

**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 September board meeting, the Vernon College Board of Trustees considered and approved:
  - 2024-2025 Wilbarger County tax collections
  - City of Vernon to demolish tax properties
- The Vernon College Board of Trustees also heard reports and updates on:
  - Upcoming CCATT conference
  - Upcoming THECB Leadership conference
  - Residence Hall renovations
  - Instructional Component improvement plan
  - SB 37/Vernon College Faculty Senate
  - Fall 2025 enrollment
  - Department of Education Annual Cleary Security Report
  - KPIA dashboards
  - Health Clinic
  - Student highlight
- 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 Governance thru Committee documents was revised and updated this summer. The Governance thru Committee structure is an important opportunity for employee input. Our participation on committees is expected. Please contact your committee chairperson if they have not reached out to you at this time
- James Brock, Daryl Wolf, and Dr. Johnston attended the Community College Association of Texas Trustees (CCATT) Conference
  - Topics included:
    - New trustee orientation/networking
    - Data and Advocacy
    - Workforce/ISD/Community College partnerships
    - Regional breakout sessions to discuss HB 8, FAST, Dual Credit, etc.
    - Legislative update
    - Attorney Roundtable
    - Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative
    - Partnering with ISDs for Postsecondary Success
    - Governing for Scalable Student Success
    - Minding College Minds: Student Mental Health
    - Institutional Strategies for Emerging Occupations and High Demand Fields
    - Strategies for Enrollment and Student Engagement
- Legislative/Community Advocacy—A significant takeaway from the CCATT conference to develop for board members and all Vernon College employees a one-page front and back significant data, facts, good things to know about Vernon College. It was simply stated—What constitutes your three- minute elevator speech if you are asked about Vernon College by a legislator or community member. The Advocacy document is in development so we can all speak about the positive aspects of Vernon College with accurate and consistent information. This will be shared with all employees after the November 12 board meeting.
- Upcoming events:
  - Vernon College Foundation Annual Board Meeting, 10:00 am—CCC—October 16, 2025
  - Vernon College Rodeo—November 7-8, 2025
  - Regional Volleyball Tournament—November 6-8, 2025—Weatherford College
- Vernon College Regular Board Meeting, Vernon campus – November 12, 2025

## **Instructional Services – Shana Drury, Vice President**

- Instructional Services CTE is working to revise curriculum for 2026-27
- Several individuals from Instructional Services attended Etrieve (SoftDocs) training
- Continued discussion regarding Inclusive Access books and processes
- Attended the State of the Workforce meeting in Wichita Falls
- Cosmetology/Barber on the Vernon campus is full for the first time in several years
- Working on Spring Schedule as registration will open Nov. 3
- New program, Nail Technician, is going through the approval processes to hopefully start Spring 2026
- Attended Chief Academic Officer quarterly meeting
- Met with Grand Canyon University regarding articulation agreements
- Held a meeting with Vernon and Benjamin ISDs regarding dual credit
- Division chair meeting regarding spring schedule, face-to-face assessment tool, and course outlines
- Provided a CCC tour for SAFB Col Raszinski who was very impressed with our labs and equipment

