

**KASKASKIA COLLEGE
REPORT ON THE COLLEGE
2008 SPRING SEMESTER
PRESENTED TO THE FACULTY AND STAFF
JANUARY 9, 2008
BY: DR. JIM UNDERWOOD, PRESIDENT**

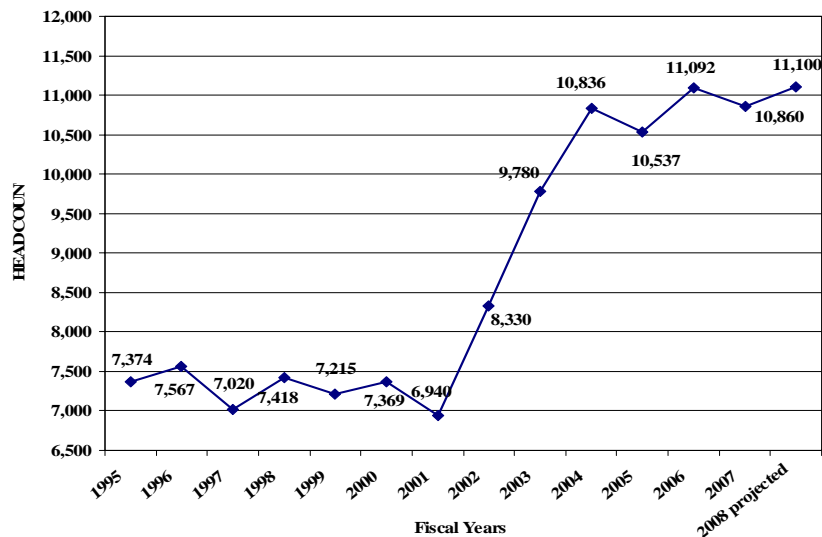
Introduction: I want to first thank all of the faculty and staff for a great 2007 in serving the institution. We saw another year of enrollment growth and much success, thanks to the hard work and dedication of a superb faculty and staff. As we enter the New Year, I want to wish everyone a safe, happy, healthy, and a successful 2008. This report will reflect on projects and initiatives in process or planned for the future and a short discussion about some of the major issues at the present.

New Year's Resolution: Other than the traditional resolutions, I want to personally resolve "*to strive to express appreciation and recognition to those who do good work and perform good deeds, in service to others.*" I encourage all of our faculty and staff to join me in recognizing the great work of others throughout the year. Barbara Glanz writes in her book, The Simple Truths of Appreciation, on how each of us can choose to make a difference. She really encourages us to express our appreciation to those doing a good job. In fact, she writes that a recent study revealed that 65 percent of the workforce indicated that they had not been acknowledged or that appreciation was shown to them for the good job they had done over years of service. She states, "the beauty of appreciation is that we can each give it to anyone we choose. It costs nothing, except a few moments of our time." We at KC do value our employees and appreciate very much the role each person serves in making this institution great. Thus, my resolution is to express appreciation regularly to others for the good job he/she is doing in making a difference in the lives of others. Our "Making a Difference" awards program is a formal way to recognize others for good deeds and I would encourage everyone to use this vehicle to recognize the special efforts of others. Additionally, just a small "thank you" or an expression of appreciation gives great purpose for the jobs people are performing.

KC Reputation and Image: A staff member recently told me that the greatest achievement we have accomplished as an institution of higher education is creating and sustaining an excellent reputation and image of excellence in an environment of “family”. We have built new facilities, increased enrollments, and created many new educational programs and services, but these tangible accomplishments are secondary to the institution’s intangible reputation and image. Recently, I heard The Reverend Dr. Ed Evans refer to Mother Teresa’s response when she was asked, “What can we do to promote world peace?” She responded “Love your Family!” She considered “family” as a related family, neighborhood family, Church family, college family, community family, State family, Nation family, and World family. KC is truly a family in the spirit as described by Mother Teresa. I want to thank everyone associated with the College for creating and maintaining our excellent reputation and image and making KC a family environment. It should also be noted that our core values and beliefs are the building blocks for sustaining our reputation and environment.

