

# July 2025 Update

This monthly report is intended to provide the Vernon College Board of Trustees, Vernon College Foundation Board members, as well as college faculty and staff, with updated information regarding significant college activities, issues, and accomplishments.

## College Governance - Dr. Dusty R. Johnston, President

- At the June board meeting, the Vernon College Board of Trustees considered and approved:
  - Updated/Revised Handbooks
    - 2025-2026 Distance Education Manual
    - 2025-2026 Student Residence Handbook
    - 2025-2026 Student Handbook
    - 2025-2026 Athletic Policy Handbook
    - 2025-2026 Library Services Handbook
    - 2025-2026 Testing Center Handbook
  - o TASB Update 49
  - Updated/Revised Professional Development policy
  - o Interlocal agreement with Wilbarger County for the collection of Ad Valorem taxes
  - Tax resale deeds
- The Vernon College Board of Trustees also heard reports and updates on:
  - o 2025-2026 budget draft 3
  - o Summer enrollment
  - o Student Highlight
  - Residence Hall renovations
  - o SB 37 and SB 1489 implications for governance and faculty senates
  - o Strategic Annual Plan
  - Assessment and Reporting calendar
  - o SACSCOC responsibility matrix
  - July 9 board retreat
- The residence hall renovation project on the Vernon campus is moving at a fast pace. Progress can be noticed daily. The project deadline is August 1.
- Upcoming events:
  - ° CE Completion Ceremony Thursday, June 5, 2025 6:00 pm MPEC Wichita Falls
  - ° Board of Trustees retreat/meeting − Wednesday, July 9, 2025 − 9:00 a.m. − Vernon Campus
  - Law Enforcement Academy Badging Ceremony Wednesday, July 9, 2025 6:30 pm Osborne Auditorium – Vernon

# <u>Instructional Services – Shana Drury, Vice President</u>

- Our Massage Therapy class is in their clinical/internship rotation. They have had over 200 volunteers participate in their internship with over half of them coming from SAFB. This partnership grew this year as our instructor, Natassja Larque and our Coordinator Andrea Mirasol, participated in SAFB's Nurse Tech Appreciation week. The students performed chair massages for the Mustang Medics and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Lt. Colonel Sanders, 82<sup>nd</sup> Medical Group, stated "It was our pleasure to host you and your team for Nurse-Tech Appreciation Week. Everyone loved it!!! Let's plan for next year!!"
- Continuing Education held their CE Completion Ceremony on June 5. This was to recognize graduates from Certified Nurse Aide, Certified Medication Aide, Phlebotomy, Truck Driving, Child Development Associate, and Eye Lash Extension.
- Held Police Academy badging ceremony for the Wichita Falls class on June 12. All 20 cadets passed their TCOLE exam for 100% pass rate!!
- Shana Drury attended the Texas Community College Instructional Administrators conference in Grapevine, June 15-17.

- News from the New Beginnings program: In 2023-24, 115 out of 298 program participants graduated, compared to just 76 out of 302 the previous year. This improvement underscores the program's growing effectiveness in supporting student success!
- Vernon Campus Library has been updated with new window tint and inviting furniture for collaboration and study groups! The booths also have USB ports for charging devices. (see attached pictures)
- One Cosmetology student, Rachel Euceda, competed at the National Skills USA in Atlanta, GA representing VC. Proud to report she received 2<sup>nd</sup> place at nationals! Way to represent VC!
- Bettye Hutchins submitted the 25-26 Perkins annual grant through the THECB portal for \$172,768.
- Congratulations to the PASS Department on the awarding of the Priddy Foundation grant of \$170,000.
- Dr. Paula Whitman was selected to serve on a SACSCOC site visit in October 2025.
- Started Softdocs discovery sessions.
- Shana Drury participated in an internal Student Success meeting with the department to review 25-26 curriculum changes.
- Michael Schoppa, Shana Drury, and Dr. Johnston met with MSU regarding a Farm/Ranch articulation agreement.
- Shana Drury attended a CCATT webinar regarding Credentials of Value and the changing framework.
- Working on Staff Development and Faculty Development agendas.
- Attended Higher Educational Regional Council (HERC) orientation on June 30.

