



ANNUAL REPORT

2016-2017

FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Dear MCC friends and colleagues,

As I told the Class of 2017 at commencement, I could never have predicted that I would end up leading Metropolitan Community College and being referred to as “Chancellor.” After all, I was a farm kid from the Ozarks whose career started as a state trooper. But you just never know what twists and turns lay ahead.

As I step down, I am proud to have played a part in the education of thousands of students over my eight years at MCC, seven in the chancellor’s chair. During that time, the College became more inclusive and a safer place to learn and work. We streamlined systems, overhauled technology and increased employee training opportunities. We are no longer Kansas City’s “best-kept secret.” Along the way, MCC initiatives attracted visits from three White House cabinet members, the second lady and even the president of the United States.

I certainly can’t take the credit for all that’s happened. I had the good fortune to be in the midst of a whole lot of people who did exceptional work. Many times, I had what sounded like a crazy idea, but MCC employees were able to bring that idea to fruition. Together, we saw great success.

You’re now in the capable hands of Dr. Kimberly Beatty, who with your help will take MCC to the next level. She will find, as I did, a passionate group of employees and supporters who are focused on preparing students, serving communities and creating opportunities.

I’m now one of those supporters myself. From the sidelines, I’ll continue to cheer for the success of Metropolitan Community College, its students and the college community as a whole.

Sincerely,

Mark S. James

Mark S. James
Chancellor, 2010-2017



FROM THE INCOMING CHANCELLOR

Dear MCC community:

I am honored and humbled to have been selected as Metropolitan Community College's eighth chancellor. I appreciate everyone who has made me feel so welcome at MCC and across Greater Kansas City.

During the lovely reception for me at Union Station, I talked about the impact a college education had on my life — not just my own experience, but that of my mother. I came from meager beginnings, raised by a single mother, but what made the difference for her and for me was that she received the opportunity to earn a college degree. As a little girl, I would ride three buses with her to get to the University of Pittsburgh.

I'm convinced I would not be here at MCC today were it not for my mother's college education. She taught me the value of an education. I remember that every day when I come to work.

I know my journey is not unique. In fact, it's the journey of many of our MCC students and others in the community. Our students face a variety of struggles and challenges, but this community college helps them find success and a brighter future. Together, we will make MCC a place where students do more than dream with a question mark. Here, they will achieve their dreams with a period.

Now in its second century, MCC is on the MOVE! We are proud of who we are and what we do. Thank you for your continuing support.

All the best,



Dr. Kimberly Beatty
Chancellor, 2017-





OUR MISSION

Preparing Students, Serving Communities, Creating Opportunities.

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Metropolitan Community College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

2016-2017 OFFICERS



Mark S. James
Chancellor



Shelley Temple Kneuvean
Vice Chancellor, Administration,
and Chief Financial Officer



Carlos G. Peñaloza, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor, Instruction,
and Chief Academic Officer



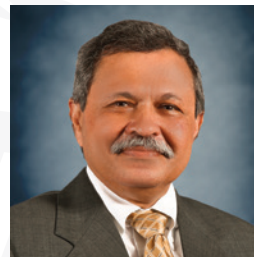
Kathrine Swanson, Ed.D.
Vice Chancellor, Student
Success and Engagement



Michael Banks, Ph.D.
President
MCC-Blue River



Jacqueline Gill, Ed.D.
President
MCC-Business & Technology



Utpal K. Goswami, Ph.D.
President
MCC-Maple Woods



Kirk A. Nooks, Ed.D.
President
MCC-Longview



Tony Ross, Ed.D.
Interim President
MCC-Penn Valley

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Metropolitan
Community College



Christopher Whiting (from left), Barbara Anne Washington, Robert Martin, Michael Brown, Trent Skaggs and David Disney

MCC's trustees, who are elected by the public, serve six-year terms. The board meets monthly.

Trent M. Skaggs
Subdistrict 1 (2012-)
President (2016-)

McClain Bryant
Subdistrict 2 (2017-)

Christopher Whiting
Subdistrict 4 (2012-)

Phil LeVota
Subdistrict 5 (2017-)

David L. Disney
Subdistrict 2 (2000-16)

Barbara Anne Washington
Subdistrict 3 (2016-)
Vice president (2016-)

Robert H. Martin
Subdistrict 5 (1976-2017)

Michael R. Brown
Subdistrict 6 (2016-)

BOARD APPOINTS TWO TRUSTEES TO FILL VACANCIES

In April, the Board of Trustees appointed two new interim members, McClain Bryant and Phil LeVota, to fill vacant positions. The new members were sworn in May 9.

