students in the United States to earn the Level 1 Certification in the Siemens Mechatronic Systems Certification Program (SMSCP).

“This is a very high quality program,” Cooper said. “It has been a privilege to be in the first group in the U.S. to take the steps to achieve this certification.”

Cooper, who already has an associate degree and a bachelor of science degree, said he enrolled at WKCTC to fill some of the gaps in his education. He said WKCTC’s Mechatronic Systems program allowed him “to become a better industrial mechanic and stronger at troubleshooting mechatronic systems that I am involved with at the mill.”

WKCTC Assistant Professor David Franklin said the exam, administered online by Siemens Corporation in Berlin, Germany, signifies international recognition and is considered highly desirable in many industries in the United States. Mechatronics refers to any system that employs mechanical and electronic sub-systems. Factories and industrial sites are literally full of mechatronic systems, Franklin said. Even outside of a factory environment, mechatronic systems are numerous. Modern automobiles, washing machines, and computer printers are some of the many examples.

Siemens AG representative David Webb, in a statement from Berlin, Germany, said the SMSCP is the international industry standard comprehensive skills certification in mechatronic systems, offered together with partner schools around the world.

“With this certification, (Cooper and Wallace) join the hundreds of SMSCP certificate recipients in China, Denmark, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Singapore and Thailand who have found that a Siemens certification alongside a student’s local degree, diploma or certificate can increase their competitiveness in today’s global job market.”

New Programs

In 2008-2009, WKCTC developed an applied engineering technology degree program and electronic medical records certificate program to meet local needs. The college’s polysomnography program was accredited and revisions were made to the medical assisting/medical office, health physics, and HVAC programs. Renovations were made to the cosmetology facilities to support the addition of a night program, and the Kentucky Community & Technical College System (KCTCS) President’s Leadership Team approved the framework for an Associate in Fine Arts Degree.
Transition Education

West Kentucky Community and Technical College is committed to providing excellence in teaching and learning, and promoting student success—to all students. Enhancing college-ready programs and strategies improves the outcome of both underprepared and traditional students since the strategies used to assist the underprepared students carry over to college-credit courses in which they are often concurrently enrolled.

To prepare for the upcoming changes in the statewide assessment and placement policy, in fall 2008 WKCTC invited nationally recognized consultant Hunter Boylan from the National Center for Developmental Education (NCDE) to assess the strengths and challenges of the existing programs and services available to underprepared WKCTC students. The consultant identified eight strengths, 15 recommendations, and six suggestions that the College is addressing through its Council for College Readiness.

Atomic Learning
WKCTC purchased a one-year license for the web-based software training Atomic Learning program through the use of Title III - Strengthening Institutions Program - grant funds. Atomic Learning provides to all WKCTC faculty, staff, students and parents thousands of short, easy-to-understand tutorial videos and a library of curriculum resources that can be used as an integral part of a professional development program, a valuable curriculum supplement, and an anytime/anywhere software training resource. Individuals who use Atomic Learning get Web-based software training available 24/7, more than 35,000 tutorial videos on more than 110 of the most common software applications, and home access so individuals can use Atomic Learning where and when they need it.

Web-Enhanced Courses
WKCTC currently offers numerous Web-enhanced courses. To Web-enhance a class faculty members meet with Faith Crim in the Teaching and Learning Center. Together they decide on the best options for enhancing a class and how to accomplish this using Blackboard, the college’s course management system.

In a web-enhanced course, the class meets in a classroom like a traditional class with an instructor at the regular scheduled day, time and location. Seat time is not replaced but components of the course will be accessible to students 24/7. Students may complete homework assignments, take quizzes, participate in group work, and interact with the instructor and fellow students online. Web-enhanced courses free up valuable class time for actual instruction. They also provide a more environmentally friendly option for not having to make several handouts for each class session.

Academic Support
In 2008-2009, the Academic Support Center served approximately 620 students offering supplemental instruction, integrated tutoring and peer tutoring in computers and Spanish. Tutors offered a poker night review for a mathematics course and mock finals for several courses offered at WKCTC. Several tutoring sessions for math occurred completely online.

