



## **building a new foundation**

HCC Foundation Annual Report  
September 1, 2006 – August 31, 2007



Dear Friends:

Much has changed since the HCC Foundation was founded in 1976. Our economy has become more complex, and our businesses require a more educated workforce. Houston Community College has emerged as a crucial resource for improving local students’ access to higher education. HCC now serves more than 55,000 students every semester. It offers neighborhood campuses, affordable tuition, and an incredible range of academic, workforce, and adult education programs.

Last year, the HCC Foundation began an exciting reimagining of the role it can play in supporting HCC and its students. In twelve months’ time, we have laid the foundation for an organization capable of meeting the needs of Houston students well into the future. This foundation includes:

- More funds raised than ever before—all of which will go toward scholarships and programs benefiting HCC students.
- New and improved communications, including our first newsletter, first annual fund solicitation, an attractive brochure and proposal submission package, and a state-of-the-art website complete with an online scholarship application.
- Unprecedented outreach to community leaders.

- Launching of the Opportunity 14 Scholarship, which promises three years of an HCC education to students who might not otherwise afford to go to college.
- Development of the College Connection scholarship, which provided HCC scholarships to every entering freshman who completed his or her high school’s College Connection program.
- The addition of energetic new board members who will ensure that the HCC Foundation meets the educational needs of Houstonians from every sector of the community.

These investments have already begun paying off. We have encountered a community eager to increase opportunity in Houston and impressed by HCC’s unique suitability to improving access to higher education. The HCC Foundation is now in an excellent position to help more local students go to college and complete the degrees or certificates that will make such a difference in their lives—and ours.

Thank you for supporting the HCC Foundation.

William (Bill) M. Coats, President  
Houston Community College Foundation

The Houston Community College Foundation enhances the quality of life of our community and of our fellow citizens through fundraising efforts that improve access to higher education, support workforce training, and advance student learning at Houston Community College.

History

The HCC Foundation was founded in 1976 to support Houston Community College in its efforts to ensure that all local students have access to a higher education. As HCC has grown and extended its services to the community, the HCC Foundation has grown with it. Today the HCC Foundation works with an energetic Board of Directors to inform community leaders about HCC’s crucial role in Houston’s education and to obtain funding for student scholarships and important college programs that benefit our entire city.

Programs

The HCC Foundation supports HCC’s mission by providing financial assistance in three main areas:

Student Scholarships and Endowments

The HCC Foundation has awarded thousands of scholarships to deserving HCC students. Our fundraising efforts are rapidly expanding, and we expect to award many more scholarships to Houston-area students in the coming years. The Foundation’s long-term goal is to build a scholarship endowment sufficient to award a scholarship to all HCC credit-hour students who qualify for assistance as they begin their college career.

Capital Projects and Program Support

The HCC Foundation provides financial assistance to selected HCC programs and capital projects.

Faculty Grants and Awards

The HCC Foundation recognizes our faculty members’ key role in achieving HCC’s mission. We support their efforts by providing grants for projects that have the potential to advance student learning at HCC. Many faculty proposals request the Foundation’s financial support for professional enrichment opportunities and projects to enhance HCC learning environments.



One year ago, Anna Lander was a senior at Willowridge High School. Today, with the help of an HCC Foundation scholarship, she is on her way to a career in nursing. After two years of intensive training, this bright young woman will be fully capable of caring for some of our city’s most vulnerable patients in a professional healthcare setting.

A Houston native, Anna attended high school in Missouri City. She danced and played volleyball, and in her spare time took Advanced Placement courses and participated in the National and English Honor Societies. She always planned to go to college, but after being accepted by various institutions, she was still not sure which to attend. Her mother, who had recently completed Houston Community College’s Surgical Technology program, encouraged her to consider HCC.

Now, one year into her Associate Degree in Nursing program at HCC’s Coleman College for Health Sciences, Anna’s days are filled with challenging classroom lectures, hands-on practice sessions, hospital visitations and clinicals, study periods, and preparation of patient care plans.