# Student Services - Dr. Criquett Chapman, Vice President

# **Highlights in June:**

## **Dean – Housing & Marketing/Recruiting**

- June 5 VC Continuing Education Graduation
- June 9-11 Texas Association of Community College Marketers Annual Meeting attended by Holly Scheller and Dr. Criquett Scott Chapman
- June 11 Chaparral Orientation and FAFSA 500
- June 12 VC Law Enforcement Academy Graduation
- June 16 Region IX staff development at VC in Wichita Falls over 30 service area school teachers and administrators toured and learned about Vernon College CTE programs
- June 30 Student Service Leadership Retreat
- Housing –Fall 2025 room assignments and paperwork

#### Financial Aid

- Posted June Financial Aid Blog notifying students of the approaching Fall 2025 Financial Aid Priority Deadline on June 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Submitted the initial Financial Aid Database Report Cycle 2 and working to correct errors.
- Satisfactory academic progress was completed for the Texas Educational Opportunity Grant (TEOG) to prepare for Fall 2025 returning students.
- Reconciled 2024-25 State and Federal work-study programs.
- Financial Aid Awareness Week was June 2-5. Via Facebook and Instagram our office provided tools designed to assist students with the financial aid process and prepare them for the upcoming fall semester.
- Reminder to complete the 2025-26 FAFSA was emailed to all students who were enrolled in the Spring 2025 semester.
- The FAFSA 500 was held at CCC on June 11<sup>th</sup> and Vernon Campus on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Financial Aid and Recruiting staff collaborated to assist students in person with completing their 2025-26 FAFSA, VC scholarship application, and answering any questions. Students were able to enter a drawing for door prizes and two \$1000 VC scholarships.
- Posting of 2025-26 Athletic Scholarships as well as VC academic scholarships for students selected from round 2.
- Provided initial financial aid information for the VC annual audit.
- Numerous Facebook & Instagram messages were shared to assist students with their financial aid.

## **Student Success**

- Program Spotlight: VA Benefits
  - VA Benefits joined the office of Student Success Fall of 2023. The role of VA Benefits at Vernon College is to work directly with the Department of Veterans Affairs in certifying five different benefits for both Veterans and their dependents and with the Texas Veterans Commission certifying two different benefits for Texas Veterans and their dependents. The VA Benefits team helps students understand their benefit including all the different requirements as well as collaborating with the Business Office, the Student Success Specialists/Advisors, and Financial Aid to insure efficient and accurate processes.
- Student Success Specialists:
  - Layten Graham joined the CCC Student Success department as an administrative assistant to Student Success with a focus on Dual Credit.
  - ° Continue to register for Summer II and Fall.
  - ° I'm First-VC (the first-generation student program) held their last monthly meeting on Mental Health on June 5<sup>th</sup> with a combined meeting with yoga instruction.
  - ° Chaparral Orientation at CCC on Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> with 22 student participants.
  - ° Jacqueline Bone and Kelli Lehman delivered Meals on Wheels on June 18th.
  - O Jacqueline Bone, Kelli Lehman, Melissa Rodriquez, Delilah Fowler, Alex Knox, Christian Ford, and Kelly Miller participated in a Student Success Specialists work day on June 24<sup>th</sup> to prepare for the 25/26 academic year.
  - Christian Ford and Kelly Miller participated in the Student Services Leads Training Day on Monday, June 30th.
- Veterans Affairs Benefits:
  - Department of Veterans Affairs came on Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> for their annual Survey Compliance with Valerie Whitten, Savannah Roberson, and Kelly Miller. It was a very successful audit of files and processes.
  - Began the process of 2<sup>nd</sup> Certification for all Summer and Summer I VA Benefit students.
  - Valerie Whitten participated in the Softdocs Discovery on June 24th.
- Dual Credit:
  - ° Began planning DC Compass, an in-person orientation for new Dual Credit students in August.
  - Lauren Loskot and Kelly Miller volunteered with VC at the Wichita Falls Area Food Bank.

#### **Police**

- Prepared the officer schedules for the month of July.
- Prepared coverage for all Special Events.
- All Fire, Safety, and Clery Reporting are up to date.
- All officers' daily logs are complete and have been looked through. No major issues currently.

## Admissions/Registrar/Testing

- Admissions staff used Element 451 for application processing for Summer and Fall
- Cyndi Danner delivered Meals on Wheels
- Cyndi Danner and Sjohonton Fanner participated in the SoftDocs meeting
- Maria Servin and Colleen Moore attended Element451 conference
- Colleen Moore presented the 2025 Summer enrollment report to the Board of Trustees
- Sjohonton Fanner assisted Student Success with the in-person Chaparral Orientation
- 301 tests administered in the Testing Centers! Tests administered: TSI, HESI, TCEQ, NREMT, TCFP, TCOLE, CLEP, GED, and Next gen
- Testing Center entered scores in Element451 and Colleague
- Ashley Burnham attended the Accuplacer TSIA2 conference
- Ashley Burnham and Colleen Moore met with Rachel White and Stephanie Mescher from the PASS Dept.

