Pathways to Excellence – Jefferson College Year in Review 2014

As a multi-faceted higher learning institution, considered by many to be one of our region’s best assets, Jefferson College’s excellence is demonstrated in many ways. From a range of associate degree programs, economic/workforce development initiatives, and personal growth opportunities to outstanding cultural arts performances, athletics, and public service/outreach offerings, the college’s diverse mission has a positive effect on the quality of life residents enjoy.

In 2015, Jefferson College will continue to be innovative and resourceful in meeting the educational needs of our community. The college appreciates the extraordinary support it receives from its students and employees, alumni, parents, business and political leaders, and community members. We wish you and your family a new year filled with peace, prosperity, and joy!

Along with the anticipation and hope of the year ahead, The Windjammer invites you to remember some of the college’s many noteworthy accomplishments and highlights from 2014.

Initiatives and Accolades Exemplify Institutional Excellence

With broad input and feedback from all portions of the institution, the Board of Trustees approved the Strategic Plan 2015-2020: Our Pathways to Excellence, which guides the college in its mission of providing quality education that is student centered, comprehensive and accessible. The plan’s five broad strategic aims include Student Learning and Support, Community Collaboration, Support for Employees, Environment and Infrastructure, and Financial Responsibility.

To educate residents in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields, Jefferson College will receive $1.257 million as part of a $19.7 million U.S. Department of Labor (TAACCT) Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant awarded to the state’s community college consortium via the Missouri Community College Association. It marks the second time that Jefferson has received funding via the federal program. Named MoSTEMWINs, the initiative will target adult learners who are seeking new industry skill sets and career opportunities.

A delegation led by Board of Trustees members, administrators, and faculty/staff from the Jefferson College and Mineral Area College Leadership Academy travelled to Jefferson City to speak legislators and advocate for adequate, equitable funding as part of the annual legislative week in connection with the Missouri College Association. During the 2014 legislative session, MCCA’s priorities included seeking a $15 million addition to core operating appropriations to address inter and intra-sector equity, keeping the A+ promise of full tuition for qualifying students, maintaining funding for programs that enhance workforce competitiveness and economic development, and maintaining a substantial, ongoing investment in public college and university facilities.
In connection with Jefferson County’s designation as a Certified Work Ready Community, Governor Jay Nixon acknowledged Jefferson College’s leadership role spearheaded by Business and Community Development Director Bryan Herrick. The Certified Work Ready Community regional effort is designed to attract new jobs, strengthen connections between employers, job seekers, and related support systems, strengthen school-to-work connections, and provide a consistent and measurable assessment system in education. It underscores the importance of a skilled workforce in Jefferson County, while creating a strong partnership to build an infrastructure that will create a pool of skilled workers for current and future employers.

In order to provide residents with access to bachelor and graduate level classes on the Jefferson College campus, the Trustees renewed the longstanding agreement with Missouri Baptist University as an opportunity for residents to earn higher education degrees without having to commute outside Jefferson County.

As a result of the work and collaboration of a subcommittee of the Curriculum Committee, the Board of Trustees approved a Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) Guide, based on a similar model at the state level, which clarifies and centralizes CPL opportunities and processes at Jefferson College.

To improve service to students, the second floor of the Student Center was renovated to create a centralized “one stop” location for Enrollment Services (admissions, advising, financial aid, registration, student records, and transfer). Similarly, the third floor was also renovated to provide consolidated office space for advising, student development, counseling, and Project Success. Both renovation projects were completed in connection with the college’s long-range strategic plan.

The college’s Information Technology Department implemented a state-of-the-art identity management system to enable a streamlined, single source login for the multiple online applications used by the institution’s students and employees. The innovative project (implemented in only five weeks) received national and international attention via a Campus Technology website feature article and social media.

As a further extension of the commitment to providing students with support services in order to foster academic and personal success, the college opened an Academic Success Center on the Hillsboro campus consisting of a science lab, math lab, writing lab, computer information systems lab, and psychology tutoring. The center supports the educational development of students and reinforces classroom learning with a desire is to empower students to achieve their academic goals by providing opportunities to enhance learning, course success, and personal growth.
As part of an ongoing commitment to expand educational opportunities and improve the health and well-being of our community, the college embarked upon a variety of healthcare-related initiatives.

In August, Jefferson College and Mercy jointly opened the region's first Mercy on Campus Health Clinic. The goal of the clinic is to reduce medical costs and downtime for students, employees and community members as an affordable alternative to hospital emergency rooms and acute care centers.