“I feel like I could be a doctor,” she says with a laugh, but she is making A’s and B’s and mastering life-saving skills.

In her spare time she also works as a secretary and as a City of Houston lifeguard to pay her expenses—including

the cost of nursing textbooks, which run more than \$100 each. Fortunately, Anna’s scholarships from the HCC Foundation have helped relieve some of the financial pressures so many students face.

Anna’s rigorous education will pay off when she sits with nursing students from other two- and four-year programs to take the National Council Licensure Examination for registered nurses. Indeed, HCC’s Associate Degree in Nursing program has recently received a commendation from the Texas Board of Nursing for its graduates’ 95 percent pass rate. When Anna passes her exam, she will enter a well-paying career with strong demand and incredible opportunities for professional growth.

“After two years, Coleman College graduates will be fully licensed registered nurses providing direct patient care,” says Marsal Stoll, BSN, MSN, Ed.D., president of Coleman College for Health Sciences. “They will be entrusted with your life and mine.”



With the help of an HCC Foundation scholarship, Anna Lander is completing an Associate Degree in Nursing at HCC’s Coleman College for Health Sciences.

the word about the work it’s doing to support the college and local students.

**The College Connection Scholarship for Entering Freshmen**

In 2006, the HCC Foundation initiated the College Connection Scholarship to benefit high school students completing HCC’s College Connection program. The program was implemented at high schools throughout the city to provide at-risk twelfth-graders hands-on assistance with career planning, college admission and financial aid applications, a campus tour, pre-admission testing, orientation, and new student advising. The HCC Foundation gave an extra incentive for students to continue on to college with a \$500 scholarship given to every high school senior who completed the College Connection program and enrolled at Houston Community College.

**The Opportunity 14 Scholarship for Low-Income Local Students**

In August, the HCC Foundation launched The Opportunity 14 Scholarship. Our goal: to provide financial assistance to every Houston student who can show the



financial need and wishes to attend HCC. The program is structured to encourage students to enroll at HCC immediately upon graduation and to attend full time. Eligible students can receive up to \$3,000 per year, or a total of \$6,000 over three years. Funds will be applied immediately upon registration for classes and can be used to pay for tuition, fees, and books. Read more about Opportunity 14 online at [www.opportunity14.org](http://www.opportunity14.org).



Dr. Mary S. Spangler, HCC Chancellor

Once named “Outstanding Woman in Hollywood,” Dr. Mary S. Spangler has quickly become an equally outstanding woman in Houston.

The former Los Angeles City College president and Oakland (Michigan) Community College chancellor became Houston Community College’s chancellor in March 2007. She quickly began working with the community to develop a strategic plan that expands the college’s contributions to the city and its people. That plan—*Relevance and Opportunity: A Strategic Plan Essential to Our Future*—provides a bold vision:

Houston Community College will be the most **relevant** community college in the country. We will be the **opportunity** institution for every student we serve—**essential** to our community’s success.

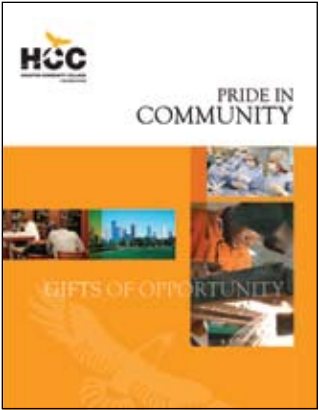
One way HCC’s new chancellor has demonstrated her commitment to this strategy is by working closely with the HCC Foundation to ensure students have the financial resources necessary to pay for college.

“Dr. Spangler has made an incredible effort to reach out to community leaders and organizations like the Greater Houston Partnership,” said

Dr. Kelly J. Zúñiga, the HCC Foundation’s executive director. “In the process, she has learned what ‘relevance’ means to Houston, and she is using that knowledge to align HCC systems with the needs of the community.”

