

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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# President's Welcome

It has been another great year at Hagerstown Community College. This year we celebrate 75 years of service to the people of Washington County and the tri-state area. I am always amazed at the vision held by Washington County leaders. A few people got together to figure a way to educate returning veterans. That effort has led to an institution that has served 175,000 people and conferred over 25,000 degrees and certificates in that time. What a legacy!

This Annual Report covers our past, our present, and our future. We take a look at the long line of history we have established as Maryland's first community college. We also report on a great year at the College, as we returned to normal operations following the COVID pandemic. Finally, we take a look at the future and where we are headed.

This year, we reopened the business incubator, formerly known as the TIC. Now named for David Fletcher, a Washington County businessman and entrepreneur, the David W. Fletcher Incubator shines as a cutting-edge model of fostering and growing new businesses. Moreover, as we move forward, we are opening a kitchen incubator on campus to support culinary entrepreneurs in everything from food truck preparation to food manufacturing.

The Hagerstown Community College Foundation had an outstanding year. Choosing to go into a major gifts campaign to build its scholarship endowment, the Foundation and its campaign leadership wildly exceeded their original goal of raising \$7.5 million to celebrate 75 years of HCC. As of this writing, the Foundation and the College have raised over \$10 million in gifts, and they are still going! This accomplishment can be attributed to hard work, but also it is a reflection of the generosity and belief in our community that we are headed in the right direction.



HCC purchased the old Gold's Gym on Northern Avenue in late 2021. Thanks to a generous gift from the Jone L. Bowman Foundation, the new D. M. Bowman Family Workforce Training Center will allow us to consolidate all of our off-campus training sites into one location. It will provide better cross training opportunities for our students. A partnership with the Cumberland Valley Chapter of the Associated Builders and Contractors will provide skilled trades training there as well.

As the state legislature wrestles with the implementation of its Blueprint for Maryland's Future, we are actively at work with Washington County Public Schools to make sure that the transition to the future training of our workforce and university bound students is as smooth as possible. The opportunities are great for high school students who want to get an early start on college through our multiple and expanding dual-credit opportunities.

After reviewing this year's report, I hope you will agree that our past is golden; our present is aligned with the needs of our community; and our future is as bright as the noon day sun. On a personal note, I am proud to say that my eldest son, Jake, entered the doors of HCC this year and is enrolled in the Middle College for the fall. Teresa and I hope that he will benefit from his time here, as have the thousands of graduates that precede him.

Yours truly,

James S. Klauber, Ph.D.

President

# From a Vision to a Legacy:

How HCC became the institution it is today



**Above:** Atlee Kepler delivers opening remarks during the 1965 groundbreaking ceremony for the Robinwood Drive campus **Right:** Dean Kepler reviews information about the College with a student, in 1954.

s World War II was coming to an end and veterans were returning home, Washington County School Superintendent Dr. Benjamin Willis had a vision to expand the county's educational opportunities beyond the high school level. With his leadership and direction from the Washington County Board of Education, Hagerstown Junior College made its humble beginning in the basement of Hagerstown High School, despite significant doubts in the community.

The first classes were held in September of 1946, with 95 students, a few faculty members, and two staff members. Those who were witness to its meager start might be surprised that the College now serves more than 10,000 credit and non-credit students each year, with more than 700 employees, on a sprawling 319-acre campus.

## The Case for Higher Education

In 1953, Atlee Kepler had been working as a counselor at Hagerstown High School when he accepted the position as dean of HJC. Much of his work in the early years was spent convincing members of the community of the value of higher education. While the College was initially established primarily for veterans, staff and faculty worked hard to attract other students and grow the student body.

"We needed to sell our community on the fact that the best way to have an improved community was to have a better educated populace," Dr. Kepler would later say.

Through their efforts, community sentiment began to change and enrollment grew. A previously established College Advisory Committee was reorganized in 1953 and worked to convince the Board of Education of the need for more space for the growing student body. As a result, in 1956, the College moved to its own building on the campus of South Hagerstown High School in what was affectionately called the "Crackerbox."





The new building brought with it the realization of daytime classes and growth in student activities. As enrollment grew, it became increasingly apparent that plans needed to be made for future growth and the consideration of college accreditation. During this time, HJC was developing an identity as a community asset and positioning itself to separate from its high school affiliation.

## **Growth Brings Expansion**

Kepler and Superintendent William Brish formed a strong partnership, supported by the Board of Education, the Advisory Council, and the community. In 1961, a change in Maryland law enabled the Washington County Board of Education to become a Board of Trustees when addressing HJC issues. This is also when Dean Kepler became the College's first president.

These developments set the stage for the Board of Trustees to approve the purchase of a 129-acre property on Robinwood Drive as the site for a new campus. A groundbreaking ceremony was held on March 28, 1965. The first classes were held on September 19, 1966, with an enrollment of 782 students.

As plans were being made for the move to Robinwood Drive, President Kepler remained steadfast in his goal to have the College achieve regional accreditation. After several years of preparation, notification was received on April 29, 1968, from the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, that HJC had earned its initial accreditation.

HJC had developed a reputation as a strong arts and sciences transfer institution, with faculty who were





highly regarded. The first non-credit classes began in the late 1960s, but there was growing pressure in the state for community colleges to develop career programs to address critical manpower shortages. HJC's nursing program began in the fall of 1969 and the radiologic technology program started in 1973. They set the tone for the growth of future career programs at HJC.

In 1971, a new, seven-member Board of Trustees was appointed to assume responsibility for the governance of the College. One year later, the Washington County Board of Education granted HJC full responsibility for its business functions, and the College became operationally independent for the first time in its 25-year history.

Student clubs and activities began to flourish on the expansive campus. HJC's athletic teams were gaining



**Above:** HJC graduated its first class of students in 1948, which included only two women. **Left page, left:** HJC nursing students practice medication administration in the nursing lab (circa 1971). Left page, middle: Students study in the Library in the early days on the Robinwood Drive campus. That space is now part of the Student Center. **Left page, right:** Athletic Director Irv Easterday (center) presents a trophy to the baseball team in the spring of 1970. The team was Region XX champion and placed fifth in the nation.

interest and becoming more competitive. Theatrical productions had been popular for several years, but the opening of the Kepler Theater in 1978 finally gave HJC's arts community a proper home.

