PRESIDENT’S
Annual Report 2014-2015
About VERNON COLLEGE

Vernon College is a fully accredited, comprehensive community college offering academic, career and technical education programs, as well as community classes to prepare students for employment or for successful transfer to a four-year college or university.
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Dear Friends,

It is an exciting time at Vernon College. The excitement and improvements are a direct result of outstanding faculty, staff, administration, board members and community members. The goal of success for our students drives colleges, faculty, and staff around the state to make a difference in the lives of Texans. Vernon College is extremely focused on the success of students who seek educational opportunity and place their faith in us to help them meet their goals. We not only want students to choose to attend Vernon College, we want students to complete their educational goal. Our job is to do everything we can as an institution to assist students through their educational pathway.

Vernon College has made great strides in enhancing processes and practices related to the student educational experience in an effort to improve retention, completion, and successful transfer. These improvements are a direct result of faculty and staff task forces that have explored best practices as well as reviewing Vernon College practices, processes, and student data. A brief summary of improvements to practices and processes includes:

- Extensive redesign of academic advising including the utilization of full-time faculty as course schedule advisors and the development of an extensive advising manual
- Implementation of an early alert system initiated by the faculty member and follow-up by student services personnel
• Elimination of late registration
• Expansion of tutoring services
• Redesign of Developmental Math curriculum and accelerated course delivery
• Redesign of Developmental English and Reading curriculum and accelerated course delivery
• Professional development for faculty to enhance teaching methodologies to encourage student engagement
• Continued enhancement of admissions, financial aid, and registration processes and practices to support student success
• Emphasis on new student orientation including piloting an expanded new student orientation for high risk groups
• Implementation of a Student Success Specialist position to engage with students facing barriers to success such as academic probation, enrollment in two or more developmental classes, and actions creating notice by the early alert system
• Institutional participation in the Greater Texas Foundation Student Success by the Numbers Initiative to broaden the understanding of and commitment to student success

Vernon College will continue to focus on meeting the needs of students, communities, and employees. Renovated facilities, implementation of new practices and processes dedicated to student success, partnerships with business and industry, partnerships with area high schools, and a tremendous focus on the mission of teaching, learning, and leading are ensuring that these needs are being addressed. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Dusty R. Johnston, Ed.D.
President
At the end of the 2014-2015 academic year, we find Vernon College an institution more dedicated to improving the lives of its students through system-wide efforts to increase retention and completion. The educational experience is more personal, more engaging, and more student-centric than ever before. It is extremely satisfying to see students becoming more confident, realizing their full potential and achieving their academic and career goals. Take some time to look at the improvement in our benchmarks, the Key Performance Indicators of Accountability.

With more of the economic burden shifted to the individual student, the college is pleased to offer more resources to help the students learn about many available opportunities for financial aid. The institution realizes the importance of giving its students a head start, reducing the cost to $95.00/hour for dual-credit for our complete service area, including no-cost dual credit for Wilbarger County residents. Out-of-pocket costs for active duty military personnel have been reduced to zero. Many matching scholarships are available from the Vernon College Foundation for high school dual-credit students.
Every 5 years a very detailed report is submitted to our accrediting body, The Southern Association of The Colleges and Schools. The process involves evaluating the college’s standards for its mission, institutional effectiveness, curriculum, educational programs, student support and resources. This year’s Vernon College report contained only two very small recommendations from SACS.

Recent improvements to the rodeo facility included 16 new horse stalls and a perimeter fence. The Joe Chat Sumner Rodeo Complex and the John Mahoney Arena will make a positive impact on our rodeo program.

The Board of Directors has been extremely satisfied with the performance of President Johnston and the leadership he brings to the position.

We are very fortunate to have many people who appreciate Vernon College and its impact on its students and our communities. Thank you for your continued support.

Best Regards,

Dr. Todd Smith,
Chair, Board of Trustees
Edward AVILA

Hailing from Fort Worth Texas, Edward discovered that Vernon is unlike any other college. “The people are one of a kind and always hold everyone accountable for their actions. They will push each person to do their best.” He chose Vernon College because he loved the environment and the traditions the college upholds.

