



Celebrate and Connect!
1969 - 2019

WHICH PATH WERE YOU ON?

Maybe you were one of the first 1,380 JCCC students who met in local schools and churches in 1969 ...

Or, you were one of the 3,600 who streamed into six new red-brick campus buildings in '72.

Maybe you were a resident who believed in the mission and you witnessed the boom at College and Quivira.

No matter which part you played, you participated in a chapter of the county's largest educational movement.

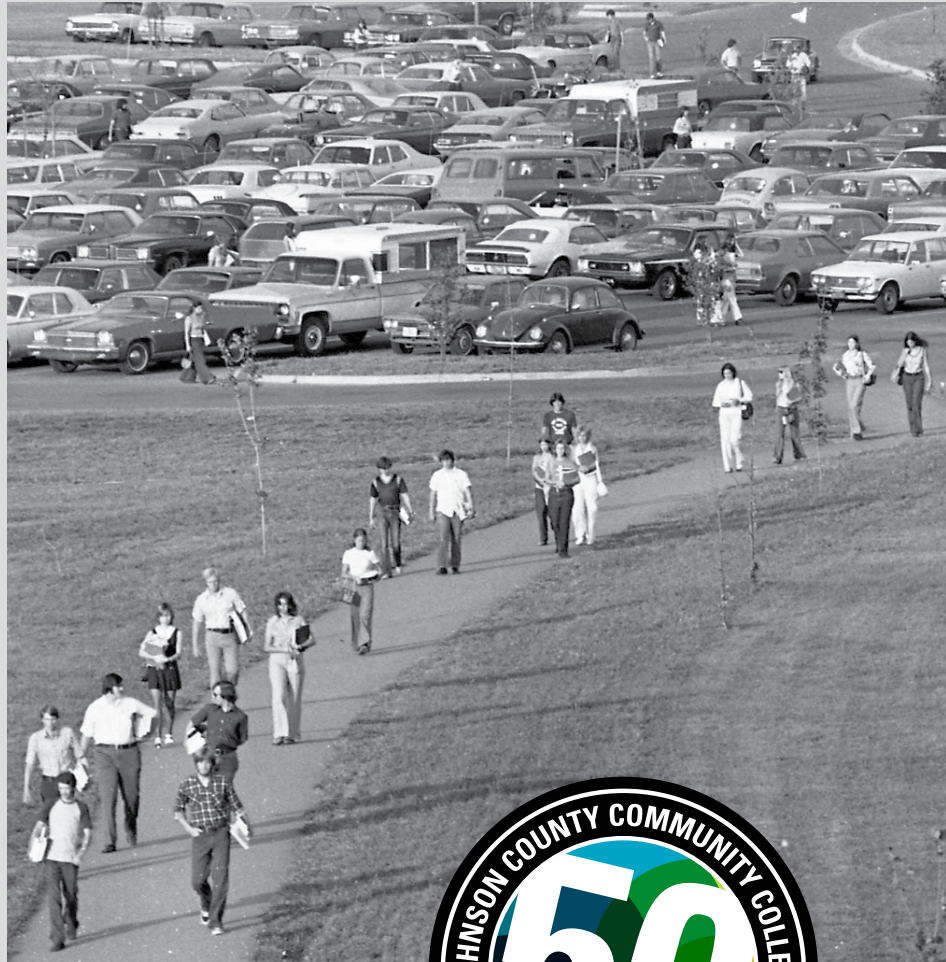
Ready for College

Community colleges started becoming part of the educational landscape in the early '60s. A committee of 18 Johnson County residents were curious as to whether our county could sustain a two-year institution.

Feasibility studies were conducted by the local League of Women Voters and the American Association of University Women. They found the county was ready for post-secondary learning.

It was clear most Johnson countians agreed when, in 1967, voters supported a measure to build a community college by a 3-1 margin.

A six-member board was



elected, adopting the slogan **"Yes, We Have NO Traditions."**

From that open-minded spirit, a college was launched that chucked the status quo and made plans for positive prospects.



Celebrate and Connect

#JCCC50

ONE OF THE FIRST TO SUCCEED

Jere Hanney was one of JCCC's first – in so many arenas. Fresh out of Shawnee Mission East High School in 1968, he was at the front of the line to enroll at JCCC. Before the College even opened, he was hired as a student employee in July 1969. He was one of the first to earn an associate degree. To top it off, he illustrated the College's first mascot, the Kansan, and helped produce the Southwind Review, the first (and only) JCCC yearbook.

