

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 April board meeting, the Vernon College Board of Trustees considered and approved:
 - Tax exemption for a Vernon historical site property
 - Increasing purchasing policy limit to \$10,000
 - Vernon College Facilities Master Plan
 - Tax resale deed
- The Vernon College Board of Trustees also heard reports and updates on:
 - Residence Hall renovation project
 - 2025-2026 budget draft 1
 - History of Focus on Student Success
 - Student Services operations
 - Student highlight
 - Upcoming board retreat July 9, 2025
- Please contact Kristen Harris with ideas about marketing and recruiting. The reorganized marketing/recruiting department includes Kristin, Holly Scheller, Madison Tiedman, and Tracy Catlin. They have developed an aggressive plan for upcoming months, but welcome your input.
- The Honors Award Ceremony and the Athletic Banquet were conducted in April. It was enjoyable to see the outstanding Vernon College students being recognized.
- Upcoming events:
 - Commencement – Thursday, May 8, 2025--6:00 pm--Kay Yeager Coliseum, Wichita Falls
 - 4:30 p.m. Graduate Check-in—all students
 - 5:30 p.m. Board members, faculty, staff, and students prepare for entrance
 - 6:00 p.m. Graduation – All students
 - ADN Pinning—Friday, May 9, 2025—10:30 am—Wilbarger Auditorium
 - Board of Trustees meeting – Wednesday, May 14, 2025 – 11:30 a.m. Vernon campus
 - CE Completion Ceremony—Thursday, June 5, 2025—6:00 pm—MPEC—Wichita Falls
 - Board of Trustees meeting—Wednesday, June 11, 2025—11:30 a.m.—Vernon Campus
 - Law Enforcement Academy Badging Ceremony—Thursday, June 12, 2025—6:30 pm—MPEC—Wichita Falls
 - Law Enforcement Academy Badging Ceremony—Wednesday, July 9, 2025—6:30 pm—Osborn Auditorium--Vernon

Instructional Services – Shana Drury, Vice President

- VC was awarded \$18,267.29 by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) through the Nursing Shortage Reduction Program FY 2025-2027
- Vernon College is now affiliated with Texas Trucking Association Foundation (TXTA) to offer students up to \$2500 in scholarship toward their CDL training. Great Job Anne!
- Cosmetology student, Rachel Euceda, received Gold at Skills USA and will be going to Nationals in Atlanta, Georgia June 23-28! Barber student, Natalie Crawford, also received a Bronze for her work. Thanks to our instructors Angela, Elisha, and Brenda for pursuing additional avenues for our students to showcase their talents!
- Vernon College will host the 42nd annual North Texas Regional Training Conference on May 13-15 at CCC. This multi-disciplinary conference is designed to meet the continuing education needs of the professionals in mental health, family and protective services, juvenile probation services, adult probation services, criminal

justice, addiction counseling and social work. Thanks to Andrea Sanchez and Linda Kalski for their hard work!

- Rachel White, Director of PASS Dept, presented at the AHEAD in Texas conference in El Paso March 31-April 2. Her presentation was titled “Supporting Pregnant & Parenting Students: A Guide to Policies, Procedures, and Adjustments”.
- Brandy Meza, English faculty member, was awarded the Most Memorable College Teacher Award by Memorial High School regarding dual credit classes.
- This was the first year we implemented Patient Care Technician in the senior year at 5 high schools. We are proud to report an 85% pass rate!
- New furniture has been ordered for the Vernon Campus Library! We will have inviting and colorful booths in front of the windows with charging ports. There will also be café tables for groups to study at.
- Working with many high schools regarding Career and Technical Education (CTE) dual credit opportunities.
- Continuing Education is working on Summer and Kids College schedules.
- Credit Summer and Fall schedules have been published with registration in full swing.

Student Services – Dr. Criquett Chapman, Vice President

Highlights in April:

Dean – Housing & Marketing/Recruiting

- April 3 – Adulting Day Vernon
- April 24 – Honors Program
- April 29 & 30 – FAFSA 500
- Campus Tours and Presentations – Legacy HS, Chillicothe HS, Crowell HS, Petrolia HS, City View HS, Electra HS, Memorial HS, Vernon HS, Seymour HS, Burkburnett HS, Henrietta HS
- Catalog Revisions & Updates
- CE printing and advertising
- Proud to be a Chap poster finalized and going out
- ChapsLEAD finishing with 20 completers from Vernon and Wi
- Ichita Falls
- Housing move-out and preparations for summer construction beginning