Bryant, representing Subdistrict 2, is director of policy for Kansas City Mayor Sly James. She replaced David L. Disney, who moved out of the subdistrict.

LeVota, representing Subdistrict 5, is an attorney in private practice. He replaced the late Robert H. Martin.

The new members were appointed to serve until the next MCC election in April 2018, when trustees will be elected for Disney and Martin's unexpired terms.



REMEMBERING LONG-SERVING TRUSTEE ROBERT H. MARTIN

Robert H. Martin, 82, who served a record 41 years on the MCC Board of Trustees, died April 3, 2017.

Appointed in 1976 to fill a vacancy, Mr. Martin was first elected to the board from Subdistrict 5 in 1978 and subsequently re-elected six more times. The lawyer and former state legislator was last elected in 2014, and his colleagues elected him board president four times.

“Bob raised the bar for everyone around him,” said Chancellor Mark James. “As a trustee, he read every word of every document, studied every financial report, reviewed every check written and was keenly interested in the work being done by our faculty. Bob was passionate about providing opportunities for our students.”



DAVID L. DISNEY LAUDED FOR ‘REMARKABLE DEDICATION’

David L. Disney, who served 16 years on the Board of Trustees — including 10 as president — was honored by fellow trustees for his leadership and “steadfast dedication.”

Disney resigned from the board in November because he moved out of MCC Subdistrict 2, the area he represented.

At the board meeting December 15, Disney (pictured with his wife, Kathy) received a standing ovation after a resolution of commendation signed by the other five trustees was read and presented to him.

Chancellor Mark James noted that Disney holds the record for longest-serving MCC Board of Trustees president.



Board of Trustees secretary Cindy Johnson swears in McClain Bryant...



... and Phil LeVota. The two joined the board in May.

2016-2017 HIGHLIGHTS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES SELECTS DR. KIMBERLY BEATTY AS CHANCELLOR

Following a national search that started in January, MCC's Board of Trustees named Dr. Kimberly Beatty the eighth chancellor of the institution.

Dr. Beatty joined MCC from Houston Community College, where she served as vice chancellor for instructional services and chief academic officer. She was introduced to the Kansas City community at a June 19 reception at Union Station.



Trent Skaggs, president of the MCC Board of Trustees and chair of the Chancellor Advisory Screening Committee, said: "We searched nationally for a visionary and strategic leader who would work collaboratively with the board and college community to create a renewed sense of mission and identity, define a clear and compelling shared vision, and set the direction for MCC. We are confident that Dr. Beatty is the right person at the right time to lead us into the future."

Dr. Beatty brought to MCC 28 years of teaching and administrative experience in higher education, including 21 years of progressive leadership experience at community colleges in California, Virginia and Texas. She has also served as a tenured associate professor in English.

The Chancellor Advisory Screening Committee was made up of trustees, faculty, staff and a student representative. Consultants from an executive search firm held listening sessions with employees in February and March and subsequently recruited a diverse pool of 40 candidates.

The screening committee evaluated 16 candidates and interviewed seven semifinalists in April. Three chancellor finalists were announced on May 3. Each spent two days at MCC in meetings and interviews, including a town hall at each campus. The Board of Trustees announced its choice on May 26.

CHANCELLOR JAMES RETIRES AFTER SEVEN YEARS AT HELM

"You've had a career of service from Day 1," MCC Chancellor Emeritus Jacqueline Snyder told her successor, Mark James, at a send-off for him at the June 22 Board of Trustees meeting.

Carolyn Watley, a member of the MCC Foundation board, said she had the pleasure of serving during Chancellor James' entire tenure. The business community viewed him as "a very active, engaged and visible leader" who worked hard to meet the training needs of area employers.

And Zora Mulligan, Missouri commissioner of higher education, called James a "real leader" of community colleges across Missouri and "extremely effective" in his relationships with state legislators.

James, MCC's chancellor since 2010, retired June 30. At the trustees meeting he was presented with two resolutions of commendation (one from the College, one from Kansas City Mayor Sly James), a

wooden replica of the MCC seal, and a framed commencement photo with parting words from notable community members.

Commencement was his favorite night of the year. Vice Chancellor Kathrine Swanson (pictured with James) recalled walking out of Municipal Auditorium with him after her first MCC commencement and seeing his "look of pride" and "sense of purpose" as he pointed out the new grads celebrating in the street.

The MCC officers presented the gift of a \$1,200 check to the MCC Foundation, to be used for a scholarship bearing Chancellor James' name.