His first job working at JCCC with illustrations and printing was the starting point for his 37-year career in graphics and later management. In 1984, he enrolled at the University of Kansas to earn a bachelor's degree. Every single one of his JCCC credits transferred!

Jere believes the College had a deliberate focus to provide a quality two-year education and a good foundation for the jobs available in the county. The College still strives toward that goal today.



“ Everything I am, started here. JCCC came along and opened me up like a book. I’ll never be able to say enough about what the College did for me personally. ”

– Jere Hanney, Class of 1971
JCCC Alumni Association Vice President (1997-98)

WELCOMED JUST LIKE FAMILY



A nearly three-hour commute from the opposite side of the metro (with three bus transfers) made Kevin even more determined to finish strong at JCCC.

He had a desire to discover a career. Along the journey, he found his voice.

“I am dyslexic and have struggled in school. When I thought of college, I was intimidated. Growing up, I was shy and I didn’t speak much. When I came to this college, I felt very comfortable to speak openly and laugh and talk with people. I was welcomed by the professors and they treated me like family.”

“As soon as I walked onto campus I felt a sense of warmth that was unlike other schools. I was blown away by the different ethnic backgrounds. The treatment I received was excellent.”

– Kevin R.
JCCC Student Activities Ambassador (2015-16)

WE'VE GOT PLANS FOR OUR PLANET!

Our trash transforms into tuition treasure. On-campus sustainability initiatives have funded \$207,000 in scholarships since 1994.

To contribute, Nils dedicated 25 hours to disassembling old classroom light fixtures so that bare aluminum could be sold. This efforts totaled \$3,011.44 – that's nearly three semesters of full-time tuition for a JCCC student.

"Now I speak to classes and groups about sustainability. I talk to students who are in the same class I took. I get to tell them about all of the meaningful efforts JCCC supports with paper towel composting, recycling scrap metal, books and copper from all corners of campus."



“ This internship has given me the tools to educate people on how they can shift their mindset to make more sustainable choices. ”

– Nils B.
JCCC Sustainability Intern (2017-18)

LEADING WITH COMPASSION AND SO MUCH MORE



Jeanne Walsh became a registered neonatal nurse around the time JCCC was born. Her leadership during a 23-year tenure at JCCC had a profound impact on the growth and success of our Nursing program.

In 2001, her determination to purchase JCCC's first human patient simulator gave new meaning to hands-on training and transformed the way nursing students learned.

Jeanne seized an opportunity in 2006 to apply for a grant that would help fund a state-of-the-art simulation center on campus at a time when the Kansas State Nursing Initiative addressed the state's nursing shortage. Our program received the second largest grant of all nursing programs.

The community celebrated the Healthcare Simulation Center dedication in 2008. This achievement lended even more distinction to the program and, more importantly, the gap started to close on the state's need for qualified nurses.

Jeanne's compassion reached around the globe. She also supported overseas service-learning for JCCC students in Las Pintas, Mexico, and a nursing faculty exchange in Lacor Hospital in Uganda.

“ Our nursing program has a strong, proud heritage. One of its cornerstones was to build a quality program so grads would get jobs based on JCCC's reputation. JCCC still has that commitment. ”

– Jeanne Walsh, Director of Nursing
(1989-2012)

LEADING, CONNECTING, ADAPTING



Left to right: Paul Snider, Member; Nancy Ingram, Vice Chair; Jerry Cook, Chair; Lee Cross, Treasurer; Greg Musil, Member; Angeliina Lawson, Member; David Lindstrom, Secretary

A message from JCCC's Board of Trustees:

For more than 50 years, JCCC has been dedicated to student success. As Trustees, we have an obligation to hold fast to the best of our past and move swiftly to the best of the future.

Every day starts with the commitment to serve students, the community and businesses. This anniversary year is the perfect time for all of us to rededicate ourselves to even

greater accomplishments for what lies ahead.

Johnson County Community College fosters deep meaning to many: alumni, faculty, staff, board members, donors and friends. All agree that JCCC defines opportunity that is rooted in learning, growth and development.

JCCC has made a significant impact on the economic and social well-being of our local and regional communities. Through

our work to provide educational excellence and opportunity, the community benefits from workforce development, an expanded economy, increased individual earnings and career opportunities. We can affirm that this college is indeed for everyone!

We invite you to celebrate JCCC's 50th Anniversary and enjoy the many planned activities. After all, you are an integral partner in our future.