“I love the close welcoming feeling that came with looking into this college,” said Edward. “They really have a way of telling someone nonverbally they are wanted.”

A member of the Vernon College Chaparrals Baseball team, Edward hopes to continue to play ball while pursuing his Business degree after he completes his studies here and transfers to a four-year institution.

“Vernon College has taught me that even when no one is looking, always do the right thing because believe it or not, someone is always watching and noticing,” Edward said.
Stephanie OTTO

Hailing from Denton, Texas, this first baseman has major plans for success! As she continues her softball career at Vernon College, upon graduation she plans join the U. S. Air Force and begin her nursing studies.

The college has a “family vibe,” Stephanie said. “Everyone knows everyone and the teachers treat you as an individual and not as a whole.”

When asked what Vernon College has taught her, Stephanie replied “Vernon has taught me how to study and to learn better time management skills, which is crucial when accomplishing tasks.”

Stephanie is a member of the Vernon College Chaparrals Softball team and an avid member in the Student Government Association.
Cindy Coufal has been teaching English for over 27 years. She moved to Vernon due to her husband’s career change after teaching in Amarillo. When looking for a job here, she soon realized there were not any openings in the public school systems.

“I was hesitant about applying for a college position because the thought of teaching adults intimidated me,” Cindy said. After months of waiting, she was offered the position one week before the semester began.

When thinking about her favorite memory over the years, many come to mind. “I remember Kathleen Beaver bringing a livestock trailer with a pig in it to work so that she could deliver the pig (to the butcher, maybe?). Of course, some of the students let the pig out and we had a good ‘pig-wrangling’ time in the college parking lot to catch the pig.”

Cindy’s favorite part about her job is being able to meet so many people and getting to know them on a personal level through their writing. She has read more than 10 essays from 8,000 people! She is convinced building relationships in the classroom later spreads to relationships in the community.
Mary Rivard was named Director of the Associate Degree Nursing at the beginning of the fall semester and has been at Vernon College for 13 years. A mother of eight children, Mary and her family love the outdoors! On any given weekend you can find them camping, fishing or just hanging out with one another.

Mary says her favorite part of her job has been watching her students’ progress from the beginning in pathophysiology to seeing them working in the hospitals or healthcare agencies. She often has staff and medical managers compliment her students’ hard work and dedication.

She was recruited to join the nursing team at Vernon College and says it is such a great place to work!

“The administration and faculty really make you feel wanted, needed and appreciated,” Mary said.

She can recall many wonderful memories throughout the years, her favorite is the Nurses’ Pinning Ceremony. It was wonderful to pin her daughter, Kimberly when she graduated from the program three years ago.
Sherrie Denham has been with Vernon College for five years and became the Director of Vocational Nursing in September. She knew it was the place for her the minute she arrived. She says it is just an amazing place to be.

“The people are kind, supportive and everyone endeavors to help make sure the students and staff are successful,” Sherrie said.

The graduations continue to be her favorite time of the year. She said she loves seeing the students succeed and how much pride is on each of their faces as they walk across the stage realizing their accomplishment.

Along with graduations, her favorite part of her position is being able to interact with the students. She enjoys becoming a small part of each student’s life.

When Sherrie is not busy keeping up with her students, she can be found reading, swimming at the campus pool or camping out!
Vernon College Accomplishments 2014 - 2015

Successful SACS 5th YEAR REPORT and a good start to the 10 year report

Ranked NINTH BEST COMMUNITY COLLEGE in Texas based on hard, cold data – including retention rates and graduation rates

Two Standing Room Only GRADUATIONS

- ADN pinning
- Four LVN pinnings
- Surgical Technology pinning
- Police Academy graduation
- EMT/Paramedic pinning
- Completion ceremony for short term CE workforce programs

Successful work with the Vernon College Foundation and with donors resulting in current total assets over $4.3 MILLION

Reduction of TUITION & FEE COSTS to out of district dual credit students and an increase in dual credit enrollments despite aggressive competition from several four year institutions

Reduction of costs for ACTIVE MILITARY PERSONNEL through exemption of institutional service fees

Approved to offer the AAS in Surgical Technology

Continued improvement in CCESSE & SENSE data and increased synthetization and use of the data for program, process, and practice improvement