Dr. Spangler serves the boards of the Education Testing Service’s National Community College Advisory Council, BioHouston, and the Salzburg Seminar Community College International Study Program. She recently completed a term on the American Association of Community Colleges Board of Directors. Also, she was the only community college CEO named to the Innovation America Task force by the 2006-2007 National Governors Association and is one of three community college leaders invited to contribute to a book of essays—*Letters to the Next President from Leaders in Higher Education: Strengthening America’s Foundation*—to be published June 2008.

“Her national recognition opens doors for the HCC Foundation,” said Dr. Zúñiga. “Her credibility gives us an opportunity to talk to important decision-makers about everything HCC offers this city and the importance of supporting local students.”



In 2007, the HCC Foundation established new publications and hosted special events to inform Houstonians about the importance of helping local students obtain a higher education. These include:

- a vibrant new brochure and proposal kit highlighting HCC’s crucial role in Houston and the importance of financial support to help students go to college.
- a new, interactive website with an online scholarship application, scholarship recipient profiles, online donation, an extensive planned giving section, an online faculty grant application, Foundation news stories, and personalized log-ins.
- a comprehensive student communications plan that resulted in four times as many scholarship applicants than in previous years. The plan included posters and flyers, bookmarks with the HCC Foundation website address, electronic e-mail blasts, and communications to help faculty members, administrators, counselors, financial aid officers, and recruiters encourage students to apply for scholarships.
- our first annual fund solicitation.
- our first Annual Scholarship Luncheon, where donors were able to sit down with the students whose lives they were changing—and students had a chance to say “Thank you.”



Attorney and past Houston City Councilmember Gracie Saenz introduced the HCC Foundation's First Annual Scholarship Luncheon.



Clarissa Rougely (right), the luncheon’s featured scholarship recipient, has since completed her HCC associate degree in biochemistry and today is conducting cancer research and working toward her four-year degree.



Total Enrollment Fall 2006: 57,364

Ethnicity

Hispanic	28%
African-American	26%
Asian	11%
White	21%
International students	*9%
Other	5%

\*HCC has the largest international student population of any community college in the United States.

Top Ten Feeder High Schools

- Lamar
- Bellaire
- Austin
- Milby
- Sam Houston
- Memorial
- Dulles
- Stratford
- Jordan High School for Careers
- Madison

Academic Courses and Awards

Associate degrees and academic courses transferrable to any public four-year institution in Texas.  
Associate degrees awarded: 2,216

Student Transfers (Fall 2004)

*UH	3,674
UH – Downtown	1,208
University of Texas	999
Texas A&M	767

\*HCC is the #1 transfer institution for the University of Houston.



Career & Technical Education Programs and Awards

26 “exemplary” workforce programs: 70 total  
Associate degrees and certificates awarded: 3,187

Most Popular Career & Technical Education Programs

- Emergency Medical Technician
- Computer Science Technology
- Business Technology
- Accounting
- Associate Degree Nursing
- Business Technology
- Audio & Recording Technology
- Cosmetology
- Automotive Mechanics
- Commercial Truck Driving
- Culinary Arts

Adult Education

HCC has the largest Adult Education & English-as-a-Second-Language program in Texas.  
Total students: 16,500

Dual Credit Classes

High school students who take dual credit courses earn college credit while completing courses required for their diploma. Total students: 5,500

The HCC Foundation is an independent 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) non-profit organization described in section 501(c)(3). The Foundation adheres to the highest standards of financial management, and the result is a healthy balance sheet that allows us to consistently provide programmatic support to important HCC initiatives and scholarships for local students from throughout the Greater Houston area.

The following financial information was summarized from our 2006-2007 audited financial statements, which are available upon request.

