Wharton County Junior College

Academic Affairs Council

Item	Description
Date	March 19, 2024
Time	1:00 p.m.
Location	Library Sympodium Classroom

I. Attendees

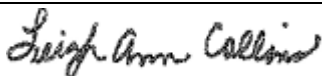| Role	Name
Chair	Leigh Ann Collins
Minute Taker	Trish Chandler
Attendees	Mike Adkins, Danny Bacot, Michele Betancourt, Carol Derkowski, Jessica Falcon, Tim Guin, T.K. Krpec, David Kucera, Jennifer Mauch, Lindsey McPherson, Traci Myers, Patrick Ralls, Christy Ruby, Amanda Shelton, Natalie Stavinoha, Wendy Tamayo, Tara Zekavat
Guests	none
Absent	NaQui Davidson, Kevin Dees

II. Information and Action Items

	Description
1.	Lac welcomed the Council and thanked everyone for their attendance.
2.	**Adult Education and Literacy (Tara Zekavat; handout attached)** • Tara Zekavat provided an overview on enrollment, benchmarks, completion, and success rates for AY24. AEL currently has 850 students and has met 89% of the enrollment target as of March 2024. • Recent HGAC Quality Assurance and Financial audits revealed 100% satisfaction with no findings. This is the third consecutive year with no findings.
3.	**Academic & Career Advising and Title V Grant (Mike Adkins)** • Advising added chatbot to better meet student need as well as added Virtual Fridays (however, face-to-face students are not turned away). To date, the department had 11,600 academic advising sessions, 9500 sessions for career advising, and 3500 sessions for transfer students. To support students with less than a 2.0 GPA, the department added Case Management advising. • The Summer Bridge program had 26 student completers in 2023. • Implementation for Degree Works is still underway.
4.	**College Readiness Reading/Writing (T.K. Krpec; handout attached)** • Fall 2023 had 72% of Not College Ready (NCR) students successfully complete ENGL 1301 that was paired with NCBI 0300 (not college-level course), which is an improvement from spring 2023 with 68% success. The number of students enrolled in the paired courses in fall 2023 was 304. The average enrollment from fall 2019 to fall 2022 is 204 students, thus fall 2023 numbers of NCR students enrolling in the paired courses greatly increased. • Fall 2023 had 87 students enrolled in INRW 0306 (the lowest level of college readiness courses) with a 75% success rate which is lower than success rates in fall 2022 and

	spring 2023, 82% and 79% respectively. The assumption is that more students are arriving under-prepared for college. The decline in scores and enrollment increase may also be a result of shifting threshold levels for entrance into ENGL 1301 paired with NCBI 0300. Future semesters will allow for greater data collection and feedback.
5.	**College Readiness Math (Jennifer Mauch; handout attached)** • The Math Department offers four paired courses for NCR students (pairing of credit-level math course with NCR math course). Overall, student success (defined as grade of ABC in *both* the credit-level and NCR math courses) improved in fall 2023 (58% success) as compared to fall 2021 (42%) and fall 2022 (49%). • Starting fall 2023, Math 0306 (Basic Mathematics for College) replaced NCBM 0208 (Support Course for Beginning Algebra) as the lowest level NCR math course. Students with very low TSIA2 placement scores are receiving instruction to improve basic math skills before advancing to a Beginning Algebra course.
6.	**Continuing Education & Dean of Workforce (Danny Bacot; handout attached)** • The department continues to search for a Corporate Coordinator for the Bay City Campus; the position was reposted twice. • The department is implementing two grants 1) Skills Development Fund (SDF) for Small Businesses provided $31,000 for various training programs, 2) Certified Nurse Assistant grant provided $137,000 to upskill workers in healthcare. • NRG grant ended last year and the company is working with WCJC on more training at three additional plant locations. Faculty trainers are needed. • Bay City Construction Trades should begin class April 23rd in Carpentry. With completion of renovated space across the atrium from the current WCJC instructional space, phase 2 & 3 will follow with the addition of electrical and plumbing (dependent upon funding). • In AY23, the CE Department enrolled 1416 students with total revenue of $424,363. Programs in healthcare enrolled 299, open enrollment had 161 students, contract training enrolled 730, and grant programs enrolled 226 students. To date, AY24 has served 1500 students. • Future training under development is Fort Bliss business education and a welding program in Ghana in collaboration with TAMU and GAE & ISTC (both affiliated with the Department of State).
7.	**Counseling & Disability Services (Amber Barbee; handout attached)** • The Homestead Pioneer Pantry provides clothing vouchers, food, toiletries, and detergent to about 197 students each month. • The department sponsored and co-sponsored several student-focused events (Stomp Out Suicide 5K Walk, Student Welcome Week, Holiday Cheermeister, etc.). • Disability Services made several improvements to processes and services (new brochures, expedited short-term disability services process, ISD site visits with recruiting to speak with students receiving special education and/or 504 services, implementation of AIM system, etc.).
8.	**Distance Education (Michele Betancourt; handout attached)** • Regular & Substantive Interaction (RSI) federal policy requires all distance education courses to include regular and substantive interaction between the instructor and students. All online faculty were trained in RSI best practices in summer and fall 2023 with additional training provided in spring 2024 and training available via an online, self-paced module. • 85% of documents in Brightspace are 90%+ accessible; this is an improvement over the 58% that were accessible in Blackboard in 2017. The department continues to offer f2f and online training on how to create accessible course materials and documents/forms. All VPI areas are required to complete this training to comply with federal mandates. DE has also trained several other departments (outside of VPI

