

# President t's Report

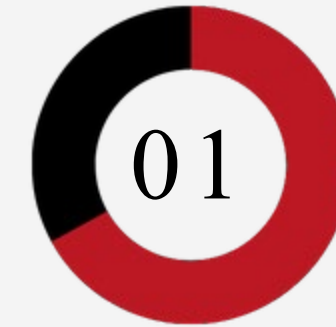
November 2025



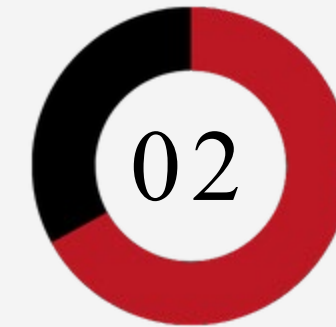
# Building Momentum

People, Places, and Partnerships

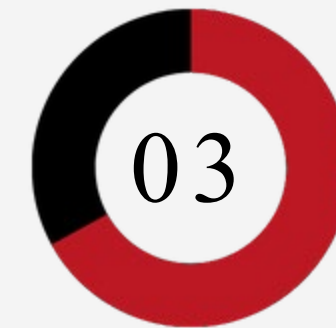
This month's report highlights the exciting momentum across Wharton County Junior College as we continue to invest in our people, facilities, and community partnerships.



**New Hires**



**Bay City Campus**



**Partner Impacts**



# Introductions

WCJC welcomes two new members to the Executive team:



**Dr. David Byrd**

Vice President of Access, Completion, and Transfer



**Dr. Mike Wilkinson**

Chief of Staff

# Special Appropriations

WCJC has received **\$9 million in new state appropriations** over the biennium to advance key workforce initiatives at the Bay City Campus:

- **\$4 million dedicated to Nuclear Expansion in Texas (WCJC NExT) program**
- **\$5 million for Skilled Trades expansion**

These funds will strengthen program capacity, modernize facilities, and expand training opportunities aligned with regional and state workforce needs.



**Bay City Campus**



# NExT Program

Significant progress is underway to expand the new **Nuclear Technology program** .

Wins:

- Program director hired; former STP employee
- Advisory Committee selection in progress; January start date
- Site visit to Texas A&M University

In Progress:

- Hiring subject matter experts in nuclear cybersecurity and radiation protection
- Initial equipment pricing/planning in development