FOR STUDENTS, U-PASS IS THEIR TICKET TO RIDE ... FOR FREE

Thanks to a new service called U-Pass, MCC credit students can take unlimited free trips on RideKC buses, to campus or anywhere else around town.

Starting in Fall 2016, U-Pass — a two-year pilot program of MCC and the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority — turned student IDs into all-access bus passes.



 **261,655** Number of free rides MCC students took in 2016-17 using U-Pass

 **1,456** Number of MCC students who used U-Pass

 **897** Average MCC student rides per weekday

 **180** Average number of rides taken by each MCC student

A FOCUS ON MCC'S FOCUS GRANTS



Year 4 of MCC's five-year federally funded FOCUS program started in October 2016. Some FOCUS facts:

- The mission of FOCUS is to better serve first-year students, particularly those with high potential for success but who are not quite prepared for college-level studies.
- The program is funded by three grants from the U.S. Department of Education totaling \$12.8 million over five years.
- The government program is actually called Title III Part A, Strengthening Institutions. FOCUS is MCC's name for the project: Fundamentals for Outcomes, Completion, Understanding and Success.
- Fifteen MCC employees, mostly faculty, became full-time FOCUS staff members.
- At MCC, the program has looked for new approaches to developmental courses, freshman-level gateway courses, students' first-year experience, student advising, peer mentoring, supplemental instruction, and instructional and student development technology.

COMMENCEMENT



MORE THAN 2,500 #MCCGRADS2017 BECOME ALUMNI

It was a night of selfies, funny messages atop funny-looking hats, cheers and shout-outs, pomp and circumstance. MCC's commencement celebration for its 102nd graduating class was held May 17 at Municipal Auditorium.

This year 2,575 MCC students applied to graduate, including 76 high school seniors in early college programs. More than 1,600 students earned associate in arts degrees, about 600 received associate in applied science degrees, and another 600 received certificates.

The 2017 ceremony was the last one to be presided over by Mark James, the College's chancellor since 2010. "You and the seven classes before you have been my inspiration," James said in his address to the grads.

Students who participated in the ceremony also received medallions of the MCC seal, created in observance of the College's 100th birthday in 2015.





PREPARING STUDENTS

MOCK DISASTER CHALLENGES STUDENTS TO WORK TOGETHER UNDER DURESS

At precisely 9:06 on a cool Friday morning, a loud boom erupted and protesters started falling to the ground screaming.

Fortunately, every bit of this drama was scripted, part of a simulated mass casualty exercise at MCC's Health Science Institute.

Still, the "wounds" on the live "patients" and patient simulators looked awfully real. Both the human actors and non-human simulators — essentially high-tech mannequins, controlled by people nearby with tablets and laptops — moaned in pain.

Within seconds of the flash-bang explosion, MCC police, fire and EMS students were on scene to assess the patients, load many onto stretchers and move them to a triage area inside.

The March 31 interdisciplinary exercise also involved MCC nursing and health information management students. MCC simulation instructor Todd Geringer said it took more than a year to plan the mass casualty event. "It's like presenting a giant play that has 80 actors in it."

Exercises of this sort allow students to gain confidence in their critical thinking skills while challenging their ability to work with care providers from other disciplines, Geringer said.



COCA-COLA SCHOLARSHIP GOES TO MCC-MAPLE WOODS STUDENT



Jennifer Elpert

MCC's latest Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar, Jennifer Elpert, plans to become a veterinarian. "Eventually, I would love to open my own practice," she says.

The second-year student at MCC-Maple Woods was working on an associate in science in biology degree.

Sponsored by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, the program annually awards 200 scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each. The scholarships, administered by academic honor society Phi Theta Kappa, are designed to provide new PTK members with financial help while they are enrolled in community college and active in the society's programs.

Elpert was also part of MCC-Maple Woods' new honors program, which engages students in individual projects that enhance their coursework and career path.



TWO VET TECH STUDENTS RECEIVE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS



Jennifer Fletcher



Brianna Gruber

Two MCC veterinary technology students were the only ones in the country to be honored with the Dr. Jack Walther Leadership Award, which recognizes “veterinary students who portray leadership and promote a lifelong service to the profession.”

Out of 35 Walther awards presented each year by the Western Veterinary Conference, 33 go to doctor of veterinary medicine students across North America. Just two go to vet tech students — this year, MCC-Maple Woods’ Jennifer Fletcher and Brianna Gruber.

“It is amazing that the only two veterinary technology students came from the MCC-Maple Woods location,” Fletcher says. “This says so much about how wonderful this program is.”