	areas).
	• Fall 2024 Convocation Professional Development will be focused on the appropriate use of Artificial Intelligence (AI).
	• Expiration of Turn-It-In contract is October 2024. Since the cost of the plagiarism-detecting platform has significantly increased in the past several years, a DE committee of faculty will review alternative products.
	• Due to new TEA requirements, effective fall 2024, all faculty teaching dual credit sections will be required to enter grades in Brightspace. An automated system, using AI, will email ISD contacts if a dual credit student falls below the established threshold and needs academic support.
9.	**Library (Christy Ruby; handout attached)**
	• Christy reviewed various databases and online offerings. *OneSearch* is very useful and may be used for most library offerings. *Niche* is a professional development database.
	• Many in-person services are offered, such as classroom instructional sessions, computers, meeting rooms, study space, DVDs, etc.
	• The library is hosting several fun events such as Theatre Thursday and Night Against Procrastination (NAP). NAP is planned as a support for students as they study for final exams; the library will be open until midnight in Wharton and until 9:00 p.m. on the Richmond and Sugar Land campuses. In fall 2023, 100 students participated on the Wharton campus. Spring 2024 is the first time this event is offered on the Richmond and Sugar Land campuses.
	• Library electronic media and e-book utilization has increased. In AY23, 200,603 electronic media items were accessed and 694,323 e-books were accessed (40% increase from previous year).
10.	**Dual Credit & University Transfer (Natalie Stavinoha)**
	• Dual credit headcount for spring 2024 is 734 students.

	• Fees for dual credit students were revised, approved by the BOT, and become effective summer 2024.
	   o $55/SCH in-district
	   o $63/SCH out-of-district
	   o The changes apply to courses that earn both high school and college credit, thus concurrent course fees remain at the regular tuition and fee rate.

	• WCJC honor cords to wear for high school graduation will be given to 208 students who earned 15 or more college credits.
	• Bay City ISD has 16 students on-track to graduate with an AA degree. Wharton ISD has 10.
	• New articulation agreements were signed with Texas Women's University for general transfer and for a blended nursing program (allows a WCJC ADN student to take TWU nursing classes and earn a BSN). Also, a general transfer agreement was signed with Texas Tech University.
	• Several ISDs are offering vocational dual credit. Bay City ISD has 18 students signed up for dual credit EMS courses for fall 2024. WISD and El Campo ISD offer dual credit welding. ECISD offers automotive dual credit. Louise ISD plans offers welding dual credit in spring of 2025.
11.	**Senior Citizens (Traci Myers; handout attached)**
	• The program serves Wharton and Colorado counties (Wharton, El Campo, Eagle Lake, Columbus, and Weimar) with Meals on Wheels, congregate meals, in-person activities, and local transportation. From October 2023 to mid-March 2024, 9532 meals were delivered or served.
	• March 23rd is the 5K Stride and Stroll fundraiser.
	• The program continues to search for a new facility in Columbus since the Mansfield Library is being sold and no longer available. Several positions remain open for

	numerous months (site managers for Eagle Lake, Weimar, and Columbus).
12.	**Student Success & Campus Life (Lindsey McPherson; 2 handouts attached)** • Student Life hosted numerous events on all four campuses, such as Welcome Back Week, National Pizza Day, Halloween Movies & Treats, Finals Fuel Breakfast, Valentine's Build-a-Bag, etc. • In fall 2023, Phi Theta Kappa had 67 new members with 750 eligible students invited in spring 2024. The chapter earned two stars and is on the path to earn a third. WCJC students received numerous scholarships and transfer opportunities. • Interest in student clubs is starting to rebound, with 15 active clubs and organizations this semester. • The National Society of Leadership & Success has 78 students and alumni members. The organization provides leadership and career opportunities and will host a speaker series. • 109 residents live in the residence halls with a 9% increase in Mullins and 5% increase in Frankie from spring 2023. (Mullins Hall has 53 beds and Frankie Hall has 75 beds.) Res Life events include Celebrating Chinese New Year and Celebrating Mardi Gras/Fat Tuesday. Of the seven events to date, the average attendance is 65 per event. • The Learning Centers are located on three campuses and services include tutoring, computer labs, course reserves, science models, copying/printing, and success workshops. Assigned faculty tutoring started in spring 2024 with 10 faculty at Wharton, 7 at Richmond, and 9 at Sugar Land. Spring 2024 Center visitors to date at Wharton totaled 420 with 309 at Richmond and 347 at Sugar Land. Brainfuse is the online tutoring platform and is accessible through Brightspace. A Peer Tutoring Program is under development as is a Success Workshop Series in collaboration with other Student Success areas.
13.	**TRiO (Jessica Falcon; handout attached)** • Students participating in the TRiO grant have 90% persistence rate (85% required), 91% good academic standing (85% required), 48% earned a certificate or degree (20% required), and 11% earned a degree AND transferred (10% required). 180 students are served (144 required). The program exceeds all grant expectations. TRiO provides the following services: course selection/advising, FAFSA assistance, financial literacy support, academic support, and graduation/transfer assistance. From September through February, the Center utilization totaled 2524 visits or a monthly average of 420 visits.
14.	**Vocational Support/Perkins (Wendy Tamayo; handout attached)** • The Perkins grant serves students enrolled in vocational programs and focuses on improving their success by funding instructional equipment to enhance program curriculum, providing instructional resources, and offering student financial assistance with childcare and transportation. • In AY24, the grant funding totaled $208,986, which included $41,107 mid-year allocation. Instructional equipment was purchased for Automotive, Welding, and Process Technology. Professional development was funded for Early Childhood, EMS, and Paralegal Studies. • Wendy advises all vocational students. Some events in which she participated include the STEM Workshop, One-Stop Registration, Pioneer Frontier: Student Resource Fair, Central Fort Bend Chamber's Manufacturing Day, Women in Industry, etc.

