

**KASKASKIA COLLEGE
FACULTY AND STAFF IN SERVICE
AUGUST 14, 2002**

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Introduction

It is my pleasure to welcome all students, staff, and faculty to the start of the Fall 2002 semester. These are exciting and challenging times as we prepare to receive a record enrollment during a difficult economic period of limited revenues. As many institutions experience enrollment declines and revenue reductions, Kaskaskia College's enrollments are growing and programs are expanding. KC continues to move forward as the "College of First Choice" for the citizens of our district. Thus, we are not regressing or reducing programs at this critical time in which more and more individuals are seeking our offerings and services. Further, we are incorporating expanded technologies, renovating facilities, promoting the professional growth and development of our faculty and staff, and expanding our outreach programs, to name a few of the initiatives underway. We have been able to experience much progress and enrollment growth due to economizing where possible and reallocating our resources within a limited budget. These measures have not been easy tasks to implement.

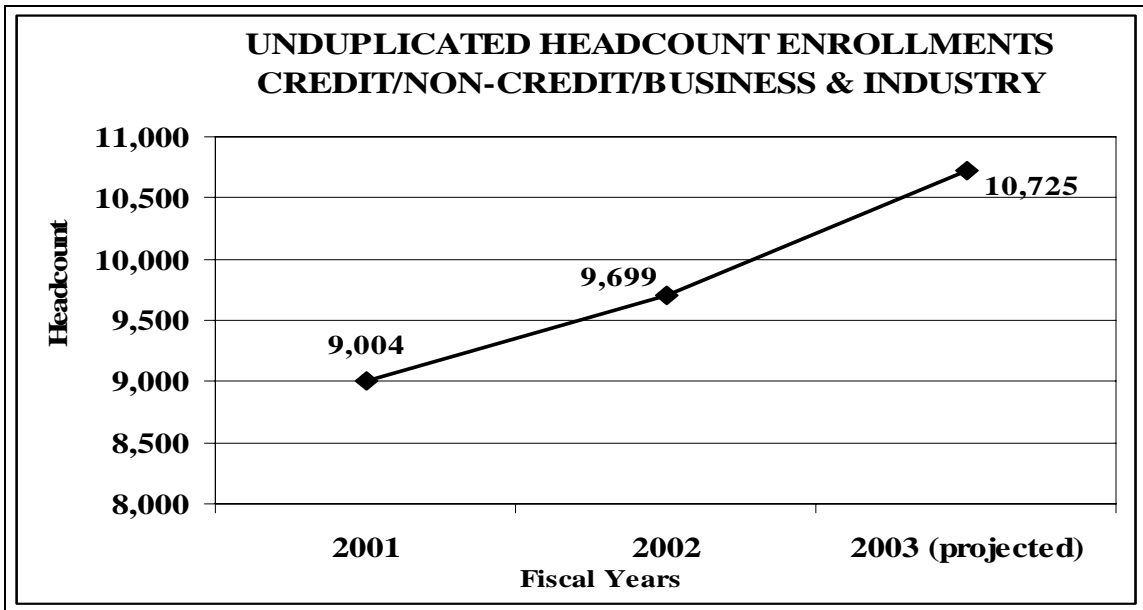
I want to express my gratitude and appreciation to our two vice presidents (Bruce Conners and Donna Hilgenbrink) for their leadership in developing the reallocation model and for designing the budget adjustments needed for meeting our enrollment demands. Also, my thanks is extended to our deans and directors along with all the faculty and staff who were involved in the process of preparing institutional plans for reallocating our resources within a balanced budget. Also, I want to thank our Board of Trustees for their support and leadership in developing the college strategic and institutional plans and for providing the needed resources.

Enrollments:

As a result of all the planning and budgeting hard work of our Board, faculty, and staff we met the enrollment increase of this past fiscal year and we will meet the 20% +

enrollment increase planned for this fall. In addition, the initiatives planned for this year will be funded and implemented. For the spring 2002 semester, it was reported by the Illinois Community College Board that Kaskaskia College was the fastest growing higher education institution in the state of Illinois with a 31 percent enrollment increase. In terms of unduplicated headcount (part-time, full-time, credit, non-credit, on and off-campus) the College served 9,699 students, which was up from 9,004 for the previous year (see Table 1).