The 1970s and 1980s brought both growth and challenge for the College. Program expansion was met with financial challenges, as a result of rising prices and fewer resources. Issues began to arise related to campus decision making and governance, and developments in technology were creating new demands.

## New Leadership

After serving as dean and then president for 33 years, Dr. Atlee Kepler retired in 1986, and Dr. Norman Shea was appointed as HJC's second president. Working with the Board of Trustees, Shea created a new vision that called for greater involvement in the community's economic development and increased fundraising to build the HJC Foundation endowment.

The physical campus grew quite a bit under Shea's leadership, with the opening of the Athletic, Recreation and Community Center (ARCC), Advanced Technology Center (ATC), Science Building addition, Technical Innovation Center (TIC), Children's Learning Center, Valley Mall Training Center, Learning Resource Center (LRC), Alumni Amphitheater, and the College Center.

In the 1990s, advances in technology demanded that HJC transform its operations. The ATC and the TIC led the







way for new technology to be introduced to the campus and the community. By 1993, there were 460 microcomputer systems operating across campus.

The College went through a turbulent period in the 1990s, as enrollment increased and then dropped significantly due to a national recession. Funding shortfalls at the state level were eventually stabilized and additional support came from the county and the community. During this time, calls for change came from internal sources, as the College faced challenges related to campus communication and decision making. It was during this same decade in which the College celebrated its 50th anniversary and changed its name to Hagerstown Community College.

In September of 2001, shortly before President Shea retired, he offered the Board of Trustees a comparison of aspects of the College over the recent 15-year history. He shared that from 1986 to 2001, the college annual budget rose from \$5,675,000 to \$16,200,000; credit tuition went from \$26 to \$74 per credit hour; credit enrollment grew from 2,500 to 3,300 in 1991 and 2,700 in 2001; and continuing education enrollment increased from 3,956 to 16,000. During the same time, the Foundation's endowment fund grew from \$300,000 to \$4.5 million, and desktop computers on campus went from five to more than 900.

With his notice of retirement, Dr. Shea stated, "The most amazing part of all this growth has been HCC's ability to sustain the values on which it was founded. We have a talented teaching faculty that is committed to instructional excellence and student success."



### A Vision for the Future

Dr. Guy Altieri was appointed HCC's third president in 2002. He was immediately impressed with the College's strong history and position for continued growth. To that end, he established a new vision with a focus on strategic planning, curriculum review and development, teaching excellence, facility and technology improvements, and community partnerships.

In reviewing HCC's enrollment trends at that time, Altieri felt it was critical to develop more career programs that would attract students and contribute to the community's economic and workforce development. Within a few years, several non-credit programs were converted to credit, and additional career programs were added, with a focus on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programs. While the non-credit division continued to offer lifelong learning courses, it was renamed Continuing Education and Business Services, to support a growing focus on preparing students for employment, certification, and licensure.

Based on success that Altieri had experienced in Michigan, he established the ESSENCE Program in 2003, to encourage high school students to start college early. The program proved to be quite successful, with an initial enrollment of 298 students and more than 900 today. The addition of the STEMM Technical Middle College, in 2013, further expanded opportunities for high school students to experience the benefit of starting college early.



Left page: Commencement (shown here in 1987) was held in the former Gymnasium (now Advanced Technology Center), until the ARCC opened in 1988 (upper right). It provided a much larger venue for athletic events, graduation ceremonies, and community activities. Lower right: Engineering professor Charles Ernst helps students with computer-aided design in the ATC (circa 1990). **Above:** This promotional photo for College for Kids (circa 1990) features faculty and staff, from back left: Carvel Wright, Jack Drooger, Dave Warner, Tammy Strite, and Jim Hassinger. Front, from left: Dawn Drooger, Sherry Plank,













The numerous programmatic changes boosted HCC's enrollment to grow by 32 percent in three years. In the spring of 2005, HCC was lauded as Maryland's fastest growing community college, with more than 11,000 credit and non-credit students.

The first capital campaign, launched by the HCC Foundation in 2004, was successful in raising funds to gain support for continued infrastructure upgrades. That success led the way for future campaigns and an expanded physical campus that would include the STEM Building, Kepler Performing and Visual Arts Education Center, Learning Support Center, Behavioral Sciences and Humanities Building, and Student Center.

"These new facilities will set the stage nicely for Washington County to flourish into the future because its citizens will be well educated in classic studies as well as cutting edge science, technology and engineering," Altieri said in 2010 at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Arts and Sciences Complex.

## Leading the Community Forward

Following President Altieri's retirement in 2017, Dr. Jim Klauber was appointed the fourth and current president of HCC. Recognizing HCC's strength as a driving force in the region's economic development, he immersed himself in learning about the community and meeting with its leaders. His initial priorities were to establish Washington County as the first ACT Work Ready Community in Maryland and to increase funding through the HCC Foundation.

In the spring of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic forced the College to reinvent its operations, quickly moving to remote work and all online instruction. Though the change was not without its challenges, the College community responded well. Within a few months, staff and

Left: HCC's first three presidents, together for the only time, at the 60th Anniversary Alumni Ball in 2006. Standing, from left, are Norman Shea and Guy Altieri. Seated is Atlee Kepler. Right page, top left: HCC staff, board members, and dignitaries cut the ribbon at the 2012 dedication ceremony for the Kepler Performing and Visual Arts Education Center. Pictured near the center, in blue, is Annabelle Kepler, wife of Atlee Kepler, for whom the building is named. Right page, top right: Anna Barker, vice president of administration and finance; Guy Altieri, president; and Barbara Macht, dean of planning and institutional effectiveness, enjoy lunch on the patio of the newly renovated College Center (now Student Center) (2002). Right page, bottom left: A scene from "Camelot," the first performance held in the renovated Kepler Theater (2012). Right page, bottom right: Nine students were the first to graduate from the STEMM Technical Middle College, in 2015.

