III.   Adjournment

Time:	3:06 p.m.	
Signature of Chair	*Leigh Ann Collins*	**Date:** 4/3/24

1) **AEL Enrollment Update:** AEL has met 89% of the enrollment target as of March 2024. AEL currently has 850 students as of March 2024.

English as a Second Language (ESL) Enrollment	476
High School Equivalency (HSE)/GED Enrollment	337
Career Pathways/Integrated education & Training (IET)	37
F2F ESL Classes	14 (Bay City, Richmond, El Campo, Sealy JH, Gordon Library in Sealy, LCISD Elementary School)
F2F HSE Classes	7 (Bay City, Richmond, El Campo, Wharton, Eagle Lake)
Remote ESL Classes	8 Synchronous
Remote HSE Classes	8 Synchronous
Career Pathways/IET Support Classes	6 Synchronous (Human Services, Early Childhood, MA, C.N.A, BCS, Phlebotomy)

2) **AEL Integrated Education and Training (IET):** The AEL IET funds pay 100% of tuition and fees of eligible AEL students enrolled in WCJC Level 1 Certificate programs and 95% of the tuition of CE Health Programs.

3) **PY 23-24 Audit:** The HGAC Quality Assurance and Financial audits had zero findings and 100% satisfaction review for the third year in a row. These audits include the AEL program performance in different areas such as data entry, measurable skills gains, quality instruction, billing and financial reporting.

4) **Upcoming Events:** GED Graduation tentatively on June 20, 2024 (Pending Facility Request Approval)

5) **The AEL Grant Award July 1, 2024:**

In November 2023, the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) requested applications from eligible providers for Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) services for one or both of the following:
a) Section 231 Activities: To develop, implement, and improve adult education and literacy under AEFLA § 231, including programs for Corrections Education and Institutionalized Individuals under AEFLA § 225.

b) Section 243 Activities: To carry out Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IELCE) under AEFLA § 243.

Through this Grant Award, grantees will enhance the Texas workforce system by delivering services which will assist:

a) Adults to become literate and obtain the knowledge and skills necessary for employment and economic self-sufficiency;

b) adults who are parents or family members to obtain the education and skills that are necessary to becoming full partners in the educational development of their children, and lead to sustainable improvements in the economic opportunities for their family;

c) adults in attaining a secondary school diploma and in the transition to postsecondary education and training, including through Career Pathways; and

d) immigrants and other individuals who are English Language Learners (ELL) in: (1) improving their reading, writing, speaking and comprehension skills in English, and their mathematical skills; and (2) acquiring an understanding of the American system of government, individual freedom, and the responsibilities of citizenship.

This RFA uses a different format than TWC's standard RFA. Through this RFA, applicants have the ability to apply for Section 231 Activities or Section 243 Activities, or both. AEL applied for both Section 231 & 243 Activities and submitted the RFA directly to Texas Workforce Commissions (TWC) in January 2024. The proposal is for $1,231,605 Section 231 and $520,000 in Section 243 (Total Award: $1,751,605).