Table 1



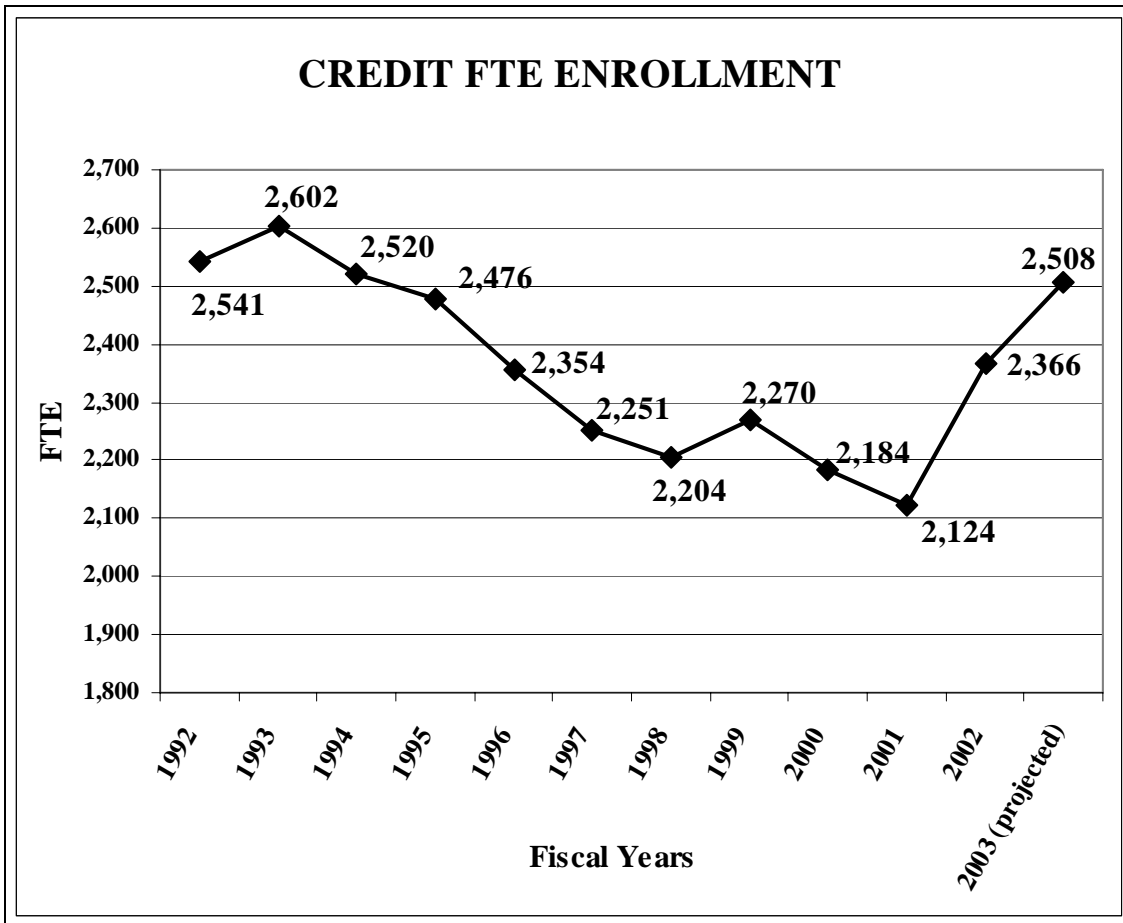
The credit enrollments served this past year totaled 6,384 and are divided very evenly between on and off campus. Non-credit enrollments totaled 1,707, and Business and Industry enrollments totaled 1,608 (see Table 2).

Table 2

UNDULICATED HEADCOUNT ENROLLMENTS				
	Actual FY 01	Actual FY 02	Projected FY 03	Projected Change (FY 02 to 03)
Credit Enrollments	5,319	6,384	6,959	9.0%
Non-Credit	1,881	1,707	1,997	17.0%
Business & Industry	1,804	1,608	1,769	10.0%
TOTALS	9,004	9,699	10,725	10.6%

The credit FTE, as reported to ICCB, reflects a reversal from the downward trend of the previous few years. The FTE low occurred for the year 2001 and was 2,124. For the year ending on June 30, 2002, the credit FTE was 2,366 (+11.4%), and our projection for this year reflects a 6% increase for a total of 2,508 (see Table 3).

Table 3



Serving this major enrollment increase this past year would not have been possible without a very dedicated faculty and staff. Additionally, the enrollment jump for the fall 2002 semester is due to the excellent job everyone is doing. I want to extend a big thank you to all of our faculty and staff who have helped with the registration process over the summer. This includes our counselors, admissions staff, cashiers, financial aid staff, records and all other personnel assisting with enrollment operations. Our increased enrollments have placed a tremendous workload on our staff and we thank everyone who

is involved in the process of assisting with the student registration process. We have successfully processed these increased numbers without lines and with efficiency.