## **Student Services – Dr. Criquett Chapman, Vice President**

### **Highlights in September:**

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

- September 3 – handing out VC merch at the volleyball home opener
- September 3 – onsite at Chesterton Academy
- September 4 – onsite at IPHS
- September 5 – onsite at Windthorst HS
- September 8 – onsite at Memorial HS
- September 9 – onsite at Vernon HS
- September 9 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Job Fair
- September 9 – Vernon Student Activity – Chappie’s Nest game night
- September 10 – onsite at Quanah HS
- September 11 – onsite at Burkburnett MS
- September 12 – onsite at City View HS
- September 13 – onsite at Quanah Fall Festival
- September 15 – onsite at Memorial HS
- September 15 – Vernon Student Activity – nighttime trike races
- September 15 & 16 – Trellis Foundation Conference in Austin
- September 16 – onsite at Premier HS
- September 17 – onsite at Big Pasture HS
- September 17 – WF Chamber meeting
- September 18 – onsite at Legacy HS
- September 18 – WF Chamber of Commerce State of the Workforce Meeting
- September 22 – TACRAO fair at Region 9
- September 23 – onsite at City View HS
- September 24 – Knox County college fair at Munday
- September 24 – MPEC 8<sup>th</sup> grade College Fair
- September 24 – Vernon Student Activity – spike ball
- September 26 – onsite at Vernon HS College Fair
- September 29 – Holiday HS at CCC group tour
- September 29 – onsite at Rule HS
- September 30 – onsite at Iowa Park JH
- September 30 – Workforce Solutions job fair in Vernon

#### **Admissions/Registrar/Testing**

- Cyndi Danner, Layce Cates, and Sjhonton Fanner evaluated transcripts
- Lupita Avitia sent welcome emails to all new VC students
- Karla Wooten, Cyndi Danner, Julie Lama, Lupita Avitia, Rebecca Ashlock, and Layce Cates used Element 451 for application processing and student messaging
- Admissions participated in Softdocs Etrieve training
- Processed drops for students who were marked as non-attending on certified rosters

- Cyndi Danner delivered Meals on Wheels
- Colleen Moore presented the Fall 2025 Enrollment Report at the Board of Trustees meeting
- Sjhonton Fanner and Colleen Moore met with Kelly Miller and Christian Ford about Dual Credit processes
- Ashley Burnham and Amanda Luevano administered over 107 tests in the Testing Centers! Tests administered: TSI, TCEQ, NREMT, TCFP, TCOLE, CLEP, and GED
- Ashley Burnham and Amanda Luevano entered scores in Element451 and Colleague
- HESI season is here; signups are on the Testing Center webpage for Fall dates

### **Financial Aid**

- Posted September Financial Aid Blog “You are here...now what?” providing students with helpful information to be successful in their classes.
- Completed the federally mandated “Constitution Day” by contacting IT to post information on the VC Home Page for September 17<sup>th</sup>. Also posted information on the VC Financial Aid Facebook and Instagram pages.
- Ashleigh Whitley & Jeanne Ballard participated in the Resource Fair on the Vernon Campus & Ashleigh Whitley participated at CCC.
- Along with the Business Office, our office successfully disbursed financial aid funds in the amount of \$1,202,527.15 for 918 students.
- Scheduled Financial Aid Presentations in October for area high school seniors & parents.
- Ashleigh Whitley updated the Financial Aid Presentation which now includes a more vibrant feel along with videos and sound.
- Completed and submitted the federally mandated 2024-25 Fiscal Operations Report and Application to Participate (FISAP) to the Department of Education.
- Closed out 2024-25 Pell grant program with the Department of Education.
- Submitted the first draft of the Financial Aid Database report to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.
- Completed the FY 22 Cohort Default Rate Assessment Report.
- Equity in Athletics information provided to the Athletic Office.
- Continued processing on FVT/GE for 2022 & 2023.
- The 2026-27 FAFSA opened early for the first time on September 25, 2025.
- Numerous Facebook & Instagram posts encouraging students to apply for financial aid, work-study availability, notification of Fall disbursement dates, and preparing for the opening of the 2026-27 FAFSA.