Fall 2019 ENGL 1301 and NCBI 0300 Success Rates			
# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & ENGL 1301	# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & earned an A,B, or C	# Of Students enrolled in ENGL 1301 & earned an A,B, or C	% Of Students earned ENGL 1301 Credit
164	133	121	74%
Spring 2020 ENGL 1301 and NCBI 0300 Success Rates			
# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & ENGL 1301	# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & earned an A,B, or C	# Of Students enrolled in ENGL 1301 & earned an A,B, or C	% Of Students earned ENGL 1301 Credit
75	59	52	69%
Fall 2020 ENGL 1301 and NCBI 0300 Success Rates			
# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & ENGL 1301	# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & earned an A,B, or C	# Of Students enrolled in ENGL 1301 & earned an A,B, or C	% Of Students earned ENGL 1301 Credit
183	135	133	73%
Spring 2021 ENGL 1301 and NCBI 0300 Success Rates			
# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & ENGL 1301	# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & earned an A,B, or C	# Of Students enrolled in ENGL 1301 & earned an A,B, or C	% Of Students earned ENGL 1301 Credit
114	84	78	68%
Fall 2021 ENGL 1301 and NCBI 0300 Success Rates			
# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & ENGL 1301	# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & earned an A,B, or C	# Of Students enrolled in ENGL 1301 & earned an A,B, or C	% Of Students earned ENGL 1301 Credit
208	163	163	78%
Spring 2022 ENGL 1301 and NCBI 0300 Success Rates			
# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & ENGL 1301	# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & earned an A,B, or C	# Of Students enrolled in ENGL 1301 & earned an A,B, or C	% Of Students earned ENGL 1301 Credit
128	121	107	84%
Fall 2022 ENGL 1301 and NCBI 0300 Success Rates			
# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & ENGL 1301	# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & earned an A,B, or C	# Of Students enrolled in ENGL 1301 & earned an A,B, or C	% Of Students earned ENGL 1301 Credit
260	226	213	82%
Spring 2023 ENGL 1301 and NCBI 0300 Success Rates			
# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & ENGL 1301	# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & earned an A,B, or C	# Of Students enrolled in ENGL 1301 & earned an A,B, or C	% Of Students earned ENGL 1301 Credit
149	96	101	68%
Fall 2023 ENGL 1301 and NCBI 0300 Success Rates			
# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & ENGL 1301	# Of Students enrolled in NCBI 0300 & earned an A,B, or C	# Of Students enrolled in ENGL 1301 & earned an A,B, or C	% Of Students earned ENGL 1301 Credit
304	226	218	72%

Wharton County Junior College

911 Boling Highway • Wharton, Texas 77488 • (979) 532-4560

Fall 2022 INRW 0306 Success Rates			
# Of Students enrolled in INRW 0306	# Of Students enrolled in INRW 0306 & earned an A,B, or C	# Of Students enrolled in INRW 0306 who earned a D or F	% Of Students Passed
177	145	32	82%
Spring 2023 INRW 0306 Success Rates			
# Of Students enrolled in INRW 0306	# Of Students enrolled in INRW 0306 & earned an A,B, or C	# Of Students enrolled in INRW 0306 who earned a D or F	% Of Students Passed
48	38	10	79%
Fall 2023 INRW 0306 Success Rates			
# Of Students enrolled in INRW 0306	# Of Students enrolled in INRW 0306 & earned an A,B, or C	# Of Students enrolled in INRW 0306 who earned a D or F	% Of Students Passed
87	65	22	75%

Enrollment	Fall 2021**	Fall 2022	Fall 2023
NCBM 0208 (w/MATH 0308)	227	242	
MATH 0306 (assuming 0306 (1st 8 weeks) and 0308 (2nd 8 weeks), as of Fall 2023)			153
MATH 0308 (only)	261	340	305
MATH 0312	2	0	0
NCBM 0314 (w/MATH 1314)	173	143	134
NCBM 0224 (w/MATH 1324)	35	29	46
NCBM 0232 (w/MATH 1332)	8	0	15
NCBM 0242 (w/MATH 1342)	48	28	31
TOTAL Dev Math Students:	754 (+3% from Fall 2020)	782 (+4% from Fall 2021)	796
**TSIA2, effective January 2021 (exclude students with TSIA2 DT 1-4, which includes MATH 0308 and MATH 0308/NCBM 0208 students…and MATH 0306, starting Fall 2023)			
% Coreq (Fall 2021, w/o MATH 0308 and NCBM 0208; starting Fall 2023, w/o MATH 0306)	264/266 ≈ 99%	200/200 = 100%	226/226 = 100%
# Coreq Sections (Fall 2021, w/o MATH 0308 and NCBM 0208; starting Fall 2023, w/o MATH 0306)	30 sections	21 sections	22 sections

MATH 1314 MATH 1324 MATH 1332 MATH 1342	NCBM 0314 NCBM 0224 NCBM 0232 NCBM 0242	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023
Grade Earned	Grade Earned	% of Students in Coreq Pairing		
ABC	ABC	42%	49%	58%
ABC	DF	2%	3%	2%
DF	ABC	17%	16%	8%
DF	DF	14%	19%	16%
W	W	25%	15%	16%
% to complete Credit with "C" or better (Done with math courses!)		44%	52%	60%
to Exit Dev Math (Pass credit and/or dev math with "C" or better…Some may have to repeat credit course)		61%	67%	68%

Fall 2023		MATH 1314 NCBM 0314	MATH 1324 NCBM 0224	MATH 1332 NCBM 0232	MATH 1342 NCBM 0242
Grade Earned in Credit Course	Grade Earned in Support Course	% of Students in Credit Coreq Pairing			
ABC	ABC	55	52	67	73
ABC	DF	2	4	0	0
DF	ABC	9	7	13	3
DF	DF	14	24	20	10
W	W	20	13	0	13
% to complete Credit with "C" or better (Done with math courses!)		57	56	67	73
to Exit Dev Math (Pass credit and/or dev math with "C" or better…Some may have to repeat credit course)		65	63	80	76