Increased funding from Carl Perkins Grant

Continued success at the Skills Training Center, Sprague Building in Wichita Falls

Well organized and well attended Counselor’s Luncheon & VCAP Events

EMT/Paramedic pinning

Exciting & Winning Volleyball Season

Enjoyable and relevant Honors Convocation, Scholarship Banquet, & Athletic Banquet

Increased student forum and student government led activities including a great outing at Community College Day at the Capitol

Continued support of and expansion of Phi Theta Kappa

Very enjoyable drama production of “Yankee Tavern”
Effective and efficient work in all Vernon College offices and programs with a focus on **STUDENT SUCCESS**

**FUN EVENTS** that included Santa Claus, Easter Egg Hunts, and Halloween on the Vernon campus and at Century City Center that create interaction with our students, communities, and employees

Collaboration with Wichita Falls ISD officials in **Expanding Partnership Opportunities** with the new WFISD Career Technical Center

**Expansion** of Student Success Specialist activities and interactions with at risk groups of students

Consistent support for **MEALS on WHEELS** in Vernon

Working with the Red River Valley Museum in the development of a permanent **Vernon College Display**

**Increased RECRUITING ACTIVITIES** including an outstanding GenTX Day at Century City Center with 273 area high school students and counselors attending and VC Preview Day on the Vernon campus that hosted over 400 area high school students along with their counselors

Successful negotiation with **Electra Wind Energy, LLC** in regard to tax abatement/Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement

**Increased Participation** of Vernon College employees and departments with the Hispanic and African American educational coalitions and communities

National recognition of **Joe Chat Sumner** as a Council for **Resource Development BENEFACTOR OF THE YEAR**

**Naming of the Joe Chat Sumner Rodeo Complex** and the **John Mahoney Arena** on the Vernon campus

The initiation, development, and attainment of a U. S. Department of Education Title III **Strengthening Institutions Program Grant** to assist Vernon College in moving forward with the student success agenda and attainment of a new ERP/SIS

Freshman Southwest Region College **CHAMPION BULL RIDER** Colten Beaty

Based on data, a tremendous amount of learning taking place in the classrooms despite the numerous barriers, hurdles, attitudes, life situations, and expectations of the students who walk through our doors

5 **CONSECUTIVE YEARS** of a clean and unqualified Vernon College Audit
The Vernon College Foundation solicits gifts and grants to help Vernon College achieve its educational mission. As a result, the Foundation provides scholarships, grants to college departments and other college activities that support the institution’s Student Success initiatives. This would not be possible without the leadership of our Board of Directors and our donors. Thank you for helping our students succeed in the classroom and in life.

**Vernon College Foundation Annual Auction**

For the past 14 years, the Foundation has held an online auction to raise funds on behalf of Vernon College. The three-day event takes place in late February/early March and grants are awarded in October at the Foundation’s annual meeting. Auction proceeds are matched on a 1:1 basis from the Foundation’s General Fund and returned to the college in the form of departmental grants. In October 2014, more than $13,000 was awarded in grants to the following departments:

**Associate Degree Nursing, Chaparral Senior Center, Communications Department, Continuing Education, Custodial Department, Student Services**

Everyone is invited to participate in the annual Online Auction. For information contact Clara Gregory in the Office of Institutional Advancement.

**Dual Credit Scholarship Programs**

Since January 2011, the Foundation has invested in our dual credit students’ success through the *Catching the Future* and *College Connections* scholarship programs. More than 4,500 dual credit students have had the opportunity to attend Vernon College while still in high school since the programs began.

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**Dear Vernon College Board of Directors,**

Thank You for helping us get a jump start on our college education through the Dual Credit Scholarship Programs. Your generous scholarship allows us to reach our goals in preparing for the future. Vernon College truly cares about the youth in this area.

**Sincerely,**

2014-2015 Dual Credit Students

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*Catching the Future* scholarships are provided through an annual grant from the Foundation. There are 100 scholarships valued at $100 each available for the fall and spring semesters. The program is open to all high schools within the college’s 12 county service area.