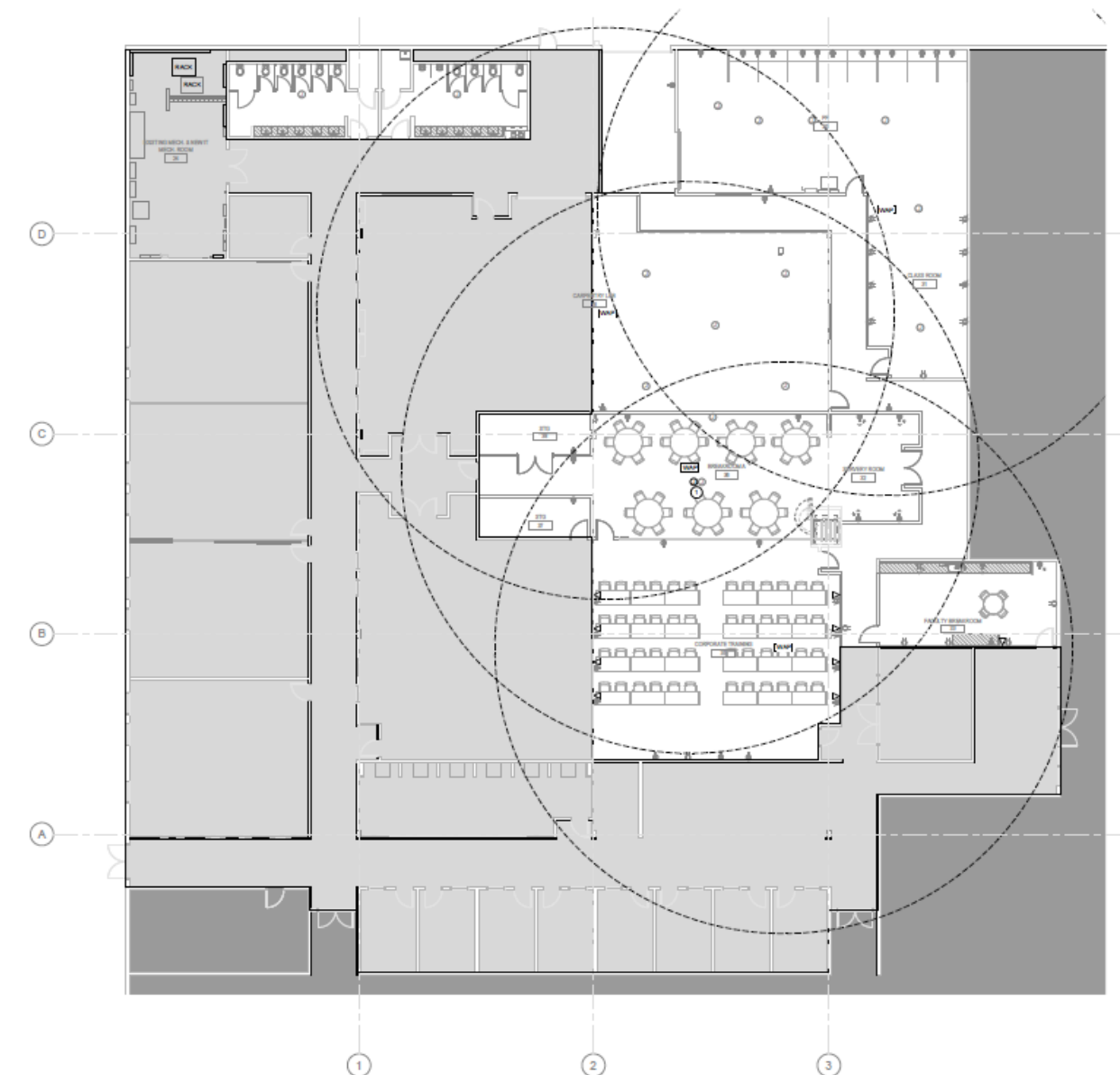
**Bay City Campus**

## Skilled Trades

Phase II build-out is on-track. This space will include plumbing and pipe-fitting programs, as well as corporate training flex space with occupancy of up to 100 people.

Phase II bid specs have been delivered, and the project is currently out for bid. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled for December 3, with bid openings set for January 6. Bid to be presented at the January BOT meeting.

New signage is in progress with vendors obtaining permits prior to install.



# Partner Impacts

Community partnerships are vital to WCJC's mission and student success. Through collaboration with local school districts, employers, and foundations, we expand access to education, create hands-on learning opportunities, and strengthen the regional workforce. These relationships help ensure our programs remain responsive to community needs and that every student's journey leads to meaningful opportunity.

This month, two key partners have provided transformational support to the College.



Houston Endowment  
Planning Grant = **\$500,000**



Johnson Foundation  
AH Scholarships = **\$250,000**



Johnson Foundation  
Student Commons = **\$1,500,000**



# Upcoming Events



## Professional Development

- Aspen CEOBoard Institute: Dec 4 -5
- Higher Edge\*: Dec 8-10



## Operations

- December Board Meeting: Dec 9
- End of Fall Term: Dec 12
- Campus Reopens: Jan 5



## College Events

- Drama Production: Nov 20 – 22
- ADN Pinning: Dec 10
- Police and EMS Graduations: Dec 11

*\* Dr. Allen presenting*

# Mark Your Calendar!



# Prepare to Celebrate!

WCJC will celebrate its 80th anniversary in 2026, marking eight decades of student success, institutional excellence, and community impact.

Planning is underway to commemorate this milestone with activities that honor the college's history, highlight its continued growth, and engage students, alumni, and community partners throughout the year. Further details and proposed events will be shared as plans develop.