Above: Mike Harsh, professor of English, speech and drama, leads the procession of 2020 graduates into the stadium at North Hagerstown High School. The COVID-19 pandemic forced the ceremony to be postponed from May until October, at which time it was held outdoors to ensure greater safety.

students started to return to campus and enrollment began to recover from an initial drop at the onset of the pandemic. There were silver linings and lessons learned from remote operations that are guiding the way toward a more integrated future.

Coming out of the pandemic, HCC's growth is set to continue. During the fall of 2021, the Fletcher Incubator + Labs opened in the new Center for Business and Entrepreneurial Studies, with overwhelming community response. In less than a year, the incubator has nearly filled to its tenant capacity.

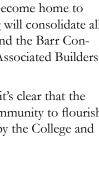
Commercial property on Northern Avenue has been purchased to become home to the D. M. Bowman Family Workforce Training Center. The building will consolidate all off-campus non-credit training operations, ESL and GED classes, and the Barr Construction Institute, operated by the Cumberland Valley Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors Inc.

As Hagerstown Community College celebrates its 75th anniversary, it's clear that the vision of the early leaders paved the way for the College and the community to flourish. Since the beginning, more than 175,000 students have been served by the College and more than 25,000 degrees have been awarded.

"And may I remind all friends of HJC that past, present, and future all merge in the concept of a college whose place in the community is both deserved and full of expanding possibilities."

Dr. Atlee Kepler, 1987

Article source: "The Community's College: The Remarkable Journey of Hagerstown Community College" by Diane E. Weaver, Ph.D.











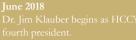
# The Physical Campus

Hagerstown Junior College began in the basement of Hagerstown High School 10 in 1946. Ten years later, the College moved to the "Crackerbox" on the campus of South Hagerstown High School. The 129-acre Robinwood Drive campus opened in 1966 with five buildings – Administration Building 3, Library 4, Classroom Building, Science Building, and the Gymnasium.

Since that time, the Robinwood Drive campus has grown to include 319 acres and is home to the Career Programs Building (1973, renovated 2009), Kepler Performing and Visual Arts Education Center (theater built 1978, renovated 2012) 6, Athletic, Recreation and Community Center (1988), Advanced Technology Center (1989), Children's Learning Center (1998), Learning Resource Center (2000) 6, Alumni Amphitheater (2000), Administration and Student Affairs Building (renovated 2003), STEM Building (2012) , Behavioral Sciences and Humanities Building (2013), Learning Support Center (2013), Student Center (2015) 3, and the Center for Business and Entrepreneurial Studies (opened as Technical Innovation Center in 1994, renovated 2021).









# 2020











David Warner

Dave Warner's mother, Ivy, graduated from HJC in 1972, as a member of the second nursing class. Shortly after that, Dave took music classes at HJC as a high school student. Little did he know then that the campus would become a second home to him, as he built his professional career. In addition to being a student, he has served as support staff, adjunct faculty, full-time faculty, division chair, director, interim president, and vice president. He briefly left the college in 2004 to serve as the first executive director of the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown, returning to campus in 2011. All of

> these experiences have given him a unique perspective on HCC, a place he considers to be a "powerful and life-changing" institution. In addition to his professional interests, Dave is a performing musician, avid sailor, author, and devoted family man.



## Barbara Lease

Typewriters are a thing of the past, but Barbara Lease continues to be a welcoming presence in the Human Re-

sources Office at Hagerstown Community

as an adjunct in the English and Humanities Division. Nathaniel's spouse, Sara is also a graduate of HCC. It doesn't stop there! Her mother and husband have also



College. Barbara was hired in 1988 as the Evening Switchboard Operator and while working at HJC, she completed her studies and graduated in 1997. Shortly after, she began working in the Human Resources Office as an Administrative Office Associate and is currently the HR Operations Specialist. Following in her footsteps, her son Nathaniel attended HCC as an ESSENCE student and is now teaching

taken classes at the college. When Barbara was a student, she actually was in the same speech class with her mother.







# Kellie Koons & Dawn Reed

From classmates to coworkers, Kellie Koons and Dawn Reed's friendship continues today. They became friends over 40 years ago in the sixth grade at Smithsburg Middle School. Continuing their education, they both studied office technology



at Hagerstown Junior College and graduated in 1989. While attending college, they both worked as student workers. Kellie worked in job placement and the President's Office and Dawn worked in Continuing Education. To this day they are both still employed by the college and have successful careers. Kellie has worked in the Workforce Solutions and Continuing Education Department for over a decade in various roles and is currently a program coordinator. Dawn has held key roles across campus for the past 34 years in the Continuing Education and Planning and Institutional Effectiveness departments. She is currently the Executive Assistant in the Administration and Finance Office.







JoEllen now teaches at the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University. JoEllen credits her experience at the college with providing her with a foundation for academic growth and self discovery. While at the college, she helped to establish Washington County's first inclusive Children's Learning Center, which helped put her on a path of lifelong disability advocacy and education. Erin has fond memories of the college. Her mother took her to events there as a child and she later met her husband as a student. She was inspired to pursue a career in journalism after taking a class with Professor Larry Sharpe, which she says impacted her entire career. She continues to work closely with folks at HCC because of the strong partnership with USMH.

Erin Harman &

JoEllen Barnhart

A large tree at the center of cam-

pus, still standing after more than 35

years, provided the perfect location

for a recent reunion of former HIC

Harman, left, and JoEllen (Nield)

Public Information Office staff. Erin

Barnhart, right, both graduated from

HJC and later came back to work in

the 1980s. JoEllen served as the public

information director for 11 years and

Erin worked as a writing assistant for

three years. Each of them continued

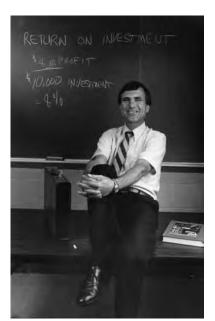
working together at USMH, where

IoEllen was the associate executive

director and Erin continues as the

director of advancement and outreach

on the path of higher education, later



## John Ziegler

Professor John Ziegler shared his passion and expertise in business, economics, and management with students at Hagerstown Community College for 32 years. Since his retirement in 2003, you can now find John on the trails of the C&O Canal and Antietam Battlefield. volunteering his time to trail maintenance. You can catch "Story Time with John," at Home Wood Assisted Living, Ravenwood Nursing Care Center, and Western Maryland Hospital, where he reads stories to the residents once a week. John's three children attended HCC and he has continued his professional relationships with colleagues from the college during monthly luncheons.