As part of the new Jefferson Memorial Community Foundation Grant, the Jefferson College Foundation was awarded $253,500 on behalf of the college related to three campus healthcare initiatives: allied health scholarships ($20,000), the purchase of an Anatomage Table ($80,000) as the centerpiece of a new anatomy and physiology resource room, and the creation of a campus holistic wellness program ($153,500) to address the growing wellness needs of the college through personalized access to services in order to address the multiple challenges faced by students and employees.

Following a year-long transition, the college became smoke-free and tobacco-free last fall, prohibiting the use of cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, smokeless/chewing tobacco, electronic cigarettes, herbal smoke products, hookahs, and beedies by students, employees, and campus visitors.

The Physical Therapist Assistant program was granted full accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

In conjunction with April’s designation as National Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), Jefferson College and COMTREA co-hosted the fourth “Take Back the Night” as part of an international effort to end sexual violence in all of its forms, including sexual assault, sexual abuse, dating violence, and domestic violence. The educational and inspirational evening included guest speakers and a variety of activities and resources to raise awareness and support survivors of sexual violence and abuse.

Five students from Jefferson College’s Health Occupation programs were awarded scholarships in connection with a $10,000 donation from St. Anthony's Charitable Foundation to help support the education of future healthcare professionals in our community.
Foundation Success Supports College’s Mission

A single fiber does not make a thread, nor does a single tree a forest...making a difference in the lives of students and the community...thanks to the generosity of so many. As the Foundation’s premiere fundraising event, the fourth annual Jazz & Jeans dinner, dance and auction netted over $63,000 to support scholarships, emergency student loans, textbooks, and other projects for the benefit of students.

Rick Vest/Vest Benefit Solutions and Holcim, Inc. were honored during the fourth Monticello Society recognition ceremony which celebrates those who have made significant contributions to the Foundation.

Jefferson College Foundation Outstanding Achievement Award recipients were:
Mary Baricevic, Faculty – Professor of Accounting
Steve Berkel, Faculty – Associate Professor of Culinary Arts;
David Brading, Classified Staff – Maintenance Technician III;
Holly Lincoln, Certified Staff – Director of Enrollment Services

The 27th annual Viking Classic Scholarship Golf Tournament at Fox Run Golf Club was a momentous success in raising over $23,000 for the benefit student athletes and others attending Jefferson College.

In connection with their long-standing commitment toward providing higher education opportunities for area residents, the Twin City Area Optimist Club made a $3,000 scholarship donation. The club’s commitment to raise funds for Jefferson College student scholarships started in 1995 and spans a total contribution amount of over $45,000.

The second annual Leader Holiday Dinner, sponsored by the local newspaper and the Jefferson College Foundation, raised over $3,300 for the college’s Culinary Arts program. The evening showcased some of the area’s best local recipes prepared by staff from Specialized Catering/Food Service Consultants, Inc. and served by a staff of “celebrity” waiters from the College and Foundation, assisted by students from the Culinary Arts program.
Graduates Demonstrate College’s Comprehensive Excellence

The college held its 49th commencement ceremonies in May as a combined total of over 860 students were eligible to receive associate degrees or career and technical education certificates. Attorney Jennifer Collins Hansen (’96) presented the commencement address at both ceremonies.

Jane Houser of DeSoto as the 2014 Alumna of the Year. Jane has the distinction of being the college’s first nontraditional student and is the matriarch for several generations of family members who attended (and have been employed by) the college.

The college’s Law Enforcement Academy classes all achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the POST (Peace Officer Standards and Training) license exam. They continue the streak of 18 consecutive LEA classes that have graduated with a 100 percent POST completion rate.

Over 85 residents graduated from the Nursing program in addition to the inaugural grads from the first classes of the Physical Therapist Assistant, Health Information Technology, and Occupational Therapy Assistant program. Additionally, graduates of the OTA program achieved a 100 percent completion pass rate on the National Board Certification in Occupational Therapy exam.
College Leadership Demonstrated by Individual/Departmental Accomplishments

The Jefferson College Library celebrated its 30th anniversary as part of the Federal Depository Library Program with an open house and ceremony highlighting the state’s only community college facility in the FLDP. The library provides access to information from federal agencies such as Homeland Security, the Department of the Interior, and the Department of Education, as well as access to Congressional committee reports and presidential papers.

The college’s Marketing and Public Relations Department and Information Technology Department launched a redesign of the college’s website and MyJeffco portal in an effort to improve access to information and make the sites more user friendly.