The tutor training program, under the supervision of Mason Tudor, received national recognition as College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) certified. The tutoring staff attended a CRLA regional conference at Northern Kentucky University, and toured facilities at Madisonville Community College and Western Kentucky University. The Academic Support Center has developed thorough documentation methods for recording information from tutoring sessions. The most important development was the establishment of a faculty liaison for each division, which will improve communication between faculty and the center.
Increasing Student Access and Success

West Kentucky Community and Technical College recognizes the importance of providing access to the college's programs and services in a variety of methods and locations. The college has increased opportunities available to students to receive education and training and has put into place new services, such as the implementation of a Monday/Wednesday, Tuesday/Thursday and Friday course schedule and completed online modularized courses to support student success.

Going the Distance

West Kentucky Community and Technical College's involvement in the KCTCS Online program has grown since the initial courses were released in January of 2009. Economics, psychology, and Spanish are online and continuing to grow in enrollment. Online learning continues to grow on the WKCTC campus with unduplicated enrollment numbers for the 2008-2009 school year reaching 5,265 for the Fall 2008 and Spring 2009 semesters combined.

Over the past three semesters, the college's online enrollment has grown dramatically.

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<td>Spring 2008</td>
<td>2,162</td>
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<td>Fall 2008</td>
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<td>Spring 2009</td>
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During the spring of 2009, WKCTC hosted an annual retreat for the KCTCS Distance Learning PEER Team. Twenty-three members attended the two-day event that ended with a tour of the campus and Whitehaven.

Adult Education

Due to life's influences, the standard educational schedules and methods are not successful for all students. Kentucky Adult Education funds adult education at WKCTC. The goal is to improve an individual's ability to read, write, and speak in English, and function effectively in the workplace, family and society. WKCTC's McCracken County Adult Education program can provide closure in one's educational experiences and open the possibility for continuing education. The adult education program enrolled 604 individuals in 2009. The number of individuals earning a GED after receiving Adult Education services has increased 83% since 2006 with 175 earning GEDs in 2008-2009.

April Simmons of Paducah became the first McCracken County GED graduate to receive a $1,500 federally-funded Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship. The scholarship is renewable for four years of postsecondary education.
Expansion in Graves County

It once brought NASCAR enthusiasts nationwide to Graves County. The one-story, 60,000-square-foot building that previously housed Twin Hills Collectables near Mayfield is the home of WKCTC’s Skilled Craft Training Center.

A $1.5 million donation from the Lay Family Foundation of St. Louis, Mo and $500,000 provided through the cooperative efforts of the City of Mayfield, the Graves County Fiscal Court and The Graves Growth Alliance to Paducah Junior College, Inc., the foundation of WKCTC, made the purchase of the building possible. WKCTC President Barbara Veazey said the new training center will utilize a QuickJobs training format to provide skilled training in weeks as opposed to a traditional semester format. All classes at the center will allow students multiple entry and multiple exit points so they will be able to continue to upgrade their skills while working. College officials plan to start by offering programs in welding technology and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning technology.

“We are very excited about the opportunities this new center will bring to the people in this region,” Veazey said. “This facility is meant to be flexible and provide specialized training. We will be creating a center that will address the demands of business and industry at any given time. It certainly could be used as a recruiting tool to bring in new industry to the community.”

Commonwealth Middle College

With the excitement of youth, 50 high school juniors from McCracken and Marshall counties began the 2009 school year as the first class of the new Commonwealth Middle College.

The Middle College, which is housed in the Nemer Building on the WKCTC campus, allows selected high school students to take high school classes at the Middle College while also enrolling in WKCTC classes. The students can earn up to 36 college credits free of charge, which carries an estimated savings of $5,000 per student.

The Lay Family Foundation of St. Louis, MO contributed $660,000 to establish the Middle College on the WKCTC campus and to help more high school students pursue higher education. Financial support from the Lay Family Foundation, WKCTC, and the school districts has defrayed the costs, including the hiring of the Middle College’s first principal, Donna L. Wear and counselor Dr. Donna K. Mattingly.