### **Student Success**

- Program Spotlight: The VC Food Pantry has been active for over a year and half at all three locations. The only requirements are to be an active VC student, complete an online shopping form, and utilize once a month. One food bag includes: 3 proteins, 3 vegetables/fruits, 3 grains, 2 beverages, and 2 snack items.
- Student Success Specialists:
  - Provided 25 bags of food in the month of September from the Food Pantry.
    - Also requested and approved to use Food Pantry grant funds to provide grab and go food to the Nursing Department’s Seymour’s Closet.
  - Entire office attended trainings on how to view and add to Softdocs’ Content.
  - All Student Success Specialists began meeting one-on-one in-person and through a Canvas course with students who are currently enrolled and on Academic Probation as part of the Academic Improvement Program.
  - Alex Knox and Ann Marie McMillan along with Criquett Chapman, Rachel White, Jesse Dominguez, Lori Arnold, William Robertson, and Misti Brock are participating in a yearlong project called Minding College Minds. The goal of the project and is to help community colleges address important gaps in their mental health services for students.
  - Melissa Moore-Rodriguez will be at Skills Training Center on Wednesday mornings.
  - Taylor Seedig and Jesse Dominguez delivered Meals on Wheels on 9/3.
  - Jacqueline Bone attended Healthy Coalition on 9/3.
  - Hosted a jump house during the VC Resource Fair to illustrate “bouncing back” in VER on 9/8 and in CCC on 9/9.  
“Do not judge me by my success, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again.” – Nelson Mandela
  - I’m First – VC monthly meeting was on time management in VER on 9/17 and in CCC on 9/18.
  - Christian Ford attended the Cosmetology/Barber Advisory meeting on 9/22.
  - Delilah Fowler attended the EMS Advisory meeting on 9/23.
  - Kelly Miller and Rachel White attended the Foster Forum luncheon in Vernon on 9/25.

- Alex Knox participated in Arizona State University Partner Training on 9/30.
- Jacqueline Bone attended the Vernon ISD Student Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) meeting on 9/30.
- Veterans Affairs Benefits:
  - Completed all Fall 2025 2<sup>nd</sup> Certification for VA Education Benefits.
  - Submitted 2025-2026 approval packet to the Department of Veterans Affairs requesting an additional 9 CE programs approved for VA Education Benefits at Vernon College.
  - Participated in the VC Resource Fair on 9/8 in VER and on 9/9 in CCC.
  - Participated in the Annex Employee Resource Fair on 9/18
- Dual Credit:
  - Posted new position for Dual Enrollment Coordinator based in Vernon.
  - Christian Ford, Michelle Alexander, and Malinda Fleming visited Henrietta High School to discuss scholarships, inclusive access book charges, and FAST program on 9/3.
  - Christian Ford, Criquett Chapman, Shana Drury, Mark Holcomb, Joe Johnston, Jason Scheller, and Paula Whitman met with Vernon High School to prepare for Spring 2026 on 9/17.
  - VC participated in the Legacy High School homecoming parade on 9/17.
  - Christian Ford, Lauren Loskot, Betty Hutchins, and Shana Drury met virtually with Benjamin ISD to discuss Dual Credit CTE opportunities on 9/25
  - Lauren Loskot began monthly visits to High Schools:
    - Vernon ISD, Northside ISD, and Chillicothe ISD on 9/17
    - Iowa Park ISD on 9/18
    - Wichita Falls ISD – Memorial on 9/19
    - Henrietta ISD and Midway ISD on 9/24
    - Christ Academy and Wichita Christian on 9/29
    - Burkburnett ISD on 9/30

**Police**

- Prepared the officer schedules for the month of October.
- 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.

**Upcoming in October:**

- October Mondays – scary movie night Vernon
- October – weekly scavenger hunt for students at CCC
- October 7 – onsite at Burkburnett HS
- October 9 – Second Chance Job Fair
- October 10 – VC at the VISD tailgate and hosting the Lion's Den
- October 14 – SAFB Open House at Wichita Falls locations
- October 15- onsite Holiday HS
- October 15 – Wellness Fair MPEC
- October 16 – Sports Day
- October 17 – CCMR training with Region IX
- October 17 – onsite Paducah HS
- October 22 – onsite Burkburnett HS
- October 23 – onsite Henrietta
- October 23 – onsite Legacy
- October 27 – Super, Ultra, Mega BINGO at Vernon
- October 28 – onsite Memorial HS
- October 29 – onsite Petrolia HS
- October 30 – onsite Legacy HS
- October 30 – onsite Legacy HS
- Awarding of the Nursing Scholarship program for the THECB.
- Submitting the Financial Aid Database (FAD) report 3
- Sports Day
- Texas Association of Financial Aid Administrators (TASFAA) fall conference in San Antonio, Tx
- Area high school financial aid presentations