Enrollments: The following enrollment chart was prepared by our Institutional Research Office and reflects the total annual enrollments for Kaskaskia College. The College enrolled this past year 11,092 students (unduplicated headcount for on and off-campus enrollments and part-time and full-time students).

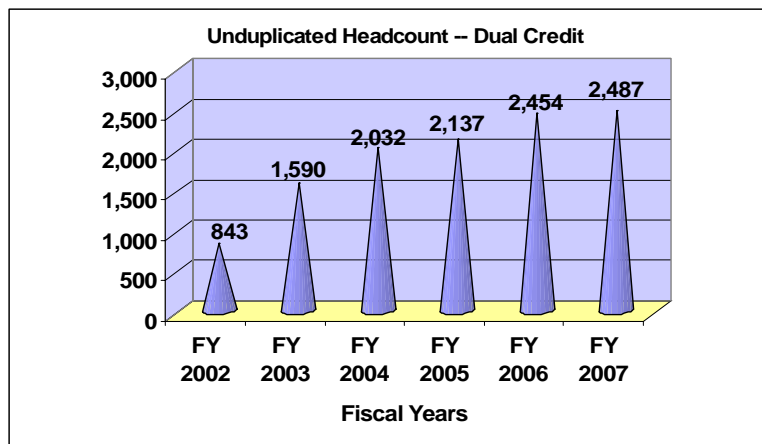
**CHART 1
ENROLLMENTS**



New Partnership and Programs: The Board of Trustees has authorized KC to enter into a partnership with the Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market (SICCM). This consortium is comprised of John A. Logan College, Southeastern College, Shawnee College, Rend Lake College, and Southern Illinois University. Through this partnership, KC will be offering, with the start of the Fall 2008 semester, the following new health related programs: Occupational Therapy Assistant, Surgical Technology, Medical Information Technology, Health Information Technology, and Veterinary Technology. Recruiting students for these new programs will take place this spring. Ava Rawlings and Tim Hood are to be recognized for putting this agreement together and for making these additional new programs available for our citizens.

Dual-Credit Review: Given the tremendous growth in dual-credit enrollments (see Chart 2) and the future planned expansion of offerings, we are now examining our model. A discussion is underway on reviewing our instructional procedures to ensure that dual-credit courses consist of the same course objectives and learning outcomes as those courses taught on campus. This discussion includes the high school instructor approval process, course syllabus approval, and general oversight. We expect to implement newly developed procedures to enhance our dual-credit program. Thanks to Cheryl Boehne for the great job she is doing in leading this program for the College, and we appreciate all of the Deans, Department Chairs, and Faculty for assisting and supporting this program.

CHART 2
DUAL-CREDIT ENROLLMENTS



Transitional Studies: With our open admissions policy we enroll students of various levels of preparations. Many students entering directly from high school or after being in the workforce for a number of years are under-prepared for successfully completing college-level courses. Thus, the importance for having an effective system of “Transitional Studies” at KC. Our Success Center is in the process of being restructured to efficiently and effectively serve these student needs. Further, we are working closely with our area high schools to close the gap between high school exit measures and college entrance requirements. Thanks to Christin Dalaviras and Sedgwick Harris for their leadership and we appreciate all the faculty and staff assisting with this project.

Online Instruction: We have had excellent growth in online enrollments with over 2,000 students this year enrolled through KC. Many thanks to the faculty for developing online courses and teaching students in this environment. We will be pursuing Higher Learning Commission approval for accreditation of online courses and programs this year, which requires us to have in place an effective online assessment system and a course and instructor certification program. Kellie Henegar, Arlene Dueker, and Steve Jerden, along with others, are doing a wonderful job assisting with online instruction.