The St. Louis-based foundation also donated an additional $20,000 to establish a textbook lending library for the Middle College students. “Education is all about opportunity,” Wear said, “and this is a great opportunity for these 50 students — it’s life changing.”
Paducah School of Art

The Paducah School of Art continues to attract students to its 409 Broadway home since launching in 2008. Classes in drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, and two- and three-dimensional design are being offered by nationally and internationally exhibited master artists.

Paducah School of Art and Clemens Fine Arts Theatre partnered with Maiden Alley Cinema to bring the Southern Circuit of Independent Film Makers tour to Paducah, hosting six independent films in 2008-09.

For two weeks in June, a group of twelve high school students had the opportunity to participate in the Paducah School of Art’s inaugural Pre-College Summer Art Program. Students attended two 3-hour classes each day, rotating between drawing, ceramics, painting and digital photography. Classes were taught by PSA full-time faculty members, who were also available for individual instruction during Friday morning “open studio.” On Friday afternoons all the students met with PSA Director Harvey Sadow to view documentary films about art history and studio artists doing their work, after which round table discussions were held. Student work finished during the program was photographically documented and burned onto CD’s for the students to use as the model for building personal portfolios with which to apply to art schools and colleges. An open house for parents and friends of the students was held at the 409 Broadway studios, where the student work was displayed.

Retaining Students

West Kentucky Community and Technical College had the highest student retention rate in Fall 2007 of all Kentucky’s community and technical colleges - a testament to the efforts of the entire WKCTC faculty and staff.

Intervention strategies were put into place by the Academic Support Council through counseling and enhancements in tutoring services, new program development, and the Accessible College Education (ACE) program.

The percent of WKCTC’s first-time students who returned to classes from one fall semester to the next fall semester or who earned a credential by the following fall, increased from 52.6 percent for fall 2005 to 60.5 percent for fall 2007. The full-time student retention rate increased from 57.9 percent for fall 2005 to 68.5 percent for fall 2007. The retention rate for African-American students increased from 29 percent to 65.1 percent over the same timeframe.

Improving the number of students who continued to come to college semester after semester has also had an impact on the number of students who continue their education after finishing at WKCTC. The College’s transfer rate increased by 30.3 percent from 2003 to 2007.
A group of students and faculty from West Kentucky Community and Technical College learned that traveling to Mexico could be an invaluable experience to their education.

Students from Bowling Green, Maysville and West Kentucky Community and Technical Colleges were among 11 members of a March 7-14, 2009 trip, coordinated by WKCTC Assistant Professor Carolyn Perry and English professor Pat Blaine. The course, titled “Culture of Mexico for Non-Spanish Speakers,” met the associate in arts and associate in science cultural diversity graduation requirement in social interaction.

Marissa Estes, 21, a part-time student at Maysville Community College has actively studied Spanish for about five years and is conversationally fluent. She had never been to Mexico before and knew if she missed this trip she would regret it. “I don’t know what I hoped but it definitely re-ignited my desire for the language,” she said. “It was an amazing experience. I think I could live there … it made me realize how much I missed speaking Spanish.”

The trip focused on the culture and history of Mexico and included visits to the Museum of Anthropology, pyramids, and the Basilica of the Virgin of Guadalupe. Students also stayed a short time with Mexican families. “The whole focus of the course was to immerse the students in the culture of Mexico,” Perry said. “We toured four total archaeological sites, the pyramids and the art collection at the National Palace in Mexico City.”

Expanding Diversity and Global Awareness

New Study Abroad Experience

(left to right) Bowling Green Community & Technical College student Courney Scott and WKCTC student Kayla Guess made new friends during the educational trip to Mexico. San Agustín Acolman, one of Mexico’s oldest monasteries, located on the outskirts of Mexico City.
Enhancing Economic Development

Summer Camps Learning Made Fun

For 10 year-old Dylan Matt and 7 year-old Conner Washburn playing with Legos® was nothing new. Both boys said they liked to play with the toy building bricks in their home.