*College Connections* is a partnership program between an Independent School District (ISD) within the service area and the Vernon College Foundation. The Foundation will annually match gifts up to $5,000 designated to an ISD’s College Connections Scholarship Fund. Scholarships are awarded to students in the school district’s high school. Current College Connections partners are: Archer City School District; Electra Independent School District; Iowa Park Consolidated Independent School District; Throckmorton Independent School District; Wichita Falls Independent School District; and Windthorst Independent School District.
In Memoriam — Joseph Chat Sumner, III

Friend and benefactor, Joe Chat Sumner, Chairman of the Vernon College Foundation Board of Directors, passed away December 31, 2015. Mr. Sumner was elected to the Foundation’s Board in 1989, and served continuously for the past 26 years. In 1991, Joe Chat was elected Secretary and in 1995 elected as the Chairman, a position he continued to hold until his death.

For more than 30 years, Joe Chat supported Vernon College, the Foundation and encouraged others to join him in his support of the College.

Demonstrating his belief in education, Joe Chat established the Mary Anderson Sumner Associate Degree Nursing Scholarship and the Joe Chat Sumner Athletic Scholarship. Both funds are among Vernon College Foundation’s largest endowed scholarships. Recognizing his support of students, faculty and staff, the College named the Mary Anderson Sumner Applied Arts Center in memory of his mother.

Joe Chat participated in Vernon College activities throughout the year, including the Chaparral Athletic Teams’ games and events. In May 2015 he was named a Friend of the College during Honors Night ceremonies and the College’s Board of Trustees voted unanimously to recognize Joe Chat’s behind the scenes assistance with the naming of the Joe Chat Sumner Rodeo Complex.

Regularly on the college’s Vernon campus, he continuously asked, “What is needed to help students, faculty, staff and institution succeed?” Joe Chat seized opportunities to make a difference at Vernon College for the benefit of our students, faculty and staff.
Vernon College Honor Roll of Donors

Vernon College and the Vernon College Foundation express sincere appreciation to all those that have made gifts, grants, pledge payments, and gifts-in-kind to help us achieve our goal of providing an outstanding education to our students. On behalf of the entire Vernon College community, thank you for your contribution during 2014-2015 (September 1, 2014 – August 31, 2015). You are truly Partners in Excellence!

Alumni

Rosa Alaniz
Rachel K. Anderson
Rebecca Aslock
Tina M. Baker
Kimberly A. Bateman
Chris Bell
Toni Bell
Cathy Bolton
Jacqueline Bone
Larry Borden
James and Vicki J. Bradley
Paula Brogdon
Luanne Byars
Dr. Susan Couch and The Honorable Kelly Couch
Sharon and Jimmy Dennis

Jessie A. Dickerson
Judy L. Doose
Michelle Downes
Shana Drury
Linda Estes and Dr. William
Leroy Estes
Sjohonton Fanner
James and Pamela Garvin
Dr. E. Scott Hamilton
Linda Haney
Billy Don and Cheryl Henry
Joe W. Hite
Darlene Kajs
Claire F. Klein
Joey and Julie Lama
Charles and Rita Lee

Christie Lehman
Mike Lytle
Karla Monson
Dina Neal
Ruth Rascon
Deborah Richard
Andrea Sanchez
LeAnn Scharbrough
Jason and Holly Scheller
Callee Serrano
Nancy Smith
Linda Thomas
Margaret Tubbs
Donna Turney
Robyn L. Wike

Faculty and Staff

Belinda Alberry
Michelle A. Alexander
Debbie Alexander
Beth Arnold
Nancy Arnold
Associate Degree Nursing Faculty
Jeanne Ballard
Mary Jane Batchelor
Iva Belew
Jim and Ellen Binion
Brandi Brannon
Katrina Brasuell
Dean Brumley
Jennifer Brumley
Lyndon Burham
Erika Colee
Kaylee Covey
Dona Crow

Cyndi Danner
Garry and Haven David
Sherrie Denham
Judy Ditmore
Donna Egoavil
Melissa Elliott
Terri and The Honorable David Farabee
Jeff Feix
Christina Feldman
Mindi Flynn
Greg Fowler
Clara Garza
Dr. Karen Gragg
John B. Hardin, III
Dr. Gary Don and Betsy Harkey
Kristin Harris
Tami Hastwell