Gruber says being selected for the award “would have not been possible without the devoted teaching staff and educational opportunities” found at MCC’s vet tech program, which is headed by Dr. Chris Morrow.

SERVING COMMUNITIES

PARTNERSHIP PROVIDES AFFORDABLE PRODUCE FOR MCC-PENN VALLEY COMMUNITY

Wednesday isn't just hump day on the MCC-Penn Valley campus. It's also Mobile Market Day.

Truman Medical Centers' Healthy Harvest Mobile Market is a city bus stocked with a variety of fruits and vegetables. Since July 2016, it has made a 90-minute stop at Penn Valley each week (but takes an extended break during cold-weather months).

TMC created the Mobile Market to encourage healthy eating habits and to address the lack of accessibility to fresh produce in neighborhoods referred to as "food deserts."

"MCC employees, students and community members are all welcome to shop at the Mobile Market," says Shelley Temple Kneuvean, vice chancellor, administration. "I am so glad we can join this effort and be involved in yet another great civic partnership."



A WELCOME TO THE NEW AMERICANS

Applicants for U.S. citizenship and their families and friends packed the gymnasium at MCC-Penn Valley for a ceremony marked by frequent applause, big smiles and plenty of picture-taking. "I truly wish you all the rich blessings that come with being an American," U.S. District Court Judge Brian C. Wimes told the new citizens at the June 2017 ceremony for 168 applicants from 55 countries. Afterward (shown here), the new U.S. citizens picked up their naturalization certificates from officials with the Western District Court of Missouri.

IT'S NEVER TOO SOON TO START THINKING ABOUT COLLEGE

About 900 Kansas City Public Schools sixth-graders turned into college students at the Kids2College event, a national initiative to inspire a "college-going culture" among young students. Sixth-grade classes converged on the MCC-Penn Valley and MCC-Business & Technology campuses February 28 and March 1. Here, at a session on nursing, students checked the vital signs of a "patient." Evelyn Claiborne (left) is MCC's director of nursing.



'WONDERFULLY IMPASSIONED' STUDENT WINS CHANCELLOR'S MLK SCHOLARSHIP



At the third annual Chancellor's Martin Luther King Jr. Awards Luncheon in January, Chebet Buckner was announced as the 2017 recipient of the College's MLK scholarship.

Buckner, 18, graduated from MCC's Early College Academy and Lincoln College Preparatory Academy in May. After being presented the award by MCC Chancellor Mark James (pictured), an emotional Buckner said the Penn Valley campus had been like home to her for two years.

She's planning to earn a bachelor's degree in strategic communications at Hampton University in Virginia.

In a reference letter, Paula Schaaf, coordinator of early college programs for Kansas City Public Schools, called Buckner "wonderfully impassioned and responsive to challenging classes and challenging ideas."

MCC-PENN VALLEY FOOD PANTRY IS THERE FOR HUNGRY STUDENTS

Focus on the cans
not the can'ts.



Sometimes students aren't merely daydreaming when they're caught not paying attention in class. Sometimes they're hungry.

More than one MCC staffer has encountered hungry students. MCC-Penn Valley admissions coordinator Dawinderpreet Brar, for instance, keeps snacks in her office for just that reason, and she and others have walked students to the cafeteria to buy them a meal.

But starting in 2016-2017, the Penn Valley campus had a resource in place for students who sometimes don't have the money to buy food: the Scouts' Cupboard, a food pantry.

Food pantries can be found on college campuses around the country. In 2015, a survey of 4,000-plus community college students in seven states found that more than half had recently struggled with food insecurity — such as skipping meals because of lack of money or just plain being hungry because there was no money or food.

The Penn Valley food pantry is intended to be a stop-gap rather than a continuing source of sustenance. If it's a Friday and a student knows there's no food at home to get through the weekend, the Cupboard is there.

"It's not meant to be permanent, but we can get them in touch with people" for longer-term assistance, says Shelby Coxon, Campus Life & Leadership coordinator.

Phi Theta Kappa students and Student Ambassadors help run the pantry.

MCC EVENT HONORS WORKFORCE PARTNERS

At a March event focused on a new statewide community college partnership, Job 1 was talking about Missouri jobs. But it was also a chance to thank some of the College's workforce partners.

In a machine lab at MCC-Business & Technology, campus president Jackie Gill (shown with MCC's Michael Banks and Tim Cowden of the Kansas City Area Development Council) welcomed the gathering of business and industry representatives, state lawmakers, media and MCC officials.