Dylan and Conner were among more than 100 children who participated in the Extreme Lego® Camp at West Kentucky Community and Technical College during July. The camps were for kids in kindergarten through the fifth grade.

In its second year and organized by WKCTC’s Workforce Solutions, the camp, one of 13 coordinated by the training center during the summer, attracted even more children than it did its first year, said instructor David Cissell. “There’s so much math and science in doing this. It’s unbelievable,” Cissell said. “They are continually counting. You can’t just put things together; you have to use mathematics. And there’s a lot of science to what they build, too … it’s not just play.”

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Workforce Solutions

WKCTC’s Workforce Solutions Center served more than 400 companies in 2008-09. The center spearheaded the college’s efforts in KCTCS’s new Workforce Competitiveness Initiative. WKCTC was selected as one of four pilot schools to launch the initiative.

The center also secured more than $600,000 in KY WINS funding for local companies and completed the OSHA Fall Safety grant requirements with 744 total trained.

Opportunities and Access

West Kentucky Community and Technical College has opened a Workforce Solutions Center office in Ballard County. The college leased 3,735 square feet of space in the West Kentucky Technology Park in Kevil to offer pre-employment training in welding and health physics. WKCTC received $500,000 from the Kentucky Workforce Investment Network Systems in 2008-2009 to assist with job training.
President Barbara Veazey received the Spirit of Hope award from the American Cancer Society during a fundraiser that raised more than $19,000 for the organization. The ACS’s Spirit of Hope award annually recognizes the outstanding efforts of cancer survivors, caregivers, health care professionals and volunteers who give hope, courage, strength, security and life inspiration to others. The society presented Dr. Veazey with a painting by local artist Bill Ford.

Dr. Veazey told more than 200 ladies who attended the August 22, 2009 event in Lourdes’ Nemer Pavilion that hope took on a whole new meaning for her after she was diagnosed with breast cancer in August 2007. “If I can be a voice of early detection and of cleaning up our environment; if I can be a voice of hope to others, then I very humbly and with great pride accept this award.”
**Artist Exhibitions**

Randy Simmons and BiLan Liao, faculty members at Paducah School of Art, were each featured in several one-person exhibitions during the year. Liao was also a featured speaker at an education conference in Shenzhen, China.

Artwork by Paducah School of Art Director Harvey Sadow was represented in several museum exhibitions sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and Southern Arts Federation. He was also chosen to serve on two advisory committees for the National Council on Education in the Ceramic Arts at this year’s annual meeting in Phoenix, AZ.

**Distance Learning During Crisis**

An article by William Wade, Dean of Distance Learning, describing the college’s effort to provide distance learning to students after the January 26, 2009 ice storm knocked out phone service, electricity, and Internet service throughout western Kentucky was published in the February 27, 2009 edition of the Community College Weekly.

**Teacher of the Year**

For the second time in more than a dozen years, there was a tie in the selection of the Teacher of the Year at West Kentucky Community and Technical College. The student body selected Don Maley and Dr. Kevin Gericke as the 2009 Teachers of the Year from among 14 faculty members nominated. Maley, a professor of communications received the award for the second time, having received it previously in 1978. Gericke, associate professor of economics and statistics, began working at the college in August 1999. He was a Teacher of the Year nominee in 2003 and has also been nominated as a KCTCS New Horizon Faculty Member.

**New Horizon Nominees**

Betty Myrick and Randy Simmons, both of Paducah, and Jill Knight of Hickory were all nominated for the Kentucky Community and Technical College System’s 2009 New Horizon Award.

Myrick, director of adult education, was nominated in the administrative category. She has worked at the college for a year. Simmons, an assistant art professor, has worked at the college for four years. A Graves county native, Simmons graduated from Murray State University and continued his education at the University of Cincinnati. He also studied art in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland. Knight, a senior administrative assistant, was nominated in the staff category and has worked at the college for 18 years.
Melissa Duncan, Kim Russell, and Gail Robinson Butler presented a workshop at the 2009 KCTCS New Horizons Conference. Gail Robinson Butler also presented at the 31st Annual National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence in Austin, Texas. Both workshops were based on the One Book, One Campus, One Community Read with Homer Hickam’s *Rocket Boys*.

