

Hagerstown Community College Timeline 1946-2018

September 10, 1946 – Hagerstown Junior College is founded becoming the first rural community college in Maryland. Dr. Alvy Isanogle is HJC's Dean.

September 18, 1946 – HJC holds its first classes.

January 23, 1947 – First HJC basketball game held with the HJC "Collegians" losing to the Knights of Columbus.

June 1, 1948 – First commencement is held presenting degrees to 25 students.

December 8, 1948 – Dr. James W. Mileham is appointed dean of the college.

March 1949 – First baseball team organized and is called the HJC "Collegians."

January 1951 – First alumni organization formed.

September 1951 – Adult education program transferred to the college.

October 1951 – First women's basketball team organized by Coach Sis Young.

January 1953 – Atlee C. Kepler appointed dean of the college.

September 1956 – College moves to a building on the new South Hagerstown High School campus.

Fall 1956 – Irv Easterday named director of athletics.

March 1958 – HJC Men's Basketball team named Tri-State Conference Champions.

1961 – Dr. Kepler named president of Hagerstown Junior College.

December 1962 – The Board of Trustees purchases the Truman Smith property consisting of 129 acres as the future location for the junior college.

March 28, 1965 – Ground breaking ceremonies for the new campus are held.

September 19, 1966 – The first classes are held on the new campus with a total enrollment of 782 students.

Fall 1966 – The first non-credit classes are offered.

May 6, 1967 – The dedication of the new campus is held with Congressman Charles Mathias as keynote speaker.

October 1967 – Co-ed gym classes offered for the first time.

January 1968 – HJC takes over nursing program from Washington County Hospital.

February 19, 1968 – Odell H. Rosen elected the first Board of Trustees president.

April 29, 1968 – College receives notice from the Middle State Association granting accreditation for five years.

1968 – Hagerstown Junior College Foundation formed.

April 29, 1969 – Phi Theta Kappa is established and initiates the first five members.

Spring 1970 – HJC men's golf team wins the Maryland JUCO Championship. Baseball team is Region XX champion, places fifth in National Championships.

July 1971 – New seven-member Board of Trustees assumed the responsibility for governance of the college. Odell H. Rosen is elected chair.

September 1971 – HJC celebrates its 25th Anniversary.

May 1972 – Board approves naming the campus arboretum the “Mable R. Walter Arboretum” to honor Dr. Walter, who contributed significantly to the growth of the college and the arboretum.

May 1973 – Vo-Tech Center is turned over to the college to be converted into a Career Programs Building. The Chewsville Annex is closed at this time.

May 10, 1973 – Board of Trustees gives approval for the purchase of a third generation computer for the college.

September 1976 – Campus Crier reporter is invited to the White House to interview President Gerald Ford's college-age daughter, Susan Ford.

October 1978 – Kepler Theater opens.

1983 – Women's Track Team finishes first in the Region XX championships. Women's Basketball team is Region XX champion.

May 1986 – HJC and Dr. Atlee C. Kepler are highlighted in a feature news story in the Baltimore Sun about the success of the college.

June 21, 1986 – Dr. Atlee C. Kepler is honored at a dinner for 33 years of service to Hagerstown Junior College

July 1, 1986 – Dr. Norman P. Shea begins his new position at HJC as president of the college.

November 1986 – First national Cross Country Championship held at HJC.

1987 – College for Kids program is established for Washington County middle school students.

1988 – Athletic, Recreation and Community Center opens on campus.

1989 – Renovations begin on the old gymnasium to transform it into the Advanced Technology Center.

1990 – Alumni Association is re-established.

March 1992 – First Alumni Flower & Garden Show held.

September 1992 - First Alumni Association Golf Tournament held.

1992 – More classroom/laboratory space is added onto the Science Building.

June 1993 – First induction ceremony is held for the HJC Athletic Hall of Fame.

April 1994 – The Technical Innovation Center, a business incubator for small technology-based businesses, opens.

May 3, 1994 – Ground is broken for the HJC Alumni Association Amphitheater.

1994 – HJC established their first Distance Learning Classroom in the Advanced Technology Center, linking the campus with other virtual classrooms nationwide.