#### **Upcoming in July:**

- July 14-17 Recruiting attend the Texas Association of College Admission Counseling Conference in Kerrville
- July 30 Chaparral Orientation
- Housing Ordering dorm supplies for Fall 2025

- Housing working with dorm waitlist
- Submitting of the Net Price Calculator to the THECB
- Validation of Financial Aid Database Report

# Finance/Administrative Services/Physical Plant - Mindi Flynn, Vice President

#### **Business Offices**

- Completed changes to the IPEDS financial reporting and Federal Funds reporting.
- Participated in SoftDocs training for Business Office and Payroll/HR.
- Quotes from insurance companies were received and a recommendation will be made at the July 9 board meeting for coverage for the 2025-26 year.
- Working with adminitsrative team to update the Facility Usage Guidelines.
- Renewed Worker's Comp policy for 2025-26 year.
- Working with Financial Aid to draw down all monies for current fiscal year.
- Received upgrades for AED machines across all campuses. Working with Jason Jenkins to get those installed and employees trained.
- Draft 4 of the 2025-2026 has been prepared and will go to the board July 9.
- Hired Jacob Castorena as new custodian on the Vernon Campus.
- Stevie Williams and Paul Frommelt delivered Meals on Wheels for Administrative Services.

## **Physical Plant**

- Dorm renovations are going well. Contractors are staying on our time schedule.
- The billiards room in the SUB got a makeover. Paneling was removed, drywall was put up and the space was painted.
- The dorm director's apartment was outfitted with new countertops and a new sink.
- A new lift was installed in the automotive shop.
- New study booths were assembled and delivered to Wright Library.
- Bridge rails and hand rails were painted on the Vernon Campus.
- Repaired roof drains that were causing leakage.
- Replaced the packing on the fire pump at the STC pump house.
- Annual fire alarm, sprinkler and elevator inspections were complete at CCC.
- HVAC filters were replaced at CCC.
- New locks were purchased and installed at CCC in the 2100 area.
- The staff restrooms near the President's suite were completed at CCC.
- Installed a new compressor at Skills Training Center, with another on order.
- Ongoing retrofitting of LED lighting in buildings, including the automotive shop.
- Mowing weekly and landscaping at all locations.
- Cleaning and sanitizing daily and nightly, as well as stripping and buffing floors.

#### **Human Resources**

Personnel

## **Employment**

- 1. Layten Graham, Classified, Administrative Assistant Student Success, Dual Credit, Veterans Affairs, Century City Center, effective June 16, 2025
- 2. Jacob Castorena, Custodian Vernon Campus, effective June 24, 2025
- 3. Ann Marie McMillian, Student Success Specialist, Century City Center, effective July 17, 2025
- 4. Kristin Doss, Electra ISD Health Careers Instructor, Electra, effective August 1, 2025
- 5. Wendy Birbeck, Vernon ISD Health Careers Instructor, Vernon, effective August 1, 2025

#### Reassignment

- 1. Joseph Ross, from Part time CDL/Truck Driving Instructor to Full Time CDL/Truck Driving Instructor, effective July 1, 2025
- 2. Candace Adams, from Vernon ISD- Health Careers Instructor to Northside ISD Northside Careers Instructor, Northside, effective August 1, 2025

## Resignation

1. Ramon Amador, Custodial Technician – Vernon Campus, effective June 23, 2025

#### Michelle

- Prepared, scanned, and mailed Summer and Summer I load letters
- Prepared, scanned, and mailed coaches reappointment letters
- Delivered Meals on Wheels 5/21/2025
- 15 New hires: 2 Adjunct Faculty; 3 full time staff; 9 part time employees; 1 student employee.
- Attended Texas Association of Community College Human Resources Professionals on 5/27-5/30

#### Jackie

- Attended Zavala Banquet with Michelle Alexander on 5/10/2025
- Attended CARE Conference on 5/13-5/15
- Delivered Meals on Wheels 5/21/2025
- Attended Texas Association of Community College Human Resources Professionals on 5/275/30
- Sent out reminder emails regarding summer hours and information regarding Summer open benefits enrollment
- Worked on 2025-2026 Employee salaries
- Continued work on Employee Handbook