Financial Aid

- Posted the Financial Aid Blog for April “12 MYTHS ABOUT THE FAFSA FORM & APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID” to help student understand the facts from fiction when it comes to financial aid.
- Posted many Facebook and Instagram posts on how to apply for financial aid, VC scholarship Application priority deadline for Round 2, summer Pell availability and registration, financial aid FAQ campaign, tips to stay eligible, and requirement to complete Exit Loan Counseling for student loan borrowers prior to graduation.
- Continued to award Texas Educational Opportunity Grant funds to eligible students and began calling students who have not responded to their MyVC or student email.
- Participated in state and national conversations on Student Identity Fraud on what to look for and best practices.
- Jeanne Ballard, Rosa Alaniz, and Ashleigh Whitley assisted students at the Honor’s Program.
- Hosted FAFSA 500 at the Vernon Campus and Century City Center. Assisted students with completing the FAFSA, VC scholarship application, and answered many questions. Drawings held for door prizes and \$1,000 scholarship for each campus.
- Consumer Information emails have been sent out to each department that plays a role in the Department of Education’s consumer information requirements needed for VC to participate in Title IV programs.
- Crystal Wells and Sharon Anderle are busy processing and awarding Summer Pell Review forms.
- Financial Aid Spring Newsletter posted on Facebook & Canvas.
- Began posting 2025-26 VC scholarships for eligible students.
- Ashleigh Whitley attended Financial Aid Regional Training provided by the Texas Association of Financial Aid Administrators in Lubbock.

- Panhandle Plains High Education Foundation emailed federally required Loan Debt Disclosures to Spring students.
- VC has received 1,644 FAFSAs for 2025-26. 857 have linked with Admissions and been completed with 647 packaged.
- Financial Aid Policy & Procedures Manual updated!

Student Success

- Program Spotlight: Chaparral Orientation
Chaparral Orientation is a great resource for new VC students! The online version allows students to follow their path and learn what they need to know by their student type (Dual Credit, VA benefits, etc.) and by their program of study and education (transfer, certificate, AAS, etc.). The in-person version allows for students to come to the school, connect with other students and faculty/staff, and see what Vernon College has to offer them while establishing a sense of belonging to the school.
 - Online is available at any time through the Vernon College website.
 - In-person is scheduled for June 11th @CCC, July 30th @CCC, and August 6th @VER.
- Rosie Tays joined Student Success as the new Student Success Specialist at CCC.
- Registration began for Summer and Fall on April 21st with 141 students registered for Summer and 49 registered for Fall on the first day!!
- Christian Ford attended the Pathways Institute April 1st – 4th.
- Kelli Lehman participated in Adulting Day with the Boys and Girls Club on the Vernon Campus on April 3rd.
- Taylor Seedig and Abbi Cove attended the Website Training on April 3rd.
- I'm First – VC monthly focus on *Barriers to College* on April 9th in CCC and April 10th in VER.
- First Step came to the Vernon Campus on April 16th and Century City on April 17th and Vernon College participated in Teal Out Day on April 21st as part of Sexual Assault Awareness month.
- Finals Stress Relief: Cuddle Service held at VER and CCC on April 28th.
- Texas Tech visited Century City on April 24th.
- Student Success was awarded Vernon College Foundation Grants for Chaparral Orientation in-person Summer 2025, I'm First VC first generation program for Academic Year 2025-2026, and for the new DC Compass (dual credit orientation) for Summer 2025.
- Veterans Affairs Benefits:
 - Participated in the Military & Veterans Resource Fair at the Wichita Falls Public Library on April 10th.
 - Prepared for The Department of Veterans Affairs Compliance Survey (postponed to a future date).
- Dual Credit:
 - Hosted application workshops at City View HS, Crowell HS, Burkburnett HS, and Vernon HS.
 - Hosted parent nights at Burkburnett HS and Iowa Park HS.
 - Hosted registration workshops at Christ Academy, Henrietta HS, and Burkburnett HS.
 - Updated MOUs with Instruction for the 25-26 Calendar year.

Police

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

Admissions/Registrar/Testing

- Admissions staff used Element 451 for application processing
- Processed applications for Summer and Fall, leading to increase in registration for Summer and Fall 25 over Summer and Fall 24
- Registration for Summer and Fall opened
- Attended website training
- Karla Wooten delivered Meals on Wheels
- Maria Servin and Julie Lama helped with Honors Program

- Maria, Sjhonton Fanner, and Colleen Moore virtually attended 2025WTACRAO conference
- Getting ready for May Commencement Ceremony
- 428 tests administered! Tests administered include TSI, HESI, TCEQ, NREMT, TCFP, TCOLE, CLEP, GED, Next gen, and Certiport
- Training on Element451
- Entering scores in Element451 and Colleague

Upcoming in May:

- May 2 - WFISD CEC Career Fair
- May 8 - VC Graduation
- May 14 – VHS Freshman and Sophomores tour Vernon
- More service area high school tours and visits
- Student Handbook Revisions & Updates
- VC 2024-2025 Commencement Ceremony Thursday, May 8 at 6pm at Kay Yeager Coliseum in Wichita Falls