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

### **Business Offices**

- 2025-26 contract amounts have been updated into Colleague for all employees.
- Submitted board approved budget to all required state agencies.
- Provided financial information to several departments for grant application purposes.
- Prepared financial statements for the Vernon College Foundation and calculated suggested spend rate for next year based on current year investments..
- Disbursed \$1,202,527 in Fall Financial Aid money to 918 students.
- Updated vending machines on the Vernon campus to provide more options for students and staff and also provide credit card capabilities.
- Participated in SoftDocs training and discovery sessions.
- Participated in meetings with BibliU to improve processes moving forward.
- Delivery Meals on Wheels for Administrative Services was Jayland Ricks, Samantha Samano, Ernest Newman and Stevie Williams

### **Physical Plant**

- Completed retrofitting all tennis court lights to LED. The pickleball club has been raving about how nice it is in the evenings now.
- Electrical repairs were made in the SUB, as well as replacing water lines to accommodate new sanitizer. Work was also done on the walk-in freezer multiple times.
- Storage hooks were added to the D building bathroom, at the students request. We have received many thanks for these, as they now have somewhere to hang their backpacks.
- Preventative maintenance was accomplished on boilers to prepare for winter.
- Made repairs to Bus 2.
- Continued AC repairs, including D building.
- Ongoing retrofitting of LED lighting in buildings.
- Mowing weekly and landscaping at all locations, including trimming trees on the Vernon campus.
- Cleaning and sanitizing daily and nightly, as well as stripping and buffing floors.

### **Human Resources**

- Personnel
  - Resignations – Kenneth Duke, Custodial Technician, Vernon campus, effective 7/31/2025
- Michelle White
  - Checked and updated all employee benefit changes from Summer Enrollment
  - Prepared, scanned, and mailed Fall 16 and Fall I Load and Listing letters
- Jackie Polk
  - Attended Elevate conference at the Women’s forum
  - Arranged the Blood Drive at CCC. Our efforts have saved 3666 lives over time, and our last drive alone helped save 21 lives!
  - Attended Area Agency on Aging workshop at CCC for PD
  - Completed the Military Report
  - Completed the TASB Report
  - Completed the ORP Report

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

### **VC IT Department**

- Meetings
  - Weekly Colleague Team LEAD
- Meals on Wheels
  - Delivered by Anna Martin and Elizabeth Gonzalez on 9/10.
- Facility Requests

Special thanks to the Jesse Dominguez in the Housing department for moving equipment for us!

  - Rotary Club Meeting requested equipment to be set up 9/23.
- Tech Support
  - Dylan was available for the TDCJ Graduation held at Skills Training Center on 9/9.

- Dylan provided support during the Allied Health Programs - IT Initial Login Orientation held at Century City Campus on 9/9, 9/11, 9/15.
- Elizabeth Gonzalez provided support for the Rotary Club meeting held on 9/23.
- Training
  - Tech Talk Canvas New & Next session presented by Crystal Tate at the Century City Campus and Dr. Roxanne Hill on the Vernon Campus on 9/12.
  - Tech Talk Using Canvas Discussions session presented by Crystal Tate at the Century City Campus on 9/26.
- VC Birthday Club
  - For the month of September, four full-time employees have been recognized and presented with a card and small gift to celebrate their birthdays.
- Quality Enhancement Resource Inventory
  - One laptop was loaned to the Library Department for use during the Library Resource Fairs held on 9/10.
  - One laptop was loaned to the President's office during the Rotary Club meeting held on 9/23 on the Vernon campus.