THINK OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY

For JCCC students, the world becomes a smaller place thanks to Study Abroad opportunities. Lifelong relationships have been forged in 50 countries. Every year, more than 100 students become citizen ambassadors as they share stories about life in America and encounter contrasting cultures (and climates) around the world.

For decades our faculty and International Education staff

have created academic travel opportunities that transform lives and enrich learning. We continue to appreciate our partnerships with institutions in China, Japan and Italy, and strive to gain more.

The U.S. Department of State has recognized JCCC as the second-highest community college nationwide for producing Gilman Scholars.

JCCC ranks #9 in the nation for Study Abroad participation.

– Institute of International Education (2018)



CREDITS COUNT!

7 That's the number of programs JCCC offered in 1969 – including aviation and secretarial skills.

102 That's how many credit programs we offer 50 years later – 44 two-year degrees and 58 certificate programs. Aviation is gone and secretarial skills evolved. Today's students study sustainable agriculture, web development and neurodiagnostic technology to name a few.

Passion, promise and progress have been essential to our institution's mission – the numbers certainly reflect that.



Continuing Education enrollment **20,800**
 Credit students **29,145**
 Total **49,945**



23% of students are in Early College (fall 2018 high school)



36% of students plan to transfer



42% graduated with an associate degree or transferred within 3 years

3,494 degrees and certificates awarded

Numbers are from 2017-18 academic year

Fashion Forward

In the everchanging world of fashion, JCCC continues to impress. From ruffles to ripped jeans, our graduates display confidence in taking designs from concept to creation to production. Students host an annual spring fashion show that's open to the community.

Fashion insiders from around the globe have noticed the talent at JCCC and doors have opened for students.



Campus Life

Ever since sci-fi enthusiasts were drawn into JCCC's force field in the '70s, there has been a related club orbiting campus.

JCCC has at least 80 clubs and hosts dozens of reps from regional colleges. Fun and academic activities steer students toward new friends, hobbies and careers through:

- Civic Leadership and Service-Learning
- Diversity Fellowships
- Emerging Professionals
- Honors Societies
- Student Senate

We Made the Honor Roll

- Named #6 Most Respected Community College in the Nation by Rolling Stone magazine (1998)
- Top-rated by e.Republic's Center for Digital Education (2014)
- STARS Silver Institution Award by the Association for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (2017)
- Ranked the #7 Safest Educational Institution in the Nation by ADT Security (2018)
- Ranked #1 in Kansas and #8 Best Community Colleges in America by Niche (2019)



CAREER-LIFE READY

Our reputation for educational excellence and student success has secured transfer and reverse transfer agreements with every university and college in Kansas, the University of Missouri-Kansas City and others. To date, students can choose from 189 different pathways to four-year schools.

Many of those institutions consider an associate degree from JCCC a smart strategy to fulfill general education requirements. When students transfer from JCCC, they can delve immediately into classes that pertain to their majors, freeing up valuable time and money.

We've come a long way from offices that were little more than makeshift plywood cubicles. In the early years, faculty and staff were a grassroots institution. They scrapped ineffective teaching methods and designed courses that focus on technology and hands-on labs.

The goal: Dismiss the "that's the way it's always been" mentality. The philosophy still works today.

In 1969, we rented classroom space from high schools and libraries. Today, Early College



programs give students an option to earn college credits *before* they graduate from high school. Local libraries still sponsor classes, but now partner with our Johnson County Adult Education program to graduate more than 100 GED® recipients each year.

In the first decade, people flocked to campus to learn *how* to use computers. Now, thousands of students conveniently complete their classes online.

189 transfer agreements with **29** institutions

Tools for Tech Trades

JCCC has been manufacturing success in trade careers since 1970.

As fabrication becomes more automated and complex, industry leaders are looking for critical thinkers and problem-solvers. Our trades curriculums prepare specialists for today's challenges and give them the knowledge and tools they need to tackle certification exams.



Sign for the Times

In 1976, JCCC became a regional leader in Deaf studies when it partnered with Gallaudet University, the world's premier college for the Deaf and hard of hearing.

Today, our American Sign Language opportunities continue to break the sound barriers between Deaf and hearing people. As accessibility demands increase, the use of ASL is growing – and so is the study of ASL among hearing students.



Intensive Caring

Our Neurodiagnostic Technology (NDT), Respiratory Care and Dental Hygiene program graduates are in high demand. JCCC boasts one of only 30 NDT programs in the U.S. The need for trained professionals is so great, many graduates are offered jobs all across the country.

As part of our commitment to community, each dental hygiene student volunteers 20 hours of service in our Oral Health on Wheels mobile clinic.



PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL

It was 1970. The College had closed the books on its first successful semester. The board was committed to keeping its promises and wanted to bump up the “community” piece of the county’s emerging community college. The philosophy of introducing noncredit courses was flawless, but funding was nonexistent. The only line item in the Continuing Education budget covered a salary for one.

In keeping with a progressive mindset, a potpourri of topics were launched: Beginning Belly Dancing, How to Watch a Football Game (women only), Modern Math for Parents, Family Communication in the ‘70s and Shorthand Refresher. There was no budget for advertising, but the president’s office agreed to mimeograph fliers to get the word out about the first **23** courses. Enrollment was **273**. Not bad for the inaugural flight.

Nearly five decades later, Continuing Ed enrollment has skyrocketed to over **20,000**.

Learners ages 13 to 93 are taught by industry professionals face-to-face and online.



Enrichment programs show teenagers they *are* college material with STEM activities and fun summer learning series.

Training for entry-level professionals to CEOs boosts job productivity, career potential and local economic development. JCCC has the largest, most comprehensive workforce training center in the Kansas City area. We offer certificates and continuing education in healthcare, early childhood education, information

technology and trades, to name a few. When area businesses want affordable, customized training, we can deliver it on site.

Exclusive courses for our golden agers provide tips on navigating technology and driving refreshers.

Now, with **300-plus** courses, we still have a lot of fun – Beekeeping, Ballroom Dancing, Wine Tasting, Motorcycle Riding and Drone Photography – but you can probably leave your belly dancing costume in the attic.

A CLEAR Vision

The College introduced CLEAR (College Learning Experiences Activities and Resources) in 1977, meeting a vital need of residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

CLEAR provides breakthrough opportunities for adults 18 and over – with no age limit. Today, more than 350 students receive computer and vocational training, and learn fitness and independent living skills.



Better Business

JCCC was an early adopter of the Kansas Small Business Development Center (KSBDC) in 1983.

Since then, startups and existing businesses have benefitted from its services – everything from mapping out a business plan to safeguards on cybersecurity.

In 2018 alone, 1,041 jobs were created through KSBDC and nearly \$54 million was added to the region's economy.



Victorious Vets

It's a celebrated victory when vets stand shoulder-to-shoulder through academic battles.

Since the Veteran & Military Student Resource Center opened in 2015, foot traffic has increased 87 percent – another win!

JCCC is one of only two community college's participating in Peer Advisors for Veteran Education (PAVE) and has served more than 400 students since fall 2016.





- **11** National Championships
- **22** Runner-up National Finishes
- **95** Top 5 National Finishes
- **139** Region Titles
- **179** Conference Titles
- More than **1,000** NJCAA All-America Athletes
- **62** Individual National Champions
- **400** NJCAA Academic Award Winners

CAVALIER ATHLETES SCORE



The pursuit of excellence is evident in JCCC intercollegiate athletics. Regarded throughout the region and nation as a first-class program, our great tradition was validated when JCCC was named the 2008 winner of the National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators Cup in the Scholarship Division.

Our coaches encourage Cavaliers to strive for excellence within the realm of their sport and in the classroom. JCCC's commitment to developing well-rounded student-athletes has paid dividends throughout the history of the program. Nearly 60 percent maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or better.

JCCC's intercollegiate athletic programs compete on both the NJCAA Division I and II levels and hold membership in the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference and Region VI.

Cavalier athletes are positioned to continue winning traditions, both in the East Jayhawk Conference and in national competitions.

“ My time at JCCC was two of the best years of my life. We were like a family. The coaches made sure we put in 110% in our athletics and academics. By visiting with professors, counselors and coaches, I gained incredible daily and lifelong advice. ”

– Sarah Taylor
former JCCC soccer player
went on to play at Columbia College



Kent Shelley notched his 1,000th career win in his 31st season, all as head baseball coach at JCCC. He is one of only 10 active coaches in the National Junior College Athletic Association to have achieved this feat.

Developing professional talent is his specialty – 42 of his former players have been drafted or signed as free agents by Major League Baseball.

“ Expectations are high. We identify, we recruit, and we develop outstanding talent. We look for young men of character and great integrity. ”

– Kent Shelley
Cavalier Head Baseball Coach (1987-present)

“ The coaches truly cared about making us better young men. The curriculum prepared me for a four-year university and let me compete at the highest level in athletics. I am grateful for the opportunity to represent JCCC. ”

– Dan Heflin
former JCCC baseball player
Assistant Athletics Director for Major Gifts
University of Kansas



A STRONG FOUNDATION: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

It was 1973. Enrollment was escalating. Relationships were forming between alumni, donors and local leaders. A Foundation could foster these connections and strategically guide philanthropy toward bold ideas and progress.