## Bernard & Brye Hopkins

In the early 1990s, former HCC men's basketball Coach Jim Brown went to a game at Overlea High School in Baltimore County, to scout a player he had in mind. But during the game, Brown's attention shifted to an impressive young man named Bernard Hopkins. And that's where Bernard's HJC/HCC story began. He played for the Hawks from 1992-1994 and went on to play at VCU. From there, his skills and love of the game took him all the way to Spain, where he played professionally for 15 years. Five years ago, he had the unique opportunity to return to HCC, as the coach where his college career began. He credits his time at HCC with helping him build his skills and character, on and off the court. Now, he gets to impart that knowledge to a team of student-athletes each season, including his son, Brye, who is enjoying his first year playing as a forward for the Hawks. HCC is happy to have these two "gems" on campus and on the court!





# Kyle Dingle & Matthew Seifarth

Kyle Dingle and Matt Seifarth started as students at HCC in 2000, right after they graduated from Smithsburg High School. They quickly got involved with the Student Government Association, with Matt being elected president and Kyle as the vice president. Together they did a lot to reinvigorate the SGA. They camped out overnight before the first day of classes in 2001, to welcome students as they started the fall semester. Kyle graduated from HCC in 2002 and then went to Towson University. He has worked as a WCPS teacher for more than 15 years, and was selected as the 2016-17 Teacher of the Year. Matt graduated from HCC in 2003 and went to Penn State Harrisburg to earn a degree in mechanical engineering. He now works as a supplier manager at JLG Industries. They recently visited campus and marveled at how the college has changed since they were students.







# Darlene (Shilling) Gordon

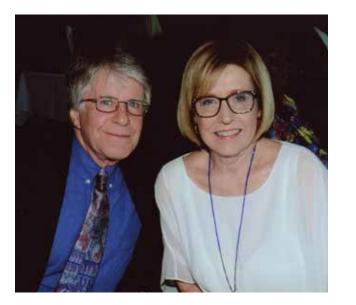
"Friends for life!" That's how Darlene (Shilling) Gordon describes her teammates from the HJC Volleyball team in 1988. As a radiography student and athlete, Darlene's schedule was busy from the very beginning. She says her teachers, coaches, and teammates helped support and drive her to succeed academically and athletically. Her team was fortunate to play in the ARCC during the first season it was open and they went on to win the Region XX Championship in 1989. As a Radiologic/Ultrasound Technologist, she has worked at Meritus and local private practice for more than 30 years. Her love of HCC and connections to the college run deep. She followed in her sister's footsteps as a student and athlete, met her husband on campus, and has a daughter who is currently a dental hygiene student and volleyball player. Theirs is truly a Hawk-loving family!





# Ed Gift

In 1966, Ed Gift fell in love at HJC. He fell in love with the College and, more importantly, with a fellow student, Barbara Riley, who would become his wife a few years later. They both graduated from HJC in 1968 and continued their education at Towson University. While at HJC, he was president of the Class of 1968. He credits the professors and administrators at HJC in contributing to the success he would experience, as a teacher for 42 years in the Social Studies Department at Smithsburg High School, and at HCC, where he is now in his 47th year as an adjunct instructor of sociology, history, and psychology. Ed was honored as Adjunct Faculty of the Year in 2008. "HCC is a very special place to me," he said. "There are so many noteworthy people who gave me support and encouragement as I developed a love for teaching that I still feel today."







# 75th Anniversary Campaign Exceeds Expectations

Then the HCC Foundation first endeavored to start a campaign in support of the College's 75th anniversary, \$7.5 million was thought to be a stretch goal. Much to the amazement of the campaign executive committee, that goal was dramatically exceeded in less than a year, during the quiet phase of the campaign.

With the launch of the public phase of the 75th Anniversary Campaign, "A Gem for Generations," at the Tribute Dinner on April 9, the announcement was made that more than \$10 million had been raised. A new, enhanced goal was established, to bring the total to \$10.5 million.

HCC President Jim Klauber has been impressed by the level of support the campaign has received from the community.

"Our Campaign Chairman was resolute, that we were going to raise at least \$7.5 million," said Klauber. "We assembled a super star leadership team and have been meeting regularly, with great success. All I can say is that it has been a wild ten months!"

The purpose of the campaign is to increase scholarship dollars to ensure that every student who wants an education has access to HCC's excellent educational programs and resources. These scholarships will help the most



HCC Foundation Board President Dave Abeles talks about the Campaign, at the Tribute Dinner.

vulnerable students overcome barriers to educational attainment and become impactful, productive citizens—stimulating economic growth and enhancing the vitality of the region.

Leading up to the public announcement, the College shared that four major gifts, totaling \$4.5 million, had been received. These donations include three individual gifts of \$1 million given for endowed student scholarships by the AC&T Co., Inc., the Jone L. Bowman Foundation, and an anonymous donor.

An additional contribution of \$1.5 million came from the Washington County Commissioners to assist in the development of the soon-to-be built D. M. Bowman Family Workforce Training Center that will be built on the Northern Avenue property recently purchased by HCC.

Campaign leadership has been provided by Co-Chairs BJ Goetz and Jim Holzapfel; Honorary Chairs Blackie Bowen and Don Bowman; Campaign Executive Committee members Dave Abeles, Jim Brown, Julie Donat, Bill Fritts, Laura Herrera, Paula Lampton, Paul Mellott, Jim Pierne, Rick Toms, and John Williamson; HCC President Jim Klauber; HCC Senior Director of College Advancement Ashley Whaley; and the staff of the HCC Advancement Office.

The "Gem for Generations" Campaign will continue through December 31, 2022. To learn more, visit www.hagerstowncc.edu/75thcampaign.