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

- Compiled Fall 2025 Count Day Snapshot
- Completed data request for Student Services (Colleen Moore)
- Completed data request for the President
- Served on a SACSCOC On-Site Reaffirmation Committee
- Compiling data for CB 116 Follow-Up Report
- Compiling data for IPEDs fall survey components
- Completed data request for Marketing/Recruiting (Holly Scheller)
- Compiling data for Program/Discipline Reviews
- Compiling data for National Clearinghouse PDP

### **Institutional Advancement – Michelle Alexander**

- Completed the employee giving campaign
- Calle Serrano pulled the list of donors for the president's report honor roll
- Callee prepared the philanthropy information for the upcoming audit
- Callee attended a CASE webinar on employee giving strategies
- Michelle Alexander met with the College's Blackbaud (NXT, Blackbaud Award) Rep to review the products and discuss the upcoming three-year contract
- Michelle participated in the Dual Credit Debrief meeting on September 5
- Michelle chaired the September NTAUW Board of Directors meeting.
- Prepared and submitted the annual grant request to the James N. McCoy Foundation; decisions are made in November-December
- Provided 4 Spring 2026 \$500 scholarship offers to the Resource Fairs (2 for the Vernon Campus and two for Century City Center)
- Prepared the materials for the October 16 Vernon College Foundation Annual Meeting
- Worked on finalizing the 2026-2027 General Scholarship Application which will open October 1

### **Athletics – Jason Jenkins**

- Off and running. We are on a massive pace as I am sure everyone else. The Athletic Department has a bunch of items to report and so many are in the positive.
- Volleyball had a great start to their season. Currently they are 11-6 overall and 5-3 in conference. They opened up the regular season with a 5-3 record, including a sweep of Amarillo College, and then got into conference play with 3 straight wins. The team is continuously working to get better and putting in a considerable amount of time on the court and in the weight room. Come out and support this tremendous group of young women.
- Rodeo will be getting started in September with the first of 5 rodeos. Sul Ross State University is the first to go on September 25-27. Coach Jackson has been working to make improvements at the arena with new lighting, a new calf chute on the roping lane, a continuous task of doctoring and feeding livestock.
- Baseball has been steadily getting reps in this fall. They have had scrimmages at Redlands College and then a trip to participate in the V-Tool Juco Festival in Melissa, TX. They have also played a home scrimmage against Amarillo College and got to see some good pitching from that team. We also had 4 players represent the Chaparrals at the

All-Star Game at Dallas Baptist University. Jorge Olivera, Michael Russell, Irvin Leonard and Joey Duran went with Coach McIntosh and showed what they had to offer. Several NCAA Division I schools and professional scouts were there to see these student-athletes.

- Softball is working hard this Fall with 6:00 a.m. workouts and daily bullpens for pitchers and catchers. The team headed over to Clarendon for a scrimmage on the 12<sup>th</sup> and while no official score was kept it was estimated we beat them 15-3 over 14 innings. Like all first outings there was some very good things and some points that they need work on. We then hosted a Round Robin Tournament with two travel ball teams coming to play the Chaps. The team then headed out to Plainview, TX for a scrimmage with Wayland Baptist. Improvement was made but still showing areas to improve. They will host a Celebration Weekend on October 4-5 in recognition of 30 years of Vernon College Softball. Come see the new team and some of the “old” guard of years past. Should be a great time!

### **DRJ Comments**

- The semester is moving quickly, as usual. I appreciate the attention to cited instructional improvements to be accomplished this academic year.
- I look forward to excellent participation on Sports Day—**Thursday, October 16**
- Please contact me with any input or questions at:
  - [drj@vernoncollege.edu](mailto:drj@vernoncollege.edu)
  - Office – 940-552-6291 ext. 2200
  - Cell – 940-261-0060