MATH 0308	NCBM 0208	Fall 2021	Fall 2022
Grade Earned	Grade Earned		
ABC	ABC	50%	40%
ABC	DF	0%	0%
DF	ABC	20%	16%
DF	DF	19%	19%
W	W	11%	25%
% to complete MATH 0308 with "C" or better (and move to Credit Math w/support class)		50%	40%

	% of Students in Dev Math Coreq Pairing
	Fall 2023
Passed 0306/0308	51%
Passed 0306, Failed 0308	25%
Passed 0306, Withdrew 0308	16%
Passed 0306, Did not take 0308	8%

Wharton County Junior College

5333 FM 1640 ● Richmond, Texas 77469 ● (281) 239-1500

Continuing Education

1) CE staff openings.

- Corporate Coordinator
    i. Richmond – Offer in process
    ii. Bay City – Reposted
- CE Specialist Bay City – John Woolsey

2) SDF Small Business training grant.

- $21,000 Instruction
- $10,500 Child Care

3) CNA grant.
- Strengthening Technical Excellence for Professional Upskill Programs in Healthcare (STEP UP in Healthcare). This program will focus on increasing the number of healthcare workers by offering credentials and/or micro badge credentials and certifications for medical training programs to upskill students in healthcare pathways at each of the three colleges.

4) NRG is adding 3 additional plant locations to WCJC training.

- Training at NRG's new training facility
- Request WCJC trainers on site for the majority of courses

5) Bay City Trade School.

- Final phase of design, construction should begin by May
- Classes will begin April 23, 2024 in existing area

CE Program 2022 – 2023	Enrollment	Revenue
Healthcare	299	$ 145,325.00
Open Enrollment	161	$ 10,993.00
Contract Training	730	$ 108,157.38
Grants	226	$ 159,888.04

Total Enrollment
1416

Total Revenue
$ 424,363.42

3/19/2024

For Credit Programs

6) Texas A&M

- Discussing WCJC partnering with welding program in country of Ghana
- Possibly 3 to 4 students from Ghana to attend WCJC welding
- WCJC to help build National welding program in Africa, being delivered by facility in Ghana

7) Curriculum
- In discussion with the Business department to develop curriculum for SAP training. Targeting FALL 2024.
- Reviewing offering Service Now training

Spring 2024 Academic Affairs Council

Counseling and Disability Services

COACHING AND
COUNSELING

Counseling:

W (working):

-individual and group counseling available on every campus
-Stomp Out Suicide 5K (SOUL walk) for suicide awareness and prevention
-partnerships with programs to provide resources to students (Allied Health/TRIO)
-Homestead food pantry (clothing vouchers/food/toiletries/detergent)

C (challenges):

-Summer Spectacular (low numbers)
-Sugarland Counselor TBD

J (joint efforts):

-Student Life Events (Welcome Week, Easter egg hunt, Basketball Tournament)
-Escape the Room (special group for TRIO)
-Pioneer Frontier (resource fair for students)
-Holiday Cheermeister (distress event before finals)
-Presentations to Psychology courses about counseling services

C (coming up)

-UIL event (providing games)
-One Stop Shops
-Soft Chalk Lessons available for students in Brightspace (healthy coping strategies & study skills)

Disability Services:

W (working):

-new e-mail address: disabilityservices@wcjc.edu
-new brochures/marketing materials detailing the ADA processes (**322** active)
-AIM system
-<u>Active Disabilities</u>: Cancer, Cerebral Palsy, Diabetes, Dyscalculia, Epileptic, Hearing Impaired, Irlen Syndrome, Post-concussive Syndrome, Speech, Visually Impaired, Dyslexia, Dysgraphia, Traumatic Brain Injury, ADHD, Acute Stress Disorder, Autism, Anxiety, Bipolar, Depression, OCD, Oppositional Defiance, PTSD

C (challenges):

-expediting the short term disability process
-assisting students to find medical/psychological services (with/without insurance)
-communal areas

J (joint efforts):

-transition fairs with the recruitment team (site visits have included LCISD, EISD, BISD, &EBISD)

C (coming up):

-One Stop Shops
-Site visits to local units, service providers, and non-profit organization

o **Regular and Substantive Interaction (RSI)**

- The federal government now requires all distance education courses to incorporate regular and substantive interaction. RSI is meant to distinguish "correspondence" courses (those with little or no instructor interaction, and ineligible for federal financial aid) from "distance" courses (those with significant instructor interaction, and therefore eligible for federal financial aid).
- During the Summer and Fall 2024 semesters, all online faculty were trained on the new RSI requirements. Additionally, a fully online, self-paced RSI training module was also developed so that new faculty could complete.
- An additional workshop, "Leveraging Brightspace to meet RSI Requirements" was also offered during the Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 semesters and will also be presented at the Spring meeting of the Texas Distance Learning Association in March.