Jennifer Hatley
John Hennington
Mike Hopper
Bettye Hutchins
Dr. Adrien Ivan
Jason Jenkins
Dr. Dusty R. and Susie Johnston
Patti Jouett
Linda and Lynn Kalski
Debra Kennedy
Mary King
Rhonda Knox
Deana Lehman
Crietta Lehman
Joni Lockett
Daniel Lowe
Jo Ann Marquart
Karen McClure
Connie Monteith
Sheryl Nava
Aletha Newman
Mary Ann Noah
Joe Onder
Anne Patterson
Kirk Polk
Amanda Raines
Teresa Reese
Mary Rivard
Jane Robinson
Ann Schultz
Maria Servin
Sharron Shelton
Diana Shipley
Jan Shoemaker
Janice Turvaville
Angela Walker
Sharon Wallace
Karla Wooten

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Anonymous
Mr. and Mrs. James Appleton
Camille and Emmett Atwood
Jimmy Ray Baldwin
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and Family
Deborah Agnew
Lillian Harling
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and Mike McCracken
Mark W. Prehn
Jane Bickel
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Linda Cheslak
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Kristin C. Clark
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Bin Ellett
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Steve Newell
Elizabeth Neeley
Elizabeth Ann Neeley and
Raymond C. Kubacki, Jr.
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Claudette Owen
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Jerry Patton
Peggy W. Payne
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Joanne Roosevelt
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Gowri Sharma
Caroline Sherman
Kay Shivers
Vernon College Honor Roll of Donors

Corporations

Academy Sports and Outdoors
All American Super Carwash
Buffalo Wild Wings
Carino’s Italian Grill
El Chico Café
El Fenix
English Pharmacy
Factory Connection
FSG Electric
Fluid Training
Gourmet Gallery
H&H Trailer Sales
Hampton Inn
Holder’s Jewelers
Holiday Inn Express – Vernon
Home Depot

Foundations

Gene Conley Foundation
Roy and Gretta Hogan Foundation
James N. McCoy Foundation
The Lockett Foundation
Perkins-Prothro Foundation
The Priddy Foundation
Snell Charitable Foundation
E. Paul and Helen Buck Waggoner Foundation
Wichita Falls Area Community Foundation,
Sara Jane Snell Donor Advised Fund
Wright Family Charitable Donor Advised Fund

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Doris King Snell†
Robert Snell
Sara Jane Snell1
James and Pat Spears
Paddy Stewart
Dr. Grady K.1 and
Pauline Stowe
Don A. and Joni1 Streit

Jim and Peggy Strickland
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Grace Talkington
Anne Hendrick Thomas
Gene and Joann Tyra
Lynn and Monica Tyra
Dr. and Mrs. Dane Welch

Joline and A. B. Wharton, III
Stanley Williams
Gene and Helen1 Willingham
Shelly Wolfe
Jeff and Patty Wooten
Gail Wright
Sara King Wright Estate

Savannah Rose
Scoop on the Square
Spa Bella
Texas Roadhouse
The Pecan Shed
The Pelican
The Waggoner National Bank
Tractor Supply
Turner Family Chiropractic
Ulta Beauty
United Supermarkets, LLC
Village Bowl
Walmart
Yogurt Journey
Organizations

Archer City Independent School District
Daughters of the American Revolution, Western Trail Chapter
Electra Independent School District
Herring Bank Retired Group
Iowa Park Consolidated Independent School District
North Texas Restaurant Association
Oklaunion Ex-Students Association
Throckmorton Independent School District
Vernon College Cosmetology Department
Vernon College Employees’ Forum
Vernon College Theatre Ensemble
Wichita Falls Independent School District
Wilbarger Soil and Water Conservation District
Wilbarger Street Church of Christ
Windthorst Independent School District

* Alumnus/ae
† Deceased
1 Member of the Vernon College Foundation Board of Directors
2 Member of the Vernon College Board of Trustees
3 Member of the Vernon College Faculty and Staff

We appreciate every contribution and do our very best to ensure the accuracy of this list. Please notify us of any concerns or errors at (940) 552-6291, ext. 2299.
Graduation and Persistence Rate