**Dr. Felix Akojie**

Dr. Felix Akojie was appointed by Governor Steve Beshear to serve as a board member for the Kentucky Association for Gifted Education. His three-year appointment began in September 2008. Dr. Akojie was selected because of his outstanding contributions during his five years on the Paducah Independent School Board, as Chairman of the First Regional Kentucky School Board, and as a member of the Kentucky School Board Association’s Board of Directors.

**Gary Goodaker**

Mathematics Associate Professor Gary Goodaker was appointed to serve on the Kentucky Association for Academic Competition (KAAC) Board of Directors for the 2008-2009 year. He serves as one of two representatives from the west region of Kentucky, along with Beth Dillingham from the Dawson Springs school district.

**Faculty Awards**

Norman F. Wurgler of Almo received the Phelps Award, named in memory of Finis Sargent Phelps and Florence Grubbs Phelps that was established at the college in 1991. The purpose of this award is to emphasize quality, promote academic excellence, and reward competence in teaching in the liberal arts and sciences disciplines. Wurgler has been at the college 10 years and is an associate professor in music and humanities.

Deborah Swain of Ledbetter was presented the Paducah Junior College Faculty Award. Swain, an associate professor in the surgical technology program, has been at the college since 1995. The PJC award was established in 1999 and also recognizes quality, competence, and excellence in teaching in a technical field.

**Conference Speakers**

Associate Professors Deborah Swain and Norman F. Wurgler
Collaboration has always been a key ingredient to WKCTC’s success. This past year, the College expanded its outreach efforts and in the process touched a growing number of individuals.

WKCTC Television - 30 Years and Counting

The WKCTC Television department maintains the contract with the city of Paducah to provide programming, multimedia services, consultation, engineering and digital content for the city of Paducah and the Government Access Channel, Government 11.

Plans for a new remote control, robotic camera system were finalized. The six-camera system will replace the 1990s-era cameras now in use in the Paducah City Commission chamber and allow greater flexibility and a wider variety of camera angles.

A new series entitled Your City at Work was created to showcase city departments and programs. The program is hosted by the city’s Public Information Officer Pam Spencer and airs several times monthly on Government 11.

Paducah Mayor Bill Paxton continues to host Quality of Life Matters in the city of Paducah. This program focuses on the city’s ongoing effort to enhance the quality of life for its citizens. Past shows have highlighted the new skate park, the Splash Park and improvements to Paducah’s riverfront.

Uncut live coverage and delayed replays of the Paducah City Commission meetings and city commission workshops as well as the Paducah Planning and Zoning Commission meetings provides the citizens of Paducah unedited information about the city of Paducah.

SNAP

More than 2,000 faculty, staff, and students signed up in fall 2008 to receive Safety Notification Alert Process (SNAP) text alert messages on their mobile phones during campus emergencies. The new system was activated at WKCTC when the ice storm forced the campus to remain closed for several days in January 2009.

Emerging Technology Center to Open 2010

As construction moved forward in 2008-2009, officials have finalized the development of an applied engineering technology degree, which will be the capstone program in the center. The $16.5 million Emerging Technology Center and adjacent $2.2 million Fred Paxton Engineering Wing will provide the region with a facility equipped to meet the needs of today’s technically advanced workforce. The building is expected to open in January 2010.
One Book, One Campus, One Community

The One Book, One Campus, One Community read of Homer Hickam’s *Rocket Boys*, later released as *October Sky*, was one of the most exciting activities of the year. The event opened to a full house at Maiden Alley Cinema for a screening of the movie, *October Sky*, based on Hickam’s *Rocket Boys*. Hickam made presentations at a VIP reception, a town hall meeting for students, and a keynote presentation at WKCTC plus a brief presentation and book signing at Paducah-McCracken County Public Library. While in Paducah, Hickam addressed, met, and signed books for 1,100 fans.