o **Accessibility**

- Currently, Panorama (our online accessibility management platform) indicates that 85% of documents and media housed in Brightspace are 90% + accessible.
- This represents a significant improvement since DE first began the "Accessibility: Six Core Skills" training back in 2017, when our Ally report in Blackboard indicated only 58% of documents were accessible.
- Our biggest issue continues to be PDF documents (why most documents are not 100% accessible and accounts for the bulk of the remaining 15%).
- DE will be developing both a face-to-face and an online self-paced training course on creating accessible pdf documents and creating accessible fillable forms.

o **Convocation Fall 2024**

- We have continued to see excellent participation among faculty and staff who have agreed to present at our bi-annual faculty and staff professional development day during convocation in the fall and spring.
- This fall we are trying out a theme-based convocation – "Teaching and Learning in the Age of AI"
- We welcome presentations from faculty and staff on all aspects of using/ limiting AI.

o **Turn-it-in**

- Turn-it-in Feedback Studio is an instructional technology product that makes it easy to address plagiarism, and streamlines grading and feedback of papers and essays. It was first purchased with Title V funds back in 2012 for about $17K. Since that time the price has continued to rise dramatically (currently around $40K).
- The DELT (Distance Education and Learning Technologies) Committee has convened a subcommittee with additional faculty members from across campus to investigate possible alternatives to Turn-it-in.

o **Dual Credit**
- In order to comply with new TEA requirements, effective fall 2024, all faculty teaching dual credit sections will be required to enter their grades in Brightspace. Approximately every 4-6 weeks an intelligent agent will run through the class and send an email to the appropriate party at the high schools (and cc the dual credit coordinator at WCJC) to indicate if the student falls below the established threshold.
- Faculty will be required to set up the required intelligent agent(s) at the start of the term. DE will provide training and detailed documentation (handouts and videos) on how to accomplish this prior to the fall semester.
- The dual credit coordinator will ensure that faculty are provided with the correct emails of the contact individuals at the high schools at the start of the semester so that the intelligent agents.

J.M. Hodges Library

Programs and Services

Databases/ Online Offerings

- Subject-specific databases
- A OneSearch for just about everything the library has
- E-books (both academic and non)
- Newspapers (Access World News/ Newsbank, Houston Metro Coll.: https://shorturl.at/tDMRW, Houston Chronicle Coll: https://shorturl.at/ILNT5)
- Journals
- Video streaming databases (Kanopy, Academic Video Online, Swank, etc.)
- Tutorial Database (Niche)
- Request materials through InterLibrary Loan or just click on the request button below your search result
- Email reference help: wcjclibrary@wcjc.edu
- Schedule an instruction session(either online or in- person) here: https://wcjc.libwizard.com/f/Library-Instruction-Request
- Brightspace Library Orientation Course coming soon!

In-Person Services

- Expert research help
- Books!
- DVDs
- Textbook and course reserves (now managed by the Learning Center)
- Journals, Magazines, and Newspapers
- Microfilm newspapers
- Yearbooks (select years)
- Computers
- Meeting Rooms
- Study Space (group and individual)
- Schedule an instruction session(either online or in- person) here: https://wcjc.libwizard.com/f/Library-Instruction-Request

Other fun things

- **Theatre Thursdays, Night Against Procrastination, and more**

- **Library Ledger/ Toilet Times**

Usage Data

Fiscal Year 2023

Digital titles viewed: 101,530 (up 2% from last year)	**# of electronic media items:** 200,603 (up from 50 last year)	**# of e-books:** 694,323 (up almost 40% from last year)
# of databases: 155 (up from 143 last year)	**# of electronic serials:** 80 (up from 65 last year)	*Physical books down 2,000 during the 2023 FY. Large deselection project underway.

Wharton County Junior College

Academic Affairs Meeting – March 19, 2024
Senior Citizens Program (Congregate and Meals on Wheels)

October 2023 Meals

Wharton County (*Wharton & El Campo*) – **1,339 MEALS** SERVED/DELIVERED
Colorado County (*Eagle Lake, Columbus, Weimar*) – **594 MEALS** SERVED/DELIVERED

MONTHLY TOTAL: 1,933 Meals

November 2023 Meals

Wharton County (*Wharton & El Campo*) – ***1,274 MEALS** SERVED/DELIVERED
Colorado County (*Eagle Lake, Columbus, Weimar*) – ***472 MEALS** SERVED/DELIVERED

MONTHLY TOTAL: 1,746 Meals

December 2023 Meals

Wharton County (*Wharton & El Campo*) – ***1,225 MEALS** SERVED/DELIVERED
Colorado County (*Eagle Lake, Columbus, Weimar*) – ***427 MEALS** SERVED/DELIVERED

MONTHLY TOTAL: 1,652 Meals

January 2024 Meals

Wharton County (*Wharton & El Campo*) – **1,211 MEALS** SERVED/DELIVERED
Colorado County (*Eagle Lake, Columbus, Weimar*) – ***280 MEALS** SERVED/DELIVERED