2006 REVENUE	AMOUNT	PERCENT
Contributions and donations	\$ 650,926	53.8%
Special event contributions	159,530	13.2%
Interest and dividend income	67,372	5.5%
In-kind revenue	310,111	25.7%
Net unrealized gain on investments	22,446	1.8%
Net assets released from restrictions	—	—

<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 1,210,385</b>	
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2006 EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT	PERCENT
Program services:		
Scholarships	\$ 241,311	37.4%
Support services:		
Fundraising	87,460	13.5%
Administration	316,487	49.1%

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 645,258</b>	
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<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 565,127</b>	
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Ginger Blanton, HCC Foundation President, 2008 - 2009.

HCC Foundation donor and board member Ginger Blanton knows firsthand the great value of a Houston Community College education. Years ago while working for National Convenience Stores, she found herself assigned to the marketing department. With little background in that field, she quickly enrolled in classes at a nearby HCC campus.

“I was lucky to have an interesting instructor who taught me the underpinnings of marketing,” she says. “I was a single mom who didn’t have a lot of time, so I always felt I owed a lot to HCC for helping me get that extra edge and a leg up on my career.”

For five years now, Ginger has been giving back to HCC as a dedicated board member and fundraiser. In 2007, with the support of her husband, Jack Blanton, she helped obtain a \$100,000 contribution from The Scurlock Foundation for HCC College Connection scholarships, which provided financial assistance to at-risk students who might not otherwise have attended college.

“My husband and I have always felt that higher education—whether it’s workforce programs or academic courses—should be for everybody,” she says. “He is right there with me. We are a team.”

Ginger also is proud of the support the Foundation receives from the San Jacinto High School Alumni Association. San Jacinto High School is Ginger’s alma mater, as well as that of some of Houston’s most distinguished citizens—including two mayors, broadcaster Walter Cronkite, and heart surgeon Dr. Denton A. Cooley. Today the original high school building is the hub of HCC’s Central College campus in Midtown. The SJHSAA funds HCC student scholarships and has been energetically seeking support to pay for restoration and beautification efforts currently underway at that campus.

“I love it that Central College is the site of my old high school,” says Ginger. “I love to see the students buzzing around and to see that continuity.”

On a more personal level, Ginger and her family have established HCC scholarships in honor of her mother, Josephine Ramirez Nelson. “My mother was Hispanic, and she always believed very strongly in education,” she says. “Today Houston has a huge Hispanic population, and we are seeing many first-generation college students. When I receive letters from them acknowledging what the scholarship has meant in their lives, it is so rewarding.”

Chancellor’s Circle (\$50,000 +)

Ginger R. Blanton – The Scurlock Foundation  
Harriet Foster – The Foster Family Foundation  
The George Foundation  
Greater Houston Community Foundation  
Houston Community College System  
Woodway Financial Advisors

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Strake Foundation  
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Texas Management Co.  
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Augusta Marketing Products Inc.  
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1. Average yearly tuition and fees (15 credit hours) at a public four-year campus in Texas:

- a. \$3,762
- b. \$4,678
- c. \$5,985
- d. \$6,437

College Board's Trends in College Pricing

2. Average yearly tuition and fees at HCC (15 credit hours):

- a. \$1,674
- b. \$2,671
- c. \$3,762
- d. \$4,678

www.hccs.edu

3. Percentage of all Texas undergraduates currently attending a community college:

- a. 27%
- b. 48%
- c. 57%
- d. 17%

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

4. Percentage of Texas undergraduates projected to be attending community colleges by 2015:

- a. 50%
- b. 40%
- c. 55%
- d. 70%

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

5. Percentage of Homeland Security personnel—firefighters, law enforcement officers, and EMTs—who are credentialed at community colleges:

- a. 65%
- b. 80%
- c. 71%
- d. 56%

American Association of Community Colleges

6. Percentage of new nurses educated at community colleges:

- a. 15%
- b. 25%
- c. 45%
- d. 59%

American Association of Community Colleges

HCC Foundation  
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www.hccsfoundation.org • www.opportunity14.org

Executive Director:  
Kelly J. Zúñiga, Ed.D., CFRE

Answers:  
1) d, 2) a, 3) b, 4) d, 5) b, 6) d





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