Vernon College Completers and Transfers to a Senior Institution within Six Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entering Fall Cohort Year</th>
<th>Vernon College</th>
<th>Texas Small Community Colleges</th>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>311 28.0%</td>
<td>24.9% 15.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>236 25.0%</td>
<td>23.7% 14.2%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>266 22.2%</td>
<td>24.7% 14.0%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>231 32.5%</td>
<td>24.0% 13.3%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>311 17.7%</td>
<td>22.6% 12.8%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>323 22.0%</td>
<td>24.4% 12.0%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>305 19.3%</td>
<td>21.1% 11.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>278 25.5%</td>
<td>22.9% 11.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>313 20.4%</td>
<td>22.4% 12.1%</td>
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*Texas Small Community Colleges consist of a peer group designated by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board based on "like" comparisons, primarily institution size. Members are: Clarendon, Frank Phillips, Galveston, Howard, Northeast Texas, Panola, Ranger, Vernon and Western Texas.

Career and Technical Placement Rate
Over a three academic year period

93% (AY 2008-2010) 95% (AY 2010-2012)
### Licensure and Certification Pass Rate

<table>
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<th>Academic Year</th>
<th>Colleges</th>
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<td>91%</td>
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<td>Texas Community Colleges</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>Vernson College</td>
<td>85%</td>
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<td>91%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>Vernson College</td>
<td>94%</td>
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<td>2012-2013</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Licensure/Certification Rate is the overall average rate for all Vernon College programs: Cosmetology, General and Instructor; Criminal Justice, Police Academy; Dental Assisting; Emergency Medical Technician - Basic, Intermediate and Paramedic; Fire Science; Firefighting; Health Information Technology; Law Enforcement, Corrections Academy; Medication Aid; Nurse Aid; Nursing - Licensed/Vocational Nurse and Registered Nurse; Pharmacy Technician, Phlebotomy; Real Estate; Surgical Technology; Welding.

### Scholarships Awarded

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Scholarships Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>820</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Percent of Contact Hours Taught

Fall 2009: 78% By Full Time Faculty, 22% By Part Time Faculty
Fall 2010: 78% By Full Time Faculty, 22% By Part Time Faculty
Fall 2011: 77% By Full Time Faculty, 23% By Part Time Faculty
Fall 2012: 78% By Full Time Faculty, 22% By Part Time Faculty
Fall 2013: 76% By Full Time Faculty, 24% By Part Time Faculty

Financial Aid

Number of Awards and Students by Academic Year

2010-2011: 11,820 Number of Awards, 3,274 Number of Students
2011-2012: 11,144 Number of Awards, 3,230 Number of Students
2012-2013: 11,062 Number of Awards, 3,402 Number of Students
2013-2014: 11,742 Number of Awards, 3,383 Number of Students
2014-2015: 10,648 Number of Awards, 2,970 Number of Students

Number of Awards: Dark Blue
Number of Students: Light Gray

2014-2015 proved to be successful for the Vernon College Rodeo Team once again! Colten Beaty, a freshman from Seymour, Texas was the southwest region Champion Bull Rider and qualified to the College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming. He represented Vernon College well in Wyoming. Recruiting was good we started the season with twenty nine rodeo students. We believe that recruiting has been successful bringing many recruits on campus the past two years. All is well with rodeo.

VC went 26-10 with a conference record of 10-2 and finishing 2nd in conference. We had an Honorable Mention All-American, Layne Little, who was also named the MVP of our conference. Brook Conley was named Newcomer of the Year, Ciandra Seabourn was named Defensive Player, and Megan Hohlt was selected as a 1st Team All-Conference player.
**BASEBALL**

The Chaparral’s saw a lot of success on the mound. Leading the way were sophomore pitchers Eddie Avila, Conner Fletcher, Justin Moreno and Skyler Henderson. Along with many new faces who have stepped into the role of possible starters and key bullpen pitchers.

Key returners will be centerfielder Francisco Rodriguez, catcher Luis Rivas, shortstop Nathan Menchaca, third baseman Rogelio Sanchez and utility player Blake Clark. Similar to the pitching staff, many new faces have emerged into potential starters and key role players off the bench.