Finance/Administrative Services/Physical Plant – Mindi Flynn, Vice President

Business Offices

- An RPF has been drafted and posted for insurance coverage for 2025-26 fiscal year.
- Working with Southern Market to get additional food options on the CCC campus.
- Provided financial information to various people for grant proposals.
- Completed tax and debt survey for TACC. Also completed a TASB survey.
- Met with Herring Bank project leads to discuss future projects and assess current needs.
- Prepared and mailed proposals for depository bank for the coming 2 year cycle.
- Assisted Brad Beauchamp in submitting a College Affordability Survey.
- Draft 2 of the 2025-2026 is being prepared and will go to the board on May 14.
- Mindi Flynn attended the SACS-COC conference for Financial Advisors of Small Colleges in Atlanta, GA.

Physical Plant

- Preparation has begun for the dorm renovation, which will start May 10. The facilities crew is working quickly to remove furniture from dorm rooms as students move out.
- Working to update all AEDs on all campuses this summer. We will also had a defibrillator to each of the sporting areas on the Vernon campus.
- Flooring was replaced in the dorm apartments for the dorm director and baseball coach. Appliances were also updated.
- Assisted in the demo of a lift in the automotive lab. Also relocated receptacles in auto lab.
- Made repairs to multiple HVAC units among campuses.
- Conducted annual fire alarm inspections on the Vernon campus.
- Interviewed for maintenance specialist on the Vernon campus. Hired Greg Cantu.
- Interviewed for grounds crew in Vernon. Hired Tyler Arther.
- Trouble shooting electrical issue of digital display sign at CCC after the Water Distribution department dug through the power line. We believe it is finally fixed.
- Updated staff restrooms near the marketing/recruiting doors at CCC.
- Updated the foam seal dome over the main entrance at CCC. Final step will be to refresh the paint coating.
- Completed relocation and set up of nursing shelving and filing cabinets from Vernon to CCC. Also hung shelves in the storage closet for marketing/recruiting.
- Addressed several roof leaks at CCC and STC. These are difficult to identify and will be an ongoing project.
- Repaired irrigation lines north of campus at CCC.
- Door hinges were replaced at STC main entrance.
- Installed a humidifier in CCC 601.
- Ongoing retrofitting of LED lighting in buildings.
- Mowing weekly and landscaping has resumed at all locations. Trees were trimmed on the Vernon campus.
- Cleaning and sanitizing daily and nightly, as well as stripping and buffing floors.

Human Resources

- Personnel
 - Employment
 - Tyler Arthur, Grounds Technician, Vernon Campus, effective 4/21/2025
 - Resignation
 - Thomas Brown, CDL Truck Driving Instructor, Vernon Campus, effective April 29, 2025
- Michelle
 - Website training – 3/4/2025
 - Delivered Meals on Wheels 4/9/2025
 - Community Interaction Committee – Easter Bunny visit, 4/15/2025 and Parade meeting 4/30/2025
 - Still pulling evaluations from NEOED
 - Printed, scanned, and mailed Spring II Load letters and 2024-2025 Overload letters
 - Printed, scanned, and mailed Faculty Reappointment letters
 - New Hires onboarded:
 - 3 full time
 - 2 part time/adjunct
 - 1 student
- Jackie
 - Meeting with AFLAC Cheri Stafford and representative
 - Attended Human Resources Council meeting on 4/8/2025
 - Delivered Meals on Wheels 4/9/2025
 - Attended Autism Professional Development on 4/11/2025
 - Meeting with Gridiron Business group regarding **federal payroll tax reimbursement program**
 - Continued work on Employee Handbook

Information Systems and Technology – Dr. Roxanne Hill, Vice President

- 2024-2025 Computer/Laptop Replenishment in progress for the Vernon campus, Century City Center and Skills Training Center.
- Weekly Colleague Team LEAD meetings
- RunBiz – IT Assessment of the Vernon Campus, Century City Center and Skills Training Center.
- Roxanne Hill attended the Pathways Conference in Houston, TX (4/1 – 4/4) and the Ellucian Colleague Conference in Orlando, FL (4/4 – 4/9).
- Two sessions were presented for Website Training featuring a refresher and advanced session on the Century City campus on 4/3 and at the Vernon campus on 4/4, presented by Jon Michael of Mustard Basket. There were 10 attendees for both refresher sessions and 18 attendees at both the advanced sessions.
- Facility Request – VC Honors Convocation requiring setup of audio equipment and two projector screens in the King gym with technical support provided by Elizabeth Gonzalez on 4/24.
- Sessions were presented for Online Teaching Rubrics on the Century City campus on 4/4, 4/11 and at the Vernon campus on 4/25 by Crystal Tate.
- Help tickets submitted for April – 262 with 100% Satisfaction Score