MONTHLY TOTAL: 1,491 Meals

February 2024 Meals

Wharton County (*Wharton & El Campo*) – **1,234 MEALS** SERVED/DELIVERED
Colorado County (*Eagle Lake, Columbus, Weimar*) – **409 MEALS** SERVED/DELIVERED

MONTHLY TOTAL: 1,643 Meals

March 2024 Meals *(As of 3-18-24)*

Wharton County (*Wharton & El Campo*) – **793 MEALS** SERVED/DELIVERED
Colorado County (*Eagle Lake, Columbus, Weimar*) – **274 MEALS** SERVED/DELIVERED

MONTHLY TOTAL: 1,067 Meals

*Meals decreased in both counties in November & December due to the holidays
**Meals decreased significantly in Colorado County in January due to the passing away of some of the program participants

UPCOMING FUNDRAISER:

      5K Stride and Stroll – Saturday, March 23rd

- 52 Runners/Walkers Registered Early
- Registration will continue to take place until the morning of the event
- March 23rd - Sign-In/Registration starts at 7:30 am; Race begins at 8:30 am
- We are still looking for volunteers to help at the event (help set up, help sign participants in, hand out water at the water stations, etc)

We are planning meal fundraisers in both Wharton and Colorado Counties within the next few months before the end of our program's fiscal year.

Currently Working On . . .

- ➢ **Filling Vacant Positions in Colorado County**
  - ▪ PT Site Manager (Eagle Lake)
  - ▪ PT Site Manager/Driver (Weimar)
  - ▪ FT Colorado County Head Site Manager (Columbus)

- ➢ **Still Looking for a New Site Location in Columbus**
  - ▪ Pastor Junior Garcia - Columbus Community Church

- ➢ **Next fundraiser for Wharton County** – **TBD**; it will be a meal fundraiser

- ➢ **Next fundraiser for Colorado County** – **TBD**; it will also be a meal fundraiser

- ➢ **Trying to increase congregate numbers and transportation units for all site locations**

CAMPUS LIFE

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?!

Welcome Back Week
National Pizza Day
Family and Friends Volleyball Tailgate
Halloween Movies and Treats
National Chicken Sandwich Day
Finals Fuel Breakfast
Valentines Build a Bag

THINGS TO CELEBRATE

Events have been offered on all four campuses
Major improvements with providing
programming to students at Sugar Land
Currently 15 active clubs and organizations
Students in person participation has increased
with events reaching capacity

PHI THETA KAPPA

67 New members fall 2023
750 eligible students invited for Spring 2024
Chapter has earned 2 stars and on the path to 3
Inductions at the student awards banquet
Graduation stoles provided by student life
WCJC students have received numerous scholarships,
transfer opportunities and became PTK scholars

NSLS

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF LEADERSHIP AND SUCCESS

Launched Fall 2023
78 students and alumni accepted membership
Provide leadership and career opportunities for members
Student Life will host speaker series through NSLS
programming and partnerships

COLLABORATIONS

Advising
Library
Title V HSI
Counseling Services
Pioneer Athletics
"INSERT YOUR DEPARTMENT HERE"
We would love to partner with you!

SPRING FEST AND BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

April 10 Wharton Campus outside PSC
Free food, outdoor games, and prizes
Free Throw Contest
3 on 3 Basketball Tournament
April 11 Richmond Campus

RESIDENCE LIFE

109 residents for the semester. We have increased 9% from Spring 2023 in Mullins Hall
and 5% from Spring 2023 in Frankie Hall.
We cut our reduction rate in half from Fall 2023 returning in Spring 2024
From Fall 2022 to Spring 2023 the return reduction rate was 15%
From Fall 2023 to Spring 2024 the return reduction rate was 7.5%
Res Life/Student Life shared events:
Celebrating Chinese New Year – gave out 100 fortune cookies
Celebrating Mardi Gras/Fat Tuesday – gave out 144 beaded necklaces and 48 masks
Resident Life events to date:
7 events with average attendance of 65 residents per event

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pioneer Egg Hunt March 25-27
Baseball Tailgate April 16 at 3:00 PM
Spring Out Finals Study Break
April 25 | Bay City
April 29 | Wharton
April 30 | Richmond
May 1 | Sugar Land

WCJC

WCJC Learning Centers

Locations

- Wharton Campus Library Facilitator: Camilla Sutton
- Richmond Campus Room 142 Facilitator: Patricia Swanigan
- Sugar Land Campus Room 279 Facilitator: Lynn Goodrich

Services

- Tutoring
- Computer Lab
- Course Reserves
- Science Models
- Copy / Print Services
- Success Resources / Workshops

Faculty Tutor Initiative

- Wharton Campus – 10 faculty – 2 hours per week each
- Richmond Campus – 7 faculty – 2 hours per week each
- Sugar Land Campus – 9 faculty – 2 hours per week each

Visitors to the Centers

	Fall 2023	Spring 2024 (thru Mar 8)
Wharton	585	420
Richmond	497	309
Sugar Land	581	347

Brainfuse – online tutorial platform (accessible via Brightspace)