“My expectations for this year’s team is to play the game of baseball the right way and to play as hard they can. When we play together as team, we will have a chance to be successful,” Sam Hayden said.

**SOFTBALL**

The 2014-2015 Vernon College softball team had a year marked by improved maturity and a return to relevance in conference play. That maturity was evidenced by a 12 game improvement in wins from the previous season and key victories against top conference teams Weatherford, NCTC, and McLennan. Vernon College finished one game out of the conference tournament and ended the season with all-conference recognition for first baseman Amanda Caudillo (1st team); third baseman, and her twin, Amber Caudillo (honorable mention); right fielder Brittany Ponder (honorable); and Emily Durham All-Star Game Starter at 2B/SS. Ponder is a projected starting outfielder at Howard Payne University in 2016 and Pitcher Jordan Murray transferred to Kansas Wesleyan University to pitch. The team totaled 5 All-American Scholar Athlete awards from the National Fastpitch Coaches Association while finishing with a record of 20-37.
Vernon College Recruiting Events

Vernon College offers tours year round for potential students in addition to the two main recruiting events held in 2014-2015: Sophomore Roundup and GenTX Day.

Sophomore Roundup

Sophomore Roundup is held annually for area high schools at the Skills Training Center and Century City Center. The event is a showcase for our Career and Technical Education programs and Continuing Education Fast Track Career programs. This opportunity gives sophomores a hands-on preview of the college’s programs so that they are aware what Vernon College has to offer as they prepare for their future. In 2014-2015, 274 sophomores from nine area high schools participated in the roundup.

GenTX

Vernon College hosted a successful GenTX Day in May 2015. High school juniors and seniors from our 12 county service area were invited to participate. Our programs and departments set up and decorated booths in the parking lot of the Century City Center location for a morning of fun activities. Music, games, tours, food and tractors gave students a unique opportunity to learn more about Vernon College and the programs it offers.

Generation TX is a project to create a college going culture in Texas Public schools and to clarify the processes of applying for admission, student financial aid and to increase awareness of and build support for the Texas College and Career Readiness Standards.
Vernon College announced the naming of the

Joe Chat Sumner Rodeo Complex
and the John Mahoney Arena in May 2015

Mr. Sumner* was President of the Vernon College Foundation Board of Directors and his leadership was instrumental in the continued growth of the College and its programs. Past, present and future Vernon College students benefited from his guidance and support. Last summer, Mr. Sumner’s gift to the rodeo program allowed improvements to facilities which increased the quality and time of practice opportunities and in return will help attract more rodeo student athletes.

John Mahoney came to Vernon College in 1987 and was the Vernon College rodeo coach for 10 years. He has been a VC employee for 29 years and has been an on-going supporter of the rodeo program. Over the past few years he has been instrumental in the improvement and expansion of the rodeo facilities. During his tenure as rodeo coach he had a National Champion Team, three individual National Champions, Reserve National Champion Men’s and Women’s Teams and five team members continued their sport and became PRCA World Champions.

Law Enforcement Academy

The Vernon College Law Enforcement Academy provides its graduates with the basic knowledge and skills set forth by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education. Graduates from the academy are sponsored by various law enforcement agencies in our area. The majority of graduates will be peace officers or reserve officers with agencies within the communities in the Vernon College service area. The success of the academy can be attributed to the efforts of the graduates, instructional staff from local law enforcement agencies, and the support of the law enforcement community.

The Law Enforcement Academy held their graduation in May 2015.

The graduates are: Cody Blanscet, Chelsea Boyd, David Contreras, Joshua Cray, Brandon Fischer, Joe Gonzales, Laticia Hernandez, Justin Hiracheta, Edward Hunt, Michael Ikeler, Guthrie Jensen, Victoria Kamp, James Killian, Jeffrey Lee, Melina Limon, Joshua Logsdon, Andrew Miller, Roy Mullens, David Ohm, Clinton Pelton, Aaron Perkins, Ryan Pitchford, Amanda Price, Jonathan Shifflett, Andrew Speegle, Derek Vann and Emily Voelkel.