"We are committed to helping people in Missouri get the skills they need to earn high-paying jobs," Gill said, "and we are also committed to helping businesses find the workers they need to grow and create jobs."

MCC is one of the state's 12 community colleges, which joined forces in March to create the Missouri Community College Workforce Development Network.



CREATING OPPORTUNITIES

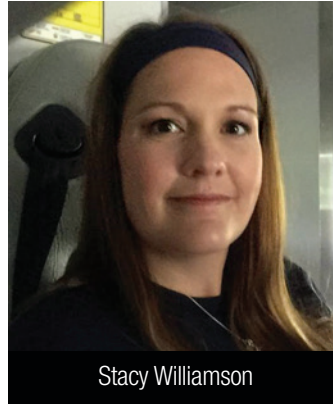
FOUR NAMED TO ROSTER OF KC BLACK ACHIEVERS



Four Metropolitan Community College employees were selected to join the 2017 class of the Black Achievers Society of Greater Kansas City:

- Victorie Edwards (left), lead counselor at MCC-Blue River and coordinator of the campus Counseling Center
- Lyle Gibson (third from left), social sciences instructor at MCC-Penn Valley
- Gieselle Taylor (center), academic advisor for Project Success at MCC-Penn Valley
- Terrell Tigner (right), associate dean of student development at MCC-Penn Valley

TEACHER WHO ALWAYS WANTED TO BE AN EMT COMES TO MCC



Stacy Williamson

Stacy Williamson admits feeling a rush whenever she spots the flashing lights, hears the siren.

“Every time an ambulance goes by,” she says, “my heart goes pitter-patter. I’m like, ooh, where are they going?”

Although she always wanted to be an EMT — emergency medical technician — or a paramedic, Williamson ended up becoming a seventh-grade

social studies teacher in the North Kansas City School District. Still, she never got over her obsession with emergency medicine.

Williamson signed up for a one-semester evening EMT program at MCC’s Health Science Institute. As expected, she fell “madly in love” with the experience. She did her clinicals, time in the field in a real ambulance, on weekends at the North Kansas City Fire Department.

After graduating, she landed an EMT job at Harrah’s North Kansas City Casino. But she still teaches, too.

Her story is one of returning to a life goal, even if it takes a couple of decades.

“Just because you have a dream and you didn’t do it,” she says, “doesn’t mean you can’t do it later.”

PAYING IT FORWARD

TV reporter Kathy Quinn (far left), the keynote speaker at MCC’s 2016 employee in-service, knows how to wrap up with a bang: She started waving \$100 bills, and a cameraman appeared. Then Linda Lechowicz, representing MCC-Penn Valley’s Student Veterans Association, was called up to receive \$300. The spectacle turned out to be one of Quinn’s popular “Pay It Forward” segments for Fox 4. The in-service was also Chancellor Mark James’ final “State of the College” speech. And, as is tradition, long-serving employees were honored for their service.



3-YEAR-OLD'S CHALLENGE SOLVED BY MCC STUDENT, INSTRUCTORS



David Valdez is famous on the MCC-Business & Technology campus: He designed a device that allowed a little boy born without a left hand to ride a bike for the first time.

Actually, Valdez's fame goes beyond the campus. The feel-good story was covered by the four main Kansas City TV stations, and "ABC World News Tonight" posted video on its Facebook page.

The parents of Hudson Borton, born with a condition marked by limb anomalies, had turned to MCC's FabLab after finding it online. Valdez, a drafting student, quickly designed a prosthetic attachment to allow the tyke to ride the bicycle he'd received for his third birthday.

After instructors Chris Page and Mike Cline reviewed the design, the team produced the prosthetic on 3-D printers.

"I'm extremely proud," says Valdez (pictured, far left, with the Bortons, Cline and Page). "He loved it, and it gave him a liberty he didn't have before."

For rising to the challenge, Valdez was honored with a Student Leadership Award from the Missouri Community College Association.