Fall 2023

- Tutoring – 181 hours (339 sessions)
- Writing Lab – 238 hours (408 students)
- Top 8 Subjects:
    - Physics
    - English / Writing
    - Calculus
    - College Algebra
    - Trigonometry
    - Chemistry
    - Intermediate Algebra
    - Pre-algebra

Spring 2024 (thru Mar 8)

- Tutoring – 62 hours (123 sessions)
- Writing Lab – 152 (260 students)
- Top 8 Subjects:
    - English / Writing
    - College Algebra
    - Trigonometry
    - Pre-calculus
    - Chemistry
    - Calculus
    - Government
    - Accounting

Comments from Students

- My tutor was so helpful. She pointed out mistakes that I didn't even realize I was making in my essay. She helped me to understand what was wrong and how to correct it in the future. (PT tutor)
- My tutor broke everything down for me … it was easier to understand after our meeting. (faculty)
- Very helpful. Helped me to understand the concepts that I've been struggling with. (faculty)
- I'm definitely recommending the LC to all my friends.
- Great resource!
- I finally understand what I'm doing. Thank you. (faculty)
- I like being able to come to my professor for help. (faculty)

Next Steps

- Implement a Peer Tutor Program
- Create a Success Workshop Series (collaborate with other departments in the Student Success Area)

TRIO SSS

22-23 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

Persistence Rate: 85% Required | **90%**
Good Academic Standing: 85% Required | **91%**
Degree or Cert Earned: 20% Required | **48%**
Degree AND Transfer: 10% Required | **11%**

Prior Experience Points Earned: 15/15 Points
Prior Experience Points can be earned during years 2-4 of each grant cycle. The goal is to earn 45 points to be added to our score when re-applying.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN TRIO

March 25-29: Course Selection/Scholar Select/FAFSA Week
March 26: Easter Eggstravaganza w/Library
April 8-12: Stress Awareness Week
April 22-26: Course Selection/Financial Aid
May 6-9: Finals Week in TRiO/Breakfast & Lunch/Games
May 10: TRiO Club Trip

REQUIRED SERVICES

Course Selection/Advising, FAFSA Assistance, Financial Literacy, Academic Support, and Graduation/Transfer Assistance

TRIO CENTER USAGE

September | 608
October | 508
November | 433
December | 219
January | 314
February | 442

COHORT NUMBERS

Current: 180 Students
Funded to Serve: 144

Carl D. Perkins
Academic Affairs Meeting
March 19, 2024

Vocational Support Services -
The Carl D. Perkins grant is focused on improving the academic and technical achievement of Career and Technical Education (CTE) students. Funds are allocated to Wharton County Junior College for instructional equipment, instructional resources, and student services assistance.

Students majoring in an Associate of Applied Science Degree or certificate as listed in the WCJC course catalog may be eligible for support. Funds are used to support or reduce out of pocket expenses for CTE students who have monetary challenges. Students must identify with one of the Perkins Special Populations categories to qualify.

Carl D Perkins Grant 2023-2024

Award:	**$167,879**
Mid-Year Allocation:	**$41,107**
Total :	**$208,986**

Major Purchases:

Item	Service	Department	Funds Allocated
SPM-2400 Fluidized Catalytic Cracking Unit	Instructional Equipment	Process Technology	$20,075
3 Complete Student Toolkit Sets	Student Services	Automotive Technology	$12,945
Childcare Reimbursement and Transportation Assistance	Student Services	Special Population Students	$33,532

Mid-Year Reallocation:

Item	Service	Department	Funds Allocated
Suspension & Steering System Trainer	Instructional Equipment	Automotive Technology	$20,538
Welder Mutli-Process Intertec V276 (3)	Upgrade Curriculum	Welding Technology	$10,368
Professional Development	Professional Development	Early Childhood EMS Paralegal Studies	$5,110
Childcare and Transportation Reimbursement	Student Services	Students	$5,091

Vocational Support Services Offered:

- Tech Connect – Laptop and Webcam Rental Service
  - 9 ACER Laptops and 9 LogiTech Webcams available for semester rental
- Childcare Reimbursement
  - $10 per day, maximum $100 per month
- Transportation Assistance
  - $50 gas card per month
- Vocational Advising
  - Coordinator of Vocational Support Services works closely with Title V and Academic Advisors to support student success

Vocational Support Services Activities:
- The Vocational Support Services office was/is involved in the following activities by participating, providing funding, and/or support.
  - STEM Workshop
  - One-stop Registration Events
  - Orientation Presentations to students
  - Pioneer Frontier: Student Resource Fair
  - Monthly Advising/Vocational Support Services events at the 4 campuses
  - Central Fort Bend Chamber's Manufacturing Day
  - WCJC Foundation Super Science Alliance, "The Superpower of STEM"
  - Wharton County Job Fair
  - Central Fort Bend Chamber's Technology Day
  - Women in Industry (April 2024)

Other:
- Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA) 2024-2026, due April 2024
- "Upcoming" Implementation of Carl D. Perkins Advisory Committee
  - Committee will review, plan, and implement changes related to CTE programs and Carl D. Perkins Federal Grant