From day one, JCCC's Foundation has strived to support student needs, reward effort and build innovative learning spaces.

Some Enchanted Evening began in 1987 to raise the College's profile, honor a Johnson Countian of the Year, and bolster funds. To date, the annual gala has raised more than **\$10 million in scholarships**. Thousands of exceptional students from single parents, first-generation college students, displaced workers and talented students have been awarded funds to help them pursue their dreams.

Our community rallies every fall for **Lace Up For Learning**, a 5k race that winds through campus. What started as a nod toward leading a healthful lifestyle has added \$30,000 to student scholarships.

FRIENDS WITH TASTE® dinners and events support our world-renowned hospitality and culinary programs.

BEYOND BOUNDS!, a lavish biennial art auction gala, offers artists and patrons of the arts an evening to mix and mingle while bidding on one-of-a-kind works – many created specifically for the event. Proceeds benefit the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art.

Cohen Community Series introduces audiences to some of country music's greatest talents. All proceeds from this annual concert support JCCC scholarships and educational programs.



In 2017-18

More than **\$1.2 million** was awarded to JCCC students for books, tuition and programming.

1,120 students received Foundation scholarships.



'CENTER' STAGE



What opened in 1990 as the Cultural Education Center was later renamed the Carlsen Center for Charles J. Carlsen, the College's third president. More than **2.2 million attendees** have watched the curtain rise in the county's premier performance halls and witnessed the wonder and creativity of artists from at least **66 different cultures.**

A successful Arts Education program has made the Center an exciting destination for elementary, middle and high school students. Master classes and programs allow them to explore their own creativity, and develop talents and critical-thinking skills. Since 2000, Arts Education has provided **200,000 area students and teachers** from **38 school districts** with low-cost or free services.

The county's largest cultural arts center has flourished and **hosted 5,600 events**, including naturalization ceremonies.

Thanks to the support of patrons, Friends of the Carlsen Center and local philanthropists, the Center presents programs in Yardley Hall, Polsky Theatre, Bodker Black Box Theatre and Recital Hall.

The venue received a facelift for its 25th anniversary in 2017.

INSPIRATION AND ASPIRATION



Built in 2007, the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art has one of the top internationally acclaimed collections of emerging and established artists today. The Museum presents many of the region's most important exhibitions of leading-edge contemporary art, as well as dynamic and diverse educational programming.

JCCC is one of the top 10 colleges in America for public art on campus.

– Public Art Review magazine (2006)

The Museum continues to expand its free programming for students of all ages and our community. At 41,000 square feet, it is the largest contemporary art museum in the four-state region. Guided tours and youth art classes are available on an ongoing basis.

The Kansas Focus Gallery showcases works by Kansas-associated artists and builds upon the Museum's longstanding support of area artists.

MAKING HISTORY ... BUILDING THE FUTURE



Turning 50 is “oh so sweet!” Who could have imagined that a group of education advocates gathered around a dining room table in the early 1960s could come up with a plan so full of promise it could literally change the landscape of learning in Johnson County?

JCCC has a rich history and we continue to benefit from the legacy of each decade’s visionary leaders. Many things have changed, but one tenet remains – our deep commitment to deliver excellence to the students we serve.

Our exceptional faculty and staff strive to build relationships and foster strong learning communities. We take this responsibility seriously. Recently we created academic neighborhoods on campus that include the new Hugh L. Libby Career and Technical Education Center and the Fine Arts & Design Studios. We will soon revamp all of our academic resource centers to be more convenient and easily assessible to our students. On top of that, we’ve designed new classroom spaces, renovated existing buildings and added technology-driven open spaces for collaboration. We believe (and see evidence in our graduates) that we are maintaining a tradition of delivering excellence and changing lives.

Zeroing in on student success, workforce development and civic engagement, I continue to marvel at the exceptional ideas and unique perspectives our faculty, staff, students and community members bring to the College and our classrooms.

We’re proud of our past, but more importantly, we’re ready to take on a bold and adventurous future.

Your support over the last 50 years has fueled an unparalleled legacy of learning. Your continued support gives us the assurance we’re poised and ready to greet our next generation of learners.

Sincerely,

Joe Sopcich
President



JOHNSON COUNTY[®]
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**JCCC inspires learning to transform lives
and strengthen communities.**