2016-2017 SPORTS TEAM SUCCESSES

1. MCC-Penn Valley men's basketball: regional runner-up

2. MCC-Longview volleyball: national tournament qualifier; regional champions

3. MCC-Maple Woods softball: regional runner-up; three players named to All-Region teams

4. MCC-Longview baseball: regional champions; Dalton Beamer named to All-American Third Team (led nation in home runs, runs batted in, and slugging percentage); eight players named to All-Region teams; three players named to All-Academic Teams

5. MCC-Blue River women's soccer: regional runner-up; Academic Team honorable mention (3.1 team GPA); 10 players on All-Academic Teams



1



2



3



4



5

BY THE NUMBERS

STUDENT HEAD COUNT

2016: **18,331** 

2015: 17,821 
2014: 18,222 

CREDIT HOURS


2016: **163,977** 

2015: 160,893 
2014: 165,834 

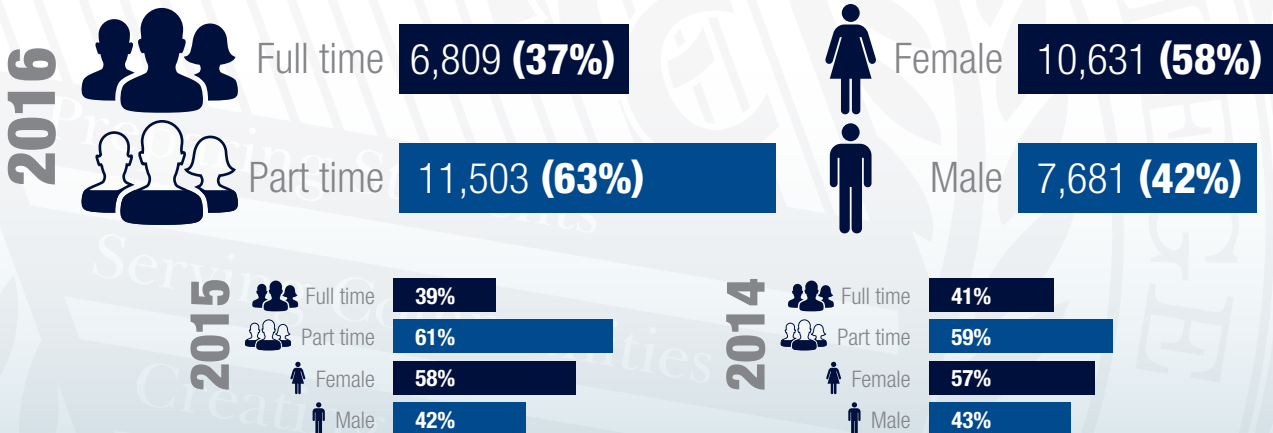
HIGH SCHOOL PENETRATION

(Percentage of in-district high school graduates attending MCC)

2016: **18%** 

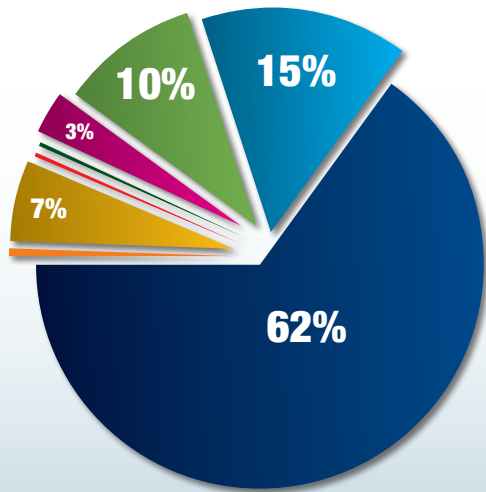
2015: 23.5% 
2014: 21.1% 

STUDENT ENROLLMENT STATUS



Numbers are from fall semester. Source: MCC Office of Institutional Research and Assessment

STUDENT RACE/ETHNICITY



2015



- **White** 11,277 (62%)
- **Black** 2,756 (15%)
- **Hispanic** 1,896 (10%)
- **Asian** 512 (3%)
- **American Indian** 55 (0.3%)
- **Pacific Islander** 61 (0.3%)
- **Multiracial** 1,200 (7%)
- **Unspecified** 414 (2%)

2015



- White 65%
- Black 15%
- Hispanic 10%
- Asian 3%
- American Indian 0.3%
- Pacific Islander 0.3%
- Multiracial 6%
- Unspecified 0.3%

2014



- White 64%
- Black 16%
- Hispanic 9%
- Asian 3%
- American Indian 0.4%
- Pacific Islander 0.3%
- Multiracial 6.2%
- Unspecified 0.5%

COLLEGE FINANCIAL RESULTS

Revenue

2016-17

Local taxes	\$34,145,207
State aid	\$31,950,751
Student tuition/fees	\$24,184,016
Grants and contracts (including Pell)	\$40,698,825
Auxiliary	\$3,212,607
Other	\$6,276,421



Total revenue
\$140,467,827

Expenditures

2016-17

Instructional	\$43,616,222
Institutional support	\$23,032,954
Public service	\$6,825,981
Student services	\$15,292,065
Plant operation and maintenance	\$12,031,489
Academic support	\$13,725,198
Scholarships and fellowships	\$4,345,899
Depreciation	\$6,278,919
Interest expense	\$2,538,652
Auxiliary expenses	\$1,265,354