The WKCTC Clemens Fine Arts Center and The Challenger Learning Center produced the event to promote reading in the community. Other partners included Barnes and Noble, Paducah-McCracken County Public Library, McCracken County and Paducah Independent Schools, Maiden Alley Cinema, and McNet.

arts in FOCUS 2008-2009

The 2008-09 arts in FOCUS season included 28 events. In addition, the center staff produced and facilitated 23 events by community and campus organizations. Approximately 6,669 people attended events sponsored or co-sponsored by the Clemens Fine Arts Center. The Clemens Fine Arts Center implemented on-line ticket sales in 2008-09.

The center partnered with The Paducah School of Art, Maiden Alley Cinema, the Southern Arts Federation, the Kentucky Center for the Arts, and the Paducah-McCracken County Public Library. Educational outreach activities were produced and included ongoing ArtsReach Paducah workshops, songwriting seminars and meetings on campus by the West Kentucky Songwriters Group, spring short play festival, WKCTC talent shows, and student showcases.

Grants

Grant funding exceeded $4 million in 2008-2009, including a Community-Based Job Training Grant for $1.9 million. The program areas include health physics, chemical operator, and industrial maintenance. The programs developed through this initiative have led to stimulus dollars and job training dollars to several local businesses.
Lourdes and Western Baptist Hospital donated a vascular sonography unit to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program at West Kentucky Community and Technical College. The WKCTC Diagnostic Medical Sonography program was the first sonography program in the Commonwealth of Kentucky when it was established in 1988. The two-year career program is designed to prepare students for entry-level employment in diagnostic ultrasound.

The donation of the $12,000 HP 4500 vascular system provides the necessary equipment for laboratory practice of vascular sonography and will prepare WKCTC students for clinical education and employment. Both hospitals continue to provide generous support to the college’s allied health programs. In addition to this donation, the hospitals provide annual funding to support the nursing program.

“Western Baptist and Lourdes provide valuable resources to the college,” said Dr. Barbara Veazey, president of WKCTC. “Gifts of needed equipment and annual funding enable us to make meaningful changes and improvements to our programs.”

Displaying a donated vascular sonography unit are (left to right) Dr. Barbara Veazey, president of WKCTC; Ginny Ginithan, Lourdes Radiography Department manager; Dr. Dan Hadfield, local radiologist and medical director of WKCTC’s sonography and radiography programs; Tara Miller, Lourdes Foundation; and Bob Seely, Western Baptist Hospital Radiology Department manager.

The Lay Family Foundation will be recognized at the Kentucky Community and Technical College System’s Benefactors Gala in Lexington. The foundation, which donated more than $600,000 to the Commonwealth Middle College in 2008, also donated $1.5 million toward the purchase and implementation of the Skilled Craft Training Center in Graves County.

The 60,000 square-foot facility is located on nine acres of land in the Hickory Industrial Park and was purchased in June 2009. The building has approximately 17,000 square-feet of office and classroom space. The remainder of the building is high bay space. College officials plan to open to open the building with programs in welding technology and heating, ventilation and air conditioning technology. A new program in automotive technology will be added along with diesel technology. Other course or program offerings will be added based on community need.
The 2008 Gala Scholarship Auction, organized by Paducah Junior College, Inc., the foundation of West Kentucky Community and Technical College, raised more than $120,000 for the college’s scholarship program on September 4, 2008.

It was the first time the annual event was held at Harrah’s Hotel and Conference Center in Metropolis. The move didn’t keep more than 350 people from attending the silent and live auction. The live auction, which was conducted by businessman Louis Michelson and former WPSD executive John D. Williams, featured such items as a week’s stay in a villa in Salernes, France; a three-night stay in downtown Chicago; numerous pieces of original art by local artists and a golf trip to central Florida.

The top donations for the evening included a $20,000 anonymous donation and a bid by Susan McClure of Paducah that was matched by Hannan Supply Company in the “Name Your Own Endowment” category. McClure’s bid established an endowed scholarship in memory of her husband, Tony McClure, who died in February 2008.