1995 – The college opens a satellite location at the Valley Mall.

1996 – College credit enrollment increases to 3,000 students.

July 1, 1998 – HJC becomes Hagerstown Community College.

August 1998 – Children’s Learning Center opens.

1999 - First Roast/Toast to benefit HCC Foundation is held.

Fall 2000 – HCC Alumni Amphitheater opens with “Evita.”

Fall 2000 – Learning Resource Center opens, featuring the William Brish Library.

2000 – Valley Mall Center moves to a new location in the mall, across from the administrative offices.

June 2001 – Dr. Shea announces his retirement after 16 years of service.

September 2001 – Doc Severinsen performs to a crowd of 2,000 in the ARCC, to benefit the Maryland Symphony Orchestra.

April 2002 – Dr. Shea is honored at the HCC Annual Tribute, which is held for the first time in an elaborately transformed ARCC.

July 2002 – Dr. Altieri takes over as the third president in the college's 56-year history.

2002 – Former HCC Library is renovated and opens as the College Center.

July 2003 – Job Training Institute is established.

Fall 2003 – ESSENCE Program begins.

January 2004 – HCC becomes home to Washington County's Adult Education Program.

January 19, 2004 – HCC's hosts first annual MLK Day celebration.

June 2004 – College slogan changes to "Stay close. Go far."

October 19, 2004 - Renovated Administration and Student Affairs Building is dedicated.

Spring 2005 – HCC lauded as Maryland's fastest growing community college, with 32% growth in three years.

April 2005 – First HCC Hawks vs. Hagerstown Suns game played at Municipal Stadium.

October 2005 – HCC receives largest grant in its history -- \$1.65 million from the Department of Transportation to expand the truck driving program.

Fall 2005 – HCC offers more than 100 programs of study, up from 40 in 2002.

Fall 2005 - HCC's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa wins national award.

Summer 2006 - \$20 million renovation of the Career Programs Building begins.

September 2006 – HCC publicly launches \$5 million dollar scholarship and capital campaign.

May 2007 – HCC receives \$1 million grant from the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission to expand its nursing program.

Fall 2007 – Biotechnology program begins.

January 2008 – First class of January nursing students begins.

February 2008 –Wet Labs addition to the Technical Innovation Center is complete.

March 2008 – Classes begin at the new Fort Ritchie site. (dedication held fall 2008)

May 2008 – HCC participates in Capital for a Day, with a visit by Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown and other cabinet members.

December 2008 – HCC receives \$113,000 in BRAC grant funds to support the biotechnology program.

February 2009 – A dedication ceremony is held for the renovated Career Programs Building and the new Merle S. Elliott Continuing Education and Conference Center.

June 2009 – HCC conducts first Biotechnology Summer Institute for area high school students and teachers.

August 2009 – U.S. Senator Benjamin Cardin hosts a public health care forum at HCC, with overflowing numbers of attendees in and around Kepler Theater and more than 90 media representatives from around the world.

August 2009- HCC receives first-ever \$672,696 grant from the National Science Foundation to assist in the development of the biotechnology program.

November 2009 – Under a Nursing Support Program grant from the Maryland Higher Education Commission, HCC launched The Maryland Community College Simulation Users Network as a statewide collaborative nursing simulation users group network.

December 2009 – HCC receives \$74,060 in BRAC grant funds to support InnovaBio-MD.

May 2010 – HCC is named a National Center of Academic Excellence (CAE2Y) by the National Security Agency. At the time, HCC is one of only six two-year schools to receive this honor.

June 2010 – HCC receives \$1.8 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to support the Alternative Energy Technology program.

June 2010 – Construction begins on the STEM Building.

September 2010 – HCC receives first-ever \$1.1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education Student Support Services (SSS) TRIO Program.

September 2010 – The Commission on the Future of HCC (CFHCC) begins its work to allow community input to guide the shaping of Strategic Plan 2016.

December 2010 – Renovation and construction of the Kepler Theater begin.

April 2011 – HCC PTK Chapter is recognized as a five-star chapter and receives the distinguished chapter officer awards for 10 students.