Total expenditures
\$128,952,733

	2015-16	2014-15
Local taxes	\$32,723,095	\$32,527,980
State aid	\$32,910,977	\$31,678,098
Student fees	\$22,495,397	\$22,426,080
Grants and contracts (including Pell)	\$39,347,057	\$34,465,697
Auxiliary	\$5,779,501	\$9,567,453
Other	\$5,980,805	\$6,046,222
Total Revenue	\$139,236,832	\$136,711,530



	2015-16	2014-15
Instructional	\$42,874,621	\$42,397,980
Institutional support	\$18,935,573	\$17,689,784
Public service	\$5,721,483	\$2,364,475
Student services	\$14,230,061	\$14,040,303
Plant operation and maintenance	\$11,295,719	\$11,090,673
Academic support	\$15,147,574	\$14,180,997
Scholarships and fellowships	\$4,897,540	\$5,184,499
Depreciation	\$6,425,809	\$6,865,121
Interest expense	\$2,005,422	\$2,934,670
Auxiliary expenses	\$4,114,199	\$7,049,352
Total Expenditures	\$125,648,001	\$123,797,854



MCC MADE THE DIFFERENCE



“It has been a lot of work,
and we’ve done it together.”

Katrina Bocanegra, who with husband Joshua worked on associate degrees at MCC-Longview at the same time, including taking some classes together. They also “walked” at MCC commencement together.



“All my professors have told me, ‘Just make it across the plate, just make it across the plate!’ ”

MCC-Business & Technology student Herb Green, who was selected to throw out the ceremonial first pitch at MCC Night at the K on September 13. He did indeed get the ball across the plate — to none other than Kansas City Royals star Eric Hosmer. Green completed an advanced certificate in HVAC that December.



“I can’t think of any
other place where
more people have
cared about me.”

Traycie Williams, who found success at MCC-Blue River after a rough childhood, run-ins with the law and homelessness. He was MCC’s top student on the 2017 All-Missouri Academic Team.

“Wild horses couldn’t keep me from it. This is the first time that I’m officially graduating (from) anything in my life.”

2017 grad Clayton White, who took classes off and on at MCC-Longview for almost 30 years. Graduating fulfilled a promise he made his mother a week before she died in 2006.



“The second I came in here and saw this facility, I said, ‘Oh my gosh, hold on!’ ”

2017 nursing grad Alex Drescanu, recalling an exploratory visit to MCC’s Health Science Institute. Drescanu, a native of Romania, plans to return there on medical missions trips, now as a nurse. He’s seen here (at right) working in the triage area during HSI’s mass casualty exercise in March.

“I feel like knowing the faculty and deans has made my experience amazing.”

Emma Thoman, who as a student also worked in the MCC-Maple Woods counseling office. Thoman became one of the youngest peer mentors on campus after starting at MCC as a 16-year-old home schooler. She earned her associate in arts degree at 19.



MCC FOUNDATION



AT THE BALLPARK, CHEERS FOR AN AMERICAN HERO

The Royals were the brightest stars on the field at MCC Night at the K on September 13. But in and around the Buck O'Neil Legacy Seat were members of Matt Mason's family (shown here), who also made it onto the Crown Vision scoreboard that evening.

Mason is the Navy SEAL and MCC alumnus who died in 2011 when his helicopter was shot down in Afghanistan. Friends and family established a scholarship through the MCC Foundation to honor the memory of Mason, who played baseball at MCC-Maple Woods. Some of the money raised by the Matt Mason Memorial Cowboy-Up! Triathlon goes to the MCC scholarship, which is awarded annually to a Maple Woods baseball player.

At MCC Night at the K, the MCC Foundation sponsored a tailgate barbecue dinner for employees, friends and family. The Metropolitan Chorale of Kansas City, based at MCC-Blue River, performed the national anthem.

A PIPELINE TO FUTURE JOBS, COURTESY OF BURNS & MCDONNELL



Students at MCC-Business & Technology experienced the power of networking at two campus events attended by representatives of Kansas City engineering firm Burns & McDonnell.

The March visits included a presentation and opportunities for students to interact with Burns & Mac employees from several departments.

"It's very important to be a part of our community and the educational institutions in our community," says Gabriel Hernandez, a vice

president at the firm as well as a member of the MCC Foundation Board of Directors. The company's goal is "to create a pipeline to future opportunities at Burns & McDonnell."

