



Date of Board Meeting: May 17, 2022

Subject: Wharton County Junior College Mission Statement

Recommendation: Review and reaffirm the Wharton County Junior College Mission Statement.

Background and Rationale:

As part of the decennial Reaffirmation of Accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) administration developed a schedule for the review and approval of the WCJC Mission by the WCJC Board of Trustees. Review and approval of the WCJC Mission is critical to ensuring compliance with SACSCOC Section 2, Mission, which states:

A clearly defined and comprehensive mission guides the public’s perception of the institution. It conveys a sense of the institution’s uniqueness and identifies the qualities, characteristics, and values that define its role and distinctiveness within the diverse higher education community. Fundamental to the structure of an institution’s effectiveness, the mission reflects a clear understanding of the institution by its governing board, administration, faculty, students, staff, and all constituents.

Cost and Budgetary Support: N/A

Strategic Priority Alignment:

- Student Success
- Resource Optimization
- Community Impact
- Institutional Excellence

Resource Person(s): Amanda Allen, Ed.D.; Vice President of Planning and IE

Signatures:



Originator

05/03/22

Date



Cabinet-Level Supervisor

05/03/22

Date

President’s Approval:



President

5-4-22

Date

About Wharton County Junior College

STATEMENT OF MISSION

Wharton County Junior College is a public, two-year, comprehensive community college offering a wide range of postsecondary educational programs and services including associate degrees, certificates, continuing education courses, cultural affairs, and leisure-time activities for the benefit of the community and a population of students that varies in age, background, and ability.

The College affords opportunities for individual growth and expression and promotes the development of the total person through scholarly and creative activity and the application of knowledge for the good of society. Its curricular and co-curricular activities lay a foundation for lifelong learning and involved citizenship and encourage the pursuit of knowledge, innovation, experimentation, and excellence in human endeavor. It prepares students for entry-level positions, for advancement in various occupations and professions, for a broad understanding of the liberal arts and sciences, and for transfer to baccalaureate granting institutions.

In fulfilling its mission, the College:

1. Offers associate of arts, associate of arts in teaching, and associate of applied science degrees;
2. Offers transfer curricula in preparation for the baccalaureate degree;
3. Offers career/vocational curricula leading to certificates and associated degrees;
4. Offers remedial and developmental courses and services, as well as adult basic education, to assist under prepared students to achieve competency in basic skills and thus gain access to programs;
5. Supports excellence in instruction in all academic areas by the encouragement of faculty professional development for the improvement of teaching and learning

- through innovative teaching methodologies, research and public service;
6. Provides library and other instructional resources as integral parts of the educational process;
7. Supports students in the learning process through counseling and academic advising;
8. Offers continuing education, non-credit, courses and programs to meet the needs of business, industry, government, and the community-at-large, and to contribute to the economic development of its service region;
9. Provides varied cultural opportunities, recreational activities, and community services to enhance the quality of life in its service region;
10. Actively cooperates with school districts, vocational-technical schools, other colleges, and universities to promote a more productive educational environment within its service region;
11. Encourages the innovative and effective use of technology to increase and enrich educational opportunities for students and the community.

Wharton County Junior College is an institution that emphasizes personal attention to students, innovation and flexibility in its credit and non-credit offerings, and responsiveness to the diversity of communities it serves. The College is dedicated to providing an educational environment that recognizes individuality, stresses the importance of human relationships, and reflects the democratic values of our society.

Approved by the WCJC Board of Trustees
May 19, 2020

HISTORICAL SKETCH

- 1944 Wharton County leaders, members of a Post-War Planning Committee, conceived the idea of Wharton County Junior College.
- 1945 A County Junior College Committee was formed and citizens approved a 20-cent tax.