# A Gem for Generations Campaign Leaders

### Campaign Co-Chairs

BJ Goetz

Jim Holzapf

## **Honorary Chairs**

Blackie Bowe

Don Bowm

## Campaign Executive Committee

Dave Abel

Jim Brow

Julie Don

Bill Frit

Laura Herrera

Paula Lampt

Paul Mellot

Jim Pie

Rick T

John Williamso

## Campaign Cabin

Wayne Alte

Carol Engstrom

Dr. George Engstro

Doug Fier

Roger Fi

Mark Fultor

Connie Mang

D.R. Risser

## HCC Staff

Rachel Grif

Dr. James Klauł

Rebecca McDerm

Jessica M

Lisa Stev

Dr. Ashley Wha

# Construction to Begin on New D. M. Bowman Family Workforce Training Center

The HCC Foundation announced the naming of the new D. M. Bowman Family Workforce Training Center, following a \$1 million gift from the Jone L. Bowman Foundation, to benefit student scholarships.

Construction on the new center, located at 562

Northern Avenue, is set to begin this summer, with portions to be completed within a year. Construction costs are anticipated to be near \$10 million, with half of that expected to come from a \$5 million grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration, for which preliminary approval was recently announced.

The Bowman Center will provide a central location for all of HCC's off-campus training programs, including commercial truck driver training, diesel tech program, forklift instruction, GED program, and English as a Second Language classes. The new facility will also become home to the Barr Construction Institute, operated by the Cumberland Valley Chapter of the Associated Builders and Contractors.

The Board of Washington County Commissioners has approved \$1.5 million to assist in the renovation and construction of the facility.



Dr. Ashley whatey

# Fletcher Incubator Opens with Overwhelming Response

Since the David W. Fletcher Incubator + Labs opened in October of 2021, 43 businesses have taken up residence in the 35,000 square-foot facility, bringing the occupancy to over 90 percent. These entrepreneurs and business leaders are developing ideas and products that range from cybersecurity, biotech, app development, and product development, to food and service providers.

Five entrepreneurs-in-residence – Hearty Pet, Ship Simply, Weiss Bros., Warehouse Cinemas, and HighRock – provide incubator tenants with knowledge, support, and mentorship to help them grow their businesses. Monthly "pit sessions" facilitate collaboration and idea-sharing among tenants and community members.

Established partnerships with the Washington County Chamber of Commerce, Maryland Tech Council, TED-CO, Maryland SBDC, City of Hagerstown Community and Economic Development, and the Washington County Department of Business Development have sprung the incubator into a thriving community of partnerships.

An exciting new venture for the Fletcher Incubator is the creation of a kitchen incubator that is set to open in the summer of 2022. HCC's former Valley Eatery in the Career Programs Building is being converted to allow mobile food truck and catering chefs to accelerate their businesses in a commercial environment.



Pictured at the Fletcher Incubator ribbon-cutting ceremony are, from left, Trustee Austin Abraham, Board of County Commissioners President Jeft Cline, President Jim Klauber, Chamber of Commerce CEO Paul Frey, Trustee Paula Lampton, Fletcher Foundation Board Member Doug Fiery, and HCC Board Chair John Williamson.



The Fletcher Incubator is housed inside HCC's new Center for Business and Entrepreneurial Studies (formerly the Technical Innovation Center).

Lesley Riley, owner of Mama's Biscuits, will join the kitchen incubator as the entrepreneur-in-residence. The kitchen incubator members will gain on-site guidance from her and John Dankulich, manager of HCC's Food Services.

In December, the Fletcher Incubator hosted its first Idea Pitch Challenge, with 17 companies pitching their business ideas for a \$5,000 prize. The winner was Fuego Farms, a company that manufactures CBD products. Additional pitch challenges are scheduled in the coming months.

The Alice Virginia and David W. Fletcher Foundation has donated \$20,000 to entrepreneurs in the incubator to provide training, software, equipment, and raw materials for 15 of the current member tenants.

The overall future of the incubator is promising, and garnering hope for private and public partnerships to enhance mentorship and business development for all incubator members. Director Justina Shaw is working to reach an ambitious goal of obtaining an angel investment group by 2023.

For more information, visit incubatorhcc.com.

# HCC Middle College Expands Opportunities

The Middle College at HCC began in 2013, as the STEMM Technical Middle College. The name was recently changed as programs outside of the STEMM (science, technology, engineering, math, medical) disciplines have been added to give more students the option to pursue a college degree while still in high school. Just this year, business, dance, music, theater, and visual arts have been added.

Since it began, 155 high school students completed the program, earning an associate degree from HCC while simultaneously completing high school. Middle College students who graduate from HCC earn, on average, 69 college credits. Twenty-five new students recently enrolled for next year, for a total of 64 students expected to be in the program when the fall semester begins.

Approximately 9 out of ten Middle College graduates transfer to a four-year institution. Of those who transfer, 75 percent graduate within two years and 90 percent graduate within four years. Transfer institutions have included Clemson University, Coastal Carolina University, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University – Daytona, McDaniel College, Mount St. Mary's University, United States Military Academy – West Point, University of Maryland – College Park, University of Maryland – Baltimore County, University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, William & Mary, and others.



The HCC Middle College Class of 2022 posed for a group photo, wearing the new green gowns that all HCC graduates now wear, replacing the black gowns that have been worn for decades.

Students who begin, but do not complete Middle College, still get a jump on their college education, earning an average of 27 credits during their terms. Over 70 percent return to HCC to continue their education and more than half have subsequently graduated from HCC. These students also have transfer opportunities, with more than 60 percent transferring to another institution.

## New Strategic Plan to Guide HCC's Future

Administrators, staff, and faculty recently created a new strategic plan for the College. After months of analysis and collaboration with internal and external stakeholders, a committee identified a set of strategic commitments to guide the institution for the next three to five years.

The HCC Strategic Plan 2026 includes the following strategic commitments: enrollmer assessment, retention, integration of credit and non-credit programs, partnerships, and community building on campus. The full plan can be found at www.hagerstowncc.edu/strategicplan.

This new plan is guiding members of the campus community who are gearing up to participate in a self-study institute, this fall, sponsored by the Middle States Commis sion on Higher Education. The institute will provide more information about designing the next self-study document and organizing for the spring 2025 accreditation visit by Middle States representatives.

The process, procedures, and expectations have changed since the last accreditation cycle. This change includes fewer, yet more focused standards. Assessment of outcomes

and student learning, as well as a review of all campus policies, are critical areas of concentration for the next review.