May 2011 – The CFHCC presents to the community 17 recommendations for the college to follow in developing Strategic Plan 2016.

May 2011 – HCC signs a written understanding with Maryland Solar to incorporate the development, construction, and operation its Washington County-based 20 MW solar farm, into the college's alternative energy technology program and the STEM Building.

September 2011 – HCC hosts a dedication ceremony for the Waltersdorf-Henson Tribute area, which is located in the center of the HCC Quad.

September 2011 – HCC receives a \$650,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to support the cybersecurity program. This is in addition to a \$50,000 grant from Cyberwatch.

January 2012 – The STEM Building and Kepler Performing and Visual Arts Education Center open for classes. Renovations begin on the Classroom Building and former Science Building.

March 2012 – HCC holds a dedication ceremony for the renovated and expanded Kepler Performing and Visual Arts Education Center.

April 2012 – HCC holds a dedication ceremony for the new STEM Building and a special dedication ceremony for the HCC time capsule, which is housed on the third floor of the STEM Building.

September 2012 – HCC receives a \$1.25 million dollar TRiO: Upward Bound grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

January 2013 – HCC launches a credit-bearing Police Academy designed to prepare cadets to serve as officers and deputies in county and municipal police and sheriff departments.

March 2013 – The renovated Classroom Building is renamed the Behavioral Sciences and Humanities (BSH) Building and opens for classes. The Fletcher Faculty Development Center, located in the BSH Building, also opens. The renovated Science Building is renamed the Learning Support Center and opens for classes.

August 2013 – HCC launches the Nora Roberts Writing Institute, a summer writing retreat for aspiring fiction writers.

August 2013 – HCC launches STEMM Technical Middle College.

September 2013 – HCC releases 339-page book chronicling the college's 67-year history. The book, "The Community's College: The Remarkable Journey of Hagerstown Community College, 1946-2012," was written by Dr. Diane Weaver, a historian and former grants director at HCC.

September 2013 - HCC hosts a dedication ceremony for the Margaret E. Hetzer Memorial tribute area, which is located in the center of the HCC Quad.

April 2014 – HCC receives the 2014 Outstanding Career and Technology Education Program Postsecondary Award of Excellence from the Maryland State Department of Education for its STEMM Technical Middle College Program.

Fall 2014 – Dental hygiene program begins. CODA approval is granted in March 2015.

January 1, 2015 – HCC became a tobacco-free campus.

March 2015 – HCC and the Johns Hopkins University Information Security Institute sign educational partnership agreement.

March 2015 – The move of the Commercial Vehicle Transportation Program from Volvo to Industrial Drive was complete.

April 2015 – HCC completes successful Middle States review.

May 2015 – First class of the STEMM Technical Middle College graduates with nine students.

August 2015 – The Mid-Atlantic Fiction Writers Institute was held, after two years with the title of the Nora Roberts Writing Institute.

Fall 2015 – The wind turbine was installed on campus, for use by the Alternative Energy Technology Program. The solar array was completed in the spring of 2016.

Fall 2015 – The Advanced Manufacturing Systems Program began.

Fall 2015 – The roundabout at the Robinwood Drive entrance was completed.

October 2015 – The dedication ceremony for the expanded and renovated Student Center was held.

May 2016 – Merle Elliott was honored by the Maryland Association of Community Colleges for having served 30 years as a board member of HCC, making him the longest serving community college board member in Maryland’s history.

Spring 2016 – An administrative reorganization within Student Services (with impact in other areas) was initiated, to develop a new model to address enrollment growth and student success.

September 2016 – HCC celebrated its 70th anniversary.

Fall 2016 – Yale Drive entrance opened.

December 17, 2016 – The first December commencement ceremony was held.

January 2017 – HCC announced its Promise Pathway Program.

July 2017 – HCC began to offer discounted tuition to neighboring out-of-state counties (Neighbor-State Rate), made possible through state legislation.

October 2017 - The National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship (NACCE) named HCC as its 2017 Heather Van Sickle Entrepreneurial College of the Year.

December 2017 – President Guy Altieri retired. Dr. David Warner was named interim president.

June 2018 – Dr. Jim Klauber began as HCC’s fourth president.