# <u>Information Systems and Technology - Dr. Roxanne Hill, Vice President</u>

## **VC IT Department**

- 2024-2025 Computer/Laptop Replenishment is in progress for the Vernon campus, Century City Center and Skills Training Center.
- Weekly Colleague Team LEAD meetings
- Meals on Wheels was delivered by Anna Martin with assistance by Lupita Avitia from the Admissions Department on 6/11.
- Facility Requests
  - ° Student Success held a New Student Orientation event on 6/11 that required audio equipment to be supported by Dylan Guerrero.
  - Student Success hosted the Region 9 High School Professional Development event 6/30 at Century City Center and Skills Training locations. Dylan set up audio and visual equipment and was available for support during the event.
- Crystal Tate presented a training session at the Century City Campus on 6/30 for the OSCQR Rubric Cohort 5.
- Wichita Falls Area Food Bank volunteer event was led by Crystal Tate on 6/18.
- Dr. Roxanne Hill visited RunBiz headquarters in Amarillo, Texas for a tour and meeting on 6/25. During this trip, a tour on 6/26 of Amarillo College's Teaching and Learning Center explained the First Year Experience program.
- Dorm Renovation Project on the Vernon campus is currently in progress, and supplies for the Wi-Fi access
  points have been ordered.
- VC Birthday Club For the month of June, four full-time employees have been recognized and presented with a card and small gift to celebrate their birthdays.
- Help tickets submitted for June (85) with 100% Satisfaction Score

# <u>Institutional Assessment, Planning, and Effectiveness – Dr. Brad Beauchamp</u>

- Completed data request for Administrative Services (Samantha Samano)
- Completed data request for Institutional Advancement (Michelle Alexander)
- Completed the THECB Licensure/Certification Report
- Working on SACSCOC Financial Profile
- Updating KPIAs and website content
- Compiling five years of data for Clearinghouse PDP implementation
- Transferring SACSCOC documents from Anthology to Watermark
- Successful completion of SACSCOC fifth-year interim review!

## **Institutional Advancement - Michelle Alexander**

- Round 2 scholarship offers we sent out from June 15 through June 26.
- Callee Serrano participated in several Blackbaud and Texas Association of Community College Foundation webinars throughout the month of June.
- Michelle Alexander participated in the Blackbaud Award scholarship webinar on June 10.
- Working with the Nursing Scholarship Subcommittee to send 2025-2026 scholarship offers to their applicants.
- Michelle is co-chairing the CASE 2025 Federal Funding Task Force and member training has begun.
- Work is beginning on the 2025-2026 James N. McCoy Foundation proposal.

## **Athletics – Jason Jenkins**

Athletics has had a chance to catch its breath but still had some exciting news. We had 25 NJCAA Academic All-Americans this past year.

• First team (4.0)

Kasey Lowe – Baseball – Freshmen Kamden Hutton – Softball – Sophomore Grant McClendon – Baseball – Freshmen

• Second Team (3.99 – 3.80)

Irvin Leodard - Baseball

James Tumlin - Baseball

Camille Laney- Softball

Camille Laney- Softball

Cooper Senne - Baseball

Abby Maetche - Softball

Avery Pemberton - Softball

Giovanca Frias-Gonzales - Softball

• Third Team (3.79 - 3.60)

Arlee Hardy – Volleyball Ashlyn Yarbrough – Volleyball

Peyton Cole – Volleyball
Brianna Mareno – Volleyball
Kylie Elmore – Volleyball
Kylie Phillips – Softball
Braden Herak – Baseball
Grace Alcorn – Volleyball
Luis Marrero – Baseball
Catcher Ridings – Baseball
Josh Davies – Baseball
Cloey Dress – Volleyball
Courtney Petrosino – Softball
Jameson Lucky – Baseball

- Congratulations to all our student-athletes for this great accomplishment.
- Baseball, Rodeo and Softball are all on the recruiting trail and loading up with a new crop of Chaparrals.
- Volleyball will be starting just around the corner. Practices are set to start on August 4<sup>th</sup> once they can move into the dorms. They have a good crop coming back and Coach Thomas says the new recruits could make an immediate impact. Looking for big things to come on court.

# **DRJ** Comments

- I continue to encourage divisions and departments to organize activities to help students feel connected.
- I look forward to our time together in August as we continue to focus on how everyone can and does contribute to student success.
- The August 14 Professional Development agenda is being finalized and will be sent out on August 4. A great deal of information and some fun as well.
- Enjoy your summer activities.
- Please contact me with any input or questions at:
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