KC At-Work: Our Business and Industry Division is experiencing much involvement in developing partnerships with firms, within the College district, for offering KC certificates and degrees in the workplace. This model opens up many new enrollment opportunities. This will be a growth area for the College in reaching new populations in serving the workforce. Tonya Odum, Art Borum, Todd Tracy, Nancy Michael, and Deb Jones are working hard on these programs.

Continuing Education: A need exists to provide for re-certification offerings for various professions throughout the area. In so doing, we will be saving individuals and companies the time and cost of traveling extensive distances for continuing education. Distance Learning technologies will also be utilized in meeting this need. We expect this area to be one of our major efforts this next year. Cydney Richardson and Kurt Friese are

doing an excellent job promoting this division. Their office will be moved into the new Lifelong Learning Center when completed.

KC Vandalia Campus: This month, our first branch campus will open in Vandalia. The first building on the 42 acre campus has been completed and the building is now fully operational. We are projecting the campus will enroll approximately 1,500 students annually. This beautiful campus facility will be under the operations of Mary Schulze and assisted by Janice Eischens. A second building has been requested in a \$5.2M appropriations request to the Illinois Legislature. We are hopeful the project will be in a Capital Funding Appropriation when approved by the Legislature and signed by the Governor. The College is currently working with the Vandalia YMCA for the construction of a facility on the campus site.

Lifelong Learning Center and Clock Tower: Construction is well underway on the new Lifelong Learning Center with an expected completion date for the building and Clock Tower to be this next fall. We are honored to have the new Art Gallery in the Lifelong Learning Center to be named: “The Dee and Sue Boswell Art Gallery.” We are additionally honored that the Clock Tower will be named: “The Jerry and Mildred Rakers Clock Tower.”

Sports and Wellness Complex: Phase II of this project is now underway with a major gifts campaign of \$2.2M needed for funding the final phase of the project. This phase will include: an addition to the concession building for locker rooms and an indoor hitting facility; tennis courts, improvements to the soccer field, field lights for the baseball and softball fields, a walking wellness trail, and a golf green. The Board of Trustees has approved a new policy that will allow employees the opportunity to donate up to three accrued vacation and personal leave days for the project. This pledge may be made for up to three years. More information will be made available through our Business Office. Those individuals interested in assisting with the project are welcome to join the Steering Committee. Please contact Cathy Karrick or Zach Loll, our project co-coordinators.

Educational Centers: We are currently in the process of purchasing a new site in Salem for moving our Educational Center to a larger facility. The current leased facility in Salem has worked well for the College, but expanded space for larger and more classrooms and labs are needed to meet the demand for courses at that location. We are also working with Greenville College on acquiring a larger facility in Greenville for our Educational Center. We expect to have developed a plan for acquiring a larger facility in Greenville this spring. Our future plans include the creation of a Business Incubator at both Salem and Greenville in expanded facilities.

Student Athletics: We were recently notified that our Men's Basketball Team (12-0 at present) are ranked 18th nationally in Division I by NJCAA. Congratulations are extended to Coach John Cooksey, assistant coaches and the team. We also learned this past Fall that our Women's Golf Team and our Men's Baseball Team were named Academic All-American Teams by the NJCAA. Congratulations to the players and coaches. This Fall we will be starting a Women's Soccer program and later we will be adding a Men's Soccer team. Also, in the future we are planning to institute Men and Women Tennis teams. We are proud of all of our intercollegiate teams (Women's and Men's Golf, Women's and Men's Basketball, Women's Softball, Women's Volleyball, and Men's Baseball). We encourage all of our faculty and staff to attend competitive games showing support for our students and we would like to see everyone join the KC Sports Association. This organization does a great job of supporting the athletic programs for the College. We appreciate the work and leadership of our Athletic Director Zach Loll, as he leads our intercollegiate athletic program.