State Senator Gary Romine received the MCCA Distinguished Legislator Award for his support of higher education and community colleges.

History Professor Scott Holzer was a recipient of the 2014 Governor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching and Art Assistant Professor Nick Nihira received the 2014 Emerson Electric Excellence in Teaching Award.

Erica Burney was a recipient of the Missouri Community College Association’s Student Leadership Award, presented annually to one outstanding student from each community college campus who has demonstrated excellence in leadership activities.

The college’s Xi Zeta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society and the Jefferson College chapter of the National Technical Honor Society recognized the scholarly excellence of over 200 students.

A group of 11 Jefferson College faculty and staff completed the year-long President’s Leadership Academy as they joined a similar group of colleagues from Mineral Area College to learn about community college policies, governance, finances, and state legislative issues. Participants included Linda Abernathy, Kelly Almond, Diane Arnzen, Janie Blum, Alisha Conley, Melissa Coolich, Sandy Frey, Katherine Johnson, Lisa Martin, Miriam Rouggly, and Kristen Yelton. The academy (held every other year) is a means for participants to grow professionally and learn about the many facets of community college operations.

Students Kassidy Bilin, Helen Maschmeyer, Annie Mbale, and Melissa Littrell were awarded Elizabeth Hoyt Clark Honors Program Scholarships in recognition of their educational goals and success.

To improve facilities within the Veterinary Technology program as part of the strategic planning process and to meet recommendations by the American Veterinary Medical Association, a series of renovations were completed consisting of a new kennel system, improved hot water and cooling systems, animal bathing facilities, and exercise area.
Dr. Kim Harvey, Senior Director of Enrollment Management/Registrar, and Dr. Joel Vanderheyden, Assistant Music Professor, were the first-ever recipients of the Dr. B. Ray Henry Service/Innovation Award which recognizes superior, innovative participation of an employee in the shared governance of the college, primarily through work on or with an institutional committee or subcommittee.

Science Professor Tom Schuessler was a recipient of the Missouri Community College Association’s Senior Service Award. He has taught physics at the college for 23 years and was one of the first faculty members to initiate an online class.

Math Professor Connie Kuchar received the 2014 Linda Johnston Excellence in Assessment Award.

The Jefferson College Student Senate won several awards during the 2014 Missouri Community College Association-Student Government Association conference including SGA of the Year, SGA Student Leader of the Year, and SGA Essay of the Year.

Health Information Technology Instructor Niki Vogelsang was awarded the Rising Star Award from the Missouri Health Information Management Association.

Adjunct Music Instructor Keith Boyer performed the role of Horace Adams in the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra’s presentation of Peter Grimes.

Student Alex Stephan received the prestigious Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals scholarship, a full-year work-study program in Germany that allows recipients to gain an understanding of everyday life, education and professional training abroad.

Biomedical Electronics student Heidi Gaines was a regional winner of the Missouri Breaking Traditions Award that recognizes those in nontraditional career/technical education occupations in which individuals from one gender comprise less than 25 percent of those employed in that field.

COMTREA was selected as the winner of the MCCA MoWINs Partnership Award, given in recognition of their partnership to maximize the impact of the Jefferson College MoHealthWINs grant program.

COMTREA on Campus Counselor/Active Minds Student Organization Advisor Sandy Davis was a presenter during a national webinar regarding the promotion of student mental health on community college campuses. Sandy was also named the national Active Minds student organization Robert Garret Advisor of the Year Award for her dedication to changing the conversation about mental health and supporting our chapter’s work.

Art Instructor Anthony Borchardt won “best of show” for the third consecutive year at the Midwest Salute to the Arts with his display of functional, high-fired stoneware.
Music student Will Gerdel was chosen to perform as lead alto saxophonist in the Missouri All Collegiate Jazz Band.

Middle school, junior high and high school students took part in several on-campus learning activities including the Career Expo, Camp Viking, Athletic Camps, District Music Festival, Children’s Theatre, and Viking Band Camp.

For the second consecutive year, the college’s Marketing and Public Relations Department was recognized by the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations in winning four Medallion of Excellence Awards.

Nursing student Kristi Tennyson was awarded the statewide Missouri League for Nursing scholarship.

Jefferson College Area Technical School Metal Fabrication student Ashli Bailey was one of only three students from across the country to win the “A Cut Above” individual/essay contest sponsored by Victor Technologies International, Inc.

Area job seekers had the opportunity to meet with representatives from companies across the St. Louis region as part of the college’s Job Fair and Healthcare Job Fair coordinated by the Employment Services Office.