Also, I want to recognize our physical plant staff for all that they have done over the summer period. Given that we have had four different summer terms along with major renovations, our physical plant staff has done a superb job of maintenance, custodial, moving, and groundskeeping. We appreciate all the hard work of our physical plant staff.

New Economy:

As we look into the future of the institution I am pleased to state that Kaskaskia College is positioned to succeed in the New Economy (Knowledge Economy)! As the power of the micro-chip doubles every 18 months and as information doubles every five years, the community colleges are positioned to train and retrain people for good paying jobs and careers under the theme of lifelong learning. Specifically, in the New Economy our college will thrive for the following reasons:

1. We have a dedicated, supportive and quality faculty, staff, and Board.
2. We are a flexible institution with the ability to respond to emerging needs.
3. We can adjust rapidly to technological realities.
4. We are positioned to respond to certification credentialing.
5. We are efficient and effective in keeping costs under control.
6. We can provide multiple options for student learning.
7. We have an image of quality and success as a Learning College.
8. We provide an environment conducive to learning.
9. We offer opportunities for older adults to change careers.
10. We are affordable with low tuition rates.
11. We provide a wide array of programs and offerings.
12. We provide accessible programs at times and locations convenient to the learners.
13. We are very innovative and creative with quality personnel.
14. We can compete head-to-head with other public institutions and the private sector.
15. We are developing a global student body and we are internationalizing curricula.
16. We know how to develop partnerships with business and education.
17. We have intervention programs to assist students learning.
18. We serve with honor the underserved and the disadvantaged learners.
19. We have great community support with multiple funding sources.
20. We put students first because we care about their success.

In addition to these 20 reasons why KC is positioned to be successful in the 21st Century, the college provides students with opportunities to gain skills in problem solving, communications, critical thinking, technical, literacy, history and science, to name a few.

The U.S. Department of Labor has estimated that in the future only 20 percent of the new jobs will require a bachelor's degree, with 65 percent calling for postsecondary education and training. In short, we are positioned to provide a first-class education at an affordable cost.

The New Economy displays the following characteristics: *knowledge driven (insight, synthesis, and judgement are the real sources of value, not information); communications (hoarding information is out, sharing and leveraging knowledge is in); global (knowledge, financial capital, and other assets flow easily across borders); accelerating pace of change (life cycles get shorter and customers expect increasingly customized service); changing technology and organizational structures (technology will be seamless and coherent, organizations are fast and flexible).*

The New Economy or Knowledge Age is the “Age of Learning”! Fusion of learning with work, recreation, and other activities. Three adjectives capture the essence of the 21st Century learning: Perpetual, Distributed, Interactive.

Perpetual – learning will be fused with work and will occur all the time and again and again.

Distributed – learners will be linked in every physical space with a pervasive atmosphere of virtual on-line learning.

Interactive - interactivity will replace educational delivery as the metaphor of learning (traditional learning will decline in the Knowledge Age).

The most successful community colleges will follow a two-part strategy: (1) focus their energies on honing their core competencies, those attributes that differentiate them from competitors; and, (2) learn or acquire the other basic competencies needed to served Knowledge Age learners from outsourcing partners and strategic allies.

The most unsuccessful community colleges will be those who listen to the false counsel “we should only do those few things that we do well ourselves and ignore everything

else”. In other words, “let’s do only those things at which we are currently competent”. Choosing comfort over challenge will serve neither our college or our community well.

Learning College:

A number of community colleges have responded to the Learning Revolution by becoming more learning centered. The Learning College places learning first and provides educational experiences for learning any way, any place, any time. The Learning College is based on six key principles: The Learning College,

1. creates substantive change in individual learners.
2. engages learners in the learning process as full partners.
3. creates and offers as many options for learning as possible.
4. assists learners to form and participate in collaborative learning activities.
5. defines the roles of learning facilitators in response to the needs of the learners.
6. succeeds only when improved and expanded learning can be documented for learners.

We at KC are doing most all of what it takes to be a “Learning College” and in fact, we subscribe to the six principles as stated above. Many thanks to everyone for putting students first and for focusing on learning. We have an effective learning environment at KC. In the future, state funding will be allocated to a great extent on performance and if you subscribe to the Learning College concept, you will be prepared for these funding model changes. Our assessment process is also designed to meet performance based funding objectives. Because of the work of our Assessment Team and all of our faculty and staff we will be well positioned to respond in the future.

Closing:

We are committed to the “Learning College” concept and encourage everyone to adopt the six principles of a Learning College. We will be moving forward with the concept because it is the right thing to do. We are a very proud institution with a great future. I wish everyone a very successful 2002.