Friends of the Fine Arts: This exceptional organization is great for KC. Memberships continue to increase and at the present time they have in excess of 150 members. We appreciate the support of Sherm Doolen, president of the organization, and officers Dr. Dee Boswell, Louis Fogleman, with assistance from Heather Jourdan. Thanks to the Fine Arts faculty for their important role in teaching and creating first-class performances, exhibits, and concerts. Cliff Jourdan, Mike Register, Diane Hanson, David Quinn are to

be congratulated for all they do in promoting the Fine Arts at KC. We would encourage all of our personnel to consider joining this organization in supporting the Arts at KC.

Season of Entertainment: We are in our second year of expanding and promoting the Performing Arts at KC, which is a tremendous success. Given the Performing and Visual Arts at KC, along with the visiting artists and entertainers, we are truly providing wonderful opportunities for our students, faculty and staff, along with our public to attend these wonderful productions. Travis Henson and Mike Loomis are doing a superb job of organizing and conducting the “Season of Entertainment.” We have had great audiences for performances and we expect this program to continue to grow in the future.

KC Alumni and Friends Association: Our Alumni organization has been structured and is fully operational. We encourage our faculty and staff to join and assist us in making our students aware of this opportunity. Many thanks to Amy Troutt for coordinating this organization on behalf of the College.

KC Scroll: We are very proud of this excellent award-winning publication and appreciate the good work of our faculty sponsors, Brandi and Nathan Wilkins, along with all of the student writers and production staff. This year the Scroll staff has doubled the number of publications, all to better inform and involve our students. The Scroll is an excellent publication for keeping all of us and our public informed on the happenings at KC.

Adult Basic Education: This past year we enrolled over 600 students in our GED program and there were 133 students graduating with certificates. We are indebted to our volunteers who help us in so many different ways in support of the Reading Link, GED Tutoring, and many other Adult Ed programs. Many thanks to Mike Hoyt and all of the ABE staff and volunteers for the excellent job they do in serving thousands of our citizens. In fact, through our ABE programs we are making a difference in the lives of many citizens within the KC district. There are always needs for more volunteers; therefore, please let our ABE office know of anyone interested in helping others. I am

reminded of a volunteer telling me that she was helping a grandmother learn to read so that she could read children's books to her grandchildren. Others are in need of help to get a good paying job, a promotion, or to pass the GED; but whatever the need it will take a dedicated volunteer to help. Thus, our volunteers are serving a very noble cause.

Adjunct Faculty Members: We appreciate the excellent teaching that our adjunct faculty provide in serving our students. We rely heavily on-campus and at our Educational Centers on the teaching assignments of our adjunct faculty. I want to express our thanks and appreciation to all of our dedicated adjunct faculty members for their loyalty to this institution. As an expression of our gratitude for the longevity of our adjunct faculty members we have developed a four-tier salary table that recognizes the semesters of teaching at KC. We will also be considering additional in-service and training that will be available for adjunct faculty to help keep them current with the teaching profession. Additionally, we will be involving more adjunct faculty in the planning process and curriculum development with our full-time faculty. I just cannot overstate the important role of these important members of our faculty. They bring valuable experience into our classrooms and labs from their businesses. It is important that we all ensure that our adjunct faculty members are included in the KC family and a part of the processes and opportunities of the College.

Student Organizations: Student life activities and programs at KC are continuing to expand, all for the purpose of providing our students with opportunities for growth and development. Our Core Values 101 Team sponsors, Jill Tomaszewski and Amy Troutt, have attended the certification training Institute on ethical decision-making and are now prepared to lead our team and program. Our National Champion Dairy Judging Team competed in Scotland and continues to be very active. The KC PTK chapter was awarded the "Five Star" national chapter rating. PBL, Skills USA, Student Congress, SIFE organization, Wyse Competition, and many other student clubs and organizations are all extremely active. Many thanks to all of the clubs and organizations sponsors for leading and assisting students in these programs.