In celebration of Black History Month, the college hosted several special activities including a travelling exhibit from the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum titled “The Were All Stars,” a visit by St. Louis Cardinals Hall of Famer Ozzie Smith, a lecture by History Professor Dr. Scott Holzer titled “The Harlem Renaissance: The Birth of a New Consciousness and the Origins of the Civil Rights Movement,” a “Look, Listen, Learn” Library display, a Friday Speaker Series presentation by author/entrepreneur King L. Taylor Jr., and participation in the annual Black History Luncheon where Jefferson College’s first African American graduate, Anita Jamison, was the keynote speaker.

Jefferson College was the host site for the 35th annual Mastodon Art and Science Fair. Every school district in Jefferson County participates, accounting for 98 percent of the 3,000+ students who submit entries.

The eminently popular Jefferson College Performing Arts and Cultural Enrichment (PACE) event series returned for its third season in the fall of 2014 with numerous performances and guest artists. The series also featured several student-community performances such as plays, band and choir concerts, theatre performances, and art exhibits.
In an effort to increase awareness while raising funds for cancer research in conjunction with the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, the Athletics Department and Viking Baseball team held the first ever “Pink Game.” A highlight of the special day included ceremonial first pitches by honorees Sue Agnitsch (son of Jefferson baseball player Ryan Agnitsch) and Holly Lincoln (Director of Enrollment Services).

Geri Lawson-Brown (volleyball 1980-1982) and Ross Koenig (baseball 1998-2000) were inducted into the Athletics Hall of Fame.

The baseball team won their eighth straight Midwest Community College Conference title and earned the #1 seed for the Region 16 tournament for the third time in the last five seasons.

The Jefferson College softball team, led by head coach Tony Cook, finished an amazing season by competing in the NJCAA national tournament for only the second time in program history, finishing ninth in the nation. Outfielder Anna Reed was named a 2014 All American.

In December, Jefferson College served as the “welcome home headquarters” for a community-wide celebration for the Missouri National Guard’s 220th Engineer Company returning from Afghanistan, as over 1,000 family members, friends and supporters of all ages attended to proudly welcome home the local men and women who bravely served our nation.

The children’s theater presentation of “A Bagful of Fables” marked the first time that the college had set aside a specific performance date as a public service to accommodate children on the autism spectrum.
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JEFFERSON COLLEGE FOUNDATION

SAVE THE DATE
Jazz & Jeans

DINNER + DANCE
AUCTION

April 25, 2015
Jefferson College
Field House
Hillsboro, MO 63050

Ticket & Sponsorship Information to Follow
Spring 2015 Schedule

February

3 + 7:30 PM: Dave Scott Quintet
8 + 8 PM: Chamber Project St. Louis
19 + 7 PM: Harlem Wizards
5 - 8 PM: Spring Play "Rumors" by Neil Simon
10 + 7:30 PM: Band Concert "Through the Years" FREE!
12 + 7:30 PM: Spring Jazz Showcase: Featuring Carmen Bradford
19 - 21 Film Festival (meeting is 3/13, screening is 4/10) FREE!
29 + 3 PM: Choir Concert "A Celebration of Song" FREE!

April

16 - 17 + 7 PM: Big Moody Dance Company
27 - May 8: Jefferson College Student Art Show FREE!
3 + 1 PM: Backyard BBQ with the Charflies FREE!
5 + 7:30 PM: Band Concert "Summer Celebration" FREE!
6 - 7: Spring Pottery Sale (5/6, 10AM-6PM; 5/7 9AM-4PM)
7 + 7:30 PM: Choir Concert "A Lighter Fare" FREE!
19 - 26 - 27: Summer Musical "Bye Bye Birdie"

Individual Event Pricing / Advance Tickets: $5 General Admission $2 Students & Seniors (excluding Harlem Wizards)
All individual advance ticket purchases must be done in person at the Cashier's Window

(636) 481-3123 • 797-3000, ext. 3123
www.jeffco.edu/pace
### January 2015

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**Martins Luter King Day**
Campus Closed
All Locations

**Mercy Blood Drive**
10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Student Center
Viking Room

**Auditions for Spring Play**
Wednesday, 2 – 4 p.m.
Thursday, 3 – 5 p.m.
Fine Arts – Theatre & Lobby

**Basketball vs. Central Methodist**
6 p.m.
Field House - Gym

**Basketball vs. State Fair**
2 p.m.
Field House - Gym

**Basketball vs. Crowdor College**
2 p.m.
Field House - Gym