HCC has maintained accred itation by the Middle States
Commission on Higher Education since 1968. Middle States, along with other accreditors in the United States, are no longer considered "regional" accreditors; this accreditation is now referred to as "institutional." HCC's accreditation was last reaffirmed by Middle States in 2015.





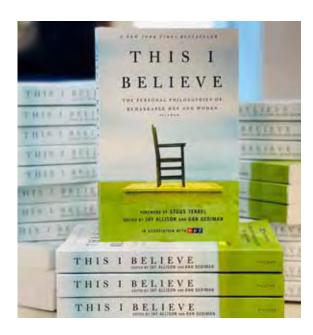
# Campus Book Has Successful Launch

Motivational speaker Selena Wilkes spoke to students, faculty, and staff at an event to recognize participation in the first campus book initiative, which featured a book of essays, "This I Believe, the Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women."

Wilkes is a Washington County native who played on the LPGA Futures Tour and is now an entrepreneur and public speaker. She shared her journey to success, including the struggles that motivated her to achieve her goals.

As part of the campus book initiative, students, faculty, and staff were encouraged to read the book and write their own personal essays. Participants had the option to enter their essays in a contest for submission to HCC's Hedge Apple literary magazine. The winning essays were read by contest finalists Rachel Babylon, David Buckwalter, Mina Foutch, and Mike Harsh.

A planning committee was co-chaired by President Jim Klauber and Alicia Drumgoole, assistant professor of English composition. The committee is working to select a book for next year, with plans to make this an annual project.



# The AC&T Student Center is Named

The HCC Foundation has announced the naming of the AC&T Student Center, following a \$1 million gift from the AC&T Co., Inc.

The \$1 million donation will be used to enhance an existing AC&T Scholarship, which will be held in trust, in perpetuity, by the HCC Foundation, to benefit generations of future HCC students.

The Student Center opened in 2015, following major renovations to the facility that had previously been the College Center. It is the foc point of student life on campus and is home to the offices of Stude Affairs, Retention and Registration, Veterans Connection Center, Hilltop Grill, Hawk Café, a gaming room, the campus store, and indoor and outdoor dining and seating areas for students.



**Richard P. D'Ambrisi**, adjunct faculty in allied health, received the Pharmacy Technician of the Year Award from the Maryland Pharmacists Association.

Tanda Emanuel, health information management program coordinator, completed a master's degree in education, with a specialized focus in anatomy and physiology, from Shenandoah University. She also completed a graduate certificate in anatomy and physiology from Shenandoah University. She achieved AHIMA-approved ICD-10-CM/PCS trainer credential and AHIMA's highest credential, Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA).

Audra Haddock Martenot, assistant professor of digital media communications, participated in the 2022 HCC Student/Faculty Art Exhibit at the Washington County Arts Council, the 2022 Educators of Washington County Exhibit at the Washington County Arts Council, the 2021 C&O Canal Trust Photography Competition, and the Wilson College Saturation Art Exhibit in 2021. She served as a judge at the 2022 Trilogy Art Competition for WCPS.

Mike Harsh, professor English, speech, and drama, has accepted an appointment to serve on the Black Rock Golf Course board.

**Dr. Lore Keuhnert**, associate professor of U.S. and world history; **Daniel Ryan**, assistant professor of sociology; and **Dr. Eric Schwartz**, assistant professor of political science, participated in a campus panel presentation, entitled, "Understanding the War in Ukraine," in March.

Lori Manilla, assistant professor of nursing, received the first-ever Nurse Faculty Annual Recognition (NFAR) award, from the Health Services Cost Review Commission and Maryland Higher Education Commission. She received \$10,000 to be used toward professional development.

Rebecca McDermott, director of grants development, completed a master's degree in strategic fundraising and philanthropy in higher education from Bay Path University.

Dawn Nally, assistant professor of medical surgical nursing, has been appointed by Governor Hogan to serve a four-year term on the Potomac Center Citizens Advisory Board.

Dr. Christine Ohl-Gigliotti, dean of student affairs, completed an HCC associate degree in human services, calling it her "pandemic degree," as a way to gain perspective of social services and the student world of online learning.

coordinated several student art exhibitions, at HCC, Wilson College, and the Washington County Arts Council. She created the HCC Student Art League and contributed an image of art work to the *Hedge Apple* literary magazine.

Approximately 88 percent of full-time faculty have some form of basic-level training for online course design via Quality Matters (QM). In 2021, 45 full-time faculty attended a workshop on "Rethinking Content for the

# HCC Faculty & Staff News

Kendra Perry, coordinator of library services and learning support services, was elected to serve as the chair of the Maryland Community College Library Consortium from 2021-2023.

Heike Soeffker-Culicerto, vice president of administration and finance, is currently serving as the vice chair for the Maryland Association of Community College Business Officers (MACCBO).

Dr. Eric Schwartz, assistant professor of political science, led a clean-up effort at the C&O Canal, as a collaboration between the Environmental Club of HCC and the Washington County Sierra Club. He is serving as a co-investigator of a grant awarded by the American Political Science Association, where he played a key role in planning a conference on improving instruction of research methods for political science students at community colleges, held at the University of Maryland.

Kalina Sweigert, administrative assistant in WSCE, completed a master's degree in communication studies from Shippensburg University.

Margaret Yaukey, art instructor, is serving as a board member for the Washington County Arts Council. She

Online Classroom." The following individuals also completed the Quality Matters "Applying the QM Rubric" certification during the past year: Andy Bumstead, instructor of biology; Mary Beth Chaney, assistant professor of early childhood education; Dr. Jane Choi-Doan, assistant professor of environmental science; Alicia Drumgoole, assistant professor of English composition; Kathy Fike, instructor of health information management; Petra Friedrich, adjunct instructor of developmental mathematics/administrative office associate of TRIO; David Grimes, adjunct instructor of developmental education/learning support specialist; Carrie Hawbecker, assistant professor of developmental mathematics; Dr. Melinda Howell, associate professor of psychology; Doug Leisher, instructor of information systems technology; Michelle McDaniel, assistant professor of medical imaging; Chris Nelling, adjunct instructor, chemistry/learning support specialist; Dr. Dana Poole, director, English and Humanities Division; Jeffrey Schramm, assistant professor of biological sciences; Jeannine Stonestreet, assistant professor of psychology and elementary education; Jennifer Suminski, assistant professor of dental hygiene; Danny Webber, associate professor of music and humanities; Rebecca Westmeyer, assistant professor of mathematics; and Dr. Robin Witmer-Kline, instructor of psychology.