A native of Covington, GA, Tony McClure was a Paducah Community College professor from 1974 until 2000. While at PCC he served as athletic director, girls and boys’ basketball coach, and baseball coach. He was instrumental in starting girls’ basketball at PCC in 1976, and was named Men’s Basketball Coach of the Year in the seventh region in 1986. His wife attended the college from 1976-1978 and played basketball for him.

Susan McClure said she and her husband continued to support the college over the years. Their two children, including a son who is currently enrolled in an architectural program at the University of Kentucky, both took classes at the local college. McClure said her husband loved the college. “He would be so proud to know he’s going to be helping students and helping the (college) and higher education.”

College Recognizes Scholarship Donors

Receiving a National Science Foundation STEM Scholarship was a dream come true for Carlisle county resident Bethany Cissell.

“It’s going to really help me,” said the 18 year-old 2008 Carlisle county graduate. “It’s going to help me focus on school and my studies instead of having to work. I’m just so thankful to get it.”

Cissell, the daughter of Michael and Darlene Cissell of Carlisle County, was among more than 10 West Kentucky Community and Technical College students who received the STEM scholarships at the college in 2008-2009. She was among more than 50 scholarship recipients who participated in WKCTC’s annual Scholarship Reception.

The college awarded more than $250,000 in scholarships to more than 150 students in 2008-2009. The reception offered WKCTC’s scholarship recipients an opportunity to meet their scholarship donors and thank them.

Gala Scholarship Auction Raises $120,000

Montgomerys and Wheelers Honored at Gala

Dr. Wally and Geraldine Montgomery and Kenneth and Jean Wheeler, all of Paducah, were honored during the Kentucky Community and Technical College System’s annual President’s Gala Benefactors Awards Dinner, November 1, 2008 in Lexington.

In recognizing the 10-year history of the system, KCTCS President McCall also recognized those benefactors who continue to support the colleges. The Montgomerys have both served on the Paducah Junior College, Inc. Board of Trustees. Dr. Montgomery has been a member of the board since 1980. He was instrumental in securing private funding for the college’s Crounse Hall in the 1990s. The Montgomerys recently pledged $100,000 in support of WKCTC’s Paducah School of Art.

Evidence of the generous nature of Kenneth and Jean Wheeler is witnessed throughout the Paducah community. Kenneth Wheeler has been a member of the PJC, Inc. Board of Trustees since 1990, and served as board chair from 2005 to 2008. In addition to supporting previous capital campaigns, the Wheelers were the first donors to take advantage of the charitable provisions in the 2006 Pension Act by establishing a scholarship endowment for WKCTC students. The couple recently pledged $100,000 to support the construction of the Fred Paxton Engineering Wing.
Marshall County Wins President’s Cup

Marshall County High School took home top honors at the 2009 President’s Cup academic bowl at West Kentucky Community and Technical College.

Marshall County’s team beat a team from Madisonville North Hopkins, 30 – 16. The third and fourth place trophies went to St. Mary High School and Calloway County High School, respectively.

Foundation Funds Carpentry House Project

The WKCTC construction technology classes completed work on a new house located at 1334 Madison Street in 2009. Instructor John Moore found the project to be a boost to classroom instruction. “This construction project has provided an outstanding learning experience for our students and has helped prepare them for their chosen profession,” Moore said.

This hands-on experience for the students was made possible in large part by funds contributed from PJC, Inc. to purchase materials and hire professionals for jobs that required licensed workers. The house also represents a partnership with the City of Paducah who donated the land for the construction. It serves as a cornerstone for the Fountain Avenue Neighborhood Project.

Cisco Systems Donates Equipment to WKCTC

Cisco Systems, Inc. donated four Unified Communications Manager Express 520 systems to West Kentucky Community and Technical College’s information technology program. The equipment, worth $20,000, is used in the college’s introductory course on Voice Over IP (VOIP).

Information technology professor John Vos said Cisco officials approached him about the donation. He said officials hope that more small businesses will move in the direction of using VOIP in their businesses.