Institutional Assessment, Planning, and Effectiveness – Dr. Brad Beauchamp

- Data request completed for Institutional Advancement (alumni)
- Data request completed for Institutional Advancement (scholarship)
- Data request completed for Student Services (Colleen Moore)
- Data request completed for Student Services (Dr. Criqueett Chapman)
- Edited and revised the Annual Planning Calendar for 2025-2026
- Updated and edited the VC Key Performance Indicators for 2025-2026
- Compiled sample for core assessment of Social Responsibility 2025
- Data request completed for Administrative Services (Margaret Kincaid)
- Data request completed for Financial Aid

Institutional Advancement – Michelle Alexander

- The 2025-2026 scholarship process is underway with round 1 offers going out and acceptances coming in. Round 2 will begin on June 16.
- Working with area high schools on Fall 2025 Dual Credit Scholarship awards.
- Callee Serrano is working on the 2024 list of alumni, including completers and enrolled students who have successfully completed at least 12 credit hours, to upload into the Alumni/Development database.
- Callee participated in two Blackbaud webinars in April.
- Callee participated in a CASE webinar on donor retention.
- Michelle Alexander participated in the Greater Texas Foundation final Community of Practice virtual meeting. This meeting was connected to our Greater Texas Foundation Emergency Aid grant.
- Michelle participated in the Martin Luther King Scholarship Committee meeting on April 8.
- The Vernon College Foundation held their Quarterly Meeting on April 17.

Athletics – Jason Jenkins

- There were all sorts of activity in the Athletic Department in April. Volleyball finished up their off-season work outs and contests with a couple of road trips. The first was to Eastfield College where they played multiple teams across many different levels. Then the very next day they headed out to Abilene Christian University and got some good competition for what some of our young ladies will be seeing in the future. Coach Thomas was pleased with how the team took to the weight room work outs and translated that to the court. Good things should be coming on the court next fall.
- Rodeo might have been the busiest. They had 3 rodeos in the month of April. At Western Texas College, Dawson Tullis had a great weekend finishing with second in the Men's All-around. A strong showing in the Steer Wrestling and Steer Tripping helped him considerably. Rebekah Erickson showed up as well, tied for 8th in the Breakaway. The next destination for the team was Big Spring, TX for the Howard College Rodeo. While the team competed well it just wasn't in the cards this time for any of our student-athletes. Next, they headed to Stephenville to wrap up the spring season and the year. While we had several make the short go, we came up just a hair shy of coming home with something tangible. A great season was had and Coach Jackson is already looking forward to building on the foundation that he has laid.
- Baseball had their share of competition as well in April. Playing 16 games in these four weeks allowed for some ups and downs. We probably finished with the toughest schedule imaginable. Playing three nationally ranked teams in the month is tough. We stood up to the challenge and competed very well. However, we did leave some wins on the table that could end up costing us at the end of the season. Starting with a series against Grayson College we split the games going 2-2. We followed that up with another split against Ranger and Hill Colleges. Then came McLennan College where we went 1-3 but started the series with an exciting walk-off home run from Sophomore, Catcher Ridings. Still have one more series to go in May and are in the hunt for a post-season bid.
- Softball started off the month with a bang by splitting a home double header with Grayson. We beat the #3 team in the nation 4-3, to start the series behind some great pitching and timely hitting. Then the team went on a winning streak that almost got them to the post season and gaining them Team of the Week honors by KFDX. They won 9 of twelve games in three weeks and swept both Ranger and Hill Colleges. To finish the season the Chaps took on the #1 team in the nation and again competed in every contest just coming up shy in each of them. However, the Chaps finished with an over-all record of 30-22 and 15-17 in the toughest conference in the nation. Great job Chaps!

DRJ Comments

- The semester is quickly coming to an end. I appreciate each of your efforts to ensure that Vernon College continues to meet the needs of students, communities, and employees.
- Summer hours for 2025 will begin on Monday, May 12 and continue through Thursday, July 31. Operating hours will be Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Vernon College will return to the Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Friday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon schedule on Monday, August 4, 2025.

- I have scheduled a meeting with several faculty that currently teach via multiple modalities on May 13 to begin a discussion on the future of instructional strategies/instructional modalities. The challenge I will present is ---What instructional modalities should Vernon College invest in (time, energy, technology, training, and money) to best meet the needs of our current and future students? This will be the first of many discussions as we plan for the future of instruction at Vernon College.
- Please contact me with any input or questions at:
 - drj@vernoncollege.edu
 - Office – 940-552-6291 ext. 2200
 - Cell – 940-261-0060