# College Financials

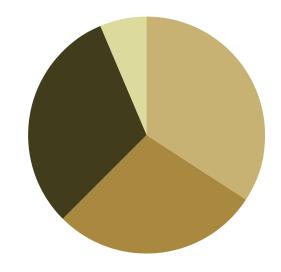
## College Operational Budget 2021-2022

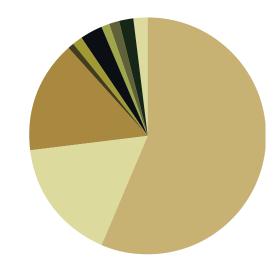
## REVENUE

Tuition and Fees	\$11,835,768
State Allocation	\$11,410,258
County Revenue	\$10,035,290
Other Revenue	\$190,950
Total Revenue	\$33,472,266

## **EXPENDITURES**

Salaries and Wages	\$18,724,332
Contracted Services/Materials & Supplies	\$5,485,482
Benefits	\$5,359,108
Utilities	\$811,265
Insurance	\$495,099
Grants & Subsidies	\$423,750
Contingency/Other	\$1,611,217
Professional Development & Memberships	\$259,777
Minor Construction/Deferred Maintenance	\$163,200
Furniture & Equipment	\$139,036
Total Expenditures	\$33,472,266





# **HCC Grants Update**

Hagerstown Community College received the following grant awards, totaling \$1,205,975, between July 1, 2021 and April 19, 2022:

- \$447,193 from the Maryland Department of Labor for the Adult Basic Education and Literacy Services Program.
- \$66,887 from the Maryland State Department of Education for the Child Care Career and Professional Development Program to support students enrolled in early childhood education and related degree programs.
- \$395,186 from the U.S. Department of Education for supplementary Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds.
- \$8,814 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to support preservation assistance and planning for the library.
- \$16,555 from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to equip campus police with body-worn cameras.
- \$75,000 from the Alice Virginia and David W. Fletcher Foundation to support the Fletcher Incubator and Labs at the Center for Business and Entrepreneurial Studies.
- \$75,000 from the Appalachian Regional Commission to purchase new dental chairs for the dental hygiene program.
- \$96,340 subgrant from to the National Science Foundation to work with Shippensburg University to promote upward transfer of math education majors.
- \$25,000 from the Maryland Department of Labor to support manufacturing education at the Maryland Correctional Training Center.

As of April 19, 2022, Hagerstown Community College has applied for an additional \$9,874,823 in grants for the following programs:

- \$5,840,000 to the Economic Development Administration to support construction of the D. M. Bowman Family Workforce Training Center.
- \$250,000 to the Maryland Energy Administration to support costs associated with installation of a solar canopy parking lot.
- \$1,487,995 to the Department of Education to support the TRIO Upward Bound Program.
- \$2,249,894 to the Department of Education for the Guided Pathways Approach to Student Success (GPASS) Title III Project.
- \$46,934 to Maryland State Department of Education to continue the Child Care Career and Professional Development Program.

**\$16,770,286** Net Assets of the HCC Foundation (as of 6/30/21)

\$540,735 was awarded to more than 500 students in FY21

## **HCC** Foundation **Endowed Scholarships**

## Changing lives one scholarship at a time

With support from generations of generous benefactors, endowed scholarships at the Hagerstown Community College Foundation continue to support students, one the community: providing our students with an affordable, high quality education. With the deepest gratitude of the staff, faculty, students, we recognize those donors whose gifts of education ensure every student has the opportunity for success.

(Note: The list below does not include names of the new scholarships endowed through HCC's A Gem for Generations Campaign)

AC&T Co., Inc.

Allegheny Energy

Allegheny Energy, Inc.

Allfirst

Steven Howard Alter

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne E. Alter, Jr.

Guy and Louise Altieri Memorial

American Association of University Women - Hagerstown Branch

Pauline Anderson Foundation - Waltersdorf Henson Challenge

Barr Family #1

Barr Family #2

Barr Family #3

Richard Bernier Family - Athletic

Pearl B. Bobbitt Memorial

Booster Leadership Group - Athletic

Howard Bowen Family

Ronald L. Bowers - Athletic

D. M. Bowman, Inc. - Commercial Vehicle Transportation

Don and Jone Bowman

Don and Jone Bowman - Commercial Vehicle Transportation

Evan Bowman - Commercial Vehicle Transportation

Iulia Bowman

Justin Anderson - Bowman Family

Ryan Bowman - Commercial Vehicle Transportation

Samantha Ebersole - Bowman Family

Coach Jim & Sharon Brown

Coach Jim & Sharon Brown - Athletic #1

Coach Jim & Sharon Brown - Athletic #2

Bushey Feight Morin Architects Inc.

Bushev Feight Morin Architects Inc. - Athletic

Mary E. Byer

Callas Contractors, Inc.

Mike Callas - Waltersdorf Henson Challenge

Citi

Citibank

Class of 1934

William Dale Clopper

Conservit, Inc.