Business & Technology president Jackie Gill presented Hernandez (above, center) with a fitting trophy of appreciation: It was designed in the campus FabLab by technician Jen Dec.



The MCC Foundation Board of Directors, December 2017 (from left): Matt Johnson, Barbara Anne Washington, Bret Bonge, Gabriel Hernandez, Mike Pospisil, Vicki Westerhaus, Matt McFadden, Crystal Johnson, Chancellor Kimberly Beatty, Christopher Lipp, Ryan Morehead, Ruth Stricklen Pullins, Carolyn Watley, Michael Roane and Elizabeth Alex.

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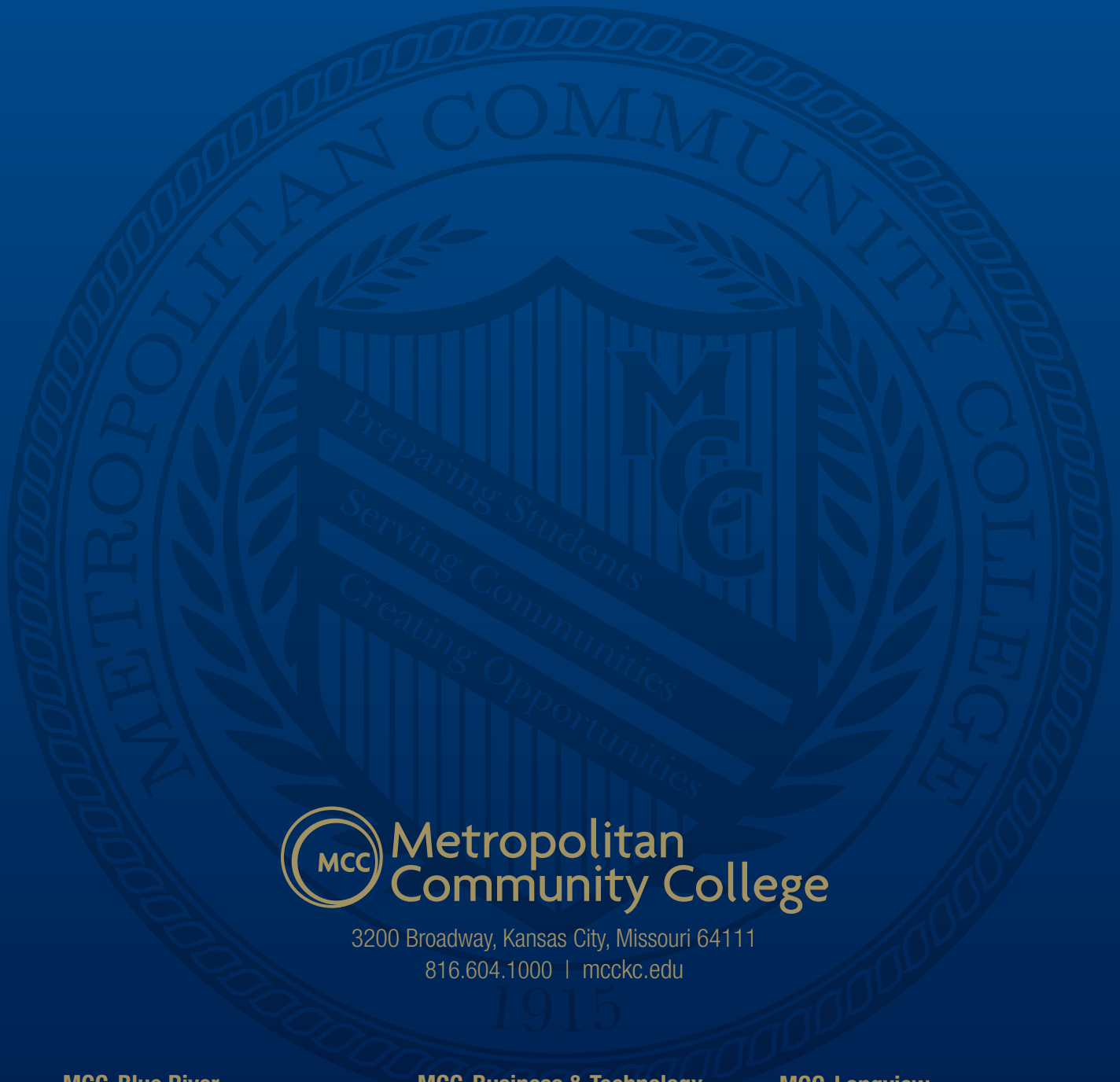
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