Cisco hardware, software, and service offerings are used to create the Internet solutions that make networks possible providing easy access to information anywhere, at any time. Based in San Jose, CA, Cisco was founded in 1984 by a small group of computer scientists from Stanford University. Since the company’s inception, Cisco engineers have been leaders in the development of Internet Protocol (IP)-based networking technologies.

WKCTC is a Cisco Regional and Local Academy and a Microsoft-authorized Academic Training Program Institution. The Cisco program provides certificate training for Cisco Certified Network Associates (CCNA) and Cisco Certified Network Professionals (CCNP).
Jim Grisham Remembered

WKCTC lost a long-time friend and donor this year with the death of Jim Grisham.

Mr. Grisham contributed to the college each year in memory of his wife. He was honored as one of the College’s 2007 Benefactors of the Year.

His first gift was used in 2005 to refurbish the Rosenthal Hall computer lab, which was named in memory of his wife Jo. Mrs. Grisham spent more than 35 years working with computers and continued her study of new processes even after her retirement at the former Lockheed Martin plant. Mrs. Grisham died in 1999.

At the present time, the cosmetology program is getting a much-needed facelift thanks to the generosity of Mr. Grisham. His latest donations were used to upgrade the facilities located in the Anderson Technical Building. When renovations are complete, the area will be dedicated to the Grishams.

Lubrizol Foundation Funds Engineering Scholarships

The Lubrizol Foundation (Cleveland, OH) donated $6,600 for chemical engineering scholarships at the University of Kentucky College of Engineering Extended Campus Program at WKCTC. The chemical manufacturer operates a plant in Calvert City and began supporting local engineering students in 2005.

Tennessee Valley Authority Support

The Tennessee Valley Authority donated $5,000 to West Kentucky Community and Technical College for its Rapid Prototyping / Rapid Manufacturing curriculum.

With this gift, the college implemented this trend-setting manufacturing concept and incorporated it into existing manufacturing disciplines. Recently, the prototyping concept has been used in medical modeling, arts programs, automotive industry, military, and for consumer product development. The donated funds were used to purchase software and supporting materials for 3D printer technology.

Challenger Learning Center

The Challenger Learning Center at Paducah provides hands-on simulation mission experiences for over 6,000 local middle school students annually. The Paducah center is part of a national network of centers founded by the families of the astronauts tragically lost in the Challenger accident.

In addition to middle school programs, the Challenger Learning Center brought many learning opportunities to community members of all ages.

New this year was Club Challenger, an after school program for students in third through fifth grades. Distance learning missions, called e-Missions, were conducted with students from across the nation. Missions were also conducted with local home school students. Preschool students made rockets in the Astrotot program. Summer camps exceeded previous years’ enrollment with 445 students enjoying activities such as building water bottle rockets, creating robots, building a life size Mars colony, and participating in simulated space missions.
Ways to Give

The satisfaction of giving comes in knowing that you are investing in the lives of students, business, and communities who benefit each and every day from our education, training and services.

Instructors from Artisan Kitchen taught classes in Central and South American cuisine, holiday hors d’oeuvre preparation, desserts, and Chinese cuisine, and instructed children in the art of gingerbread houses. A Pampered Palate hosted the popular Valentine’s Dinner at Kirchhoff’s Bakery and Mother’s Day Lunch in the courtyard at Max’s Brick Oven Café. Dom and Arleen Amato taught enthusiasts their Italian family recipes.

Gifts to West Kentucky Community and Technical College can be made through Paducah Junior College, Inc. PJC is a registered 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to the support of WKCTC and its programs. As the foundation for WKCTC, PJC, Inc. provides resources to help donors find the appropriate use and nature for desired charitable contributions, including:

• Appreciated Securities
• Bequests
• Cash Gifts
• Charitable Gift Annuities
• Charitable Lead Trust
• Charitable Remainder Trust
• Closely Held Stock
• Life Insurance
• Matching Gifts
• Real and Personal Property (In-Kind)
• Retirement Account Gifts

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West Kentucky Community & Technical College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award the associate degree. West Kentucky Community & Technical College, a member of the Kentucky Community & Technical College System (KCTCS) is an equal opportunity employer and educational institution.