Conservit/Metzner - Athletic

Dorcas C. Cox

Joseph V. DeSensi

Mary E. Dunn Estate

Electromet Technical Excellence

Merle S. Elliott Female Athlete

Merle S. Elliott Male Athlete

Joann Forcino Elliott

Louise Fiery Elliott

Engstrom/Beckley

Equilibrium Scholarship for Women of Color

Fidelity Bank - Athletic

First Action Security Team

Helen R. Fisher Memorial

Fletcher Foundation - Waltersdorf Henson Challenge

Norman & Kitty Foltz

Richard N. Funkhouser Foundation

Giannaris Family - Waltersdorf Henson Challenge

Giannaris Family - Waltersdorf Henson Challenge - Athletic

Maria N. Giannaris Memorial

Ed Godlove

The Sgt. Richard H. Good

Charles G. Groh

Hagerstown Trust Company

Hagerstown Trust/Fulton Financial Advisors

Hagerstown Trust/Fulton Financial Advisors - Athletic

Harrison Children Family - Waltersdorf Henson Challenge

Lois Smith Harrison - Waltersdorf Henson Challenge

Richard L. Harrison - Waltersdorf Henson Challenge - Athletic

Jim & Brenda Hassinger

Mayme E. and Samuel C. Hays Memorial - Waltersdorf Henson

Challenge

HCC Alumni Association

HCC Booster - Athletic

HCC Faculty/Foundation Scholarship for Academic Excellence

Kathryn Stouffer Heath - Waltersdorf Henson Challenge

Georgeann M. Heidecker-Fiedler

Cheryl Leiter Hershey - Athletic

John R. Hershev, III - Athletic

Karen Hershey Spessard

Lynne Hershev Rieden - Disability

Keith and Winnie Hess - Athletic

Hess-Creager

Bill & Maggie Hetzer

Bill & Maggie Hetzer - Athletic #1

Bill & Maggie Hetzer - Athletic #2

Bill & Maggie Hetzer ESSENCE

C. William Hetzer, Inc.

C. William & Maggie Hetzer

Home Builder Association - Athletic

Honeywell, Inc.

Improved Order of Red Men Wigwam of Conococheague

Tribe No. 84

Jenneke Family

Jones Audio/Visual Merit

Ben and Becky Jones Family

Julia S. & Ralph L. Jones Memorial Rebecca H. and R. Benjamin Jones

The R. Benjamin Jones Memorial Scholarship

The R. Benjamin Jones Memorial Scholarship - Athletic

Jesse Kagle/United Way

Atlee C. Kepler

Kershner Sisters Foundation

Robert M. & Amy L. Kerstein - Waltersdorf Henson Challenge

Adolph E. Keyser and Roger E. Pemberton Scholarship in Business

Virginia May Keyser Scholarship in Nursing

William E. King, Jr.

Mildred E. Knott Memorial

L. K. (Bud) and Shirley Leatherman Bernie and Marguerite Lesky - Athletic

B. P. Lesky - Athletic

I. William Lightner - Athletic

Lightner Family - Athletic Robert L. Line Memorial

Kenneth E. Lutz Memorial Radiologic Technology

Nellie Itnever & Emmett Lake Lytton ESSENCE

Jerry E. Massey Family

Dr. Lindette Mayer Memorial Neil and Rose McConnell

D. Todd McDowell - Athletic

Lynda and Ken McDowell

Medical Staff of Washington County Hospital

Paul C. & Edith R. Mellott

Middletown Valley Bank Beard and Leila Miller

CMSgt Harry Richard Moser, USAF Retired - NHHS Class of 1958

- HJC Class of 1966

Debbie Myers

Katherine Myers Milburn

Newcomer Family Fund for the Arts Margie Ng/HJC Nursing Alumni

Karen Lynn Oyster Moats Memorial

Richard W. and Dale M. Phoebus, Sr. Literacy Education -

Waltersdorf Henson Challenge

Richard W. & Dale M. Phoebus, Sr.

Richard W. and Dale M. Phoebus, Sr. Athletic #1 Richard W. and Dale M. Phoebus, Sr. Athletic #2

Jim and Georgia Pierne - Athletic Jim and Georgia Pierne Arts

Jim and Georgia Pierne Tribute to Education

Libby Powell Memorial

Promise Pathway Program/Estate of Lucy T. Edmunds

Mary Lou and Keith Race Memorial

John C. Ramer

Terry L. Randall Family Bob and Sukey Rankin

Bob and Sukey Rankin - Athletic

Donna Rasmussen Nursing

James L. Resh Memorial - Athletic Warren and Joyce Resley Memorial

Robert F. Richards, Jr.

Dorothy P. Ridenour

Karen C. & A. Wells Ridenour Nursing #1 Karen C. & A. Wells Ridenour Nursing #2

Robert R. Ridenour - Athletic Charles W. Riggs Memorial

Mr. and Mrs. Philip L. Rohrer - Athletic

Arlene and Stephanie Rosen Pearl and Odell H. Rosen

Rotary Club of Hagerstown

Rotary Club of Hagerstown - Athletic

Rotary Club of Long Meadows Bennett S. & Geraldine Keenan Rubin

Lewis and Margaret Saylor Nursing

William Donald Schaefer Art and Marianne Schneider

Alexander and Agnita Schreiber

Schurz Memorial

Thomas H. and Marlene H. Shank - Waltersdorf Henson Challenge

Professor Lawrence Sharpe - Athletic

Carol and Norman Shea Carol and Norman Shea - Athletic

Al Sheaffer Volunteer Corps - Athletic Al Sheaffer Volunteer Corps - Waltersdorf Henson Challenge -

Athletic

Preston C. Shellenberger Sioda Family Fund

Larry E. Small Memorial

Greg and Ruth Ann Snook

Greg and Ruth Ann Snook - Athletic

Mary Katherine Clutz and Sarah Ann Snook - Athletic

Soroptimist International of Hagerstown

Deborah Dutton Spickler Memorial

Agnita M. Stine Schreiber Nursing

Susquehanna Bank - Waltersdorf Henson Challenge

Susquehanna Bank Joseph F. Kammerer Memorial

H. Mark Swain - Athletic

Thomas, Bennett & Hunter, Inc.

Mary Jane Thurmond De Lauder Joseph C. Tischer - Athletic

H. William Twigg Memorial

Edith and Leroy Uber

Ralph E. Wallace Family - Athletic John Waltersdorf - Waltersdorf Henson Challenge - Athletic

John M. Waltersdorf Family - Waltersdorf Henson Challenge

Washington County Bar Association Washington County Homemakers Clubs

Washington County Restaurant & Beverage - Athletic Mr. and Mrs. William G. Weagley, Jr.

Bryan Lau Wentz Memorial

Frances A. Weston Melissa Wheatcraft and George Bailey Memorial

Earl and Gladys Wolf

Fred C. Wright, Jr. Memorial Deborah Younker Memorial

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